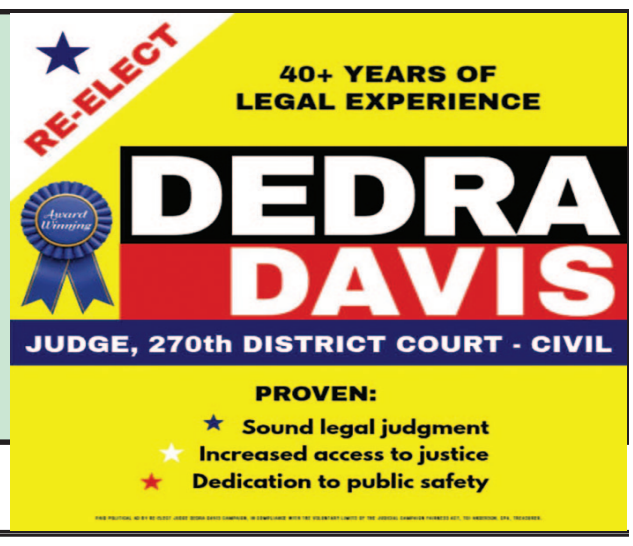
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NORTHEAST NEWS

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VOL. 50, NO. 39 TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2026 HOUSTON, TEXAS www.nenewsroom.com



NEWS NOTES

SATURDAY, OCT. 24

2026 Family Learning Summit

Aldine ISD will host its free 2026 Family Learning Summit later this month. No registration is required for the event, which offers bilingual learning sessions, resources, and practical guidance for families supporting children from early childhood through college and career planning.

2026 Family Learning Summit
Where:2026Davis High School
12525 Ella Blvd.Houston, Texas 77067
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Free: no registration required
Practical Learning for Every Family
This year's summit is built around the theme "Engage. Empower. Leverage. Lead." Families will learn alongside other parents and caregivers while connecting with Aldine ISD staff and community organizations.
Session topics include:
*Family Well-being
*Early Childhood
*Bilingual Learning
*Learning and Behavior
*School Programs and Support
*Planning for the Future

For more information, contact the FACE Department at (281) 985-3788 or visit AldineISD.org/FACE.

OCT. 25, SATURDAY.

Cancer Survivor Event

The Greater Pure Light Church Health & Wellness Ministry and Harris County Public Health will host a cancer survivor celebration and free vaccine clinic on Sunday, Oct. 25, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. The "Fabric of Hope" event will be held at 12330 Vickery Dr., Houston, TX 77039. Free flu, COVID-19, RSV, MMR, shingles, hepatitis A&B, and pneumonia vaccines will be available, with lite bites served after the service.

OCT. 27, TUESDAY.

Mobile Health on The Move

Health and dental services brought to you.
Harris County Public Health is in your neighboard offering wellness exams, dental checkups, vaccines, and more. Bring your photo ID & your vaccine records (if you have them)
Time: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Location: Greater Pure Light Church
12339 Vickery - Houston 77039.

FRIDAY, OCT. 30

Avalos P-Tech Fall Festival

Food | Games | Trunk-or-Treat | Car Show

Time: 4-7pm
Location: 2430 Aldine Mail RTE RD.
Houston, TX 77039
Free entry

Aldine ISD Breaks Ground on New Education and Performing Arts Center

By Ashley Brown
Aldine ISD



Music, dance, art and student voices took center stage Monday, Oct. 5, as Aldine ISD celebrated the groundbreaking of its new Education and Performing Arts Center, a space that will give students more opportunities to create, perform and showcase their talents.

Students were at the heart of the celebration, serving as emcees and taking the stage throughout the program with performances representing fine arts programs across the district.

Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney said the groundbreaking represented more than the start of construction.

"We are not simply breaking ground on a building," Goffney said. "We are breaking ground on possibility. We are breaking ground on hope."

The new center will provide dedicated spaces for music, theater, dance and visual arts while creating new opportunities for students to develop their talents and share their work with the community.

Aldine students have already demonstrated

Continued. See A NEW STAGE FOR ALDINE'S RISING STARS, Page 8

RECAP:EAMD Works Behind the Scenes & Increasingly in Plain Sight to Serve East Aldine



From cleaner neighborhoods and safer streets to new trails, infrastructure improvements, community events, and opportunities for residents, the East Aldine Management District continues to invest in the people and places that make up the community as it marks its 25th anniversary.

What Does EAMD Do?

That question surfaced during the Sept. 22 meeting of the East Aldine Management District (EAMD) Board of Directors, where board members discussed ways to help more residents understand the many services, programs, and initiatives EAMD provides throughout the community.

The answer is in the work happening across East Aldine every day.

From collecting thousands of pounds of trash and removing illegal signs to supporting public safety, improving infrastructure, maintaining community amenities, hosting events and investing in trails and sidewalks, EAMD's work touches many parts of daily life.

As EAMD marks its 25th anniversary, the organization is also finding more ways to make that work visible.

Making the Work Visible

Marketing and Communications Director Monica Campos told the Board that EAMD uses multiple channels to reach residents, including its e-newsletter, social media, billboards, community events, and media outreach.

The Board also approved an outreach proposal from Ronquillo Consulting Group for door-to-door canvassing and literature distribution. Each component is expected to reach about 1,000 residential doors, sharing information about EAMD, upcoming events, community meetings and resources.

Executive Director Richard Cantú said the EAMD will continue strengthening its messaging, pointing to the work that often happens before residents ever think about who made it happen. EAMD collects more than 20,000 pounds of trash each month and removes an average of 1,500 illegal or bandit signs and 200

Continued. See EAMD HIGHLIGHTS 25 YEARS, Page 8

SEASON FOOTBALL WEEK 8

No. 20 UH faces tough road test against No. 11 Utah: Texans look to keep momentum going against Giants



This is a big weekend for the University of Houston Cougars and their Big 12 title hopes.

The No. 20-ranked Cougars head west to take on No. 11-ranked Utah in a key league game for both teams.

Two weeks ago, Willie Fritz's team dominated Kansas State on the road behind tight end Patrick Overmey's four touchdown receptions en route to a 35-16 win. The Utes will be a real test for the Coogs, but the way the UH offense is playing, they should have a good chance to be in this game.

In other college action, this weekend, No. 7 Texas hosts No. 9 Ole Miss in an elimination game for both teams in the SEC race. Two weeks ago, the 'Horns were upset 27-24 by OU in a game where UT QB Arch Manning struggled in the second half and threw his first pick six of the season, which turned the game in the Sooners favor. It just seems that something isn't right in Austin, especially with the offense which struggles to run the football. Perhaps it's time for head coach Steve Sarkisian to give up play calling duties, but he said that's not going to happen. Oh, well.

Speaking of teams heading down a bad spiral, the Texas A&M Aggies visit No. 6-ranked Alabama. The Aggies offense has not been good lately and they will be facing a Crimson Tide team that knows it must win out if it hopes to land a spot in the SEC title game on the

Continued. See KEENEY'S KORNER, Page 5

Civil District Judge, 270th Judicial District

Judge Dedra Davis is an award-winning judge who hears a wide range of civil matters, including contract disputes, employment cases and personal injury litigation.

Judge Davis was elected to the bench in 2018. She brings 40 years of combined legal experience to the court.

Judge Davis has implemented practices that improve efficiency, transparency and predictability in the court. She is determined to respect the lawyers' and litigants' time and utilizes structured scheduling that assigns specific hearing times, reducing



Judge Dedra Devis
270th District Court

Continued. See FAIR, EFFICIENT JUSTICE, Page 2

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Continued. See FAIR AND EFFICIENT JUSTICE IN THE 270TH, Page 2

COMMUNITY WATCH

Two injured in Aldine Bender Rd shooting; no suspect in custody

By Gerardo Hernandez
STAFF WRITER



Photo credit Google maps

Two people were shot Saturday afternoon in the 5600 block of Aldine Bender Road in northeast Harris County, and as of Saturday evening no suspect had been detained, according to authorities.

The Harris County Sheriff's Office received a call about a shooting in the block at about 12:10 p.m. Both victims were taken to a hospital with injuries described as not life-threatening, the sheriff's office said.

