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NORTHEAST NEWS

Serving the Neighborhoods of Aldine, Greenspoint, US59 Eastex, Beltway 8 and North Forest for over 47 Years
VOL. 47, NO. 20 TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 2023 HOUSTON, TEXAS www.nenewsroom.com

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THIRD CLASS | 2023

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Speaker: Mark Winchester
DEPUTY DISTRICT DIRECTOR
SBA

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Next Class: **24**

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NEWS NOTES

JUNE 22, THURS.
Small Business Seminar & Lunch at East Aldine District

Small Business Free Seminar & Luncheon Series continues, on Thursday, June 22nd from 12pm noon to 1pm at the District Offices, 2909 East Aldine Amphitheatre Drive, off Aldine Mail Route.

Speaker: Mark Winchester, Deputy District Director of the SBA. Topics include Sources of Counseling, Access to Capital, Disaster Assistance, and Federal Contracts.

RSVP AldineDistrict.org/RSVP or 512-658-4985.

JUNE 16, FRI.
Field Trip to the Zoo with Pct. 2

Field Trip FRIDAYS will include a trip to the Houston Zoo on Friday, June 16 from 8 am to 3 pm, leaving from James Driver Park.

Registration starts on Monday, May 1. Call 713-274-2222 for information.

EAST ALDINE DISTRICT New Recycle Center Opens

Long planned project will accept heavy trash, and recyclable waste by Appointment

EAST ALDINE – A long-time dream of a cleaner and greener East Aldine has become a reality with the official opening of the management district's public Neighborhood Depository & Recycling Center at 2789 Hopper Road.

"This is truly a dream come true, a vision come to fruition, and an answered prayer for many in our community. Life in unincorporated Harris County is all about (achieving) resilience," said Selina Valdez of SMC Landscape, director of the center and recycling coordinator.

The center is a pioneering project of the management district, which has contracted with SMC to provide a place for residents of East Aldine to dispose of junk, tree waste and recyclable materials at no charge.

"We are the first management district in the state of Texas that runs a recycling center, and that's



East Aldine board members, Recycle Staff, and members of the community were on hand to help cut the ribbon signalling the opening of the new Neighborhood Recycle Center.

a lot to be proud of," said Richard Cantu, district executive director.

Cantu noted that the idea of a depository/recycling center first came up more than a decade ago. Without one, he said, residents have had to "fend for themselves" by hauling

their heavy trash and similar items to private landfills or paying companies to pick it up.

The recycling center, which began accepting household recycling items and tires in late March, has already served more than 140 households and

collected more than five tons of heavy trash and more than 140 tires.

Unlike city residents, many people who live in unincorporated areas do not have access to services such as garbage pickup. In Harris County alone, more than 2 million people who

live outside the city limits of Houston and other area municipalities.

For the 70,000 residents of East Aldine, the recycling center is also aimed at clearing neighborhoods

Continued. See Recycle Center, Page 5

Molina Healthcare supports Free Rides for Houston Seniors

HOUSTON, May 25, 2023 – The Molina Healthcare Charitable Foundation, in collaboration with Molina Healthcare of Texas ("Molina"), recently presented Senior Rides and More, a Houston organization that promotes senior independent living and health by providing free transportation to medical appointments and other services, with a check for \$10,000 to expand their mission across the Houston community.

The funds will be used to provide free one-on-one assistance to seniors in southwest and northwest Houston, including transportation to doctors

and clinics, picking up prescriptions, grocery shopping and other life-sustaining errands. Senior Rides and More also provides transportation to family functions to help connect seniors to loved ones and enhance their quality of life.

"Thanks to organizations like Senior Rides and More, Houston seniors can continue to live independently while staying connected to their communities," said Sheila Shelton, director of community engagement for Molina Healthcare of Texas. "This sense of involvement is vital, and we're thrilled to support Senior Rides and

More's mission to provide a link to the larger community."

Senior Rides and More is the only organization that offers completely free door-to-door transportation to seniors in 51 zip codes in southwest and northwest Houston. The majority of people served are both health impaired and elderly, 75% of which are women who live alone, with a median income of \$1,500 per month.

"We are grateful to Molina for supporting our community's need for free transportation for seniors," said Debby Posso, executive director of Senior Rides and More.

Gun BuyBack continues on June 10th at NRG

HOUSTON - Mayor Sylvester Turner joined Harris County Commissioner Rodney Ellis and Houston Police Chief Troy Finner today to announce the date of the next gun buyback.

The gun buyback program is part of the Violence Reduction and Crime Prevention section of the Houston Police Department. The City of Houston has committed \$1 million to a robust gun buyback initiative to reduce violence and prevent crime by removing illegal or unwanted firearms from the street.

The next gun buyback will be held from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, June 10, at NRG Park, in the Yellow Main Street Lot, 9051 S Main Street. The location



Officers check guns that have been turned in as part of the City-County BuyBack program.

is Gate# 16 off Main Street, the Yellow Main Street Lot main gate.

People can bring their unwanted guns and exchange them for a gift card.

\$50.00: Non-functioning firearm

\$100.00: Shotgun or Rifle (Hunting)
\$150.00: Revolver
\$150.00: Semi-Auto Handgun

Continued. See Gun BuyBack, Page 2

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While we appreciate every donation, in some cases, we find that we are unable to accept certain vehicles, watercraft, and/or needed vehicles due to the prohibitive costs of acquisition. If you have any questions, please give us a call at (855) 833-2924.

EAST ALDINE DISTRICT

We're Here For You!

Executive Director: Richard Cantu
713.595.1220 RCantu@AldineDistrict.org

Operations Manager: Veronica Sanches
713.595.1226 VSanches@AldineDistrict.org

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COMMUNITY WATCH

House Fire on Castleton Street (East Little York / Homestead Area)

Houston Fire Department reports a House fire on May 26, at 8:55am, located in the 10400 block of Castleton Street, 77016.

