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John Robbins 281-965-6390
Jun Gai 281-498-4310

Publisher: Wea H. Lee
President: Catherine Lee
Editor: John Robbins

Address: 11122 Bellaire Blvd., Houston, TX 77072
E-mail: News@scdaily.com



Inside C2

Southern DAILY

Make Today Different

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Russia unleashes missiles across Ukraine, drones hit bases deep inside Russian territory

KYIV, Dec 5 (Reuters) - Ukraine said Russia destroyed homes in the southeast and knocked out power in many areas with a new volley of missiles on Monday, while Moscow said Ukrainian drones had attacked two air bases deep inside Russia hundreds of miles from front lines.

A new missile barrage had been anticipated in Ukraine for days and it took place just as emergency blackouts were due to end, with previous damage repaired. The strikes plunged parts of Ukraine back into freezing darkness with temperatures now firmly below zero Celsius (32 Fahrenheit).

At least four people were killed in the Russian missile attacks, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy said, adding that most of some 70 missiles were shot down. Energy workers had already begun work on restoring power supplies, he said.

Russia's defence ministry said Ukrainian drones attacked two air bases at Ryazan and Saratov in south-central Russia, killing three servicemen and wounding four, with two aircraft damaged by pieces of the drones when they were shot down.



First winter cold snap tests French power grid
Labour's Starmer unveils plan to shift power to Britain's regions
Italy ageing faster than EU peers, population drops below 59 mln
Germany's Scholz: We must avoid dividing world into Cold War-style blocs
White House says it is not surprised on Russian reaction to oil price cap
Ukraine did not directly claim responsibility for the attacks. If it was behind them, they would be the deepest strikes inside the Russian heartland since Moscow invaded Ukraine on Feb. 24.

One of the targets, the Engels air base near the city of Saratov, around 730 km (450 miles) southeast of Moscow, houses bomber planes belonging to Russia's strategic nuclear forces.

"The Kyiv regime, in order to disable Russian long-range aircraft, made attempts to strike with Soviet-made unmanned jet aerial vehicles at the military airfields Dyagilevo, in the Ryazan region, and Engels, in the Saratov region," the Russian defence ministry said.

It said the drones, flying at low altitude, were intercepted by air defences and shot down. The deaths were reported on the Ryazan base, 185 km (115 miles) southeast of Moscow.

The Russian defence ministry called the drone strikes a terrorist act aimed at disrupting its long-range aviation.

Despite that, it said, Russia responded with a "massive strike

on the military control system and related objects of the defences complex, communication centres, energy and military units of Ukraine with high-precision air- and sea-based weapons" in which it said all 17 designated targets were hit.

Ukraine's air force said it downed over 60 of more than 70 missiles fired by Russia on Monday - the latest in weeks of attacks targeting its critical infrastructure that have cut off power, heat and water to many parts of the country.

"Our guys are awesome," Andriy Yermak, head of the Ukrainian presidential staff, wrote on Telegram.

Kyiv's forces have also demonstrated an increasing ability to hit strategic Russian targets far beyond the 1,100 km-long frontline in south and eastern Ukraine.

Saratov is at least 600 km from the nearest Ukrainian territory. Russian commentators said on social media that if Ukraine could strike that far inside Russia, it might also be capable of hitting Moscow.

Previous mysterious blasts damaged arms stores and fuel depots in regions near Ukraine and knocked out at least seven warplanes in Crimea, the Black Sea peninsula annexed by Russia from Ukraine in 2014.

People take shelter inside the metro station amid Russian missile attacks in Kyiv, UkraPresident Vladimir Putin drove a Mercedes across the bridge linking southern Russia to Crimea on Monday, less than two months since that, too, was hit by an explosion.

Kyiv has not claimed responsibility for any of the blasts, saying only that they were "karma" for Russia's invasion.

"If something is launched into other countries' air space, sooner or later unknown flying objects will return to (their) departure point," Ukrainian presidential adviser Mykhailo Podolyak tweeted, tongue in cheek, on Monday.

MISSILE FRAGMENTS HIT MOLDOVA
Moscow has been hitting Ukraine's energy infrastructure roughly weekly since early October as it has been forced to retreat on some battlefronts.

