

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

- DIA DE LOS MUERTOS ..... 8
- FB Scores & Schedules ..... 2
- High Meadows Library ..... 2
- Aldine Library ..... 2
- AISD Superintendent ..... 3
- MacArthur Cross Country ..... 3
- Passport Fair ..... 4
- HISD Bond & FCD Tax ..... 5
- Keeney's Korner ..... 1, 5
- Good Health ..... 7
- LSC Spring Into the Future 8

# NORTHEAST NEWS

Serving the Neighborhoods of Aldine, Greenspoint, US59 Eastex, Beltway 8 and North Forest for over 48 Years  
 VOL. 48, NO. 40 TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2024 HOUSTON, TEXAS www.nenewsroom.com



**Día de los Muertos Oct. 26**  
 See info on Page 8

**NEWS NOTES**

**Día de los Muertos celebration Oct. 26**

East Aldine District invited you to Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) on Saturday, Oct. 26 from 11am to 3pm at the East Aldine Amphitheatre, 2909 East Aldine Amphitheatre Dr. This free Event includes a Haunted House, a CCLM Costume Contest, food, prizes, a Moonwalk, and music from Grupo ACE and NICO.

The Fall Festival includes traditional displays honoring past relatives and family.

**Small Business Luncheon Seminar Oct. 24**

East Aldine District presents its monthly Small Business Free Luncheon Seminar, on Thursday October 24 from 12pm to 1:30pm at the District Office Building, 2909 East Aldine Amphitheatre Drive.

TOPIC: Texas Sales & Use Tax, presented by RMH Client Accounting Specialists. RSVP required, scan the QR code on page 8, or AldineDistrict.org/RSVP.

Join the luncheon to learn about running a business in Texas, and the Corporate Transparency Act's mandatory requirements for all businesses due by Dec. 2024.

For more information, LDean@AldineDistrict.org or call 512-658-4985.

**Coffee with Commissioner Garcia**

Public is invited to join Pct. 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia for a CHAT. Saturday, Oct. 26 at Marnie's Seafood Restaurant, 9:30-11:00am.

## Early Voting underway in Important Election National, State, and Local Races on the Ballot

**HARRIS COUNTY** – Early voting started on Monday of this week for the General and Special Elections. Voters the first day could cast their ballots from 7am to 7pm. This year many positions and bonds are on a lengthy ballot, but officials indicate that large numbers of voters are turning out, in excess of similar elections in previous years.

There are a number of highly contested races on both the national and local ballot positions, and polls indicate they are quite close. These include the U.S. President, with Republican Donald Trump facing Democrat Kamala Harris, and for State Sen-



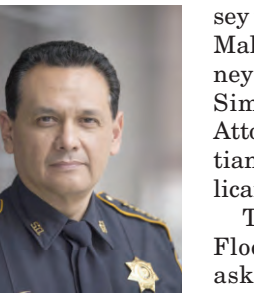
Donald Trump  
 Presidential Candidate



Kamala Harris  
 Presidential Candidate



Richard Cantu  
 HC Dept. of Ed Board



Ed Gonzalez  
 HC Sheriff

ator incumbent Republican Ted Cruz is facing challenger Colin Allred.

Other closely watched races include District Attorney incumbent Republican Sean Teare facing Democrat Dan Simmons, and for Sheriff incumbent Ed Gonzalez facing Republican Mike Knox.

The Aldine community is watching a race for Harris County Department of Education board, with incumbent Richard Cantu facing a challenger, Danielle Dick. State Senator Carol Alvarado is facing challenger Republican Martha Fierro. Other local office holders Armando

Walle and Senfronia Thompson, both state representatives, are running unopposed.

In County offices, two county commissioners are up for reelection. Pct. 1 Commissioner Rodney Ellis faces Republican Gerry Vander-lyn, and Pct. 3 Commissioner Tom Ram-

sey faces Democrat Saleem Malik. For District Attorney Sean Teare faces Dan Simmons, and for County Attorney incumbent Christian Menefee faces Republican Jacqueline Smith.

The Harris County Flood Control District is asking for approval of a 50% tax increase to pay for additional flood protection, and the Houston School District has two propositions on the ballot for Bonds. They are asking approval of \$3.960 billion for new school buildings, and \$440 million for upgrades to technology infrastructure.

**MORE ELECTION INFORMATION ON PAGE 5.**

## Walle holds Town Hall with Community

**ALDINE** – State Representative Armando Walle held a Town Hall last Wednesday evening, Oct. 9th with a large and interested crowd attending.

Walle made his presentation in two parts, first discussing the workings of the State Legislature, and then focusing on his work on various committees and how this benefits the citizens of the Aldine area and his district, TX 140.

Walle started by introducing his history for those who might not be familiar with him. He grew up in Aldine, graduated from MacArthur High, and after working for City Councilwoman Carol Galloway, and US Representatives Sheila Jackson Lee and Gene Green, decided he wanted to be involved in public service. In 2008 he ran for State Representa-



State Representative Armando Walle speaks about the State Legislature, and his roll representing the Aldine area.



A large crowd of Aldine residents were present at the Town Hall, listening to the presentation and in a Q&A session presenting their views and asking questions.

tive, and has held that position for 16 years.

Walle went on to explain the particulars of the state legislature, and how bills of local interest navigate through the process.

One point he emphasized was that bills are of-

ten a reflection of citizens' desire or needs, often expressed at meetings such as this Town Hall. "You have an advocate with us" he said.

Walle pointed out that he has been in the House long enough for his senior-

ity to be an asset in getting his legislation passed. An example he gave was his bill to get \$18 million for a Detention Basin at Aldine Westfield to reduce flooding in the area.

The next session of the Legislature will start in

January of 2025, and last for 140 days. The Budget will be approximately \$230 Billion for a two year period, and he pointed out that he is on the Appropriations

**Continued. See WALLE TOWN HALL, Page 2**

## Senator Alvarado testifies at PUC Centerpoint meeting

Centerpoint Energy criticized by public

By David Taylor  
 Managing Editor

It was the first time in decades that the Public Utilities Commission stepped outside of their Austin confines to host a public meeting in Houston and the public responded. From organizations to individuals, businesses and other entities, they came with their own horror stories related to Hurricane Beryl and CenterPoint.



Senator Carol Alvarado speaks her mind to the Public Utilities Commission at their historic meeting in Houston concerning the CenterPoint response to Hurricane Beryl.

The first person to testify before the committee, however, was Lt. Governor Dan Patrick who lauded the response of the state, affected

counties, and the city of Houston who took a direct hit.

