

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

- Football Scores, Playoff ... 2
- High Meadows Library ... 2
- Aldine Library ... 2
- Aldine FACE awarded ... 3
- Shop Small ... 4
- Legislature-1000+ bills ... 4
- Keeney's Korner ... 1, 5
- TX RenFest ... 5
- LSCF Golf Tourney ... 8
- Christmas Tree Greetings 8
- TxDOT I-45 Meeting ..... 8

# NORTHEAST NEWS

Serving the Neighborhoods of Aldine, Greenspoint, US59 Eastex, Beltway 8 and North Forest for over 48 Years  
 VOL. 48, NO. 45 TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2024 HOUSTON, TEXAS www.nenewsroom.com

**Aldine ISD Healthy Fall Festival**



Aldine ISD with Equality Health Foundation and Community Health Choice gave away over 1000 Turkeys and held a Health Festival last Saturday. Story Below

**NEWS NOTES**

**East Aldine Christmas Tree Lighting Dec. 6**

East Aldine Christmas Tree Lighting & Holiday Kick-Off. Friday Dec. 6 from 6pm - 9pm at the Amphitheatre. Tree Lighting at 7pm. Holiday Decorations, Music, Food, Santa's Elves. Family entertainment to start the Holiday Season.

**BakerRipley 2024 Holiday Toy Drive**

Every Toy Counts. Help make their Holiday Bright. Support the BakerRipley Community Center by purchasing a toy from Amazon. BakerRipley East Aldine Campus, 3000 Aldine Mail Route Road, Houston, TX 77039. Follow this link to order a toy from Amazon: <https://shorturl.at/ActUr>.

**TxDOT Meeting on I-45 North Project (NHHIP)**

TxDOT will hold a Public Meeting on Thursday, December 5, 2024 at the Fifth Ward Multi-Service Center, 4014 Market Street, Houston 77020. Learn about the Highway Project, especially Segment 3 (Downtown area). Comments and Discussion will take place, as well as a presentation. See INFO on Page 8.

## Highway I-45 Rebuild project starts

\$13 Billion project will widen and relocate highway through Aldine & Houston

HOUSTON, OCT. 18 – Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) officials, joined by Texas Transportation Commission Chairman J. Bruce Bugg, Texas Transportation Commissioner Steven Alvis, Houston Mayor John Whitmire, TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams, P.E., TxDOT Interim Houston District Engineer Mo Bur, P.E., TxDOT Houston Deputy District Engineer, Varuna Singh, P.E., and more than 200 attendees including agency partners, community and industry leaders, officially launched construction of the I-45 North Houston Highway Improvement Project (NHHIP), one of the largest infrastructure projects in the State. The ground-



GROUND BREAKING FOR SEGMENT 1: Marc Williams, P.E., TxDOT Executive Director, Elizabeth Gonzalez-Brock, METRO Board Chair; City of Houston Mayor John Whitmire; J. Bruce Bugg, Jr., Texas Transportation Commission, Chair; Steven Alvis, Texas Transportation Commissioner; and, Varuna Singh, P.E., TxDOT Houston District, Deputy District Engineer



breaking event was held at Pitch 25 in East Downtown Houston near the start of the project's first phase. The celebration started construction of Segment

3B-1 in the East Downtown (EaDo) area and Segment 3B-2 in the Midtown and Third Ward areas. The I-45 NHHIP is a \$13 billion initiative de-

signed to expand roadway capacity, reduce congestion, improve safety, and enhance mobility along I-45 from I-69 to Beltway 8 North. It also includes re-

building downtown Houston's freeway system, which covers I-45, I-69, I- Continued. See I-45 GROUND BREAKING, Page 2

## Thousands Gobble on Aldine ISD Turkeys

Aldine ISD Gives Away 1,000 Turkeys at Annual Healthy Fall Festival

ALDINE – On Saturday, November 16, Aldine ISD's Family and Community Engagement (FACE) Department, in partnership with Equality Health Foundation and Community Health Choice, held its fourth annual Healthy Fall Festival at the M.O. Campbell Educational Center, to provide food and resources to families within the district.

Through the partnership, FACE and Equality Health Foundation were able to provide 1,000 turkeys and bags of produce to those who attended the



festival. The turkeys were handed out by MacArthur students and coaches. In addition, attendees had access to vaccines and health resources. Other information that was also available to the attendees was provided by Aldine Choice Schools, Voting and Family and Community University.

"It was such a welcomed sight to have so many families in the community come out to enjoy the festival," said Executive Di-

Continued. See Turkey Giveaway, Page 2

## AEF Golf Fundraiser exceeds goal, raises \$139,366



The Aldine Education Foundation Golf Committee poses with Aldine ISD Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney and Board Trustee Connie Esparza following the 11th annual Sonny Donaldson Golf Tournament held at Tour 18. See STORY ON PAGE 2

## FOOTBALL SEASON WEEK 13: UT, A&M meet for first time since 2011, much at stake: Thanksgiving Weekend loaded with a feast of football

Ult's that time of year when we give thanks for our many blessings, stuff ourselves on turkey and the trimmings and feast on football!

Yes, it's Thanksgiving and while we enjoy the company of friends and family, the football schedule is loaded with four days (not counting the Monday Night Football stinker featuring the Browns and Broncos) of intriguing football games at the college and pro level.

The highlight of the weekend comes on Friday, Nov. 30 when the University of Texas and Texas A&M will renew their in-state rivalry when the Aggies host the Longhorns at Kyle Field. Not only will this be the first meeting between the state's biggest universities since 2011, but the game will have real significance in the SEC race and the College Football Playoff picture. The winner of this game could have an inside track to the

**KEENEY'S KORNER**  
 BY MIKE KEENEY

SEC title game slated for Dec. 7 at Atlanta's Mercedes Benz Stadium.

Two weeks ago, UT improved to 9-1 on the season and to 5-1 in the SEC with a 20-10 road win at Arkansas. A&M also stood at 5-1 entering last weekend's game at Auburn. Texas hosted Kentucky. If both teams win those games, they will enter the big showdown in College Station with identical 6-1 league marks.

When these two met in 2011, prior to the Aggies leaving the Big 12 and heading to the SEC, Texas won, 27-25 on a last-

second field goal by Justin Tucker, who is still kicking for the Baltimore Ravens. This should be one of the biggest games in the 119th meeting between the two teams (UT leads the overall series, 76-37-5).

While much attention will be on College Station on Friday, there are a number of other key matchups this holiday weekend. No. 2-ranked Ohio State will be out to end a three-year losing streak their bitter rivals, the

Continued. See KEENEY'S KORNER, Page 5

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# AEF Golf Fundraiser exceeds goal, raises \$139,366

Continued from Page 1

11th Annual M. B. Sonny Donaldson Golf Tournament Exceeds Fundraising Goals for Aldine ISD Scholarships

The Aldine Education Foundation celebrated a successful day at the 11th Annual M. B. "Sonny" Donaldson Golf Tournament, raising an impressive \$139,366 in scholarship funds for Aldine ISD's graduating class of 2025. Held at Tour 18, the event surpassed its original goal of \$135,000, thanks to the generous support of sponsors, enthusiastic participants, and successful auctions.

Under clear skies and ideal weather, 140 golfers took to the course, enjoying friendly competition while supporting scholarships that will empower Aldine ISD students in their pursuit of higher education. Participants were also treated to both silent and live auctions, which played a key role in exceeding fundraising goals.

The silent auction included coveted items such as two round-trip airline tickets provided by United Airlines, a year of meals from Chick-fil-A, a luxurious recliner from Bel Furniture, and many other exciting contributions from community supporters. Meanwhile, the live auction offered a unique set of experiences, including a round of golf at Carlton Woods and a week-long stay for up to 10 guests in a breathtaking home in Kalispell, Montana.

"We are overwhelmed by the generosity and support of our community," said Craig Brast, co-chair. "Every contribution will directly impact our students' futures, helping them reach their academic and career goals."

With the success of this year's tournament, the Aldine Education Foundation is poised to continue making a positive impact on students in need. A special thanks to our sponsors and everyone who participated in the event to make this day unforgettable.

