

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- HCC Summer Registration 2
- HCC Foundation Gala 2
- Aldine Library 2
- AISD Superintendent 3
- AISD Graduation Schedule 3
- OP-ED Metro BRT 4
- REACH Kickball 1,7
- Spanish Page 7
- LSC Your Future is Calling 8
- LSC Skilled Trades 8

NORTHEAST NEWS

Kickball Tournament



East Aldine District REACH committee held their First Annual Kickball Tournament in James Driver All-Inclusive Park.

Serving the Neighborhoods of Aldine, Greenspoint, US59 Eastex, Beltway 8 and North Forest for over 48 Years
VOL. 48, NO. 17 TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2024 HOUSTON, TEXAS www.nenewsroom.com

NEWS NOTES

Recycling Center celebrates 1 year Anniversary on Saturday, May 18

The East Aldine District Recycling Center will celebrate its First Year of Service to the community on Saturday, May 18 from 11 am to 2pm. You are invited to come by for a Free Gift. 2789 Hopper Road, call 713-454-7185 for details or a Recycling appointment.

Free Shred-It Event Saturday, May 18

The East Aldine District, Sheriff's Office, and AARP are sponsoring a Free Shred-It Event on Saturday, May 18 from 9am to 12noon at the East Aldine offices, 2909 E. Aldine Amphitheatre Drive off Aldine Mail Route.

You must RSVP in advance: 1-877-926-8300 or <https://events.aarp.org/TX-518-HShred>.

Every two seconds someone's identity is stolen. Shredding confidential documents you don't need is a good way to protect yourself, and the AARP Fraud Watch Network wants to help. Join AARP in Houston and the Harris County Sheriffs Office at our FREE community paper-shredding event. Bring confidential documents to dispose of safely and get information on how to protect your identity. This event is open to the public regardless of AARP membership. You MUST RSVP in advance.

District wins rare economic excellence award

EAST ALDINE DISTRICT RECOGNIZED FOR 3RD YEAR IN A ROW



AUSTIN – The Texas Legislature has created more than 100 management districts to promote economic development in their service areas. At least half are in the Houston area.

But only two such districts have received Economic Excellence Recognition this year — for the third year in a row, in fact — from the Texas Economic Development Council (TEDC).

One of the two is the East Aldine Management District.

“The special recognition program provides

recognition to economic development organizations that meet a desired threshold of professionalism,” according to the TEDC. “Recipients qualify for recognition based on training taken by their governing board/council as well as the economic development director and professional staff. Certifications,

professional memberships and activities, and organizational effectiveness of the economic development staff also contribute to the standards for qualification.”

The Texas Economic Development Council, established in 1961, is a statewide, non-profit professional

association dedicated to the development of economic and employment opportunities in Texas.

The other management district that received the recognition for the last three years is the Spring Branch Management District in Houston.

“East Aldine busi-

nesses, residents and other boosters, along with our management district board members and staff, should be proud of this recognition and consider it a stepping stone toward the continued growth and vitality of the area,” East Aldine Management District Executive Director Richard Cantu said.

Ninety-five other economic agencies across the state received similar recognition this year; however, they do not operate or receive revenue the same way as management districts

East Aldine REACH holds Kickball tournament

Goal: Having fun while “Revitalizing East Aldine Community Health”

The East Aldine District's REACH committee held its first annual Kickball Tournament last Saturday morning April 29, with about 30 participants from the Aldine community.

REACH stands for “Revitalizing East Aldine Community Health” through exercise, diet, and healthy living. The committee plans a series of events that will give the community an opportunity to improve their quality of life and health.

The Kickball Tournament was held at James Driver All-Inclusive Park on Bentley, and was co-sponsored by Precinct 2.



Pct. 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia, at left, joined in the fun with the kickers. (All photos by ev1 Pro).



Prizes were awarded to the winning teams.



EACC pres. Ruben Salazar at the Precinct 2 tent.

Another event sponsored by the committee was the Community Run in Keith-Wiess Park, on April 22nd and 29th. This 2 mile walk and jog will be repeated in the future.

About the Kickball Tournament, organizer Carmen Aguilar said “We had a great turn out! We had about 30 people showing up to play and embrace an active lifestyle. Together, we're revitalizing East Aldine community's health and spreading positive energy. Let's keep going and inspire others to join R.E.A.C.H.”

Continued. See More KICKBALL TOURNAMENT Photos, Page 7

Griner tells story of Russian Arrest in Book and Interview

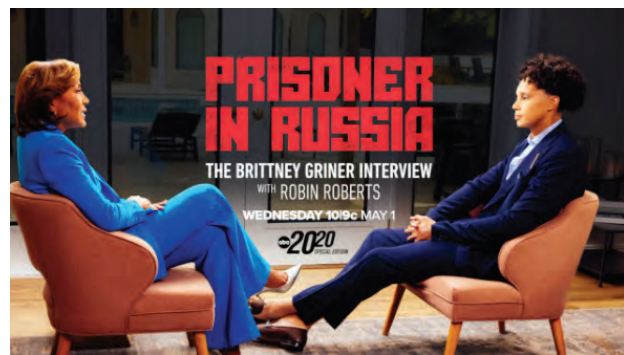
Aldine native Brittney Griner played for four years under Nimitz head coach Debbie Jackson, before she went on to be a star player at Baylor, and then Phoenix.

Last year she was arrested in Russia on drug charges, and spent 10 months in jail before her release in a trade.

For the first time since returning home, two-time Olympic gold medalist and a nine-time WNBA All-Star who plays for the Phoenix Mercury Brittney Griner is speaking out about her harrowing nearly 10-month detention in a Russian prison.

ABC News' Robin Rob-

Continued. See GRINER INTERVIEW, Page 5



Griner interviewed by Robin Roberts on ABC Television.



Griner's new look, with short hair she cut in prison.

PreK3 Classes Expanding to All 12 AISD Primary Schools This Fall

In 2021, Aldine ISD began to pilot the prekindergarten for 3-year-olds (PreK3) program at three primary schools: Griggs, Keeble, and Stovall. That will change starting this fall. Due to feedback, families zoned to AISD's other nine primary schools across the district demonstrated interest and need to have the opportunity to have their eligible students enroll in a PreK3 program at the early childhood/prekindergarten/ kindergarten (EC/PreK/K; also called primary campuses) schools their child would attend as a 4-year-old prekindergarten (PreK4) student. Starting in the fall of 2024, all 12 primary schools will offer the PreK3 program.



“We heard our families,” said Ray Mondragon, school assistant superintendent of primary schools. “So we have expanded the PreK3 program so that all

12 primary schools across the district offer it. Now, all families have the choice and opportunity for their

Continued. See PRE-K IN ALL SCHOOLS, Page 5

NORTHEAST NEWS – Send News Tips and Ad Inquiries to 713-266-3444 or nenewsroom@aol.com

EAST ALDINE DISTRICT

We're Here For You!

Executive Director: **Richard Cantu**
713.595.1220 RCantu@AldineDistrict.org

Operations Manager: **Veronica Sanches**
713.595.1226 VSanches@AldineDistrict.org

[AldineDistrict.org](https://www.AldineDistrict.org)

Texas Boat & Water Vessel Title Services

Need help with a boat, trailer or other water vessel title, appraisal or bond?

Call Now! to learn more

HOUSTON AUTO APPRAISERS

www.texasboattitle.com
281-424-6466

Roy Theophilus Bent, Jr.

WAVES 1

PAINTINGS BY MEI - 713.906.4585
NOW SHOWING AT THE SILOS AT SAWYER YARDS - STUDIO 227

TURN YOUR SKILLS INTO A CAREER



NEW TRAINING AT HCC ACRES HOMES

Phlebotomy
Criminal Justice/Police Academy
911 Emergency Dispatcher
Legal Office Assistant



REGISTER NOW

SUMMER CLASSES BEGIN

JUNE 3 & JULY 8

Scan for steps on how to get started!



