

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

- Free TRF Tickets ..... 2
- Aldine Branch Library ..... 2
- AISD Outstanding Students ..... 3
- Aldine ISD News ..... 3
- OP-ED Upchurch Opinion ..... 4
- Keeney's Korner ..... 1,5
- Church Page ..... 6
- Entertainment ..... 7
- Aldine ISD Bond Issue ..... 8
- Jed's 50th Anniversary ..... 8

# NORTHEAST NEWS

**SPECIAL ARTICLES ON PAGE 8:**



The History of East Aldine District and Jed's Hardware are intertwined. Read how, Page 8



The Aldine ISD Bond Issue for \$1.82 Billion is on the November ballot. Read detailed information, Page 8

Serving the Neighborhoods of Aldine, Greenspoint, US59 Eastex, Beltway 8 and North Forest for over 47 Years  
 VOL. 47, NO. 39 TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2023 HOUSTON, TEXAS www.nenewsroom.com

**NEWS NOTES**

**Small Business Seminar Oct. 26: Retirement**

East Aldine District hosts a Free Seminar Luncheon Series for Small Business owners. Thursday, October 26 from 12pm to 1pm at the East Aldine District Office, 2909 East Aldine Amphitheatre Drive. Program: Will You Be Ready For Retirement? Speaker Crystal Gomez. RSVP to LDean@AldineDistrict.org, or 512-658-4985. See more information on Page 8.

**Fall Festival: Dia De Los Muertos Sat. Oct. 28**

East Aldine District hosts a Fall Festival and DIA DE LOS MUERTOS from 11am to 3pm at the East Aldine Amphitheatre, Saturday October 28. Music, Entertainment, Food, Hay Ride, Pumpkin Patch, Haunted House, Costume Contest. More information on Page 8.

## Upchurch Home saved from AISD

### School Board votes 7-0 to Drop Eminent Domain action

By David Taylor  
 Managing Editor

It's over. After months of anxiety, worry, and a new high blood pressure diagnosis, Travis Upchurch, Jr. can finally relax following a 7-0 vote by the Aldine ISD school board last Tuesday night to stop eminent domain proceedings against the 79-year-old.

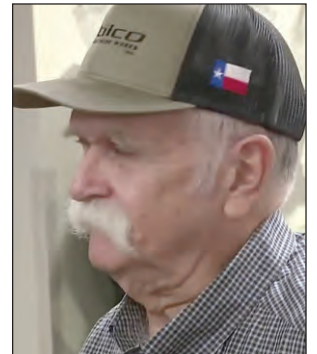
Upchurch was relieved following the vote telling KPRC's Bryce Newberry, "I don't know what to say, but I'm just glad it turned out like that."

The Aldine ISD Board of Trustees voted to discontinue negotiations to purchase land from Travis Upchurch at 1810 Aldine Meadows and land owned by the Upchurch family at 1926 Aldine Meadows authorized by prior resolutions dated November 15, 2022, and April 18, 2023.

The land had been in



UPCHURCH FAMILY MEMBERS petitioned the School Board continuously to abandon Eminent Domain and let their father live in his house. ABOVE, son Travis Upchurch III, daughters Tara Upchurch and Tina Robinson.



TRAVIS UPCHURCH, JR. Lives in Family Homestead

**EXCLUSIVE: READ AN OP-ED OPINION PIECE FROM THE UPCHURCH FAMILY on Page 4 of this issue.**



LAST TUESDAY'S ALDINE ISD SCHOOL BOARD MEETING heard many pleas from the public to let the Upchurch family keep their property and live in the Homestead, without the Aldine ISD taking the property by Eminent Domain for a parking lot for the new Stadium. The Board voted 7-0 to abandon efforts to acquire the properties.

the family for more than 100 years and the family were big supporters of the district till this occurred. "This will allow Travis Upchurch to retain ownership and landowner responsibilities for these properties. To this end,

CONTINUED. See UPCHURCH TO REMAIN IN HOME, Page 5

## Early Voting starts Oct. 23 thru Nov. 3

**Joint General & Special Elections**

HARRIS COUNTY – Early voting for the November 7 Joint General & Special Elections begins Monday, October 23, and ends Friday, November 3. A total of **68 voting centers** will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. each day, except for Sunday, October 29, noon to 7 p.m.

"There are 14 state constitutional amendments and the Harris County Hospital District proposition," said **Harris County Clerk Teneshia Hudspeth**. "Only voters who live within the City of Houston's legal boundaries are eligible to vote in the Houston Mayoral and City



Voters within the City of Houston will be able to vote for Mayor and City Council. ABOVE, East Aldine Executive Director Richard Cantu is running for a seat on Houston City Council.

Council races." For a sample ballot, see [HARRISVOTES.COM](http://HARRISVOTES.COM). Enter the name, address, or Voter Unique Identifier (VUID) on your voter reg-

istration certificate to view all the contests and candidates. Sample ballots are unique to an individual's CONTINUED. See EARLY VOTING, Page 5

**SEASON FOOTBALL WEEK 9**

### No. 1, No. 2 picks meet as Stroud faces Young: District 14-6A race coming down to the wire

When the Texans won their final game of the 2022 season, many Texan fans were disappointed that they had lost out on the overall first pick of the 2023 NFL Draft. Houston fans badly wanted the team to draft Alabama QB Bryce Young, considered by many draft experts as the top quarterback in last spring's draft.

The Texans selected Ohio State QB C.J. Stroud with the No. 2 overall pick. I think Texans fans are now happy with the selection. After their first six games, Stroud has led his team to a 3-3 record and the Texans are serious contenders in the AFC South race and are also in the Wild Card hunt. Things haven't worked out as well for Young and the Carolina Panthers. Young and Carolina lost their first six games and looks like they could very well be drafting first in 2024.

Stroud and Young meet on Sunday in Charlotte when the Texans visit the Panthers. This is a very winnable game for the Texans and if they hope to remain in the playoff hunt, they



can't take the Panthers lightly. Young has done some good things thus far, but has thrown four interceptions in his first six games as a pro. Stroud threw his first interception two weeks ago in the Texans 20-13 win over the Saints. Ironically, Stroud's interception was returned to his team when the Saints defender fumbled and offensive lineman Tytus Howard recovered it.

Talk about being at the right place at the right time! While the Texans, who had last week off, take on the Panthers, the Cowboys, who also had their bye last week, host an improved Rams team on Sunday at AT&T Stadium. The Cowboys

need to win this one to keep within range of the Eagles in the NFC East race. Philly saw its undefeated season come to an end two weeks ago when they lost to the Jets.

Other interesting games on the NFL schedule in Week 8 has Tampa Bay visiting Buffalo on Thursday Night Football. The Bengals visit the 49ers, who also saw their undefeated season come to an end two weeks ago when they were upset by the Browns in Cleveland. Week 8 concludes on Monday Night

CONTINUED. SEE KEENEY'S KORNER, PAGE 5

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

## 50th Anniversary Celebration!

Celebración del 50 Aniversario!

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27th 10am - 3pm**

**Viernes Octubre 27**

- Hourly Giveaways (Premios cada hora)
- Food & Drinks (Comida y Refrescos)
- Entertainment (Entretenimiento)
- Product Experts & Demos (Expertas en productos y demos por)
- Special Buys up to 50% Savings! (Ofertas hasta 50% de descuentos!)
- Dunk Tank & More! (Tanque de agua con participación de los empleados y mucho más!)

Join us Friday, October 27th to help us celebrate our 50th Anniversary! We have a full day of fun family activities planned.

*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

*¡Ya esta aquí, el mejor premio para su buen gusto!*

## Pan Riko BAKERY

Leticia Lopez fills a tray of delicious items at Pan Riko...

Wednesday  
 3 Bolillos for \$1

5216 Aldine Mail Rte.  
 281-442-1991

**Texas Renaissance Festival**  
 October 7<sup>th</sup> through November 26<sup>th</sup>  
 Saturdays, Sundays, and Thanksgiving Friday

**TexRenFest.com**

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

**Your Adventure Awaits**

**COMMUNITY WATCH**

**Fatal Crash at 5100 North Freeway**

Houston police are investigating a fatal crash that occurred at 5100 North Freeway (North Interstate Highway 45) about 4:15 a.m. Sept. 25.

The identity of the deceased male is pending verification by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences.

HPD Vehicular Crimes Division Sergeant R. Dallas and Officer C. Morales reported:

A male driving a silver Nissan Xterra northbound entered the North Freeway near the Airline Drive ramp. The Nissan then crossed four lanes of traffic and struck the concrete median. Both the driver and a second male were ejected from the vehicle. Houston Fire Department paramedics pronounced one male deceased at the scene and transported the other to Ben Taub Hospital in critical condition.

At this time, it is unknown who was driving the vehicle. The investigation is continuing.

**Motorcycle Fatality at 10,000 North Freeway**

Houston police are investigating a fatal crash at 10000 North Freeway (North Interstate Highway 45) service road that occurred about 8 p.m. on Wednesday (October 18).

The identity of the deceased man, 58, is pending verification by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences.

HPD Vehicular Crimes Division Sergeant M. Sudduth and Officer C. Brothers reported:

The man was operating a blue Honda VT1300 motorcycle northbound on the service road near the above address when he struck the divider between the entrance ramp of the freeway and the service road. Houston Fire Department paramedics responded to the scene and pronounced the man deceased.

No other persons or vehicles were involved in the crash.

**AIRLINE LIBRARY NEWS**

**ALEBRÍJE ART**

Día de los Muertos is approaching and we are preparing at ALD. A big part of Día de los Muertos is alebrijes, representations of Mexican spirit animals, typically hand-carved and painted by artisans.