There were no reported injuries. HFD estimated that \$84,000 in estimated property was saved, but \$95,000 in estimated damage.

The cause is Under investigation (appears to be accidental at this time).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Firefighters arrived on scene within five minutes to find heavy smoke and fire coming from the side of a 1-story house. The home appeared to be abandoned. Crews made an offensive attack and removed burglar bars to gain entrance. A primary search was conducted, and the fire was extinguished. HFD Arson investigators were requested to determine the cause and origin.

32 HFD personnel responded to this incident, including firefighters from Stations 15, 34, 45, 32, 43, 56 and 24.

TCEQ Public Hearing on proposed permit for Concrete Batch Plant on Hartwick Road

East Aldine Civic Association has announced the following meeting:

IMPORTANT: East Aldine residents and neighbors, PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND the following meeting:

*TCEQ Public Hearing on proposed permit amendments for the Yellow Jacket LLC. Concrete Batch Plant located on Hartwick Rd.

Date: Monday June 12, 2023

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: East Aldine District Office, 2909 E. Aldine Amphitheatre Dr. Houston TX. 77039

Purpose: This meeting is being held by TCEQ to discuss and allow public input regarding the changes that Yellow Jacket LLC. wants to make on their permit with the state. This is the plant located at 2219 Hartwick Road. Please bring family, friends, and neighbors to share their concerns!

It is very important that you attend these meetings to provide feedback to TCEQ (Texas Commission on Environmental Quality) to voice your concerns regarding the pollution coming from these plants that is affecting our community's health and safety.

Gun BuyBack June 10th,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

\$200.00: Rifle Semi-Auto

The Gun Buyback program is completely anonymous for the public in keeping with our objective of retrieving as many firearms as possible from Greater Houston residents.

"I know someone will criticize the program - but the truth is gun buybacks work as one tool in a comprehensive initiative to fight gun violence. Homicides, gun violence, and overall violent crime is down across our City, and we want to keep that momentum going," said Mayor Sylvester Turner.

"The gun buyback along with the use of shot spotter, doing more to reduce domestic violence and mental health calls and robust technology and police overtime are pieces of the puzzle that may prevent someone from pulling the trigger in the future or at least think twice before resorting to violence."

The City has held two previous successful gun buybacks. The first gun buyback collected 793 guns, and the second event collected 1252 guns. Harris County Precinct One, the Harris County Sheriff's

Office, and the City of Houston collaborated on a third gun buyback at Deussen Park earlier this year. Officials collected 793 firearms.

"As Mayor Turner alluded to, there have been questions about gun buybacks and whether or not they're effective at improving public safety," said Commissioner Rodney Ellis. "After three wildly successful buyback events, one thing is not up for debate: that this community is ready to be a part of the solution to end gun violence."

AIRLINE LIBRARY NEWS

Babies, Kids, Teens, and Adults - win prizes for reading! Also earn prizes for attending programs! Sign up for the **Summer Reading Program on Beanstack** <https://hcpl.beanstack.org/reader365>. You can also register in person at the library.

Every day, All month: This summer we want to focus on Kindness/Friendship/Unity. Let's get together as a community and **make a mural**. Each participant will be given a post-it to create a mini piece of art. Just ask at the front desk.

TODDLER TIME
We'll read stories, sing songs, and use our hands (for fingerplays) to help toddlers build their early literacy skills. This program is appropriate for children ages 18 months to 3 years old. **Monday, June 5 at 11:30am - 12:30pm.**

BILINGUAL STORY TIME
Join us in the library for story time in English and Spanish **Tuesdays at 11:00am!**

¡APRENDA A USAR SU CHROMEBOOK!

¡Aprenda a usar su Chromebook para el trabajo o uso personal en 4 sesiones! Áreas cubiertas: **Sesión #1**-Navegando la interfaz de su Chromebook (configuración del software) **Sesión #2**-Comandos del ratón/almuadilla táctil y el teclado (hardware) **Sesión #3**-Usando su Correo para acceder a servicios de la nube (Google Apps y Office 365) **Sesión #4**-Vistazo general de las aplicaciones gratuitas de la nube (Office 35 y Google Apps Workspace)

PARA LOS NIÑOS
Each workshop includes learning activities to use at home related to the theme of the week. For parents and children ages 8 and younger (and siblings too!)
Cada taller incluye actividades de aprendizaje para usar en casa relacionadas con el tema del taller.
Para padres y niños menores de 8 años (y hermanos también!) **Wednesday, June 7, 11:00am - 12:30pm.**

KIDS CLUB
Aldine Branch Library is partnering with American Robotics Academy to host a special edition of **LEGO Night!** Join us as we learn how to create robots with LEGO Mind-

storm kits! **June 7th @ 4:30-5:30pm; July 5th @ 4:30-5:30pm**

TEEN THURSDAY
Teen Thursdays at Aldine Branch Library are a fun, safe environment for teens ages (12-18) to hang out after school! Join us as we play games, watch anime, and hang out! **Thursday, June 8, 3:30 - 5:30pm.**

HARRIS COUNTY VOTER REGISTRATION

Are you registered to vote? Do you have questions about the process but never had an opportunity to ask? Well, here is your chance! A representative from Harris County Elections Administration will be on site at the Aldine Branch Library to get you registered. They will also be able to answer any questions you have as well. Don't delay, register today! Your vote is your voice! **Thursday, June 8, 1pm - 5pm.**

¿Está registrado para votar? ¿Tiene preguntas sobre el proceso pero nunca tuvo la oportunidad de hacerla? ¡Aquí está su oportunidad! Un representante de la Administración de Elecciones del Condado de Harris estará presente en la Biblioteca Sucursal de Aldine para registrarlos. También podrán responder cualquier pregunta que tenga. ¡No se demore, regístrese hoy! ¡su voto es su voz! **Jueves, 8 de junio, 1pm - 5pm.**

CHROMEBOOK WORKSHOP SERIES

Thursday, June 8, 5pm - 6:45pm

Learn how to use your Chromebook for work or personal use in 4 sessions!

