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NORTHEAST NEWS

FREE TICKETS TO TEXAS RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL



See Page 2 for Your Chance to Win 4 Free Tickets to the TRF. Value \$120.

Serving the Neighborhoods of Aldine, Greenspoint, US59 Eastex, Beltway 8 and North Forest for over 47 Years
VOL. 47, NO. 34 TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2023 HOUSTON, TEXAS www.nenewsroom.com

NEWS NOTES

East Aldine National Night Out set Oct. 3

The East Aldine community is planning the 40th year of this event, a partnership with the Police, Sheriff's deputies, and the public.

Tuesday night, Oct. 3rd from 6pm - 9pm at the East Aldine Amphitheatre.

Join us to meet neighbors and celebrate those who help keep our community safe.

Free Rock Climbing, Train Ride, Face Painting, Prizes, Food, Games, and music with a DJ and More.

Dia de los Muertos held on Oct. 28 in East Aldine

DDLM (Day of the Dead) Fall Festival Saturday, Oct. 28 from 11am - 3pm at the East Aldine Amphitheatre.

Music, Fun, Live Entertainment, Food, Hay Ride, Pumpkin Patch, Haunted House, Costume Contest and more.

FREE and LOTS OF FUN.

Bring a chair or a blanket to the Amphitheatre, 2909 East Aldine Amphitheatre Drive, off Aldine Mail Route.

Lone Star College - EA holds Hispanic History Panel

Public invited to Panel Discussion on Thursday, Sept. 21 at EA campus

Lone Star College East Aldine Campus is hosting a Panel discussion at their building on Thursday, September 21 from 10am to 12:30pm. The Panel Topic is "Success Stories" and will be the personal narratives of Hispanic educators and leaders in the Lone Star System, or the East Aldine District.

Speakers included will be Dr. Mario Castillo, Chancellor of Lone Star College; Melissa Gonzalez, President of LSC King-

wood; Reyna Tippetts, Dean of LSC - East Aldine Center; Ernesto Valenzuela, Interim VP of Student Success at LSC Kingwood; and Richard Cantu, Executive Director of the East Aldine District.

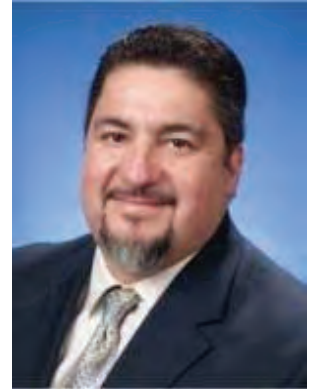
The program will be held in the lobby of the Lone Star College East Aldine building, at 2430 Aldine Mail Route. You may attend in person, or by Webex on the internet, by registering at bit.ly/3qT04S2.



Dr. Reyna Tippetts, Dean Lone Star College - East Aldine



Dr. Mario Castillo, Chancellor Lone Star College System



Richard Cantu, Executive Director East Aldine District

The event will have some important guests in a panel discussion where they will share their own Success Stories, and at-

tendees can ask questions. Just like our students, they all started right at the student desk. Therefore, this will be an excellent

opportunity for students and community to gain valuable insight into working towards their own success stories!

Aldine senior citizen may be forced out of home

School District threatens Eminent Domain to make room for Parking Lot

By David Taylor
Managing Editor

An Aldine family whose legacy in the community extends more than 100 years could get the boot from the district they have supported with their tax dollars all those years.

Travis Upchurch was notified in April that the Aldine ISD trustees had voted to pursue eminent domain action against his property at 1810 Aldine Meadows Rd. and has followed with a proposal to buy out the 79-year-old.

But his son, also named Travis, said not so fast.

"We just want them to reconsider and allow him

to live out his life, then they can have the property," he said.

The 1-acre tract stands on the edge of a soon-to-be new parking lot that will accommodate fans for the newly rebuilt \$50 million W. W. Thorne Stadium.

Since he received his eminent domain notice, his son said his father now must receive treatment for high blood pressure, a condition he never suffered from before.

"Our family has lived in Aldine since 1905 and owned the property at 1810 Aldine Meadows

Continued. See SENIOR CITIZEN LOSES TO EMINENT DOMAIN, P. 5



Aldine ISD wants houses that are now in area of trees in upper left, to use for additional parking.

Citizens protest Ojos bar's plan to locate in East Aldine

Cite record of crime, drugs at other locations



Dozens of Protestors in front of the proposed OJOS LOCOS bar, an old LUBY'S location on the Eastex Freeway.

EAST ALDINE – A sports bar that has applied for a permit to locate in this community has drawn organized resistance, including a public protest in front of the building last

Friday night. Other locations of the Ojos Locos chain are said to be spots for crime, and is causing a major stir in this East Aldine community. The Ojos Locos Sports

Cantina, known for their drink specials and minimally-dressed waitresses, is in the process of opening — but on Friday night, MORE photos, story. See OJOS PROTEST, page 2

SEASON FOOTBALL WEEK 4

AISD varsity programs begin District 14-6A play: Notre Dame looks to make statement against Ohio State

The dress rehearsals are over for Aldine ISD's five varsity football teams as they begin District 14-6A play this weekend.

The Nimitz High Cougars enter league play on a roll having won all three of their non-district games as head coach Cornelius Harmon's team has been rolling on offense. Two weeks ago, the Cougars rolled to a 49-7 win over Cypress Park. After a week to rest up and prepare for league play, Nimitz will face MacArthur (0-3) on Friday night at George Stadium in Spring ISD.

Aldine High will carry a two-game winning streak into their district opener against Westfield. Coach Cirilo Ojeda's team upended Houston Math and Science (formerly Sam Houston High School) 29-10 two weeks ago and will face Davis High School on Friday night.

Eisenhower and first-year head coach Odell James will face Dekaney on Thursday night in their league opener.

The five Aldine ISD schools will be contending with the three Spring ISD schools for the four playoff spots that are up for grabs.

While the high school action begins league play, the college



KEENEY'S KORNER

By
MIKE KEENEY

Game of the Week will feature No. 6-ranked Ohio State traveling to South Bend to take on No. 9-ranked Notre Dame on Saturday evening in prime time on NBC.

This is perhaps the biggest game for second-year Irish head coach Marcus Freeman and his high scoring squad. ND has averaged 47 points in their first three games but definitely takes a step up in competition when they face the Buckeyes. The Fighting Irish are led by quarterback Sam Hartman, who transferred in from Wake Forest and was Freeman ever happy to have him. Hartman has already tossed 10 TD passes in his team's first three games and gives ND a big-play signal caller. Ohio State is breaking in a new QB in Kyle McCord. McCord has played so-so thus far, but has a lot of talent around him to help him ease into the starting spot.

In other big games this weekend, No. 3-ranked Florida State visits Clemson, while No. 10-ranked Alabama has a tough start to its SEC West season when they face high-scoring Mississippi in Oxford on Saturday. Two weeks ago, Nick Saban's team lost at home to Texas, 34-24, which was the worst home defeat for a Saban-coached team since 2004 when they fell by double digits to South Carolina. Ole Miss will enter the game ranked No. 17 in the nation.

