

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!

South Belt-Ellington Leader

Voice of Community-Minded People since 1976

Thursday, December 21, 2023

Email: mynews@southbeltleader.com

www.southbeltleader.com

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Holiday closures set

South Belt-Ellington Leader

The Leader offices will be closed through Monday, Jan. 8, for the Christmas/New Year's Day holidays. Emergencies may be directed to Leader publisher Marie Flickinger at 281-948-2714.

Clear Brook City MUD

The Clear Brook City MUD will be closed Monday, Dec. 25, and Tuesday, Dec. 26, in observance of the Christmas holiday. The office will reopen Wednesday, Dec. 27, at 8 a.m.

Clear Brook City MUD residents whose trash services fall on Monday will not have regular trash pickup on Christmas Day, Monday, Dec. 25. Regular services will resume on Thursday, Dec. 28. All trash must be at curbside no later than 6 a.m. on day of pickup.

Clear Brook City MUD will be closed Monday, Jan. 1, in observance of New Year's Day. The office will reopen Tuesday, Jan. 2, at 8 a.m.

Clear Brook City MUD residents whose trash services fall on Monday will not have regular trash pickup on New Year's Day, Monday, Jan. 1. Regular services will resume on Thursday, Jan. 4. All trash must be at curbside no later than 6 a.m. on day of pickup.

For customer convenience, check or money order payments may be left in the drop box located on the drive-thru side of the building. No cash will be accepted in the drop box.

Kirkwood meeting canceled

The Kirkwood Civic Club's monthly meeting originally scheduled for Monday, Dec. 25, has been canceled in observance of the Christmas holiday. The meetings, typically held the last Monday of the month, will resume next month on Jan. 29. For additional information, call Kirkwood Civic Club President Ericka McCutcheon at 281-989-9990.

Coffee with the Constable

Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia will be at Donut Haven, 10802 Hughes, from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. each Thursday as part of the weekly Coffee with the Constable series.

The next event will be Thursday, Dec. 21, with another event happening the following Thursday, Dec. 28. For more information, call Sagemont Civic Club President Kay Barbour at 713-419-3545.

Local COVID cases reported

With the exception of ZIP code 77089, the number of active COVID-19 cases in the South Belt community is roughly on par with the previous week, according to Harris County health officials.

As of Tuesday, Dec. 19, there were 182 active cases in 77089, up 17 from the previous week. To date, 138 from the ZIP code have died from the disease, no increase from the previous week.

In ZIP code 77075, there were seven active cases, no change from the previous week. To date, there have been 84 deaths in the ZIP code, no increase from the previous week.

In 77034, there were six active cases, no change from the previous week. To date, 93 residents from ZIP code 77034 have died from the disease, no increase from the previous week.

According to Harris County Health officials, the vast majority of the fatalities suffered from pre-existing health issues.

Statistics are updated daily and include numbers from within the Houston city limits and throughout Harris County. To view an interactive map, visit covid-harriscounty.hub.arcgis.com/pages/cumulative-data.

Gulf Freeway closures set

At least one northbound and one southbound main lanes and frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from SH 96/Calder/Brittany Bay to FM-519/Main Street daily from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and nightly from 8:30 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Sunday, Dec. 31.

The U-turn lane on the northbound Gulf Freeway frontage road (north to south) at FM-519/Main Street in La Marque will be closed until further notice.

The U-turn lane on the southbound Gulf Freeway frontage road (south to north) at FM-519/Main Street in La Marque will be closed until further notice.

The northbound Gulf Freeway exit ramp to SH-6/SH-146 in La Marque will close permanently at 9 a.m. Wednesday, July 5. Traffic must exit FM-519 and U-turn. Traffic will merge onto the Gulf Freeway southbound main lanes at the next available entrance ramp.

Beltway 8 closure planned

At least one northbound frontage road lane on Beltway 8 will be closed from Fairmont Parkway to Spencer Highway continuously through 3 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2024. No detour will be needed but drivers should expect delays.

At least one southbound frontage road lane on Beltway 8 will be closed from SH 225 to Pasadena Boulevard continuously through 3 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2024. No detour will be needed but drivers should expect delays.

Annual Leader Christmas drive a success!

Program provides assistance to roughly 40 area families in need

The Leader's annual Christmas program was a huge success, providing assistance to dozens of area families in need. Several local organizations, schools, businesses and residents stepped up to the plate, making this year's drive one of the most successful in the event's history.

Approximately 40 families took part in this year's program. Despite the relatively low number of families this year compared to previous years, approximately 110 children were helped, as many of the applicants had large families with up to five children.

The Leader drive is different from many others in that assistance is provided to families in the immediate South Belt area. Residency and need is often verified through area schools.

Schools participating in this year's drive included Frazier Elementary, Melillo Middle School, South Belt Elementary and Beverly Hills Intermediate. Frazier donated toys and food; South Belt donated toys; and Beverly Hills donated food.

Former Little League President Aaron Morrow collected toys at Beamer's Place and at other

collection spots frequented by local bikers to contribute toward this year's drive.

Earlier this year, an obituary for South Belt resident Michael Ploch solicited donations to the Leader Christmas program in lieu of flowers. Donations associated with this effort added up to approximately \$700.

