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VOL. 50, NO. 28 TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2026 HOUSTON, TEXAS www.nenewsroom.com

World-Record Cyclist Visit East Aldine



Four time World-Record holder Bond Almand (center, with his Bicycle) poses for a group photo with community members, students and families during the "Ride with World-Record Holder" event. (Courtesy photo/Aldine ISD website) See story in page 1 & 2.

NEWS NOTES

SAVE THE DATE: FREE Bilingual CPR Training Class

Mark your calendars for Saturday, August 15th! The East Aldine District and Harris County Emergency Corps are hosting a complimentary Heartsaver CPR Training Class.

Event Details:
Date: Saturday, August 15 (Sábado, 15 de Agosto)
Time: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Location: Harris County Emergency Corps
2800 Aldine Bender Road, Houston, TX 77032

Important Notes:
Cost: Free (Gratis)
Language: Bilingual (Bilingüe)

Eligibility: Open to participants 18 years and older (18 años o más).

Requirement: Students must be able to read the provided manual and perform CPR on floor-placed mannequins.

Registration is mandatory. Secure your spot today by visiting AldineDistrict.org/CPR.

For any questions or additional information, please contact us at:

Phone: 713.595.1232
Email: info@AldineDistrict.org

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.

Aldine Kicks Off Early School Year with Expanded ADSY Program

By David Taylor
Managing Editor

Some 1,500 students in Aldine ISD returned to class Monday — on July 27.

For most families, that date still feels like the heart of summer. But at Harris Elementary School, Ermel Elementary School and Vines Primary School, it marked the first day of Aldine ISD's sixth year offering Additional Days School Year, or ADSY, an extended-calendar program designed to give students more time to learn, more chances to practice, and more opportunities to stay ahead.



Superintendent Dr. LaTonya Goffney and her cabinet members visited the campus of Harris Elementary for the first day of school. Students and teachers were ready.

The program is part of a statewide effort created after the Texas Legislature passed House Bill 3 in 2019, which established ADSY as a way for school systems to add instructional days and reduce summer learning loss. The [Texas Education Agency](#) says ADSY provides funding for eligible campuses to add up to 30 instructional days beyond a base calendar, with the goal of supporting academic growth and reducing the learning loss that can occur over long summer breaks.

In Aldine, the idea has

Continued. See ADSY GIVES ALDINE STUDENTS MORE TIME, Page 5

UIL heat safety rules now required for Texas schools

By David Taylor
Managing Editor

Texas schools began the 2026-27 school year under new statewide heat safety requirements Friday as the University Interscholastic League moved its Wet Bulb Globe Temperature protocols from recommendations to mandatory standards for outdoor athletic and marching band activities.

The rules, effective Aug. 1, require UIL member schools to use WBGT readings to monitor environmental conditions and adjust practices and workouts when heat stress levels rise. WBGT factors in temperature, humidity, wind speed and



solar radiation, giving coaches, athletic trainers and school leaders a broader measure of heat risk than air temperature or the traditional heat index alone.

The UIL said the change followed several years of recommended use and a recommendation from its Medical Advisory Committee, which cited continuing medical research, accepted national best practices and ongoing review of heat-related safety measures. The UIL Legislative Council approved making the standards mandatory for the new school year.

Continued. See NEW UIL SAFETY RULES, Page 3

Walle Joins Back-To-School Expo

By Gerardo Hernandez
STAFF WRITER

EAST ALDINE — State Rep. Armando Walle joined students, families, teachers and school staff at the Aldine ISD Back-to-School Expo, helping kick off the new academic year with school supplies and words of encouragement for the community.

The event welcomed families as they prepared for the start of the school year, with backpacks and school supplies distributed to children in attendance to help ensure students have the materials they need for a successful first day of class.

Walle said he enjoyed spending time with residents and school personnel during the annual event, which brought together families, educators and community partners in support of



State Rep. Armando Walle greets students, families, teachers and school staff during the Aldine ISD Back-to-School Expo.

local students.

"Glad to visit with families, teachers, staff at Aldine ISD Back to School Expo," Walle said in a social media post. "We kicked off with backpacks and school supplies provided to all the children. Wishing all our families a great start to the new year. I love being in my community."

The Back-to-School Expo is one of several community events held each year to connect families with educational resources while helping students prepare for the upcoming school year.

Ride With World-Record Holder

By Ava Webb
District Intern & Contributor

EAST ALDINE - Community members, cycling enthusiasts and Aldine ISD families gathered at W.W. Thorne Stadium on July 16 for "Ride With a World-Record Holder," a community event hosted by Aldine ISD in partnership with Extreme Networks featuring ultra-endurance cyclist and four-time world-record holder Bond Almand.

Almand earned international recognition after setting the fastest recorded ride along the 14,000-mile Pan-American Route from Alaska to Argentina in 75 days. He is currently traveling across the United States as part of Bonds Extreme Journey, a 10,000-mile journey to all



30 NFL stadiums designed to inspire communities through endurance athletics, encourage healthy lifestyles and connect with people across the country.

Aldine ISD and Extreme Networks hosted the event to give students, families and community members the opportunity to hear Almand's story firsthand while promoting

perseverance, resilience and the power of community. The event also highlighted the longstanding partnership between Aldine ISD and Extreme Networks, which made it possible to bring this unique community experience to students, families and cycling enthusiasts.