Programs available at HCC Northeast campuses.

<p>Academic & University Transfer courses High School Equivalency/GED English as a Second Language (ESL) Community Learning classes (Free) Audio Recording Technology Automotive & Diesel Repair Auto Body/Collision Repair General, Medical, Legal Office & Real Estate Cosmetology Certified Nurse Aide & Phlebotomy</p>	<p>Basic Water & Wastewater Tech OSHA, Hazwoper, & NCCER Digital Communications Process Operator/Instrumentation Tech Petroleum Technician & Electronics Tech Police, Fire, EMS & 911 Dispatcher Welding & Bilingual Welding Air Conditioning Technician I & II Bilingual AC Technician I & II Plumbing Technician I & II</p>
--	---

CLASSES OFFERED
DAY, EVENINGS & WEEKENDS

Acres Homes Campus | 630 W. Little York Road | Houston, TX 77091

Northline Campus | 8001 Fulton Street | Houston, TX 77022

North Forest Campus | 6010 E. Little York Road | Houston, TX 77016

Northeast Campus | 555 Community College Drive | Houston, TX 77013

Automotive Tech. Training Center | 4638 Airline Drive | Houston, TX 77022

713.718.8300

hccs.edu/summer24

HCC does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, gender identity and gender expression, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation, or Veteran status. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: David Cross, Director, EEO, 504, & Title IX Coordinator, 713.718.8271 or Institutional.Equity@hccs.edu

HCC Foundation gala honors trailblazing education leader Dr. Ruth J. Simmons



2024 Crystal Eagle Honoree Dr. Ruth J. Simmons (center) with (L-R) 2024 HCC Foundation Gala co-Chair Al Payton, HCC Chancellor Dr. Margaret Ford Fisher, HCCF Gala co-Chair Dr. Kim Shelton-Brown and HCCF Gala Auction Chair Vanessa Carter.

HOUSTON (May 2, 2024)—The Houston Community College (HCC) Foundation's annual gala on April 20, 2024 honored Dr. Ruth J. Simmons for her outstanding contributions to higher education and her commitment to students.

The gala's theme, "Where Dreams Take Flight," brought together community leaders, philanthropists, educators and distinguished guests to celebrate the transformative power of education. The event served as a platform to raise vital funds that will target the areas of greatest need for HCC students as they navigate the difficult financial decisions related to work, family and education.

Dr. Simmons was the recipient of this year's prestigious Crystal Eagle Honoree Award. Simmons served as president of Prairie View A&M University, Smith College and president of Brown University, where she was the first African-American president of an Ivy League institution. While there, Simmons was named "Best College President" by Time magazine. Dr. Simmons recently published *Up Home: One Girl's Journey* about her life and career. She has served as a beacon of hope and inspiration for students from all backgrounds, empowering them to pursue their dreams and achieve academic excellence.

After an onstage discussion between Chancellor Margaret Ford Fisher, Ed.D., and Dr. Simmons, the HCC Foundation Board surprised the honoree with a \$25,000 endowed scholarship in her name: the Dr. Ruth J. Simmons Endowed Scholarship Fund.

The event raised more than \$650,000 which will directly benefit areas of greatest need and of student success.

"We are immensely grateful to everyone who contributed to the success of this remarkable event," said Karen L. Schmidt, president of Houston Community College Foundation. "The funds raised will have a transformative impact on the lives of our students, allowing them to pursue higher education and achieve their goals. We are also honored to have celebrated and recognized the remarkable contributions of Dr. Ruth J. Simmons, whose legacy will continue to inspire generations to come."

The event was held at the Hilton Americas-Houston.

For more information about Houston Community College Foundation and its initiatives, please visit www.hccsfoundation.org.

About HCC Foundation

The HCC Foundation is a philanthropic force supporting high quality educational experiences for HCC students of all backgrounds to help them improve the trajectory of their lives. The HCC Foundation empowers HCC student success through philanthropic support, aligned with key HCC institutional initiatives. Established in 1976, the HCC Foundation is exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Internal Revenue Service has classified the Foundation as a Section 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi) publicly supported charity. To learn more, visit www.hccsfoundation.org.

AIRLINE LIBRARY NEWS

Movement Monday
Come out and move! Join us on Monday and get ready to learn a few K-Pop Moves. We'll be dancing, reading, singing and moving! Best for kids for toddler/preschool. No Registration required. **Monday, May 6, 11-11:45am.**

Bilingual Storytime
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! **Tuesday, May 7, 11-12pm.**

English Computer Class
Learn computer basics by practicing on our PC's with Instructor Nyla! We will learn about using web browsers, google apps, Microsoft suite, keeping your information safe online, and MUCH more! Join us for a weekly class on **Tuesdays from 11:30am - 12:30pm!**

Basic Computer Class Registration preferred!
***Important- Instructions are in English. Google account is required (Though we can help you make one if you don't have one already)**
Class format: In-person, in the computer lab at the Aldine Library.

Aprenda Computers & Job Skills
Limited space/ Espacio limitado
Pre-regístrate aquí: <https://forms.office.com/r/rTQyUGd1Yy> luego presentarse a la clase para tomar evaluación de nivel.

Martes - 5:00 pm a 6:45 PM: Habilidades Esenciales de computación (Computer Essential skills 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.

Importante: * Se determinará sus nivel de habilidades en uso de tecnología con una evaluación en la computadora durante su primer día de su asistencia.
* requerirá una cuenta de gmail.com y outlook.com para acceder a las aplicaciones y programas gratuitos de la internet.

Importante: Instrucciones son en Español y las aplicaciones (Windows, Office 365, Google apps) son todas en Inglés

Container Gardening with Texas A&M Agrilife
Join us for this series of programs to learn about growing food on your own, even if you live in an apartment! Get all the lessons and supplies for container gardening thanks to Texas A&M Agrilife. Texas A&M Agrilife is uniquely positioned to improve lives, environments and the Texas economy through education, research, extension and service. **Tuesdays at 5pm, May 7 - June 25.**

Tween Spark: Art Hour
Need to color for an hour? Want to make a zine? Thinking about picking up a paintbrush to give acrylics a try? Here's your chance! Join Ms. Gage for an hour of freestyle artistic expression. Snacks will be provided. This program is best for 6th-9th graders. **Wednesday, May 8, 4:30 - 5:30pm.**

Teen Thursday
Thursday, May 9, 3:30 - 5:30pm. 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!

Mother's Day Craft
This week we are making crafts to celebrate Mother's Day. Kids of all ages are welcome to participate this week. **Thursday, May 9, 5-6pm.**

Aprenda Computers & Job Skills
Limited space/ Espacio limitado
Pre-regístrate aquí: <https://forms.office.com/r/rTQyUGd1Yy> luego presentarse a la clase para tomar evaluación de nivel.

Jueves - 5:00 pm a 6:45 PM: Habilidades Esenciales de

computación (Computer Essential skills 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.

Importante: * Se determinará sus nivel de habilidades en uso de tecnología con una evaluación en la computadora durante su primer día de su asistencia.
* requerirá una cuenta de gmail.com y outlook.com para acceder a las aplicaciones y programas gratuitos de la internet.

Importante: Instrucciones son en Español y las aplicaciones (Windows, Office 365, Google apps) son todas en Inglés

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 6-8 weeks and expedited processing time is estimated at 2-3 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 most Fridays on a first come first served basis. Those wishing to get a passport executed must have all necessary documents, check/money order, 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



HCC Chancellor Dr. Margaret Ford Fisher, left, interviews 2024 Gala Crystal Eagle Honoree Dr. Ruth J. Simmons. Dr. Simmons is a New York Times best-selling author and a President's Distinguished Fellow at Rice University.