For more information about the Aldine Education Foundation and how you can support student scholarships, please visit [www.aldineeducationfoundation.org](http://www.aldineeducationfoundation.org) or contact [AEF@AldineISD.org](mailto:AEF@AldineISD.org).



# I-45 Groundbreaking,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

10, and SH 288. A key element is rerouting I-45 to run parallel with I-69 and I-10 through downtown Houston.

"We are proud to be here, opening this huge benefit for the people of Houston today and for future generations," said Chairman Bugg, emphasizing the project's role in addressing the city's transportation needs. "We're making big plays. Getting Texans moving and out of traffic faster and safer is our goal."

The I-45 NHHIP not only addresses current population growth but also lays a foundation for the region's sustainable development. The project targets congestion relief, improves evacuation routes, and promotes multimodal transportation options.

"This road is about economic development... You're talking about joining the two sides of downtown," said Commissioner Alvis. "In addition, it will move freight and give people back time. If you can save people 20 minutes twice a day, think about what that means for them and their families."

TxDOT Executive Director, Marc Williams expressed his enthusiasm about the project kick off, stating "This truly is a monumental day for the



Houston region and TxDOT, and I'm excited to see this project finally move forward."

Mayor Whitmire added, "I am speaking for Houstonians. We understand the importance of mobility which we are improving today... For our part, our med center, our retail, our sports venues—all of us are in this together."

The groundbreaking event had a football-themed celebration, featuring appearances by Houston legend Vince Young, NHHIP Project Manager Grady Mapes, and Texas Southern University (TSU) mascot TEX. The TSU Ocean of Soul drumline and Young Women's College Preparatory Academy (YWCPA) cheerleaders added vibrancy to the occasion.

The first phase, Segment 3B-1, will focus on stormwater management with the installation of 12-

foot box culverts to direct stormwater to detention ponds, enhancing flood resiliency. St. Emanuel Street will serve as a feeder road for this portion of I-45. This phase, expected to be completed by 2027, has a budget of \$121 million. Following this, Segment 3B-2, set to begin in January 2025 and expected to be completed by 2030, will focus on constructing new mainlanes, frontage roads, and enhanced bike and pedestrian infrastructure on I-69 between SH 288 and I-45. The estimated cost for Segment 3B-2 is \$695.5 million.

Visuals: Photos and videos can be accessed at <https://i45nhhipgroundbreaking.com/media.zip>.

The entire I-45 NHHIP project is expected to take 18 years to complete. For more information and updates, visit [www.txdot.gov/nhhip](http://www.txdot.gov/nhhip).

# Aldine Turkey Giveaway,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Volunteers who helped distribute the Turkeys.

rector of FACE, Georgina Foroi. "Events such as these are made possible with the help of our partnerships, and we are appreciative that they care about our families as much as we do."

The festival saw 4,250 people in attendance. They were also treated with student performances, games and activities, food trucks and raffle giveaways, which included items such as televisions and bicycles.

Fostering community involvement and providing resources are endeavors that Aldine ISD looks to implement throughout the school year, and FACE is a vital component of accomplishing just that. If you are interested in seeing what other events FACE has to offer, or are interested in seeing how you can assist FACE as well, visit their website

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### SCORES & SCHEDULES WEEK 13 & PLAYOFFS

FB Playoffs Week2

**THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE**

**LAST WEEK'S SCORES**

La Porte 55, Barbers Hill 28  
North Shore 44, Fort Bend Ridge Point 28

NORTH SHORE PLAYOFFS INFO: The No. 2 state-ranked North Shore Mustangs (12-0, 7-0) play No. 13 Katy (11-1, 8-0) in the Region III semifinals at 2 p.m. Friday, Nov. 29 at NRG Stadium.

**Take Pride in our Community**  
**Keep it Clean**

# High Meadows Branch Library

## SPECIAL UPCOMING EVENT !!

### ARTTOPIA DEC 11TH 4PM

Make some art and express yourself! Create something new using different mediums, such as paint, clay, and more!

### POKEMON CLUB (HOLIDAY EDITION) DEC 10TH 3PM

GOTTA CATCH 'EM ALL! DO IT WITH US AS WE PLAY POKEMON GAMES, DO CRAFTS, AND MORE! FOR AGES 8+

### DIY HOLIDAY GIFT CARDS DEC 10TH (ADULTS) 1PM

CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAY SEASON AND THE HIGH MEADOWS 12 DAYS OF HOLIDAY CRAFTS BY MAKING YOUR OWN GIFT CARDS

AGES 13 AND UP ARE WELCOMED

**LUIS ARREDONDO**  
LIBRARY TECHNICIAN  
HARRIS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
HIGH MEADOWS BRANCH LIBRARY 4500 ALDINE MAIL ROUTE RD HOUSTON, TX 77039 832-927-5540

### DIY HOLIDAY ORNAMENTS DECEMBER 4TH 5:30PM

CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAY SEASON AND THE HIGH MEADOWS 12 DAYS OF HOLIDAY CRAFTS BY MAKING YOUR OWN ORNAMENT!

ALL AGES ARE WELCOME, BUT AGES 12 AND UNDER MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT. REGISTRATION IS NOT REQUIRED

### DIY HOLIDAY GIFT CARDS DEC 10TH (Teens) 3:30PM

CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAY SEASON AND THE HIGH MEADOWS 12 DAYS OF HOLIDAY CRAFTS BY MAKING YOUR OWN GIFT CARDS

AGES 13 AND UP ARE WELCOMED

### HOLIDAY GAME CHANGERS 1 PM

HOZZLES BOARD GAMES AND PUZZLES WITH HOTCOCO AND HOLIDAY TREATS

# AIRLINE LIBRARY NEWS

**Wednesday, Nov. 27 we will close early at 5pm and be closed Thursday, Nov. 28 - Saturday, Nov. 30. We will re-open Monday, Dec. 2 at 11am.**

**Islamic Arts Society Art Display**  
Visit Aldine Library to view a special arts display from the Islamic Arts Society during the month of November. The display will be available from November 2nd until December 2nd.  
Islamic Arts Society aims to share the rich heritage of Islamic Arts.  
Art is a common language and binds diverse communities. The Islamic Arts Society hopes to promote mutual understanding and to bring the broader American community together.  
Find more information at <https://islamicartsociety.org>

**Movement Mondays**  
Come out and move! Join us weekly for Movement Monday! This program focuses on improving physical health and also enhances early literacy skills in a fun and interactive way. So, be prepared for Dancing, Stretching, reading and lots of laughter. Program is in English and Spanish. Encouraged to bring water. Best for kids for toddler/preschool. No Registration is required. **Monday, Nov. 25, 11 - 11:30am.**  
**Happy Hour**  
Got a case of the Mondays? Fight the mundane Mondays and join us for a Happy Hour, where we do different recreational activities every week! Join us every **Monday from 11:00 am - 12:00 pm! For ages 18 & up - no registration required.**  
Here's what we'll be doing each week in November:  
Nov 04 - Adult coloring - Color your world  
Nov 11 - Board Games  
Nov 18 - Walk in Place - Let's get moving!  
Nov 25 - Book swap - Bring a book to trade  
**Paint with Me**  
Paint with Me is a space for you to explore creativity and embrace the beauty of making mistakes. You'll work together with other teens to create large-scale pieces based on classic works of art! Our finished pieces will be displayed in the teen area. Each session begins with a brief introduction to the painting techniques and styles used in the classic work so that you can have a foundation to experiment with. Paint with Me is all about artistic expression, not technical perfection. Embrace your creativity, learn from your mistakes, work together, and find joy in the artistic process. **Monday, Nov. 25, 3-4:30pm.**  
**Bilingual Story Time/Hora de cuentos Bilingue**  
Story Time is a great way for children to build early literacy skills with stories, rhymes and songs. Parents are encouraged to participate by sitting with children and singing (and learning!) new songs. Children of all ages are welcome! **Tuesday, Nov. 25, 11 - 1:45am.**  
Estás invitado a asistir a tiempo de cuentos cada martes a las 11 am. Tiempo de cuentos es una excelente manera para que los niños desarrollen habilidades de alfabetización temprana con libros, rimas y canciones. Animamos a los padres a sentarse con los niños y canten las canciones con nosotros. ¡Los niños de todas las edades son bienvenidos!  
**Are Books Good**  
Help us decide once and for all whether books are good. Ms. Gage and Ms. Nicole will read the stories out loud. You eat snacks and vote on which story is the best! Great for reluctant readers ages 9-13 or for readers who need to practice their language skills! Snacks will be provided. This program is best for 2nd to 6th graders. **Tuesday, Nov. 26, 5-5:45pm**  
**1 on 1 Drop in Tech Help**  
Have questions about email, social media, word, your smart phone or more? Book a 45-minute 1 on 1 appointment and let's figure it out! Register on the website [www.hcpl.net/events/](http://www.hcpl.net/events/) or call the branch at 832-927-5410. **Tuesdays and Thursdays 5-6:30pm.**  
- Computer repair or diagnosis is not available.  
- To assist as many individuals as possible, you may only register for one appointment per week.