Throughout the morning, attendees heard Al-

mand share stories from his cross-country journey during a presentation and Q&A session, participated in a community bike ride alongside the world-record cyclist, connected with fellow cyclists and community members, enjoyed food and refreshments, received giveaways and T-shirts, and learned about the importance of youth

health and physical activity during a presentation from GENYOUth. During the event, GENYOUth also donated flag football kits to support physical education programming in Aldine ISD schools, helping provide students with additional opportunities to

Continued. See EAST ALDINE COMMUNITY RIDES WITH, Page 2

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS
BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Aldine Independent School District 2026 will hold a public meeting at 6:00 PM, August 17, 2026 in 2520 W.W. Thorne Blvd., Houston, Texas 77073. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax	\$0.767300/\$100 (proposed rate for maintenance and operations)				
School Debt Service Tax	\$0.302500/\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)				
Approved by Local Voters					
<u>Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget</u>					
The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories.					
Maintenance and operations	-2.43 % decrease				
Debt Service	4.25 % increase				
Total Expenditures	-1.56 % decrease				
<u>Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value</u> (as calculated under Section 26.04, Tax Code)					
	<u>Preceding Tax Year</u>	<u>Current Tax Year</u>			
Total appraised value* of all property	\$44,903,715,590	\$45,576,336,091			
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$811,216,342	\$725,560,852			
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$31,203,379,116	\$31,670,779,914			
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$563,710,391	\$504,188,797			
*Appraised value is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.					
** "New property" is defined by Section 26.012(17), Tax Code.					
*** "Taxable value" is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.					
<u>Bonded Indebtedness</u>					
Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$1,439,500,000					
*Outstanding principal.					
<u>Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates</u>					
	<u>Maintenance & Operations</u>	<u>Interest & Sinking Fund*</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Local Revenue Per Student</u>	<u>State Revenue Per Student</u>
Last Year's Rate	\$0.731500	\$0.302500	\$1.034000	\$6,220	\$7,272
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$0.764230	\$0.316580	\$1.080810	\$7,289	\$6,886
Proposed Rate	\$0.767300	\$0.302500	\$1.069800	\$6,913	\$7,122
*The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both.					
The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.					
<u>Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence</u>					
	<u>Last Year</u>	<u>This Year</u>			
Average Market Value of Residences	\$213,759	\$214,569			
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$73,759	\$74,569			
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$1.034000	\$1.069800			
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$762.67	\$797.74			
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$35.07			
Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.					
Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is \$1.057528. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of \$1.057528.					
<u>Fund Balances</u>					
The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment.					
Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$174,378,212				
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$58,753,066				
A school district may not increase the district's maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district's debt service.					
Visit Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.					
The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.					

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East Aldine community
rides with record cyclist,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



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stay active and engaged.

During the event, Almand reflected on one of the toughest days of his journey after experiencing multiple flat tires before completing a 210-mile ride.

"Most of the time you're not having any fun at all, but it makes the really, really fun moments that much more special," Almand said. "When you bike and you see a beautiful sunset or you get to a new city, it's super rewarding."

An Extreme Networks representative, Rafe Chamette, said the company was excited to bring the event to Houston because of its longstanding rela-

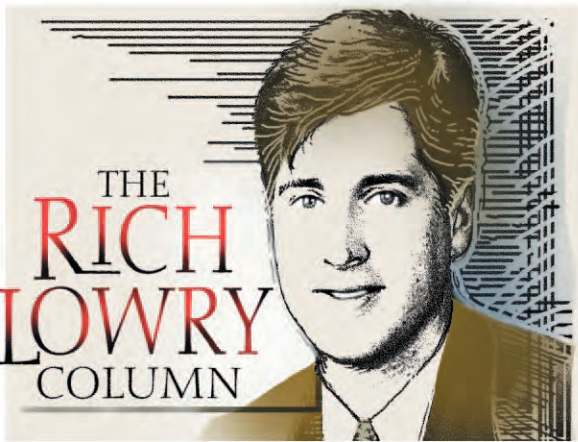
tionship with Aldine ISD and its shared commitment to creating meaningful experiences for the community.

"This event is about bringing people together through things they love—cycling specifically," Chamette said. "It gives everybody an opportunity to come out, have a little bit of fun and learn from somebody who's truly inspirational."

Community member Joanna, who also enjoys cycling, said hearing about Almand's journey inspired her to challenge herself and push beyond her own limits.

"He inspired me today. I need to step it up," Joanna said.

While Almand's journey across America continues, his visit to Aldine ISD gave community members the opportunity to ride alongside a world-record athlete, connect with one another and celebrate the values of perseverance, wellness and community. Thanks to partnerships with organizations like Extreme Networks and GENYOUth, the event also left a lasting impact by expanding opportunities for students to stay active both on and off the field.



The Preposterous case against the new defense bill

Congress has been known to slip indefensible special-interest provisions into large must-pass bills when no one is looking. What it has never done before is use such sleight of hand to hand over control of the U.S. military to a foreign country. But that's what we're told is on the verge of happening on Capitol Hill.

The House just passed the National Defense Authorization Act, a sprawling \$1.15 trillion bill that supposedly includes a provision buried in it “merging” the U.S. and Israeli militaries.

