

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

- Free TRF Tickets ..... 2
- Aldine Branch Library ..... 2
- AISD New Asst. Super ..... 3
- New School Buses ..... 3
- OP-ED Ballot Measures ..... 4
- HALLOWEEN
- Keeney's Korner ..... 1, 5
- Football Scores/Schedules 7
- Aldine ISD Bond Issue ..... 8
- Westfield Fire Chief ..... 8

# NORTHEAST NEWS



**Walle in Agony to explain how law will hurt immigrant population**



Rep. Walle swears and shouts as Rep. Harris attempts to limit amendments and proceed with vote on HB4.

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VOL. 47, NO. 40 TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2023 HOUSTON, TEXAS www.nenewsroom.com

**NEWS NOTES**

## Walle creates stir at Legislature

Angered and Agonized Walle argues about new Restrictions on Immigrants in HB4

**VetFest at East Aldine Nov. 11**

East Aldine District hosts a Free VETFEST on Saturday, November 11 from 10am to 1pm at the East Aldine Amphitheatre, 2909 East Aldine Amphitheatre Drive, HONORING OUR HEROES. Celebrate Your Veteran on Our Wall of Honor. (email photos by Nov. 3 to: info@aldinedistrict.org. SPEAKER: Dr. Elias Sanchez-Perez, Vietnam War Veteran. Director, Gathering of Eagles Veterans Group. Event includes Rockwall, Entertainment, Food, Patriotic Quilts, Army Truck & More.

HB4 empowers police to return undocumented immigrants to Mexico

AUSTIN, Texas — Tempers flared at the Texas Capitol Wednesday in a fight over controversial immigration bills.

Rep. Armando Walle, a Democrat from Houston, had a profanity-laced exchange with some Republicans during the special session and it was caught on camera.

The exchange was over House Bill 4, which passed in an unofficial vote of 84 to 60 around 4 a.m. Thursday. The bill makes it a state crime to enter Texas illegally and empowers local police to arrest people and send them back to Mexico.

Here's what Walle had to say during that heated exchange with Rep. Cody Harris, a Republican from



In a profanity laced tirade caught on video, State Representative Armando Walle pleads with State Representative Cody Harris, at right, to try to understand the "hurt" his motion to end debate and amendments on HB4 will cause to the constituents and immigrants in Walle's district and throughout Texas. (Images via TikTok)

East Texas. This was after the representative moved to limit new amendments to the bill.

"It pisses me off," Walle said. "No, no, no. You're my friend, man. I love you, but this (expletive) hurts. Y'all don't understand (expletive) what you do hurts our

community. It hurts us personally, bro."

Walle spoke out against the bill earlier in the day on X and also during a press conference when he called Republican immigration measures a waste of taxpayer dollars.

House Bill 4 is just one

of the three border bills moving through the House during this special session. Supporters say the state is being forced to act because the federal government is not doing its job.

Continued. See WALLE CREATES STIR AT LEGISLATURE, Page 5

Rep. Armando Walle Released Statement on HB 4 Floor Debate (Austin, TEXAS) - Today, House Republicans moved to limit discussion on House Bill 4, which would authorize any peace officer to detain, transport and remove individuals suspected of entering the state unlawfully, among other provisions.

After a vote of 76-52, Rep. Walle defended his right to speak for his constituents by continuing to discuss the issue with his colleagues on the House Floor.

Rep. Armando Walle (D - Houston) released the following statement on the interaction: "Tonight, House Republicans silenced the voices of the people of Texas by shutting down debate on House Bill 4— sweeping legislation that would put Latino families in danger across the whole state.

"This is an emotional issue. This affects my family and puts so many families like mine at risk. We come to the Texas House as lawmakers to advocate for our communities. To protect our people. If House Leadership wants to put up a bill that would separate families and detain children, then they better be prepared to spend all night defending that bill in public debate."

**UNIFORM ELECTION VOTING SCHEDULE**

MONDAY, OCT. 23- 7:00 AM - 7:00 PM  
SATURDAY, OCT. 28

SUNDAY, OCT. 29 12:00 PM - 7:00 PM

MONDAY, OCT. 30- 7:00 AM - 7:00 PM  
FRIDAY, NOV. 3

**ELECTION DAY**

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7 7:00 AM - 7:00 PM

FOR ELECTION DAY POLLING LOCATIONS OR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT: [HARRISVOTES.COM](http://HARRISVOTES.COM)

## Aldine voters head to polls to decide fate of \$1.8 billion bonds

By David Taylor  
Managing Editor

It's the largest bond in the history of the school district at \$1,812,156,143, but administrators and board members say it will help accomplish the educational goals of the district.

The recommendation for the three bond proposals A, B, and C comes from a Long-Range Planning Committee that began meeting in the spring of 2023.

Committee members received a report from PBK Architects, who provided an

Educational Suitability Assessment that covered the district's 84 schools. The ESA found that 25 percent of the district's schools were over 50 years old.

PROPOSITION A: (\$1,622,325,676) The committee studied the issue and recommended under Proposition A that six schools receive complete rebuilds: Aldine High School, Carver High School, Aldine Middle, Hambrick Middle, Orange Grove Elementary, and Odom Elementary. The av-

Continued. See BONDS, Page 7

**ALDINE ISD BOND 2023**

6 SCHOOL REBUILD PROJECTS

2 SCHOOL REDESIGN PROJECTS

## Record Turnout seen in Early Voting

**Joint General & Special Elections**

(Houston, TX) – Harris County Clerk Teneshia Hudspeth reports that voters have cast more than 54.4K in-person ballots during the first four days of Early Voting for the November 7 Joint General & Special Elections. More people are choosing to vote early compared to the most similar election in 2015, when only 36.3K voted in person during the same time.

"We are looking at an increase of about 50%. We have been working hard to ensure Voting Centers are up and running on time, and voters are getting in and out easily," said Clerk



Voters within the City of Houston will be able to vote for Mayor and City Council. ABOVE, Mayoral candidates include Sheila Jackson Lee, John Whitmire, Lee Kaplan, Gilbert Garcia, and Jack Christie among a field of 18 candidates.

Hudspeth. "Voters are showing interest in this election and are eager to make their choices ahead of November 7."

There are 42 political entities on the November 7 ballot. However, voters will only see the contests

that are connected to the address where they are registered to vote. Some may see a minimum of 15, while others a maximum of about 35 contests on their

CONTINUED. See EARLY VOTING, Page 5

## SEASON FOOTBALL WEEK 10 Aggies look to end road woes at Ole Miss: Cowboys, Eagles meet in key NFC East contest in Philly

It's been another tough year for Texas A&M Aggie fans. Another season that started with so much optimism has once again devolved into disappointment and head coach Jimbo Fisher's coaching future could be in doubt in College Station.

There are a couple of things going in Fisher's favor. One, it would cost A&M \$77 million to buyout his contract and he has recruited well over the last two seasons bringing in a load of young talent. Those youngsters should only get better with time. But Fisher was hired to contend with Alabama and LSU in the SEC West. The Aggies have not come close to winning their division, let alone the entire conference in his six years on the job.

A&M has had trouble winning on the road. This year, they have lost at Miami, Alabama and at Tennessee and this Saturday they face a dangerous

**KEENEY'S KORNER**  
BY MIKE KEENEY

Mississippi Rebels team in Oxford.

The Aggies have been decimated by some key injuries this year, most notably starting quarterback Conner Weigman. Backup Max Johnson has filled in well, but he's no Weigman.

Perhaps Fisher can rally the troops this weekend and pick up a much-needed road victory.

Other key games on the college landscape have No. 15-ranked LSU visiting No. 9-ranked Alabama in a key SEC West contest. A win by Nick Saban's team could pretty much

wrap up the SEC West, while a win by Brian Kelly's team will tie things up in the division. Both teams had an extra week to prepare for this one.