- Hablas español  
**Self-Care Sessions**  
Adulting is hard and exhausting. It's time to take it easy and focus on yourself. Join us on Wednesdays at 11am for Self-Care Sessions and take some time just for you. Adults 18 and over only. **Wednesday, Nov. 27, 11am - 12pm.**  
November Sessions:  
Nov. 6 - Chair Dancing & Guided Meditation  
Nov. 13 - Gentle Yoga & Guided Meditation  
Nov. 20 - Seated Workout & Guided Meditation  
Nov. 27 - Qigong and Guided Meditation  
**Tween Spark: Battle Jacket Patches**  
Welcome to the world of battle jackets, the ultimate form of self-expression! We'll be making patches together to sew onto your armor of choice (jacket, vest, shirt, whatever you'd like) next week. Snacks will be provided. This program is best for 6th-9th graders. **Wednesday, Nov. 27, 4:30 - 5:30pm.**  
**Passport Services**  
Do have plans to travel out of the country? You need to get your passport in order! Current routine processing is estimated at 4-6 weeks and expedited processing time is estimated at 2-3 weeks. You can **make an appointment** for passport services at Aldine Branch - <https://www.hcpl.net/services/passport-services/>. Our passport hours - Mondays and Wednesdays 12pm - 5pm; Tuesdays and Thursdays 12pm - 7pm; Saturdays 10am - 12pm and 2pm - 4pm - Appointments required. We also have walk-in service from 2-4pm on most Fridays on a first come first served basis. Those wishing to get a passport executed must have all necessary documents, check/money order, and required people present with them to be added on the list to be seen. Sign-in starts at 1pm.

**Michelle Pichon**  
Library Program Specialist  
**Harris County Public Library**  
Aldine Branch Library  
11331 Airline Dr.  
Houston, TX 77037  
832-927-5410

# SCHOOL NEWS PAGE

## Aldine ISD Trustees Announce Impact Award Winners for November

During the Nov. 19 Board of Education meeting, Aldine ISD Trustees recognized a number of district employees with the Aldine Impact Awards. Aldine Impact Awards are given to district employees and community members who go above and beyond the call of duty in their respective roles with Aldine ISD. Board President Dr. Kimberley Bookernominated Ervin Brown, who works special events at the M.O. Campbell Educational Center, Dominique Wiltz, an early childhood aide at Jones Primary and

Myriam Tovar, a dispatcher at the Westside Transportation Department, as her nominees. Board Vice-President Paul Shanklin nominated Paula Love, executive assistant to the Chief Operations Officer, as his nominee. Board Secretary Connie Esparza nominated the Donaldson Administration Building custodial staff consisting of Ana Bonilla, Jose Aguera, Gloria Aliva and Delmy Ortiz as her nominees. Assistant Board Secretary Rose Avalos nominated Karen Strahan, Assistant

Director of Transportation, as her nominee. Board Member Randy Bates nominated Roberta Massey, a router with the Transportation Department, as his nominee. Board Member Steve Mead nominated Mead Middle School volleyball coach Samantha Hall and Stovall Middle School band director John Ware as his nominees. Board Member Dr. Viola M. Garcia nominated Sandra Villanueva, the head custodian of the M.O. Campbell Educational Center, as his nominee.



Board President Dr. Kimberley Booker pictured with Impact Award winners Ervin Brown, Dominique Wiltz and Myriam Tovar.



Board Secretary Connie Esparza pictured with Impact Award winners Ana Bonilla, Jose Aguera, Gloria Aliva and Delmy Ortiz.



Board Member Steve Mead pictured with Impact Award winners Samantha Hall and John Ware.



Assistant Board Secretary Rose Avalos pictured with Impact Award winner Karen Strahan.

## Aldine ISD Wins Award for Family and Community University

On Wednesday, October 16, Aldine ISD's Family and Community Engagement (FACE) Department was honored with the Promising Practice Award at the Parent and Family Engagement (PFE) State-wide Conference from Region 16. This recognition was for their innovative project, The Family and Community University (FCU), which stands out for its unique approach to adult education.

The PFE council was first created in 2018, with the mission to build capacity for parent, family and community engagement in Texas schools by advising the Texas Education Agency (TEA) on how families, community members and educators can unite in the shared goal of equipping Texas children with the skills to become productive citizens and lifelong learners.



Aldine ISD was selected among several districts in Texas to receive this recognition; including Lufkin ISD, Rockdale ISD, and Spring Forest Middle School.

"It was truly an honor to receive this award," said Executive Director of FACE, Georgina Foroi. "This is our fourth year bringing FCU to the district, and seeing how it has empowered our families and made a difference in

our communities, it makes our efforts feel that much more rewarding."

During the conference, FCU members, which included district parents and a district teacher within the program, went on to facilitate a breakout session for those who attended the conference. The FCU members represented the voices of the community engaged in this adult educational practice. The session highlighted how families experience transformative growth, a change that significantly impacts the students' lives at home and extending the benefits of educational practices beyond traditional boundaries.

To learn more about this recognition, visit the [PFE website](#), or to learn more about the award winning program, visit the [FCU website](#).

AUGUST 18, 2023

## GOFFNEY CHRONICLES

The Official Newsletter of the Superintendent of Schools

Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney

Superintendent of Schools

With Aldine Pride!

Dear Aldine Community,

The Thanksgiving break is almost here! The weather has turned cold, and everyone — especially the host or hostess — is likely planning their holiday menu. When talking with staff members, some opt for turkey and fixings, while others go the tamale route. For those of you who joined us at the turkey giveaway during our Annual Health Fair on Saturday or at yesterday's event with the Houston Astros Foundation and Cheniere Energy, you likely already have your bird if turkey's on your menu! Before we take some well-deserved time to celebrate with our families and friends next week, I want to share some good news.

### Opportunities

Continuing with the theme of gratitude, I want to thank the Family and Community Engagement Department and HOPE Worldwide for celebrating their second year of partnership at Caraway Elementary School. Their SPARK (Special Program for Arts Resiliency for Kids) Academy initiative, which uses fun activities to teach students character traits that enhance resilience and reduce stress, has profoundly impacted our students. Thank you to the volunteers who have made meaningful connections

with our students and helped them develop these essential life skills.

This week, we celebrate the creation of a college-going culture during College, Career, and Military Readiness (CCMR) Week. Our students graduate with opportunities and choices for their futures. Activities span all grade levels — from inspiring prekindergarten students to dream big to helping older students plan their next steps toward a bright future.

### It Takes An Army of People Supporting Our Children

When we think of education support, teachers often come to mind first. However, it's important to remember that an entire army of people supports our children every step of the way. Education Support Professionals (ESPs) — including clerical workers, custodians, food service staff, paraeducators, and transportation workers — play a vital role. Whether inside or outside classrooms, they offer emotional and social support to students. Their contributions often go unnoticed, but their impact is undeniable. Today, we honor these professionals who ensure our schools run smoothly and students stay safe, healthy, and ready to learn. As Rev. Jesse Jackson has said, "Children need all school workers."

