

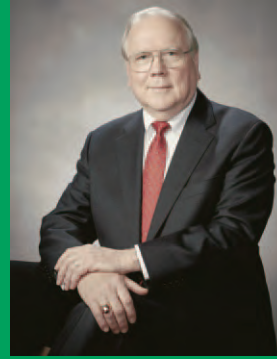
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NORTHEAST ★ NEWS

Aldine Mourns Former Leader Kenneth Black



Aldine ISD mourns the passing of former Deputy Superintendent Kenneth D. Black, whose years of service and leadership left a lasting impact on the district. The Aldine ISD Board of Trustees named Black Elementary School in his honor when the campus opened in August 1989. See story in page 8.

Serving the Neighborhoods of Aldine, Greenspoint, US59 Eastex, Beltway 8 and North Forest for over 50 Years
VOL. 50, NO. 26 TUESDAY, JULY 21 2026 HOUSTON, TEXAS www.nenewsroom.com

NEWS NOTES

East Aldine Offers Free Community Walking Group

Residents looking for a fun and healthy way to stay active are invited to join the East Aldine FREE Walking Group, a community fitness program that offers regularly scheduled group walks throughout the week.

The walking group meets every **Wednesday at 7 p.m.** and **Saturday at 7 a.m.** at the **East Aldine District Amphitheater**, located at **2909 East Aldine Amphitheatre Drive, Houston, TX 77039**.

The free program encourages participants of all fitness levels to enjoy outdoor exercise while connecting with neighbors in a welcoming community setting. The initiative aims to make healthy living accessible to East Aldine residents.

The walking group is part of the **Fit Houston** initiative and is supported by several community partners, including **Hope Clinic, REACH, BakerRipley**, the **East Aldine Management District**, **Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia**, and **H-E-B**.

Residents are encouraged to simply show up at the scheduled meeting times and enjoy a free walk with friends and neighbors.

Set for July Flood Resilience Meetings

As part of its ongoing efforts to battle localized flooding, Harris County Flood Resilience will host a series of public open houses throughout July to guide future mitigation efforts.

The drop-in meetings are designed to allow residents to review proposed flood resilience strategies and help set community priorities for upcoming projects. Officials noted that community input gathered over the past year has revealed the real challenges facing local neighborhoods.

The open houses will be held at four different locations across the county. All sessions will follow the same format and run from **5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.** The schedule includes:

• **Monday, July 27:** Barrett Station Community Center, 808 1/2 Magnolia Ave., Crosby.

• **Wednesday, July 29:** Tom Bass Community Center, 15108 Cullen Blvd., Houston.

Translation services will be available on-site at all locations, including English Sign Language, Mandarin, Spanish, and Vietnamese. Residents seeking more information on the county's resilience plan and updates can visit hcfloodresilience.net.

Eight Years of Excellence: Aldine ISD Earns TAEA District of Distinction Again

By Leticia Fehling
Director of Internal
Communications

EAST ALDINE - Aldine ISD's Visual Arts Department has once again earned statewide recognition for excellence, creativity, and student-centered learning.

The Texas Art Education Association (TAEA) has named Aldine ISD a District of Distinction for the 2025-2026 school year, marking the eighth consecutive year the district has received the prestigious honor.

Out of more than 1,200 eligible school districts across Texas, only 126 — the top 10.5% — earned the distinction for the



2025-2026 school year.

The Visual Art Administrators of Texas, a division of TAEA, recognizes school districts that demonstrate outstanding leadership in visual arts education while providing

meaningful opportunities for students to learn, create, exhibit, and connect their work to the broader community. Districts are evaluated using a rigorous 14-point rubric that measures participation in

TAEA, student exhibitions and contests, community engagement, field experiences, service learning, and collaboration across content areas.

For Aldine ISD, the recognition reflects more than

a list of accomplishments. It represents classrooms where students are encouraged to see differently, think deeply, and tell their stories through art.

"Eight consecutive years as a TAEA District of Distinction is an incredible honor, but what makes it meaningful is the work behind it," said Kaileigh Newman, Aldine ISD director of visual arts. "This recognition belongs to our visual arts educators, who place students at the center of everything they do. Through their creativity, innovation, and commitment, they help students build confidence, develop

Continued. See THOUSANDS OF STUDENT ARTISTS, Page 5

Suspect Arrested After Bank Robbery on Eastex Freeway



First Convenience Bank located at the 12400 block of the Eastex Freeway.

By Gerardo Hernandez
STAFF WRITER

NORTH HOUSTON - A man accused of robbing a bank along the Eastex Freeway was arrested shortly after the crime when Harris County Sheriff's Office deputies located his vehicle using surveillance video and

FLOCK camera technology.

According to the Harris County Sheriff's Office, deputies responded Monday, July 13, to a reported robbery at the First Convenience Bank in the 12400 block of the Eastex Freeway.

Investigators said an unidentified Black male approached the teller counter and handed a female employee a handwritten note stating, "I have a gun so give me the

Continued. See AUTHORITIES CREDITS FLOCK, Page 2

Local Tree Trimming Efforts Enhance Major Thoroughfares

By Gerardo Hernandez
STAFF WRITER

NORTH HOUSTON - The District's Field Services team has been diligently working to maintain the area's greenery, ensuring the community remains Clean & Green throughout the year. In a recent significant effort, the team trimmed 833 trees along Interstate 45, stretching from the North Houston District's southern boundary at West Road to its northern boundary near Rankin Road. This impressive project not only exceeded the total number of trees trimmed in the fiscal year 2025, which was 707, but also brought the total



A total of 833 trees have been trimmed along Interstate 45, stretching from the North Houston District's southern boundary at West Road to its northern boundary near Rankin Road.

number of trees trimmed in the first half of fiscal year 2026 to an outstanding 1,154. These efforts highlight the team's commitment to enhancing the district's landscape and ensuring safe and clear roadways for residents and visitors alike.

Industrial Growth Continues with Purchase of Rankin Yards

NORTH HOUSTON - Over the past several years, the District has steadily tilted toward industrial and logistics uses, and its industrial footprint now far exceeds its office space. In 2015, the District was home to 11.1 million square feet of industrial/warehouse space. Today, that number sits at 20.4 million square feet and counting, a remarkable 82% growth over the last decade.

That growth has been driven by internationally known brands such as Coca-Cola, Sysco, Amazon — all of whom have significant facilities in the District.

Purchase Highlights North Houston's Industrial Shift

A new deal by an Austin real estate company underscores the strength of the North Houston District as a destination for growing in-



Imperial Connection is located on Imperial Valley Drive just north of Greens Road in the District's northeast quadrant.

dustrial firms.

PlaceMKR, based in Austin, recently bought Rankin Yards, a 50-acre advanced manufacturing site at 1310 Rankin Road in the District's northeast quadrant. The campus covers about 612,000 square feet across 17 buildings and features 32 cranes along with a 40-megawatt substation. The seller, Wellbore Integrity

Solutions, had held the property since 2019 and will be leasing back its current spaces from the new owner.

Facilities equipped with cranes tend to appeal strongly to companies working with heavy or bulky materials, largely because retrofitting older buildings with that feature is both expensive and difficult. PlaceMKR has indicated it

will market Rankin Yards to firms in advanced manufacturing, energy services, and data centers, and plans to enclose a number of craneways to create roughly 88,000 additional square feet of leasable area.

