

# South Belt-Ellington Leader

## 40 years of covering South Belt

Voice of Community-Minded People since 1976

Thursday, July 21, 2016

Email: mynews@southbeltleader.com

www.southbeltleader.com

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### Flood meeting at Sagemont

The City of Houston will host its *Turn Around, Don't Drown* event at Sagemont Church, 11300 S. Sam Houston Parkway E., from 7 to 9 p.m. The function will feature representatives from the Houston Police Department, the Houston Fire Department and the Office of Emergency Management, as well as the Harris County Flood Control District.

The event will include a series of informational workshops, presentations, brochures and promotional safety giveaways. More than 2,000 car escape tools will be given away, while supplies last.

For additional information, visit [www.houstontx.gov/police/pdfs/brochures/english/turn\\_around\\_dont\\_drown.pdf](http://www.houstontx.gov/police/pdfs/brochures/english/turn_around_dont_drown.pdf).

### Larriette Car Wash July 23

The J. Frank Dobie Larriettes will hold a car wash from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, July 23, in the McDonald's parking lot at 11323 Fuqua.

Tickets are \$5 presale and can be purchased from any current Larriette. Drive-ups are welcome and donations accepted.

### Vacation photos sought

The *Leader* is seeking readers' 2016 vacation photos for possible publication. A first- and second-place prize of Schlitterbahn tickets will be awarded monthly during July and August for the best submissions. Each month's first-place winner will be awarded eight tickets, while each month's second-place winner will be awarded six.

All submissions should include where and when the photo was taken, as well as identify each person in the picture (first and last name) and tell the story about the trip. All photos must be high resolution. Email photos to [mynews@southbeltleader.com](mailto:mynews@southbeltleader.com). Do not compress photos when emailing.

### Larriettes set dance clinic

The Dobie Larriettes are having the annual Summer Dance Explosion Dance Clinic on Thursday and Friday, July 28 and 29, including dancing, games, crafts, and lunch.

The clinic will be held at Dobie High School from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. for children in Pre-K-eighth grade. Registration is \$50 at the door, cash or money order only. Participants will perform what they have learned Friday, July 29, at 3 p.m. in the Dobie auditorium, and they will also receive a clinic souvenir at this time. For more information contact Christy Gonzales by email at [chrstygznls@yahoo.com](mailto:chrstygznls@yahoo.com).

### Highland Meadow meets

The monthly meeting of the Highland Meadow HOA has been rescheduled from July 13 to Monday, July 25, at 7 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Parker Williams Library, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd. Homeowners are encouraged to attend. Questions prior to the meeting go to Gina Victor with C.I.A. Services Inc., 713-981-9000 or [CustomerCare@ciaservices.com](mailto:CustomerCare@ciaservices.com).

### Library seeks books

The Friends of Parker Williams Branch Library, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd., is in need of donations of gently used books, both soft and hard cover, fiction and non-fiction, especially children's books. CDs, DVDs and current magazines are also accepted.

### Crohn's & Colitis to meet

The Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America Bay Area Support Group will meet Tuesday, July 26, at 7:30 p.m. at the State Farm Insurance office, 12941 Gulf Freeway, Suite 101. Patients and caregivers are invited to attend. Meeting is free.

### Gulf Freeway closures set

At least one northbound and one southbound main lane and frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway from FM-1959/Dixie Farm Road to FM-528/NASA Road 1 will be closed nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Monday, Aug. 22. Alternate exit and entrance ramps will be closed.

At least one northbound and one southbound main lane and frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway from FM-1959/Dixie Farm Road to FM-528/NASA Road 1 will be closed daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Tuesday, Aug. 23. Alternate exit and entrance ramps will be closed.

The closures are associated with an ongoing construction project to widen the freeway and the frontage roads from two to three lanes in each direction.

### Kirkwood supports police

The Kirkwood Civic Club will host *Blue Monday* on Monday, Aug. 1, aimed at supporting law enforcement.

Residents are encouraged to shine a blue porch light or tie blue ribbons around their trees to show their support. For more information, contact Civic Club President Ericka McCutcheon at 281-989-9990 or [erickamcc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:erickamcc@sbcglobal.net).

## PISD construction projects over budget

### Construction of new intermediate campus in area likely put on hold

Pasadena Independent School District officials are facing budget issues, after recently awarded construction contracts total significantly more than the estimates approved by voters in a 2014 bond referendum.

In the past six months, six construction contracts have been awarded totaling \$117.6 million – more than \$25 million over original budget estimates proposed in the bond election.

The PISD Board of Trustees recently approved a \$35.8 million contract to construct the new Dobie ninth-grade center at Fuqua and Monroe to the lowest bidder, Drymalla Construction. Original estimates, however, were set at only \$27 million – nearly \$9 million less.

Similar discrepancies have occurred through-

out the district.

A recent contract to construct the L.F. Smith replacement campus was awarded to Drymalla Construction for \$19.8 million – \$4.2 million more than original budget estimates of \$15.6 million.

A contract to construct the Pomeroy replacement campus was awarded to Durotech Construction for \$25.5 million – \$8.3 million more than original budget estimates of \$17.2 million.

Contracts to construct early college facilities at Pasadena Memorial, Sam Rayburn and South Houston high schools totaled roughly \$20 million – more than \$5 million above original budget estimates.

School officials said a shortage of skilled la-

borers, combined with an overabundance of ongoing construction projects in the area, is largely responsible for the sharp increase in construction costs.

When the district's \$175.5 million bond was passed in 2014, officials estimated the average cost for high school construction would be \$199 per square foot. By comparison, however, construction of the new 170,000 square-foot Dobie ninth-grade center totaled \$211 per square foot.

"In the past two years, city voters have approved \$5.6 billion in school bonds," said Kevin Fornof, associate superintendent of PISD's Facilities and Construction Department. "And there's around 50 districts in the area. Contractors can

pretty much pick and choose what projects they want. We used to get eight to 10 bids per project, now we're lucky if we get three. We've talked to the contractors. They just don't have the personnel."

While district officials are weighing multiple options to close the spending gap, PISD Superintendent Dr. DeeAnn Powell said a possible solution would be to postpone the construction of Intermediate School No. 11, which was to be constructed in the Riverstone Ranch subdivision. Included in the 2014 bond, the proposed \$29.5 million campus would relieve overcrowding at Thompson and Beverly Hills intermediate schools.



### Beamer work moves forward

The project to extend Beamer Road to Bay Area Boulevard is moving forward, with crews now installing a sound barrier along the new street – the last stage of construction. The project will extend the area thoroughfare roughly one mile from its current dead end at Tall Ships Lane in the Heritage Park subdivision. Construction is expected to be complete by Labor Day, county officials said.

Photo by James Bolen

## Beamer extension project continues

After a couple of setbacks, the construction project to extend Beamer Road to Bay Area Boulevard is moving forward, according to Harris County Project Coordinator Larry Allen.

A joint project between Harris County and the Texas Department of Transportation, the \$10.3 million endeavor will extend Beamer roughly one mile from Tall Ships Lane, the street's current dead end in the Heritage Park subdivision, to West Bay Area Boulevard.

While most of the work had already been completed, the project had been placed on hold until TxDOT crews could install a sound barrier along the new street. Workers began constructing the barrier last week, and the thoroughfare should be open by Labor Day, according to Allen.

This project is in addition to a second endeavor that will make improvements on Beamer north of Tall Ships.

That work involves reconstructing roughly 2.6 miles of Beamer from Dixie Farm Road to Tall Ships. Improvements include widening the street from one to two lanes in each direction and adding sidewalks.

Allen said this stretch of the road poses far more problems than the southern portion, as there are more than 80 parallel pipelines that designers must maneuver around.

While Commissioner's Court has approved funding for the project, it is currently unclear when design work will be complete and actual construction will begin.

## Mayor Turner to host Back 2 School Fest

Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner will host the Back 2 School Fest at the University of Houston Saturday, Aug. 13.

Backpacks, uniforms, immunizations and basic school supplies – all underwritten and donated by corporations in the Houston community – will be provided to area students. Due to limited school supplies, only preregistered students and their families will be admitted to the event.

Email confirmation letters will be resent to those who registered with an email address (since

the email is automatically generated, check spam folder).

Families who registered without an email address will receive their confirmation letter via U.S. mail and a phone call prior to the event.

To register for the event, visit [www.houstontx.gov/btsf/registermystudent.html](http://www.houstontx.gov/btsf/registermystudent.html).

For additional information, contact Susan Bono at 832-393-1037 or [Susan.Bono@houstontx.gov](mailto:Susan.Bono@houstontx.gov) or Brittany Jozwiak at 832-393-0872 or [Brittany.Jozwiak@houstontx.gov](mailto:Brittany.Jozwiak@houstontx.gov).

## Beltway construction to cause closures

The project to widen Beltway 8 from Beamer to Highway 288 is getting ramped up, with multiple crews now working in the South Belt area.

The endeavor will provide four lanes in each direction for the entire length of the project. While some portions of the corridor are already four lanes, other stretches are currently only two lanes.

The project will be broken down into two separate phases. The first phase will widen the beltway from Beamer to Wayside, while the second phase will widen the beltway from Wayside to Highway 288.

Both contracts have been awarded to Pulice Construction. The contract for the first phase of construction was for \$96 million, while the contract for the second phase was \$77 million.

As part of the construction, the eastbound Cullen exit will be moved to the east side of Highway 288. Plans also call for constructing an inside safety shoulder, as there is currently only one on the outside lanes.

The project is in addition to a similar endeavor that will widen the beltway to four lanes east of the Gulf Freeway to Highway 225. That project

also calls for replacing the existing Beltway 8 Ship Channel toll bridge with a new four-lane structure.

### Closures

A U-Turn lane at Beltway 8 and Blackhawk will be closed from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Friday, Aug. 12. The closure will impact both the eastbound and westbound frontage roads.

At least one inside lane on the eastbound and westbound frontage roads from Beamer to SH-35/Telephone Road will be closed daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Sunday, July 31.

A U-Turn lane at Beltway 8 and SH-35/Telephone Road will be closed daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Monday, Aug. 8. The closure will impact both the eastbound and westbound frontage roads.

At least one outside lane on the westbound frontage road from Brunswick Crossing Lane to Scott Street/Fellows Road will be closed daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Friday, July 22.

At least one inside lane on the westbound frontage road from SH-288 to Kirby Drive will be closed continuously until Wednesday, Feb. 22, 2017.

## Campus carry to take effect Aug. 1

City and school officials are preparing for the state's controversial new "campus carry" law, which is set to take effect at public universities Monday, Aug. 1.

Signed into law by Gov. Greg Abbott on June 1, 2015, Senate Bill 11 provides that license holders may carry a concealed handgun through-out university campuses.

The law will take effect on community college campuses the following year on Aug. 1, 2017.

Private universities may opt out of the new law. Both Rice University and the University of St. Thomas have announced they will still prohibit the practice.

While S.B. 1 gives public universities some discretion to regulate campus carry, the law stipulates that these rules and regulations may neither "generally prohibit" nor "have the effect of generally prohibiting" license holders from carrying concealed handguns on campus.

Existing concealed handgun regulations will still apply to the new statute. The law will not allow "open carry" on campus.

The new regulation is not without its opponents, with many still trying to stop its implementation and others debating on how to best oversee it.

A group of three University of Texas professors recently sued their employer and the state, claiming the law is forcing the school to impose "overly-solicitous, dangerously-experimental gun policies" that violate the First, Second and 14th Amendments.

"Compelling professors at a public university to allow, without any limitation or restriction, students to carry concealed guns in their classrooms chills their First Amendment rights to academic freedom," the lawsuit states.

Both the City of Houston and San Jacinto College have suggested creating task forces to address the issue.

"I think it is important (that) the City of Houston works very closely with all of our colleges and universities in Houston to make sure that we do our part to make sure that the periphery of the

Continued on Page 3A

## Accidental gunshot kills local teen

A 19-year-old Dobie graduate died early Friday, July 15, after an accidental shooting that took place in the 12000 block of Sagedowne.

Jacob Lara was pronounced dead at the scene.

According to police, Lara and his 16-year-old girlfriend were trying to latch the safety lock on a gun when it discharged,



Jacob Lara

striking him in the face.

The female called 911, but Lara was already dead by the time paramedics arrived.

Lara had reportedly just purchased the handgun.

The investigation is ongoing, but authorities do not suspect foul play in the incident.

A Harris County grand jury will determine what, if any, charges will be filed in the case.

A barbecue benefit for Lara's family will be held Saturday, July 23, at 2-A-Days Sports Bar & Grille, 10555 Pearland Parkway, from noon to 6 p.m.

See related obituary on Page 2A.

## Martin to hold public meeting July 28

Houston City Council Member Dave Martin and the Department of Public Works and Engineering will host a public meeting Thursday, July 28, at Freeway Manor Baptist Church, 2300 Rodney, from 6 to 7:30 p.m., to discuss an upcoming construction project in the Freeway Manor area near Edgewood.

The project includes new pavement, reconstruction of sidewalks and driveways, new street lights, storm drainage improvements and necessary underground water and wastewater improvements. Improvements will be done in Freeway Manor North and South and Gulfway Terrace Phase 1.

The work will be in addition to a similar project taking place in the nearby Arlington Heights

subdivision.

The Freeway Manor North and South projects are bounded by Globe Street on the north, Avenell Road on the east, Gilpin Street to the south and Theta Street to the west.

The Gulfway Terrace Phase 1 project is bounded by Bessemer Street to the north, Tarbell Street to the east, Hartsook Street to the south and Vennard Road to the west, as well as Frey Road extending to Almeda Genoa Road.

The projects are funded through the city's Re-Build Houston program.

Community input helps Public Works to better meet area needs. Questions or comments may be emailed to [pweplanning@houstontx.gov](mailto:pweplanning@houstontx.gov). For information, visit [www.ReBuildHouston.org](http://www.ReBuildHouston.org).