In the NFL, the Texans have another tough road contest when they travel to Jacksonville to take on Trevor Lawrence and the Jaguars. First-year head coach DeMeco Ryans team suffered a 25-9 at Baltimore in their season

CONTINUED. SEE KEENEY'S KORNER, PAGE 5

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

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

AldineDistrict.org

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COMMUNITY WATCH

Community protests Ojos Sports bar location in East Aldine district,

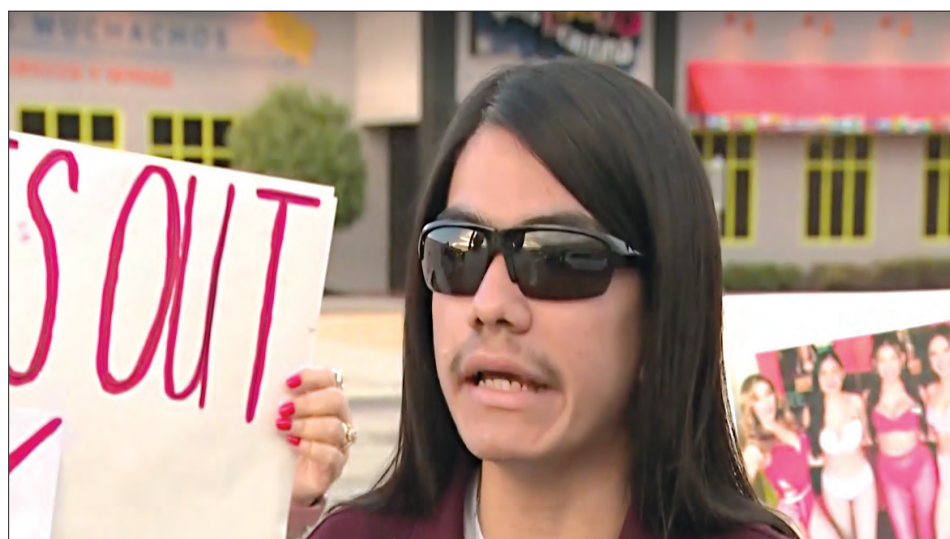
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1 PHOTOS COURTESY OF MARINA SUGG AND OTHER CITIZEN PROTESTORS.



STATE REPRESENTATIVE ARMANDO WALLE, AN EAST ALDINE RESIDENT, JOINED THE PROTEST BUT ALSO SENT A PROTEST LETTER TO THE TEXAS ALCOHOL BEVERAGE COMMISSION PROTESTING THE PERMIT.



EAST ALDINE CHAIRMAN CARLOS SILVA WAVES A PROTEST SIGN ALONG THE EASTEX FRONTAGE ROAD.



RUBEN SALAZAR, PRESIDENT OF THE EAST ALDINE CIVIC CLUB, WAS ONE OF THE ORGANIZERS OF THE PROTEST.



MARINA SUGG, THE GREEN FOREST CIVIC CLUB VP, IS INTERVIEWED BY A LOCAL TV STATION REGARDING THE PROTEST OF OJOS LOCOS. THE BUILDING THEY WANT TO OCCUPY IS IN THE BACKGROUND.

Continued from page 1

protesters who showed up claimed they were doing everything possible to stop the permits.

The groups with signs were chanting, "Ojos Locos has got to go. Hey hey, ho ho, Ojos Locos has got to go."

Between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m., dozens of protesters showed up determined to send a message outside of the soon-to-open restaurant on the Eastex Fwy and E. Mount Houston Rd.

"They've brought shootings, drug activity, gang activity, human trafficking to other communities. Here in Houston as well there was a homicide just last year," said Ruben Salazar, President of the East Aldine Civic Association.

Other community leaders in the protest group included Marina Sugg, VP of the Green Forest CC, and Carlos Silva, chairman of the East Aldine District.

The sports cantina with several other locations throughout the city and state, is well known for its minimally dressed waitresses.

"Well if it you could just look at those pictures. That says it all, the building says 'Bienvenidos Muchachos,' that means welcome men," said protester Esmeralda Cervantes.

The protesters say that the stores that are already there such as a gym, drug store, clothing store, restaurant, and more could also begin to lose business because of the addition of a place like Ojos Locos.

"Inside an Ojos Locos, you had a shooting inside. We don't want that in this community. This community does not want that and I'm here to support them. We've filed a protest with TABC to deny their permit and we're waiting for TABC to give us a response," said Armando Walle, TX State Rep. House District 140.

Ojos Loco's headquarters did not respond to a request for comment.

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Disabled
Very Low Income

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Off Jensen between Berry Road & Aldine Westfield



GREEN FOREST CIVIC CLUB MONTHLY MEETINGS

Hello, East Aldine Residents. Please mark your calendar!

Monthly meetings of the Green Forest Civic Club Last Tuesday of the month @ 6:30 p.m. 2909 E. Aldine Amphitheater Dr. 77039

WIN FREE TICKETS to Texas Renaissance Festival

Send us a Photo of You, reading the NORTHEAST NEWS.

(Be sure the front page shows.) We are holding a drawing for 4 FREE TICKETS to the TEXAS RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL



TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE FOR OPENING WEEKEND OCTOBER 7,8

Submit this information to enter the drawing:

Name
Address
City Zip
Home Phone
Cell Phone

Submit by email with photo to nnewsroom@aol.com

SUBMITTED PHOTOS MAY BE PUBLISHED. ONE ENTRY PER HOUSEHOLD. MULTIPLE ENTRIES WILL DISQUALIFY ALL OF THEM.

Keep East Aldine COVID Safe



AIRLINE LIBRARY NEWS

LUCHA SCAVENGER HUNT

Oh no! The luchadores lost their masks in the library. Can you help us find them? The scavenger hunt will be available all day for all ages starting Sept 15th through Oct 15th.

BILINGUAL TOTS

We'll read stories, sing songs, and use our hands (for fingerplays) to help toddlers build their early literacy skills.

Leemos historias, cantaremos canciones y usaremos nuestras manos (para juegos con los dedos) para ayudar a los niños pequeños a desarrollar sus habilidades de alfabetización temprana.

BILINGUAL STORY TIME/ TIEMPO DE CUENTOS BILINGUE

You're invited to attend Story Time every Tuesday at 11 am. Story Time is a great way for children to build early literacy skills with stories, rhymes and songs.

¡Estás invitado a asistir a tiempo de cuentos cada martes a las 11 am. Tiempo de cuentos es una excelente manera para que los niños desarrollen habilidades de alfabetización temprana con libros, rimas y canciones.

ENGLISH COMPUTER CLASS BASICS - CYBERSECURITY & SCAMS

Important- Instruction is in English. Google account is required (Though we can help you make one if you don't have one already)

Learn about how to protect your information online and avoid common scams with Instructor Nyla! Join us for a weekly class on Tuesdays about various tech topics or bring in your own questions.

APPRENDA COMPUTERS & TECH

Limited space/ Espacio limitado Pre-registrese aqui: https://forms.office.com/r/rTQyUGd1Yy

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

TEEN THURSDAY

Teen Thursdays at Aldine Branch Library are a fun, safe environment for teens ages (12-18) to hang out after school!

APPRENDA COMPUTERS & TECH

Limited space/ Espacio limitado Pre-registrese aqui: https://forms.office.com/r/rTQyUGd1Yy Nivel 2- Intermedio-Jueves- 5:00 a 6:45 PM: Cloud Computing-Google workspace + Office 365 (Spanish computer class)

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

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

KIDS CLUB: KIDS CRAFTS!

Let's get creative! Join us at 5pm every Thursday for our weekly 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.)

APOLLO CHAMBER PLAYERS: HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH CONCERT

Apollo Chamber Players and HCPL celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month, live at the Aldine Branch Library with multicultural new music from Mexico, Cuba, Argentina and Venezuela, featuring guests Venezuelan mezzo soprano Luisana Rivas and Spanish percussionist Jesus Pacheco.

This program is part of Library Voyage. Started on October 14, 2021 at the Katy Branch Library and extending over seasons 2021-2024, Apollo presents programs at all 26 HCPL branches, each specifically curated in conjunction with library programming, focus and celebrations.

Read more about Library Voyage here: https://www.apollochamberplayers.org/library-voyage.html

COFFEE & CONVERSATION

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 and more!

BARRO PINCH POTS

Barro dishware is a traditional craft of the Zapotecs and Mixtecs of the Central Valley area. Barro plates are revered not only for their beauty but for the technique in which they are made that remain rooted in ancestral knowledge.

ADULT VOLUNTEERS

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.

PASSPORT SERVICES

Do have plans to travel out of the country for the holidays? You need to get your passport in order NOW! Current routine processing is estimated at 13 weeks and expedited processing time is estimated at 9 weeks.

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.

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

SCHOOL NEWS PAGE

2023 Hispanic Heritage Month Honors Hispanic Heroes, Allies, and Activists



National Hispanic Heritage Month celebrates a diverse group of people. They trace their roots to Spain and other Spanish-speaking countries around the world.