Covered areas:

Session #1 - Mouse/Touchpad and Keyboard Commands (Hardware)

Session #2 -Navigating the interface of your Chromebook (software settings)

Session #3- Using your Mail to access cloud services (Google Apps and Office 365)

Session #4- Overview of Free Cloud Apps (Office 365 and Google Apps)

ROBLOX FRIDAY

Starting **Friday, June 1** we will have Roblox Fridays from **4:30 - 5:30pm for kids ages 9-13**. Come and compete against your friends!

Summer Spanish Learning Club

¿Donde está la biblioteca? Want to learn what that means and more? Join our Summer Spanish Learning Club! This program is meant for beginner and intermediate Spanish language learners. A Spanish speaking staff member will be there to help you learn. Meets every **Saturday at 10 am - 11 am this summer. First meeting will be**

June 10, 2023. See you there!

You can record 5 points in Beanstack for every time you participate in the Summer Spanish Learning Club

COFFEE & CONVERSATION CLUB

Are you learning English and would like to practice your conversation skills? Are you a native English speaker who would like to help others become more fluent? Join us for some easy-going conversation with friends over coffee! This is NOT a class. This is just for fun and experience. **Saturday, June 3, 2pm.**

ADULT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Would you like to be a part of making an impact on people's lives? Are you looking for a meaningful way to spend your time? We are looking for adult volunteers to help with tasks and programs at the library as well as volunteers to teach English language classes, citizenship classes, or computer classes in person and virtually. Pick up an application at the Aldine Branch Library, call 832-927-5410, or click here: <https://forms.office.com/r/qzSMSPiaTL>.

PASSPORT SERVICES

Do have plans to travel out of the country soon? Get on the ball and make sure you get your passport in order NOW! You can make an appointment for passport services at Aldine Branch - <https://www.hcpl.net/services/passport-services>

Our passport hours - Mondays and Wednesdays 12pm - 5pm; Tuesdays and Thursdays 12pm - 7pm; Saturdays 10am - 12pm and 2pm - 4pm. We also have walk-in service from 2-4pm on Fridays on a first come first served basis. Those wishing to get a passport executed must have all necessary documents, photos, copies, and required people present with them.

MICHELLE PICHON
LIBRARY PROGRAM SPECIALIST
HARRIS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
ALDINE BRANCH LIBRARY
11331 AIRLINE DR.
HOUSTON, TX 77037
832-927-5410

NEED ASSISTANCE? APPLY FOR PCT2 MEAL PROGRAM NOW!

Call Harris County Call Center @ 713-274-2222 or scan QR code to see if you qualify! Limited space is available.

TO OUR SENIORS WITHIN PCT 2:

LET'S TALK FOOD!
Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia and Precinct2gether, Inc. are serving FREE hot meals to qualifying homebound seniors in your area delivered by our dedicated food delivery drivers Monday through Friday.

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- Disabled
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Off Jensen between Berry Road & Aldine Westfield

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SCHOOL NEWS PAGE

Celebrating Excellence: Aldine ISD Honors Outstanding Teachers at TIA Event



In a star-studded event held at the child nutrition center, Aldine Independent School District came together to recognize and honor its exceptional educators through the Teacher Incentive Allotment (TIA) program. The event shone a spotlight on the best of the best teachers, highlighting their commit-

ment to excellence and dedication to their students' success.

The TIA program marks a significant milestone for designated teachers in Aldine ISD, as they now have the opportunity to earn salaries in the six figures. This noteworthy achievement demonstrates the district's commitment to valuing and supporting its educators, acknowledging the vital role they play in shaping young minds.

The recent TIA approval means that in addition to their regular salaries, designated Aldine ISD teachers have the potential to earn up to \$30,000 more, based on the campus need as determined by the Texas Education Agency and their designation lev-

el. This financial boost not only recognizes the exceptional efforts put forth by these teachers but also aims to attract and retain top talent, ultimately benefiting the district's students.

The TIA event was a celebration of excellence, showcasing the incredible impact that Aldine ISD teachers have on their students' lives. It serves as a testament to the district's ongoing commitment to providing the best possible education by recognizing and rewarding outstanding educators. With the TIA program's implementation, Aldine ISD continues to foster an environment that supports and empowers teachers, fostering a brighter future for both educators and students alike.



Summer College Tours - Explore Your Future

Aldine ISD's Post Secondary Outcomes Department is hosting three college tours this summer. This is a free opportunity to visit a university and learn about the admissions process, financial aid, and more.

These trips are open to all high school students and recent grads. Space is limited and will be first come first serve.

Students can register at tinyurl.com/summercollegevisit This summer we will be visiting UHD, UT Austin, and Prairie View A&M University.

EXPLORE YOUR FUTURE

FREE opportunity to visit a university and learn about the admissions process, housing, financial aid, and more! Open to all high school students and recent grads. Space is limited!

UHD	UT Austin	PV A&M
June 14th, 9am	June 21st, 7am	June 22nd, 8am

Register tinyurl.com/summercollegevisit

ALDINE Independent School District

Public Comment Notice

In accordance with federal regulations, an entity planning to submit a federal grant application must afford a reasonable opportunity for public comment on the application that is submitted to the Texas Education Agency for approval. Aldine ISD will provide an opportunity for public comment regarding the different

Federal Program Grants including ESSA, IDEA, Perkins, and ESSER III.

