

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Aldine Home Buyout Study 2
- Pilgrim Place Thanks ... 2
- Library News 2
- Aldine ISD New Principals 3
- Beat the Heat Tips 4
- Register to Vote 5
- Pet Matters 5
- HC Cooling Centers 5
- Bio Mario Castillo 8
- LSC Registration Festival .. 8
- LSC Great Place to Start ... 8

NORTHEAST NEWS



Mario Castillo, sole finalist as new Lone Star College Chancellor

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VOL. 47, NO. 27 TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2023 HOUSTON, TEXAS www.nenewsroom.com

Mario Castillo named finalist as new LSC Chancellor

NORTH HOUSTON (July 21, 2023) – The Lone Star College Board of Trustees has selected Mario K. Castillo, J.D. to be the sole finalist for the Lone Star College Chancellor position. The decision came during a Special Lone Star College Board of Trustees meeting held July 21.

“This is a historic moment in the history of Lone Star College with the appointment of the first Hispanic Chancellor demonstrating the Lone Star College Board of Trustees’ commitment to

our culture of engagement and inclusiveness,” said Michael Stoma, LSC Board of Trustees Chair. “The process to select a new chancellor involved many hours of research and due diligence to ensure we selected the right finalist.”

The search for a new chancellor began in late March 2023 and included a survey for employees to complete that lead to the development of a Chancellor profile along with the formation of Chancellor Search Advisory Committee.

The LSC Board of Trustees

will hold a special meeting to appoint Castillo a minimum of 21 days after being named sole finalist. If appointed, Castillo would become the fifth Chancellor of the Lone Star College System.

Castillo served as Lone Star College Chief Operating Officer and General Counsel. Castillo’s responsibilities have progressed through the years. Starting as the College’s General Counsel in 2015; promoted to Vice Chancellor and General Counsel in 2016; and was again promoted to Chief Operating

officer and General Counsel in 2017. Additionally, Castillo served as interim President at Lone Star College-Kingwood for a little over an academic year.

The Association of Community College Trustees Searches conducted a nationwide search using the LSC Employee Search Advisory Committee criteria to recruit a diverse and high-quality pool of candidates.

“I look forward to working with Mario Castillo to continue our mission of providing comprehensive educational opportunities

and programs to enrich lives,” said Stoma. “I would also like to recognize and thank all board members for their work on this very important decision.”

Lone Star College enrolls over 80,000 students each semester providing high-quality, low-cost academic transfer and career training education. LSC is training tomorrow’s workforce today and redefining the community college experience to support student success. Stephen C. Head, Ph.D., serves as Chancellor of LSC, the largest institution of high-

er education in the Houston area and has been named a 2022 Great Colleges to Work For® institution by the Chronicle of Higher Education and recognized by Fortune Magazine and Great Place To Work® as one of this year’s Best Workplaces in Texas™. LSC consists of eight colleges, seven centers, eight Workforce Centers of Excellence and Lone Star Corporate College. To learn more, visit LoneStar.edu.

See Full Biography of DR. Mario Castillo on Page 8

Texas Sales Tax Holiday is Aug. 11-13

(AUSTIN) – Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar is reminding shoppers they can save money on clothes and school supplies during the state’s sales tax holiday on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 11-13.

State law exempts sales tax on qualified items — such as clothing, footwear, school supplies and backpacks — priced below \$100, saving shoppers about \$8 on every \$100 they spend. The dates of the sales tax holiday and list of tax-exempt items

are set by the Texas Legislature.

“As Texans prepare for the back-to-school bell, this is the perfect time to take advantage of the opportunity to save money on everything from blue jeans to ballpoint pens,” Hegar said. “As the father of three, I know how these expenses can add up.”

The Comptroller’s office estimates that shoppers will save \$136 million in

See SALES TAX HOLIDAY, page 8

Pct. 2 starts drainage project

High Meadows & Fairgreen Subdivisions

EAST ALDINE – This week Harris County Pct. 2 broke ground on another Revive2Thrive drainage improvement project in Precinct 2.

The High Meadows and Fairgreen subdivision will see improvements to their drainage infrastructure, which will help reduce the risk of flooding. It is part of the 2018 Harris County

See PCT 2 DRAINAGE PROJECT, page 5



GROUNDBREAKING for the High Meadows & Fairgreen Subdivision Drainage Project was held last Wednesday, July 26 at a site on Debeney Drive. Seen ABOVE at the Groundbreaking are Pct. 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia and members of the Harris County Engineering Department, Flood Control District, Community Services Department, East Aldine Management District Staff and Board Members, and Community Residents.

MARKETPLACE – Please Mention the NORTHEAST NEWS when you visit our Advertisers.

NEWS NOTES

Back-2-School First Day of Classes:

DISTRICT:	DATE:
ALDINE	AUG 10 THU
HISD	AUG 28 MON
CROSBY	AUG 7 MON
HUFFMAN	AUG 9 WED
GOOSE CREEK	AUG 14 MON
GALENA PARK	AUG 9 WED
SHELDON	AUG 9 WED
CHANNELVIEW	AUG 16 WED
DAYTON	AUG 9 WED
BARBERS HILL	AUG 16 WED

B2S Sales Tax Holiday Aug 11-13

Avoid paying the Texas Sales Tax (8.25%) on every purchase for school supplies, on August 11, 12, and 13 (Friday, Saturday, Sunday). Savings includes clothing, footwear, school supplies, and backpacks - any item priced below \$100. Complete list of exempt items is at www.TexasTaxHoliday.org.

Lone Star College-East Aldine Campus “Enrollment Breeze”

Saturday, August 12 - 10am to 1pm.
LoneStar.edu/
LearnMore.
346-378-7503.

EAMD Small Business Seminar Luncheon 8/24

East Aldine District is hosting a Small Business Seminar/Luncheon at their District Office, on Thursday August 24 starting at 12 noon.
All Small Businesses are welcome. Lunch and refreshments provided.
Program: How to write a Lending-Ready Business Plan, with David Liu of U of H SBDC.
Sponsored by East Aldine District, Woodforest Bank, UH SBDC, BakerRipley.
Register at AldineDistrict.org/RSVP.
More info or phone registration 512-658-4985.

TURN YOUR SKILLS INTO A CAREER

FALL OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, August 12
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
HCC Northline Campus
8001 Fulton Street
(Registration assistance, fun, information, & HCC swag)

REGISTER NOW

FALL CLASSES BEGIN AUGUST 21

Scan for steps on how to get started!

Available at the Northeast College Campuses

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Academic & University Transfer courses High School Equivalency/GED English as a Second Language (ESL) Community Learning classes (Free) Audio Recording Technology Automotive & Diesel Repair Auto Body/Collision Repair Business Administration Cosmetology Certified Nurse Aide (CNA) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic Water & Wastewater Tech OSHA, Hazwoper, & NCCER Digital Communications Process Operator/Instrumentation Tech Petroleum Technician Police, Fire, & EMS Welding & Bilingual Welding Air Conditioning Technician I & II Bilingual AC Technician I & II Plumbing Technician I & II
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Thanks to the East Aldine District for support of Pilgrim Place Seniors



Seniors from Pilgrim Place were on hand at the last board Meeting of the East Aldine Management District, to thank them for the financial support of the Seniors Program at the Center.

