

South Belt-Ellington Leader

41 years of covering South Belt

Voice of Community-Minded People since 1976

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Email: mynews@southbeltleader.com

www.southbeltleader.com

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Hurricane trash info

Clear Brook City MUD residents household trash services have resumed. Only household trash will be picked up. Storm debris must be placed separately from household debris. If the collection crews cannot figure out what is household trash versus storm debris, they will not pick up either. Trash must be curbside no later than 7 a.m.

Clear Brook City MUD will begin Hurricane Harvey storm removal debris in the next couple of days. Unfortunately, the dump sites will not open until Thursday, Sept. 6. CBC MUD officials are working with Ceres Environmental Services to find a staging area for the debris so that pick up may begin as early as this weekend.

This will be the first opportunity for area residents affected by the storm to have storm debris removed from their property. The pick-up of debris will not coincide with your normal garbage days. This is a completely different service.

All debris must be placed within the first 10 feet of the street. When piling debris, follow the following guidelines:

- Do not place debris on top or close to fire hydrants, mailboxes or on driveways.
- Do not place debris over water meter boxes. The trash must be accessible these for service.
- Do not place debris on driveways.
- Do not place debris in drainage ditches or channels.

More rain is predicted for this week. This will be the first of three passes for storm debris. Should residents have any questions, call Clear Brook City MUD at 281-484-1562 or check Facebook at Clear Brook City MUD or at the website at www.cbcmud.com.

Household garbage, regular food and trash, will be picked up on normal trash days and therefore, should be separate.

If household trash is mixed with storm debris trash, no trash will be picked up by Texas Pride Disposal.

Some schools to reopen

Both the Clear Creek Independent School District and San Jacinto College plan to reopen schools Tuesday, Sept. 5, following the Labor Day weekend. Residents, however, are urged to monitor the situation though, as school officials are still assessing damage.

While the Pasadena Independent School District originally planned to also reopen schools on Sept. 5, it has since placed that decision on hold, while officials assess damage to area campuses. Parents should receive a robocall with updates but may also monitor social media and check the district's website at www1.pasadenaisd.org.

Lutheran South Academy also suffered extensive damage during the storm. Its plans were unavailable at press time.

Labor Day closings set

South Belt-Ellington Leader

The South Belt-Ellington Leader office will be closed Monday, Sept. 4, in observance of Labor Day. Normal business hours will resume Tuesday, Sept. 5, at 9 a.m.

Clear Brook City MUD

The Clear Brook City Municipal Utility District office will be closed Monday, Sept. 4, in observance of Labor Day. The office will reopen Tuesday, Sept. 5, at 8 a.m. Payments may be left in the drop box located on the drive-through window side of the building.

Libraries

Both the Parker Williams Library and the Bracewell Branch Library will be closed Monday, Sept. 4, in observance of Labor Day. Both libraries are scheduled to resume normal hours on Tuesday, Sept. 5. See Page 2A for a list of library events.

Holiday trash schedule set

Clear Brook City MUD

Residents living in Clear Brook City MUD will have regular trash service pickup on Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 4. All trash should be at curbside no later than 7 a.m. to ensure pickup that day. Residents missing this regular trash pickup date will be serviced on the next regularly scheduled pickup date of Thursday, Sept. 7.

City of Houston

Residents living within the Houston city limits will not have trash collection service on Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 4. Trash pickup normally scheduled for Monday will be picked up Tuesday, Sept. 5, instead. Trash pickup normally scheduled for Tuesday will be picked up Wednesday, Sept. 6, instead. The city's normal trash pickup schedule will resume Thursday, Sept. 7. All neighborhood depositories will also be closed on Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 4.

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 stevelandin@hotmail.com.

South Belt on mend after historic flooding

By James Bolen

Hurricane Harvey wreaked havoc on the South Belt community Friday, Aug. 25, through Tuesday, Aug. 29, causing unprecedented flooding and the displacement of hundreds of residents.

Despite the storm making landfall in Corpus Christi as a Category 4 hurricane with winds reaching 130 mph, it was the nonstop precipitation that delivered the most damage locally, after

the system was downgraded back to a tropical storm.

Area residents were forced to endure roughly five straight days of nonstop rain, while Harvey hovered slowly above, reminiscent of Tropical Storm Allison in 2001.

According to the Harris County Flood Control District, the Beamer Ditch gauge at Hughes Road recorded approximately 40 inches of rain-

fall through the duration of the storm, with roughly half falling within a 24-hour period on Sunday.

By comparison, the devastating Allison dropped just under 30 inches.

A release from the National Weather Service declared Harvey officially set the record for the most rainfall caused by a single storm in the contiguous United States, with the gauge located on Mary's Creek at Winding Road registering 49.20 inches at 9:20 a.m. Tuesday (unverified reports claimed the gauge on Cedar Bayou at FM-1942, just east of Houston, received 51.88 inches).

The previous record of 48 inches took place in Medina during Tropical Storm Amelia in 1978.

For point of reference, George Bush Intercontinental Airport receives an average of 49.77 inches of rainfall annually, meaning Harvey produced a year's worth of rain in just a handful of days. Both George Bush Intercontinental Airport and Hobby Airport were closed through Wednesday due to the extreme weather.

By some estimates, Harvey, which was continuing to dump rain on East Texas and Louisiana at press time, will create as much as 25 trillion gallons of water before dissipating -- roughly the equivalent of what Lake Tahoe collects in rainfall and snow-melt combined every 118 years, according to the Reno Gazette-Journal.

While as many as 30 storm-deaths have been reported, including one Houston police officer who drowned in his car while reporting for duty, there are no known instances in the South Belt community. Emergency crews, however, are doing door-to-door checks in the hardest-hit areas to ensure no residents remain trapped inside their homes.

The hurricane, which some referred to as a 500-year-storm, caught many residents off

guard, as they did not evacuate ahead of time, nor were they instructed to by local officials -- a somewhat contentious point, as Texas Gov. Greg Abbott had advised to do so at the state level.

First responders from nearly every tier of government assisted in the crisis, including the U.S. Coast Guard, the Texas National Guard, the Houston police and fire departments, the Harris County Sheriff's Office, all local precinct constables' offices, the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department and others.

When streets began to flood and the need became apparent, Leader publisher Marie Flickinger contacted Pasadena Independent School District Superintendent Dr. DeeAnn Powell and arranged to use Dobie High School as a temporary shelter for the displaced. What started off as just a few dozen residents seeking refuge soon escalated into approximately 1,500. Several also brought their pets to the facility.

In an outpouring of support, hundreds from the community donated warm clothes, blankets, food, baby supplies and other needed items. At its peak, the makeshift shelter had more than 150 volunteers.

In order to reclaim the Dobie campus for students recently returning from summer break, shelter organizers began closing the temporary facility Tuesday night and arranged to take stranded residents to other nearby locations. Refugees were allowed to stay until the following morning if they had their own transportation.

Those fleeing with animals were instructed to relocate to Memorial Baptist Church, located at 6901 Fairmont Parkway in Pasadena, while the remaining residents were taken to either the Vietnamese Martyrs Church, located at 10610 Kingspoint, or the Jimmy Burke Activity Center, lo

Continued on Page 2A

Families evacuate to Dobie



Firefighters from the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department are shown above rescuing displaced residents during Hurricane Harvey and delivering them to Dobie High School, where a temporary shelter was established. When the significance of the flooding became apparent around 10:30 p.m. Saturday, SVFD Chief Chuck Tylka contacted Leader publisher Marie Flickinger about the possibility of using the campus as a make-shift shelter, saying that if a facility could not be secured, residents would die. Flickinger then reached out to Pasadena Independent School District Superintendent Dr. DeeAnn Powell, who was able to unlock the campus remotely. At its peak, the shelter housed around 1,350 residents. Roughly 150 people volunteered at the school, and hundreds of others donated supplies. Red Cross officials, who also assisted at the school, told the Leader the shelter was responsible for saving an untold number of lives. See related photos on Page 5A, 6A, 5B and 6B.

Photo by Marie Flickinger

Feds to offer hurricane assistance

More than 12,400 employees from more than 17 federal departments and agencies are working together in support of the ongoing response to damages resulting from Hurricane Harvey and subsequent flooding across Texas and Louisiana.

Integrated federal, state, and local search and rescue teams are working together around-the-clock, aligning the right skills with the search and rescue needs to reach those stranded in flooded areas.

FEMA has more than 1,100 Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) personnel working to save lives in south Texas, conducting rescues for more than 2,500 survivors. The United States Coast Guard (USCG) is using shallow-draft vessels to provide search and rescue assistance in flooded areas, and air crews to conduct damage assessment overflights and search and rescue patrols. USCG has conducted rescues for more than 4,200 survivors and over 1,000 pets.

Additional surge boat resources are deployed

to Texas from Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and Department of the Interior (DOI).

More than 3,200 FEMA employees are working in support of Tropical Storm Harvey response. The federal footprint includes:

Federal Emergency Management Agency

- Residents and business owners in designated counties who sustained disaster related damage due to Tropical Storm Harvey, and are able to do so, can apply for assistance by registering online at www.DisasterAssistance.gov to reach FEMA.

- Registering online is the quickest way to register for FEMA assistance since the event will last several days and the full scope of damages may not be evident until the storm has passed. If one does not have access to the internet they may register by calling 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or 1-800-462-7585 (TTY). If they use 711 relay or Video Relay Service (VRS), call 800-621-3362 directly. The toll-free telephone numbers will

Continued on Page 2A

Thompson to close indefinitely

Students to be temporarily housed at BHI

Thompson Intermediate suffered extensive damage during Hurricane Harvey and will be closed indefinitely, according to Pasadena Independent School District officials.

In the interim, Thompson students will be housed at Beverly Hills Intermediate on Beamer, while PISD officials assess the damage and

weigh their various options.

The school's roof, gym, library and orchestra room were all severely damaged during the storm.

According to PISD Superintendent Dr. DeeAnn Powell, the roof alone would cost more than \$1 million to replace.

Incomplete pond already helping



The site of the future-South Belt Stormwater Detention Basin (shown above and below) was filled to its peak with rainfall during Hurricane Harvey. While construction of the pond is far from complete, the 100-acre basin still prevented millions of gallons of water from entering local roads and homes. Construction at the site has been a contentious point with many residents, who have grown tired of the excavation trucks that constantly come and go from the site removing dirt. When the project is complete, the South Belt basin will hold more than 407 million gallons, or 1,250 acre-feet, of storm water.

Photos by Kevin Dalley

Comparing Valeros & H-E-B



On Saturday, Aug. 25, two Valero gas stations less than two miles apart, were worlds apart on gas prices. The station, above, is located at 11499 Beamer. The gas station to the right, located at 11660 Fuqua, sold unleaded gas for cash, Valero credit card, debit or credit card at an increase of 44% over the Beamer location. However, if there is a prize for being a community winner, the prize would go to H-E-B on Blackhawk who, after running out of unleaded gas, sold premium gas for \$2.04 (the price of unleaded gas). Premium was priced at \$2.49!



Harvey wreaks havoc on area

Continued from Page 1A
 cated at 500 W. 13th St. in Deer Park.

Social media played a critical role in providing safety and comfort to affected citizens. In addition to informing residents of various shelters in the area, websites such as Facebook and Twitter helped connect missing friends and family members, as well as identify those in need of rescue, as 911 and other help lines were often overburdened due to the storm.

"People were starved for information," said Al Carter, who was actively posting on the Dobbie HS Alumni Association Facebook page throughout the storm. "People needed to know where to go."

Carter's wife, Mary, selflessly volunteered her time at Dobbie. The couple further took in a family of five, whom they met also volunteering at Dobbie, even though their own home had been destroyed.

Several local residents, along with volunteers from other areas, rolled up their sleeves and pitched in to aid in the rescue efforts, providing boats, large trucks and manpower.

While the storm brought out the best in people, it also brought out the worst in some, with incidents of looting being reported throughout the community, including break-ins at

multiple stores located in the strip center at Beltway 8 and Sabo, as well as the Food Town at Scarsdale and Beamer.