Part of a Broader Trend

Given the local market conditions, PlaceMKR's willingness to invest in the

site should not come as a surprise. The manufacturing vacancy rate in this submarket is currently at approximately 1.3 percent — the tightest of any Houston submarket and well under the regional figure of 4.3 percent.

In addition, Rankin Yards is just one piece of the industrial growth taking shape across the District. There are currently three sizable warehouse development projects underway in the District this summer.

Crow Holdings is constructing Rushcreek Business Park, a pair of buildings near Rushcreek and Spears-Gears Road in the northwest quadrant totaling about 446,000 square feet, reachable from I-45 via Rankin Road. The work

Continued. See INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION REACHES NEW, Page 8

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COMMUNITY WATCH

Pedestrian Killed in Aldine Bender Road Crash

By Gerardo Hernandez
STAFF WRITER

EAST ALDINE - A woman died after being struck by a vehicle while attempting to cross Aldine Bender Road early Friday morning, according to the Harris County Sheriff's Office.

The crash occurred at approximately 5:28 a.m. July 10 in the 5600 block of Aldine Bender Road.

Investigators said Alain Herrera was driving a silver 2012 Lincoln MKT westbound in the inside lane when Jauanna Baines attempted to cross the roadway on foot from north to south outside of a marked crosswalk. Authorities said Baines failed to yield the right of way to the approaching vehicle and was struck.

Baines was transported to HCA Kingwood Hospi-

tal, where she later died from injuries sustained in the collision.

Herrera remained at the scene, cooperated with investigators, and showed no signs of intoxication, according to the sheriff's office.

The Harris County Sheriff's Office Vehicular Crimes Division is continuing to investigate the crash. (Source: Harris County Sheriff's Office.)

Authorities credits flock cameras to bank robbery case,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

cash!" Fearing for her safety and the safety of others inside the bank, the employee complied and handed over an undisclosed amount of cash.

The suspect was described as a Black male, about 30 years old, wearing a red hoodie with white lettering. He fled the scene in a gray four-door sedan.

Authorities said deputies identified the vehicle's license plate through bank surveillance footage and, using FLOCK camera systems, tracked the vehicle to the 6300 block of Laura Koppe Drive, where the suspect was detained while still wearing the same clothing described during the robbery. Following his detention, investigators identified the suspect as Jonathan Black.

A search of the suspect reportedly recovered the handwritten demand note along with the cash taken during the robbery.

Detectives also determined the suspect allegedly committed a similar bank robbery later that day within the Houston Police Department's jurisdiction on the southeast side of Harris County.

The suspect has been charged with **Robbery-Threats** in connection with the robbery at the First Convenience Bank.

Anyone with additional information is encouraged to contact the Harris County Sheriff's Office Violent Crimes Unit at [713-274-9365](tel:713-274-9365) or Crime Stoppers at [713-222-TIPS](tel:713-222-TIPS).

Source: Harris County Sheriff's Office.

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HIGH MEADOWS LIBRARY NEWS

WIGGLES SAURUS CRAFT PARTY

Wednesday, July 22,
11:00am-11:30am

Description

Unleash your little dinosaur's giant imagination at the ultimate prehistoric creative bash! Designed specifically for tiny hands and big ideas, this party blends sensory play, colorful crafting, and roaring fun.

WILD THINGS ZOOFARI

Wednesday, July 22,
11:30am-12:15pm

Description

Step into the wild!

Join us for an exciting Exotic Animal Show featuring live animals and unforgettable encounters. Travel through time as you learn about the amazing animals from the age of dinosaurs to the incredible creatures we share the planet with today. Our shows are packed with fun facts and up-close experiences, perfect for curious kids of all ages and animal-loving adults. Get ready to experience the wild with Wild Things Zoofari!

CAREER AND COLLEGE HELP | AYUDA PARA BUSCA DE EMPLEO O CARRERAS

Wednesday, July 22,
12:00pm-6:00pm

Description

Ready to re-enter today's workforce with confidence? Join us for a practical, empowering one-on-one meeting designed to help you take the next step in your career journey!

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CRAFTS ON THE ROCKS - SUMMER CRAFTING & MOCKTAILS FOR ADULTS

Wednesday, July 22,
12:00pm-1:00pm

Description

Step into a world of creativity inspired by fossils, gemstones, and ancient discoveries.

Crafts on the Rocks is a hands-on summer series where participants will create unique, geology-, paleontology-, and archaeology-themed projects while enjoying refreshing mocktails.

Each session explores a different craft, from wearable art to decorative creations, all designed to spark curiosity and creativity.

This program is geared toward adults, but supervised participants ages 10 and up are welcome to join us for coloring at the same time.

No prior experience is necessary. Registration is not required, but all supplies are provided on a first-come, first-served basis. June 10: Create your own prehistoric accessories using dinosaur-themed charms, beads, and findings. Design a bracelet or bag charm that reflects your personal style while celebrating creatures from the distant past. June 24: Transform ordinary stones into colorful works of art. Whether you prefer simple patterns, inspirational messages, or detailed designs, this relaxing craft lets you turn natural materials into something uniquely yours. July 8: Create simple necklaces or pendants using faceted beads in warm, earth-inspired, amber-like tones. Participants will design and assemble their own jewelry pieces using a variety of beads, creating a piece that reflects their personal style. July 22: Craft beautiful, gem-like soaps using melt-and-pour techniques. Experiment with colors, translucency, and scent to create pieces that resemble crystals or precious stones.

JURASSIC ART JAM WITH MS. KRYSTLE

Wednesday, July 22, 2:00pm-3:00pm

Description

Craft Program for Kids
Get creative with Ms. Krystle in this hands-on dinosaur-themed craft program. Children will explore art, design, and imagination while creating fun prehistoric projects.

Activities are designed to support creativity and self-expression.

ROAR! STORYTIME WITH MRS. TINA

Wednesday, July 22, 4:00pm-5:00pm

Description

Bilingual Storytime for School-Age Children

Join Ms. Tina for an interactive bilingual storytime featuring stories in both English and Spanish. Chil-

dren will enjoy engaging activities, songs, and dinosaur-themed stories while building language and literacy skills.

This program promotes cultural awareness and a love of reading in two languages.

ROAR, ROCK AND READ!

Thursday, July 23,
10:30am-11:30am

Description

This isn't just a regular reading hour. Roar, Rock & Read is a hands-on STEAM program designed exclusively for curious minds ages 6 to 12.

HANDMADE HISTORY FOR TEENS

Thursday, July 23, 2:00pm-3:00pm

Description

Excavate some excitement this summer at this weekly arts and crafts program! Each week we'll create a new work of art and learn about archaeology, dinosaurs, and history along the way.

This program is designed for tweens and teens ages 12 to 18.

Registration is not required, but supplies and space may be limited.

DINO-MITE FRIDAY FILM FEST

Friday, July 24, 1:00pm-6:00pm

Description

Join us for a DINO-MITE film festival every Friday.

1:00 to 3:30 p.m., kids under 10 can enjoy fun, age-appropriate dinosaur themed cartoons and movies.

3:30 to 6:00 p.m., tweens and adults can experience thrilling dinosaur adventures.

It's a ROARING good time for all ages!