This provision, known as Section 219, has united some of the most fervent anti-Israel conspiracy theorists on the right and the left in denouncing the alleged betrayal of America, from Marjorie Taylor Greene to AOC, from Tucker Carlson to Cenk Uygur.

AOC has warned that the provision “is an existential threat to American sovereignty and democracy.” Marjorie Taylor Greene has said anyone who voted for the bill “sold out the American people to a foreign country.” Tucker Carlson wants literal treason trials.

So what is the substance of Section 219? Legislation often has obfuscatory titles, but this provision is deemed, with admirable clarity, the United States-Israel Defense Technology Cooperation Initiative. It calls for the secretary of defense to designate “an executive agent” to coordinate between the U.S. and Israel on “bilateral defense technology research, development, testing, evaluation, integration and industrial cooperation.” The Pentagon will come up with a plan for such cooperation and report back to Congress.

That's it. There is nothing about merging the general staffs of the U.S. military and the IDF; nothing about creating a joint office where Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth and his Israeli counterpart, Israel Katz, work together; nothing about giving Bibi Netanyahu partial control of CENTCOM.

That the United States would want a close working relationship with Israel on military technology is hardly surprising. Israel is one of the world's most innovative societies and, given its precarious security environment, has become a leader in advanced defense technologies.

That a nefarious interpretation of the bill has gotten some traction underlines how any preposterous lie, so long as it's about Israel, gets a hearing these days. Like many conspiracy theories, this one depends on a dark view of American society. We are allegedly so corrupt that we are handing control of our military to a foreign country without any senior military leaders or officials in an “America First” administration lodging a complaint. No wonder Tucker Carlson wants the kind of tribunals that attended the end of World War II.

At the first Nuremberg Trials, Wilhelm Keitel was found guilty of crimes against humanity and hanged; at the second Nuremberg Trials, Mike Johnson will be found guilty of supporting mutually beneficial technology sharing between allies — means of execution yet to be determined.

One perversity here is that Netanyahu conceives of the technological cooperation as a substitute for the U.S. military aid that he supports phasing out. In other words, enemies of Israel oppose U.S. military aid, and when a constructive plan is offered for how to go about ending it, they oppose that, too, as an Israeli plot.

Another perversity is that the U.S. should want a very close relationship with Israel on missile defense, an area where Israel excels and that, as we've seen in the Ukraine and Iran wars, is crucial to modern warfare. And yet, the same people who portray themselves as zealously protective of the U.S. national interest want us to turn our back on a source of technological advance.

Israel naturally fits in the Western alliance, but nations ultimately pursue their selfish interests. If we spurn the Jewish state out of irrational animus, it will inevitably look elsewhere and perhaps build a stronger relationship with China. Then we will surely be told by the critics now obsessed with ending the U.S.-Israel relationship that Israel has shown its true colors and deserves even more of our scorn.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.
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STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders



New Challenge to School Funding System

The Midland school district is suing Education Commissioner Mike Morath and other state leaders in another challenge to the state's public school finance system, known as “Robin Hood,” according to The Texas Tribune.

Three legal challenges over the past three decades have failed, with Texas courts ruling that the recapture system complies with the state constitution. Under recapture, wealthier school districts — such as Midland, with its considerable oil and gas holdings — send money to the state, which then distributes it to school districts with low property values.

In the case of Midland, the district sent \$92 million back to the state in the 2024-2025 school year, sixth highest in the state. Austin ISD sent back the most money that year at \$771 million.

“They're setting the tax rate. We collect the taxes. We send it to the state,” Guinn, the Midland school board president, said last week. “Then we get blamed as a local district and local board member for taxes being high. It's just a revolving door.”

School administrators have contended that state leaders have not invested adequately in traditional public-school campuses, opting instead to promote charter schools and to create a voucher program that uses public funding for private or home schooling.

BREAKAWAY BUOYS DISRUPT RIO GRANDE BRIDGES

Hundreds of federal border buoys broke loose during recent flooding, disrupting traffic at international bridges, the Texas Standard reported. The floating border barrier was installed by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. It consists of interconnected orange cylinders, each 4 feet high, 15 feet long, and weighing about a ton apiece.

Officials in Eagle Pass temporarily stopped traffic on the city's two international bridges. That city is also the location of about 2,000 feet of a separate floating barrier installed by Operation Lone Star in 2023. Those buoys remained intact during the recent flooding.

“The state buoys remain intact where they were located initially and have not moved,” Gov. Greg Abbott said. “They're being reinforced as we speak to make sure they're not moved.”

Many of the federal buoys became lodged into the river, while others floated into Mexico, where some were reportedly recovered by residents and sold as scrap metal. U.S. Customs and Border Patrol said in a statement that contractors



were working to recover the remaining buoys.

STATE COULD OVERHAUL UNIVERSITY FUNDING

Texas could roll out a new funding model for four-year colleges that allocates more money to schools with higher graduation and retention rates, according to the Austin American-Statesman. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board presented the model to university representatives last week. It will propose the plan to lawmakers during next year's legislative session.

Under current law, four-year colleges receive funding from the Legislature through formula funding, largely based on the number of courses offered and the number of students enrolled. Since 1999, funding has also come from institutional enhancement funding, which is not formula-based and varies widely, from \$56 to \$5,734 per student. Some lawmakers have criticized enhancements as a “slush fund.”

Sarah Keyton, deputy commissioner of the higher education agency, said the new funding model would make university budgeting more predictable.