## Beltway 8 widening begins



Construction has begun on the county project to widen Beltway 8 from Beamer to Highway 288. Plans call for widening the tollway from two to four lanes in each direction and adding emergency shoulders. The project will be divided into two phases: from Beamer to Wayside and from Wayside to Highway 288. Some road closures will accompany the construction. See related photo on Page 2A.

Photo by David Flickinger

## County widening Beltway 8



Harris County construction crews recently began work to widen Beltway 8 from Beamer Road to Highway 288. The work will widen the tollway from two to four lanes in each direction for the length of the project. Workers are shown above at the intersection of Beltway 8 and Beamer. See related story and photo on Page 1A. Photo by David Flickinger

## Motorcycle riders attend SJC for required course

Motorcycles can be a cost-effective transportation option or they can represent the magnetic lure of the open road. However, to hop aboard a cycle in Texas, riders need an "M" endorsement on their driver's licenses.

San Jacinto College, in affiliation with the Texas Department of Public Safety (TDPS), offers a Basic Rider course several times throughout the year at all three campus locations. Riders who successfully pass the written and riding aspects of the course can earn a certificate to assist with obtaining the motorcycle endorsement from TDPS.

Janice Sullivan, the dean of community education for San Jacinto College's Continuing and Professional Development division, said the course is a good trial for prospective riders to determine if they are suited for cycle riding before investing in a vehicle.

"The Basic Rider Course provides an opportunity to discover whether they have the interest and skills to ride a motorcycle," she said. "Motorcycle riding isn't for everyone. In the course, you have qualified instructors who can coach you and identify if you are ready to be on your own."

The College provides motorcycles for the course and discourages students from bringing their own. The course motorcycles are Kawasaki Eliminator 125 and Suzuki GZ250 models. The College also provides helmets, but participants can bring their own. Students are also expected to wear appropriate apparel and gear,

including sturdy, over-the-ankle footwear, long-sleeved tops, long pants, full-fingered gloves, and eye protection — either safety glasses or goggles.

The course is offered every weekend, except holidays. Class starts on a Friday evening from 6-9 p.m. It resumes Saturday and Sunday from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., rain or shine.

The course is a mix of classroom learning and driving experience on a riding range, based on curriculum through the Motorcycle Safety Foundation.

Approximately five hours of the course are dedicated to classroom learning, including discussion of risk awareness and street strategies.

The rest of the course involves riding exercises. There are 17 skills that are practiced. A riding test and written exam are administered at the end of the course. Students over 18 years old are not required to have a driver's license as all practice riding occurs on campus, but must present proof of identity. Students 15-17 years old must have a learner's permit or driver's license for automobiles and have a legal guardian sign their release.

All students are required to sign a liability waiver. The fee for the course is \$210.

Leslie McCain, senior administrative assistant for Continuing and Professional Development, said students range in age and have a variety of goals.

Many of the younger students intend to use a motorcycle as a primary mode of transportation. Older students are interested in motorcycles as a hobby or pastime. A lot more women, of all ages, are coming to motorcycle riding classes, she said.

The Basic Riders Course at the South and Central campuses allow a maximum of eight students per session. The North campus location has a maximum of six students.

To register and for information, visit: [sanjac.edu/continuing-professional-development/overview/contact-us](http://sanjac.edu/continuing-professional-development/overview/contact-us).

## Enjoying the convention



Delegates on the floor of the National Republican Convention being held this week are, left to right, Kathy Luckenbach, South Belt resident Chris McDonald and Edee Sinclair. All are from Congressional District 22. Photo submitted

## Olson denounces Court ruling

Rep. Pete Olson (Texas-22) recently issued the following statement in response to the Supreme Court ruling that struck down Texas HB 2, which establishes standards for abortion providers and facilities:

"As a strong pro-life member, I led the amicus

brief in the House in strong support of this law, which ensures Texas women have access to the best care when seeking any kind of surgery. I am deeply disappointed that the Court failed to ensure a basic level of protection for women. Every surgery involves a level of risk and this

common sense law provided a necessary measure of protection in the event something goes wrong. "This decision turns the clock back on women's safety, but I am confident the State of Texas will continue efforts to protect women's health."

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## SJC wins award for bond issue

San Jacinto College is among the winners in the PRSA Houston Chapter's 2016 Excalibur Awards, which honors outstanding professional accomplishments in the development and execution of comprehensive public relations programs and individual tactics.

The College struck gold on Thursday, June 23, 2016, when it was awarded a gold Excalibur Award in the government/public affairs category from PRSA Houston for its development and execution of the 2015 San Jac Tomorrow bond referendum marketing and public relations campaign.

The campaign aimed to provide information about the bond referendum and San Jacinto College to citizens and voters that live in the college district.

"This award was a total team effort," said Teri Crawford, vice chancellor, marketing, public relations and government affairs at San Jacinto College.

"I am extremely proud of our entire marketing and public relations team, as well as the many individuals

throughout the college and our community who helped provide information about the college and the bond referendum leading up to election day.

"It is a great honor to be recognized for our work by our PRSA peers and we thank them for this recognition."

Voters in the San Jacinto College District approved the \$425 million bond referendum on Nov. 3, 2015, by a nearly 68 percent approval rate.

More than five times the number of voters cast a vote in this San Jac bond election than they did in the college's previous bond election in 2008.

Proposed projects of the bond referendum include state-of-the-art and technologically-advanced facilities to train students and workers in the petrochemical, energy, engineering, and computer information and technology sectors; a new welcome center providing a "one-stop shop" for student support services such as admissions, financial aid and advising; new culinary and

cosmetology facilities; and additional classroom facilities across the district.

Nine buildings will be renovated — most of which are more than 30 years old — providing updated space for early college high school and dual credit programs, as well as more relevant, efficient and technologically-updated instructional spaces for employees and students.

Additionally, the funding will provide for security, access and safety upgrades throughout all facilities and significant infrastructure upgrades and replacements for outdated systems.

The PRSA is the world's largest professional organization for public relations professionals, with nearly 20,000 members and more than 500 in the Houston area.

PRSA represents business and industry, consulting firms, government, associations, hospitals, schools, professional service firms and nonprofit organizations.

For additional information about PRSA Houston, visit [prshouston.org](http://prshouston.org).

## Local library events set

### Parker Williams Library

The following events are scheduled for the Parker Williams Library, 10851 Scarsdale.

Thursday, July 21, 2 p.m. Summer Movie. Feature presentation is *The Ascent-Minded Professor*, rated PG.

Friday, July 22, 3-5 p.m. National Park Poster Coloring (3 years+)

Tuesday, July 26, 3 p.m. Teen Tuesday - Anime Explosion (11 years+)

Wednesday, July 27, 2:30 p.m. Get Moving! With the Houston Food Bank

Wednesdays, Preschool Story Time, 10:30 a.m.

Thursdays, Toddler Story Time, 10:30 a.m.

Saturdays, Vietnamese Learning Time. Classes are at 10 a.m., 11:15 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. For more information on these programs, speak with Loc Bui.

For more information on these programs, phone the library at 281-484-2036.

### Bracewell Branch Library

The following events are scheduled for July at the Bracewell Branch Library, 9002 Kingspoint.

Thursday, July 21, at 6 p.m. — Teen Video Gaming

Tuesday, July 26, at 10:30 a.m. — Pocketwatch Puppets

Wednesday, July 27, at 10:30 a.m. — Kids Craft

Thursday, July 28, at 6 p.m. — Teen Video Gaming

Bracewell hours are Sunday and Monday - Closed; Tuesday and Wednesday - 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursday - noon to 8 p.m., Friday - 1 to 5 p.m., and Saturday - 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information on these programs, call the library at 832-393-2580.

## South Belt-Ellington Leader

The Voice of Community-Minded People

11555 Beamer 281-481-5656

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Davy and Marie Flickinger, owners

## Tax collector urges sign-up for payment plan

Tax Assessor-Collector Mike Sullivan encourages taxpayers who have delinquent taxes to avoid a lawsuit by either paying their tax bill or signing-up for a payment plan.

"Last month, we sent notices to taxpayers who did not pay their 2015 property taxes," said Sullivan. "These delinquent taxpayers were encouraged to either pay their bill or sign-up for a payment plan by June 30, 2016. "Now, our collection attorneys

are going to begin contacting these account holders to offer options before going into litigation." Harris County's collection attorneys, Lineberger Goggan Blair & Sampson will be sending notices to these delinquent taxpayers that contain additional details about their account and options to avoid a lawsuit. Lawsuits filed will result in foreclosure and the delinquent property being sold at the Harris County Tax Sale.

"I want to give property owners multiple opportunities to resolve their delinquent accounts. They can still pay their tax bill in full or sign-up for a payment plan to avoid the lawsuit.

"There are also additional options available to property owners who are over 65-years-old, disabled, disabled veterans or are serving in active military duty. Those individuals may qualify for a tax deferral or exemption,

which will delay payment or reduce the tax bill. Contact my office and we will work with you to see if you qualify for one of these options," said Sullivan.

"Delinquent taxpayers can sign-up for a payment plan by contacting Lineberger Goggan Blair & Sampson, LLP at 713-844-3561. Taxpayers can contact our office by phone at 713-274-8000 or email at [office@hctx.net](mailto:office@hctx.net), if they have questions."

## Eric Lister fulfills a lifetime goal of going after the bad guys

Ever since Eric Lister was a child he has wanted to go after the "bad guys." After driving commercial vehicles for 19 years, he became restless.

"Driving trucks just did not give me the satisfaction I needed anymore," said Lister. "I needed a more rewarding career, one filled with opportunities." So he enrolled at the Lone Star College Law Enforcement Academy at the age of 38.

"After graduating, Lister worked as a deputy at the Harris County Constable Precinct 2 office, but eventually grew tired of being a reserve officer. Once again he found himself wanting more.

In 2014 Lister discovered that San Jacinto College could give him what he was looking for. "San Jacinto College gave me the opportunity to work full time as a police officer," he said. That same year he enrolled in classes at the college and began pursuing an associate degree in social and behavioral science.

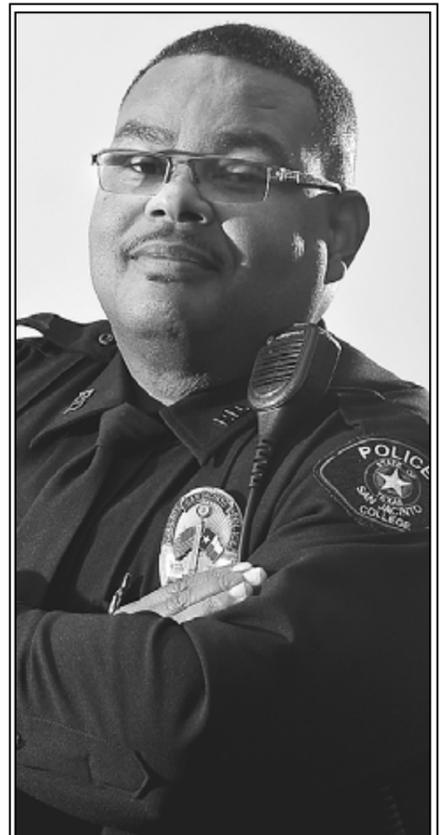
Lister's success has not come without its struggles. "I have been chasing my degree for over two decades. Situations in life have made me stop and start," he said. Lister got married and started a family early in his career. When he finally returned to the classroom in 2014 he was motivated by the loss of a loved one.

In September 2012 Lister's father passed away, leaving a big void in his life. Lister said that his father was always a big supporter of education, instilling in him the importance of a college education. In honor of his father, Lister worked harder than ever to earn his degree.

"This time I had more purpose; this time it was for my father," he noted. Lister graduated from San Jacinto College in December 2015

and decided to attend the commencement ceremony for a very special reason, his children. "I made the decision to walk across the stage to be a positive role model for my children. I wanted to teach them that you are never too old and quitting is not an option."

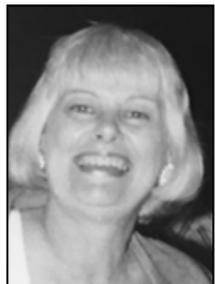
Now an alumnus and police officer with San Jacinto College, Lister is dedicated to maintaining campus safety.



Eric Lister

## Deaths

### Mary Lou Nelson



Mary Lou Nelson, 76, of Houston, a 50 year resident of Rainbow Valley, died peacefully in her home on July 6, 2016, following a short illness.

Nelson was born in Chicago, Ill., on Aug. 1, 1939, to Louise (Leif) and William Hurley Jr., but grew up in many cities across the South. She was a real estate agent and an entrepreneur.

Nelson loved life and people and enjoyed gardening, painting, playing Scrabble, reading, traveling and spending time with her family and friends. Her outgoing and engaging personality and her warm smile will be remembered by many who knew her.

Nelson was preceded in death by her parents and by her ex-husband Charles Nelson. She is survived by her sons and daughters-in-law, Leif William and Patty Nelson of Oklahoma City, Thor Michael and Coni Nelson of Houston, Eric Charles and Carrie Nelson of Conroe; five grandchildren; one great-grandchild; brother and sister-in-law William "Bill" Hurley III and Betty; and ex-husband James "Jim" Bauer. Funeral services were held on Saturday, July 9 at Carnes Funeral Home in South Houston.

### Jacob Lara



Jacob Lara, 19, died Friday, July 15, 2016. He is survived by his parents, Jaime and Claudia Lara; grandparents, Ruben and Maria Lara Sr., Jacob Salomon, and Gloria Morales; brother, Jaime Lara Jr. and sister Emely Maria Lara; and a host of other family and friends.

Lara was an outgoing loving young man that enjoyed sports cars, cheering on his favorite sports teams and working out. He had a huge infectious smile even if sometimes it was mischievous and always felt it was important to look good for the ladies. He will be greatly missed by all that knew and loved him.

The visitation and funeral service for Lara will be held Thursday, July 21, 2016, at Clayton Funeral Home, 5530 W. Broadway, Pearland.

The visitation will begin at 10 a.m. and the service will follow at 11 a.m. with Deacon Rob Stevens officiating.

