

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

- HS Scores & Schedules ..... 2
- High Meadows Library ..... 2
- Aldine Library ..... 2
- Great Schools Lab ..... 3
- Transition EXPO ..... 3
- Turkey Trot ..... 3
- Climate Change Danger ... 4
- Keeney's Korner ..... 1,5
- HCSO Domestic Violence . 5
- LSC Online ..... 8

# NORTHEAST NEWS



**HALLOWEEN OCT. 31**



**Trunk or Treats, Page 5**

Serving the Neighborhoods of Aldine, Greenspoint, US59 Eastex, Beltway 8 and North Forest for over 48 Years  
 VOL. 48, NO. 41 TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2024 HOUSTON, TEXAS www.nenewsroom.com

**NEWS NOTES**



**Fireworks Okayed Oct. 25-Nov. 1**

County approves sale of fireworks for Diwali, Día de Los Muertos

By David Taylor  
 Managing Editor

Harris County Commissioners recently approved the eight-day calendar for selling fireworks for the celebration of Diwali, a major religious festival celebrated by Hindus, Jains and Sikhs. For Hindus, it symbolizes the triumph of good over evil, knowledge over ignorance and light over darkness. Setting off fireworks is a cherished part of the celebrations around the world.

"This was added to the fireworks legislation last legislature," said Sue Davis, spokesperson for Top Dog Fireworks. The fireworks were for the Diwali holiday, but Davis said they also added in the Día de Los Muertos since it falls on the last day of

Continued. See FIREWORKS OKAY, Page 2

## Candidates bring campaigns to Texas; Harris holds star-studded rally in Houston

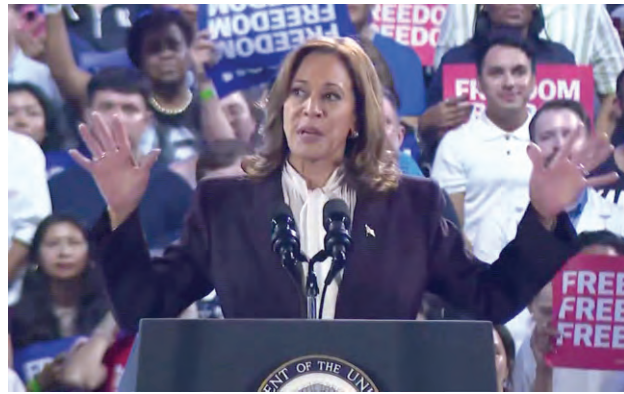
By David Taylor  
 Managing Editor

Both presidential campaigns made visits to the Lone Star state last Friday making their final pitch for votes. While former president Donald Trump made a daytime visit to the state's capital, it was Vice President Kamala Harris who tapped Houston talent to highlight at her rally Friday night.

Beyoncé was the star of the rally not only with her willingness to share with the crowd in her first-ever appearance at a political rally.

"I'm not here as a celebrity. I'm not here as a politician. I'm here as a mother," she told the audience.

Willie Nelson, 91, joined



KAMALA HARRIS, SPEAKING AT THE RALLY IN HOUSTON'S SHELL ENERGY STADIUM, BEFORE A CROWD OF 30,000

Harris onstage to show his support for whom he called "Madam President."

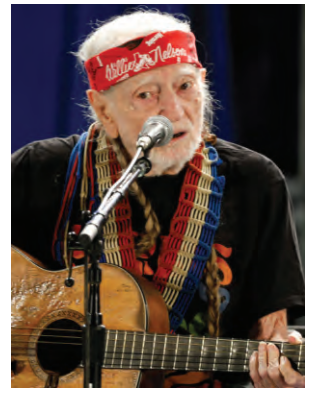
Earlier, bolstered by a large blue and white sign behind them that read "Reproductive Freedom," a group of physicians dressed out in their lab coats and filed onto the

stage to speak out about abortion rights.

"In 10 days, we're going to beat Ted Cruz, and we'll make Roe v Wade the law of the land again," said Colin Allred, the Democratic candidate trying to unseat current Sen. Ted Cruz.



BEYONCÉ SPOKE IN SUPPORT, BUT DID NOT PERFORM



WILLIE NELSON SANG "ON THE ROAD AGAIN" AMONG OTHERS

Allred was at the rally needing the boost to close the gap between him and Cruz.

Emerson College polling has Senator Cruz with a one-point lead over Allred, who has narrowed the gap from a four-point lead by Cruz in September.