Investigators had not identified the victims as of Saturday, according to ABC13 Houston, which reported that its crews were en route to the scene. The outlet described the situation as a developing story and said authorities had not detained anyone in connection with the shooting.

Haverstock Hills Apartments, at 5619 Aldine Bender Road, is a multi-building complex in northeast Harris County. The Houston Chronicle has reported that the property, built starting in the 1970s, is subsidized under U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development programs and is a large affordable housing development. The Chronicle has also reported that the complex has frequently drawn law enforcement responses.

Prior incidents at same address

In a separate incident in September 2025, HCSO deputies responded to the 5600 block of Aldine Bender Road after a man in his late 20s was fatally shot following an altercation during a dice game in a common area, FOX 26 Houston reported at the time. The victim was taken to a hospital by private vehicle, according to the report.

Hoodline previously reported an arrest in a 2024 killing at the same address.

The sheriff's office serves unincorporated areas of Harris County. The investigation was ongoing Saturday.

Fair, efficient justice: Judge Davis and the 270TH Judicial District,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

extended docket waits for attorneys, litigants and jurors.

She also gives the official court recordings to litigants at no cost, reducing financial barriers associated with obtaining a court record, thus contributing to equal access to justice. Unde Judge Davis' leadership, the court has completed a high volume of civil trials to verdict, including both jury and non-jury trials, thus increasing access to justice.

Judge Davis has an unmatched work ethic that is emphasized by her dedication to the litigants' receiving a fair and just day in court.

Judge Davis's judicial service has been recognized through professional honors, including judicial service and leadership awards from legal and judicial organizations.

Beyond the courtroom, Judge Davis founded Honorary Judge OfThe Day and Lawyer to Litigator. She conducts seminars on legal topics such as expunctions and regularly participates in civic outreach.

Judge Davis graduated from Texas Tech University and South Texas College of Law.

As part of her reelection campaign, Judge Davis stated, "I'm determined to continue fair, efficient justice and respectful treatment for everyone who comes before the court."

The love and respect for Judge Dedra Davis have been shown by the nearly 600 contributions, made almost exclusively by Harris County lawyers, in an effort to keep Judge Davis on the bench of the 270th Civil District Court. She delivers justice by making law and order equal justice.

For more information, go to DedraDavisForJudge.com.

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HCSO seeks tattooed driver in Aldine Food Mart armed robbery

By Gerardo Hernandez
STAFF WRITER



HARRIS COUNTY, TX- HCSO investigators are asking for the public's help identifying a man involved in an aggravated robbery at Aldine Food Mart, located at 5303 Aldine Mail Route Road, on September 20, 2026.

Investigators say five suspects entered the business, two armed with firearms. An employee was forced into a restroom while the suspects stole merchandise and two cash registers containing cash before fleeing in a black Nissan Altima.

Detectives are working to identify the driver, who has a distinctive tattoo on his right forearm.

Anyone with information is urged to contact HCSO at 713-221-6000 or Crime Stoppers of Houston at 713-222-TIPS (8477).



Six escape north Houston house fire; firefighters rescue two dogs



By Gerardo Hernandez
STAFF WRITER

Six people escaped a house fire in north Houston Sunday night, and firefighters managed to rescue two dogs trapped inside.

The fire broke out around 9 p.m. on Fulton Street. Crews quickly extinguished the flames, and no one was injured.

During the response, firefighters also noticed smoke coming from a nearby METRO rail power pole.

METRO was called to inspect the pole, but fire officials said they do not believe the fire originated there.

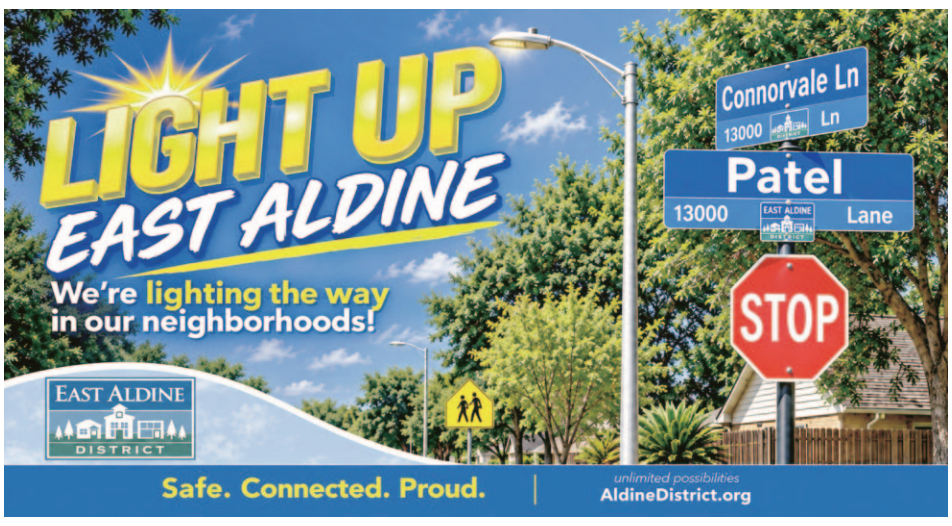
The cause of the house fire remains under investigation.

You can read the Northeast News current and back issues on our website: www.nenewsroom.com



EAMD highlights 25 years of community service,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



tires each month, in addition to tires dropped off at the Neighborhood Depository and Recycling Center.

The scale of that work was especially visible during a Sept. 19 community cleanup in Sherwood, Sherwood Place, Inwood, and Northington Estates, where residents filled eight 40-cubic-yard containers with bulky waste from their homes and yards.

At the same time, EAMD deputies conducted a nuisance-abatement operation, visiting more than 100 properties with reported issues. Cantú said the EAMD plans to continue pairing community cleanups with nuisance-abatement efforts quarterly.

Connecting People to Parks, Sidewalks and Safer Streets

Construction is underway on the Keith-Wiess Park Phase 1 Trail Connection Project, a $1.9 million investment the Board approved in August. The project includes paving the Deer Grove Road extension into the north end of the park, a parking lot, pavilion, fitness station, and approximately 1.5 miles of concrete trail connecting East Aldine Town Center to the park's interior trails around the detention basin.

The project is scheduled for completion before Christmas, although Cantú said the contractor expects to finish as early as Thanksgiving.

The trail connection is one of several infrastructure and mobility projects advancing across East Aldine. Those efforts include new sidewalks, street improvements, and continued streetlight installation through Light Up East Aldine. For Phase 3, 426 streetlights have been surveyed and submitted to CenterPoint for installation. Phase 4 includes approximately 425 additional lights in High Meadows, Fairgreen, Castlewood, and Western Homes, where CenterPoint has begun installation.

EAMD also continues work on water and sewer projects, including the Westfield Estates Sewer Project, Castlewood sanitary sewer improvements, and the Lyncrest sewer extension. The City of Houston has accepted the completed new sewer infrastructure in Hartwick, and the City has been awarded $32 million in American Rescue Plan Act funding for sewer service in Westfield Estates.

The Board also approved an interlocal agreement providing up to $1.7 million to Harris County Water Control and Improvement District No. 74 for its Surface Water Conversion Project. The agreement includes a 60-day notice requirement, a public hearing, and a good-faith provision related to future projects.

The Board also approved a $118,000 proposal from A&S Engineering to prepare for a 2027 Community Development Block Grant application for a water and sewer extension south of North Houston Heights, along with required Texas Water Development Board outlay reports for the Castlewood Sanitary Sewer Project.

Investing in a Community People can Enjoy

Infrastructure is only part of the picture. EAMD also invests in places and experiences that bring residents together.

The Board approved up to $50,000 for the annual Día de los Muertos Fall Festival, featuring local vendors, community resources, interactive activities, and EAMD's third drone show of the year. The Board also approved up to $70,000 for the annual Christmas Tree Lighting, which will include free tamales, pan dulce, hot chocolate, interactive stations, and photo opportunities.

The Christmas Tree Lighting will carry special significance during EAMD's 25th anniversary year, with EAMD brand colors incorporated into the tree lighting and another drone show planned for the celebration.

The Town Center will also receive fall and holiday decorations, including interactive areas and photo opportunities. In addition, the Board ratified a $37,440 agreement with B&D Construction for annual care and maintenance of the interactive splash pad and streambed, helping keep the amenities safe, functional, and welcoming year-round.