The new model, if adopted by lawmakers, rewards universities for progress toward a degree and diplomas awarded. It was created with input from university leaders across the state.

“This formula could really accelerate our progress towards the goals of the state education plan (to) get more students earning credentials of value and entering the workforce and driving our statewide economy forward,” Keyton said.

STATE TAKES ACTION TO PROTECT RESIDENTIAL RATEPAYERS

At Abbott's direction, the Public Utility Commission and the Electric Reliability Council of Texas have taken action to shield residential ratepayers from the costs of data center expansion sweeping across much of the state. Those actions

include:

- Requiring data centers to pay for transmission infrastructure and contribute to “meaningfully reducing” residential electric bills.
- Preventing large data centers from diverting existing power away from the ERCOT grid.
- Changing how data centers pay for the infrastructure needed to serve them.
- Developing stronger standards that data centers must meet before connecting to the grid.

A controversial data center project in Henderson County near Cedar Creek Reservoir has been pulled after the company said it couldn't comply with Abbott's standards, The Tribune reported. The site was expected to take 12 years to build out and to consume 5 million gallons of lake water per day by its fifth year. It drew considerable opposition from residents because of the location's proximity to a developed subdivision.

41 SCREWORM CASES IN TEXAS TO DATE

Forty-one cases of New World screwworm cases have been confirmed in Texas by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Standard reported, with one additional case in New Mexico. The latest infestation was confirmed in a baby calf in western Starr County, the first detected case in the Rio Grande Valley.

The screwworm is the larval stage of a parasitic fly that feeds on the living tissue of warm-blooded animals. Without treatment, infestations can be fatal.

Federal and state officials are working to contain the outbreak, with several counties in South and West Texas under quarantine that limits movement of livestock.

1.6 MILLION EGGS IN TEXAS ARE RECALLED

Several brands of white and brown eggs sold in Texas are under a recall because they may be contaminated with salmonella, the Statesman reported. According to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Midwest Poultry Services is voluntarily recalling nearly 1.6 million eggs.

The company announced that the eggs were produced and distributed from Texas farms between June 6 and July 3, with sell-by or best-by dates between July 20 and Aug. 17. They were shipped to Kroger stores in Texas and Louisiana and Brookshire Grocery stores in Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, and Mississippi, as well as other smaller retail outlets.

The recalled eggs will have an identifying code number printed on the left or right sides of the carton in date-coding ink only. Only codes P-1950 or 0840962 with a Julian Date between 157 and 184 printed on the side of the carton are subject to recall.

As of July 24, the company has not identified any illnesses linked to the recalled eggs.

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.



Swimming with the Sunnies



I spent last week ‘up north’ with my parents. While my husband, Peter, and my cat, Felix, stayed at home and played cat games, I drove up to my parents’ cabin four hours north.

The city was hot, but right now, even up north is hot. So I decided to go swimming.

I hadn't been swimming in a long time. I walk in the woods every chance I get, but I don't go in the water as often as I could. Sometimes it feels like a nuisance to get wet. Sometimes I get self-conscious putting on a bathing suit. Usually, I fret that the water will be too cold. I chicken out and take a walk instead.

But this last week was so warm that walking did not even sound tempting. So I put on the new brightly colored striped swimsuit I had bought used online (and had never worn), and I borrowed a beach towel from my mom, and I headed down the many steps from my parents’ cabin to the lakeshore.

I waded in slowly. The lake was much warmer than I remembered it being. I stood on the sandy bottom and attracted the attention of a school of sunfish. These sunnies were young and curious, and they were attracted to the bright-green-and-blue stripes of my swimsuit as well as my bright blue painted toenails. They came out from under the dock and surrounded me. They nibbled on my suit. They nibbled on my toes. One of them nibbled on my butt.

‘Stop it!’ I said and splashed them away.

They backed up for a moment, then came right back, still curious about this bright-colored new friend who had joined them in the shallow water.

‘Pesky fish!’ I shoed them away again. Still, it was good to know I'd won the Sunfish Seal of Approval. I dove in.

The first dive into a northern lake is always a shock. The top six inches of water on a hot day are several degrees warmer than the water below. But once I was fully wet, it was wonderful. I swam along the shoreline. There were tall reeds and lily pads. I checked out the cabins up and down the shore. The lake was quiet on this hot day in the middle of the week. A deer was eating tasty greens from the water's edge. If I'd been so close to her on land, she would have run. Instead, she watched this peculiar water creature a little cautiously and continued to graze. I found some water lilies that were blooming and decided to bring some back for my mom. I picked three and then swam home with one arm, trailing lilies (and a little seaweed) behind me. Then I left the lilies on the beach and just floated for a time. Floating in the warm sunshine, a cold finger of water from deeper down occasionally found its way up as I slowly spun around, looking at the tall pine trees and the scattered clouds and the reeds along the shoreline.

It's good to be in a lake, I decided. It was worth getting over my trepidation, putting on my new, brightly colored suit and diving in. I realized what I'd always known but forgotten: how the water is calming yet fills me with a wonderful energy.

I brought the lilies home to my mom, and we put them in a vase. She said she'd never had a bouquet from the lake before. And the next day, I went out swimming with the sunnies again.

Till next time, Carrie

ADSY gives Aldine students more time and a stronger start,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



become more than an early start date. District leaders say it has grown into a different way of thinking about time, instruction and student support.

