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NORTHEAST NEWS

Serving the Neighborhoods of Aldine, Greenspoint, US59 Eastex, Beltway 8 and North Forest for over 49 Years
VOL. 49, NO. 46 TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2025 HOUSTON, TEXAS www.nenewsroom.com

Happy Turkey Day!



Volunteers from East Aldine District, Westfield Fire Department, Constable and Sheriff's offices, and BakerRipley helped with the Turkey Giveaway to Families last week.

Aldine ISD Welcomes 3 New Board Members

At its regular board meeting on Nov. 18, Aldine ISD officially swore in three newly elected trustees: Nataly Pérez (Position 5), Steve Moore (Position 4), and Angela Williams (Position 3).

The new trustees were elected during the Nov. 4 general election, bringing fresh leadership and perspectives to the district of more than 52,000 students.

Angela E. Williams



Williams takes over Position 3, succeeding retiring trustee Rose Avalos. She brings 22 years of experience in education, including roles supporting early childhood programs, families, and secondary students. She currently serves as an academic completion specialist in Spring ISD. Williams earned a bachelor's degree in history with a minor in political science and a master's degree in early childhood and family education.

Her leadership philosophy is grounded in service, relationships, and collaboration.

"Let us know what you want ... to move forward as the district is moving forward. We'll continue to be creative and continue to be innovative. The bottom line is

building relationships in our schools. We as board members need to be visible, making our community members aware that we are serving alongside them — everyone is of importance."

Steve Moore



Moore was elected to Position 4, filling the seat of retiring trustee Concepcion "Connie" Esparza, who served for eight years. He brings a diverse background in engineering, higher education, business leadership, and community service. He holds advanced degrees in physics, materials science, and business, and previously

taught as a university professor before co-founding VSC Management LLC and Villa Serena Communities.

His experience includes coordinating emergency housing during Hurricane Harvey, collaborating with law enforcement on safety initiatives, and volunteering with organizations serving youth, including the Greater Houston Police Activities League and Ambassadors for Christ Youth Ministries.

As a trustee, Moore has expressed interest in strengthening classroom support, expanding academic opportu-

unities, and helping students develop career and personal skills needed for future success. He also emphasized the importance of enhancing career and technical education.

Moore lives in the Greenspoint/North Houston area, residing in one of the communities his company manages—reflecting what he describes as a commitment to accountability and community investment.

Nataly Pérez



Nataly Pérez replaces longtime trustee Steve Mead in Position 5. A lifelong Houstonian and MacArthur High School graduate, she has lived in the Aldine area since the 1990s. After more than 15 years as a certified medical assistant, she shifted to community service in 2018 when she joined the East Aldine Management District. She now works for Lone Star College and is the parent of four children, including two currently in college.

Pérez said she hopes to bring a strong community

Continued. See NEW LEADERSHIP SWORN IN AS ALDINE ISD BOARD, page 5

NEWS NOTES



EAST ALDINE DISTRICT HOLIDAY KICK-OFF DEC. 5
7pm Tree Lighting
9pm Drone Show
Family Fun - SANTA - Live
Nativity - Food - Hot Cocoa +

East Aldine Groups distribute Turkeys for Thanksgiving



East Aldine Community in action! The Westfield Fire Department, East Aldine District, Harris County Sheriff's Office, BakerRipley, and many dedicated volunteers came together to provide free turkeys to our East Aldi-



ne residents. We are grateful for the spirit of collaboration and service that continues to make our community stronger. (Photos by Westfield Fire Department)

Two Tornadoes wreak havoc in NW Harris County areas

100 Homes damaged; No deaths reported

HARRIS COUNTY - A tornadic storm caused widespread and significant damage and power outages throughout northwest Harris County, officials say.

Neighbors were working to clean up tree limbs and debris that riddled the streets of the Klein area.

"We didn't see too much of it," explained Ron Manson. "Just happened so fast. The furniture in the back was swirling around and banging our glass windows."

Officials and residents reported dam-



This fallen tree, which crushed the car beyond, is typical of the damage that was sustained throughout the Cypress & Klein areas.

aged roofs, broken windows, and power outages. Images shared on media showed the damage the

tornadic storm caused to neighborhoods.

Continued. See TORNADOES IN NW COUNTY AREAS, Page 2

FOOTBALL SEASON WEEK 15:

Texans head to KC for prime time meeting on SNF: Cowboys hope magic continues against Lions on TNF

Texas' two NFL teams will be featured in prime time this week as the Dallas Cowboys will face the Detroit Lions on Thursday Night Football in the Motor City, while the Houston Texans will head to Kansas City to take on the Chiefs on Sunday Night Football.

The Texans have had their issues beating the Chiefs, whether it's been at NRG Stadium or in Kansas City, as Houston has lost six of the last nine times they have faced the Chiefs. This is a huge game for both teams' playoff chances. Two weeks ago, the Texans won their third straight game as the defense dominated Buffalo and QB Josh Allen, to lead the way to a 23-19 victory. The Texans should



KEENEY'S KORNER
BY
MIKE KEENEY

have starting QB C.J. Stroud back for this game, but backup Davis Mills did an outstanding job filling in for Stroud while Stroud recovered from a concussion, leading Houston to three straight victories.

The Chiefs know they will have their main man under center Patrick Mahomes, which should serve as plenty of motivation for the Texans defense, led by edge rushers Will Anderson Jr. and Danielle Hunter.

The NFL will take center stage in this week's column. While this weekend will feature conference title games in the Big 12, Big 10, SEC and ACC, the matchups were unknown heading into the final weekend of the regular season. Once the College Football Field (CFP) is set on Sunday, Dec. 7, we will take a look at those first-round games.

So, let's concentrate on
Continued. See KEENEY'S KORNER, Page 5

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4TH ANNUAL

Christmas

TREE LIGHTING & HOLIDAY KICK-OFF

dec 5

» 6PM-9PM

FRIDAY / VIERNES

EAST ALDINE AMPHITHEATRE
2909 East Aldine Amphitheatre Dr.

TREE LIGHTING · 7PM · ILUMINACIÓN DEL ÁRBOL
DRONE SHOW · 9PM · INCREIBLE SHOW DE DRONES

freefamilyfun

light up the season with us

photo and interactive stations, letters to Santa, ornament decorating, train ride, face painting, moonwalk and so much more!