Several residents and local businesses – many wishing to remain anonymous – also contributed toward this year's drive to make it a success.

Volunteer students from J. Frank Dobie High School volunteered the day of the event.

2024 candidate filing deadline ends

County, state, federal offices to be decided

The filing deadline has passed for candidates seeking a position on the 2024 Democratic and Republican primary ballots.

Several key positions are to be filled, including seats at the county, state and federal levels.

Fresh on the heels of her recent loss to John Whitmire in the Houston mayoral runoff, U.S. Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee has filed to maintain her 18th Congressional District seat. Competing with Lee for the Democratic nomination are Amanda Edwards and Robert Slater.

Republican candidate Lana Centonze has also

filed to run in the race.

U.S. Rep. Sylvia Garcia has filed as a Democrat to keep her 29th Congressional seat. Republicans running for the position include Jose Casares, Alan Garza, Christian V. Garcia and Angel Fierro.

At the state level, Republican incumbent Dennis Paul has filed to maintain his House District 129 seat. Democrat Doug Peterson also filed to run for the seat.

Democratic incumbent Mary Ann Perez has

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Santa's Helpers volunteer time



The Leader's 41st annual Christmas program was a huge success, providing assistance to approximately 30 area families in need, including around 100 children. A team of volunteers dubbed "Santa's Helpers" (shown above) selflessly donated their time to assist in the program. Helpers shown above are, left to right, Irma Villanueva, Miriam Martinez, Sandy Robb and daughter, Stacey Vaughn. Sandy and Stacy have organized the toys and food for the program the past 19 years. Photo by Marie Flickinger

Fireworks sales cause confusion

New Year's Eve is around the corner, and many South Belt residents are understandably confused as to the current regulations involving the sale and possession of personal fireworks.

The sale of the products is still allowed just down Beamer, however, where the laws are a little less murky. Once again this year, fireworks will be available for sale in unincorporated parts of Harris County along Beamer Road, near Dixie Farm Road and FM 2351.

While the stretch of road was once a hot spot for such booths, the practice was prohibited in July 2009 by the City of Friendswood Fire Marshal's Office, citing extrajurisdictional jurisdiction.

ETJ is the legal ability of a governing body to exercise authority beyond its normal boundaries, given that an agreement has been reached with the adjoining municipality.

In this instance, the City of Friendswood worked jointly with the City of Houston, the City of Pearland and Harris County. At that time, state law dictated that a governing body may exercise ETJ up to 5,000 feet outside their established jurisdiction. The fireworks booths in question were located 1,800 feet outside the Friendswood city limits, which extends to Beamer and Dixie Farm Road.

In 2015, however, Sen. Eddie Lucio Jr. of Brownsville drafted Senate Bill 1593, which states a municipality may only prohibit the sale of fireworks within its own boundaries. The bill passed and was subsequently signed into law by Texas Gov. Greg Abbott.

The sale of fireworks along Beamer has been an ongoing, controversial and confusing issue – even among law enforcement.

In July 2008, City of Houston officials erroneously issued more than 30 citations on the stretch of Beamer between Astoria and Dixie Farm, as the northbound side of the street fell in the fireworks ban area, while the southbound side did not. With the help of the Leader, the tickets were later dismissed.

Fireworks have long been forbidden within the city limits, and in the last decade, the Clear Brook City and Sagemeadow municipal utility

districts have both entered into strategic partnership agreements with the City of Houston, prohibiting the practice.

Despite the partnership, a loophole in the agreement with the Clear Brook City MUD inadvertently allowed the sale of fireworks in the parking lot of Mount Olive Lutheran Church on Scarsdale in 2013, prompting extensive litigation from the Sageglan Civic Club.

In the end, the bench sided with the church, and sales are expected to resume on the property this holiday season.

Transporting fireworks – even in municipalities where their sale is prohibited – is also now easier, thanks to a bill authored in 2013 by Lucio's son, Eddie Lucio III, who formerly served as a state representative in Brownsville. House Bill 1813 states it is now lawful in the state to transport the items, provided they are kept in a nonpassenger area of the vehicle, such as a trunk or hatchback.

Should one still get charged with possession of fireworks within the city limits, fines can range anywhere from \$500 to \$2,000 for each individual item.

In 2007, the state raised the minimum age to purchase fireworks from 12 to 16.

Parents of offending minors can also be fined, even if they are unaware their children are breaking the law.

Local subdivisions located within the city of Houston include Sagemont, Sagemont Park, Kirkwood, Genoa, Beverly Hills, Rainbow Valley, Eastridge Terrace, Sycamore Valley, Scarsdale and King's Place.

Subdivisions not within Houston city limits and under Harris County's control include Clear Brook Meadows, College Place, Riverstone Ranch, Woodmeadow I and II, Highland Meadow, Ashley Pointe, Blackhawk, Meadows of Clear Creek, Sagemeadow, Estates of Green Tee, Sageglan, Kirkmont and Kirkwood South.

The Bella Vita, Villa D'Este and Villa Verde subdivisions are located within the City of Pearland.