Consumer Cellular®

NO HIDDEN FEES. NO HIDDEN ANYTHING. FREEDOM CALLS.

Plans start at just \$20/month.

AWARD-WINNING CUSTOMER SUPPORT 15 TIMES IN A ROW.
We've been ranked "#1 in Customer Service among Wireless Value MVNOS, 15 Times in a Row."

100% U.S. BASED CUSTOMER SUPPORT.
All of our support teams are just a call or click away.

855-821-6277

© 2024 Consumer Cellular Inc. Terms and Conditions subject to change. For JD, Power 2024 Wireless Customer Care Value Mobile Virtual Network Operator Study award information, visit jdpower.com/awards.

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



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, March 19, 2024

Dear Aldine Community,

What a month it has been so far! With so many events, award ceremonies, and more, what a great reminder of all the choices and opportunities we offer our students across the district. They reaffirm my 'why' each and every time.

As Superintendent, I am fortunate to be asked to speak at numerous events throughout the school year for different organizations, including partners like Region 4 ESC and the Houston Northwest Chamber of Commerce. These are great opportunities for community members, leaders, and current and potential partners to hear about public education.

I share with pride the great things happening at Aldine ISD. Things like how we continue to progress in our literacy work — reading is the foundation of all learning and fundamental to lifelong learning. Our business partners love to hear — as much as I do — about our inaugural graduating class of students from HCC to earn their workforce certificate in hospitality and tourism; Aldine ISD had the largest flight class, with 12 Davis High School students earning their private pilot licenses; the partnership with Bloomberg and Memorial Hermann Hospital System to open HEAL High School — a privately funded \$31 million for joint partnership — in fall 2024, offering five in-demand medical programs. We also have seven eligible to participate in a new summer infusion program with NASA. It's an exciting time to be an Aldine ISD student!

Another pride and joy is early education. It was great to see families join us at our PreK Expo earlier this month. A preschool and kindergarten education sets the foundation for ensuring that students who need language and early childhood learning skills start on equal footing with their peers when they reach first grade. We offer full-day programs for eligible students ages 3, 4, and 5.

Celebrating educators and students at the Suburban Houston Area Bilingual Education (SHABE) Awards and the annual Aldine Education Foundation Ceremony was a joy. My pride beamed when Blanson CTEHS student Christian Méndez-Ramos represented the voice of students at our Bond 2023 oversight committee meeting. He asked hard questions and communicated the expectations that our technology plan meets the future-ready needs of #MyAldine students. And I was overjoyed to see 80 students at our Future Teacher Signing Ceremony.

I hope these examples reaffirm why Aldine is the best place for our students, teachers, educators, employees, and staff to work. We exist to demonstrate what's possible!



With Aldine Pride!
Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney Superintendent of Schools Aldine ISD

Aldine ISD Hosts its Annual Student Summit at M.O. Campbell Educational Center



On April 22, Aldine ISD's Family and Community Engagement (FACE) Department, in collaboration with the Student Support Department, held its annual Female Empowerment Summit for ninth grade students at the M.O. Campbell Educational Center.

The goal of the Female Empowerment Summit is to prepare students to become better leaders, higher achievers, and agents of change within their schools and communities. The students experienced a morning of interactive workshop activities and panel discussions.

The event was divided into various sessions for the students to attend. To prepare them for the new challenges they will face, the sessions highlighted leadership development, goal setting, self-esteem and etiquette. Each session was led by a different female speaker, ranging from current student seniors, to executive directors within the district.


As the students attended the different sessions, they were able to partake in various exercises. Preparing the students for all the changes they will experience, once they transition to high school with

the rest of their peers, was the basis of the topics for each break out session.

The Female Empowerment Summit is an event that Aldine ISD feels provides much needed assistance to the students in attendance. Prior years have seen both male only attendees and a mix of male and female students in attendance. While who is in attendance may change, what does remain is that the students are given guidance on how to both traverse and prepare for the challenges of high school.

Class of 2024 Graduation Schedule		
DATE	TIME	SCHOOL
May 29	5 p.m.	Avalos High School
May 29	7:30 p.m.	Nimitz HS
May 30	5 p.m.	Blanson HS
May 30	7:30 p.m.	Aldine HS
May 31	9 a.m.	MacArthur HS
May 31	11:30 a.m.	Hall Success Academy
May 31	2 p.m.	Eisenhower HS
May 31	5 p.m.	Carver HS
June 1	9 a.m.	Davis HS
June 1	11:30 a.m.	Victory HS

All graduations to take place at: M.O. Campbell Educational Center
1865 Aldine Bender Rd, 77032



Unstoppable on the Diamond: Aldine High School Baseball Dominates District with 12-1 Record



The Aldine High School baseball team is on an unstoppable journey this season, dominating their district play with a 12-1 record and claiming the coveted number-one spot. But it's not just their victories on the field that are making waves; it's the unwavering leadership and character exemplified by their team captains, Jordan Toups and Julio Gonzalez, that are truly setting them apart. Coach Toups, the driving force behind the team's success, recently took a moment to acknowledge the invaluable contributions of his two team captains. "This year, they have truly been the definition of what senior leadership is all about," Coach Toups stated. "What I admire about their character this year is the selflessness they have displayed."

Indeed, Jordan and Julio have embodied the essence of leadership, demonstrating humility in victories and taking ownership of the team's losses. Their actions speak volumes, inspiring their teammates to strive for excellence both on and off the field. Coach Toups shared insight into the team's mindset coming into the season, emphasizing their determination to prove the naysayers wrong. "We set out this year to prove all the doubters wrong," he declared. "When the preseason rankings came

out from Texas High School Baseball, we felt an extreme level of disrespect not being on the list." Julio Gonzalez and Jordan Toups, standout players for the Aldine Mustangs, have both received scholarship offers to play baseball at the collegiate level. Gonzalez has offers from junior colleges, while Toups has been scouted by Division I schools. As the team reflects on a successful season, Julio Gonzalez shared his thoughts: "I am very proud of this group of guys and how hard we worked to get to where we are right now. It has been an honor leading this amazing group of guys who are willing to strive to get better every day. We did our job in district and made history, now it is time for a great play-off run."

Jordan Toups echoed similar sentiments. He expressed his pride in wearing the Aldine colors and his role in guiding the team to success. "I'm honored to be able to play and lead this team. We worked hard all year, and I'm proud of what we've accomplished during district. I'm excited to

see how far we can go in playoffs," said Toups. Their leadership and talent have been pivotal in the team's success, inspiring their teammates to achieve their best as they head into the playoffs with high hopes.

Fueled by this perceived slight, Coach Toups utilized it as motivational fuel, plastering the locker room and dugouts with reminders of their underdog status. Instead of letting it weigh them down, the team embraced the role of the villain, rallying together and forging an unbreakable bond grounded in accountability and camaraderie. As the season progresses, Aldine High School's baseball team continues to defy expectations, fueled by the leadership of Jordan Toups and Julio Gonzalez. Their commitment to excellence, coupled with their unwavering character, serves as an inspiration to all who witness their journey. With their sights set on even greater achievements, this team is poised to leave an indelible mark on the annals of high school baseball history.

14 Aldine ISD Students Complete Lone Star College's Leadership Program



The high school students were selected earlier this school year to join Leadership High School (LHS), a leadership development and diversity awareness program from Lone Star College (LSC) for sophomore and junior high school students who attend public school and live in the LSC service area.