Aldine Home Buyout Study seeks Participants

Compensation for Interview available

Are you an Aldine resident who has participated in a voluntary home buyout? You may be eligible to participate in a research study being conducted by Texas A & M University and Texas Applesseed. Participation involves a two-hour interview about your experience in home buyout program. Participants will be compensated \$25 per hour for completing an interview. This study aims to understand the effects of participation in voluntary and mandatory home buyout programs on health and wellbeing. Please email homebuyoutstudy@gmail.com or text 713-396-2439, to participate in the study.

COMMUNITY WATCH

Multi-alarm Fire destroys Large home on Deams Street

Houston Fire Department reports a fire in a large house under reconstruction, with extensive damage.

The fire occurred on July 23, 2023, at about 11:54 p.m. in the 1700 block of Deams St. 77093.

One firefighter was injured and transported to the hospital. Tax records show this house value, with \$150,000 in estimated property saved, but \$610,000 in estimated damage.

The cause is under investigation.

Firefighters arrived on scene to find heavy fire and smoke coming from a 1-story house and made an offensive attack. They switched to a defensive attack due to the conditions of the home. The fire was controlled and allowed crews to go back to an offensive mode to complete extinguishment. A primary search was conducted with no one found. One firefighter was injured and transported to the hospital. The house was vacant and had burned before. HFD Arson investigators were requested to determine the cause and origin. 40 personnel were dispatched to this incident, including crews from Stations 34, 15, 31, 12, 30, 39, 56, 58 and Rehab 17.

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- Age 62 or older
- Disabled
- Very Low Income

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APPLY TO:

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Off Jensen between Berry Road & Aldine Westfield



AIRLINE LIBRARY NEWS

SUMMER READING PROGRAM

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://hcup.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, Jul. 31, 11:30am - 12pm.

Summer Reading Program Movie Monday

Join us for an entertaining, team spirit-themed movie! Monday, Jul. 31, at 2pm.

APRENDA COMPUTERS AND TECH (ESPAÑOL)

Description: Sitio web de la clase. Limited space/ Espacio limitado.

Pre-regístrate aquí: <https://forms.office.com/r/rTQyUGd1Yy>

* Important- Instructions are in Spanish language, Software: Windows OS, Office 365, Google apps are all in English language.

Nivel -1 Habilidades Esenciales- Martes- 5:00 a 6:45 PM: Computer Essential Skills (Spanish computer class)

- Aprenderá a como obtener las habilidades esenciales sobre: Navegación con Windows, navegación por Internet e interface, tipos de navegadores, consejos de seguridad, correo electrónico e interface, y otros temas relacionados a la tecnología con enfoque para empleos y uso personal en un nivel para principiantes.

Nivel 2- Intermedio- Jueves- 5:00 a 6:45 PM: Cloud Computing-Google workspace + Office 365 (Spanish computer class)- Computación en la nube. Aprenderá sobre los servicios de Google (Docs, Sheets, Slides, Forms), Microsoft Office 365 (Word, Excel, PowerPoint). Además, cubriremos otras aplicaciones como: Adobe Sparks, Canva, Box y otras apps. El enfoque general de de las practicas de computación serán para su uso en empleos y uso personal.

Importante: * Se determinará sus habilidades y el nivel de su clase con una evaluación de habilidades en la computadora durante su primer día de su asistencia

* requerirá una cuenta de google.com y outlook.com para acceder a las aplicaciones y programas gratuitos de la internet

** Formato de la clase: Instrucciones son en Español y aplicaciones (Windows, Office 365, Google Apps) son todas en Inglés

ESL REGISTRATION

Aldine library is registering ESL/ELL (English language learning) students for the Fall semester (September - November).

On the registration days,

students will fill out registration forms, take an assessment and be assigned to a class session.

Students must appear in person on one of the following registration dates to attend class.

Registration Dates:
Tuesday, August 1, 2023 6 - 7:00 pm
Thursday, August 3, 2023 10:30 am - 12:30 pm

La biblioteca de Aldine esta registrando estudiantes de ESL/ELL (aprendizaje del idioma inglés) para el semestre de otoño (septiembre - noviembre). Los estudiantes llenarán formularios de registro, tomarán una evaluación y serán asignados a una sesión de clase.

En los días de inscripción, los estudiantes completarán formularios de inscripción, realizarán una evaluación y serán asignados a una sesión de clase.

Los estudiantes deben presentarse en persona en una de las siguientes fechas de registro para asistir a clase.

Días de inscripción:
martes, 1 de agosto 2023 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
jueves, 3 de agosto de 2023 10:30 am - 12:30 pm.

KIDS CRAFTS

Let's get creative! Join us at 6 pm every Tuesday for our weekly summer crafts at Aldine! (Don't forget, this is a great opportunity for kids to work on essential life skills like sharing, reading instructions, cutting, gluing, and working in a group.) Tuesday, Aug. 1, 6pm.

PARA LOS NIÑOS

Each workshop provides parents with resources, strategies, and activities to improve family literacy, learning practices, and parents' abilities to serve as their child's first teacher.

All materials and resources needed to establish a program are available at no cost.

For parents and children under 8 years (and siblings too!) Wednesday, Aug. 2, 11am.

MAGIC SHOW WITH JOHN O'BRYANT

Magician John O'Bryant will be visiting Aldine Library and you don't want to miss it!

His NEW Summer Reading Magic Show for 2023 is filled with amazing magic, hilarious comedy, audience participation, and more incredible surprises!

John's high-energy shows have made him a crowd favorite at libraries across Texas and he's been a regularly featured act at SeaWorld Adventure Parks. Join us and be part of the excitement at the library! Wednesday, Aug. 2, 4-5pm.

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, Aug. 3, 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, Aug. 3, 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, 27 de agosto, 1pm - 5pm.

ROBLOX FRIDAYS

Join us every Friday for Roblox Fridays! Compete against your friends in a variety of games. May the best player win! For ages 9-13. Friday, Aug. 4, 4:30pm.

Hands-Only CPR Workshop

CPRMolina Healthcare of Texas will be providing a hands-only CPR workshop for families at no cost. Saturday, Aug. 5, 1-3pm.

This is an informational workshop, a certificate will not be issued. Registration required. Register on the HCPL Events page.

Molina Healthcare of Texas brindará un taller práctico de RCP (solo con los manos) para familias sin costo. Sábado, agosto 5, 1-3pm. Aprenda habilidades para salvar vidas, el espacio es limitado. Se requiere registro.

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/qSzMSpiaTL>.

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! Current routine processing is estimated at 13 weeks and expedited processing time is estimated at 9 weeks. You can make an appointment for passport services at Aldine Branch - <https://www.hcup.net/services/passport-services>.

Our passport hours - Mondays and Wednesdays 12pm - 5pm; Tuesdays and Thursdays 12pm - 7pm; Saturdays 10am - 12pm and 2pm - 4pm - Appointments required. 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 to be added on the list to be seen. Sign-in starts at 1pm.

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

Volunteers Needed for Research Study on Home Buyouts in Aldine

Is your home or apartment subject to the Harris County Voluntary Buyout Program? You can volunteer to participate in the Harris County Home Buyout Study.

You May Be Eligible to Participate if you are:

- Over 18 years old
- Living in a home or apartment in Harris County that is eligible for a home buyout

Participation Involves

Participating in a two-hour interview about your experience in the home buyout program at a location of your choice.