Students, parents, teachers, school personnel, community, and business members are invited to participate in the required public comment opportunity to express their opinion regarding the design, planning, and implementation

of the different federal grant programs on Monday, June 12, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. - Donaldson Administration Building Board Room, 2520 WW Thorne, Blvd. Houston, TX 77073

Public input for each federal program area is also available through the Web Links indicated below:

Congratulations to Davis, Jr. Senior High School Senior Graduates

Congrats to all the amazing Davis, Jr HS senior graduates! As you step into the next chapter of your lives, remember to be bold, be courageous, and be your best selves. Exciting things are coming your way! Stay tuned for the full album of your future successes.



F.A.C.E University Graduation



F.A.C.E University graduation truly celebrated triumph and unity! From the shared lessons to the victorious steps we

took, we proved that we can conquer anything together. Cheers to an unforgettable journey and a promising future ahead!

Three hundred seven parents graduated from the Family and Community University that started classes in October. Throughout the year, families could attend in-person, virtual, and pre-recorded sessions that covered various topics. Families decided on their topics of interest. Whether taking ESL, GED, citizenship, cooking, SEL,

Special Education, or health education classes, the parents who attended 15 sessions were eligible to participate in the graduation ceremony on May 24 at Davis High School.

Superintendent Dr. Goffney, Board members President Randy Bates, Dr. Viola Garcia, Mrs. Rose Avalos, and members of the district's Executive Leadership Team and the community attended this event, where Aldine families were recognized for their commitment to pursuing adult education.



OPINION PAGE

OPINION
By Harris County Public Health

Gun Violence is the Leading Cause of Death for Children in the United States

June is Gun Violence Awareness Month - A Call for Action and Prevention

HOUSTON - Gun violence is a public health crisis, and it is urgent to raise awareness and reflect on the importance of gun violence education and prevention.

Males aged ten to 14 years in the United States had an 85.7% increase in firearm-related deaths of males of this age range, the largest percentage increase in firearm-related deaths (from 2016 to 2020).

Texas has one of the highest rates of gun violence in the United States, including homicides, suicides, and unintentional shootings. The effects of firearm violence extend beyond victims and their families to the communities they live in.

"Harris County Public Health (HCPH) recognizes gun violence as a public health crisis that devastates families and communities, and we are proactively working to build safer, healthier, and stronger communities" said HCPH Executive Director Barbie L. Robinson.

The Community Health and Violence Prevention Services (CHVPS) Division under HCPH addresses the reduction of gun violence and works in partnership with local agencies. This allows for a coordinated, holistic response to improve community health and welfare and reduce violence.

Nonetheless, gun violence is a community issue, and we must come together to address the root causes of it. We urge our residents to join hands in the fight against gun violence.

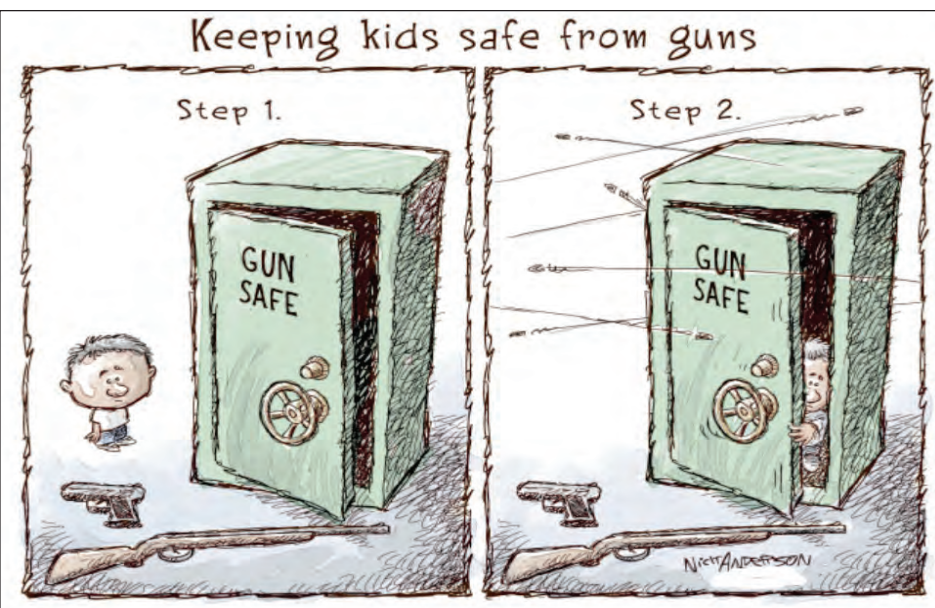
To commemorate violence awareness month, CHVPS will be hosting events throughout June at various locations as follows:

- DateTimeLocation
June 13, 2023 12 - 4 pm Carriage Place Apartments/Casa Paz-505 Wells Fargo Dr. Houston, TX 77077
June 19, 2023 10 - 2 pm Yellowstone Park (George T. Nelson Park)3820 Yellowstone Blvd., Houston TX 77021
June 24, 2023 10 to 2 pm Sunnyside MSC4410 Reed Road, Houston TX 77051-2718
June 29, 2023 1 to 6 pm Wesley Square Apartments - 7402 Calhoun Rd #202, Houston, TX 77033

In recognition of National Gun Violence Awareness Month in June, residents are encouraged to support gun violence awareness by pledging to Wear Orange on Friday, June 2nd, to raise awareness about gun violence, and honor the lives of gun violence victims and survivors.