Aldine ISD Students That Completed the LSC Leadership High School Program

- *Nadia Aguilar — MacArthur High School
- *Malynia Armelin — Nimitz High School
- *Mariah Arnsworth — Davis High School
- *Yoilan Arocha — Eisenhower High School
- *Albert Brown — Nimitz High School
- *Andre Johnson Jr. — Blanson High School
- *Jameson Kegler — Aldine High School
- *Paige Levi — Carver High School
- *Osvaldo López — Blanson High School
- *Alondra Manzano — Victory Early College High School
- *Ariana Miranda — Aldine High School
- *Anthony Negrete — Davis High School
- *Erika Newton — Carver High School
- *Keira Ordóñez — Victory Early College High School

The LHS participants took a day-long challenge course at Camp

Allen in Navasota (TX) and toured HCA Houston Healthcare in Kingwood, Project Row Houses in Third Ward, and Houston Air Route Traffic Control Center. They also had the opportunity to meet and have an open dialogue with multiple administrators from LSC, including Vice Chancellor Garth E. Howard, President Bennie Lambert, and various LSC administrators, community, and business leaders.

The Leadership High School program was first launched in 1999 in the North Houston region and now offers young leaders from high schools across the area a program of study that allows them to identify, reflect on, and develop their leadership skills and abilities while also engaging in meaningful dialogue with each other and community leaders about the needs of the community and learning how to initiate positive change to meet those needs effectively.

Each student accepted into the program is placed into one of three groups based on the geographic location of their high school:
*LHS-Montgomery County: Conroe, Magnolia, Montgomery, New Caney, Splendora, Willis
*LHS-North Houston: Aldine, Humble, Spring
*LHS-Northwest: Cypress-Fairbanks, Klein, Tomball
"Participating in Leadership High School can help boost a student's college application to display work outside the conventional classroom," said Kay Fitzsimons, executive director of LSC Leader-

ship and Economic Development. "It also gives them the opportunity to meet other like-minded students interested in developing leadership skills."

LHS allows students to develop the confidence, personal leadership skills, and problem-solving abilities essential to realizing leadership potential. The curriculum includes a leadership skills component and a community service project. The program is free, but there is a deadline to apply each fall.

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

LHS typically begins in October with an orientation and engaging monthly sessions, concluding with a Certificate Ceremony in April. These sessions offer students the opportunity to interact with community leaders from various backgrounds and industries.

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

The program also emphasizes peer-to-peer learning and working effectively in a team environment during a community service project. Students and parents can visit LoneStar.edu/Leadership-HighSchool to learn more and apply for the 2024-2025 school year.

OPINION PAGE

OPINION By BILL KING

PART 2. SEE PART 1 LAST WEEK

Metro's proposed BRT would be biggest Taxpayer Boondoggle

Cost of Construction

While Metro's current estimate for the University and Inner Katy projects are \$2.43 billion and \$735 million, respectively, Metro's previous estimates of the cost to construct fixed guideway projects have also been unreliable.

Metro has already made massive changes to the estimates for both of these lines. Just 18 months ago, in a request for funding Metro filed with the FTA, it represented that the total cost of the University Line would be \$1.57 billion, which is only about two-thirds of the current cost estimate.

Cost per New Rider

Even if we accept Metro's estimated costs and future ridership, the cost to generate a new rider shows what absurd an "investment" these projects would be. The numbers are jaw dropping:

And that is before we even start talking about operating costs or the interest costs to financing these projects. In the November 2022 submission to the FTA, Metro estimated the annual operating cost at \$35 million. Metro would probably have to borrow about \$1.5 billion to finance the projects, so that would be about another \$60 million per year in interest expense.

Financial Consequences for Metro and the City of Houston

These projects would devastate Metro finances and seriously impact the finances for the City of Houston and the other constituent cities.

Due to robust sales tax collections and a billion-dollar federal COVID windfall, Metro is currently in good financial shape. However, these projects would soak up almost all of its current cash reserves and about double its current debt.

It would also put the general mobility payments to the City of Houston and the other cities that participate in Metro in jeopardy. Under the current referendum, Metro is authorized to spend up to 25% of its sales tax revenues to assist its member cities with mobility.

Travel Times and Speed

Metro's updated ridership projections also projected that the end-to-end travel time on the University Line would be 1:28 during peak and that the buses would travel at an average speed of about 17mph.

Local Disruption & Opposition

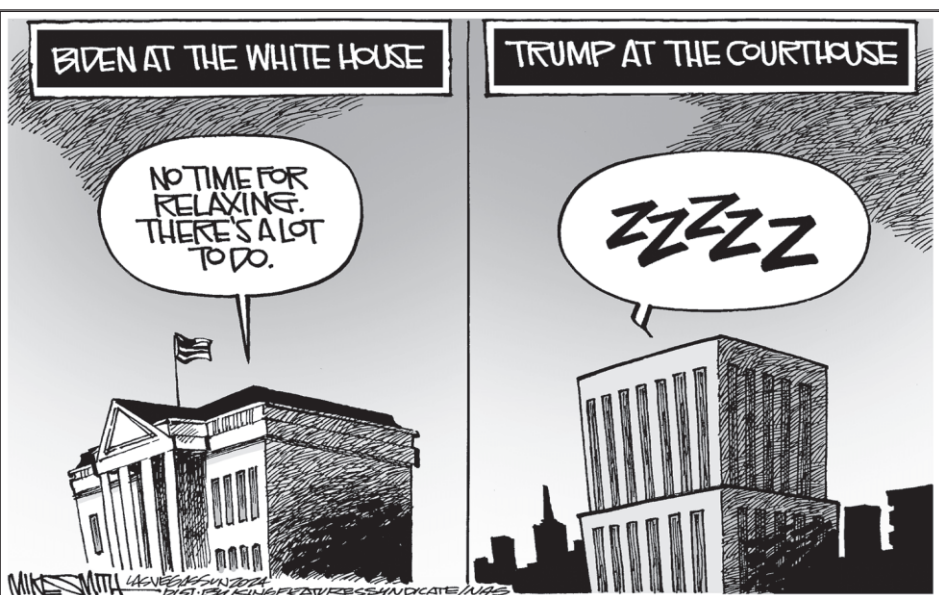
Interestingly, there is little support for either project along the neighborhoods they would supposedly serve. In some areas, like lower Richmond, there is fierce opposition because of the disruption it would cause both during construction and the draconian effects it would have on traffic in the area.

Conclusion

I have never seen this stark of a case against a public investment. Frankly, only a financial illiterate would support such an irresponsible expenditure of taxpayer money. And to make matters worse, after spending this reckless amount of money, few people would use the system and it would cause all sorts of collateral problems because it is so ill-conceived.

Fixed guideways are not the future of mobility. The paradigm of attempting to gather a large number of people on a single vehicle is rapidly becoming obsolete. The future is going to be door-to-door, on-demand service, which will eventually be provided autonomously and directed by AI controlled smart grids.

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.



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Gary Borders

High-end electrical users could Strain Grid

The growth of industrial-scale users of power could strain the Texas power grid, ERCOT's chief announced last week. The Dallas Morning News reported Pablo Vegas, the agency's CEO, said bitcoin miners and artificial intelligence data centers going in across the state, as well as industrial growth in the Permian Basin, could create the need for a massive buildup of power transmission lines in the future.

ERCOT is forecasting a 37% jump in power demand from industrial-sized users, even more than earlier predicted. It increased its forecast of electricity needed by new large-scale users from 111 gigawatts to 152 gigawatts. By comparison, the record for grid demand was set last August when 85.5 gigawatts were used.

ERCOT regulates 90% of the state's power grid.

STATE BATTLES ACUTE AG WORKER SHORTAGE

In the 1950s, 10% of the state's adult population worked in agriculture, a number that has dropped to 1% today, according to the Texas Standard.