### Leader obituary policy

Obituaries submitted to the Leader are published free of charge. They are edited to conform to the Leader style.

## Free legal clinic for Vets

Veterans who need legal advice or legal assistance can visit a free legal clinic on Saturday, July 23, from 9 a.m. until noon, at the Texas City VA Outpatient Clinic, 9300 Emmett F. Lowry Expressway, Suite 206, Texas City, 77591. The clinic is a public service of the Galveston Bar Association and the Houston Bar Foundation's Veterans Legal Initiative, a coalition of local bar associations that provide pro bono legal services to U.S. veterans in 18 counties in Texas.

No appointment is necessary. Any veteran, or spouse

of a deceased veteran, can receive one-on-one advice and counsel from a volunteer attorney in any area of law, including family, wills and probate, consumer, real estate, and tax law, as well as disability and veterans benefits. Veterans who need ongoing legal representation and who qualify for legal aid may be assigned a pro bono attorney to handle their case.

For more information on the July 23 clinic and other services for veterans, contact the Veterans Legal Initiative at 713-759-1133 or visit [www.hba.org](http://www.hba.org).

## Sullivan supports law enforcement



Tax Assessor-Collector Mike Sullivan is committed to law enforcement and first responders. As of today, his office employees are putting up signs in tax assessor-collector offices showing support for the men and women who serve the communities. Photo submitted

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## Dobie Cheerleaders excel at NCA camp



Members of the J. Frank Dobie High School Cheerleaders recently participated in a camp hosted by the National Cheerleaders Association at the University of Houston. The Varsity squad was awarded the distinction of "Game Day Varsity Cheer." Members of the Varsity squad are shown above. Left to right are, (front row) Victoria Ayala, Brittany Puente, Reagan Razo, (middle row) Briana Loredo, Alize Murillo, (back row) Aliza Alfaro, Laura Ochoa, Kierstyn Brooks (an NCA representative), Jazmine Howard, Katrina Dukes, Sara Otwell and Jimmy Garcia. (See related photo Page 4A.)

## Campus carry . . .

Continued from Page 1A  
campuses are safe and to work in collaboration with the security forces on the campuses themselves," Mayor Sylvester Turner said at a recent press conference.

City Council Member Dwight Boykins also voiced his opinion on the issue.

"When taking into account the safety of our youth, especially in light of the many recent gun-related tragedies, I do not see a need for college students to carry firearms on campus and into places of learning," Boykins said. "College campuses have active police departments who serve to protect the safety of our students and ensure that their focus remains on learning, growing and making positive contributions back to society."

A primary concern for San Jacinto College officials is that the school now allows high school students to attend through dual-credit and early college high school courses.

"Although the campus carry law created by Senate Bill 11 in the 84th Legislative Session will not go into affect for community colleges until August 2017, we have started considering the impact of this law on San Jacinto College," said San Jacinto College Chancellor Brenda Hellyer. "The college has engaged employees and students in conversations and surveys and will create a task force to review the comments collected. In addition, the college will continue conversations in the fall semester and will also engage community partners who will be impacted, such as our independent school district dual credit and early college high school partners. The task force will make recommendations to administration on reasonable rules for areas of the campus where guns will not be allowed. We are also continuing to monitor the rules established by the four-year universities for implementation in fall 2016, in order to understand their challenges and issues with implementation. The administration will draft policy based on the interpretation of the law and the input of the task force and present it to the Board of Trustees in the spring 2017 semester for their consideration."

## Nguyen grateful for Nguyen's motivation

Tin Nguyen, one of J. Frank Dobie High School's Shining Stars, is shown with distinguished educator Bradley Nguyen, a swim coach.

Both were honored at the annual Pasadena Independent School District Shining Stars Gala, which recognizes the top students from each high school and their favorite teachers.

Nguyen has volunteered as a Harris County election clerk, a Melillo Middle School tutor, a Clear Lake Regional Hospital volunteer and a South Belt Area Swim Team junior coach.

Nguyen has enjoyed leadership positions as secretary of HOSA, treasurer of the National Honor Society, study captain of the Latin Club, captain of the swim team and vice president of the Science Club. Concerning the future, Nguyen plans to pursue a career in medicine with a major in biomedical engineering or biochemistry.

Regarding his teacher, Nguyen said, "Coach Nguyen is one of the most immature and childish people that I have ever met- in the best way possible. I am completely comfortable with him because I simply forget that he is supposed to be an adult. Still, he is able to motivate each and every one of his students/swimmers to accomplish great things. Perhaps it is his sudden tantrums or maybe it is his boyish charm, but his influence has stuck with me for all of these years and I am grateful to have had the honor of being under his graceful wing."

The South Belt Shining Stars will present a series of the students being honored along with their favorite mentor. This is the fifth in the series of 10. The 10 Shining Stars represent the Top 10 Dobie High School students. Information and photos were supplied by the Pasadena Independent School District. The Leader is also running Top 10 Shining Stars from Memorial and South Houston.



## Rice thankful for Claytor's inspirational impact

Kendall Rice, one of Pasadena Memorial High School's Shining Stars, is shown with distinguished educator Noah Claytor, an orchestra director.

Rice has done volunteer work at STARS Horse Camp, tutoring with National Honor Society, CT Church food fair, orchestra UIL events and various NHS events.

Rice has enjoyed leadership positions as class historian and secretary of the Interact Club.

Concerning future plans, Rice plans to attend Texas

A&M University in College Station to pursue a degree in marketing. Following her marketing degree, Rice hopes to attend law school to become a business lawyer. Rice commented about her teacher, "From kindergarten to 12th grade, I have had many teachers who have impacted my educational career, but none like Mr. Claytor. Throughout the three years I have had Mr. Claytor, he has taught me that music is more than just notes written on a page; it is about the connection that I share with a piece of music, and also the unbreakable bond between an ensemble. I never saw the potential that I had as a violinist until Mr. Claytor became my orchestra director, and I will forever be thankful for that. He is truly a remarkable teacher."

The South Belt Shining Stars will be presented in a series of 10 students being honored along with their favorite mentor. This is the fifth in the series of 10.

The 10 Shining Stars represent the Top 10 Pasadena Memorial High School students. The information and photos were supplied by the Pasadena Independent School District.

The Leader is also running the Top 10 Shining Stars from Dobie and South Houston high schools.



## New algebra, English course a success

San Jacinto College English professor Dr. Karen Hattaway, left, and math professor Kate Dinwiddie gave a presentation about the new algebra and English course at the recent National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development conference held in Austin. Photo by Rob Vanya



## SJC comes up with successful course

San Jacinto College's unique collaborative course that incorporates algebra and English composition was a hit from the start and is now gaining national attention.

Because of the success of the course (informally called "Algebrish") professors Dr. Karen Hattaway and Kate Dinwiddie, who teach the composition and math components respectively, were invited to be presenters at the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) conference held recently in Austin.

The national League for Innovation in the Community College also recently showcased the Algebrish course in its July Member Spotlight section.

In the linked math-English course, students work in a "cohort" model, staying together for both

subjects, which are taught in tandem by an English professor and a math professor.

Students who complete the linked course satisfy the math portion as well as one of the two communication components of basic college core requirements.

The course, that will soon begin its fourth semester at the North campus, is taught in a "learning community" environment that includes mentoring and tutoring. "Students have peer support in and out of the classroom," remarked Mark Johnson, North campus language arts department chair. "They also receive specialized instructor support in and out of the classroom."

Hattaway explained that the algebra and English components are actually two separate courses,

not one course that combines algebra and English. "Students earn six hours of credit, working together in algebra on Mondays and Wednesdays, and then again in English on Tuesdays and Thursdays," she said. "The emphasis is on creating a community of learners. Studies show that learning communities support uncertain students more than stand-alone courses because the students have a recognized circle of classmates who become colleagues in learning."

Hattaway said such a concept fosters and improves critical thinking so that students can succeed in upper-division courses and in the business community. "Our industry partners say that some graduates cannot write clear reports, engage in business discourse or apply their learning or in-

dustry experience to new situations," she commented. "There is a recent trend to split STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) from humanities with the result that STEM majors often struggle to express their ideas well enough to function in an information-heavy business environment. For students to succeed in a science and information age, they must be able to explain what they know and how this knowledge contributes to industry decisions. After all, even rocket science has to be explained to government budget developers."

The algebra-English course is available at the North campus and is offered exclusively in a traditional classroom environment, not in an online or hybrid format. Johnson said there have been discussions about offering similar courses at the Central and South campuses.

Data thus far suggests the linked course provides a productive choice for students. Retention and success rates for algebra are significantly higher than state and San Jacinto College District levels, and English composition retention and success rates (A-C) are as high or higher than district rates.

Student feedback has been mostly positive. "We asked students to provide comments," Hattaway said. "Tonya Volker, who made an A in both classes, had this to say: 'After an education gap of nearly 11 years, it was scary to think of taking classes like algebra or English again. Having teachers that are working together for your success is a big

bonus. They both have the same students and can see where an individual needs help in two different areas. I knew if I was having a problem in one class there wasn't just one teacher there to talk to, but two. In a fairytale world, all classes would be this way."

Johnson said the novel concept explores the power of narrative in math and English. "Give a person some facts and part of the brain lights up; tell a person a story and the whole brain lights up," he commented. "The goal is to help students think differently about algebra and composition, two courses that can hold back students from completing degrees."

In order to be properly prepared to teach the collaborative course, Hattaway and Dinwiddie (both veteran educators) decided they should go "back to school" in a sense. Hattaway gave Dinwiddie a refresher course in English composition, and Dinwiddie returned the favor, giving Hattaway a refresher course in college algebra.

Hattaway said she felt like a dunce while taking the algebra course, but Dinwiddie quickly said that Hattaway was being modest and was actually a quick learner. In like manner, Dinwiddie said she felt like she was a poor composition student, but Hattaway said the math teacher was an excellent student.

A YouTube video may be seen of Hattaway and Dinwiddie preparing a lesson plan together at [atyoutube.com/watch?v=NcoJpwB2wI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NcoJpwB2wI).

## Crandall motivates Garza with devotion to students' success, commitment

South Houston High School's Shining Star Kimberly Michelle Garza is shown with distinguished educator George Crandall, orchestra director. Garza has volunteered with the National Honor Society, as a volleyball coach and at middle school events.

She has engaged in extracurricular activities including orchestra, volleyball, track, bowling, National Honor Society and Mu Alpha Theta.

Concerning future plans, she plans to attend the University of Houston and double major in accounting and financing. Regarding her teacher, Garza said, "Every year I have exceptional teachers, but Mr. Crandall was by far the most impactful teacher. Not only has he helped me become the musician I am today, Mr. Crandall has molded me to become a risk-taking, kind, and hard-working student."

His passion for both music and teaching through cheerful lessons has helped make the class my favorite period of the day. Never will I forget to play properly by swaying with the music or to try harder when life gets tough. Mr. Crandall's incomparable teaching has shaped me to have a strong affection for both music and orchestra."

The South Belt Shining Stars will be presented in a series of 10 students being honored along with their favorite mentor. This is the fifth in the series of 10. The 10 Shining Stars represent the Top 10 South Houston High School students. The information and photos were supplied by the Pasadena Independent School District.

The Leader is also running the Top 10 Shining Stars from Dobie and Memorial high schools.



## Autism class at UHCL

The University of Houston-Clear Lake may be able to help Autism students with a new program, Connecting to College.

Connecting to College is a pilot program that UHCL's Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities is launching this fall to provide additional support for students with autism spectrum disorder, developmental disabilities and other related needs. Connecting to College will work in tandem with the Writing Center, Math Center, Student Success Center, Disability Services and other academic assistance at UHCL.

"We intend to provide additional support to facilitate students with ASD accessing current resources and developing skills to help them meet their academic, social, daily living and career goals," said Christie Stiehl, a UHCL graduate student and the program's transition specialist.

More students with autism spectrum disorder are going to college, but they may

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## \$125,000 grant received for Vets legal initiative

The Houston Bar Association's Houston Volunteer Lawyers announced that it has received a \$125,000 grant from the Texas Veterans Commission Fund for Veterans' Assistance to help fund its Veterans Legal Initiative.

The Initiative, which began in 2008, provides free legal aid to United States veterans and spouses of deceased veterans in all areas of civil law, such as divorce and child custody, landlord/tenant, estate planning and probate, guardianship, mortgage foreclosure, and bankruptcy.

The initiative now annually serves more than 2,300 veterans, providing free legal advice at weekly clinics held at the Michael DeBakey V.A. Hospital and extended pro bono representation when needed.

## First Christian VBS set

First Christian Church of Pasadena announces the annual Vacation Bible School for children and adults (preschool-adults) on July 25, 26, and 27 from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon. There is no charge to attend the VBS.

Texas Veterans Commission makes it possible for Houston Volunteer Lawyers to devote two full-time staff attorneys to the project, both of whom are U.S. Army veterans themselves.

The new grant also will allow Houston Volunteer Lawyers, for the first time, to make limited funds available to veterans facing certain non-waiverable court-related fees in pro bono cases.

"The Texas Veterans Commission recognizes the incredible need for veterans legal services in Houston and this sizable grant helps us meet those needs and achieve our mission to provide equal access to justice. Veterans served our country with honor, and we are honored to provide them legal service," said Neil Kelly, president of the Houston Bar Association.

The title is *Abundance Orchard - Where Faith Grows and Hungry People are Fed*. The facility is located at 4848 Preston 77505 (between Beltway 8 and Crenshaw). For questions call 832-725-6456.

# Over The Back Fence by Alexis

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY, JOSE!**  
Greetings for a happy birthday on July 25 are sent to **Jose Abarca** from his wife **Natalie**; children **Kelvin Lopez, Noah and Isabella Abarca**; mother-in-law **Ellie Flickinger** and her husband, **David Flickinger** (*Leader* president); grandparents **Marie and David Flickinger**; and friends and staff at the *Leader*.