According to the latest RealClearPolitics polling numbers, Harris trails Trump by 51.6 percent to 45.6 percent (<https://www.realclearpolling.com/polls/president/general/>)

Continued. See ELECTION CAMPAIGNS, Page 2

## MacArthur students paint mural as part of East Aldine's Big Walls, Big Dreams project

Aldine ISD leaders and Board of Trustees recently joined the East Aldine Management District (EAMD) and MacArthur High School students and staff members to celebrate the completion of the mural project at the campus. The project, a testament to the power of collaboration and community spirit, was made possible by the EAMD and its Arts Council with the Big Walls, Big Dreams initiative in collaboration with Up Art Studio. According to Kaileigh Newman, AISD's visual arts director, the



STUDENTS PAINTED THE MURAL ON THE SIDE OF MACARTHUR HIGH SCHOOL, UNDER THE DIRECTION OF ARTIST JESSE DE LEON.

captivating mural reflects these values and is a source of pride and inspiration for our community.

"Art truly connects the community with a sense of belonging and cultural identity," said Newman.

We extend a massive shoutout to well-known Houston area artist Jesse de Leon for bringing his vision and talent to life, celebrating the rich cultural heritage of the MacArthur community, and engaging our students.

MORE Photos. See MacArthur Mural, Page 8

## Coffee with Commissioner Garcia; the community talks



Last Saturday, October 26 Pct. 2 County Commissioner Adrian Garcia held a 'COFFEE WITH THE COMMISSIONER' chat session, to listen to the needs of residents of Aldine and Precinct 2. About 100 persons participated over a 2 hours session, held at Mannie's Seafood Restaurant on E. Mt. Houston Road. Garcia listened patiently to gripes and suggestions, and took notes so that he could follow through with solutions when possible. MORE PHOTOS on Page 8.

### FOOTBALL SEASON WEEK 9:

## Texans visit Jets on Halloween night; Aggies have tough road test at S. Carolina

The Texans hit the road for the second time in three weeks when they take on Aaron Rodgers and the Jets on Thursday Night Football on Halloween night. Let's hope the ghouls and goblins don't get the Texans.

A year ago, Houston lost to the Jets 30-6 as starting QB C.J. Stroud left the game with a concussion and the Texans offense never got untracked. This time around, the second-year signal caller should be available and Texans fans are hoping for a better result this time around.

They'd better hope Stroud and his teammates aren't in the giving mood this Halloween and that the offensive line plays better than it did two weeks ago in their 24-22 loss at Green Bay. The O-line gave up four sacks and Stroud had his poorest



KEENEY'S KORNER

BY  
**MIKE KEENEY**

passing performance of the season as the Packers defense limited him to 86 yards.

Texans fans hope the offensive line will have the kinks worked out when they head to The Meadowlands to take on a struggling Jets team that despite the addition of Rodger's favorite receiver when the two played in Green Bay, Davante Adams, fell to 2-5 two weeks ago after their 37-15 loss at Pittsburgh.

While the Texans and Jets open Week 9 on Thursday Night

Football, the struggling Cowboys head to Atlanta on Sunday to take on a Falcons team that has been up and down this year. Ironically, the Cowboys have played better on the road (all three of their wins heading into last Sunday's game at San Francisco) have come on the road, while they have lost all three of their home games. The Falcons are also having trouble winning at home as they've

Continued. See KEENEY'S KORNER, Page 5

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# SCHOOL NEWS PAGE

## Aldine ISD Hosts System of Great Schools Learning Lab for Public School Districts



Comprising the SGS panel are (seated, l-r) La Promesa Principal Ana Fernanda Flores-Bolivar, Chief Transformation Officer Dr. Adrian Bustillos, Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney, Chief Academics Officer Dr. Faviola Cantú, and Gaby Sierra, executive director of transformation.

Recently, Aldine Independent School District (AISD) welcomed district leaders across Texas as part of the System of Great Schools (SGS) Learning Lab. This two-day event brought together public school districts dedicated to transforming educational opportunities for students and fostering sustainable, high-quality school systems.

The SGS initiative empowers district leaders with the tools, strategies, and support to understand school performance and community needs better. By leveraging data-driven insights, districts can develop schools that genuinely meet the demands and aspirations of families. The strategy operates through four key pillars:

1. Analyzing School Performance
2. Expanding Exceptional Educational Offerings
3. Enhancing Access to Options
4. Fostering Innovative Organizational Frameworks

Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney warmly welcomed visitors, setting the stage for a deep dive into Aldine's efforts to provide students with innovative and tailored learning environments. During the Learning Lab, attendees had the unique opportunity to visit several Aldine ISD campuses, each showcasing a unique and inspiring learning environment.

The tour featured four schools — each exemplifying different aspects of the SGS Strategy.

Goodman Elementary



School, led by Principal LaDon Ward, operates under the Accelerating Campus Excellence (ACE) model, a district initiative that provides additional resources and support to schools needing improvement, resulting in accelerated student outcomes.

Worsham Elementary School, with Principal Jacqueline Beas, also follows the ACE model, focusing on comprehensive reform and accountability.