DRONE SHOW FINALE

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ilumina la temporada con nosotros

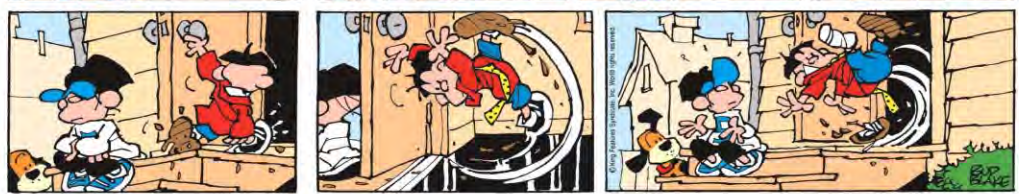
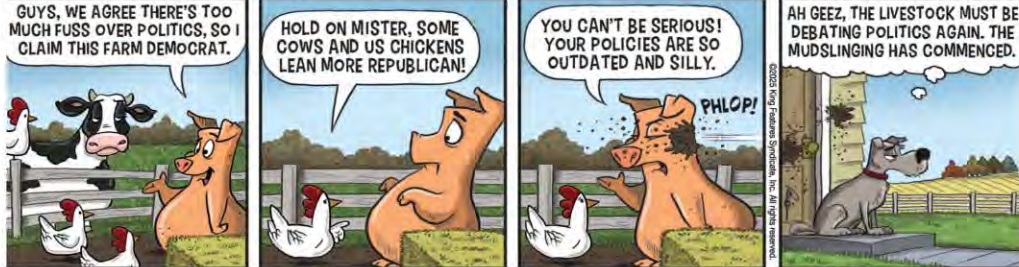
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ENTERTAINMENT

Amber Waves



Weekly SUDOKU

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ HOO Challenge
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Hammer is longer. 2. Treehouse is wider. 3. Cap is different. 4. Hand is moved. 5. Tree trunk is different. 6. House is wider. 7. Treehouse is not as wide. 8. Cap is different. 9. Hand is moved. 10. The pigment chlorophyll.

December 1, 2025 Posting Date

King Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12				13				14			
15				16			17				
18				19			20				
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24	25	26				27		28	29	30	
31				32			33		34		
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			39			40		41			
42	43			44		45			46	47	48
49				50				51			
52				53				54			
55				56				57			

- ACROSS**
- Roughly
 - Texter's "Wow!"
 - Nero's 1300
 - Stead
 - Museum-funding org.
 - Vicinity
 - In — (miffed)
 - Deception
 - Fawcett of '70s TV
 - Goodies
 - Skater's leap
 - "Delicious!"
 - Tobago's island neighbor
 - Salon request
 - A billion years
 - Whiskey drinks
 - Fish eggs
 - Privation
 - Three-paneled artwork
 - Friendly skies' co.
 - Chevy sub-compact
 - Pulpit delivery
 - Painter
 - Hopper
 - Homages
 - Always
 - Forearm bone
 - Depot (Abbr.)
 - Sultry Horne
 - Pleads
 - Wager
 - Highlander
 - Birth doc.
 - Low isles
 - Sob
 - Pivot line
 - "Kinsey" actress Linney
 - Aviv
 - Aussie hopper
 - Crystal gazer
 - Defeated in a footrace
 - Promptly
 - Mal de —
 - Pace
 - Cosmetics
 - Butter producer
 - Brazilian dances
 - Hair dryers
 - Baseball's Gehrig
 - Ticket half
 - Stanley Gardner
 - Fed. accident investigator
 - Opposite of "sans"
 - Gambling mecca
 - "Phooey!"
 - Summer in Paris
- DOWN**
- "Frozen" snowman
 - TV host Kelly
 - Crystal gazer
 - Defeated in a footrace
 - Promptly
 - Mal de —
 - Pace
 - Cosmetics
 - Butter producer
 - "Frozen" snowman
 - TV host Kelly
 - Crystal gazer
 - Defeated in a footrace
 - Promptly
 - Mal de —
 - Pace
 - Cosmetics
 - Butter producer

Weekly SUDOKU

8	1	9	4	6	9	7	3	2
6	N	L	V	L	S	N	T	U
5	4	5	4	5	4	5	4	5
3	7	3	2	8	1	9	6	4
2	6	8	5	1	4	3	7	9
7	4	1	9	2	3	8	7	5
4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3
9	6	3	8	7	4	1	2	5
3	8	7	1	9	2	6	5	4
1	8	9	5	7	4	2	1	3

Solution time: 22 mins.

Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

- TELEVISION: Which TV sitcom features a French bulldog named Stella?
- GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of Algeria?
- MUSIC: Which famous song starts with the line, "I read the news today, oh boy ..."?
- MOVIES: Who wrote "Hedwig's Theme," the main music in the Harry Potter movies?
- FOOD & DRINK: What is the origin of popcorn?
- HISTORY: Where was Napoleon Bonaparte exiled to after his defeat in 1815?
- LITERATURE: Who wrote the novel "The Sound and the Fury"?
- ANATOMY: What are the smallest blood vessels called?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: In what year did the international version of TikTok launch?
- SCIENCE: What substance makes plants green?

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SCHOOL NEWS PAGE



The Official Newsletter of the
Superintendent of Schools

Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney
Superintendent of Schools

A Message From The Superintendent, Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney.

Aldine ISD Family,
Thanksgiving is my favorite holiday. What's not to love about good food, family and fellowship? Thanksgiving can also bring mixed emotions. Who was at the table last year that is not there this year? Or, on the flip side, who is new to the table like my newborn grandbaby I affectionately call "prince." What a surprise and blessing for the little prince to grace our table this year. Through good times and hard times, it's family and friends who carry you through. Take time to thank them, to hug them, and remember them on special holidays like Thanksgiving.

We are past the midpoint of the fall semester, and I continue to be grateful for the energy, resilience, and joy that are evident across our schools. Every day, I see students growing, teachers innovating, support staff going the extra mile, and families showing up for their children.

As we enter the holiday season, I would like to highlight the great things happening across Aldine ISD and share a few important updates — a great many things have happened since my last message.

Celebrating a Season of Achievement Over the past several weeks, our students and staff have continued to shine in classrooms, on stages, and on playing fields, making us all proud and inspired. Their achievements are the result of their hard work, but also the dedication of educators and coaches that permeates our district.

We are proud to celebrate three Aldine ISD campuses — Young Women's Leadership Academy, Blanson CTE High School, and Thompson Elementary School — recognized in the 2024-2025 Children at Risk rankings for their academic growth and student success. This year, Children at Risk highlighted Aldine ISD as one of the top school districts in the Houston region for improvement, noting the significant and inspiring gains happening across our campuses. These recognitions reflect the hard work of our teachers, campus leaders, and, most importantly, our students, who rise to challenges every day.

Our commitment to student success is unwavering. For the second consecutive year, Aldine ISD has been named a CTAT CTE District of Distinction. The award reaffirms our commitment to equipping students for high-wage, high-demand careers. Our career and technology education programs continue to receive national attention for innovative practices that equip students with industry-aligned skills and real-world experience. We are committed to ensuring that our students graduate with a range of choices and opportunities.

We were also honored to receive two statewide awards from MASBA for our workforce and civics initiatives. This recognition reinforces our conviction that preparing students for life necessitates both employable skills and informed civic engagement.

Student Spotlight: Talent on Display Our students continue to prove that hard work and passion can open remarkable doors.

This month, the district watched with excitement as Aldine High School's Jaquelin Garcia Padrón competed at the State Cross Country Championship. Her determination and grace have inspired so many across Aldine.

