

South Belt-Ellington Leader

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Voice of Community-Minded People since 1976

Thursday, August 24, 2017

Email: mynews@southbeltleader.com

www.southbeltleader.com

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Park & Ride to open

A ribbon-cutting ceremony for the opening of the new METRO Park & Ride location at El Dorado Boulevard and Glenwest will take place Tuesday, Aug. 29, at 9 a.m. The facility will actually begin service the previous day on Aug. 28. The 1,200-space lot will provide commuter service for METRO customers traveling to downtown Houston and the Texas Medical Center. Residents are also reminded to utilize METRO's HOV/HOT lanes, which now run all the way to NASA Road 1 on the Gulf Freeway. Updated hours of operation are 5 to 11 a.m. inbound and 1 to 8 p.m. outbound.

Vacation photos sought

The *Leader* is seeking readers' 2017 vacation photos for publication. A first-, second- and third-place prize of Schlitterbahn Galveston tickets will be awarded monthly to the best submissions. First place will be awarded eight tickets; second place will be awarded six; and third place will be awarded four. Submissions should include when and where the photo was taken, identify each person in the picture and describe the trip. Photos must be high resolution. Email to mynews@southbeltleader.com. See this week's vacation photos on Page 6B.

Gulf Freeway closures set

According to the Texas Department of Transportation, at least one inside lane on the northbound and southbound frontage roads of the Gulf Freeway from NASA Road 1 to State Highway 96 in League City will be closed nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Sept. 30. At least one alternate lane on the northbound and southbound main lanes of I-45 from NASA Road 1 to State Highway 96 in League City will be closed nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Sunday, Dec. 31. Alternate entrance and exit ramps on the Gulf Freeway from NASA Road 1 to State Highway 96 in League City will be closed from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Sunday, Dec. 31. The closures are associated with an ongoing construction project to widen the freeway from three to five lanes in each direction and the frontage roads from two to three lanes in each direction.

KC hosts spaghetti dinner

The Knights of Columbus Council 9201 will host a fundraising spaghetti dinner Friday, Aug. 25, from 5 to 7 p.m. in the St. Luke Catholic Church social hall, 11011 Hall Road. The menu will include all-you-can-eat penne rigate pasta covered with the original KC 9201 pasta sauce, two made-from-scratch Italian meatballs, garden salad with Italian dressing, French bread and ice tea or lemonade. Cost is \$7 eat-in or take-out. For children under 12, the cost is \$3 (one meatball), eat-in only.

JFD 20-Year reunion set

Calling all 1997 Longhorns. The 20-year reunion is Saturday, Sept. 16, from 6 to 10 p.m. at St. Arnold Brewery. Tickets are \$70 and include food, open taps, a commemorative pint glass, '90s music and entrance to the private Friday night mixer at the Cottonwood, 3422 N. Shepherd. Buy tickets at paypal.me/97reuniontickets or email Stephen Landin at stlevelandin@hotmail.com.

New Life holds bazaar

New Life Lutheran Church, located at 3521 E. Orange St. in Pearland, will hold its annual bazaar Friday, Oct. 6, and Saturday, Oct. 7. The event will feature barbecue, crafts, fair and fun for kids. For more information, call 281-485-1818.

Knights hold football raffle

The Knights of Columbus Council 4577-Our Lady of Mt. Carmel is selling raffle tickets for a chance to attend the Dallas Cowboys vs. Houston Texans game on Thursday, Aug. 31. First place wins two tickets in section 117, Bullpen, with a platinum parking permit, Row A. Second place wins two tickets in section 117, Bullpen. Each raffle ticket costs \$5 or a book of six raffle tickets is \$25. The drawing will be held Sunday, Aug. 27. For more information, call 832-877-0260 and leave a message.

CrossRoads hosts program

CrossRoads UMC, 10030 Scarsdale, has implemented Mercy Hearts, a new program to minister to families with incarcerated members who meet the second and fourth Mondays monthly from 6 to 8 p.m. The program provides a complimentary meal, group Bible study and discussion. Child care will be provided. This is a confidential ministry and information will be treated accordingly. The next meeting is Monday, Aug. 28. For more information, contact C. Talbot at 281-245-7072 or Chucktal@msn.com.

Free self defense offered

The American Society of Karate will offer free one-hour self-defense and martial-arts courses for teens and adults (ages 13-80) at the Sagemont Park Community Center, 11507 Hughes Road. The new session will begin Friday, Sept. 15, and subsequent sessions are on Fridays from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. For more information, email Michael.Alonzo@ASKKarate.com or call 281-788-5930.

Additional deputies equals additional arrests

Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Chris Diaz's office recently added five new contract deputies to the South Belt patrol, and with the added presence, has come a sharp increase in local arrests.

"With the uprise in population and industrial growth in the area, these additional positions were very needed," said Precinct 2 Lt. Mike Kritzer.

"Since the hiring of these deputies, I have personally witnessed a lot more proactive policing, as opposed to reactive policing, being done in the South Belt. We have a very good group of deputies, who all work well together in keeping this area safe. In the past, the deputies were sometimes so overwhelmed with calls and reports, they were simply just responding to the calls and not

actually having time to get out and be proactive as well and just simply meeting and speaking with the residents in the area. I can honestly say things are definitely looking better for the area when it comes to policing with these additions."

According to Kritzer, area arrests have gone

up significantly since the hirings, particularly in felony cases.

For example, in June/July 2016, local contract deputies made 17 arrests. By comparison, that figure jumped to 61 arrests during June/July 2017.

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Man killed in Scarsdale shooting

A man was found shot to death in his vehicle around 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 19, in the 12100 block of Teaneck near Astoria.

According to the Houston Police Department, the victim, Preston Alan Blue, had arranged a meeting to purchase an item, possibly a cell phone, from the suspected shooter. During the transaction, however, Blue, 27, was shot multiple times in the head, chest and upper extremities.

He was pronounced dead at the scene.

Surveillance footage of the incident from a nearby home was posted on Facebook, reported-

ly showing shots being fired from a passenger inside the vehicle, who then flees the scene on foot. The footage has since been turned over to HPD Homicide investigators.

Other Facebook posts suggested the shooter had already been apprehended, but the suspect remained at large at press time Wednesday, police said.

Anyone with any information on this case is urged to contact HPD's Homicide Division at 713-308-3600 or Crime Stoppers of Houston at 713-222-TIPS (8477).

Dobie readies 9th-grade campus

By Jay Do

Construction of the J. Frank Dobie High School Ninth Grade Campus at the southeast corner of Fuqua and Monroe is well underway.

Set to open in January 2018 at the start of the second semester of the 2017-2018 academic year, the 169,275-square-foot campus, approved by voters in November 2014, is expected to house around 1,000 ninth-grade students, in an effort to combat the overcrowding issues the main campus of the high school now faces, as well as prepare for the rapid projected growth of the South Belt community.

"The overcrowding and the projected growth here in the South Belt area led us to develop this

ninth-grade center," said Dobie High School Principal Franklin Moses. "The original building here at Dobie was maxed out at 3,400 students, and we reached 3,900 last year. With a projected growth of an additional 300 to 400 students, the district felt as if though there was a need to try to alleviate the overcrowding, and the chosen way was to build a ninth-grade campus which would house about 1,000 freshmen and alleviate us back down to around 3,200 students at the main campus."

Leading the campus as principal will be Michael Van Essen, currently an assistant principal at the main Dobie campus.

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Local hospital pharmacy burglarized

Houston police are searching for three suspects wanted for burglarizing the Walgreens pharmacy at Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital on Astoria near Beamer early Saturday, Aug. 19.

According to police, the crooks broke into the pharmacy, located in the professional building adjacent to the main hospital, around 3:30 a.m. The forced entry triggered the facility's alarm, but the suspects had successfully fled the scene by the time police arrived.

At press time, it was unclear what, if anything, was stolen. Authorities are reviewing surveillance footage of the incident, and the investigation is ongoing.

A similar burglary took place around 3:30 a.m. on June 29 at the Walgreens pharmacy at the Memorial Hermann Southwest Hospital branch, located in the 7600 block of Beechnut.

It is unclear if the two incidents are related.

The recent hospital burglary comes fresh on the heels of another local pharmacy crime that took place Wednesday, Aug. 2, at the H-E-B at Blackhawk and Beltway 8. In that incident, two suspects broke into the store after hours while employees were stocking supplies, and one man held staff at bay with the threat of a gun, while the second crook looted the pharmacy, before both fled in a vehicle.

Two other similar robberies took place early Monday, Aug. 21, at Houston-area H-E-Bs, including one on Buffalo Speedway and one on Fry Road. Two of the four suspects involved in the Buffalo Speedway robbery were arrested following the incident, and police were able to also connect them to the Fry Road crime. It is unclear, however, if the suspects were also involved in the robbery of the Blackhawk H-E-B.

Stolen truck used in attempted burglary

A suspect is wanted for committing multiple crimes in two law enforcement jurisdictions during the early hours of Thursday, Aug. 17.

The first crime took place in Precinct 2 when a white Ford F-250 pickup truck was stolen from a residence in the 10500 block of Sagetrail near Kirkfair.

According to police, the vehicle was then used in an attempted burglary around 2 a.m. inside the Houston city limits at the Shell station located in the 11000 block of Beltway 8 at Beamer Road.

Houston Police Department spokesman John Cannon said the suspect smashed through the front of the business by backing the truck into the store in what appeared to be an attempt to

steal the business's ATM. While the crook's attempt to take the ATM was unsuccessful, he reportedly caused extensive damage to the store, Cannon said. The suspect fled the store empty-handed and was pursued by a witness. The thief then abandoned the stolen truck in the 11400 block of Sagemist, again in Precinct 2, and successfully fled on foot.

The suspect is described merely as a black male. He is wanted on a felony charge of burglary of a building and a felony charge of unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.

Anyone with any information on this case is urged to contact Crime Stoppers of Houston at 713-222-TIPS (8477).

PISD, SJC return to school



With local students returning to school this past week, Pasadena Independent School District Superintendent Dr. DeeAnn Powell (left) and San Jacinto College Chancellor Dr. Brenda Hellyer (right) both delivered presentations at an education luncheon sponsored by the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce Tuesday, Aug. 22. Powell spoke on PISD's upcoming tax ratification election, which the chamber endorses, while Hellyer addressed San Jacinto's increased enrollment. The two educational leaders also discussed the community's growing career and technical training programs.

Photo by Marie Flickinger

"Gas Can Man" faces felony charge

A panhandler who has attracted widespread attention on local social media sites has been charged with a felony after allegedly threatening the life of a law enforcement officer.

Luz Alfred Garcia Jr., often referred to as the "Gas Can Man" on websites such as Facebook and Twitter, has drawn the ire of many in the community by regularly standing at local intersections, usually along Beltway 8, with an empty gas can, claiming to be broken down and in need of cash.

Despite having several previous run-ins with the law, Garcia has been spared any serious criminal charges in the past, as traditional panhandling offenses are difficult to enforce in the area, unless the suspect does so in an aggressive manner or obstructs traffic.

While being arrested on unrelated charges on Saturday, July 22, however, Garcia reportedly made repeated threats against the arresting Precinct 2 deputy's life.

Garcia, 26, was subsequently charged with a felony count of retaliation.

While some users on the aforementioned social media sites took little offense to Garcia's actions, the vast majority of comments were vehemently opposed to his ongoing antics, which often included him allegedly taunting drivers and bragging about how much money he made through his hustle.

Harris County Precinct 2 Lt. Mike Kritzer sides with the latter group.

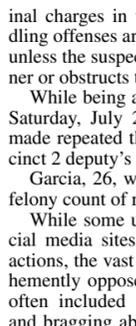
"I know to some people this was not a big deal, but ultimately, this man was making more people than not feel uncomfortable and harassed," Kritzer said. "To me, these are not the type of people you want in your area that you live."

Annual 9/11 Heroes Run set for Sept. 9

The eighth annual 9/11 Heroes Run is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 9. While the 5K-run has traditionally been held at Ellington Airport in the past, this year's event will take place at Houston City Hall, located at 901 Bagby St. in downtown.

Founded in honor of Marine 1st Lt. Travis Manion, who was killed by sniper fire in Iraq in April 2007, the yearly event raises funds for the families of fallen soldiers and first responders.

The run takes place at more than 50 locations worldwide on or around Sept. 11, with Houston being the largest event in the country. Last year, approximately 30,000 people participated in the races around the globe, with the Travis Manion Foundation donating more than \$150,000 to various charities.



Luz Garcia

The event is welcome to runners and walkers of all levels and of all ages. Advance registration is currently underway and will continue through Friday, Sept. 8. Individual registration is \$40 in advance. Family packs of four registrations are \$120 in advance. Active-duty military and first responders receive a discounted rate of \$36 in advance with valid government ID.

Race-day registration is \$45 for individuals and \$135 for family packs. Active-duty military and first responders will receive a discounted rate of \$40 on race day with valid government ID.

For more information or to register, visit <http://www.travismanion.org/community-engagement/911-heros-run>.

Residents urged to prepare for Harvey

The Harris County Flood Control District, along with the Harris County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management and the National Weather Service are closely monitoring Tropical Depression Harvey as it moves over the southern Gulf of Mexico.

Conditions appear favorable for intensification of Harvey up to landfall somewhere along the mid-Texas coast Friday evening, with heavy rain impacts that could last through early next week.

At 10 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 23, a tropical storm watch was issued for Harris County by the National Weather Service. The main concern with this weather system for Harris County is widespread rainfall amounts of 10-15 inches over the next five days. Rainfall of this magnitude can result in widespread and potentially

dangerous river, creek and bayou flooding, along with flash flooding.

HCFCD's Flood Operations team will monitor the weather system as it approaches and is taking the following steps in advance of the

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Leader clarification

The *Leader* would like to clarify a cutline that ran with a photo titled *Flight museum takes off* that was published in the Aug. 17 edition. The cutline stated the new Lone Star Flight Museum at Ellington Airport will open on Friday, Sept. 1. While a ribbon-cutting ceremony is planned for Sept. 1, attendance will be limited to only elected officials and special guests. The museum will open to the public the following day on Saturday, Sept. 2.



Otwell, Razo named Dobie cheer captains

The J. Frank Dobie High School Varsity Cheerleaders recently announced that Sara Otwell (left) and Reagan Razo (right) will serve as Dobie Varsity cheer captains for the 2017-2018 season.

Photo submitted

In My Opinion

Hastings appreciates Shining Stars

I read the SBE-L regularly, checking for Flood Control District news. I have been meaning for some time to tell you how much I enjoy the pictures of the students and their favorite teachers. What a nice feature! Having raised my three smart, interesting children, I know very well the value of teachers who "get" your kid and inspire them to learn, excel etc. I think it's great that you call attention to these fine teachers in such a public, fun way.

Karen Hastings Publisher's note: Thank you so much for your comments, as well as all the work you do for Harris County Flood Control. We can't take the credit for these entertaining stories on the district's top students and their favorite teachers. This credit goes to Pasadena Independent School District.