"I cannot say I'm Continued. See ALVARADO TESTIFIES, Page 2

## FOOTBALL SEASON WEEK 8: No. 14 Aggies host No. 8 LSU: Texans host Indy in AFC South battle

Things are getting interesting in college and pro football as we enter the closing weeks of October.

In the college game, a number of teams are in contention for one of the 12 berths in the College Football Playoffs (CFP). No. 1-ranked Texas looked every bit as the nation's top team with a dominating 34-3 over arch rival Oklahoma two weeks ago in the Cotton Bowl. Alabama, which was upset at Vanderbilt on Oct. 5 struggled at home to beat a game South Carolina team and Crimson Tide fans have to be wondering just what's going on with Kalen DeBoer's defense. They are letting leads slip away and giving up chunks of yards on the ground. Something needs to be fixed in Tuscaloosa or the Tide might not be one of the 12 to make the CFP playoffs. The No. 7-ranked Crimson Tide



defense will have another tough assignment on Saturday when they host No. 11-ranked Missouri, which was a plethora of offensive weapons.

In College Station, first-year head coach Mike Elko has his Aggies rolling and they will get another chance to enhance their CFP resume on Saturday when they host No. 8-ranked LSU in what should be a donnybrook of a game.

No. 1-ranked Texas has a tough road test at upset minded

Vanderbilt. The Commodores pulled off the upset of the year on Oct. 5 when they upset then No. 1-ranked Alabama, 40-35. Could Vandy do it twice in a row in a three-week period. We shall find out on Saturday.

No. 12 Notre Dame also has a tough test this weekend when they take on No. 25-ranked Navy (5-0 entering their Oct. 19 game against Charlotte) at MetLife

**Continued. See KEENEY'S KORNER, Page 5**

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

**Unlimited Possibilities**

**EAST ALDINE DISTRICT OFFICE**  
 2909 East Aldine Amphitheatre Dr. #200 - 77039  
 713-595-1232 | info@aldinedistrict.org

improving public safety  
 mejorando la seguridad pública

advancing commerce  
 avanzando el comercio

beautifying the area  
 embelleciendo el area

posibilidades ilimitadas AldineDistrict.org

**ARMANDO L. WALLE**  
 Attorney at Law

*Legal Services to the Community*

GENERAL PRACTICE  
 PERSONAL INJURY  
 WORKPLACE ACCIDENTS  
 18-WHEELER ACCIDENTS

Se Habla Español

4101 Washington Ave., Houston, TX 77007  
 281-898-3823 aw@wallelaw.com

**SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING**

Report Suspicious:

- \* Vehicles
- \* Activities
- \* Groups of People
- \* Persons
- \* Locations

**HARRIS COUNTY HCSO SHERIFFS OFFICE**

PLEASE JOIN THE HARRIS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE IN CRIME REDUCTION EFFORTS

**WHEN YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING YOU CAN REMAIN ANONYMOUS**

EMERGENCIES: ALWAYS CALL **9-1-1**

NON-EMERGENCIES: **713-221-6000**



# 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!*



## MacArthur Boys, Girls Cross Country Teams Dominate at District 14-6A Meet



The MacArthur boys cross country team won their 16th straight district title.



The MacArthur girls cross country team won their 3rd straight district title recently.

### Dear Aldine ISD Community,

¡Se acabó! Hispanic Heritage Month has concluded, yet as we enter the middle of October and the holidays are fast approaching, I am reminded of the strong sense of community that defines Aldine ISD. This month has already brought us many reasons to celebrate, and I am excited to share some recent highlights.

We are thrilled that our Board of Trustees continues to lead with distinction. Congratulations to Trustee Rose Avalos on her re-election to the State Association Board and to Trustee Dr. Viola M. García for participating in the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) Institute on Emergency Preparedness in Houston. Their dedication ensures our district remains at the forefront of educational advocacy and leadership.

### MONTHLY OBSERVANCES

October is full of meaningful observances, including National Principals Month. We are incredibly grateful for our principals' tireless work and leadership in creating safe and welcoming learning environments. I encourage you to show appreciation for their dedication. It comes down to the people behind an organization that make it great.

Earlier this month, we recognized our custodians who keep our 80-plus schools and facilities clean and safe, making them a great place to learn, teach, and lead. We also observed our coaches — athletic, academic, and instructional coaches. Thank you for all you do on the field and in the classroom!

### REMEMBER TO VOTE THIS ELECTION SEASON

I am so proud to see campuses encouraging students to register to vote and to state leaders like Congresswoman Sylvia García for visiting with students to talk about civic engagement.

The election season is upon us, with early voting starting **October 21 and running through November 1; Election Day is Tuesday, November 5.** I cannot stress enough the importance of your vote. Your vote is your voice, crucial for shaping our community and schools' future. I urge everyone to exercise their right to vote and make their voices heard.

Inside the Newsletter I encourage you to read the latest district newsletter, Aldine Connection, which includes active links to stories and important date information. Learn about the Powell Foundation's donation to foster reading and bedtime routines for our youngest learners, the \$20,000 grant MacArthur High School's football program received

from Texas CEO Cal McNair, and the tennis teams that secured spots in the playoffs.

Follow Us on Social Media! Follow [Aldine ISD](#) and [me](#) on X to see all the exciting happenings in our schools and district. You'll find me [visiting campuses](#), speaking with [organizations](#), and [engaging in our community](#). You can also follow AISD on [Facebook](#).

### CHOICE SCHOOLS FESTIVAL ON OCT. 26

I look forward to seeing everyone at our upcoming Choice Schools Festival on **Saturday, October 26**, at the M.O. Campbell Educational Center from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. This event is an excellent opportunity for families to choose the best school experience for their children. Over 30 Choice Schools offer a wide variety of programs for prekindergarten to high school students. The Choice School program is open to students living inside and outside of Aldine ISD, so I encourage everyone to attend and make the best choice for their child's education.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to our students' success. Together, we make an #AldineImpact.

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

## District Closes Out Hispanic Heritage Month



Students from Carter Academy perform at the Donaldson Administrative Building for Hispanic Heritage Month.

The theme of Aldine ISD's Hispanic Heritage Month, September 15-October 15, was "Pioneers of Change: Shaping the Future Together," and events were designed to highlight the leaders who paved the way for future generations.

Throughout the month, our vibrant community of students and staff actively participated in a myriad of activities and events that were designed to showcase the richness of Hispanic culture, history, and achievements. Campuses across the district hosted engaging HHM presentations. Our district-level staff at the Donaldson Administration Building (DAB) and the Bamberg Professional Development and Resource Center (BAM) were not left out, as they had the chance to immerse themselves in the cultural experi-

ence through a book lotería, cultural art walls, a dress-up day, a virtual lunch panel featuring Aldine ISD graduates who are now AISD campus leaders, and student performances — including the mesmerizing ballet folklórico dancers and violin players from Carter Elementary school, and the talented student mariachi group, Acero, from Aldine ISD.