CONVERSATIONAL ESL

Saturday, July 25, 10:30am-11:30am

Description

Practice your English with this conversational class in a welcoming, stress-free environment. This class is also part of our Summer Reading Program for adults. Gain points from attending classes and doing the reading assignments! Registration required.

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AIRLINE LIBRARY NEWS

WIGGLE WEDNESDAY

Wednesday, July 22,
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 Children of all ages are welcome.

We cannot host daycares or groups.

TWEEN SPARK SHRINKY DINKS

Wednesday, July 22,
4:30pm-5:30pm

Description

Make fun charms with shrinky dink paper! We'll provide a range of patterns to choose from and the supplies; all you gotta do is provide the creativity and have fun
This program is best for 6th-9th graders

TEEN CLUB

Thursday, July 23,
5:00pm-6:00pm

Description

Join us every Thursday for a fun hour full of crafts and workshops. Relax, have a snack in a safe and welcoming space!

NO-SEW BUNNIES

Thursday, July 23,
5:30pm-6:30pm

Description

Make a stuffed animal friend without ever picking up a needle! All materials will be provided but are limited, so this

program is first-come first-serve.

BILINGUAL STORY TIME - ENGLISH AND SPANISH

Tuesday, July 28,
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 and guardians 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.

Les invitamos a participar en la Hora del Cuento todos los martes a las 11:00 a.m. La Hora del Cuento es una excelente manera de que los niños desarrollen habilidades de alfabetización temprana mediante historias, rimas y canciones. Animamos a los padres a participar sentándose con los niños y cantando (¡y aprendiendo!) nuevas canciones. La última media hora está dedicada a las manualidades! Los niños de todas las edades son bienvenidos.
No podemos recibir guarderías ni grupos.

EXCITING FLAVORS!

Tuesday, July 28,
4:00pm-5:00pm

Description

Want to taste something new?

Join us for Exciting Flavors! a new program where we make and taste new recipes. We will be trying aguas frescas

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL) REGISTRATION/ INSCRIPCIÓN EN INGLÉS

COMO SEGUNDA LENGUA

Tuesday, July 28,
5:30pm-7:00pm

Description

English as a second language (ESL) Registration

Want to learn English? Join us for our registration! Event Date and Times:

July 28 Tuesday :
5:30pm-7pm

July 29 Wednesday :
12:30pm-2pm

July 30 Thursday :
12:30-2pm

Ages: Adult only programs

Any questions about our Fall 1 2026 Classes from August 3- September 25 will be answered during Registration.

Must be registered to attend our English Classes.

Registro de Inglés como Segundo Idioma (ESL) ¿Quieres aprender inglés? ¡Únete a nosotros para nuestro registro! Fecha y Horarios del Evento: Martes 28 de julio: 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Miércoles 29 de julio: 12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Jueves 30 de julio: 12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Edades: Programas solo para adultos. Cualquiera pregunta sobre nuestras Clases de Otoño 1 2026, del 3 de agosto al 25 de septiembre, será respondida durante el registro. Es necesario estar registrado para asistir a nuestras clases de inglés.

Aldine Branch Library
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Houston, TX 77037
Phone: 832-927-5410

SCHOOL NEWS

Thinking About Dual Credit?
Attend Aldine ISD’s July 28
& 30 Family Workshop

Discover how students can begin earning college credit while still in high school.

Aldine ISD, in partnership with Lone Star College, will host a Dual Credit Workshop for students and families on Tuesday, July 28, and Thursday, July 30, from 4 to 6 p.m. — no registration needed — at the Bamberg Professional Development and Resource Center, 9999 Veterans Memorial Dr.

The informal, come-and-go workshop is designed to help current and prospective dual credit students prepare for the upcoming school year and learn more about the college opportunities available through Aldine ISD.

Representatives from Aldine ISD and Lone Star College will be available to:

-Assist students with completing the ApplyTexas college application.

-Answer questions about Aldine ISD’s dual credit opportunities, including 9N9, a program that allows ninth-grade students to earn up to nine college credit hours, and the Accelerated College Academy (ACA).

-What is 9N9? — 9N9 is an innovative Aldine ISD program that allows students to begin taking dual credit college courses their ninth-grade year instead of waiting until their Junior year. This allows them to take more college courses at a reduced cost and, in some cases, for free. Many students are able to earn an associate degree at the same time they are earning their high school diploma.

-Students in the ACA program receive comprehensive academic advising, beginning with pre-program planning before the start of 10th grade and continuing with mandatory advising at 15 and 30 credit hours, as required by Texas law. A final advising session before graduation helps students plan for their next steps, whether it’s transferring to a university or continuing their studies at Lone Star College.

- Provide information about Lone Star College courses and enrollment.
- Explain dual credit eligibility criteria, policies, and practices.
- Share information about costs. Learn about the state of Texas FAST program for free dual credit tuition.
- Walk families through the process of getting started.
- Explain high school graduation requirements with assistance from Aldine ISD high school counselors.

Benefits of Dual Credit While in High School

Dual credit courses allow students to earn college credit while also earning credit toward high school graduation. Benefits may include:

- Firsthand exposure to college-level coursework while still in high school.
- A smoother transition from high school to college.
- Opportunities to enhance a student’s high school GPA, as some dual credit courses are weighted.
- A chance to begin college with credits already earned.
- A possible faster path to completing a bachelor’s degree.
- Potential cost savings compared with a traditional college education.
- Courses that transfer to many four-year colleges and universities.
- Continued eligibility for freshman scholarships after completing dual credit coursework.

Students and their families are encouraged to attend either session to receive one-on-one assistance and learn how students can begin earning college credit while still in high school.

For more information, contact your high school counselor or Dr. Susan Pelezo, executive director the Aldine ISD Advanced Academics Department , via email at slpelezo@aldineisd.org.



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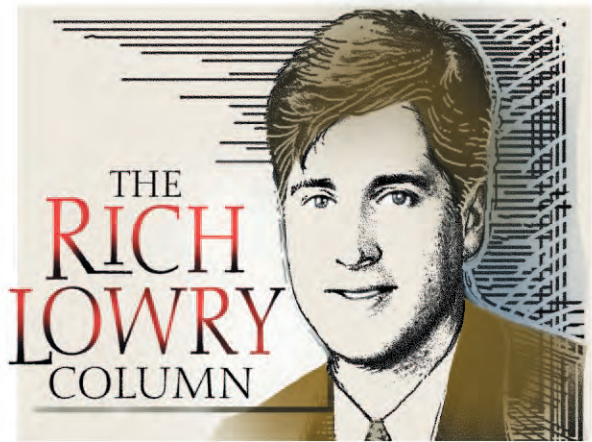
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Another Sham Deal with Iran Comes Undone

An early period of World War II was known as “the phony war.” What we may be witnessing now in the U.S.-Iran war is the end of a “phony peace.”

The nearly five-month-long conflict has featured a couple of sham ceasefires, each marked by supposed Iranian pledges to reopen the Strait of Hormuz that came to nothing.

With the Iranians firing on shipping in the Strait again, Trump has declared the so-called memorandum of understanding signed about a month ago to be a dead letter. After lifting sanctions on Iranian oil and ending the U.S. blockade of Iranian ports, Trump has reinstituted both. He maintains that the U.S. will control the strait and, at some point, charge a 20% fee on all shipping for our trouble (a bad idea that Trump appears already to have abandoned).