No. 14-ranked Notre Dame visits a disappointing Clemson team that has already lost three games. Like Fisher, Dabo Swinney's seat could also be getting hot. A team that was expected to contend for the ACC title and perhaps a spot in the College Football Playoffs (CFP) is now playing for a mid-

CONTINUED. SEE KEENEY'S KORNER, PAGE 5

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## COMMUNITY WATCH

### 7th grader facing charges after fight on Aldine ISD school bus

HOUSTON, Texas (KTRK) — A seventh grader at Drew Academy, which is part of the Aldine Independent School District, is facing charges after allegedly assaulting a girl on the bus ride home.

The victim was left with serious injuries, according to her mother.

In a video that you'll see only on ABC13, two boys are seen beating the victim, but the Harris County District Attorney's Office only charged one of them because, according to the victim's mom, the girl fought back against the first boy but couldn't defend herself against the second.

The incident happened on Oct. 4, when Gabby Edwards rode the bus home from school for the first time.

The experience, she said, was smooth until a boy started throwing marbles at the back of her head.

"I told him to stop throwing it at me, and he said, 'What are you going to do about it?' And he pulled up his pants, and I started walking back to my seat, and he started hitting on me," Gabby said.

She then said she attempted to fight off the boy, who was noticeably bigger than her. He's a minor and hasn't been charged, so ABC13 is not identifying him.

About 12 seconds into the video, a boy with a camo-print backpack lunges over and begins wailing on Gabby.

According to Aldine ISD, the bus driver noticed a constable pumping gas at a nearby Kroger, so he let Gabby off, hoping to get her help.

The victim's mom, Myra Grover, said when she got there, witnesses told her Gabby was in the emergency room.

"A lady that was at the gas station saw Gabby lying in the grass and called 911," Grover recalled.

According to Grover, Gabby suffered a broken eye socket and a bruised nose.

Aldine ISD said the district attorney only accepted charges for the second boy, who is also a minor. ABC13 is also not identifying this person.

"Only one boy was given a consequence. Boy number one was arrested. Why was boy number two not arrested? He initiated the fight, and because she put her hands up to try to defend herself. You're now saying that's mutual combat?" Grover said.

The school district issued a statement in response to questions about the incident:

"Aldine ISD is aware that an altercation took place between three students on a district bus on Oct. 4. The Aldine ISD Police Department, as well as nearby local law enforcement, arrived on the scene to defuse the situation and begin an investigation. One of the students involved was transported to a local hospital.

Aldine ISD does not condone this type of behavior, and those who engage in such behavior will be disciplined per the district's Student Code of Conduct. All three students will lose their bus privileges for the remainder of the school year, and they will be separated on campus. Bus attendants are only required for our SPED students, and this route does not require a bus attendant. Criminal charges are determined by the Harris County District Attorney's Office (HCDA). In this case, the HCDA chose to file Serious Bodily Injury charges against one of the students."

Gabby said she doesn't feel safe on the bus and wants to see the district make changes.

"(We need) more bus drivers, like some bus drivers that can help the situation instead of just standing there," Gabby said.

Gabby's mom added that a bus attendant could have helped in this situation, but the district said attendants are only assigned to buses carrying students in the special education program. She also said she plans to pull Gabby from Drew Academy.

(Courtesy KTRK)

CONGRATULATIONS To Estefani Reyes of Aldine, 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.



## AIRLINE LIBRARY NEWS

### Alebrije 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. 30, 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 Bilingüe

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 cantar 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 are in Spanish language; Software (Windows OS, Office 365, Google) apps are all in English language.

Nivel -1 Habilidades Esenciales- **Martes- 5:00 a 6:45 PM:** Computer Essential Skills (Spanish computer class)  
- Aprenderá a como obtener las habilidades esenciales sobre: Navegación con Windows, navegación por Internet e interface, tipos

de navegadores, consejos de seguridad, correo electrónico e interface, y otros temas relacionados a la tecnología con enfoque para empleos y uso personal en un nivel para principiantes

### 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.

### 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, Nov. 2, 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

### Para Los Niños

The Children's Museum of Houston has created special workshops for the library! 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.) Fall Schedule: \*Para Los Niños will be every First Thursday of the month throughout the Fall.\*

### Chill Vibes for Teens

Life is stressful, this program is not. *Chill Vibes for Teens* is for slowing down and decompressing from a stressful week. Relax with us and start your weekend off right. Every other week we'll have

a different set of activities to unwind and unclutter your mind. Or, you can just veg out in one of our comfy chairs. **Friday, Nov. 3, 3:30pm - 5:30pm.**

### Para los Niños

Each workshop includes learning activities to use at home related to the theme of the week. For parents and children ages 8 and younger (and siblings too!) **Saturday, Nov. 4, 10-11:30am.**  
Live Performance: Aztec Dance

### Join us Aldine Library Saturday, Nov. 4, 1pm - 2:30pm for an unforgettable live performance in observance of Native American Heritage Month!

Prepare to be amazed by the stunning performance by Houston Aztec Dance. Thank you to FABLE (Friends of the Aldine Branch Library) for sponsoring this program. For more information about Houston Aztec please visit [www.houstonaztecdance.com](http://www.houstonaztecdance.com)

### 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/qSzMSpiaTL>.

### 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.DR.Houston, TX 77037 832-927-5410

# Texas Renaissance Festival

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



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Your Adventure Awaits

SCHOOL NEWS PAGE

# Art From the Heart: An Ode to the Aldine Community

Two of our junior artists are finalists in the 2023 Mayor Art Scholarship Contest. A total of 18 students were selected as finalists: nine juniors and nine seniors. Aldine's selected artists are Ivan Davidson from Carver High School and Andrea Diaz from MacAthur High School. Students created artwork in response to the theme: Neighborhood and Identity. Their work is a testament to the flourishing artistry within Aldine's vibrant student community.

Meet Ivan Davidson, a talented artist passionate about breaking down stereotypes. His latest masterpiece, aptly titled "Blinded," serves as a powerful commentary on how perceptions of neighborhoods and identities can be misguided, especially for places like Acres Homes—a predominantly black and Hispanic neighborhood. Through his profound symbolism, Ivan has crafted a piece that challenges preconceived notions about his community. The hands, black and brown, stretch outward, forming a smile—an urgent call for attention from those quick to judge based on location.

The clenched fists, disguised as eyes, are veiled by the unknown hands, illustrating the blinding effect of misrepresentation. Ivan's mission is crystal clear—to shed light on the humanity within his community and beyond. He passionately advocates, "I want this picture to be a visual representation to the people that judge us, and the students who want to be noticed. I want to spread awareness on this topic not just for my school, but for other schools in lower class neighborhoods. Notice us, we are not deviants, we are just teenagers." In Ivan's vision, art isn't just a medium of expression; it's a powerful tool for change and understanding.



Blinded

As for Andrea Diaz, a rising artist from MacAthur High School, her approach to creating artwork is visionary.

Andrea's artistic journey revolves around amplifying the voices and experiences of her neighborhood, merging art and identity seamlessly. The spark for her artwork ignited from the profound realization of the interconnectedness between the neighborhood and one's sense of self. Andrea embarked on a creative expedition, immersing herself in the narratives of her community through interviews and exploration of familiar streets. She passionately articulates, "Through my art, I aim to evoke a sense of nostalgia, belonging, and introspection in the viewer. I want them to look at my artwork and recognize the universal truths about how neighborhoods leave indelible imprints on our lives." Andrea's artistic quest ultimately strives to remind us all that, despite our unique stories, we share the universal tapestry of community and belonging.

Andrea Diaz, MacAthur High School



As the anticipation builds for the unveiling of the winners on Tuesday, October 24th, we invite you to visit Houston City Hall and immerse yourself in the eloquence of these artworks that speak volumes about neighborhood pride and identity. The powerful messages conveyed by these young artists, Victor Flores and Ivan Davidson, remind us of the transformative potential of art. Let us also extend our warm congratulations and gratitude to our dedicated art educators, Mr. Matt Kirkpatrick and Mrs. Hailey Williams, for their unwavering commitment to nurturing and empowering our budding artists. Their guidance and mentorship are the pillars that enable our students to

reach artistic heights and ignite change through their creative expressions. Together, let us celebrate art, education, and the boundless possibilities within our youth's vibrant strokes.