We also close American Education Week by recog-

nizing substitute educators. These dedicated professionals step in with little notice, maintaining learning continuity in teachers' absence. Substitutes often adapt to new subjects and classrooms weekly, demonstrating resilience and flexibility. They are the bridge between full-time educators and students, ensuring progress remains uninterrupted. Their commitment enriches our schools and helps sustain high educational standards.

Before I close, visit [AldineISD.org](#), follow us on social media, read the [Aldine Connection newsletter](#) for the latest updates, including [Bond 2023](#), and tag your good news with #AldineImpact.

I want to express my gratitude to the entire Aldine community. Your unwavering support and students make our students' achievements possible. Your collective efforts, whether big or small, contribute to the success of our schools. Thank you for all that you do. Stay safe on the roads if you are traveling, and I hope everyone has a fantastic Thanksgiving break with family and friends.

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

## Nimitz High School's HEAL Program Students Earn Medical Scrubs



On November 13, 76 ninth-graders from the HEAL Program at Nimitz High School achieved a significant milestone by earning their medical scrubs through dedication and effort.

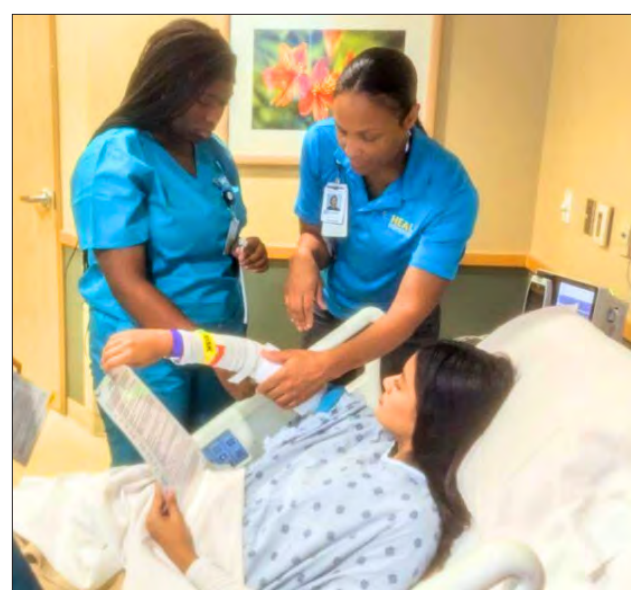
After weeks of basic core instruction, shadowing, and practicing simple procedures at Memorial Hermann Northeast Hospital, the students celebrated a milestone with the scrub ceremony, getting closer to pursuing a medical career.

Memorial Hermann educators hosted the inaugural Commitment to HEAL Ceremony "From Classroom to Care."

It was the school's first ceremony to give students their scrubs; this is the program's first official year. Chief Transformation Officer Adrian Bustillos said they wanted to celebrate the students' endless possibilities in the medical field.

"The ceremony recognizes the students' hard work these past few months and encourages them to keep pushing toward their goal," said Bustillos.

HEAL Program students have been actively engaged since the summer, seizing unique opportunities such as [Memorial Hermann's Summer Infusion Experience](#). This experience, which exposed high school



students to HEAL's five career pathways, ignited excitement and hope for the future of healthcare.

### About the HEAL Program at Nimitz High School

The HEAL Program is the district's latest Choice School/CTE option. The HEAL Program, housed at the former Nimitz Ninth Grade campus site, is supported by a groundbreaking \$31 million investment from Bloomberg Philanthropies. This significant investment, the largest private foundation grant in our school district's history, is a testament to the foundation's vision to connect health and education systems.

"The unwavering support from Memorial Hermann and the Bloomberg Foundation demonstrates

the commitment from all involved of the high-quality education and successful careers in healthcare we can provide our students," Bustillos shared.

Memorial Hermann and Aldine ISD co-developed HEAL's curriculum. The collaboration offers robust academic programming, specialized healthcare classes, work-based learning, and the opportunity to earn industry-valued credentials and certifications. The program is being phased in over four academic years to serve approximately 760 students at capacity. The initiative provides students with direct work experience and access to rewarding jobs within Memorial Hermann immediately after graduation.

## NATIONAL SUBSTITUTE DAY

NOVEMBER 22

ALDINE ISD APPRECIATES ITS GUEST TEACHERS.

OPINION PAGE

OPINION By Jeff Burdett National Federation of Independent Business

This Holiday Season, Shop Small

As we head into the final stretch of 2024, a recent survey of small business owners found that our local job creators feel more uncertain than ever.

But here's the good news: you can kick off the holiday season by shopping small. November 30, the day after Black Friday, is Small Business Saturday.

That's good for our small employers, their employees, and the communities they call home. Here in Texas, small businesses are the foundation of our economy.

When we shop small, we're supporting our friends and neighbors. Roughly 67 cents of every dollar spent at a small business stays within the community where it's spent.

Becoming a loyal customer is just one of the ways we can support Main Street businesses this holiday season. With nine out of 10 small businesses facing a massive tax hike next year.

Since becoming law in 2017, this deduction has empowered small business owners to overcome a host of economic challenges we've seen these past few years.

Main Street businesses, and the communities they support, will pay the price.

Recent analysis estimates that if Congress were to make the deduction permanent, it would create 104,000 new jobs each year for the first 10 years.

Here's where you can help: tell Congress to make the expiring 20% Small Business Deduction permanent.

This holiday season, don't forget to shop small. Our local businesses keep our communities strong and our economy growing.

Jeff Burdett is the State Director of the National Federation of Independent Business in Texas.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Opinions expressed here are not necessarily that of this newspaper or its staff. YOUR OPINION is welcome. Send a letter for possible publication to Grafikpress Newspapers, 5906 Star Lane, Houston TX 77057 or an email to GRAFIKSTAR@aol.com.

TOP 10 Best States to Start a Business
1. Texas
2. Utah
3. Georgia
4. North Dakota
5. Oklahoma
6. Florida
7. Arizona
8. California
9. Montana
10. Colorado
Source: WalletHub



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Gary Borders

More Than 1,500 bills filed as session approaches

Texas lawmakers last week filed more than 1,500 bills ahead of the next legislative session, which begins Jan. 14. The Houston Chronicle reported the proposed measures cover a range of topics ranging from border security to abortion access.

Republicans have expanded their control of both chambers after flipping several seats during this year's elections. State Comptroller Glenn Hegar has projected the state will have a \$20 billion surplus at the start of the 2025 session.

AMONG THE BILLS ALREADY FILED:

Proposed reduction or elimination of property taxes. State Rep. Cody Vasut, R-Angleton, has filed a bill to eliminate property taxes altogether and create a committee to examine "alternative methods of taxation."

Austin Democrat Donna Howard filed two bills that would expand when a health care provider can legally perform an abortion. The state's near-total ban on abortion has resulted in women coming forward with stories of delayed or denied medical care.

School vouchers are certain to be considered, since they are a priority of both Gov. Greg Abbott and Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick. Several Republican opponents of vouchers were targeted in the primaries and defeated.

Several House Republicans have filed measures to stop providing in-state tuition to some undocumented students living in Texas, effectively eliminating the Texas Dream Act passed in 2001.

Lawmakers from both parties filed bills that seek to ensure faster responses from utility companies after power outages caused by storms and hurricanes. The measures come after Hurricane Beryl hit southeast Texas last summer, leaving



millions without power for days.

TEA RELEASES FINAL FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY RATINGS

The Texas Education Agency has released its final 2023-2024 financial accountability ratings, which show 83% of Texas public schools earned an "A" rating, reflecting "a continued commitment to effective financial management practices so that they can best serve students," a news release stated.

The ratings are based on annual financial reports submitted by school districts to TEA, with districts getting a letter grade for financial accountability and management. A dozen public school districts and 10 charter schools were rated standard and given an "F."

Charter schools receiving failing grades for financial accountability were Bexar County Academy, Prelude Preparatory Charter School, Academy of Dallas, Gateway Charter Academy, Education Center International Academy, Texas Preparatory School Westlake Academy Charter School, Rocketship Public Schools, Texas Empowerment Academy, and Austin Discovery School.

Readers can look up how school districts in their area fared by going here: https://tinyurl.com/3x8ddmab.