It was clear a couple of days into the war that the Strait of Hormuz had become the key strategic variable and that President Trump wouldn’t easily be able to walk away from the conflict without reopening the strait again.

The MOU was an illusory means of achieving this goal via diplomacy. The problem is that we thought — or wanted to believe — that the agreement said the Iranians would allow unobstructed passage again, while the Iranians thought — or wanted to believe — that it said they would control the strait. That the MOU was subject to these starkly divergent understandings made it a memorandum of obfuscation.

The Iranians, of course, aren’t operating in good faith, but it is a point in their favor that the MOU didn’t simply say, “There shall be freedom of navigation in the strait.” Instead, it talked of how the Iranians would “make arrangements” for ensuring “the safe passage of commercial vessels, with no charge for 60 days only.” In other words, the Iranians held the whip hand in the strait and could charge a fee for transit after a two-month interval. Furthermore, Iran would conduct dialogue with Oman “to define the future administration and maritime services in the Strait of Hormuz.”

Amazingly enough, then, a war that had started with optimistic talk of toppling the Iranian regime was ending with an agreement allowing the Iranians to figure out how to run a waterway vital to the international economy that they hadn’t controlled at the outset of the conflict.

Is it any wonder that the Iranians, who must have been stunned at the success of their gambit in the strait, have been pressing their luck? It must have emboldened them even more to hear Trump say that he was so eager for the MOU because the economic costs of Iranian disruption of the strait threatened to make him a new Herbert Hoover.

Effectively turning over the control of the strait to the Iranians — coupled with the inconclusive U.S. war against the Houthis to try to eliminate their threat to shipping in the Red Sea — would have been a black mark on the Trump administration’s record regarding a long-standing tenet of American grand strategy.

Freedom of navigation has always been considered essential to U.S. national security and a linchpin of global commerce. Trump is right to want to take back the Strait. The question, though, is whether he will be willing to apply enough force and have the staying power to bring a battle for the strait to a successful conclusion. The domestic politics are difficult, given that the American public is not supportive of the war and has now been repeatedly told that it is about to end with a brilliant diplomatic deal.

While we have an enormous firepower advantage, the Iranians have proven that they can disrupt the Strait with threats and a few projectiles. They aren’t going to give up their strategic windfall easily, as two bogus but highly touted peace deals now demonstrate.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.
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★

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders



Texas First State to Mandate Bible Reading in School

The State Board of Education gave final approval last week to a new required reading list for every grade level and also passed a rewrite of the state’s social studies requirements for kindergarten to eighth grade, the Austin American-Statesman reported. Both plans include Biblical concepts, essentially making the state the first in the nation to mandate the teaching of Christianity in public school classrooms.

“We are bringing the Bible back into schools this week for the first time in 60 years,” SBOE member Brandon Hall, R-Aledo, said during a prayer session outside the hearing this week.

The new standards will be implemented in phases, starting with elementary schools in the 2030-2031 school year.

Republicans favor the new standards as a win for Judeo-Christian values and say the required lessons on Jesus, Abraham and Moses are intended not to evangelize but help children develop moral compasses. Critics say the board is promoting Christianity at the expense of racial and religious diversity.

“Texas is telling millions of children that one religion deserves the government’s seal of approval, while everyone else is an afterthought,” said Annie Laurie Gaylor, president of the Freedom From Religion Foundation.

CORNYN: CLOSED PRIMARIES COULD BACKFIRE ON TEXAS GOP

Sen. John Cornyn is warning Texas GOP leaders that closing party primaries would be “paving the way to minority party status,” The Texas Tribune reported.

The Texas Republican Party and its top elected leaders are pushing to require voters to register with a party, thereby prohibiting them from crossing over in party primaries. Texas is one of 17 states with open primaries.

Cornyn, who was defeated for reelection in a runoff by Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton, commented on an op-ed published



in The Dallas Morning News, sharing its title — “Closed primaries are a threat to Texas voters.” He added, “Exactly,” and “Democrats haven’t turned Texas blue; Republican’s [sic] might.”

Paxton has joined the GOP’s pending lawsuit to strike down open primaries in court.

SUPREME COURT RULING COULD AFFECT 147K TPS RECIPIENTS IN TEXAS

The U.S. Supreme Court’s ruling that the Trump administration can revoke Temporary Protected Status for immigrants from Haiti and Syria means more than 147,000 migrants in Texas under the program face imminent risk of arrest and deportation, the Texas Standard reported.

Texas hosts one of the largest concentrations of TPS holders in the nation, and University of Houston constitutional law professor Seth Chandler said the ruling has dramatic consequences for them.

“It basically streamlines the ability of the Trump administration to revoke TPS status, not just for the Haitians and Syrians who were litigating in the case the Supreme Court decided today, but with respect to Hondurans, Nepalis, Afghans, and perhaps critically for Houston, potentially Venezuelans as well,” Chandler said.

The decision could have economic consequences, since many immigrants in the country under TPS work in sectors already experiencing labor shortages.

“If you look at our plaintiffs in the Syria case, for example, we have a highly sought-after pediatrician,” said Hussein El-

bakri, attorney at the International Refugee Assistance Project.

“We have somebody who is a special needs teacher by day and is training to be a nurse at night. We have construction workers. We have people in the food services industry, and we have many, many people, especially in the Haitian community, who are home health care workers, Elbakri said.

MAJORITY OF TEXANS OPPOSE DATA CENTERS IN THEIR COMMUNITY

A new poll from the University of Texas’ Texas Politics Project indicates that a majority of Texans oppose having data centers in their community, according to the Texas Standard. The state has become the nation’s top destination for data centers, which provide the infrastructure for artificial intelligence and cryptocurrency mining.

The poll found 43% of Republicans oppose data centers, while 42% support their construction. More than 60% of people who identify as Democrats oppose new data centers.

“I think people are objecting for different reasons,” said James Henson, director of the polling center. “On one hand, lots of environmental concerns about water and resource use. But if you’re living next to these data centers or in the region... they have a big impact on people’s lives.”

Both Gov. Greg Abbott and Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick have made regulation of data centers a legislative priority in next year’s session.

TEXAS GOP ELEPHANT LACKED MANDATORY PERMIT

When Paige the elephant made an appearance at the recent GOP state convention in Houston, its owner did not acquire the required city permit to bring wild animals into the city, The Dallas Morning News reported.

Public records acquired by the paper indicate Trunks and Humps, the elephant’s owner, has been cited repeatedly for federal animal welfare violations and failed to apply for a permit before bringing Paige to the June 12 convention.

The elephant arrived as the finale to Abbot’s speech. A video of the event went viral after the elephant urinated on the convention floor.

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



Partial View



I go to the theater every chance I get.

In an earlier life, I worked in the theater, and unlike some actors and technicians I know who spent years working in the theater and now never want to see another show, I love to go, and I always leave the theater in a wonderful mood.

I especially love Broadway tours, and I can’t tell you why. I never did musicals when I was in theater, and I don’t even know most of them well. But when tickets go on sale, I pounce on the cheap seats in the front row on the end — the ones that are called “partial view.”

I’ve decided they are called that not because I can’t see everything, sitting way off to the side and way in front, but because I see more than I am supposed to. I get a “partial view” of life backstage, and I love it.