We are also cheering on three Aldine ISD varsity foot-

ball teams heading to the playoffs — Nimitz, Davis, and Eisenhower high schools. With Nimitz and Davis finishing as District Co-Champions, our community is ready to fill the stands and show our student-athletes we believe in them. And speaking of football, did you see Eisenhower High School alum Ryan Niblett make that touchdown for his school, the University of Texas?

Additionally, students from Anderson Academy had an unforgettable experience at the Houston Ballet, where they trained with legendary dancer Lauren Anderson. Aldine High School's own bull rider earned a spot at the national competition! And we had several AISD students and staff members perform onstage in Akeelah and the Bee at The Ensemble Theatre in Houston.

Alums continue to make waves in the performing arts. Aldine ISD alumna and MacArthur High School Class of '96 graduate Latoria Moore — a three-time Grammy winner — returned home to perform at the Houston Grand Opera in Porgy & Bess, fulfilling a dream years in the making. And recent Carver High School graduate Alyssa Dorsey performed at the ExxonMobil Founders Club.

Keep Sharing Your #AldineStory These stories — from classrooms to national stages — remind us why this year's district-wide theme is #AldineStory. Every student, staff member, and alum adds a new chapter to who we are. I invite you to watch one of our features and share your own #AldineStory as we continue celebrating the experiences that shape our community.

Creating Opportunities in Every School

One of our ongoing commitments is to ensure that every student — in every classroom, on every campus — has access to enriching experiences and high-quality instruction.

Our Opportunity Schools initiative continues to expand meaningful learning moments. At Hoffman Middle School, students met New York Times bestselling author Jen Calonita, who inspired their love of reading and storytelling. Meanwhile, Caraway Elementary joined the University of Houston-Downtown's bilingual e-library project and was selected for the CYCLE Bike program, which rewards students for reaching literacy goals. These partnerships demonstrate what is possible when community support aligns with campus needs.

In other district news, our students continue to excel in academic competitions. Congratulations to all participants of our 2nd Annual District Spanish Spelling Bee. Our "Súper Spellers" represented their schools with pride and confidence. We also celebrated students from Impact Leadership Academy, who will soon showcase their artwork at the Contemporary Arts Museum Houston — a fantastic opportunity for young artists to share their voice with a broader audience.

I would also like to congratulate our students who recently qualified for the TEXSEF State Championship after strong performances at the esports Gobble Grapple Tournament — another example of our students leading the way academically and competitively.

And it's not just students we provide opportunities for — we also look for ways to engage our parents and caregivers. One unique initiative has brought a diverse group of parents together through a virtual reading club — and along the way, they found "familia." Everyone understands the word "family" in any language, and that is what we strive to create in our schools and community.

We also continue to see strong progress in classrooms thanks to our implementation of high-quality instructional materials (HQIM).

Teachers report that HQIM is helping them better tailor instruction and keep students deeply engaged in grade-level content.

Families Engaged and Empowered Our work is stronger when families are informed and involved. This fall, we saw an extraordinary turnout at events focused on supporting learning at home and helping families navigate key decisions.

We welcomed hundreds of families to our Family Learning Summit, hosted by our FACE team, and to our Annual Transition Expo for families of students with special needs.

Last weekend, families filled the M.O. Campbell Educational Center for our Choice Schools Expo, where they explored the extensive menu of specialized programs available for the 2025-2026 school year. If you missed the Expo or still need help with the application process, we are hosting Application Help Centers on December 3 at multiple locations. Families should remember: applying after the First Lottery window significantly lowers the chance of receiving a seat in your preferred program. We encourage everyone to apply early and reach out if you need assistance.

I also want to express my gratitude to the families and community members who participated in our first Community Partners meeting of the year. Your support and collaboration are invaluable, and when schools and community organizations work together, our students benefit.

In alignment with our engagement efforts, we launched "The Aldine Promise," which aims to enhance customer service throughout the district. To further strengthen this area, we would appreciate your feedback.

Highlights From Across Our Community

Aldine ISD continues to be supported by partners who share our commitment to the mission.

The Aldine Education Foundation hosted its annual "Sonny" Donaldson Golf Tournament and a donor appreciation event, both of which focused on raising funds for student scholarships and teacher grants. We are grateful for our AEF supporters and their continued investment in our students' futures.

I also thank our school psychologists, education support professionals, and substitute teachers, who all have appreciation days in November. As I've stated before, it takes a community of dedicated individuals willing to give their best each and every day for our kids.

Closing Thoughts — Progress, Possibility, and Pride As we approach Thanksgiving, I am especially grateful for each of you — our students who work hard every day, our teachers and staff who give their heart and talent, and our families who partner with us to support their children.

As we reflect on our progress, I am also reminded that this year marks Aldine ISD's 90th anniversary. For nearly a century, this community has embodied a profound commitment to public education and the transformative power of opportunity. Together, we honor that legacy by preparing today's students for bright futures — and by writing the next chapter of our #AldineStory.

Once again, thank you for all you do for Aldine ISD. I wish each of you a safe, restful, and joyful Thanksgiving season.

With Aldine Pride,
Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney
Superintendent

Aldine ISD, Joe V's Smart Shop Partner to Boost Literacy With New Book Vending Machines



Aldine ISD's partnership with Joe V's Smart Shop continues to grow, expanding a community-focused effort to promote literacy, access, and opportunity for young learners.

On Wednesday, Nov. 19, Joe V's Smart Shop unveiled two book vending machines—one at Bussey Elementary and one at Stehlik Elementary. Unlike traditional machines that dispense snacks, these machines will allow students to exchange gold tokens for books of their choice, helping foster a love of reading across both campuses.

Kathleen Scott, who has served as principal of Bussey Elementary for 11 years and has spent 37 years in Aldine ISD, said she was thrilled by Joe V's continued investment in her campus and community.

"It warms my heart that the kids are this excited about the book they're getting," Scott said.

She added that the machines will support Bussey's academic goals for the year.

"This will help our kids grow academically. Our goal this year is to be an A-rated campus. Having another incentive for them to get books and continue striving for success is important and will help reach that goal," Scott said. "In order to get the gold token, students have to have good attendance, good grades, and good community awareness. All of these things will help our Bussey Bears be the best they can be and enjoy their tokens."

Joe V's Smart Shop has a growing presence in Aldine. In August, the company opened a new location at I-45 and West Road with a commitment to providing families with fresh, affordable food options. Lisa Helfman, director of public affairs for H-E-B Grocery Company, said the company believes in investing deeply in local communities.



"When we come into a community, we don't just build stores," Helfman said. "We want to get to know our neighbors and serve them in the ways they need to be served."

She said education remains a core pillar for Joe V's Smart Shop.

