

## Holiday Season lights up East Aldine

30 Ft. Christmas Tree, Ferris Wheel, Drone Show and Snow Highlight Festivities

By David Taylor  
Managing Editor

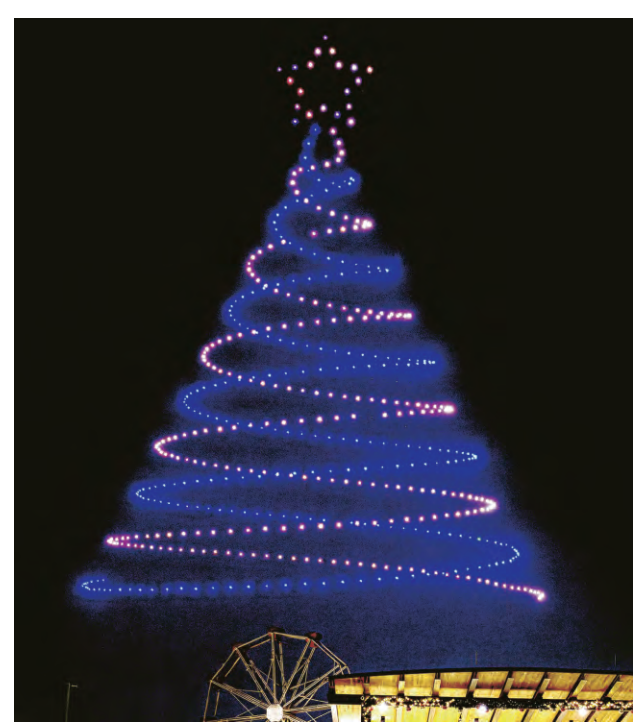
The East Aldine Management District welcomed the community to its 4th annual "Light Up the Season With Us" holiday celebration on Friday, December 5, at the East Aldine Amphitheatre. The event, hosted by the EAMD, marked the official start of the holiday season with a dazzling Christmas tree lighting and a spectacular drone show.

"This festive celebration brings together families, friends, and

Continued. See HOLIDAY SEASON, Page 8



Hundreds turned out to celebrate the Tree Lighting, in the distance, and the Season's Festivities at the East Aldine District Town Center. (All photos courtesy EAMD and ev1Pro)



The Christmas Drone Show, next to the Ferris Wheel.

### NEWS NOTES

#### 3 Nights of Holiday Movies Dec. 17, 18, 19

Join East Aldine for Holiday Christmas Cheer, 3 nights of family oriented free Holiday themed "Movies On The Green." Bring a Blanket & Chair, we'll provide the Popcorn and Hot Chocolate. Showtime is 6:00pm. Movies are:  
 Wed. Dec. 17 **Disney A Christmas Carol**  
 Thur. Dec. 18 **The Santa Clause**  
 Fri. Dec. 19 **The Star**

## Volunteers clean-up Keith Wiess Park



Thank you to all our volunteers for their participation in the Keith Wiess Park Clean Up Day on past November 15, 2025. (More photos on Page 5).



## Walle files for Reelection



### Walle Launches Reelection Bid with Strong Community Support

Houston, TX — State Rep. Armando Walle officially filed for reelection to represent House District 140, joined by family, friends, and supporters. Walle said he was honored to continue earning the community's trust as he works to deliver results for Texas. He thanked Emma, Eme, Mando, Kiki, Jackie, Lenora, and Maria for standing with him during the announcement.


## FOOTBALL SEASON WEEK 16: Texans look to continue playoff hunt against Cards: Cowboys look to keep rolling against struggling Vikings

With just three weeks left in the regular season, things are getting mighty interesting in the NFL, especially with Texas' two teams.

The Texans were left for dead after losing their first three games of the season, but two weeks ago, they won their fourth straight game when they defeated the Colts in Indianapolis to improve to 8-5 and get back in the playoff hunt, thanks to a defense that has been playing lights out the last few weeks.

Up north, the Dallas Cowboys also struggled early, but after their 31-28 Thanksgiving Day win over the Kansas City Chiefs, and the Eagles loss at home to the Bears, they found themselves not only back in the NFC playoff hunt, but also in play to win the NFC East.

Both teams have very good



**KEENEY'S KORNER**  
By **MIKE KEENEY**

chances to improve on their playoff chances this weekend as the Texans host a struggling Arizona Cardinals team on Sunday at NRG Stadium, while the Cowboys host a bad Minnesota team on Sunday Night Football at AT&T Stadium in Arlington.

This is also a huge weekend for other playoff contenders as the Week 15 schedule is loaded with key games.

In the AFC North, the Baltimore Ravens will head to Cincinnati to take on a Bengals team

that has starting QB Joe Burrow back and upset Lamar Jackson and Co. on Thanksgiving night, 32-14. Cincinnati is a totally different team with Burrow back at QB and they would like nothing more than to play spoiler in the division heading down the stretch.

While the Ravens hit the road, the struggling Pittsburgh Steelers, who lost at home 26-7 to Buffalo two weeks ago, host a hot Miami team (winners of four of

Continued. See KEENEY'S KORNER, Page 5

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Season's Best Wishes  
 from  
 The Staff and Management  
 of the  
 Northeast News  
 Thank you for your support  
 in the last year.

# Letters to Santa

Dear Santa, I have a list to show you. I want an OG elephant, neon, chilling, chili, and iOS 67. I also want an iPhone 17. My last thing is Pokémon when I was in another Christmas I say I want Pokémon and you didn't give it. This is all I want for Christmas. Thiago Dylan, 9 years old Orange Grove elementary

\*\*\*

Dear Santa, For Christmas, I want four things. The first thing is a sketchbook with blank pages. Santa, my second person I want is a slime kid of sanrio, you can find it at Sam's Club is of a slim with gold glitter for this slim. My third gift I want is a snoopy plushie and also you can find it at Sam's. Frida Ordoñez, 10 years old Orange Grove elementary

\*\*\*

Dear Santa, Please send me a VR, TV, dueey. Tristan, 6 years old Orange Grove elementary

Dear Santa, This is what I want for Christmas is Make Up, and Sephora, purses and squishy, air forces and more clothes, and markers some more art stuff and more stuff to make more bracelets, and dinosaurs squishy that is all I want have. Good luck sending presents. Iliana Martinez, 10 years old Orange Grove elementary

\*\*\*

Dear Santa, We've been working hard this year - learning, growing, and spreading kindness whatever we can. If you have time, we'd love for you to sprinkle a little holiday magic our way. Maybe some extra smiles, cozy moments and joy to share with our families and friends. Thank you for

Dear Santa, I want a bike and an Xbox and shoes. Joshua Martinez, 9 years old Orange Grove elementary

Dear Santa, What I want for Christmas is a oculus, sugar glide, and a puppy and a chain. Julian Torres, 9 years old Orange Grove elementary

Dear Santa, All I want for Christmas is you; I want a sugar glider, VR set, slime, things to make slime, iPad, more friends, glasses, and squishes. Elena Hernandez, 9 years old Orange Grove elementary

\*\*\*

Dear Santa, I want for Christmas an iPhone 14 because it's my favorite iPhone 14 because I have no phone but my mom is have a phone and me and my dad has too. Alexandre Orange Grove elementary

\*\*

Dear Santa, Santa for Christmas I want one teddy bear is capybara so phone 16 so one tablet so toys. Secno. Post do site lowes teddy bear much bear son to. Merry Christmas. Angela Orange Grove elementary

Dear Santa, querido santa, esta Navidad, hay muchas cosas que quiero. Una Play cinco. otra cosa es unos zapatos, también una bici, pero lo que más quiero es una buena salud para mi familia.