CCISD adjusts annual tax statements

Clear Creek ISD residents should be receiving an updated 2023 tax statement in the mail, as the ones initially sent out to homeowners did not appropriately reflect recent changes provided by the passage of Senate Bill 2 this year by the state Legislature.

Passed this past July during a special session, SB 2 increased the homestead exemption from \$40,000 to \$100,000 for homeowners under age 65 and to \$110,000 for homeowners over age 65. Final passage of SB 2, however, hinged on voter ap-

proval of a state constitutional amendment this past November. The Clear Creek ISD statements had already been printed without taking the changes into account.

As reported in last week's Leader, the changes led to a tax bill of zero for many Pasadena ISD residents who are over 65.

Similar statements are being reported this week throughout CCISD, with many area seniors not being assessed any property taxes this year.

City Council addresses high water bills

Issue a longstanding problem for many area residents

Houston City Council this past week approved nine proposals aimed at providing some relief to residents who have been experiencing excessively high water bills.

"Today's action removes the structural hurdles that prevented Houston Public Works from adjusting unusually high water bills," Mayor Sylvester Turner said in a press release. "Because we have improved the ordinances, the department can be more responsive in the future. We do not want to assess people for what they are not using; people should only pay for the water they use at home or business."

A similar sentiment was shared by Houston Public Works Director Carol Haddock following City Council's recent action.

"Houston Public Works is committed to providing accurate water bills for the more than 500,000 City of Houston water customers every month," Haddock said in a press release. "We are pleased to move forward with changes that will bring relief to the most vulnerable Houstonians, including our senior citizens."

This issue has been an ongoing problem for several Sagemont Park residents who started experiencing problems this past spring after new digital meters were installed in their homes.

For Sagemont Park resident Wayne Hanks, that meant an increase from around \$30/month to more than \$3,000/month on one bill. According to Houston Public Works, Hanks used 112,000 gallons of water in just one day – the same day his meter was swapped out.

Following the erroneous bills, Hanks began monitoring his meter. While he said his recent bills more accurately reflect his actual water usage, he noted to the Leader that the city inexplicably rounds up his usage to the nearest thousand gallons on his bills.

"I paid for water I'll never use," Hanks said, noting the usage appears to refresh each month without crediting him for overpaying.

Hanks said he plans to monitor his usage for a year then compare his notes with the city's billing.

District E City Council Member and Mayor pro Tem Dave Martin is hoping officials can get to the root of the problem to avoid having to address similar matters again in the future.

"I would ask public service (Public Works), before Dec. 31 if that's possible, to give us a master plan with cost allocations as to how much money it'll take us to fix the water meter problems and to fix all the situations that we have that are causing us to go back and do this type of work," said Martin.

The following changes are effective immediately:

– 1. 47-74: Ordinance – A customer can apply for a maximum of two leak adjustments per year. Remove the two times per year allowance and allow customers additional relief should multiple leaks occur in one year more than twice.

– 2. 47-74: Allows customers adjustment to their water bills at a 50 percent rate once proof of a leak repair is provided. Incentivize Citizens -100 percent for customers repairing 30 days after the leak began, 75 percent for repairing within 60 days after the leak began and standard 50 percent after 60 days.

– 3. 47-74: Customers get 50 percent credit on excess water usage on both water and wastewater charges. 100 percent credit on excess wastewater charges. This is based on the idea that a customer water leak usually doesn't go back through the sewage system.

– 4. 47-74-1: Leak Balance Remaining must be greater than \$2,000.00 and \$250 for elderly customers who meet the eligibility criteria in

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South Belt donates to Leader drive



Students and staff members at South Belt Elementary joined other area schools to once again participate in the Leader's annual Christmas drive by collecting unwrapped toys. Shown above donating to the program are, left to right, (front row) Josiah Babalola, Christopher Herrera, Kaila Espinoza, (back row) Lillian Mwanik, Matilda Sok, Jax Desoto, Belinda Franklin and Lakitha Thomas, school counselor.

Photo by David Flickinger

Moore Elementary fourth-graders perform "Forever Christmas" musical



Moore Elementary students recently performed their "Forever Christmas" musical. Shown above, left to right, are Suzy Snowflake and the Snowflake Dancers (front row) Ana Victoria, Story Masone, Dulce Manriquez, Han Tran, (back row) Olivia Vela, Delilah Bosler, Natalia Ventura as Suzy Snowflake, Leyda Guerrero and Emma Nguyen.



Ayaan Mateen was Santa Claus.



Shown, left to right, are Rudolph and the Rudolph Dancers (front row) Zahariah Garza, Jacqueline Pham, Konnor Magana as Rudolph, Sophia Mai, Kayla Cabrera, (back row) Amelia Gomez, Andrea Jimenez, Nicole Salas and Amariah Lemons.



Shown, left to right, are Alvin and the Chipmunks, Emiliano Saldano as Simon, Max Mondragon as Theodore and Ivan Guerrero as Alvin.



Shown, left to right, are Frosty and the Frosty Dancers (front row) Elena Martinez, Antonio Aguirre as Frosty Elvis, Mariana Contreras, (back row) Dharma Figueroa, Elyssa Gutierrez and Ryla Low.