In Mexican folklore, their role was to link the spirits and the real world and guide a person through their lives. They are spiritual guides for your soul, reminders of your place in the world, and society, holders of the torch. They are meant to lead you in your path and help you become who you are supposed to be.

We have coloring sheets for you to create your own Alebrije to add to our display available any time we are open.

**BILINGUAL TOTS**

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, Oct. 23, 11-11:45am**

Leeremos 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. Este programa es apropiado para niños de 25 meses a 3 años

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. Parents are encouraged to participate by sitting with children and singing (and learning!) new songs. Children of all ages are welcome!

¡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. Animamos a los padres a sentarse con los niños y canten las canciones con nosotros. Los niños de todas las edades son bienvenidos!

Apprenda Computers & Tech

Limited space/ Espacio limitado

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

\* Important- Instructions a r e 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

Aldine Library Fall Festival

Aldine library invites you to take part in our indoor Fall Festival **Wednesday, Oct. 25, 4pm - 6pm.** We'll have candy, community partners, activities, a scavenger hunt, scary storytelling, black light spooky room and craft activities. We cannot wait for this family-fun event! Don't forget to wear your Halloween costumes to Trick or Treat as well. No registration required.

Are Books Good? at the Fall Festival

Help us decide once and for all whether books are good. Ms. Gage and Ms. Nicole will read stories out loud, provide snacks, and YOU will vote on how good the stories actually are. For the month of October, we'll be getting spooky with scary stories! **Wednesday, Oct. 25, 4:30 - 5:30pm during the Fall Festival.**

**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, Oct. 26, 3:30 - 5:30pm**

Apprenda Computers & Tech Limited space/ Espacio limitado

Pre-regístrate aquí: <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)- 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](https://www.google.com) y [outlook.com](https://www.outlook.com) para acceder a las aplicaciones y programas gratuitos de la internet

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

Let's get creative! Join us at 5 pm 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.) **Thursday,**

**Oct. 26, 5-7pm.**

Podemos ser mejor - Books & Reading

Tocamos temas sobre vivencias personales con enfoque en la familia, la salud, y bienestar mental en base a temas ó libros previamente acordados. Nos reunimos el ultimo Sabado de cada mes a las 10:30 AM. (presencial y en linea por Google Meet). Para mas informes, dejenos su contacto personal equenando el código QR abajo. ¡Esperamos verlo pronto! **Sabado, 28 de octubre, 10:30am - 12.**

**COFFEE & CONVERSATION**

Are you learning to speak English as a second (or third or fourth, etc.) language and would like to practice speaking English in a casual, low-stress environment? Join us for Coffee & Conversation where you can have conversations with native English speakers as we do fun activities. **Saturday, Oct. 28, 2-3pm.**

**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. Pick up an application at the Aldine Branch Library, call 832-927-5410, or click here: <https://forms.office.com/r/qSzMS-piaTL>.

**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 10 weeks and expedited processing time is estimated at 7 weeks. You can make an appointment for passport services at Aldine Branch - <https://www.hcpl.net/services/passport-services>.

Our passport hours - Mondays and Wednesdays 12pm - 5pm; Tuesdays and Thursdays 12pm - 7pm; Saturdays 10am - 12pm and 2pm - 4pm - 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**

**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 ANY WEEKEND THRU NOV. 26

Submit this information to enter the drawing:

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Submit by email with photo to [nenewsroom@aol.com](mailto:nenewsroom@aol.com)

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

**H.U.D. Efficiency/ One Bedroom Housing for the Elderly and Disabled**

• UTILITIES & APPLIANCES FURNISHED

**ELIGIBILITY:**

- Age 62 or older
- Disabled
- Very Low Income

To schedule an appointment

CALL **713-692-8541**

APPLY TO:  
**W. Leo Daniels Tower 8826 Harrell**  
 Off Jensen between Berry Road & Aldine Westfield

**NORTHEAST NEWS CLASSIFIED ADS WORK FOR YOU 713-266-3444 FORM ON PAGE 6**

**CONGRATULATIONS To Mary Ann Rivera of South Houston, 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.

# SCHOOL NEWS PAGE

AUGUST 18, 2023

**ALDINE**  
Independent School District

## GOFFNEY CHRONICLES

The Official Newsletter of the Superintendent of Schools

**Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney**  
Superintendent of Schools

*With Aldine Pride!*

## Message From the Superintendent, October 19, 2023

Dear Aldine Community,  
Hispanic Heritage Month officially ended on Sunday, October 15. I decided to send my thoughts today since most students and staff were off last week.

When I first joined Aldine ISD in 2018, I began with a Look and Listen Tour. Through those conversations with students, parents, community members, partners, and staff members, as well as personal observations, there was a need to embrace cultural diversity and identity, increase professional development and the pipeline to leadership positions, and take a deep dive into not only improving the academic opportunities for Hispanic students but all students — all means all in Aldine.

Serving Aldine ISD has also broadened my understanding of Hispanic culture. In this issue, you will learn how Board Trustee Connie Esparza taught me about el Mes de la herencia hispana (Hispanic Heritage Month). That conversation in 2018 sparked the idea to develop a Hispanic Heritage Month program for staff at our leadership buildings, including books and a lunch and learn virtual session.

Since joining Aldine ISD, we have expanded and provided new choices and opportunities. And we will continue to do so for our students. These are exciting times for Aldine, and I look forward to the future that lies ahead and all the possibilities.

I encourage you to read all that we have achieved over these years! And we are not done. In this issue, you will also find hyperlinks to stories of a few of our Hispanic school leaders, information about Bond 2023, and bond projects in Props A, B, and C, and voting resources. You'll also read about our students' achievements, about one of our campuses that earned national recognition, and much more.

With Aldine Pride!

Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney Superintendent of Schools Aldine ISD

## Aldine ISD Trustee Rose Avalos Elected to State Association Board

Aldine ISD Trustee Rose Avalos has been elected to a one-year term on the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) Board of Directors, representing TASB Region 4, Position A. The election was held during the Association's 2023 Delegate Assembly on Sept. 30 in Dallas.

Avalos is the assistant secretary of the Aldine ISD Board of Trustees, where she has served since 2006.

She holds a Bachelor of Arts and a Master of Education from Sam Houston State University. Avalos began her educational career in 1972 as a teacher in Aldine ISD and remained with the district



for 33 years. During her tenure, she also served as a counselor, program director, assistant principal, and principal at Escamilla Intermediate School. In 1994, she returned to her alma mater and served as MacArthur Senior High's principal for 11 years before retiring in 2005. She was named the district's Principal of the Year in

2002 and 2003.

Avalos currently serves as an educational consultant for the Region 4 Education Service Center. She also is a member of the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials, Mexican American School Boards Association, and Texas Retired Teachers Association.

About TASB

TASB is a nonprofit association established in 1949 to serve local Texas school boards. School board members are the largest group of publicly elected officials in the state. The districts they represent serve more than 5.4 million public school students.

## Red Ribbon Week Encourages Students to Be Drug-Free

**RED RIBBON WEEK**  
October 23-27, 2023

**BE KIND TO YOUR MIND**  
**LIVE DRUG FREE!**

Red Ribbon Week is the nation's oldest and largest drug prevention program. It reaches millions of Americans each year from October 23 to October 31 in thousands of schools, communities, and drug abuse prevention organizations. The Red Ribbon Anti-Drug Campaign is a community's response to tragedy to honor Special Agent KiKi Camarena's memory and show dedication to avoiding drug abuse. View the School Board of Broward County Red Ribbon Week Resolution to learn more.

Join this year's activities by participating in Aldine ISD's Red Ribbon Week activities from October 23 through October 27.

Schools across the district will celebrate Red Ribbon Week. However, each school might have

various additional ways to celebrate the weeklong event, such as posters, wristbands, and other awareness materials that schools can use to engage students and families in tobacco and vaping prevention.

Students can participate in Spirit Week, social media challenges, and other school-based activities during the weeklong celebration to show their commitment to tobacco and drug-free living.

We will celebrate each day during the week of October 23 with daily themes.

Red Ribbon Week Activities

Monday, October 23

Give Drugs the Red Light! Wear Red

Tuesday, October 24

Be a Hero. Don't do Drugs. Wear Superhero

Shirt

Wednesday, October 25  
Success and Drugs do not Match! Wear Non-Matching Attire

Thursday, October 26  
Give Drugs the Boot! Wear Boots

Friday, October 27  
Team up Against Drugs! Wear a Team Shirt

Social Media Challenge

The district challenges every campus to post images on social media each day of the planned activities during Red Ribbon Week. Use #RedRibbonWeek (#SemanaDeLaCintaRoja) and #MyAldine (#MiAldine in Spanish)

Red Ribbon Week, the country's largest drug prevention awareness campaign was created in 1985 and is now famous for the thousands who wear red ribbons to raise awareness.

## Aldine ISD's College Board National students recognized at Oct. Board meeting

During the Oct. 17 Board meeting, a number of Aldine ISD high school students who have qualified for the College Board National Recognition Program were recognized by Chief Academic Officer Dr. Faviola Cantu.

To qualify for the program, students must meet the following eligibility requirements:

Must have a 3.5 GPA or higher at the time they apply. Weighted and unweighted GPAs are considered.

Must have a permanent address in the United States, a U.S. territory or U.S. military base, or attend a DoDEA school. U.S. citizenship is not required.

Must identify as Black, African American, Latino, Hispanic, Indigenous, Native, or attend high school in a rural area or small town.

Must have taken the PSAT 10 in spring 2022 or the PAST/NMSQT in fall of 2022 or at least two distinct AP Exams in the eighth, ninth or tenth grade.