This time, police in Moldova were reported to have found missile fragments on its soil near the border with Ukraine.

In the Zaporizhzhia region, at least two people were killed and several houses destroyed, the deputy head of the presidential office, Kyrylo Tymoshenko, said.

Missiles also hit energy facilities in the regions of Kyiv and Vinnytsia in central Ukraine, Odesa in the south and Sumy in the north, officials said.



美南電視 15.3

每周一至五每晚7點專題節目

每晚7點播出
專題節目

每天一至五下午6:30播出《美南新聞聯播》

每周一晚7點：主持人：黃梅子，《生活》節目（《生活故事會》、《丁師傅私房菜》和《修車師姐》三個單元輪流播出）
每周二晚7點：主持人：陳鐵梅，《美南時事通》
每周三晚7點，主持人：王潔，《美南時事通》、《美南名人堂》
每周四晚7點，主持人：Sky，《子天訪談錄》或馬健《J&J論壇》
每周五晚7點，主持人：蓋軍，《美南時事通》

美南網Scdaily.com和youtube 頻道Stv15.3 Houston同步收看直播



主持人: 黃梅子



主持人: 陳鐵梅



主持人: 王潔



主持人: 馬健



主持人: Sky



主持人: 蓋軍

WEA LEE'S GLOBAL NOTES

12/03/2022

International District New Blueprint



Since the establishment of the Houston International District Texas, the purpose has been to promote the community welfare, safety and economic growth.

Our responsibility is also to attract more investment to promote the prosperity of the region and make the district a better place to live.

Today we held an annual retreat at the International Trade Center and invited an expert to talk about the responsibility of our board members.

As chairman, I presented the blueprint for the future development of the district including the following goals:

Attract more investment to the district. Currently we have project investments that total over \$200 million dollars.

Expand the celebration of ethnic culture. Hold various culture activities to attract more tourists to this area, including dragon boat races, floats and parades and food tours.

To build an international gate, an outdoor theatre and an international cultural museum. Famous architect, C. C. Lee will design and present his work to the committee very soon.

The meeting also proposed an \$800,000 budget to start the project.

Due to the continuous influx of new immigrants and people from California, our district will continue to improve public safety and investment conditions to be one of the economic models in the city of Houston.



Wea H. Lee
Weelee@scdaily.com

Chairman of International District Houston Texas
Publisher Southern Daily Wea H. Lee

Southern News Group Chairman / CEO
Chairman of International Trade & Culture Center
Republic of Guiana Honorary consul at Houston Texas



Southern DAILY Make Today Different

Editor's Choice



U.S. President Joe Biden gestures to Paul Pelosi, husband of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, who is wearing a hat and glove as a result of an attack by accused David Wayne DePape in his home in November, as they attend the Kennedy Center honorees gala in Washington, D.C. REUTERS/Sarah Silbiger



Tigers Maruschka and Yasha open up Christmas presents in their enclosure in Hagenbeck zoo in Hamburg, Germany, December 5, 2022. REUTERS/Fabian Bimmer



An activist of the "Letzte Generation" (Last Generation) cleans his unglued hand, during protest for a speed limit on highways as well as for affordable public transport, in Berlin, Germany. REUTERS/Christian Mang



Family members and survivors from the organization 9/11 Justice attend a protest against the Saudi Arabian-funded golf series and its tournament being held at the Trump National Golf Club in Bedminster, New Jersey. REUTERS/Eduardo Munoz



A man makes a pause while family members and survivors from the organization 9/11 Justice protest against the Saudi Arabian-funded golf series and its tournament being held at the Trump National Golf Club in Bedminster, New Jersey,



The Royal Ballet perform "The Nutcracker" in a cinema relay performance at the beginning of its festive run at The Royal Opera House in London, Britain. REUTERS/Toby Melville

The Center Has A Goal Of Fostering Intergenerational Connections

New Alief Neighborhood Center Is The New Model For What A Community Center Can Be

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor



Alief Neighborhood Center



The main entry at Alief Neighborhood Center features bleacher seating, expansive views of the park, and artwork from the Red Thread Collective.