Of the district's student population, nearly 75% are Hispanic. They represent many Spanish-speaking countries.

From September 15 to October 15, Aldine ISD and the rest of the country celebrate the achievements and contributions of the Hispanic community. This year's theme celebrates Hispanic Heroes, Allies, and Activists.

District Administrative Activities

While students in schools will enjoy planned activities, district leaders will also take part in celebrating the rich, diverse cultures and traditions of Hispanics. Special events and activities will be held at the Donaldson Administration Building (DAB) and the Bamberg Professional Development and Resource Center (BAM). Staff at both buildings will receive an email internally with full details on how they can join and take part in the activities planned.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

*Week of September 15: Book Loteria Starts on September 15 and ends on October 12.

*Week of Sept. 18-22: District art students will create cultural art walls representative of Héroes Hispanos. The visual and performing arts, science, literature, and sports world will be represented. The cultural art wall displays will be at the DAB and BAM buildings until October 15.

*Friday, September 22: On September 22, wear your best outfit representing your Hispanic hero, ally, or activist (this year's theme)!

*Week of Sept. 26-30: Harvard graduate and experienced educator, researcher, facilitator, change management strategist, and leadership development specialist Dr. Verónica Benavides will be the keynote speaker for a virtual lunch and learn session on September 29.

*Week of October 2-6: Hispanic food will be served during the Instructional Leadership Team (ILT) on October 5, alongside the musical sounds and voices of AISD's Mariachi Acero. Click here to hear a snippet of the talented students.

*Week of Oct. 9-13: The Hispanic community that has been improving the well-being of Americans can be found across the United States. Taken together, the contributions of the more than 62 million Hispanic Americans living in the United States today are evident across communities through music, art, and food, but also through the social and political contributions made for the betterment of the country. Below, you will find multiple organizations serving Hispanic communities in Houston and throughout the states.

- Association for the Advancement of Mexican Americans aama.org
- Association of Latino Professionals for America alopa.org
- BakerRipley bakerripley.org
- Bilingual Generation bilingualgeneration.org
- Hispanic Forum hispanic-forum.org
- Hispanic Health Coalition Hispanic-Health.org
- Houston Hispanic Chamber houstonhispanicchamber.com
- Latin Women's Initiative latinwomensinitiative.org
- Latinos for Education latinosforeducation.org
- Racial Equity Institute racialequityinstitute.org
- Texas Association for Bilingual Education tabe.org

SHARE ON SOCIAL MEDIA: #AISDHHM23 AND #MYALDINE OR #MIALDINE

Be sure to share on social media how you celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month. Include the hashtags #AISDHHM23, #MyAldine, or #MiAldine.

A Few Facts

*Spanish has the second largest number of speakers around the world. From Asia to the Americas, many places speak Spanish, with over 500 million speakers worldwide.

*The number of Spanish speakers worldwide is growing. From Spanish-speaking countries in Africa to Spanish-speaking countries in Asia. According to the Pew Research Centre, in the U.S. alone, the number of speakers has increased by 233% since 1980. The Cervantes Institute predicts that the population in officially Spanish-speaking nations will reach 750 million by 2050.

BY THE NUMBERS

*Spanish is second only to Chinese in terms of the most spoken languages in the world.

*According to the official U.S. census, the United States will have the highest number of Spanish speakers in the world after Mexico by 2060, and around 28.6% of the population will be Hispanic.

*Houston's Hispanic population is increasing rapidly as more Latin American immigrants move to the area to work. Houston now has the 3rd largest Hispanic population in the United States after New York and Los Angeles.

BRIEF HISTORY ABOUT HISPANIC HERITAGE DAY

President Lyndon B. Johnson first introduced National Hispanic Heritage Week in 1968. As cited in President Johnson's 1968 Proclamation, September 15 is when five Latin American countries — Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua — earned independence from Spain in 1821. Mexico and Chile became independent from Spain on September 16 and September 18, respectively. Belize became independent from the United Kingdom on September 21.

We Are More Alike Than Different

Hispanic and Latino-Americans can have European, Jewish, African, Asian, and indigenous ancestry.

CELEBRATE!

The district encourages everyone to learn about Hispanics' various cultures, customs, traditions, and history.

¡SIÉNTETE ORGULLOSO DE TUS RAÍCES! — BE PROUD OF YOUR ROOTS!

Online Resources

There are many online resources to learn more about the history and contributions of Hispanics. Below are a few examples:

- PBS — Hispanic and Latino Heritage Month
- PBS — PBS Celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month 2023 With New Programs and Digital Activations
- PBS — Latino Americans (English)
- PBS — Latino Americanos (en español)
- Smithsonian — Hispanic Heritage Month
- Smithsonian National Museum of the American Latino
- Smithsonian Family and Public Programs
- Smithsonian Explores History and Experiences of Black Latinos in the United States
- Afro-Latino Experience — Smithsonian Institute
- Latino experience is in focus at African American History and Culture Museum — Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture
- Teaching Tolerance — Latino Civil Rights Timeline

THE FOLLOWING ARE JUST A FEW CLASSROOM IDEAS:

National Hispanic Heritage Month: Ideas for Teachers
 Colorín Colorado Hispanic Heritage Month
 We Teach EDSITEment! — Hispanic Heritage and History in the United States
 Poets.org — Lessons for Hispanic Heritage Month

Multilingual Learners in Aldine ISD

Did you know?

- ✓ Aldine ISD has over 26,000 students identified as emergent bilinguals.
- ✓ Aldine ISD has almost 34,000 families that list Spanish on their home language survey.

DAB/BAM ACTIVITIES

September 15

LITERACY – The Book Lotería is Back!

Since works of literature provide excellent examples of people's cultures, we are committing to completing even more boxes in this year's Book Lotería (link). Winners of the lotería will be announced on October 12. Send your completed card to Grace Delgado, ahdelgado@aldineisd.org

ALDINE #AISDHHM23

DAB/BAM ACTIVITIES

September 18-September 22

VISUAL ARTS

Cultural Art Walls
 Celebrating our Hispanic heroes, allies, and activists: District art students will create cultural art walls representative of Héroes Hispanos. The world of virtual and performing arts, science, literature, and sports will be represented. The cultural art wall displays will be at the DAB and BAM buildings until October 15.

Dress-Up Day – Who is Your Hispanic Hero?
 On September 22, wear your best outfit representing your Hispanic hero, ally, or activist!

September 25-September 29

STORIES

Virtual Lunch and Learn Session on September 29 at 12:00 p.m.
Keynote Speaker Dr. Verónica Benavides
 Heritage months foster openness, community unity, and a deeper understanding by embracing diverse cultures and experiences and encouraging story-sharing.
Dr. Verónica Benavides, a Harvard graduate, is an experienced educator, researcher, facilitator, change management strategist, and leadership development specialist. She founded Bilingual Generation to preserve the Spanish dialect and restore cultural pride through education. Click on the link to join virtually: <https://shorturl.at/bdNT4>

October 2-October 6

PERFORMANCE ART & FOOD

Food
 Homemade food, where love is the main ingredient, is a cultural bond for Hispanics, fostering family unity and preserving their heritage.

Hispanic Food and Musical Performance
 Hispanic food will be served during ILT on October 5. In addition, Aldine's Mariachi Acero will perform for ILT attendees.

DAB/BAM ACTIVITIES

October 9-October 13

HISPANIC COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The Hispanic community that has been improving the well-being of Americans can be found across the United States. Taken together, the contributions of the more than 62 million Hispanic Americans living in the United States today are evident across communities through music, art, and food, but also through the social and political contributions made for the betterment of the country. Below, you will find multiple organizations serving Hispanic communities in Houston and throughout the states.