Querido santa, esta Navidad, hay muchas cosas que quiero. Una Play 5. Otra cosa es unos zapatos, también una bici, pero lo que más quiero es una buena salud para mi familia Alejandro, 10 years old Orange Grove elementary


\*\*\*

Dear Santa, I know you are not real, but I want Eddie Munson from a Stranger Things live near my friends and to take school away. Thank you for reading bye. Kayla Jimenez, 9 years old Orange Grove elementary

\*\*\*

Dear Santa, I want a PS 5, a VR, Power Ranger toys, a car game for Nintendo switch, heelys and nike shoes for Christmas. Xavier Flores, 9 years old Oleson Elementary

**Happy Holidays**



from Armando and Debbie Walle & Family  
Thank you for giving me the honor of representing you at the Texas House of Representatives.

**Season's Greetings**

From:



**Bonding Against Adversity**  
HELPING OTHERS HELP THEMSELVES



Merry Christmas  
From the members of  
The Aldine  
Optimist Club  
Supporting the  
youth of Aldine

**Season's Greetings**

from



**BEASLEY TIRE**  
A Full SERVICE TIRE COMPANY

**Best Wishes for a Safe and Happy Holiday**



HARRIS COUNTY  
EMERGENCY CORPS  
2800 Aldine-Bender Rd.  
Houston, TX 77032

Merry Christmas  
from  
**STEVE MEAD**  
-Optimist Club President  
Component Sales & Service  
281-442-8127

Seasons Greetings to the  
East Aldine Community



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Everyone  
in our Community  
For a Happy New Year



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Best Wishes for the  
Holiday Season



**News**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR 2026**



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Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

Deseando a todos una Feliz Navidad y un Año Nuevo seguro




# SCHOOL NEWS PAGE

## Aldine ISD Recognizes Longtime Trustee Steve Mead and Impact Award Winners

Aldine ISD celebrated the achievements of its students and staff during the Nov. 18 Board of Trustees meeting. From recognizing Impact Award winners, to honoring longtime trustee Steve Mead, there were many standout accomplishments across the district.



### Aldine Impact Award Winners

The Aldine ISD Board of Trustees recognized the winners of the Aldine Impact Award, which honors employees and community members who go above and beyond the call of duty in their respective roles within the district. Board President Dr. Kimberley Booker nominated Roberta Vanzandth, Pre-K 3 Aide at Reece EC/PK/K Academy; Shaundrika Watson, SLC Aide at Escamilla Elementary School; and Craig Kitchy, GT Math Teacher at Jones Middle School for the award. Vice President Connie Esparza nominated Dr. Keena Bradley, executive director of employee relations, and Norma Cisneros, secretary to the executive director of employee relations.

### Aldine ISD Board Member Steve Mead Honored



Steve Mead was recognized for his service as a longtime trustee as his term comes to an end. A lifelong Aldine resident and Aldine High School alumnus, Mead has served on the board since 2004. He was first elected to fill a vacant seat and was reelected several times.)

Over the past two decades, Mead has helped guide the district with integrity and vision. In addition to his work on the board, he is active in several local community organizations, including the Aldine Scholarship Foundation, the Aldine Improvement District, and the Aldine Noon Optimist Club. Throughout his tenure, Mead has served multiple board leadership roles, including board president and secretary, that has helped shape policies that enhance opportunities for Aldine students. Mead Middle School, named in his honor, stands as testament to his lasting impact on the district.

### Aldine ISD Swears in New Board Members

During its Nov. 18 meeting, Aldine ISD swore in three newly elected board members. Angela Williams (Position 3) succeeds retiring Trustee Rose Avalos; Steve Moore (Position 4) succeeds retiring Trustee Connie Esparza; and Nataly Pérez (Position 5) succeeds longtime Trustee Steve Mead. The three were elected in the Nov. 4 general election.



The Aldine ISD Board of Trustees is composed of seven community members who serve four-year terms. Trustees are responsible for setting policy, overseeing the district's budget, and ensuring the district's vision and goals are carried out.

### Financial Audit Approved

The Board of Trustees unanimously approved the district's 2024-25 financial audit report and authorized its submission to the Texas Education Agency. Chief Financial Officer Timothy Momanyi presented the report, which was prepared by the external auditors Weaver and Tidwell. The auditors stated that the audit report was unmodified, or a clean opinion, and that it was the highest level of assurance to be given on a financial statement.

### Public Hearing on Targeted Improvement Plans (TIPs) and Turnaround Plans (TAPs)

Dawn Rodriguez, chief of accountability, assessment, and analytics, presented a public hearing to notify the public of the district's 2025-26 Targeted Improvement Plans (TIPs) and Turnaround Plans (TAPs) for identified campuses, and to solicit public comment.

The campuses that will implement TIPs are: Cypresswood Elementary School, Davis High School, Francis Elementary School, Harris Elementary School, Kujawa Primary School, Kujawa Elementary School, Ogdan Elementary School, Plummer Middle School, and Stehlik Elementary School.

The campuses that will implement TAPs are: Aldine Middle School, Caraway Elementary School, Dunn Elementary School, Grantham Middle School, Hoffman Middle School, Lewis Middle School, Smith Elementary School, and Stovall Middle School.

All identified campuses must complete an Effective Schools Framework-aligned TIP or Tap. The district will monitor each plan throughout the year and provide necessary resources and support.

### Aldine ISD Police Department Receives Accreditation Recognition



The Aldine ISD Police Department has been awarded its official accreditation certificate by the Texas Police Chiefs Association (TPCA). The department earned accreditation through the TPCA's Law Enforcement Accreditation Program by meeting 173 Texas Law Enforcement Best Practices, which cover areas such as use of force, patrol procedures, and protection of individual rights.

Fewer than 10% of law enforcement agencies in Texas have earned TPCA accreditation. Aldine ISD Police became the 222nd agency to achieve the designation out of an estimated 2,800 law enforcement agencies statewide. Accreditation must be renewed every four years, requiring agencies to maintain compliance with all best-practice standards.

### Spotlight on Teaching, Learning, and Leading Department

Dr. Adrian Bustillos, chief transformation officer, spotlighted students from Grantham Academy and Mead Middle School who were showcasing their projects before the start of the board meeting. The projects are part of a program launched at both schools two years ago through a partnership with New Tech Network, which focuses on deeper learning.



Students and teachers participate in a new approach to learning that uses the same high-quality instructional materials, while making lessons project- and community-based. Students choose a subject to guide their project work. They complete nine-week and semester-long projects and host two to three community events each semester, presenting their work to peers and the community.

### Recognition of Staff, Students, and Patrons

Chief Communications Officer Sheila Adams highlighted several district November accomplishments:

The football teams from Davis High School, Eisenhower High School, and Nimitz High School qualified for the state playoffs. Both Davis and Nimitz also finished the season off as District Co-champions.

Four Aldine ISD students earned spots in the 2025-26 TEXSEF State Championship, a teacher-led nonprofit organization that oversees Esports competition for middle and high schools statewide. The Aldine Esports team placed first and second place in Marvel Rivals.

Aldine ISD held its 2025-26 Spanish Spelling Bee on Nov. 11. Cristian Alejandro Flores, a 5th grader at Stehlik Elementary School, won first place. The top three winners advanced to the Region 4 Spanish Spelling Bee on Wednesday, February 4, 2026.

Aldine ISD was named a CTE District of Distinction by the Career and Technical Association of Texas (CTAT) for the second consecutive year, recognizing the district's growth and high-quality CTE programming.