Thanks for your comments.
Marie Flickinger,
Publisher

Montague reminds parents on drinking

Helping teens make good choices is as simple as starting a conversation, and back-to-school is an ideal time for parents to talk about avoiding peer pressure to drink underage. Research shows that parents are the greatest influence on teens. In fact, 69 percent of 13-17 year-olds nationwide cite their parents as the No.1 influence on whether they drink alcohol or not."

Exercising that influence by actively listening and holding their teens accountable for decisions about underage drinking is something that parents should be encouraged to do. Asking open-ended questions gets teens thinking about what they would do when and if they're offered a drink – and the potential consequences.

Silver Eagle Distributors wants to remind parents about the Family Talk About Drinking program, a free parent guide and Facebook community designed to encourage open and honest communication between parents and their children to help prevent underage drinking. Programs like this one, paired with educa-

tion and effective law enforcement, are essential to reducing underage drinking. Remember, it's our collective responsibility to help prevent underage drinking. For more information on starting a conversation with your teen, please visit www.familytalkaboutdrinking.com.

To Mayor Turner, council members

The news media is reporting you have established a committee to look at the issues involved in removing confederate statues.

This issue is getting totally out of hand. It is written history of what happened during the civil war and several opinions about what really caused the war. This time period was a very dark page in the history of this great nation. We have had others just about as bad. So this is not the only one. Most think it was slavery, by the way that issue was settled 160 years ago. One of the major issues was the wealthy industrialist north versus the poor rural farming of the south. Different labor needs. No one today has any connection with slavery. Remove all the statues, then go into every library and remove any and all books involved. You CANNOT rewrite history.

Let's look at what happened this weekend in Charlottesville, Va. A white group said they would come and protest the removal of the confederate statues. Their right to do so. BUT then there was the other side. If they had stayed away, out of this, the protest would have failed and they would have left embarrassed. No the other side showed up and some of them were as bad as the protest people were. There is always two sides to a story and now President Trump is taking heat for how he spoke about this. He made it clear, he wanted all the facts before he spoke. You would do the same, I hope.

Think twice before you make a rash decision. What could the next step be, people asking that black road ways, pictures, statues be removed. This could escalate very quickly. Best that you look at cooling things down, tell people to keep their opinions and thinking to themselves. We have enough violence as it is. The ball is in your court. **James E. Muecke**

SJC announces events calendar

San Jacinto College has announced its calendar of events.

Fall registration
Registration is open for the fall term. Classes begin Monday, Aug. 28, and all financial obligations must be paid on the day of registration.

Visit www.sanjac.edu/apply-register/overview/register for more information on steps to register and www.sanjac.edu/payments for information on how to pay for college.

Volleyball schedule home games

The 2017 San Jacinto College volleyball schedule is now online at www.sanjac.sports.com.

Upcoming home volleyball matches include:

SJC vs. Ranger College, on Thursday, Aug. 31, at 3 p.m., at Central campus, Anders Gymnasium, C.18

SJC vs. Iowa Western Community College, on Thursday, Aug. 31, at 7 p.m.,

at Central campus, Anders Gymnasium, C.18

University of Houston Downtown recruiter visit

The University of Houston Downtown will have a transfer recruiter at the San Jacinto College North campus on Monday, Aug. 28, and Wednesday, Aug. 30, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., in the lobby of building N.6.

University of Houston-Clear Lake transfer recruiter visit

The University of Houston-Clear Lake will have a transfer recruiter at the San Jacinto College Central campus on Tuesday, Aug. 29, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the new University Center, building C-1.129.

Community Education Center events

The San Jacinto College Community Education Center, located on the college's central campus in room C-1.108, will host the following June workshops that are free and open to the pub-

lic.

To register, email communityeducation@sjed.edu.
Friday, Aug. 25, Stretching and Relaxation, from noon to 1 p.m.

Monday, Aug. 28, ESL Information Session, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Aug. 29, Healthy Lifestyle Film and Discussion Series, from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

Thursday, Aug. 31, Batlegrounds and Bayous: History of Pasadena, Deer Park and La Porte, from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

San Jacinto College Foundation Golf Tournament

The 22nd Annual San Jacinto College Foundation Golf Tournament will take place on Tuesday, Oct. 10, at the Golf Club of Houston.

Sponsorship opportunities are available and team registration is open.

Visit sanjac.edu/foundation or call 281-998-6104 for more information.

Elected officials share their words

District E News

By Council Member Dave Martin

It has been a busy summer at City Hall. I am proud to say that after working diligently with Mayor Sylvester Turner, District E was allocated \$140 million dollars for capital improvement plan (CIP) projects over the next five years. We have notable projects within the Clear Lake, Kingwood and South Belt areas that will be appreciated by District E residents, and I am extremely satisfied to work with a Mayor who appreciates the importance of equitable distribution of CIP funds throughout ALL areas of the City of Houston.

Moving forward, Mayor Turner has acknowledged the inequitable funding of Council Districts "outside Loop 610", and will continue to work towards a more equitable distribution amongst Council Districts. As many of you know, this has been my battle over the past four years of CIP allocations. This year our District E CIP allocation increased from 3% to 7% which shows our efforts to improve equity amongst funding for projects across the city is being heard. I look forward to furthering these efforts during next year's CIP process. To watch the CIP council meeting, please visit the city's website.

Until then, I will continue to be a staunch advocate for District E residents. Additionally, my staff has been hard at work, coordinating the annual round of fall town hall meetings in the district. I invite you to save the date for the upcoming meetings:

Kingwood, Tuesday, Sept. 12, 6:30 to 8 p.m., Kingwood Community Center, 4102 Rustic Woods Drive, in Houston.

Southeast Houston/Clear Lake, Thursday, Sept. 14, 6:30 to 8 p.m., Space Center Houston, 1601 NASA Parkway, in Houston.

I have extended the invitation to several city departments as well as a variety of community speakers. In Kingwood, we will have the opportunity to welcome Mayor Sylvester Turner! We will also hear from Stephen Costello, City of Houston Chief Resiliency Officer, regarding an upcoming drainage improvement project in Forest Cove. Stan Sarman, the chair of the TIRZ 10 board will be able to provide information on a variety of projects including Northpark Drive Mobility Improvement Project and the status of area intersection improvements.

In Clear Lake, we will have Marc Eichenbaum, Special Assistant to the Mayor on Homeless Initiatives, Takasha Francis, Director of the Department of Neighborhoods, Clear Lake HPD and a representative from Lone Star Flight Museum to provide community updates.

We look forward to hearing these updates and addressing community questions, comments and concerns. If you have never been before, it is the perfect opportunity to engage with your community and have your questions answered. We hope you will join us. Please feel free to invite a neighbor, friend or colleague! Everyone is welcome to attend.

SJC receives national honor; financial reporting awarded

For the 10th consecutive year, San Jacinto College has been awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada.

"This achievement is the result of our fiscal affairs team's diligence in financial procedures and guidelines to ensure accuracy in reporting," said Bill Dickerson, San Jacinto College director of accounting and financial

services.

The award is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting. San Jacinto College first received the Distinguished Budget Award for the 2006-2007 fiscal year.

The GFOA established the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Program in 1945 to encourage and assist state and local governments to go beyond the minimum requirements of

generally accepted accounting principles to prepare comprehensive annual financial reports that evidence the spirit of transparency and full disclosure and then to recognize individual governments that succeed in achieving that goal.

The GFOA is a nonprofit professional association serving more than 17,600 government finance professionals throughout North America with offices in Chicago and Washington.

Parks named chair of statewide WECM advisory committee

San Jacinto College Central campus dean of business and technology Jeff Parks has been appointed as chairman of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Workforce Education Course Manual advisory committee for a two-year term.

"I was honored to be asked to chair this committee," Parks said. "I hope I can keep moving WECM forward and I look for this to be a very transitional time for the program. I believe very strongly in technical education and I'm excited to hold this seat for two years."

WECM was founded in 1995 to standardize the number of contact hours and the curriculum across workforce education in the state of Texas.

Fully operational since 1998, WECM is a web-based database of current workforce education courses available for use by public

two-year colleges. It provides community and technical colleges with an inventory of pre-approved courses developed in close partnership with instructional specialists representing a wide variety of technical fields.

The program was originally developed under a Perkins Leadership Grant through the U.S. Department of Education and monitored by a leadership committee consisting of a diverse population of representatives across the State of Texas from two-year institutions.

This year marks an important change to the program mandated by HB 2628 from the 84th Texas Legislature which changes WECM from a Perkins Grant-funded program to one managed by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and monitored by a standing 18-member committee led by Parks and vice chair Joyce

Williams from the Dallas County Community College District.

"What we are looking at now is the existing process for protocols, guidelines and operations and deciding what is working and what needs improvement," Parks said. "This program has been in place for a long time and it's working well. I want to make sure we continue to operate well and continue to work as a field driven practice with instructors at the forefront of education being an integral part of the process."

WECM operates on a four-year review cycle, typically reviewing up to 1,000 workforce education courses in a year. The courses are reviewed by instructional specialists from community and technical colleges from across the state of Texas and approved by WECM leadership for submission to the THECB.

Bay Area Quilt Guild meeting set

The Bay Area Quilt Guild meets the first Tuesday of each month at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, located at 10310 Scarsdale Blvd.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, Sept. 5. Fellowship begins at 6:30 p.m. and the general meeting and program at 7 p.m. This month, the guest speaker will be Connie Silber, presenting the program *What Does The Judge Do?* Silber is a certified National Quilting Association judge, a professional quilter, a lecturer and a teacher. Plan to attend the enjoyable and informative evening.

Guests are welcome. For more information, call Debby Benson at 713-248-8757 or visit the website at bayareaquiltguild.org.

Deaths

James Joseph Welby Jr.



James Joseph Welby Jr., 71, of Friendswood died on Monday, Aug. 14, 2017. He was born July 18, 1946, to James Joseph Welby Sr. and Theresa Dolores Costa Welby in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

James enjoyed boating, gardening, music, nature and birdwatching.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his daughter Tracey Welby.

James is survived by his wife Joyce Welby; daughters Lisa Welby and Leslie Welby; sons Anthony Welby and his wife Chihiro and Jeff Engbrock; sister Catherine Welby; brother Ron Welby and his wife Chris; grandchildren Ryan Roberson and Morgan Roberson; five great-grandchildren; and many other relatives and cherished friends.

Welby was a popular adjunct computer professor at San Jacinto College. The family previously lived in the South Belt community.

Visitation with the family was Thursday, Aug. 17, at the Jeter Memorial Funeral Home Chapel, 311 N. Friendswood Dr., in Friendswood.

The funeral service was held on Friday, Aug. 18 at the Jeter Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Steve O'Donohue officiating. Interment followed at the Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Dickinson.

Condolences may be sent to the Welby family in care of Jeter Memorial Funeral Home at www.jeterfuneralhome.com.

Bobby Joe Allison Sr.



Bobby Joe Allison Sr., 87, resident of Sagemont since 1968, died at home surrounded by his family and loved ones on Aug. 16, 2017. He was born on Sept. 28, 1929, in Port Arthur to John Wesley Allison and Ollie Jewel Starrett Allison.

He served in the U.S. Army with the 508th Airborne in Fort Benning, Georgia.

He graduated from the University of Houston with a Bachelor of Arts in 1959 and worked for International Harvester for 44 years.

He is survived by his wife of 65 years Jackie Allison;

children Bobby Allison Jr. (Dobie '72) and wife Laura Allison, Mary Allison Henson (Dobie '74) and husband Paul Henson, Wesley Allison (Dobie '78) and wife Rose Allison; grandchildren Chad Ehlinger and wife Brooke Laura Ehlinger, Kelly Allison, Shelly Allison and husband Joe Quintanilla, Courtney Allison and husband Robyn Sarvis, Ashley Allison Dichiara and husband Ben Dichiara, Justin Henson, John Allison and wife Brianna Faulkner Allison, Chaney Allison and Mackenzie Allison; great-grandchildren Jacob Allison, Makayla Thompson, Tyler Stormer, Kloe Oates, Tavin Stormer, Mya Stormer, Drake Dichiara, Kane Oates, Elise Dichiara, Skylar Quintanilla, Allison Quintanilla, Andrew Quintanilla, Hailey Quintanilla, Andrew Reyes, Robbie Sarvis and Caden Sarvis.

spoiling her granddaughters. Christmas was her favorite time of year, and Macy's had nothing on her brilliantly decorated home and Christmas tree – many times winning neighborhood awards! And, oh, how she loved her lake.

Linda never met a stranger and was welcoming to all. She loved to travel and was a master packer and vacation planner. Family gatherings were very important to her and she always filled them with music, playing cards, and sharing family stories and jokes. Throughout her long-suffering illness, she kept a smile on her face, laughed often, and was unbelievably strong and courageous to the end.

She and her family are eternally grateful to her amazing caregivers Loretta Nagy Belisle, Lula Love, Evelyn Hobbs and Ruth Vennebusch.

To celebrate her love and light, a visitation is scheduled on Friday, Aug. 25, from 6 to 8 p.m. at South Park Funeral Home in Pearland.

A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 26, at the Catholic Charismatic Center in Houston, followed by interment at South Park Cemetery in Pearland.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her honor to Food for the Poor, Inc.

Linda Carol McKnight



Linda Carol McKnight (born Casanova) died Aug. 14, 2017. Her last day was one surrounded by family and friends, praying and singing songs to ensure she knew how much she was loved.

Linda is survived by her husband of 59 years Robert J. (Jim) McKnight; daughters Sheila McKnight and Monica McKnight Heal; son-in-law Steven; granddaughters Gabrielle and Jaqueline; sisters Dorothy Shumate and husband Bill, Melva Casanova, Virginia McPherson; sisters-in-law Linda Henshaw and husband Ronnie and Dixie King and husband Terry; nieces and nephews Amy Walker, Billy Shumate, Charles McPherson, Emily Bryant, Johnny Conn, Michael Patterson, Rodney Casanova, Teri McCalip, Thomas King and Warren Stuts; her lifelong friend Beverly Cross and many other cousins, extended family and friends.

She is preceded in death by her son Jason McKnight, parents Adele and Melvin Casanova, parents-in-law Viola and Bruce McKnight, and brothers Robert and Homer Casanova. Linda was born on March 28, 1941, in Houston. She attended Austin High School and married her high school sweetheart Jimmy on April 18, 1958.

Linda had a smile and personality that lit up any room. She loved her family dearly, and was especially gifted at

Margaret Ann Chimenti

Margaret Ann Anderson Chimenti, 81, daughter of the late John Anderson and Sarah Jane Hamill Anderson, died Aug. 12, 2017, after a courageous battle with cancer.

She is survived by her brother Gilbert "Andy" Anderson of England; sons Paul Chimenti and his wife Jana of Pearland (for whom she played matchmaker), David Chimenti of Kingwood; twin daughters Susan Chimenti and Joyce Chimenti of Houston; grandchildren Kiana Williams, Candace Williams, Lonnie McNeil, Ronnie McNeil, Amanda Chimenti and Andrea Chimenti; and five great-grandchildren.