The celebration emphasized the district's commitment to fostering an inclusive environment that recognizes the rich diversity within its community. Classroom lessons, art projects, and cultural presentations provided opportunities for students to explore and appreciate Hispanic heritage, reinforcing the values of cultural pride and understanding.

One More Event Coming Up

Award-winning author Raúl González, aka Raúl the Third, will be sharing his most recent addition to his World of Vamos series, ¡Vamos! Let's Celebrate Halloween and Día de los Muertos: A Halloween and Day of the Dead Celebration with second-grade bilingual students in Elementary Team 1 on **Monday, October 21, 2024.** Students will hear from the author and receive a signed copy for their home libraries.

Aldine ISD remains dedicated to honoring the stories and achievements of Hispanic pioneers who continue to inspire and shape a brighter future for all. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all the students, staff, and community members who participated in and organized these events, making our Hispanic Heritage Month celebrations a resounding success.



The MacArthur High School boys' and girls' cross country teams each won district titles at the District 14-6A Meet recently held at Lone Star College-North Harris.

The Generals, under the direction of head coach Patrick James, won their 16th straight district title, while the Lady Generals, also under James's direction, won their third straight league title. Both teams qualified for the Region 2 Meet on Oct. 21 in Grand Prairie at Lynn Creek Park. They will be joined at the regional meet by the Nimitz High boys team, which finished second at district, and the Eisenhower boys team, which finished third at the league meet. The Eisenhower girls team also qualified for the Region 2 Meet with a third-place finish in

the district. Dennis Brazy coaches the Nimitz team, while the Eisenhower team is coached by Dan Bui.

Joining those teams at the regional meet will be Davis High School boys runner Alexis Peraloza, who finished fourth overall in the boy's division, and Arlen Esquivel of Aldine High School, who finished 10th overall in the girl's division. Tramisha McGrew coaches Peraloza, while Esquivel is coached by Kerry Bowie.

Lady General Alejandra Espinoza finished first overall in the girl's division, while Brian Martínez of MacArthur finished first overall in the boy's division.

The Mac Generals team consisted of Martínez, Alexis Penaloza, Daniel Muñoz, Refugio Sandoval,

Marcello Ponce, Isaiah Macías and José Sánchez.

The Mac Lady Generals team comprised Espinoza, Marlene Guillén, María Gonzales, Chloé Orea, and Ciara Ramírez.

The Nimitz boys' team consisted of Aldo Villafuerte, Cruz Álvarez, Jaden Bergeron, Joseph Saucedo, Jonathan Ortega, Estaban Cortez Garza, and Rodrigo Maldonado.

The Eisenhower boys' team consisted of Nahum Ferrera, Emilio López, Axel Torres, William Turner, Christian Lara, Corey Whiteley, and Jaasiel Aguirre.

The Eisenhower girls' team consisted of Addison Rogers, Ashly Fuentes, Angie Sandino, Aileen Morataya, Beverly Berrios, Lizbeth Padrón, and Victoria Reyna.

**ALDINE**  
Independent School District

## CHOICE SCHOOLS FESTIVAL

**OCTOBER 26**  
10 AM-1 PM

M. O. Campbell Educational Center  
1865 Aldine Bender, FM 525  
Houston, TX 77032

In Aldine, you can choose the best school experience for your child. We have over 30 Choice Schools offering a wide variety of programs for students of all ages. The Choice School program is open to students living outside the district as well!

<b>PRIMARY</b> Two-Way Dual Language Montessori Tiny tot	<b>ELEMENTARY</b> Two-Way Dual Language Montessori STEM + Engineering Enrichment + Accelerated All-Steps School	<b>MIDDLE SCHOOL</b> Two-Way Dual Language International Baccalaureate STEM + College Prep All-Girls School All-Boys School	<b>HIGH SCHOOL</b> Fine Arts + Accelerated Degree AP/IB + Honors Learning CTE + How to the County International Baccalaureate All-Girls School + College Prep World Premier
---	--	--	---

To learn more visit [AldineISD.org/Choice](http://AldineISD.org/Choice)

OPINION PAGE

**Sylvia R. Garcia**  
CONGRESSWOMAN | TX-29



**PASSPORT FAIR:**  
*You're Invited: Apply for your Passport with us on November 16th!*

We are excited to announce that we will be hosting a **Passport Fair** with the U.S. Department of State. This is a fantastic opportunity for individuals to apply for a passport or learn about the new online passport renewal process!

**Date: Saturday, November 16th Time: 11:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

**Location: Magnolia Multi-Service Center 7037 Capitol St, Houston, TX 77011**

**What to Expect:**

- Passport agents will be on-site to accept applications.
- Learn about the new online passport renewal process.
- Get personalized assistance with your passport application.
- Learn about important updates on **passport processing times**: The State Department's Bureau of Consular Affairs has recently announced a reduction in processing times! Routine service now takes just 4-6 weeks, down from the previous 6-8 weeks.

**Don't Miss Out on Your Holiday Travel!**The holidays are right around the corner—don't let an expired passport stop you from enjoying your vacation. We're here to support you with everything you need to get your passport in time for travel!

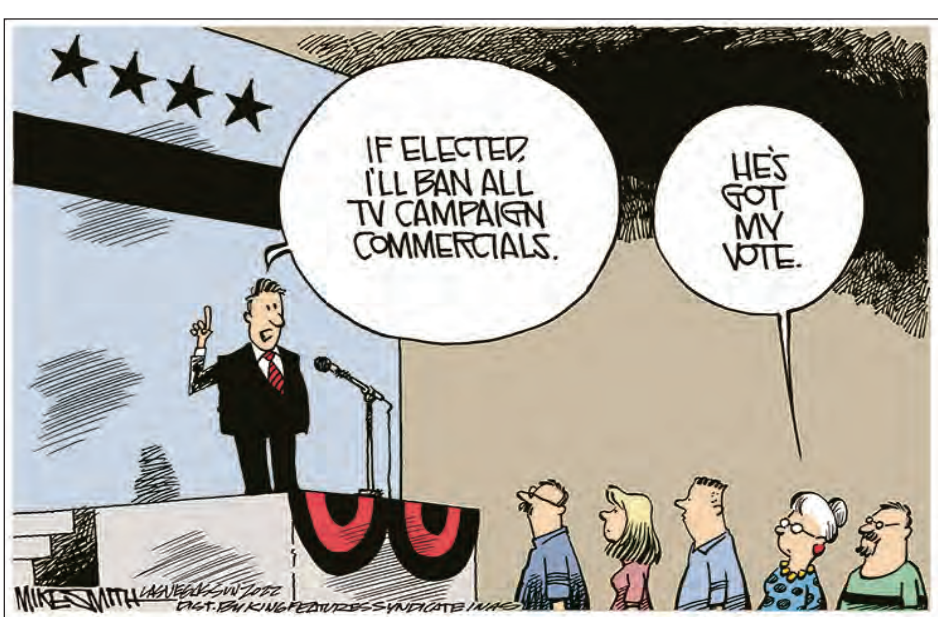
**What You Need to Bring:** If you're a **first-time passport applicant**, please be sure to bring the following items to your appointment:

- 1. Completed DS-11 application:** Visit [Travel.state.gov/applyinperson](https://travel.state.gov/applyinperson) to download and fill out your application in advance.
- 2. Proof of U.S. Citizenship:** Bring your original U.S. birth certificate or Naturalization Certificate, plus a photocopy.
- 3. Passport Photo:** (2x2 inches, taken within the last 6 months)
- 4. Valid Photo ID:** (Driver's License, State or Military ID) and a photocopy of the front and back.
- 5. Payment:** Fees may vary, check [Travel.state.gov/applyinperson](https://travel.state.gov/applyinperson) for details.

**For Minors (15 and Under):** The child and both parents must be present, with each parent providing valid photo IDs and photocopies of the front and back (Driver's License, State or Military ID).

**Secure Your Appointment!** To reserve your spot, please sign up here. We're here to help you every step of the way. For any questions, feel free to contact my office at **832-325-3150**. For more information, please visit [Travel.state.gov](https://Travel.state.gov). We look forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely,  
Sylvia R. Garcia Member of Congress



**THE POSTSCRIPT**  
By Carrie Classon

*A Little Noise*



The men who have been making the terrible noise are still at it.

The construction on our building began in the early spring, before my husband, Peter, and I returned from Mexico. When we arrived, scaffolding had been set up all around the building and blue plastic had been taped over our windows to protect them from flying debris. Our balcony was unusable, and the driveway was blocked off, filled with piles of bricks.

And every morning at 8:00 exactly, they began to jackhammer out the bricks.

The project entailed removing rows of bricks from every side and every story of the building because water was getting in. Some sort of magic was performed beneath them (I am not an engineer, in case you were wondering) and new bricks were put in place. The loudest and longest part of this project was the removal of the bricks, but there was also grinding down of edges once the new ones were in, and some pressure washing and, throughout it all and at every stage, a tremendous amount of noise.

The building leaked. There wasn't much we could do.

I decided early on that I could not vacate to a coffee shop every time I needed to write. I don't like wearing earplugs, and I'm not sure they would have done much good. Instead, I wrote through the noise. If I had to talk to Peter, I would go to the room he was in and stand close to him, because inter-room hollering was no longer possible (which might have been one small ancillary benefit of the façade repair).

They were all guys, and they were all quite large. Hammering out bricks and replacing them with more bricks while on a narrow platform high in the air is serious work. These guys did it five days a week from 8 in the morning until 4 in the afternoon, taking only a half-hour off for lunch.

I always said "hello." They always apologized for all the noise—as if there was anything they could do about it. Sometimes I would thank them for the wake-up call. They always laughed and thanked me for being a good sport.

"We should get them snacks to thank them for their hard work," Peter said.

Peter believes every hard-working person deserves snacks. It is one of the many things I love about him. So I went to the bakery, and I bought a bunch of bars—brownies and lemon bars and Rice Krispies bars and pumpkin—and Peter and I delivered them one day when they took their short lunch break.

"I want a souvenir!" I told the foreman.

"What kind of souvenir?" he asked.

"I want a brick!"

"We've got bricks everywhere!" He laughed.

"Yes, but I want a signed brick. I want your autographs." "Why would you want that?" he asked.

"I want it to remember this summer of noise!"

They all laughed, and just when we were getting ready to return to Mexico (which we usually think of as the noisier of our two homes), Peter said, "There's something for you outside the door."

And, of course, it was my brick, with everyone's name written on it. I was so pleased.

It reminds me of those hard-working guys outside my window, hanging off the side of the building day after day. It reminds me that, whatever hard work I think I am doing, there are much harder jobs out there. Sitting at my computer, putting up with a little noise, it reminds me that I have it pretty good.

Till next time,  
Carrie

**STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS**  
By Gary Borders



*Early Voting Begins This Week*

Early voting for the Nov. 5 general election begins Monday, Oct. 21 and ends on Nov. 1. Texas voters will be choosing from a full slate of candidates, from president to U.S. senator to various county positions.

The deadline to register to vote was Oct. 7. Voters are reminded to bring one of seven approved forms of photo IDs to the polls. Among the options are a Texas driver's license, U.S. passport, or handgun license. A complete list of acceptable IDs can be found at [vote.texas.gov](https://vote.texas.gov). Voters can also make sure they are registered by going to that site.

A recent Texas Standard story notes that under a little-known Texas elections law, convicted felons in prison are eligible to register and vote if they are actively appealing their convictions. It is unknown, however, how many of the 134,000 people currently held in state prisons actually register and vote, since the state doesn't track that data.

"Nobody's asking to do this because they have no idea that they can," Jennifer Toon of the Lioness Justice Impacted Women's Alliance, a nonprofit for incarcerated women.

Under state law, a conviction is not considered "final" as long as it is under appeal. Convicted felons who never appealed their case, or who lost their appeal, are not eligible to vote.

**SURGE IN SCHOOL THREATS PROMPTS DOZENS OF ARRESTS**

At least 40 Texas students were arrested in September in connection with making threats against schools, The Dallas Morning News reported. The surge came after a 14-year-old fatally shot two fellow students and two teachers at Georgia's Apalachee High School. Those arrested face an assortment of charges ranging from generating a false alarm to making terroristic threats, or threatening to use a firearm.

"My concern is these threats are going to desensitize people," said Shane Wallace, director of the Texas Association of School Resource Officers. "It's an abundance every day. The one that's not reported may be the one."

While most of the threats turn out to be non-credible, law enforcement officials are obligated to investigate every threat, some of which turn out to be legitimate. For example, a 12-year-old student was arrested Sept. 10 in Bexar County after allegedly



threatening to shoot another student. When his home was searched, deputies seized a pistol, ammunition and body armor. The child was charged with making a terroristic threat.