### Board Approve Action Items

The Board of Trustees approved the following action items:

- Minutes of previous meetings.
  - A Clinical Experience Affiliation Agreement with West Texas A&M University and Aldine ISD for 2025-26 school year
  - A 2026 Baseline Application for Funding to AVANCE Houston for the Aldine ISD Head Start Program
  - An Amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding between Harris County Public Health (HCPH) for the Community Health and Wellness Division (CH&W) – Chronic Disease Prevention Services through Sept. 30, 2028
  - An interlocal agreement between the Harris County Department of Education and Aldine ISD CASE Debate Program for the 2025-26 school year
  - District and campus goals and performance objectives for 2025-26
  - An agreement between the University of Texas at Arlington, Educational Experience Affiliation and Aldine Independent School District for Nov. 2025 – Nov. 2030
  - A Memorandum of Understanding between Texas A&M University and the Aldine Independent School District for Dec. 2025 – Dec. 2026
  - An affiliation agreement between Stephen F. Austin State University and the Aldine Independent School District for Nov. 2025 – Nov. 2030
  - A Memorandum of Understanding between Rice University Education and the Aldine Independent School District for Nov. 2025 – Nov. 2028
  - Single contracts and purchases of \$100,000 and Greater
- Before the Nov. 18 meeting, the Aldine Police Department led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Flag and presented the colors. Davis High School and Carver High School Ballet Folklorico performed.
- The next board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 16, at 7 p.m. in the boardroom at the Donaldson Administration Building.

### High Meadows Branch Library

Luis Arredondo  
LIBRARY TECHNICIAN  
4500 ALDINE MAIL ROUTE RD  
HOUSTON, TX 77039  
(832-927-5540)

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### DECEMBER

**8 DEC** 11:30 AM ESL INTRO REFRESHER  
3 PM TEEN ADVISORY BOARD  
4 PM CREATION STATION

**9 DEC** 11:30 AM TODDLER TIME  
1PM 1:1 TECH HELP  
3 PM GAME ZONE  
4 PM POKEMON CLUB

**10 DEC** 12 PM FUTURE U  
3 PM KRAFTY KIDS  
3:30 PM GRINCH STORYTIME

**11 DEC** 11:30 AM CITIZENSHIP  
12:45 PM ESL WINTER WORKSHOP  
3:30 PM HOLIDAY ART FOR ALL

**12 DEC** 3:00PM TOON CAFE

**15 DEC** 11:30 AM ESL INTRO REFRESHER  
11:30 AM FABLES AND FUN  
4 PM CREATION STATION

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CALLING ALL YOUNG CREATORS! DIVE INTO THE ENCHANTING WORLD OF SCIENCE AND ART WITH HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES THAT SPARK IMAGINATION AND CURIOSITY.

**FABLES & FUN, AVENTURAS EN LECTURA, TODDLER TIME**  
STORIES, SONGS, RHYMES, AND MORE!

**KRAFTY KIDS**  
FROM PAINTING AND DRAWING TO SCULPTING AND MORE, THERE'S SOMETHING FOR EVERY YOUNG ARTIST TO ENJOY.

**HOLIDAY ART FOR ALL**  
IT IS TIME FOR THE HOLIDAYS! MAKE A HOLIDAY ART FOR YOUR LOVED ONES THIS WINTER.

**TOON CAFE**  
JOIN YOUR FRIENDS WITH SOME CARTOONS AND SNACKS

**POKEMON CLUB**  
HOLIDAY POKEMON COOKIE DECORATING

#### SPECIAL NEWS

**GRINCH STORY TIME**  
December 10<sup>th</sup> 2025 @3:30PM-5PM  
Join us for a delightful holiday evening filled with Grinch-themed storytelling, a free book giveaway, and a special visit from the Grinch himself! Snap a fun picture at our festive photo booth and enjoy light refreshments with your family and friends

**WINTER OF THE SNOW QUEEN**  
December 17<sup>th</sup> 2025 @ 2PM  
Featuring live music, this original, interactive adaptation is inspired by Hans Christian Andersen's story and includes a tour of fairy tales from around the world.

## AIRLINE LIBRARY NEWS

**Bilingual Story time & Craft / Hora de cuento y manualidades**  
Tuesday, December 09, 11:00am-12:00pm  
Description  
You're invited to attend Story Time every Tuesday at 11 am. Story Time is a great way for children to build early literacy skills with stories, rhymes and songs. Parents are encouraged to participate by sitting with children and singing (and learning!) new songs.  
Last half hour is craft time!  
Children of all ages are welcome.

**Wiggle Wednesday**  
Wednesday, December 10, 11:00am-11:45am  
Description  
Come Move and Groove with Us!  
Join us for a fun-filled session of reading, singing, and playful movement! It's the perfect way to introduce toddlers to the joy of books and reading while building important motor skills. Through music, movement, and play, we'll help support your child's growth in a joyful, engaging way—because play is essential to every part of toddler development! ¡Ven a moverte y bailar con nosotros! ¡Están invitados para una divertida sesión de lectura, canto y movimiento lúdico! Es la manera perfecta de introducir a los niños pequeños al placer de los libros y la lectura, a la vez que desarrollan importantes habilidades motoras. A través de la música, el movimiento y el juego, apoyaremos el crecimiento de tu hijo de una manera divertida y atractiva, ¡Porque el juego es esencial para cada etapa del desarrollo infantil!