Neighborhoods' Diaries: Exploring Neighborhood Identities



# District Names New Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning

Dr. Lindsey Wise, an Aldine ISD alum, to join Aldine ISD's Executive Leadership Team.

Dr. Lindsey Wise was named the new Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning during the October 17 Board Meeting. Dr. Faviola Cantú, Chief Academic Officer, shared, "Dr. Wise is dedicated to the students and staff of Aldine ISD. Her involvement, support, and communication of our many innovative programs and district achievements have been invaluable. Dr. Wise has a proven track record of excellence. She has supported student and teacher growth at the building and district levels. Lindsey will provide key leadership to ensure success for our teachers and students as we continue building on program changes and enhancing teaching effectiveness and student learning outcomes. I look forward to her continued leadership and collaboration on our administrative team."

Wise will join the district's Executive Leadership Team and transition over the next couple of weeks from her current position as director of learning recovery tutoring and student initiatives, a role she began in 2022 in the Schools Office. In her new capacity, she will be responsible for providing guidance, supporting staff, and implementing initiatives that will align with meeting Aldine ISD's overall strategic vision, mission, goals, and objectives.

Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney believes Wise's background in curriculum implementation, working with diverse student backgrounds, and passion for student learning made her the top choice.

"I am excited for what the future holds for our



Dr. Lindsey Wise

district with the addition of Lindsey to our Executive Leadership team. Lindsey's passion for the district is endless, and I look forward to the partnership and teamwork she will bring to the position to help continue making Aldine a district of choice."

She has 16 years of experience in education, 15 of those years in Aldine ISD. Leading up to her role as assistant superintendent, Wise brings an extensive background in education. As director of learning recovery tutoring and student initiatives, Wise supported 16 high school campuses (Grades 9-12) with approximately 18,000 students. Wise collaborated with secondary core content program directors to support all high school campuses in their academic needs, developed data analysis protocols while providing coaching through an action planning process. Based on her efforts, the preliminary data for 2023 shows growth in all STAAR end-of-course (EOC) areas of supported campuses.

Wise began as a middle school math teacher in 2007 in Bryan ISD before joining Aldine ISD in 2008 as a math teacher/math leader at Stovall Middle School. Five years later, she moved to Parker Intermediate (now the Aldine Young Women's Leadership Academy) as a mathematics skills specialist. In

2014, she joined Teague Middle School as an assistant principal of administration before advancing three years later to serve as an AP of administration at Aldine High School. Three years later, she was named to serve as an AP of curriculum and instruction at the same campus, a position she held before being named to her most recent role.

A graduate of Texas A&M University with a bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies in math and science, Wise also holds a master's degree in curriculum and instruction from the same university. Wise completed her doctoral studies at the University of Houston in 2017 by earning her doctorate in professional leadership. She also holds several certifications, including English as a second language (ESL), and completed the superintendent certificate program.

Wise grew up in the Aldine area, attending Magrill Elementary, Parker Intermediate, Teague Middle, and Nimitz Ninth. She graduated from Nimitz High School. The Nimitz alum can often be seen at the school's football games. Wise is excited about her new role in AISD.

"Throughout my years at Aldine ISD, I have been honored to serve this community's students, staff, and parents," said Wise. "This really is #MyAldine. My experiences will support the district while working to secure learning pathways. The district's teachers and administrators are doing amazing work to make a difference for kids. I look forward to supporting the district in this new role."

With a passion for quality time, Wise enjoys spending time with her family and watching college football.

# Bond 2023: Prop A Includes \$27,000,000 Million for New School Buses

Replacement of aging school buses is a focus of a proposition in Aldine ISD's \$1.8 billion bond package on the November 7 ballot.

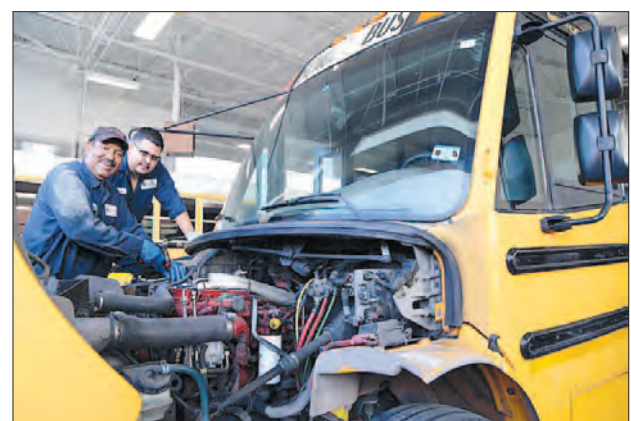
"Currently, over 48% of the AISD bus fleet is approaching or past its useful life," said Germán Enamorado, the district's executive director of transportation.

The \$27,000,000 for bus replacement would be part of the \$1,622,325,676 provided by Proposition A, one of three propositions in the bond package.

Other money from Proposition A would address aging buildings, upgrades for facilities and safety and security, including safety film, site fencing, and lighting and emergency generators as well as a designated AISD Police Department facility, and districtwide technology (Wi-Fi only) at all district schools, and the rebuild of the East Transportation facility.

Proposition B, for \$67,547,500, would fund student, teacher, and classroom devices in all grades and technology upgrades. Proposition C would provide \$122,282,967 for a new performing arts center.

If Bond 2023's propositions pass, Aldine ISD taxpayers will not see a tax rate increase for the next three years. The first increase would be in 2026; \$5.25 per month over 10 years. With the state's



compression of \$100,000 homestead and the bond passing, most AISD taxpayers would see a decrease in their overall district tax rate. Existing state law freezes property tax rates of homeowners 65 and older. Seniors who file their exemption will not have to pay any additional taxes associated with this bond.

Enamorado said a standard school bus ranges between \$120,000 to \$150,000. It's about \$12,000 more to add three-point shoulder/lap safety belts. Buses generally last from seven to 10 years. He said half of the current fleet of 490 buses is approaching or has exceeded that range.

The bond proposal would allocate funds to purchase 40 buses annually for five years to get back on a replacement schedule. The replaced vehicles would be a mixture of buses for general and special education uses and adding

vehicles to its "white fleet" (i.e., trucks, vans).

Enamorado said the bond would provide over 200 new buses with seat belts, cameras, and smart tags.

Aldine ISD buses transport approximately 32,000 students (56% of the student population) who ride one of 490 buses yearly, traveling 4,916,221 miles on more than 330 routes in the 111-square-mile district. The district has nearly 58,000 students.

The district puts more than 4,400,00 miles on buses each year, transporting students for extracurricular activities. With AISD high schools classified as 6A in District 14, the teams travel within and outside Aldine for various competitions, from athletics to other UIL events. District buses are also used for field trips.

Early voting is currently going on and will run through November 3. Election Day is November 7.

OPINION PAGE

OPINION By BILL KING



Ballot Measures

In the upcoming elections, voters will be asked to decide on a number of ballot measures. The specific referendums on the ballot will depend on where you live.

Texas Constitutional Amendments

As many of you know, we have a completely dysfunctional state constitutional system, where voters are asked with regularity to amend the State Constitution. In this election, there are seventeen (17) amendments that have been proposed by the Texas Legislature. To get on the ballot, each of these measures were approved by at least a two-thirds vote of both houses.

For the most part, the proposed constitutional amendments seem pretty innocuous to me. Some, like Proposition No. 3, which would prohibit a wealth tax in Texas, are purely political posturing. Others, like Proposition No. 4, which increases the homestead exemption for school districts to \$100,000 and reimburses school districts for the revenue they will lose as a result, are important.

My friend and former UT professor, Mark Miller, follows state constitutional propositions very closely and has written this summary of those on the current ballot. I will probably not follow his lead on Proposition No. 7, which establishes a fund to finance electric grid improvements, but his analysis of the amendments is thorough and objective; I highly recommend it.