ABBOTT ORDERS COLLEGE TUITION FREEZE FOR NEXT TWO YEARS

Gov. Abbott sent a letter last week to the state's public colleges and universities saying he would not support any undergraduate tuition and fee increases over the next two years, extending a

tuition freeze already in place. The Austin American-Statesman reported Abbott had discussed the issue with all of the state's university system boards of regents, who supported the decision.

"Texans face significant rising costs due to inflation," Abbott wrote in the letter. "When inflation and other economic pressures burden household budgets, our public universities must take every step possible to ease the financial burden on our students and their families."

Abbott signed a law in 2023 that stopped tuition and fee increases for the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 academic years. His proposal would extend that through 2027.

"I will ensure college affordability remains a top priority for the state as we head into the next legislative session," Abbott wrote.

WATER AGREEMENT MIGHT BRING RELIEF TO SOUTH TEXAS

A change to an 80-year-old treaty between the U.S. and Mexico could bring relief to South Texas farmers grappling with a drought and scarce water, according to The Texas Tribune. Under the amended treaty, Mexico now has more options to meet its required water deliveries, which have fallen short in recent years.

Under the 1944 treaty, Mexico must deliver 1.75 million acre-feet of water to the U.S. from six tributaries every five years, a deadline it is at high risk of not meeting. The country still has a balance of more than 1.3 million acre-feet of water that is due by October 2025.

The amendment will allow Mexico to meet its delivery obligations using other tributaries not covered by the original treaty, and by transferring water stored at the Falcon and Amistad international reservoirs.

"What's more important is we need water transferred at Amistad and Falcon," said Sonny Hinojosa, a water advocate for Hidalgo County Irrigation District No. 2, which distributes water to ranchers and farmers in the region. "If water gets transferred, they'll know they'll have a little bit of water for next year."

The amendment expires in five years unless extended.

DRIEST, HOTTEST OCTOBER IN MANY DECADES

The drought is back for much of Texas after the driest October since 1952, and the hottest since at least 1895, according to the Texas Water Development Board's hydrologist, Dr. Mark Wentzel. By the end of last month, nearly three-fourths of the state was in drought - up 40 percentage points since the end of September.

Only the northwest corner of the Panhandle and the southern tip of Texas received anywhere near normal precipitation.

Wentzel said the outlook over the next few months is still bleak, rain-wise. The latest seasonal drought outlook from the National Weather Service predicts all of Texas, except that corner of the Panhandle, to be in drought by the end of January 2025.

THE POSTSCRIPT By Carrie Classon

Words About Teeth



"I don't know many words about teeth," I told the dentist.

Since my husband, Peter, and I spend time in Mexico, it makes sense to get dental work done while we're here, and I had been putting off going to the dentist. I knew I needed to get work done where my gums had receded, and the enamel no longer covered what it was supposed to.

"Do you have the expression 'long in the tooth' in Spanish?" I asked the dentist and dental hygienist in Spanish.

I like this dentist. His name is Patricio. He is young and works quickly. He has a nice waiting room with a comfortable purple couch and a dental hygienist who doubles as his receptionist.

Abbott signed a law in 2023 that stopped tuition and fee increases for the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 academic years. His proposal would extend that through 2027.

"It's what we say about horses," I continued, while Patricio prepared his tools.

"Horses?" Patricio looked confused.

"The animal?" I clarified. Sometimes even when I know a word, I panic and think I have just said "cowboy" instead of "horse," and am describing long-toothed cowboys.

"Yes, a horse," Patricio confirmed.

"We look at their teeth to see how old they are. If they are old, they have long teeth. And so it's how we describe something that is old. It is long in the tooth."

I knew Patricio was busy with his dental preparations, but a part of him was puzzling over why the length of horses' teeth had any relevance.

"So, I am an old horse," I concluded triumphantly. "I have long teeth!"

The dental hygienist laughed, but I'm pretty sure this was because I was a crazy gringa, not because I had managed to communicate anything meaningful.

"I'm sorry," I added. "I don't know many words about teeth."

So, as he worked, Patricio patiently taught me words about teeth. I learned saliva and resin and anesthesia (which were almost the same as in English), and gums (which was totally different), and a verb that described what he was doing with the drill (which I immediately forgot), and several other words Patricio thought I should know. The whole thing went much faster than expected.

"How many teeth did you do?" I asked when he finished. "Five," he said.

"Wow! You are fast."

I told Patricio, in English, that I had meant to do this work a long time ago and was happy to have it done today. I think he understood, but I wish I could have said it in Spanish. I haven't studied Spanish in more than a year, and I feel badly that I haven't put in a little more effort. But I know the words I learned while sitting in Patricio's dentist chair are much more likely to be remembered than any I would learn in a classroom.

I looked at my tooth in a hand mirror shaped like a tooth and admired Patricio's work. I looked much less like a long-toothed horse, and the price was very affordable. I will be back on Monday to get the rest of my teeth fixed. And learn a few more new words about teeth.

Till next time, Carrie

NORTHEAST NEWS
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Founded in 1977 by Vic & Donna Mauldin
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## FOOTBALL SEASON WEEK 13: UT, A&M meet for first time since 2011, much at stake: Thanksgiving Weekend loaded with a feast of football

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Michigan Wolverines, when the two meet in Columbus on Saturday. This year, the Buckeyes are definitely the better team, but you had better believe the Wolverines will show up for this one and would like nothing more than to spoil OSU's Big 10 and CFP title hopes.

No. 21-ranked South Carolina takes on in-state rival No. 20 Clemson, while No. 8-ranked Notre Dame heads out to Los Angeles to take on a disappointing USC team in the renewal of one of the great intersectional rivalries in college football.

The NFL gives us a triple header on Thanksgiving Day, beginning with the Lions, perhaps the best team in the league, hosting the reeling Chicago Bears. That game will be followed by the Cowboys hosting the Giants in a game matching two struggling teams. The nightcap could be a good one with the hot Miami Dolphins visiting the Packers at Lambeau Field.

Week 13 continues on Friday with the Raiders visiting the Chiefs, who saw their undefeated season come to an end two weeks ago when they lost to the Bills, 30-21.

The Texans travel to Jacksonville on Sunday to take on the Jags, while the Chargers head to Atlanta to take on the Falcons in what should be an interesting contest. Arizona visits Minnesota in a key game for both team's playoff hopes, while the Eagles visit Baltimore in the Game of the Week in the 3:25 viewing window on Sunday. There's a good one on Sunday Night Football as the 49ers visit the surging Bills in prime time.

This is going to be quite a weekend of football viewing. Before we take a look at those games, let's review last week's record. A 10-2 week brought the season record to 93-39 (70%).

I hope all of you have a very blessed Thanksgiving. Please enjoy time with your family and enjoy the games!

### NCAA

**Michigan at Ohio State** – The Buckeyes will be looking to end a three-year losing streak to their rivals from the North. These two teams are heading in opposite directions. After winning the national championship and finishing 15-0 a year ago, head coach Jim Harbaugh bolted Ann Arbor for the NFL and he didn't leave much left in the cupboard. The Wolverines were 5-5 heading into their Nov. 23 game



## KEENEY'S KORNER

By  
**MIKE KEENEY**

against Northwestern. Michigan has struggled on offense all year long, especially at the quarterback position. Ohio State, on other hand, has been rolling as of late on both sides of the ball. The defense has allowed just 37 points in their last four games heading into their Nov. 23 showdown with undefeated Indiana. The offense is explosive led by QB Will Howard (2,484 yards, 24 TDs), running back Quinshon Judkins (723 yards, 8 TDs) and TreVon Henderson (662 yards, 5 TDs) and big play wideouts Jeremiah Smith (49 receptions, 865 yards, 9 TDs) and Emeka Egbuka (49 receptions, 612 yards, 8 TDs). During the three-year winning streak, Michigan has outscored OSU 117-74. Look for the Buckeyes to exercise those demons in a big way come Saturday in Columbus. My pick, Ohio State 34, Michigan 13