Shown, left to right, are the Jitterbug Dancers (front row) Miah Nolasco, Lisa Marie Cardenas, Mia Lopez, Alexia Lozano, (back row) Dylan Romero, Hector Gomez, Richard Perry and Jorge Moreno.



Emily Torres (left) and Michael-John Reyes performed songs. Torres sang "All I Want for Christmas" and Reyes sang "Nothin' but Bad," the song bearing his character's namesake.



Above are soloists Delilah Bosler (left) and Elijah Martinez.

Houston City Council addresses high water bills

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ent because the City must reserve that capacity for the customer. The base charge includes water and wastewater. To avoid charges, a customer is required to pay for a private plumber to remove the meter, cap the line, and then cancel the account (cost approximately \$1500). Offer the customer an option to have the meter locked for a one-time fee estimated to be \$150, and once the customer account is charged for lock, all base charges will be removed from the account. This change provides a less expensive option for the customer to remove monthly base charges.

– 6. a. any billed amount in the excess of five times the average monthly bill.

– 6. b. account may be reduced by up to \$4,000.00 for one occurrence.

– 6. c. does not exceed a two-month timeframe.

Changes to this section as follows:

a. any billed amount in excess of two times (2x) the average monthly bill.

b. account may be reduced by up to \$10,000.00 for one occurrence.

c. does not exceed two billing cycles.

– 7. 47-61.47-63: Customers are charged a minimum monthly base fee where a water meter is pres-

Death

Clennis Benny Tyer



Clennis Benny "Ben" Tyer, 88, of Livingston was born on Feb. 26, 1935, in Houston. He went to be with his Lord and Savior on Dec. 17, 2023.

Ben graduated from Galena Park High School in 1953. He enlisted in the United States Navy in 1954 and served in the Vietnam War as a communication technician.

He married June Jolly Dec. 10, 1960, in Galena Park, and recently celebrated their 63rd anniversary. Ben and June's first child, Clennis, was born in 1961 in Galena Park. During Ben's time in the Navy he was stationed in Morocco where they had their second child, Curtis, in 1963. They then moved to Maryland where their third child, Craig, was born in 1965. From there they were stationed in Japan, Taiwan and Virginia. Ben's

last military assignment was in Rota, Spain. He retired from the Navy in 1977 after 20 years of service.

Upon returning to the United States, the Tyer family settled in Sagemont and joined Sagemont Baptist Church. Ben had a passion for helping others. He established the Hi-Tech Air Conditioning company. He set up the air conditioning technical program at San Jacinto College South campus where he taught for 15 years. Ben trained many of the air conditioning technicians in the area. Ben graduated magna cum laude on Dec. 19, 1988, from the University of Houston with a Bachelor of Science in technology. After retiring from San Jacinto College, Ben and June hit the road as full-time RVers in their King of the Road fifth-wheel trailer. For 10 years, they made friends all over the United States going to most of the 50 states.

They assisted with Habitat for Humanity, building homes in Michigan and volunteered many hours helping at the Texas Baptist ministries in Trinity Pines. They were founding members of the RV club at Sagemont Baptist Church and enjoyed their time traveling together. They ended up joining the Escapees RV community in Livingston and became permanent residents. They joined Central Baptist Church in Livingston where they were active members

for the last 10 years. Special thanks to the many doctors at MD Anderson Medical Center for the care he received.

He is survived by his loving wife; son Clennis Tyer and wife Pam, grandchildren Katie and husband Matt Wymyczak, Andrew Tyer and wife Rida, Jeffrey, Kellie and husband Steve Larson, great-grandchildren Miles and Jett Larson; son Curtis Tyer and wife Durinda, grandchildren Sarah Coble, Joshua and wife Mary Hanna, Michelle and husband Ben Workman, Nicole and husband Cody Barron, Jonathan Tyer and wife Monica, Joseph Tyer and wife Rebecca, Joel Tyer and wife Abigail Tyer great-grandchildren, Joanna Coble, Noah Cobel, Tabitha Coble and Israel Coble, Paul Tyer, Hannah Workman, Claire Workman, Grace Workman and Lucas Workman, Elora, Titus, Thaddaeus, Silas, and Matthias Barron and Miriam Tyer; son Craig Tyer and wife Debbie, grandchildren Matt and Corey.

The service will be held at the Peevey Funeral Home on Saturday, Dec. 23, at 11 a.m. with visitation one hour prior to the service.

Interment will be held Tuesday, Dec. 26, at 12:30 p.m., at Houston National Cemetery.

In lieu of sending flowers the family requests you make a memorial contribution in Ben's name to the Wounded Warriors Project.



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Candidate filing deadline ends

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filed to keep her House District 144 position. She is running unopposed.

Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia is seeking re-election. Democrat David Garza has filed to challenge Garcia for his party's nomination. No Republican candidates are seeking the position.