Aldine Young Women's Leadership Academy, led by Dr. Jericah Jackson, offers a college-preparatory experience and was created through the "Create New" action.

The HEAL Program at Nimitz High School, led by Principal Charles Land, is a specialized medical pathways program developed in partnership with Memorial Hermann. It provides students with hands-on medical training, mentorship opportunities, and a unique pathway to a career in the healthcare industry.

After the campus tours, participants reconvened for a panel discussion featuring key AISD leaders, including Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney, Chief Transformation Officer Dr. Adrian Bustillos, Chief Academics Officer

Dr. Faviola Cantú; Gaby Sierra, executive director of transformation, and Fernanda Flores, principal of La Promesa, a newcomer and dual language experience campus.

The panel reflected on the district's progress and shared insights on implementing the SGS strategy across various campuses.

The Learning Lab also featured several professional learning sessions designed to help district leaders apply the SGS framework in their schools. Sessions covered topics such as:

- SGS Foundations
- Re-engineering Systems to Drive SGS
- Board Pathway
- Center for School Actions: Innovation Cohort
- SGS 101

On Day 2, attendees participated in additional workshops, including optional sessions focusing on board engagement strategies to ensure district leadership aligns with the SGS vision.

Through the SGS Learning Lab, Aldine ISD shared how it reinforces its commitment to continuous improvement and innovation while providing an inspiring model for other districts striving to deliver world-class education.

## District to Host Transition Expo for Students With Disabilities on Saturday, November 2



The Transition Expo is an opportunity for families of children with disabilities, ages 3-22, to meet with agencies and organizations that can meet their diverse needs.

Representatives from numerous district, area, and state agencies will provide resources and information regarding all transition phases from toddler to adulthood.

**REGISTRATION FOR TRANSITION EXPO AND EVENT LOCATION**

Saturday, November 2, 2024 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Click the Link to Register if You Plan to Attend: [AldineISD.org/TransitionExpoM.O](http://AldineISD.org/TransitionExpoM.O). Campbell Educational

Center | 1865 Aldine Bender, Houston, TX

**STATE AND LOCAL RESOURCES, COLLEGES, AND MORE WILL BE AT THE EXPO!**

Texas Workforce Commission  
Colleges and Universities

State Agencies  
Parent Groups  
Vocational Programs  
Aldine ISD's Lane School  
Day Habilitation Programs (Day Habs)  
And Many More!

**CAREER EXPLORATION!**

We will have fire trucks, police vehicles, and EMTs (emergency medical technicians) who will give tours

of their vehicles, discuss safety, and provide information about their respective careers.

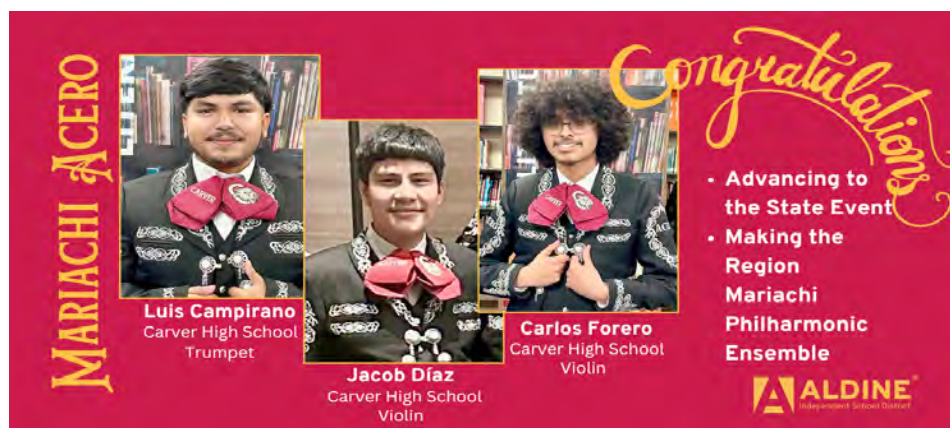
**FREE CHILDCARE**  
The event will offer free childcare, allowing parents to visit each vendor without distractions.

**SNOW CONES!**  
Parents and caregivers can purchase snow cones.

**QUESTIONS**

The Aldine ISD Special Education Department is hosting the annual expo. For more information, contact Brittany Edwards, program manager of high school special education instructional improvement, at (281) 985-6617 or via email at [bsedwards@aldineisd.org](mailto:bsedwards@aldineisd.org)

## 3 Carver HS Mariachi Program Students in Competitive Regional Event Advance to State



Several students from Carver High School's Mariachi Acero program have advanced to the State round following auditions in the Region 33 process.

They are 12th-graders Luis Campirano (fifth overall in trumpet), Carlos Forero (16th overall in violin), and Jacob Diaz (15th overall in violin). Only the top 18 mariachi students in the region advance to this level.