“We have three schools, which today is our first day of school, and these are our ADSY schools, which means Additional Days School Year,” said Ana Flores-Bolivar, Aldine ISD’s director of transformational learning programs. “This is a model that increases the school days, and it adds to the calendar due to summer learning loss.”

Flores-Bolivar said the need became especially clear after COVID, when students across the country returned to classrooms with academic gaps larger than educators expected.

“What we’ve seen since after COVID is that our students, even though we understand their summer learning loss, we were seeing that it was much more than what we were expecting,” she said. “With increasing the number of days in these schools, we’ve been able to really intervene and accelerate students’ learning depending on each student’s needs.”

The program is not limited to students who are behind academically. Flores-Bolivar emphasized that ADSY is meant to benefit all students — those who need additional support and those who are already performing well.

“It’s really open for all of our students,” she said. “The beauty of the program is that the teachers, because they have more time with them, are really able to differentiate their instruction and help them one-on-one with what their needs are.”

Aldine’s ADSY campuses include Harris Elementary, Ermel Elementary and Vines Primary. The district’s own ADSY information says the program offers extra time for enrichment, intervention, brain breaks, social-emotional learning, project-based work and more planning opportunities for staff. **Aldine ISD** says the goals include accelerating learning in math and reading, improving student experiences, reducing teacher burnout through more planning time, individualizing instruction

and developing a new instructional model for families and staff.

Unlike a traditional summer school model, the additional days are not simply tacked onto the beginning or end of the school year.

“What makes it different is what we call ADSY days,” she said. “The days that are added to the school calendar are not like at the beginning of the school year or at the end, but they are spread out during the school year.”

Those days often include extra recess, project-based learning and personalized instruction in which students track their own progress.

“They set goals at the beginning of each of these ADSY days, in which they decide what they’re going to be working on, what is their goal, and at the end they reflect on that,” Flores-Bolivar said. “That has given students real control over their education.”

That student ownership, she said, is one of the most encouraging results of the program. Students are learning not only reading and math, but how to ask for the type of help that moves them forward.

“We’re seeing that more and more they’re asking for differentiation and for small group and one-on-one with teachers because they know that’s what’s really moving the needle for them to continue to grow in reading and math,” she said.

The district reports growth in reading and math scores, stronger engagement and increased attendance at the ADSY campuses. Flores-Bolivar said the added time has helped students build confidence and academic momentum.

The program also requires additional commitment from educators and staff. Teachers and campus employees who work in ADSY schools have longer contracts and receive additional compensation because they work more days than staff on the traditional calendar.

When Aldine first launched the program, teachers at participating campuses were given a choice: stay and extend their contract, or relocate to another school. Flores-

Bolivar said most chose to stay.

“The first year we opened the program, our schools had zero attrition because teachers knew that this was a good program for them,” she said. “They all stayed.”

That buy-in has been important as the district continues refining the model. Parent and staff feedback has shaped the calendar, including efforts to align most holidays and breaks with the traditional school year.

“The calendar is always done with the feedback of parents, students and teachers,” Flores-Bolivar said.

Parents, she added, have responded positively even though students begin earlier and finish later than most of the district. According to Aldine’s ADSY calendar, the 2026-27 ADSY year begins July 27, while the traditional school year begins Aug. 12, and ADSY students continue through June 17.

“Parents have really liked it,” Flores-Bolivar said. “Teachers and students and families are excited. They come. That’s never been a barrier, so that just shows that the program is working and that we’re all doing what’s best for our kids here in Aldine.”

This year’s launch also required the district to start its regular support systems early for the three ADSY campuses. Teachers returned for professional development the week before students arrived, cafeterias were ready for breakfast Monday morning, and transportation began routes for ADSY students.

“All of our systems start before,” Flores-Bolivar said.

Aldine is not currently looking to add more ADSY campuses.

“What we’re really trying to do is find what are the things that are working really well in the ADSY program and start scaling it out districtwide.”

For the students who walked into Harris, Ermel and Vines on Monday, the school year arrived earlier than usual. But for Aldine ISD, the early start is part of a larger strategy: more time, more support and more opportunity for students to succeed.

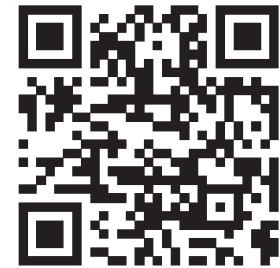
Harris County seeks public input on FY2027 budget priorities

By Gerardo Hernandez
STAFF WRITER

HARRIS COUNTY — Harris County officials are asking residents and business owners to help shape the county’s Fiscal Year 2027 budget by participating in a brief online survey aimed at identifying community priorities.

The survey is part of the county’s annual budget planning process, which seeks public feedback on how limited financial resources should be allocated while continuing to provide essential services and address the county’s growing needs.

County leaders said the input will help guide



decisions on future investments and ensure the FY2027 budget reflects the needs and values of Harris County residents.

The survey takes approximately three to five minutes to complete and asks participants to identify which county services they believe are most important.

To be eligible to participate, individuals must be at least 18 years old

and either reside in Harris County or own a business within the county. Participants are also asked to consent to having their responses combined with those of other respondents for use in the county’s budget planning process.