You will be compensated \$25/hour for your participation.

Potential Benefits

This study is an opportunity for you to share your experiences for others to learn from.

Purpose of the Study

This study aims to understand the effects of participation in voluntary and mandatory home buyout programs on health and wellbeing.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please contact Shirley Ronquillo at 713-396-2439, email homebuyoutstudy@gmail.com

IRB2022-0903 Investigator: Shannon Van Zandt, Texas A & M Department of Architecture, Langford Architecture Bldg, College Station, TX 77840 svanzandt@arch.tamu.edu

Voluntarios para estudio de investigación sobre la compra de viviendas en Aldine

¿Está su casa o apartamento sujeto al Programa de Compra Voluntaria del Condado de Harris? Puede ofrecerse como voluntario para participar en el estudio de compra de viviendas del condado de Harris.

Puede ser elegible para participar si es:

- Mayor de 18 años.
- Vivir en una casa o apartamento en el condado de Harris que sea elegible para la compra de una casa.

La participación implica

Participar en una entrevista de dos horas sobre su experiencia en el programa de compra de vivienda en el lugar que elija.

Se le compensará con \$25/hora por su participación.

Beneficios potenciales

Este estudio es una oportunidad para que usted comparta sus experiencias para que otros aprendan de ellas.

Propósito del estudio

Este estudio tiene como objetivo comprender los efectos de la participación en programas de compra de vivienda voluntaria y obligatoria en la salud y el bienestar.

PARA MÁS INFORMACIÓN

Comuníquese con Shirley Ronquillo al 713-396-2439, envíe un correo electrónico a homebuyoutstudy@gmail.com

IRB2022-0903 Investigador: Shannon Van Zandt, Departamento de Arquitectura de Texas A & M, Langford Architecture Bldg, College Station, TX 77840 svanzandt@arch.tamu.edu

SCHOOL NEWS PAGE

Aldine ISD New Principals for 2023-2024 School Year

Several schools are starting the school year with new principals.

- *Kory M. Jessie at Caraway Elementary School
- *Cindy Buentello at Carter Academy
- *LaKeshia Williams at Carver High School
- *Joshua Nation at Davis Ninth Grade School
- *James Metcalf at Eisenhower High School
- *Lori Brooks at Ermel Elementary School
- *Elizabeth Arias-Robles at Marcella Elementary School
- *José Lara-Collazo at Mead Middle School
- *Detrick McAfee at Plummer Middle School
- *Dr. Esperanza Jones-Valsin at Raymond Elementary School
- *Miriam Acosta at Sammons Elementary School
- *Gregory Castille at Smith Elementary School
- *Brandy González a Vines EC/PreK/K School

Kory Jessie has 17 years of experience in education, with all those years in Aldine ISD. Jessie began his career in 2006 as a fifth and sixth-grade teacher at Eckert Intermediate (now an elementary). Four years later, he took on a leadership role as a math instructional specialist at Rayford Intermediate School (now Ogden Elementary). In 2012, Jessie was named an assistant principal at Calvert Elementary School, moving two years later to serve in the same capacity at Rayford Intermediate School. Jessie also served

Kory M. Jessie CARAWAY ELEM.



in the same capacity at Jones EC/PreK/K School, Keeble EC/PreK/K, and the Knippel Education Center from July 2018 un-

til being named to his current post.

Jessie received his bachelor's degree in communication from Dillard University and his master's degree in education administration from Sam Houston State University. He is classified as a classroom teacher EC-6 generalist and holds a principal certificate (EC-12). Jessie also completed leadership training opportunities in Aldine ISD, including the Aldine Leadership Academy for Aspiring Assistant Principals, and was a Principal Fellow.

Cindy Buentello began her educational career in Aldine ISD in 2012 as a second-grade bilingual teacher at Carter Academy, where she has served her entire career. Buentello spent several years teaching as a second- and third-grade bilingual teacher. She went on to serve as an instructional specialist before accepting her first assistant principal position in 2018 at the

Cindy Buentello CARTER ACADEMY

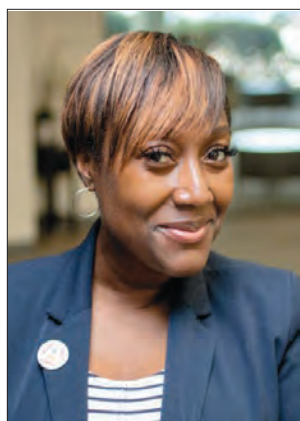


same campus. A post she held until being named principal in June 2023

Buentello earned her bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies in early childhood education from the University of Houston and a master's degree in special education leadership from the University of St. Thomas. Buentello also completed the district's Principal Fellow Cohort.

LaKeshia Williams has 17 years of experience in education. Williams began her career in 2005 as an AVID teacher and science department chair at Sam Houston High School. She moved to Fort Bend ISD five years later as a science instructional specialist at Eisenhower High School. Williams joined Aldine ISD as a science skills specialist at Eisenhower High School in 2011. Two years later, she moved to Davis High School as a science skills specialist and science department chair. In

LaKeshia Williams CARVER HS



2016, Williams was named an assistant principal at Carver High School. She returned to Davis High School in 2018 to serve as an assistant principal before being named curriculum assistant principal two years later, a position she held until her current post.

Williams received her bachelor's degree in science and her master's in educational leadership from Stephen F. Austin University. She also holds a principal certification (EC-12).

Dr. Joshua Nation has 13 years of experience in education. He began his career as an eighth-grade sciences teacher at Mt. Enterprise ISD. Over the years, Nation has served in various capacities, including 504/RTI campus director. In 2017, Nation was named assistant principal at Summer Creek High

Dr. Joshua Nation DAVIS NINTH GRADE



School in Humble ISD, a position he held before being named to his current position in Aldine ISD.

Nation holds a bachelor's degree from Stephen F. Austin State University. He also has a master's degree and a doctorate in educational leadership from the same institution.

James Metcalf has 27 years of experience in education, with all those years in Aldine ISD. Metcalf began his career teacher and coach at Stovall Middle School in 1996. While in Aldine ISD, he has served as an administrator at Eisenhower High School, a curriculum assistant principal at Hoffman Middle School, principal at COMPASS/AEC (Knippel Education Center now), and most recently as principal of Davis Ninth Grade School. He

James Metcalf EISENHOWER HS



has 22 years of administrative experience and five years of experience as an educational service manager.

Metcalf received a bachelor's degree in kinesiology from Sam Houston State University and a master's in educational administration. He also holds a principal certification. Metcalf also took advantage of the district's leadership development opportunity, LEAD (Leadership Experience and Assistant Principal Development) Academy.

Lori Brooks has 16 years of experience in education. Brooks began her career as a third-grade teacher at Conley Elementary School in 2006, where she also served as department chair. Four years later, Brooks took on a leadership role at the campus, serving as the RTI (response to intervention)/dyslexia specialist and reading instructional specialist. In 2015, she was named assistant principal at Ermel Elementary, a position she held until being

Lori Brooks ERMEL ELEMENTARY



named to her current post.

Brooks received her bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies from Prairie View A&M University and earned an instructional leadership development certification from the University of St. Thomas. She holds a master's degree in curriculum and instruction, focusing on reading from Grand Canyon University. Brooks also completed the district's Principal Fellow and Assistant Principal Aspire cohorts.