In addition to earning a spot in a competitive state audition, Luis, Carlos, and Jacob will join the Region Mariachi Philharmonic Ensemble, which will host a concert in March 2025 at Klein Collins High School (20811 Ella Blvd, Klein, TX

77388) on March 8 and will start at 4:00 p.m. Anyone can attend the free concert.

Jaime Alanis, the instructor of Carver HS Mariachi Acero, highlighted the intense competition our students faced. He said, "The mariachi UIL events are some of the most competitive in Texas. It's a testament to our students' resilience and determination that they advanced to the next level despite the large numbers and fierce competition. Our students excel as instrumentalists and vocalists and compete well with students on the state track level."

The 2023-2024 season was a successful year for Mariachi Acero. The pro-

gram earned Sweepstakes in the Texas UIL Region Mariachi Contest, marking the first time the AISD mariachi group advanced to the state-level mariachi contest. At the State UIL Contest in late February, Mariachi Acero received a 2nd Division Rating and seven outstanding medals for the best violin section. The group also played at the Mariachi Region Concert in March.

"The success of the Aldine ISD mariachi program is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our students and Mr. Alanis," said Refugio Rodríguez, director of AISD performing arts.

## 40th Turkey Trot set Nov. 2



The 40th annual Aldine ISD Turkey Trot will be held Saturday, Nov. 2 at Lone Star College-North Harris.

Aldine ISD will host the 40th annual Turkey Trot on Saturday, Nov. 2 at Lone Star College North Harris (2700 W.W. Thorne Drive).

Runners, joggers, and walkers are invited to come out and participate in this free event promoting physical activity and community well-being.

The 3-mile run will begin at 8:15 a.m. followed by waves of 1-mile run/walk start times between 8:20 and 8:30 a.m. Medals will be given to all participants and turkeys and gift cards will be given to select individuals who pre-register.

All are welcome to attend this free event.

Please see your campus physical education teacher for registration information. Thank you for supporting and encouraging healthy habits by participating in this fun morning focused on health and physical activity.

**ALDINE ISD ANNUAL TRANSITION EXPO**  
M.O. Campbell Center | 1865 Aldine Bender

**NOVEMBER 2**  
9 AM-12 PM

This event is an opportunity for families of children with disabilities, of all ages (3-22), to meet with agencies and organizations that can meet their needs while they are in school and help them transition into adulthood.

**WE WILL HAVE VENDORS LIKE:**

Texas WorkForce, Colleges and Universities, State Agencies, Parent Groups, Vocational Programs, Lane School, Day Habs, and Many More.

We will have fire trucks, police vehicles, and EMTs to give tours of their vehicles, talk about safety, and give information about their respective careers.

We will also have free childcare, to allow parents to visit each vendor without distractions.

We will also have snow cones for parents to purchase.



To register and to learn more, visit [AldineISD.org/TransitionExpo](http://AldineISD.org/TransitionExpo)



This event has been organized by the Aldine ISD Special Education Department.

OPINION PAGE

OPINION By Jackie Young Medcalf Founder/CEO THEA



Climate change is making polluted sites more susceptible to flooding

A mailbox is partially submerged on a flooded street in an unincorporated area in east Harris County near Houston on Sunday morning, May 5, 2024.

The physical and psychological scars from Hurricanes Helene and Milton will take weeks, months and years to repair.

It's not something people usually think about, but as climate change produces more frequent and intense storms, we need to recognize the damage they do to Superfund sites

Flooding from Hurricane Helene impacted a shockingly wide area. Milton brought less flooding, but it cut through the center of Florida.

These visuals show the hurricanes' tracks and the current or proposed Superfund sites.

While rudimentary and not to scale, they give a rough idea of what's at stake as climate change-induced weather events become more common.

That is something we know too well here in Houston. When Hurricane Harvey tore through this region in 2017, it exposed a local site named the San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund Site to historic water levels.

The containment areas storing dioxin and other paper mill waste material were breached. Chemicals flowed freely into the river and Galveston Bay, one of the nation's largest estuaries.

That is not the only local site threatened by climate change. The Houston area has the most such sites in Texas, and the General Accountability Office estimates that 80 percent of them are at risk.

Even as we see more intense rain events, researchers believe sea levels in the Gulf of Mexico at Galveston are rising by more than half an inch a year as Houston experiences the worst subsidence in the country.

In addition to the challenge that storms pose to known Superfund sites, we share another challenge with communities around the country experiencing increased flooding.

Houston expanded quickly with the growth of its petrochemical, port and rail industries. Hundreds of smaller industrial sites popped up to service those industries.

How many sites are there? A team from Rice University, NYU and Brown went back through the records and identified nearly 2,000 long-gone sites in Houston.

Our analysis of known toxic sites in the city identified chemicals that have been linked to more than 30 cancers and other illnesses.