The Board approved a Standard annual maintenance and conservation plan for the Little York Gateway murals. The $25,000 plan with UP Art Studio includes two documented inspections, two routine wash cycles, an annual condition report, and program coordination to preserve the Gateway's bold, colorful artwork. The Board also approved weekly grounds maintenance by Monarch Landscape Management at a rate not to exceed $200 per visit, with the executive director authorized to negotiate the final cost.

Helping Residents Help Their Families

EAMD's community work extends beyond events and physical improvements. The EAMD continues to support free CPR classes in English and Spanish at locations throughout East Aldine. The classes have become so popular that a waiting list has grown to about 100 people.

Deputy Executive Director Verónica Sanches told the Board that many participants have been women and mothers seeking skills to help protect their families. The strong response — including a waiting list of about 100 people — shows demand for practical, accessible opportunities that help residents feel more prepared to care for the people they love..

Additional Board-approved community investments included $1,350 for State Rep. Armando Walle's annual Senior Dance Party, $5,500 for the Aldine ISD Police Department's Trunk or Treat, $7,000 for Lone Star College's Celebration Circle and $500 for the Aldine ISD Livestock Show T-shirt sponsorship.

A Safer, Cleaner East Aldine

Public safety is another important part of EAMD's work. Lt. Johnny Reyes reported that EAMD deputies made 324 arrests in August, including 102 felony arrests and 96 misdemeanor arrests. Deputies also recovered or seized 17 illegal firearms and 15 stolen vehicles. Flock technology generated 165 contacts related to stolen vehicles and other crimes.

Along with the cleanup partnership, deputies conducted 98 nuisance-abatement checks and 83 follow-ups. They also continued ATV and UTV patrols at parks and shopping centers.

A Strong Financial Foundation for Continued Service

The Board also received a financial report showing year-to-date revenue of $11.21 million through August, approximately $1.29 million above budget. Total expenditures were $7.57 million, about $1.18 million below budget.

Sales tax revenue was 15.4% above budget for September, providing a strong financial foundation for EAMD's continued services, programs, partnerships, and capital projects.

During public comment, Coco Martínez of Pilgrim Place thanked EAMD for its support of senior residents, while Judy Rodriguez of Friends of the High Meadows Branch Library thanked the organization for its continued financial and community support of the library.

Building on 25 Years of Service

The September meeting offered a snapshot of the breadth of EAMD's work during its 25th anniversary year. That work ranges from major infrastructure projects and public safety to neighborhood cleanups, streetlights, trails, public spaces, health education, community events, and partnerships with local organizations.

Some projects are highly visible. Others happen quietly in the background. Together, they reflect EAMD's ongoing commitment to improving East Aldine for the residents, businesses, and people who live, work, and spend time here.

For 25 years, that work has helped shape East Aldine. As the East Aldine Management District looks toward its next 25 years, it is also looking for new ways to make sure residents know the work is happening — and how they can be part of it.

Learn more about EAMD's programs, services, and upcoming events at aldinedistrict.org.

SCHOOL PAGE

Aldine Students Earn 351 College Board National Recognition Awards



By Leticia Fehling
Aldine ISD

High-achieving students across Aldine ISD earned hundreds of national academic honors through the College Board National Recognition Program.

Aldine ISD students earned 351 College Board National Recognition Awards in 2026 — 17 more than in 2025 — recognizing strong academic achievement and helping students highlight their accomplishments to colleges and scholarship programs.

The awards reflect a 5.1% increase from the 334 awards Aldine students earned last year. They also place Aldine students among more than 300,000 students nationwide who received more than 350,000 College Board National Recognition Program awards in 2026.

An Academic Honor That Opens Doors

The College Board National Recognition Program gives high-achieving students an official academic award they can share on college and scholarship applications. Students in grades 10 and 11 may qualify by earning top scores on the PSAT/NMSQT or PSAT 10, or by earning a score of 3 or higher on two or more Advanced Placement exams by the end of grade 10. Students must also have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.3.

The program offers three designations: School Recognition Award, First-Generation Recognition Award and Rural and Small-Town Recognition Award. Because students can earn more than one designation, the district's total reflects awards earned rather than the number of individual students recognized.

For students, the recognition is more than a line on an application; it is a signal to colleges and scholarship programs that their hard work is ready to be seen.

Recognition Across Aldine

Students at high schools across Aldine ISD earned 351 awards through the School Recognition Award and First-Generation Recognition Award categories.

"Every award represents a student who has challenged themselves academically and built a record of achievement," said Dr. Susan Pelezo, executive director of Aldine ISD's Advanced Academics Department. "This recognition gives Aldine students a meaningful way to make that hard work visible as they explore college and scholarship opportunities. We are proud of their persistence, their ambition and the educators and families who support them."

The recognition aligns with Aldine ISD's Accelerate strategic plan by expanding choices and opportunities for students as they prepare for life after high school.

"These awards demonstrate what becomes possible when students embrace rigorous learning, recognize their potential and see a future filled with choices and opportunities," Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney, superintendent of Aldine ISD, said. "That is how we accelerate opportunities for every student across Aldine ISD."

Congratulations to the Aldine ISD students who earned College Board National Recognition Awards in 2026.

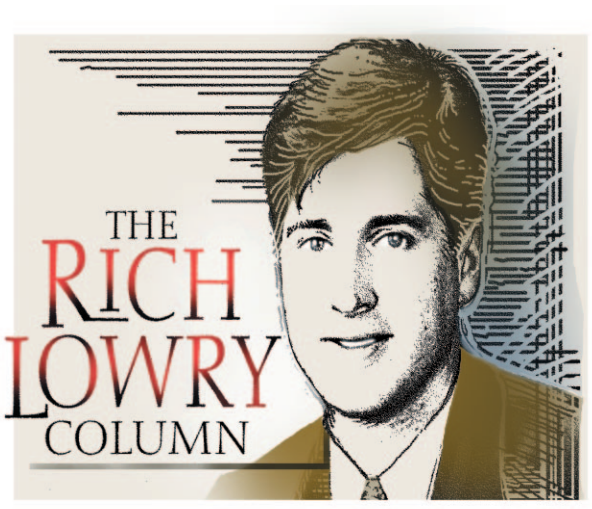
National Recognition Scholars at Multiple High Schools
2026

Congratulations!

- Aldine High School
- Avalos P-TECH School
- Blanson CTE High School
- Carver High School for Applied Technology, Engineering, and the Arts
- Davis High School
- Eisenhower High School
- Hall Success Academy
- HEAL at Nimitz High School
- La Promesa
- MacArthur High School
- Nimitz High School
- Victory Early College High School
- Young Women Leadership Academy

ALDINE
Independent School District

☆ OPINION PAGE ☆



Iran Exposes an Intolerable U.S. Vulnerability

Churchill said that "Wars are not won by evacuations," and sometimes, he might have added, they are simply embarrassing. The U.S. hastily flew its B-1 bombers out of RAF Fairford in the U.K. for fear of a potential Iranian drone attack, the latest in a series of successful Iranian operations to crimp U.S. bases, this time more than 2,000 miles away.

The Trump administration has found — by opening a channel to shipping in the Strait of Hormuz and blockading Iran — a strategy to pressure Iran that may yet produce a favorable outcome to the war. Still, the conflict has exposed glaring U.S. military deficiencies, with our inability to protect our bases in the region high on the list.

Acting Navy Secretary Hung Cao has said the Iranians "blew the hell out of Bahrain," referring to the headquarters of the Fifth Fleet in the tiny Gulf kingdom. They have also hit U.S. facilities in Qatar, Kuwait, the UAE and Saudi Arabia. The vast majority of U.S. casualties have resulted from attacks on our bases.

Whereas it once seemed that having so many bases in proximity to Iran was useful to containing the Islamic Republic, when Tehran began firing on these facilities, it became clear that the short distances made them vulnerable targets. Camp Arifjan in Kuwait, where buildings and radar domes were hit, is just over 60 miles away.

A number of bases have been fully or partly evacuated, and the effects have been felt on U.S. operations. One reason that there was so much strain on the USS Abraham Lincoln during its lengthy deployment is that Bahrain was no longer available as a supply hub. We had to rely on facilities in Diego Garcia and Singapore, creating a supply chain thousands of miles long.