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- Hispanic Forum hispanic-forum.org
- Hispanic Health Coalition Hispanic-Health.org

- Houston Hispanic Chamber houstonhispanicchamber.com
- Latin Women's Initiative latinwomensinitiative.org
- Latinos for Education latinosforeducation.org
- Racial Equity Institute racialequityinstitute.org
- Texas Association for Bilingual Education tabe.org

★ OPINION PAGE ★

COUNTY MATTERS
Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo



Judge Hidalgo says she will return to work on October 2nd

Letter from Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo

Dear People of Harris County:

Thank you to my colleagues, family, and the Harris County community for the outpouring of support that I received after I announced I was seeking inpatient mental health treatment for depression. I have been deeply touched by all the messages that I have received, not only from Harris County residents but from across the country. So many people wrote to me to share their own struggles with mental health and their support for my decision to be public about my journey. I am encouraged that so many in our community agree that treatment for mental illness should be normalized just as seeking treatment for any illness is accepted and expected.

After my time in a fantastic inpatient facility, I am feeling a lot better. I am looking forward to being discharged this Saturday, September 16, 2023, starting outpatient care, and re-acclimatizing to life outside a mental health facility. My initial treatment plan had me returning to my regular schedule in September, but my discharge date was moved back, which moves back the re-acclimatization period. The way my doctors explained re-acclimatization to me is that you would not go from heart surgery straight to running a marathon, in the same way that they do not want me to go straight back to my usual schedule.

I am feeling great and looking forward to returning on Monday, October 2, 2023. Thanks to the incredible medical team that has cared for me over the past several weeks, I feel so much stronger than I have ever been.

I continue to maintain lines of communication with my staff and the Harris County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management remains fully prepared to respond to any potential incident, as well as request my presence if necessary.

I am grateful for your continued support. I look forward to sharing more about my experience, and most of all, I am eager to return to the community and the job that I love.

Sincerely,

Lina Hidalgo
Harris County Judge



About Judge Hidalgo

Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo is the head of Harris County's governing body and Director of the Harris County's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. Judge Hidalgo, alongside four County Precinct Commissioners, oversees a budget of approximately \$5 billion that funds services and institutions for the third-largest county in the nation, home to nearly 5 million people.

Americanisms



"The most difficult thing is the decision to act, the rest is merely tenacity."
— Amelia Earhart

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THE POSTSCRIPT
By Carrie Classon

Up North With Mom and Dad

I'm staying "up north" with Mom and Dad, and that is always good.

My mom and dad have built a life that is pretty much exactly the way they like it. They have rituals and habits they do almost without thinking. But the amazing thing—to me—is that just about every one of these daily routines ends up giving them a healthier and much happier life.

At this point, my dad would snort, and my mom would say I was making them sound like saints, and they'd both shake their heads in unison and say that I like to exaggerate, and so I guess you'll have to take my word for it.

My dad turns 90 at the top of next year, and my mom isn't far behind. They still live in the beautiful home they designed and built together more than 30 years ago in the Northwoods. The house is not large, but it is perfectly suited to them. It sits high above the lake in the woods, so their nearest neighbors are squirrels and deer and raccoons, a variety of birds and the occasional bear. Loons fly over their home and land in the lake. My mother keeps dozens of pots of flowers blooming outside the house. My dad keeps enough wood chopped and split to keep them in firewood all winter, and they are out biking or walking or snowshoeing every single day.

"We don't eat as much as we used to," my mother notes.

But what they eat is healthy. They've got a vegetable garden in town, as it is too shady in the woods for vegetables. Yesterday, they picked up fresh sweet corn and a cantaloupe from the farmers market.

And I feel as if this is the part of the story where I should tell you the really amazing thing about my parents. But, as I write this, I realize the really amazing thing is not any one thing. It is all of it. As their needs and desires have changed, their habits have remained positive and healthy and filled with joy.

I think I've known for most of my life I would never be as consistent or disciplined or sensible as my parents. They were this way when I grew up, and they remain every bit as remarkable now that I am getting old. I've even thought, from time to time, that it was a lot to live up to. Their marriage, lasting many decades, was not one I could emulate in my first marriage. My moods fluctuate far more wildly. I require regular "reboots" to stay on track.

But I am no longer envious. I am now simply admiring. And I am grateful. I am so grateful they have taken such good care of themselves and so grateful that they are still here with me, active and happy and as practical as ever.

My dad says he's slowed down a lot, and turning 90 certainly gives a person plenty to think about. But just as I learned how to paddle a canoe and ride a bike by watching him, I now watch him managing the perils of aging with grace and elegance. And I am, once again, learning.

What I've just written, my father will dismiss. He'll say he wasn't so elegant the other day when he tripped over the doorknob and cut his hand open while bringing the laundry in from the line. He'll say he's doing nothing out of the ordinary, nothing worth writing about.

And that's why you'll have to take my word for it. Till next time,
Carrie

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS
By Gary Borders



Paxton Acquitted on all Impeachment Counts

Ken Paxton has been reinstated as Texas Attorney General after the Texas Senate on Saturday acquitted him of charges of bribery and misuse of office. Only two Republican senators joined the 12 Democrats in voting to convict him of some of the 16 charges heard by the Senate, with four other charges dismissed by the Senate, The Dallas Morning News reported.

"Today, the truth prevailed," Paxton said in a statement issued immediately after the verdict. "The truth could not be buried by mudslinging politicians or their powerful benefactors."

Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, who presided over the impeachment trial, scolded the House for voting overwhelmingly for impeachment of the embattled attorney general in late May. House Speaker Dade Phelan responded that Patrick was "confessing his bias."

"The inescapable conclusion is that today's outcome appears to have been orchestrated from the start, cheating the people of Texas of justice," Phelan said.

Paxton is not out of legal hot water yet. He faces a trial in March on an eight-year-old indictment for securities fraud. He is also the focus of a federal probe into his relationship with developer Nate Paul that led to some of the impeachment charges.

OUT-OF-STATE FIREFIGHTERS HEAD TO TEXAS

As drought and high temperatures continue to contribute to wildfires in Texas, more than 1,400 firefighters from 38 states and territories have arrived this year to help with response, the Texas Tribune reported. The number of wildfires that the Texas A&M Forest Service responded to in July and August skyrocketed to 163 in July and 501 in August, far above the average since 2005 of 103 in July and 151 in August.

"Drought development and the number of consecutive 100-plus degree days has contributed to critically dry vegetation across much of the state, which is supportive of wildfire activity," said Erin O'Connor, program specialist for the Texas A&M Forest Service. "With current conditions, we have wildfires that



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Gary Borders

are more complex and show extreme fire behavior, hold heat longer and require more time and effort to suppress."

As of Sunday, the service reported six active wildfires, most of which are nearly contained. Recent rainfall has lowered the state fire level from 4 to 3.

There are currently 215 counties with burn bans in place. Luckily, widespread rainfall in the Hill Country, North and East Texas and much of the Rolling Plains is reducing the risk.

TEA DELAYS RELEASE OF 2023 ACCOUNTABILITY RATINGS

The Texas Education Agency is delaying the release of A-F district and campus accountability ratings for about one month. The ratings were to be released on Sept. 28. The postponement allows for re-examination of "the baseline data used in the calculation of progress to ensure ratings reflect the most appropriate goals for students," the news release said.

The delay is a result of further study being made into the impact of the pandemic on student progress.

"Maintaining high expectations helps guide our efforts to improve student learning and support," said Texas Education Commissioner Mike Morath. "The A-F system is designed to properly reflect how well our schools are meeting those high expectations, and the adjustments we are making this year will ensure it continues to serve as a tool for parents and educators to help our students."

NEW COVID-19 BOOSTERS NOW AVAILABLE

A new vaccine booster for COVID-19 is now largely available, and the Centers for Disease Control and Pre-

vention is recommending all people over the age of six months get the new shots as the number of new COVID cases and hospitalizations increase across the state, the Austin American-Statesman reported.

"There's a lot of thought that COVID is over, but...we've seen over the last few weeks an increase in cases, hospitalizations and death," said Dr. Brian Metzger, medical director of infectious diseases at St. David's HealthCare in Austin. "While it's not nearly what we were seeing, ... there's still a significant burden of illness. We can't ignore it."

The CDC noted the immunity garnered from the original vaccination, like other seasonal illnesses such as the flu, wanes over time. After a year, the antibodies produced by the vaccine "have waned enough that you really aren't protected to where you were before," Metzger told the Statesman.