Elizabeth Arias-Robles has 16 years of experience in education. Arias-Robles began her career as a first-grade bilingual teacher at Thompson Elementary School in 2008; she went on to teach fourth-grade bilingual reading. Four years later, Arias-Robles took on leadership roles at the campus, first serving as the response to intervention interventionist and later as the academic assessment and data specialist. In 2015, she was named assistant principal at Thomp-

Elizabeth Arias-Robles MARCELLA ELEMENTARY



son Elementary, a position she held until being named to her current post.

Arias-Robles received her bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies (EC-Grade 4) from the University of Houston-Downtown. She earned a master's in curriculum and instruction from the same institution. She also has a Principal Certification EC-12 from Region 4 Education Service Center.

Both of her daughters are Aldine alums.

José Lara Collazo has 10 years of experience in education. Lara Collazo began his career as a third-grade bilingual teacher in 2013 at Isaacs Elementary School in Houston ISD, where he also departmentalized fifth-grade math and science. In 2018, Lara Collazo moved to Wainwright Elementary in HISD, serving similarly. A year later, he served as the campus teacher specialist. Lara Col-

José Lara Collazo MEAD MS



lazo joined Aldine ISD in 2020 as an assistant principal at Mead Middle School before being named curriculum assistant principal at the same school in 2022, a position he held until his current post.

Lara Collazo has a bachelor's degree in Interdisciplinary Studies from the University of Houston and a master's degree in education in administration from Lamar University.

Detrick McAfee has nine years of experience in education. McAfee began his career in education in 2014 as an AP U.S. History teacher in Spring ISD. Four years later, he was named assistant principal of Spring High School before serving as an associate principal at Spring Leadership Academy, a position he held until his current post.

Detrick McAfee PLUMMER MS



Fun Fact: McAfee at-

tended Conley Elementary and Wilson Intermediate in Aldine ISD (half a year) before his family moved to Spring ISD

McAfee earned his bachelor's degree from Sam Houston State University. He also holds a master's degree in education administration and will complete his doctorate in education from the same institution this fall.

Dr. Esperanza Jones-Valsin has 15 years of experience in education. Jones-Valsin began her career as a teacher (science, social studies, and math) in 2008 at Marcella Intermediate School in Aldine ISD, where she also served as the social studies department chair and was a first-year mentor teacher. In 2017, she moved to join Klein ISD as a math and science instructional specialist and coach at Kaiser Elementary. Three years later, she rejoined Aldine ISD as an assistant principal at Eckert Elementary School, a position she held until her current post.

Esperanza Jones-Valsin RAYMOND ELEMENTARY



Jones-Valsin holds a bachelor's degree in management/international business from Notre Dame de Namur University. She received her master's de-

gree in business administration and human resource management as well as a doctorate in educational leadership and curriculum instruction from the University of Phoenix. Jones-Valsin also completed several leadership opportunities at Aldine ISD. She underwent the Aspiring School Principal Instructional Readiness experience and was a Principal Fellow in the district's Leadership Academy. While at Eckert Elementary, she underwent the Holdsworth Campus Leadership Program. Jones-Valsin is also a member of the Aldine LatinX Association.

Miriam Acosta has 18 years of experience in education, with all those years in Aldine ISD. Acosta began her career as a second-grade bilingual teacher at Conley Elementary. She would later serve as a third-grade bilingual teacher (science and math), team leader, and math skills specialist. Acosta joined Marcella Intermediate School in 2013 as an assistant principal. In 2015, she moved to Bussey Elementary as an as-

Miriam Acosta SAMMONS ELEMENTARY



istant principal, a position she held until her current post.

Acosta received her bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies specializing in bilingual generalist (Early Childhood-Grade 4) from Texas A&M University. She holds a master's degree in educational administration from Sam Houston State University and has an EC-12 principal certification.

Gregory 'Greg' Castille has 10 years of experience in education, with all those years in Aldine ISD. However, Castille has been with AISD since 2012 as a college student teacher at Wilson Academy (now Impact Leadership Academy). Castille spent the first 10 years working in AISD as a teacher at Houston Academy, an instructional specialist at Reed Academy for Engineering, an assistant principal at Hambrick Middle School, and, most recently, a curriculum assistant principal at Houston Academy.

Gregory Castille SMITH ELEMENTARY



He also served as an educational consultant for the 2022-2023 school year focusing on nonverbal communication for

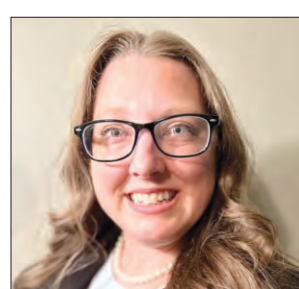
instructional leadership and classroom management, which he did until his most recent post.

Fun Fact: Castille's mother was an Aldine educator for 30+ years. He now continues his work in the Acres Home community, the neighborhood he grew up in.

Castille received his bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies from Texas A&M University, and he holds a master's in educational leadership and policy studies from the University of Texas at Arlington.

Dr. Brandy González has 19 years of experience in education, with 17 in Aldine ISD. González began her career as a bilingual Montessori prekindergarten paraprofessional at Keeble EC/PreK/K School in 2005 while pursuing her bachelor's degree. During that period, González received the Aldine Bilingual Homegrown Scholarship. After graduating from college, she took her first teaching position as a bilingual Montessori PreK teacher at Keeble EC/PreK/K School in 2008. González transferred to Garcia-Leza EC/PreK/K School in 2013 to serve as an early childhood special

Dr. Brandy González VINES EC/PREK/K



education teacher before taking on a leadership role as the school's prekindergarten skills specialist. Two years later, she joined Jones EC/PreK/K School as an inclusion PreK teacher

and went on to serve as the RTI/dyslexia specialist. She was named assistant principal in 2018 at Magrill EC/PreK/K School. Three years later, she moved to Tomball ISD to serve as the multilingual content specialist for Grades PreK-2, a position she held until her current post.

González has a bachelor's degree in bilingual education. She received her master's degree in education administration from Houston Baptist University as well as her doctorate in education in special education leadership. González also holds a Principal Certification (EC-12).

OPINION PAGE

BEAT THE HEAT

By Lone Star College

Lone Star College offers tips to 'beat the heat'

HOUSTON (July 17, 2023) – Rising temperatures in Texas and across the country are causing many people to suffer from hyperthermia, an overexertion condition caused by hot and humid conditions, resulting in heat illnesses or death.

“Current heat waves can contribute to hyperthermia and heat stroke,” said Nickie Loftin, RN, LSC-Kingwood Nursing Director. “A high internal temperature (greater than 104 F) can cause permanent neurologic, brain damage and even death.”

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports hyperthermia occurs when the body fails to control its temperature through sweating and can't cool down. The body temperature can rise to 106 F in 10 to 15 minutes. Several factors can increase a person's chance of developing heat-related illnesses including age (older adults and younger children), dehydration, heart disease and obesity.

“As the temperature rises, the body will struggle to get rid of the excess heat,” said Kim Zapata, M.Ed., LSC-CyFair Emergency Medical Services Department Program Director. “Hyperthermia can cause confusion, nausea and vomiting, increased respiration, fatigue, rapid heart rate and dehydration.”