Key Point
The New Alief Neighborhood Center Amenities Include A Skate Park, Health Center, and Library That Will Open Under One Innovative Roof

A grove of 22 mature live oaks is about the only thing left from the old Alief Community Center in Houston. The building and the rest of the site were scrapped to make way for a new, multipurpose neighborhood center and park, but the value of old-growth shade in Texas is on display in the front yard of the two-story building that's nearing completion after two years of construction. An entry drive swoops up and around the grove, in deference to the trees, and meets up with a first level that's been elevated above the five-hundred-year flood mark. A soaring roof covers the massive entry patio. Jonas Risen, lead designer for the building's architect, Page, calls it "the biggest front porch in Texas." Sixteen-foot tall aluminum letters hang above that porch, spelling out "ALIEF" like a welcome sign to the surrounding neighborhood, announcing the structure to Texas as the first multipurpose center of its kind.

The 70,000-square-foot Alief Neighborhood Center combines the functions of the sixty-year-old recreation hall it replaces, with the added bonuses of a public library, a senior center, and a women, infants, and children (WIC) clinic run by the Houston Health Department. The strikingly modern building—clad in glass, battleship-gray aluminum panels, and brick that's a shade lighter than black—rises two stories above a 38-acre park. A public pool, a skate park, soccer fields, and courts for tennis, pickleball, and basketball are arranged around a massive playground behind the building.

"We hope that this will be a model that will be replicated across the city," said Richard Vella, assistant director of Houston's General Services Department (GSD), who conceived of the massive project and is overseeing its completion.

It might seem obvious to combine so many services for neighborhood residents in one structure, but it's a rarity for publicly funded buildings. The GSD manages the construction and maintenance of more than three hundred facilities in the city, from fire stations to city parks, but every entity requests its own funding for its own buildings to be renovated or rebuilt as they reach the ends of their useful lives. It's a process designed to be territorial rather than collaborative, and it isn't unique to Houston. But in Alief, the GSD recognized that three public buildings in the neighborhood were all due for replacement. Vella had studied the multipurpose MacBain Community Centre in Niagara Falls, Ontario, and he decided the time was right for a similar project in Houston—one in which the Alief WIC Center, the library, and the community center would join forces. "By combining those departments, we were able to be more efficient and provide more than we would have if it were three independent buildings," said Dimitri Karavias. He's the division manager of capital planning and operations for GSD, and he managed this project personally.

Of the three old buildings, it was the community center that had been ignored for far too long. "[Residents] advocated for this project for over twenty years," Karavias said. One of those locals was Tiffany Thomas. She grew up in the neighborhood, graduated from Alief Elsik High School, then went on to represent the next generation on the Alief ISD school board. In 2019 she won the city council seat for Alief. "One of my first votes was to authorize the funds for

the construction of the building," Thomas said of her participation in the unanimous vote in January 2020. There was no federal or state help for the \$59 million project, which was entirely supported by city funds. Thomas credits the Alief Super Neighborhood Council for keeping the pressure on the city to provide the funding, and said it felt good for her vote to help give Alief a win like that.



Alief Swarm, a sculpture by artist Bennie Flores Ansell, adds color to a two-story area at an intersection of parks, library, and health department spaces.

Each Houston city council district is denoted with a letter. Alief is in District F. "The joke is that the 'F' stands for forgotten," Thomas said. That's due somewhat to Alief's location outside the beltway, west of Sam Houston Parkway, but it's also because Alief is a low-income neighborhood with a majority-minority population. It is home to first-generation immigrants from across the world and to refugee communities, including those from one state over. After Hurricane Katrina struck New Orleans, Louisiana natives sought shelter here, many permanently. Thomas's neighbors when she was growing up were from Vietnam, Guatemala, Iraq, and Ghana. More than eighty languages and dialects are spoken in Alief ISD schools.