AUGUST WAS FOURTH HOTTEST AND DRIEST ON RECORD

This comes as no surprise to those of us living through it, but August in Texas was the hottest and driest in Texas since records began being kept in 1895, according to Andrew Weinberg, geoscientist with the Texas Water Development Board.

At the end of the month 76% of the state was in drought, up 27 percentage points from the end of July. Storage in the state's water supply reservoirs is about 69% of capacity, more than 13 percentage points below normal for this time of year.

The hopeful news is that El Niño weather conditions should bring cooler and wetter weather to the state this fall and winter. That should ease drought conditions across the state before the end of the year.

LOST MAPLES RANKED AS HAVING BEST FALL FOLIAGE

The leaves will begin to change in coming weeks, and the Statesman reports a Central Texas natural area has been ranked as having the best fall foliage in the country. Lost Maples Natural Area in Vanderpool, about two hours northwest of San Antonio, garnered the top spot from New York Travel Guides, a digital travel publication.

Lost Maples boasts 2,000 acres filled with bigtooth maple trees, which display brilliant colors most autumns. It also features 10 miles of hiking and 30 campsites with water and electricity. Park officials recommend visitors reserve passes online to guarantee entry.

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, Lufkin and Cedar Park. Email: gbborders@texaspress.com.

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SPORTS PAGE

SEASON FOOTBALL WEEK 3

Texans host Colts in Ryan's' first home game: Cowboys face old nemesis when Rodgers brings Jets to town

Rookie QB C.J. Stroud played well, passing for 242 yards, but Houston needs to get more out of its rushing game if it hopes to pull off the upset against the Jags who opened the season with a 31-21 win at Indianapolis. Running back Dameon Pierce was held to just 38 yards on the ground and that's got to improve if the Texans hope to take pressure off of their rookie QB.

In other action, the Dallas Cowboys and their stifling defense will visit an Arizona team that played hard in their 20-16 opening season loss at Washington. The Cowboys rolled to a 40-0 smashing of the Giants in The Meadowlands as Micah Parsons and his defensive teammates recorded seven sacks, returned an interception for a touchdown and blocked a punt for another score. It could be a long day in the desert for the rebuilding Cards.

Sunday Night Football features the Steelers, who lost 30-7 at home to the 49ers, visiting Las Vegas. The Raiders opened with a 17-16 win at Denver. The NFL is giving us two more Monday Night Games as Philadelphia will visit Tampa Bay at 6:15 p.m. on ABC, followed by the Los Angeles Rams visiting Cincinnati at 7:15 p.m. on ESPN.

Before we take a look at this weekend's games, let's review last week's record. A 5-7 week brought the season record to 12-12 (50%).

Now, onto this weekend's game.

HIGH SCHOOL

Eisenhower at Dekaney: Odell James' Eagles take on a Dekaney team that enters with a 2-1 season record. The game will be played on Thursday night at Planet Ford Stadium in Spring ISD. DeKaney returns six offensive and six defensive starters from last year's 9-4 team that reached the Class 6A Division II regional semifinals. Eisenhower will need to slow down DeKaney wide receiver Tanook Hines (50 receptions, 867 yards, 8 TD catches in 2022) if



KEENEY'S KORNER
By
MIKE KEENEY

they hope to pull off the upset. My pick, Dekaney 23, Eisenhower 20
Nimitz vs. MacArthur: Cornelius Harmon's Cougars face Wayne Crawford's Generals on Friday night at George Stadium in Spring ISD in the District 14-6A opener for both squads. Nimitz has been rolling on offense en route to a 3-0 start in non-district, while the Generals had a tough go in non-league games dropping all three contests. Look for another big night from the Nimitz offense as the Cougar's winning ways continue. My pick, Nimitz 33, MacArthur 17

Davis vs. Aldine: Cirilo Ojeda's Mustangs will take on Kelvin Chatman's Falcons on Saturday night at George Stadium in Spring ISD. Aldine will enter riding a two-game winning streak, while Davis enters having a lost two of its three non-district games. Both teams want to get off to a good start in league play. After suffering through some tough seasons, the Mustangs have to like getting back to playing winning football. My pick, Aldine 22, Davis 21

NCAA

Florida State at Clemson: Florida State takes its No. 3 national ranking to Death Valley to face a Clemson team that is still trying to find its identity. Dabo Swiney's team opened the season with a 28-7 loss at Duke, but followed that embarrassment up with a 66-17 shellacking of Charleston Southern two weeks ago. So, the question is, which Clemson team shows up on Saturday? The one that struggled against an average Duke team, or the one that blew out an inferior opponent? Clemson fans are

waiting to find out. The Tigers defense will have its hands full with FSU QB Jordan Travis (517 passing yards, 6 TDs in first two games), running back Trey Benson (126 yards, 3 TDs) and big-play wide receiver Keon Coleman (12 receptions, 170 yards, 4 TDs). Clemson will need a big day from sophomore QB Cade Klubnik (524 yards, 5 TDs). He should get help from a strong running game led by Will Shipley (187 yards) and Phil Mahaf (124 yards, 2 TDs). If the Seminoles want to be in the CFP conversation, they need a big road win against a quality foe. My pick, Florida State 31, Clemson 26

Alabama at Mississippi: This is a big game for Nick Saban and his No. 10-ranked Crimson Tide. Two weeks ago, Texas waltzed into Tuscaloosa and left with a 34-24 win as QB Quinn Ewers threw for 349 yards and three TDs against the shocked Tide defense. Things won't get any easier this Saturday when Saban's team has to play the high-scoring Rebels on the road. Ole Miss is led by veteran QB Jaxson Dart (601 yards, 6 TDs), running back Quinshon Judkins (108 yards, 3 TDs) and speedy wide receiver Tre Harris (8

receptions, 188 yards, 5 TDs). 'Bama QB Jalen Milroe (449 passing yards, 5 TDs/92 rushing yards, 2 TDs) has got to do a better job of protecting the football. He threw two interceptions against Texas and if that trend continues, you can bet Saban will find someone else to start at QB. 'Bama knows it can't afford to lose again if it hopes to remain in contention for the CFP. Look for the Crimson Tide to get a big road win on Saturday. My pick, Alabama 34, Mississippi 31
Ohio State at Notre Dame:

This is the Game of the Week in college football as No. 4-ranked Ohio State visits No. 9-ranked Notre Dame in prime time on NBC. The Buckeyes won their first two games, but struggled in both of them against inferior opponents, while Notre Dame has rolled in their first three games averaging 47 points. OSU is breaking in a new quarterback in Kyle McCord (497 yards, 3 TDs) and he's been so-so thus far. ND has received stellar play from Sam Hartman (731 yards, 10 TDs), at QB and is head coach Marcus Freeman ever happy that Hartman left Wake Forest for South Bend during the spring. McCord has a strong running game to rely on led by TreVeyon Henderson (103 yards, 2 TDs) and two big-play wideouts in Marvin Harrison Jr. (9 receptions, 178 yards, 2 TDs) and Emeka Egbuka (8 receptions, 110 yards, 1 TD). Hartman has some playmakers as well in running back Audric Esteime (345 yards, 4 TDs), wide receivers Chris Tyree (6 receptions, 127 yards, 1 TD) and Jayden Thomas (8 receptions, 128 yards, 1 TD) and tight end Holden Staes (5 receptions, 119 yards, 3 TDs). The Irish are tough at home under the lights and come Saturday night, Freeman will get the biggest win of his young head coaching career. My pick, Notre Dame 36, Ohio State 28

TD), which should make the Jags even more dangerous on offense. Ridley was suspended by the NFL for the entire 2022 season because of a gambling allegation. If he picks up where he left off as Atlanta's best receiver, the Jags could make a lot of noise in the AFC this year. Look for them to roll on Sunday against the Texans. My pick, Jacksonville 34, Houston 17