**Family Movie Night**  
Wednesday, December 10, 4:00pm-5:30pm  
Description  
Join Aldine Branch Library for a family movie night! Eat some popcorn and watch a fun movie with the whole family  
~~~~~  
¡Únete a la Biblioteca Aldine Branch para una noche de cine en familia! Come palomitas y disfruta de una divertida película con toda la familia

**Tactile Tots**  
Thursday, December 11, 11:00am-12:00pm  
Description  
Come and join us for an hour of sensory exploration and discovery! This program will allow children to touch, see and hear different textures and objects. Their curiosity and investigation will help develop cognitive, fine motor, and language skills through play.  
¡Ven y únete a nosotros para una hora de exploración y descubrimiento sensorial! Este programa permitirá a los niños tocar, ver y escuchar diferentes texturas y objetos. Su curiosidad e investigación les ayudará a desarrollar habilidades cognitivas, motoras finas y lingüísticas a través del juego.

**Homework Help/Ayuda con Tarea**  
Thursday, December 11, 5:30pm-6:30pm  
Description  
Looking for homework help? Come on in to your local library to find the resources you need for success! Aldine Library will offer a quiet space for teens and kids on Thursdays @ 5:30 PM. Librarians will be on hand to provide assistance.  
Harris County Public Library offers a variety of free resources, including computers, printers, and access to special research websites available with your library card.  
Note: Librarians will not do the homework nor can we

guarantee any grades; this program is here to offer assistance answering questions.  
¿Necesitas ayuda con las tareas? ¡Ven a tu biblioteca local y encuentra los recursos que necesitas para triunfar! La Biblioteca Aldine ofrecerá un espacio tranquilo para adolescentes y niños los jueves a las 5:30 p. m. Los bibliotecarios estarán disponibles para brindar asistencia.  
La Biblioteca Pública del Condado de Harris ofrece una variedad de recursos gratuitos, incluyendo computadoras, impresoras y acceso a sitios web especiales de investigación disponibles con tu tarjeta de biblioteca.  
Nota: Los bibliotecarios no harán los deberes ni pueden garantizar ninguna calificación; este programa está aquí para ofrecer ayuda respondiendo preguntas.

**Meet Santa / Conoce a Papá Noel**  
Saturday, December 13, 1:00pm-2:30pm  
Description  
Join us at Aldine Library to meet Santa! Bring the family for photos and other fun activities. This event is free and open to everyone.  
¡Únase a nosotros en la Biblioteca Aldine para conocer a Santa! Traiga a la familia para tomar fotografías y otras actividades divertidas. Este evento es completamente gratuito y abierto a todos

Aldine Branch Library  
11331 Airline Dr.  
Houston, TX 77037  
Phone: 832-927-5410

OPINION PAGE

The Christmas Story

Luke 2:1-20,

King James Version

1: And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.

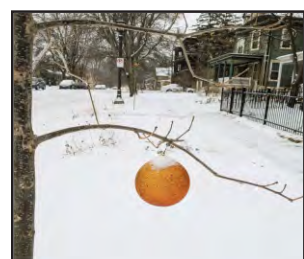


2: (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) 3: And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. 4: And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)



THE POSTSCRIPT By Carrie Classon

Gratitude Time



We are heading into the holiday season—already.

This year it seems like I have been running and racing and making it to places in the nick of time all year. I tend to overschedule—although I'd like to point out that my sister crams far more activities into less time than I would ever attempt.

Just when I think she couldn't possibly do another thing, she'll say, "I'd like to try weaving." Weaving! That sounds like an activity I would be sentenced to do if I had committed some kind of crime.

I have zero patience for fiber arts, and I feel a little guilty about it. I made a total of one quilt, and it took me nine years. I was not, I'm happy to tell you, working on it for nine years. I bought the fabric, cut out the pieces and assembled some of them. Then I stuck them in a box and then let guilt work on me for eight-and-three-quarter years until I decided I would finally finish the quilt for a Christmas present for my mother. I did.

Someone offered to teach me to knit once, and I bought needles and red yarn. I completed a thumb, and then it was explained to me what I would have to do next. I abandoned the project in terror.

So, no, I don't have a terribly busy life—if working on a million projects is what constitutes busy. But I'm usually working hard on something or another, and I'm usually on some kind of deadline. And honestly, I prefer it that way. I'm a person who likes to check off little boxes on a to-do list and estimate when a project will be finished and arrive at the finish line two days early.

"Hurray for me!" There is no one who knows I had this deadline but me, and no one to join in the celebration except my long-suffering husband, Peter, but it is still a nice feeling.

But now the holidays are coming, and I am trying to remember to make time to do nothing but be grateful. Because I think being grateful actually takes more time than I used to think.

I had this idea that being grateful was a momentary pause: "Geel! This is great!" before rushing onto the next thought, the next activity, the next challenge. I am reexamining this idea.

I think what I was calling gratitude might just have been a quick identification of all the things I have to be grateful for—not really experiencing what it is to be fully grateful.

I have so much. My life is so full. I know that if I started listing off all the things that are beautiful and wonderful all around me, the sun would be setting, and I'd still be working on my list. But making a list isn't really experiencing gratitude. Gratitude, I now think, takes a little time.

It means paying attention when I get the chance to talk with my parents. Being fully present when I take my walk on a cold afternoon. Savoring the foods I love. Listening—just listening—to the season, without always trying to make sense of it. Just feel. Just listen. Just pay attention.

This is hard for me to do sometimes. I am so programmed to make sense of everything that it is a challenge to sit still long enough to allow the season to seep into me. And be grateful.

It might be easier if I were knitting—but I'm not going to try it.

Till next time, Carrie

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders



Older Texans Face Steep ACA Price Hikes

About 1 million Texans over the age of 45 who receive health insurance coverage through the federal Affordable Care Act will likely face monthly premiums of more than \$1,000, the Austin American-Statesman reported. That accounts for one-fourth of the state's 4 million ACA enrollees.

The Republican-led Congress has thus far refused to extend pandemic-era subsidies that reduced ACA premiums, a factor in the recent government shutdown. Part of the deal to reopen the government includes a promise to hold a vote on the issue in December, but it appears unlikely to pass.

Texas insurers have raised ACA premiums by an average of 35%, but the hikes have been even higher for older enrollees. "So price impacts tend to hit older folks the hardest," said Laura Dague, who is the James M. Griffin professor of health policy at Texas A&M University. That is because insurance companies consider them higher risk, she added.

ABBOTT DEMANDS ACTION ON MEXICO'S VIOLATION OF WATER TREATY

Gov. Greg Abbott and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality have demanded Mexico address its failure to meet the minimum requirements to deliver water to the United States under a 1944 water treaty.

"Mexico must be held accountable for (its) continued breaches of our long-standing water agreement," Abbott said. "Because of their pattern of neglect, Texas farmers are enduring preventable hardship and an erosion of the agricultural viability of the Rio Grande Valley."

Abbott said Mexico has failed to supply more than two years' worth of water — almost 2 million acre-feet. He said that has had a severe negative impact on the state's agricultural industry.

"Economic losses from delayed water deliveries cannot be recovered," said TCEQ Commissioner Tonya Miller. "Texas communities across the lower Rio Grande Valley will continue to suffer unless Mexico starts meeting their treaty obligations."

Under the treaty, the United States has consistently met its delivery obligations on the Colorado River, while Mexico has significantly breached its commitments on the Rio Grande River, Abbott said.

The state's two U.S. senators, Ted Cruz and John



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Gary Borders

Cornyn, have proposed a bill that would hold Mexico accountable for failing to provide water to South Texas under the 1944 treaty.

FINAL RULES ON STATE'S VOUCHER PROGRAM ARE RELEASED