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO THE COLES**  
Belated anniversary wishes are sent to **Bill and Kim Cole** who celebrated their 21st wedding anniversary on Friday, July 15, from friends and the *Leader* staff.

**HAPPY 8TH ANNIVERSARY!**  
Wishes for a happy eighth anniversary on July 26 are sent to **Steven and Rebecca (Heeth) Irvine** from parents and Kirkwood residents **Richard and Nancy Heeth**.

**SCHOOL DAZE**  
The following personnel and staff members of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays July 21 through July 27.

**Burnett Elementary**  
**Tania Lozano Arzola** celebrates a birthday July 21.

**Bush Elementary**  
Enjoy a double-layer birthday cake with **Rubi Contreras** and **Tonya Goan** on July 25. Send a happy birthday greeting to **Sara Bo** on July 26. Three cheers for a happy birthday on July 27 to **David Blevins, Maria Hernandez** and **Minerva Licea**.

**Frazier Elementary**  
Greetings for a wonderful birthday are sent to **Allisen Stewart** on July 23. Light the birthday candles July 25 for **Virginia Light**.

**Meador Elementary**  
Marking a birthday July 25 is **Maria Gonzalez**.

**Moore Elementary**  
July 26 is the day for a cake for **Gloria Guillen** and **Myra Nevarez**.

**South Belt Elementary**  
Send a birthday greeting July 22 to **Maria Martinez, Hortencia Armenta** and **Sara Simmons** are sent birthday greetings July 26.

**Stuchbery Elementary**  
**Ella Escalona** is wished a happy birthday July 22. Sing a happy birthday song July 25 to **Glenda Sears**.

**Melillo Middle School**  
Celebrating a birthday July 23 is **Amee Stoneman**.

**Roberts Middle School**  
Blow out the birthday candles July 21 for **Diana Garcia**.

**Beverly Hills Intermediate**  
Light the birthday candles July 21 for **Yara Quintanilla**.

**Dobie High**  
The day for a double birthday celebration for **Saiyeda Blanco** and **Kevin Erickson** is July 22. **Dawn Gutierrez** marks a birthday July 23. **Rebekka Gabino, Cam Luong** and **Maria Medrano** enjoy a birthday July 24. Birthday greetings are sent to **Rowena Hickman** July 25. The day for a party for **James Freeman** is July 26.

**FACEBOOK FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS**  
The *Leader* sends happy birthday wishes to its Facebook friends who celebrate a birthday this week:  
Thursday, July 21: **Natalie Sweet, Denise McMurrugh, Vanessa Veltman** and **Danielle Clay**; Friday, July 22: **Judith Kemle** and **Hey-Zues Lara**; Saturday, July 23: **Mario Salazar, Angeles Gomez, Melinda Evans** and **Amanda Karsten**; Sunday, July 24: **Richard Schreier, Montoya Wiltner, Connie Alberti, Richard Golenko** and **Pete Ortiz**; Monday, July 25: **Kelly Jones, Jose Abarca, Larry Bennett, Kathy Taylor, Steven Thiele, Stephanie Gutierrez, Cherie Cundiff, Mario Rodriguez** and **Brodie Riner Jr.**; Tuesday, July 26: **Kenneth Sublett, Jeffrey Frugia, Jackie Maduzia, Magda Adams, Debra Patterson, Emiel Adams, Maricela Solis Crow, Kendrick Woods, Jenny Batson, Terrie Nichols, Kenny Fernandez, Eric Madsen, Gina D'Orazio** and **Elizabeth Bazan**; and Wednesday, July 27: **Lydia Garcia, Joanne Mata** and **Sean Kean**.

**LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS**  
Email birthday, anniversary, vacation, congratulations, etc., to [mynews@southbeltleader.com](mailto:mynews@southbeltleader.com) with OTBF in the subject line. Items must be submitted by Friday noon for the next week's publication.

## Atkinson holds registration

On Aug. 10 and 11, 2016, Atkinson Elementary will hold early registration for school year 2016-2017. The registration will be held in the cafeteria from 8 to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. To enroll a child, bring the following: birth certificate, Social Security card, record of immunizations, proof of residence, utility bill, and parent driver's license. For more information, call the office at 713-740-0520.

## Buchanan at Shaar Hashalom

The traditional Jewish Shabbat service is rich in songs and melodies. Adding instruments enhances the beauty and the enjoyment of the service. Congregation Shaar Hashalom will experience a special musical Shabbat - "Acoustic Shabbat" - service, featuring the beautiful voice of Joe Buchanan, on Friday, Aug. 26, at 7:30 p.m. The special musical Shabbat will take place at Congregation Shaar Hashalom. The congregation, located at 16020 El Camino Real, is the conservative synagogue in the Bay Area. The entire community is invited to attend. For more information, contact the Synagogue office at 281-488-5861, email [cs@shaarhashalom.org](mailto:cs@shaarhashalom.org) or visit [www.shaarhashalom.org](http://www.shaarhashalom.org).

## Vacant properties being resold

Harris County Tax Assessor-Collector Mike Sullivan is working to reclaim lost revenue for Harris County residents. Thousands of properties sit vacant throughout the county, creating unsafe conditions and lowering property values. Many property owners are delinquent, and for years they fail to meet their tax obligations. With help from the county's delinquent tax attorneys, Linebarger Goggin Blair & Sampson, LLP, drastic improvements are made to eye-sore properties across Harris County. "Delinquent property taxes unfairly burden the taxpayers of Harris County, and we need to recover every dollar possible," said Sullivan. Each month, the county holds a tax sale. The goal is to collect delinquent taxes and put neglected properties into the hands of new owners. For the month of July 2016, a total of 342 properties were posted for sale. Sullivan successfully reclaimed \$3,125,502 for the citizens of Harris County. To date for 2016, the office has reclaimed \$19,818,206 from the monthly tax sale. To learn more about the tax sale, visit [www.hctx.net](http://www.hctx.net). For questions, call 713-274-8000.

## Dobie Cheerleaders excel at NCA Camp



Members of the Dobie High School cheerleading team recently attended in a National Cheerleader's Association camp hosted at the University of Houston. The Varsity and Junior Varsity squads won the Megaphone Spirit Award voted on all squads attending the camp. Members of the Junior Varsity squad are shown above, left to right, (front row) Aaliya Luna, Juliana Moreno, Olga Cisneros, Michelle Kelly, Alysia Loosa, Laila Hernandez, (back row) Bianca Espinosa, Maya Scott, Samantha Carter, Shelby Couchman, Kelsey Pett (NCA representative), Andrew Salas, Chloe Ray, Bailee Dang, Tori Nunez, Andres Melchor and Genesis Jaures. (See related photo Page 3A.)

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# Remember When

**40 years ago (1976)**  
The Pasadena Independent School District Board of Trustees approved a preliminary budget. It provided raises for employees and increased funds for teaching supplies, while leaving the tax base unchanged. Counting on an anticipated carry-over, the board passed a record \$39.95 million budget, exactly matching estimated revenues and expenses.

The San Jacinto Junior College Board of Regents met to approve details of an upcoming bond election. If passed, the \$7 million would supply funds for an extension to be built on the Beamer Road property purchased by San Jacinto College.

**35 years ago (1981)**  
Annual salary increases ranging from \$2,227 to \$3,097 for PISD teachers were approved by the board of trustees.

Dobie High School associate principal Jimmy Barber moved to South Houston High School as its new principal.

**30 years ago (1986)**  
After a burglary in Wood Meadow, two men, Francisco Saucedo, 31, and Juan Garcia, 27, were caught after being stopped for a traffic violation.

Elmer G. Bondy, PISD assistant superintendent for secondary education, retired after 39 years of service.

**25 years ago (1991)**  
Jim Salyer was named chief executive officer of Memorial Hospital Southeast.

Clear Creek Independent School District's superintendent, Dr. Ron McLeod, created controversy when he recommended closing Weber Elementary during incineration at Brio.

**20 years ago (1996)**  
Eliaday "Lia" McCord, a 1991 Clear Brook graduate arrested for smuggling heroin in Bangladesh, was released from prison. She was pardoned by the president of Bangladesh due to her age at the time of the crime.

The PISD school trustees approved \$84.7 million in new construction and repairs which included rebuilding Pasadena High School and Jackson Intermediate. Construction would also include additions to several campuses including Thompson Intermediate and Atkinson, Meador and Stuchbery elementary.

**15 years ago (2001)**  
A contract between CCISD officials and a developer to purchase 16 acres of property off Scarsdale and Blackhawk was signed. CCISD Superintendent Dr. John Wilson said construction could begin on the new Weber Elementary before fall, which would allow usage of the new school for much of the 2002-2003 school year. The old Weber Elementary in Southbend was torn down as part of the Brio cleanup. The replacement campus was in response to pressure from the community for a local elementary school.

The Sagemont Senior Little League 14-year-old All-Star team advanced to the state competition in Waco.

**10 years ago (2006)**  
Several Harris County construction projects, including a community center, the Scarsdale/Yost connection, a county annex, and a tree farm, began.

Deputies from Constable Gary Freeman's office reported a burglary of a business and arrests for cocaine and prohibited weapons.

A family disturbance in the Kirkwood subdivision resulted in the shooting death of a suspect around 1:30 a.m.

**5 years ago (2011)**  
The U.S. Army Reserve's 75th Mission Command Training Division celebrated a change of command. Currently stationed at Ellington Field, the unit relocated from its former base on Old Spanish Trail in 2008. Brig. Gen. Jimmie Jay Wells succeeded Maj. Gen. Eldon P. Regua, who served three years as division commander. The ceremony, presided over by Lt. Gen. Jack Stultz, the commander of U.S. Army Reserve, featured the time-honored passing of the guidon between the two commanders.

President Obama signed legislation that saved thousands of local NASA jobs, but setbacks with the development of a heavy-launch vehicle to carry the multi-purpose Orion may have put many of those positions in jeopardy. Obama's initial budget proposal called for the phasing out of manned space flight, threatening as many as 7,000 area jobs. While the authorization bill did phase out the shuttle missions as well as cancel funding for the Bush administration's Constellation moon program, it provided for the development of a new vehicle by 2016 to explore deeper into space, with the eventual goal of making the trek to Mars.

**1 year ago (2015)**  
Kelly Buckman, wife of the late Steve Buckman, was sworn in to fill the remainder of her husband's term on the Clear Brook City Municipal Utility District's board of directors. Steve Buckman died June 20 after a long illness. Kelly Buckman will serve until the term expires in May 2016, at which time state law requires her to run for the position.

Harris County Tax Assessor-Collector Mike Sullivan began preparations for a drastic change to the process by which foreclosed

## St. Luke's plans bazaar

In honor of the feast day celebrated by the Catholic Community of St. Luke Evangelist Church, the St. Luke Feast Day Bazaar is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 15, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The bazaar will be held at the Riverstone location, 1750 Riverstone Ranch Drive (across from South Belt Elementary School). There will be activity booths for kids of all ages, music by a DJ with karaoke, multicultural food booths, arts and crafts booths, a wine and beer garden and a raffle with prizes. Visit the website for more information at [www.stlukesatholic.com](http://www.stlukesatholic.com).

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## Garners celebrate 40 years in business



On Sunday, July 17, Garner Vision Center celebrated its 40th year of business. Dr. B.J. Garner and his wife, Laura Garner, opened the practice on July 17, 1976. The couple was surprised with a small celebration organized by the current staff on Friday, July 15, complete with flowers, balloons, cake and sparkling juice. The Garners reminisced with the staff by telling the story of when the doors first opened. "We've been really blessed to have met some wonderful people (through the practice)," Garner said. "In all 40 years we've been here, we have never felt burnt out." Shown, left to right, is Melinda McClure, Dr. Garner, Heather Anderson, Laura Garner and Lori "Noelle" Guerin.

## Robinsons mark 60th anniversary



Sagemont residents Billy and Melba Robinson, both born and raised in Waco, were sweethearts all through high school. They were married on July 14, 1956, in Waco and have celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. Shortly after they were married, Billy served in the Army at Fort Ord, Calif., and Fort Monroe, Va. They have two children, both of whom graduated from J. Frank Dobie High School. Billy worked for NASA starting in 1971; then the family moved to the South Belt area in 1972. Their daughter Cheryl and her husband Joe Flores live on a ranch near Waco. They have a son, Zack, and a granddaughter, Cloe, age 18 months old. The Robinsons' son, Edward, and his wife Monique live in Sugarland. They have two sons, Andrew and Ethan, and two daughters, Meggy and Jessica, and one granddaughter, Scarlet, age six. Billy worked at the Space Center for 33 years and Melba also worked in the Space Program for 30 years. Billy spends a lot of time working for the Democratic Party. He is a precinct judge for 476 and is the precinct chair. Melba enjoys spending time reading and visiting with friends. The couple attend Bay Area First Baptist Church.

## SJC maritime brings successful careers

With water transportation employment on the Gulf Coast anticipated to increase significantly in coming years, San Jacinto College recognized an imperative need to attract new mariners and provide U.S. Coast Guard-approved certifications in a convenient regional location. The first class of graduates earning an

Associate of Applied Science in Maritime Transportation will graduate this August.

"Out of our anticipated 16 graduates, 12 have already been hired by the companies where they are interning this summer," said Capt. Amy Arrowood, the director of the maritime credit program. "Right now, the

hiring prospects are excellent."

Technology and increased regulations have put an emphasis on education in the maritime industry.

"You can't just be a boat driver anymore," Arrowood said. "The industry is changing. For example, towing vessels will become Coast

Guard-inspected vessels soon, so that will require more documentation and more formal procedures." Students in the San Jacinto College degree program receive a mixture of classroom and hands-on experience. Topics range from maritime basics, such as knot-tying, to sophisticated navigation and stability instruction.

"Embedded in the program, our students also complete 12 Coast Guard-approved classes," Arrowood said. "In addition to a diploma, our students walk away with 12 certificates that can work toward their merchant mariner endorsements and licenses. Also, during their two summer sessions, they complete a practicum — an internship on a commercial vessel."

