



Photos by Malena Charur/Laredo Morning Times

United ISD and Smiles From Heaven kicked off Childhood Cancer Awareness Month with an event highlighting support for children with cancer and their families on Wednesday, Sept. 2, 2026, at the UISD boardroom.

UISD aims to raise \$50,000 for children battling cancer

District launches first Zumba fundraiser to support local families facing childhood cancer

By Malena Charur
STAFF WRITER

United ISD is launching its first Zumba fundraiser for Smiles From Heaven as the district seeks to raise at least \$50,000 to support the local nonprofit's work with children who have cancer and blood disorders and their families.

The fundraiser is scheduled for 10 a.m. Sept. 19 at the United Middle School gym. Early registration is \$15, while registration at the door is \$20, cash only. Participants are encouraged to wear yellow in recognition of Childhood Cancer Awareness Month.

The event was announced

Support continues on A3



Patricia Molano, far right, whose daughter, Jade, at right, has cancer, addressed the audience during the kickoff of Childhood Cancer Awareness Month by Smiles From Heaven and United ISD on Wednesday, Sept. 2, 2026.

Iran plans new 'exclusion zone' near the Strait of Hormuz

By Samy Magdy, Julia Frankel and Cara Anna
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CAIRO — The new head of Iran's Supreme National Security Council on Sunday said Tehran plans to announce an "exclusion zone" outside the Strait of Hormuz aimed at vessels it believes are attempting to transit the wa-

terway.

Mohsen Rezaei's comments to Iran's state broadcaster came with few details, a day after the U.S. struck three Iranian oil tankers in response to Tehran launching ballistic missiles at U.S. warships. Experts called the launches a dangerous escalation after Iran's previous attacks at sea targeted commercial ship-

ping.

The new zone should be announced in the coming days and weeks and "will begin from the line of the U.S. naval blockade, extend toward the Strait of Hormuz, and from this side continue into the Persian Gulf," Rezaei said. "Any ship that enters this area with the intention of passing

Zone continues on A3

Webb County replaces Laredo Medical Center polling location

By David Gomez Jr.
STAFF WRITER

A split vote by Webb County leaders moved one of the county's busiest Election Day polling locations from Laredo Medical Center to Laredo Specialty Hospital after a lengthy debate about accessibility, voter privacy and the appearance of neutrality.

Webb County leaders recently voted 4-1 to revise the

Nov. 3 Joint General Election order by removing Laredo Medical Center as an Election Day polling site and replacing it with Laredo Specialty Hospital.

Commissioners also approved adding the Joe A. Guerra Laredo Public Library, Mirando City and the Sen. Judith Zaffirini Justice Center as voting locations. Webb County Pct. 4 Commissioner Ricardo

Location continues on A6



Jose De La Rosa/Laredo Morning Times

A sign bearing the name of Laredo Medical Center on the hospital in Laredo, Texas.

U.S. tourism groups want to win Canadian visitors back. A testy trade war isn't helping

By Rio Yamat
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LAS VEGAS — Appeals from American tourism organizations seemed to be everywhere Josh Loewen looked over the last year. Billboards and banners proclaimed a state or

city's love for Canada. Online and social media ads offered special deals for travelers from north of the border.

As a Vancouver resident and marketing executive himself, Loewen said he understands the conciliatory overtures. The

Tariffs continues on A6



Mike Householder/Associated Press

City Councillor Renaldo Agostino looks at the Detroit skyline across the Detroit River Monday, Aug. 24, 2026, in Windsor, Ontario

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