The Iranian missile and drone threat to our bases was foreseeable, and yet we didn't do enough to protect them. One option now is a broad pullback of our presence in the region. But so long as hydrocarbons power the modern economy, this is a nonstarter. The Gulf states would have an incentive to look elsewhere for strategic partners, most worryingly to Russia or China, and might conclude that they should do more to accommodate an Iran that would have effectively chased us from the Persian Gulf.

The answer to the threat to the bases is the same thing that created the threat in the first place — innovation. We've long had bases in the Gulf, including a naval command headquarters in Bahrain since 1948, but the purpose and the nature of the presence has changed over time. As Kristian Alexander writes in an analysis for the Stimson Center, during the Cold War we didn't have a large land presence at bases. After Saddam Hussein's 1990 invasion of Kuwait, that changed.

Today, the question is how to reconfigure our presence again to make it more defensible and sustainable. "U.S. bases," Alexander writes, "remain indispensable for intelligence collection, command and control, maritime security, air and missile defense, logistics and long-range power projection."

One option is to locate more facilities in Israel. Elliott Abrams of the Council on Foreign Relations points out that the Jewish state is much further away — more than 1,000 miles from Iran —and would impose fewer restrictions on our access and overflight rights.

But we still require bases in the Gulf. We're going to need to disperse them, harden them (including with more underground elements) and build in more redundancy. The air defense needs to be more robust and layered, and less dependent on expensive missiles that are in short supply.

The war with Iran was supposed to represent a short, sharp defanging of the Iranian regime. Instead, it has dragged on and served as a lesson in key shortcomings of U.S. military power that must be addressed, lest they bite us again in a conflict with a much more powerful adversary.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

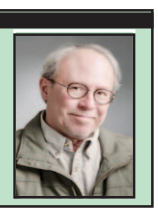
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STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders



Abbott Ramps up Attack on Hinojosa

Abbott's bid to become the longest-serving Texas governor in history is running into an unexpectedly tight race for a candidate who has won his last three races for governor by double digits. He told supporters that "polls don't win elections, and polls are often wrong."

His campaign recently announced a $12 million ad buy targeting Hinojosa, according to the Texas Standard. One ad claims that, as a state representative, Hinojosa voted more than 40 times for higher property taxes in the state, a claim she vigorously disputes.

"I have never, not once, voted to increase property taxes, and anyone who says otherwise is lying," Hinojosa said.

Abbott maintains that he will prevail.

"What I'm confident about is exactly where my campaign stands and the outcome — that I'm going to win this race," Abbott said.

Meanwhile, Abbott outraised Hinojosa in the last reporting cycle, $20 million to $13 million. She raised her money from about 136,000 donors, more than 10 times the number who contributed to Abbott's campaign, which had more large donations, according to The Dallas Morning News.

Abbott has burned through far more campaign cash, spending nearly $70 million since July 1, compared with Hinojosa's $12 million. Abbott still has a comfortable bank balance of $17 million, compared with $4 million for Hinojosa.

FEW DEBATES SET SO FAR IN STATEWIDE RACES

No debates have been scheduled to date in the governor's race, although Hinojosa has repeatedly called for a debate against Abbott. The same is true of the U.S. Senate race, where Paxton's campaign has promised to debate Talarico but has not agreed to any proposed dates, The Tribune reported.

The only debate among statewide candidates apparently scheduled so far is between Democrat Jon Rosenthal and Republican



Bo French for a seat on the Texas Railroad Commission. Rosenthal announced that he and French have agreed to a debate on Oct. 22, but French has not publicly confirmed.

State Rep. Vikki Goodwin, D-Austin, and state Sen. Nathan Johnson, D-Dallas, the Democratic nominees for lieutenant governor and attorney general, have also urged their GOP opponents to debate. Spokespeople for Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick and state Sen. Mayes Middleton, R-Galveston, did not respond to requests for comment.

In the past three gubernatorial elections, Abbott debated his Democratic opponent each time.

JUDGE HALTS BIG BEND AREA BORDER WALL

A U.S. district judge in El Paso has halted all construction on the border wall project in the Big Bend border area, the Standard reported. A coalition of opponents is suing the Department of Homeland Security and U.S. Customs and Border Protection over plans to build a border wall through the rugged area, which includes Big Bend National Park.

The pause in construction is in effect until the case goes to trial.

"The Court finds that Plaintiffs are likely to succeed on the merits of at least one of the claims in suit, that there is a likelihood that they will suffer serious, irreparable harm without an injunction, and that the balance of the equities and the public interest weigh in their favor," the order, from U.S. District Judge Kathleen Cardone, states.

Opponents claim that, besides the environmental damage caused by building a wall and roads in the area, the Big Bend Sector has the least traffic across the border because of its extremely rugged terrain.

A CBP spokesperson said the agency is working with the Department of Justice on next steps.

"We stand by our assessment and remain confident in our legal authorities to secure the border while preserving the unique landscape of the Big Bend region," the spokesperson said.

TEXAS ACCOUNTS FOR MOST OF LIBRARY BOOK BANS

Texas banned more school library books during the 2025-2026 school year than any other state, accounting for 8,000 — or two-thirds — of the 12,000 book bans documented by Pen America, a literature and free-speech advocacy group, the Austin American-Statesman reported. Florida ranked second with just more than 3,200 banned books.

PEN America, a nonprofit, attributed the high number of book bans in the state to legislation that expands the role of parents and school boards in overseeing what books students can access in public school libraries.

Leading the list of most frequently banned books included "Sold" by Patricia McCormick, "Speak" by Laurie Halse Anderson, "Crank" and "Identical" by Ellen Hopkins, "The Handmaid's Tale" by Margaret Atwood, and "Looking for Alaska" by John Green.

DSHS RECOMMENDS GETTING FLU SHOT SOON

The Texas Department of Health and Human Services is advising Texans to get immunized against the flu as soon as possible as flu season gets underway.

"We recommend everyone ages six months and older get a flu shot as soon as possible because we usually see cases start to rise at this time of year," said DSHS Chief Medical Executive Manda Hall. "Small children and older adults, pregnant women and people with chronic health conditions often suffer the most severe effects from flu illness.

People with flu are most contagious in the first few days of their illness. DSH advises those with flu symptoms to stay home and avoid contact with other people.

To find out where to get a flu shot, go to Vaccines.gov or contact your local pharmacy or health care provider.

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.

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THE POSTSCRIPT

By Carrie Classon

The Same and Different



Traveling to San Miguel is always a little tumultuous.

My husband, Peter, and I spend a part of every fall and winter in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico. It is not an easy place to get to. We have to take two flights with a layover in between, then an hour-and-a-half-long shuttle ride to our apartment hotel.

The second flight is on a small plane, and this time there was a lot of turbulence. Both my cat, Felix, and I get motion sickness, and neither one of us felt good, although I did not throw up all over myself, and Felix did.

When we got to Mexico, I tried to clean up Felix in the restroom before he had his usual visit to Customs. This time, there was more paperwork to be filled out. I was too tired to read the long document in Spanish, which I had to sign in two separate places. Then Felix had a longer-than-usual inspection. I held him while the medical examiner took his temperature and inspected his ears and looked at his teeth. Felix still had wet feet from his mini bath in the restroom.

When we finally got to the hotel, the staff was glad to meet us, and our little apartment looked as it always did—the same and a little different. Green drapes had replaced the white ones. There was a brand-new blue-and-white checked quilt on the bed. Peter and I unpacked everything, and then all three of us crashed. But Felix did not sleep well that night. In the middle of the night, he wandered around the apartment, crying out.

"What is he saying?" I asked Peter.

"He doesn't like his food," Peter answered. Maybe Peter was right. Felix has a different kind of food in Mexico, and he is a fussy eater.

But to me, it sounded more like, "How did we get back here? I've been here before! I remember this place—but it's different!" Over and over again.

I feel the same way.

Everything is the same and different at the same time. I talked with Oscar, a local artist, and he told me how he had fewer students, the restaurants were empty, the weather was unpredictable and city politics were unstable.