High-achieving student are eligible to apply for recognition in four programs the spring semester of their 10th or 11th grade year. The four programs are:

National African American Recognition Program (NAARA)

National Hispanic Recognition Program (NHRA)

National Indigenous Recognition Program (NIRA)

National Rural/Small Town Recognition Program (NRSRP)

Avalos P-Tech High School

students who were recognized were: Jared Bautista (NHRA), Aaron Cebero (NHRA), Miguel Cuevas (NHRA), Miriam Herrera (NHRA), Christopher Ledezma (NHRA), Edgar Mendoza (NHRA), Sandy Ortiz (NHRA), Sandy Ortiz (NHRA), Sebastian Rodriguez (NHRA), Amy Vallejo (NHRA), and Elaine Villeda (NHRA). Blanson CTE High School students who were recognized were: Virginia Anyanwu (NAARA), Emanuel Avellaneda (NHRA), Corey Clark (NAARA), Oziel Contreras (NHRA), Kevin Diaz (NHRA), Sydney Hartfield (NAARA), Yahaira Hernandez (NHRA), Cristina Juarez (NHRA), Yael Luna (NHRA), Denice Rangel (NHRA), Armani Vazquez (NHRA), Yahaira Yanes (NHRA) and Rosalinda Zigrida-Stewart (NHRA). Carver High School students who were recognized were: Diane Chagoya (NHRA), Alyssa Doresey (NAARA), Carlos Forero (NHRA), Diana Herrera (NHRA), Alexandra Martinez (NHRA), Tionna Shine (NHRA) and Tatiana Smith (NHRA). Davis High School students who were recognized were: Lorin Stewart

(NAARA), Luniqua Louis (NAARA), Yoisel Rodriguez (NHRA) and Adrian Cortez (NAARA and NHRA). MacArthur High School students who were recognized were: Marlene Bermudez (NHRA), Noe Carrillo (NHRA), Khalil Chambers (NAARA), Micheal Guevara (NHRA), Lisa Hernandez (NHRA), Lupita Hernandez (NHRA), Jahasiel Ibarra (NHRA), Vanessa Macias (NHRA), Aritzi Martinez (NHRA), Shoniya Murphy (NAARA), Josue Reboloso (NHRA), Josue Quezada (NHRA) and Rafael Vasquez (NHRA). Victory Early College High School students who were recognized were: Karolynn Figueroa (NHRA) and Lucia Tamez (NHRA).

Dr. Cantu also announced that Blanson CTE High School was named to the AP School Honor Roll. The AP School Honor Roll recognizes schools whose AP programs are delivering results for students while broadening access. Schools earn this recognition based on a commitment to increasing college-going culture, providing opportunities for students to earn college credit and maximizing college readiness. Blanson CTE High School was won the AP Access Award, which recognizes schools that provide all students with the chance to participate in AP, including students of underrepresented populations.

FACE Recognizes Partners

Georgina Foroi, Executive of FACE (Family and Community Engagement) recognized two community partners and one of her team members during the Oct. 17 Board meeting. Foroi recognized HOPE Worldwide for their partnership with Caraway Elementary School. Representing HOPE Worldwide were Jill Charney and Sarah Prather. Volunteers in the organization work to help build resilience in children through arts and sports. The program began in Houston in 2018 in response to Hurricane Harvey as volunteers worked with children who experienced devastating flooding. The program has transitioned away from natural disasters, focusing more on student's general life stressors that can impact lifelong health and behavioral issues.

Foroi also recognized the Houston Food Bank, which was represented by Kiana Anderson, Senior Manager of School Partnerships. The Houston Food Bank has been instrumental in supporting Aldine families and communities with a variety of

programs to meet the needs of feed insecurity. This year, the Houston Food Bank has provided support to hundreds of families in Aldine ISD.

Foroi also recognized FACE Family and Community Specialist Ivan Tamayo for the work he has done with FACE's Family and Community University. Tamayo's work with the program was recently highlighted at the Mayor's Adult Literacy Breakfast. This year, the university has already enrolled 637 parents in just one month, which is 78% of last year's enrollment.

HR Names Employee of the Quarter

Dr. Robin Williams, Executive Director of Performance Management and Development, named Kathy Wells as the Human Resources Department's Employee of the Quarter.

Staff Assignments Announced

During the Oct. 17 Board meeting, Aldine ISD Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney announced two staff assignments.

Dr. Lindsey Wise was named Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning after serving as Director of Learning Recovery, Tutoring and Student Initiatives.

Silvia Scheirman was named Director of the Office of Transformation after serving as Opportunity Culture Coordinator.

Trustees Approve Action Items

During the Oct. 17 Board meeting, Aldine ISD Trustees approved the following action items:

Approved a Memorandum of Understanding between Sam Houston State University and Aldine ISD regarding Advanced Certification Programs to support counselor educator growth and development.

Approved a Memorandum of Understanding between Chamberlain University Master of Science Nursing Program and Aldine ISD for nurses to receive their Clinical Placement and Practicum Experience for one year.

Approved single contract and purchases of more than \$100,000 and greater.

Prior to the start of the Oct. 17 Board meeting, the MacArthur JROTC Color Guard presented the colors and students from Odom Elementary School led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and Pledge to the Texas Flag. The November Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 14. It will be held in the Board Room of the Donaldson Administration Building and will begin at 7 p.m.

## Guizar Named National Merit Scholarship Commended Student

Blanson CTE High School Principal Ben Ibarra announced that Nahum Guizar has been named a Commended Student in the 2024 National Merit Scholarship Program. The principal has presented a letter of commendation from the school and National Merit Scholarship Corporation, which conducts the program, to this scholastically talented senior.

Nahum would like to attend Texas A&M University to pursue a degree in electrical engineering.

About 34,000 Commended Students nationwide are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Although they will not continue in the 2024 National Merit Scholarship awards competition, Commended Students placed among the top 50,000 scorers of more than 1.5 million students who entered the 2023 competition by taking the 2021 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.

"Those being named Commended Students have demonstrated outstanding potential for academic success," said a



spokesperson for NMSC. "These students represent a valuable natural resource; recognizing their accomplishments and their schools' critical role in their academic development is vital to advancing educational excellence in our nation. We hope this recognition will broaden their educational opportunities and encourage them as they continue pursuing academic success."

The National Merit® Scholarship Program is an

academic competition for recognition and scholarships that began in 1955. High school students enter the National Merit Program by taking the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®)—a test that serves as an initial screen of approximately 1.5 million entrants each year—and by meeting published program entry/participation requirements.

OPINION PAGE

OPINION By Travis Upchurch III

A Message to the Aldine ISD community

My family and I want to personally thank the community members who rallied around my father in his time of need.

Looking back on how this all started, when my father received his first notice about the eminent domain process, we discovered a few things that alarmed us.

After pleading with the board for four months the decision was reversed last week at the October board meeting, suspiciously right before school board and bond voting begins.

This has been a harsh, teachable moment for my family and the community. I would also like to thank the Aldine ISD staff who throughout this ordeal have been as helpful as they have been allowed to be.

My family will always be grateful to the Aldine community who stood with us and we hope this never happens in Aldine again.

Travis Justin Upchurch

EDITOR'S NOTE: Opinions expressed here are not necessarily that of this newspaper or its staff.



THE POSTSCRIPT By Carrie Classon

Our Devices

My sister sends a text, telling me she is making lasagna, and asks if I will bring a cake.

"Sounds great!" I readily agree. "When?"

There is no response.

I know we are celebrating my mother's birthday early, but I have no idea when this cake will be needed.

It seems like a silly way to live. But here we are.

I know young people hate to call. They text and instantly respond, and that seems to work well.

I like email. I am at my computer all day, and when I see I have an email, I am on it like a seagull on a leftover dinner roll.

Recently, I installed a program that sends all my text messages to my computer.

They send a five-word text with no punctuation (obviously), and I reply from my keyboard, all 10 fingers flying, with punctuation and paragraph returns and asides and possibly a few parenthetical comments for good measure.

It is a cliché to complain about how much we use our devices, and yet, here I go. I will often call someone on my daily walk.

When my phone stays in my bag, I am free to chat with the dogs and notice the flowers and smell the autumn air.

I would never want to go back to the time when long-distance calls cost money and letters were sent in the mail.

But sending an email to someone and knowing they will read it that day is a wonderful thing.

Still, it's nothing like talking to someone face-to-face, and it never will be.

Till next time. Carrie

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Gary Borders



Early Voting Now Underway

Early voting is now underway for the Nov. 7 general election. Voters will decide the fate of 14 proposed amendments, including measures to provide property tax relief and raise the homestead exemption to \$100,000.

A nonpartisan explanation of what each proposition entails has been produced by the Texas Legislative Council and can be found at this link: https://tinyurl.com/5n946d32.

There are also bond elections for school districts across the state, as well as municipal and school board elections, depending on where you live.

HOUSE UNVEILS LIMITED SCHOOL CHOICE PLAN

The Republican chair of the Texas House public education committee has filed a bill that increases education funding with one-time bonuses for school employees as well as education savings accounts on a limited basis.

The Senate has already passed a voucher plan in this third session but the House has balked, with opposition coming from rural Republicans and most Democrats.

"We continue to have productive conversations with House members," Abbott spokesman Andrew Mahaleris told The News.

Meanwhile, House Democrats last week released their own plan to revamp school funding, which would provide a \$15,000 bonus for Texas school employees, admittedly a long shot.

"We have this bill today because it is the opposite of



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Gary Borders

a voucher scam," said Rep. Gene Wu, D-Houston.

The bill would also increase per-student school funding by almost \$2,800.

The likelihood of passage is slim in the GOP-dominated House.

VACCINE MANDATE BAN PASSES SENATE

A ban on COVID-19 vaccine mandates for employees of private businesses in Texas passed the Texas Senate Friday.

The bill passed 19-12 along party lines, according to the Texas Standard.

"No one should be forced to make that awful decision between making a living for their family and their health or individual vaccine preference," sponsor Sen. Mayes Middleton, R-Galveston, told senators during a hearing.