New Orleans at Green Bay: The Saints visit the Packers on Sunday in what should be an interesting matchup. Two weeks ago, NO opened with a 16-15 win over Tennessee giving new QB Derek Carr (305 yards, 1 TD) his first win in a Saints uniform. The Packers opened with an impressive 38-20 win over their long-time rival Chicago in the Windy City as new QB Jordan Love had a big day throwing for 245 yards and 3 TDs. Running back Aaron Jones added 126 yards of total offense along with a TD run and reception as the GB offense looks like it didn't miss former starter Aaron Rodgers a bit. Rodger's New York Jets debut ended in horrible fashion as he sustained what could be a season-ending injury on just his fourth snap. Look for the Packers to get the win in Lambeau. My pick, Green Bay 26, New Orleans 23

Dallas at Arizona: This one could get ugly, early. The Cowboys opened the season with a 40-0 thumping of the Giants as the defense recorded seven sacks, forced three turnovers, returned an interception and a blocked punt for a touchdown two weeks ago. The offense really didn't have to do much because the defense dominated. Running back Tony Pollard rushed for 70 yards and two touchdowns as he is now the lead back after Dallas parted ways with former starter Ezekiel Elliott. The Cardinals are in a rebuild mode, but they played hard in their 20-16 season-opening win against Washington. Look for another big day from the Dallas defense as they make life miserable for Joshua Dobbs on Sunday. My pick, Dallas 33, Arizona 12

Pittsburgh at Las Vegas: The Steelers visit Sin City on Sunday to take on a Raiders team that won at Denver (17-16) in their season opener, while

Pittsburgh was waylaid at home by the 49ers, 30-7. A lot of experts thought the Steelers might be a playoff contender this year, but they've got a lot of improving to do to make that happen. Second-year QB Kenny Pickett threw for 242 yards and one TD in the SF game, but the rest of the offense did little else. The Raiders played hard on defense and got a decent game from new QB Jimmy Garoppolo (200 yards, 2 TDs). Jimmy G may have found a new weapon to go along with All-Pro wide receiver Davante Adams (6 receptions, 66 yards) in fellow wideout Jacobi Myers, who had nine catches for 90 yards and two TDs. Look for the Raiders to take care of the Steelers on Sunday. My pick, Las Vegas 24, Pittsburgh 16

Philadelphia at Tampa Bay: Game one of the Monday Night Football doubleheader pits the Eagles against the Bucs. Philly slept walked through its 25-20 season-opening win at New England. QB Jalen Hurts (170 yards passing, 1 TD) had a subpar performance, as did wide receiver A.J. Brown (7 receptions, 79 yards). The secondary got burned for three passing touchdowns. TB opened the season with a 20-17 upset win at Minnesota as new QB Baker Mayfield tossed two touchdown passes as Tom Brady's replacement. Look for the Eagles to find their wings on Monday night to the chagrin of Tampa Bay fans. My pick, Philadelphia 26, Tampa Bay 20

Los Angeles Rams at Cincinnati: The Rams opened the season with an upset win at Seattle, while the Bengals got curb stomped at Cleveland, 24-3. In the Rams' 30-13 win at Seattle, QB Matthew Stafford passed for 334 yards, and running back Kryn Williams (2 TDs) and Cam Akers (1 TD) took care of business on the ground. The Bengals offense was stymied by the Browns defense as QB Joe Burrow, who became the highest paid player in NFL history a few days before the season opener, was held to a career low 82 passing yards in the loss to the Browns. Cincinnati fans will demand more of Joe Cool and what a better stage than Monday Night Football to showcase his talents. My pick, Cincinnati 24, Los Angeles Rams 20

Aldine Senior Citizen may lose home to Aldine ISD,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Travis Upchurch, right, works in the yard of his longtime home at 1810 Aldine Meadows Rd. along with his son, who now is an adult. In the background are school buses for Aldine ISD, where school board members in April 2023 voted to acquire Upchurch's property through eminent domain.

since 1916," his son said. Lilja Road is named after their direct descendant who moved to the Aldine area from Sweden.

"His grandmother was the first PTA president of Aldine, and his mother ran the Mustang Café until the school banned them from eating lunch there," he said. She later got a job as a cafeteria manager and retired as the cafeteria manager from Aldine at Innwood Elementary.

"My father is a retired union carpenter and loves living in Aldine and likes collecting pecans from the trees planted by his grandparents," his son said. The elder Travis likes shelling them and giving the pecans or pecan pies as gifts.

The district has retained the services of Heidaker Land Services, Inc. to handle negotiations and communications with the Upchurch family, a spokesperson from the district said.

"These are very delicate conversations that balance community needs and individual needs," said Mike Keeney, director of external communications at Aldine ISD.

On July 17, the district mailed an initial offer to the owner as part of the first step in the eminent domain process. The family had 30 days to respond without penalty if they did not respond.

The district agreed on Aug. 3 to extending response deadlines to their initial and final offer with no hard deadlines.

"He's emotionally attached to the place," his son said. "He doesn't want to move. We've been working with the school district to see if we can come up with some sort of alternatives."

Upchurch said they would be amenable to the sell of the property if the district would allow him to live out his days on the property.

"Our counter proposal to them was to consider a living estate or a first right of refusal, or a long-term lease, or something to where they get the property, but he can live there for as long as he can or wants to. At that point, it becomes theirs," his son said. The homestead is also the place where Upchurch cared for his cancer-stricken wife until she passed away. The ties are strong.

The family has support from the community. More than 100 supporters showed up to a recent board meeting pleading the case for the elder Upchurch.

"On August 16, a final offer letter from the district was mailed to the property owners and they will have another 14 days to respond, again without penalty if they do not re-

spond," Keeney said. The property used to be part of a dairy farm; the rest sold off to the school district except for the homestead.

"The key thing is there's other adjacent land, about 17 acres, that's already owned by the school district, that could be paved for the parking lot, but they're saying this single acre is what is needed. They're trying to put him out because of a parking lot," Upchurch said, shaking his head.

To date, no eminent domain proceedings have been filed at this time.

"We have continued to negotiate with the Upchurch family," Keeney said in a statement.

Upchurch said he would be back in front of the school board at their next meeting with hopes of a resolution that would be satisfactory to all.

To speak and make a public comment to the school board, please copy and click on this link:

<https://www.k12insight.com/Lets-Talk-Dialogue.aspx?k=WN4K9KLT@DY6YXY4LT>

The next board meeting is scheduled on Sept. 19 at 7 p.m. at 2520 W. W. Thorne Dr. The public is welcome to make a comment directly to the school board at the meeting.

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CONGRATULATIONS To Noe Martinez of Spring, who won Free Tickets to the Texas Renaissance Festival. You can win too. Just send us a photo reading this newspaper. See information in this issue, and enter the Drawing.

CHURCH PAGE

BIBLE TRIVIA

By Wilson Casey —

1. Is the book of John (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. On watching Jesus' arrest and trial, which disciple claimed three times he didn't know the Lord? Judas, James, John, Peter
3. From Proverbs, "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of _____?" Song, Silver, Meadows, Eden

4. Who was quoted, "Is there any taste in the white of an egg"? Solomon, David, Daniel, Job
5. What did Job behold as the fear of the Lord? Distrust, Wisdom, Unrighteous, Sympathy
6. Who was the father of Samson? Manoah, Isaiah, Abdon, Felix

ANSWERS: 1) New, 2) Peter, 3) Silver, 4) Job, 5) Wisdom, 6) Manoah
Comments? More Trivia? Gift ideas? Visit www.TriviaGuy.com. (c) 2023 King Features Synd., Inc.

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

"But now ask the beasts, and they will teach you; And the birds of the air, and they will tell you; Or speak to the earth, and it will teach you; And the fish of the sea will explain to you. Who among all these does not know That the hand of the Lord has done this, In whose hand is the life of every living thing, And the breath of all mankind?"

JOB 12:7-10

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LEGAL NOTICE:

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine and Beer Retailer's Permit by Anthony Bruno dba Bruno's Triangle Seven Arena, to be located at 8001 E. Parker Rd., Houston, Texas 77078, Harris County, Texas. Officer of said corporation is Anthony Bruno, owner.