Dallas ISD Police Chief Albert Martinez said his officers were devoting nearly all of their time dealing with reported threats made by students.

**\$50 MILLION ALLOCATED FOR DEBRIS REMOVAL AFTER STORMS**

Gov. Greg Abbott and other state leaders have approved \$50 million in emergency funding to help communities in Southeast Texas with debris removal after Hurricane Beryl in June and a derecho storm in May, the Houston Chronicle reported.

While Abbott cited a shortage and delay of funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, that agency said it has enough funds to meet recovery needs—even though two more major hurricanes have struck the United States since then.

"FEMA has the necessary resources to meet the immediate needs associated with Hurricane Helene and other disasters," a statement from the Department of Homeland Security said.

Beryl left behind approximately 4.1 million cubic yards of debris, enough to fill Houston's NRG stadium, the Chronicle reported. That figure only includes storm debris such as broken and scattered vegetation. It does not include debris from damaged homes, buildings and roads.

Comptroller Glen Hegar supported the funding move because it will provide quicker assistance where needed.

"In the aftermath of storms like these, questions about funding can lead to significant delays in recovery efforts and timelines," he said. "These delays can have disastrous long-term ramifications for local and regional economies."

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

*Founded in 1977 by Vic & Donna Mauldin*  
Gilbert Hoffman.....Editor & Publisher  
Mei-Ing Hoffman.....Associate Publisher  
David Taylor.....Managing Editor  
Kristan Hoffman.....Website Editor  
Julieta Paita.....Assignment Editor  
Gerardo Hernandez.....Production Manager  
Contributing Writers: Mike Keeney, Charlotte Jackson, Allan Jamail, Kristan Hoffman, Marina Flores Sugg

Published each Tuesday by GrafikPress Corp. Any erroneous statement which may appear will be corrected when brought to the attention of the publisher. Liability for errors is limited to the reprinting of the corrected version. Submissions are encouraged, in person, by mail, by Fax, or by email, to [nenewsroom@aol.com](mailto:nenewsroom@aol.com)  
Founding Member North Houston Chamber (now Houston Intercontinental)  
Member Texas Press Association

**top ten**

**MOST VISITED Countries of 2024**

1. France	117.1 million
2. Poland	88.5 million
3. Mexico	51.1 million
4. United States	45 million
5. Thailand	39.9 million
6. Italy	38.4 million
7. Czech Republic	37.2 million
8. Spain	36.4 million
9. Canada	32.4 million
10. Hungary	31.6 million

Source: World Population Review

© 2024 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.



# CHURCH PAGE

## BIBLE TRIVIA


By Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of 2 Timothy (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From Luke 6, what did Jesus tell His disciples to do to those who cursed them? Smile, Walk away from, Laugh, Bless them
3. What instrument did David play for Saul that caused the evil spirit to depart? Drum, Harp, Tambourine, Flute

4. From John 3, who lifted up the serpent in the wilderness? Paul, Peter, John the Baptist, Moses
5. What horrible things did Ezekiel see filling a valley? Serpents, Locusts, Dry bones, Demons
6. Who was the father of James and John? Zebedee, Nahum, Haggai, Hizkiah

ANSWERS: 1) New, 2) Bless them, 3) Harp, 4) Moses, 5) Dry bones, 6) Zebedee  
Sharpen your understanding of scripture with Wilson Casey's latest book, "Test Your Bible Knowledge," available in bookstores and online.

**THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE**



*"Now acquaint yourself with Him, and be at peace; thereby good will come to you. Receive, please, instruction from His mouth, and lay up His words in your heart."*

—JOB 22:21-22—

Detail of "Old Man Reading the Bible" by Julius Komjati (1928)

© 2024 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.

**Bonding Against Adversity**

*Helping Others Help Themselves*  
Our "Immigration, Integration, Education" Programs

**Citizenship Classes, Free Citizenship Workshops, Beyond Citizenship/Civic Engagement**

Mariana Sanchez, Director  
Call: 281-799-9076  
Text: 832-906-4214  
[marianas@baatexas.org](mailto:marianas@baatexas.org)

BAA offers online citizenship applications & virtual review.  
Start your citizenship application @ [WWW.CITIZENSHIPWORKS.ORG/PORTAL/BAA](http://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](http://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

<b>SERVICES</b>	<b>SERVICES</b>	<b>SERVICES</b>	<b>SERVICES</b>	<b>SERVICES</b>	<b>LEGAL NOTICE</b>	<b>LEGAL NOTICE</b>	<b>LEGAL NOTICE</b>	<b>LEGAL NOTICE</b>
<p><b>Mobile Home Title Services</b></p> <p>Need assistance with a Mobile, Modular or Manufactured home title, bond or appraisal?</p> <p><b>HOUSTON AUTO APPRAISERS</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.texasmobilehometitle.com">www.texasmobilehometitle.com</a> 281-424-6466</p> <p><i>Roy Theophilus Bent, Jr.</i></p>	<p><b>TEJAS TRANSMISSIONS</b></p> <p>Houston's Only Standard &amp; Automatic Specialists</p> <p>FREE Computer Diagnostics</p> <p>Quality Work! <b>Since 1997</b> <small>BBB Rating A+</small></p> <p>Full 12 Mo. Or 12,000 Mile Warranty "We Will Honor Other Shops Coupons"</p> <p>Se Habla Español 225 Aldine Mail Route, 77037 281-931-9300</p>	<p><b>NOTICE</b></p> <p>"Pilgrim Place 1 is a federally subsidized Section 8 based 202 apartment complex for seniors 62 and older and/or disabled individuals under the age or 62, who are able to live on their own or with the assistance of a provider or live-in aid. Pilgrim Place 1 is currently not accepting applications due to an overflow of applicants and a very lengthy wait list."</p> <p>403t</p>						

# DENTAL Insurance

Great coverage for retirees.



Get your **FREE** Information Kit

It's easy! Call today  
**1-866-603-1174**

[Dental50Plus.com/Starcourier](http://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/find-dentist](http://physiciansmutual.com/find-dentist). This specific offer not available in CO, NV, NY, VA - call 1-800-969-4781 or respond for a similar offer in your state. Certificate C254/B465, C250A/B438 (ID: C254ID; PA: C254PA); Insurance Policy P154/B469, P150/B439 (GA: P154GA; OK: P154OK; TN: P154TN). 6347

**Be prepared before the next power outage.**



**It's not just a generator. It's a power move.**

Receive a free 5-year warranty with qualifying purchase\* - valued at \$535.

Call 713-496-1933 to schedule your free quote!