A state law banning governmental entities from requiring the COVID-19 vaccine passed during the regular session and went into effect last month.

WELL PLUGGING PROGRAM RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION

After completing a complex project to remove surface casings on four wells plugged in the Neches River for more than four decades, the Texas Railroad Commission's well plugging program received accolades from the Interstate Oil and

Gas Compact Commission.

The casings had posed risks to boaters as the river's depth decreased due to recent droughts.

"The commission has been nationally recognized for our well plugging program and this award is yet another example of the reputation we have gained in our commitment to protecting Texans and the environment," said Wei Wang, executive director.

The RRC has received more than \$300 million from the federal government to plug, remediate and reclaim orphaned wells across the state.

SUMMER HEAT WAVE SLOWS STATE ECONOMY

Besides making outdoor living and work miserable, last summer's record heat wave possibly cost the state's economy \$24 billion, according to economists with the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas.

Extreme heat reduces agricultural production, slows down construction projects, and keeps people from going out to shop or dine, the analysis indicated.

"The economy will need to adapt," Anil Kumar, an economic policy advisor and senior economist at the Dallas Fed and one of the authors of the analysis, told the Tribune.

The heat wave was also life-threatening. At least 97 Texans died from heat-related illness, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services.

TEXAS NAMED 'CUSSING CAPITAL' OF THE COUNTRY

An online search of Reddit posts conducted by BonusFinder.com indicates Texans topped all states in using profanity in posts, averaging 6.9 curse words per post, the Austin American-Statesman reported.

In the 691 posts reviewed for Texas, there were 4,743 curse words, according to the survey.

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.

Advertisement for Top Ten Most Popular Halloween Candies, listing items like Skittles, Reese's Peanut Butter Cups, M&Ms, Snickers, Starburst, Candy Corn, Hot Tamales, Tootsie Pops, Sour Patch Kids, and Hershey Bar.

Advertisement for Northeast News, providing contact information for the newspaper, including address, phone, fax, email, and website, along with a list of staff members.

# SPORTS PAGE

## SEASON FOOTBALL WEEK 9

### No. 1, No. 2 picks meet as Stroud faces Young: District 14-6A race coming down to the wire

Football with the Raiders visiting the red hot Detroit Lions.

In college action, No. 6-ranked Oklahoma plays at Kansas in what could be a tough environment for Brent Venable's team. No. 9-ranked Oregon visits No. 14-ranked Utah in a key Pac 12 game while No. 1-ranked Georgia takes on arch-rival Florida in Jacksonville in what is dubbed as the world's Largest Cocktail Party.

The District 14-6A season is winding down and a host of teams are battling for the four playoff berths. Westfield leads the league, with Nimitz, Dekaney and Spring are jockeying for the remaining three seeds. Nimitz and Spring meet on Friday night at George Stadium in an important game for both teams. Other games on tap this weekend have MacArthur visiting Dekaney on Thursday night, while Eisenhower will take on Aldine, also on Thursday night. Davis will take on Westfield on Friday night.

Before we take a look at this week's schedule, let's review last week's record. A 10-2 week (finally!) brought the season record to 44-30 (59%). Now, onto this week's games.

#### HIGH SCHOOL

**Eisenhower vs. Aldine:** Odell James' Eagles take on Cirilo Ojeda's Mustangs on Thursday night at George Stadium. Two weeks ago, the Eagles fell to Westfield, while the Mustangs lost to Dekaney. The Eagles will look to QB Jared Guter (559 yards, 3 TDs) to make plays to wideout Ulysses Thibodeaux (15 receptions, 193 yards), while the Mustangs will rely on running back Rory Hernandez (210 yards, 4 TDs). My pick, Eisenhower 31, Aldine 18

**MacArthur at Dekaney:** Wayne Crawford's Mustangs take on Dekaney on Thursday night at Planet Ford Stadium in Spring ISD. Two weeks ago, the Generals lost to Spring, while Dekaney defeated Aldine. The MacArthur defense will try and slow down Dekaney running back Dylan Jones (823 yards, 11 TDs), QB Quinten Foster (852 yards, 9 TDs) and wide receiver David Edmondson (14 receptions, 171 yards.) The Generals will count



**KEENEY'S KORNER**  
By  
**MIKE KEENEY**

on QB Derrick McNeil (81 yards, 1 TD) to make plays downfield. My pick, Dekaney 26, MacArthur 18

**Davis at Westfield:** Kelvin's Chatman's Falcons take on Westfield on Friday night at Planet Ford Stadium in Spring ISD. Two weeks ago, Davis fell to Nimitz, 42-28, while Westfield defeated Eisenhower. The Falcons will look to QB Kamryn Jackson (1,303 passing yard, 13 TDs/218 rushing yards), wide receiver J'Marcus Hopes (32 receptions, 529 yards) and Treveon Bossier (14 receptions, 203 yards) to make plays downfield, while Westfield will be led by running back Taji Atkins (479 yards). My pick, Westfield 33, Davis 21

**Nimitz vs. Spring:** Cornelius Harmon's Cougars face off against Spring in a key game for both teams on Friday night at George Stadium. This should be a high-scoring affair. The Cougars are led by QB Albert Brown (1,355 yards, 13 TDs), running back Brashard Miles (334 yards) and wide receivers Malachi Augustus (29 receptions, 521 yards), and Kaden Phillips (16 receptions, 229 yards). Spring is led by quarterback Ahran Ogbar (347 passing yards, 3 TDs/651 rushing yards), and running back Delonte Henderson (571 yards). My pick, Nimitz 34, Spring 31

#### NCAA

**Oklahoma at Kansas:** The Sooners need to be wary of this game. They should enter with a 7-0 record (they played Central Florida last week) and in first place in the Big 12. Kansas is a dangerous team that can put points on the board and you can bet KU head coach Lance Leipold will have his Jayhawks fired up for this one. This could turn into

another Big 12 shootout as the Sooners have a potent offense led by QB Dillon Gabriel (1,878 yards, 16 TDs), running back Tawe Walker (239 yards, 4 TDs) and wide receiver Jalil Farouq (20 receptions, 415 yards, 2 TDs). The OU offense will be without its top wide receiver who suffered a season-ending injury two weeks ago. The Jayhawks have also been hit hard by the injury bug, most notably to dual-threat QB Jalen Daniels (705 passing yards, 5 TDs/74 rushing yards in three games). His backup, Jason Bean (913 yards, 9 TDs) has experience and the Jayhawks also have a strong running back in Devin Neal (659 yards, 6 TDs). Look for plenty of points in this one, but the OU defense will make a play or two down the stretch to keep the Sooners unbeaten. My pick, Oklahoma 34, Kansas 31

**Oregon at Utah:** Another tough road test for the No. 9-ranked Oregon Ducks as they take on a defensive-minded Utah team on Saturday. Two weeks ago, Oregon lost a tough, 36-33 decision at Washington. This week, they face a Utah defense that allows just 9 points per game. Oregon has an explosive offense led by QB Bo Nix (1,796 yards, 17 TDs), running backs Bucky Irving (520 yards, 5 TDs) and Jordan James (360 yards, 8 TDs) and big-play wide receiver Troy Franklin (40 receptions, 689 yards, 8 TDs). Utah is hoping to have Cameron Rising (3,034 passing yards, 26 TDs/333 rushing yards, 1 TD in 2022) who has missed most of the season recovering from a torn ACL he suffered in the Rose Bowl in January. If Rising is back, he could be a difference maker in this game, but that's a big "if." The Utes will try to control the clock with the running game led by Ja'Quinden Jackson (333

yards, 1 TD). Oregon will provide a real test to the Utah defense. Look for the Oregon offense to roll in Utah on Saturday. My pick, Oregon 31, Utah 18

**Georgia vs. Florida:** These two long-time rivals meet once again at a neutral site in Jacksonville in an SEC East battle. The No. 1-ranked Bulldogs will be without their best offensive player for the rest of the regular season as tight end Brock Bowers (41 receptions, 566 yards, 4 TDs) sustained an ankle injury two weeks ago against Vanderbilt that required surgery. Bowers should return for the College Football Playoffs (CFP) should the Dogs advance to it. With Bowers out, sophomore QB Carson Beck (2,147 yards, 12 TDs) will have to rely on his running game led by Daijun Edwards (460 yards, 6 TDs) and wide receiver Marcus Rosemy-Jacksaint (18 receptions, 333 yards, 2 TDs) will need to step up his game. The Gators have been up and down this year, but they will be up for this one. If they hope to pull off the upset, QB Graham Mertz (1,872 yards, 12 TDs) will need to play his best game of the season. He will need help from running back Montrell Johnson Jr. (438 yards, 4 TDs) and Ricky Pearsall (43 receptions, 624 yards, 3 TDs). Look for the Georgia defense to step up and be the difference maker in this one. My pick, Georgia 30, Florida 16

#### NFL

**Tampa Bay at Buffalo:** Week 8 of the NFL season kicks off with Thursday Night Football with the Bucs visiting the Bills. Two weeks ago, TB lost at home to Detroit, while Buffalo rallied for a win over the Giants. The Bucs have been one of the surprise teams this year and are squarely in the hunt in the NFC South. QB Baker Mayfield (1,088 yards, 7 TDs) has been steady and he has two quality targets to throw to in wide receivers Mike Evans (24 receptions, 386 yards, 3 TDs) and Chris Godwin (27 receptions, 332 yards). The Bills will go as far as QB Josh Allen (1,576 yards, 13 TDs/131 rushing yards, 3 TDs) and wide receiver Stefon Diggs (49 receptions, 620 yards, 5 TDs) take them. The Buffalo defense has been playing well thus far and look for them to force a turnover or two as they get the win on Thursday night. My pick, Buffalo 24, Tampa Bay 20