"We are the cultural currency of the city," Thomas often says. It has become her tagline for the community she represents, and it's meant to remind people that Alief is a big reason Houston enjoys its much-celebrated cultural diversity. Thanks to the forgotten district, the city's residents enjoy experiences like traditional Chinese lion dance ceremonies in a local park, specialty foods imported to Wazobia African Market, and immigrant artwork exhibited at Alief Art House. There's also a diverse selection of restaurants, like the famed Crawfish & Noodles a block east of the neighborhood center and the Chinese, Vietnamese, and Thai restaurants that surround the Hong Kong City Mall. James Beard Award finalist and Texas Monthly Top 50 BBQ restaurant Blood Bros. BBQ is too far down Bellaire to be in Alief proper, but it's run by a trio of pitmasters proud of their Alief upbringings. Hell, Lizzo and Kelly Rowland both attended Elsik, the same high school as Thomas, and comedian Mo Amer attended Hastings, their rival high school in Alief. Still, she said, "no one has really championed us."



The exterior children's area at Alief Neighborhood Center.

In February 2014, Thomas decided it was time for the community to champion itself. She had just won

the school board election, and she had some leftover campaign funds that she used for a robocall to neighborhood residents. "I want to invite you on Saturday to the Alief Community Center," she remembers recording. A hundred residents arrived, not knowing exactly why they'd been summoned, and she asked them for input on a new community center. It didn't yet have funding or an architect, but Thomas wanted the neighborhood to envision its own future. "We get to create what we want it to look like," she told them. Thomas is a natural at this sort of organizing. She teaches courses on community planning and development at Prairie View A&M University. That early meeting was the first of many, and they were eventually led by GSD and the architecture firm. "Their attitude was positive and enthusiastic," Risen of Page said of the residents he and his team worked with. (Risen was a classmate of mine at Tulane's architecture school.) "There was some concern, as you might expect, that they wouldn't be able to provide the services they were used to providing in a shared space," he said, but the design team was able to show how residents would have access to more services, not fewer.



The Alief Neighborhood Center combines three City of Houston departments (Library, Parks, & Health) to create a civic center at the heart of the redeveloped 37-acre urban park. Raised out of the floodplain, the building's elevated 'front porch' frames a space for the diverse community to come together, share ideas, and express an identity unique to Alief. The Center is a model for resilient design in a post-hurricane Harvey environment – a 'Lilly-pad' for those seeking shelter from the storm.

Rethinking The Future Awards 2020 First Award | Public Building (Concept)
Project Name: Alief Neighborhood Center
Studio Name: EYP Inc.
Design Team: John Smith, Jonas Risen, Peter Dreghom, Robert Burrell, Yuliana Hernandez, Guillermo Andrade
Area: 70,000 GSF
Year: 2021
Location: Alief Neighborhood, Houston Tx
Consultants: MEP Engineer – Collaborative En-

gineering, Fire Protection -Addleman, IT/AV/Security – 4b Technology, Landscape Architect – SWA, Cost Estimator – Project Cost Resources, Food Services-Worrell Design Group, Aquatics-Counsilman Hunsaker, Structural Engineer-Dally, Skate Park Design-Action Sports Design

He gave me a few examples as we walked around the construction site: Parents waiting for WIC services downstairs could send their kids up to the library. Seniors could watch healthy cooking classes aimed at treating diabetes in the WIC demonstration kitchen. Children in after-school enrichment programs would have use of what's called the TechLink space, which has a green screen and video equipment for making films, audio-recording and mixing equipment for music, and a garment center with sewing and embroidery equipment for designing clothing and costumes. The hope is that by offering all these services in one place, the neighborhood center will be a home to residents of all ages. A dad who stops by for a pickup basketball game might return with his kids who want to record music, or a senior who comes to watch a grandkid play soccer might decide to take up pickleball. The building's plan is meant to foster real community connections between generations that would normally use separate facilities. The surrounding park's design was just as important as that of the building. Architects designed around the grove of oaks that shaded the front of the old building, which will remain a quiet outdoor space away from the sports facilities. The site was dead flat when design began, and the team searched for ways to create elevation. The building already had to be raised at least seven feet to meet new post-Harvey flood regulations, so the architects decided to put the parking lot underneath. (Athletes returning from the basketball court or the soccer fields to their shaded cars in summer will certainly applaud that decision.)



The views from the higher floors across the site are stunning. A climbing wall rises from behind the playground, with a skate park beyond. (Between the two is a crest that project leaders have dubbed Mount Alief, from which the full site can be surveyed. It's where Karavias said he starts all of his site tours.) A local skate shop was so excited about the skate park that it shared a drone shot of the park on social media. Local skaters arrived, but they were asked to be patient and wait until it was no longer a construction zone before perfecting their kickflips. Thomas was excited to tell the skate park's designer about the buzz he'd created, especially since he's her neighbor.