I see the actors just before they enter from the other side. I watched the actor attach the puppets to his arms in “Peter Pan.” I see the scenery getting rolled off — usually with the help of stagehands standing just behind the curtain, maneuvering around narrow corners with a grace and speed that astonishes me. I love to see all the things I am not supposed to see off to the side.

And I love all the things I see up close as well.

Being up close and off to the side means that if the musicians are playing in the pit, I can just lean over and see at least some of them. The conductor is always in sight. Before the show and during intermission, I peek down and see how many instruments the percussionist is expected to play and am always impressed. I see how few people are required to make so much music and am amazed.

Up close, I notice how the microphones are attached to the actors’ heads and marvel that they can change costumes and even hats and hairpieces and manage to keep a mic in place. The stage is high, so I am right at shoe level. The shoes in musicals are amazing. Tap shoes and dance shoes and shoes covered in sequins. One show had heels that were actually small disco balls. I cannot imagine that audience members even a few rows back would be able to see the perfect spheres covered in reflective glass, but those heels were mere feet from my face, and it was thrilling.

And sitting up close, I see the faces of the actors in perfect clarity. I never acted on stages as large as the one they are on. I never had that kind of success. I watch them and feel privileged to see people doing something that is so hard, something they love so much.

Touring is grueling. They do many shows in a week and then everything gets packed up and hauled off to another city for the same schedule. They are away from home for long periods of time. Their time off is spent in a strange city. I know that most of these touring actors are fairly young, and most will not do it for long. I know they must get exhausted, and I’m sure there is much about touring life that is not fun. It is such incredibly hard work.

But I go to the theater to spend two hours watching these actors who are so fully and completely alive, and it fills me with joy — even if I only have a partial view.

Till next time,
Carrie

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Channelview Spill Draws OSHA Fines



By Gerardo Hernandez
STAFF WRITER

CHANNELVIEW - The U.S. Department of Labor is proposing more than \$3.5 million in fines against three companies for alleged worker safety violations related to a [sulfuric acid spill](#) late last year in Channelview, with the bulk of that fine total levied against a subcontractor.

OSHA has issued citations against the company it said was responsible for the December spill and is also proposing fines against a contractor and subcontractor that were hired to provide cleanup.

The department’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) found that BWC Terminals employees mixed fresh and contaminated sulfuric acid, which created “tank overpressure” and caused a supply line to rupture, according to an OSHA news release late last week.

The resulting spill released 1 million gallons of sulfuric acid, some of which went into the Houston Ship Channel, Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo said in the aftermath of the December spill. Two people were taken to the hospital and another 44 individuals were treated for injuries at the scene.

The three companies facing fines have 15 business days from time of citation to comply, ask for an “informal” conference with the local OSHA director or contest the agency’s findings.

OSHA is proposing a fine of \$82,750 against BWC Terminals. The company is facing six ci-

tations for allegedly failing to provide hazardous materials training, “exposing workers to chemical burns,” and “deficiencies” in respirator usage.

BWC said in a statement it is contesting OSHA’s findings.

“BWC Terminals (BWC) acknowledges, but respectfully disagrees with several of OSHA’s findings as they relate to BWC and intends to appeal the citations through the appropriate legal and regulatory processes within the requested timeframe,” the company said. “BWC does not agree that it bypassed OSHA requirements or took actions that put workers at risk, and we believe the record will reflect that. We are committed to transparency and will provide updates as additional information becomes available. The safety of our employees, the surrounding community, and the environment is our highest priority. We remain focused on continuous improvement and on maintaining safe, responsible, and environmentally sound operations across our facilities.”

BWC contracted with Coastal Environmental Solutions Inc. to clean up the spill. Coastal Environmental then hired One Way Environmental Services LLC as a subcontractor to provide workers during the cleanup process.

Those two companies are also facing proposed fines for OSHA violations. They did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Coastal Environmental Solutions Inc. could

face a fine of \$392,501 for “two willful and five serious violations,” that include alleged failures to properly train employees and create an emergency response plan for hazardous waste as well as a lack of respirator use.

One Way Environmental Services LLC is facing \$3,045,452 in fines for “18 willful egregious and five serious violations.” OSHA alleges the company sent employees to clean up the spill without proper training, safety measures and tests for respirator fits.

“Despite having full knowledge of the severe hazards involved in the spill and cleanup response, these three employers chose to bypass OSHA requirements and put their workers at serious risk,” Assistant Secretary for Occupational Health and Safety David Keeling said in a news release. “Their joint failure to protect workers was not an oversight, it was a choice that resulted in preventable employee injuries and environmental impacts. We will not hesitate to hold employers accountable when they ignore federal laws that are in place to protect workers’ safety and health.”

Hidalgo praised the federal government and local employees for their investigation into the chemical spill.

“This decision represents an important statement about the importance of worker safety, particularly in our county’s most important industry,” she said in a statement. “All companies must be held to the same standards and I believe it is only fair to demand accountability when a company doesn’t meet them.”

Thousands of student artists, one unwavering commitment to creativity,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

their artistic voices, and see themselves as creators.”

Aldine ISD’s visual arts program continues to strengthen the district’s legacy of arts education by offering students opportunities to explore creativity at every grade level. Through exhibitions, contests, community-based projects, and classroom experiences, students learn to communicate ideas, solve problems, and make connections through visual expression.

“A strong visual arts education gives students opportunities to discover their talents, think creatively and communicate with confidence,” Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney said. “Receiving this distinction for the eighth consecutive year reflects the extraordinary work of our educators and the experiences they create for students every day. It’s another example of how Aldine ISD prepares students for success in the classroom and beyond, while providing the meaningful opportunities that lead families to choose Aldine.”

Aldine ISD will be recognized during the 2026 Texas Art Education Association Conference on Friday, Nov. 13, at Moody Gardens in Galveston.

The recognition celebrates the dedication of Aldine ISD’s visual arts educators and the thousands of students whose creativity continues to shape classrooms across the district.

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EAST ALDINE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
Date: July 14, 2026

INVITATION TO BIDDERS

Sealed Bids addressed to East Aldine Management District, Attention Carlos Silva, President, Board of Directors, will be received at the office of Buckson Landscape Architecture, 12337 Jones Rd. Ste. 200, Houston TX 77070, until 10:00 a.m. Local Time, August 4, 2026, and then publicly opened and read for “Median Improvements Project for East Aldine Management District, Harris County, Texas.” In addition to the opening of sealed Bids at the address above, you may view the public opening of sealed Bids via Microsoft Teams. To join via Microsoft Teams the Meeting ID: 238 573 913 912 61 and Passcode: ng65oC72

Scope of Work of the Contract Documents includes the following: Improvements of fourteen (14) esplanades located within the district’s right-of-way to include paving, landscape, irrigation, lighting and signage installation.

Bids received after the closing time will be returned unopened. A **MANDATORY** pre-bid conference will be held on **remotely** July 28, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. Local Time, via Microsoft Teams. To join via Microsoft Teams the Meeting ID: 227 122 185 464 856 and the Passcode: oS2ZC2vJ Representative at the pre-bid conference is **MANDATORY**, and no Bid will be opened unless the bidder or representative was present at the pre-bid conference.