Residents are also warned to be aware of post-hurricane scams preying on people's generosity, as bogus GoFundMe pages and charities have been spotted popping up, including a telephone solicitation falsely claiming to be associated with Flickinger.

Both the Clear Creek Independent School District and San Jacinto College plan to reopen schools Tuesday, Sept. 5, following the Labor Day weekend. Residents, however, are urged to monitor the situation though, as school officials are still assessing damage. Pasadena ISD has yet to determine when students will return to class, as school officials are still assessing damage to area campuses.

Most area businesses were also forced to close their doors due to either flood damage or inaccessibility. At press time, a handful of stores were beginning to reopen with rationed supplies and limited hours.

South Belt residents affected by Hurricane Harvey are eligible to apply for assistance through the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Applicants could possibly receive compensation for temporary housing, unem-

ployment payments, loans to cover residential losses not covered by insurance and grants for home repairs and replacement of personal property, as well as other disaster-related needs.

Applicants may apply for help from FEMA by registering at www.disasterassistance.gov. Residents without internet access may call 800-621-FEMA (3362).

While there are numerous worthwhile charities in which to donate, a GoFundMe account was established by Crystal Ford in an effort to directly help those in the South Belt community. To make a donation, visit www.gofundme.com/sagemont-hurricane-harvey-relief. Organizers of the effort said at press time, however, other options are being looked at in hopes of paying lower administrative fees, so that more funds go to ones in need. The Leader and South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce are supporting the drive and will be working closely with Pasadena ISD to determine local needs. See next week's Leader and the Leader Facebook page for future information, which will be posted as it becomes available.

Pasadena ISD has also started its own fundraising drive called Pasadena ISD Strong. To donate, visit www1.pasadenaisd.org/pisdstrong.

Local library events set

Parker Williams Library

Due to the recent weather event, the library will be closed Friday, Sept. 1 through Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 4. The library is tentatively scheduled to re-open Tuesday, Sept. 5. Call the Parker Williams Library at 281-484-2036 to confirm hours this week.

The following events are set this week for the Parker Williams Library, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd.: Tuesday, Sept. 5, 4:30 p.m. Book Buddies Teen Big Buddy Training for ages 13 and older. Book Buddies is a Harris County Public Library literacy initiative to recruit teens to help little buddies from kindergarten to third grade become interested in the joys of reading. The Book Buddies program requires a commitment of eleven consecutive Tuesdays Sept. 5 through Nov. 14 for teens interested in volunteering. Contact the library with any questions.

Below are the programs that occur every week. Wednesday, Preschool storytime, 10:30 a.m. For children, aged 3 years to 5 years, featuring stories, songs, fingerplays, and a craft.

For more information on library events, phone the library at 281-484-2036. Library hours are: Tuesday, Sept. 5, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Wednesday, Sept. 6, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Bracewell Branch Library

Due to recent weather conditions, call Bracewell Branch Library, 9002 Kingspoint, at 832-393-2580 to verify the schedule this week.

Tuesday, Sept. 5, 10:30 a.m. Preschool storytime; 11:15 a.m. Preschool playtime Wednesday, Sept. 6, 10:30 a.m. Toddler storytime; 11:15 a.m. Toddler playtime Wednesday, Sept. 6, Computer courses: 2 p.m. Computer Basics; 3:15 p.m. Internet Basics; 4:30 p.m. Information point

For more information on these programs, call the library. All events are free for the public.

Bracewell hours are: Sunday and Monday, closed; 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. The library will be closed Monday, Sept. 4, for the Labor Day holiday.

Pupils get free lunch in September

Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller announced Tuesday that he has requested and received authorization from the federal government to allow schools in the areas affected by Hurricane Harvey to provide meals to students for an entire month at no cost to their families. This offer is for the month of September. Additionally, Commissioner Miller has directed that students displaced by the storm to locations elsewhere in Texas will also qualify for school meals at no cost.

"While Texas families recover from this historic storm, the last thing they need to worry about is how to pay for a school meal for their child," Commissioner Miller said. "The Texas Department of Agriculture is working with our partners at USDA and schools throughout the affected areas to make sure children get the food they need, when they need it."

Immediately after Hurricane Harvey made landfall, the Texas Department of Agriculture's (TDA) Food and Nutrition staff requested a waiver from USDA's Food & Nutrition Services for meal

service times, meal pattern requirements and the authorization for schools to provide meals to children in disaster areas at no cost through the National School Lunch (NSLP) and School Breakfast programs. The waiver was approved by USDA on Aug. 29.

Due to Commissioner Miller's leadership, more than 1.3 million students in the 18 counties under the presidential disaster declaration related to Hurricane Harvey are now eligible to receive meals at school at no cost through Sept. 30, 2017. Students who are displaced and move to a different school district not located within the disaster area can still qualify for school meals at no cost to their families.

The waiver also provides for schools in these areas to serve meals at different times than the normal pattern, as well as giving meal providers flexibility in meal planning based on what is available to them that may not fit into the normal school meal planning template.

An example of this scenario would be to allow a school to serve lunch with-

out milk if milk is not readily available and the school still receiving federal reimbursement, which is normally not allowed under the NSLP.

Commissioner Miller also extended his thanks to USDA personnel who moved quickly to accept the waiver and made it possible for school districts in the affected areas to provide meals to hungry kids at no cost to their families during this extremely difficult time.

"I want to give a big heartfelt 'thank you' to those school district food and nutrition folks who are struggling under all sorts of adverse conditions to make sure Texas kids get the food they need," Commissioner Miller said. "There are many heroes in a disaster like this, and this surely includes anyone who helps feed a hungry child. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you."

For more information on TDA's Food and Nutrition program and the USDA waivers in effect until Sept. 30, visit the Food and Nutrition website at <https://www.texasagriculture.gov/> or call 1-877-TEX-MEAL.

In My Opinion

VA med team works around the clock

"The impact of Hurricane Harvey and the Houston flooding is enormous and the stories of courage and resilience are incredible. Here at the Houston VA, we're sheltering homeless veterans in addition to caring for the medical needs of veterans and anyone else who walks in the doors, and doing so with amazing staff.

We have had nearly 700 staff staying onsite, sleeping on the floors and if their lucky, tiny cots, in the auditoriums and offices, to make sure we have the clinical and operational manpower to keep the hospital running.

As I rounded on the different units, checking on the medical wards, surgical wards, ICU, ER, dialysis units, I see how much it takes to provide care for patients during a disaster. Some of our staff have been here in the hospital for 6 days straight. I'm amazed by how strong these people are. Some of them have no idea

if their homes are affected, others already have watched on the news footage of their flooded neighborhoods, and many have children and elderly parents at home, that they worry about while caring for these critically ill veterans. One of our nurse's husband drove 12 hours through flooded streets, in order to enable her to stay here and take care of patients.

And the veterans themselves amaze me with their stories. One man, a former army ranger, swam through flood waters to come to the Houston VA hospital, because he knew that no matter what - the VA would be there to care for him. When he got here, we took care of his ruptured appendix. It's a privilege to care for our nation's heroes, and it's humbling to know that they feel they can count on us to be there. That's why we're here."

SreyRam Kuy, MD, Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center

Publisher's note: As of Wednesday, Dr. Kuy has been at Houston VA since the beginning of the flood sleeping in her office.

Storm rips through South Belt



Hurricane Harvey struck the South Belt community hard Friday, Aug. 25, through Tuesday, Aug. 29, leaving a path of destruction in its wake. The storm produced an unprecedented amount of rainfall, causing widespread flooding and displacing hundreds of area residents. The Liquor Depot pictured above at Beltway 8 and Sabo was looted following the storm. The Food Town on Scarsdale at Beamer was also burglarized, but the only items taken were baby supplies. Residents of the house shown below, located on Kirkbend near Kirkfair, were forced to empty their home after it was destroyed by flooding. See related photos on Page 5A, 6A, 5B and 6B.



Martin addresses garbage collection

Houston Council Member Dave Martin would like to make city of Houston residents aware that the Solid Waste Management Department will be suspending some of its collection services, specifically yard waste, recycling and junk waste/tree waste.

Department operations are to be focused on the current public health issues confronting the city in the wake of Hurricane Harvey's aftermath. Services for self-serve operations will be expanded to accommodate residents who have already begun property removal. Neighborhood depository services will immediately move to a 7-day schedule until further notice. The department is focusing its efforts on disaster debris efforts to speed Houstonians' property damage issues.

The Solid Waste Management Department appreciates customers' patience as everyone recovers from the disaster. Normal collection services will resume on the following schedule:

Disaster storm debris
 Disaster debris from Hurricane Harvey will be collected on an ongoing basis until all material has been collected. Place your debris at the curb as soon as possible. It is essential the collection crews therefore please do not park on the street blocking piles, and make sure the material is clear of tree branches, fire hydrants, utility lines. Divide debris into the following categories.

- Vegetative debris - leaves (do not put in bags), logs, plants and tree branches;
- Construction and Demolition debris - building materials, carpet, drywall, furniture, lumber, mattresses and plumbing;
- Appliances and white goods - air conditioners, dishwashers, freezers, refrigerators, stoves, washers, dryers and water heaters;
- Electronics - computers,

radios, stereos, televisions and other devices with a cord; and
 • Household hazardous waste - cleaning supplies, batteries, lawn chemical, oils, oil-based paints, stains and pesticides.

Garbage collection
 • Friday, Sept. 1 - Friday's garbage collection will be collected.

• Monday, Sept. 4 - No collection in observance of Labor Day

• Tuesday, Sept. 5 - Monday's garbage will be collected.

• Wednesday, Sept. 6 - Tuesday's garbage will be collected

• Thursday, Sept. 7 - Normal garbage schedule resumes for all collection days.

Yardwaste collection
 Yardwaste collection will be suspended until further notice due to the need of extra personnel for debris collection for disaster recovery.

Junk and tree waste collection
 Normally-scheduled junk and tree waste collections will be suspended until further notice as all related personnel will be assigned to disaster debris collections.

Recycling collection
 Curbside single stream recycling collection will be suspended until further notice. All additional personnel will be assigned to debris collection for disaster recovery.

Note: All neighborhood depository and recycling center sites will be on a seven day schedule, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. which began this week. To continue recycling during this time, residents may bring their recyclables to these sites listed below, or to the Westpark Recycling Center which will maintain its normal 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday schedule. Facilities will be closed Monday, Sept. 4, for Labor Day.

Houston residents may utilize the following Solid Waste Management neighborhood depositories:

• North, located at N. Main Neighborhood Depository - 9003 N. Main.

• Northwest, located at Sommermeyer Neighborhood Depository - 14400 Sommermeyer

• Northeast, located at Kirkpatrick Neighborhood Depository - 5565 Kirkpatrick

• South, located at Sunbeam Neighborhood Depository - 5100 Sunbeam

• Southwest, located at Southwest Neighborhood Depository - 10785 SW Freeway

• Southeast, located at Central Neighborhood Depository - 2240 Central St.

Note: household garbage, electronics or household hazardous waste are not accepted at the neighborhood depositories.

Each user must provide the following as proof of residency:
 • A current Texas driver's license (may substitute current Texas Department of Public Safety-issued I.D.) or a Texas License to Carry and
 • A current utility bill or city property tax receipt.

Addresses and names on all presented documents must match Texas driver's license or ID.

Note: Electronic records are not accepted.

Recycling only
 No proof of residency is required. No pets are allowed on the premises.

For more information about the City of Houston Solid Waste Management Department and its services, residents may check online at www.houstonolidwaste.org, "like" the page on Facebook at www.facebook.com/houstonolidwaste, follow twitter @houstontrash or call 3-1-1, (713-837-0311), the City of Houston's customer service helpline.

The District E office continues to work from remote locations. The best way to reach the office is districte@houstontx.gov.

Pct. 1 staff working to help residents, restore facilities

Harris County Precinct One crews have been crisscrossing the Precinct assisting in evacuations, delivering supplies to shelters and working on other efforts as part of the long recovery from the historic flooding caused by Hurricane Harvey.