Margaret was born on Feb. 26, 1936, in Greenock, Renfrewshire, Scotland. She is one of eight children. She married and moved to the U.S. in 1961 at age 25 and became a U.S. citizen on July 12, 1966. Although she spent most of her life in America, she never lost her Scottish accent. After 25 years of dedicated service, Margaret retired in 2000 from the J.C. Penney Company.

A celebration of life service will be held Saturday, Aug. 26, at 2 p.m. at Sagemont Church, room number WC1102, 11300 S. Sam Houston Parkway East.

Margaret Ann Chimenti



Harvey approaches

Continued from Page 1A storm:

- Confirming proper operation of its 153 gauges
- Confirming appropriate levels of staff are available to respond and monitor the event
- Preparing phone bank operations
- Inspecting trash racks to ensure they are clear of debris
- Ensuring contractors working on HCFCD projects are on-call to secure our construction sites prior to the onset of rainfall
- Whenever the forecast calls for possible heavy rainfall, Harris County residents are urged to monitor weather conditions and to pay close attention to road conditions on their travel routes. Now is the time to review personal preparedness plans and be ready to put them into action.
- When flooding is imminent, the following are steps you can take to prepare:
 - Secure patio furniture and any loose items that may be picked up by heavy winds.
 - Take video of all belongings and important documents in case they become damaged and needed for insurance claims.
 - Remember to never drive into high water. Turn around, don't drown. Less than two feet of water can float and wash away a vehicle. Be especially cautious at underpasses and at night when water across roadways can be difficult to see.
- Locate and put pets in a safe place.
- Residents are urged to stay put. However, if one

American Legion makes donation to Genoa



On Friday, Aug. 18, American Legion Post 490 donated \$1000 to Genoa Elementary school for backpacks and school supplies. Shown, left to right, Rosie Gonzalez, counselor; Karen Garza, assistant principal;

John Evans, club room manager; David Witucki, 1st vice commander; Johnny Lundstrom, commander; and Tiffany Bennett, principal.

Photo by Christine Olvera

Bay Area Genealogical Society hosts event

Bay Area Genealogical Society will host its annual Genealogy Show and Tell and potluck dinner meeting on Friday, Aug. 25, in the Chapel of University Baptist Church, 16106 Middlebrook Drive. Join the Bay Area Genealogical Society for a time of visiting and sharing, all while enjoying a delicious meal.

Bring a side dish or salad to share. The meat for the entrée will be supplied by the society. The potluck dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. and the program starts at 7 p.m. For more information, visit www.TxBayAreaGen.org or call Kim Zrubek at 281-992-2636.

Local library events set

Parker Williams Library

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

Friday, Aug. 25, 4 p.m. Anime Club winds down the summer in the library community room with the mini-series *FLCL (Fooly Cooly)* (rated TV-14). Getting ready for school can be a heroic task. Get to know the to-be heroes of UA Academy.

Saturday, Aug. 26, 10:30 a.m. Harris County Master Gardener Teresa See presents *Time to Get Your Garden Ready for Fall Vegetables* giving adults information on preparing a vegetable garden to enjoy vegetables in the fall and winter. Advanced registration is requested.

Tuesday, Aug. 29, 2 p.m. Meet at the library for the book discussion of *The Firebird* by Susanna Kearsley for adults. Visit the library to get a copy to read and discuss.

The events occurring every week are:

Wednesdays, Preschool storytime, 10:30 a.m., for children ages 3 to 5 years, featuring stories, songs, fingerplays and a craft.

Thursdays, Toddler storytime, 10:30 a.m., for toddlers from birth to 3 years, featuring stories, songs, fingerplays and bubbles.

Saturdays, Vietnamese learning time. Level 2 begins at 10 a.m., Level 1 begins at 11:15 a.m. and Level 3 begins at 2:30 p.m. For more information, speak with Loc Bui.

For more information on library events, call the library at 281-484-2036. Library hours this week are: Monday, 1-9 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Friday, 1 - 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; and Sunday, closed.

Bracewell Branch Library

The following events are scheduled for the Bracewell Branch Library, 9002 Kingspoint:

Saturday, Aug. 26, 10:15 a.m. Spanish computer class

Saturday, Aug. 26, 3 p.m. Citizenship class

Tuesday, Aug. 29, 10:30 a.m. Para los niños

Wednesday, Aug. 30, 10:30 a.m. Toddler storytime; 11:15 a.m. Toddler playtime

Wednesday, Aug. 30, Computer courses: 2 p.m. Computer Basics; 3:15 p.m. Internet Basics; 4:30 p.m. Basic Powerpoint

For more information on these programs, call the library at 832-393-2580. All events are free and open to the public.

Bracewell hours are: Sunday, closed; Monday, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Thursday, noon - 8 p.m.; Friday, 1 - 5 p.m.; and Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

More arrests made

Continued from Page 1A
 In June/July 2016, Precinct 2 contract deputies filed 36 total criminal charges against individuals, with 19 of those being felonies.
 In June/July 2017, contract deputies filed 85 criminal charges against individuals, with 41 of those being felonies.
 Kritzler contends the increase in arrests will have the effect of lowering overall crime in the area.
 "I believe when you remove the criminals from the area, other crimes follow suit and reduce," Kritzler said.
 "This means the department has now more than doubled the number of drug dealer, burglary and robbery suspect arrests than from just one year ago.
 That means these criminals are no longer preying the citizens of the South Belt and are in jail not committing more crimes."
 Kritzler also noted a sharp increase in what he refers to as "on views." On-view reports include traffic stops, suspicious persons, suspicious vehicles, etc.
 In June/July 2016, the contract deputies made 986 on views.
 In June/July 2017, the contract deputies made 1,536 on views – and that's with stats still missing from some deputies.

At this time last year, there had been two reported robberies of individuals and one reported robbery of a business in this area.
 During the same time period this year, zero such crimes have been reported.
 At this time last year, there had also been six reported house burglaries for June/July.
 This past June and July, the department has had only two reported house burglaries.
 The lieutenant added that even vehicle crashes have decreased since the addition of the new deputies, but the related stats were not available at press time.
 Kritzler is confident that Diaz will continue to do what is necessary to protect the South Belt community.
 "I know Constable Chris Diaz is committed to the South-Belt Ellington and municipal utility district areas and that he will continue to show his commitment anyway he can," Kritzler said.
 "He has hired extremely qualified deputies for this area and will continue to closely monitor all that happens. I want the public to know the Precinct 2 Constable's office is out here, and they are definitely trying to continue making this area a great place to live."

Pvt. Brader graduates



Pvt. Daniel Brader, son of John and Jean Brader, graduated from Marine boot camp on Friday, Aug. 18, in San Diego, California. The Brader family are longtime residents of the South Belt area. Daniel graduated from J. Frank Dobie High School in 2016. Both of his sisters Jamie Whalen and Stephanie Watkins graduated from Dobie, also. Daniel has not been informed where he will be stationed, but he will return for school of infantry for a few months.

Photo submitted

SATOP changes world one request at a time

What, if. Separate, these words don't mean much, but they're two very powerful words when placed together. For example, what if you were "this close" to having an invention that could change people's lives or even the course of history but didn't have the knowledge or capital to take it to the next level of development? What if you discovered a way to overcome your technical challenge(s), and what if it cost you absolutely nothing?
 Does this sound too good to be true? It isn't in the world of the Space Alliance Technology Outreach Program.
 SATOP is a free service designed to provide technical

assistance to small businesses and speed the transfer of space technology to the private sector, thus increasing their chances of success.
 A business may receive up to 40 hours of free technical assistance from an Alliance Partner working within 14 space companies, academic institutions and NASA. SATOP coordinates with professionals within these organizations who then volunteer their time and expertise in solving the challenges of the small business. Since SATOP's inception in 1999, more than 3,400 resolutions have been provided to businesses.
 A company named Florikan, based in Sarasota, Florida, has an amazing suc-

cess story made possible through the expertise provided through SATOP when the program was administered nationwide through four regional centers.
 Florikan's product, Staged Nutrient Release (SNR) Fertilizer, has been such a game-changer that the Space Foundation, located in Colorado Springs, recently inducted Florikan, NASA, and SATOP as Innovating Organizations into its Space Technology Hall of Fame. Fertilizer and space? What? The backstory definitely needs telling.
In the beginning
 Ed Rosenthal and his wife founded Florikan in 1982. At that time, and for several

years to come, farmers had to fertilize plants frequently. Many of the fertilizer's nutrients leached out into the groundwater. This didn't do the plants much good and was even worse for the environment.
 By 2002, Rosenthal had been working with fertilizers and polymers for decades, since he had worked at a company that manufactured polymer-based plastic plant containers before the founding of Florikan.
 He studied the problem and determined that a fertilizer could be created that coated each nutrient in a different polymer, some with a larger-porosity polymer that would allow water to penetrate quickly and release the nutrient relatively soon and some with a smaller porosity to slow down the release of the nutrient. Through this process, a fertilizer would deliver exactly the right amount of each nutrient at the appropriate stage of the growing cycle.
 Once developed, the new product, SNR, was hugely successful. In 2004, the state of Florida and the National Society of Professional Engineers recognized Florikan for making one of the year's most innovative new products. This recognition led to Rosenthal connecting with SATOP to receive 40 free hours of consultation to take his product even further.
 At the end of the 40 hours, SATOP Alliance Partner engineers recommended an entirely different method. The nutrients could be treated in a single, impervious polymer, and then they would be treated with a chemical to open up pores to the exact specifications needed.
 Two more years of perfecting the formula ensued. By 2008, Florikan had two new patents, one for SNR fertilizer and another for the polymer coating.
 Growers use far less of Florikan's SNR fertilizer and much less often. This lowers

their cost for both fertilizer and labor and greatly reduces the harmful environmental impact of nutrient runoff, as well.
Where does space fit in the equation?
 NASA has been experimenting with growing food aboard the ISS as part of its Veggie project. Long duration missions in the future will necessitate the ability to grow food in space and perhaps someday on another planet.
 In 2015, ISS astronauts successfully grew and ate red romaine lettuce which was fertilized using Florikan's controlled-release fertilizer. Rosenthal stated, "NASA's expertise helped us advance our development by years. We were happy to pay it back."
 Much research remains to be done to determine the most efficient way to grow food under the challenging conditions of space or within a habitat on another world, but Florikan has made the day-to-day work of "farming" in space much less complicated. We often hear of NASA technology, through its spinoffs, making life easier here on earth. Big shifts in technology in the private sector, such as Florikan's SNR fertilizer, will create more "spin-ins" for NASA, which just might have the potential of changing the course of history for future space exploration.
Going forward
 Bob Payne, SATOP program director stated, "The Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership, which administers the SATOP program, feels very fortunate to be able to participate in this state grant that provides SATOP the opportunity to help small businesses solve their technical challenges.
 "We're hopeful that in the future the state will increase funding for the program so that more small businesses will be given the opportunity for success just as with Florikan."

Guerrero, Ledwith offer SAT, PSAT tips

Ask college-bound high school graduates to reflect on the biggest challenges of their junior, senior years, and they'll likely remember the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test and the more challenging Scholastic Aptitude Test.
 Most of the time, students go into the testing room not knowing what to expect. However, students may prepare for these tests in more ways than just hitting the books extra hard. Three times a year, University of Houston-Clear Lake offers a combined PSAT and SAT preparation course through the university's Center for Executive Education.
 These courses offer hands-on training with challenges, activities and timed exercises to help students approach these tests with confidence.
 Scoring well on those tests is as much about research and strategy as it is about actual scholastic aptitude, say Brenda Guerrero, the center's events assistant, and Jennifer Ledwith, a center instructor who teaches PSAT preparation courses.
 Ledwith and Guerrero share some of their insights about how high school students can successfully surmount those "insurmountable" standardized tests and gain admission to the college of their choice.
 "I remind students that PSAT scores don't play a role in college admission," Ledwith said. "The main purpose of the PSATs is to identify students who are eligible for merit-based scholarships. But since the PSAT and SAT are so similar, I strongly encourage students to take both, but the sooner you start planning, the more successful you can be."
 Ledwith's additional suggestions are:
 Foundational knowledge across time yields much greater benefits than any test-preparation course. Excellent reading comprehension skills are the key to overall academic success. Being a prolific reader is not just about learning good grammar and usage – it's about developing exactly the critical thinking skills one needs to achieve high scores.
 If in a gifted-and-talented program in middle school, start planning a high school schedule now.
 If it's possible to take geometry as a freshman and advanced algebra as a sophomore, one can be better prepared for the PSAT.
 Remember that the PSAT is just one day. If a student does not score well as a freshman, there will still be at least two more opportunities to retake the test. Speak with a counselor and register for a PSAT test preparation course to help build confidence.
Tips for surmounting SATs
 The most useful strategy isn't about practicing essay-writing skills and boning up on math concepts.
 "It's important to do plenty of research about the admissions process of each of the colleges to which you plan to apply," Guerrero said. "Decide on your objectives and list the colleges you are interested in after studying their admissions requirements."
 Guerrero suggests students investigate these key questions: What exactly does a college require in order to gain admission?

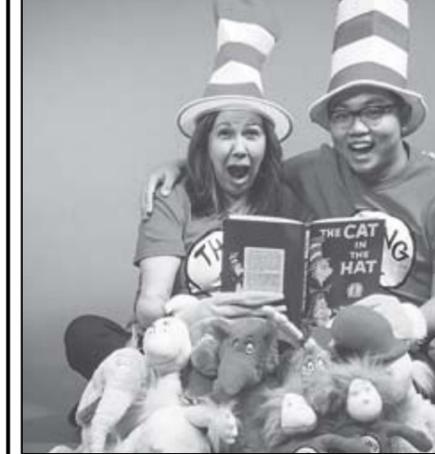
Study scholarship requirements closely. They vary from college to college, and private schools' requirements are often different from state schools.
 Find out if the chosen colleges accept "superscores." If one has taken the SATs multiple times, some colleges will allow one to submit highest verbal and math scores from all the tests – one's "superscores."
 Others require one to submit the scores one made on just one test. University of Houston-Clear Lake does not accept superscores, but researching the other colleges one is applying to will tell if one can use this strategy to increase chances for admission.
 Not all SAT prep courses are alike. Evaluate options.
 Take SAT preparation courses that are well-structured and target the math and vocabulary strategies that one might have missed in class. One's course should measure one's progress from

the first day to the last session.
 Use college board practice exams to become used to the structure of the test. Review the answers and figure out mistakes.
 "Remember that your SAT scores are not necessarily the deciding factor when colleges are evaluating your application," Ledwith said. "Many colleges are taking a holistic view, considering all the elements of the application and weighing them more equally."
 When researching a chosen college, speak to an adviser and find out the role standardized test scores play in the admissions process. Stay positive and keep investigating colleges. When one gets all the information to weigh one's options, one will be able to make the best choice.
 For more information about UHCL's college test preparation courses, visit www.uhcl.edu/center-executive-education.