Each Bid must be accompanied by a Bid bond or a certified or cashier’s check, acceptable to the Owner, in an amount not less than two percent (2%) of the total amount Bid, as a guarantee that the successful bidder will enter into the Contract Documents and execute the Bonds on the forms provided and provide the required insurance certificates and Bonds within seven (7) days after the date Contract Documents are received by the successful bidder. If a certified or cashier’s check is provided, the successful bidder shall deliver, at the bid opening address, the *original* certified or cashier’s check within one (1) business day of receipt of the bid opening.

By submitting a Bid, Bidder acknowledges and agrees that the Contract Documents may be accepted, executed, or agreed to using an Electronic Signature, as defined by and in accordance with Owner’s Electronic Signature Rules for Construction Contracts.

Copies of the bidding documents may be reviewed and obtained from Buckson Landscape Architecture, 12337 Jones Rd. Ste. 400. Contact: Lauren Martinez lmartinez@bucksonla.com (281) 755-2018 for link. Bidders must register with Ms. Martinez to view and/or download specifications and plans for the Project. There is **NO** charge to view or download documents.

Bidding documents may also be obtained by prospective bidders or suppliers upon payment of One Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$150.00 non-refundable plus cost of delivery) for each set of documents at 12337 Jones Rd. Ste. 400. Checks should be made payable to Buckson Landscape Architecture. No cash will be accepted.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all Bids and to waive all defects and irregularities in bidding or bidding process except the time for submitting a Bid. The successful bidder, if any, will be the responsible bidder, which in the Board’s judgment will be most advantageous to the District and result in the best and most economical completion of the Project.

The requirements of Subchapter J, Chapter 552, Government Code, may apply to this Bid and the bidder agrees that the Contract Documents can be terminated if the bidder knowingly or intentionally fails to comply with a requirement of that subchapter.

ICE Temporarily Suspends Most Vehicle Stops Nationwide During Policy Review

By Gerardo Hernandez
STAFF WRITER

TEXAS — U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) has temporarily suspended most routine vehicle stops nationwide as the agency reviews enforcement procedures following recent deadly encounters involving immigration officers, according to reports.

The directive does not represent a complete ban on all vehicle-related enforcement activity. Officials said exceptions remain for certain operations, including cases involving criminal warrants, public safety concerns or other specific enforcement needs.

The policy change comes after two fatal shootings involving ICE officers, including the death of Lorenzo Salgado Araujo in Houston, which prompted increased scrutiny of vehicle stop procedures and officer tactics.



ICE Agents on a vehicle inspection early this year.

The temporary suspension is intended to allow the agency to review current practices and determine whether additional guidance or changes are needed for operations involving vehicles.

The move has drawn reactions from both supporters and critics of the agency’s enforcement policies. Supporters say the review is necessary to improve officer safety and ensure proper procedures are followed, while critics have called for greater oversight of immigration

enforcement actions.

ICE officials have not indicated how long the suspension will remain in place or when a final review of vehicle stop procedures will be completed.

Local law enforcement agencies and community organizations are continuing to monitor developments as federal officials evaluate the impact of the policy change.

(Editor’s note: This story will be updated as more information becomes available.)

CHURCH PAGE

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

by Elie’s Spiritual Treasures

Psalms 43:3-4

Send me your light and your faithful care, let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy mountain, to the place where you dwell. Then I will go to the altar of God, to God, my joy and my delight. I will praise you with the lyre, O God, my God.

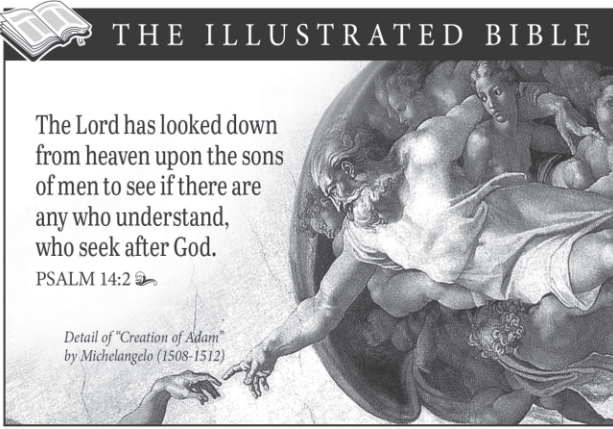
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Find the **bolded/underlined** words in the diagram. They run in all directions — forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

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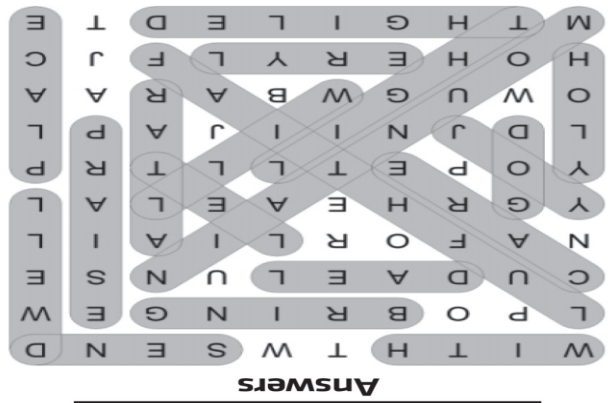
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BIBLE TRIVIA

By Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Psalms (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From Song of Solomon 1:15, what kind of eyes does the beloved say the Shulamite has? Kind, Red of the demon, Doves, Blue of the sea
3. Used as both a greeting and farewell, what's the Hebrew word for "peace"? Shass, Simcha, Shabbat, Shalom
4. In Matthew 6, what did Jesus say not to use when we pray? Loud curses, Impure thoughts, Vain repetitions, Wandering shifts
5. From Esther 1, King Ahasuerus lived in what city? Ur, Shushan, Antioch, Tarsus
6. Who was the first son of Moses and Zipporah? Haggai, Gershom, Mark, Zebudah.

ANSWERS: 1) Old, 2) Doves, 3) Shalom, 4) Vain repetitions, 5) Shushan, 6) Gershom
Hardcore trivia fans? Visit Wilson Casey's subscriber site at www.patreon.com/triviaguy.
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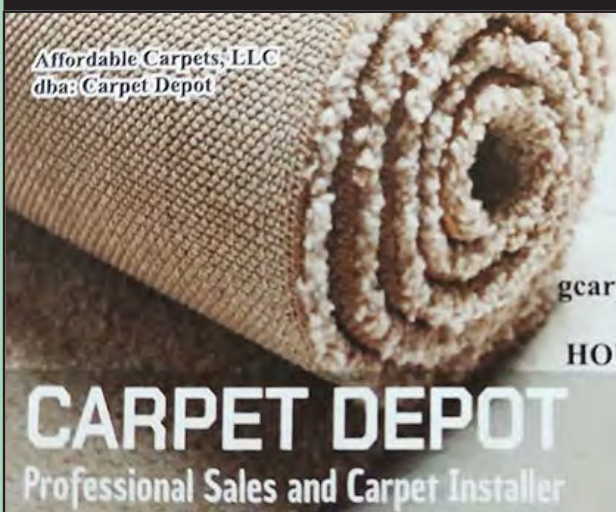
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Anya Taylor-Joy, Left and Drew Starkey stars in "Lucky."

"Lucky."