Staff members are working hard to restore Precinct One facilities - including parks as well as service and community centers - back to usable conditions. "We are working to help people return to some semblance of normalcy during these extremely challenging times," said Precinct One Harris County Commissioner Rodney Ellis, who has visited flooded areas and shelters throughout the Precinct. "People depend on us to provide them with real help as well as inspiration, and we are working hard to put the community back together."

All Precinct One offices, facilities and parks are officially closed for the remainder of the week and are scheduled to reopen on Tuesday, Sept. 5.

In the meantime, Pct. 1 employees will continue to work on recovery and relief efforts for area residents.

Chambers Washington, the Precinct's Parks Superintendent, said crews on Thursday will start removing storm debris from neighborhood parks so residents can use them again for recreation. Most of the larger parks, including Deussen, Tom Bass, Adair and El Franco Lee - are inaccessible because of high water.

Tom Bass Community Center and the Learning Center at Challenger Seven Memorial Park flooded, and Precinct One staff are assessing the damage to those facilities. They will be repaired. On Wednesday, Precinct One workers continued to use dump trucks to ferry residents in and out of neighborhoods that remain flooded, including Brunswick Lakes and Morningside Place subdivisions.

Deotis Gay, the Precinct's Road and Bridge Department Superintendent, said the Precinct is in the storm recovery phase, which involves pre-

cinct-wide damage assessments of subdivisions, roads, bridges and other infrastructure in unincorporated areas.

During the unprecedented storm, Gay said, crews used dump and rollback trucks to assist the Harris County Sheriff's Office and constables with evacuations along Clear Creek, Greens and Halls bays.

"We evacuated people from Friendswood and the South Belt area in the south, Northline Terrace subdivision in the north and along Greens Bayou in the east," Gay said.

On Monday, crews delivered supplies from the Red Cross to shelters. Tuesday night, workers also assisted the Army Reserve in transporting refrigerated food for evacuees to a Reserve's facility at Interstate 45 and Rankin Road.

Pct. 1 residents in unincorporated areas can call the Precinct at 713-991-6881 for help evacuating, removing flood debris or to report road problems.

Publisher's Opinion

South Belt area volunteers saved lives during Harvey

Since we are having to produce this week's paper in one day instead of 5, there are a lot of changes this week. We are going against our own policy of needing names for all pictures.

There is so much I want to say, but most of it will have to wait until next week's issue.

What must be said is how fantastic this community acted in response to the tragedy that hit our community this week. I have been told by expert professionals we, actually, with the hard work of over 200 volunteers, saved lives - that we kept people from dying. Our community is fantastic. You can read much

more about it in next week's issue. But thank you, thank you to so many who gave so much.

I want to start naming names, and hesitate since there are so many. But standouts were DeeAnn Powell, superintendent of Pasadena Independent School, Councilman Dave Martin, State Rep. Dennis Paul, the entire Southeast Volunteer Fire Department, Councilman Chris Diaz's group, members of Dobbie staff, Rebecca and Jason Carter, Kat Kiel and Kenny Fernandez just to start the list. For more, catch our next issue.

Love and prayers to all,
Marie Flickinger, publisher

Feds to offer storm assistance

Continued from Page 1A
 operate from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. (local time) seven days a week until further notice.

• As of this morning, more than 63,000 individuals and households have been approved for FEMA assistance.

• Urban Search & Rescue task forces with the National Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) System, are on the ground in the Houston/Galveston area in Texas to support state and local rescue efforts. Each of these teams has swift water rescue capabilities and additional teams are on alert.

• Six Type 1 Task Forces conducting operations in Houston and the surrounding areas

• Eight Type 3 Task Forces conducting operations in Houston and the surrounding areas

• Seven Hazardous Equipment Push Packages teams in San Antonio, Texas to provide support for handling hazardous materials

• 14 Swiftwater Mission Ready Packages

• One Incident Support Team in College Station

• FEMA and the U.S. Department of Defense established Incident Support Bases (ISB) near Seguin, Texas, Camp Beauregard, Louisiana, and Fort Hood, Texas, to ensure supplies including water, meals, blankets and other resources are closer to affected areas and are available for distribution to state, tribal, and local officials. State, local, and tribal officials are responsible for distributing supplies to the community.

• As of Aug. 30, the following commodities have been provided to the state of Texas at its request:

• More than 306,000 meals
 • More than 687,000 liters of water

• More than 4.6 million meals, 5.1 million liters of water, and thousands of cots and blankets remain available at ISBs for transfer to the states of Texas and Louisiana should they be needed and requested. Additional commodities are in route to the ISBs.

• Mobile Emergency Response Support (MERS) personnel and equipment are on the ground in Texas and Louisiana to support the states with secure and non-secure voice, video and information services for emergency response communications needs.

• FEMA Incident Management Assistance Teams are in place in Houston and the Texas and Louisiana state emergency operations centers in Austin, Texas and Baton Rouge, Louisiana, to support requests for federal assistance. Additional teams continue to deploy as the response continues.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

• HHS has more than 500 personnel on the ground in Texas and Louisiana, 1,000 more on alert and approximately 53,000 pounds of medical equipment and supplies deployed to support medical and public health needs in the affected areas.

• HHS has activated the AABD Blood Disaster Task Force for Hurricane Harvey in order to evaluate the need for nation-wide blood donations to replenish canceled blood drives in the impacted area.

• An EMS contract managed by HHS has been utilized to evacuate 182 patients via 70 ambulances from three hospitals in Victoria, Texas.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

• EPA activated the National Incident Management Team consisting of highly skilled response personnel from Regions 3, 4, and 5. The N-IMAT arrived in Dallas this morning to assist with response activities.

• EPA deployed 10 personnel to assist the Texas Commission of Environmental Quality (TCEQ) with their Drinking Water and Waste Water Phone Bank, Austin.

• An Incident Management Team is integrating with TCEQ and the Texas General Land Office and is deploying for Corpus Christi.

• EPA has two On-Scene Coordinators deployed - one at FEMA in Denton and another

at the State Operation Center in Austin. EPA is working with TCEQ to contact industrial sources within the impacted area to determine their operational status and determine what support can be provided with the monitoring of the start-up of industrial sources along the coastal area of Texas.

• EPA is mobilizing additional personnel to Austin to support the state in this effort. EPA Remedial Managers have initiated follow-up activities at the 31 Superfund NPL sites within the storm path to conduct rapid damage assessments and determine if additional emergency cleanup activities are necessary.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)

• The USACE Prime Power Planning and Response Team along with soldiers from the 249th Engineer Battalion are conducting assessments and installing generators.

Liaison Officers are assisting the state emergency operations centers and team leaders are providing technical assistance to FEMA response nodes.

• A Temporary Housing subject matter expert is embedded with FEMA Region VI providing assistance and oversight for housing needs. Debris SMEs are providing technical assistance to Texas with its debris removal plan.

• USACE is closely coordinating with the Coast Guard on the plan to clear and open the federal navigation channels once weather permits. USACE is surveying portions of the Texas Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW) in the Corpus Christi area. USACE and the Coast Guard are working with industry and owners to remove all obstructions that are impacting the GIWW.

• USACE Districts in affected areas are conducting flood-fighting activities such as stockpiling and issuing flood-fighting materials (sandbags and materials/fabrics that keep soil in place) to local government entities.

• In an effort to mitigate the effects of flooding in the area, USACE Districts are monitoring flood risk reduction projects, and these projects are performing as designed.

• USACE is conducting releases from the Addicks and Barker Dams in Houston, Texas, releasing less than 10 percent of the inflow, to most effectively manage risk.

Releasing smaller amounts of water from the dams, now, decreases the amount of water that eventually flows through emergency spillways around the dams. USACE personnel are on-site at the dams conducting 24 hour monitoring and assessment operations.

The American Red Cross

• ARC is partnering with the United States Coast Guard and the Texas National Guard to move supplies and volunteers to where they are needed most. Our first priority is keeping people safe while providing shelter, food and a shoulder to lean on.

• Preliminary estimates indicate more than 22,000 people sought refuge in more than 235 shelters across Texas and Louisiana Tuesday night. This includes more than 8,000 evacuees at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston.

• Almost 1,000 volunteers are on the ground and more are on the way. They will be joined by a group of highly-skilled volunteers from the Mexican Red Cross who will help support shelters, distribute aid, and connect with Spanish speaking disaster survivors to keep them informed about support available to them.

• ARC and their partners have served nearly 30,000 meals and snacks since the storm began.

• More than 80 tractor-trailer loads of cots, blankets, ready-to-eat meals, comfort kits, kitchen supplies and cleaning supplies are now on the ground.

• This includes supplies to support 6 kitchens, each able to produce 10,000 meals a day. About 73,000 ready-to-eat meals are currently on the ground with an additional 43,000 enroute.

• More than half of the ARC

emergency response fleet - 200 Emergency Response Vehicles - have been activated for the operation.

• The Red Cross positioned additional blood products in Houston ahead of the storm to help ensure an adequate blood supply would be available for hospital patients. They also staged more blood product inventory in Dallas and are closely working with local and federal authorities to continue the distribution of blood products to our hospital partners.

• More than 14 million hurricane and flood alerts have been issued through Red Cross mobile apps since Thursday. Alerts provide people with real-time information so they can help protect themselves and their loved-ones.

Corporation for National, Community Service

• CNCS deployed more than 250 AmeriCorps members to the region to support American Red Cross shelter and feeding operations, and FEMA's disaster damage assessments and logistics. AmeriCorps members are also working to stand up a Volunteer Reception Center. Additional requests for AmeriCorps disaster response teams are in development. These teams are trained to provide expert manpower for shelter operations, debris removal, and volunteer and donations management.

Department of Energy

• DOE responders remain active at its sites in Washington D.C. and Texas. DOE is continuing to assess the situation, impact and needs in affected areas, and is continuing to provide situation reports at <https://www.energy.gov/oe/downloads/hurricane-harvey-situation-reports-august-2017>. The electric industry has reported that industry mutual assistance crews from at least 19 states are responding, including nearly 10,000 workers dedicated to the response and recovery effort.

Department of Defense

• Defense Logistics Agency is providing 450,000 gallons of diesel and 50,000 gallons of motor gas expected to arrive at Fort Hood.

• On Aug 28, DoD conducted 13 Search and Rescue missions and rescued 227 personnel using Navy and Air Force helicopters.

• DoD deployed a Title-10 Deputy and support staff for the Dual Status Command, led by Army National Guard Brig. Gen. Patrick Hamilton, in Austin, Texas, on Aug. 28.

• One hundred Medium Tactical Vehicles are currently en route to Katy, Texas from Fort Hood to provide personnel and patient transportation out of flooded areas in Houston.

National Guard Bureau

• All 12,000 Texas military NGB members are activated for hurricane relief, assisting

Girl Scout Troop 8015 ends 14 years service to South Belt community

Troop 8015 holds final ceremony



South Belt's Girl Scout Troop 8015 recently dismissed for the final time at the troop's closing ceremony. Shown above are, left to right, retired U.S. Army Col. Harold Brent; Marie Flickinger, *South Belt-Ellington Leader* publisher; Samantha Schwartz, troop member; Sydney Sweet, Jolissa Villalobos, Genevive Anabogu, Megan Schuetz, Kallie Hart, and Macy Williams, Gold Award recipients; Laura Stephens, troop member; and Franklin Moses, J. Frank Dobie High School principal. Photo by Jay Do

By Jay Do
After more than 14 years of faithful service to the community, members of South Belt's Girl Scout Troop 8015 were dismissed for the final time on Aug. 10, 2017, a date proclaimed as Girl Scout Troop 8015 Day in the City of Houston by Mayor Sylvester Turner.