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WATER DISTRICT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX RATE

The SEQUOIA IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2023 on October 09, 2023 at 6:30 pm. The meeting will be held at 14435 Sequoia Bend, Houston, Texas 77032. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

FOR the proposal: Richard Slater, Karen Baker, Jason Simpson, James Eastham, Sr., and Gilbert Arauza

AGAINST the proposal: None

PRESENT and not voting: None

ABSENT: None

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

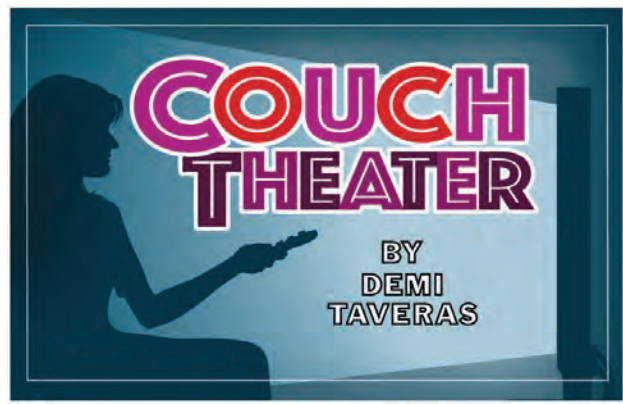
	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.370 /\$100 Adopted	\$0.349 /\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		-\$0.0210 /\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		-5.6757%
Average appraised value	\$154,052	\$168,566
General Exemptions Available		
(Excluding senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions)	\$30,810	\$33,713
Average taxable value	\$123,242	\$134,853
Tax on average residence homestead	\$456.00	\$470.64
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-)		\$14.64
and percentage of increase (+/-)		3.2105%

NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 3.5 percent, an election must be held to determine whether to approve the operation and maintenance tax rate under Section 49.23602.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Wheeler & Associates, Inc. 713-462-8906



From left, Gina Rodriguez, Everly Carganilla, Connor Esterson and Zachary Levi star in "Spy Kids: Armageddon."

"Spy Kids: Armageddon"

"SPY KIDS: ARMAGEDDON" (PG) — The original "Spy Kids" film starring Alexa PenaVega and Daryl Sabara as Carmen and Juni Cortez was released over 22 years ago, and it became a franchise that Millennials and Generation Z grew up loving. Now creator Robert Rodriguez is rebooting the franchise for the next generation. The Tango-Torrezes, Nora (Gina Rodriguez) and Terrence (Zachary Levi), are the world's greatest secret agents. Their young kids, Patty and Tony, unknowingly release a virus from an evil game developer through a glitch in the game, which gives the developer control over all the world's technology. With their parents now held hostage, Patty and Tony must jump into their own spy suits to help save Nora and Terrence ... oh,

and just the fate of the entire world. Premieres Sept. 22. (Netflix)

"A THOUSAND AND ONE" (R) — This emotional drama set in the concrete jungle of New York during the '90s and early 2000s follows hairdresser Inez de la Paz. After getting convicted of stealing and passing time in Rikers Island, Inez returns to Harlem to find her son, Terry, in a foster home. Terry attempts to escape from the foster home only to be hospitalized, which prompts Inez to take him from the hospital and raise him on her own. With Inez, Terry finds the foundation he needs amid plenty of chaos and struggles. Teyana Taylor ("White Men Can't Jump," "Coming 2 America") is an incredible standout in the leading role of Inez. Premieres Sept. 19. (Amazon Prime Video)

"ROBOTS" (R) — In this sci-fi rom-com that jumps to the year 2032, robot versions of humans are now being used for all those mundane tasks, like shaving your legs or taking out the garbage or going out on that date you've been dreading. New couple Elaine and Charles know about that last one better than anyone; they send in their androids — E2 and C2 — whenever they can't be bothered to spend time with each other. But when E2 and C2 suddenly catch feelings for each other, they decide to steal their owners' identities and run away together. Elaine and Charles are forced to team up to stop the robots and get their lives back. Shailene Woodley and Jack Whitehall lead "Robots," out now. (Hulu)

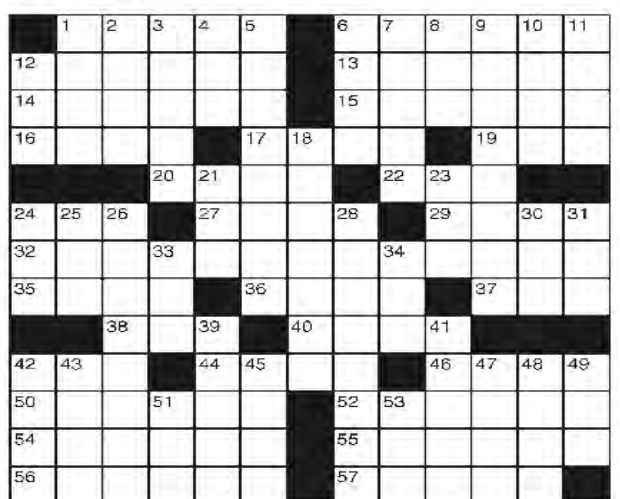
"COCAINE BEAR" (R) — For her fourth directorial feature film, Elizabeth Banks ("Charlie's Angels," "Movie 43") tries her hand at the horror genre, but with a campy comedic flair. Ray Liotta plays agitated cocaine kingpin Syd White, who sends two of his cronies into the forest to find duffels of cocaine that have gone missing. Meanwhile, a bear in the forest has long since discovered and ingested the cocaine, running rampant around the forest and attempting to kill everyone in sight. Keri Russell gives an admirable performance as concerned mom Sari, while Margo Martindale plays a hilarious park ranger named Liz. The film is dedicated to Liotta, who passed away almost a year before its theatrical release. Out now. (Peacock)

ENTERTAINMENT

September 18, 2023 Posting Date

King Crossword

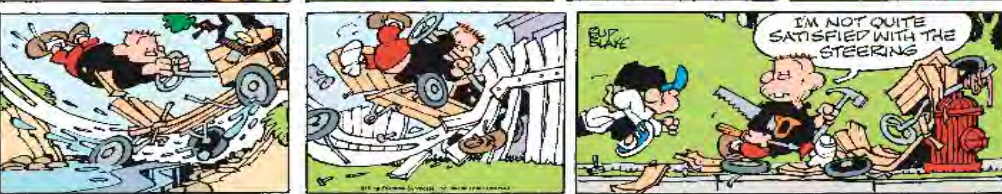
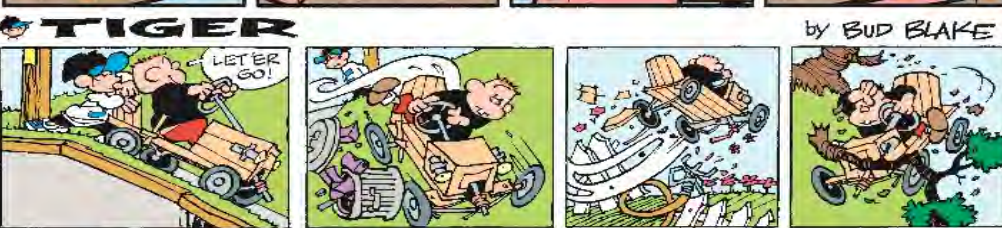
- ACROSS**
- 1 Swamp
 - 6 Foliage
 - 12 Alaskan peak
 - 13 Current measure
 - 14 Kidnapper's demand
 - 15 European peninsula
 - 16 Venetian blind part
 - 17 Suffix for million
 - 19 Busy insect
 - 20 Penne — Vodka
 - 22 Press for payment
 - 24 — Alamos
 - 27 Mexican snack
 - 29 Aussie greeting
 - 32 Chekhov play, with "The"
 - 35 Nickelodeon's Explorer
 - 36 Outlet letters
 - 37 Venus, to Serena
 - 38 CBS logo
 - 40 Abel's brother
 - 42 Campaigned
 - 44 Bangkok cuisine
 - 46 Elevator name
 - 50 Biblical prophet
 - 52 Outer-space