For additional information on the CHVPS program, please visit hcph.org or call (713) 274-4877 or email violenceprevention@phs.hctx.net.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Opinions expressed here are not necessarily that of this newspaper or its staff. YOUR OPINION is welcome. Send a letter for possible publication to Grafikpress Newspapers, 5906 Star Lane, Houston TX 77057 or an email to GRAFIKSTAR@aol.com. Please limit your words to about 200. Letters will be subject to editing. Thank you.



THE POSTSCRIPT
By Carrie Classon

'Footprints'

They put in a new sidewalk," my neighbor said, "and the first thing that happened was, a cat walked across the cement and left little footprints!"

My neighbor was amused. "I hope they leave them. They're so cute!"

I thought those prints would probably survive. No one was going to take the trouble to cover up a few cat prints on the sidewalk with concrete.

A few years back, they started putting poetry on the sidewalk, laid right into the cement. I stop and read the poetry on my walk. I'll ponder for a moment or two, then move on. I'm not great with poetry. It fills me with questions that have no answers.

I want to ask the poet, "Can you tell me the rest of the story?" But there is no more. I'm sure the poet would be disappointed in me. But I like reading the poetry anyway.

Some pavement was replaced recently, and a leaf landed on it. There remains a perfect leaf print, and I took a picture of it. If I see the cat prints, I'll take a picture of them, too. I'm proud of that cat, leaving its mark.

Several years ago, I was camping in the northeast corner of New Mexico. I took a guided hike that showed prehistoric tracks. The tracks were made by dinosaurs when that piece of land, now desert, had been right at the edge of an ancient sea that stretched all the way to Canada. The land by the shore of this sea was jungle. The interpretive signs said there were a lot of animal tracks right there, because it was easier to walk on the beach than through the dense jungle.

I tried to imagine leaving footprints that lasted 200 million years. I failed.

But the most interesting part, to me, was one particular dinosaur track where the paleontologists said the dinosaur had slipped. They knew this because dinosaurs held their tails aloft and only touched them to the ground when they needed extra stability—if they were going to fall. And that's what happened. A dinosaur was walking along this beach—I'm going to imagine it was a nice sunny day—the sand (with all that clay in it) was slippery and... Whoops!

She slipped and caught herself in the nick of time with her tail. Then she kept walking. We don't know what happened after that one moment in time—that moment that happened 200 million years ago. Just like the poems in the sidewalk, there is no more. But today, we can still see her tracks.

I love that. The cat prints and the poetry and the leaf print in the cement will not last 200 million years. I've no idea if the planet will be here that long. But they will last longer than the poet who wrote the words or the cat who left the prints or the tree that dropped the leaf. And I think that is, somehow, wonderful.

I'd like to leave a small print somewhere. Nothing big. Nothing ostentatious. Maybe just a book that is in print for a few years before it disappears. That would be nice. Maybe just a record of a time when I slipped and—at the last moment—caught myself.

Till next time. Carrie.

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS
By Gary Borders



Abbott, Patrick Spar Over Tax Relief

Gov. Greg Abbott late last week warned lawmakers to be prepared for several special sessions to pass a tax reform bill that he will accept, as well as a school voucher plan that failed to pass during the regular session.

Abbott and Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick are at odds over how to deliver more than \$17 billion in property tax relief, the Austin American-Statesman reported.

During the first special session, called immediately after the regular session ended May 29, the House of Representatives quickly passed a tax relief bill that Abbott supports, then adjourned. The governor said the measure could result in eventually eliminating property taxes. The Senate has not taken action. Patrick, who presides over the Senate, countered that eliminating all property taxes would result in local sales taxes more than doubling to 19%.

"Whenever sales taxes underperform, property taxes will immediately go back up," Patrick tweeted.

Speaking before the Texas Public Policy Foundation last Friday, Abbott proposed reducing the overall tax burden through population growth and an expanded business market paying taxes.

"Texans want to own their own property, not rent it from government," Abbott said.

SCOTT NAMED INTERIM ATTORNEY GENERAL

John Scott, who most recently served as Texas Secretary of State under Abbott, has been appointed the short-term interim Texas attorney general after Ken Paxton was forced to step aside while awaiting trial in the Senate. Paxton was impeached by the Texas House on May 27.

"John Scott has the background and experience needed to step in as a short-term interim Attorney General during the time the Attorney General has been suspended from duty," Abbott said.

Scott also worked as a deputy attorney general under Abbott, overseeing all civil litigation undertaken by that office, then served as chief operating officer of the Health and Human Services Commission. Paxton's trial in the Senate is slated to begin no later than Aug. 28, according to the Texas Tribune.

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS
By Gary Borders

LEGAL HEAVYWEIGHTS TO PROSECUTE PAXTON

Two well-known Houston attorneys have been hired to prosecute the impeachment case against Paxton. Dick DeGuerin and Rusty Hardin have more than 100 combined years of courtroom experience, the Statesman reported.

"The people of the state of Texas are entitled to know whether their top cop is a crook," DeGuerin said. For his part, Hardin implored the Senate to make the proceedings public. That body plans to adopt rules of engagement for the trial on June 20.

Paxton, a three-term Republican, was impeached by a lopsided margin in the House. Impeachment is the rough equivalent of a grand jury indictment. The Senate will act as a court to determine his guilt or innocence of the 20 articles of impeachment. It requires a two-thirds majority to convict Paxton, whose wife, Angela Paxton, is a state senator.

DeGuerin has defended a number of high-profile clients, including former U.S. Rep. Tom DeLay and singer/songwriter Billy Joe Shaver.

PUC CHAIRMAN RESIGNS FROM PANEL

Peter Lake has resigned as chairman of the Texas Public Utility Commission, effective July 1. Appointed in the aftermath of the widespread outages caused by Winter Storm Uri in February 2021, Lake oversaw the overhaul of the embattled commission, including adopting weatherization standards for power plants and rebuilding the beleaguered Texas power grid, according to The Dallas Morning News.