The CDC recommends the following actions if someone shows signs of a heat stroke or other heat-related concerns.

- Seek immediate medical assistance.
• Take the victim to a shady area.
• Try to cool the person down rapidly.
• Monitor their temperature.

“The most important thing you can do is to remain hydrated; consistently replacing fluids will help reduce your overall temperature,” said Loftin. “If you must be outside, try to stay out of direct sun or wear a hat.”

The Health Sciences program at Lone Star College prepares students to enter the fast-changing and growing health care industry. The department offers associate degrees and certifications in various fields and a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing.

View additional CDC guidelines on heat-related illnesses at CDC.gov/Disasters/Extreme-Heat.



with Slim Randles

The other night it was Hot

The other night it was hot. Hot during the day, hot at night. Heat seems to define this time of year for us, in many ways.

But in spite of that, after a day in the outdoors, we built a fire. A small fire. A “hat” fire, which mountain people define as one you can put in your hat. Why so small? Because it was hot and we didn't need the heat. Why the fire? Because we need the fire.

It is the hearth. It is the touchstone to our past. It is a link with countless generations of ancestors who have sat here looking at the flames licking up on the chunks of firewood and taking us back endless years, countless years, to what was then. Through the flames and later the glow of the coals, we can see things that we can't see at any other time. We can hear music in the crackling. We can be comforted by the fire, which is our best friend as well as a potential destroyer, at the same time.

How many times have we looked into the flames of a small fire, just like this? It's beyond counting. Sometimes the fire has been in a fireplace with all kinds of louvers and vents and controls, and yet even then we shut off the lights and sat quietly, looking into the fire and taking ourselves back to our beginnings. It is important that we do this, so important to our emotional health that we willingly pay extra for a modern city house or apartment that has a fireplace.

It doesn't make any sense at all.

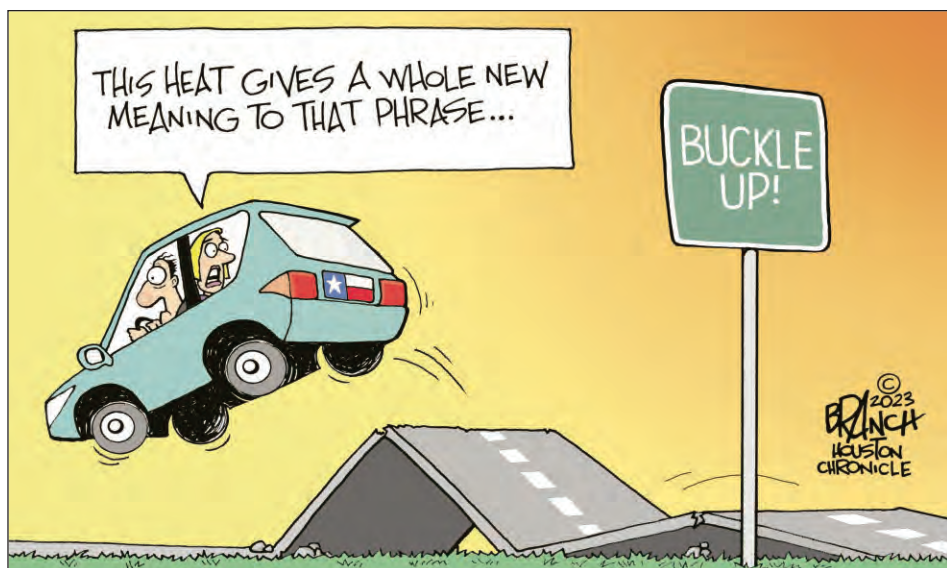
No sense at all until you look into the fire and those same questions come along. Who am I? Am I doing what I'm supposed to be doing? Is my life being spent for the right things? What more can I be doing?

Do we remember other fires in faraway places? Places where the weather is different, the animals are different, the people are different. Remember using wood from other kinds of trees? Remember sitting around the fire with others who are only with us now during these quiet times by the fire and in the sanctuary of memory?

We ask ourselves these questions, but the answers can only be found in the silent glowing of the coals, and we can only hope we stack up right in the long run.

Because when we look into the coals, at the end of a long day, it's our way of going home.

Leather that looks much better than when the cow was using it. Use your imagination. www.artvincentleather.com.



THE POSTSCRIPT

By Carrie Classon

“A Boring Life”

I'm writing this on my birthday and feeling more than usually grateful.

“What do you want to do?” my husband, Peter, asks, as he always does on my birthday.

Peter refuses to celebrate his own birthday, but he only applies the no-birthday rule to himself. I am free to celebrate any way I want—so long as I don't expect any kind of surprise from him. I don't.

And so I tried to think of what would make my day special, and it was hard. Because, these days, all my days are pretty darned special.

We just landed in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, the day before yesterday, and there are a lot of wonderful restaurants we could go to. There is a hot spring not far away. I could get a massage. But none of those things sounded like anything I wanted to do.

When we are in Mexico, we stay in a little one-bedroom apartment. The countertops and furnishings are very 1980s. The sheets are dried on the line on the roof, so they are nice and crisp. The dishes don't match. The bathroom is not luxurious. We love it.

When I thought about what a perfect day would look like, it would involve a little writing and a lot of vegetables—and cake. So that's what I did.

I sat at my little green Formica desk in the apartment, and I wrote a few words. I'm working on a new novel, and it delights me. It's different from anything I've written before, and it has a little girl named Lizzie in it. So I wrote a scene with Lizzie.

Then I went to the market. There is a giant open-air food market just a couple of blocks away from our apartment. My favorite fruit and vegetable seller, Veronica, was there. It's the slow time of year in town, and she was happy to see me.

“What do you need?” she asked. “I need everything!” I told her.

When I got home, I counted, and I had purchased exactly 12 different fruits and vegetables from Veronica. She always helps me pick out the nicest produce. Honestly, I might have bought more, but that was all that would fit in my three shopping bags.

Then, before I got back to the apartment, I stopped at the cake shop. All they sell are cakes. I went in and bought myself one. It was a small cake with fresh strawberries on top.

When I got back to the apartment, Peter had already cooked garbanzo beans for my salad. He set to work cooking beets and carrots because, at this altitude, we pressure cook them, and Peter is the king of pressure-cooking. (Peter has many other specialized skills. Pressure cooking is just one of them.) Then I went for a walk. The clouds moved in, and the temperature dropped. I took pictures.

I suspect that there are more than a few people who would say I have a boring life, and I would not give them an argument. But I've had a few birthdays by now, and I feel very fortunate to know what I like. I like fresh fruit and vegetables. I like spending time with Peter. I like to write and to walk. And I like cake.

And I am very grateful because I know I am doubly lucky. I'm lucky to have a wonderful life, and I'm luckier yet to know what a wonderful life it is.

Till next time, Carrie

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders



Patrick Issues Gag Order Ahead of Trial

Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick last week issued a sweeping gag order ahead of the impeachment trial of suspended Attorney General Ken Paxton, the Houston Chronicle reported, saying “out-of-court statements” by both sides threaten to jeopardize the trial.

The trial is set to begin Sept. 5.

The gag order prohibits members of the Senate and House, their staffs, witnesses and attorneys from making statements that could have a “substantial likelihood of materially prejudicing the trial.” Violators could be found in contempt of court and face up to six months in jail and up to \$500 in fines.