**South Carolina at Clemson** – This should be an interesting game to watch as the surging Gamecocks visit Clemson in a battle for bragging rights in the state of South Carolina. South Carolina head coach Todd Beamer has his team rolling and should enter this game with a five-game winning streak (SC played Wofford last week), while Clemson needs this game to keep its slim ACC title hopes alive. South Carolina is led by QB LaNorris Sellers (1,796 yards, 14 TDs), running back Raheim Sanders (749 yards, 10 TDs) and tight end Joshua Simons (32 receptions, 426 yards, 6 TDs). The Tigers will look for another big day from QB Kade Klubnik (2,563 passing yards, 26 TDs/341 rushing yards, 5 TDs), running back Phil Mafah (998 yards, 8 TDs) and wide receiver Antonio Williams (52 receptions, 615 yards, 8 TDs). Clemson is tough to beat at home, which the Gamecocks will discover come Saturday. My pick, Clemson 31, South Carolina 28

**Notre Dame at USC** – No. 8-ranked Notre Dame heads to the West Coast to take on a disappointing USC team that entered its Nov. 23 game against crosstown rival UCLA with a 5-5 record. The powers that be at 'SC can't be happy with a .500 record for what they paid head

coach Lincoln Riley. This will be the Trojans Super Bowl, so expect Riley to throw a lot of surprises at the Irish. ND has one of the best defenses in the nation as evidenced by the 104 points that unit has allowed heading into last Saturday's game against undefeated Army. The Irish are solid on offense led by dual-threat QB Riley Leonard (1,789 passing yards, 12 TDs/641 rushing yards, 13 TDs) and productive running back Jeremiyah Love (720 yards, 12 TDs). Look for the ND defense to hound 'SC QB Jayden Maiva (325 yards, 3 TDs) and slow down running back Wood Marks (1,024 yards, 9 TDs) as the Irish look to have an impressive finish to the regular season and prepare for the CFP. My pick, Notre Dame 34, USC 14

**Texas at Texas A&M** – It's good for college football to have these two in-state rivals playing one another again. It's been way too long since the Longhorns and Aggies went after it's fitting that there is so much at stake for both teams as they meet for the first time since 2011. The winner should land a spot in the SEC title game, while the loser could still earn a CFP bid. This game will match Texas' high-powered, but inconsistent offense, against a stout A&M defense. The Aggie defense will look to rattle UT QB Quinn Ewers (1898 yards, 21 TDs) early. Ewers has a lot of weapons on the outside in wideouts Isaiah Bond (30 receptions, 483 yards, 5 TDs) and Matthew Golden (29 receptions, 417 yards, 8 TDs) and a dependable tight end in Gunner Helm (37 receptions, 493 yards, 3 TDs). Helm could be a key player come Saturday in College Station. UT also needs to be able to run the ball against the tough A&M front seven, which means Quintrevion Wisner (468 yards, 2 TDs) and Jayden Blue (459 yards, 5 TDs) will be counted on to step up their games on Saturday. The A&M offense isn't explosive, but they get the job done, led by dual-threat QB Marcel Reed (1,129 passing yards, 9 TDs/375 rushing yards, 7 TDs) and wideout Noah Thomas (26 receptions, 390 yards, 4 TDs). While the Aggie defense is one of the best in the SEC, so is the

UT defense. That unit was lights out two weeks ago in its 20-10 road win at Arkansas coming up with six sacks and a turnover. This is going to be a tightly contested game, but I think the home crowd at Kyle Field will be the difference maker as the Aggies earn their first-ever trip to the SEC title game. My pick, Texas A&M 23, Texas 20

### NFL

**Chicago at Detroit** – The NFL's Thanksgiving Day Triple Header begins in the Motor City as the red-hot Lions host the stumbling Bears. The Bears and rookie QB Caleb Williams (2,016 yards, 9 TDs) will be entering a buzzsaw when they face the Lions on Thanksgiving Day. The Detroit offense is perhaps the most explosive unit in the NFL this year. In their last seven games, they have scored 42, 47, 31, 52, 24, 26 and 52 points. They have weapons all over the place led by QB Jared Goff (2,492 yards, 20 TDs), running back Jahmyr Gibbs (796 yards, 9 total TDs), David Montgomery (595 yards, 11 total TDs), and big-play wideouts Amon-Ra St. Brown (65 receptions, 685 yards, 9 TDs) and Jameson Williams (24 receptions, 538 yards, 4 TDs). Look for the Lions offense to continue to roll and send the Bears packing with another loss. My pick, Detroit 36, Chicago 16

**New York Giants at Dallas** – The second game of Thanksgiving Day should be a stinker as both the Giants and Cowboys have been major disappointments this year. Two weeks ago, the Cowboys lost their fifth straight home game of the season when they were routed by the Texans, 34-10. All five home losses have been blowouts, which can't sit well with owner and GM Jerry Jones. With Dak Prescott out for the season, the offense, if that's what you call it, is now in the hands of backup Cooper Rush (566 yards, 2 TDs). He will look to CeeDee Lamb (67 receptions, 774 yards, 4 TDs) to make some plays against a suspect NY defense. The Giants have benched starting QB Daniel Jones for fan favorite Danny DeVito. DeVito should just hand the ball to running back Tyrone Tracy (545 yards, 3 TDs) and let him run over a horrible Dallas run defense. I think the Cowboys defense will be the difference maker in this one as they finally pick up a home win. My pick, Dallas 23, New York Giants 17

**Miami at Green Bay** – The final game of Thanksgiving Day should be a fun one to watch as the Dolphins take on the Packers in Green Bay. The Dolphins have been a different team since QB Tua Tagovailoa (1,443. Yards, 9 TDs) has returned under center after missing four games due to a concussion. He has weapons in running back De'Von Achane

(530 yards, 3 TDs) and wideout Tyreek Hill (44 receptions, 523 yards, 3 TDs). The Packers have plenty of offensive weapons as well in QB Jordan Love (2,081 yards, 16 TDs), running back Josh Jacobs (838 yards, 4 TDs) and wide receiver Jayden Reed (38 receptions, 643 yards, 4 TDs). Look for Jacobs to be the difference maker in this one as GB remains in the NFC playoff hunt with a big win. My pick, Minnesota 26, Arizona 22

**Houston at Jacksonville** – The Texans will look to put the clamps down on the AFC South race when they visit the reeling Jaguars on Sunday. Two weeks ago, Houston ran over and around the Cowboys, 34-10, as running back Joe Mixon (764 yards, 11 total TDs) rushed for 109 yards and three TDs. QB C.J. Stroud (2,628 yards, 12 TDs) was happy to have big-play wide receiver Nico Collins (36 receptions, 621 yards, 3 TDs) back after he missed five games recovering from a hamstring injury. Collins and fellow wideout Tank Dell (39 receptions, 448 yards, 2 TDs) should have a big day against a beat-up Jags defense, which gave up a franchise high 52 points two weeks ago to the Lions. Head coach Doug Pederson is probably out of a job after the season and the Texans will make it another long day for the head coach. My pick, Houston 34, Jacksonville 18

**Los Angeles Chargers at Atlanta** – This will be an interesting game as the Chargers head cross country to take on a Falcons team that has been up and down thus far in 2024. Two weeks ago, the Falcons were blown out at Denver, 38-6, while the Chargers defeated Cincinnati in overtime, 34-27. LA will look for another big day from QB Justin Herbert (2,186 yards, 13 TDs), running back J.K. Dobbins (726 yards, 8 TDs) and wideouts Ladd McConkey (43 receptions, 615 yards, 4 TDs) and Quentin Johnson (22 receptions, 354 yards, 6 TDs). The Falcons need QB Kirk Cousins (2,807 yards, 17 TDs) to have a big day against a tough LA defense. Cousins will look to running back Bijan Robinson (783 yards, 6 TDs) and wide receiver Drake London (61 receptions, 710 yards, 6 TDs) to make plays to slow down the Chargers defense. My pick, Atlanta 26, Los Angeles Chargers 23