- 9 Porches
- 10 Ireland
- 11 Plane reservation
- 12 ER workers
- 18 Former Chrysler CEO
- 21 USPS delivery
- 23 "Yecch!"
- 24 PC screen type
- 25 Discoverer's call
- 26 Peace
- 28 Admitted to the clergy
- 30 "Entourage" role
- 31 QB's gains
- 33 Shaft of light
- 34 201, in old Rome
- 39 Bygone anesthetic
- 41 Prestigious prize
- 42 Coral formation
- 43 To boot
- 45 Easter entrees
- 47 Melody call
- 48 Misfortunes
- 49 Utter
- 51 Observe
- 53 Actress
- Longoria

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Amber Waves



Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

7			5					8
	1			7				3
		6	2			1		
		8	9			5		
4				7				9
	3			1		2		
1				6		5		
		2	8			4		
	8			1				6

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row, across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

- ◆ Moderate
- ◆◆ Challenging
- ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



9	6	2	4	1	8	7	8	5
7	1	4	5	6	8	2	9	3
5	9	9	2	7	7	6	1	
4	2	7	1	8	9	6	3	9
6	8	3	2	9	1	5	4	
1	9	5	3	4	6	8	7	2
5	7	7	8	2	9	4	6	
2	3	6	7	9	4	1	8	
8	8	4	8	9	5	9	6	4

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

9	6	2	4	1	8	7	8	5
7	1	4	5	6	8	2	9	3
5	9	9	2	7	7	6	1	
4	2	7	1	8	9	6	3	9
6	8	3	2	9	1	5	4	
1	9	5	3	4	6	8	7	2
5	7	7	8	2	9	4	6	
2	3	6	7	9	4	1	8	
8	8	4	8	9	5	9	6	4

Solution time: 21 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. GEOGRAPHY: Which European city has almost 2,500 bridges?
2. MOVIES: How many infinity stones exist in "Avengers: End Game"?
3. ANIMAL KINGDOM: How many digits do pandas have on each hand?
4. AD SLOGANS: Which car manufacturer used the ad slogan, "Life is a journey. Enjoy the ride"?
5. LITERATURE: What is Hogwarts' motto in the "Harry Potter" book series?
6. TELEVISION: Which show spawned the spinoff TV comedy "Laverne & Shirley"?
7. SCIENCE: How long is an eon?
8. MUSIC: What is the name of the band that John Lennon, George Harrison and Paul McCartney were in before The Beatles formed?
9. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What does the Apgar score measure?
10. U.S. STATES: Which state has an active volcano named Mount St. Helens?

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1. Hamburg, Germany; 2. Six — five fingers and an opposable pseudo thumb; 4. Nissan; 5. "Never Tickle a Sleeping Dragon"; 6. "Happy Days"; 7. 1 billion years; 8. The Quarrymen; 9. The health of newborns; 10. Washington.

Trivia Test Answers

LSC Leadership High School prepares tomorrow's Leaders



Lone Star College Leadership High School is currently accepting applications for the 2023-24 year. Pictured are students from the 2022-2023 class.

HOUSTON (Aug. 10, 2023) – Lone Star College Leadership High School (LHS) is currently accepting applications for the 2023-24 year. LHS is a leadership development, community awareness, and civic engagement program for sophomore and junior high school students who attend public school and live in the LSC service area.

“Participating in Leadership High School can help boost a student’s college application to display work outside the conventional classroom,” said Kay Fitzsimons, LSC Leadership and Economic Development Executive Director. “It also provides them the opportunity to meet other like-minded students interested in developing leadership skills.”

LHS, offered by Lone Star College, is a program of study that allows students to develop the confidence, personal leadership skills and problem-solving abilities essential to realizing leadership potential.

The program is free and the deadline to apply is Sept. 22.

“Students learn important leadership skills which they can use for the rest of their lives,” said Fitzsimons.

LHS is scheduled to begin in October with an orientation followed by a series of engaging monthly sessions concluding with a Certificate Ceremony at the Lone Star Community Building April 20. These sessions offer students the opportunity to interact with community leaders from various backgrounds and industries.

“We want them to understand the need for positive student leaders in the community,” said Fitzsimons. “The goal is to provide them a platform to explore best leadership practices and engage in dialogue to better understand the role leaders have in initiating positive change in the community.”

The program also emphasizes peer-to-peer learning and how to

work effectively in a team environment during a community service project. Students and parents can visit LoneStar.edu/Leadership-HighSchool to learn more and apply.

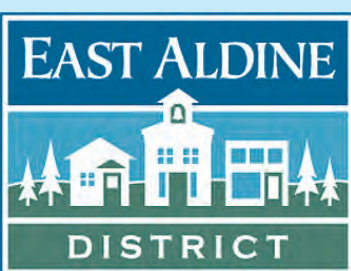
Lone Star College enrolls over 80,000 students each semester providing high-quality, low-cost academic transfer and career training education. LSC is training tomorrow’s workforce today and redefining the community college experience to support student success. LSC is the largest institution of higher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

Texas Renaissance Festival
 October 7th through November 26th
 Saturdays, Sundays, and Thanksgiving Friday

TexRenFest.com

Scan the QR Code for More Information and to Purchase Tickets.

Your Adventure Awaits



East Aldine District COMMUNITY NEWS

Hit Show Texas Metal is Forged on District Sidestreet

Towering over the end of Sunny Drive in East Aldine is a tribute to the old cars that have been transformed into automotive showpieces at Ekstensive Metal Works.

The artful work was done by native son Bill Carlton, the expert welder and star of the popular TV show Texas Metal.

Carlton forged the “Tower of Shame” from rusty old car parts as a mystical reminder of his childhood at 1804 Sunny, where he grew up and learned welding from his father.

The 52-year old entrepreneur’s highly successful business of shaping old vehicles into wildly beautiful moving masterpieces is shaped by hard work, determination and self-taught design skills.

The steel workshop is located on the same land where Carlton’s family had a home and welding workshop. Now, he employs about 15 people who work on his automotive creations and the chart-topping TV show.

Texas Metal, the television series, is just starting its seventh season on the Motor Trend Network. The show has more than 72 million viewers in 183 countries and territories, Carlton said.



“That’s pretty damn good for some guys that build cars (here) on Sunny Drive, it’s unbelievable,” Carlton said.



year after year,” Carlton said.

“I know a lot of people who do what they love, but they don’t have the work ethic. That was something instilled in me by my Dad – “to get up and get to work every day, sick, tired, whatever. You got responsibilities, so get out and get it done,” Carlton said.

Like many East Aldine business owners, Carlton employs people from the neighborhood where he grew up. With piercing blue-green eyes under a ball cap that he refuses to remove, Carlton is proud, but laid-back about his success.

“I love creating and customizing cars is most definitely a form of self-expression and pride in what you’re doing,” Carlton said. “You’re rolling around in artwork, and you’re different from everybody else.”

“That’s what keeps this business going and everybody on their toes. Everybody that works for me loves what they do and has a passion for making cool things. And that makes a pretty good day, to have a team like that.”

Carlton said he doesn’t have a “favorite” automotive project, and he only brags a little about some of his former clients, such as Heisman trophy winner and former Houston Oiler Earl Campbell and rock legend Ted Nugent.

Carlton, who now lives in Spring, says he feels a strong tie to East Aldine.

“People do feel a connection to this community. I grew up here, I walked many, many miles up and down the street to the bus stop,” Carlton said.

Carlton attended MacArthur High School for a year and graduated from Nimitz High School.

“I still have family ties to the neighborhood, and I know everybody around here, for the most part,” he said.

<https://www.ekstensive.com/>

— by Anne Marie Kilday

Ekstensive Metal Works’ reputation is built on a unique design element, Carlton explained.

“What this company is based on, what we’re known for all over the world is installing air suspensions,” he said. “That’s basically taking out springs and putting an airbag in place, so it rides on air. Our business of customizing is a unique style of suspension. The name of the game was just putting the biggest wheels on it, and making it flow.”

But the business also calls itself a custom metal fabricator for all kinds of needs.

Carlton said he didn’t enjoy learning welding. But he started customizing cars around East Aldine when he was about 16 years old and just kept at it.

“I’ve just been blessed to get to do what I love and just expand