Walker plays role in defining Ly's roots

Steven Ly (right), one of Dobie High School's Shining Stars, is shown with distinguished educator Cindy Walker, a librarian at Moore Elementary.
 Ly has volunteered at various events through NHS and HOSA. He has also volunteered at Parker Williams Library, PetSmart and volunteering opportunities in Pearland.
 Ly plans to attend the University of Texas in Austin to major in design.

Ly commented about Walker, "Entering into elementary school, I was nervous and did not know where or how I would fit into the new environment. I soon discovered that Mrs. Walker and her endless library would be there to guide me through my first four years of school. She introduced me to novels that became my escape into various universes that I had never experienced before. I found a passion for these books and the lessons and morals that the novels and Mrs. Walker had taught me still impact me to this day. Everybody has roots that have been shaped by numerous beings along the way and Mrs. Walker has definitely played an enormous role in defining my roots."
 The South Belt Shining Stars will be presented in a series of 10 students being honored along with their favorite mentor.
 The 10 Shining Stars represent the Top 10 Dobie High School students. The information and photos were submitted by the Pasadena Independent School District.
 The Leader is also running the Top 10 Shining Stars from Pasadena Memorial and South Houston high schools.



Farah becomes Pham's high school mentor

Anthony Pham (left), one of the Pasadena Memorial High School's Shining Stars, is shown with distinguished educator Anthony Farah, a debate instructor.
 Pham has volunteered at a number of organizations, including Lighthouse Houston, the Houston Food Bank and Vietnamese Eucharistic Society.
 Pham plans to attend the University of Houston and plans to pursue a major in biochemistry. Later, he plans to apply to medical school in hopes of becoming a physician.

Pham commented about Farah, "Not many recognize the importance of homeroom teachers in high school. They are a pillar, an inner support system filled with a supply of knowledge. Mr. Farah was that pillar for me. He was my first mentor in high school, pushing me to learn beyond the classroom borders and encouraging me to chase my dreams confidently. His passion for teaching and inspiring students radiated throughout the school and became one of the sources I sought for when I needed advice. As graduation approaches and college is in the midst, Mr. Farah has groomed me into a strong leader prepared for college and the real world."
 The South Belt Shining Stars will be presented in a series of 10 students being honored along with their favorite mentor.
 The 10 Shining Stars represent the Top 10 Pasadena Memorial High School students. The information and photos were submitted by Pasadena Independent School District.
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Ruiz thankful for Wheeler's teaching style

Angel Salvador Ruiz (left), one of the South Houston High School's Shining Stars, is shown with distinguished educator Bradley Wheeler, an AP Physics C instructor.
 Ruiz done various volunteering activities with Key Club, Student Council and National Honor Society. He has also done volunteer work with Armand Bayou Cleanup and Trunk and Treat.
 Ruiz plans to major in mechanical engineering at the University of Texas in Austin or at Texas A&M in College Station.
 Ruiz commented about Wheeler, "I have known Mr. Wheeler since the beginning of my junior year. Although I have had many amazing teachers throughout the years, Mr. Wheeler has really stood out.
 "He is very great at making students think critically about the world around them. His style of teaching has made me think deeper and more objectively about problems. I am very thankful to have had Mr. Wheeler for

my last two years of high school."
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CCISD experiences great solar eclipse

On Monday, Aug. 21, Clear Creek Independent School District staff and students not only returned for the first day of school, but they also had the opportunity to experience the once-in-a-lifetime solar eclipse.

The district secured 22,000 ISO 12312-2 certified glasses for campuses to view the Great American Eclipse safely throughout the school day.

Each school had made plans to rotate the glasses in and out during the time frame of 11:46 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. to ensure that each student and teacher had the chance to view the eclipse.

August named NIAM

August is National Immunization Awareness Month, a time when families scramble to book appointments to their doctors for last-minute immunizations to meet school requirements.

It's also a time to remember the other types of vaccines and immunizations available to prevent serious, sometimes deadly, diseases. Dr. Alexander Okwonna, pharmacist and San Jacinto College dean of natural and health sciences, said some of the more common vaccines and immunizations include influenza; hepatitis A and hepatitis B; meningitis; tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis (Tdap); and pneumococcal. He offered additional information on each of these vaccines.

Influenza (flu)
The flu vaccine is recommended for everyone age 6 months and older. While seasonal influenza (flu) viruses can be detected year-round in the United States, flu viruses are most common during the fall and winter.

The exact timing and duration of flu seasons can vary, but influenza activity often begins to increase in October. Most of the time flu activity peaks between December and February, although activity can last as late as May.

Hepatitis A and hepatitis B
Hepatitis A and hepatitis B vaccines are recommended for college students, if not already received. The hepatitis A and hepatitis B viruses are two members of a family of closely related diseases. Hepatitis causes inflammation of the liver, and it can be serious or even life threatening.

Meningitis
The meningitis vaccine is recommended for all seventh-graders and first-time students entering college. Meningitis is an inflammation of the protective membranes covering the brain and spinal cord.

Bacterial meningitis is very serious and can be deadly. Death can occur in as little as a few hours. Most people recover from meningitis. However, permanent disability

can result from the infection.

San Jacinto College has partnered with the Harris County Public Health Department and VaxNation to offer free and reduced cost meningitis vaccinations. For a schedule of times, dates and locations, visit <http://www.sanjac.edu/san-jacinto-college/meningitis-information>.

Tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis (Tdap)
It is recommended that everyone receive a Tdap booster vaccine every 10 years. Tetanus is an infection caused by bacteria, which can invade the body and produce a toxin that causes painful muscle contractions, commonly known as "lockjaw."

Pertussis, also known as whooping cough, is caused by bacteria that leads to a highly contagious respiratory disease. Pertussis can affect people of all ages, but can be very serious, even deadly, for babies less than a year old.

Diphtheria is an infection caused by bacteria that can lead to a thick covering in the back of the throat. This may lead to breathing problems, heart failure, paralysis and even death.

Pneumococcal
The pneumococcal vaccine is recommended for all adults 65 years or older, for people ages 2 through 64 who may be at increased risk for disease due to certain medical conditions and for adults 19 through 64 years old who smoke cigarettes.

The pneumococcal disease is caused by bacteria and can result in infections of the ears and sinuses, and pneumonia and bloodstream infections.

Students who enter the San Jacinto College pharmacy technician program are required to have vaccines for Tdap; measles, mumps and rubella; hepatitis B; varicella; flu; and a TB skin test.

For more information about the San Jacinto College pharmacy technician program, visit <http://www.sanjac.edu/career/pharmacy-technician>.

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DWI Task Force gets prepared

The Houston-Galveston Area Council's Regional DWI Task Force will be operating through the Labor Day weekend to reduce driving while intoxicated incidents. The task force consists of 12 law enforcement agencies throughout the Houston-Galveston region and is in its fifth year of operation to reduce DWI incidents.

Funded through a Selective Traffic Enforcement Program grant awarded by the Texas Department of Transportation, this group has arrested more than 1,000 offenders since 2014. According to TxDOT data, approximately 1,270 people died regionally in alcohol-related crashes over the last five years with more than 6,600 people that suffered serious injuries.

Convicted first-time DWI offenders can pay a fine up to \$2,000, serve six months in jail, lose their driver's license for up to a year, and pay an additional \$3,000 to retain their license once they get it back.

Safety officials say other costs associated with an impaired driving arrest and conviction can add up to more than \$17,000 for bail, legal fees, court appearances, court-ordered classes, vehicle insurance increases and other expenses.

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Over The Back Fence by Alexis

JOYCE CELEBRATES 80 YEARS
Special birthday wishes are sent to Joyce Dittich who celebrates her 80th birthday on Aug. 25 from her husband Milton Dittich; sons Anthony Dittich and wife Cindy, Kenneth Dittich and wife Maggie; grandchildren Jennifer Anderson and husband Josh, Steven Dittich and wife Ashley, Ellen George and husband Garnett, Leigh-Ann Dittich, Elaine Dittich, Jeffrey Dittich and Alicia Dittich; stepgrandchildren Leslie Unnasch and husband Kyle and Clarissa Townsend; and great-grandchildren Kia Stewart, Nash Stewart, Hunter Anderson, Jackson Anderson and Kalani Dittich. The family will be celebrating at Gringo's in Pearland.

CHIEKO ENJOYS A BIRTHDAY
Greetings are sent to Chieko Webb, who enjoys a birthday Aug. 24, from husband Ken, daughter Teresa Webb, granddaughter Sara Sultan and friends at the Leader.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, CODY!
Cody Giles of Kirkwood South will be 19 on Aug. 27. His parents, Jim and Tracy Giles, grandparents Ken and Bobby Griffin, brother Aaron and sister Kristen wish him a wonderful birthday!

SCHOOL DAZE
The following personnel and staff members of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays Aug. 24 through Aug. 30.

Atkinson Elementary
Light the birthday candles Aug. 25 for Rosa Quintana.

Burnett Elementary
Blow out the candles for Juan Perez Aug. 25. Sing a happy birthday song to Adeline Cruz Aug. 27. Lisa Orr is wished a happy birthday Aug. 28.

Bush Elementary
Share a birthday cake Aug. 25 with Marie Marler.

Frazier Elementary
Janie Puente marks a birthday Aug. 25. Share a double-layer cake Aug. 27 with Amanda Brewton and Veronica Huitron. Mecca Gage and Kalpana Mobley celebrate a birthday Aug. 29.

Meador Elementary
Marking a birthday Aug. 24 is Kim Cowan. Celebrating a birthday Aug. 28 is Jason Torres. The day for a party for Sabina Torres is August 29.

Moore Elementary
Light the birthday candles on Aug. 30 for Lakenia Cole.

South Belt Elementary
Sing a happy birthday song to Meghan Young Aug. 26.

Stuchbery Elementary
Christina Herrera is wished a happy birthday Aug. 27. Dylan Richter enjoys a birthday Aug. 30.

Roberts Middle School
Greetings for a special birthday are sent to Christine Coppedge Aug. 30.

Beverly Hills Intermediate
Happy birthday wishes are sent Aug. 25 to Pedro Garcia. Light the birthday candles Aug. 28 for Mackwell Hickerson. Margaret Higham and Elizabeth Rawls celebrate a birthday Aug. 29.

Dobie High
Kathleen Boyd celebrates a birthday Aug. 24. Christopher Swinnen celebrates a birthday Aug. 29. The day for a party for Chelsea Bohny is Aug. 30. A birthday greeting is sent to Trent Morgan Aug. 30.

FACEBOOK FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS
The Leader sends birthday wishes to its Facebook friends this week:
Thursday, Aug. 24: Linelle Taylor, Saul Correa, Mike Justice, Sammie Mejia, Jessica Musquiz, Alyssa Keller and Amber Burda; Friday, Aug. 25: Bubba Zapalac, Rhonda Higgins, Concetta Ligorri, Brenda Jeter, Rhonda Parmer, Lisa Ciolli, Jennifer Hinojosa, Sonja McClellan, Amber Mauro, John Knowles, Celia Scheer, Andrea Moorehead-Ford and Jesse Saenz; Saturday, Aug. 26: Arlette Jarmon, Marci Chiovaro, Fred Manly, Stephanie Mayo, Jon Spears, Adabel Perrett, Hugh Lazenberry and Rick LaMantina; Sunday, Aug. 27: Jesse Garcia, Sara Scott, Dwayne Wyman, Cody Giles, Kevin Martinez, Barbara Boike and Jeff Jones; Monday, Aug. 28: Tanya Keller, Michele Bryant, Rosalind Battle, Adra Stafford, Stephanie Hamilton and Yvonne Ramirez; Tuesday, Aug. 29: Connie Guerrero, Brenda Marshall, Claudia Herrera and Aimee Bennett; and Wednesday, Aug. 30: James Leonard, Jason Hunt, Tracy Schwerdtfeger, Melinda Funni, Amber McGown, Bobby Burton, Ryssa Bebee, Debrah Tullous and Rebecca Noris-Peak.

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

Moore Elementary welcomes new staff members



Moore Elementary welcomes its new staff members to the team at the beginning of the 2017-2018 school year. Wearing Moore T-shirts are, left to right, (front row) Essie Longoria, special education clerk; Celena Hudspeth, third grade teacher; Yazmin Cabos, paraprofessional; Tram Kim, kindergarten teacher; Nayeli Rodriguez, paraprofessional; (back row) Katelyn Greuter, fourth grade teacher; Lauren Gotlardy, success teacher; Rod Whitehurst, P.E. aide; and Katlyn Box, first grade teacher. Photo by Angelica Moreno-Perez

Remember When

40 years ago (1977)
Pearland Police arrested Christopher Larkin Crew for armed robbery of a Green Tee Terrace home.

The Dobie-South Houston American Legion Baseball team won first place in the American Legion State Championship.

35 years ago (1982)
Clear Creek school trustees approved a \$49.9 million budget for the 1982-1983 school year. In other action, trustees, in a split decision, approved offering UIL boys and girls varsity soccer.

Joe Hearse, superintendent of Entex's measuring and system operations, said the Beamer site was where Entex got the natural gas from United Texas Transmission Company, and that was where Entex added the foul-smelling odor to UTT's natural gas, which has no odor. Hearse said spillage of the odorant was what was making local residents fear there was a leak at the Beamer site.

20 years ago (1997)
The city of Houston's gang task force raided the Exis club located at 11030 Kingspoint and temporarily shut down the club.

Trung Luong, an immigrant from Vietnam, was at the top of his Dobie class.

15 years ago (2002)
Former Dobie baseball standout Shane Nance made his major league debut pitching two innings in relief for the Milwaukee Brewers in a game against the Pittsburgh Pirates.

The Pasadena Independent School District received additional state assistance through the Instructional Facilities Allotment that was to go toward the district's \$199.05 million bond received in 2000. By receiving the extra funding, taxpayers would see an increase of only 2.25 cents instead of the estimated 14 cents before the additional funding.

Applerock expected to be proceeding with the construction of a landfill at 313 Alameda Genoa Red Bluff Road after a legal battle lasting longer than a year.

10 years ago (2007)
The South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce and the South Belt-Ellington Leader hosted a meeting to discuss area flooding. The discussion included representatives from the Harris County Flood Control District and the Army Corps of Engineers. The main topic of the meeting was the construction of a local watershed. The proposal, referred to as the National Economic Development Alternative, would require that all in the area (17 cities and four counties) agree on the project which would include major improvements to both Mud Gully and Turkey Creek.

The Clear Creek Independent School District announced that its teachers would receive a minimum raise of \$1,500.

Former Dobie student Roland Clark Lambert III, 47, was found stabbed to death in his Kingwood home. No immediate arrests were made.

Daniel Lawrence Witt, the husband of 1997 Dobie graduate Joy (Madsen) Witt, died when a rain-soaked roof at a Clear Lake Randall's grocery store collapsed. Originally taken to Ben Taub General Hospital with two broken legs and a broken arm, Witt was conscious and expected to survive. Unfortunately, his condition quickly deteriorated after his arrival.