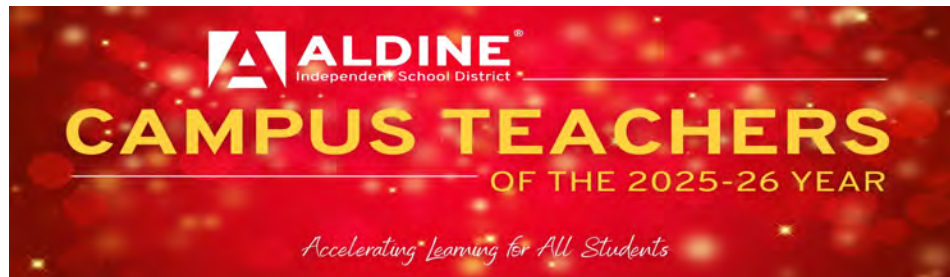
"We are thrilled we have an incredible partner in Aldine ISD," Helfman said. "Leadership is outstanding, and we know there is a need in the community. We are happy to help fill those needs in the way the school district needs. We hope this is just the start of a partnership that will carry on for years to come."

Each new vending machine is stocked with 500

free books for elementary students. Among those celebrating the unveiling was Bussey Elementary fifth grader Mariana Garcia, who read an original poem during the event.

"The book vending machine is astounding!" Garcia said. "Most vending machines only sell beverages and food. However, this one helps with education. I used to have to go to the library to check out books or buy them at the store, but now I can earn them at school! The book vending machine inspires me to read more books because every time I pass it in the hallway, I think about all the books I want to read."

Aldine ISD Schools Name Their 2025-2026 Campus Teachers of the Year



Celebrate our 74 Campus Teachers of the Year and the #AldineStory they are shaping for Aldine ISD and our students.

Aldine ISD is proud to recognize the outstanding educators selected as 2025-2026 Campus Teachers of the Year. These honorees represent the first step in the district's annual Teacher of the Year process. Each Aldine ISD school selects a Campus Teacher of the Year before the end of the first semester.

A district committee will review written applications and name six district finalists in February.

The finalists will then participate in interviews with the district coordinating committee.

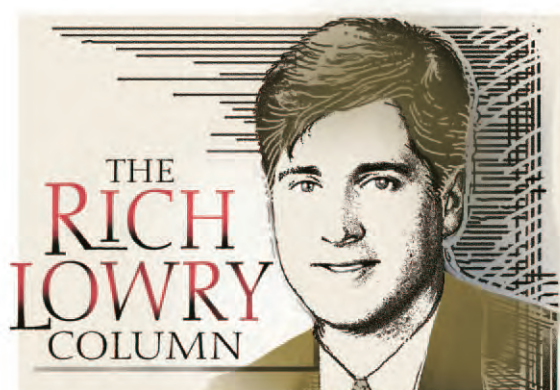
Every Campus Teacher of the Year will be honored at the Educators of the Year Breakfast later in the spring semester, where the district will announce the Elementary Teacher of the Year and the Secondary Teacher of the Year. The two winners will go on to represent Aldine ISD in the Region 4 Teacher of the Year competition in the summer.

"As educators, we know that every great school year is shaped by the peo-

ple who show up every day with passion, purpose, and belief in our students. Our Campus Teachers of the Year embody the very best of Aldine ISD. Their stories of dedication and impact reflect who we are and who we aspire to be as a district. I am so proud to celebrate these incredible leaders who are writing the next chapter of our #AldineStory."

Help us celebrate these inspiring educators and their dedication to Aldine students. Send them a shout-out on social media using the hashtag #AldineStory.

OPINION PAGE



Yes, Ozempic for all

Americans are going to get a little healthier. President Trump cut deals with the drugmakers Eli Lilly and Novo Nordisk to increase access to obesity drugs in a major benefit to American public health.

The agreements are a win-win-win — good for consumers, good for the companies and good for Trump.

One of the most irrational superstitions of our time is that Big Pharma, which has long been routinely delivering near-miraculous therapeutics to extend and improve our lives, is a public enemy. Its latest breakthrough is a class of so-called GLP-1 drugs that make it easier to lose weight and to avoid associated serious health problems, from Type 2 diabetes to heart disease.

The basic dynamic of the Trump deals is that the companies will, through lower prices, expand their market share, thus generating more revenue. The companies also get tariff relief and expedited review for select drugs.

Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr., the MAHA leader with a paranoid streak about modern medical advances, has been hostile to GLP-1 drugs, the most famous of which is Ozempic, sold by Novo Nordisk.

If everyone could do as many pushups and pullups as the hyper-fit 71-year-old Kennedy, perhaps we could turn our back on GLP-1s.

Certainly, RFK Jr. is correct that Americans should eat better and work out more. But our body mass index has been increasing for about 150 years, as we've made calories cheaper and more abundant over time. As it happens, the things that we like to eat or drink that are bad for us — fast food, soda, chips, cookies — are cheap, convenient and taste good.

Even if we manage to convince people that they should eat more fruit, vegetables and legumes, while taking a Peloton class every day, not everyone is going to do it as a matter of lifestyle constraints, individual preference or simple lack of willpower.

There's also the fact that once you put on weight, physiological changes make it more difficult to shed it.

About 40% of Americans are obese. Wouldn't it be great for them — and for American society at large, which spends roughly \$170 billion a year on obesity-related medical costs — if there were a safe, relatively convenient way for them to slim down?

Lo and behold, here it is. The GLP-1s started out as a treatment for diabetes and have exploded in popularity as weight-loss drugs.

Trump's reflex to make it easier for people to obtain Ozempic and the like — while, not incidentally, boosting his reputation as the nation's foremost dealmaker — is the correct one. Drug pricing is complicated, but by expanding the sale of the drugs direct to consumers, the companies can reduce prices. Meanwhile, Medicare will do more to cover the drugs, also bringing down their cost.

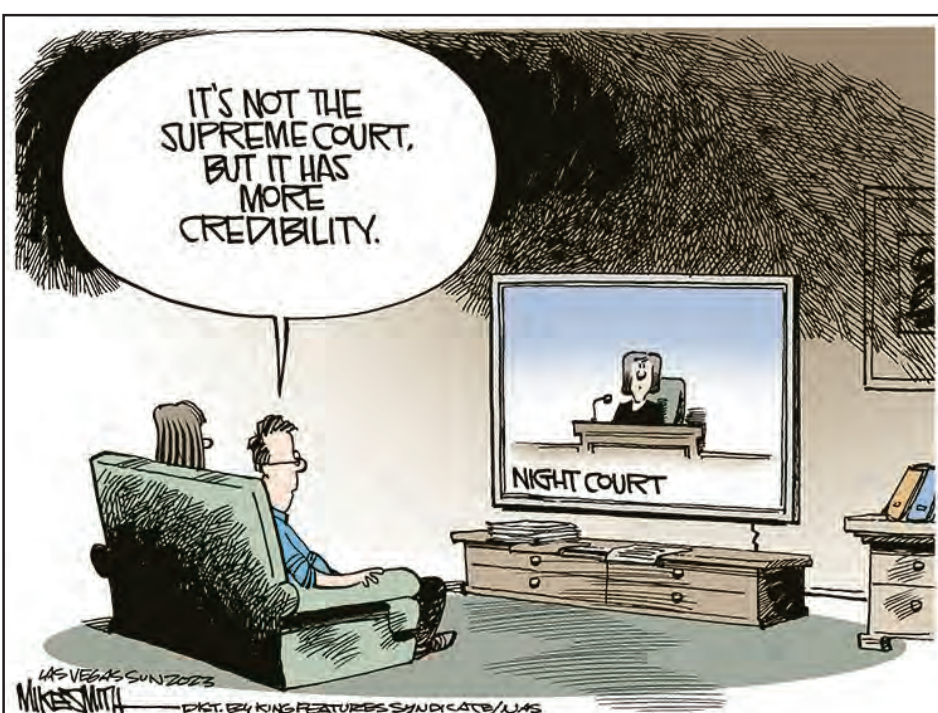
According to Gallup, about 12% of Americans report having used a GLP-1 drug at some point for weight loss, a stunning increase from about 6% in early 2024. Not coincidentally, Gallup is also now showing a slight dip in obesity. From 2008 — when the polling organization regularly began asking about weight — to 2022, the percentage of obese Americans increased by 14 percentage points, to nearly 40%.