When flooding hits neighborhoods that never typically flooded in the past, the water mixes with chemicals from old sites, releasing them from the soil.

The people who live closest to the sites are at a higher risk. The study authors estimate that 854,000 Houstonians live within a block of an abandoned site.

The tragic storms that struck the southeast created an immediate need to rebuild damaged homes and shattered lives.

Our experience here in Houston may be a warning to other communities that we are unprepared for this climate change threat.

Looking at the Superfund sites that were inundated in Houston this year, the EPA had inadequate protocols for testing the integrity of the sites following the flooding or notifying the public of the results.

As a nation, we lack the legislative and regulatory framework to address this evolving pollution problem.

Finding answers will take time, but based on what we have seen this hurricane season, we need to get started on solutions now.

Jackie Medcalf is the CEO and founder of Texas Health and Environment Alliance, a Houston-based nonprofit that works with communities threatened by Superfund and other historic toxic waste sites.



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Gary Borders



5th Circuit Court Removes Judge from Foster Care Suit

The federal judge who has repeatedly found Texas in contempt for not fixing its foster care system has been removed by the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals after a three-judge panel faulting U.S. District Judge Janis Jack's "highly antagonistic demeanor,"

"We are pleased that the 5th Circuit recognized the significant efforts DFPS and HHSC have invested in serving the children and families of our state," according to a shared statement from the health commission and social services agency.

About 9,000 children are permanent wards of the state after being removed from their homes because of neglect or abuse. Jack has been hearing that case since 2011.

A lawyer for the plaintiffs said an appeal is planned.

"Frankly, this is a sad day for Texas children," attorney Paul Yetter said in a statement Friday. "For over a decade, Judge Jack pushed the state to fix its broken system.

CRUZ, ALLRED FACE OFF IN DEBATE

Republican incumbent Ted Cruz and Democratic challenger Colin Allred debated abortion, immigration and other contentious issues in their only scheduled debate last Tuesday, just days before early voting began on Monday.

The Austin American-Statesman reported Allred aggressively attacked Cruz for supporting the repeal of Roe vs. Wade, overturning that landmark abortion decision, while Cruz defended allowing the state's right to determine abortion policy.

The two also fought over immigration, with Cruz claim-



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Gary Borders

ing Allred has voted against funding a border wall three times. Allred in turn slammed Cruz for helping kill a bipartisan border security bill that GOP nominee Donald Trump urged Republicans to reject for political reasons.

The Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol also was a point of contention. Allred, a former NFL linebacker who is now a three-term congressman, said he "took off my suit jacket" to prepare to defend the House from the mob.

"When the mob came, Senator Cruz was hiding in a supply closet," he said.

TOOL HELPS STUDENTS LEARN WHICH UNIVERSITIES WILL ACCEPT THEM

Texas high school students can now see which of the state's public universities would accept them based on their academic information, using a new tool called Direct Admissions, according to the Texas Standard. The tool is meant to streamline the college application process and let students quickly know which participating Texas public universities will accept them based on their class rank, grade point average, and test scores.

"Direct Admissions has the potential to reduce time, boost confidence, and increase transparency, encouraging Texans who might not otherwise consider college to take the next step," Interim Commissioner of Higher Education Sarah Keyton said in a press release.

A total of 31 public universities in the state are using the new tool.

Meanwhile, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board is extending the state financial aid application priority deadline a month to Feb. 15 for the 2025-2026 application cycle because of continued delays with the Free Application for Federal Stu-

dent Aid (FAFSA), which slowed applications last school year.

The state's priority deadline is intended to encourage students to complete their application promptly in order to raise the likelihood of receiving state funding.

REPORT: PURGE OF NONCITIZENS FROM VOTER ROLLS LIKELY INFLATED

An investigation by ProPublica and The Tribune found that of the more than 6,500 voters taken from the state's rolls because they were deemed noncitizens, many likely were removed because they did not respond to letters about their citizenship.

While Abbott touted the 6,500 figure, the secretary of state's office identified 580 people as noncitizens in a report it gave Abbott in late August.

Both Abbott and Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton have pushed claims that noncitizens are seeking to vote in the November election. Many election officials have said there is little to no evidence that is the case.

EARLY VACCINATIONS URGED AS FLU SEASON ARRIVES

The Texas Department of State Health Services is urging Texans to get vaccinated against flu as soon as possible, as cases traditionally begin to rise this time of year. It takes about two weeks for the body to make flu antibodies after getting the shot.

"We recommend everyone ages six months and older get a flu shot as soon as possible," said DSHS Commissioner Jennifer Shuford.

People with the flu are most contagious in the first three days of illness, with the virus being spread through droplets. Vaccines for other respiratory illnesses, such as VOCI-19 and RSV, are also available and can be taken at the same time as a flu shot, depending on advice from one's health-care provider.