Diane Charlton, an associate professor at Montana State University who studies where farm workers come from, said the number of individuals from Mexico working in agriculture provides the most farm workers, has dropped an average of one percent per year from 1980 to 2010.

Mexico provides the most farm workers. Among the reasons for decreasing numbers of Mexican farm workers are growing industrialization and increasing access to education in Mexico, and an aging group of immigrants who have traditionally worked on American farms.

Steve Hubbard of the American Immigration Council said more farmers are applying to hire temporary workers through an H-2A visa. Under its provisions, foreign workers are hired to do work on a specific farm for a given time before returning home.

Experts say hotter temperatures under climate change are also driving away potential farm workers.

"Workers are just going to suffer significantly if there are not some immediate protections put in place to address the work in these hotter temperatures," Amy Liebman, with the Migrant Clinicians Network, said. "We're experiencing these higher heat days, higher number of heat days."



75 TEXAS COUNTIES LOST POPULATION FROM 2022 - 2023

The Texas Standard reported that 75 counties lost population from 2022 to 2023 in the Texas Panhandle, West Texas, parts of South Texas, and Deep East Texas.

The state's population center is increasingly concentrated in a triangle drawn from Dallas to San Antonio to Houston, then back to Dallas. Inside that triangle reside more than 30 million people — 68% of the state's population.

"These are also centers of economic development," said Helen You of the Texas Demographic Center. "This is also where you see universities and lots of educational opportunities there."

William Chittenden, president and CEO of the Southwestern Graduate School of Banking, said the shrinking population of those rural counties will eventually pose serious challenges.

"At some point, some counties are going to get so small where it's going to be difficult for them to function," Chittenden said. "You have to have some critical mass just to support, for example, a local grocery store, a local gas station, hopefully a bank."

INMATE ADVOCATES SUE OVER LACK OF AC

Ahead of a summer heat wave, advocates for Texas inmates last week filed a complaint against Bryan Collier, executive director of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. The complaint argues that not having air conditioning in most Texas prison cells amounts to cruel and unusual punishment, according to the Texas Tribune.

The plaintiffs have asked an Austin federal judge to declare the state's prison policy unconstitutional. It would also require that prisons be kept under 85 degrees Fahrenheit. According to the Tribune, Texas jails are already required to keep facilities cooler than 85 degrees, while federal prisons in Texas have a 76-degree maximum.

TEXAS STILL LEADING U.S. IN JOB CREATION

Texas continues to lead the nation in job creation, with March unemployment numbers indicating the state has led in that category for the past 12 months. The state's total workforce has reached a record 15.189 million, according to the Texas Workforce Commission.

Texas added 270,700 jobs from March 2023 to March 2024, the most in the nation.

"Texas continues to be a top place for growth and economic success with thousands of jobs added by employers in March," said TWC Chairman Bryan Daniel. "Our world class workforce of talented Texans attracts employers from many expanding industries."

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

THE POSTSCRIPT By Carrie Classon

A Good Cat



Our cat, Felix, has a new home.

We adopted Felix in Mexico while we were staying there. The woman who fostered him, Marcela, thought he was a kitten because he was so small—except for his tail, which appears to be intended for a much larger cat.

But when I took him to the vet, they said he was two years old. I worried he was going through a lot of changes rather quickly for a two-year-old. He lived on the streets until he was picked up by Marcela, then he came to live with us in Mexico. Now Felix and Peter and I are returning to the U.S. together.

Felix got all his shots and had very official-looking papers filled out, proving he was ready for travel. I put him in his little backpack carrier, and we all boarded the van to the airport. Felix did not enjoy the hour-and-a-half-long ride on the bus to the airport. He cried every time we went over a big bump or around a sharp curve, so I held him on my lap and prepared for a long day.

But once we got out of the van, Felix enjoyed being carried around the airport, and everything was fine. Except our plane did not arrive.

We waited and waited and finally, we boarded. Felix rode in his little backpack carrier under the seat in front of me. He did not like the sound of the plane taking off, and he didn't like the turbulence, but once we were in the air, everything was fine once again.

"What a good cat!" I said.

But we arrived in Houston far too late to catch our next flight. The airline put us up in a hotel and, the next thing we knew, we were all at the Sheraton. Felix had food. The hotel had a box. But we had no cat litter.

I made some calls, and the closest place still open was Walmart, several miles away. I called a cab and went to buy cat litter. By this time, it was getting very late. The restaurant at the hotel had closed. Peter called as I was riding back to the hotel.

"I got carryout!" Peter announced. "Felix and I are in the room eating French fries."

I returned to the hotel room, poured the litter into the box the hotel staff had kindly rounded up, and Felix availed himself of the new facilities immediately.

"What a good cat!" I said. Felix enjoyed his room at the Sheraton very much. In addition to the French fries, there were a lot of places to explore, and he discovered he could hide under the dust ruffle of the bed and attack our feet. When we went to bed, he climbed up between us.

"What a good cat!" I said. By the next morning, air travel was old hat for Felix. He didn't like takeoff, and he didn't like landing, but in between he napped, except when I slipped him bits of cheese. Snacks are always nice on a flight.

When we finally got to our condo, Felix was very surprised. It's about four times the size of the little apartment we rent in Mexico. But Felix quietly went about his explorations, used his new litter box and went to bed between us again—in a new bed, a new home, a new country.

"What do you think, Felix?" I asked. Felix purred.

"I asked. What a good cat!" I said. "What a good cat," Peter agreed.

And we all went to sleep and started our new life together.

Till next time, Carrie

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

Griner Interview,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

erts sat down with Griner in a new 20/20 special airing Wednesday, May 1 at 10 p.m. "20/20: Prisoner in Russia" will also be available to stream on DirecTV Stream (free trial) and FuboTV (free trial) for those who have cut the traditional cable cord.

Griner, 33, was detained on Feb. 17, 2022, at Sheremetyevo International Airport in Khimki after she was accused of having vape cartridges containing cannabis oil, which is illegal in the country. Her trial was delayed for several months before she testified she had "no intention" of breaking Russian law and packed the cartridges by accident.

Following her sentencing, Griner was transferred to a penal colony in the Russian region of Mordovia, which is a work camp. Griner was released on Dec. 8, 2022, after the U.S. agreed to swap her for convicted Russian arms dealer Viktor Bout.

WNBA star Brittney Griner reflected on the moment she learned the U.S. secured her freedom from Russian detention and voiced her support for bringing home other Americans wrongfully detained abroad in a special edition of "20/20".

"I saw that paper and I was so thrilled," Griner told "GMA" co-anchor Robin Roberts as she reflected on a note she received, which stated she was going to be released from Russian detention after nearly ten months. "It said: 'be ready to leave,'" Griner said, as she recalled reading the note.

Griner, 33, a two-time Olympic gold medalist and a nine-time WNBA All-Star who plays for the Phoenix Mercury, was detained on Feb. 17, 2022, at Sheremetyevo International Airport in Khimki after she was accused of having vape cartridges containing cannabis oil, which is illegal in the country. Griner was returning to Russia to play during the WNBA's off-season.

She was detained one week before Russia's invasion of Ukraine began. The war stoked Russian tensions with the U.S. and some U.S. officials, including lawmakers in Griner's native Houston, expressed concern that Americans jailed in Russia could be used as leverage in the ongoing conflict.

The U.S. State Department classified Griner's case as "wrongfully detained" in May 2022 and the Biden administration worked for months to secure her freedom.

Griner pleaded guilty to drug charges on July 7, 2022, saying that the vape cartridges containing cannabis oil were in her luggage unintentionally. She testified that she had "no intention" of breaking Russian law and packed the cartridges by accident.

