

Comicpalooza reunites cast of 'Aliens' after 30 years

PREVIEW



HOUSTON ★ CHRONICLE

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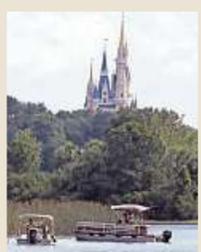
Partly cloudy: High 95, Low 75

WORLD

Wreckage of missing jetliner is located

Searchers in the Mediterranean have found the first sunken wreckage of the EgyptAir flight that mysteriously veered off course last month. **Page A15**

NATION



Associated Press
The boy's body was found in a lagoon at Disney World.

Body of toddler snatched by gator is found

The body of a Nebraska boy, 2, who was snatched off a Disney World beach by an alligator is recovered, ending a ghastly search. **Page A10**

CITY | STATE

Ellis says he has votes for nomination

State Sen. Rodney Ellis appears poised to secure the Democratic nomination for Harris County commissioner. **Page A3**

BUSINESS

New meaning for 'Don't mess with Texas'?

Two portable toilet vendors are engaged in a dispute over using the state's outline and Lone Star to adorn their loos. **Page B1**



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Innovations & Innovators:

Dominique de Menil was the queen of Houston's modern art scene. **Page A6**

Local housing market gets late spring bounce

More inventory attracting buyers from sidelines

By Nancy Sarnoff

In a surprising turn for the housing market, single-family home sales jumped 10 percent in May, the biggest year-over-year increase since winter 2014. The springtime boost

was concentrated in properties that sold for between \$150,000 and \$500,000, new data from the Houston Association of Realtors show. The higher and lower ends of the market saw declines.

A greater supply of homes for sale compared with last year is drawing out buyers who no longer have to compete as hard to get a house under contract,

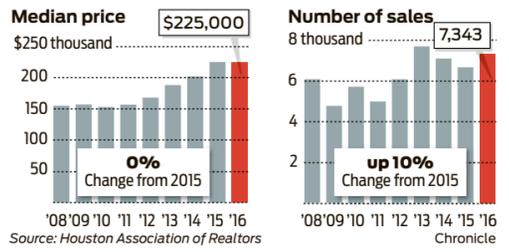
Mario Arriaga, the association's chairman, said Wednesday.

"The bidding wars were keeping a lot of people interested on the sidelines," he said. "Now that the inventory has increased and we're getting back to more of a normalized market, we're seeing a lot of those people come forward."

Buyers in May closed on **Homes continues on A9**

Sales trends

Figures for sales of single-family homes in the Houston area in May of each year:



Report pins oil's fortunes on \$50

Federal Reserve of Dallas sees hope for recovery

By Collin Eaton

The oil crash has forced energy companies to delay \$1 trillion in new projects through the end of the decade and slash nearly 150,000 U.S. jobs, but the cycle of layoffs that has left thousands of Texans out of work could end soon, according to an analysis by the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas.

If crude prices hold near \$50 a barrel, it could take just three to four months for the job losses in the industry to reach bottom after two years of painful reductions, said Michael Plante, senior research economist at the Dallas Fed. That would mark a dramatic turn for an industry that just a few months ago was reeling from massive layoffs by companies such as BP, Chevron and Royal Dutch Shell, as well as independent drillers taking scores of drilling rigs out of operation.

The forecast is based on an analysis of employment trends, rig counts and oil **Resurgence continues on A17**

City struggles to meet terms of affordable housing order



Brett Coomer / Houston Chronicle
Adeline Gonzales visits with her granddaughter Ah'Lina Jones, left, and niece Jackie Revilla at her sister's house. Gonzales is a single mother struggling to locate affordable housing for her family of three.

Year after ruling, officials wrestle over locations and local objectives

By Rebecca Elliott and Erin Mulvaney

A year ago, the U.S. Supreme Court ratcheted up the pressure on housing officials across the country to do what has rarely been done in Houston:

build affordable homes in well-off neighborhoods.

That is proving to be easier said than done.

The court warned that concentrating public housing in low-income, high-minority neighborhoods could violate the

Fair Housing Act. Its guidance was essentially at odds with the goals of the Houston Housing Authority, which argued, controversially, that such a ruling would hamper its ability to provide new affordable housing.

A decade since the city housing authority last brought new affordable units to Houston, the

agency is now embroiled in a seemingly endless tug-of-war with activists, developers and politicians over how to develop in areas with good schools and low poverty, while at the same time fulfilling its mission to revive distressed neighborhoods.

All but three of the authority's eight projects **Housing continues on A17**

CAMPAIGN 2016

Gun laws are getting new look from GOP

By Ed O'Keefe and Karoun Demirjian
WASHINGTON POST

Presumptive Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump and some vulnerable GOP lawmakers signaled Wednesday that they are open to changing the nation's gun laws, raising the possibility that the political tide might be shifting on an issue that has sharply divided Americans for years.