The comptroller's office has finalized rules for the state's \$1 billion school voucher program, the Houston Chronicle reported. Applications for families are scheduled to open in February.

Among the features:

• Families seeking pre-kindergarten services will be able to access accounts worth \$10,500, which can be spent at private pre-K schools or childcare centers that have pre-K classes.

• A clarification in the rules means that private schools or charter school networks already established in other states can open new campuses in Texas. The law says private schools must have been accredited for at least two years. The new rules mean this includes operating a campus in another state.

• The application window opens on Feb. 4 and will last around six weeks.

Students approved for vouchers will not need to reapply in the following years.

POWER PLANT LOAN PROGRAM MAKING PROGRESS

After a rocky start, a state plan to boost the construction of natural gas plants has begun loaning money two years after the \$7 billion Texas Energy Fund was created, The Dallas Morning News reported. That comes after one of the original loan applicants chosen for the program possibly committed fraud in their application and was selected despite the company's head having been convicted of a federal crime. Other companies pulled their applications, citing supply chain issues in procuring the large turbines needed to produce electricity.

However, since June, the

Public Utility Commission of Texas has approved about \$1.5 billion in loans for six power plant projects. When completed, they will have the capacity to power at least 875,000 homes.

The Legislature created the Texas Energy Fund after the February 2021 blackouts killed more than 200 people. The fund was created to build power plants that can produce electricity on demand. One of the companies receiving a loan is Houston-based Calpine.

"This 460-megawatt, state-of-the-art facility is designed to start within minutes and will deliver safe, reliable power exactly when Texans need it most," Caleb Stephenson of Calpine said in a news release.

\$1.2 BILLION HEADED TO TEXAS BROADBAND ACCESS

Federal funding included in the 2021 infrastructure law passed during the Biden administration has been slow to reach states, The News reported. But the Trump administration announced recently that it has approved a plan to spend more than \$1.2 billion in federal funds to improve broadband access in Texas, delivering high-speed internet to rural areas.

That amount is considerably less than the \$3.3 billion allocated to Texas under the original infrastructure law passed in 2021. Texas is the 19th state to win approval of a final plan.

Acting Texas Comptroller Kelly Hancock said the approved plan will make it possible for nearly every Texas location to connect to high-speed internet.

"The Texas broadband plan reflects our state's commitment to responsible stewardship and to creating an environment where families, students and businesses can continue to thrive for generations to come," Hancock said.

PUC PROVIDES MONEY-SAVING TIPS AS WINTER NEARS

The Public Utility Commission of Texas has launched a new website, Ways to Save, to help Texans conserve energy and save money during frigid weather.

"Small changes at your home or business can make a big impact on your electric and water bills," PUCT Executive Director Connie Corona said. "It's important to prepare ahead of the cold winter months, especially ensuring you are enrolled in the electricity plan that is right for your home and family."

The page includes tips on how consumers can prepare their home or business for cold weather and reduce energy and water use to save money on utility bills. Tips range from small lifestyle changes to physical updates consumers can make to prepare their homes for winter.

You can find the site at: puc.texas.gov/waystosave.

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, San Augustine, Nacogdoches, Lufkin and Cedar Park.

Email: gborders@texaspress.com

TOP Ten

Most Popular Christmas Movies of All Time

- 1. The Santa Clause 2 (2002)
2. The Nutcracker and the Four Realms (2018)
3. The Santa Clause (1994)
4. The Holiday (2006)
5. Elf (2003)
6. The Polar Express (2004)
7. A Christmas Carol (2009)
8. How the Grinch Stole Christmas (2000)
9. Home Alone (1990)
10. The Grinch (2018)

Source: ScreenCrush

NORTHEAST NEWS

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Mei-Ing Hoffman... Associate Publisher
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Published each Tuesday by GrafikPress Corp. Any erroneous statement which may appear will be corrected when brought to the attention of the publisher. Liability for errors is limited to the reprinting of the corrected version. Submissions are encouraged, in person, by mail, by fax, or by email, to nenewsroom@aol.com

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# East Aldine Keith Wiess Park clean up day,

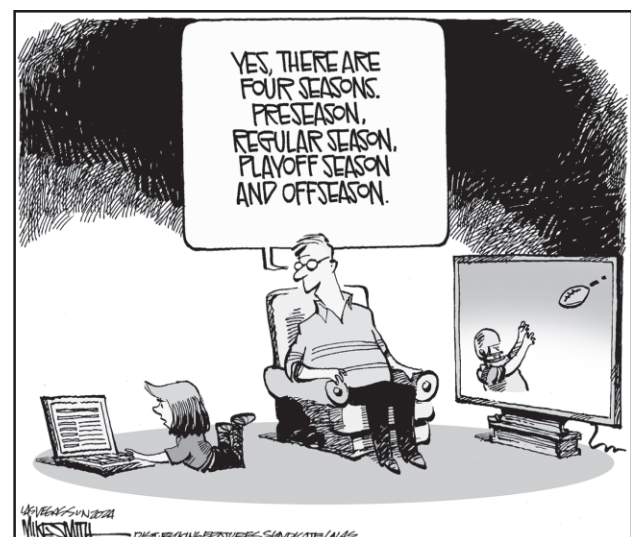
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Dear Santa,  
Yo en esta Navidad quiero tres regalos. Sé que es mucho pero si no puedes traérmelos no pasa nada. Yo sé que me he portado mal y tienes muchos niños para darles regalos. Entonces no importa si no me traes nada. Primer regalo. Quiero que mi familia y yo tengamos salud y nunca nos pase nada y también mi familia de México. Segundo, yo quiero un iPhone 16 Pro Max, porque mi teléfono se rompió. También conocer a Tom Naultz cuando era joven en el 200, es mi sueño favorito, y otros regalo es tener otro bebé Reborn que quería para Navidad. Bianca Vázquez, 10 Years old Orange Grove elementary

Dear Santa,  
These are three things I want for Christmas. Something I would love to have our baby doll accessories since I have a baby doll and don't have many things. Another thing I really want for Christmas is black jeans because I can match it with things. The last thing I want is a very soft snopy blanket since it's very cold. These are three things I really want for Christmas. Danelia Martinez, 9 years old Orange Grove elementary

Dear Santa,  
This year I want the Barbie mansion because in the elevator, I want to put my birth inside Jiji. Also, I want the capybara pajama because it's so soft and curly finally I want the capybara mark to drink my tea. This is all I want for Christmas Santa. Abigail Calderon, 10 years old Orange Grove elementary



## FOOTBALL SEASON WEEK 16: Texans look to continue playoff hunt against Cards: Cowboys look to keep rolling against struggling Vikings

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

on Monday Night Football. The AFC North is definitely up for grabs, and if the Bengals win out, they could very well surprise the league and win the division.

There's also a huge game in the AFC East, as the Bills visit the division-leading Patriots. A New England win would give the Pats two wins over Buffalo in the division, which might be too much for Josh Allen and Co. to overcome to repeat as division champs.

In the AFC West, the Chargers visit the Chiefs as both teams look to remain in contention for an AFC Wild Card slot. LA QB Justin Herbert suffered a broken left hand two weeks ago against the Raiders, but he is expected back for this game. The Chiefs are in desperation mode. After losing to the Cowboys, Andy Reid's team fell to 6-6 on the season and can't afford any more losses if they hope to make the playoffs for an 11th straight year.

Speaking of playoff hopes, the Detroit Lions' are on life support and they have a tough task Sunday when they take on the Los Angeles Rams, a team that was upset two weeks ago by the Carolina Panthers. The Lions suffered a big blow two weeks ago when they lost at home to the Packers and are in third place in the NFC North. Dan Campbell's bunch probably has to win out to have a sliver of a shot at the playoffs, and playing a Rams team that is in a tight race in the NFC West might be asking a bit much.

Speaking of the NFC North, the Packers face a tough test when they head to Denver to take on the AFC West-leading Broncos, while the Texans will be hoping from help from Seattle when they host a struggling Indianapolis team on Sunday.

We are still a week away from the first round of the College Football Playoffs, but this weekend does give us one of the best rivalries as Army takes on Navy in Baltimore. This game will have plenty of pageantry and patriotism, including a visit by President Donald Trump. While many



who will play in the CFP will be looking at lucrative NFL careers, members of these two teams will serve a greater purpose once their football careers are over, namely serving this great nation. We should all salute these young men for the careers they have chosen and wish them God speed.

Before we take a look at this weekend's games, let's review last week's record. A 6-6 week brought the season record to 107-57 (65%).