STATE'S LATEST POPULATION ESTIMATES ARE IN

The state's estimated population as of Jan. 1, 2024 was 30,749,519, according to the Texas Demographic Center. That is an increase of 1.6 million since the 2020 census count - or 5.5%.

The two fastest-growing counties in terms of percentage increase are Kaufman, up 26.7% since 2020, and Rockwall, up 25% for the same time period.

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

Other Mothers



Over the weekend, Felix met his three other mothers.

Felix is our cat, and we adopted him from Mexico. We are now back in Mexico for the first time since we adopted him and, of course, Felix is with us.

When my husband, Peter, and I first discussed adopting a cat, I had in mind some needy little creature who would cuddle on my lap when I read. Instead, we got Felix.

Felix was a street cat for two years before he was scooped up by his foster mothers. He was very skinny when they found him. He is black and white, with silky fur and a sly grin, and he is not at all interested in sitting on anyone's lap.

I had half-hoped there might be a mariachi band playing when we landed, congratulating Felix on his triumphant return. Instead, we were met by a customs official who made a photocopy of Felix's health records, took his temperature, and wished us all a pleasant visit.

Once we got to our little apartment surrounded by painted suns and got all our stuff back into the usual cupboards and cabinets, we contacted Felix's foster mother, Marcela, and told her we were back, and said we would love to have her over for cake.

Felix's foster mother works at the environmental preserve where Peter takes his long daily walk. She lives with her sister and her sister's daughter, and they all live with whatever animals they have collected and are caring for on that particular day. At present, there are two cats, four birds and eleven dogs.

"I think she spends all of her salary on animal food!" Marcela's boss told Peter. Marcela has a big heart. She was delighted to come with her sister and niece to our apartment for cake and to see how Felix was doing.

"Do you think they'll be surprised how big he is?" Peter asked.

"They'll think he's fat!" I said.

I was a little nervous because I knew that having them over for cake would be a challenge. They speak almost no English, and Peter speaks no Spanish, so I am the one who is supposed to be translating for everyone, and I do not speak enough Spanish to be a translator.

But it really didn't matter because no one was there to listen to me. They were there to visit Felix.

"Oh! He's big." That's what they all said—and even Peter understood that.

"He is!" I agreed. "Do you think he's fat?" The two women and the young girl all looked at Felix very seriously while eating their carrot cake.

"No," they all said, after a moment's consideration. They did not think he was too fat.

"But he is a little spoiled, don't you think?" I asked.

All three of them laughed and said, no, he couldn't be spoiled because he was a precious cat, and he deserved the best—and even Felix understood that.

So we finished our carrot cake, and the young girl played with her bubble machine, which looked like a camera but shot out bubbles, which Felix thought was very exciting.

"He has found a good family," Marcela said.

"We are all Felix's family now," I told her. And everyone agreed—especially Felix.

Till next time, Carrie

NORTHEAST NEWS contact information and staff list including Gilbert Hoffman, Mei-Ing Hoffman, David Taylor, Kristan Hoffman, Julieta Paita, Gerardo Hernandez, and Contributing Writers Mike Keeney, Charlotte Jackson, Allan Jamail, Kristan Hoffman, Marina Flores Sugg.



# CHURCH PAGE

## BIBLE TRIVIA

By Wilson Casey


1. Is the book of Beelzebub (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From Matthew 12, when an evil spirit returns to a person, how many companions does it bring? 2, 3, 7, 16
3. Who called the city of Nineveh the mistress of witchcraft? Ahab, Nahum, Lucifer, Peter
4. In which book's 22:18 does it state, "Thou shalt

not suffer a witch to live"? Exodus, Numbers, Isaiah, Hebrews

5. From 1 Samuel 16, which king of Israel was tormented by an evil spirit? Solomon, David, Elah, Saul
6. What mark of the beast number comes from Revelation 13? 7, 333, 490, 666

ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) 7, 3) Nahum, 4) Exodus, 5) Saul, 6) 666  
Comments? More Trivia? Gift ideas? Visit [www.TriviaGuy.com](http://www.TriviaGuy.com).  
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THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE




*There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.*

1 JOHN 4:18

Detail from "The Scream" by Edvard Munch (1895)

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Joey King stars in 'Uglies.'