\*Terms and Conditions apply. **GENERAC**

**Make the smart and ONLY CHOICE when tackling your roof!**



**LIMITED TIME OFFER! SAVE!** | **UP TO 50% OFF + 10% OFF INSTALLATION** for military, health workers and first responders.

Erie Home is trusted by homeowners nationwide to provide a level of value on new roofing that other home improvement companies simply can't match. Erie Home's metal roofing system is designed to provide the ultimate defense against everything from hurricane-force winds to hail while also boosting energy efficiency and curb appeal. It's not only the best protection you can get for your home, but it's also designed to last a lifetime.

**FREE ESTIMATE 1.855.947.0982**  
Expires 4/30/2024

new orders only. Does not include material costs. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Minimum purchase required. Other restrictions may apply. This is an advertisement based on behalf of the Contractor. See Website (www) offer terms and conditions may apply and other may not available in your area if you call the number provided, you consent to being contacted by telephone, text message, email, provided by the contractor. Services provided using patented technology. Notwithstanding to you are NOT CALL list or register. Please review our Privacy Policy and Terms of Use on [homeservices.compliance.com](http://homeservices.compliance.com). All rights reserved. License numbers available at [eriehome.com/erie-certified](http://eriehome.com/erie-certified)

## Donate Your Vehicle

Call (855) 833-2924 to donate your car, truck, boat, RV, and more today!

**How it Works:**

1. Contact Us  
Call (855) 833-2924
2. Schedule Pickup  
We'll pick up your vehicle for FREE - at a time and place convenient for you.
3. Receive Top Tax Deduction  
You may qualify for a tax deduction.

- Support Veteran Nonprofits.
- Free Pickup & Towing.
- Top Tax Deduction.

**Donate Your Vehicle Today 855-833-2924**

**Veteran Car Donations**

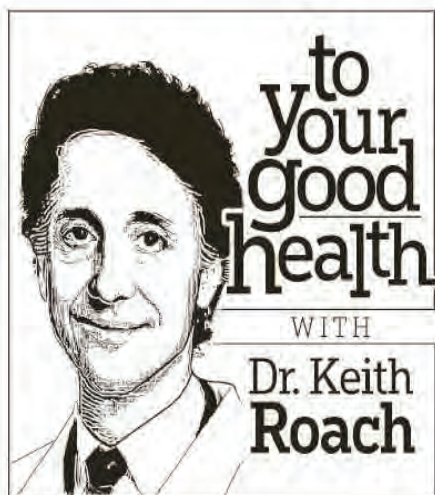
While we appreciate every donation, in some cases, we find that we are unable to accept certain vehicles, watercraft, and/or recreational vehicles due to the prohibitive costs of acquisition. If you have any questions, please give us a call at (855) 833-2924.

# Business Directory

SHOP LOCALLY -- Save Time & Money

<p><b>SCREENS AND SHADES</b></p> <p><b>Beat the Heat!</b></p> <p>Exterior Solar Screens and Insect Shades</p> <p>Free Estimates <b>832-247-4581</b></p>	<p><b>UPHOLSTERY &amp; AWNING</b></p> <p>Tapiceria <b>PRAT</b></p> <p>Upholstery &amp; Awning COMMERCIAL &amp; RESIDENTIAL <b>RAPHAEL PRAT</b></p> <p>2021 Aldine Mail Rt. Suite 902 Houston, TX 77039</p> <p>281-590-7562 01-ttn</p>
<p><b>VEHICLE INSPECTION STATION</b></p> <p>House Vehicle Inspection Station</p> <p>Monday-Friday 8am-6pm</p> <p>Gladys House-El</p> <p>713-742-6995 <a href="mailto:gladys.house@gmail.com">gladys.house@gmail.com</a></p> <p>3621 Hurley St. Houston, TX 77093</p>	<p><b>CAR SERVICE</b></p> <p><b>MOBILE MECHANIC+</b></p> <p>IMPORT or DOMESTIC CARS &amp; TRUCKS SINCE 1981</p> <p><b>24 HOURS, 7 DAYS A WEEK</b></p> <p>WE COME TO YOU</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General Repairs</li> <li>• Computer Equipped Cars &amp; Trucks</li> <li>• Electrical Specialists</li> <li>• Fuel Injection/ Diesel • Engine Repairs</li> <li>• A/C • Brakes • Tune-Ups</li> <li>• Industrial Machinery &amp; Motorized Equipment</li> <li>• Refrigerated Trucks</li> <li>• Transmissions</li> <li>• Pre-Buy Inspection for Cars - Trucks - RVs &amp; SUVs</li> <li>• Repair of Recreational Vehicles &amp; Big Trucks &amp; Buses</li> </ul> <p>713-465-7300 3515 Hillcroft</p> <p><a href="http://www.mobilemechanicshouston.com">www.mobilemechanicshouston.com</a> House Calls By Professional Mechanics</p>

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



the tendon is at a high risk for infection. It's possible that there is an infection, which led to a fistula (an abnormal connection) between the tendon.

I definitely recommend going back to see the surgeon. They may want to do further testing (possibly imaging) to see if there is any evidence of an infection in the repaired tendon.

\*\*\*

**DEAR DR. ROACH:** I'm a 63-year-old man in generally good health. Recently, we moved into a new home with a pool. When I floated on my back, I noticed a 6-by-2-inch bulge from my breastbone to my navel. I contacted my doctor, who said it was rectus diastasis.

I researched online, and there doesn't appear to be anything that can be done to correct it. Apparently, it doesn't pose a serious problem. Am I correct that I should just live with it? — G.B.

**ANSWER:** Correct. The left and right halves of your abdominus rectus muscle (your "abs") are normally connected in the middle by tough fibrous tissue. Instead of them being held tightly together, they can be separated by a centimeter or so (called congenital rectus diastasis) in some people. Sometimes, the muscles can also separate during adulthood when people's abdomens start to get larger, whether it's through pregnancy, weight gain or other reasons. The area can bulge out with increased abdominal pressure.

Nothing needs to be done, and although there are elective cosmetic surgeries to correct it, I've never had a patient want one. Most of the time, I make the diagnosis when I'm doing an abdominal exam, and the patient isn't even aware that they have it. (Or they think that everyone has it.)

*Dr. Roach regrets that he is unable to answer individual questions, but will incorporate them in the column whenever possible. Readers may email questions to ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu.*

© 2024 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved

# celebrity extra

by Dana Jackson

**Q:** Have they said who will replace Hoda Kotb on the "Today" show after she leaves? — A.Y.

**A:** When Hoda Kotb announced at the end of September that she would be leaving the job she's held for 17 years with "Today," it came as a shock to her fans, but probably not her co-anchors Savannah Guthrie and Jenna Bush Hager. Now the mother of two young girls, Kotb recently purchased a home away from Manhattan in the hopes of spending more time with her daughters while they're still in elementary school.