**Houston at Carolina:** C.J. Stroud (1,660 yards, 9 TDs) and Bryce Young (967 yards, 6 TDs/4 interceptions) meet for the first time as the No. 2 overall pick (Stroud) and the No. 1 overall pick (Young) faceoff in Charlotte on Sunday. Stroud has been more consistent than Young has thus far in their young careers. Stroud is a big reason the Texans are 3-3 and in second place in the AFC South. Houston had a week off to prepare for this game and heal up. They should have a number of players back who missed the early portion of the season with injuries. Stroud has done a good job of spreading the ball around, especially to his top two targets, Nico Collins (29 receptions, 547 yards, 3 TDs) and Tank Dell (19 receptions, 324 yards, 2 TDs). DeMeco Ryan's defense has been a pleasant surprise and was a big reason why Houston upset New Orleans 20-13 two weeks ago. Young and the Panthers have had a rough start, losing their first six games. Wide receiver Adam Thielen (49 receptions, 509 yards, 4 TDs) has become Young's go-to guy, so look for the Texans secondary to try and take him out of the game. Houston is young and can't afford to take the Panthers for granted. If they hope to remain in the AFC South and Wild Card race, they must win games like this one. My pick, Houston 26, Carolina 20

#### Los Angeles Rams at Dallas

The Cowboys come off their bye week and had a much-improved Rams team on Sunday at AT&T Stadium. Two weeks ago, Dallas picked up a big road win with a 20-17 win over the Chargers on Monday Night Football. That was a big win considering the week before the Pokes were embarrassed on Sunday Night Football by the 49ers. The win over the Chargers, coupled with the Eagles loss to the Jets, left the Cowboys just one game behind Philly in the NFC East race. Dak Prescott (1,333 yards, 6 TDs) had a solid game in the win over the Chargers (227 passing yards, 1 passing TD, 1 rushing TD). If he will take what the defense gives him and not force things, the Dallas offense will be better off. The Cowboys need to get running back Tony Pollard (370 yards, 2 TDs) going. It appears wide receiver CeeDee Lamb (34 receptions, 475 yards, 1 TD) is poised for another big year. The Dallas defense will have its hands

full with QB Matthew Stafford (1,677 yards, 6 TDs), running back Kyren Williams (456 yards, 6 TDs) and wide receivers Puka Nacua (50 receptions, 598 yards, 2 TDs) and Cooper Kupp (15 receptions, 266 yards, 1 TD in 2 games). Look for the Dallas defense to get after Stafford and be the difference maker in this one. My pick, Dallas 26, Los Angeles Rams 18

#### Cincinnati at San Francisco

This should be an interesting game as the red hot Bengals (winners of three of their last four games) visit the 49ers. Two weeks ago, Joe Burrow (1,240 yards, 7 TDs) led Cincinnati to a home win over Seattle, while the 49ers lost at Cleveland. Burrow appears fully healed from a calf injury that slowed the start of his season. He and wide receivers Ja'Marr Chase (50 receptions, 556 yards, 3 TDs) and Tyler Boyd (30 receptions, 204 yards, 1 TD) by a good SF defense. The 49er offense led by QB Brock Purdy (1,396 yards, 10 TDs), running back Christian McCaffrey (553 rushing yards/23 receptions, 177 yards, 10 total TDs) and wide receiver Brandon Aiyuk (25 receptions, 454 yards, 2 TDs) should be able to make plays against a so-so Bengal defense. Look for Purdy to have a big day as the 49ers get the win at home. My pick, San Francisco 30, Cincinnati 26

#### Las Vegas at Detroit

Week 8 concludes on Monday Night Football with the Raiders visiting the Lions. Detroit is playing as well as any team in the NFL and are serious Super Bowl contenders led by QB Jared Goff (1,618 yards, 11 TDs), wide receiver Amon-Ra St. Brown (35 receptions, 455 yards, 3 TDs) and rookie tight end Sam LaPorta (19 receptions, 341 yards, 3 TDs). The Lions might be without leading rusher David Montgomery (385 yards, 6 TDs) who suffered a rib injury two weeks ago in their win over Tampa Bay. The Raiders should be 4-3 when they visit the Motor City behind QB Jimmy Garoppolo (1,079 yards, 7 TDs), running back Josh Jacobs (312 yards, 2 TDs) and wide receiver Davante Adams (39 receptions, 471 yards, 3 TDs). Ford Field will be rocking as the Lions get some prime time love. Look for a big win on Monday night for the Lions. My pick, Detroit 31, Las Vegas 17

## Upchurch to remain in Homestead,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

this matter is concluded, and all negotiations have ceased," read a statement by the district following the vote.

His son Travis was skeptical at first.

"This is all new ground for us and the district," he said. "We don't want just a verbal agreement."

Two days later, Upchurch received a letter from Annette Ramirez, assistant general counsel for the district, confirming the offers to purchase the land and all negotiations by the district had officially ceased. Copies were mailed to Upchurch, Jr. and his children.

He also held some suspicions about the vote occurring just six days before early voting for the \$1.8 billion bond and school board races began.

"As I understand it, they also rescinded their power to use eminent domain in the future," he said. "I guess in the future they can vote to use it again, but for now, it's done."

Upchurch was quick to thank the hundreds of supporters in the community who wrote letters of support or showed up to the meeting.

"There were folks we didn't even know that were speaking to the board on our behalf," said an amazed Upchurch.

He specifically thanked Dr. Jill Metcalfe a former classmate and teacher in Aldine, community organizer Araceli Ramos, AISD school board member Viola Garcia, Chairman Carlos Silva of the East Aldine Management District, and old family

friend and real estate broker Todd Edmonds who helped the family navigate the uncertain waters of eminent domain.

"Mrs. Garcia was the only board member that acknowledged our letters and phone calls we sent to all the board members, and we appreciate it," Upchurch said.

He also thanked the staff at the district who worked with him. "They were all very professional," he said.

One of the disappointments of the whole process for Upchurch and his siblings who all worked together to save their father's home, was board members who said they didn't know anyone lived at the property.

"They kept saying 'we have new information that's come to the board's attention and we're going to have another vote on it.' You want to take a guess what that new information was? Someone lives there!" Upchurch said.

Upchurch had been before the school board with his siblings repeatedly and he found it incredulous that they wouldn't know his father was still living there.

"That also meant that nobody bothered to call him, send him a letter, knock on the door, leave a postcard on the gate or even notice the dogs running around in the yard!" he said.

"They didn't even look in the county records to see that the house is homesteaded."

Since July, Travis, his siblings, and strangers had come before the board

and telling them to let him continue to live out his life on the property.

"I've been telling the board to their faces," he said.

He was stunned. "I hope my father hasn't been used as a political pawn in all of this," he said.

Upchurch and his siblings weren't done with the district but have returned the favor to help some of their friends in their bid for board seats.

Apparently, the district also sent out an email to those who spoke on behalf of the Upchurch family announcing the board's vote.

"We are thrilled to have this behind us," said Tara Upchurch, the daughter.

She said they did a lot of research and digging to find out how the board was operating and get the necessary details to defend their father and his property.

"No one really watches school boards and how much power they have. Now it makes me want to watch my own local board to find out what's happening with them," she said.

She said she wouldn't feel better about things in Aldine until after the election.

"We can't vote, but we can get the word out and tell people what we've learned in our experience," she said.

Tara said they had fallen in love with the Aldine community again because they came out and supported her dad.

"It really feels like a win for everyone, not just my dad."

## Early Voting starts Oct. 23 thru Nov. 3,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

address. Voters are encouraged to review or print their sample ballot before heading to the polls. Voters can take their printed sample ballot into the voting booth for reference.

"Voters are encouraged to vote during one of the 12 days afforded by the early voting period and not wait until Election Day," **add- ed Clerk Hudspeth.** "As usual, voters can vote at any one of the available Early Voting Centers in Harris County, near home, work, school, or wherever is most convenient."

The following forms of photo ID are acceptable when voting in person:

- Texas Driver's License issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS)
- Texas Election Identifi-

fication Certificate issued by DPS

- Texas Personal Identification Card issued by DPS

- Texas Handgun License issued by DPS

- United States Military Identification Card containing the person's photograph

- United States Citizenship Certificate containing the person's photograph

- United States Passport (book or card)

Voters who do not possess and cannot obtain one of these forms of photo ID may fill out a **Reasonable Impediment Declaration** (RID) at a Vote Center and present another form of ID, such as a utility bill, bank statement, government check, or voter registration certificate.

The deadline to request a ballot by mail for the November 7 election is Friday, October 27 (received, not postmarked). To be eligible to vote early by mail in Texas, you must:

- be 65 years or older, OR
- be sick or disabled
- be out of the county on election day and during the period for early voting by personal appearance
- be expected to give birth within three weeks before or after Election Day
- be confined in jail but otherwise eligible.

Additional election information is available at [www.HarrisVotes.com](http://www.HarrisVotes.com). For news and updates, follow us on social media at @HarrisCoTxClerk and @HarrisVotes.



**RICHARD CANTU**  
FOR HOUSTON CITY COUNCIL AT-LARGE, POS. 3



**Elect**

**As City Councilman, Richard will focus on:**

- ✓ Improving Public Safety - For a Safer City!
- ✓ Infrastructure Investments - Better Streets & Reduced Flooding
- ✓ Clean Neighborhoods - Revitalization & Beautification
- ✓ Youth Development Partnerships - For a Successful Future

**An Experienced & Proven Leader!**

- ✓ Trustee & Former President - Harris County Department of Education
- ✓ Executive Director - East Aldine Management District
- ✓ Former Director - Mayor's Citizens' Assistance Office
- ✓ Former Civic Club President & Precinct Chair/Election Judge
- ✓ Political Science Degree (UofH) / Master's Degree in Public Administration (UST)

Visit us online to learn more about our agenda or to donate.