'Trap'

'TRAP' (PG-13) — Director M. Night Shyamalan's latest feature is now available to rent, after a stint in the theaters that brought in \$72.2 million. Led by Josh Hartnett ('The Bear'), the film follows firefighter Cooper Adams and his teenage daughter, Riley, as they attend a pop star's concert. At the venue, a huge police presence surrounds each exit, and Cooper learns from a vendor that they were put in place by the FBI to secretly catch a serial killer named the Butcher, who plans to be in attendance. Realizing that this is a trap set for himself, Cooper must employ his Butcher tactics to evade the police and get his daughter out of the concert without getting detected. (Amazon Prime Video) \*\*\*

Me 4") leads this sci-fi film based on the novel by Scott Westerfeld. Viewers get to experience a post-apocalyptic dystopian world where everyone is considered "an ugly" until they undergo cosmetic surgery at the age of 16 to become "a Pretty." After surgery, Pretties are then allowed to cross a river to a section of the city where they get to lead a fun-filled, vibrant life. But when an eager Tally Youngblood (King) decides to sneakily cross the river before her surgery, suspicions arise that this pretty life isn't at all what it seems. Keith Powers ("The Perfect Find"), Chase Stokes ("Outer Banks"), and Laverne Cox ("The Blacklist") co-star in the film, premiering Sept. 13. (Netflix) \*\*\*

'HOW TO DIE ALONE' (TV-MA) — If you're looking for a new sitcom-style series, look no further than this

eight-episode comedy series starring Natasha Rothwell ("The White Lotus"). Rothwell plays a lowly JFK Airport employee named Mel, who is desperately missing a certain spark in her life. Her life is characterized by loneliness, fear, and a lack of motivation ... until she has a near-death experience that completely shifts her outlook on the remainder of her life. Now armored with more gusto than ever, Mel begins to take flight and live life according to her terms. The first four episodes premiere Sept. 13. (Hulu) \*\*\*

'FIGHT NIGHT: THE MILLION DOLLAR HEIST' (TV-MA) — Based on the true-crime podcast of the same name, this series with an all-star cast is out now to stream! On a fateful night in 1970, Muhammad Ali plans to make his return to boxing. And after Ali's fight against Jerry Quarry, Chicken Man (Kevin Hart) will host an after-party to celebrate Ali's win. But little do they know that a heist has been in the works to take place that very same night. When Chicken Man is suspected of facilitating the robbery, he must work alongside Detective J.D. Hudson (Don Cheadle) to clear his name. Check out the rest of the cast: Taraji P. Henson ("The Color Purple"), Terrence Howard ("The Best Man: Final Chapters"), Samuel L. Jackson ("Argylle"), Chloe Bailey ("Swarm"), and Lori Harvey in her first starring role. (Peacock) \*\*\*

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HOLLYWOOD by Tony Rizzo

FHOLLYWOOD — Somehow we knew when we saw Taylor Swift and Travis Kelce together at the Super Bowl back in February, we'd see him in a lot more places than just football fields. He's already in commercials for Subway and State Farm, and now the Kansas City Chiefs tight end will lead the action-comedy film "Loose Cannons," as one of two loose cannons who are forced to partner up after their precincts merge. It's described as "Lethal Weapon" meets "Bad Boys" and "Rush Hour." Kelce will also host Amazon Prime's reboot of "Are You Smarter than a 5th Grader?" — renamed to "Are You Smarter than a Celebrity?" But first, we'll see if he has any acting talent in Ryan Murphy's upcoming FX horror show "Grotesquerie," where he will star opposite Niecy Nash and Courtney B. Vance. It premieres Sept. 25. When will he ever find the time for football and Swift, with her schedule? \*\*\*



Travis Kelce (Upcoming in 'Grotesquerie')

Margot Robbie's completed her first film post-"Barbie," titled "A Big Bold Beautiful Journey," which co-stars Colin Farrell. The film is scheduled to open in May 2025.

Meanwhile, Farrell currently stars in the HBO spin-off series of "The Batman," titled "The Penguin." The first episode premieres on Sept. 19. He will also lead an upcoming Netflix psychological thriller, titled "The Ballad of a Small Player," along with Tilda Swinton. \*\*\*

Could it actually be possible that Jennifer Lopez and Ben Affleck went into their recent ill-fated marriage without a prenuptial agreement in place? I thought they had better business minds and were less naive than that. That's like a trapeze artist flying without a net ... especially with their love history! \*\*\*

If you liked "The Greatest Showman," which starred Hugh Jackman, Zendaya and Zac Efron and earned \$462 million worldwide, get ready for another go-round because Disney's adapting the hit film into a big, splashy Broadway musical! The front runner for Jackman's role is 39-year-old Jeremy Jordan, a Broadway actor who

recorded demos of Jackman's songs for the songwriters during preproduction. But he ended up losing the second major lead role to Efron. He starred in NBC's Marilyn Monroe series "Smash" (2013) and the CW series "Supergirl" (2015-2021). \*\*\*

In England, actors have usually claimed that they were retiring from filmmaking, until the press they got from their threat made producers line up to hire them. Michael Caine announced that after "The Great Escaper," he would be retiring, and he has since stuck to his word. But Nicolas Cage cleverly announced that he may have three or four more lead roles in him. Director David O. Russell has taken the bait and cast Cage to play football coach and sports commentator John Madden, who died Dec. 28, 2021, at 85.