"Who knows what will happen next!" Oscar said. And no one knows—it is true. I see the accumulation of gradual changes. I see cause for worry. I see more uncertainty.

And so, I buy vegetables.

The thing about vegetables is that they are always the same—and different. I buy carrots and celery and beets and onions. I buy potatoes and bananas and strawberries. I buy avocados and peppers and broccoli. I pile them all on the counter of the tiny, family-owned store around the corner. The vegetables are all fresh and inexpensive, and Peter and I cook them all up in advance, so we always have plenty of good food to eat.

That night, Peter made a big pot of vegetable soup. I had broccoli with a quesadilla from the hotel restaurant. And Felix was calmer the next day. He still didn't like his food, so Peter gave him some inexpensive food he bought by the scoop in the market. Now he is happy. I fell asleep last night with Felix curled on top of me.

In times of uncertainty, this is what we need. We need good food. We need to stay close together. And we need to remember that everything is always the same and always different at the same time.

Till next time,
Carrie

SEASON FOOTBALL WEEK 8

No. 20 UH faces tough road test against No. 11 Utah: Texans look to keep momentum going against Giants



first Saturday in December. Two weeks ago, Kalen DeBoer's team lost a controversial 20-17 decision at home to Georgia. I expect the Tide to be focused from here on out as they look for a rematch against Georgia in the SEC title game.

In the NFL, the Texans will host the New York Giants and should debut their new wide receiver, Marvin Harrison Jr., who they acquired from the Arizona Cardinals two weeks ago. The Texans need to start putting some wins together if they hope to get back in the AFC playoff hunt, and if they play like they did two weeks ago in their 26-3 domination of Tennessee, the Giants could be in for a long day at NRG Stadium.

Week 7 in the NFL begins on Thursday Night Football with New England visiting Chicago. The Bears are hoping starting QB Caleb Williams returns after missing the last three games with a hamstring injury.

There's a big one in the NFC North as Detroit visits Green Bay. Both teams picked up big wins two weeks ago as the Lions walloped Arzona, 45-21 on the road, while the Packers dominated long-time rival Chicago at home 31-7. Both teams have explosive offenses, so this one should be fun to watch.

There's also a good one on Sunday Night Football as Patrick Mahomes and the Kansas City Chiefs visit Seattle. Week 7 concludes with a big one in the NFC East as the Cowboys visit Philadelphia. Both teams have underwhelmed thus far, but they are both lucky to be playing in a weak division this year. The winner of this one could use this game to go on a streak.

In District 14-6A action, Aldine hosts Westfield on Thursday night at Thorne Stadium, while Nimitz visits Spring. On Friday, Davis and Eisenhower hook up in a key game for both teams, while MacArthur hopes to keep its playoff chances alive when it visits Dekaney.

Before we take a look at this weekend's game, let's review last week's record. A bad 5-7 week (stupid UT, Rams and Seattle!) brought the season record to 49-21 (70%).

Now, onto this weekend's games.

HIGH SCHOOL

Westfield at Aldine - Richard Black's Mustangs face a monumental task on Thursday night at Thorne Stadium when they host Westfield at 7 p.m. Westfield has been running roughshod over the rest of District 14-6A, averaging 42 points in league play, while allowing just 4 points a game on defense. My pick, Westfield 45, Aldine 6

Nimitz at Spring - Cornelius Harmon's Cougars head to Randall Reed Stadium in Spring on Thursday evening to take on the Spring Lions. Two weeks ago, the Cougars suffered their first league loss when they fell to Westfield, while Spring picked up a 29-20 win over Eisenhower. Nimitz will look to get back in the 14-6A playoff hunt behind QB Jepreston Johnson. My pick, Nimitz 24, Spring 20

Davis vs. Eisenhower - Kelvin Chatman's Falcons take on Padriac McGinnis' Eagles on Friday night in Thorne Stadium. Like Westfield, Davis has plowed through its first three league opponents averaging a whopping 51 points per game behind running back Larry McCarroll (265 yards, 5 TDs) and wideouts David Richardson (47 receptions, 648 yards, 4 TDs) and Cortland Lee-Pugh (11 receptions, 255 yards, 2 TDs). Ike will look from a big night from running back Elijah Dixon (393 yards, 4 TDs). My pick, Davis 34, Eisenhower 20

MacArthur at Dekaney - Blake Ware's Generals head to Randall Reed Stadium to take on Dekaney on Friday evening. Two weeks ago, the Generals picked up their first district win with a 34-0 pasting of Aldine. Mac will look for big nights from QB Lance Nero (1,029 yards, 9 TDs) and running back Trinidad Espinoza (1,005 yards, 5 TDs) and Korey Fisher (796 yards, 8 TDs) as they look to get MacArthur back in the 14-6A playoff hunt.

NCAA

Ole Miss at Texas - A big one for both teams SEC title and CFP chances takes place in Austin on Saturday when No. 9-ranked Ole Miss visits No. 7-ranked Texas. Two weeks ago, UT saw its No. 1 ranking come to an end after the 'Horns were upset in the Cotton Bowl, 27-24 by an unranked OU team. UT QB Arch Manning (1,122 yards, 10 TDs) threw a pick-six and was intercepted one other time. He looked good at times tossing three TD passes, but when the game was on the line, Manning crumbled. It would help if he got some help from a weak running game that features Hollywood Smothers (237 yards, 2 TDs) and Ralek Brown (218 yards, 4 TDs). Look for Manning to look to make plays in the passing game to wideouts Cam Coleman (17 receptions, 318 yards, 54 TDs) and Ryan Wiingo (21 receptions, 296 yards, 3 TDs). The UT defense will get tested by Ole Miss QB Trinidad Chambliss (1,435 passing yards, 11 TDs/113 rushing yards, 5 TDs), running back Kewan Lacy (230 yards, 5 TDs) and wide receiver Deuce Alexander (32 receptions, 503 yards, 5 TDs). Look for UT edge rusher Collin Simmons (9.5 sacks) to be the difference maker in this one as UT picks up a key SEC win. My pick, Texas 31, Ole Miss 20

Houston at Utah - Willie Fritz's No. 20-ranked Cougars head out west to take on No. 11-ranked Utah in the biggest test to date for UH. Two weeks ago, the Coogs dominated Kansas State on the road as tight end Patrick Overmeyer (33 receptions, 399, 6 TDs) caught four TD passes form QB Conner Weigman (1,427 passing yards, 15 TDs/177 rushing yards, 16 TDs). Weigman will look for help in the running game from backs Re'Shaun Sanford II (404 yards, 2 TDs) and Makhi Hughes (388 yards, 3 TDs) and will look to make plays in the passing game to Overmyer and standout wide receiver Amare Thomas (29 receptions, 361 yards, 4 TDs). The UH defense will have its hands full with Utah dual-threat QB Devon Dampier (1,134 passing yards, 12 TDs/207 rushing yards, 3 TDs). Dampier gets help from running back Wayshawn Parker (499 yards, 7 TDs) and wideout Braden Pagan (24 receptions, 3365 yards, 4 TDs). Look for the UH defense to step up and make some plays down the stretch to lead the Coogs to a huge road win. My pick, Houston 32, Utah 28

Texas A&M at Alabama - I pity Mike Elko's team as it heads to take on No. 6-ranked Alabama in a game that could get ugly. Two weeks ago, the Aggie offense struggled once again during its 27-6 loss at Missouri. QB Marcel Reed (1,095 yards, 6 TDs/6 interceptions) continues to struggle with consistency and if that continues, he will be in for a long day against a 'Bama defense that loves to bring pressure. The Aggie defense will have its hands full dealing with dual-threat QB Keelon Russell (1,599 passing yards, 12 TDs/225 rushing yards, 4 TDs), running backs Trae'Shawn Brown (301 yards, 5 TDs) and Daniel Hill (262 yards, 4 TDs). Star wideout Ryan Coleman-Williams (23 receptions, 415 yards, 4 TDs) should be back for this one after he missed the Tennessee game after getting dinged up in the Georgia game. My pick, Alabama 34, Texas A&M 13