[www.RichardCantu.org](http://www.RichardCantu.org)

Pol. Ad Pd. for by the Richard Cantu Campaign, Joyce Wiley, Treasurer

# CHURCH PAGE

## BIBLE TRIVIA

By Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Acts (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. What companion of Paul was commended for his holy scripture knowledge since childhood? Timothy, Linus, Trophimus, Jude
3. From 1 John 4:8, "He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is \_\_\_\_." Honor, Love, Everlasting, Comfort


4. What king unwittingly signed a decree causing Daniel to be thrown into the lions' den? Elah, Jabin, Darius, Agag
5. Because Moses was standing on holy ground, what did God tell him to remove? Cloak, Hat, Shoes, Armor
6. In Judges 16, who said, "Let me die with the Philistines"? Samson, Micah, Delilah, Manoh

ANSWERS: 1) New, 2) Timothy, 3) Love, 4) Darius, 5) Shoes, 6) Samson  
 "Test Your Bible Knowledge," a book with 1,206 multiple-choice questions by columnist Wilson Casey, is available in stores and online. (c) 2023 King Features Synd., Inc.

**THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE**

Let no one be found among you who sacrifices their son or daughter in the fire, who practices divination or sorcery, interprets omens, engages in witchcraft, or casts spells, or who is a medium or spiritist or who consults the dead. Anyone who does these things is detestable to the Lord...

DEUTERONOMY 18:10-12



Detail of "Witches Presenting Wax Dolls to the Devil" from The History of Witches and Wizards (1720)

© 2023 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.

**Bonding Against Adversity**



Helping Others Help Themselves

Our "Immigration, Integration, Education" Programs

Citizenship Workshops, Community Engagement, Citizenship Classes & Parenting Programs

Mariana Sanchez, Director  
 Call: 281-799-9076  
 Text: 832-906-4214  
 marianas@baatexas.org

BAA offers online citizenship applications & virtual review. Start your citizenship application @ WWW.CITIZENSHIPWORKS.ORG/PORTAL/BAA

**Church Page Sponsors**

If you would like to be a Church Page Sponsor, please call 713-266-3444

---

**ALDINE FAMILY HOPE CENTER**  
 4700 Aldine Mail Rt., Houston, 77039  
 (Next to Hambrick Middle School)

After School Program      Summer Program      GED & ESL  
 Resource Center      Resale Shop      Counseling  
 Senior Program      Food Pantry      Computer Classes  
 Family Activities      Teen Job Training      Sports

281-449-4828      www.aldineyouth.org

---

**First Baptist Church North Houston**  
 Where Jesus Has the Priority And Everyone is Welcome

Sunday Service Schedule: Bible Study - 9:45 a.m.  
 AM Worship - 10:50 a.m.  
 Children's Church - 10:50 a.m.  
 PM Worship - 5:00 p.m.  
 Wednesday Bible Study: All Ages - 7:00 p.m.

4422 Lauder Road, Houston, TX. 77039      281-449-7201

**CLASSIFIED THE FRUGAL FROG CLASSIFIED**

CALL 713-266-3444 TO REACH 30,000 READERS

<b>TRACTOR WORK</b>	<b>TRACTOR WORK</b>	<b>TRACTOR WORK</b>	<b>SERVICES</b>	<b>SERVICES</b>	<b>HELP WANTED</b>	<b>HELP WANTED</b>	<b>HELP WANTED</b>	<b>HELP WANTED</b>	
<p>Tractor, Dozer and Backhoe Services</p> <p>Call or text for Free Quote.</p> <p><b>LONESTAR SITEWORKS</b></p> <p>832-530-0054</p>			<p><b>TEJAS TRANSMISSIONS</b>                  Houston's Only Standard &amp; Automatic Specialists</p> <p>FREE Computer Diagnostics</p> <p>Quality Work! Since 1997</p> <p>Full 12 Mo. Or 12,000 Mile Warranty                  "We Will Honor Other Shops Coupons"</p> <p>Se Habla Español                  225 Aldine Mail Route, 77037                  281-931-9300</p>		<p><b>NEWSPAPER MARKETING/SALES PERSON</b></p> <p>Position available for AD SALES representative. Experience helpful but not necessary. Possible to work from home. Suitable for Part Time, or Full Time. Commission plus. Send letter of interest to GRAFIKSTAR@aol.com or call 713-252-8000.</p>		<p><b>INTERN AT A NEWSPAPER</b></p> <p>Part Time Position available for person interested in learning all phases of the news business. Will experience writing, interviewing, sourcing, computer layout, ad sales, record keeping, promotions. Send letter of interest to grafikstar@aol.com</p>		

**MARKET PLACE**

When you call these Advertisers, this Newspaper receives a referral fee, whether you purchase or not. You can help the Newspaper by calling with an inquiry. THANK YOU.

**AMERICAN RESIDENTIAL HEATING & COOLING**

**The Season for Big Savings Is Now!**

Schedule Soon & Save Up to \$2000!

- Free Estimates and Second Opinions for New Heating and Cooling Systems
- Many Payment Options to choose from
- Service Available Seven Days a Week
- Licensed and Professional Technicians

Call today! (855) 241-1293

**\$49** Cooling or Heating System Tune Up

**SAVE UP TO \$2000** on a New Cooling and Heating System with our Buy Back Program!

License numbers available at americanresidential.com/licenses

**PROTECT WHAT MATTERS MOST**

Whether you are home or away, protect what matters most from unexpected power outages with a Generac Home Standby Generator.



**\$0 MONEY DOWN + LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTIONS**

Request a FREE QUOTE  
 CALL NOW BEFORE THE NEXT POWER OUTAGE  
 (713) 496-1933

FREE 7-year Extended Warranty\* - A \$735 Value!

**GENERAC**

**DENTAL Insurance**

Get help paying big dental bills

It doesn't matter what dentist you see, we can help pay the bill. Get dental insurance from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company.

- No deductible, no annual maximum
- Preventive care starts right away
- See any dentist - save more if you stay in network

Get your **FREE** Information Kit

SCAN ME!

Call now! 1-713-564-8054  
 Dental50Plus.com/Highlands

**CLASSIFIED WORD AD FORM**

**NORTHEAST NEWS**

Call 713-266-3444

DEADLINE 12:00 NOON THURSDAY

\$18.00 (20 WORDS) 2 WEEKS

Place one word per box					
					18.00
18.50	19.00	19.50	20.00		20.50

**GREAT VALUE • GREAT RESULTS**

NO. OF WORDS IN AD: \_\_\_\_\_ NO. OF WEEKS TO RUN: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \$ AMOUNT PER WEEK: \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL AMOUNT: \_\_\_\_\_  
 DESIRED CLASSIFICATION HEADING: \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT INFORMATION**

CHECK or  VISA  MASTERCARD  AM EX

CREDIT CARD NO.: \_\_\_\_\_ EXP. \_\_\_\_\_  
 NAME ON CARD: \_\_\_\_\_ SEC. NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL TO 5906 STAR LANE, HOUSTON, TX 77057, or EMAIL: neneewsroom@aol.com, or FAX TO 713-977-1188 or CALL 713-266-3444

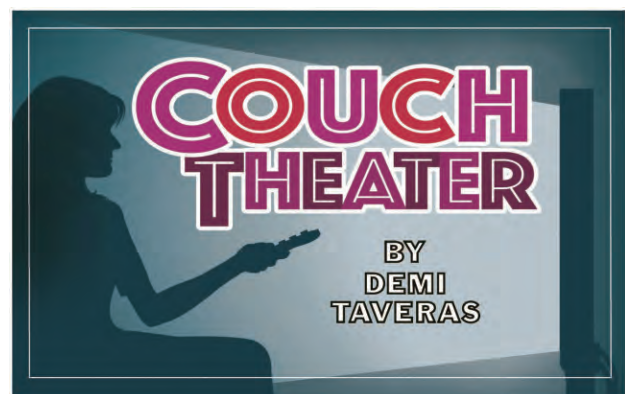
LEGAL NOTICES APPEAR IN THE NORTHEAST NEWS, HIGHLANDS STAR CROSBY COURIER, AND THE NORTH CHANNEL STAR. CALL 713-266-3444

**Business Directory**

SHOP LOCALLY -- Save Time & Money

<p><b>SCREENS AND SHADES</b></p> <p><b>Beat the Heat!</b></p> <p>Exterior Solar Screens and Insect Shades</p> <p>Free Estimates</p> <p><b>832-247-4581</b></p>	<p><b>UPHOLSTERY &amp; AWNING</b></p> <p>Tapiceria PRAT</p> <p>Upholstery &amp; Awning</p> <p>COMMERCIAL &amp; RESIDENTIAL</p> <p><b>RAPHAEL PRAT</b></p> <p>2021 Aldine Mail Rt. Suite 902 Houston, TX 77039</p> <p>281-590-7562</p>
<p><b>VEHICLE INSPECTION STATION</b></p> <p>House Vehicle Inspection Station</p> <p>Monday-Friday 8am-6pm</p> <p>Gladys House-El</p> <p>713-742-6995 gladys.house@gmail.com</p> <p>3621 Hurley St. Houston, TX 77093</p>	<p><b>CARPET DEPOT</b></p> <p>3621 Hurley Street Houston, Texas 77093</p> <p>Office: 713-742-6995</p> <p>Fax: 713-742-6997</p> <p>Email: Gcarpetdepot@aol.com</p> <p>www.affordablecarpetdepot.com</p> <p>Gladys M. House</p> <p>(Take 58 North &amp; Exit Tidwell) Hurley is the first street before Tidwell</p>

CALL 713-266-3444 to place your Business Card in our Directory. Thousands of Readers in this area will see your message.