Founded in 2003 by Stacia Sweet, Troop 8015 was originally comprised of Sweet's daughter Sydney and a group of students from Sunshine Children's Preschool who already had formed a tight friendship circle. As the students would soon be attending kindergarten at different area elementary schools, Sweet felt that weekly scout meetings would provide an opportunity for the girls to maintain their friendship. Sweet also recruited scouts of the same age from Kirkwood Dance Studio and local soccer teams. The troop began its first year with 12 Daisy scouts.

even had girls joining the troop throughout 7th and 8th grades, which is an unusually late age for girls to begin to show an interest in scouting." Sweet believes that the continued growth of the troop is directly attributed to the steady supply of assistant leaders, including Sweet's mother-in-law, Julia Sweet, and longtime South Belt residents Christy Villalobos and Donna Stephens.

While the thought of Girl Scouts often invoke thoughts of camping trips and cookie sales, long-term troops tend to develop a focus on a main theme of scouting, based on the interests of the scouts. For Troop 8015, this focus became one of community service and giving back to their community. The girls began practicing community service when they started kindergarten, and by the time they entered middle school, they were ready for a large community service project.

scouts decided to take the challenge of earning the Girl Scout's Silver Award.

The award requires a year of prerequisite leadership requirements, followed by a year spent performing 50 hours of service on a community project. Each project was to be accomplished by a small group of three to four scouts.

At the time, Troop 8015 was large enough to accomplish three projects. Two projects enhanced the lives of teenage foster girls living in a group home and the third project focused on increasing pet adoptions at Pasadena Animal Shelter.

After two years of meeting prerequisites and completing the community service, eleven scouts in Troop 8015 earned their Girl Scout Silver Award.

By the time Troop 8015 entered high school, there remained only eight active scouts in the troop, and the time that they could commit to the weekly meetings and other scouting activities became limited. Eventually, the regular weekly meetings became replaced with a few surprise adventures each year.

"As the girls got older, they were in every sport and academic group Dobie offered, so there was never a weeknight when they were all available," said Sweet. "Every couple months, I checked schedules with the parents, and we tried to plan activities that the girls had never experienced, such as hiring a limousine to pick up the girls and drive them around looking at Christmas lights, or setting up a father-daughter paintball challenge."

Although the remaining scouts continued to do various community service projects throughout high school, by the time they entered eleventh grade, it was

decided that they would "Go for the Gold" and attempt to earn the Girl Scout Gold Award, the most prestigious of all the Girl Scout awards, and one that is only awarded to 5 percent of the country's scouts.

Each of the eight remaining scouts attended J. Frank Dobie High School, and were involved in AP classes, dual credit courses, dance, cheer, band or athletics, leaving little time to design, implement and commit 80 hours of personal time to a Gold Award project.

"These scouts were already struggling to meet their hectic senior year schedules, so I really didn't know how they would also find time to do a huge individual community service project," said Sweet.

Despite their hectic schedules, many of the troop's scouts prevailed, and six of the eight scouts were awarded their Girl Scout Gold Award pins at the closing ceremony for projects that directly benefit many of South Belt's residents.

Genevive Anabogu created an annual sports camp for girls at Sagemont Community Center; Kallie Hart created a Pet Food Bank at SeAM so that families in financial crises could receive pet food when they used the emergency food pantry; Macy Williams created the Blessing Bags youth ministry at St. Luke Catholic Church to provide an alternative to giving money to area panhandlers; Sydney Sweet created the Milestone Babies Excelling and Developing program (B.E.A.D.) for the Neonatal ICU at Memorial Southeast Hospital; Megan Schuetz provided a wall mural and cooking/kitchen skills training at Golden Rule Services for adults with intellectu-

al disabilities; and Jolissa Villalobos created Sunday school classrooms out of a storage closet and an unused deck to benefit New Life Lutheran Church members.

"By some bizarre coincidence, every active scout in my Ambassador level troop was the baby girl in her family," said Sweet. "You'd expect that I was having to work with coddled, spoiled princesses, but the opposite was true. My group of Gold Award recipients had parents who helped them find that one extra hour in the day to work on their projects, who worked as volunteers under their daughters' leadership on the projects, and who lifted their spirits when the girls were overwhelmed by the enormity of the Gold Award requirements. In fact, I don't believe that Troop 8015 would have even survived all these years without the parent support we were blessed with for the last 14 years."

Troop 8015's 14 year-long journey to serve their community officially ended on Thursday, Aug. 10, at the troop's closing ceremony on at New Life Lutheran Church. The ceremony was dedicated in loving memory to Rosemary Chaudoir, who spent decades working with Girl Scouts in the Sagemont area. Special guests attending the ceremony included Marie Flickinger of the *South Belt-Ellington Leader* and Franklin Moses, principal of J. Frank Dobie High School.

Flickinger shared a Letter of Resolution from Harris county Precinct One Commissioner Rodney Ellis, and Moses presented a Proclamation from City of Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner proclaiming Aug. 10, 2017, as Girl Scout Troop 8015 Day in the City of Houston.

Pearland Opry on the Square debuts

Celebrating the Saturday night Texas Opry tradition, *Pearland Opry on the Square* debuts at the Pearland Town Center, 11200 Broadway St. on Saturday, Sept. 23, from 7 to 9 p.m. featuring a great lineup of entertainers co-headlined by Mary Sarah of The Voice, Moses Rangel, and incomparable Brian Black, brother of superstar Clint Black.

Opry theaters have been closing down yet the love for the genre and traditional country music continues.

The desire to hear great live Texas country music in a family friendly environment performed by a stellar band including a variety of performers has been a time honored format since the days of The Big Bopper, Elvis, Johnny Cash and Buddy Holly as they traveled the country with a killer house band and a variety of performers.

"The format follows The Grand Ole Opry's multi performer platform, with sponsors and additional entertainment such as "clogging," line dancing and special guest appearances.

"We see kids with their parents and grandparents at

our shows, it's a great time for the whole family," according to Todd Gross, co-creator of Opry on the Square.

Appreciative audiences who enjoy great music performed live in a family friendly and open environment can two-step and line dance during the show and in the intermission.

It is a two set format, with up to six different varied performers singing traditional country, Texas country and contemporary country songs in a two-hour time frame.

"We're very excited about our collaboration with *Pearland Opry on the Square*. The opportunity to showcase talent and welcome visitors to enjoy the concert in Pearland aligns with our mission," according to Kim

Sinistore, executive director of the Pearland Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Pearland Opry on the Square will feature Sarah of The Voice Season 10's 5th place finalist; Moses Rangel, Nashville Star competitor from Rosenberg; Freddie Pate, vocalist and former lead guitar player for Wayne Toups; Missy Brown, country music singer from the NASA/Kemah area; Tori Vourganas, 2016 Rock Star Rodeo winner and fiddle player; Aly Miller, Pearland native and incredible vocalist; and other surprise appearances.

For more information, go to www.visitpearland.com or opry.com. For sponsorship opportunities of current or upcoming programs, contact Todd Gross at 832-549-4001.

SJC awarded AEP for fourth time



Shown are, left to right, (front row) Ann Kokx-Temple, director, contracts and purchasing; Chet Lewis, vice chancellor of fiscal affairs; (second row) Lauri Moser, senior administrative assistant, purchasing and contracts; Genie Freeman-Scholes, senior buyer, purchasing; (back row) Courtney Broussard, manager, contract administrator; Susan Riley, procurement card administrator; Patsy Laredo, buyer; Angela Klaus, buyer, construction; Gwen Henderson, buyer, purchasing; and Charity Simpson, manager, purchasing. Photo by Melissa Trevizo

San Jac contracts, purchasing team garners national award

For the fourth year, the San Jacinto College contracts and purchasing team has been awarded the prestigious Achievement of Excellence in Procurement award for 2017 from the National Procurement Institute.

"I am extremely proud of the hard work and professionalism demonstrated by

the contracts and purchasing team," said Ann Kokx-Temple, director of contracts and purchasing. "Being recognized by both state and national procurement organizations for our accountability, integrity and financial stewardship is both rewarding and motivational as we strive for continuous improvement in achieving the

mission of student success."

San Jacinto College is one of only 25 institutions of higher education across the nation and one of only four community colleges in Texas to earn the award this year.

The AEP award is earned by public and nonprofit organizations that obtain a high application score based on stan-

dardized criteria. The AEP is awarded annually to recognize innovation, professionalism, e-procurement, productivity and leadership in the procurement function.

The AEP program encourages the development of excellence as well as continued organizational improvement to earn the award annually.

Sweet then decided to hold the weekly meetings in a classroom at J. Frank Dobie High School.

"Meeting at Dobie worked out well for my scouts," said Sweet. "We began meeting there when they were in seventh grade. By the time they all entered Dobie their freshman year, they were familiar with the school and didn't suffer that incoming freshman anxiety."

Wanting to differentiate the girls' scouting experience from their academic pursuits, Sweet moved Troop 8015 back to Sagemont Community Center once the girls entered high school and renovations were finished at the center, in order to have different atmospheres for each of the activities.

Whereas many scout troops face the issue of having scouts drop out once they reach middle school, Troop 8015 faced the opposite experience.

"I had limited my troop to 12 scouts at the Daisy and Brownie levels," said Sweet. "When they began the Junior level of scouting, they didn't require as much supervision and the girls had friends that were asking to join the troop. So I opened the troop to any girl who was interested in joining. We gained several scouts at this level, and we



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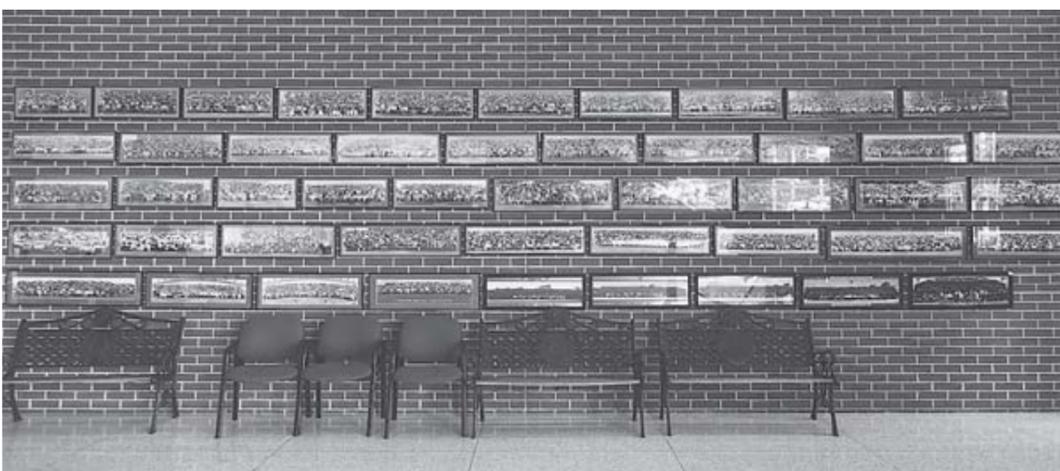
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The San Jacinto College District is committed to equal opportunity for all students, employees, and applicants without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, citizenship status, age, disability, pregnancy, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, genetic information, marital status, or veteran status in accordance with applicable federal and state laws. The following College official has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the College's non-discrimination policies: Vice President of Human Resources, 4620 Falmont Pkwy., Pasadena, TX 77504; 281-991-2659; Sandra.Ramirez@sajcd.edu.

Wall portrays every Dobie graduating class



Senior panoramic photos of each of the J. Frank Dobie High School graduating classes since its establishment has been organized and is prominently displayed chronologically in the lobby of the campus. While the photos were originally displayed in various locations throughout the campus, Franklin Moses, Dobie principal, has moved all the photos to the front of the campus, with future plans to create a small museum to honor the achievements of Dobie alumni. Photo by Jay Do

Brown promoted



Texan Bank has promoted Chelsea Brown to vice president of human resources and administration.

Area Texan Bank promotes Brown

Texan Bank proudly announces the promotion of Chelsea Brown to vice president of human resources and administration. Brown previously served as the assistant vice president of human resources and administrative officer.

"Chelsea has a wealth of knowledge of human resources that she is using to transform how we train and develop our Texan Bank employees which also affects our customer experience," said Kristi Koncaba, President and COO of Texan Bank.