According to Us Weekly, an NBC insider hints that the top contender to replace Kotb is weekend "Today" anchor Laura Jarrett. Other possibilities include Craig Melvin or Carson Daly. Since Kotb isn't departing until early 2025 and will remain part of the NBC network in some capacity, there's still several months to determine who will fill her chair.

\*\*\*

**Q:** What happened to the "Charlie Brown" holiday specials? I miss seeing the Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas ones on regular TV. I haven't seen them in a couple years. — E.B.

**A:** The "Peanuts" holiday specials started airing on Apple TV+ in 2020 as part of an exclusive deal with the streaming service. Previously, these classic shows were a part of CBS's holiday programming since 1965, so it's understandable that viewers are upset with the move to streaming.

Fortunately, each year, Apple TV+ offers days where nonsubscribers can watch the specials at no cost. "It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown" was made available on Oct. 19 and 20. "A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving" will be available on Nov. 23 and 24, while "A Charlie Brown Christmas" will be shown on Dec. 14 and 15.

Apparently, creator Charles Schulz wasn't a fan of the Christmas special's finished product, but when it became a massive hit, the franchise went on to create dozens of more specials. However, none of them has achieved the classic TV status that this trio from the fall and winter holidays has.

Visit TV.apple.com for more information.

\*\*\*



Hoda Kotb ("Today")

**Q:** I read about the newest "Big Bang Theory" spin-off in the works. Is Jim Parsons going to be on it? — L.L.

**A:** For those who might not have heard yet, in addition to "Young Sheldon" and "Georgie & Mandy's First Marriage," it was recently announced that a spin-off centered around three supporting characters from "The Big Bang Theory" is in development.

According to TVLine, Kevin Sussman (Stuart), Lauren Lapkus (Denise), and Brian Posehn (Bert) have all inked a deal with HBO's streaming service Max for the new yet-to-be-named series, "which is suspected to revolve around Stuart's comic bookstore."

When he was interviewed on "Who's Talking to Chris Wallace?" Parsons stated that he has no plans now to appear on the new series, but that he "would never say never to anything because life just changes so much."

Parsons, who served as an executive producer and narrator of "Young Sheldon," the prequel sitcom about his "BBT" character, reprised the role onscreen for the series finale.

Send me your questions at NewCelebrityExtra@gmail.com, or write me at KFWS, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803.

© 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

## Two-Year-Old Incision Occasionally Secretes Fluid

**DEAR DR. ROACH:** I am a 69-year-old, very active male. My left Achilles tendon severed two years ago, but it was surgically repaired. I had an 8-inch incision that has totally healed, with the exception of one small area about the size of the lead of a pencil. It's 3 inches above my heel. This small area would close up for a few days, then reopen with small amounts of off-white fluid oozing from the little hole.

Sometimes I apply Iodosorb, which keeps the area dry for a while. But, for whatever reason, showers seem to make the incision release fluid. I apply a bandage over the wound for most sporting or exercise events, just so that it doesn't get rubbed by the top of my shoe. Is there any solution to this, or do I just have to live with it? — R.M.

**ANSWER:** The Achilles tendon is a thick, tough piece of connective tissue between the calf muscles and the heel bone. It can rupture under extreme trauma (often sports injuries), in people who have weakness of the tendon, or due to treatment with antibiotics that are in the quinolone class, such as ciprofloxacin. When repairing the tendon, the surgeon uses sutures or wires to put it back together.

A residual wound defect is quite concerning to me. The foreign material in

# ENTERTAINMENT

## Amber Waves



### Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:** ♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

© 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

### HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

1. Wyoming; 2. Stanley; 3. Thomas Jefferson said it was a "jewel" among states because of its strategic location; 4. "Through the Looking-Glass"; 5. Nassau; 6. Leatherface; 7. The calorie; 8. A raft or a paddling; 9. The Brothers Gibb; 10. Fear of balloons

## October 21, 2024 Posting Date King Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12					13			14			
15				16				17			
			18			19	20				
21	22	23			24						
25				26				27	28	29	
30					31				32		
33			34					35			
				36				37			
38	39	40									
42				43	44				45	46	47
48					49						
51					52				53		

**ACROSS**

- Pop singer Celine
- "It's c-c-cold!"
- Cicatrix
- Vicinity
- Fib
- Sharpen
- Huge kudos
- Assess
- Blue
- Shadowed
- Pretended
- Decorate
- Rapscallions
- Campus cafeteria offering
- Carnival city
- Long skirts
- Oklahoma tribe
- '80s arcade game
- Castle defense
- Eyeglass frames
- Smooths, as wood
- Source of gum arabic
- Numerical prefix
- Composer Bartok
- Performance bonus
- Japanese noodle
- "Rocks"
- Rights org.
- Head, to Henri
- Fine, at NASA
- Detail
- Tempura choice
- Furnace fuel
- Pay to play
- Clarinet insert
- Scepter
- Feels unwell
- Mattress option
- Writer Kingsley
- Music genre for BTS
- Plano's state
- Abba-inspired musical
- Lake bird
- Slightly
- Forget-me- (flowers)
- 1102, to Nero
- Esoteric
- Rum cocktail
- Hindu honorific
- Border on
- Give up
- Oodles
- Arduous journey
- Author Umberto
- Agt.'s cut
- Hearty brew
- "Tasty!"

**DOWN**

- River blocker
- A Gershwin brother
- British ref. work
- Italian port
- Huff and puff
- Wardrobe malfunction
- Check

© 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

### Trivia Test

by Fifi Rodriguez

- U.S. STATES: Which is the least populated state?
- TELEVISION: Which character on "The Office" has a heart attack during a fire drill?
- HISTORY: Why is Delaware's nickname The Diamond State?
- LITERATURE: Which children's book features the characters Tweedledee and Tweedledum?
- GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of The Bahamas?
- MOVIES: What is the name of the villain in "The Texas Chainsaw Massacre"?
- SCIENCE: Which unit measures food energy?
- ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a group of swimming ducks called?
- MUSIC: Where does the pop group name The Bee Gees come from?
- PSYCHOLOGY: What irrational fear is represented in the condition called globophobia?

© 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

### King Crossword

Solution time: 28 mins.