Benicio Del Toro and Alicia Silverstone star in "Reptile."

**"Reptile"**

**"REPTILE"** (R) — In this crime thriller starring Benicio del Toro and Justin Timberlake, a detective (del Toro) with a past of uncovering crooked cops is put on the murder case of a young real estate agent. Her body was found by her boyfriend (Timberlake) in their home, painting him as a prime suspect. But with one trail leading back to her ex-husband (Karl Glusman), and another leading to a mentally unstable man seeking revenge for a corrupt real estate deal, solving the case won't be an easy feat. Del Toro's acting prowess is what easily carries the film, along with a refreshing performance from "Clueless" star Alicia Silverstone. Out now. (Netflix) \*\*\*

franchise of the same name, this horror film follows security guard Mike Schmidt (Josh Hutcherson) as he starts working the night shift at Freddy Fazbear's Pizza. Abby, Mike's little sister, is in his care and accompanies him to the abandoned family fun center, where she soon discovers a few animatronics that all seem to have a mind of their own. Although a local police officer (Elizabeth Lail) comes around to warn him of Freddy's sinister past, it's only a matter of time before Mike and Abby find out for themselves. You won't look at a Chuck E. Cheese the same after this. Premieres Oct. 27. (Peacock) \*\*\*

**"FIVE NIGHTS AT FREDDY'S"** (PG-13) — Based on the video game

much traction. Determined to make her podcast succeed, she covertly takes advantage of an opportunity to get herself more clout when a student at her college, Jesse, suddenly disappears. After Jesse does eventually get found by Susie, she gets praised as a hero, and her social status instantly begins to climb. But when another student finds incriminating evidence of Jesse's kidnapper, Susie realizes that she might be way in over her head. Kiersey Clemons ("The Flash") plays the titular character in the film, with appearances by Alex Wolff, Jim Gaffigan and Alex Moffat. Premieres Oct. 27. (Hulu) \*\*\*

**"SURROUNDED"** (R) — "Black Panther's" Letitia Wright plays Moses "Mo" Washington, a female Buffalo soldier disguised as a man on a treacherous ride west in search of a gold mine after serving in the Civil War. When the stagecoach that Mo is smuggled on gets ambushed by thieves, she narrowly escapes death. But after deputies of the sheriff arrive at the scene, Mo is forced to stand guard for one of the thieves — legendary outlaw Tommy Walsh (Jamie Bell) — until they return with the sheriff. Knowing that other bandits from Tommy's gang are riding in search of him, Mo must continue her endless plight of survival with all the odds against her. This Western film, out now, features Michael K. Williams in his final appearance before his tragic death. (Amazon Prime Video)

**"SUSIE SEARCHES"** (NR) — College-aged student Susie is the host of a true crime podcast that doesn't really get

**Greens Bayou Coalition: Another Great Regatta!**

**NORTH CHANNEL** — October 7 — Another Great Regatta! After a week of rain, the sun came out and we enjoyed a perfect day for paddling! There were some really fast paddlers out there, some folks out to clean up the bayou, and some paddlers enjoying a day in nature, but everyone seems to have had a good day on Greens Bayou!

Greens Bayou Coalition plans the Regatta each year to showcase Greens Bayou and draw paddlers out to a wonderful recreational jewel in urban Houston. Our mission is to improve the quality of life in the watershed. We host cleanups, plant trees, promote and look for funding for parks, trails, & boat launches, and advocate for flood mitigation and resilience. We also monitor water quality and have an environmental education program for kids. We are a 501(c)3 nonprofit and we are funded through donations, grants and sponsorships. The regatta serves as a fundraiser, an awareness campaign and a cleanup effort, all at the same time! This year, paddlers cleaned up almost 700 lbs of trash from Greens Bayou!

We couldn't do this without our many sponsors, listed below, or our volunteers! We thank everyone who sponsored, donated and participated, from Katz Coffee and Precincts 3 & 4 who donated Corporate Cup canoes to start us off, to TEXSAR and our sweep boat volunteers on the water, to Rico Torres of AR's Entertainment Hub and Bayou City Adventures who rocked the after-party and Coca Cola SWB who rehydrated us with fabulous beverages. The Barry Ross family, with help from North Belt UD, again cooked up our famous "Best Lunch on the Bayou" and St. Arnold's provided the beer. And finally, METRO got everyone back to their vehicles at the end of the



day with their usual excellent service. Race Director Tom Helm made sure the day was safe and fun. Our volunteers were amazing! A huge "thank you!" to all of our wonderful sponsors: our Presenting Sponsors Coca Cola Southwest Beverages and East Aldine District, our Gold Sponsor SWCA Environmental Consultants; Silver Sponsors Ratcliffe Adams Barner LLC and Lone Star College - North Harris, and our Bronze Sponsors Satterfield & Pontikes Construction, Inc., KNCS Constructor Services, and SWA Group, and our Copper Sponsor LAN. Without all of you, and our In-Kind sponsors, this event could not have happened.

Our volunteers helped the Regatta run so smoothly this year! Many thanks to all of them: Karen, John, Jacqueline, Beth, Lorene, Betty, Stephen, Fangyi, Shannon, Ella, Jackson, Dale, Fran, Christy, Allen, Nate, Michelle, Darrell and Karla and the North Shore Anchor teens! <https://www.greensbayou.org/>



Winners of the Styrofoam Cup, Brian Jenison and Dean Campa, collected just over 170 pounds of trash!



Overall winner, Alan Lindsey, finished with a time of 1:20:14. Congratulations Alan!

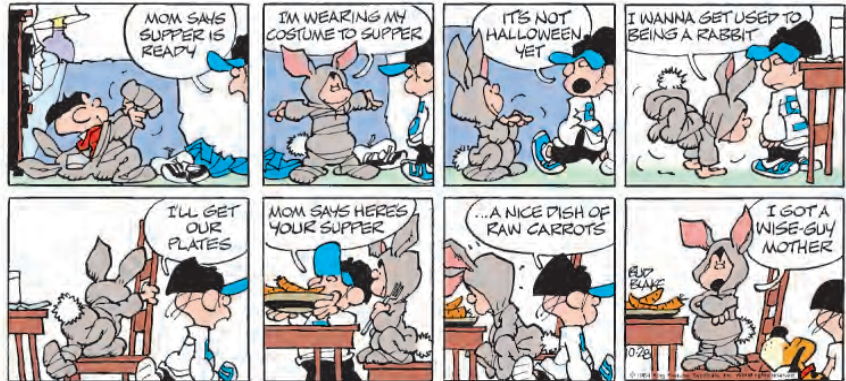
**ENTERTAINMENT**

**Amber Waves**



by Dave T. Phipps

**TIGER**



by Bud Blake

**The Spats**



by Jeff Pickering

**Weekly SUDOKU**  
by Linda Thistle

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 3x3 box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:** ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

© 2023 King Features Synd., Inc.

**HOCUS-FOCUS**  
BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

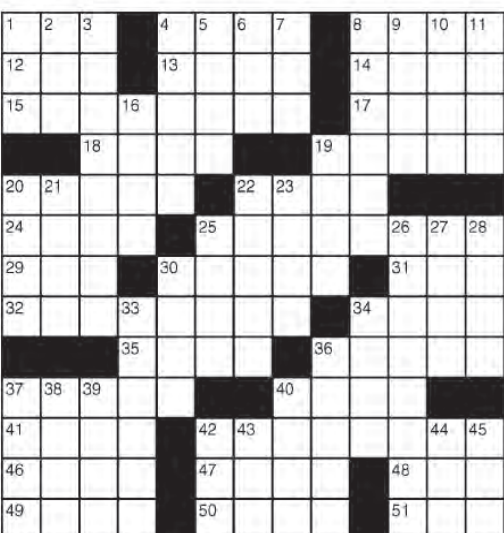
© 2023 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

**Trivia Test Answers**  
1. A Drake; 2. Jane Austen; 3. Serpens; 4. Franklin Roosevelt; 5. "The Matrix"; 6. The kidneys; 7. Vermont; 8. Mount Kilimanjaro; 9. Winston Churchill; 10. Pierre.

October 23, 2023 Posting Date

**King Crossword**

- ACROSS**
- 1 Lass
  - 4 Choose
  - 8 Beans
  - 12 Historic time
  - 13 Actor's quest
  - 14 Theater award
  - 15 Contingency funds
  - 17 Goddess of victory
  - 18 Orange veggies
  - 19 Pursuing
  - 20 Cellist Casals
  - 22 Innocent one
  - 24 New York canal
  - 25 Misfortune
  - 29 Balloon filler
  - 30 Pal
  - 31 Big D.C. lobby
  - 32 Melancholy melodies
  - 34 Alike (Fr.)
  - 35 Aftermath
  - 36 Condition
  - 37 Of the Arctic
  - 40 Chinese dynasty
  - 41 Egg
  - 42 Believed
  - 46 Ganges wrap
  - 47 Skip
  - 48 Apprehend
- DOWN**
- 1 Prized possession
  - 2 Altar constellation
  - 3 Small beetle
  - 4 Teaser ad
  - 5 Charged bits
  - 6 The Browns, on scoreboards
  - 7 Lock opener
  - 8 Have a huddle
  - 9 Slightly
  - 10 Toll road
  - 11 Crystal gazer
  - 16 Like ganders
  - 19 "Dear —"
  - 20 Stew veggies
  - 21 Operatic solo
  - 22 Police ID
  - 23 Tosses in
  - 25 Nonsense
  - 26 Attractive
  - 27 "I smell —!"
  - 28 Hardy cabbage
  - 30 Sow's mate
  - 33 Hindu teachers
  - 34 Sicilian volcano
  - 36 Prepares flour
  - 37 Sit for a photo
  - 38 Ellipse
  - 39 Hide in the bushes
  - 40 1502, in Old Rome
  - 42 Brick carrier
  - 43 "I — Rock"
  - 44 Eastern "way"
  - 45 "Game of Thrones" aier



© 2023 King Features Synd., Inc.