Where any number of fashionable diets and continual government exhortations for more physical exertion have failed (before RFK Jr., Michelle Obama was urging, "Let's Move!"), drugs to slow digestion and reduce the urge to eat are working.

The percentage of Americans using GLP-1s will inevitably keep growing, especially if prices continue to go down, if more oral GLP-1s come online in addition to injectables, and if other medical benefits of the drugs emerge. GLP-1s could easily match the saturation level of statins, the cholesterol-reducing drugs.

By all means, we should all eat more arugula. Until then, we have found a pharmaceutical path to alleviating an ongoing health crisis. President Trump and the drug companies are to be congratulated for their creative cooperation to make it available to more Americans.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review. (c) 2025 by King Features Synd., Inc.



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Gary Borders

Supreme Court Blocks Lower Court Redistricting Ruling

The U.S. Supreme Court on Friday blocked a lower court ruling that threw out the state's new congressional map, allowing the new districts to stay in place, at least for now. A federal panel, by a 2-1 vote, said a few days earlier that the new map was racially gerrymandered.

The Dallas Morning News reported Justice Samuel Alito signed the order after Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton appealed the lower court's decision, which would have forced the state to revert to the old map.

Alito asked the full court to rule by 5 p.m. on Nov. 24.

Days earlier, U.S. District Judge Jeffrey V. Brown, a Trump appointee, had granted a preliminary injunction. Brown was appointed to his position by President Donald Trump and is a former Texas Supreme Court justice who has long backed conservative policies. U.S. Circuit Judge Jerry E. Smith wrote a searing dissent.

The Texas Legislature last summer redrew the map at President Donald Trump's request, making it likely the GOP would pick up five additional congressional seats next year.

The filing deadline for a place on the primary ballot is Dec. 8. Until the issue is settled, potential congressional candidates will not know which position to file for.

JUDGE BLOCKS DISPLAY OF TEN COMMANDMENTS AT SOME SCHOOLS

A federal judge has ruled that requiring the display of the Ten Commandments in Texas classrooms interferes with the religious freedoms of the 15 Texas families who sued, issuing a temporary injunction against 11 districts across the state, the Houston Chronicle reported.

The ruling has been appealed to the U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, which will hear arguments in both the Texas case and a similar case in Louisiana.

Meanwhile, Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton has sued Round Rock, Leander and Galveston school districts after their school board members voted against putting up the displays. "These rogue ISD officials and board members blatantly disregarded the will of Texas voters who expect the legal and moral heritage of our state to be displayed in accordance with the law," Paxton said in a statement.

Another lawsuit challenging



the requirement to post the Ten Commandment also resulted in a temporary blocking of posting the Ten Commandments. A total of 25 school districts are affected by the rulings.

DALLAS FED: STATE'S ECONOMY IS COOLING

The Texas economy is cooling, according to a recent analysis by researchers at the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas. The News reported the analysis concludes that tariffs, inflation and uncertainty about the economy are taking a toll on the state's businesses.

"Tariffs and the surrounding uncertainty continue to impact the Texas economy," Luis Torres, a Dallas Fed economist who co-authored the analysis, said in accompanying comments. He added that nearly half of all the businesses surveyed are seeing costs go up because of tariffs, and more than a fourth are passing along those higher costs to their customers.

The survey found modest growth in the manufacturing sector while the services sector saw slight job losses.

Texas has the country's second-largest state economy, with 9% of overall U.S. gross domestic product.

NEW STATE PARKS PLANNED WITH \$1 BILLION FUND

After voters in 2023 backed a \$1 billion endowment to establish the Centennial Parks Conservation Fund, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department is planning development of several new state parks. The largest is the Silver Lake Ranch acquisition from the Moody Foundation, which will be developed with money from the fund, according to the Austin American-Statesman.

Other new parks planned include:

1,720 acres in Uvalde County. · Post Oak Ridge State Park, 3,170 acres in Lampasas and Burnet counties.

· Enchanted Rock State Natural Area expansion, 3,700 acres in Llano County.

"This fund allows Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to address the demand for more public lands in Texas while conserving natural and cultural resources for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations," the Parks and Wildlife Department said on its website.

PAXTON ASKS COURT TO KEEP DIVORCE RECORDS SEALED

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton is asking a Collin County court to seal records in his ongoing divorce case, The News reported. A hearing has been set for Dec. 19 on a lawsuit filed by several major media companies to make the records public.

"Allegations that might suggest abuse of marital assets, concealment of financial information, or personal conduct inconsistent with public responsibility are not merely private — they are of public consequence," the plaintiffs' filing reads.

In response, Paxton called the media companies' efforts an "unprecedentedly broad and intrusive request."

Paxton's wife, state Sen. Angela Paxton, R-McKinney, filed for divorce in July, citing infidelity, according to Collin County court documents. Ken Paxton is attempting to unseat U.S. Sen. John Cornyn in next March's GOP primary.

ADD A FLU SHOT TO THANKSGIVING SHOPPING LIST

The Texas Department of State Health Services is encouraging everyone to add flu shots to their Thanksgiving shopping lists. Flu vaccines are widely available at health clinics, doctors' offices, and pharmacies across Texas.

"It is especially important for older adults, very young children, people with chronic health conditions and pregnant women to get protection from the flu," said DSHS Commissioner Jennifer Shuford. "People in those higher risk groups are more likely to get seriously sick if they do get the flu, and some will inevitably need to be hospitalized and even die from their infections."

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that the flu caused at least 600,000 hospitalizations in the United States and tens of thousands of deaths last flu season. Cooler weather, holiday gatherings, and increased travel all increase the risk that the flu will spread. Public health officials recommend everyone six months of age and older get vaccinated.

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

Warm Spots



In our household, my husband, Peter, and I have acquired nicknames which we imagine our cat, Felix, calls us by. To Felix, I am Mama and Peter is Mouse.