Answers

ACROSS

1. Celine
2. Cold
3. Cicatrix
4. Vicinity
5. Fib
6. Sharpen
7. Kudos
8. Assess
9. Blue
10. Shadowed
11. Pretended
12. Decorate
13. Rapscallions
14. Cafeteria
15. Carnival
16. Skirts
17. Oklahoma
18. Arcade
19. Castle
20. Eyeglasses
21. Smooths
22. Source
23. Numerical
24. Bartok
25. Performance
26. Noodle
27. Rocks
28. Rights
29. Henri
30. NASA
31. Detail
32. Tempura
33. Furnace
34. Pay
35. Clarinet
36. Scepter
37. Unwell
38. Mattress
39. Writer
40. Kingsley
41. Music
42. Plano
43. Abba
44. Lake
45. Slightly
46. Forget-me-not
47. 1102
48. Nero
49. Esoteric
50. Rum
51. Hindu
52. Border
53. Give
54. Oodles
55. Arduous
56. Umberto
57. Agt.
58. Hearty
59. Tasty

DOWN

1. River
2. A
3. British
4. Italian
5. Huff
6. Wardrobe
7. Check



**free**

EAST ALDINE DISTRICT

**DIA DE LOS MUERTOS**

Join Us! *acompañenos*

DIA DE LOS MUERTOS

**Fall Festival** 11AM-3PM SATURDAY | SÁBADO

**Oct 26**

**EAST ALDINE AMPHITHEATRE**  
2909 East Aldine Amphitheatre Dr.

**HAUNTED HOUSE** **DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS**  
**CASA ENCANTADA** **COSTUME CONTEST**

FEATURING MUSIC FROM **GRUPO ACE** **NICO**

FOOD | PRIZES | MOONWALK | COMIDA | PREMIOS Y MÁS

ESTACIONAMIENTO / PARKING LSC - EAST ALDINE CENTER

ARMANDO WALLEZ, HOSOSO, REACH, eaac

# East Aldine District's Day of the Dead Oct. 26

Join us for a spook-tacular time at our Dia de los Muertos Fall Festival on October 26th! Enjoy games, prizes, music, food, a haunted house for extra thrills, and much more! It's all FREE, we have many incredible local vendors and partners that will be here as well. Don't miss out on the fun - see you here!

¡Acompáñanos en nuestro Festival de Otoño del Día de los Muertos el 26 de octubre! Disfruta de juegos, premios, música, comida, una casa encantada y mucho más. Todo es GRATIS, tenemos muchos vendedores y socios locales increíbles que también estarán aquí. ¡No te pierdas la diversión, nos vemos aquí!

# METRO offers Free Rides to the Polls

Registered voters can enjoy a free round-trip ride to vote in the 2024 elections on local bus, METRORail, METRO curb2curb and METROLift.

To ride, simply show your voter ID or other approved documentation to the bus operator or fare inspector.

To assist voters in finding their way to a polling location, METRO has teamed up with Vote Houston to offer nonpartisan and educational information to registered voters. For more details, please visit VoteHouston.org.

Free rides will be available within METRO's service area during:

Early Voting: Monday, Oct. 21 – Friday, Nov. 1

Election Day: Tuesday, Nov. 5

Plan your trip to the voting booth with the RideMETRO app or by visiting RideMETRO.org. METRO's Customer Service team is also available to answer questions and provide trip planning information.

Call or text 713-635-4000 for more information.



**SPRING INTO THE FUTURE AT LSC-NORTH HARRIS!**

**REGISTER TODAY!**

*Meet with an advisor.*

**SPRING SEMESTER BEGINS JAN. 13**

For more information, please call **281.618.5400** or email: **NHCBusinessOffice@LoneStar.edu**

**LoneStar.edu/LearnMore**

**LONE STAR COLLEGE NORTH HARRIS**

# Johnson Controls supports LSC HVAC program

HOUSTON (Oct. 2, 2024) – Lone Star College Foundation relies on area businesses to provide financial, professional and mentorship opportunities. Johnson Controls recently donated another \$100,000 to assist students enrolled in the LSC-North Harris HVAC/Refrigeration and Electrical Technology programs. Johnson Controls donation totals \$400,000 to Lone Star College System programs.

"Lone Star College System and Lone Star College Foundation appreciate generous donors like Johnson Controls who continually create pathways for our students to succeed in the classroom and the workforce," said Nicole Robinson Gauthier, CFRE, LSC Foundation executive director.

Through the Johnson Controls Community College Partnership Program, LSC-North Harris's HVAC/Refrigeration and Electrical Technology programs have received \$400,000, helping nearly 200 students, like Harold Baxley, remove financial barriers while in school. Baxley earned an HVAC/Refrigeration certificate at LSC-North Harris in 2022 and now works as an on-site technical project manager at Johnson Controls.

"Lone Star College-North Harris's partnership with Johnson Controls provided students like me with stability, sustainability and job satisfaction," said Baxley. "The suggestions, guidance and specialized skills I received have prepared me for the ever-growing HVAC industry. I am very excited to continue my career at Johnson Controls."

Although the multi-year grant has ended, LSC Foundation established an endowment in Johnson Control's name to support underrepresented students in their efforts to provide a better career and quality of life for themselves and their families.

"The skilled trades offer a culture of continuous learning, where hands-on experience and evolving knowledge

go hand in hand," said Julie Brandt, president of Building Solutions North America at Johnson Controls. "Our investments in Lone Star College System equip students with the skills and mindset to embrace this dynamic field and thrive and innovate within their communities."

To date, the Johnson Controls Community College Partnership Program funds went to 168 LSCS students; 90 earned an associate degree, 59 are first-generation college students and 16 are veterans. Additionally, students received access to internship and mentorship opportunities through lunch and learns and job fairs.

"Since the first year of the partnership, I have witnessed first-hand how it has transformed the lives of so many students," said Osvaldo Caballero, LSC-North Harris director, Construction Technologies. "The opportunities Johnson Controls has provided have impacted our students, elevated our program and strengthened our entire community."

Lone Star College System HVAC/Refrigeration and Electrical Technology programs train students on the mechanical and electrical/electronic systems involved in contemporary environmental controls. Graduates can enter the technical service workforce specializing in residential, commercial and industrial environment systems.

"Lone Star College-North Harris has structured its HVAC/Refrigeration and Electrical Technology programs to help increase our students' earning potential as they fill the huge shortage of qualified and talented skilled trades professionals needed today," said Cruz Casiano, Ed.D., LSC-North Harris director, Career and Applied Technology Division.

In 2022-2023, Lone Star College Foundation raised over \$4.6 million and provided \$2,639,819 in scholarships to 2,503 students and nearly \$991,583 in program and emergency support. Learn more at LoneStar.edu/Giving.