Patrick is acting as the judge in the impeachment trial. The gag order was required under the impeachment rules established by the Senate in June.

Meanwhile, Paxton has asked that three Democratic state senators be disqualified, saying their public statements prove they cannot be impartial, The Dallas Morning News reported. Paxton is targeting Sen. Nathan Johnson, D-Dallas, and Sens. Roland Gutierrez and José Menéndez, D-San Antonio.

“Senators Menendez, Gutierrez, and Johnson's own public statements convincingly establish bias and prejudice against the Attorney General,” the motion states. “That cannot be cured.”

In a related matter, conservative activist Dr. Steven Hotze has sued Patrick and the Senate to allow Sen. Angela Paxton, R-McKinney, the suspended attorney general's wife, to participate in the trial's deliberations and vote on her husband's fate. The Senate rules for the trial disqualified her from participating.

A&M PRESIDENT RESIGNS FOLLOWING BOTCHED HIRING

Texas A&M University President M. Katherine Banks resigned last week after the faculty senate moved to investigate the botched hiring of journalist Kathleen McElroy to revive the university's journalism program, The News reported.

“The recent challenges regarding Dr. McElroy have made it clear to me that I must retire immediately,” Banks wrote in her resignation letter submitted late Thursday. “The negative press is a distraction from



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Gary Borders

the wonderful work being done here.”

McElroy, a 1981 A&M graduate, elected to remain a tenured professor of journalism at the University of Texas in Austin after the original offer for a tenure-track position at A&M was reduced to a one-year contract. The university received criticism from some people concerning McElroy's work on diversity and equity issues while working in multiple roles at The New York Times.

Mark A. Welsh III, dean of A&M's Bush School of Government and Public Service, is now acting president of the university.

FEDS SUING STATE OVER RAZOR WIRE, BUOYS ALONG THE RIO GRANDE

The U.S. Justice Department has notified the state that it will file suit over the floating buoy barricade in the middle of the Rio Grande, which is meant to deter migrants from crossing illegally, as well as the razor wire now strung across the U.S. side, the Texas Standard reported.

“The State of Texas' actions violate federal law, raise humanitarian concerns, present serious risks to public safety and the environment, and may interfere with the federal government's ability to carry out its official duties,” the letter sent to Gov. Greg Abbott stated.

In response, Abbott said the state has the “sovereign authority to defend our border, under the U.S. Constitution and the Texas Constitution,” adding, “We will see you in court, Mr. President.”

SPEED TOP CONTRIBUTING FACTOR IN TEXAS CRASHES

Speed-related crashes killed 1,469 people on Texas roadways, according to the Texas Department of Transportation — the top contributing factor in traffic fatalities.

“Getting to your destination two or three minutes faster just isn't worth the risk of a crash and causing harm to yourself or others,” said TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams.

For the latter half of July, Texas law enforcement agencies are participating in Operation Slowdown, a statewide, high-visibility speed enforcement program. TxDOT is also running a number of commercials, billboards and social media posts urging drivers to slow down.

REPORT ON STATE EMPLOYEE WORKFORCE ISSUED

A report from the state comptroller's office on the workforce of state agencies indicates Texas faces staff shortages and high turnover, with compensation being the primary factor.

Average salaries for state employees are 11.7% lower than the overall market, according to the State Auditor's Office. Moreover, 35% of state employees live in the Austin-Round Rock-Georgetown and the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington metropolitan statistical areas, which have cost-of-living expenses higher than the state average.

State workers in health and human services and the prison system in particular have high turnover, which the report blames on low pay and high stress.

The turnover rate for all state employees in fiscal 2022 was 22.7% — the highest turnover rate in more than 10 years.

The five agencies with the most employees are:

- Health and Human Services Commission — 32,345
• Texas Department of Criminal Justice — 30,277
• Texas Department of Transportation — 12,375
• Department of Family and Protective Services — 11,984
• Texas Department of Public Safety — 10,210

NEARLY 64,000 TEXANS TO HAVE STUDENT LOANS FORGIVEN

The Texas Tribune reported that nearly 64,000 Texans will have their federal student loans forgiven because they qualified for an existing forgiveness program that was poorly administered. A total of \$3.1 billion will be forgiven for Texas borrowers, an average of \$48,500 per borrower.

The move is unrelated to President Joe Biden's now-defunct student debt forgiveness program that was blocked by the U.S. Supreme Court last month. The latest steps are being called a “correction” by the U.S. Department of Education and affect borrowers whose debts should have been canceled but weren't due to “past administrative failures.”

Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span, including in Longview, Fort Stockton, Nacogdoches and Cedar Park. Email: gborders@texaspress.com.

NORTHEAST NEWS contact information and staff list including Gilbert Hoffman, Mei-Ing Hoffman, Willie G Glasgow, Kristan Hoffman, Julieta Paita, Gerardo Hernandez, and contributing writers.

Help available to Register to Vote

Marina Flores Sugg is with **Chris Sustaita** and **Pearl Castañeda** at **High Meadows Branch Library**.
Yesterday at 11:20 AM · Houston, TX · 🌐

Sat., 7/15/23 - Chris (in the white hat) and I are official VDVRs (Volunteer Deputy Voter Registrar), so if you or someone you know needs to register to vote, please contact us. Marina



Pct. 2 Drainage Project,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Proposed Typical Section | Corte Transversal



Flood Control District Bond Program and also supported by Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery funds.

- The \$3.4 million improvements include:
- New, larger storm sewer pipes and inlets
 - Installation of additional drainage systems
 - Installation of an additional outfall
 - Removal and replacement of half of the roadway and associated driveways
- Construction is scheduled to begin this month, and will be completed in about 10 months. The Contractor is J. Rivas Construction LLC.

Thank you to our dedicated partners at Harris County Engineering Department, Harris County Community Services Department and Harris County Flood Control district.

This month in Commissioners Court, the following Precinct 2 infrastructure projects were approved:

Cloverleaf and East Aldine Crime Prevention Through Environment Design (CPTED) Projects: Two CPTED projects were brought forward by Commissioner Garcia and approved unanimously. The funding allocations are for the Barbara Mae St. Sidewalks in Cloverleaf and Lauder Basin Trail in East Aldine.

Both projects were identified in their respective community plans as top priorities after extensive community engagement. Both are key examples of Commissioner Garcia's Revive2Thrive initiative and will help make Cloverleaf and East Aldine safer and better connected.

Barbara Mae St. is a key Galena Park ISD bus route where pickup/drop-off of students currently happens in the ditch. This item allocated \$1.7 million to our sidewalk project which includes over 1 mile of 6 ft. sidewalks, landscaping, and pedestrian-scale solar lights.

Lauder Basin will be a central destination in the upcoming Greens-to-Halls Trails and will connect to the upcoming Greens Bayou Greenway, Mead Middle School, Aldine Town Center, and the existing Halls Bayou Trail. This item allocated \$1.8 million to our trail project which includes over 1.5 miles of 12-ft trail, landscaping, and pedestrian-scale solar lights.

HARRIS COUNTY PRECINCT 2

COOLING CENTERS

A Cooling Center is an air-conditioned facility where Precinct 2 residents can go to find relief from the heat. Harris County Precinct 2 operates ten (10) Cooling Centers during the summer months.