NFL

New England atChicago - Week 7 of the NFL season starts with Thursday Night Football as New England visits Chicago. Two weeks ago, NE QB Drake Maye (1,229 yards, 8 TDs) threw four TD passes and ran for another in the Pats' 45-17 pasting of the Raiders. Maye should have another big night against a suspect Bears defense that gave up 31 points to the Packers two weeks ago. NE will look for big nights from running back Rhamodre Stevenson (227 yards, 2 TDs) and wide receiver Romeo Doubs (13 receptions, 219 yards, 2 TDs). The Bears are hoping to get starting QB Caleb Williams back for this game after he missed the Bears last three games nursing a hamstring injury. Chicago could use him back. My pick, New England 24, Chicago 20

New York Giants at Houston - Two weeks ago, DeMeco Ryan's team picked up its first win of the season with a dominating 26-3 win at Tennessee, while the Giants tied the Commanders, 27-27 in overtime in one of the strangest finishes in NFL history. Look for Will Anderson Jr. (7.5 sacks) to make things miserable for NY QB Jameis Winston (805 yards, 6 TDs), while Houston QB C.J. Stroud (1,402 yards, 6 TDs) and wide receiver Nico Collins (19 receptions, 249 yards, 3 TDs) will attack a suspect Giants secondary. The Texans know there is little room for error from here on out, so look for them to be focused for this one. My pick, Houston 31, New York Giants 16

Green Bay at Detroit - A big one in the NFC North pits the Packers against a Lions team that had last week off. This could be a high-scoring games that will feature two good QBs in GB's Jordan Love (1,4098 yards, 10 TDs) and Detroit's Jared Goff (1,485 yards, 12 TDs). Love has been making big plays to wideouts Christian Watson (26 receptions, 474 yards, 6 TDs) and Matthew Golden (24 receptions, 397 yards, 2 TDs), while Goff has been making plays to wide receiver Amon–Ra St. Brown (37 receptions, 372 yards, 5 TDs) and tight end Sam LaPorta (27 receptions, 316 yards, 3 TDs). The Lions have an ace up their sleeve in running back Jahmyr Gibbs (504 rushing yards, 7 TDs/27 receptions, 243 yards). Look for Gibbs to be the difference maker in this one as the Lions pick up a key division win. My pick, Detroit 31, Green Bay 27

Kansas City at Seattle - A good one for Sunday Night Football pits the Chiefs against the defending Super Bowl champs in Seattle. Two weeks ago, the Seahawks lost at home to the 49ers, 321-29, as the vaunted Seattle defense got pushed and passed over all afternoon. This Sunday, they face another solid offense led by Patrick Mahomes (1,037 yards, 9 TDs) and tight end Travis Kelce (16 receptions, 246 yards, 2 TDs). Seattle will also have to contend with former running back Kenneth Walker III (537 rushing yards, 4 TDs/12 receptions, 87 yards, 2 TDs), who left Seattle after being named the SB MVP and signed with the Chiefs. Seattle will need a big night from QB Sam Darnold (755 yards, 7 TDs in 4 games) and star wideout Jaxon Smith-Njigba (37 receptions, 583 yards, 7 TDs). Seattle knows it needs this game to remain in the NFC West race of SF (5-0) might just run away with the division. My pick, Seattle 26, Kansas City 20

Dallas at Philadelphia - Week 7 concludes on Monday Night Football with the Cowboys visiting the Eagles in a key NFC East game for both teams. Two weeks ago, both teams fell to 2-3 on the season with mind boggling losses. The Cowboys lost at home to a winless Tampa Bay team, while the Eagles lost in London on a last-second field goal that was set up by a long Jacksonville kickoff return with just 8 seconds to play. The Eagles seem to be a team in turmoil. The running back room has been depleted by injuries to starter Saquon Barkley and backup Tank Bigsby. QB Jalen Hurts (933 passing yards, 8 TDs/107 rushing yards, 1 TD) has been taking heat for not running more. The porous Dallas defense might be the perfect tonic for Hurts come Monday night. The Dallas offense should find success moving the ball against a so-so Philly defense. Look for QB Dak Prescott (1,381 yards, 9 TDs), running back Javonte Williams (276 yards 7 total TDs) and wideouts CeeDee Lamb (39 receptions, 507 yards, 4 TDs) and George Pickens (27 receptions, 355 yards, 1 TD) to come out swinging as Dallas looks to get back in the division race. My pick, Dallas 31, Philadelphia 27

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL SCORES/SCHEDULES



LAST WEEK IN FOOTBALL

Aldine MacArthur 31, Spring 23
Spring DeKaney 63, Aldine 0
Aldine Nimitz 35, Aldine Eisenhower 21
Spring Westfield 37, Aldine Davis 7

THIS WEEK IN FOOTBALL

THURSDAY, OCT. 22

Aldine vs. Westfield, 7 p.m., Thorne Stadium
Nimitz at Spring, 7 p.m., Planet Ford Stadium

FRIDAY, OCT. 23

Davis at Eisenhower, 7 p.m., Thorne Stadium
MacArthur at Dekaney, 7 p.m., Planet Ford Stadium



Message from Sheriff Ed Gonzalez:



As part of our commitment during Domestic Violence Awareness Month, I promised that we would go after the people hurting their own families. Our deputies have been delivering on that promise. Working with our state and federal partners, they went door to door across Harris County in a multi-agency domestic violence warrant roundup, targeting people wanted for some of the most serious offenses. In all, the roundup cleared 154 warrants and led to 117 arrests, including 79 for domestic violence.

Our Special Victims Unit, CAID, and Major Offenders Section, with help from our District CRU units, focused on people showing signs that the pattern of violence was getting worse. One man is accused of choking a pregnant woman until she nearly lost consciousness, then pushing her into a table and threatening to kill her with a large knife. Another was wanted after a woman was slammed against a patio table and beaten with an iPad. His victims were so afraid that they fled the state. A third is accused of using a chair to hurt the people in his home. The suspects in these three separate cases are now in custody.

The warning signs are often there long before violence turns deadly. In intimate partner violence cases, 80% involve at least one significant encounter with law enforcement, and half involve five or more. Each one of those moments is a chance to break the cycle, and we intend to use it.

Every survivor in these cases has been connected with one of our victim advocates. An arrest is only part of the job, and helping survivors heal is the rest of it. The work doesn't stop there. We're still looking for domestic violence offenders. If that's you, you already know it. Turn yourself in.

We're also changing how we respond. Thanks to funding from Commissioner Lesley Briones, we're setting up a new SMART unit that will send a specially trained deputy and a victim advocate out together. When the call involves a partner or an ex, the team will complete a lethality assessment, a set of questions that tells us if someone is at real risk of being killed.

We also want every survivor to know where to go for help. Earlier this month, I joined AVDA (Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse), CEO Maisha Coulter, and Clear Channel Outdoor at City Hall as new billboards went up across our area. Some people can't search for help because the person hurting them checks their phone, but they can remember a number they saw on a billboard. AVDA has been helping survivors here for 46 years, from finding a lawyer for a protective order to simply having someone to talk to.

Now I want to speak to anyone who is being hurt at home. It's not your fault. You don't need to have it all figured out to pick up the phone. And if you're worried about someone you know, a friend, a coworker, your sister, check on them. Help them make that first call.

If you are in immediate danger, call 911. You can reach AVDA at 713-224-9911, or the National Domestic Violence Hotline, 24 hours a day, at 1-800-799-7233. You can also text START to 88788.

Every warrant we serve, and every case we bring closer to resolution, makes our community safer. We can't do this alone, and I'm grateful to have you with us.

CHURCH PAGE

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

by Elie's Spiritual Treasures

Psalm 45:3-4

Gird your **sword** on your **side**, you **mighty one**; **clothe** yourself with **splendor** and **majesty**. In **your** majesty **ride forth** victoriously in the **cause** of **truth**, **humility** and **justice**; let your **right hand** achieve awesome **deeds**.

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W	L	Z	M	T	C	D	N	A	H
S	C	U	H	D	E	E	D	S	P
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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



...They learn to be idle, wandering about from house to house, and not only idle but also gossips and busybodies, saying things which they ought not.