"Together we've overcome sometimes seemingly insurmountable challenges and delivered on our promise to Texans that we'd keep the lights on," Lake said in a statement.

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★ OBITUARIES

SUSAN LYNN HOFFMAN

Susan Lynn Hoffman died on Tuesday, May 23rd in Phoenix, Arizona at the age of 64, from Cardiac Arrest suffered during a scheduled heart procedure.

Susan was a graduate of New Castle, Pennsylvania High School, class of 1976, and Arizona State University, class of 1980, with a bachelor's degree in Political Science. Susan's career was as a Legal Assistant, and for most of her life she was employed by Attorney Scott Palumbo of the law firm Palumbo Wolfe & Palumbo. She was a valuable member of the firm who will be greatly missed.

Susan's interests included extensive travel, and care for every conceivable stray animal she encountered. With her sister Trisha, Susan had travelled to Mexico, Australia, Canada, and Florida and Washington States. She cared for many stray animals, including cats,



dogs, and birds. She kept some, but found foster homes when possible. She supported animal shelters and encouraged others to do the same. She was also an avid sports fan, following NASCAR and the NFL. She had been to several Super Bowls, and a Rose Bowl game.

Susan was born on September 24, 1957 in New Castle, Pennsylvania to Gilbert E. B. Hoffman and Carol Louise Lutz Hoffman. Her mother Carol preceded her in death in 2017. Susan is survived by her husband Terry Blanchard, her sister Trisha (Patricia) Alison Hoffman, her nephew Derek Geffs, stepsons

Kevin and Billy Blanchard, and several step-grandchildren. She is also survived by her half-sister Kristan Liu Hoffman and family of Cincinnati, Ohio. She also leaves extended Cramer family in Florida.

Susan had planned to retire in a few short years, and had a second home in the woods of Show Low, Arizona where she was able to retreat and enjoy the quiet of the country. She will be greatly missed by her family and friends. Funeral arrangements are private, and donations can be made in her name to animal rescue organizations.



BARC ANIMAL SHELTER & ADOPTIONS ADOPTING A PET

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All adoptions must be done in person. Start the process by planning your visit to the shelter. Appointments are not needed to adopt a pet!

To adopt you must be 18 years of age or older and have a valid, government issued photo ID. If the address on your ID does not match your current address, please provide an alternate proof of address such as a recent utility bill, lease agreement, or car insurance. Digital or hard copies will be accepted.

Our staff will review the pet's details with you to ensure that you are prepared to be as successful as possible with your new pet! Please allow at least one hour to interact with our available animals, speak to our medical team if necessary, and complete the adoption process. Depending on the number of guests we're serving, the pet adoption process can take anywhere from 60-90 minutes - our last adoption is processed at 5:00PM.

Please come prepared to take your new pet home with you. If the pet you've fallen in love with is already spayed or neutered, they will go home the same day. Otherwise, they will stay at the shelter and will be scheduled for surgery on the next available day. BARC provides a cardboard carrier for cats or a leash for dogs, but you may prefer to bring a travel crate or kennel for safe transport.

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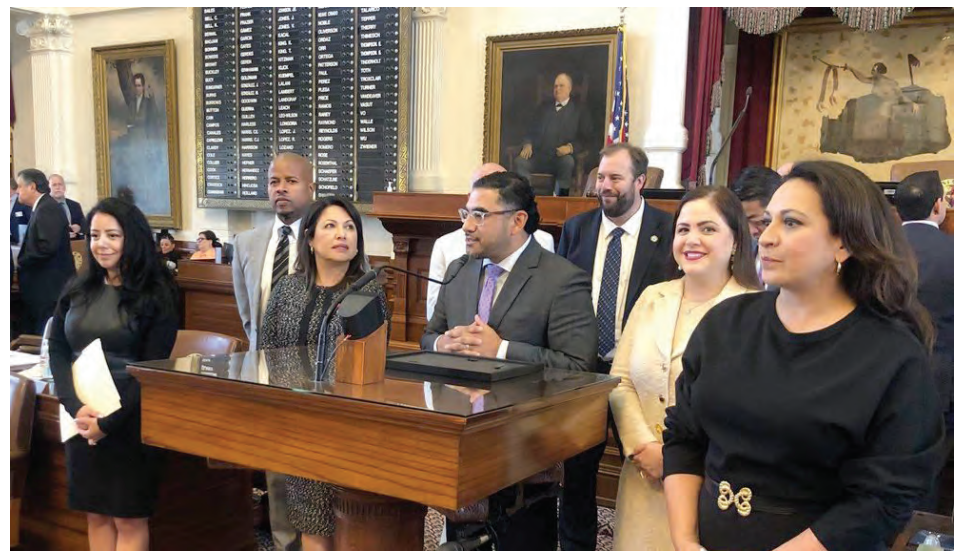
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Puppies	\$75	\$75
Kittens	\$20	\$20
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✉ UPDATES FROM ✉
WALLE WORLD



May 29, 2023

88th Texas Legislature Adjourns "Sine Die"

On Monday, May 29th, the Texas House of Representatives gavelled out and adjourned to complete the 88th Legislative Session. During the 88th Session, Rep. Walle served as the Chair of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Articles VI, VII & VIII, the Vice Chair of the Licensing & Administrative Procedures Committee, and a Member of the Health Care Reform Select and House Administration Committees.

Rep. Walle also served as the House Representative for Articles VI, VII & VIII on the conference committee that helped determine the final budget. Within his Articles — which cover natural resources, business and economic development and regulatory — Rep. Walle oversaw the appropriation of over \$9 billion in general revenue dollars for critical programs. This money includes transformational investments in flood and water infrastructure projects, port capital and ship channel improvements and targeted pay raises for state employees.