Amid mounting pressure on the U.S. to secure her freedom, the WNBA star was released on Dec. 8, 2022, after the U.S. officials agreed to swap Griner for convicted Russian arms dealer Viktor Bout, whose capture in Thailand in 2008 was the end

of a nearly decade-long hunt by the U.S. to stop him.

"Being traded for a person known as 'the merchant of death'; there were some Americans who thought that wasn't a fair trade," Roberts told Griner. "That this was a heinous criminal and to be traded when it should have been, perhaps, somebody else. What do you say to those who felt it wasn't a balanced trade?"

"If it was left up to me in that trade, I would have went and got Paul and brought him home," Griner said, referencing the case of Paul Whelan — a former U.S. Marine charged with espionage in Russia, where he has been detained since December 2018 and is serving a 16-year prison sentence.

"But any time that we can bring home an American, that is a win for Americans. No one should be left behind," Griner added.

Paul Whelan's family says he feels 'abandoned' by US in Russian prison

Roberts asked Griner about an excerpt from her upcoming memoir, "Coming Home," which is set to be released on May 7, where Griner writes that she was hoping she would be joined on the plane back to the U.S. by someone else.

"You wrote that you were hoping to see someone else on that plane," Roberts said. "You were hoping to see Paul Whelan."

Griner nodded, saying,

"When I walked on and I didn't see him, I was like, 'OK, maybe I'm early. Maybe he's next. Maybe they are going to bring him next,'" she said of Whelan.

"And when they closed the door, I was like ... are you seriously not gonna let this man come home right now?" Griner added, recounting her disappointment.

Since her release, Griner has become an outspoken advocate for Americans wrongfully detained abroad, including Whelan and Wall Street Journal reporter Evan Gershkovich, who was detained in Russia in March 2023 and charged with espionage. The U.S. government designated both Whelan and Gershkovich as "wrongfully detained" — a classification that allows additional resources to be applied to their cases as the U.S. works to secure their release.

Griner vowed in a heartfelt Instagram post on Dec. 16, 2022, where she thanked those who advocated for her release, "to do whatever I can to help" bring home other Americans wrongfully detained abroad.

"President Biden, you brought me home and I know you are committed to bringing Paul Whelan and all Americans home, too," Griner wrote. "I will use my platform to do whatever I can to help you. I also encourage everyone that played a part in bringing me home to continue their efforts to bring all Americans home. Every family deserves to be whole."

PreK3 to be in all Primary Schools,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



eligible students to attend a PreK3 program in their zoned primary school."

AISD officials are also seeing the benefits of getting children to school at the young age of three.

Mondragon shared that the brain is at an incredible stage in a child's development. It is an optimal time to get them into school, discover learning, and discover their potential. PreK3 supports children in developing their language, social-emotional and school readiness skills. Three-year-old learners also have the opportunity to engage in classes called "specials," such as physical education, music, or art.

Families Can Enroll Their Eligible Student in a PreK3 Program Morning or Afternoon Session

Due to limited space and a limited number of prekindergarten classrooms at each primary school, each primary school will have two PreK3 classrooms — one classroom for English-monolingual students and one bilingual classroom (Spanish and English). Each of these classrooms will have half-day sessions — morning and afternoon. Each session will be capped at 20 students, allowing each primary school to serve a total of 80 PreK3 students as opposed to 40 in full-day sessions.

Morning Session — 8:05-11:10 a.m.

Afternoon Session — 12:30-3:40 p.m.

"Offering PreK to three-year-olds was Superintendent Dr. LaTonya Goffney's vision. That vision became a reality in 2021 with our pilot program. Our vision is to ensure every three-year-old has access to this program that needs it and whose families want it for them," said Mondragon. "Aldine ISD is responding to the need to offer more PreK3 classrooms across the district and to serve as many PreK3 students as possible."

Registration Open for 2024-2025 School Year

Registration has already opened. Space is limited and will fill fast. First come, first serve.

The child must meet the PreK qualifications to attend the FREE PreK3 program. Families can register their child if they meet the following criteria:

Students who turn 3 by September 1 of the current year can preregister for PreK3.

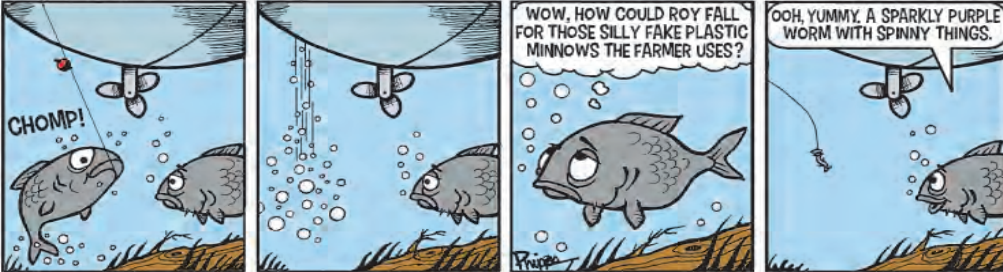
Students must also qualify to attend PreK programs and meet eligibility criteria.

Visit AldineISD.org/primary to read the complete eligibility requirements and to enroll your child.

ENTERTAINMENT

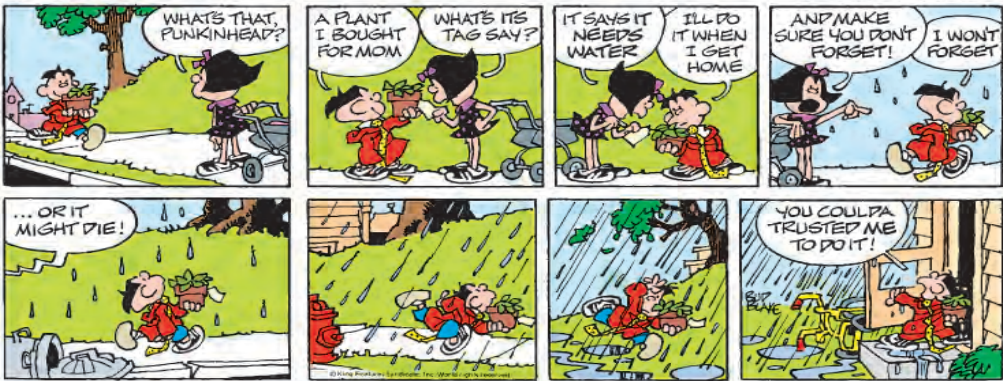
May 6, 2024 Posting Date

Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps

TIGER



by BUD BLAKE

The Spats



by Jeff Pickering

Weekly SUDOKU by Linda Thistle. A 9x9 grid with some numbers filled in. Includes difficulty level: Moderate. © 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF. Two panels of a boy and a girl. Find at least six differences in details between panels. © 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

King Crossword. A crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. © 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez. A list of 10 trivia questions. Includes a solution time of 21 mins. © 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

Trivia Test Answers: 1. "Barbarella"; 2. Cartography; 3. Lesotho; 4. Andy Davis; 5. Acts, which are divided into scenes; 6. "Full House"; 7. 12; 8. "Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel"; 9. Capitulates; 10. Bingo.

CHURCH PAGE

BIBLE TRIVIA

By Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of 3 Kings (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. Who said, "Indeed baptized with water, but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost"? Matthew, Mark, John the Baptist, Luke
3. From Leviticus 14, how long was a "clean" person required to remain outside his tent? 1 night, 2 nights, 4 days, 7 days


4. What town or city was Saul of Tarsus near when he converted to Christianity? Damascus, Assos, Corinth, Gaza
5. Which apostle's mother-in-law is referred to in the Bible but not by name? Peter, Judas, James, Andrew
6. Jesus says that you have to do what to see the kingdom of God? Love one another, Be born again, Do what's right, Tithe

ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) John the Baptist (Acts 11:16), 3) 7 days, 4) Damascus, 5) Peter, 6) Be born again
 Comments? More Trivia? Gift ideas? Visit www.TriviaGuy.com.