MON & WED 8AM - 5PM; TUES & THURS 8AM - 9PM; FRIDAY 8AM - 12NOON
Closed for Monday, June 19 (Juneteenth) & Tuesday, July 4 (Independence Day)

Bay Area Community Center 5002 East NASA Parkway Seabrook, TX 77586	Leonel Castillo Community Center 2101 South Street Houston, TX 77009
East Harris County Activity Center 7340 Spencer Highway Pasadena, TX 77505	Mangum-Howell Community Center 2500 Frick Road Houston, TX 77038
Felix Baldree Community Center 13828 Corpus Christi Street Houston, TX 77015	Martin Flukinger Community Center 16003 Lorenzo Street Channelview, TX 77530
Hardy Community Center 11901 West Hardy Road Houston, TX 77076	North East Harris County Community Center 10918 1/2 Bentley Street Houston, TX 77093
JD Walker Community Center 7613 Wade Road McNair, TX 77521	Pep Mueller Community Center 14750 Henry Road Houston, TX 77060

PET MATTERS

In Memory of
Susan Hoffman

Protecting Texas' Dogs in Record-Breaking Summer Heat

AUSTIN, TX – As temperatures continue to soar across the state, the Texas Humane Legislation Network (THLN) is offering tips on how Texans can best protect their pets

"In triple-digit heat across our state, it's not just us humans who feel the impact of the scorching sun," said Shelby Bobosky, THLN Executive Director. "We have been inundated with calls, emails, and texts from concerned Texans about the laws in these brutally hot conditions and what they can do to help. Our four-legged companions are more susceptible to the dangers of extreme heat, and just like we take precautions to stay safe and comfortable, we must remember that our pets rely on us to protect them."

The Safe Outdoor Dogs Act passed in 2021 protects dogs tethered outdoors by

- Defining adequate shelter to shield dogs from extreme temperatures and standing water, and ensures the dog can stand, turn around, and lie down.
 - Requiring access to drinkable water.
 - Striking the 24-hour waiting period so action can be taken immediately.
- If there are heat advisory warnings and you encounter a dog outside without shelter or water, you can ask your local animal control to do a welfare check. Confining an animal in a crate in direct sunlight without shade during extreme heat can be charged as animal cruelty.

It's vital to know the signs of heat exhaustion and heat stroke in dogs:

- Signs include excessive panting or drooling; rapid heart rate; lethargy or weakness; loss of coordination; bright red gums or tongue; vomiting or diarrhea; and glazed eyes.
 - Dogs experiencing heat stroke may collapse, experience seizures, loss of consciousness, or a coma.
- If you see a dog in a hot car, here's what you can do:

HOW HOT IS TOO HOT?

DON'T LEAVE YOUR PETS IN HOT CARS

Cars can heat to dangerous levels quickly, even if outside temperatures are comfortable. In minutes, car temperatures are deadly!

Outside temp (F)	Inside temp (F)	
	After 10 Minutes	After 30 Minutes
70°	89°	104°
75°	94°	109°
80°	99°	114°
85°	104°	119°
90°	109°	124°
95°	114°	129°

IF YOU SEE A DOG IN A HOT CAR - CALL 911 AND DOCUMENT THE SITUATION

LEARN MORE AT TEXASHUMANENETWORK.ORG

- Act quickly. On a warm day, the temperature inside a vehicle can increase by 20 F (11 C) within 10 minutes.

- Assess the situation. Where is the car parked? In direct sunlight? What is the current temperature outside? Is the dog showing any signs of stress, symptoms of heat exhaustion, or heat stroke? Is the owner nearby?

- Notify authorities. Contact local law enforcement or animal control to report the situation. Ensure you have the exact location, description of the car, and license plate number, if possible. Photos or videos can be helpful to authorities.

- Spread awareness. Notify nearby businesses or individuals about the situation to raise awareness and potentially locate the car's owner.

- Continue to monitor the dog. If you can, stay near the car to keep an eye on the dog until help arrives. Note any changes in its condition and update the authorities when they come.

Rendering aid to an animal in heat-related distress will NOT result in a civil action against you.

In 2011, THLN passed a law (HB 2471 by Rep. Larry Phillips and Sen. Robert Deuell) that limits the civil liability of a person, an animal control

agency, or an animal control agency employee who renders aid to an injured or distressed animal from a civil action brought because of seeking or providing such care.

Dogs' paw pads can quickly burn on hot pavement. Here's how you can prevent painful burns:

- Test the pavement. If you can't comfortably hold your palm on the pavement surface for 10 seconds, your dog's paws risk getting burnt.
- Walk during cooler times. Schedule walks during the early morning or late evening when the pavement is cooler. Avoid walking during the hottest parts of the day.
- Use protective gear. Use booties or paw wax to provide a barrier between their paws and the hot surface.

- Walk on grass or shaded areas. To minimize the risk of burns, choose grassy or shaded routes instead of hot pavement.

"By adopting preventive measures and incorporating simple but effective practices during hot temperature months, we can create a safer environment for our furry friends and provide them the care they deserve during these extreme weather conditions," said Erin Van Lanningham, Executive Director of the Texas Humane Network.

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CHURCH PAGE

BIBLE TRIVIA

By Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Ruth (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. Whose last words were, "O God, that I may be at once avenged of the Philistines for my two eyes"? Zimri, Paul, Eli, Samson
3. From Proverbs 18:8, "The words of a talebearer are as _____"? Truths, Wounds, Answers, Serpents


4. Who assumed if Isaac died that God would be able to bring him back to life? Rebekah, Esau, Abraham, Jacob
5. From Genesis 25:1, who was Abraham's second wife? Keturah, Abigail, Vashti, Candace
6. Who was the famed brother of Lahmi? John the Baptist, Herod, Goliath, Paul

ANSWERS: 1) Old, 2) Samson, 3) Wounds, 4) Abraham, 5) Keturah, 6) Goliath
 Comments? More Trivia? Gift ideas? Visit www.TriviaGuy.com.
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THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

...O Lord my God, You are very great: You are clothed with honor and majesty, who cover Yourself with light as with a garment, who stretch out the heavens like a curtain. He lays the beams of His upper chambers in the waters, who makes the clouds His chariot, who walks on the wings of the wind, who makes His angels spirits, His ministers a flame of fire.

PSALM 104:1-4



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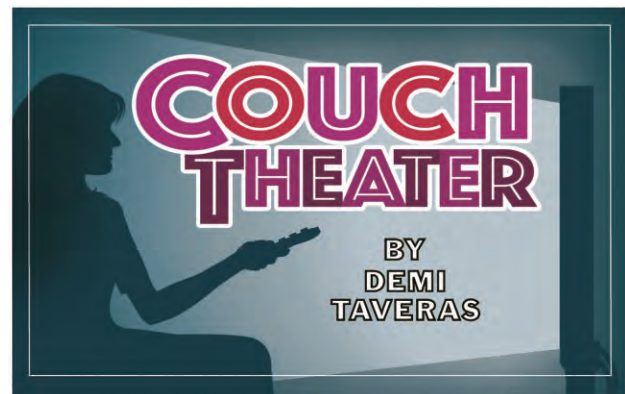
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From left, Luke Grimes and Ellie Kemper in "Happiness for Beginners."