While Precinct 6 Chief Deputy Lillian Lozano had filed the treasurer paperwork necessary to launch a campaign for the Precinct 2 constable spot, she neglect-

Celebrating 64 years

Congratulations are in order for longtime Sagemont residents Joe and Yolanda Dominguez. They celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary on December 19 with family and friends. They are proud of their three children, 11 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST

Catholic Church
Rev. Douglas J. Guthrie, Pastor
Rev. Kingsley Nwoko, Parochial Vicar

11011 Hall Rd.
(between Beamer & Blackhawk)

Advent & Christmas Schedule

Fourth Sunday of Advent | December 23-24
Saturday Mass: 5:30 p.m. (English), 7:30 p.m. (Español)
Sunday Mass: 8 a.m. (English), 10 a.m. (English)

Christmas Masses | December 24-25
December 24: 5 p.m. (English - Family Mass), 7 p.m. (Español), 10 p.m. Mass at Night (English)/Carols & Readings to begin at 9:15 p.m.
December 25: 10 a.m. (Multilingual)

Both Fourth Sunday of Advent Mass & Christmas Mass are Holy Days of Obligation. Daily Masses for December 26th and 27th have been canceled.

Parish Office: 281-481-6816
Children's Faith Formation: 281-481-4251
Adult Faith Formation: 713-538-2862

All are welcome to come to worship and serve the Lord in a spirit of love, sharing, and hope.



In the spirit of kindness & good will, these local merchants and public servants wish you a Merry Christmas and a safe and healthy New Year!

Meador second-graders write to Santa Claus

Second-grade students from Meador Elementary wrote the following letters to Santa Claus.

Amanda Johns's class
This year I have been so nice. For Christmas I would like the Christmas FnaF Pi-ohes and a PS Five. Merry Christmas.

Christopher Villareal
This year I have been super good. For Christmas I would like a Craffy Plushy and a dragon set. Thanks you for evey theng.

De'Shawn McGrew
This year I have been so good. For Christmas I want a Ps5 and an iPhone 15. Thank you

RAFAEL Sanchez
This year I have been so good. For Christmas I would like an iPhone 15 A puppy and more time for hugs with my family.

Monsevvat Rodriguez
This year I have been so good. For Christmas I would like a cat, a toy kitchen, and a swooishpuish mello

Faith Jimenez
This year I have gotten good grades. For Christmas I would like a LittLL kitin,

and a skatebord.
Adrian Elihu
This year I got good grades. For Christmas I would like a baby duck, a new book and a pupput.

AvA Marie Fernandez
This year I have been so good. My grades has been going up, so I would like a volleyball, For christmas.

MYa Davis
This year I have bee good. For Christmas I would like a phone and a puppy, for Christmas and spend time more with my family

Jaidd Jackson
This year I have been so good. For Christmas I would like a puppy, and a book and to be with my family every day

Anahi Martinez
I promise To Be Good all DeceBer I am so sorry How bad I was. For christmas I want a Ipad and a Toy car aNd an actioN FiGure. Max Gomez

Klarrisa Trevino's class
This year I have been getting good grades. For Christmas, I would like a hoverboard and a sliding mitt and a basketball goal. MerrY

christmas Santa!
Joseph Santiago
This year I have been behaving really good. For Christmas I would like a vr hed set to play rec rooms and Chistmas pjs. Love Gael

Gael Rivas
This year I have been good at scooL. For Christmas I would like a new puppy and a bike.

Alyssa Campos
Last year I had all A+s and I listened to my teacher! for christmas I would like a electric scooter and a vr. Merry christmas!

Grace Longoria
This year I have been getting my grads up. For Christmas, I would like a new vr, an emo robot, and a book. Merry Christmas!

Brandon Contreras
This year I have been behaving really good. For Christmas, I would like a new house and a new toy car. Merry Christmas!

Diego Meza
This year I have been behaving really good. For Christmas, I would like a new phone and a new cat and a new dog. Merry Christmas!

ViVienne Valladeres
this year I have been behaving really good. For Christmas, I would like new clothes. Merry Chritmas.

SKillar Abram
I have been so good this year. For Christas, I would like to have a rmot cnrol car. And a big bhon.

Joaquin Hernandez
I've been having good grades and for Christmas I waNt a Toy Kitchen. And, A new shirt. Merry christmas.

campBell Lightfoot
This year I have been good to my teachers. For Christmas, I would like for my parent to get married and matching clothes.

Ke'Myraith Short
This year I have acting really good for Christmas, this is two things I need Jordans and here is two things I want a puppy and a iPhone Please.

Julian Lopez
This year I have been behaving really good. For Christmas, I would like doll Bed with a kitchen and a living room. Merry Christmas!

Adalynn Harrison
This year I have been good, and I want a ps3 and I want and oculus for christmas.

Travorres Woodard
I have been really good. I help my mom around the house and sometimes I get stuff for it. But this is what I want for Christmas, I would like a camera and some maching PJS. Merry Christmas!

Serenity Williams
This year I have been behaving really good. for Christmas, I would like a VR set. thank you!

Adrian Staten
Jill Gifford's class
This year I have been getting a lot A+s. For Christmas I would like a kitty, a new toy, and more time to spend with my family

Ahlinah Hernandez
This year I got good Grades and good conduct but instad Of gifts I Want to be happy.