In March, San Jacinto College held a grand opening for its Maritime Technology and Training Center, situated in La Porte near the Bayport Container Terminal. In addition to classroom space, the 45,000-square-foot building includes three full mission ship bridge simulators, an aquatic training facility and stations for Global Maritime Distress and Safety System training, automatic radar plotting aid training, radar training and liquid cargo handling training. Adding a separate industry dock for crew changes in partnership with G & H Towing is part of future plans.

"Now we can look out our classroom windows

onto the Ship Channel to show our students examples of different vessels and maneuvers, which is priceless," Arrowood said.

Combining their education, certifications and accumulated sea time during the summer practicums, graduates are positioned to handle entry-level maritime careers.

Pay scales vary by employer, industry and experience, but a new graduate can earn between \$32,000 and \$53,000, she said. As graduates accumulate required sea time, they will be able to advance toward the goal of becoming a captain, which can pay more than \$100,000 a year.

Classes begin Aug. 22 and Arrowood hopes to have 42 new mariners to train. The average age among current students is 25, she said, though one of the first graduates was 53.

Prospective students must be able to understand written and spoken English. They also must pass a background check, drug screening and physical.

The U.S. Coast Guard and maritime employers have zero tolerance for any behavior that might have any effect on safety. Interested students can sign up for an open house tour of the Maritime Technology and Training Center, usually available 10-11 a.m. every other Friday.

"I love sharing about this exciting career and want more people to learn about it," Arrowood said.



Student Drake Sackett is interning with Buffalo Marine

## Collision repair can lead to good career

The daily traffic report tells the story. Serious collisions, fender benders and weather-related accidents happen every day on the road, particularly in Houston's bustling metropolis. As a result, job prospects for people who train in auto collision repair are outstanding, according to Eddie Foster, department chairman of industrial technology at the North campus of San Jacinto College.

"Owners of local auto body and repair shops can't keep up with the demand," he said. "They tell us they could hire four or five techs each right now. There's always going to be work because people are always having wrecks."

Auto collision technicians repair the non-mechanical portions of a vehicle when there is damage, including exterior things such as paint, frame and glass; and interior elements such as airbags, upholstery, carpeting and electrical components. They also can customize cars with specialty paint jobs and aftermarket accessories, such as roof racks, suspension lift kits and spoilers.

San Jac College offers the auto collision repair program year round at the North campus in Houston. The program has two certificate courses, one for collision and one for management, in addition to an Associate of Applied Science degree. The asso-

ciate degree is 60 credit hours, including academic classes. The certificate programs are each three semesters. Classes are offered mornings, evenings and weekends, led by ASE and I-CAR certified instructors. Foster said taking the extra courses to achieve a management certificate or an associate degree will help students move up quicker in their careers and position them to potentially own a shop one day.

"The starting salary for a technician is about \$35,000, but increases with experience or specialization," he said. "Some technicians can earn \$60,000 or more. You can make good pay

and work normal business hours. It's also a trade you can take anywhere, though there is plenty of demand right here."

Not all students in the program are looking to make a career out of it, Foster said.

"Our weekend classes have a lot of hobbyists who want to learn how to rebuild and restore old cars," he said.

Most students in the program, whether career seekers or hobbyists, are attracted to cars and are enthusiastic about working on them.

"These are people who get satisfaction from taking a wrecked car and making it look brand new," Foster said.

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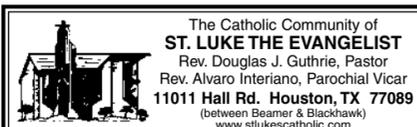
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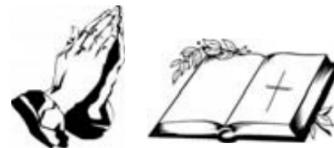
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# Leader Schlitterbahn vacation photo contest set

## Garcias enjoy SeaWorld, San Antonio



Mayra Garcia (not shown), husband Alger Garcia and sons David and Alger Garcia celebrated the Fourth of July with a weekend trip to SeaWorld in San Antonio. The family had such a great time that they are planning a return trip very soon. David will be attending the second grade at the start of the 2016-2017 school year at Genoa Elementary and Edgar will be attending the seventh grade at Bondy Intermediate.

## Gourriers attend New Orleans family reunion



South Belt residents Rita Holiday, Desmond Gourrier, Steven Gourrier and Yolanda Holiday-Gourrier recently attended the Gourrier Family Reunion in New Orleans. The family reunion was held from June 17 to June 19. Desmond Gourrier will enter the eighth grade at the Eagle Heights Christian Academy at the start of the 2016-2017 school year, and Yolanda Holiday-Gourrier is an AVID teacher at the Pasadena Early College High School.

Photo submitted

## Francos in Florida



Pictured above, left to right, are South Belt residents Sabrina Mendiola, Roxann Franco, Yvette Franco and Larry Franco at Navarre Beach, Florida. The family's trip started in Mobile, Ala., when the family decided to travel to a beach, and eventually ended in Navarre. The family enjoyed their time spent on the beach, playing in the water, collecting seashells and soaking in the view. The Francos live off Beamer and Hughes, with Roxann and Yvette both attending Frazier Elementary.

## Salazar family has fun in Hawaiian sun

The Salazar family recently took a family vacation to visit the islands of Hawaii. While on their trip, the family visited the Pearl Harbor Memorial, hiked along the Diamond Head volcano trail, snorkeled to see exotic marine wildlife and enjoyed traditional Luau dances. The family are longtime residents of the South Belt community, residing in the Scarsdale subdivision for 17 years. Luis and Carlos will enter the fourth grade at Burnett Elementary at the start of the school year.



Shown above are, left to right, Carlos, Sonia and Luis Salazar enjoying the view from atop the Diamond Head volcano.



Shown above are, left to right, Carlos, Luis and Carlos Luis Salazar at the Pearl Harbor Memorial.

## Bill, Elaine Edwards visit America's oldest city



South Belt residents Bill and Elaine Edwards recently visited his sister, Julie Bechtle, in Florida. Their travels took them to America's oldest city, St. Augustine. Spanish settlers first noticed the land on August 28, 1565, a day recognized by the Catholic Church as the feast of St. Augustine. Its namesake, St. Augustine, is known as one of the greatest teachers of the faith. The three of them toured the Castillo de San Marcos, a fort the Spanish began building in 1672. The fort changed ownership several times between Spain and Great Britain because of wars and treaties, but eventually became a U.S. possession in 1845 when Florida became a state. The site is now a national park. They also visited the St. Augustine Lighthouse, the oldest permanent aid to navigation in North America, and saw the Daytona Speedway, the location of the Daytona 500 race.



Carlos and Luis Salazar get ready to snorkel and see all the colorful fish.



Carlos and Luis Salazar enjoy the Luau.

## Family enjoys Destin, Florida



Jackie, Alex and Roland Rodriguez pose for a picture before heading to a sandy beach in Destin, Florida. Alex (above, right) has fun in the white sands and blue waters of the beaches. Roland, Jackie and Alex took to the sandy shores for Alex's first vacation.



While on their trip, the family visited the beach, played in the sand, watched gator and dolphin shows and learned about marine wildlife at the Gulfarium. The Rodriguezes are residents of Riverstone Ranch.

## Autism help at UHCL

Continued from Page 3A  
 struggle with the soft skills needed for university life," added Stiehl. Such skills include self-advocacy, living away from home and meeting people with similar interests. The Connecting to College program will make attending college easier for students with autism by helping them work on their soft skills. Skill acquisition will be based on principles of Applied Behavior Analysis, which means that the program will focus on observable and measurable goals and change the environment to help students gain the skills they need. Participating students' goals and programs will be individualized to them. Over the next few years, UHCL hopes to expand the Connecting to College program to give students additional, more comprehensive support. For the 2016-2017 school year, the program is free to current UHCL students. For more information, contact transition specialist Christie Stiehl at connecting.tocollege@uhcl.edu.

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# SECTION B SPORTS & CLASSIFIED

## Quiet for now, local athletics about to pick up steam at all levels

Things seem to be a little quiet around the South Belt area where youth, high school and collegiate sports are concerned, but it won't be that way for long. Most high school head football coaches and their staffs attended the 84th Annual Texas High School Coaches Association Coaches School and Convention in San Antonio, and now it's time to get back to work. High school players at

Clear Brook and Dobie will arrive for the start of preseason workouts Monday, Aug. 1. Prior to that, both coaching staffs are hosting youth camps.

At Clear Brook, head coach Mike Allison and staffers will host the 2016 Wolverines' Mini Camp July 28-29 at the

school. Incoming seventh-through ninth-grade students as of the 2016-2017 school year are invited to attend the two-day event at \$70 per student.

The camp will run from 8 to 11:30 a.m. both days. Those who have yet to register may do so July 28, at 7:30 a.m. sharp. Only

Clear Creek ISD students are eligible to attend.

Dobie head coach Mike Norman and his staff are also hosting a youth camp July 25 through July 28, also for incoming seventh-through ninth-grade students.

Additional details about Dobie's "Head Start" camp are located on Page 2B. The Beverly Hills and Thompson coaching staffs will also host their respective camps for incoming seventh- and eighth-grade students. These camps will be held at Dobie High School. Additional information and a registration form

for both camps is located on Page 3B. At this time, Dobie coaching staff members will also provide details on arrival times and

Continued on Page 2B

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### Since severe injury, Saldivar is healing

With more than six months remaining before the start of the regular season, members of the Dobie varsity boys' soccer team are focused on the health of one of their leaders.

Senior midfielder Edwin Saldivar, set to be a team captain in 2017, is in full recovery mode after suffering potentially life-threatening internal injuries during a casual Sunday afternoon match July 10.

Saldivar and an opponent were tussling for ball control when a collision occurred not more than five minutes after Saldivar had entered the game. According to Saldivar, with both players headed to the ground, one of the opponent's knees shot straight down into his midsection.

Rushed to the hospital, Saldivar eventually underwent a surgery of more than 3 1/2 hours at a local hospital, where doctors removed as much as a 16-inch section of his lower

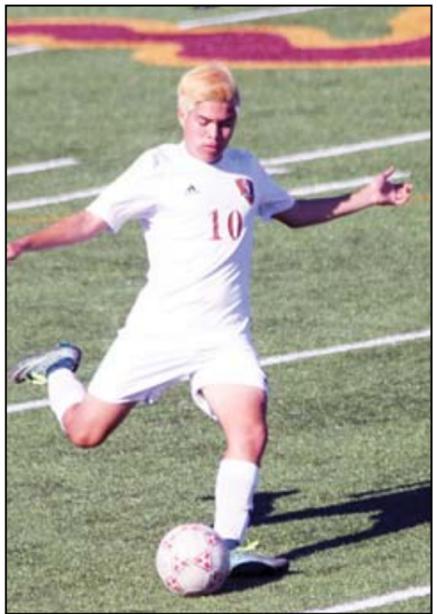
intestine. Doctors later told Saldivar and his family that had the surgery been postponed much longer, his life might have been in danger. His abdomen had filled with blood, and there was plenty of damage.

His life no longer hangs in the balance, yet there is plenty of recovery to be done - both physically and financially - for the Saldivar family.

As their youngest son recovers, the Saldivar family, including 2012 Dobie High School graduate and varsity soccer player Hector Saldivar, focus on the future.

Hector has established a Go Fund Me account to help deal with medical bill payments. That account can be found online at [www.gofundme.com/2ebv510](http://www.gofundme.com/2ebv510).

Meanwhile, Edwin, a National Honor Society member with a 4.7 grade point average, hopes he



Edwin Saldivar, a Dobie varsity boys' soccer player, was injured earlier this month in a club soccer match and later underwent surgery, where doctors removed more than 15 inches of his small intestine. His brother, 2012 Dobie graduate Hector Saldivar, has set up a Go Fund Me account to help defray medical costs at [www.gofundme.com/2ebv510](http://www.gofundme.com/2ebv510). When healthy, Saldivar, who will be a senior captain, is expected to lead the Longhorns' efforts in the midfield next January after being a District 22-6A all-district second team pick in 2016.

### RSTC preps as nationals arrive

Who can be a national champion this season?

Will it be Camryn Dickson, who has reached nationals in three different events as the Region 17 champion?

How about Braylan Shelby, or his younger sister Nadi'ya Shelby?

Former Thompson Intermediate record-setting distance runner Zion Walker? Either of the Davis twins from Dobie?

There are plenty of possibilities for the ultimate prize to come home as 33 athletes from the South Belt-based Rising Stars

Track Club compete at the 2016 Amateur Athletic Union Junior Olympic Games, running July 29 through Aug. 6 at Turner

Stadium in Humble.

Among those 33 qualifiers out of Region 17, several will compete in multiple events at nationals. Dickson has her sights set on the 100-, 200- and 400-meter events.

Braylan Shelby will enter the mix in the 800-meter run as well as the long jump, and Nadi'ya Shelby will also vie for titles in more than one event.

The Davis twins, Jacoby and Jeremy - seniors-to-be at Dobie High School - combined to reach the national stage in six events total.

The Devereaux and Caballero families from the Rising Stars team also like their chances.

It's difficult to compare Continued on Page 6B



Melenik Gurnell is just one of 33 Rising Stars Track Club competitors who are headed to the Amateur Athletic Union Junior Olympic Games beginning later this month in Humble. He will take part in the shot put and turbo javelin events in the 9-year-old division.

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# Athletics' pace to pick up across area

**Continued from Page 1B**  
 more concerning workouts that begin Aug. 1.  
**VB workouts also Aug. 1**  
 High school volleyball teams will have just seven workout/scrimmage days to prepare for the regular season, which begins

Tuesday, Aug. 9. Prior to that, both Dobie head coach Dawn Gutierrez Sexton and Meredith Thompson of Clear Brook will host youth camps. Details of both of those camps appear elsewhere on this page.