5 years ago (2012)
On Tuesday, Sept. 4, Zerick Guinn filed a civil lawsuit against Chris Diaz, contesting the runoff election results for the Democratic nomination of Harris County Precinct 2 constable. Guinn contended that Diaz's campaign, which narrowly defeated Guinn in the controversial May 29 runoff and subsequent recount, benefited from illegal voting practices.

A man critically injured in a traffic accident in the 10900 block of the Gulf Freeway service road on Aug. 27 died from his injuries. Lawrence Lemaire, 65, was transported to Memorial Hermann Hospital with head trauma. Doctors pronounced him dead on Monday, Sept. 3. According to police, the victim was operating a black Kawasaki motorcycle and leaving a private driveway on to the service road when he was struck by a beige Nissan Sentra traveling north. The driver of the Nissan was not injured. Further investigation determined Lemaire was at fault in the accident.

Barbara Legler, wife of the late state Rep. Ken Legler, was sworn in to fill the remainder of her husband's term. Ken Legler died June 1 from a heart attack.

Two area residents trying to save someone's life Thursday, Sept. 6, inadvertently also helped arrest a suspected home burglar. David Matthews Jr. and Ryan Baier had stopped at the Shell gas station in the 10300 block of Blackhawk to eat breakfast when they spotted someone pulling into the parking lot driving erratically. Matthews said the driver was bloody from head to toe and in and out of consciousness. Although he could barely speak, the driver told the pair he had been in a fight with his girlfriend and had swung to hit a wall in anger but instead hit a window on accident, slicing his wrist. The two Good Samaritans sat the man down, elevated his arm and wrapped a belt around it to stop the blood loss. They then called 9-1-1 for help, and paramedics took the man to Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital for treatment. Unbeknownst to Matthews and Baier, Sgt. Zerick Guinn of the Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's office was conducting his own investigation into a home burglary on Sagemark that had taken place that same day, when the suspect left a large puddle of blood at the scene near a window that had been broken. After putting the pieces together, Precinct 2 deputies were able to tie the two incidents together and arrested the suspect. Sergio Garcia, 18, was charged with attempted burglary of a habitation. At the time of the incident, Garcia was reportedly with a 15-year-old female runaway from Pearland, who was subsequently returned to her family.

1 year ago (2016)
A 22-year-old South Belt woman was killed and three injured, including two children, following a three-car collision Wednesday, Aug. 17, in the 13700 block of Scarsdale near the Gulf Freeway. According to police, Scarsdale resident Angely Heidi Caballero was driving east in a black Kia Forte at a high rate of speed when she struck the rear of a gray Honda. The Kia then veered into oncoming traffic, where it slammed head-on into a white Ford F-150 pickup. Caballero was rushed to a hospital, where she was pronounced dead.

O'Brien will retire



After 34 years, Dr. Catherine O'Brien longtime South Belt area resident, is retiring from San Jacinto Community College. Following 20 years teaching biology, Dr. O'Brien became dean of SJC's South campus allied health program, before advancing to the district as dean of teaching and learning. She is closing out her career as the associate vice chancellor for learning and assessment. When asked what was the best part of her career, O'Brien responded, "All of the students, faculty, and my team members that I have assisted along the way." Not one to stay idle, O'Brien will spend her retirement building a new home with husband Jeff. "And I will be back in the classroom," she boasts proudly. "I will be teaching anatomy and physiology at University of Houston-Clear Lake and at Alvin College starting this fall."

Judge Risner Golf Tournament set

The Judge George Risner Golf Tournament will be on Friday, Sept. 22, at the River Terrace Golf Course, 16777 Wallisville Road.

Tee times will be 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. There will be a continental breakfast held at 7:30 a.m. and a lunch held at noon.

The prize awards, along with a fajita dinner will be held at 6 p.m.

The cost is \$125 per player. This will include golf, fall cart, greens fee, drinks and two tickets per player.

There are also different sponsorship opportunities available.

To register for the golf tournament, visit <http://www.judgerisner.com/services.html>.

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Van Essen readies for new Dobie 9th grade



Mike Van Essen, Dobie's Ninth-Grade Center principal, wears a hard hat for a tour of the new facility which is now scheduled to open January 2018. Photo submitted

Continued from Page 1A

Van Essen is a graduate of South Dakota State University, where he double majored, earning a bachelor's degree in kinesiology and history, before attending the University of Houston-Clear Lake to earn a master's degree in educational management. He has since received educational certifications in all levels of physical education, secondary history and administrative leadership.

A veteran of the education workforce with a career spanning over 27 years, Van Essen began his teaching career with the Santa Fe Independent School District in 1989, teaching physical education, Texas history and world geography. He would advance to start a decorated career in education administration as an assistant principal at Santa Fe High School in 2002, before being promoted to principal of the school in 2004.

Conditions and delays in acquiring permits for the campus, have forced administrators to delay the opening of the campus.

"We could have started the school year in certain parts of the building, but in talking to the administration involved, we felt it would be best for the students to start at a campus that's fully functional, as opposed to starting in a building that has a lot of work still going on," said Van Essen. "Safety plays into that, because when you have workers on campus, there's a lot of things we're concerned about. Equipment could potentially injure the students, and we would have older adults close to younger students. It would not be an ideal situation nor a safe one, so we felt it would be best to push the opening to January."

Designed to aid freshmen students in making the transition between intermediate school and high school, the Ninth Grade Campus will house freshmen students exclusively and provide them with all of the academic and extracurricular activities offered to students at the main campus.

Van Essen joined the Dobie Longhorns as assistant principal in 2007, and was approved by the Pasadena Independent School District Board of Trustees in December of 2016 to continue leading the new herd of freshmen students as principal of the Ninth Grade Campus, effective January 2017. It was a decision that has left Van Essen both honored and humbled.

"I feel absolutely honored that they chose me to open this campus," said Van Essen. "J. Frank Dobie High School is such a special place. It's a place where students can be anything that they want to be, and to be able to help facilitate that is just incredibly humbling."

Although the campus was originally slated to open in August of 2017 at the start of the 2017-2018 academic year, a number of factors, among which include poor weather

main campus, it now will not be 4,000 students, but 3,000 students, so the transition will be much easier."

Students involved in extracurricular activities need not worry about losing any opportunities offered at the main campus. With the exception of the marching band, baseball and softball, all extracurricular activities offered at the main campus, including fine arts and athletic programs, will be offered at the Ninth Grade Campus.

Marching band students will be shuttled back to the main campus via bus after school for practice, and baseball and softball players will be shuttled back after sixth period to participate in the programs during the last period of the school day.

Moving forward with the vision of one campus with two schools, both Van Essen and Moses must concentrate their efforts on building the sense of school spirit at the new campus that is unique to Dobie.

Dubbed "Dobie Pride," Moses has seen exceptional success in developing and cultivating the school spirit at the main campus since taking over as principal of the school in January of 2012, and now hopes to carry that success to the new ninth grade campus.

"A major part of cultivating the Dobie Pride is having our own people over there, our own teachers and our own administrators," said Moses. "They'll be the ones to build that pride. We'll be doing pep rallies over there. Every time we have a pep rally at the main campus, we'll take our band and cheerleaders and everyone over there and we'll have a big pep rally over there as well. There are some things that we have talked through that haven't been put in place yet, but there are things that we've thought about to help build that culture that's so unique to Dobie."

"They'll be on the same Megalunch schedule and they'll run JEDTV on Fridays just like we do at the main campus. There's going to be a lot of collaboration between the two campuses in order to instill that pride and spirit that we have here at Dobie so that they can be a part of it and it'll be easier for them to transition over to the main campus."

In order to make the transition as effortless as the faculty and staff members involved, the campus will be opened a number of days during the Thanksgiving and winter breaks to allow teachers to move their personal belongings from Dobie to the new campus. A moving company has also been contracted to move larger items for faculty and staff. The addition of a campus to a school that will require separation of faculty and students poses difficulties for any school, and Van Essen knows that Dobie will be no exception.

"The most challenging aspect of this project is going to be communication with the

San Jacinto College hosts legendary blues musicians exhibit

Art and music lovers alike will enjoy the interactive traveling art exhibition, "A Cast of Blues," featuring resin-cast masks of legendary blues musicians as it makes a stop on its national tour at the San Jacinto College South campus gallery from Sept. 1 to Oct. 20.

In a partnership with the Houston Blues Society, the College's South campus gallery continues to curate engaging art and educational experiences through collaborative partnerships that provide unique opportunities to the College and surrounding community.

"The San Jacinto College South campus gallery is very excited to bring 'A Cast of Blues' to the Houston area," said Jeff McGee, San Jacinto College art professor and South campus gallery curator.

"The resin masks of the featured blues musicians are touchable by visitors, providing a level of intimacy not usually found in a gallery setting," said McGee. "These masks

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SJC, Eye Clinic of Texas offer tips

As students return to school for the 2017-2018 year, the eye care technology program at San Jacinto College and the Eye Clinic of Texas in League City remind parents of some simple, everyday tips to ensure the health and safety of their children's vision as the month of August is Children's Eye Health and Safety Month.

Debra Clarke, San Jacinto College eye care technology program director, and Mary Jane Caddell, administrator for the Eye Clinic of Texas, recently discussed issues that relate to children's eye health and ways to avoid injuries associated with playing sports and popular toys on the market.

Main issues in children's eye health today

Clarke: The leading causes of blindness for school-aged children are eye injuries, specifically sports-related injuries. With the summer ending, sometimes one gets into sports and backyard sporting events and becomes relaxed to the dangers and injuries that can occur.

One still needs to have the kids protected. Ninety percent of sports-related injuries are avoidable with proper gear.

Clarke: Another issue related to eye health is lack of protection against UV sun exposure. Most parents, 74 percent, will apply sunscreen to their children's skin

but only 32 percent will apply sunshades to their children's eyes. Get a good pair of glasses with UV block. Glasses don't have to be expensive and can be picked up for a few dollars at a local store.

With that said, new studies are showing that children who play outside at least 80 minutes a day are less likely to develop nearsightedness.

Age-specific eye health issues: babies, toddlers and teens

Clarke: All newborns should receive an ocular screening by pediatricians. Premature babies should see an ophthalmologist.

A second eye care screening should take place between the six-month to one-year age group. School-aged children should receive screenings.

Signs, symptoms regarding child's vision

Caddell: Parents usually provide a history of their child squinting a lot and having trouble in the classroom. Other signs include loss of attention span, avoiding reading or other close activities and turning their heads back and forth.

Local organizations that assist with affordable eye health treatment include Kid's Vision for Life-See to Succeed, Eye Care for Kids, and the University of Houston's University Eye Institute.

Top concerns of children's

eye safety

Clarke: A common concern is how to protect the eyes of children as they are exposed to so many elements on a daily basis that we don't think about as concerns. For example, one of the hot items on the market today is the fidget spinner. The American Academy of Ophthalmology has this listed as a concern because children throw them in the air, and they fall on their eyes and cause blunt force trauma.

Common toys causing children's eye injuries

Caddell: Anything can cause injury to the eye if not used correctly. Even everyday household items like superglue can be dangerous. Some of the toys we notice that cause injury are the laser pointers that can damage the retina, toys that shoot any form of projectile, water balloon launchers, silly string and its chemicals, and toys that are pointed like wands and toy swords.

Parents can find additional information and tips to avoid eye injuries to children by visiting websites of the Coalition to Prevent Sports Eye Injury, Vision Council of America, and Prevent Blindness of America.

San Jacinto College offers the only ophthalmic technician training program in Texas accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Ophthalmic Medical Programs. The Eye Clinic of

Texas in League City partners with the college to assist with student clinical rotations.

For additional information about the eye care technology program, visit sanjac.edu/ca/reer/eye-care-technology.

Pasadena ISD police force ready for school year



Shown, left to right, (front row) members of the PISD police force are Sgt. Jason Grice, Sgt. Trae Morris, Capt. David Garza, Chief Stewart Russell, Capt. Bill McMahan, Sgt. Arnold Magana, Glenda Collins, (second row) Kathlene Smith, Kyle Wilson, Israel Torres, Jessica Cano, Joanna Saucedo, Jeff Sexton, Stephanie Aguirre, (third row) Roland Johnson, Hilda Guardado, Abraham Guarjardo, Juan Pedraza, Keri Smith, Amber Murphy, John LaLonde, Ricardo Ontiveros, Michelle Agerton, (fourth row) John Gomez, Manrique Portillo, Damon Sonnier, Brandy Waterman, Lonnie Smith, Moses Rodriguez, Joe Barrera, Mark Mills, John Reddell, George Lozano, (back row) Shane Wilson, Steve DeVillier, Joseph Scarafie, Michael Lenting, James Boggs, Jason Walker, Richard Bagwell, Michael Spray and David Reeves. Photo submitted

Pasadena ISD police force assures parents

As summer draws to an end and South Belt students return to school for the 2017-2018 academic year, parents can rest assured, knowing that the police department of the Pasadena Independent School District is working hard to keep their children safe.

With a mission to insure a positive learning environment which is free of crime, violence, or the threat of violence, and to uphold and enforce all applicable laws and regulations without passion or prejudice, the Department operates out of the Pasadena Independent School District central administration building, with 35 officers, serving

63 campuses and an area of over 85 square miles.

Protecting more than 56,000 students and 8,000 employees, two to three police officers are assigned to each of the five district high schools, while the remaining officers are assigned to patrol duties in municipalities that include the cities of South Houston, Houston and Pasadena.

Pasadena ISD officers are assigned marked patrol units responding to calls district wide and back up other law enforcement agencies. Each high school provides an office designed for police officers, enabling them to access the district police records

management and reporting system.

These officers are responsible for monitoring the campus for criminal activity, conducting criminal investigations, accident reports, gathering and processing evidence and referring charges to the district attorney's office. Additionally, officers are able to make arrests and book prisoners into the appropriate jail facilities. The officers of the Pasadena Independent School District are supervised by Chief Stewart D. Russell, an alumnus of South Houston High School.

"On a daily basis, our officers wear many hats," said Sgt. Trae Morris, a patrol sergeant of the police department. "They counsel with students, and try to develop a relationship with them, especially the ones they feel may be at risk. They'll try to steer those students away from things that may get them into trouble. They handle anything that occurs on that campus, whether it be something like a stolen piece of property to fights and assaults. Our guys are trained and equipped to handle anything that may occur on those campuses."

Pasadena ISD officers are responsible for calls within the district, conducting criminal investigations, and enforce various city and county ordinances. Although the primary jurisdiction of patrol officers are school campuses, support facilities and other properties owned by the district, the police department has entered into a number of inter-local agreements with law enforcement agencies that have overlapping jurisdiction.

Safety of the district's students is the paramount concern of the department, and all officers are trained and equipped to ensure that safety will never be compromised.

"We have additional training that all of our officers go through to work in a school environment, on top of what other officers might do," said Morris. "They are extremely well-equipped and extremely well-trained. We have cameras throughout all of our campuses, and all of our officers have access to those cameras. We also have a new security system that allows us to lock and unlock doors to our campuses remotely from the po-

lice department.