"As one of our senior leaders, Chelsea leads by example in embodying our servant leadership core value by focusing on how to help others improve and always doing so with a professional demeanor and treating everyone with respect."

In her three year tenure with Texan Bank, Brown has been responsible for strategic planning, organization development and compensation and benefits, with a specific focus on identifying process efficiencies within those areas. Her recent projects have included restructuring the employee performance management system, developing and launching a new staff training, and creating an internship program for the entire bank.

In addition to her day-to-day responsibilities, Brown serves on the Texan Bank Culture Team and volun-

teers with the bank's Texans Serving Texans program.

Brown earned her Bachelor of Science in psychology with a minor in neuroscience from Texas A & M University and a Master of Arts in industrial organizational psychology from the University of Houston - Clear Lake. She is currently pursuing her Master of Business Administration with a concentration in human resource management from the University of Houston - Clear Lake.

She holds the Professional in Human Resources certification and is a member of the Society of Human Resource Management, Texas Bay Area SHRM, HR Houston, and the Society for Industrial Organizational Psychologists. Brown will take the SHRM Certified Professional exam for senior HR professionals in late 2017.

Brown is active in her community, working with several organizations that benefit veterans and active military personnel.

She is a board member for My Veteran Community, a local veteran support organization committed to seek and extend meaningful aid to veterans, service members, and their families as they transition to civilian life. Brown received the National Engaged Leader Award in 2015 from the National Society of Leadership and Success for her continued leadership and service in the community.

Over The Back Fence by Alexis

GORDON CELEBRATES A BIRTHDAY
Special birthday wishes are sent to **Gordon Berg** of Action Ministries on Aug. 31 from his wife, **Pat**, and friends at the *Leader* and the South Belt Chamber.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, RON!
Ron Williams, formerly of Ace Hardware, is wished a very happy birthday Friday, Sept. 1, from his family, friends and the *Leader* staff.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MARIE!
Birthday greetings are sent to **Marie Flickinger**, *South Belt Leader* owner, on Friday, Sept. 1, from husband **David**; sons **Fred** and wife **Leslie Flickinger** and **David** and wife **Ellie Flickinger**; granddaughters **Kimberly Flickinger** and **Courtney Durham** and husband **Chris** and great-grandchildren **Abigail** and **Jackson Durham**; granddaughter **Natalie** and husband **Jose Abarca** and great-grandchildren **Kelvin Lopez**, **Noah** and **Isabella Abarca**; sister **Alexis Lochner**; and her friends and staff at the *South Belt-Ellington Leader*.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, KAREN!
Birthday greetings are sent to **Karen Taylor** Sept. 3 friends and the staff at the *Leader*.

ELLIE CELEBRATES A BIRTHDAY
Marie and **David Flickinger** send greetings for a wonderful birthday to their daughter-in-law **Ellie (Garza) Flickinger** on Tuesday, Sept. 5. Best wishes are sent from husband **David (Leader president)**; daughter **Natalie** and husband **Jose Abarca**; grandchildren **Kelvin Lopez**, **Noah** and **Isabella Abarca**; and friends and the *Leader* staff.

SCHOOL DAZE
The following personnel and staff members of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays Aug. 31 through Sept. 6.

Atkinson Elementary
Sept. 3 is the day for a cake for **Belva Alaniz**

Burnett Elementary
Esmeralda Paredes is sent a birthday

greeting Sept. 5.
Bush Elementary
Sing a happy birthday song to **Alecia Walters** Aug. 31. Blow out the candles on a birthday cake for **Carina Henriquez** Sept. 1. Send a happy birthday greeting to **Nadja Diaz-Rodriguez** Sept. 3.

Frazier Elementary
Sept. 2 is the day for a celebration for **Debra Hawkins**. Birthday wishes are sent to **Maria Arriaga** Sept. 3. Blow out the birthday candles on a double-layer cake for **Raquel Rojas** and **Jessica Vela** Sept. 6.

Meador Elementary
Marking a birthday Sept. 2 is **Frank Sanchez**. The day for a party for **Catarina Hlozek** is Sept. 3. **Courtney Butler** celebrates a birthday Sept. 5.

Moore Elementary
Light the birthday candles for **Veronica Rangel** Sept. 2. Sept. 4 is the day for an ice cream cake for **Viet Lam**.

South Belt Elementary
Sing a happy birthday song to **Maria Rodriguez** Sept. 1. Blow out the candles on a birthday cake Sept. 4 for **Thu Duong**, **Anh Ton** and **Lily Campos** enjoy a birthday greeting Sept. 5.

Stuchbery Elementary
Sept. 4 is the day for a cake for **Sharon Garris**.

Melillo Middle School
Light the birthday candles Sept. 5 on a cake for **Amira Abdelhalim**.

Roberts Middle School
Enjoy a slice of birthday cake Sept. 2 with **Gabriela Tornero**. Happy birthday wishes are sent Sept. 4 to **Jose Mendoza**.

Beverly Hills Intermediate
Light the birthday candles for **Wesley Hardy** Sept. 1. The day for a double-fun party for **Sandra Gomez** and **Dawn Nguyen** is Sept. 2. **Jose Sesento** marks a birthday Sept. 3.

Thompson Intermediate
Dena Cockerell enjoys a birthday Sept. 3. Celebrating a birthday Sept. 6 is **Jessica Boland**.

Dobie High
The day for a party for **Maria Freyre** and **Rosa Garcia** is Sept. 1. Birthday greetings are sent to **Julia Hernandez** Sept. 5. Sept. 6 is the day for a cake for **Alexander Garcia**.

FACEBOOK FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS
The *Leader* sends happy birthday wishes to its Facebook friends who celebrate a birthday this week:

Thursday, Aug. 31: **Nyd Salgado**, **Suzie Ortiz**, **Tajuana Stewart**, **John Terana**, **Mia Bella**, **Paula Miller**, **Judie Elizalde**, **Kathy Cole**, **Michael O'Daniell**, **Veronica Lyons**, **Annalea Young**, **Carol Rodriguez**, **Scott Gish**, **Ashley Hall** and **Angie Davis**; Friday, Sept. 1: **Tiffany Gay**, **Maribel Manriquez**, **Jasmine Manning**, **Karen Jenkins** and **Steve Landin**; Saturday, Sept. 2: **Fil Cantu**, **Stacy Aguirre**, **Suzanne Hernandez**, **Karen Young** and **Mary Hernandez**; Sunday, Sept. 3: **Steve Boney**, **Josie Parker**, **Veronica Hernandez**, **Keith Nelson**, **Ruth Fuller**, **Donald Musquiz**, **Tomas Shorts Jr.** and **Leslie Montemayor**; Monday, Sept. 4: **Ashlie Files**, **Lashanda Scott**, **John Laird**, **Nikki Spriggs**, **Angie Reynolds**, **Jerry O'Brien**, **Betty Thomas**, **Darin Peltier**, **Tommy Walko**, **Joe Scanlin** and **Denise Turnage**; Tuesday, Sept. 5: **London Shelton**, **Stacy McNaughton** and **Cathy Tate**; and Wednesday, Sept. 6: **Coleen Terrell**, **Jennifer Navarro**, **Titus Purdy**, **Robert Evans**, **Jill Lambert**, **Debbie Bennett**, **Christina Gordon**, **Candi Beasley** and **John Evans**.

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

Saperstein new Parker Williams manager



Mike Saperstein, shown above, is Parker Williams Branch Library's new branch manager. He started his Harris County Public Library career as the multimedia selection librarian in 2008. A large part of his responsibilities were in selecting the eContent and support/troubleshooting for the HCPL Digital Media Catalog as well as ordering the library's DVDs and audiobooks. In April 2017 he was promoted to the branch manager position. Saperstein graduated from The University of Texas with a Master of Library and Information Science degree in 2002. Shown below, left to right, children's librarian John Harbaugh, Saperstein and assistant librarian Steve Zach.



Remember When

40 years ago (1977)
The South Belt area was left without the protection of both the city of Houston ambulance and the medical vehicle which is usually brought in, when the ambulance is removed. The ambulance reportedly broke down and the transmission burned out on the backup car.

30 years ago (1987)
A PISD official confirmed the enrollment of students carrying the AIDS virus. South Belt resident John Martinez, 16, was invited to escort the Pope during his visit to San Antonio by his pastor, Monsignor John Fos, of Queen of Peace Catholic Church.

25 years ago (1992)
Joe Armstrong passed the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce gavel to Chris Clark after the chamber board voted for Clark to succeed Armstrong as president.

35 years ago (1982)
The City of Houston bought the Sagemont Recreation Club's Hughes Road swim-tennis facility for \$65,000. The site had been appraised for \$500,000.

20 years ago (1997)
Pasadena Independent School District celebrated its 100th anniversary with a celebration in the Stoney Phillips Fieldhouse.

15 years ago (2002)
A former convict killed himself rather than be arrested by police. The suicide occurred in the parking lot of the Studio 6 extended-stay motel. The man, city of Houston police, the SWAT team and police mediators were in a standoff for approximately four hours.

5 years ago (2012)
On Tuesday, Sept. 4, Zerrick Guinn filed a civil lawsuit against Chris Diaz, contesting the runoff election results for

trustees appointed Dr. Sandra Mossman as the deputy superintendent.

10 years ago (2007)
Malfunctioning traffic lights at the intersection of Scarsdale and Beamer were responsible for an automobile striking a boat being pulled on a trailer. No tickets were issued, and no injuries were reported.

5 years ago (2012)
Harris County Commissioners Court unanimously agreed to seek voter approval in November for a series of bond issues to improve county transportation, parks, infrastructure and Port of Houston facilities.

Court members also approved placing six bond proposals worth \$880 million on the Nov. 6, 2007, ballot. The bond proposals would not require a property tax increase.

1 year ago (2016)
The body of a dead man was found floating in a lake at an apartment complex located in the 10200 block of Windmill Lakes Thursday, Sept. 1. Gordon Scott Blocker, 42, was pronounced dead at the scene. According to police, Blocker's body was discovered by a jogger, who then notified authorities. Blocker's death was ruled an accidental drowning.

1 year ago (2016)
The body of a dead man was found floating in a lake at an apartment complex located in the 10200 block of Windmill Lakes Thursday, Sept. 1. Gordon Scott Blocker, 42, was pronounced dead at the scene. According to police, Blocker's body was discovered by a jogger, who then notified authorities. Blocker's death was ruled an accidental drowning.

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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 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, where 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.

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, where 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.

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UHCL calendar set

The University of Houston-Clear Lake has announced its upcoming calendar.

Friday Morning season reception rescheduled
University of Houston-Clear Lake's Friday Morning Continuing Education program celebrating the beginning of its second year was postponed to a future date, not yet announced. The Mercury concert and wine-and-cheese reception originally scheduled for Aug. 31 will be rescheduled soon. All tickets issued for the original show will be honored at the new date. For more information and updates, visit <http://omnical.uhcl.edu/cal/event/showEventMore.do>.

The reception will highlight the fall series of the Friday Morning Continuing Education classes, which begin Sept. 29. Enjoy the company of upcoming Friday Morning presenters, including Samuel Gladden, Jeff Bowen (art gallery director), Alex Malone (Bayou Theater managing director) and Antoine Planete (Mercury artistic director). Tickets for the two events are \$26. For ticket information, contact program director Christine Paul at 281-283-3033 or paul@uhcl.edu.

Mercury orchestra to open Bayou Theater season
Enjoy a fusion of Johann Sebastian Bach's fugues and Astor Piazzolla's Argentinian tango as University of Houston-Clear Lake's Bayou Theater kicks off the 2017-2018. Due to the recent weather events, the Aug. 31 performance of "Bach and Piazzolla," featuring multimedia projections and theatrical production bringing the music to life, is being postponed. For the rescheduled date, visit <https://www.uhcl.edu/bayou-theater/>. This is the first of 10 performances.