As a budget conferee, Rep. Walle helped oversee the construction of Articles VI, VII & VIII of the state budget. Here are a few highlights of key line items Rep. Walle worked on this Session:

💰 **BUDGET UPDATES**

Flood Infrastructure Projects

- \$625M for the Flood Infrastructure Fund, which provides loans and grants for flood control, flood mitigation and drainage projects.
- \$200M for port capital improvement projects.
- \$176M for coastal erosion projects.
- \$550M for the Gulf Coast Protection District, including the "Ike Dike" project.
- \$50M for the Lake Houston Dam Spillway.
- \$16.9M for Poor Farm Ditch for drainage improvements in Harris County.
- \$12M for the T.C. Jester Stormwater Detention Basin project in Harris County.
- \$18M for the Halls Bayou Watershed in House District 140.

Air Quality Improvements

- \$7M for the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to expand pollution reduction programs to also target particulate matter issues (PM 2.5), which will help communities impacted by concrete batch plants.

Expanding State Parks

- \$1 Billion for the Centennial Parks Conservation Fund, established by Rep. Walle and Sen. Tan Parker, which can be used for the acquisition and expansion of state parks.

Food Insecurity

- \$10M for the Texans Feeding Texans program to contribute surplus agricultural products for food banks.
- \$6.6M to provide free breakfast for any student eligible for the free and reduced lunch program.
- \$10M for the creation of a new Houston Food Bank in House District 140.

University of Houston

- \$3 Billion to create the Texas University Fund, which the University of Houston will be eligible to draw funds from in pursuit of rising in national research rankings.
- \$34M for an institutional enhancement for the University of Houston for system-wide improvements.
- \$2M for the University of Houston/Houston Independent School District partnership program to support the certification of new educators.

⚖️ **LEGISLATIVE UPDATES**

Rep. Armando Walle successfully passed seven bills this Session that have been sent to Governor Greg Abbott. Two of those bills have already been signed into law by the governor.

House Bill 1472

HB 1472 by Rep. Walle adjusts the income requirements for participation in the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs' Bootstrap Loan Program, which expands access to affordable housing. The bill passed both chambers and has been sent to the governor for final approval.

House Bill 2897

HB 2897 by Rep. Walle gives victims of wage theft more opportunities for recourse by expanding which addresses demands for payment may be sent. The bill passed both chambers and has been sent to the governor for final approval.

House Bill 1634

HB 1634 by Rep. Walle ensures Public Facility Corporations cannot discriminate against families who use Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers when selecting tenants. HB 1634 was amended onto HB 2071 by Rep. Jacey Jetton, which did ultimately pass.

House Bill 2205

HB 2205 by Rep. Walle renames a portion of US Highway 59 in memory of Harris County Deputy Sheriff Darren Almendarez. HB 2205 is the companion bill to Senate Bill 957 by Sen. Carol Alvarado, which was signed into law by the governor on May 19th.

House Bill 4177 and House Joint Resolution 185

HB 4177 establishes the Centennial Parks Conservation Fund, which has been allocated \$1 billion during the budget process for the expansion and acquisition of Texas state parks. HJR 185 authorizes a constitutional amendment to give Texas voters the opportunity to vote to approve the creation of the fund during the 2023 General Election. HB 4177 and HJR 185 are companion bills to SB 1648 and SJR 74 by Sen. Tan Parker, which have been passed and sent to the governor for final approval.

House Bill 4318

HB 4318 creates a grant program to fund crime victim notification systems through law enforcement agencies, which would improve 9-1-1 response times and give Texans more information and agency when filing a report. HB 4318 is the companion bill to SB 2085 by Sen. John Whitmire, which has passed and been sent to the governor for final approval.

Several key pieces of legislation by Rep. Walle made it to various points in the process, but did not finally pass. Rep. Walle will continue to push for these critical changes in the interim and during the next Legislative Session.

CHURCH PAGE


BIBLE TRIVIA

By Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Darius (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. Which prophet was trapped at a wall by an angel with drawn sword? Daniel, Balaam, Jeremiah, Nathan
3. In Proverbs 21:17, he that loveth wine and oil shall not be ...? Pure, Blamed, Liked, Rich

4. From Genesis 37:3, who had a coat of many colors? Abraham, Goliath, Adam, Joseph
5. Which Hebrew woman became Queen of Persia? Sarah, Esther, Deborah, Ruth
6. From Judges 10:2, how many years did Tola judge Israel? 1, 7, 23, 110

ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) Balaam, 3) Rich, 4) Joseph, 5) Esther, 6) 23
 "Test Your Bible Knowledge," a book with 1,206 multiple-choice questions by columnist Wilson Casey, is available in stores and online. (c) 2023 King Features Synd., Inc.




THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

The Lord has looked down from heaven upon the sons of men to see if there are any who understand, who seek after God.

PSALM 14:2

Detail of "Creation of Adam" by Michelangelo (1508-1512)

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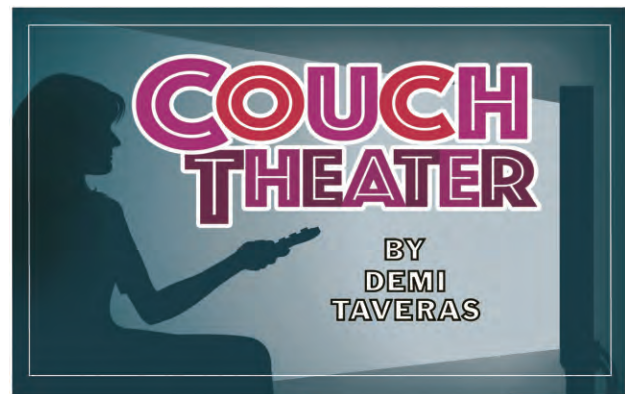
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Lily-Rose Depp and Abel Tesfaye star in "The Idol."