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

Lord, who will abide in Your tabernacle?
 Who will dwell in Your holy hill?
 He who walks uprightly, and does righteousness, and speaks truth in his heart...

PSALM 15:1,2



"Portrait of André Breton" (unknown) Early 1900

© 2024 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 10,000 READERS

SERVICES	SERVICES	SERVICES	SERVICES	SERVICES	HELP WANTED	HELP WANTED	HELP WANTED	HELP WANTED
<p>Texas Boat & Water Vessel Title Services</p> <p>Need help with a boat, trailer or other water vessel title, appraisal or bond?</p> <p>Call Now! to learn more</p> <p>HOUSTON AUTO APPRAISERS www.texasboattitle.com 281-424-6466</p> <p><i>Roy Theophilus Bent, Jr.</i></p>	<p>TEJAS TRANSMISSIONS</p> <p>Houston's Only Standard & Automatic Specialists</p> <p>FREE Computer Diagnostics</p> <p>Quality Work! Since 1997 <small>BBB Rating A+</small></p> <p>Full 12 Mo. Or 12,000 Mile Warranty "We Will Honor Other Shops Coupons" Se Habla Español 225 Aldine Mail Route, 77037 281-931-9300</p>	<p>INTERN AT A NEWSPAPER</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>	<p>NEWSPAPER MARKETING/SALES PERSON</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>					

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.

DENTAL Insurance

Great coverage for retirees.

Get your **FREE** Information Kit

It's easy! Call today
1-866-603-1174
Dental50Plus.com/Starcourier

Physicians Mutual Insurance Company

Product features not available in all states. Contact us for complete details about this insurance solicitation. To find a network provider, go to physiciansmutual.com/FindDental. This specific offer not available in CO, NY, VA - call 1-800-969-4781 or respond for a similar offer in your state. Certificate: C254B465, C250A(B438) ID: C254ID; PH: C254PH; Insurance Policy P154B469, P150(B439) (IA: P154GA; OK: P154OK; TX: P154TX); 6347

Jaeuzzi BATH REMODEL

YOUR BATHROOM. YOUR WAY. IN AS LITTLE AS

ONE DAY

CALL NOW
844.265.7098

SPECIAL OFFER
50% OFF Installation
 WITH **No Interest No Payments** for 1 Year PLUS **FREE Safety Upgrade***

*Add'l terms apply. Offer subject to change and vary by dealer. Expires 3/31/2024.



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!

Price valid for one working unit. Excludes all first systems. Valid at participating ARE* Network locations. Not valid for third party, new construction, or commercial customers. With any other offers, discounts, or on prior sales. Call service center for details. Coupon required at time of service. Valid if copied or transferred and where prohibited. Any other use may constitute fraud. Cash value \$300. Offer expires 3/31/2024.

Licenses numbers available at americaresidential.com/licenses

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: nenewsroom@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>SCREENS AND SHADES</p> <p>Beat the Heat! Exterior Solar Screens and Insect Shades Free Estimates 832-247-4581</p>	<p>UPHOLSTERY & AWNING</p> <p>Tapiceria PRAT Upholstery & Awning COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL RAPHAEL PRAT</p> <p>2021 Aldine Mail Rt. Suite 902 Houston, TX 77039 281-590-7562</p>
<p>VEHICLE INSPECTION STATION</p> <p>House Vehicle Inspection Station Monday-Friday 8am-6pm Gladys House-El 713-742-6995 gladys.house@gmail.com 3621 Hurley St. Houston, TX 77093</p>	<p>CARPET DEPOT</p> <p>3621 Hurley Street Houston, Texas 77093 Office: 713-742-6995 Fax: 713-742-6997 Email: Gcarpetdepot@aol.com www.affordablecarpetdepot.com Gladys M. House (Take 59 North & 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.

East Aldine REACH holds Kickball Tournament

Goal: Having fun while "Revitalizing East Aldine Community Health"



East Aldine District had a REACH booth, with Veronica Sanches and Monica Campos.



Green Forest Civic Club was present, with Kenneth and Marina Sugg at the booth.



SPANISH PAGE

Cientos de familias asisten al 3er Festival Anual de Primavera del Distrito



Las familias aprendieron sobre todas las opciones y oportunidades para los estudiantes desde los 3 años y en los grados PreK-12.

Aldine ISD celebró su 3er Festival Anual de Primavera el sábado 27 de abril en el Centro Educativo M.O. Campbell. El evento fue una oportunidad para que las familias de habla hispana aprendieran todo lo relacionado con Aldine sin la barrera del idioma. El personal del distrito llevó a cabo el evento íntegramente en español.

El distrito se dirigió a la comunidad de habla hispana, el grupo demográfico más grande de Aldine ISD, para garantizar que los mensajes e información clave llegaran a las familias y los estudiantes. Según Altgracia' Grace' Delgado, directora ejecutiva del Departamento Multilingüe, la comunicación en persona es la forma número uno de comunicarse con las familias hispanas. Su departamento está patrocinando el evento.

Abril fue el momento



Tras hablar con las familias, el galardonado autor Marcelo Verdad firmó libros.

perfecto para organizar el evento, ya que es el mes de la defensa del alumno multilingüe. Aldine ISD tiene más de 27,640 estudiantes identificados como bilingües emergentes, pero casi 34,400 familias incluyen el español en su encuesta sobre el idioma materno. Las familias hablaron con representantes de las escuelas y miembros del personal de diferentes departamentos para obtener más información sobre el distrito, las ofertas de las escuelas de opción y otros programas y servicios. El festival tiene algo para todas las edades. Las familias también se llevaron a casa libros gratis. El galardonado autor invitado de

este año fue Marcelo Verdad, y entre los oradores invitados figuraron el Dr. José Luis Zelaya y Bonding Against Adversity. Los socios del distrito y patrocinadores del evento incluyeron a Baker-Ripley, Texas Children's Hospital, la Biblioteca Pública del Condado de Harris, Young Audiences Arts for Learning Houston, Community Health Choice, Complete Dental Kids, Telemundo y más. Un gran agradecimiento a todos los que asistieron al festival y a los voluntarios y patrocinadores que lo hicieron posible.

Las clases de PreK3 se extienden a las 12 escuelas primarias de AISD este otoño

En 2021, el Distrito Escolar de Aldine comenzó a poner a prueba el programa de prekínder para niños de 3 años (PreK3) en tres escuelas primarias: Griggs, Keeble y Stovall. Eso cambiará a partir de este otoño. Debido a la retroalimentación, las familias asignadas a las otras nueve escuelas primarias de AISD en todo el distrito demostraron interés y necesidad de tener la oportunidad de que sus estudiantes elegibles se inscriban en un programa PreK3 en la primera infancia/prekíndergarten/kindergarten (EC/PreK/K; también llamadas escuelas primarias) a la que su hijo asistiría como estudiante de prekindergarten de 4 años (PreK4). A partir del otoño de 2024, las 12 escuelas primarias ofrecerán el programa PreK3

Escuchamos a nuestras familias», dijo Ray Mondragón, superintendente adjunto de escuelas primarias. «Así que hemos ampliado el programa de PreK3 para que las 12 escuelas primarias del distrito lo ofrezcan. Ahora, todas las familias tienen la opción y la oportunidad de que sus estudiantes elegibles asistan a un programa de PreK3 en su escuela primaria de zona».

Los funcionarios de AISD también están viendo los beneficios de llevar a los niños a la escuela a la temprana edad de tres

años.