Single-ticket sales began Aug. 1. Season passes are available for all 10 shows, or by genre series: classical, blues and bluegrass or Texas artists. To purchase tickets, call 281-283-2065, email bayoutheater@uhcl.edu or visit www.uhcl.edu/bayoutheater.

Welcome Back Bash
Celebrate the start of the fall semester and new academic year at UH-Clear Lake's Welcome Back Bash on Sept. 1, from 5 to 8 p.m., at the Bayou Building Front Circle, hosted by UHCL's Orientation and New Student Programs and the UHCL Alumni Association. Festivities feature food, games, giveaways, a photo booth, music and vendors. A group photo of all present students and alumni will also be taken at 6:30 p.m. in Alumni Plaza.

To check the status of the event, visit www.uhcl.edu/campus-life/orientation/programs/welcome-back-bash.

UHCL holiday closure
University of Houston-Clear Lake, 2700 Bay Area Blvd., will be closed Monday, Sept. 4, for the Labor Day holiday. Alfred R. Neumann Library and the Pearland campus library will also be closed. Normal hours for campus offices and services will resume Tuesday, Sept. 5. For more information, visit www.uhcl.edu. In case of an emergency over the holiday, call the UHCL Police department at 281-283-2222.

Habitat Work Days
Help maintain the beauty of the UH-Clear Lake campus by volunteering at Habitat Work Days each Tuesday morning at 9 a.m. in September with the Environmental Institute of Houston. Dates are Tuesdays Sept. 5, Sept. 12, Sept. 19, and Sept. 26. Volunteers are asked to aid in upkeep, including clearing paths, cleaning the pond and other conservation tasks.

For more information, call UHCL Environmental Institute of Houston at 281-283-3950 or email eh@uhcl.edu. For more information about the institute, visit www.uhcl.edu/environmental-institute/education/school-habitats/work-day.

Cybersecurity Institute - 'Cybersecurity and Cryptography'
This three-day, Sept. 6, 8 and 11 from 9 a.m. to noon, workshop from UH-Clear Lake's Cyber Security Institute provides participants with essential knowledge on common cyber threats and basic cryptographic methods like confidentiality, data integrity, origin integrity and more in order to detect and stop cyber threats. IT professionals and programmers are encouraged to attend.

The cost to attend is \$300. Contact the Cyber Security Institute at 281-283-3808 for more information.

CLASP - 'Dangerous Straits - The South China Sea: China, Taiwan and the United States in conflict'
Director of the UHCL Texas Department of Criminal Justice program and lecturer of history William Powers

opens the 2017-2018 year of the Clear Lake Association of Senior Programs speaker series on Sept. 7, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the Garden Room, Bayou Building. Powers will discuss possibly one of the most dangerous places on earth at the Taiwan Strait, where several nations seek vast oil and gas deposits under the sea floor.

For more information, contact the UHCL Alumni Association at 281-283-2021 or email alumni@uhcl.edu.

Mindfulness-based Yoga
Join Julia Strait, certified yoga instructor and assistant professor of School and Health Services Psychology, while learning research-based mindful movement, meditation, and breathing techniques in a secular, nonjudgmental setting on Sept. 8 from 1 to 2 p.m. in the Bayou building. For students, faculty, staff, and community members at all levels of proficiency from beginner through advanced. Bring your mat. The cost is \$136 for the eight-week class. Register at <https://apps.uhcl.edu/ECOMmerce/Schedule/FridayCE>.

UHCL center offers team-building workshop for managers
Managers can learn how to make the most of teamwork in a workshop titled "Maximizing Team Effectiveness: Teamwork and Team Building," offered by the University of Houston-Clear Lake Center for Executive Education.

The workshop is part of UHCL's Management and Leadership Certificate program. Participants will build upon supervisory techniques to learn stages of team development, characteristics of successful teams and teambuilding strategies.

The fee is \$850 for two sessions, Sept. 8 and Sept. 22 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., 2700 Bay Area Blvd. To receive credit toward certification, one must attend both sessions. Group discounts are available. For more information, contact the Center for Executive Education at 281-283-3120 or cee@uhcl.edu.

Friday Morning Continuing Education offers first-ever yoga class
UHCL faculty, staff, students and community are invited to explore the mental, physical, and emotional benefits of yoga. Taught by Julia Englund Strait, assistant professor of school psychology, the eight-session yoga class starts on Friday, Sept. 8 at 1 p.m.

Anyone willing to participate in short surveys to collect feedback about stress levels and mental processes before and after each class will receive a progress report at the end of the session showing whether yoga has made a difference in one's overall mental and emotional health.

The room assignment for this class will be posted on the Continuing Education web page on or after Sept. 1. To register, call 281-283-3033 or visit www.uhcl.edu/academics/extended/friday-morning-ce/registration.

Center for Executive Education - SAT Preparation Course
Gain an edge on the SAT with a preparation course from UH-Clear Lake's Center for Executive Education on Saturdays, Sept. 9 to Oct. 14 from 8 a.m. to noon. This course offers 24 hours of hands-on training with challenges, activities and timed exercises.

Students will learn tips and techniques to craft compelling essays, comprehend the reading portion, and make sense of math equations to master the SAT.

The course costs \$499, before Sept. 3, and \$549 after. The price includes a textbook and instructional materials. UHCL faculty, staff, students and alumni receive a 10 percent discount. To learn more about the course or to register, call the Center for Executive Education, 281-283-3120, or email cee@uhcl.edu.

Autism speaker on sleep disorders
The Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities begins its fall lecture lineup with a presentation by Jack Dempsey, Ph.D., a child psychologist from Texas Children's Hospital specializing in sleep disorders in children on the Autism Spectrum.

Dempsey's presentation, entitled "Autism Spectrum Disorder and Sleep," discusses the prevalence and possible causes of sleep problems and explores numerous interventions to support parents whose children are struggling with sleep disorders.

The event takes place Sept. 9 at 10:30 a.m. in the Garden Room of the Bayou Building, 2700 Bay Area Blvd. Admission is free.

Visit www.uhcl.edu/autism-center/speaker-series to register and secure a spot.

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REPLACEMENT & STORM WINDOWS

South Belt community steps up in helping one another yet again



Thanks in large part to the efforts of South Belt resident Kat Kiel and the approval given by Pasadena ISD officials, those who evacuated to the Dobie High School temporary shelter were able to feed and water their furry friends while at the campus.

Longtime South Belt area resident Kat Kiel (in black shirt) played a vital role helping displaced residents house and care for their pets during their time at Dobie. Kiel regularly assisted with lost and found animals on the Facebook page titled *Pets of Sagemont*.

Countless volunteers lent a hand to assist with displaced residents at Dobie High School including, left to right, Hugh Patton, Jeff Barry, Greg Hill, Kenny Fernandez, Trent Perez, Tony Heath, not known, Amanda Wendell and Reid Wendell. Photo by David Flickinger

All photos on this page by Al Carter unless otherwise noted accordingly.



Want irony in a crisis situation? The sign offering swim lessons was spotted along the auditorium entry side parking lot during Hurricane Harvey's trip through the South Belt area.



In the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey, Pasadena ISD officials inspected the Thompson Intermediate campus, where the gymnasium suffered extensive water damage. Above, a metal bench is shown suspended in midair on one end due to buckling of the gymnasium's floor. Photo by Marie Flickinger



Mary Carter, a former longtime South Belt resident, was on hand to assist those displaced at Dobie High School. Mary is the wife of Al Carter, who retired from Pasadena ISD after last school year. The Carter children all attended and graduated from Dobie High School.



Officials from the HEB on Blackhawk made a generous donation of needed items to those who were displaced to Dobie High School during the hurricane. Photo by David Flickinger



After the water receded and the sun made an appearance following the destruction by Hurricane Harvey, residents were quick to begin the recovery effort in many neighborhood homes like those shown. Photo by Marie Flickinger



Christian Moreno (left) and her sister Caroll are shown assisting at Dobie High School. Christian attended San Jac and is transferring to the University of Houston-Clear Lake. Caroll, meanwhile, is a San Jacinto College student. Their brother, Edgar, is a police officer in the Magnolia area and was trapped there during the hurricane. Their mother is Carolina (not shown). Christian and Carole were rescued Saturday. They live on Sageheather Drive, near Hughes. They made a phone call to be rescued at 5 a.m. Saturday. The family was trapped in the attic for nine hours. When a boat and a truck came to get them, they decided to board the truck and, subsequently, were taken directly to Dobie. While at the Dobie temporary shelter, the two girls decided they wanted to be a part of the solution, so they started helping sort clothes. They were very grateful to those who rescued them as well as to those who provided shelter, food and clothing. They wanted to give back to a community that helped them in a time of great need. Photo by Alexis Lochner

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Sunday	1:00 p.m.	Misa en Español
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Tuesday & Thursday		7:00 p.m.

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Worship Service • 10:45 a.m.	

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South Belters serve flooded neighbors with love, food, clothing, bedding during Harvey

South Belt residents proved their love for neighbors by donating food, clothing and bedding. All these photos were taken at the J. Frank Dobie

shelter, which at one point held at least 1,350 evacuees. Without South Belt residents donating food and dry clothing and bedding, the people would have been cold, wet and hungry. The help

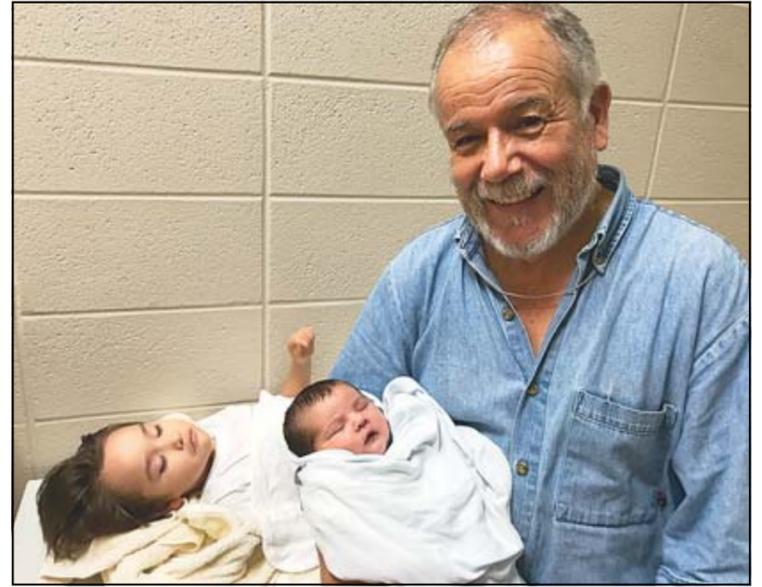
which was expected from the American Red Cross was missing. Although the *Leader* will not dwell on this issue this week, it will be covered in next week's issue.



Firefighters from the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department are shown above gaining access to the bathroom facilities at Dobie High School, which was being used as a temporary storm shelter for displaced residents, as keys were not available. The school's front doors had been opened remotely.



A grandmother is pictured above with her four grandchildren getting some peaceful sleep despite being surrounded by chaos on Saturday night at Dobie High School, as the campus was opened for the first night as a makeshift shelter from Harvey.



A grandfather is pictured above at Dobie High School with his two granddaughters, one of whom was just one week old. Despite her young age, the girl had already experienced an eclipse and a hurricane.



Pasadena ISD Superintendent Dr. DeeAnn Powell (center) is shown above with two doctors from the Ashley Pointe subdivision who traveled through the flooded water on bikes to provide medical assistance to the evacuees.



A City of Houston dump truck is shown above dropping off a load of displaced area residents to seek shelter at Dobie High School.



The above photo shows the sleeping arrangements at Dobie for the first two days before cots were delivered to the school, as residents were forced to either lie on the floor or sit in a chair. Even when cots arrived, only 32 were provided to service up to 1,350 evacuees at its peak. Despite the conditions, no one complained.

Photos by Marie Flickinger



In between meals, many of the evacuees spent their time milling around the Dobie cafeteria area. Others killed time by playing board games that had been donated by generous residents.