County officials encourage eligible residents to complete the survey and share their perspectives as the budget development process moves forward. Public feedback will be considered alongside other financial and operational factors as county leaders prepare the proposed Fiscal Year 2027 budget. (Source Harris County Precinct 2 website)

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION AND INTENT TO OBTAIN AIR PERMIT (NORI) RENEWAL

PERMIT NUMBER 80807

APPLICATION. Texas Materials Group, Inc., has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for renewal of Air Quality Permit Number 80807, which would authorize continued operation of the Hot Mix Asphalt Plant located at 15409 Old Humble Road, Humble, Harris County, Texas 77396. **AVISO DE IDIOMA ALTERNATIVO.** El aviso de idioma alternativo en español está disponible en <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/air/newsourcereview/airpermits-pendingpermit-apps>. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and not part of the application or notice. For exact location, refer to application. <https://gisweb.tceq.texas.gov/LocationMapper/?marker=-95.282159,29.945773&level=13>. The existing facility and/or related facilities are authorized to emit the following air contaminants: carbon monoxide, hydrogen chloride, nitrogen oxides, organic compounds, particulate matter including particulate matter with diameters of 10 microns or less and 2.5 microns or less and sulfur dioxide.

This application was submitted to the TCEQ on July 21, 2026. The application will be available for viewing and copying at the TCEQ central office, TCEQ Houston regional office, and the Octavia Fields Branch Library, 1503 South Houston Avenue, Humble, Harris County, Texas beginning the first day of publication of this notice. The facility's compliance file, if any exists, is available for public review in the Houston regional office of the TCEQ. The application, including any updates, is available electronically at the following webpage: <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/air/airpermit-applications-notices>

The executive director has determined the application is administratively complete and will conduct a technical review of the application. In addition to the renewal, this permitting action includes the incorporation of permits by rule related to this permit. The reasons for any changes or incorporations, to the extent they are included in the renewed permit, may include the enhancement of operational control at the plant or enforceability of the permit. **The TCEQ may act on this application without seeking further public comment or providing an opportunity for a contested case hearing if certain criteria are met.**

PUBLIC COMMENT. You may submit public comments to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below. The TCEQ will consider all public comments in developing a final decision on the application and the executive director will prepare a response to those comments. Issues such as property values, noise, traffic safety, and zoning are outside of the TCEQ's jurisdiction to address in the permit process.

OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING. You may request a contested case hearing if you are a person who may be affected by emissions of air contaminants from the facility. If requesting a contested case hearing, you must submit the following: (1) your name (or for a group or association, an official representative), mailing address, daytime phone number; (2) applicant's name and permit number; (3) the statement “[I/we] request a contested case hearing;” (4) a specific description of how you would be adversely affected by the application and air emissions from the facility in a way not common to the general public; (5) the location and distance of your property relative to the facility; (6) a description of how you use the property which may be impacted by the facility; and (7) a list of all disputed issues of fact that you submit during the comment period. If the request is made by a group or association, one or more members who have standing to request a hearing must be identified by name and physical address. The interests the group or association seeks to protect must also be identified. You may also submit your proposed adjustments to the application/permit which would satisfy your concerns.

The deadline to submit a request for a contested case hearing is 15 days after newspaper notice is published. If a request is timely filed, the deadline for requesting a contested case hearing will be extended to 30 days after mailing of the response to comments.

If any requests for a contested case hearing are timely filed, the Executive Director will forward the application and any requests for a contested case hearing to the Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting. Unless the application is directly referred to a contested case hearing, the executive director will mail the response to comments along with notification of Commission meeting to everyone who submitted comments or is on the mailing list for this application. The Commission may only grant a request for a contested case hearing on issues the requester submitted in their timely comments that were not subsequently withdrawn. **If a hearing is granted, the subject of a hearing will be limited to disputed issues of fact or mixed questions of fact and law relating to relevant and material air quality concerns submitted during the comment period.** Issues such as property values, noise, traffic safety, and zoning are outside of the Commission's jurisdiction to address in this proceeding.

MAILING LIST. In addition to submitting public comments, you may ask to be placed on a mailing list for this application by sending a request to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below. Those on the mailing list will receive copies of future public notices (if any) mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk for this application.

AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION. All public comments and requests must be submitted either electronically at www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/, or in writing to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. Please be aware that any contact information you provide, including your name, phone number, email address and physical address will become part of the agency's public record. For more information about the permitting process, please call the TCEQ Public Education Program, Toll Free, at 1-800-687-4040 or visit their website at www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/pep. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040. You can also view our website for public participation opportunities at www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/participation.

Further information may also be obtained from Texas Materials Group, Inc., 3003 Kilgore Parkway, Baytown, Texas 77523-9917 or by calling Mr. Josh Butler, Environmental Services Manager, Elm Creek Environmental, LLC, at (469) 946-8195.

CHURCH PAGE

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

by Elie's Spiritual Treasures

Psalms 44:1-2

We have **heard** it with **our** ears, O **God**; our **ancestors** have **told** us **what** you **did** in their **days**, in days **long ago**. **With** your **hand** you **drove** out the **nations** and **planted** our ancestors; you **crushed** the **peoples** and **made** our ancestors **flourish**.

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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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THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

In his arrogance the wicked man
hunts down the weak, who are caught
in the schemes he devises. He boasts
about the cravings of his heart;
he blesses the greedy and reviles
the Lord. In his pride the wicked man
does not seek him; in all his thoughts
there is no room for God.