Harris Health Bond Referendum

Harris County residents will be asked to approve a \$2.5 billion bond issue. The funds will primarily be spent on rebuilding the LBJ hospital complex on the North Loop 610 between Lockwood and Homestead and on making improvements to Ben Taub Hospital in the Texas Medical Center. One of the big selling points is that a new Level 1 trauma center will be included in the new LBJ complex, which most experts agree is long overdue for a city of our size.

I think it is noteworthy that the leadership of every major healthcare system in the region has endorsed the bond proposal. I have spoken to several of the CEOs personally and they are adamant in their support. They cite the new trauma center but also point to the growing number of uninsured residents in the County.

Several critics of the proposal have raised a number of legitimate concerns, such as the fact that the LBJ site is surrounded by property in the 100-year flood plain. Also, some question whether building a new facility in a part of the county where there has been little growth is the right location. Proponents respond that location is an area where there are high levels of uninsured residents and the buildings will be protected from any flooding risk.

If I were designing the plan, there are probably some tweaks I would make to it. But I think this is one of those issues where we cannot let perfect be the enemy of good and I will vote in favor of the bond. I would encourage those with concerns about the plan to support it but to stay engaged after the election as the detailed planning and implementation proceed.

City of Houston Propositions

Proposition A asks voters to amend the City charter to provide that any three Council members can require that an item appear on the Council agenda. Currently, the mayor has the sole power to decide what items Council will consider.

Some of you may recall that I said in my mayoral campaigns that I thought the City's strong-mayor form of government went too far and that we needed to re-balance power between the mayor and Council. This was one of the reforms I proposed. Therefore, I would strongly urge everyone vote for Proposition A.

Proposition B is a proposal that would ban the City from participating in the Houston-Galveston Area Council (HGAC) unless it gets representation on HGAC's board in proportion to its population. For those of you not familiar with HGAC, it is a regional council of local governments charged with, among other things, allocating transportation funding the in Houston region. While I can understand the objection of Houstonians that they should get proportional representation, this proposition is a little like someone threatening to shoot themselves if they don't get their way. I can assure you that none of the other entities at HGAC will spend one minute mourning the loss of the City of Houston's participation.

Apparently, the belief behind the backers of this proposition is that it would allow the City to form its own "Metropolitan Planning Organization" (MPO), which would then apply for federal funds directly without going through HGAC. The fly in this ointment is that under the current law, the Governor would have to approve the City setting up its own MPO. There is exactly a zero chance Abbott would do that. So, the most likely outcome would be that the City would simply not be represented at all in the decision-making process of how transportation funds are allocated in our region.

The bad news is that the polling currently shows the proposition is likely to pass. The good news is that because the courts have made it nearly impossible for citizens to enforce city charter provisions, the next mayor and Council will likely just ignore the amendment as the previous mayors and Councils have ignored other citizen-initiated referendums, e.g., the limitation on increasing water and sewage rates.

There are a number of other bond elections and city elections in the area. For those living in Harris County, you can view what will be included on your ballot at Harris Votes.

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



THE POSTSCRIPT By Carrie Classon

Celebrating Halloween

I have always loved Halloween, and I love it now more than ever.

I love to get in costume and have fun with other people in costume. People seem freer when they are dressed in different clothes. They seem to have a little more fun. I like the challenge of making or putting together elaborate costumes but, as the years passed, I've done less and less of it. Costume parties seem to be less common, and I don't spend time in bars, so the opportunity to celebrate the holiday has diminished.

Then I started going to Mexico, and all that changed.

Halloween is celebrated there, but it is a more somber affair, with beautiful "ofrendas" dedicated to the dead in homes, in the parks and in the cemeteries. It is a tradition that brings the dead closer to the living through remembrances and photos and collections of the things and the people the dead loved, all gathered together in their honor.

And then there is a party.

After Halloween, the Day of the Dead is celebrated, followed by All Souls Day, and each has its own significance, and its own traditions, which vary from one community to another. But what is, in the U.S., a short evening's activity celebrated primarily by children is a much bigger deal, a celebration that goes on for most of the week, involving people of all ages. The celebrations mix a reverence for the dead and a joy for life in a way I find breathtaking.

So my husband, Peter, and I will be celebrating Halloween this year. Peter, it should be noted, is not as big on the whole "getting into costume thing" as I am.

"What will I wear?" he asks, with obvious skepticism.

He worries he will look silly. He is sure he will be uncomfortable. But I have gotten Peter a costume (a fabulous costume, if I say so myself), and he says he is going to wear it. He knows it is important to me and he genuinely enjoys the celebration and so, this year, he will be a part of it—even if that might not be his first choice.

But, because we will be celebrating in Mexico, I want to observe the other part of the holiday as well.

Last week, we celebrated my mother's birthday with my parents and sister and my father's only sister, Joanne, and her husband. We got to talking about my father's mother. Joanne was telling the story we all knew about how my grandma wore elegant purple suede boots in her late 80s and thought—because of her cataracts—they were brown. No one thought a thing of it, because my grandma was always a stylish dresser, and we thought those purple boots were snazzy. But when my grandma found out, she took Joanne to task.

"Why didn't you tell me I was wearing purple boots?" she demanded.

My grandma wore a bright fuchsia raincoat to her husband's funeral. I honestly don't think any of us were to blame.

But it is a wonderful story, a great remembrance of my grandma, who lived to be 100 years old and gave us so many good memories. I love the idea of a day—or the better part of a week—set aside to tell stories like that and to keep the memory of my grandma, and so many others we have loved so much, alive.

And then we do will exactly what my grandma would have liked best. We will get all dressed up and have a big party.

Till next time, Carrie

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders



Abbott, House Deadlocked Over School Choice, Teacher Pay

Gov. Gregg Abbott and the Texas House are at loggerheads over which will come first – vouchers for parents to pay for private school tuition, or funneling more money to public schools, The Dallas Morning News reported.

The House wants money for teacher bonuses and a revamp of public-school accountability passed at the same time as Abbott's proposed education savings accounts, often referred to as ESAs. The governor insists the House first pass a voucher program. A version of his voucher program has already passed the Senate. The Legislature can't consider increased school funding or teacher bonuses unless Abbott adds it to the special session agenda.

This third special session ends by Nov. 7, though Abbott has indicated he would call another one if this one ends without a decision on vouchers.

"I think there is still significant opposition to any school finance bill that includes an ESA," Rep. Drew Darby, R-San Angelo, told the Texas Tribune. "I'm comfortable we have enough like-minded rural Republicans, and urban Republicans, to stand against that in numbers sufficient to defeat it."

Abbott has dismissed the House's compromise proposal, House Bill 1, which would create a limited voucher program while increasing spending on public education, calling it "insufficient."

HOUSE PASSES THREE BORDER SECURITY BILLS

The House passed a trio of bills that increase border wall funding, increase the penalty for smuggling migrants, and allow state and local police to arrest migrants living illegally in the state, The News reported. The votes came last week after a lengthy heated discussion among Democratic and Republican lawmakers.

The anti-smuggling bill has already passed the Senate and now heads to Abbott's desk, while the other two bills are going to the Senate.

Rep. Victoria Neave Criado, D-Dallas, who chairs the Mexican American Legislative Caucus, said the plan would undercut the U.S. Constitution so that the state could "flex its muscle with the power that it does not have," according to The News.

Democrats unsuccessfully tried to change the bill by filing nearly four dozen amendments.



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Gary Borders

ments. Rep. Cody Harris, R-Palestine, filed a successful motion to limit amendments, which led to a confrontation between him and Rep. Armando Walle, D-Houston.

"This is an emotional issue," Walle said in a statement late Wednesday evening. "This affects my family and puts so many families like mine at risk."

PAXTON SUES OVER RAZOR WIRE BEING CUT

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton is suing the Biden administration, claiming Border Patrol agents are illegally destroying state property by cutting through concertina wire placed by the state on the banks of the Rio Grande to deter illegal immigration.