More than seven years after that first meeting, Thomas will be there to help cut the ribbon when the doors open in late October. "Other districts are now saying, 'We want one of those,'" she said with a giddy laugh. She knows her neighborhood now has a jewel it'll soon be able to enjoy, as well as an iconic building that will draw people in from around the region. Being the envy of the rest of Houston is a position Thomas feels plenty comfortable with, and she hopes it will help change the negative perception of her home. She said simply, "It's what we deserve." (Courtesy Texas Monthly)

New Alief Neighborhood Center Represents Future Cultural Reality Of Area

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor



The Alief Neighborhood Center combines three City of Houston departments (Library, Parks, & Health) to create a civic center at the heart of the redeveloped 37-acre urban park. Raised out of the floodplain, the building's elevated 'front porch' frames a space for the diverse community to come together, share ideas, and express an identity unique to Alief. The Center is a model for resilient design in a post-hurricane Harvey environment – a 'Lilly-pad' for those seeking shelter from the storm.

BUILDING AWARDS-
Rethinking The Future Awards 2020 First Award | Public Building (Concept)
The \$52 million, 63,000-square-foot multi-purpose facility at 11903 Bellaire will combine a health clinic, community center and library into one space. The structure, which will sit in 37-acre Alief Park, will consolidate the Hennington-Alief Regional Library at 7979 South Kirkwood and the park's existing community center, both of which are aging. It also will replace the area's Women, Infants and Children Center, which today leases space at 12660 Beechnut. City council passed one item appropriating \$4.8 million for contractor EYP Inc. to begin construction on the new center, and another item giving Manhattan Construction \$100,000 for construction management services.

The 70,000sf 2-story new building is elevated over a parking area providing convenient access to the building programs directly above. Health Department programs provided include W.I.C. (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children), DAWN (Diabetes

Awareness Network) that provides support for a variety of chronic illnesses, and a Senior Center. The Parks Department programs include a full-size competition gymnasium with a perimeter elevated walking track above, a community fitness center and spaces to support youth after-school and summer programs.



The library, located on the second floor, and accessed through a grand 'stair-a-torium' in the lobby contains light-filled stack-space and reading

areas with expansive views both to the park to the south and to the existing grove of preserved trees on the north. Directly adjacent to the library, HPL's technology-rich TechLINK youth maker-doer program contains spaces for collaboration, the 'Tiny Techs' children's area, music recording studio, virtual reality stations, photo/video lab, and a maker space.

Site amenities include a competition soccer field, two full-size practice soccer fields, two futsal courts (fast-paced soccer played on a hard-surfaced smaller court) baseball field, skate park, tennis courts, children's playground, outdoor swimming pool facility, community gardens, a marketplace venue, and outdoor event space areas. The Alief Neighborhood Center is

scheduled to open in early 2022.

The Mission Of The Alief Neighborhood Center



To Foster A Culture Of Health



To Create A Heart For Civic Engagement



All In A Spirit Of Shared Collaboration



With The Biggest Front Porch In Texas!

Related

Community Resource Center Opens

Sponsored by the ITC Community Empowerment Organization with the collaboration of the SEONE Corporation, the Community Resource Center opens its door on Tuesday, April 6, 2021, at the Southern News Group building.

The mission of the Community Resource Center is to serve as a "one stop-shop" for the underserved minority population in the southwest area of Houston. The Center will provide members of the community with information that will empower them to improve their quality of life and to also serve as a way for participants to access the rich pool of resources avail-

able to them.



Southern News Group, Houston, Texas

Members of the community who have questions about any of the variety of issues the Center will address are encouraged to schedule interviews with the Center. The Center will link the person with a professional who can best address their needs.



Community Empowerment Organization's Community Resource Center

The areas the Center will address include disaster assistance, loans and grants, small business development, tax information, immigration, legal issues, workforce, housing and renting, veterans issues, medical, healthcare service, education, skills development, children and child welfare and city services.

The Center's services will be led by senior educator, Dr. Tina Agosa and many other assistants.