We came by these names because I spend more time cuddling with Felix—although he is not much of a cuddler. On the rare occasions when he decides he'd like to make biscuits (or whatever term you use for that endearing activity where a cat treats you like a loaf of bread and kneads you with his two front paws), I am the one he selects. But other than that, Mama has few redeeming qualities because it is Mouse who plays all the games, and Felix loves games.

Peter and Felix have string games and chase games and games in a box. They have surprise one another around the corner games and throw towels over Felix's head games. They have so many games in so many varieties that I do not try to keep track. Occasionally, I hear something fall to the ground (usually something that used to live on my nightstand) but, other than that, I don't pay much attention to the many games that Felix and Mouse play.

Mouse is also the one who dispenses the treats. This is because, according to Felix, Mouse knows where the treats are kept and he knows how to open a tuna can. There is no indication that Mama knows either of these things. Mama also does other things, things that Felix really does not like. Mama yells when Felix is on the table (Mouse pretends he does not see him). And—worst of all—Mama gets out the nail clippers and cuts Felix's beautiful curving claws. This is just plain awful and only barely compensated for when he then gets a special treat once the torture is complete. So Mama, it must be said, is rather useless when she is not outright annoying.

But lately, since the weather turned cold in San Miguel, Mama has demonstrated a new, unexpected skill that has come in quite handy. Mama can find the warm spots.

In reality, I have two electric back heaters that I plug in and use to keep warm since the apartment has no heating. I keep one under my desk, under a towel, and the other on my side of the bed, under the sheets. I only turn them on when I plan to use them, and these mysterious warm spots are very appealing to Felix. But he's never sure where they are and when they will be warm.

This has given Mama a little unexpected clout as she locates the warm spots in the apartment, and Felix follows her around to see if she is hogging one of them so he can move in.

If she is sleeping on one of them, he slowly works his way over until he is under Mama's armpit. If there is one under her desk, she inconsiderately puts her feet on top of it, so Felix has to stretch himself right over the top of her feet to suck up the available warmth. Then she'll get up to fetch more coffee and return, only to shove her feet under him again. It is very bothersome.

But once Mama has a fresh cup of coffee and Felix is securely on top of her wool socks, life is pretty good. Mouse goes out for his hike. Mama stays put at her desk making "tappa-tappa-tapping" noises on the computer above, and Felix decides Mama is not entirely bad after all.

Till next time, Carrie

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New leadership sworn in as Aldine ISD Board sees major turnover,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Pictured (l-r) are Aldine ISD Board Trustee Randy Bates Jr., AISD Board President Dr. Kimberley N. Booker, AISD Board Trustee Angela E. Williams, Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney, AISD Board Trustee Steve Moore, AISD Board Trustee Dr. Viola M. Garcia, AISD Board Trustee Nataly Pérez, and AISD Board Trustee Paul Shanklin.

voice to the board and emphasized the importance of trustee visibility.

"We're here, we're present, and we want to make that difference. Board members should be out there in the community making sure that everybody is being heard and their concerns are being listened to."

Commitment to Community Leadership



Aldine ISD Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney said the three new

trustees bring a valuable range of experiences and perspectives.

"We are excited to welcome Nataly, Steve, and Angela to the Board of Trustees," said Goffney. "Their commitment to service and their belief in our students, families, staff, and our community will help shape the future of Aldine ISD."

All three newly elected trustees emphasized their roles as community servants dedicated to improving outcomes for all Aldine students.

Seven elected community members, serving four-year terms, comprise the Aldine ISD Board of Education. Board members serve on a voluntary basis and are responsible for providing oversight, setting policy, adopting the district budget, and supporting the superintendent.



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Tornadoes in NW County areas,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"It could have been a lot worse. I'm looking at the positives, but this was totally unexpected," Miriam Harris said.

About 100 homes were damaged, according to the Harris County Precinct 4 Constable's Office.

Sheriff Ed Gonzalez said a tornado touched down in the Cypress, Klein, and Spring areas in the area near Highways 249 and 2920, while a second possible tornado hit the Riata Rancha area.

The National Weather Service said they con-

firmed at least one tornadoic storm moved over Harris County on Monday. A tornadic storm is a system that produces multiple tornadoes in its duration.

Despite the possible multiple tornadoes in the Cypress, Klein, and Spring areas, officials have not reported any injuries.

"We're all healthy. We're blessed," remarked Elizabeth Matson, who hid with her three children in a closet as the storm passed through. "This is all stuff, and it's alright."
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FOOTBALL SEASON WEEK 15:

Texans head to KC for prime time meeting on SNF: Cowboys hope magic continues against Lions on TNF

Continued from Page 1

the NFL this week. There's a big one in the AFC South as Indianapolis visits Jacksonville. The Texans will be very interested in the outcome of that game. Two weeks ago, the Colts fell to 8-3 with their overtime loss at KC. That left the Texans two games behind Indy for the top spot in the division.

In the AFC North, there's a big one as the Pittsburgh Steelers visit the surging Baltimore Ravens. Baltimore, which lost five of its first six games, took over first place in the North two weeks ago with its win over the Jets, while the Steelers lost at Chicago as starting QB Aaron Rodgers missed the game with a fractured left wrist. If the Steelers are to keep pace with the Ravens, they will need Rodgers back for this one and something tells me he will be ready to go on Sunday.

In other games this weekend, Seattle heads east to take on a struggling Atlanta team, while the NFL's oldest rivalries resumes as the Bears visit the Packers in a huge NFC North contest. The Bears lead the division, but the Pack is tough to beat at home, especially when it defense plays as it did two weeks ago when it stifled Minnesota, 23-6.

In the NFC West, the first-place Los Angeles Rams visit Arizona. Week 14 concludes on Monday Night football with the Eagles visiting the Los Angeles Chargers.

Before we take a look at this weekend's schedule, let's review last week's record. A 10-2 week upped the season record to 101-51 (66%).

Now, onto this weekend's games.