Chassity Harris
This year I have been very good. For Christmas

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Happy Holidays
Kenny Fernandez
Pasadena ISD Board Member

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Chamber celebrates Christmas



Some of the member attendees at the Dec. 15 South Belt Chamber of Commerce annual Christmas party were (left to right) Rebecca Lilley, Denise and Barry Burleigh, D. C., Alyta Harrell and Lisa Holbrook, chamber director. Photo by Marie Flickinger

BAHEP holds Christmas party



Kenny and Kristi Koncaba (left to right) are shown here with Mark Mitchell, program manager of Space Alliance Technology Outreach Program, at Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership's annual Christmas party held Friday, Dec. 15. The entertainment featured the singing of Christmas songs and visiting among friends. Photo by Marie Flickinger

CDA holds baby shower, gifts abound



The Catholic Daughters of the Americas (CDA) Court Mother of Unity #2292, held its annual Baby Shower for Jesus. Shown, left to right, are Regent Veronica Garza with Luisa Rowsey and Gracie Alvarez, both from the Gabriel Project, alongside generous donations from CDA Court #2292. As a result of the donations, the local Gabriel Project, led by St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church parishioner Alvarez, was able to replenish its shelves with all the essentials any newborn and mother would need. The Gabriel Project is a pro-life parish-based apostolate of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston.

Frazier faculty donate presents



Frazier Elementary has been a part of the Leader's program since the beginning of the program in 1982. Above is Justin Foulk (left) and Araceli Rodriguez, of Frazier Elementary delivering toys and food. Photo by Natalie Abarca.

Moore second-graders pen letters to Santa Claus

Second-grade students from Moore Elementary wrote the following letters to Santa Claus.

Shelly Blair's class

I have been good. Please bring me RC cars, clothes, a stuffed Bucee's Beaver, and a leash for my dog so I can take him on walks. I also would like a Christmas inflatable for my front yard. Santa, why does Rudolph's nose light up?

David Garcia

I have been good. Please bring me a iPhone 15 Pro Max and a smart watch. **Alberto Flores**

I want a Hatchables and a Nintendo Switch and playdoh clay and slime but not sticky. I have been good. **Lina**

This year for Christmas I would like a mangle plushie and a snowcone machine, a telly bear and a real kitten! and a tv please. I have been Good all year I promise. **Ella Lara**

This year for Christmas I would like Butter slime and fluffy slime and glue and glitter and glow in the dark slime and fruit charms and sticky slime and necklace and bracelet and sticky notes and \$107000 robux and rings and earrings and thank you so much. **Priscilla Portillo**

This year for Christmas I would like a LOL Doll, roller skates, robux, slime, Hello Kitty and Friends, squishmelo, v.r., because I been nice to my family and teacher I promise. **Jessica Tran**

I have been good this year. I want a smart watch, a big sister LOL, a little sister LOL, a butter slime, and a crunchy slime. Why I should get it I helped my mom clean all year. and how is Alfie doing? **How are you?** I have been good. Please bring me M+M's, good slime, smart watch, clay, stich toy, headphones. How are your reindeer's? **Devin Brown**

This year for Christmas I

would like Heely's Skate Shoes, and smart watch, science activities, fake Phone flip phone, \$1,000 gift card to McDonald's, Santa's stuck book, please and thank you. **Lorelai Mayorga**

Can you bring me a robot and a iPhone 15 Pro and a Max xbox 6. **David Priestley**

I want for Christmas is xylophone, violin, trumpet, piano, tamagotchi, poopoo lots, Black scooter, \$10 bunny pillow, bunny, bed sheets, bunny blanket, 10 different bunny books, Glow-in-the-dark slime, and what ever you want. **Canon Masope**

I want a baby doll, a scooter, a bike, a kinetic sand, a pool a trampoline, a car I can ride in, glow in the dark slime, a toy dog, a Barbie house, a play food a doodhouse because I help my grandma all the time. **Leilani Garcia**

I want a pokemon card and a Lego set. I want V Bucks and I want a pet cat. I want a pet dog and a iPhone 15. I want markers and I want kinetics and I want toy food and I want a manix and I want a car toy and I want pleck choow and I want a car lambow and I want a Batman and I want a race car and I want Goku toy. **Abel Martinez**

I have been good please bring me new TMNT toys, and a new TMNT drawing set, and 2 calendar for my 8th birthday, and new super Mario toys, and Star wars toys. I have been nice to my friends, and I have been helpful to my teacher. **Tino Garcia**

Mia Reyna's class

This year for Christmas, I would like an Oculus, a potion toy, robuxs, LED lights, and a new phone. I have been a good boy this year. How are the elves doing? **Jonathan Gutierrez**

This year for Christmas, I would like a cooker play house, LOL, Barbie, fairy, robote, control car I have been a good girl this

year. How are the reindeer?

Ava Whitaker

This year for Christmas I would like a peso pluma outfit peso pluma bed sheet, peso pluma Backpack, a bunny, elf on the shelf, I have been a good girl this year. Are you safe flying the sleigh?