Psalms 10: 2-4



"Self-Portrait"
by Conrad Felixmüller (1921)

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BIBLE TRIVIA

By Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Zacchaeus (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From John 3, who came to Jesus under the cover of night? Elijah, Amos, Nicodemus, Mesha
3. What do the seven stars represent in Revelation 1:20? Continents, Angels, Seas, Fruits
4. From Psalms 68, with what are the dove's feathers covered? Manna, Gold, Leaves, Blood
5. How many people did Jesus Himself baptize? 0, 1, Dozens, Hundreds
6. Who wrote the book of Galatians? Paul, Peter, Isaac, Luke

More than 1,200 brand-new trivia questions in Wilson Casey's latest book "Quest for Bible Knowledge" available in bookstores and online.

ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) Nicodemus, 3) Angels, 4) Gold, 5) Zero, 6) Paul

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Answers

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

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Halle Bailey, left, and Rege-Jean Page stars in "You, Me & Tuscany."

"You, Me & Tuscany."

"The Shards" (TV-MA) — Teen drama lovers, you continue to be fed this year, and this latest thriller series hails from none other than creator Ryan Murphy ("The Beauty") and screenwriter Bret Easton Ellis ("American Psycho"). This series is based on Ellis' semi-autobiographical novel from 2023 and takes place in 1981 Los Angeles. Igby Rigney ("Devil in Disguise: John Wayne Gacy") lands his first main role in a TV series as he plays 17-year-old Ellis during his senior year of prep school. He feels like he's on top of the world with his girlfriend and group of friends, until the arrival of a new student named Robert (Homer Gere) shakes up their dynamic. Simultaneous with Robert's arrival is the unexpected presence of a serial killer named the Trawler, who

begins abducting people across the city. The first two episodes premiere on Aug. 5. (Hulu)

"The Devil's Mouth" (PG-13) — Speaking of teen dramas, this survival thriller film features a cast with a couple of actors who got their big breaks in one! Lana Condor ("To All the Boys") and Gavin Casalegno ("The Summer I Turned Pretty") star alongside Kathryn Newton ("Ready or Not 2") as a group of friends who wish to have one last adventure together in Thailand before graduating from college. So, the friends decide to sign up for a guided swim tour through a cave system called The Devil's Mouth. All is well upon entering the cave, until they probe deeper into the cave and discover a deadly bull shark. With it out for blood, these amateur cave

dweller will have to play the longest waiting game of their lives to see if they can escape this hell in one piece. Out now. (Amazon Prime Video)

"You, Me & Tuscany" (PG-13) — Halle Bailey ("The Color Purple") and Rege-Jean Page ("Black Bag") lead this oh-so-romantic comedy film premiering on Aug. 7. Bailey plays Anna, a young chef who put her culinary aspirations on hold after the death of her mother. After spending the night with an Italian man named Matteo (Lorenzo de Moor), who mistakenly tells her about his empty villa in Tuscany, Anna impulsively decides to fly to Tuscany and stay in Matteo's villa without his knowledge. Once there, she immediately gets caught by his relatives and, to save face, states that she's Matteo's fiancée. While this appeases his family momentarily, she also encounters Matteo's cousin, Michael (Page), and feels an intense romantic connection with him. Talk about trouble in Tuscany! (Peacock)

"Alley Cats" (TV-MA) — This British adult-animated series comes from the mind of Ricky Gervais ("The Office"), which we all should know by now is a perverse and hysterical place. The series follows a gang of feral cats, led by a large orange cat named Gus (Gervais), as they spend their time frolicking in alleys, neighborhoods, cemeteries and parking lots. While these cats do ordinary cat things like play-fight, scratch up furniture, and jump on people, they also ponder their existence and what it really means to be a beautiful ball of fluff in such a dangerous world. The six-episode series premieres on Aug. 7. (Netflix)

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Q: What's up next for director Christopher Nolan? I feel like he can't really top himself after such epic masterpieces like "Oppenheimer" and "The Odyssey," right? — A.G.

A: It's hard to top the year that Christopher Nolan had in 2023, where he took home Academy Awards for Best Picture and Best Director for "Oppenheimer." However, he's already generating Oscar buzz for his most recent feat, "The Odyssey," which is the first feature film to be entirely shot on IMAX 70 mm cameras.

The man deserves a rest, however. In fact, he's publicly stated that fans will have to wait at least three years after the release of this summer's "The Odyssey" before seeing his name on the big screen again. Rumor has it that he'd love to direct a horror movie. He's also admitted that a comedy would be the ultimate challenge for him.



Academy Award Winning director Christopher Nolan ("The Odyssey")

Q: What happened to the "Supergirl" movie? I think I missed it in theaters. Was it not a big hit? — C.A.

A: Yes, unfortunately, "Supergirl" came and went at the box office and is considered a bomb. This is surprising since the movie was predicted to be a hit after its much-talked-about teaser scene during the credits of the extremely successful "Superman" movie a year earlier. "Supergirl" also starred Milly Alcock of the hit HBO series "House of the Dragon," so it was assumed that her TV audience would follow her to DC. But this didn't happen either apparently.