The state has spent \$11 million in the past three years placing 70,000 rolls of the wire along the Texas-Mexico border, according to the Texas Tribune.

"By cutting Texas's concertina wire, the federal government has not only illegally destroyed property owned by the State of Texas; it has also disrupted the State's border deterrence efforts, leaving gaps in Texas's border barriers and damaging Texas's ability to effectively deter illegal entry into Texas," the attorney general's office said in a statement.

The Department of Homeland Security, under which the Border Patrol operates, said it doesn't respond to pending litigation.

In Eagle Pass earlier this year, a state trooper claimed the concertina wire has injured people, including a woman who had a miscarriage while entangled in the wire, the Tribune reported.

HIGH COURT TO HEAR CASE OF JUDGE'S REFUSAL TO MARRY GAY COUPLES

The Texas Supreme Court last week heard oral arguments in a case to decide whether a Waco justice of the

peace can legally refuse to perform same-sex wedding ceremonies, kut.org reported. McLennan County Justice of the Peace Dianne Hensley has refused to perform those ceremonies, saying it violates her Christian beliefs and is protected under the state's religious freedom laws.

The State Commission on Judicial Conduct in 2019 issued a warning to Hensley for her refusal. Lower courts have dismissed her claims against the commission.

Initially, Hensley declined to officiate any wedding ceremonies after the landmark U.S. Supreme Court in 2015. She began performing weddings again the following year, but only for straight couples.

NEW AREA CODE FOR HOUSTON AREA APPROVED

The greater Houston area has another area code after the Public Utility Commission of Texas approved a proposal to add 621 to the four existing area codes – 281, 346, 713 and 832. The area was expected to run out of new phone numbers using the existing area codes by 2025.

The new code is expected to meet demand for new numbers for another nine years. Houston's first area code, 713, was created in 1947 as one of the original four codes assigned to Texas.

RECORD \$345 MILLION APPROVED FOR PEDESTRIAN, BIKE PROJECTS

The Texas Transportation Commission has approved more than \$345 million for new sidewalks, bikeways and other types of mobility infrastructure for 83 projects across the states.

"This is a major investment in communities across the state that will help make it safer and easier to get around on foot or a bike," Texas Transportation Commissioner Robert "Robbie" Vaughn said.

The state has seen pedestrian and bicyclist fatalities rise nearly 30% over the past five years. Two dozen of the projects will go in areas with a high pedestrian crash record.

EARLY VOTING ENDS FRIDAY; ELECTION TUESDAY

Early voting for the Nov. 7 general election ends on Friday. Voters will decide the fate of 14 proposed state constitutional amendments, including items dealing with property tax cuts and increasing pay for retired teachers. In addition, municipal and school board races are being held across the state, as well as school, city, and county bond elections.

Contact your county's election office to see what is on the ballot where you are registered.

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, Nacogoches, Lufkin and Cedar Park. Email: gborders@texaspress.com.

NORTHEAST NEWS 5906 Star Lane, Houston, TX 77057 (713) 266-3444 • FAX (713) 977-1188 email: nenewsroom@aol.com website: www.nenewsroom.com

# SPORTS PAGE

## SEASON FOOTBALL WEEK 10

### Aggies look to end road woes at Ole Miss: Cowboys, Eagles meet in key NFC East contest in Philly

range bowl game. The folks at Clemson expect more.

A win on the road for Marcus Freeman's team could get them into the CFP conversation. ND has played a tough schedule and owns wins over USC, and Duke.

In the NFL, the spotlight will be on the NFC East when the Cowboys visit the Eagles in a key division contest. The Texans host Tampa Bay looking for their second home win, while Tennessee and Pittsburgh kick off Week 9 on Thursday Night Football. Two weeks ago, the Steelers improved to 4-2 with a big road win over the Rams, while the Titans had the week off. Miami and Kansas City meet in Germany and Sunday Night Football has a good one as the Bills visit the Bengals in a rematch of last year's divisional playoff game which was won by the Bengals in Buffalo.

In high school action, the final week of the District 14-6A season is on tap as Aldine will take on Westfield, Eisenhower faces off against Spring, Davis and MacArthur tangle and Nimitz faces Dekaney in an important league game for both teams.

Before we take a look at this weekend's schedule, let's review last week's record. Another 10-2 week upped the season record to 54-32 (63%).

Now, onto this weekend's games.

### HIGH SCHOOL

**Aldine vs. Westfield:** Cirilio Ojedga's Mustangs face off against district leader Westfield on Thursday night at George Stadium. Two weeks ago, Aldine fell to Nimitz, while Westfield defeated MacArthur. Westfield is led by running back Taj Atkins (842 yards, 14 TDs), while Aldine is led by running back Charles Taylor (305 yards). My pick, Westfield 36,



Aldine 18

**Eisenhower at Spring:** Odell James' Eagles take on Spring on Thursday night at Planet Ford Stadium. Two weeks ago, the Eagles lost a tough one to Davis, 32-31, while Spring defeated Dekaney 21-7. Spring is led by running backs Ahran Ogbar (651 rushing yards, 10 TDs/482 passing yards, 5 TDs) and Delonte Henderson (571 yards, 7 TDs). The Eagles are led by QB Jared Guter (656 yards, 5 TDs), and wide receiver Ulysses Thibodeaux (13 receptions, 180 yards). My pick, Spring 26, Eisenhower 24

**Davis vs. MacArthur:** Kelvin Chatman's Falcons take on Wayne Crawford's Generals on Friday night at George Stadium in Spring ISD. Two weeks ago, Davis defeated Eisenhower, 32-31, while MacArthur fell to Westfield. Davis is led by QB Kamryn Jackson (1,303 yards, 13 TDs/218 rushing yards, while MacArthur is led by Derrick McNeil (81 yards, 1 TD). My pick, Davis 24, MacArthur 13

**Nimitz at Dekaney:** Cornelius Harmon's Cougars take on Dekaney on Friday night at Planet Ford Stadium in an important game for both teams. Nimitz should have a playoff spot wrapped up entering this game, but could improve its seeding. Nimitz is led by QB Albert Brown (1,495 yards, 15 TDs), running back Bashard Miles (334 yards) and wide receivers Ke'lyn Wasom (41 receptions, 573 yards, 10 TDs) and Malachi Augustus (29 receptions, 521 yards, 7 TDs). Dekaney is led by running back Dylan Jones (823 yards, 12 TDs) and QB Quenten Foster

(656 yards, 5 TDs). My pick, Nimitz 31, Spring 29

### NCAA

**Texas A&M at Mississippi:** The Aggies travel to Oxford, MS to take on the explosive Rebels. A&M has had trouble winning in Oxford and it won't be any easier this time around when the Aggies take on an explosive Ole Miss offense. The Rebs has a solid dual-threat QB in Jaxon Dart (1,840 passing yards, 13 TDs/346 rushing yards, 6 TDs) and one of the best running backs in the nation in Quinshon Judkins (567 yards, 7 TDs). They have two big-play wide receivers in Jordan Watkins (36 receptions, 536 yards, 2 TDs) and Tre Harris (21 receptions, 469 yards, 6 TDs). The A&M defense had better come ready to play. It would help if Johnson (898 yards, 8 TDs) and the rest of the offense come through on Saturday. The Ags will need a big day from running backs Le'Veon Moss (387 yards, 3 TDs) and Amari Daniels (287 yards, 2 TDs) and wide receivers Ainiias Smith (27 receptions, 451 yards) and Evan Stewart (31 receptions, 451 yards, 4 TDs). I'm going out on a limb here and saying Fisher's team earns its biggest win of the season on Saturday. My pick, Texas A&M 31, Mississippi 27