**Arizona at Minnesota** – A big one for both teams and their NFC playoff hopes. Arizona has been one of the surprise teams in the NFC this year led by QB Kyler Murray (2,058 passing yards, 12 TDs/371 rushing yards, 4 TDs), running back James Conner (697 yards, 5 TDs), rookie wide receiver Marvin Harrison Jr. (33 receptions, 499 yards, 6 TDs) and tight end Trey McBride (49

receptions, 552 yards, 2 TDs). The Vikings have gotten solid play from QB Sam Darnold (2,387 yards, 19 TDs), running back Aaron Jones (692 yards, 2 TDs) and big play wideout Justin Jefferson (59 receptions, 912 yards, 5 TDs). Look for the ball hawking Minnesota defense to force Murray into a key turnover or two as the Vikings pick up a big home win. My pick, Minnesota 26, Arizona 22

**Philadelphia at Baltimore** – A good one in the late viewing window on Sunday as the hot Eagles visit the dangerous Ravens in Baltimore. Philly entered last Sunday night's game against the Rams riding a six-game winning streak. The Eagles are loaded on offense led by QB Jalen Hurts (2,197 passing yards, 12 TDs/417 rushing yards, 11 TDs), running back Saquon Barkley (1,137 yards, 10 total TDs) and wide receivers A.J. Brown (33 receptions, 618 yards, 3 TDs) and DeVonta Smith (41 receptions, 516 yards, 4 TDs). The Eagles defense will get a real test against the Ravens Lamar Jackson (2,876 passing yards, 25 TDs/584 rushing yards, 2 TDs), running back Derrick Henry (1,185 yards, 15 total TDs) and speedy wide receiver Zay Flowers (52 receptions, 727 yards, 4 TDs). The Baltimore defense, which has been suspect thus far, needs to step up its game and something tells me it will come Sunday. My pick, Baltimore 30, Philadelphia 23

**San Francisco at Buffalo** – The 49ers head to Western New York to take on the surging Bills on Sunday Night Football. Two weeks ago, the Bills and QB Josh Allen (2,543 passing yards, 18 TDs/316 rushing yards, 5 TDs) led the Bills to a win over the Chiefs to end their undefeated season. While the Bills were winning a big home game, the 49ers lost at home to Seattle, 20-17. SF has been hammered with injuries this year and aren't the same team that has dominated the NFC for the last three years. SF needs a big night from running back Christian McCaffrey (118 rushing yards/95 receiving yards in two games), but that might not be enough to put them over the top against a very solid Buffalo team. While Allen is definitely the star of the team, he has plenty of help in running back James Cook (597 yards, 11 total TDs), wide receiver Khalil Shakir (56 receptions, 599 yards 2 TDs) and tight end Dalton Kincaid (34 receptions, 356 yards, 2 TDs). Look for the Bills to be rude guest to SF QB Brock Purdy (2,613 yards, 13 TDs) and the 49ers come Sunday night on national TV. My pick, Buffalo 31, San Francisco 20

# CHURCH PAGE

## BIBLE TRIVIA

By Wilson Casey

1. Which book of the Bible (KJV) mentions the word "thanksgiving" the most times at eight? Genesis, Nehemiah, Psalms, Isaiah
2. In 2 Timothy 3:1 - 2, what human qualities does Paul list as being signs of the last days? Adulterers, Sun worshipers, Renegades, Unthankful people
3. From Psalms 106:1: "O give thanks unto the Lord; for his \_\_\_\_\_ endureth for ever." Love, Good, Mercy, Spirit
4. From 1 Thessalonians 5:18: "In every thing give thanks:

for this is the \_\_\_\_\_ of God." Power, Will, Gratitude, Travail

5. From Leviticus 22, a sacrifice of thanksgiving is most meaningful when it is ...? Sincere, Often, At your own will, Extravagant

6. Where was Jonah when he prayed with the voice of thanksgiving? Fish's belly, Aboard ship, In the wilderness, Mountaintop

ANSWERS: 1) Psalms, 2) Unthankful people, 3) Mercy, 4) Will, 5) At your own will, 6) Fish's belly


Hardcore trivia fan? Visit Wilson Casey's subscriber site at [www.patreon.com/triviaguy](http://www.patreon.com/triviaguy).

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**THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE**

All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying: "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom, thanksgiving and honor and power and might, be to our God forever and ever."

REVELATION 7: 11,12



Woodcut from Chaucer's Canterbury Tales (1484)

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  - b) Minor repairs and installations of electrical circuits, fixtures, and appliances (stoves, refrigerators, washers, dryers).
  - c) Plumbing repairs (toilets, sinks, disposals) and minor carpentry, painting, and drywall repairs.
  - d) Minor clearing of drains and sewer lines.
- Lead maintenance teams to ensure high-quality service delivery.
- Ensure compliance with safety regulations and maintain an organized work environment.
- Provide outstanding customer service to residents, addressing maintenance requests promptly.
- Manage inventory control and part ordering.
- Conduct exterior building and property maintenance.
- Execute vacant apartment turns to prepare them for new residents.
- Implement preventative maintenance programs.
- Report to the property manager and log all assigned work orders accurately.
- Keep the grounds free of debris and trash.
- On-call duties as required.

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Nathalie Emmanuel and Giancarlo Esposito star in "Megalopolis."

of our dear Pogues won't be returning. (Netflix)

"MEGALOPOLIS" (R) — The latest film from legendary Francis Ford Coppola ("The Godfather" trilogy) has quite a lore behind its creation. While Coppola originally conceptualized the idea for the film in 1977, the film spent decades in development hell and was only brought out of it when Coppola was able to put \$120 million of his own money toward the film.

He also shot the film in an experimental style with lots of last-minute add-ins that cost him several of his crew members, including the art department and visual effects team.

In the film, Adam Driver ("Ferrari") portrays Cesar Catilina, a genius architect in the futuristic city of New Rome who can stop time. However, Cesar has made many enemies throughout his time in New Rome, including new mayor Franklyn Cicero (Giancarlo Esposito). So, when a romantic connection ensues between Cesar and the mayor's daughter, Cesar's enemies triple, and his vision for the future of New Rome hangs in the balance. Out now to rent. (Apple TV+)

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Professional boxer and YouTuber Jake Paul

Q:I watched the boxing match with Jake Paul and Mike Tyson. I didn't know that Jake and Logan Paul were two different people. Did they both start out on YouTube? — D.E.

A: Yes, Jake and Logan Paul are two blonde brothers who grew up in Ohio and became social media stars. They can be hard to tell apart. Logan started up his YouTube channel 11 years ago and grew it to more than 23 million subscribers. He's also a professional wrestler for the WWE and the owner of an extremely successful beverage company, Prime. Like his brother, Jake, he's also headlined boxing events, including an exhibition match against Floyd Mayweather Jr. in 2021.

Logan's younger brother by two years, Jake, recently beat Mike Tyson in a boxing match on Netflix. Many feel it was staged, but both Paul and Tyson came out winners monetarily when they each took home a seven-figure payday. Jake originally was a child actor on the Disney Channel series "Bizaardvark," then became a YouTube star like his brother. In the years before facing Tyson, Jake won boxing matches against several MMA fighters, but lost to British pro boxer Tommy Fury.

Q:What is the new "Bridget Jones" project coming up on Peacock? Is it a TV series? — S.G.

A: "Bridget Jones: Mad About the Boy" is a film based on the fourth book in the series by author Helen Fielding. Renée Zellweger returns as the hilarious and relatable heroine, Bridget, who is newly widowed with two young children. The film also stars Hugh Grant, Emma Thompson, Sally Phillips and Isla Fisher.

Look for the movie in theaters and on Peacock just in time for Valentine's Day, with a release date of Feb. 14, 2025.

Q: Who is the actress with the long brown hair featured in the commercials for the new Bob Dylan movie? She looks very familiar. Also, does Timothy Chalamet do his own singing in the movie? — K.E.

A:You're probably thinking of Monica Barbaro, who is best recognized as Lt.

Natasha "Phoenix" Trace in "Top Gun: Maverick." She also co-starred in the Netflix series "FUBAR" opposite Arnold Schwarzenegger and, prior to that, the ABC series "Splitting Up Together" and Lifetime's "Unreal." In "A Complete Unknown," Barbaro plays folk singer and political activist Joan Baez, who was instrumental in the success of Bob Dylan early in his career.