The above and below photos show a full Dobie cafeteria at lunch time. A team of volunteers, led by Rebecca and Jason Carter, served three hot meals a day. On the first morning, Rebecca Carter, who had brought her own supplies, cooked roughly 600 pancakes for the evacuees.



Many more photos to come next week in the *South Belt-Ellington Leader*

Send us your photos; many more will be printed in the *Leader*!



People of all stripes and religions came together to work at Dobie High School as it was being used as shelter. The Rev. Alvaro J. Interiano, a Catholic from St. Luke's Church, is shown above with Jason Carter, a self-proclaimed Baptist from South Belt Church. The pair were responsible for lending an air of faith to the building and led flood victims in prayer.



A team of volunteers is shown above serving food to people left hungry by the flood. In addition to the three daily hot meals, snacks and other items were available around the clock.



Deputies from Constable Chris Diaz's office and members of the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department and the Houston Police Department worked closely together to help South Belt residents safely survive the storm.



Family and friends spent time playing games which South Belters brought as donations to flood victims.

SECTION B SPORTS & CLASSIFIED

In the aftermath, JFD football will skip ahead to Springs

It will now presumably be a nine-game high school football season at this point. There simply is not, as of press time, a definitive answer as to how Sept. 7 through Sept. 9 games could be affected. For Dobie, which returns to classes Sept. 5,

the Longhorns will have a couple of days to prepare to take on defending District 24-6A champion Clear Springs, which dealt the Longhorns a 39-6 defeat a season ago. In 2016, the Knights finished at 9-2 overall, losing to Pearland in the

bidistrict round of the playoffs. The Knights have now made the post-season in eight consecutive seasons, but will have a first-time starter at quarterback.

Will McBride, a three-year starter with the Knights, is now a freshman at the University of Tennessee.

Michael Gillaspia, up to now a receiver for the Knights, is a candidate to be under center against the Longhorns, as is Chance Trentman-Rosas.

No matter who plays quarterback, the job will no doubt be eased by the presence of returning tailback Todd Hudson, who rushed for more than 1,200 yards and 21 touchdowns as a junior.

There's also receiver Peyton Sawyer, nephew of Thompson Intermediate head football coach Doug Sawyer.

Sawyer, who has com-

mitted to play at the University of Houston, is one of the area's most dynamic

threats as a receiver, kick-off and punt returner.

Christian Waller, a cor-

nerback, and defensive tackle Chris Gold are the

Chargers' top returnees on the defensive side of the football.

It could be quite a bit to

handle for the Longhorns, who return a total of seven starters.

A revamped offensive line will be blocking for third-year varsity player Kris Morris, who rushed for more than 725 yards a season ago and is looking to eclipse the 1,000-yard mark despite losing a game to Hurricane Harvey.

Ryan Pair and Jeremiah Hernandez, who both missed a large portion of 2016 to injury, return as the team's two top options at receiver.

Jacob Sulak, the Longhorns' third full-timer at quarterback in three years, will be the starter.

The Longhorns incurred big losses on the defensive side of the football, but leading tackler Dejaun Dixon is back at middle linebacker, and James King and Mirodelo Ashford are the key re-

turnees on the defensive front. The Longhorns are deepest at linebacker, with Dreze McCoy and Cervantis Pounds also back to assist Dixon with that unit.

Dobie head coach Mike Norman said he plans to use freshman Joshua Hernandez as the kicker and likely punting.

Offensive line, defensive backfield and depth at receiver were areas of concern before the season and may continue to be focus areas as the nondistrict portion of the schedule continues. Another concern? Other than practices, the Longhorns have had no live football action of any kind since beginning practice Aug. 14.

Hurricane Harvey wiped out Dobie's scrimmage against Clear Brook, so the locals will have to ramp it up in a hurry when school resumes Sept. 5.

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At right, the Longhorns have plenty of experience back at linebacker with Dejuan Dixon (33), Dreze McCoy (40) and Cervantis Pounds (42) all back in the mix for 2017.

Wolverines aim to pick up where 2016 run ended

Defending District 24-6A champion Clear Springs and Dickinson are the heavyweights in District 24-6A football, and then there's Clear Brook.

When it comes to offensive firepower, the Wolverines are as diffi-

cult to defend as any other program in the Region III ranks.

Last season, that firepower manifested itself late in the season and translated into playoff victories over Dawson and Kingwood, delivering a

third-round playoff game to Clear Brook for the first time since the 1990s.

Yes, the page has turned on that memorable season, but it's hard to imagine things being any different this season.

After the team's season

opener against Bellaire was canceled, the curtain will draw on the Wolverines' season Friday, Sept. 8 with a tough matchup against defending District 22-6A champion La Porte.

But while the host Bulldogs lost a ton of talent to

2017 graduation, the Wolverines are loaded offensively.

Senior Jaizac Garcia had a terrific junior campaign and is poised for another monster season. Fellow senior Caleb Chap-

Continued on Page 2B

Longhorn netters anxious to return

Despite the stoppage in play caused by Hurricane Harvey, the Dobie varsity tennis team remains on track to resume its season as soon as possible.

At press time, the Longhorns had lost matches against Dickinson, Clear Brook and Alvin, and depending on the condition of the neighborhood surrounding Morton Ranch High School, the Longhorns may have to cancel their planned Sept. 8 home matches against the Mavs. Ironically, the Longhorns also remain in line to compete in the Sept. 15-16 Remembering Ike tournament in Galveston.

As for District 22-6A action, that all begins

Tuesday, Sept. 19 as the Longhorns host Beaumont West Brook at 3 p.m.

Going up a difficult ledger of opponents, the Longhorns began the season at 4-6 but remain focused on taking down defending District 22-6A champion Deer Park.

Come mid October, the Longhorns are also intent on making their way out of the 21/22-6A Area Championships and reaching the Region III Team Tennis Championships in Deer Park.

During his tenure at Dobie, Manuel Moreno Jr. has viewed success in doubles play as the key to

Continued on Page 2B

At right, Tina Ha (left) and Leilani Vargas began the season as Dobie's No. 1 girls' doubles duo, but Vargas is now set to play mixed doubles with Alex Cuaping, and Ha will play No. 1 girls' doubles with Ann Truong. Photo by John Bechtle



Athletics come to a halt

Yes, there are far more important things in life than athletics. The damage and destruction left in the wake of Hurricane Harvey's smack to South Belt and the rest of the state will be felt for weeks, months and perhaps forever in some locations.

Locally, Houston and surrounding communities were among the hardest hit by rain and subsequent flooding.

Along the way, Harvey also caused havoc on the youth and high school athletic scene across much of the southeastern edge of the state.

The Dobie football program will enter the official first week of the regular season having not been able to compete in a scrimmage or live action against a team in different

colored jersey at all.

Dobie's planned scrimmage against Clear Brook was scratched, and the Lady Longhorns' varsity volleyball team did not get to make its scheduled trip to San Marcos for tournament action. There will be many more cancellations.

Officials with the Bay Area Football League made an early decision to postpone games for Aug. 26, and it was the right decision. The league's Sept. 2 games are canceled as well.

High school cross-country meets, most collegiate games and much more were also brought down by Harvey's arrival. But at the end of the day, it's about putting lives back together and remembering those that were tragically lost.

Clear Brook at La Porte
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Shine & Polish Includes "Express Exterior" Plus \$10
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Longhorn netters will return to play in time; District 22-6A action nearing

Continued from Page 1B
 the team's overall win-loss status. That especially became the case when the projected No. 1 boys' singles play elected not to compete this season.
 But with that, a wobbly start and, hopefully, the Hurricane Harvey disaster recovery in full force, the Longhorns are eager to return to the court.

Moreno believes he has found a solid combination in mixed doubles. While senior and No. 1 girls' singles player Leilani Vargas will be missed in girls' doubles, Moreno will pair Vargas with Alex Cuaping in mixed doubles.
 On the boys' side, "Big" Tommy Nguyen will team 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, Moreno will now pair 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.
 Early this season, the Longhorns have had "Big" Tommy Nguyen at No.

1 in boys' singles, with Cuaping, "Little" Tommy Nguyen, Luis Neira, Adri- an Tamez and Austin Luu following in succession.
 The girls' lineup in- cludes Vargas, Ha, Em- ily Nguyen, Bao Nguy- en, Courtney Chung and Kristy Morales following, deciding which contests will be canceled, and possible scenario is exercising patience.

At present, the best district officials were still which will go on as sched- uled. At present, the best district officials were still which will go on as sched- uled. At present, the best district officials were still which will go on as sched- uled.

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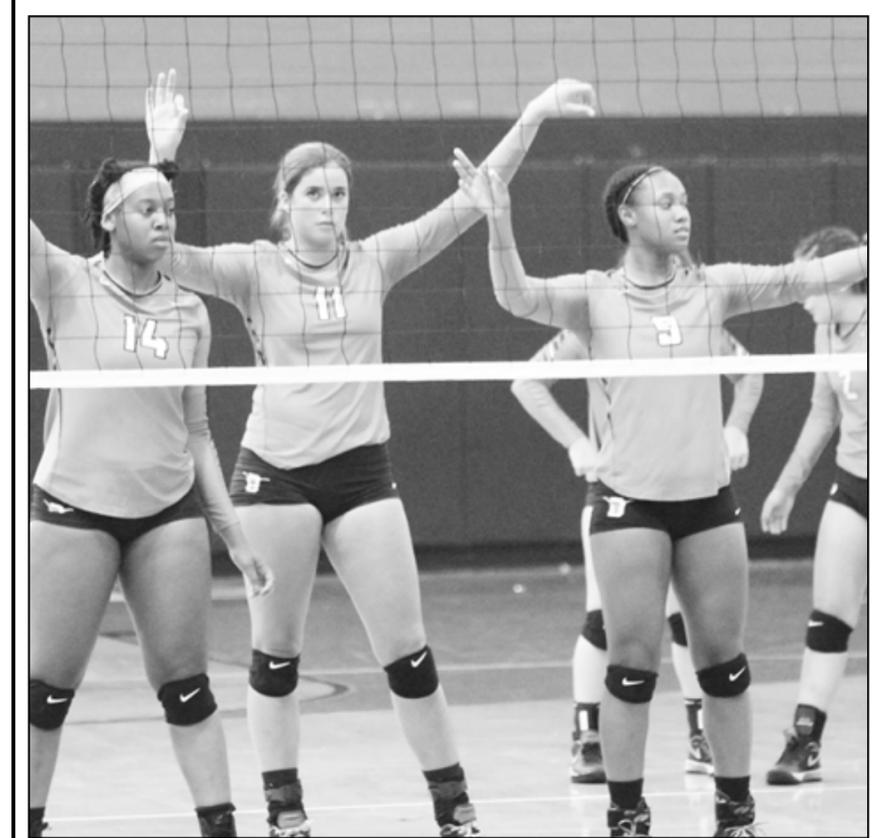
At present, the best district officials were still which will go on as sched- uled. At present, the best district officials were still which will go on as sched- uled.

SJC men's soccer season on pause

The San Jacinto College men's soccer team will compete this season, the only question is when. Like local school districts, the San Jacinto College District has elected to resume classes no earlier than Sept. 5.
 The team did not make the trip to Tyler for the

season opener Aug. 25, and subsequent matches are also on hold. There is also the issue of how things fared for some of the team's players, who reside in South Belt area apartment complexes.
 For the latest on SJC athletics, visit www.sanjacsports.com

Lady Longhorn volleyball to take on Beaumont West Brook



From left, Dobie varsity volleyball players Natasha Walters (14), Taylor Pleasants (11) and Jakara Henry (9) will no doubt be ready to return to play following a lengthy suspension of play. As Hurricane Harvey approached the Houston area, the Lady Longhorns did not make a scheduled trip to San Marcos for tournament play. With classes scheduled to resume Sept. 5 in Pasadena ISD, the Lady Longhorns will likely next compete Friday, Sept. 8 at home against Beaumont West Brook in the 22-6A opener. A season ago, West Brook finished second in the league race.