**Notre Dame at Clemson:** This is a dangerous one for the Irish. They are playing in a hostile environment against a team that is going to be trying to save its season come Saturday. The Irish have a balanced offense led by QB Sam Hartman (1,838 yards, 18 TDs), running

back Audric Estime (787 yards, 9 TDs), wide receiver Chris Tyree (16 receptions, 355 yards, 3 TDs) and tight end Mitchell Evans (24 receptions, 356 yards, 1 TD). Clemson is led by QB Cade Klubnik (1,684 yards, 13 TDs), running back Will Shipley (494 yards, 3 TDs) and wide receiver Tyler Brown (28 receptions, 389 yards, 2 TDs). Look for the ND defense to be the difference maker in this one as it forces a key turnover or two from Klubnik. My pick, Notre Dame 30, Clemson 23

**LSU at Alabama:** A good one in the SEC West pits the Tigers against the Crimson Tide. LSU already has one conference loss and can't afford another, but they are taking on a 'Bama team that seems to be hitting its stride. Two weeks ago, the Crimson Tide trailed Tennessee 20-7 at the half and outscored them 27-0 in the second half on the way to a 34-20 victory. QB Jalin Milroe (1,617 yards, 12 TDs) is taking what defenses will give him and he needs to do a good job of managing the offense when he faces a very fast and quick Tiger defense. Running back Jase McClellan (569 yards, 4 TDs) and wide receiver Jermaine Burton (23 receptions, 508 yards, 5 TDs) both need big games on Saturday. LSU will lean on dual-threat QB Jayden Daniels (2,574 passing yards, 25 TDs/521 rushing yards, 5 TDs), running back Logan Diggs (611 yards, 6 TDs) and big-play wideouts Malik Nabors (56 receptions, 981 yards, 9 TDs) and Brian Thomas (42 receptions, 732 yards, 11 TDs). This will be a tough test for the Alabama defense, but with two weeks to get ready for this one, I'm sure Saban will have something special for the Tigers come Saturday. My pick, Alabama 32, LSU 26

### NFL

**Tennessee at Pittsburgh:** Week 9 begins with Thursday Night Football as the Titans visit the Steelers. The Steelers won four of their first six games thanks to a conservative offense and a tough defense. The Titans

have had a rough start to the season. QB Ryan Tanehill (1,128 yards, 2 TDs) needs to step up his game. The Titans will once again rely on Derrick Henry (425 yards, 3 TDs). He should find it tough going against a Pittsburgh defense that has 19 sacks, led by T.J. Watt with eight. The offense isn't explosive, but QB Kenny Pickett (1,257 yards, 5 TDs) takes what defenses are willing to give him. Look for running back Najee Harris (300 yards, 1 TD) and wideout George Pickens (27 receptions, 500 yards, 2 TDs) to get it going against the Titans. My pick, Pittsburgh 26, Tennessee 14

**Miami vs. Kansas City:** The good people of Frankfurt, German will get a treat when they get to host the Dolphins and the Chiefs on Sunday in what should be an offensive shootout. Two weeks ago, Tua Tagovailoa (2,092 yards, 15 TDs) and the Dolphins lost at Philly, 31-17, while the Chiefs won their sixth straight game with a 31-17 home win over the Chargers. Miami will need big games from running back Raheem Mostert (474 yards, 11 total TDs) and wide receiver Tyreek Hill (53 receptions, 902 yards, 7 TDs). Hill will be facing his former team this weekend, which should be plenty of motivation for the speedy wide receiver. Look for Patrick Mahomes (2,017 yards, 15 TDs), running back Isiah Pacheco (419 yards, 3 TDs) and tight end Travis Kelce (48 receptions, 525 yards, 4 TDs) to have big days against a suspect Miami defense. My pick, Kansas City 34, Miami 30

**Tampa Bay at Houston:** The Texans return home for the first time since Oct. 15 when they host the Bucs. Look for C.J. Stroud (1,660 yards, 9 TDs) and wide receivers Nico Collins (29 receptions, 547 yards, 3 TDs) and Tank Dell (19 receptions, 324 yards, 2 TDs) to make plays early to set up running back Dameon Pierce to wear down the Bucs defense in the second half. Look for the Houston defense to get after turnover-prone Baker Mayfield as the Texans continue their winning ways and should be considered legitimate playoff contenders.

My pick, Houston 23, Tampa Bay 16

**Dallas at Philadelphia:** The Cowboys visit the City of Brotherly Love to take on an Eagles team that will be looking to make some separation between themselves and Dallas in the NFC East race. Dallas must get a solid game from QB Dak Prescott (1,333 yards, 6 TDs) or it could be a long day for the Pokes. The offensive line will have its hands full against a Philly defense that recorded 24 sacks in their first six games. Dallas needs to get the running game going with Tony Pollard (370 yards, 2 TDs) and some big plays downfield from wideout CeeDee Lamb (34 receptions, 475 yards, 1 TD). The Dallas defense, which had 16 sacks in its first six games, will have its hands full with dual-threat QB Jalen Hurts (1,821 passing yards, 9 TDs/274 rushing yards, 6 TDs), running back D'Andre Swift (514 yards, 2 TDs) and wide receivers A.J. Brown (52 receptions, 809 yards, 3 TDs) and Devonta Smith (32 receptions, 383 yards, 2 TDs). Dallas will once again struggle at Philly. My pick, Philadelphia 26, Dallas 23

**Buffalo at Cincinnati:** A good one for the Sunday Night Football crew has the Bills visiting the Bengals looking to avenge last year's 27-10 home playoff loss. The Bills have been so-so this year, winning four of their first seven games. Two weeks ago, they lost to a then one-win New England team, 29-25. QB Josh Allen (1,841 yards, 15 TDs/148 rushing yards, 1 TD) needs to make more plays to Stefan Diggs (55 receptions, 678 yards, 6 TDs) and should be able to do so against an average Cincinnati defense. After losing two of their first three games, the Bengals won two straight heading into their bye week. QB Joe Burrow (1,230 yards, 7 TDs) appears to be finding his groove. He'll need running back Joe Mixon (366 yards, 1 TD) and wide receivers Ja'Marr Chase (50 receptions, 556 yards, 3 TDs) and Tyler Boyd (30 receptions, 203 yards, 1 TD) to have big days against a beat up Buffalo defense. My pick, Cincinnati 26, Buffalo 21

## Rep. Walle causes stir at Legislature over HB4,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

We spoke with Walle Wednesday night. Here's what he had to say.

"I have no regrets," he said. "I was explaining to my colleagues on the floor the net effect of passing a motion to cut off debate excludes the voices like those in my community to express their views, to file amendments, to have a floor debate on the front mic and the back mic in a civil manner. And so I was just expressing the frustration that I think that many of us have that over the last 20 years, we've had an anti-immigrant sentiment in this state. And so for me, I'm never going to apologize for standing up for what I believe is right."

Texas House Bill 4 According to the Texas Tribune, House Bill 4, sponsored by state Rep. David Spiller, R-Jacksboro, would create a new state crime for illegally entering Texas from Mexico, authorize state police to arrest violators and allow officers to return migrants to a port of entry and or-

der them to return to Mexico.

Under the bill, a first-time offender could be convicted of a misdemeanor and be punished by up to 180 days behind bars. The penalty would jump to a felony punishable by up to two years in prison if the person has repeatedly entered the country illegally.

The bill is another attempt by lawmakers to empower Texas law enforcement officers to enforce immigration laws, despite rulings by federal courts that the federal government has sole jurisdiction over immigration matters.

Spiller said his bill doesn't preempt federal law and only enforces laws already in place.

"There is nothing unfair about ordering someone back from where they came if they arrived here illegally," Spiller said.

State Rep. Victoria Neave Criado, D-Dallas, said she's concerned that the bill could lead to officers mistakenly arresting U.S. citizens who live on the border if they don't

have proof of citizenship handy.

Spiller said that scenario would seem unlikely because a U.S. citizen hasn't yet been wrongfully removed from the country.

However, the U.S. Government Accountability Office, the research arm of the U.S. Congress, has found that immigration agents have "arrested 674, detained 121, and removed 70 potential U.S. citizens" between 2015 and 2020, according to a July 2021 report.

Neave Criado also said HB 4 could be thwarted by Mexico if officials there refuse to accept non-Mexican migrants returned by Texas law enforcement.