"72 Hours" (R) — Co-median/actor Kevin Hart ("Jumanji: Open World") leads this comedy film releasing on July 24, and he's got a handful of fellow comedians who round out the rest of the cast, including Marcello Hernandez, Ben Marshall and Kam Patterson (all of whom you might recognize from "Saturday Night Live"). Hart plays Joe, a 40-year-old business executive who's feeling desperate to cling to his remaining youth. So, when Joe gets added to a group chat for a three-day bachelor party with twenty-somethings, he's overjoyed that he gets a chance to reconnect with his inner rager. But it doesn't take long for poor Joe to realize in those mere 72 hours that he's in way over his head. (Netflix)

"The Sheep Detectives" (PG) — This family-friendly film, out now, isn't just a fun blend of a

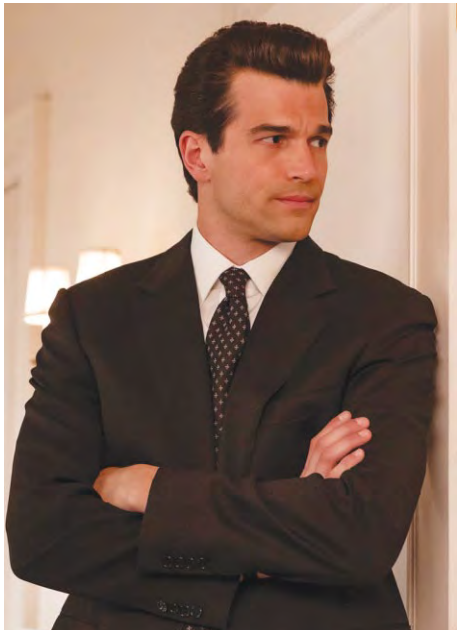
mystery and comedy movie that's appropriate for all ages; it features a stacked ensemble cast that is full of familiar faces and voices. Taking place in a small English village, a shepherd named George (Hugh Jackman) reads murder-mystery novels to his flock of sheep each night. When George suddenly passes away and is found outside his trailer, the sheep overhear the local police's hunch that it was a murder. With an extensive background in mystery-novel sleuthing, George's sheep are convinced that they can track down the murderer themselves. The live-action cast features names like Nicholas Braun ("Succession"), Emma Thompson ("Dead of Winter"), and Hong Chau ("Wuthering Heights"), while the voice cast includes Bryan Craston ("Chili Finger"), Julia Louis-Dreyfus ("Thunderbolts") and Regi-

na Hall ("The Five-Star Weekend"). (Amazon Prime Video)

"Lucky" (TV-MA) — Under her production company Hello Sunshine, Reese Witherspoon ("You're Cordially Invited") serves as an executive producer for this new crime-thriller miniseries, which just premiered the first two episodes out of its seven-episode season. Starring Anya Taylor-Joy ("The Super Mario Galaxy Movie") as the titular character, this series follows Lucky Armstrong — a con artist who pulls off a multi-million-dollar heist with her husband/partner-in-crime, Carey (Drew Starkey). When Carey goes missing with the money the very next day, Lucky is forced to live on the run from her boss, Priscilla (Annette Bening), who's also her mother-in-law and was expecting the money. Oh, and the FBI's hot on her heels as well. Sounds like Ms. Armstrong is not-so-lucky! (Apple TV)

"Marc by Sofia" (PG-13) — Director Sofia Coppola ("Priscilla") just released her first feature-length nonfiction film! The topic? TITLE: None other than American fashion designer Marc Jacobs. With footage that leads up to his 2024 paper doll runway show, Coppola interviews her close friend about his early life, his creative process, and the details of how he produces a show. Jacob also speaks about his time at Parsons School of Design in New York and working for Perry Ellis. Other faces who appear in the doc include actress Chloe Sevigny ("The Five-Star Weekend"), musician Kim Gordon, filmmaker Spike Jonze ("Her"), and former model/creative director Grace Coddington. Out now! (HBO Max)

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Paul Anthony Kelly as JFK Jr. in "Love Story"

Q: What's next for Paul Anthony Kelly after his practically overnight success from playing John F. Kennedy Jr.? — G.C.

A: The careers of both leads of the miniseries "Love Story" have taken off since it became a huge hit on Hulu. While Paul Anthony Kelly didn't receive an Emmy nomination, his co-star, Sarah Pidgeon, was recognized in the Outstanding Lead Actress in a Limited or Anthology Series category. Kelly, however, is striking while the iron's hot! He'll appear in the upcoming 13th season of "American Horror Story," the news of which was revealed at the Disney Upfront presentation in May. Kelly emerged on stage saying, "I guess every nightmare needs fresh blood ... and 13's my lucky number."

Kelly will also co-star with Sydney Sweeney and Amanda Seyfried in "The Housemaid's Secret," which is set for release in December 2027.

Q: I read recently that the longtime announcer for the "Jeopardy!" game show just had his 98th birthday, which is incredible! Are there any other announcers or hosts of game shows who started decades ago and are still working today? — J.V.

A: Johnny Gilbert is the oldest game-show announcer who still isn't retired. The famous voice of "This ... is ... 'Jeopardy!'" has been with the show since 1984. According to 13News Now, ever since the pandemic, Gilbert has been recording the show's intro, the descriptions of contestants, and the quiz categories from his home studio in Los Angeles.

Game-show hosts have some impressive genes because many of them have lived well into their 90s. Bob Barker of "The Price Is Right" passed away in 2023 at the impressive age of 99. He retired, however, in 2007, and Drew Carey is now the host. "Hollywood Squares" host Peter Marshall died in 2024 at age 98 but had retired at age 72.

"Tic-Tac-Dough" host Wink Martindale left us at age 91. He continued working in show business in some capacity right up until his passing. When asked when he was going to retire, Martindale famously asked, "Retire from what? From having fun?"

Bob Eubanks of "The Newlywed Game" fame is now 88 years old and has never officially retired. His memorable quote, "If you rest, you rust," has not only guided him through his decades as a game-show host, but also through covering the Tournament of Roses Parade for 36 years.

Q: Is it true they're making a sequel to the "Practical Magic" movie? Are Nicole Kidman and Sandra Bullock both in it, or will it be with new stars? — K.E.

A: The answer is "yes" and "yes"! "Practical Magic 2," starring Nicole Kidman and Sandra Bullock, will premiere in theaters this Sept. 11. Dianne Wiest ("Only Murders in the Building") and Stockard Channing ("The Good Wife") will also be returning as the aunts, along with new young witches played by Joey King ("We Were the Lucky Ones") and Maisie Williams ("Game of Thrones").

The film is said to be based on "The Book of Magic," a sequel novel to "Practical Magic," which was released in 2021 by author Alice Hoffman.

Send me your questions at NewCelebrityExtra@gmail.com.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Amber Waves



Weekly SUDOKU

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

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 ♦♦ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Foot is moved. 2. Collar is added to house. 3. Arm is not shown. 4. Lamp is larger. 5. Window is added to house. 6. Back of chair is smaller.