Mondragón compartió que el cerebro se encuentra en una etapa increíble en el desarrollo de un niño. Es un momento óptimo para llevarlos a la escuela, descubrir el aprendizaje y descubrir su potencial. PreK3 apoya a los niños en el desarrollo de sus habilidades lingüísticas, socioemocionales y de preparación escolar. Los estudiantes de tres años también tienen la oportunidad de participar en clases llamadas «especiales», como educación física, música o arte.

Las familias pueden inscribirse a su estudiante elegible en una sesión matutina o vespertina del programa PreK3

Debido al espacio limitado y al número limitado de aulas de prekínder en cada escuela primaria, cada escuela primaria tendrá dos aulas de PreK3: una aula para estudiantes monolingües en inglés y una aula bilingüe (español e inglés). Cada una de estas aulas tendrá sesiones de medio día, por la mañana y por la tarde. Cada sesión tendrá un límite de 20 estudiantes, lo que permitirá que cada escuela primaria atienda a un total de 80 estudiantes de PreK3 en lugar de 40 en sesión de día completo.

*Sesión de la mañana — 8:05-11:10 a.m.
*Sesión de la tarde — 12:30-3:40 p.m.

«Ofrecer PreK a niños de tres años fue la visión de la superintendente Dra. LaTonya Goffney. Esa visión se hizo realidad en 2021 con nuestro programa piloto. Nuestra visión es garantizar que todos los niños de tres años tengan acceso a este programa que lo necesite y cuyas familias lo quieran para ellos», dijo Mondragón. «Aldine ISD está respondiendo a la necesidad de ofrecer más aulas de PreK3 en todo el distrito y de servir a tantos estudiantes de PreK3 como sea posible».

Inscripciones abiertas para el año escolar 2024-2025

Las inscripciones ya están abiertas. El espacio es limitado y se llenará rápidamente. Por orden de llegada.

El niño debe cumplir con los requisitos de PreK para asistir al programa GRATUITO de PreK3. Las familias pueden inscribirse a sus hijos si cumplen con los siguientes criterios:

*Los estudiantes que cumplan 3 años antes del 1 de septiembre del año en curso pueden preinscribirse para PreK3. *Los estudiantes también deben calificar para asistir a los programas de prekínder y cumplir con los criterios de elegibilidad.

Visite AldineISD.org/primary para leer todos los requisitos de elegibilidad e inscribirse a su hijo.

Lone Star College promotes Skilled Trades programs

NORTHEAST – The skilled trades programs at Lone Star College produce competent professionals to work in lucrative and high-demand careers that focus on keeping public infrastructure strong. LSC joins the nation in recognizing National Skilled Trades Day, May 1.

“Lone Star College has structured its skilled trades programs to ensure our students are prepared to fill the huge shortage of qualified and talented skilled trades professionals needed to keep Houston and surrounding areas moving toward the future,” said Tom Robertson, LSC-North Harris instruction dean, Career and Applied Technology Division. “Additionally, the college’s skilled trades programs increase students’ earning potential, reduce their educational costs and prepare them to enter the workforce sooner.”

The LSC-Construction and Skilled Trades Technology Center, housed at LSC-North Harris, trains students in construction supervision, electrical technology and heating, ventilation, air-



Seth Jones, LSC-North Harris HVAC graduate, demonstrates the Festo Electric Power Technology Training Systems 8010 to Alim Adatia, J.D., Johnson Controls senior director.

conditioning (HVAC) and refrigeration. The college offers other trade programs in automotive, diesel technician, health care, instrumentation technology, machining, process technology, truck driving and more. Learn more at LoneStar.edu/Programs-Of-Study.

“The Industrial Diesel Technology Program has provided the classroom knowledge that complements my current hands-on experience as an industrial diesel technician job with John Deere,” said Silvia Moreno, LSC-North Harris graduate.

LSC and LSC Foundation partner with community businesses like Johnson Controls to ensure students learn career and technical skills and receive hands-on experience to succeed in Houston’s growing building technology and construction industry. Johnson Controls has awarded LSC \$300,000 to fund electrical and HVAC scholarships and instructional equipment and created opportunities to support students while helping to fill the 4 million job vacancies expected in the next decade due to retirement.

“Our goal is to help narrow the skilled-labor gap by investing in tomorrow’s future-ready workforce,” said Alim Adatia, J.D., Johnson Controls senior director. “We truly believe that the opportunity to learn skills from a top tier college, like Lone Star College, and secure work at a well-established orga-

nization, can be a game changer for students and their families.”

LSC offers over 200 program options, including four bachelor’s degrees, for students to complete a degree, transfer to a four-year institution or enter the workforce. Registration for summer and fall 2024 is now open. Learn more at LoneStar.edu/Registration.

Lone Star College enrolls over 80,000 students each semester providing high-quality, low-cost academic transfer and career training education. LSC is training tomorrow’s workforce today and redefining the community college experience to support student success. Mario K. Castillo, J.D., serves as Chancellor of LSC, the largest institution of higher education in the Houston area and has been named a 2023 Great Colleges to Work For® institution by the Chronicle of Higher Education. LSC consists of eight colleges, seven centers, eight Workforce Centers of Excellence and Lone Star Corporate College. To learn more, visit LoneStar.edu.

Lone Star College makes planning for classes easier



Lone Star College students are now able to view the full 2024-2025 academic schedule to help plan their academic year.

NORTHEAST – Lone Star College students are now able to explore the entire 2024-2025 academic schedule, including which college courses will be available to help them plan their year along with other life priorities, including work, child care and transportation. Previously, students could only view available classes a semester at a time.

“Lone Star College launched the Full Academic Year Schedule based on a survey that clearly outlines students’ desire for a full-year schedule and registration process,” said Dwight L. Smith, Ed.D., LSC vice chancellor, Academic and Workforce Success. “Students can now see their full pathway to completion, giving them a visual understanding of their progress and what they need to do to achieve their academic goals.”

LSC’s Full Academic Year Schedule includes fall, spring, summer and mini-term sessions. Starting in 2025, students will be able to register for a full year of classes. For now, students can visit their pathway plan through My.LoneStar.edu to preview and plan courses and have the flexibility to plot their academic year.

The college will implement the new process in two phases:

Phase I: 2024-2025 students can view the full year schedule.

Phase II: 2025-2026 students will be able to view and register for a full academic year.

“This opportunity will help students plan to ensure they stay on target and finish on time, while saving time and money,” said Christina Hagerty, Ed.D., LSC senior associate vice chancellor, Academic Affairs.

The LSC Full Academic Year Schedule will also allow the college to make projections based on enrollment for current and future semesters to best meet the needs of students. Visit LoneStar.edu/FullYearSchedule for more information on this opportunity.

Lone Star College offers over 200 program options, including four bachelor’s degrees, for students to complete a degree, transfer to a four-year institution or enter the workforce. Registration is now open for the May Mini-term and summer semesters; fall enrollment begins April 10. Learn more at LoneStar.edu/Registration.

Lone Star College enrolls over 80,000 students each semester providing high-quality, low-cost academic transfer and career training education. LSC is training tomorrow’s workforce today and redefining the community college experience to support student success. Mario K. Castillo, J.D., serves as Chancellor of LSC, the largest institution of higher education in the Houston area and has been named a 2023 Great Colleges to Work For® institution by the Chronicle of Higher Education. LSC consists of eight colleges, seven centers, eight Workforce Centers of Excellence and Lone Star Corporate College. To learn more, visit LoneStar.edu.

Your Future is Calling!

Register Now for Summer & Fall Classes.



- May Minimester begins May 13
- Summer 1 Classes begin June 3
- Summer 2 Classes begin July 11
- Fall Classes begin Aug. 26

For more information, please visit: LoneStar.edu/LearnMore

NORTHEAST NEWS
News Tips and
Advertising Inquiries
713-266-3444