1 TIMOTHY 5:13

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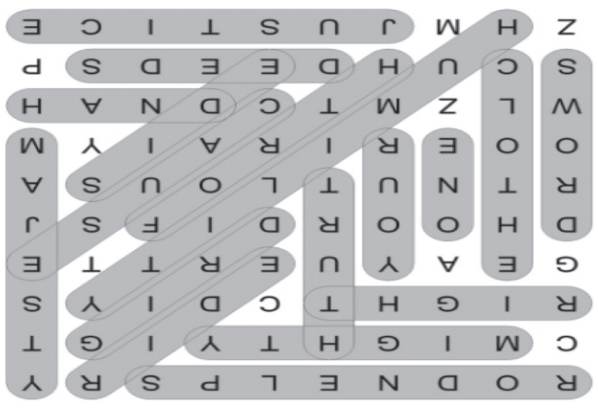
BIBLE TRIVIA

By Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of 3 John (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From 2 Samuel, who proclaimed, "How are the mighty fallen, and the weapons of war perished"? Saul, Simeon, David, Peter
3. Who said, "I have heard many such things; miserable comforters are ye all"? Samson, Goliath, The devil, Job
4. From the Beatitudes, who shall be called the sons of God? Hungry, Peacemakers, Merciful, Lonely
5. What Jewish lady became queen of Persia? Abigail, Sarah, Esther, Ruth
6. Whose biblical name means "God is my judge"? Titus, Festus, David, Daniel

ANSWERS: 1) New, 2) David, 3) Job, 4) Peacemakers, 5) Esther, 6) Daniel
More than 1,200 brand-new trivia questions in Wilson Casey's latest book "Quest for Bible Knowledge" available in bookstores and online.

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Answers

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Hugh Jackman stars in "The Death of Robin Hood"

"The Death of Robin hood"

"The Death of Robin Hood" (R) — Don't be misled by the name of this thriller film and sit the kids down to watch this one; this definitely isn't Disney's version of Robin Hood's story. Based on the 17th century ballad "Robin Hood's Death," this film is led by none other than Hugh Jackman ("The Sheep Detectives") with a supporting cast that includes Jodie Comer ("28 Years Later") and horror aficionado Bill Skarsgard ("Dead Man's Wire"). Jackman portrays the aged outlaw Robin, who is widely known as a folk hero across 1247 England but remains tormented by the crimes he's committed. After a few more treacherous duels leave him delirious, Robin finds himself on a remote island at the Priory of St. Clement, left only with the reminder of his sins as Sister Brigid (Comer) nurses him back to health. Out now. (HBO Max)

"Crystal Lake" (TV-MA) — Calling all slasher lovers! (Because I fear I am not one.) This new series starring Linda Cardellini ("DTF St. Louis") serves as a prequel to the 1980 film "Friday the 13th." Cardellini takes on the role of Pamela Voorhees (originally played by Betsy Palmer in the 1980 and 1981 films in the franchise), who has a young son with physical differences named Jason. (Hint, hint.) While Pamela's working as a lunch lady at Camp Crystal Lake, where her son's also a camper, Jason mysteriously drowns in the lake when the camp counselors aren't looking. Traumatized by grief, Pamela attempts to go back to work at the camp a year later but is unable to move on. Simultaneously, dead bodies begin appearing around town. All eight episodes are available to stream now! (Peacock)

"Phony" (TV-MA) — Sam Nivola follows up his brother-loving role in season three of "The White Lotus" with a mother-loving role in this comedy-mystery series, co-starring Connie Britton ("Rooster"). Nivola plays teenage boy Sonny, who lives with his mom, Ellen (Britton), and has a great relationship with her. After a wild car accident places Sonny in the hospital, he awakens to his mom in the hospital with him — or so he first thinks. Upon further investigation, Sonny gets the feeling that his mom has been replaced with an impostor. Although his friends deny that this is possible, Ellen appears different than before the accident and doesn't remember their secret hand signals, leaving Sonny's mind completely scrambled. The first two episodes of the eight-episode series premiere on Oct. 20. (Hulu)

"Lorne" (R) — As the title suggests, this documentary film focuses on the career of film and television producer Lorne Michaels ("Saturday Night Live"). Beginning with his work on Canadian television, the doc walks viewers through the moments in Michaels' life that led him to create the legendary sketch-comedy show. It also touches on his five-year departure from the show from 1980 to 1985 and how he eventually returned to serve as the executive producer. The list of celebrity appearances in this doc is enormous, but a notable few include Tina Fey, Jimmy Fallon, Alec Baldwin, Bill Hader, Steve Martin and Chris Rock. Additionally, behind-the-scenes footage of "SNL" episodes is featured! Check it out now. (Netflix)

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HOLLYWOOD
by Tony Rizzo

HOLLYWOOD — Margot Robbie, who was hot when she played "Barbie" (which grossed $1.448 billion), now dreams of being 50 feet tall! In 1958, the film "Attack of the 50 Foot Woman" cost $89,000 and grossed $480,000, which surprised everyone. HBO then remade it in 1993 with Daryl Hannah, and now the brilliant director Tim Burton is set to direct a new remake! Robbie will produce and star in it.

But poor Barbie is still in limbo while Robbie and director Greta Gerwig demand more upfront and backend money to make the sequel. Not to be left out, Ryan Gosling wants $20 million to play Ken again.

Meanwhile, Gosling has "Star Wars: Star Fighter" opening in May 28, 2027. Gerwig has since wrapped "Narnia: The Magician's Nephew" with Meryl Streep, Carey Mulligan, Ciaran Hinds and Daniel Craig, and it's set to premiere on Feb. 12, 2027. Robbie and Bradley Cooper are also producing Cooper's script of the untitled "Ocean's Eleven" prequel, which is set to release on June 25, 2027.

***

Director Guy Ritchie's track record is hit-and-miss. In May, the $70-million action-thriller film "In the Grey," with Jake Gyllenhaal, Henry Cavill and Rosamund Pike, failed to impress with grosses of $27.8 million. Undaunted, he forged ahead with the action-thriller "Wife & Dog," starring Benedict Cumberbatch, Rosamund Pike and Anthony Hopkins; it's due on Feb. 19, 2027. Ritchie also directed the action-thriller "Viva La Madness," with Jason Stratham and Ben Foster, and it wrapped this past April.

***

As Halloween nears, there aren't many films opening in theaters. The horror-thriller "Crawlers" opened on Oct. 16 with an unknown cast, and it follows the infestation of venomous spiders that get unleashed in an apartment complex. On Oct. 23, "Clayface" opens in theaters, which is about a disfigured rising movie star who volunteers to be a test subject to restore his original face; his body gets transformed into living clay. Then there's "Stiletto," starring Colleen Camp, which is about an exotic dancer named Lyric; it escapes in theaters on Oct. 30. In the film, Lyric searches for a masked serial killer who killed her sister and also has a foot fetish.


Margot Robbie (Upcoming in an "Ocean's Eleven" prequel.)

***

Jamie Foxx's nightmare is the unreleased film that he wrote, directed and starred in called "All-Star Weekend" (which he also produced). It's about two basketball-fanatic, tow-truck drivers who win tickets to the NBA All-Star Game, then find themselves and their heroes in a life-or-death situation. Production began in 2016 with Jeremy Piven, Eva Longoria, Gerard Butler, Benecio del Toro, and Robert Downey Jr.

It was originally set to open in 2018, but they didn't finish postproduction until 2019. Then they tried for 2019, 2021 and 2025 releases, but speculation was that it wasn't releasable due to its controversial elements. Sometimes wearing too many hats can get you out-Foxxed!