The catch is that the film is about Madden's NFL video game, which became one of the most successful franchises of all time. Although Hugh Jackman was considered for the role pre-"Deadpool & Wolverine," Nic knew how to tip the scales. Pretty Cagey of him, don't you think?! (c) 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

ENTERTAINMENT

Amber Waves



Weekly SUDOKU by Linda Thistle. Includes a 9x9 grid and difficulty level: Moderate, Challenging, HOO BOY!

HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF. Find at least six differences in details between panels.

October 28, 2024 Posting Date King Crossword. Includes crossword grid and list of clues (ACROSS and DOWN).

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez. Includes a grid of numbers and 10 trivia questions with answers.

Trivia Test Answers: 1. Alec Guinness; 2. A penis; 3. John F. Kennedy and Richard Nixon; 4. Orchid; 5. Number One; 6. Carbon dioxide; 7. Nautlius; 8. Lawyer; 9. Breastbone; 10. Amsterdam

# MacArthur Mural project,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The hands-on involvement of our MacArthur students in this project has not only added to its beauty but also cultivated a sense of pride and ownership within our school community.

We extend our heartfelt

thanks to the East Aldine District Board of Directors, the East Aldine Arts Council, Aldine ISD and Board of Trustees, Up Art Studio, and the fantastic MacArthur staff and students for their invaluable contri-

butions to this remarkable project.

“As an art educator and leader, I hope we continue to embrace the transformative power of art, collaboration, and community together,” added Newman.



THE OFFICIAL RIBBON CUTTING TOOK PLACE LAST WEDNESDAY. PRESENT WERE THE STUDENT PAINTERS, ARTIST JESSE DE LEON, ALDINE ISD SUPERINTENDENT AND STAFF, AND THE EAST ALDINE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.



ARTIST JESSE DE LEON DIRECTS THE STUDENT PAINTERS IN PAINTING THE “BIG WALLS, BIG DREAMS” MURAL.

# Coffee with the Commissioner,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Commissioner Garcia (at right) listened to a small group of residents at his table, hearing complaints and suggestions about matters in the Pct. 2 Aldine neighborhood. Here a couple explains their problem, as other groups chat at tables and wait their turn.



As Aldine residents explained their problem, notes were taken and an audio recording was made, so that Pct. 2 personnel could follow through with a report on how the problem was dealt with and hopefully solved.

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# Lone Star College-Online grows nearly 30%



Lone Star College-Online has grown nearly 30% in its second year. BestColleges recently ranked LSC-Online eighth out of 10 Best Online Community Colleges nationwide.

HOUSTON – Lone Star College-Online opened in fall 2022 to provide 3,643 students with a robust virtual educational opportunity for those needing flexible schedules due to personal or career obligations. Today, 4,708 students are finding great value in taking courses through LSC-Online.

“Lone Star College-Online opened to provide another option for prospective students to pursue and earn a college credential – fully online – without having to step foot on a physical campus,” said Seelva Keshvala Ph.D., LSC executive vice chancellor and LSC-Online CEO. “A fully online option aligns with Lone Star College’s mission of ensuring access and opportunity for anyone seeking higher education.”

LSC-Online offers top-quality virtual learning opportunities that lead to brighter futures for students, families and the community. The online campus has over 30 programs to help students earn an associate degree (arts, science or applied science) or an accredited certification. LSC-Online also provides 100% virtual student support services (advising, tutoring, library services and 24/7 technical support) and dedicated faculty and staff who are trained and specialize in online teaching and learning.

“The one-on-one interaction that I receive at Lone Star College-Online pushes me to work

harder to meet my goals,” said Lindsey Nanninga, LSC-Online student. “The professors push me to be successful and my kids get to see me get the education I want them to have.”

Nanninga, a paramedic for 16 years, placed her college education on hold to have a family. Once her children were in school, she went back to college. The LSC-Online student believes her professors’ positive affirmations make her not feel like just an email or discussion post and have made a difference in her educational journey.

“My time at Lone Star College-Online has a ripple effect beyond me,” said Nanninga. “My children, siblings, friends and coworkers have seen me reach my academic goals.”

BestColleges recently ranked LSC-Online eighth in the 10 Best Online Community Colleges nationwide. The college’s rankings include statistical data and consistent principles like academic quality, affordability and online competency.

“Lone Star College-Online allows students to complete their degrees virtually in two years, the same for those who take on-campus classes,” said Keshvala.

LSC-Online offers administrative services, business administration, computer and digital technology, energy, manufacturing and construction trades, health sciences and teaching. Visit [LoneStar.edu/LSC-Online](http://LoneStar.edu/LSC-Online) to learn more about all offerings available at LSC-Online.