Now, onto this weekend's games.

### NCAA

**Army vs. Navy** - Army and Navy meet for the 126th time (Navy leads series 63-55-7) and both teams will enter with winning records and should earn bowl bids. Army enters with a 6-5 record, while Navy enters with a 9-2 mark. This game will feature a lot of running as both teams have solid rushing attacks. Army is led by QB Cole Hellums (504 passing yards, 3 TDs/21,078 rushing yards, 15 TDs), while Navy is led by QB Blake Horvath (1,390 passing yards, 9 TDs/1,040 rushing yards, 14 TDs). Hellums also gets help from running back Alex Tecza (772 yards, 9 TDs). As a team, the Midshipmen have rushed for an astounding 3,282 yards and has scored 61 TDs this season. Look for Navy to run to their 10th victory on Saturday. My pick, Navy 30, Army 23

### NFL

**Baltimore at Cincinnati** - This is an important game for the Ravens and their chances to win the AFC North and they will have revenge on their minds when they visit the Bengals on Sunday afternoon. Two weeks ago on Thanksgiving night, the Bengals upset

Baltimore 32-14 as Joe Burrow (450 yards, 4 TDs in 3 games) returned from a turf toe injury. Cincinnati is definitely a totally different team with Burrow under center. He will need another big game from running back Chase Brown (704 rushing yards, 2 TDs/48 receptions, 287 yards, 1 TD) and wide receiver Ja'Marr Chase (86 receptions, 971 yards, 5 TDs) if they hope to make it two in a row over the Ravens. In the loss two weeks ago, Baltimore QB Lamar Jackson (1,841 passing yards, 15 TDs/264 rushing yards, 1 TD) had a bad night losing three fumbles and throwing one interception. Look for Jackson to lean on running back Derrick Henry (931 yards, 10 TDs) as Baltimore picks up a big road win in Week 15. My pick, Baltimore 26, Cincinnati 20

**Arizona at Houston** - The Texans return home after two weeks on the road and will look to continue their late-season playoff run when they host a struggling Cardinals team on Sunday at noon in NRG Stadium. The Cardinals fell to 3-9 two weeks ago after their loss at Tampa Bay. Look for the Houston defense, led by edge rushers Danielle Hunter (11 sacks) and Will Anderson Jr. (10.5 sacks) to get after 'Zona QB Jacoby Brissett (2,188 yards, 13 TDs) early and often and make it a long afternoon for him. Houston got starting QB C.J. Stroud (1,978 yards, 11 TDs) back two weeks ago and he led his team to a 20-16 road win at Indianapolis. He will look to make plays downfield to wideout Nico Collins (57 receptions, 785 yards, 4 TDs). Look for rookie running back Woody Marks (486 yards, 3 total TDs) to have a big day as the Texans roll. My pick, Houston 31, Arizona 12

**Buffalo at New England** - A

huge one in the AFC East pits the second-place Bills against the first-place Patriots as New England looks to pretty much wrap up the division with a second win over Buffalo this season. Mike Vrabel's Patriots upset the Bills 23-20 on Oct. 5 in Buffalo and a win on Sunday would give them a three-game lead with just three weeks left in the regular season. NE is perhaps THE surprise team of the 2025 season. Two weeks ago, they improved to 11-2 with a 33-15 win over the Giants, while the Bills won a big road game at Pittsburgh. Buffalo QB Josh Allen (2,832 passing yards, 19 TDs/409 rushing yards, 11 TDs) will face a stern Patriots defense. He will need a big day on the ground from running back James Cook (1,228 yards, 8 TDs/27 receptions, 236 yards, 1 TD) if Buffalo hopes to win at Foxborough. NE is once again count on another big day from second-year QB Drake Maye (3,412 passing yards, 23 TDs/319 rushing yards, 2 TDs), rookie running back TreVeyon Henderson (625 yards, 5 TDs) and veteran wide receiver Stefon Diggs (64 receptions, 705 yards, 3 TDs). The Patriots could very well be a team of destiny and a second straight win over the Bills could go a long way in giving them home field advantage in the AFC playoffs. My pick, New England 24, Buffalo 20

**Los Angeles Chargers at Kansas City** - A big one in the AFC West for both teams and their Wild Card chances, more so for the Chiefs who lost their sixth game of the season two weeks ago when they lost on Thanksgiving to the Cowboys. The Chargers might not have starting QB Justin Herbert (2,842 passing yards, 21 TDs/353 rushing yards, 1 TD) for this game after he broke his left hand two weeks ago in LA's win over Las Vegas. If he's out, that's a huge advantage for KC and QB Patrick Mahomes (3,238 yards, 22 TDs), who will use running back Kareem Hunt's (515 yards, 5 TDs) runs to set up play action passes to tight end Travis Kelce (59 receptions, 719 yards, 5 TDs) and his receiving corps. KC knows it can't afford to lose any more games this season, so look for the Chiefs to have a huge sense of urgency come Sunday. My pick, Kansas City 26, Los Angeles Chargers 20

**Detroit at Los Angeles**

**Rams** - After getting off to a 4-1 start, the Lions have lost three of their last four games and are in danger of not making the playoffs. LA, on the other hand, has been one of the top teams in the NFC despite their upset at Carolina two weeks ago. The Rams are in a fight in the NFC West with the 49ers and know they must keep winning to remain in first place. Look for LA QB Matthew Stafford (3,073 yards, 32 TDs), running back Kyren Williams (868 yards, 10 total TDs) and wideouts Puka Nacua (86 receptions, 1,019 yards, 4 TDs) and Davante Adams (52 receptions, 689 yards, 14 TDs) to attack a beat up Detroit defense. Detroit will need a big day from QB Jared Goff (3,025 yards, 23 TDs), running back Jahmyr Gibbs (1,019 rushing yards, 10 TDs/51 receptions, 397 yards, 3 TDs) and wide receiver Amon-Ra St. Brown (75 receptions, 884 yards, 9 TDs) if they hope to keep pace with the Rams offense. My pick, Los Angeles Rams 31, Detroit 23

**Green Bay at Denver** - An interesting intraconference game has the Packers visiting the AFC West leading Broncos on Sunday. Two weeks ago, GB picked up a big road win at Detroit, while Denver earned a hard-fought overtime win at Washington. GB QB Jordan Love (2,794 yards, 19 TDs), running back Josh Jacobs (731 rushing yards, 11 TDs/29 receptions, 245 yards) and wide receiver Romeo Doubs (45 receptions, 542 yards, 5 TDs) will have a tough time taking on a Denver defense that has recorded an NFL best 51 sacks through its first 12 games. While the Broncos defense is one of the best units in the league, the offense has struggled at times this season. Second-year QB Bo Nix (2,742 passing yards, 19 TDs/229 rushing yards, 4 TDs) will also be facing a stern Packers defense. Look for the Denver defense to make one or two more key plays late to help Denver to a win over the Packers. My pick, Denver 23, Green Bay 20

**Indianapolis at Seattle** - After jumping out to a 7-1 start, the Colts have sputtered as of late, losing three of their last four games and things don't get any easier this Sunday when they face a Seattle team that is solid on defense and very tough to beat at home. Indy QB Daniel Jones (3,041 yards, 19 TDs) is dealing

with a fibula injury and his mobility has been limited. That's wonderful news to the Seahawks ferocious pass rush. He will need a big day from running back Jonathan Taylor (1,258 rushing yards, 15 TDs/35 receptions, 304 yards, 2 TDs) if the Colts hope to pull off the upset. Seattle QB Sam Darnold (2,913 yards, 19 TDs) and wide receiver Jaxon Smith-Njigba (82 receptions, 1,336 yards, 7 TDs) should have big days taking on a Colts secondary that could be without star cornerback Sauce Gardner, who suffered an ankle injury two weeks ago against the Texans. Look for the Seattle defense to make it a long day for Jones and Co. come Sunday. My pick, Seattle 31, Indianapolis 15

**Minnesota at Dallas** - This one is scheduled for Sunday Night Football, but could be flexed out for a more competitive game like GB-Denver. The Vikings are pathetic this year and fell to 4-8 two weeks ago after their 26-0 loss at Seattle. The Cowboys are one of the hottest teams going thanks to a loaded offense led by QB Dak Prescott (3,261 yards, 25 TDs), running back Javonte Williams (955 yards, 10 total TDs), big-play wide receivers George Pickens (73 receptions, 1,142 yards, 8 TDs) and CeeDee Lamb (51 receptions, 744 yards, 3 TDs in 9 games) and dependable tight end Jake Ferguson (70 receptions, 496 yards, 7 TDs). This one could get ugly, early. My pick, Dallas 34, Minnesota 12

**Miami at Pittsburgh** - Week 15 concludes with Monday Night Football as a hot Dolphins team visits a struggling Steelers team. Two weeks ago, the Dolphins won for the fourth time in five games, while the Steelers lost at home to the Bills. Miami QB Tua Tagovailoa (2,280 yards, 17 TDs/14 interceptions) will need help from running back DeVon Achane (1,034 rushing yards, 6 TDs/54 receptions, 370 yards, 4 TDs) if they hope to keep their winning ways going. The Steelers are in must-win mode if they want to remain in the AFC North race with Baltimore. Steeler QB Aaron Rodgers (2,086 yards, 19 TDs) is beat up, but something tells me he will rally the troops and lead the way to a crucial win on Monday night. My pick, Pittsburgh 23, Miami 17

Dear Santa,  