July 20, 2026 Posting Date

King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Efron of "Parkland"
4 "For — the Bell Tolls"
8 Maui's — Highway
12 Rock's Brian
13 Continental coin
14 Petri dish gel
15 Scrape (out)
16 Shakable paperweight
18 Egypt's Anwar
20 Quibble
21 Composer Bartok
24 Informative
28 Hall & Oates ballad of 1976
32 Scarce
33 Galley item
34 Must, casually
36 Plant seeds
37 Radar dot
39 "Gems" found on a beach
41 "Bye!"
43 Poetry contest
44 Vat
46 Foolish
50 Scott Evil actor in the Austin Powers films

DOWN

1 Dazzling duo?
2 "Diana" singer
3 Not single-sex one!
4 Locale in "The Great Gatsby"
5 Attila, e.g.
6 Acapulco gold
7 Cut, as a lawn
8 Summer top
9 Previously
10 Collar
11 Common verb
17 Tonic's mixer
19 Six-pack muscles
22 Novelist Anita
23 Poker pot starters
25 "That — close one!"
26 "No seats" signs
27 Evergreens
28 Weeps
29 Robust
30 Buffalo's lake
31 List-ending abbr.
35 Not for
38 Large constrictor
40 Run after K
42 Summer mo.
45 Telly watcher
47 Slightly open area
48 Cathedral
49 Kept tabs on
50 Cutting tool
51 Chariot trailer
52 Three, in Rome
53 Notable time
54 Vichy water

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Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

1. ANATOMY: How many vertebrae are in the human spine?
2. U.S. CITIES: Which city is home to the Gateway Arch, known as the tallest arch in the world?
3. TELEVISION: Which 1970s sitcom introduced a neighbor named Phyllis Lindstrom?
4. HISTORY: When was the first heart transplant performed?
5. GEOGRAPHY: Where are the Cape Verde islands located?
6. MOVIES: Which 1991 film featured a villain named Max Cady?
7. MUSIC: When did Taylor Swift's second studio album ("Fearless") win the Country Music Association's Album of the Year award?
8. SCIENCE: What is nephology?
9. MEASUREMENTS: What instrument is used to measure the depth of oceans?
10. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a baby deer called?

Answers

1. 33; 2. St. Louis, Missouri; 3. "The Mary Tyler Moore Show"; 4. 1967; 5. Off the west coast of Africa; 6. "Cape Fear"; 7. 2009; 8. The scientific study of clouds; 9. An echo sounder or fathometer; 10. A fawn or calf

King Crossword

Solution time: 24 mins.

Weekly SUDOKU

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

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Industrial expansion reaches new heights, warehouse boom continues,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



there is on track to finish this summer.

Fidelis has also broken ground on its Imperial Connection development on Imperial Valley Drive, just north of Greens Road in the northeast quadrant. This two-building project contributes roughly 282,000 square feet and links to both I-45 and Beltway 8. It, too, is expected to be done this summer.

Panattoni Development is putting up the West/45 Logistics Center along West Road near Pinto Business Park in the southwest quadrant, with I-45 access and an anticipated completion date set for 2027.

Combined, these three projects will bring more than one million square feet of new space online. That accounts for nearly a five percent bump over the District's current inventory of roughly 20 million square feet.

Location and Infrastructure Bolster Demand

Officials with the District cite location and access as a recurring reason for the surge in activity. The area sits where I-45 North meets Beltway 8, and its closeness to the Hardy Toll Road and George Bush Intercontinental Airport offers tenants links to highway, air, and regional shipping networks.

That connectivity has grown more valuable as manufacturers and logistics



firms rethink their supply chains and aim to bring production nearer to the customers they serve. This change in approach is shaped in part by both pandemic-era disruptions and more recent tariff measures.

Infrastructure improvements in the area are also backing up the ongoing growth.

Harris County Precinct 1 is currently in the engineering planning phase of a reconstruction project for Rankin Road that will begin just west of the Rankin Yards site and continue to I-45 North. This \$14.6 million project will result in a new four lane roadway, signal improvements, and drainage improvements to replace open ditches.

The project will also include pedestrian safety improvements such as sidewalks, crosswalks, and accessible ramps.

Additionally, the District has commissioned a traffic and mobility study that is analyzing how traffic patterns have changed with the industrial shift. The study is expected to highlight a series recommendations for key intersections throughout the District in order to improve efficiency and safety.

A District Built for Industrial Growth

Together, the Rankin Yards transaction, the in-progress projects, and the continuing infrastructure work bode well for the District. As demand for warehouse, industrial, and advanced manufacturing space grows, the area's location, access, and infrastructure improvement efforts will continue to attract industrial companies seeking a home for their business and their employees.(Source North Houston District webpage)

Aldine ISD Mourns Loss of Beloved Deputy Superintendent Kenneth D. Black at 97

By Leticia Fehling
Director of Internal Communications

EAST ALDINE - Mr. Black leaves a legacy of leadership and service at Aldine ISD.

The Aldine ISD family is mourning the loss of retired Deputy Superintendent Kenneth D. Black, a longtime educator and administrator whose leadership helped shape the district during a period of tremendous growth and whose legacy lives on through Black Elementary School and the countless students, educators, and leaders he inspired.

Black passed away on July 10 at the age of 97.

Black devoted 46 years of full-time and part-time service to Aldine ISD, leaving an enduring impact on generations of students, educators, and school leaders.

His Aldine career began in 1956 as a fifth-grade teacher at Orange Grove Elementary School. One year later, he became assistant principal, and in 1961, he was named principal of Orange Grove. His leadership abilities soon led him into district administration, where he served as director of elementary schools, director of instruction, assistant superintendent of instruction, and, ultimately, deputy superintendent in 1973.

Black served as deputy superintendent until his retirement in 1986, helping guide Aldine ISD during one of the most transformative periods in the district's history. As Aldine experienced rapid enrollment growth, opened new campuses, and expanded educational opportunities for students,



Kenneth D. Black
Former Deputy Superintendent

Black played a key role in supporting the district's continued progress.

Although he officially retired in 1986, he remained active in Aldine ISD as a recruiter and later served as a university supervisor for student teachers through Sam Houston State University, helping prepare the next generation of educators.

In recognition of his distinguished service and unwavering dedication to students, the Aldine ISD Board of Trustees named Black Elementary School in his honor when the campus opened in August 1989.

The school's website describes Black as "an extraordinary individual" who guided generations of students, teachers, and administrators and who believed in helping children grow into successful citizens with high expectations and bright futures.

Those who knew him personally remember him not only for his leadership but also for his kindness, humility, unwavering faith, and genuine care for others. Family members and former colleagues recall his wit, wonderful storytelling, loyal friendship, and his ability to make everyone around him feel valued.

Former colleagues described Black as a mentor who loved the Aldine community, invested in educators throughout their careers and inspired others to focus on solutions. Many remembered his warm smile and his favorite question: "Are you part of the problem or part of the solution?" — a simple phrase that reflected his practical wisdom and positive approach to leadership.

Education was a lifelong calling for the Black family. His wife, Naomi Ruth Black, dedicated 37 years to Aldine ISD as an educator before her passing in 2018. Together, they devoted their lives to serving students, supporting public education, and mentoring future generations of educators.

Mr. Black is survived by his daughter, Terri Young, and her husband, Russell; granddaughter Sarah Zapata and her husband, Carlos; and great-granddaughter Addison Naomi Zapata.

A memorial service celebrating Mr. Black's life will be held Tuesday, July 21, at 2:30 p.m. at Christ Church Methodist, 6363 Research Forest Drive in The Woodlands. The family has requested that the committal service remain private for family members.

Aldine ISD extends its heartfelt condolences to the Black family, friends, former colleagues, and all whose lives were touched by Mr. Black's decades of service, leadership, and commitment to public education. His legacy will continue to inspire future generations of Aldine students, educators, and school leaders.

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