NFL

Dallas at Detroit - This

game pits two of the top offenses in the NFL, so look for a lot of points on Thursday Night Football. Two weeks ago, both teams overcame second-half deficits to pull out victories. Detroit got a huge day from running back Jahmyr Gibbs (951 rushing yards, 10 TDs/48 receptions, 379 yards, 3 TDs) as he rushed for 219 yards, scored twice on the ground and once on a reception to lead his team to a 34-27 overtime win over the Giants. Gibbs' 69-yard TD run on the first play of OT sealed the win. The Dallas defense will have its hands full of Gibbs, QB Jared Goff (2,769 yards, 23 TDs) and wideout Amon-Ra St. Brown (75 receptions, 884 yards, 9 TDs). But so will the Detroit defense when it faces the Dallas offense. Two weeks ago, the Cowboys overcame a 21-0 deficit at home to rally for a 24-21 win over Philadelphia. QB Dak Prescott (2,941 yards, 23 TDs) had another big day, and will look for help from running back Javonte Williams (896 yards, 10 total TDs) and big-play wide receivers George Pickens (67 receptions, 1,054 yards, 8 TDs) and CeeDee Lamb (44 receptions, 611 yards, 2 TDs) and dependable tight end Jake Ferguson (65 receptions, 460 yards, 7 TDs). This one should go down to the wire, with Goff outdueling Prescott as the Lions pull out a big win to keep their playoff hopes alive. My pick, Detroit 34, Dallas 31

Indianapolis at Jacksonville - A big one for both teams in the AFC South has

the Colts hitting the road for the second time in three weeks. Two weeks ago, Indy lost in OT at KC, while the Jags rallied for a win at Arizona. The Colts will need a solid performance from QB Daniel Jones (2,840 passing yards, 17 TDs/159 rushing yards, 3 TDs) and running back Jonathan Taylor (1,197 yards, 15 TDs/32 receptions, 268 yards, 2 TDs). Taylor was held to just 58 yards in the loss to KC. Jones will look to make plays in the passing game to rookie tight end Tyler Warren (55 receptions, 662 yards, 3 TDs). The Jags will need a big game from QB Trevor Lawrence (2,307 yards, 14 TDs/11 interceptions), and running back Travis Etienne (815 yards, 5 TDs). I think Indy will be more focused for this road trip and will pick up a big division win on Sunday. My pick, Indianapolis 26, Jacksonville 20

Pittsburgh at Baltimore - These two bitter AFC North rivals meet in a huge game on Sunday in Baltimore. Two weeks ago, the Steelers lost at Chicago as starting QB Aaron Rodgers was held out after he sustained a fractured wrist the week before. Rodgers (1,969 yards, 19 TDs) should play, which will benefit the Pittsburgh offense. He will need help from running back Jalen Warren (604 yards, 4 total TDs) and wide receiver DK Metcalf (42 receptions, 573 yards, 5 TDs). After losing five of their first six games, the Ravens have gone on a run, winning five straight heading into their Thanksgiving night game

against the Bengals. Baltimore has starting QB Lamar Jackson (1,595 passing yards, 15 TDs/237 rushing yards, 1 TD) back after he missed two games with a hamstring injury. Baltimore is a totally different animal with Jackson under center because it opens up things for running back Derrick Henry (871 yards, 9 TDs) and wide receiver Zay Flowers (58 receptions, 761 yards, 1 TD). This will be a physical, hard-hitting game, but look for Jackson and Henry to be the difference makers late as the Ravens continue their roll towards the AFC North title. My pick, Baltimore 23, Pittsburgh 20

Seattle at Atlanta - The Seahawks travel across the country for the second time in three weeks (they played in Nashville two weeks ago), but should have little trouble taking care of an Atlanta team that appears to be playing out the string of what has turned into a disappointing season. Seattle has an explosive offense led by QB Sam Darnold (2,785 yards, 19 TDs), running back Kenneth Walker III (677 yards, 4 TDs) and perhaps the best wide receiver in the league in Jaxon Smith-Njigba (80 receptions, 1,313 yards, 7 TDs). The Seattle defense will concentrate on slowing down versatile running back Bijan Robinson (853 rushing yards, 4 TDs/49 receptions, 543 yards, 2 TDs). If they accomplish that, they should tee off on QB Kirk Cousins (449 yards, 2 TDs). My pick, Seattle 34, Atlanta 16

Chicago at Green Bay - These two bitter NFC North rivals meet at Lambeau Field on Sunday with a lot on the line. Two weeks ago, the Bears won their seventh game in eight games to improve to 8-3 and sit atop the division standings, while the GB defense was dominating in its 23-6 win over the Vikings to help the team improve to 7-3-1. Both teams had tough games last week as Chicago visited Philadelphia, while the Packers visited Detroit. Bears QB Caleb Williams (2,568 yards, 16

TDs/293 rushing yards, 3 TDs) will get his toughest test taking on the GB defense. He will need a big game from running back D'Andre Swift (649 yards, 4 TDs) and wide receivers D.J. Moore (36 receptions, 485 yards, 3 TDs) and Rome Odunze (42 receptions, 653 yards, 6 TDs). GB will look for a solid effort from QB Jordan Love (2,560 yards, 15 TDs) and hopes star running back Josh Jacobs (659 yards, 11 total TDs) is back after missing the Minnesota game with a knee injury. Look for the GB defense to force a couple of turnovers from Williams as the Packers earn a big division win. My pick, Green Bay 24, Chicago 20

Los Angeles Rams at Arizona - Don't look now, but the Rams could very well be the best team in the NFL at this point of the season. Two weeks ago, LA dominated a good Tampa Bay team, 34-7, and QB Matthew Stafford (2,830 yards, 30 TDs) is having an MVP-type season. He has a lot of weapons with running back Kyren Williams (786 yards, 6 TDs) and wide receivers Puka Nacua (80 receptions, 947 yards, 4 TDs) and Davante Williams (48 receptions, 631 yards, 12 TDs). LA has a solid defense as well, as Cardinals QB Jacoby Brissett (1,887 yards, 11 TDs) will discover come Sunday. My pick, Los Angeles Rams 33, Arizona 17

Houston at Kansas City - This is an important game for both of these teams and their playoff hopes. Two weeks ago, the Texans kept theirs alive with a 23-19 home win over the Bills, while the Chiefs may have saved their season with a 23-20 overtime win at home against Indianapolis. Houston should have starting QB C.J. Stroud (1,702 yards, 11 TDs) after he missed three games recovering from a concussion. He will need help from rookie running back Woody Marks (422 yards, 3 total TDs) and big-play wideout Nico Collins (52 receptions, 697 yards, 4 TDs). But it will be the Houston defense that will

determine the outcome of this one. If Will Anderson Jr. (10.5 sacks) and Danielle Hunter (11 sacks) can get consistent pressure on KC QB Patrick Mahomes (2,977 passing yards, 18 TDs/318 rushing yards, 4 TDs), then they may have a chance. But Mahomes knows his team can't afford any more losses heading down the stretch. Look for him to get help from running back Kareem Hunt (457 yards, 7 TDs), tight end Travis Kelce (54 receptions, 674 yards, 4 TDs) and wide receivers Marquise Brown (39 receptions, 439 yards, 4 TDs) and Rashee Rice (34 receptions, 394 yards, 4 TDs in five games). The Texans struggle playing at KC, which will once again prove to be true come Sunday night. My pick, Kansas City 23, Houston 20

Philadelphia at Los Angeles Chargers - Week 14 concludes with Monday Night Football as the Eagles visit the Chargers. Two weeks ago, Philly blew a 21-0 lead at Dallas and lost, 24-21. The Eagles definitely have issues on offense. They struggle to run the ball as star running back Saquon Barkley (684 yards, 4 TDs) has been unable to get untracked all season long. That is putting more pressure on QB Jalen Hurts (2,284 passing yards, 17 TDs/298 rushing yards, 8 TDs) to make plays in the passing game. He has two solid wideouts in Devonta Smith (55 receptions, 754 yards, 3 TDs) and A.J. Brown (46 receptions, 567 yards, 4 TDs), but something is missing this year. The LA defense won't make things any easier on Monday night as they love to bring pressure. They also have a few weapons on offense led by QB Justin Herbert (2,691 passing yards, 19 TDs/345 rushing yards, 1 TD) and productive wide receivers Ladd McConkey (54 receptions, 644 yards, 4 TDs) and Keenan Allen (56 receptions, 592 yards, 4 TDs). Something tells me the Chargers continue the Eagles' frustrating season on Monday night. My pick, Los Angeles Chargers 26, Philadelphia 23

CHURCH PAGE

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

by Elie's Spiritual Treasures

Psalm 38:21-22

LORD, do not **forsake** me; do not be **far from** me, my **God**. **Come quickly** to **help** me, my Lord **and** my **Savior**.