You could also be thinking of Elle Fanning, who sports reddish-brown tresses in "A Complete Unknown." She plays a character named Sylvie, who is loosely based on Dylan's girlfriend at the time, Suze Rotolo.

"A Complete Unknown" is directed by the same person who directed the Johnny Cash biopic "Walk the Line." Both of those stars did their own singing and learned to play instruments for their roles. Timothy Chalamet can definitely sing, as witnessed in the motion-picture musical "Wonka," and he's said to have done his own vocals in the Dylan film.

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

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"Saturday Night"

"SATURDAY NIGHT" (R) — Director Jason Reitman ("Ghostbusters: Afterlife") takes on this biographical-drama film that centers around the premiere night of NBC's "Saturday Night," which would later be famously known as "Saturday Night Live." The film's ensemble cast is hefty, full of names like Willem Dafoe, Finn Wolfhard, Dylan O'Brien, and Kaia Gerber, but Gabriel LaBelle leads the film as none other than the creator of "SNL" himself, Lorne Michaels. Viewers get to watch as Michaels nervously attempts to rally his dysfunctional cast together for the pilot, while merciless executives wait in the wings and expect the show to flop majorly. Out now to rent. (Amazon Prime Video)

"OUTER BANKS: SEASON 4, PART 2" (TV-MA) — The second part of the latest season of "Outer Banks" is out now, completing the fourth season since the show's inception in 2020. During the first half of the season, our favorite group of Pogues managed to spend all of the earnings they spent three seasons trying to locate, while simultaneously diving headfirst into a new treasure hunt.

JJ received some seriously shocking news, and Rafe, of course, is still up to no good trying to get his hands on some money.

What awaits in the second half of the season will leave you on the edge of your seat, as the Pogues try to track the mysterious Blue Crown all the way to Morocco. This time, though, one

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.

November 25, 2024 Posting Date King Crossword

Crossword puzzle grid with ACROSS and DOWN clues. Includes a list of 61 clues and a solution time of 22 mins.

Trivia Test Answers: 1. Cambodia; 2. Vitamin K; 3. Prince ("Love Symbol #2"); 4. "The Drew Carey Show"; 5. "Womanizing"; 6. A he; 7. "The Shawshank Redemption"; 8. State Farm; 9. 2.5 miles; 10. Specialized cells in the pancreas that produce insulin

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez. 10 questions on Geography, Science, Music, Television, U.S. States, Animal Kingdom, Movies, Ad Slogans, General Knowledge, and Anatomy.

# LSC Foundation Golf Tournament benefits students



The Lone Star College Foundation Drive for Scholarships Golf Tournament will raise funds for student scholarships.

HOUSTON – Nearly 230 individuals played 18 rounds of golf at Lone Star College Foundation’s 31st annual Drive for Scholarships Golf Tournament Monday, Nov. 18 at The Woodlands Country Club. The proceeds will help fund student scholarships and educational programs.

“The golf tournament has become not only a great source of support for Lone Star College students but also a long-held tradition with many of our sponsors returning year after year,” said Nicole Robinson Gauthier, CFRE, LSC Foundation executive director. “We are so grateful to our community partners for their generous support of our students.”

Investing in the golf tournament will generate scholarships through Lone Star College Foundation to support students’ goals of earning an education and workforce skills needed to succeed in their chosen industry,” said Robinson Gauthier.

Lone Star College Foundation is grateful to Chesmar Foundation for serving as the Tournament Sponsor.

“Chesmar Foundation is proud to partner with Lone Star College Foundation in supporting student scholarships, which ultimately helps our community grow,” said Don Klein, Chesmar Foundation president. “We know that education is the key to success, and we are thrilled to help make it a reality for hard-working LSC students.”

The Drive for Scholarships Golf Tournament will include a shotgun start with hole-in-one, longest drive, closest-to-the-pin, chipping and putting contests. A dinner and awards ceremony will follow the event. Proceeds will fund tuition scholarships, student emergency aid and on-campus meal vouchers for students in need. Visit LoneStar.edu/Golf2024 to see the full list of sponsors and underwriters. For more information on how to participate, email Foundation@LoneStar.edu or call 832.813.6592.

### About Lone Star College Foundation

Lone Star College Foundation impacts students’ lives by reducing the finan-

cial barriers to a quality college education. Since 1991, LSC Foundation has awarded over \$26 million in scholarships to more than 27,000 students and raised nearly \$13 million in program support. Learn more at LoneStar.edu/Giving.

### About Lone Star College

Lone Star College System enrolls over 90,000 students each semester providing high-quality, low-cost academic transfer and career training education. LSCS is training tomorrow’s workforce today and redefining the community college experience to support student success. Mario K. Castillo, J.D., serves as Chancellor of LSCS, the largest institution of higher education in the Houston area and has been named a 2024 Great Colleges to Work For® institution by the Chronicle of Higher Education. LSCS consists of eight colleges, seven centers, eight Workforce Centers of Excellence and Lone Star Corporate College. To learn more, visit LoneStar.edu.

# Hang your Christmas Card on our Tree

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## I-45 North Houston Highway Improvement Project (NHHIP)

### YOU'RE INVITED TO A PUBLIC MEETING

**I-45 NORTH HOUSTON HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (NHHIP)**

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2024**  
5:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.

**FIFTH WARD MULTI-SERVICE CENTER**  
4014 MARKET ST., HOUSTON, TX 77020

Join us to learn more about the I-45 NHHIP—a transformative project designed to reduce congestion, enhance safety, improve mobility, drive economic and community opportunities, and bolster flood resilience across the Houston region.

This meeting will spotlight Segment 3, offering the latest updates on construction progress, key project activities, and how TxDOT is fulfilling its commitments to property owners, tenants, communities, and other stakeholders.

We look forward to your valuable participation!

**PROJECT LIMITS**  
The project spans I-45 from I-69 to Beltway 8 North, including I-69 improvements between Spur 527 and I-45 in Harris County, Texas. This encompasses the reconstruction of the downtown Houston freeway loop system, including I-45, I-69, I-10, and SH 288. I-45 will be rerouted from the west side of downtown Houston to run parallel with I-69 and I-10 until it exits the downtown area and continues north.

### I-45 SEGMENT 3 PROJECT LIMITS

**■ SEGMENT 3A**

### COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS

Feedback from the public regarding the project may be submitted in any language by mail to:  
TxDOT I-45 NHHIP Ombudsman,  
TxDOT Houston District  
P.O. Box 1386  
Houston, Texas 77251-1386

Feedback may also be submitted by email to:  
nhhip.ombudsman@txdot.gov.

**All comments must be submitted or postmarked by Friday, Dec. 20, 2024.**

**The public meeting will be conducted in English with Spanish interpretation available.** If you need an interpreter or document translator because English or Spanish is not your primary language, or have difficulty communicating effectively in English or Spanish, one will be provided to you free of charge. If you have a disability and need assistance, special arrangements can be made to accommodate most needs. **If you need interpretation or translation services or if you are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation to attend and participate in the public meeting, please contact Gabriel Adame, Public Engagement Coordinator, at 713-802-5199 or Gabriel.Adame@txdot.gov, no later than 4 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 26, 2024.** Please be aware that advance notice is required as some services and accommodations may require time for the project team to arrange. Please note that for the in-person meeting, oversized bags will be checked in at registration and returned upon exiting the meeting.

**French:** Veuillez appeler le 713-802-5199 pour demander des aménagements spéciaux ou si vous avez besoin d'interprétation / de traduction.  
**Arabic:** يرجى الاتصال بـ 713-802-5199 لطلب ترتيبات خاصة أو إذا كنت بحاجة إلى تفسير / ترجمة.  
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**Mandarin:** Mandarin (traditional Chinese): 如出席和参与会议需要特殊照顾或需要口译/笔译, 请拨打 713-802-5199  
**Mandarin:** (simplified Chinese): 如出席和参与会议需要特殊照顾或需要口译/翻译, 请拨打 713-802-5199  
**Vietnamese:** Xin hãy gọi 713-802-5199 nếu bạn cần sự hỗ trợ đặc biệt hoặc người phiên dịch.  
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