Please send me a chromy plushy. I was good and sometimes bad. Love Lena, 6 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

Dear Santa,  
Please send me a pink LOL doll, TV, lemonade. I was good. Thank you.  
Selena G, 6 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

Dear Santa,  
Please send me a VR, TV, duezy.  
Tristan, 6 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

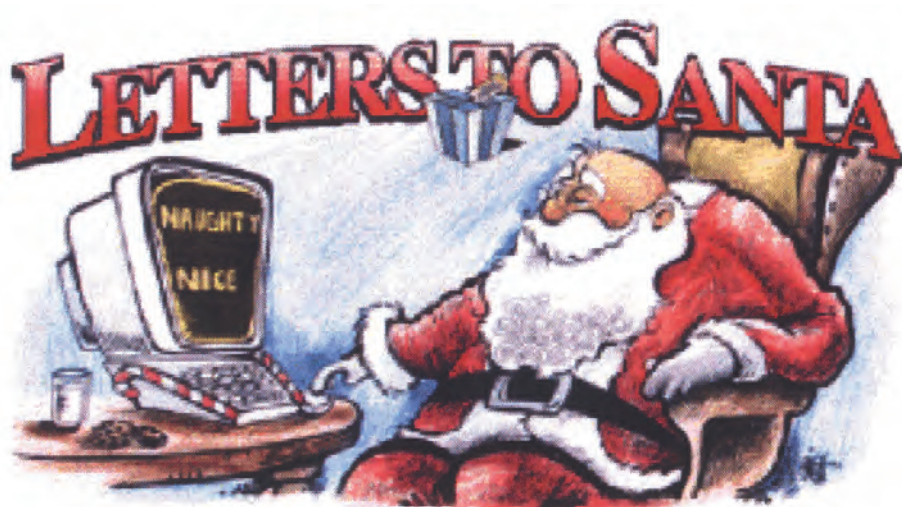
Dear Santa,  
Please send me a big panbu stufe, and a hooj hoosic set and a timn. Thank you! I was good.  
Genesis, 6 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

Dear Santa,  
Please send me a vanity, a pretty room, a panda from the mall. I was good. Thank you.  
Natali, 6 years old  
Orange Grove

Dear Santa,  
Please send me a bike.  
Abno, 7 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

Dear Santa,  
Please send me a plushy, dog, bear. I was good. Thank you!  
Angel, 7 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

Dear Santa,  
Please send me a Nintendo switch, 2 Disr, pue. I was good.  
Christopher, 7 years old  
Orange Grove elementary



Dear Santa,  
I want a JBL speaker a new watch a new cowboy hat and \$60 Robux card.  
David Lopez, 10 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

Dear Santa,  
I want new dinosaur toys, a computer and \$50. I also want chicken nuggets and a pet monkey and piggy dandys and Astro plush and a Labubu and for the last you can choose Santa.  
Michael Elson JR Rivera, 10 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

Dear Santa, I wish a Dino nuggets, and Bucky clothes, choir sonmon with a pochixs plushy.  
Ayden Komor, 11 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

Dear Santa, IHOP Santa give Lowrider RC, it s the red cat, six TV for Car in bright blue with light blue pin stripping. I would like blue lights under the car.  
Leo Rivera, 10 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

Dear Santa, I wish a VR, TV, duezy.  
Tristan, 6 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

Dear Santa, Hi Santa, I really love Christmas and what I want for Christmas is a toy truck a hoover board , a notebook, some shoes chorns and a pack of markers.  
Benjamin, 7 years old  
Oleson elementary

Dear Santa, We've been working hard this year - learning, growing, and spreading kindness whatever we can. If you have time, we'd love for you to sprinkle a little holiday magic or way. Maybe some extra smiles, cozy moments, and joy to share with our families and friends. Thank you for

Dear Santa, Hello Santa, what I want for December is a pool, teenager mutant ninja turtle toys, Xbox, and Pokémon cards.  
David, 8 years old  
Orange Grove Elementary

Dear Santa, All I want for Christmas is a PS4 and four gaming PCs and the iPhone 16 Pro Max.  
Carlos de Jesús, 8 years old  
Orange Grove Elementary

Dear Santa, What I want for Christmas is to meet Ronaldo and get game boy and a car of Robux and a Tesla cyber truck in a bag of loom stickers of Ronaldo the goat.  
Brando, 8 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

Dear Santa, I know that you are busy, but can you give me an air force one and a TV and two LED lights and PS five that's all.  
Edson, 10 years old  
Orange Grove Elementary

Dear Santa,  
Please send me a VR toy, train, TV, toy can.  
Alex, 6 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

Dear Santa,  
I want two more horses and black Nike jeans. Also a pitbull in New Mexico World Cup jersey FIFA, World Cup ball and a PSS!!  
Louis Rivera, 6 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

Dear Santa, I want a baby brother, a Santa hat, real glasses, my teacher s Kat eye. Hello Kitty, Spider-Man, my friends, Mexican jeans, Christmas wish list: new bed, lil bag, Takis, clothes, water bottle, Christmas calendar, Snoopy stuff.  
Sophia Livay, 9 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

Dear Santa, I want a Xbox, and a blanket, and my dad, and shoes 4 s, and I want hot wheels, and car toys and I Spider-Man hoodie and an apple pod s and to fix my phone. But yes, bye.  
Santa, please.  
Alexa Mejia, 10 years old  
Orange, Grove elementary

Dear Santa, I want a bike in VR headset and then I want a Chromebook  
Antonio Valdez, 10 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

Dear Santa, I want a Grinch plushy, Play-Doh, crocs 3/4, Dino, Nuggets, blanket and bracelets. One more

thing, a hoodie size 10.  
Marilyn Medrano, 9 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

Dear Santa,  
I would like an iPhone 13. I have been good kid I have never had or spent time on Christmas. I want that iPhone 13 in black. Pretty please.  
Hezekia Ruiz, 10 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

Dear Santa, I really want a plush, shoes, blanket, hoodie, dinosaur toys, new pair of glasses.  
Jacobh Hernandez, 10 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

Dear Santa, I hope you can get these toys, here we go& I want slime, mug, slime, blanket, hoodie, stickers, bracelets, frozen plushy, Nintendo, switch, magic, flying ball, toy, kitchen, dinosaur, misium kid camera, frozen toys for girls, Air Force, mini charm, now this is all I want Santa the end of my toys I want. Thank you.  
Kelly Alfaro, 9 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

Dear Santa, I want a Labubu, four plushy, battle for dream and as no, blanket, computer, and to see my friends.  
Natalie Barrera, 11 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

## CHURCH PAGE

### BIBLE TRIVIA

By Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Immanuel (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. Which Old Testament prophet said the most about the birth of Christ? Isaiah, Daniel, Ezekiel, Jeremiah
3. From Matthew 1:18, when Mary became pregnant, she and Joseph were ...? Married, Engaged, Just friends, Strangers
4. In Luke 2:8-11, how did the shepherds learn of

Christ's birth? Magi informed, Joseph announcement, Mighty wind, Angel appearance

5. Where did the wise men go first when they arrived in the Holy Land? Nazareth, Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Hebron

6. What does the Bible record as to when Jesus was born? Late September, Dec. 25, March 17, Does not ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) Isaiah, 3) Engaged, 4) Angel appearance, 5) Jerusalem, 6) Does not

"Test Your Bible Knowledge," a book with 1,206 multiple-choice questions by columnist Wilson Casey, is available in stores and online.

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**THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE**

There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots. The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.

ISAIAH 11:1,2

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# Letters to Santa

Rey, 6 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

\*\*\*  
Dear Santa,  
Please send me a Hello Kitty and a new TV and a LOL doll. I was good. Thank you Santa.  
Ember Torres, 7 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

\*\*\*  
Dear Santa,  
Please send me a new TV, a new toy truck, a new toy. I was good. Thank you.  
Zenric, 6 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

Dear Santa,  
I want a bike and an Xbox and shoes.  
Joshua Martinez, 9 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

\*\*\*  
Dear Santa,  
What I want for Christmas is a oculus, sugar glide, and a puppy and a chain.  
Julian Torres, 9 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

\*\*\*  
Dear Santa,  
All I want for Christmas is you; I want a sugar glider, VR set, slime, things to make slime, iPad, more friends, glasses, and squishes.  
Elena Hernandez, 9 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

\*\*\*  
Dear Santa,  
I m very good because I got which stands for gifted talented which is for smart people and

\*\*\*  
Querido santa,  
Querido santa, mi nombre es Pablo, yo tengo nueve años y estoy en tercer grado. Yo estoy en Orange Grove. Este año yo me he portado bien y ayudo a mi familia con el mandado y trabajos de casa, este año yo quiero un iPad.  
Pablo, 10 años  
Orange Grove Elementary

\*\*\*  
Dear Santa,  
I know you are not real, but I want Eddie Munson from a Stranger Things live near my friends and to take school away. Thank you for reading bye.  
Kayla Jimenez, 9 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

I m very smart.  
Angel Cordero, 9 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