"All of our officers are trained on various types of instances such as hostage situations and active shooters, and they have the equipment to do so."

While the Department officers are tasked with the protection of students while they are at school, parents also play a critical role in ensuring their children's safety.

"The main thing parents can do is to talk to their kids," said Morris. "These kids want their parents to be a part of their lives, and they want them to know what's going on."

"The parents should talk to their kids, find out who their friends are, know who they're hanging around. If they hear something that might be going on at the school, absolutely call the police department and let us know. Being involved with their kids is probably the most important thing they can do for their safety."

The department prides itself on creating relationships with their students. "Our officers are very approachable," said Morris. "They eat and hang out with the students on a daily basis. Once our officers are assigned to a high school, they will attend the graduations, stand there and greet every graduate as they come along. More often than not, they're shaking hands and hugging probably half

the student body that comes through. Our officers do a really good job of connecting with the students on campus. More oftentimes than not, we have very positive interactions with our community. I wish departments in other parts of the nation could enjoy the community support that we do."

Despite the inherent dangers that come with being involved in a law enforcement career, the officers of the Pasadena Independent School District Police Department find their jobs to be a rewarding one, knowing that they are safeguarding their future and making a positive impact in the lives of the students that they protect and serve.

"We see ourselves as protecting our future, and that's what we do," said Morris. "Our students are our future. There's probably nothing more rewarding than seeing someone who we dealt with and developed a relationship with, coming back and seeing us after they graduated and tell us that they stuck with it, they graduated college, they got a good job, they're married with kids on the way and thanking us for helping them out while they were in school. Watching them grow into adulthood and remembering them from high school is definitely one of the most rewarding things."

Martin holds town hall Sept. 14

Houston City Council Member Dave Martin will host a town hall meeting on Thursday, Sept. 14, at 6:30 p.m., in the Destiny Theater at Space Center Houston, located at 1601 NASA Parkway.

The public is invited to attend and hear from city and community representatives about ongoing projects, issues and community news related to the Clear Lake and Southeast Houston areas of District E. The doors will open at 5:30 p.m., and informational tables will be set up outside of the theater.

This fall's town hall meeting will include presentations from the City of Houston's Department of Public Works and Engineering (PWE), the Administration and Regulatory Affairs (ARA) Department

and the Department of Neighborhoods.

PWE will discuss upcoming infrastructure projects, as well as provide an update on the progress that has been made in partnership with Harris County on the El Dorado Boulevard Expansion Project.

Representatives from ARA will provide an overview of the 3-1-1 and "SeeClickFix" systems. TaKasha Francis, director of the Department of Neighborhoods, will also present on the function of the department and how it works to improve the quality of life in Houston neighborhoods.

Additionally, Houston Fire Department Chief Samuel Peña and Houston Police Department Captain Dana Hitzman will provide updates from their

departments.

In light of recent concerns with homelessness in the Clear Lake/Southeast Houston areas, Martin has invited Marc Eichenbaum, special assistant to Mayor Sylvester Turner for Homeless Initiatives, to provide information on the City of Houston's recent campaign to address homelessness, "Meaningful Change."

Lastly, the Lone Star Flight Museum will open at its new location, Ellington Airport, on Saturday, Sept. 2. Martin has asked that a representative from the museum discuss the programs and opportunities available at the newly relocated historic museum in District E.

For more information, contact Martin's office at 832-393-3008 or via email at districte@houstontx.gov.

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| Sunday | 7:30, 9:15, 11:15 a.m. | |
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| Monday, Wednesday, Friday | | 9:00 a.m. |
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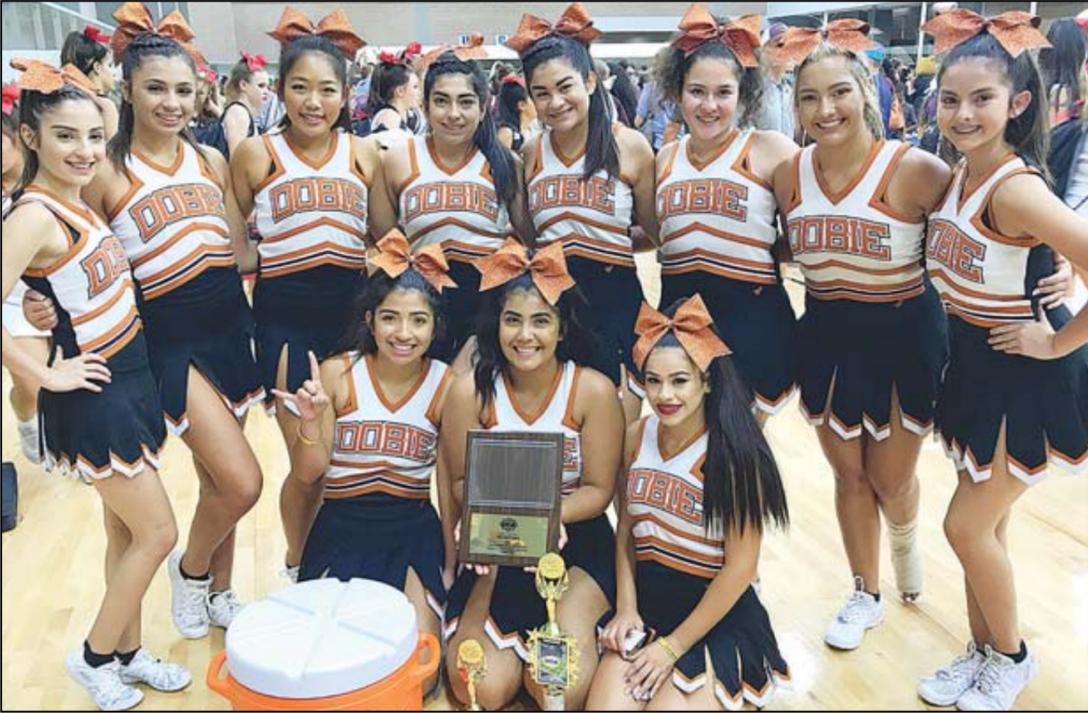
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WEEKLY SERVICE TIMES

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
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| Worship Service • 10:45 a.m. | Mid-Week Service • 7:45 p.m. |

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J. Frank Dobie Cheerleaders attend UCA Cheer Camp at Texas A&M



The Dobie High School cheerleaders went to Texas A&M for the Universal Cheerleaders Association Cheer Camp. They had a wonderful time and were rewarded for their hard work at camp. Above, the varsity team received second place in its Extreme Cheer routine. Shown, left to right, are (front row) Reagan Razo, Genesis Juarez, Alize Murillo, (back row) Victoria Ayala, Maya Ann Scott, Bailee Dang, Briana Loredo, Bianca Galindo, Laila Hernandez, Sara Otwell and Michelle Kelley. Not pictured is Andres Melchor.

members gathered are, left to right, (front row) Juliana Moreno, Alan Nguyen, Alayna Murillo, Olga Cisneros, Starr Shelton, (back row) Neriah Nanez, Katherine Bell, Andrew Salas, Chloe Ray and Valerie Gonzalez. Photos by Claudia Ayala



Enjoying the activities at the camp the team members who won All American Cheerleader awards are, left to right, Victoria Ayala, All American Cheerleader (varsity); Sara Otwell, Pin it Forward (varsity); Shelby Couchman, All American Mascot (varsity); Olga Cisneros, All American (junior varsity); and Reagan Razo, All American-Varsity (senior).

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SECTION B SPORTS & CLASSIFIED

JFD football to host Brook

Although it's been briefly discussed, a re-launch of the long-awaited Dobie versus Clear Brook football battle must wait until 2018-2019 or beyond.

For now, though, the two football programs are set to meet for what will be the final dress rehearsal leading up to the start of the regular season.

After controlling much of the action in 2016, Clear Brook will again go against the Longhorns in lively scrimmage action Friday, Aug. 25, at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena.

Freshmen and junior varsity play will come before the varsity teams meet to close out the session at 7 p.m.

For both programs, it's the final chance to prepare for the 2017 regular season, which kicks off Sept. 2 at the varsity level. After hammering Bellaire a season ago, the Wolverines will look to repeat the feat at Challenger Stadium.

Dobie, meanwhile, is looking to avenge a 30-6 loss to Summer Creek. The two teams begin 2017 Sept. 2, at Turner Stadium in Humble.

In its scrimmage against Brook, the Longhorns will face one of the best groups of offensive skill players in the entire Class 6A Region III ranks.

Continued on Page 2B

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Scrimmage

Clear Brook at Dobie

Friday, Aug. 25

Veterans Stadium

Frosh: 4:30; JV: 5:30 V: 7:00



Dobie's Leilani Vargas will lead the team tennis group into action against neighboring Clear Brook Tuesday, Aug. 29 as the nondistrict portion of the schedule continues. The Wolverines will host the action beginning at 2:30 p.m.

Volleyball teams tune up

One more tournament opportunity remains as the Clear Brook and Dobie varsity volleyball teams inch toward the all-important district portion of the schedule.

To this point, both varsity programs have been consistent yet inconsistent.

Clear Brook, which has played the entire season to this point without the services of outside hitter/middle blocker Jordan Russell, did defeat Dobie in a 25-15, 25-17, 25-13 match Aug. 18, at Dobie.

After winning against Dulles Aug. 22, the Lady Wolverines will host Cypress Creek Aug. 25, and then get set to face the field at the BSN Under Armour/Clear Creek ISD Classic Aug. 31 and Sept. 2.

With Russell out of the lineup, sophomore Kailin Newsome leads the team in kills, with fellow sophomore Bella Lockwood second in the category. Senior Kennedy Crutchfield is at the top of the list in total blocks.

Dobie, meanwhile, won its first three matches of the season at the Dickinson ISD Invitational.

At Dickinson, the Lady Longhorns defeated Angleton 25-21, 25-23, and also saddled Second Baptist with a 22-25, 25-18, 25-16 loss. Dobie also downed Channelview 25-10, 25-15.

At the same event, the Lady Longhorns won the first game 25-20 but then fell 25-20, 25-21 to Baytown Sterling. Despite a first-game win against Lumberton 25-23 Dobie lost 25-23, 25-21.

As expected, Dobie junior Taylor Pleasants has paced all hitters with more than 124 kills this season through nine matches heading into play Aug. 22 against Dickinson.

Senior Victoria Onozie is second among the kill leaders with 84.

District play in both

Continued on Page 2B

Dobie netters take tough loss

The game plan is nearly always the same for the Dobie varsity team tennis program. That is to win as many doubles matches as possible heading into singles play, therefore jumping ahead in the race to 10 wins.

Against Clear Springs Aug. 22, the Longhorns executed their plan, building a 5-2 lead over the Chargers after doubles play.

From there, however, the Chargers stormed back with wins in eight of nine singles matches to take the victory.

Luis Neira, Adrian Tamez and Austin Vuu won boys' singles matches late for the Longhorns, but by then the Chargers had stolen away a potentially big win for Dobie.

The Longhorns' No. 1 and No. 2 boys' singles players, "Big" Tommy Nguyen and Alex Cuaping, respectively, played well against the tough Chargers' lineup.

But Nguyen and Cuaping both lost supertiebreakers after the second set, leading to losses in those two matches. The wins ultimately gave Springs the momentum it needed to move on to the win.

"We in no way can blame Tommy or Alex for the loss," Dobie head coach Manuel Moreno Jr. said.

"It's called team tennis for a reason. You win as a group, as a team, and lose as a team. We had chances in other matches to win also, and couldn't close it out. It was disappointing to not be able to get a win against a quality opponent like Clear Springs."

Continued on Page 3B

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SJC soccer to debut Aug. 25

Coming off a run to the National Junior College Athletic Association Division I men's soccer semifinals, San Jacinto College would love nothing better than to take it a step further this time around.

And with the 2017 season set to be the last in program history, there's no time like the present to chase that elusive first national championship.

The road to that possible national crown certainly must go through Tyler, where the Apaches have won four of the past five championships, but the Coyotes just may have what it takes to bring home the goods.

It all starts Friday, Aug. 25, at the Apache Invitational in Tyler. San Jacinto won't face nemesis Tyler this time around but instead will go against Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College.

The Coyotes will then play their home opener Saturday, Sept. 2, on the South campus against defending Division III national champion Richland in a 7 p.m. clash.

On Tuesday, Sept. 5, the Coyotes hope to recover sufficiently from the Labor Day break as they host Northeast Texas Community College in a 2 p.m. contest.

Coming into 2017, San Jacinto College head coach Ian Spooner knew he had many of the players in place on the offensive

Continued on Page 3B

Intermediate sports underway

Thompson Intermediate fans will get a chance to watch both the school's football and volleyball programs in scrimmage action Saturday, Sept. 2.

The dual-sport event will run from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., with the Lions' seventh-grade football teams scrimmaging from 9 to 10:30 a.m., followed by the eighth-grade action from 10:30 a.m. to noon.

In accordance, the Lady Lions' seventh- and eighth-grade teams will begin scrimmaging at 9 a.m.

Lion booster club members will sell chopped beef barbecue sandwich plates, including chips and a soft drink or water, for \$5 each, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Thompson's cheerleaders will be selling baked goods, and the dance team will sell frozen treats.

The dance team will perform in between the seventh- and eighth-grade scrimmages, and the cheerleaders will perform during the eighth-grade scrimmage.

The Lions' football program began practicing Aug. 21, and will scrimmage Tuesday and Wednesday, Sept. 5-6 against the Southmore Bulldogs at 5 p.m.

Intermediate scrimmages

Saturday, Sept. 2

At Thompson: Football and volleyball scrimmages, 9 a.m. to noon; chopped beef sandwich combo plates available for purchase.

At Beverly Hills: The Battlin' Bears' Annual Food, Fun and Football event will be highlighted by a scrimmage from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Hot dog (2) combo plates, including chips and water, will be \$4 each.

SBGSA sets final fall registration

The South Belt Girls Softball Association still has upcoming registration dates for the fall season, including Thursday, August 24 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. and Saturday, Aug. 26, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the softball fields at El Franco Lee Park. The registration fee is \$60 per player.

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Dobie to face Brook football in scrimmage

Continued from Page 1B

With roughly nine days to go before the Sept. 2 opener, Clear Brook varsity football head coach Mike Allison is pleased with where the Wolverines are presently. Because the program did not participate in spring workouts, the preseason began Aug. 7.

The Wolverines went against Texas City in a first scrimmage Aug. 18.

"I was really proud of the way the kids played and performed in that first scrimmage," Allison said.

"I thought we executed well for the most part. The goal at this point of the preseason is to get better every day. I think we have done that.

"It was a relaxed atmosphere at Texas City and well organized, and I think both programs saw some things that are looking good and also some things we need to work on."

With college level players returning at quarterback (Jaizac Garcia), running back (Jarrett Smith) and receiver (Caleb Chapman and Mark Milton), the Wolverines are set at the skill spots.