"Supergirl" had an uphill battle to climb with its \$170 million production budget and \$120 marketing budget, as well as it being released during the ultra-competitive summer movie season. Its release was followed by the release of two other family-friendly flicks: Universal's "Minions & Monsters" and Disney's live-action "Moana." It probably didn't help that Supergirl was portrayed as intoxicated during the infamous teaser trailer from last year.

According to Variety writer Rebecca Rubin, "a movie on the scale of 'Supergirl' would need to earn at least \$375 million to break even because theater owners get to keep about half of box-office returns." In comparison, 2025's "Superman" even-

tually earned \$618 million globally, and its upcoming sequel, "Man of Tomorrow," is expected to be a surefire hit.

Q: What ever happened to the actress who played the hilarious, awkward teen Sue on "The Middle"? Wasn't she supposed to have her own show? — L.B.

A: Yes, actress Eden Sher, who played lovable, dorky teen Sue Heck on the ABC sitcom, was supposed to star in her own spin-off of "The Middle" when it ended in 2018. She even shot a pilot for the sitcom. It was tentatively titled "Sue Sue in the City," where a now-adult Sue had relocated from small-town Indiana to Chicago.

Sher's still acting and doing voiceover work. She had a guest-starring role on the recent reboot of "Night Court" and appeared in the Christmas movie "A Keller Christmas Vacation." She also hosts a rewatch podcast of "The Middle," titled "Middling with Eden and Brock." (Her co-host is actor Brock Ciarlelli, who played Sue's ex-beau in the sitcom.)

Send me your questions at NewCelebrityExtra@gmail.com.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Amber Waves



Weekly SUDOKU

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

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. Line in sidewalk is moved; 2. Window will is missing; 3. Rear car window is smaller; 4. House window is moved; 5. Man is thinner; 6. Bench is longer; 7. Tire at 0-degree longitude; 9. New Mexico; 10. Titan.

1. Five; Chile, Bolivia, Paraguay, Uruguay and Brazil; 2. 300; 3. Ernie, the giant chicken; 4. Alfred Pennyworth; 5. Anise; 6. Bess and George; 7. Calvin Klein; 8. An imaginary line.

August 3, 2026 Posting Date

King Crossword

ACROSS

1 URL ending

4 "Now I get it!"

7 Shimmering fabrics

12 Texter's "I think"

13 Young bloke

14 Mover's rental

15 H.S. proficiency test

16 Held in trust

18 Census stat

19 Wonderland visitor

20 Hindu deity

22 Moray, for one

23 Ski lift type

27 TV screen choice

29 Beekeeper's place

31 Blood line?

34 Sweetie

35 Monastery

37 Play part

38 Romanov ruler

39 College URL ender

41 Appear

45 Chopin piece

47 Roman

48 Branch of government

52 Puzzle

53 "— Called Wanda"

54 Actress Ruby

55 Before

56 Give up amateur status

57 Pink Floyd's Barrett

58 Rds.

DOWN

1 Humidor item

2 Alpha's opposite

3 Cable company device

4 — Romeo

5 Saluted

6 "Paper Moon"

7 "Time" co-founder

8 Sushi fish

9 Goat's plaint

10 Where Lux. is

11 Devious

17 Bruins' sch.

21 Wedding setting

23 Leans

24 Sheepish

25 Branch

26 Bagel variety

28 One for the road?

30 Cpl.'s subordinate

31 Sternward

32 Hosp. areas

33 Estuary

36 Bigfoot's kin

37 Hollywood's Hepburn

40 Couples

42 Santa's crew

43 Tennis great

44 Blends

45 Repeat

46 Sized up

48 Binge

49 "Avatar" craft

50 Chips go-with

51 Leb. neighbor

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Trivia Test Answers

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 26 mins.

Weekly SUDOKU

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

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

1. GEOGRAPHY: How many countries border Argentina?

2. GAMES: What is a perfect score in a bowling game?

3. TELEVISION: In the animated series "Family Guy," what kind of creature is often fighting with Peter?

4. COMICS: What is the name of Batman's butler?

5. FOOD & DRINK: What ingredient gives the Greek liquor ouzo its distinctive taste?

6. LITERATURE: What are the names of Nancy Drew's best friends in the detective novel series?

7. MOVIES: What brand-name underwear does Marty McFly have in the movie "Back to the Future"?

8. SCIENCE: What is the Prime Meridian?

9. U.S. STATES: Which state is home to the Carlsbad Caverns National Park?

10. ASTRONOMY: What is the largest moon of Saturn?

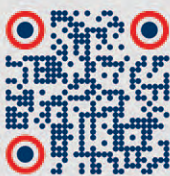
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* Classes taught in Spanish



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North Forest Campus
6010 E. Little York Road
Houston, Texas 77016
713.718.5868
hccs.edu



HOUSTON
CITY COLLEGE

don't dump it, don't burn it,
RECYCLE IT

glass | scrap metal | furniture | tires | yard waste & more
appointment only | call or visit website for details
ID & proof of East Aldine residency required

free«
»gratis

no lo tires, no lo quemes,
RECÍCLALO

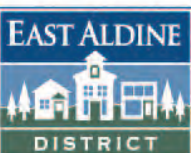
vidrio | escombros de metal | llantas | residuos de jardín y más
llame o visite el sitio web para obtener más detalles
ID y prueba de residencia de East Aldine requerida

713.454.7185
aldinedistrict.org/recycle





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