"Avatar: The Way of Water"

"AVATAR: THE WAY OF WATER" (PG-13) — James Cameron's latest blockbuster reaches Disney's streaming service on June 7, after bringing home \$2.3 billion at the box office.

mind. (Disney+) "THE IDOL" (TV-MA) — "Euphoria" creator Sam Levinson continues to push the envelope when it comes to his shows.

regressive. The first episode is out now on streaming for you to decide for yourself. (Max)

"SHOOTING STARS" (PG-13) — Based on the 2009 book about LeBron James' beginnings in basketball, this film centers on James and three of his best friends who've been playing basketball together since they were kids.

"FLAMIN' HOT" (PG-13) — Eva Longoria makes her feature film directorial debut with quite the savory tale — the origin story of a cherished snack called Flamin' Hot Cheetos.

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HOLLYWOOD by Tony Rizzo

HOLLYWOOD — Whoopi Goldberg has said for some time that she'd never do another "Sister Act" because so many of the original actresses who played nuns have passed away.



Whoopi Goldberg in "Sister Act" (1992)

Forget about James Bond ... talks are afoot for Eddie Murphy to take on Peter Sellers' classic Inspector Clouseau in a reboot of "The Pink Panther," to be directed by "Sonic the Hedgehog" filmmaker Jeff Fowler.

Nov. 22, 1963 is a day many of us remember because of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. Many films have been made about that day — "Executive Action" (1973), "JFK" (1991), "The Secret KGB JFK Assassination Files" (1999), "Killing Kennedy" (2013), "Parkland" (2013) and "I Killed JFK" (2014), to name a few.

It's a thriller called "Assassination," starring Al Pacino, Viggo Mortensen, John Travolta, Shia LaBeouf and Courtney Love. The film's being directed by Pulitzer-Prize-winning playwright David Mamet from a script he co-wrote with Nicholas Celozzi.

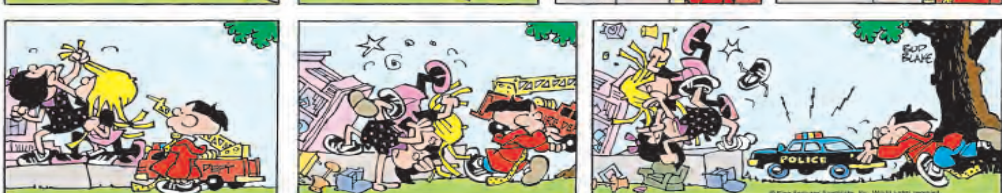
imagining JFK's death as a hit ordered by Chicago mob boss Sam Giancana as payback for JFK's attempt to undermine the mob after they helped get him elected.

It'll take all the tricks in Mamet's literary bag to pull this off, since the most popular theory is that JFK thought Marilyn Monroe had been murdered by the CIA as their way of putting a lid on their affair.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Amber Waves



Weekly SUDOKU by Linda Thistle. Includes a 9x9 grid and difficulty level: Moderate.

HOCUS-FOCUS by Henry Boltinoff. Includes two panels of a boy and a dog and a list of differences.

June 5, 2023 Posting Date King Crossword

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Includes a list of 61 clues and the King Crossword logo.

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez. Includes a grid of numbers and 10 trivia questions with answers.

1. James Earl Jones.; 2. "The West Wing"; 3. Rudyard Kipling.; 4. Amsterdam.; 5. Great Dane.; 6. Paella.; 7. Vatican City.; 8. Rosh Hashanah.; 9. Phalanges.; 10. Four.

EAST ALDINE DISTRICT

New Recycle Center Opens

Long planned project will accept heavy trash, and recyclable waste by Appointment

Continued from Page 1

and green spaces of illegal waste dumping that often ranges from unwanted, used furniture and mattresses to old tires.

While the East Aldine Management District contracts with the Harris County Sheriff's Office for a special team of deputies who serve as a "nuisance

abatement team," the 20-square mile community includes many wide open spaces that violators use for illegal dumping.

The center, located on land owned by the Sunbelt Fresh Water Supply District near the Halls Bayou walking trail, will be open to residents by appointment. Residents may use the center twice a month.

Management District Chairman Carlos Silva and others noted that the recycling center is the result of more than 10 years of planning, including efforts by the late board chairman Gerald Overturff.

"This is truly one of those collaborative efforts," Silva said. "It took a decade of work, of ener-

gy, of research."

Silva emphasized the need for residents to spread the word about the new center.

"If they're not given an option, then folks will make a bad choice," Silva said. "With this facility, we're providing an opportunity for people to make the right choice.

"Here is a place that you

can come during the middle of the day, (while) the sun is shining, to come legally dump your wares as opposed to waiting till 11 o'clock at night finding the back road and then just quick, quick," Silva joked.

The center is not for the use of contractors or other businesses.

The center is open 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Wednes-

days through Sunday. To make an appointment, East Aldine residents should call 713-454-7185.

The recycling center does not accept household garbage; hazardous waste such as chemicals, paint or oil; electronics or appliances. No waste is accepted from contractors or businesses.

--by Anne Marie Kilday



Opening remarks from the SMC director, EAMD chair Carlos Silva, SMC Selina Valdez, and EAMD exec. director Richard Cantu



Dumpsters for various types of waste and recyclable materials.



Community members hold souvenir plaques from the ribbon cutting. Photos courtesy e-vision1 pro and EAMD.



Community members and District staff hosted the ribbon cutting.

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