When Aug. 1 arrives, both freshman and sophomore through senior returning players are set to report for tryouts/workouts. Those workouts will begin at 8 a.m. at both schools and continue

throughout the day for the first four days. Dobie and Clear Brook will be involved in scrimmage match action Aug. 5 and Aug. 6, and Dobie will host Elkins and Atascocita Tuesday, Aug. 9, in a tri-match to serve up the

season. Match action at the varsity level begins at 4 p.m. Clear Brook, as has been the case for several seasons, will open against St. Agnes. This time around, St. Agnes visits Clear Brook Tuesday, Aug. 9, with varsity play at 6:30 p.m.

**SJC to start Aug. 1**  
 The San Jacinto College men's soccer team, which represents the South campus, will also begin workouts Monday, Aug. 1. Head coach Ian Spooner said the Coyote players, both returning and first-year, will be arriving on campus over the next 10 days leading up to the start of workouts. The locals will go through nearly two weeks of two-a-day training before a pair of scrimmage matches. SJC hosts St. Thomas Aug. 13 and Our Lady of the Lake Aug. 17 in a pair of scrimmages before beginning the regular season on the road. San Jacinto's season opener comes Aug. 19 in San Antonio against the University of the Incarnate Word. Ultimately, San Jac's goal this season is to un-

## South Belt sports news, notes

### Aikido at San Jac South July 22-24

Andrew M. Sato, chief instructor and founder of the Aikido World Alliance (AWA), will be at the San Jacinto College South campus later this month to host an Aikido seminar. Members of the Aikido World Alliance will come from dojos in Louisiana, Oklahoma and several other states to work with him during this special presentation. Aikido is a Japanese martial art developed in the 1920s as a peaceful resolution to an attack. "You learn to take an attacker's momentum and redirect it," said San Jacinto College martial arts instructor Charles Woodby. Practitioners are meant to defend themselves while also protecting their attacker from injury. Sato has been training in Aikido since 1977 as a member of the Aikido Association of America (AAA). He founded the AWA in 2005 to further his own understanding of Aikido and to provide leadership to students seeking his knowledge. Sato will teach participants and spectators open handed, weapons and defensive techniques. The event will be held at the gymnasium on the San Jacinto College South campus, Friday through Sunday, July 22-24. On Friday, the event will be from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Saturday's event will take place from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and on Sunday, it will take place from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The seminar is free to all spectators, but participants must pay a \$100 fee to take part in all three days. SJC students can participate at a discounted price of \$75 when they present their San Jac ID.

### Dobie head start football camp July 25-28

Dobie varsity football head coach Mike Norman and his staff will host the 2016 Head Start Football Camp July 25-28, at Dobie High School. Incoming seventh- through ninth-grade students as of the 2016-2017 school year are invited to attend the four-day camp (M-TH). Entry fee for the event, which will be held from 9 to 11 a.m. each day, is \$50 cash/money order or credit card per student. No checks will be accepted. Norman and his staff will provide instruction in all phases of the game, and participants will receive specialized training at all positions on the football field. A \$10 late fee will be assessed for all registrants after July 21. Participants should wear a T-shirt, shorts, socks and tennis shoes and bring cleats (optional), water bottle and sunscreen. The Pasadena Independent School District does not provide medical insurance coverage for these types of summer or extracurricular activities, so parents are responsible for such coverage. For more information, direct email to Norman at MNorman@pasadenaisd.org.

### Dobie High School youth volleyball camps

Dobie High School varsity volleyball head coach Dawn Gutierrez Sexton and her staff will host age group-aimed youth camps this month at Donna Branch Court at the school. The incoming ninth-grade and incoming 10th through 12th grade camps will be held July 26-28, from 9 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$50 per participant. The camps are voluntary, but also serve as a great opportunity for incoming Dobie players to prepare for the 2016 season. The Pasadena Independent School District does not provide medical insurance coverage for these types of summer or extracurricular activities, so parents are responsible for such coverage. For more information, direct email to Gutierrez Sexton at DGutierrez2@pasadenaisd.org. Dobie High School volleyball tryouts will be held Monday, Aug. 1. The *Leader* will provide additional information as the tryout date nears.

### South Belt Youth Soccer Club sign-up

The South Belt Soccer Club is now accepting on-line registration for the fall 2016 season as youth boys and girls age 4 to 18 are welcome to join the league. Children eligible for the under 5 to under 8 (4, 5, 6 and 7-year-olds) will pay \$115 to register, while children in the under 9 and under 10 groups (8 and 9-year-olds) will pay \$130. Those in the under 11 and older (10 to 18-year-olds) will pay \$170 to register. Families may register their children by visiting [www.southbeltsoccer.org](http://www.southbeltsoccer.org), and simply follow the prompts. After registering on-line, families will be required to present a copy of their child's birth certificate to the SBYSC team coach. Only credit card/debit card payments will be accepted at the time of on-line registration. A late fee will be assessed after Sept. 1, 2016. The registration fee covers/uniform shirt, shorts and socks in addition to the league-wide fundraiser. Parents will be responsible for providing shin guards, soccer cleats and a practice ball. Practices begin in August, with games set to begin in September. Regular season games will be held on Saturday and Sunday afternoons, either at El Franco Lee Park or Beverly Hills Park.

### Clear Brook volleyball camp

Clear Brook High School varsity volleyball head coach Meredith Thompson and her staff will host the 2016 Lady Wolverines' Youth Clinic July 25-28, at the high school. Students entering the third through ninth grades as of the 2016-2017 school year are eligible to attend. Third through fifth-grade students will attend from 8 to 9:30 a.m., at a cost of \$100 per student. Sixth through eighth-grade first-year players will attend from 8 to 10:30 a.m., at \$120 per student. Advanced eighth-grade and ninth-grade players will attend from 10:45 a.m. to 1:45 p.m., at \$120 per student. The Clear Creek Independent School District does not provide medical insurance coverage for these types of summer or extracurricular activities, so parents are responsible for such coverage. For more information or to register, direct email to Thompson at [mthomps1@ccisd.net](mailto:mthomps1@ccisd.net).

### Dobie End of Summer Swim Clinic

Dobie High School swimming coaches Bradley Nguyen and Kyle Ediger will host the Longhorns' End of Summer Swim Clinic Monday through Thursday, Aug. 1-4, at the Beverly Hills Intermediate pool. Students age 6 through 14 are eligible to attend the clinic, which will run from 5 to 6 p.m. each day. Cost of the clinic is \$50, cash only. The Pasadena Independent School District does not provide medical insurance coverage for these types of summer or extracurricular activities, so parents are responsible for such coverage. For more information on registration details, direct emails to Nguyen at [ktnguyen@pasadenaisd.org](mailto:ktnguyen@pasadenaisd.org).

### Thompson youth volleyball

The Thompson Intermediate volleyball coaching staff will host the 2016 Lady Lions' youth clinic July 25-28, from 5 to 7 p.m., at the school. Students entering the seventh or eighth-grades as of the 2016-2017 school year are eligible to attend. The fee is \$25 cash only per student. Coaches Jessica Fitzmorris and Brooke Jordan and other clinic personnel will provide instruction in all phases of the game, including serving, receiving, passing, digging, setting and more. Participants should wear proper volleyball attire, including shorts, T-shirt, athletic shoes, knee pads, etc. The Pasadena Independent School District does not provide medical insurance coverage for these types of summer or extracurricular activities, so parents are responsible for such coverage. For more information on the clinic or to register, direct email to Fitzmorris at [JFitzmorris@pasadenaisd.org](mailto:JFitzmorris@pasadenaisd.org).

### SJC softball tryouts Aug. 12

The San Jacinto College softball team will host tryouts for the 2017 season on Friday, August 12. High school seniors are invited to attend. Pitchers and catchers will try out from 2 to 4 p.m., and infield and outfield prospects will try out from 4 to 6 p.m. All tryouts will take place at the San Jacinto College South campus softball field located at 13735 Beamer. Participants are asked to register for tryouts with Assistant Softball Coach Kelsey Walters, at [kelsey.walters@sjcd.edu](mailto:kelsey.walters@sjcd.edu) or 281-998-6150 ext. 3524.

### 2016-2017 athletic physicals stressed

Two-a-day football and volleyball workouts will get underway at the high school level Monday, Aug. 1, and various coaching staffs are again stressing the importance of student-athletes taking care of their 2016-2017 athletic physical responsibilities ahead of time. The University Interscholastic League, the official governing body of extracurricular activities in Texas, requires all student-athletes to have a completed athletic physical on file at their school of attendance. Student-athletes must have this done prior to being allowed to take part in any practice or workout. There are no exceptions. It's an issue seemingly every school year as some student-athletes simply do not get this handled. Families of athletes who have yet to undergo and turn in an athletic physical for the 2016-2017 school year may take the first step by contacting school officials. There is a printable form available at [dobie.pasadenaisd.org](http://dobie.pasadenaisd.org) under the Quick Links tab.

## Selection Day held at Phillips Field House



Dobie varsity football head coach Mike Norman (left) and his counterpart from Deer Park High School, Chris Massey, review officiating crew options for their Sept. 23 game – the District 22-6A opener between the Longhorns and the Deer at Veterans Memorial Stadium in Pasadena. The two coaches joined other Houston area head coaches from each of the state's classifications in picking officiating crews for 2016 games across the city. The Pasadena ISD hosted the "Selection Day" for the first time ever at Phillips Field House in Pasadena. Dobie and Deer Park are expected to compete with La Porte for the 22-6A championship this season.

## SJC's Huntley chooses SFA basketball



San Jacinto College sophomore forward Josh Huntley (24) will continue his education and playing career at Stephen F. Austin University in Nacogdoches, Texas, after signing a letter of intent with the Lumberjacks. A Florida native, Huntley transferred from Santa Fe Community College following his freshman season to SJC, where he averaged better than 10 points per game during the 2015-2016 season, starting each of the team's 32 games. In his final game as a San Jac player, Huntley pulled down 16 rebounds in a Region XIV playoff contest. He is part of a restocking effort at SFA under first-year head coach Kyle Keller.

## Forward set to aid Lumberjacks' restock effort

Josh Huntley, a San Jacinto College forward, has signed a national letter of intent to play men's basketball at Stephen F. Austin University in Nacogdoches. "Josh is a good ball player and an even better person," said head coach Scott Gernander, who has been at the helm of the San Jacinto College basketball program for four years. "He is a blue-collar player on the floor and brought the team great energy throughout the season." As one of only three players to play in all 32 games last season, the 6-foot-7-inch forward produced six double-double outings, ultimately averaging 10.3 points per game. Huntley connected on 68.9 percent of his free throws and 56.1 percent of his field goal attempts. He added 221 rebounds, including 85 of them on the offensive side, and 17 blocks. In his final game at SJC in the Region XIV tournament, Huntley pulled down a career-best 16 rebounds. Several four-year institutions showed interest in Huntley this past season. The Lauderdale Lakes, Florida (Deerfield Beach High School) native visited Southern University and Texas Southern University before choosing SFA. "Josh was very patient in making his decision," said Gernander. "He wanted to make sure he found the right fit, and I'm glad he found that in SFA." The Lumberjacks are looking to continue a run of success that included a berth in the final 32 at the 2016 NCAA Division I men's basketball championships. Kyle Keller, who had been an assistant coach at Texas A&M University for five seasons, was named SFA's new men's basketball head coach in April of this year. He told [www.sfajacks.com](http://www.sfajacks.com) that Huntley is exactly the type of player Stephen F. Austin needed heading into the 2016-2017 campaign and beyond. "To add someone like Josh who is from a tremendously successful and tradition-rich program like San Jacinto this late in the game is a testament to our coaching staff and the tireless work they put in to find the best players available to fill the needs of our team," Keller said. "Josh comes battle-tested from the premier junior college basketball league in the country and has shown improvement year by year. "Josh fills a great need for us in that he's a low-post, physical presence that also has the ability to step out and make the 15-foot jumper. "He knows who he is and has shown improvement year by year for a guy who hasn't been playing organized basketball that long. We feel that his best days are ahead of him." The San Jacinto College men's basketball team went 22-10 last season, winning 15 of its 16 home games, and making it to the third round of the National Junior College Athletic Association Region XIV tournament. For more information about SJC athletics, visit [sanjacsports.com](http://sanjacsports.com).

## Ellington Rams

### 2016 Regular Season

Date	Opponent
Aug. 13	– at Southbelt Dolphins
Aug. 20	– League City 49ers
Aug. 27	– at Pearland Hurricanes
Sept. 3	– at League City Saints
Sept. 10	– Alvin Raiders
Sept. 17	– Bayou City Bulldogs
Sept. 24	– Texas City Stingrays
Oct. 1	– Bye week
Oct. 8	– Sagemont Cowboys
Oct. 15	– Vikings
Oct. 22	– at Beaumont Bulls

*Note: Game times are as follows: Pee wee (8 a.m.); Seniors (9 a.m.); Juniors (10:45 a.m.); Sophomores (12:30 p.m.); Freshmen (2:15 p.m.)*

## Sagemont Cowboys

### 2016 Regular Season

Date	Opponent
Aug. 13	– at Pasadena Panthers
Aug. 20	– Friendswood Mustangs
Aug. 27	– East End Eagles
Sept. 3	– at La Marque Cougars
Sept. 10	– Bayou City Bulldogs
Sept. 17	– Bye week
Sept. 24	– at Magnolia Sharks
Oct. 1	– Alvin Raiders
Oct. 8	– at Ellington Rams
Oct. 15	– at Pearland Patriots
Oct. 22	– Southbelt Dolphins

*Note: Game times are as follows: Pee wee (8 a.m.); Seniors (9 a.m.); Juniors (10:45 a.m.); Sophomores (12:30 p.m.); Freshmen (2:15 p.m.)*

## Southbelt Dolphins

### 2016 Regular Season

Date	Opponent
Aug. 13	– Ellington Rams
Aug. 20	– at Vikings
Aug. 27	– at Bayou City Bulldogs
Sept. 3	– Magnolia Sharks
Sept. 10	– Pearland Hurricanes
Sept. 17	– Bye week
Sept. 24	– at Alvin Raiders
Oct. 1	– League City Saints
Oct. 8	– at League City 49ers
Oct. 15	– Pearland Texans
Oct. 22	– at Sagemont Cowboys

*Note: Game times are as follows: Pee wee (8 a.m.); Seniors (9 a.m.); Juniors (10:45 a.m.); Sophomores (12:30 p.m.); Freshmen (2:15 p.m.)*



During the 2015 season at Dobie, Damian Molina pitched both as a starter and relief pitcher for the Longhorns, and also spent considerable time in the outfield and in the infield. That versatility helped Molina draw looks from staff members at Richland

College in Dallas, a two-year junior college competing in the National Junior College Athletic Association's Division III ranks. As a freshman with the Thunderducks, Molina collected four saves over 11 total appearances.