But the team will return just one starting offensive lineman. And those who view high school football from the outside looking in point at the defensive unit and its ability to stop opponents as a key factor

to the team's overall success.

Don't count Allison as one of those guys, however, who might be concerned. He's not.

"We have some talented guys returning, and some guys who maybe didn't see as much varsity time last season or those who have moved up from the junior varsity level have stepped up to this point," Allison said.

"I really believe defensively we are going to be better than what is expected."

High school experts know what Braelon Hill can do from his spot in the secondary as one of 24-6A's top returning performers.

And Milton, who has been recruited as a defensive back and is expected to play cornerback at Baylor University, will see time in the secondary. There are others, but Hill and Milton head the list.

"Braelon has simply impressed me this offseason and preseason, and I already knew he was a skilled player," Allison said.

"Mark is just a tremendous all-around talent. He's getting in work all over the field, including the return game.

"He's just a guy who takes care of his business in the classroom and does whatever you ask him to

do out here on the field as a teammate."

As for the scrimmage against Dobie, the Wolverines will attempt to mimic a regular game week as much as possible. While the final score does not count, effort absolutely does.

"I think effort is the big thing every time you take the field," Allison said. "And this senior group is a special one for us. They are hard-working, driven to succeed, unselfish and team-oriented. All of that rubs off on the other guys."

"We just want to go out there against Dobie and execute cleanly, stay healthy and keep improving as we move toward the opener against Bellaire."

Dobie makes progress
Other than having to deal with some of the same heat-related concerns that face every program this time of year, the Dobie group is moving full steam ahead in preparation for not only the scrimmage with Clear Brook but the Sept. 2 season opener against Summer Creek.

Dobie welcomed in a great group of freshmen players, and there are also some solid players at the sophomore and junior varsity levels.

But high school programs are judged largely on their performance at the varsity level. The Longhorns missed the playoffs a season ago but plan to make it a short absence.

"We were pleased with the retention level a lot of the guys showed based on what we covered and implemented in the spring," Norman said.

"It's easier to get out of the gate in the preseason workouts when guys show up ready to go and also show that they have a good grasp of things covered in May.

"The effort and the spirit out there on the field has been very good, and I'm sure as with most teams, we are looking to improve and take a step every day. Through the first six days of workouts, we have done that."

Having seen what Clear Brook brings to the table in that 2016 scrimmage, Norman knows very well what his team, particularly on the defensive side, faces come Aug. 25. But it's also why he agreed to scrimmage against Clear Brook originally.

"Clear Brook is a play-off team that went three rounds deep," Norman said.

"We had a misstep last season but had made the playoffs each year since 2010 before that. With this being the third year in this system for most of these guys, we feel real good about the potential for this season.

"Clear Brook is where we want to be. They do a great job with coach Allison over there. But we feel like we can get right back to being in the postseason starting in 2017."



Senior Jacob Sulak, who will start under center when Dobie opens the regular season against Summer Creek Sept. 2, has been working closely with members of the Longhorns' offensive staff, including coach Charles Washington.

Sports Calendar

FOOTBALL
Friday, Aug. 25
Brook at Dobie scrimmage, PISD Veterans, 4:30

Thursday, Aug. 31
Brook JV Red at Bellaire, 5:30
Brook JV Black at Bellaire, 4:00
Dobie JV Orange hosts Summer Creek, Aux., 6:30
Dobie JV White hosts Summer Creek, Aux., 4:30
Brook freshman Black hosts Bellaire, Brook, 4:00
Brook freshman Red hosts Bellaire, Brook, 5:30
Dobie freshman White at Summer Creek, 4:30

Saturday, Sept. 2
Dobie varsity at Summer Creek, Turner, 6:00
Brook varsity hosts Bellaire, Challenger, 6:00
Thompson hosts Red/White scrimmage, 9 a.m.
Beverly Hills hosts Food, Fun and Football, 10 a.m.

TENNIS
Friday, Aug. 25
Dobie varsity at Dickinson, 3:00

Tuesday, Aug. 29
Dobie varsity at Clear Brook, 2:30

Friday, Sept. 1
Dobie varsity hosts Alvin, 3:00

Friday, Sept. 8
Dobie varsity hosts Morton Ranch, 3:00

VOLLEYBALL
Friday, Aug. 25
Dobie varsity at Katy Paetow, 6:30
Brook varsity hosts Cy-Creek, 6:00
Brook JV hosts Cy-Creek, 5:00
Dobie JV at Katy Paetow, 5:30
Dobie freshman Orange at Katy Paetow, 4:30
Brook freshman A hosts Cy-Creek, 5:00
Dobie freshman White at Katy Paetow, 4:30
Brook freshman B hosts Cy-Creek, 6:00

Tuesday, Aug. 29
Dobie varsity at Spring, 6:30
Brook varsity at Bellaire, 6:30
Brook JV at Bellaire, 5:30
Dobie JV at Spring, 5:30
Dobie freshman Orange at Spring, 4:30
Brook freshman A at Bellaire, 4:30

Thursday, Aug. 31
Dobie varsity at San Marcos Invitational, TBA
Clear Brook varsity hosts Clear Creek Invitational

Friday, Sept. 1
Dobie varsity at San Marcos Invitational, TBA
Dobie JV hosts G.C. Memorial, Phillips, 5:30
Dobie freshman A hosts G.C. Memorial, Phillips, 5:30

Saturday, Sept. 2
Dobie varsity at San Marcos Invitational, TBA
Clear Brook varsity hosts Clear Creek Invitational
Thompson hosts Red/White scrimmage, 9 a.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 6
Dobie varsity at Channelview, 6:30
Dobie JV at Channelview, 5:30
Dobie freshman A at Channelview, 5:30

Friday, Sept. 8
Dobie varsity hosts West Brook, 6:30
Dobie JV hosts West Brook, 5:30
Dobie freshman A hosts West Brook, 5:30

SOCCKER
Friday, Sept. 25
San Jacinto College at Mississippi Coast, Tyler, 8 p.m.

Lady Longhorns fall at Dickinson; Brook finding its footing on court

Continued from Page 1B
22-6A and 24-6A begin Sept. 8. Dobie will host Beaumont West Brook while Clear Brook will play host to Clear Falls.

Clear Brook made the playoffs a season ago as the No. 4 seed out of 24-6A but was dropped by Dawson in the first round.

Dobie, meanwhile, was fifth in the 22-6A chase behind champion Deer Park, West Brook, Memorial and La Porte.

But this is a new season, and both Dobie and Clear Brook have designs on making it to the playoffs this time around.

After a 26-28, 25-21, 25-20, 25-15 loss to Dickinson Aug. 22, Dobie has won three of its first 10 matches of the season with the tournament trip to San Marcos coming up.

Despite coming up short in seven of the 10,

the Lady Longhorns have pushed several opponents to the limit, including winning the first game of best-of-threes twice in eventual losses at the Dickinson tournament.

At present, Deer Park has looked solid, coming up with a defeat of defending Region III champion Clear Creek Aug. 22. West Brook, meanwhile, has also started well. But Dobie figures to be able to compete better against the likes of Memorial and La Porte come playoff time.

As for Clear Brook, the Lady Wolverines have found their footing in nondistrict play in recent matches, and the win over Dulles Aug. 22 helped more.

Lockwood and Gabby Wilcox had nine kills apiece as the Lady Wolverines made quick work of Dulles in three games,

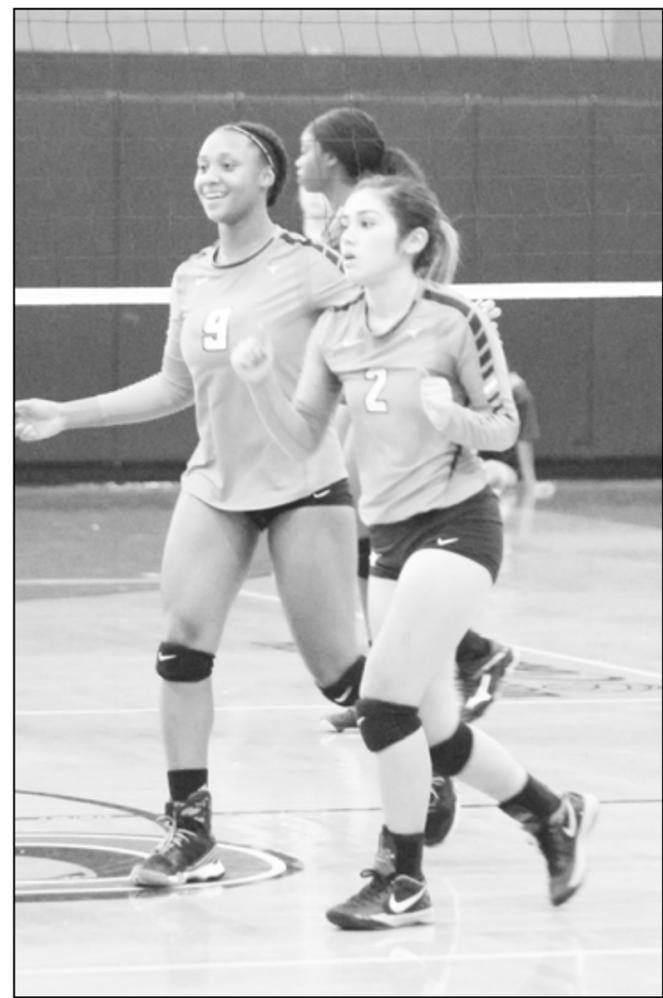
25-12, 25-16, 25-19. Newsome added seven kills and 13 digs in the match.

With its appearance at the Clear Creek ISD Invitational, Clear Brook is looking to build still more confidence as district play nears.

When 24-6A action starts, Clear Brook will again face a gauntlet of tough opponents on a nightly basis.

Clear Creek is off the pace it set as the Region III champion a season ago but is still tough to beat. Friendswood, Clear Falls, Dickinson, Clear Springs and Clear Lake are also hopeful of making a run to the postseason.

There are only four playoff berths available, and while the race may go down to the final match of the season — it did in 2016 — the Lady Wolverines hope to be there.



Dobie seniors and returning letterwinners Jakara Henry (left) and Jacqueline Garcia (2) have more to be excited about after the Lady Longhorns grabbed three victories at the Dickinson ISD Invitational. The team is now headed to San Marcos for the Rattler Invitational tournament.

BHI, Thompson athletics to begin

Continued from Page 1B
Aug. 30-31, at Queens and San Jacinto intermediates.

The regular season begins Thursday, Sept. 7, with Beverly Hills playing at Bondy and Thompson hosting South Houston. Matches begin at 5 p.m., with Dark-team play preceding Light team action.

As head football coach Michael Arroyo of Beverly Hills begins to get things into shape in Bears' camp, the school's annual Food, Fun and Football event will be held Saturday, Sept. 2, as the Blue and White participate in a scrimmage from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Fans are invited to at-

tend the event beginning at 10 a.m., and hot dog (2) combination plates, including chips and water, will be sold for \$4 each.

On Sept. 5, Beverly Hills' eighth-grade A and seventh-grade A football teams will scrimmage at home against Southmore.

Shifting to Sept. 6, the Bears' eighth-grade B and seventh-grade B teams will scrimmage at Southmore Intermediate against the Bulldogs.

At right, Thompson Intermediate assistant football coach Daniel Sawyer and the rest of the Lions' staff are preparing to lead the program into the 2017 regular season.



Brook VB a host site at CCISD invite Elite programs included

Pearland ISD took center stage on the opening weekend of the high school volleyball season with its impressive 79-team lineup of squads involved in the John Turner Classic, and now it's Clear Creek ISD's time to shine.

A stout lineup of 32 teams will begin pool play at each of the five Clear Creek ISD high schools on Aug. 31.

Moving to Sept. 2, the top two teams based on pool play record will advance to the 16-team championship bracket at Clear Falls High School.

Similarly, a 16-team consolation bracket will be held Sept. 2, at Clear Springs High School.

The lineup is smaller than that of the one seen at the Turner Classic in Pearland, but in no way less skilled.

Oak Ridge, which lost just one match all season en route to the Class 6A tournament, heads one pool along with

Clear Brook and a Manvel team that made its way to the Region III final in Class 5A.

Pearland, a regional quarterfinalist in 2016, heads another pool along with Deer Park, the 22-6A champion from a season ago that has already made a strong statement this season.

The Woodlands, the Class 6A Region IV champion last season, is in another pool along with Atascocita, which reached the area playoffs in Class 6A last season.

Cinco Ranch and Clear Springs figure to be the big challengers in another pool, while the likes of Bellaire and Fort Bend Travis head another pool.

Region III semifinalist Seven Lakes and quarterfinalist Dawson lead the way in another pool, and Clear Falls along with Region III quarterfinalist Katy look to advance in the final pool.

100 Club of Pearland sets golf tournament

The 100 Club of Pearland is busy making plans for its 2017 fundraising golf tournament, coming to Golferest Country Club in Pearland Monday, Sept. 11.

Individuals may register for play at \$140 per player, and foursome teams are encouraged to register at \$525 per four-

nonalcoholic beverages for those playing golf that day.

There is a variety of sponsorship opportunities available, including platinum at \$800, gold at \$300, silver at \$200 and tent sponsor at \$300, which includes a foldable table and a bring-your-own tent space.

For more information on the tournament, visit the official website at www.100ClubofPearland.org.

Online offers flexibility TicketRoar option comes to PISD FB

By Jade Wise
PISD Communications

This fall, Pasadena ISD will be teaming up with Home Team Marketing's digital ticketing platform. TicketRoar, powered by Eventbrite, to provide online ticketing and marketing for all five Pasadena ISD high schools' home football games.

The TicketRoar platform will allow PISD to offer digital ticketing for all varsity home football games at Veterans Memorial Stadium and help increase ticket sales by providing online ticket purchase options, greater financial accountability and improving the overall audience experience.

"By using an online ticket service, the PISD community will have the convenience of purchasing tickets to games at Veterans Memorial Stadium from their computer or smart phone," said Ruperto Jaso, Pasadena ISD director of athletics.

TicketRoar provides simplified ticketing solutions to schools by offering convenient purchasing options for fans and gives patrons the option to print tickets at home or present tickets on their smart phone at the gate.

Pasadena ISD will use the online ticket service for the 2017-2018 foot-

ball season. There are plans to expand the service to include all athletic events hosted by Pasadena ISD in the future.

Football tickets can still be purchased in person at the gate and at the Pasadena ISD ticket office, which is adjacent to Phillips Field House, located next to Veterans Memorial Stadium, during regular business hours and up until two hours before kickoff on game day.

An additional feature that the service will bring is the ability for Pasadena ISD to accept credit card transactions at the gate, improving financial reporting and convenience to fans.

PISD Superintendent of Schools Dr. DeeAnn Powell said, "The TicketRoar platform will allow us to bring the fan experience to the next level, while utilizing social media and online marketing tools to expand and grow our audience base."

"We are excited to have Pasadena ISD on the TicketRoar platform. We plan to enhance the athletic experience through easy online purchasing and efficient accountability," said Vic Gregovits, who is senior vice president at TicketRoar.