This isn't the first time a mass shooting, in this case the massacre in Orlando,

Fla., that killed 49 people this week, has sparked a national cry for congressional action on gun availability. In past instances, such calls to action have been followed by intense pressure campaigns from gun rights supporters urging lawmakers to focus elsewhere.

But the debate launched this week could be different, mostly because of Trump. And it could further divide Republicans, many of whom were already distancing themselves. **Gun continues on A16**



San Antonio Express-News

Democrats hold state convention

Workers prepare the Alamo dome for Democrats, who have new hope for 2016. Story on Page A3.

HISD could cut jobs and bonuses

By Ericka Mellon

To close a \$95 million budget shortfall in the Houston school district, interim Superintendent Ken Huewitt has proposed cutting 130 central-office jobs, scrapping controversial teacher bonuses, and decreasing funding for campuses to spend on staff, supplies and other expenses.

The school board is scheduled to vote Thursday on the \$1.8 billion budget, which spares nearly all teachers' jobs, based on

preliminary data.

"We tried to stay away from the classroom as much as we could," said Glenn Reed, the Houston Independent School District's general manager of budgeting.

The district's financial woes stem largely from HISD for the first time being considered so property wealthy that it owes money to the state. The situation sets up an unusual predicament for the Houston school board: It now is supposed to call an election **HISD continues on A9**

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NEWS

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

HOUSTON

Variety of events set for Pride Week

By Allen Jones

Hundreds of thousands of people are expected to take part in Houston Pride Week, which runs June 19-26.

The week is a series of events, leading up to a pride festival and parade, intended to promote the city's diverse LGBT population.

At 9 p.m. June 22, finalist of LGBT talent competition Pride Superstar will take the stage at Meteor Lounge, 2306 Genesee St., for a final face-off. The audience members can vote to support their favorite contestant. Details: Call Meteor Lounge at 713-521-0123. Pride Superstar is presented by Elite Care 25 Hour Emergency Center.

Fashion models will show off summer styles during Rock the Runway at 8 p.m. June 23. The free runway show will be held at Audi Central Houston, 2120 Southwest Freeway. Details: Call 855-627-5368. Rock the Runway is presented by New Amsterdam.

Celebrate the women of the LGBT community and support the Lesbian Health Initiative during Eden. The Pride Girl Party is in its third year and starts at 5 p.m. at Pearl Bar, 4216 Washington Ave. Proceeds from the \$5 door fee will be donated to the Lesbian Health Initiative of Houston, a nonprofit providing access to health care as well as provides health and wellness education and advocacy for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender-identified women and transgender men. Eden is sponsored by Comcast. Details: Call Pearl Bar at 832-740-4933.

The Pride Festival and Parade takes place in Downtown Houston. The festival grounds are outside of Houston City Hall, 901 Bagby St., and encompass an area between Bagby and Smith streets from Walker Street to McKinney Street. The free event features live entertainment, vendor



Houston Chronicle file photo

A band marches in the Houston Pride Parade in 2014. This year's Pride Week runs Jun 19-26.

booths, food, drinks and a Kids Zone. No tickets are necessary except to access a VIP area.

Festival entertainment includes: drag performer Pear, of cable's "RuPaul's Drag Race;" electronic dance band ishi; disc jockey duo Wrestlers; Houston-based poet, rapper, singer and songwriter Lyric Michelle; and winner of the Pride Superstar contest.

The festival starts at noon and runs until 7 p.m. The parade begins at 8:30 p.m. at the Milam and Walker cross street and continues from Walker Street to Smith Street where the route turns left and continues down Smith Street until its end point at Jefferson Street.

The parade is to end at 11 p.m. This year's theme is "Houston Proud." Bud Light Houston is the presenting sponsor of the festival and parade.

When the parade ends, nightclub South Beach is hosting an after-party at 11 p.m. The club, located at 810 Pacific St. in the Montrose area, is the only official after-party of the Houston Pride celebration.

A festival map and parade route are available on the event website at www.pridehouston.org.

The after-party does not mark the end of the LGBT pride celebration. Rich's Nightclub, 2401 San Jacinto St., is hosting Hot-

Tea Dance, the official closing party of Houston Pride Week.

Doors to the newly renovated club open at 5 p.m. Disc jockey Chris Zane will kick off the party before turning the event over to Danny Verde. Chad Michaels, a drag performer known as a Cher impersonator and winner of "RuPaul's All Stars Drag Race," will perform.

Tickets to the Hot-Tea Dance are \$5. Proceeds will help support future Houston Pride Festival events. With the aid of volunteers and corporate sponsors, the festival, parade and other Houston Pride Week events are put together by the nonprofit Pride Houston organization. The seven-day celebration is annually attended by more than 700,000 people from Houston and international locations.