Damian Molina (left), shown with Dobie catcher Jeremy Green in 2015, is eyeing a starting pitching role with Richland College in 2017. He also would like to get back into the batter's box a few times after throwing as a reliever in 2016.

## Closing doors A-OK with Molina at Richland College

By John Bechtle  
Sports Editor

Damian Molina is still living the dream of playing collegiate baseball, and he's been willing to contribute whatever is necessary to keep that dream alive in Dallas.

The class of 2015 Dobie High School graduate completed his first year at Richland College in Dallas, where he found himself a solid role as the Thunderducks' closer in late-inning situations.

In 14 appearances, Molina was 1-0 with four saves covering 21 2/3 innings. His earned run average of 3.74 was the team's best among those who saw regular time on

the mound.

So it was an overall fine season for the former Dobie outfielder/pitcher, but it's not exactly how Molina expected things to go.

When he agreed to play for head coach Guy Simmons at Richland, Molina figured he'd be much more of a contributor on the offensive side of things.

Molina spent last summer and the early portion of the fall semester in the batting cage, taking as many hacks as he could in preparation for a role in the infield or outfield.

In the fall season where open jobs or either won or lost, Molina played quite a bit of first base.

Yet by the second to

third series of the spring season in early February, Molina found himself pitching for the Thunderducks in late-inning situations.

For a while, Molina's save total was within the top five in the National Junior College Athletic Association's Division III ranks.

Molina said it was his off-speed pitches, primarily a curveball and an occasional change-up that paid the most dividends for him during the season.

"I threw a lot of curveballs, because you have to go with what is working," Molina said.

"My change-up started working in pretty well for

me, too, so I just went out there and tried to throw strikes."

"I think everybody just wants to do whatever you can to help the team win games," Molina said. "When you get here in August, you see 40 or 50 guys out there competing for maybe half that many spots on the team."

"And everybody can play. I think I was able to find my niche, but I'm still willing to do whatever the team needs."

Heading back to Dallas in just a month or so for the fall semester and subsequent fall "tryout" season, Molina said Simmons has told him to focus on possibly becoming one of

the Thunderducks' starting pitchers.

He might also figure into the team's plans more so on the offensive side of things.

"Again, it's about doing whatever it takes to get the job done," Molina said. "A lot of guys playing baseball have a dream of playing in college, and I'm getting the chance to do that."

"This is nothing like high school. It's very competitive. But you just have to go out and do the job. Stay prepared. Be ready when the time comes. You never know when your next opportunity is coming."

On the education side

of things, Molina spent the 2015-2016 school year taking basic courses. He eventually plans to study business, and one day wants to become an ICE Agent while protecting U.S. borders.

Molina will simply play baseball as long as possible. Richland College is a two-year junior college institution.

If Molina wants to play beyond 2017, he'll likely need a big spring season that turns some heads at the next level.

It's all about doing whatever it takes, and Molina has so far done just that. He's closing doors on the field right now, which could open doors later.

## Saldivar on the mend

Continued from Page 1B can heal quickly enough to be able to experience a normal senior year at Dobie High School.

While he still hopes to play soccer this season and perhaps even collegiately beyond 2017, Saldivar for now would love to know he'll be walking his high school's halls with little trouble roughly six weeks from now.

Saldivar was also supposed to vie for a role as Dobie's place kicker on the varsity football field this season, having kicked for the junior varsity team in 2015. That plan has changed.

However, doctors have told Saldivar that, barring any setbacks, he should be fully healed in time for the start of the season. The senior-to-be will likely miss a good portion of

preseason workouts leading up to the season, but, as they say, it is what it is.

For Saldivar, the important thing is that he should be able to put his talents on full display this season, furthering his chances to play collegiately.

Like most high school athletes, Saldivar is hoping to earn some scholarship funds, either via educational or athletically, to help pay for college.

"I'm not trying to be a pro athlete," he said. "I just want to be able to pay for some of my education through soccer. Right now, I still feel like that can happen."

Saldivar said he is willing to play almost anywhere across the nation, provided some scholarship funds come his way.

He wants to study engineering, and perhaps his

soccer talents can lead the way to a degree one day.

"I'm just happy to have the surgery and those things behind me, and now I can focus on getting healthy, getting ready for the school year and then play soccer."

"The doctors told me that usually when you have that type of an intestinal injury, organ failure is usually a big concern. I was able to avoid that, and I am so thankful to the doctors and others who cared for me."

"I should be back playing soccer on time for the season. If I feel well enough, they told me I can start jogging and doing some light conditioning work in about six weeks. That'll be a start."

Thankfully, it appears soccer is still in his future moving forward.



Dobie then junior midfielder Edwin Saldivar (10) played a key role as the Longhorns shut out Alief Taylor 1-0 in the area playoff round April 1, reaching the Region III quarterfinals.

### Beverly Hills Intermediate Football Camp

July 25-28 (M-TH) at Dobie High School

Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade entering 2016-2017: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Height: \_\_\_\_\_ Weight: \_\_\_\_\_

Positions: Offense: \_\_\_\_\_ Defense: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to enroll my child in the 2016 football camp. I understand that neither the coaches nor anyone connected with the football camp will assume any responsibility for accidents, medical, dental or other expenses incurred as a result of injuries sustained during the camp. I further acknowledge that my child is physically fit to participate.

Parent / Guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency contact/phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Physician/phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Camp to be held at Dobie High School**

Cost is \$30 per student. Please no checks or money orders. Cash only.

Camp hours are 9 to 11 a.m. each day for both incoming seventh-grade and eighth-grade students.

Report 15 minutes early July 25. Bring tennis shoes. Cleats optional.

For more information, call coach Ben Portis at 713-299-0251.

Camp information: The camp is designed for those student-athletes who will be entering either the seventh or eighth-grade at Beverly Hills Intermediate as of the 2016-2017 school year. Participants will take part in technique drills and also perform strength and conditioning activities in addition to pass catching, receiving, blocking, tackling and more. The camp staff will also cover the rules and regulations involving intermediate level games.

### Thompson Intermediate Football Camp

July 25 to July 28 (M-TH) at Dobie High School

Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade entering 2016-2017: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Height: \_\_\_\_\_ Weight: \_\_\_\_\_

Positions: Offense: \_\_\_\_\_ Defense: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to enroll my child in the 2016 football camp. I understand that neither the coaches nor anyone connected with the football camp will assume any responsibility for accidents, medical, dental or other expenses incurred as a result of injuries sustained during the camp. I further acknowledge that my child is physically fit to participate.

Parent / Guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency contact/phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Physician/phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Camp to be held at Dobie High School**

Cost is \$25 per student. Please no checks or money orders. Cash only.

Camp hours are 9 to 11 a.m. for all participants.

Report 15 minutes early July 25. Bring tennis shoes. Cleats optional.

For more information, direct email to coach Doug Sawyer at DSawyer@pasadenaisd.org. Camp information: The camp is designed for those student-athletes who will be entering either the seventh or eighth-grade at Thompson Intermediate as of the 2016-2017 school year. Participants will take part in technique drills and also perform strength and conditioning activities in addition to pass catching, receiving, blocking, tackling and more. The camp staff will also cover the rules and regulations involving intermediate level games.

# CALENDAR

**THURSDAY, JULY 21**  
7 a.m.

**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.

**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.

**Noon**

**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group of AA, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For information, call 713-856-1611.

**6 p.m.**

**Texas German Society, South Belt (SE) Chapter** - A social group interested in the culture, music, heritage and language of German immigrants in Texas. Meets monthly on the third Thursday, 6 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall of Mount Olive Lutheran Church, 10310 Scarsdale Blvd. Visitors welcome. Call 281-481-1238 for information.

**6:30 p.m.**

**CrossRoads UMC** - ESL classes Tuesday and Thursday, 6:30 p.m. at the church, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Course, books and child care are free. For information, call 281-484-9243 or visit [www.crossroads-umc.org](http://www.crossroads-umc.org).

**Survivors of Suicide Support Group** - offers support and coping skills in a non-threatening environment to adults who have lost a loved one to suicide. For details and location, call 713-533-4500 or visit [www.crisishotline.org](http://www.crisishotline.org).

**7 p.m.**

**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Women's Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For information, call 713-856-1611.

**Al-Anon (English)** - Support for family and friends of alcoholics/addicts, 7 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, room 215. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.

**Alateen** - Support for teenagers, friends and family mem-

bers of alcoholics/addicts, 7 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, room 208. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.

**8:30 p.m.**

**Alcoholics Anonymous** - AA meetings are Thursdays, 8:30 to 9:30 p.m., and Sundays and Tuesdays, 8 to 9 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For information, call 713-204-2481.

**FRIDAY, JULY 22**  
7 a.m.

**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.

**Noon**

**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - Open games Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.

**Noon**

**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - West End Group of AA, noon, Shepherd of the Heart United Methodist Church, 12005 County Road 39, Pearland. For information, call 713-856-1611.

**6 p.m.**

**Un Dia a la Vez Alanon Group (Spanish)** - Provides support for family and friends of alcoholics or addicts. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 6 p.m., room 215, First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.

**7 p.m.**

**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2245 N. Main St., Pearland. For information, call 713-856-1611.

**8 p.m.**

**Alcoholics Anonymous** - meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For information, call 281-484-9243.

**Al-Anon** - meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Friday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For information, call 281-484-9243.

**Serenity Now Al-Anon Group** - meeting at CrossRoads

UMC on Friday, 8 to 9 p.m. Family members and friends of problem drinkers or addicts learn they are not alone, share, learn principles of Al-Anon and learn about choices available to them. 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call 281-484-9243.

**SATURDAY, JULY 23**  
7:30 a.m.

**Alcoholics Anonymous** - "Breakfast with Bill", Saturdays, 7:30 a.m., First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.

**10 a.m.**

**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2245 N. Main St., Pearland. For information, call 713-856-1611.

**11 a.m.**

**Al-Anon Meeting (Women Only, English)** - For women whose lives are affected by an addict. Saturdays, 11 a.m., First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Cornell Conference room #111. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.

**1 p.m.**

**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - Open games Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.

**8 p.m.**

**Alcoholics Anonymous** - meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For information, call 281-484-9243.

**SUNDAY, JULY 24**  
1 p.m.

**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - Open games Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.

**2 p.m.**

**Clear Lake Bridge Club Lab Class** - Sunday and Tuesday, 2 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. For details or classes, contact Dr. Glandorf at [dr.glandorf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dr.glandorf@sbcglobal.net) or call 281-488-6318.

**Grief Support Group** - For adults who have lost a loved

one. Meets Sundays, 2 to 3:15 p.m., First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy. For details, call 281-487-8787.

**5:30 p.m.**

**Celebrate Recovery** - A faith-based 12-Step Program. Sundays, 5:30 p.m., in the Chapel at Life Church, 9900 Alameda Genoa. Call 713-419-2635 for details or to RSVP for child care.

**6:30 p.m.**

**Alcoholics Anonymous** - Candlelight Meeting, Sunday, 6:30 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.

**7 p.m.**

**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of NA meets Sundays, 7 p.m., 2245 N. Main St., Pearland. For information, call 713-856-1611.

**8 p.m.**

**Alcoholics Anonymous** - meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For information, call 281-484-9243.

**Alcoholics Anonymous** - Alcohol problems? Meetings are Thursdays, 8:30 to 9:30 p.m., and Sundays and Tuesdays, 8 to 9 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For details, call 713-204-2481.

**MONDAY, JULY 25**  
10 a.m.

**Al-Anon Deer Park** - Mondays 10 to 11 a.m. Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P Street, Deer Park. Enter through Fellowship Hall in back of church. Call 409-454-5720 for information, or just drop in.

**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - Open games Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.

**11:30 a.m.**

**Overeaters Anonymous Deer Park** - 11:30 a.m. Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P St., Deer Park. Go through Fellowship Hall (back of church). Call 409-454-5720 for information, or just drop in.