Jenuya Perez

This year for Christmas I want a brat doll, and blue led lights, and a pink unicorn, and marks, I been a good girl this year. My question is can I get a Lot of magic so I can fly. **Emma Rodriguez**

This year for Christmas I would like a new Phone cokane 1,000 Robeux, Game card pokemon airpods I have been a good boy this year and I can go with you to the north pole. **Lance Gilbert**

This year for christmas I would like a new book, toy car, playground, Nike shoes, and toy huse. I have been a good boy this year. Hew are the reindeer's? **Michael Castillo**

This year for christmas, I would like a Iphone 14, a swich, a APhmaudall, a Ipad, a set of airpods. I have been a good girl this year. How are you flying in your sleigh? **Katalina Contreras**

This year for Christmas I would like a new Phone, Buni and a pet butrfill, and a shoes and a elf I have been good boy this year can I go with you to the north pole? **Max Valles**

This year for Christmas, I would like a sinamireool, Robux a new dress, sinamireool key change, Teddybear, I have been a good girl this year. Are you safe flying on your sleigh? **Sophia Nguyen**

This year for christmas, I would like a pc, a iPhone 15, airpods, a PSS, a oculus. I have been a good boy this year. Do you know the Grinch? **Memphis Alvar**

This year for Christmas I would like a new toy Elf, sleeping mask, pink slim, a Taylor Swift

doll and a new cat toy I have been a good girl this year. Can I go with you to the North Pole?

Lexa Martinez

This year for Christmas I would like 20 toy elves, a new tablet, a new bed, ten thousand of Rubux, a new necklace. I have been a good girl this year. can i go with you to the north pole?

Adrianna Portilla

This year for christmas, I would like a new iPhone 13 a TV for my room a purple Nintendo switch a brats doll and heelys I have been a Good girl this year. can I go to The North Pole with you?

Zoey Deleon

This year for Christmas I would like a hoverboard and fornite gift card and toy cars and air forces and New soccer ball. I have been a good boy this year. How are the elves doing?

ISAAC Valdez

this year for Christmas I would like a signed foot ball helmet, signed base ball helmet, show 23, white Nike Air forces baseball glasses. I tried to be a good boy This yere. Merry Christmas Do you know the grinch?

Jacob Oviedo

Sara Saxon's class

This year for Christmas I want a stich puzzel, slime, pants and clothes and a alarm. I have been a good girl this year. I help my mom cooking food. Question, who is your favret reindeer? Merry Christmas! **Marianna Anderson**

This year for Christmas I want a net 20 and a jam miero toy and a little rendr stuff. Santa, what dus the workspool look like. **Josiah Ayala**

This year for Christmas I want Squishmallow, tablet, dolly camera, pants and a shirt. I've been good this year. I washed the dishes. What do you do at the North Pole? **Lilly Cardenas**

This year I want shirts, pants and five nights at Freddy's. I want

rainbow friends and garter of ban ban! have been good this year. I clean my room. How may elfs do you have? Merry Christmas!

Adriel Castaneda

This year for Christmas I want soccer cleats, gooly gloves and 4 Lego sets cups and money. I have been a good boy I have no gooly gloves and my cleats are too small. What do reindeer like to eat? Merry Christmas! **Diego Chacón**

For Christmas I want you to bring me a squishmallow, clothes, video games and a bike. I have been good this year. I help my mom cook. Do you have friends? Merry Christmas!

Paiden Coleman

This year for Christmas I want slime, squishmallows, my life bedroom, clothes, fairy lights, My Life toys, drawing, and stich puzzel. I have been a good girl this year. I help my mom and dad with the dishes. I have a question for you. Who is your favorite reindeer? Merry Christmas!

Zoey Gonzalez

This year for Christmas I want a slime bucket, don to bucks. I have been good this year. I have been folding clothes. Who is your favorite reindeer? Merry Christmas!

Gabriela Guerra

This year for Christmas I want slime. A squishmallow and a bouncyball. Because I've been good. I do my homework. I help my mom with the clothes. I listen at school. And I have a qestion. How many elves do you have. Merry Christmas. **Archer Marron**

This year for Christmas I want a PSP, slime, a football, and ELF, and a tedeebar becues I have been a good boy. I wonder what do your ELFS do? Merry crismas!

Jacob Martinez

This year for Christmas I want a Roblox gift card, clothes, notebook, and a board game. I have been a good boy this year. I listen and follow directions at school. What is your favorite food? Merry Christmas!

Noah Nguyen

this year for Christmas I want a tablit, doll hovs, ntendow swich, phon, I have been a good girl this year. I help my mom clean clos. How mene randers are? Merry Christmas! **Brooke Noise**

This year for Christmas I want a squishmallow a Big mroco kart and a tine gamping mushen. I been good boy. I help my mom with the bed. I have a question who is your favorite reindeer? Merry christmas.

Aaron Ralpaol

This year for Christmas I want the two squishmallows that are Bria and Jolle, a phone, clothing from shein, and some new white nikes. I have been good this year. I help wash dishes and help my aunt baby sit my cousin. Who is the youngest reindeer? I wish you a Merry Christmas!

Aliyah Taylor

This year for Christmas I want my own elf like I have in my classroom. I want a chessboard, and I want a cat. I have been a good boy this year. I helped my mom and dad with my little brother in many ways. Did Mrs. Clause have any kids? And do you have any siblings? So Merry Christmas!