"Happiness for Beginners"

"Happiness for Beginners" (TV-14) — Ellie Kemper ("The Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt") stars as divorcee Helen...

you're looking for the perfect movie to watch with friends or family this weekend, look no further than the origin story of this beloved duo of brothers!

"The Super Mario Bros. Movie" (PG) — If

"Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3" (PG-13) —

Following a successful theatrical release in May that catapulted this film to the No. 2 spot (the No. 1 spot getting nabbed by the film above) on the highest-grossing films of 2023...

"My Happy Ending"

(R) — Based on the play "SofTov" by Anat Gov, the events of this comedy-drama unfold during a single day. After getting diagnosed with stage four colon cancer...

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HOLLYWOOD by Tony Rizzo

HOLLYWOOD — Emily Blunt, aka "Mary Poppins," is halfway through her year off from working. She confessed, "This year, I'm not working. ... My oldest baby is 9, so we're in the last year of single digits."

So, to hold you over, go see "Oppenheimer," in which Blunt co-stars with Matt Damon and Robert Downey Jr.. She'll be back before you can say supercalifragilisticexpialidocious!

Cancel culture strikes again with Matthew Morrison! Morrison played Link Larkin in "Hairspray" on Broadway in 2002; received a Tony Award nomination for "The Light in the Piazza" (2005); played Sir Harry in the 2005 TV film "Once Upon a Mattress," starring Tracey Ullman and Carol Burnett...

In May 2022, while Morrison was a judge on "So You Think You Can Dance," a contestant complained to producers that she was uncomfortable because she claimed Morrison flirted with her on social media. He admitted he contacted her to talk about a choreographer they'd both worked with.

Morrison, 44, has been happily married to Renee Puente since 2014, and they have two children together. He's a great guy who deserved better. But, there is a happy ending ... this time! He's starring in a Christmas rom-com titled "Paris Christmas Waltz," opposite Jen Lilley.



Emily Blunt ("Oppenheimer," "Mary Poppins")

Tom Cruise will literally be out of this world. In the midst of his publicity tour for "Mission: Impossible — Dead Reckoning Part One" (opened July 12), Cruise's thoughts and energies have already turned to his next project with "Edge of Tomorrow" director Doug Liman...

The actor is also in the middle of shooting "Dead Reckoning Part Two" (opening July 2024) with director Christopher McQuarrie, who touched on their hectic work schedules.

"We finish this tour, and on our way back to the U.K., we stop to scout [locations] along the way," McQuarrie said. "We hit the ground running as soon as we get back. I get two days of vacation between here and Tokyo, and I'm back on."

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ENTERTAINMENT

Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps



by Bud Blake



by Jeff Pickering

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

HOCUS-FOCUS by Henry Boltinoff. Includes two panels of a man and children and a list of differences to find.

King Crossword July 31, 2023 Posting Date. Includes crossword grid and clues for Across and Down.

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez. Includes 10 trivia questions and answers.

Trivia Test Answers: 1. Madrid, Spain. 2. Greenbow, Alabama. 3. A. 4. Rough Collie. 5. Laughing gas. 6. Fure. 7. Novel that focuses on the moral and psychological growth of a protagonist from childhood to adult. 8. Tennessee and Missouri, with eight bordering states each. 9. The 1980s. 10. 16th.

Get to Know the new Lone Star College Chancellor Finalist: MARIO K. CASTILLO

Mario K. Castillo serves Lone Star College as Chief Operating Officer and General Counsel. Mario's responsibilities have progressed through the years: he started as the College's General Counsel in 2015; was promoted to Vice Chancellor and General Counsel in 2016; and was again promoted to Chief Operating Officer and General Counsel in 2017. Additionally, he served as interim President at Lone Star College-Kingwood for a little over an academic year.



MARIO K. CASTILLO

focus is the College's students. He has reshaped processes and procedures to be student centric and student informed. Mario knows that you cannot be what you cannot see-he therefore ensures he meets students where they are at.

Mario provides numerous student scholarship and internship opportunities, and he regularly meets with students to offer career advice. He also prioritizes student speaking engagements and student outreach. Additionally, Mario has used his expertise to tackle complex situations: whether that be leading the entire system's COVID-19 response, opening shelters during Hurricane Harvey, or being the go-to administrator during emergency situations, Mario's dedication to the College is unwavering.

Prior to joining the College, Mario served as a Partner at Monty & Ramirez, LLP practicing

ing Labor and Employment Law, earning Board Certification in Labor and Employment Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. During this time, he represented the College as outside counsel in various matters. His legal experience includes litigation on cases in state and federal courts, various appellate courts, and the Texas Supreme Court. He also served as a briefing attorney for the Honorable Felix Recio of the Southern District of Texas and was an adjunct professor. Mario's peer-reviewed articles have been published by the Baylor School of Law and the University of Houston Law Center.

Mario received his Juris Doctorate from the Maurer School of Law at Indiana University in Bloomington and received his Bachelor of Arts in Government from the University of Texas in Austin. Mario is a first-generation high school (on his mother's side), college, and law school student as well as a first-generation American. He enjoys overly ambitious home improvement projects, recently completed Ironman Texas, and is an avid reader.

https://www.lonestar.edu/candidate-mario-castillo.htm

LSC weeklong Registration Festival August 5-12

NORTH HOUSTON (July 27, 2023) – Lone Star College will host a week-long Registration Festival to help current and future students and their families learn how to complete their enrollment process before the fall semester begins.

"Lone Star College's Registration Festival provides students with a scheduled list of enrollment activities so they can select the right date to help them finalize their fall 2023 courses," said Gerald F. Napoles, Ph.D., LSC Vice Chancellor Student Success.

The LSC Registration Festival takes place Aug. 5-12 at all eight main LSC campuses (seven in person and one online). College representatives will assist students through their eight-step enrollment checklist, which includes advising and financial aid assistance.

"The LSC Registration Festival will have experts to personally walk you through the steps needed to help you start, continue



or complete your educational goals," said Napoles.

Fall 2023 semester at Lone Star College begins Aug. 28 and registration is still open. Visit LoneStar.edu/Festival to learn more about the Registration Festival activities available at each LSC campus.

Lone Star College enrolls over 80,000 students each semester providing high-quality, low-cost academic transfer and career training education. LSC is training tomorrow's workforce today and redefining the community college experience to support stu-

dent success. Stephen C. Head, Ph.D., serves as Chancellor of LSC, the largest institution of higher education in the Houston area and has been named a 2022 Great Colleges to Work For® institution by the Chronicle of Higher Education and recognized by Fortune Magazine and Great Place To Work® as one of this year's Best Workplaces in Texas™. LSC consists of eight colleges, seven centers, eight Workforce Centers of Excellence and Lone Star Corporate College. To learn more, visit LoneStar.edu.

Sales Tax Holiday,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

state and local sales tax during this sales tax holiday.

Apparel and school supplies that may be purchased tax free are listed on the Comptroller's website at TexasTaxHoliday.org.

During the annual sales tax holiday, qualifying items can be purchased tax free online or by telephone, mail, custom order or any other means (including in-store purchases) when either:

- the item is both delivered to, and paid for by, the customer during the exemption period; or,
- the customer orders and pays for the item, and the seller accepts the order during the exemption period for immediate shipment, even if delivery is made after the exemption period ends.

Texas' sales tax holiday weekend has been an annual event since 1999.



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