**Continued on Page 4B**

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SOUTHBELT - Data-Systems - Hard Drive Data Recovery - Linux Installation. 10909 Sabo, Suite 120, 281-922-4160. E-mail: sds@walkerlaw.com TF

payroll, sales tax, non-smoking office. Fax resume to 281-484-6987. 8-4  
**HOME HEALTHCARE WORKERS:** Need all shifts. Call Sandra 713-459-8473 7-21  
DRIVERS: Local Houston! \$2000 Sign-On Bonus Refrigerated Openings! Great Pay, Benefits! CDL-A, 1yr Exp. Req. Estenson Logistics Apply [www.goelc.com](http://www.goelc.com) 1-855-298-4059 7-21

946-0477 7-28  
FOREST PARK EAST CEMETERY: Three spaces, choice location Section 206, lot 89, spaces 7, 8, 9. Call 281-487-7932 TF

**NOTICE**  
MR. DOAN HOA we have your wallet at the South Belt Leader office. Please come in to claim. 7-21

**REAL ESTATE**  
ROOM FOR RENT \$500 a month. 713-459-3143. Must have references and background check. 7-21

**GARAGE SALE**  
11515 SAGEVALLEY in Sageglen. Fri & Sat, July 22 & 23, 7 a.m. - ? Lots of treasures. 7-21  
10318 RAY BROOK LANE Clear Brook Meadows Sub. Sat, July 23, 7 a.m. - ? 5 dollars make you holler, 1 sack all you can pack. 7-21

**HELP WANTED**  
HELP WANTED: Creative Housekeeper four (4) hours per week. Experienced helpful, maybe two homes. Fred 281-788-5115 8-4  
HOME HELP NEEDED: Two senior citizens need help with housekeeping and some cooking, 6 days a week. For more information call 281-992-8026. TF  
LOCAL ACCOUNTING FIRM needs bookkeeper, experienced in quickbooks, 8-4

**LOST & FOUND PETS**  
MISSING CAT "ANNIE": from Major Blizzard Dr., Clear Brook Meadows. Spayed, inside cat, no chip, dark grey, with distinct bik markings, white throat, chest, and paws. Grn grey-ish eyes, very loving, may be skittish, not very vocal, no collar, 6 yrs old. 281-412-7020, 281-543-0753 7-28  
KITTEN TO GOOD HOME: male, orange/white, tabby. Sweet, 3 mo. old, lap baby, and plays well alone. Personality - plus. Fostered in home with dogs and cats, in Sagemont. 281-433-3362 8-4

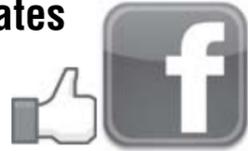
**MISCELLANEOUS**  
ROSEWOOD MEMORIAL CEMETERY LOTS: 3 Lots available, located in the veterans section across from Baby land \$2400 each or best offer. 713-728-2422 7-28

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MAID SERVICE: Experienced, reasonable rates, efficient, dependable. Mary 832-918-9923 8-4  
FREE PRESSURE WASHING (OOPS) I meant free estimates. Houses, driveways, sidewalks, etc. Call Scott at 979-235-0645 7-28  
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# CALENDAR

Continued from Page 3B

**MONDAY, JULY 25**  
Noon  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group of AA meets at noon at 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For more information, call 713-856-1611. 3:15 p.m.  
**Houston Area Parkinson Society** - Free exercise and speech therapy for adults with Parkinson's, 3:15 to 4:45 p.m., Clear Lake Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster. Visit [www.hapsonline.org](http://www.hapsonline.org) for details.  
6 p.m.  
**Scrabble Club #511** - Meets Mondays at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua, 6 p.m. Come, improve crossword game playing skills. Call 281-488-2923 for details.  
6:30 p.m.  
**Pearland Overeaters Anonymous HOW Meeting** - Mondays at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 2535 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland. Enter door next to recycling bins. For details, call 713-865-3668 or visit [www.oahouston.org](http://www.oahouston.org).  
7 p.m.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church-youth bldg. For information, call 713-856-1611.  
**Friends Helping Friends Grief Support Group** - meets Mondays, Kindred Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster, 7 to 8:15 p.m., in the Team Conference Room. Anyone who's lost a loved one is welcome. Free. For information, call Mrs. Barry Craven at 281-486-4241 or R. Sanchez at 281-337-4365.  
7:30 p.m.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - New AA meeting, Saint Luke's Group, 12 Step Recovery Program, open meeting Monday, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Education Building, 11011 Hall Road, 77089. For more information, call Russell Garcia at 832-483-6715.  
**Congregation Shaar Hashalom** - Israeli Folk Dancing on Monday, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m., 16020 El Camino Real, 77062. \$4/session or \$35/10 sessions for CSH members and \$5/session or \$45/10 sessions for nonmembers. Everyone is welcome. For information, contact 281-488-5861 or [csh@shaarhashalom.org](mailto:csh@shaarhashalom.org).  
**TUESDAY, JULY 26**  
7 a.m.  
**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., in the Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or drop in.  
9:30 a.m.  
**Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - Exhibits include dioramas, an old-time kitchen and a turn-of-the-century doctor's office. Tuesday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., 204 S. Main, Pasadena. For information, call 713-472-0565.  
10 a.m.  
**American Begonia Society** - Houston Satellite meets on the fourth Tuesday, Clear Lake Park, 5001 NASA Pkwy. (on the lake side), Seabrook. For information, call Joe at 281-481-2458.  
**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.  
Noon  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group of AA meets at noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For information, call 713-856-1611.  
**Rotary Club of Pearland** - Meets Tuesdays, noon to 1 p.m., Golfcrest Country Club, 2509 Country Club Dr., Pearland. Lunch is \$15. Variety of interesting speakers. For information, call 281-900-7257 or visit [nlix@texascitizensbank.com](http://nlix@texascitizensbank.com).  
1 p.m.  
**Ballroom Dance Practice** - Tuesdays, Hometown Heroes Park. Enjoy a variety of ballroom music, free dancing, 1 to 3 p.m., on a beautiful floating hardwood floor. Instructor available to assist. Everyone is welcome! For questions, call 281-554-1180. 1001 East League City Pkwy.  
1:30 p.m.  
**TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)** - #1530 meets at the Sagemont Park Community Center, 11507 Hughes Rd., 1:30 p.m. For information, call Jeanette Sumrall at 713-946-3713.  
**Clear Lake Bridge Club Lab Class** - Sunday and Tuesday, 2 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. For details or classes, contact Dr. Glandorf at [drglandorf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:drglandorf@sbcglobal.net) or call 281-488-6318.  
6 p.m.  
**Un Dia a la Vez Alanon Group (Spanish)** - Support for family/friends of alcoholics/addicts. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 6 p.m., First United Methodist Church, room 215, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena. Call 281-487-8787.  
6:30 p.m.  
**CrossRoads UMC** - ESL classes Tuesday and Thursday, 6:30 p.m. at the church, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Course, books and child care are free. For information, call 281-484-9243 or visit [www.crossroads-umc.org](http://www.crossroads-umc.org).  
7 p.m.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church-youth bldg. For information, call 713-856-1611.  
**Houston Space City Lions Club** - Meets the second and fourth Tuesday, 7 p.m., at Luby's (11595 Fuqua). For details, call George Malone at 281-438-7243.  
8 p.m.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** - Alcohol problems? AA meetings are held Thursdays, 8:30 to 9:30 p.m., and Sundays and Tuesdays, 8 to 9 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For information, call 713-204-2481.  
**WEDNESDAY, JULY 27**  
7 a.m.  
**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or drop in.  
9:30 a.m.  
**Young at Heart Club** - Meets the second and fourth week monthly (except November and December) at Covenant United Methodist Church, 7900 Fuqua. Lots of activities, trips, etc. Call Doris Byerly at 713-944-4474 for information.  
10 a.m.  
**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - Open games Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.  
Noon  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group of AA meets at noon at 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For information, call 713-856-1611.  
1 p.m.  
**Hometown Heroes Park** - has free Hump Day Dance to practice ballroom dance, 1 to 3:30 p.m. Wednesdays, 1001 E. League City Pkwy. League City nonresidents must purchase activity card. Help is available to assist learning dance moves. For details, call Neva Schroder at 417-838-2204.  
5:30 - 7:30 p.m.  
**CrossRoads UMC** - Invites everyone to the Wednesday night service beginning with a light meal and fellowship at 5:30 p.m., followed by a praise, worship and prayer service at 6:30 p.m., then a Bible study led by both pastors (English and Spanish). Everyone is welcome!  
6 p.m.  
**Un Dia a la Vez Alanon Group (Spanish)** - Support for family/friends of alcoholics or addicts. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 6 p.m., First United Methodist Church, room 215, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.  
7 p.m.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church-youth bldg. For information, call 713-856-1611.  
7 p.m.  
**Bay Area Turning Point Crisis Intervention** - Call 281-286-2525 (24-hour crisis hotline) for confidential domestic violence/sexual abuse support group for women. Visit [www.bayareaturningpoint.org](http://www.bayareaturningpoint.org) for information.  
8 p.m.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** - meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For information, call 281-484-9243.  
**THURSDAY, JULY 28**  
7 a.m.  
**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.  
10 a.m.  
**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.  
Noon  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.  
6:30 p.m.  
**Kirkwood Civic Association** meets at the Sagemont Community Center, 11507 Hughes Rd. For details, call Ericka McCutcheon at 281-989-9990.  
6:30 p.m.  
**CrossRoads UMC** - ESL classes Tuesday and Thursday, 6:30 p.m. at the church, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Course, books and child care are free. For details, call 281-484-9243 or visit [www.crossroads-umc.org](http://www.crossroads-umc.org).  
**Well Spouse Support Group** - meets monthly at CrossRoads UMC, 10030 Scarsdale, the last Thursday with those who are the husband, wife or partner of a chronically ill/disabled person, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Free childcare provided. No meetings in Nov. or Dec. For details, contact Jennifer Miller at [houstonwellspouse@gmail.com](mailto:houstonwellspouse@gmail.com) or 713-724-2360, or visit <http://www.wellspouse.org>.  
7 p.m.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Women's Group, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-856-1611.  
**AI-Anon (English)** - Support for family and friends of alcoholics/addicts, 7 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, room 215. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.  
7 p.m.  
**Alateen** - Support for teens, friends and family members of alcoholics/addicts, 7 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, room 208. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.  
8:30 p.m.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** - Alcohol problems? Meetings are Thursdays, 8:30 to 9:30 p.m., and Sundays and Tuesdays, 8 to 9 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For details, call 713-204-2481.

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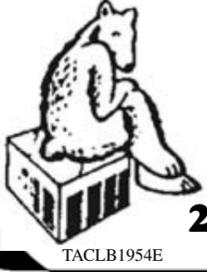
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# National championships present final hurdle for Rising Stars' qualifiers

Continued from Page 1B the successes of the Rising Stars from year to year. Head coach Ivory Kimble and staff assistants and volunteers have coached up plenty of national-level talent for decades. In 2015, the Rising Stars sent a similar number of competitors to nationals. It's simply become the norm for the area's longest-standing youth track and field organization. Yes, Kimble has overseen some great athletes and performances in previous years and decades, yet says this year's group

is one of the best he's seen in years. "This is certainly one of the best groups I have had, period," Kimble said. "You have to remember that track and field is 90 percent mental and 10 percent physical, simply because there's a lot of mutual talent out here. "You have to be able to come out here every day with a belief and desire to get better, and that's exactly what they did. We qualified 33 out of 37 athletes from regionals to the JOs, and that's just a great effort." Braylan Shelby,

Nadi'ya Shelby, Dickson, Joshua Ross, Christian Ross, Christianne Ross, Caleb Devereaux, Cameron Devereaux, Shelby Devereaux, Sydney Devereaux, Matt Kovacevich, Cody Turner and Luis Figueroa were all at nationals a season ago. Dickson won medals at nationals in 2013 and 2014. Of interest, the Rising Stars qualified more than 10 athletes in either the turbo javelin or javelin events. It's usually a first-time event for youths, but yet this team seems to have mastered it quickly. "There's definitely an art to it," Kimble said. "It's not an easy technique to master quickly, but yet a lot of our kids reached nationals in the event."

Kimble also expressed extreme disappointment that Rising Star Jasmine Carrera, who he deemed the team's best competitor in the event, was on the wrong end of what he believes was an officiating error at regionals and thus did not qualify for the event. Jacoby and Jeremy Davis will go head-to-head with each other as well as against those across the nation in the meet. Jacoby Davis' championship throw at regionals went more than 168 feet. Jacoby Davis, meanwhile, was third with a throw of better than 130 feet. Jeremy Davis, slated to be the Dobie varsity football starting quarterback this season, said his technique is simple. "It's basically like try-

ing to throw a football as far as you can," Jacoby Davis said. "I figure if I can throw a football 60 yards, then I can throw a javelin pretty far, too." Yet as far as Jeremy Davis is concerned, he wants to excel in the 110-hurdles at nationals, his lone track event of the meet. Similarly, Jacoby Davis would like to do well in the high jump. An area championship qualifier while at Dobie as a junior, Jacoby Davis hit 6 feet at AAU regionals to make nationals. He believes he can go higher at nationals, and he also wants to challenge his brother in the javelin.

"Yes, I think I can do 6'2" or better in the high jump at nationals, and in the javelin I want to throw it as far as I can and give myself a chance to beat my brother. That's what it's about right now." Kovacevich, another returnee to nationals, is looking at the 1,500-meter run as his best chance to medal at nationals. He ran the 3,000-meter distance previously at nationals, and is due to compete in the 3,000, and the javelin this season. Caleb Devereaux and Zion Walker will also compete in the 1,500-meter run at nationals, having finished 1-2 at regionals. "Caleb and Zion ran a strategic race at regionals, and Zion came out on top," Kimble said. "I definitely think the guys have a great chance to medal."



## Local tracksters headed to Junior Olympic Games with gold in mind

Several athletes from the Rising Stars Track Club figure to be in contention for national titles as the Amateur Athletic Union Junior Olympic Games get under way later this month at Humble's Turner Stadium. Of the 37 Rising Stars who took part in the Region 17 competition, 33 punched their ticket for nationals. Those national qualifiers include, left to right, (front row) Noah Caballero, Evan Jackson, Ayden Salcedo, (second row) Christian Ross, Nadi'ya Shelby, Camryn Dickson, Elijah Jackson, Torik Algedion, Braylan Shelby, (third row) Amari Singleton, Christianne Ross, Abbygail Balli, Sydney Devereaux, Atziri

Galarza, Joshua Ross, (fourth row) Dominic Caballero, Marissa Lozano, Erin Torres, Jasmine Carrera, Shelby Devereaux, Luis Figueroa, (fifth row) Devin Caballero, Matthew Kovacevich, Mickey Ramirez, Jalon Jamerson, Donovan Johnson, (sixth row) Samuel Wikel, Deon Brown, Cameron Devereaux, Zion Walker, Cody Turner, (seventh row) Jeremy Davis, Jacoby Davis, Caleb Devereaux, Camille Singleton, D'Erica Pou Carter, (back row) assistant coaches Terence Davis and Erica Davis and head coach Ivory Kimble. Not pictured are Menelik Gurnell and Blake Thomason. The Junior Olympic Games run through Aug. 6.

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