**Weekly SUDOKU**

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

Solution time: 26 mins.

**King Crossword**

**Answers**

1. Lass  
2. Altar constellation  
3. Small beetle  
4. Teaser ad  
5. Charged bits  
6. The Browns, on scoreboards  
7. Lock opener  
8. Have a huddle  
9. Slightly  
10. Toll road  
11. Crystal gazer  
16. Like ganders  
19. "Dear —"  
20. Stew veggies  
21. Operatic solo  
22. Police ID  
23. Tosses in  
25. Nonsense  
26. Attractive  
27. "I smell —!"  
28. Hardy cabbage  
30. Sow's mate  
33. Hindu teachers  
34. Sicilian volcano  
36. Prepares flour  
37. Sit for a photo  
38. Ellipse  
39. Hide in the bushes  
40. 1502, in Old Rome  
42. Brick carrier  
43. "I — Rock"  
44. Eastern "way"  
45. "Game of Thrones" aier

**Football Scores & Schedules**

**THIS WEEK'S SCORES**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19**  
Aldine Eisenhower 31, Aldine Davis 24  
North Shore 38, Humble 24  
Spring Westfield 63, Aldine MacArthur 7

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20**  
Aldine Nimitz 47, Aldine 0  
Barbers Hill 56, Kingwood Park 14  
Crosby, bye  
Deer Park 56, Channelview 39  
La Porte 34, Baytown Sterling 0  
Lumberton 46, Huffman Hargrave 14  
Nederland 38, Galena Park 7  
New Caney Porter 42, Goose Creek Memorial 7  
Port Arthur Memorial 48, Baytown Lee 33  
Texas City 41, Dayton 6

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21**  
Atascocita 28, C. E. King 21 OT

**NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26**  
Aldine at Eisenhower, 7 p.m., Leonard George Stadium in Spring  
Channelview at Pasadena, 7 p.m., Memorial Stadium in Pasadena  
Galena Park at Fort Bend Marshall, 7 p.m., Kenneth Hall Stadium in Missouri City  
MacArthur at Dekaney, 7 p.m., Planet Ford Stadium in Spring

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27**  
Atascocita at North Shore, 7 p.m., Galena Park ISD Stadium in Houston  
Barbers Hill at Port Arthur Memorial, 7 p.m., Memorial Stadium in Port Arthur  
Baytown Sterling at Goose Creek Memorial, 7 p.m., Stallworth Stadium in Baytown  
Davis at Westfield, 7 p.m., Planet Ford Stadium in Spring  
Fort Bend Willowridge at Dayton, 7 p.m., Bronco Stadium in Dayton  
Huffman Hargrave at Vidor, 7:30 p.m., Pirate Stadium in Vidor  
Porter at Baytown Lee, 7 p.m., Stallworth Stadium in Baytown  
Spring at Nimitz, 7 p.m., Leonard George Stadium in Spring

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28**  
C. E. King at Summer Creek, 7 p.m., Turner Stadium in Humble  
Crosby at La Porte, 1 p.m., Bulldog Stadium in La Porte

Safety and Security | Facility Enhancements | Instructional Technology

**ALDINE ISD**  
**BOND**  
**2023**



**General**

\$1,622,325,676

- 6 Campus rebuilds
- 2 Campus redesigns
- Facility Improvement and Maintenance Projects
- Safety and Security Projects
- Technology Infrastructure Projects
- Transportation Projects

**Educational Technology**

\$67,547,500

- Student and staff devices (iPads, laptops, Chromebooks)
- New Classroom Technology

**Education and Performing Arts Center**

\$122,282,967

- A center that features multiple theaters and classrooms to accommodate award-winning fine arts programming.



**ESTIMATED IMPACT PROPS A+B+C**  
**\$0 PER MONTH**  
AVERAGE HOME VALUE OF \$100,000 WITH HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION



Aldine HS

Aldine MS



Carver HS

Orange Grove ES



Hambrick MS

Odom ES



**AGES 65 & Older**  
**\$0 TAX IMPACT**  
OVER FROZEN DOLLAR AMOUNT

**Total Bond Recommendation: \$1,812,156,143**

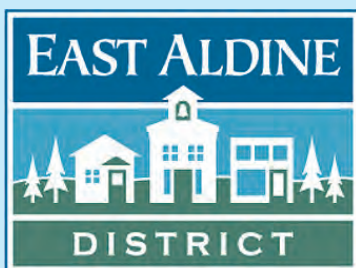


[AldineISD.org/Bond2023](http://AldineISD.org/Bond2023)



**EARLY VOTING**  
**OCT. 23**  
THROUGH  
**NOV. 3**

**ELECTION DAY**  
**7**  
NOVEMBER



**East Aldine District COMMUNITY NEWS**

**Part of East Aldine History: Hardware Store reaches 50 years, but still no Jed**

For 50 years, residents of East Aldine have purchased everything from chicken feed, plumbing fixtures, screws, bolts, pipe and extension cords to gardening supplies, lumber and propane from Jed's Hardware.

At the intersection of the Eastex Freeway and Aldine Mail Route Road, the neighborhood institution was founded in 1973 by brothers Weldon and Clyde Bailey, who grew up close by.

That's right. There is no "Jed" at Jed's Hardware.

The name is an acronym for the kind of old-fashioned hardware store that Weldon Bailey used to visit with his dad, where customers would go in with a list of their needs and a clerk would "jot 'em down," recalled Clyde Bailey, the younger of the brothers. Weldon came up with the idea for the name, "Jot 'em Down Store," but the cost of a sign led them to shorten the name to the first letters of the three words.

A big 50th anniversary party is in the works for 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 27. There will be good food, music, displays and many, many prizes at the store.

Weldon graduated from Aldine High School; Clyde was one of the first students to attend MacArthur High. For years, the siblings ran the business together with a familiarity and fondness for the particular and peculiar needs of their East Aldine neighbors.

"Weldon understood that people would always want feed," Clyde said, so the store still stocks a wide variety of livestock and chicken feed, not to mention a vast array of pet supplies and food.

Clyde, who said he "always enjoyed working the floor," was the hands-on brother who lunched with neighbors, joined the Rotary Club and stayed in touch with the needs of the community.

In 1994, after several pedestrians were struck by vehicles while walking along Aldine Mail Route, Clyde and his friends started trying to come up with a solution. Clyde was familiar with the then-new East Montgomery County Management District through his Rotary membership.

Not long after, he met with then-State Rep. Kevin Bailey and proposed the creation of



the East Aldine Management District.

Clyde Bailey was the first president of the District, which was initially housed in the same building complex as the hardware store.

"I haven't been following closely, but I know they are trying their best to bring really positive solutions in the area" now, Bailey said.

(To which the District staff and board would say, "Thank you, we are working hard, listening to the community and succeeding!")

When the brothers retired, they turned the business over to Weldon's son-in-law, Eric Hall, who met Megan Bailey while they attended Texas Tech University.

Hall, who has a degree in finance, happily gave up his career in banking to run the business. The couple moved to Houston in 2015.

Megan Bailey Hall works for a Galleria-area bank and Eric coaches their daughter's soccer team.

"What I really, really love about this is every day is something different," Hall said. "And I still do get calls, just about every day, for people who want to talk to 'Jed.'"

Hall is busy planning the anniversary celebration, which will include special 50-cent prices on many hardware items, booths from many of the business' major suppliers, and the food, including a snow cone vendor, a taco truck, and hot dogs and hamburgers. There also will be free raffle tickets for prizes ranging from a microwave to a Stihl power saw.

The young businessman has put his own touches on the long-standing institution. Jed's is a member of the Do It Best Co-Op, which gives independent hardware stores the advantage of larger purchasing power.

Hall also decided to "open" up the middle of the store to prominently feature seasonal items that customers would be likely to purchase on impulse, as well as a variety of toys to tempt youngsters tagging along on errands.

Hall also made the decision to purchase a certain brand of lighting fixtures for the store because the brand's box labels (and accompanying instructions) are written in Spanish – a feature aimed at East Aldine's largely bilingual population.

A native of Dallas, Hall even begrudgingly carries Houston Astros' trinkets and memorabilia. And, although he roots for the Texas Rangers, Hall has been known to don a big, foam Astros hat. But only at his employees' insistence.

Because many homes in the East Aldine community are older, Hall ensures that supplies are available for repairs to older plumbing and electrical fixtures. And, because many customers are long-time do-it-yourselfers, the business will do custom cuts on lumber, glass and sharpening of blades for power equipment.

Instead of renting turn-it-in propane cylinders, Hall has kept the business' more economical policy of refilling customers' own cylinders.

Although Hall and his family don't live in the neighborhood, he is committed to preserving the business' strong ties to the community.

After Hurricane Harvey in 2017 and during the Winter Storm Uri in 2021, Hall said, "I slept here in the store. I needed to be here, because I knew the people of this community were going to need us."

He proudly displays a 2017 award from the East Aldine Management District that named Jed's a Strategic Business Partner. He also makes every effort to offer part-time jobs to students at MacArthur High School. Sometimes, that means working around their sports teams' schedules, which Hall is glad to do. One valued long-time employee recently started college, and Hall allows him to schedule work around his classes.

"It is still a family business," Hall said. "If anybody has a problem, they can come and talk to me. It's a very stimulating experience."

"I knew what I was getting into," he said, with a laugh. "But there are those days where I think 'if I didn't have any customers or employees, I could get some real work done.'"

— by Anne Marie Kilday



ERIC HALL