Wolverine football to tackle Bulldogs

Continued from Page 1B
 man, who reeled in 17 touchdowns a season ago and then put on a show in helping the Wolverines to the state 7-on-7 semifinals, is back after committing to play at Texas A&M University beginning this fall.

head coach Mike Allison told the *Leader* he believes his defensive unit will perform better than advertised.
 It all starts with La Porte. With the Bulldogs sporting a young and inexperienced roster, it may be hard to judge much from the results. But make no mistake, the Wolverines will be difficult to defend.

What about Jarrett Smith, who rushed for more than 1,500 yards last season? Multi-dimensional Mark Milton, who is headed to Baylor University. Sterling Stephens, another speedster who can contribute in various phases.

After making that deep run this summer on the 7-on-7 circuit, the Wolverines are determined to turn the regular season into something resembling a 7-on-7 game, with points piling up on the scoreboard.

The defense is to be led by gifted defensive back Braelon Hill. The Wolverines might have to simply outscore everyone this season to win games, but

But the game is in La Porte, and the Bulldogs are always tough to handle in their stadium.

Area sports news, notes

Pearland 100 Club plans golf

The 100 Club of Pearland is busy making plans for its 2017 fundraising golf tournament, coming to Golfcrest 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 foursome.
 The registration fee includes the cost of golf, green fee, a cart, range balls, dinner, snacks and 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.

Pasadena ISD offers football ticket app option

Pasadena ISD is teaming with Home Team Marketing's digital ticketing platform, TicketRoar 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.
 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 football season. There are also 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.

Lady Bears, Thompson to begin PISD intermediate football, volleyball play

Beverly Hills Bears 7th/8th Dark Volleyball	
Date	Opponent
Sept. 7	at Bondy
Sept. 14	Jackson
Sept. 21	Thompson (at Dobie)
Sept. 28	at South Houston
Oct. 5	San Jacinto
Oct. 12	at Park View
Oct. 16	Southmore
Oct 19-20	at Dark tourn. (TBA)
Oct. 23	Queens

All matches begin at 5 p.m.

Beverly Hills Bears 7th/8th Light Volleyball	
Date	Opponent
Sept. 7	at Bondy
Sept. 14	Jackson
Sept. 21	Thompson (at Dobie)
Sept. 28	at South Houston
Oct. 5	San Jacinto
Oct. 12	at Park View
Oct. 16	Southmore
Oct. 23	Queens
Oct 26-27	at Light tourn. (TBA)

All matches begin at 6:15 p.m.

Thompson Lions 7th/8th Dark Volleyball	
Date	Opponent
Sept. 7	South Houston
Sept. 14	at Southmore
Sept. 21	Bev. Hills (at Dobie)
Sept. 28	at Park View
Oct. 5	at Jackson
Oct. 12	Queens
Oct. 16	at Bondy
Oct 19-20	at Dark tourn. (TBA)
Oct. 23	Miller

All matches begin at 5 p.m.

Thompson Lions 7th/8th Light Volleyball	
Date	Opponent
Sept. 7	South Houston
Sept. 14	at Southmore
Sept. 21	Bev. Hills (at Dobie)
Sept. 28	at Park View
Oct. 5	at Jackson
Oct. 12	Queens
Oct. 16	at Bondy
Oct. 23	Miller
Oct 26-27	at Light tourn. (TBA)

All matches begin at 6:15 p.m.

Beverly Hills Bears 8th Grade A Football	
Date	Opponent
Sept. 5	San Jacinto
Sept. 11	at Queens
Sept. 18	Jackson
Sept. 25	at Park View
Oct. 2	at South Houston
Oct. 9	Bondy
Oct. 16	Thompson (V, 6:30)
Oct. 23	Miller

(V) Played at Veterans Stadium
 All games begin at 5 p.m.

Beverly Hills Bears 8th Grade B Football	
Date	Opponent
Sept. 5	at San Jacinto
Sept. 11	Queens
Sept. 18	at Jackson
Sept. 25	Park View
Oct. 2	South Houston
Oct. 9	at Bondy
Oct. 16	Thompson (V, 5:00)
Oct. 23	at Miller

(V) Played at Veterans Stadium
 All games begin at 5 p.m.

Thompson Lions 8th Grade A Football	
Date	Opponent
Sept. 5	Southmore
Sept. 11	at San Jacinto
Sept. 18	Park View
Sept. 25	Bondy
Oct. 2	at Jackson
Oct. 9	at Miller
Oct. 16	Beverly Hills (V)
Oct. 23	at South Houston

(V) Played at Veterans Stadium
 All games begin at 5 p.m.

Thompson Lions 8th Grade B Football	
Date	Opponent
Sept. 5	at Southmore
Sept. 11	San Jacinto
Sept. 18	at Park View
Sept. 25	at Bondy
Oct. 2	Jackson
Oct. 9	Miller
Oct. 16	Beverly Hills (V)
Oct. 23	South Houston

(V) Played at Veterans Stadium
 All games begin at 5 p.m.

Beverly Hills Bears 7th Grade A Football	
Date	Opponent
Sept. 6	San Jacinto
Sept. 12	at Queens
Sept. 19	Jackson
Sept. 26	at Park View
Oct. 3	at South Houston
Oct. 10	Bondy
Oct. 17	Thompson
Oct. 24	Miller

All games begin at 5 p.m.

Beverly Hills Bears 7th Grade B Football	
Date	Opponent
Sept. 6	at San Jacinto
Sept. 12	Queens
Sept. 19	at Jackson
Sept. 26	Park View
Oct. 3	South Houston
Oct. 10	at Bondy
Oct. 17	Thompson
Oct. 24	at Miller

All games begin at 5 p.m.

Thompson Lions 7th Grade A Football	
Date	Opponent
Sept. 6	Southmore
Sept. 12	at San Jacinto
Sept. 19	Park View
Sept. 26	Bondy
Oct. 3	at Jackson
Oct. 10	at Miller
Oct. 17	Beverly Hills
Oct. 24	at South Houston

All games begin at 5 p.m.

Thompson Lions 7th Grade B Football	
Date	Opponent
Sept. 6	at Southmore
Sept. 12	San Jacinto
Sept. 19	at Park View
Sept. 26	at Bondy
Oct. 3	Jackson
Oct. 10	Miller
Oct. 17	at Beverly Hills
Oct. 24	South Houston

All games begin at 5 p.m.

South Belt community, residents endure Hurricane Harvey's wrath



While Hurricane Harvey created havoc for the South Belt area and much of the southeast Texas region, wildlife found the conditions prime.
All photos by David Flickinger unless otherwise noted



Multiple vehicles incurred flooding and other high-water related issues in another scene along Beamer



A media personality was spotted reporting from a high-water spot near the Leader office.



Hurricane Harvey's destruction and damage necessitated the arrival of Federal Emergency Management Agency representative even as it might have been unsafe to navigate local areas. The truck was stuck mired in thick mud for quite some time. At this point, it may be a lengthy stay for FEMA after more than four days of flooding in the area. *Photo by Johnny Gibbs*



City of Houston workers came with their vehicles in tow to help rescue numerous local residents in need of assistance during the crux of Hurricane Harvey's destruction.



Above, a news crew took up temporary residence in the median near the Leader office as the waters continued to rise. Below, another scene along Kirkfair showed the devastation that Hurricane Harvey's punch packed.



Above, Ace Hardware was the final stop for one unlucky South Belt area resident and a vehicle as rising waters were simply too much to overcome. The occupants of the vehicle did reach safety. Below, the scenario was much the same in front of Roy Shiflett Realtors near the Leader office building.



CALENDAR

☆☆☆☆☆☆

Due to the recent weather event, call or email the person of contact to confirm if the scheduled event is being held.
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

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.

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

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.

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.

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, SEPTEMBER 3

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.

Grief Support Group – For adults who have lost a loved one. Meets Sundays, except Mother's Day, Easter and Christmas, 2 to 3:15 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena. For details, call 281-487-8787.

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.

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 713-480-4166.

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

LABOR DAY MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

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

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.

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

Pearland Overeaters Anonymous HOW Meeting – Monday at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 2535 E. Broadway, Pearland. Use door near recycling bins. For details, call 713-865-3668 or visit www.oahouston.org.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) – Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-856-1611.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) – Saint Luke's Group, 12 Step Recovery, open meeting Mondays, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Education Bldg., 11011 Hall Rd., 77089. For details, call Russell at 832-483-6715.

Continued on Page 4B



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CALENDAR

Continued from Page 3B

Due to the recent weather event, verify to confirm if the scheduled event is being held. TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

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, 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.

11:30 a.m.
Local NARFE Meeting - National Association of Retired Federal Employees, Chapter 1321, meets the first Tuesday at Clear Lake Community Center, 5001 NASA Pkwy. Lunch is \$6. For information, call Bob Mitchell at 281-333-2881.

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

7 p.m.
Rotary Club of Pearland - Meets Tuesdays, noon to 1 p.m., Golfcrest Country Club, 2509 Country Club Dr., Pearland. Lunch is \$15. Variety of speakers. For information, call 281-900-7257 or email nalix@texas-citizensbank.com.

1 p.m.
Trailmixers - Meets the first Tuesday at Luby's, 11595 Fuqua. Former and current employees of J. Frank Dobie High School are welcome.

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.

6:30 p.m.
Bay Area Quilt Guild - Meets the first Tuesday, Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, 10310 Scarsdale Blvd. Fellowship is at 6:30 p.m.; meeting/program begins at 7 p.m. Visit www.Facebook.com/BayAreaQuiltGuild.

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.

6-8 p.m.
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 713-480-4166.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

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.

11:30 a.m.
Houston Hobby Airport Lions Club - meets monthly, first and third Wednesday, noon, Golden Corral, 4021 Spencer Hwy., Pasadena. December may be an exception. For information, call Monica Montoya at 281-794-5531.

11:30 a.m.
American Business Women's

Association Bay Area Vision Chapter - Meets at Bon Appetit Cafe, 18027 Point Lookout Dr., 77058, monthly, first Wednesday, noon to 1:30 p.m. Professional speaker often present. For details, contact Christie O'Rear at christieorear@gmail.com.

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 activity card. Help is available to assist learning dance moves. For details, call Neva Schroder at 417-838-2204.

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, SEPTEMBER 7

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.

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.

The Bay Area Writers League - Meets the first Thursday monthly, Barnes and Noble, 1029 W. Bay Area Blvd., 7 p.m. Newcomers welcome.

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 713-480-4166.

Southeast VFD needs you!

We are seeking local volunteers to join our active Volunteer Fire and EMS Department. If you are over 18 and can pass a background check and driving record check, we encourage you to come join us any Thursday evening at 7PM at our #1 Fire Station at 10510 Scarsdale Blvd. If you have no, or very limited training, we will provide all the training and protective gear upon acceptance. If you have any previous fire or EMS training, (Fire Department, Forest Service, Military, etc), we can accept those training hours also. You can visit our website: www.southeastvfd.com to learn more, download an application package and see some of the activities that we participate in yearly. Please come to one of our meetings to meet your fellow volunteers and join us in this very important and worthwhile activity. Become a valued and needed part of our growing community where Neighbors Help Neighbors! Your community needs you!

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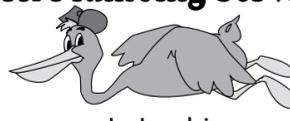
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Community comes together at Dobie High School shelter



Above and at right, South Belt area families, including young children, sorted through countless clothing donations that were generously donated to those in need at the Dobie High School temporary shelter. All photos by Al Carter



Above, left to right, Jason Carter (longtime South Belt resident), Rupert Jaso (PISD director of athletics) and Kenny Fernandez (PISD board member) help at the shelter. Both Carter and Fernandez worked nearly the entire time at the shelter helping out community members. In photos at left, those who came to the Dobie High School shelter were able to take their pick of both household goods and nonperishable food items available. At right, volunteers sort out clothing items and those in need were able to get warm, dry clothes during their stay at Dobie High School.



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