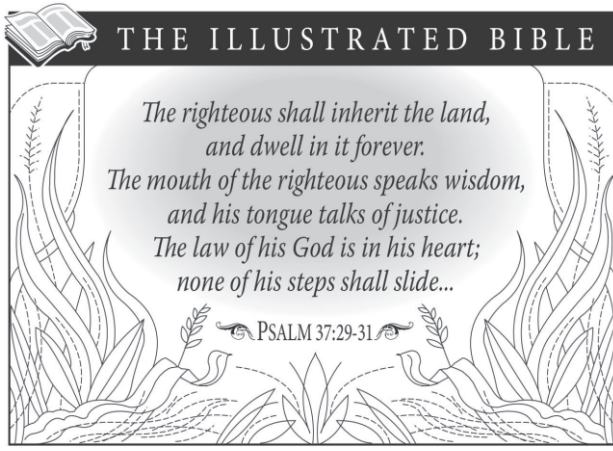
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Find the **bolded/underlined** words in the diagram. They run in all directions — forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

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BIBLE TRIVIA

By Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Advent (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. What was the innkeeper's name who turned away the pregnant Mary as there was not room? Eliada, Jesimiel, Phlegon, Bible does not say
3. According to the Gospel of Matthew, the wise men saw the star in the ...? North, East, South, West
4. Jesus was born in Bethlehem of _____ in the days of Herod the king. Nazarene, Jerusalem, Judaea, Capernaum
5. In what type of clothes did Mary wrap the newborn Jesus? Admonishing, Resurrecting, Swaddling, Casting
6. How many times is "swaddling clothes" mentioned in the Bible? 1, 2, 3, 4

ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) Bible does not say, 3) East, 4) Judaea, 5) Swaddling, 6) 2

Find expanded trivia online with Wilson Casey at www.patron.com/trivia. FREE TRIAL

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BIBLE WORD SEARCH

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EAST ALDINE SCHOOL FAIR

A SEASON OF CHOICES

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Independent School District PUBLIC SCHOOLS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6TH, 2025

<p>NORTH EAST STEM ACADEMY 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM</p> <p>Students from Pre-K to 8th grade can explore school options in a festive and welcoming environment.</p>	<p>WHAT TO EXPECT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community outreach organizations. • Bike raffle for new bicycles. • Parent Resource Center: to help with applications. • Free refreshments.
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10918 1/2 Bentley St, Houston, TX 77093

Great Colleges to Work For® recognizes Lone Star College System

HOUSTON – Lone Star College System is committed to fostering a rewarding and supportive environment for its 7,000 employees, who play a vital role in helping more than 97,000 students achieve their goals. That dedication led the 2025 Great Colleges to Work For® program to name LSCS one of the best college employers nationwide for the ninth consecutive year.

“Lone Star College System is a great place to work because of the talented and compassionate professionals whose collective goal is to help students, colleagues, and community members get from where they are to where they want to be,” said Mario K. Castillo, J.D., LSCS chancellor.

The Great Colleges to Work For® program surveyed employees at 199 colleges and universities in 10 categories. Lone Star College System was among the 76 recipients, including 22 two-year institutions, selected for this year’s award. LSCS was also one of four community colleges to receive an Honor Roll distinction for being mentioned most often in each category. The college system received recognition in seven areas:

- Job Satisfaction & Support
- Compensation & Benefits
- Mission & Pride
- Confidence in Senior Leadership
- Faculty & Staff Well-being
- Shared Governance
- Inclusion, Belonging & Community

“Lone Star College System is proud to be named a 2025 Great Colleges to Work For® institution for



Lone Star College System was one of 76 higher education institutions to receive the 2025 Great Colleges to Work For® recognition.

the 12th year,” said Patricia Woods, LSCS senior associate vice chancellor, Human Resources. “We remain committed to supporting our dedicated employees with the resources they need to continue making a difference in the lives of our students and campus communities.”

The Great Colleges to Work For® program, a partnership between The Chronicle of Higher Education and ModernThink, LLC., is one of the largest and most respected workplace-recognition programs in the country. Results are based on a two-part assessment process: an institution questionnaire on employment data and workplace policies, and a survey completed by faculty, administrators and professional support staff.

“In a time of unprecedented challenges for higher education, these institutions have demonstrated remarkable unity. From faculty and staff to administrators and facilities teams, everyone plays a vital role in building workplaces where people feel supported and valued,” said Richard K. Boyer, ModernThink chief culture strategist. “Great

workplaces do not happen by accident—they are the result of intentional choices and courageous leadership. These institutions are leading by example.”

Lone Star College System received the Great Colleges to Work For® recognition in 2009, 2010, 2011, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025. Learn more at GreatCollegesProgram.com.

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 2025 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.

Stem Academy holds School Fair Dec. 6 to present Choices

Families across the East Aldine community are invited to the East Aldine School Fair: A Season of Choices, taking place Saturday, December 6, 2025, from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM at North East STEM Academy (RYSS), located inside James Driver Park at 10918 + Bentley St., Houston, TX 77093.

This festive, family-friendly event brings together schools from RYSS, Aldine ISD, KIPP: and YES Prep, giving families the opportunity to explore a wide range of high-quality educational options for the 2026–2027 school year.

The fair is open to all Pre-K through 8th-grade

students and their families, offering a welcoming space to meet school representatives, learn about academic programs, and discover pathways that best match each child’s needs and interests. A highlight of the event is the Parent Resource Center, where representatives from participating school districts will be available to personally assist parents with completing applications online for any schools or programs they wish to explore. Whether families are new to the process or looking for additional support, this hands-on guidance ensures that every parent has the tools needed to

confidently take next steps.

To add to the excitement, a brand-new Huffly bicycle will be raffled every hour, giving students multiple chances to win throughout the morning. Families can also enjoy free refreshments and a cheerful holiday atmosphere that reflects the spirit of the season. Organizers hope this event will serve as both a joyful celebration and a meaningful resource, empowering families with knowledge, support, and community connections as they make important decisions about their child’s educational future.

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