\*\*\*  
Dear Santa,  
I m sorry, but you re nice, but fake sadly. Someone inspired your very long time ago, if you

\*\*\*  
Dear Santa,  
Please send me a Regi plushy and a moon and a sun plush. I was good. Thank you.

\*\*\*  
Dear Santa,  
Please give me Legos of cars and Nintendo switch and a PlayStation 4 a seiderman, a video game, a game online a Lego of house a car of Lambo three, a Lego Avion, a 1 billion of dollar, a patinete.  
Diego, Orange GroveElementary

are real then if I wanted a go kart, how would you get it? How would you enter?  
Jose Serna, 9 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

\*\*\*  
Dear Santa,  
This is what I want for Christmas is Make Up, and Sephora, purses and squishy, air forces and more clothes, and markers some more art stuff and more stuff to make more bracelets, and dinosaurs squishy that is all I want have. Good luck sending presents.  
Iliana Martinez, 10 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

\*\*\*  
Dear Mom,  
I want katseye shirt, kateseye jacket, dinosaur everything, a new wallet, katseye sis book both, notebook, sharpener, dinosaur Lego, dinosaur chicken nugget and thank you.  
Sophia Tenandon, 10 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

\*\*\*  
Dear Santa,  
I would like a dinosaur pet a dinosaur plushy, a dinosaur blanket, a

\*\*\*  
Dear Santa,  
Dear Santa, I want three cats, one kitten, a scooter, clothes for winter, a hat, a brush, a coloring set, a makeup set.  
Claire Godinez, 9 years old  
Oleson Elementary

dinosaur nugget, a dinosaur shirt, a dinosaur book years, a dinosaur toys, a dinosaur squishy, a dinosaur bracelet, a dinosaurs air forces, a dinosaur keychain, a dinosaur backpack.  
Caroline Perez, 9 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

\*\*\*  
Dear Santa,  
I want money and extra money. Also extra clothes, slime, thin or slime, necklaces new phone, also squishy.  
Asly Velasquez, 9 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

\*\*\*  
Dear Santa,  
Please send me sensory stuff and a TV and me is good.  
Noah, 6 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

\*\*\*  
Dear Santa,  
Can you give me a lot of things of Kumari in my melody because it's my favorite character from Sanrio movie, please.  
Melanie, Oleson Elementary

\*\*\*  
Dear Santa,  
My wishes are that I want stickers, markers and a flower hair clip, and I want the stickers because I love stickers, I want the markers for drawing and I want the air clip because I love them.  
Andrea Suarez, Oleson Elementary

Dear Santa,  
There are three things I want. The first one is the iPhone 16, AirPods max midnight and an Xbox control. I want the phone and the headphones so I can hear music while playing soccer.  
Felipe Rios, 9 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

\*\*\*  
Dear Santa,  
All I want for Christmas is Boca makers, hello Kitty, blankets, squishy markers, slime, squish, mellow, color set, oil paste, gold markers, slime, five below, shoes, crocs, Spider-Man plushie, taba squishy.  
Sophia Ibarra, 9 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

\*\*\*  
Dear Santa,  
I want a new Nintendo switch, red and black nikes, switch and zombies 4 merch for my new switch Harry Potyer case. Coloring stuff, baggy pants, black, and red sketchbook, sweatpants (loose bottom), VR headset, iPad for Christmas.  
Chloe Mercado, 9 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

\*\*\*  
Dear Santa,  
Mi deseo...yo deseo un recuerdo de mis abuelos, y una muñeca que cante. Y cierras los ojos, cuando tengas sueño y también un gatito.  
Camila, 9 años  
Oleson Elementary

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**ELIGIBILITY:**

- Age 62 or older
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## Walle Greets 1,000 Seniors at Kujawa Community Gala

Houston, TX — More than 1,000 seniors gathered at the Nadine Kujawa Senior Citizen Gala at the M.O. Campbell Center in Aldine ISD. The event, organized by longtime sup-

porters Shirley Portier Reed, Sydney Santiago, and Aldine leaders, brought the community together in celebration. Blessings were offered for all seniors and volun-

teers, wishing them continued health, support, and favor.

Portier said "This was the 20th Year this event has been held in Aldine."



# Holiday Season Lights Up East Aldine,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

neighbors for an evening filled with holiday cheer, live entertainment, and community spirit," said Monica Campos, marketing manager for the East Aldine District.

Attendees enjoyed a variety of attractions, including a live Nativity scene, photos with Santa, Texas snow, a Ferris wheel, and festive music. The district's annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony was a highlight, followed by an exciting holiday-themed

drone show that lit up the night sky.

Campos emphasized the importance of community connection at the event.

"We're proud to offer plenty of opportunities to connect with the community in a joyful, safe, and welcoming environment," she said.

The celebration also featured a major holiday raffle, with prizes such as 20 bicycles, a 65" TV, a Generac generator, a laptop, a space heater,

and the official Precinct 2 Commissioner Garcia's Cowboy Hat.

"We wanted everyone to feel the holiday spirit and have a chance to take home something special," Campos added.

Campos said the East Aldine District's commitment to fostering community spirit was evident throughout the evening, making the holiday celebration a memorable experience for everyone in attendance.



East Aldine Board Members prepare to turn on the lights on the 30' Christmas Tree.



The Tree is lit, and the East Aldine District members take a post with the beautiful tree.



Snow for Christmas with a little Magic from the East Aldine District.



Celebrating the Season with a Dance number.



The Nativity scene reminds us of the meaning of Christmas.

Join Us | Acompáñenos

**free**

**WEDS 17**

**THURS 18**

**FRIDAY 19**

SHOWTIME **6PM**

**EAST ALDINE AMPHITHEATRE**  
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**3 NIGHTS OF HOLIDAY CHRISTMAS CHEER**  
with **POPCORN & HOT COCOA** just bring a blanket/chair

**TRES NOCHES DE ALEGRÍA NAVIDEÑA**  
palomitas y chocolate caliente traiga una cobija/silla

ESTACIONAMIENTO/PARKING: LSC - EAST ALDINE CENTER  
unlimited possibilities | [AldineDistrict.org](http://AldineDistrict.org)

## Letters to Santa

These are all the things I would like for Christmas is a bike to ride it on the park and to do anywhere, and I would like a Roblox cup to drink water.  
Guillermo Medina, 10 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

There is Santa, What I want for Christmas is a Nintendo switch 2, also a new computer. And also iPhone 13. Also, I want some toys for my little brother, finally a tablet.  
Jonathan, 9 years old  
Orange Grove elementary the best school

All I want for Christmas is.... My cat or just a new cat Because I love her so so much. Also for Christmas, I want any present. You want to get me. I'm going to be grateful for any person you think I like. The last thing I want for Christmas is that this Christmas is the best Christmas in my family life, and please give me the best present For my parents and my grandma. Thank you very much.  
Lazara Castillo, 9 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

This Christmas, I want a used computer or headphone that you connect to your phone. What I want a computer is to do Lexia and Amira if it let me in math. The reason I want a pair of headphones is to listen to music when I study.  
Sofia Lopez, 9 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

For this Christmas, I want a Snoopy with doths of Christmas. Second I want a cookie monster that is my favorite ie. Third I want a lunchbox to eat my mom's foot. Another thing it says smiley bake to do ice cream. These are the things that I want.  
Joseline Ferrer, 10 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

Could I get some AirPods, a chance plush (from for saken) and a new keyboard and headphones? (with a mouse and old multicolor): except for the plush don't make him rainbow and make and make it officially from for saken. Also find good headphones and keyboard come with mouse. Love,  
Ever Romero, 9 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

I want to ask you for some gifts. They are a 11 K card Robux, bicycle and some gamer headphones. If you cannot bring me everything it's OK.  
Oliver, 10 years old  
Orange Grove elementary

This year, I only won three things. My first thing that I want is a realistic baby doll. My second thing I won is mini brands. My third thing that I want is markers. This is all I want for Christmas merry Christmas, have fun!!!  
Madelline, 9 years old  
Orange Grove elementary