Longhorn tennis facing tough schedule; Brook coming Aug. 29

Bay Area Football League



Tina Ha has played an important role for the team tennis squad at Dobie early this season, playing girls' No. 1 doubles with partner Leilani Vargas and, also, the No. 2 girls' singles spot.

Continued from Page 1B
After the loss to Clear Springs, Dobie is 4-6 through 10 team tennis matches. The Longhorns will play tough opponents such as Clear Brook (Aug. 29), Alvin and Morton Ranch before a trip to the Remembering Ike tournament in Galveston.

As September opens, the Longhorns will begin to take aim at District 22-6A action. Deer Park is the defending champion in 22-6A, but Dobie always has hopes of defeating the Deer.

If nothing else, the Longhorns may begin to settle in with their lineup now that school has started.

Moreno has decided to go with Cuaping and Leilani Vargas in mixed doubles.

On the boys' side, "Big" Tommy Nguyen is paired with Neira at No. 1, while "Little" Tommy Nguyen and Tamez is at No. 2 Austin Luu and Longy Nguyen will play at No. 3.

In girls' doubles, Dobie will go with Tina Ha and Ann Truong at No. 1, Bao Nguyen and Emily Nguyen at No. 2, and Jordan

Tran and Kristy Morales at No. 3.

Moreno has been particularly impressed with the pairing of Tran and Morales, who scored a 6-1, 6-3 victory over Jessie Charpentier and Natalie Osterlund of Clear Springs in the Aug. 22 matchup.

Overall, the Longhorns simply have to find a way to close out winnable matches. That hasn't happened often enough to this point in the season.

Granted, a 16-3 loss to Clear Falls and a 14-5 loss to Clear Creek came as a result of very tough competition on the other side of the net.

But Dobie beat Pearland 10-6 in the latest stretch of matches, and a win over Clear Springs could've kept the team's momentum rolling.

"We play a tough schedule in order to be able to improve and get some seasoning for the district schedule," Moreno said. "It's not always going to go our way, but we have to be able to win the close matches. We led 5-2 against Springs, and didn't get it done."



Dobie head tennis coach Manuel Moreno has seen his squad go 4-6 through the early portion of the season, but believes improvement can come.

Senior Division

| Teams | W | L | T |
|------------|---|---|---|
| Eagles | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Hurricanes | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Raiders | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| 49ers | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Rams | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Bulls | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Panthers | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Sharks | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Texans | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Patriots | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Cowboys | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Bulldogs | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Dolphins | 0 | 2 | 0 |

Junior Division

| Teams | W | L | T |
|------------|---|---|---|
| Cowboys | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Eagles | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Hurricanes | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Patriots | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Texans | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Panthers | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Sharks | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 49ers | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Bulls | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Dolphins | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Raiders | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Rams | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Bulldogs | 0 | 2 | 0 |

Sophomore Division

| Teams | W | L | T |
|------------|---|---|---|
| Hurricanes | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Bulldogs | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| 49ers | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Cowboys | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Patriots | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Eagles | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Panthers | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Texans | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Raiders | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Sharks | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Rams | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Bulls | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Dolphins | 0 | 2 | 0 |

Freshman Division

| Teams | W | L | T |
|------------|---|---|---|
| Eagles | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Hurricanes | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Rams | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Bulldogs | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Cowboys | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Texans | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Panthers | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Raiders | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Sharks | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Bulls | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 49ers | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Patriots | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Dolphins | 0 | 2 | 0 |

Week 3 BAFL games

Saturday, Aug. 26

Sagemont Cowboys host Magnolia Park Sharks
El Franco Lee Park, 8 a.m.

Southbelt Dolphins host North Shore Mustangs
Blackhawk Park, 8 a.m.

Ellington Rams host Bayou City Bulls
Dobie High School, 8 a.m.

San Jac soccer debuts Aug. 25

Continued from Page 1B
side of things. A first-year starter will be in the nets, but the Coyotes should have enough firepower to stay in most matches.

Early-season success against Richland and the like will go a long way toward the Coyotes building confidence, but the success of the season ultimately boils down to reaching nationals.

Since the program debuted in 1994, San Jacinto College has pushed hard for a national title but has fallen just shy twice. There have been countless other chances at nationals.

The program has also helped develop young players who have gone on to not only compete professionally but to excel.

Then it's only fitting that San Jac reach nationals in this, its final season of play.



San Jacinto College head soccer coach Ian Spooner is aiming at getting the Coyotes back to the national tournament as the 2017 regular season nears.

BAFL Week 2 Scores

| | Sr. | Jr. | Soph. | Fr. |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Rams | 41 | 0 | 6 | 19 |
| Cowboys | 26 | 25 | 25 | 13 |
| Dolphins | 0 | 7 | 0 | 6 |
| 49ers | 36 | 19 | 42 | 25 |
| Cowboys | 0 | 14 | 18 | 26 |
| Raiders | 27 | 12 | 0 | 6 |

CALENDAR

THURSDAY, AUGUST 24
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 - 8 p.m.
CrossRoads UMC - Invites everyone to the Thursday night service beginning with a light meal and fellowship at 6 p.m. followed by a praise, worship and prayer service at 7 p.m. at 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Afterward both pastors lead a Bible study in English and Spanish.
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.
Alcoholics Anonymous - Alcohol problems? Meets Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7 - 8 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For details, call 713-306-4366 or 713-480-1616.
FRIDAY, AUGUST 25
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 - 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, noon, Shepherd of the Heart United Methodist Church, 12005 County Rd. 39, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.

6:30 p.m.
Bay Area Genealogical Society - Meets monthly, the last Friday, at University Baptist Church, 16106 Middlebrook Dr., Clear Lake. Coffee and socializing prior to 7 p.m. meeting. No meeting in November/ December. For details, visit www.TxBayAreaGen.org.
7 p.m.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2245 N. Main St., Pearland. Call 713-856-1611.
8 p.m.
Serenity Now Al-Anon Group - meets at CrossRoads UMC Fridays, 8 to 9 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Family members and friends of problem drinkers/addicts share, learn Al-Anon principles, that they are not alone, and discover choices available. For details, call 281-484-9243.
SATURDAY, AUGUST 26
7:30 a.m.
Alcoholics Anonymous - "Breakfast with Bill", Saturdays, 7:30 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787, or 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 affected by an addict. Saturdays, 11 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, Cornell Conference room #111. Call 281-487-8787, or 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 details, call 281-484-9243.
SUNDAY, AUGUST 27
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.
Grief Support Group - For adults who have lost a loved one. Meets Sundays, 2 to 3:15 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena. 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.
7 p.m.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA meets Sundays, 7 p.m., 2245 N. Main St., Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.
Alcoholics Anonymous - Alcohol problems? Meets Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7 to 8 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For details, call 713-306-4366 or 713-480-1616.
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.
MONDAY, AUGUST 28
10 a.m.
Al-Anon Deer Park - Mondays, 10 - 11 a.m. Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P Street, Deer Park. Enter through back of church. Call 409-454-5720 for details, or 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. to 12:30 p.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 details, or drop in.
Noon
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.
3:15 p.m.

Houston Area Parkinson Society - Free exercise and speech therapy for adults with Parkinson's, 3:15 - 4:45 p.m., Clear Lake Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster. Visit www.hapsonline.org for details.
6 p.m.
Scrabble Club #511 - Meets Monday at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua. Come, improve crossword playing skills. Call 281-488-2923 for details. No meetings on holidays.
CrossRoads UMC - Mercy Hearts meets on the second and fourth Mondays, 6 to 8 p.m., at CrossRoads UMC located at 10030 Scarsdale. The focus of the new Mercy Hearts program is support for families of inmates and ex-offenders. The program will provide a complimentary meal, group Bible study and discussion. Child care is provided. This is a confidential ministry and information will be treated accordingly. For more information, contact C. Talbot at 281-245-7072 or Chucktal@msn.com.
6:30 p.m.
ESL at CrossRoads UMC - Academic ESL classes meet Mondays and Wednesdays, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Free. Call Cris at 832-724-4296 to register, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd.
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.
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.
7:30 p.m.
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Saint Luke's Group, 12 Step Recovery, open meeting Mondays, 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. in the Education Bldg., 11011 Hall Rd., 77089. For details, call Russell 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.



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Continued from Page 3B TUESDAY, AUGUST 29

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.

9:30 a.m.
Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum - Exhibits include dioramas, a turn-of-the-century doctor's office and an old-time kitchen. Tuesday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., 204 S. Main, Pasadena. For details, call 713-472-0565.

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.

Noon
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 nalix@texascitizensbank.com.

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.

2 p.m.
Clear Lake Bridge Club Lab Class - Tuesday, 2 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. For details or classes, contact Dr. Glandorf at drglandorf@sbcglobal.net or call 281-488-6318.

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.
Alcoholics Anonymous - Alcohol problems? Meets Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7 to 8 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For more information, call 713-306-4366 or 713-480-4166.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30

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 more information, or drop in.

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, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, 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 an activity card. Assistance is available to help learning dance moves. For more information, call Neva Schroder at 417-838-2204.

5:30 p.m.
StartSchoolLater.net (SSL) Houston Chapter - informational meeting about the link of teen sleep

deprivation to depression and low academic performance. Public is welcome, 5:30 p.m., on the fourth Wednesday, Parker Williams Library, Room F, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd., 77089. For details, call 281-229-1409.

6:30 p.m.
ESL at CrossRoads UMC - Academic ESL classes meet Mondays and Wednesdays, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Free. Call Cris at 832-724-4296 to register. 10030 Scarsdale Blvd.

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 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, AUGUST 31

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 - 8 p.m.
CrossRoads UMC - Invites everyone to the Thursday night service beginning with a light meal and fellowship at 6 p.m. followed by a praise, worship and prayer service at 7 p.m. at 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Afterward both pastors lead a Bible study in English and Spanish. Everyone is welcome.

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.
Well Spouse Support Group - meets the last Thursday at CrossRoads UMC, 10030 Scarsdale, with the spouse of a chronically ill/disabled person. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Childcare is free. No meetings in Nov. or Dec. For details, contact Jennifer Miller at 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.

Alcoholics Anonymous - Alcohol problems? Meets Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7 - 8 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For details, call 713-306-4366 or 713-480-4166.

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2017 South Belt Schlitterbahn vacation contest photos shared

Garay, Salazar engaged in California



Luis Garay, his fiancée Vanessa Salazar and his sister Sophia Garay took a road trip vacation to California to visit family in San Diego. They also traveled to Los Angeles to visit Disneyland, and that's where all the magic happened. Shown left, Vanessa and Luis show off their excitement after they got engaged at the teacup ride at Disneyland.

Sophia is also shown with Sofia Vergara's star at the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Both Luis and Vanessa are graduates from Dobie High School and started dating while they were students there.

Photos submitted

Garcias visit Southern California



The Garcias visited Southern California. Along their trip, they visited Venice Beach, Dodger Stadium, the Chinese Mann Theater, Anaheim Stadium, Petco Park and the San Diego Zoo. Shown, above, at the zoo are, left to right, Rommel Garcia Sr., Grace Garcia, AJ Garcia, Jacquelyne Garcia and Rommel Garcia Jr. The Garcia family has lived in the South Belt area for almost 15 years.

Photo submitted

Galvans attend youth camp in Florida



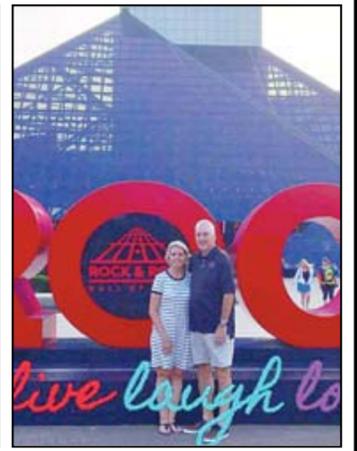
Skylar Galvan (left) and Jordan Galvan, attended Fearless Youth Camp in Panama City, Florida, with other youth members, leaders and youth pastors from CT Church Houston.

Above, Jordan is being baptized by pastor Jerone Hill in the presence of hundreds of teens. Jordan is a seventh-grader at Beverly Hills Intermediate.

Photos submitted

Skylar is now a leader for the youth and, along with several other leaders, hand selected this camp for CT youth to attend. The daytime agenda consisted of physical team strategy games, swimming and socializing. Above, she is shown participating in a game of beach volleyball. Skylar is a sophomore at Dobie High School.

Kutras take a trip to Ohio



Deron and Julie Kutra took a vacation to Ohio. They were able to visit, from left to right, a Cincinnati Reds game at the Great American Ball Park, the Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland. This trip was a bucket list trip for Deron.

Delores Gates snapped a photo of her son Jesse Shannon enjoying the sunset while on a camping trip to Somerville Lake. Gates and Shannon love to go there because of the wildlife and the beautiful sunsets. Delores is a longtime resident of the South Belt area.

Photo submitted

Montoyas sail away for 35th anniversary



Longtime South Belt area residents Sophia and Gabriel Montoya celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary aboard a Royal Caribbean seven night cruise. The cruise took them to Honduras and Costa Maya and

Cozumel, Mexico. The Montoya's daughter, Ernestine Montoya, made the couple special anniversary T-shirts that were a big hit on the trip.

Photos submitted

Gates, Shannon enjoy camping trip



Garcias travel to Los Cabos



The Garcia family took their first trip to Los Cabos San Lucas, Mexico. The family was also able to experience swimming with dolphins for the first time. Shown above, left to right, (front row) Edgar Garcia, David Garcia, (back row) Alger Garcia and Mayra Garcia. David attends Genoa Elementary and Edgar attends Bondy Intermediate.

Mauro visits Europe



Emily Mauro, an incoming sophomore at J. Frank Dobie High School, traveled to Europe with a group from Dobie. The trip lasted 15 days and they visited, the Netherlands, Germany, France, Switzerland, Italy and Great Britain. Above, Mauro is shown in London with the Tower Bridge behind her. Below, she poses in front of the Lion Monument in Lucerne, Switzerland.

Photos submitted

Staceys enjoy Hawaiian vacation



The Stacey family enjoyed a family vacation to Hawaii. Above left, left to right, Hunter, Samantha and Luke visit the Dole Pineapple Plantation in Wahiawa, Hawaii. Above right, Luke and Hunter enjoy some shaved ice at the Motsumoto shaved ice hut in Haleiwa, Hawaii.

Below left, Hunter and Luke ride a fun water trike in Waikiki, Hawaii. Below right, Hunter and Luke visit Pearl Harbor. Luke is a second-grader at Moore Elementary and Hunter is a fifth-grader at Melillo Middle School.

Photos submitted

Paredes, Smalls show Astros pride



Longtime South Belt area residents, left to right, Javier Paredes, his sister Cynthia Smalls and her husband Alex Smalls visited the Grand Canyon where they showed their support for the hometown Houston Astros. They were also able to visit Cathedral Rock in Sedona, Arizona.

Photo submitted