Spiller said that if that becomes an issue, Abbott will "be able to work that out" with the governors of the four Mexican states that border Texas.

But like in the U.S., Mexico's immigration policies are set by its federal government, not governors.

Reporting courtesy Texas Tribune and KHOU.

## Record Breaking turnout in Early Voting,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ballots. Only voters who live within the City of Houston's legal boundaries are eligible to vote in the Houston Mayoral, Controller, and City Council races.

"More than 700 election workers are stationed at the 68 Voting Centers across Harris County during the early voting period, and more than 6,000 will be working at the 701 Voting Centers on Election Day, November 7," added Clerk Hudspeth. "It takes a lot of people to run an election, and I am grateful for each and every one of them."

Voters are encouraged to take advantage of Early Voting, which continues through Friday, November 3. To review and or print a

sample ballot, click here. Enter the name, address, or Voter Unique Identifier (VUID) on your voter registration certificate to view all the contests and candidates. Sample ballots are unique to an individual's address.

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 Identification 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.

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

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- ✓ Political Science Degree (UofH) / Master's Degree in Public Administration (UST)

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

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

# CHURCH PAGE

## BIBLE TRIVIA

By Wilson Casey


1. Is the book of Abaddon (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From Matthew 12, when an evil spirit returns to a person, how many companions does it bring? 2, 3, 7, 16
3. In which book's 22:18 does it state, "Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live"? Exodus, Numbers, Isaiah, Hebrews

4. The mark of the beast number (666) is found in which chapter of Revelation? 1, 7, 11, 13
5. From 1 Samuel 16, which king of Israel was tormented by an evil spirit? Solomon, David, Elah, Saul
6. Who called the city of Nineveh the mistress of witchcraft? Ahab, Nahum, Lucifer, Peter

ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) 7, 3) Exodus, 4) 13:18, 5) Saul, 6) Nahum  
 Hardcore trivia fan? Visit Wilson Casey's subscriber site at [www.patreon.com/triviaguy](http://www.patreon.com/triviaguy).  
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**THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE**

"Untitled (Shepherd)" by Marc Chagall (1958)



The Lord is their strength,  
and He is the saving refuge of  
His anointed. Save Your people,  
and bless Your inheritance;  
shepherd them also,  
and bear them up forever.

Psalm 28:8,9

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# Aldine ISD Bond Election,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

average age of those six schools alone is 67.5 years.

In addition to the complete rebuilds, two high schools, MacArthur (57 years old) and Eisenhower (51 years old) would receive major structural work and redesign updates to fit the classroom of today.

Other expenditures under Prop A include campus facility improvements and high-priority maintenance projects that include digital marquees, life-cycle replacements of roofs, plumbing, and HVAC, science lab improvements, and athletic improvements.

Safety and security projects would include a dedicated district police department, updated security technology systems, safety film, site fencing, and lighting and emergency generators including a districtwide Emergency Notification system.

Technology infrastructure projects would include wireless network system updates (enhanced WiFi).

Transportation projects would include an East Transportation facility rebuild, purchases of new buses and special education buses, and a white fleet which includes trucks, vans, golf carts, and heavy machinery.

**PROPOSITION B:** (\$67,547,500) Proposition B focuses on instructional technology projects that



would include student and staff device refreshes (iPads, laptops, and Chromebooks) and classroom technology (interactive display panels). The purchases would bring the district up to date with technology.

**PROPOSITION C:** (\$122,282,967) Proposition C will call for the construction of an Education and Performing Arts Center. The new Education and Performing Arts Center would include a multi-purpose facility, multiple theaters, art gallery space, various learning spaces, professional performance audio and lighting, and rehearsal rooms. The facility would more than double the size of many current school auditoriums expanding student opportunities and inviting collaborative performances between fine arts disciplines, campuses, and grade levels. The district would also have the potential of hosting outside groups and UIL contests.

The district said every

campus in Aldine would be affected by the bond in some way.

If Bond 2023's propositions pass, Aldine ISD taxpayers will not see a tax rate increase for the next three years. The first increase would be in 2026; Aldine's CFO Stan Osborne says this would amount to \$40/year additional on a house valued at \$200,000. With the state's compression of \$100,000 homestead and the bond passing, many taxpayers would see a decrease in their overall district tax rate.

Senior citizens ages 65 and older will have \$0 tax impact over their frozen dollar amount of taxes unless they have improvements to their home. Then the new tax rate would be frozen based on the new assessment.

Early voting began on Monday, Oct. 23 and continues through Nov. 3 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 7 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.



Students performing at TASA/TASB 2023 Convention in EDCON

### Proposed Constitutional Amendments

NOVEMBER 2023 UNIFORM ELECTION

- RIGHT TO FARM**  
Establishing the right to engage in farming, ranching, timber production, horticulture, and wildlife management.
- CHILDCARE FACILITIES**  
Allowing local governments to exempt childcare facilities from property taxes.
- PERSONAL WEALTH TAX**  
Prohibiting the imposition of an individual wealth or net worth tax on individuals or families.
- HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION**  
Increasing the homestead tax exemption by a school district to \$100,000 and increasing state funding for public education.
- TEXAS UNIVERSITY FUND**  
Renaming the National Research University Fund as the Texas University Fund and allowing certain state universities eligibility to receive money from the fund.
- TEXAS WATER FUND**  
Creating the Texas Water Fund to assist in financing water projects in this state.
- TEXAS ENERGY FUND**  
Creating the Texas Energy Fund to support the construction, maintenance, modernization, and operation of electric generating facilities.
- BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE FUND**  
Creating the Texas Broadband Infrastructure Fund to expand high-speed broadband access and assist in the financing of connectivity projects.
- RETIRED EDUCATORS**  
Providing a cost-of-living adjustment to eligible annuitants of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas.
- MEDICAL PRODUCTS**  
Allowing the legislature to exempt from property taxes equipment or inventory held by manufacturers of medical or biomedical products.
- EL PASO PARK BONDS**  
Authorizing the Legislature to permit El Paso to develop and finance parks and other purely recreational facilities with taxes.
- GALVESTON COUNTY TREASURER**  
Abolishing the office of the county treasurer in Galveston County.
- JUDGE RETIREMENT AGE**  
Increasing the mandatory retirement age for state judges and justices from 75 to 79 and the minimum retirement age to 75 years, up from 70.
- CENTENNIAL PARKS CONSERVATION FUND**  
Providing for the creation of the Centennial Parks Conservation Fund to be used for the creation and improvement of state parks.

**Ana Hernandez**  
State Representative • District 143

## ENTERTAINMENT

### Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps

### TIGER



by Bud Blake

### The Spats



by Jeff Pickering

### Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 |   |   | 6 |   |   |   |   | 5 |
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Place a number in the empty cells 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 ♦♦♦ HOOD BOY!

### HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTIKOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

October 30, 2023 Posting Date

### King Crossword

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |    |
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| 51 |    |    |    | 52 |    |    |    | 53 |    |    |    |
| 54 |    |    |    | 55 |    |    |    | 56 |    |    |    |

- ACROSS**
- Netting
  - Composer Porter
  - "I'm not impressed"
  - Dog food brand
  - Send forth
  - Chopper
  - "Arrivederci!"
  - Marathon fraction
  - Blemish
  - Difficult
  - JFK info
  - Gentle soul
  - Victory
  - Greek X
  - Quick run
  - Cry of distress
  - Exact moment
  - Broadcast again
  - Rouse
  - Caviar provider
  - "Xanadu" band
  - "— Blue?"
  - Family fight
  - Zodiac animal
  - Frost
  - Hostel
  - Future tulip
  - Tex. neighbor
  - Scribble (down)
  - Regarding Paris airport
  - Equip-
  - "Scram!"
  - Calendar squares
  - "Xanadu" band
  - "— Blue?"
  - Family fight
  - Zodiac animal
  - Frost
  - Hostel
  - Future tulip
  - Tex. neighbor
  - Scribble (down)
  - Jet speed measure
  - Director Kazan
  - Practice pugilism
  - Bamboozled
  - Solidify
  - Skip
  - Fragrant flowers
  - Summer on the Seine
  - Crib cry
  - Physical
  - Basil or thyme
  - Bread and butter, so to speak
  - Chip giant
  - Seraglio
  - Resort
  - "Wham!"
  - Estuary
  - de cologne
  - "Top Gun" degrees
  - target
  - Historic time
  - "Take your time"
  - Panda's diet
  - South Pacific nation
  - Eve's grandson
  - "Do — others ..."
  - Sax range
  - Gumbo veggie
  - Friend
  - Beams
  - Some coll. degrees

- DOWN**
- Jet speed measure
  - Director Kazan
  - Practice pugilism
  - Bamboozled
  - Solidify
  - Skip
  - Fragrant flowers
  - Summer on the Seine
  - Crib cry
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  - "Do — others ..."
  - Sax range
  - Gumbo veggie
  - Friend
  - Beams
  - Some coll. degrees

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### FOOTBALL SCORES & SCHEDULES

**LAST WEEK'S SCORES**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26**  
Aldine Eisenhower 55, Aldine 7  
Aldine MacArthur 42, Spring Dekaney 7  
Channelview 58, Pasadena 10  
Fort Bend Marshall 48, Galena Park 6  
New Caney Porter 31, Baytown Lee 17

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27**  
Aldine Nimitz 44, Spring 24  
Barbers Hill 52, Port Arthur Memorial 23  
Baytown Sterling 43, Goose Creek Memorial 13  
Fort Bend Willowridge 56, Dayton 22  
North Shore 61, Atascocita 35  
Porter 31, Baytown Lee 24  
Spring Westfield 78, Aldine Davis 21  
Vidor 49, Huffman Hargrave 28

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28**  
La Porte 43, Crosby 27  
Summer Creek 33, C. E. King 12

**THIS WEEK'S GAMES**

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2**  
Aldine at Westfield, 7 p.m., Leonard George Stadium in Spring  
Dayton at Fort Bend Marshall, 7 p.m., Kenneth Hall Stadium in Missouri City  
Eisenhower at Spring, 7 p.m., Planet Ford Stadium in Spring  
North Shore at Kingwood, 7 p.m., Turner Stadium in Humble

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3**  
Barbers Hill at Porter, 7 p.m., Randall Reed Stadium in New Caney  
Baytown Lee at Baytown Sterling, 7 p.m., Stallworth Stadium in Baytown  
Galena Park at Port Neches-Groves, 7 p.m., Indian Stadium in Port Neches  
Goose Creek Memorial at Crosby, 7 p.m., Cougar Stadium in Crosby  
Little Cypress-Mauriceville at Huffman Hargrave, 7:30 p.m., Falcon Stadium in Huffman  
MacArthur at Davis, 7 p.m., Leonard George Stadium in Spring  
Nimitz at Dekaney, 7 p.m., Planet Ford Stadium in Spring  
West Brook at C. E. King, 7 p.m., Panther Stadium in Houston

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4**  
Channelview at Pasadena Memorial, 2 p.m., Memorial Stadium in Pasadena

### Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

- SCIENCE: What was Joseph Lister's main contribution to science?
- HISTORY: Which pro football team won the very first Super Bowl?
- MUSIC: What is the title of the Rolling Stones' 2023 album?
- MOVIES: Who played the monster in Mel Brooks' "Young Frankenstein"?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: How much of the popular vote did Abraham Lincoln receive when he was elected president in 1860?
- GEOGRAPHY: In which country is the ancient city of Petra located?
- AD SLOGANS: What product was advertised by a man who kept saying, "I can't believe I ate the whole thing"?
- FOOD & DRINK: What is often called the national dish of Canada?
- LANGUAGE: What does an oologist study?
- TELEVISION: What does SVU stand for in "Law & Order: SVU"?

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1. Antisepsis surgery; 2. Green Bay Packers; 3. "Hackney Diamonds"; 4. Peter Boyle; 5. Less than 40%; 6. Jordan; 7. Alka-Seltzer; 8. Poutine; 9. Eggs; 10. Special Victims Unit.

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.



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Aldine HS

Aldine MS



Carver HS

Orange Grove ES



Hambrick MS

Odom ES



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

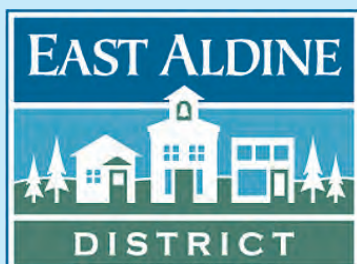


[AldineISD.org/Bond2023](http://AldineISD.org/Bond2023)



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

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



**East Aldine District**  
**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**Westfield Fire Chief**  
**Emphasizes Perseverance**

Chief Adrian Dillehay



When new Westfield Fire Chief Adrian Dillehay visits Aldine ISD schools to recruit students for the Fire Explorer youth program, he usually doesn't find young people looking for cheap thrills or excitement. "What I see is young people who have a need to help people and become law-abiding citizens," Dillehay said. "Naturally, they all want to succeed. And when I talk to them about my family and how I grew up

here, I see a part of myself in them.

"But I also see them thinking 'he's not only a firefighter, but he became the fire chief.'"

Dillehay, 36, is a graduate of Aldine Nimitz High School, where he was a star centerfielder with a .440 batting average who went on to play baseball at New Mexico State College. When his baseball dreams ended after just a year there, Dillehay returned home feeling dejected and lost.

An old friend from his East Aldine neighborhood – a firefighter nicknamed "Radio" – told him to snap out of it, get some work boots and show up at the old Westfield Volunteer Fire Department Building one morning at 7 a.m.

Dillehay did as he was told and found himself helping to remodel an old bathroom in the firehouse, in between riding along as the firefighters answered a series of calls ranging from grass fires to medical emergency calls.

Seventeen years later, he's still there, after earning his firefighters certificate, an EMT certification from San Jacinto College, working for the Houston Fire Department and as a volunteer.

Dillehay, married and the father of a young son, was named fire chief in January. He replaced veteran Chief William Goodroe.

The Westfield Fire Department, an unusual combination of volunteer and paid firefighters, is funded by a 10-cent property tax and serves 45,000 residents of northeast Harris County. It's overseen by a five-member board of directors.

The East Aldine Management District board of directors recently approved a \$12,000 grant to fund equipment for the Explorer Fire Fighter Post that Dillehay leads. He started the community outreach program in 2015.

"I think I can relate to the struggles so many of these kids face, because when I came home from college from playing ball, I felt like a failure. I felt like I had let down a lot of people," Dillehay said. "The game of baseball is what had carried me up to that point in life. But that fear of failure is what drove me to overcome all the challenges I later faced."

Some of the previous Explorers he recruited have come back to work for the department. "Right now, my communications captain is a guy I recruited 10 years ago from MacArthur High School," Dillehay said.

The structure of the department has contributed to its success, Dillehay said.

"They talk about brotherhood in the fire service all the time, and in my opinion, that's sometimes just a lot of smoke," Dillehay said, with a laugh. "But here, the people I work with are not my employees, they are truly my brothers and sisters."

Another key difference in the Westfield Department is the simple fact that it is located in, and made up of a lot of people from, East Aldine, Dillehay said.

"What is it about East Aldine?" "I don't know – sometimes I think it's the water," Dillehay said. "Not really. I think it comes from being a working-class community. "When you come from a lower-income area when you're going through what I call 'the struggle,' it brings you closer together. Everybody knows what you're going through, and so you can relate to one another."

Dillehay recalled the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey in 2017. "We went through an almost Biblical flood, and the water receded when the storm was over. And then what you heard out here was power saws and Tejano music, because they all came together to help each other," Dillehay said.

"And that's what makes this place special in so many ways." In addition to supporting the Explorers program, the Management District recently supplied the Fire Department with \$99,000 for new equipment.

<https://westfield-fire.com/>  
— By Anne Marie Kilday