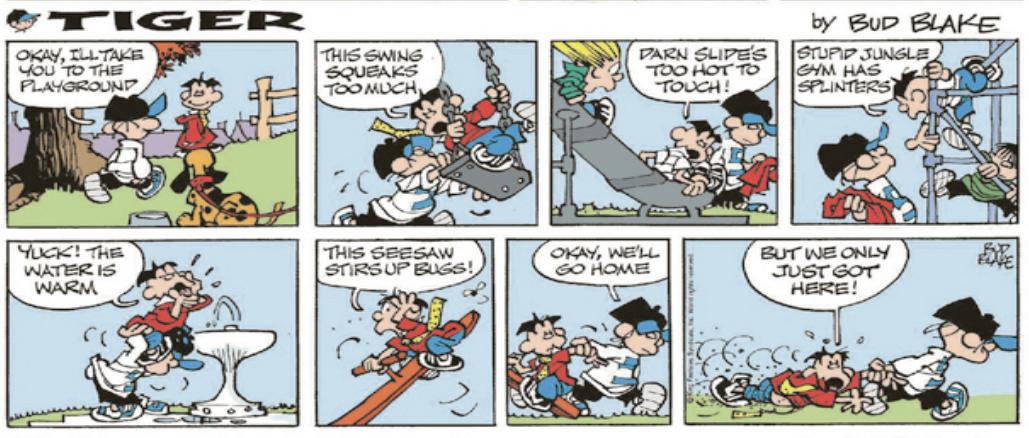
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ENTERTAINMENT

Amber Waves
by Dave T. Phipps



TIGER
by BUD BLAKE

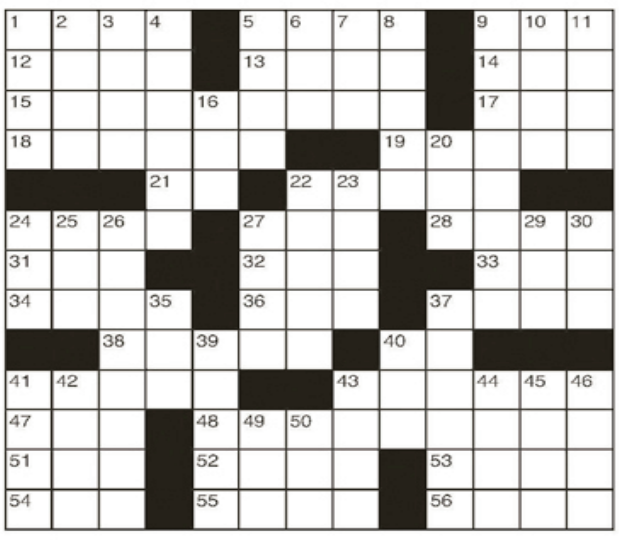


The Spats
by Jeff Pickering



October 19, 2026 Posting Date

King Crossword



ACROSS
1 Off-white
5 "Star Trek II" villain
9 Yoga pad
12 Lopsided win
13 — the Great (kid-lit detective)
14 Yucatan "Bravo!"
15 Lead singer of Matchbox Twenty
17 Present location?
18 Most devious
19 Den fixture
21 ICU worker
22 No-frills
24 Big cheese
27 Warm-up run
28 Kitten calls
31 — Jima
32 Noshed
33 Slangy denial
34 Arrears
36 Roast VIPs
37 Hereditary unit
38 Jazz legend Vaughan
40 Concerning
41 Prefix with violet
43 Social blunders
47 Egg — yung
48 Workplace invitations
51 Sharing word
52 Sciences' partner
53 Coup d'—
54 Messy room
55 Diner dish
56 D.C. baseball team

DOWN
1 Blunders
2 "Neato!"
3 July birthstone
4 Says
5 Shoelace snarl
6 Deli choice
7 — premium
8 Tree houses
9 Frenzied gathering
10 Lotion additive
11 Libretto
16 QVC alternative
20 Energy
22 Foul up
23 Ice and Bronze
24 Auction action
25 Have bills
26 Pitiful tale
27 Magazine for docs
29 Pallid
30 That ship
35 Pitch
37 Lincoln Center's David — Hall
39 Indian prince
40 U.K. fliers
41 Sci-fi vehicles
42 Lummox
43 "Gee whiz!"
44 Greek salad cheese
45 Part of Q.E.D.
46 Swift jets
49 — pro nobis
50 "Dynamite" band

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Weekly SUDOKU

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

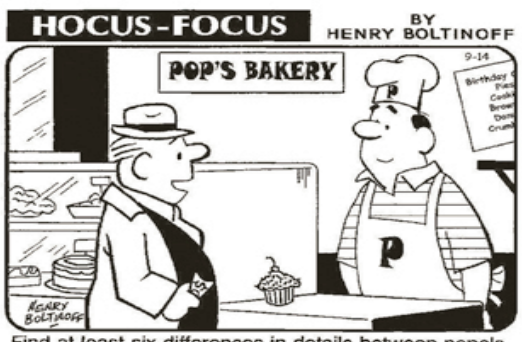
Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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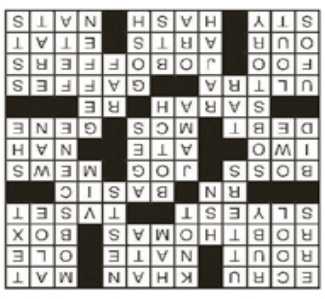
HOCUS-FOCUS
BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Cupcake is moved. 2. Money is missing. 3. Sign is moved. 4. Man is taller. 5. Counter is wider. 6. Sleeve is shorter.

— King Crossword —
Answers
Solution time: 25 mins.



— Weekly SUDOKU —
Answer

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

Trivia test
by Fifi Rodriguez

1. BUSINESS: Which company produced the Frisbee?
2. GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of Ethiopia?
3. LITERATURE: What was American poet Wallace Stevens' job aside from writing poetry?
4. HISTORY: The first atomic submarine was built in which decade?
5. MEDICINE: What is the medical name for low blood sugar?
6. MOVIES: In what year was the terrorist-threat movie "Black Sunday" released?
7. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which U.S. president's image was featured on a dollar coin in 1971?
8. INVENTIONS: When was the transistor invented?
9. U.S. STATES: What is Wyoming's official nickname?
10. MEASUREMENTS: How many hectares are in 1 square kilometer?

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Trivia Test Answers
1. Wham-O; 2. Addis Ababa; 3. Insurance executive; 4. 1950s; 5. Hypoglycemia; 6. 1977; 7. Dwight D. Eisenhower; 8. 1947, Bell Laboratories; 9. The Equality State; 10. 100

A new stage for Aldine's rising stars,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

what is possible through the district's fine arts programs. In recent years, students have earned state and national recognition across visual and performing arts, including honors in visual art, band and theater.

Visual Arts Director Kaileigh Newman spoke about what having a professional space to create, curate and exhibit their work will mean for students.

"When students see their artwork displayed in a professional space, they see more than their artwork," Newman said. "They see themselves."

The center will also provide a dedicated home for the district's performing arts programs.Performing Arts Director Refugio Rodriguez, an Aldine ISD graduate, reflected on how fine arts shaped his own education and the opportunities the new center will create for generations of students.

"That building, that home, is on the horizon," Rodriguez said. "We're building the building, the home, to match the heart of our fine arts."

Student Allen Hampton said hearing from district leaders during the groundbreaking reinforced the support students have as they pursue their goals.

"We all knew Aldine was behind us, but this shows that Aldine is with us," Hampton said. "It just motivates me to keep showing up, keep doing what I need to do, because it's the students' dedication that led to this building."

Hampton, a high school junior, said the new center gives him additional motivation as he continues pursing his own goals. After graduation, Hampton plans to audition for Bachelor of Fine Arts programs to study acting, with hopes of eventually pursuing an acting career in New York.







When completed, the Education and Performing Arts Center will include a 1,200-seat main auditorium, a 400-seat theater, a flexible 200-seat black box theater, dance and ensemble studios, galleries and other spaces designed to support student learning and performances.

Executive Director of Facilities Planning and Construction Perla Lane said the center's most important feature will not be found on a floor plan.

"It will be the students who walk through its doors," Lane said.

The Education and Performing Arts Center is expected to open in 2028 and is one of the projects included in Aldine ISD's Bond 2023 program.

The groundbreaking represents another step in the district's continued work to deliver on the projects approved by voters while creating spaces that support students and the opportunities available to them.

Community Clean-Up
Keeping East Aldine Beautiful







East Aldine District recently focused its clean-up efforts on residents in the Sherwood, Inwood, and Northington Estates neighborhoods, opening three drop-off sites for a no-cost heavy trash and bulky waste event.

Beautification initiatives like this help keep our community clean and thriving. We also worked closely with our HCSO deputies, who went into the community to talk with residents about cleaning up their properties and providing them with information about our Recycling Center.

Remember that the District operates the FREE East Aldine Neighborhood Depository and Recycling Center (EANDaRC). Call 713.454.7185 to make your appointment, or visit AldineDistrict.org/Recycle to learn more.