For more information, visit the website above or www.facebook.com/pridehouston/events.

CITYCENTRE

Hotel wants business clothes for charity

Now through Aug. 31, Hotel Sorella CityCentre is asking its guests to "Give Us the Shirt off Your Back," a campaign to collect gently used professional suits and accessories that will be given to low-income individuals

entering or returning to the workforce.

The clothing drive is being hosted by Houston-based Valencia Group, which operates the Sorella CityCentre hotel as well as properties in Austin, San Antonio, California and Kansas City. The campaign is being conducted as a clothing drive for two nonprofits, Dress for Success and Career Gear. The organizations promote the economic independence of women and men by providing professional attire and job counseling to those who cannot afford assistance on their own.

All clothing will be laundered and dry cleaned as necessary by the properties before handed over to the organizations. The clothing drive is hosted by the hotel group annually.

"Our hotel teams eagerly look forward to summer to engage with clients and their communities in a truly impactful way," said Amy Trench, corporate director of marketing and public relations for Valencia Group, in a news release. "We have a heavy heart for those who are trying to get back on their feet, and we hope our guests can help by letting us lighten their suitcase load by donating professional attire."

Hotel Sorella CityCentre, 4400 Post Oak Parkway, No. 2800, is accepting monetary donations

as well as women's suits, business-appropriate apparel, shoes and accessories such as handbags and portfolios for Dress for Success. Men's items such as suits, solid color blazers and sports coats, belts, briefcases, watches, cufflinks, overcoats, dress pants, shirts and shoes are being collected for Career Gear.

Hotel Sorella CityCentre also is conducting a mannequin styling contest. Day and overnight guests may use a selection of donated items to dress a mannequin for a chance to win weekly and monthly prizes ranging from pool passes and cocktail vouchers to weekend stays.

To qualify for the contest, hotel guest must photograph their mannequin looks and upload the pictures on Instagram or Twitter with hashtag #sorellaccsuccesdrive.

For more information, visit www.valenciagroup.com or visit the hotel.

HOUSTON

Head of school receives award for instruction

As head of the lower school at Grace School in Houston, Leigh Anne Shumate expects a lot from her teaching staff when it comes to instructing students in reading and writing. Her expectations recently garnered Shumate an award from

an educational think tank.

Under the guidance of Shumate, the private Christian school's lower grade instructors must analyze student writing, meet daily with students about their writing, set goals for students based on individualized needs and help students establish their own writing goals. Those curriculum initiatives helped Shumate earn the A+ Principal's Award from Abydos Learning International, a staff development organization that works to improve classroom teaching.

The award is issued annually by the organization and was given to Shumate this year during Abydos' writing conference held April 9 at the Hotel Royal Sonesta in Uptown Houston. Shumate was nominated for the award by teachers at her school, who say their boss not only encourages writing but inspires a love of reading and writing in students.

Grace School is located at 10219 Ella Lee Lane. The Christian school serves students from 20 months old through eighth grade. The school is accredited by AdvancED and the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

MEMORIAL CITY

Medical center hosts free seminar

Memorial Hermann Memorial City Medical Center is hosting a free seminar to explain the Wolf Mini-Maze procedure to treat atrial fibrillation. The procedure is a minimally invasive method created by a Memorial Hermann affiliated physician that uses a small incision in the ribs, rather than opening the chest, to treat a rapid, irregular heartbeat. Some patients who have undergone the procedure have been able to stop taking blood thinners, according to Memorial Hermann.

The seminar will be held at 6 p.m. June 23 in the Bunker Hill Conference Room of the medical center.

To register, call 713-222-2273.

Allen Jones is a freelance writer. He can be reached at allen.jones@freelance-writer.us.

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COTTAGE GROVE

\$379,000 - Located in Westchase/Energy Corridor. This updated home has many upgrades including wood laminate flooring in the living/dining rooms (2016*), remodeled kitchen (2015*), double stainless ovens (2015*), granite (2015*), energy efficient windows & sliding doors (2015*), Bosch dishwasher (2010*), remodeled bathrooms (2015*), Trane HVAC (2009/2015*), breaker box (2011*), foundation repair (2015/16*) + warranty, Hardie Plank siding (2009*), and more. Spotless. (* Per Seller) **MLS#6487288**

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HERITAGE

\$315,500 - Located in Westchase/Energy Corridor. This lovely home has many upgrades including wood laminate flooring in the living/dining rooms (2008*), double ovens (2015*), included washer/dryer (2015*), disposal (2015*), stand alone microwave (2016*), dishwasher (2015*), fixtures (2015*), bathroom commodes (2015*), roof (2015*), AC (2012*), furnace (2011*), hot water heater (2016*), breaker box (2016*), foundation repair (2015*) with warranty, Hardie Plank siding (2002*), Spotless. (* Per Seller) **MLS#8230704**

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