James Villanueva

This year I want a ENF BF stuffed toy a FNF poster the new FNF game a tablet and a VR. I have been good at school I take care of my puppy. qestion why do elf's move each day? Merry christmas **Nikolas Villanueva**

Ana Herrera's class

Good morning. I want a toy store, a toy kitchen and a doctor toy. I deserve it because I do because K, I help my mom and am good with my brother

Briana Acosta

I deserve a PSS, Nintendo and a lego titanic. I help wash the dishes. I also get good grades and am a good classmate.

Emmanuel Barcenas

I want crayons, shirts and shoes because I help my mom and dad. I clean my room and I am good.

Kayla Benite

Good day! Its almost Christmas. I would like Roblox. I also want a FNAF, and a computer. I want this because I do what my mom says. I do my homework alone. And i am good.

Joel Beteta

Hello, how are you? I am good For christmas I want a pc gaming I also want a Fnaf plush and super mario wonder game. I always pick up my room. Help my mom and do my homework.

Alexis Cantu guzman

I want you to give me a Stich. Also a bunny speaker Last a notebook to draw and color. I help my mom take care of my brother when she is busy. I am good in school and wash dishes at home.

Dania Carreño

Hi Santa I want pokemon cards, lego ninja turtles and **Continued on Page 6**

Remember When

45 years ago (1978)

Hughes Airwest became Houston's newest scheduled airline, when it inaugurated twice-daily nonstops between William P. Hobby Airport and Tucson.

40 years ago (1983)

Approximately \$100 in cash and a chainsaw were stolen from the Rent-Way at the Eagle Shopping Center.

35 years ago (1988)

The South Belt Civic Coalition passed a resolution endorsing South Belt representation on the Pasadena Independent School District Board of Education.

30 years ago (1993)

The owners of a vandalized car and house in the 9800 block of Sageplum sought the two teenage girls responsible for the acts of vandalism.

25 years ago (1998)

Dobie students raised \$4,100 to aid the granddaughter of English teacher Rosemary Rayburn in her homecoming from the hospital.

20 years ago (2003)

The home of Laura Lemasters and her daughter Kristin Bennett was destroyed when a candle caught a blanket on fire on the deck in the backyard.

15 years ago (2008)

Webster police arrested a 15-year-old juvenile accused of shooting and killing South Belt resident Thanh Pham, 35, in an apparent robbery attempt at a liquor store in the 900 block of East NASA Parkway. The suspect was already in juvenile custody on an unrelated assault charge.

10 years ago (2013)

Moore Elementary named Demetria "Dee Dee" Pitts its new assistant principal. She replaced longtime assistant principal Cliff Swearingen, who died earlier in the school year.

5 years ago (2018)

Former Dobie student Reed O'Connor, now working as a federal judge, made national headlines for his ruling that determined the Affordable Care Act was unconstitutional. A 1983 graduate from the area high school, O'Connor was appointed by President George W. Bush in 2007 to serve on the Federal District Court for the Northern District of Texas. In his ruling, O'Connor sided with the argument advanced by Republican-led states, including Texas, that the legislation, also known as Obamacare, could no longer stand now that there's no penalty for those who do not participate in the program. The U.S. Supreme Court had upheld the law in 2012 by classifying the law as a tax. Since Congress removed the individual mandate in 2017,

at home before she could be released from the hospital.

Cynthia Cortez, a mail carrier for the U.S. Postal Service, was attacked and severely bitten by a dog while she was delivering mail in the Beverly Hills subdivision. The attack left Cortez with 10 stitches on her right chest, a sprained elbow, scrapes and bruises and back and neck injuries.

Gov. Rick Perry appointed Lori Massey, daughter of Cathy and Raymond Massey

of Sagemeadow and 1986 Dobie High School graduate, to the 288th District Court Bench in San Antonio.

While ongoing construction work to replace water lines in the city of Houston limits was aimed at improving area conditions, it caused headaches for many residents who complained about problems ranging from dirty streets to property damage. Multiple Sagemont residents complained to the Leader about construction crews taking months to complete work and leaving the subdivision in a state of disarray.

The Dallas Morning News nominated former Dobie High

School student Chris Connealy for its Texan of the Year, an honor reserved for those who have "had uncommon impact - either positive or negative - over the past year." He was nominated for his work as Texas fire marshal.

The Clear Brook City Municipal Utility District had contacted the Leader to warn readers of a potential scam that involved changing power providers of area residents without their knowledge. Residents who had encountered such a scam were urged to contact authorities.

Sherri Golightly was named the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department's Medic of the Year at the group's 36th anniversary awards banquet.

SCHOOL DAZE

The following staff and personnel of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays Dec. 21 through Dec. 27.

Genoa Elementary

South Belt Elementary

Victoria Stelmach

Roberts Middle School

Beverly Hills Intermediate

Dobie High

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SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

Maria Herrera named Player of the Year, again



Clear Brook High School graduate and Franciscan University senior took center stage as The Presidents' Athletic Conference released its women's tennis All-Conference teams last month. Six players from Franciscan were recognized by the conference. Herrera headlined the list by being named PAC Player of the Year for the third year in a row. Herrera held a perfect 8-0 record at No. 1 singles and No. 1 doubles this season, as she was undefeated in PAC play over the last three seasons. Overall this

fall, she held a 15-3 singles record and 15-1 doubles record. During this season, she became the all-time leader in singles wins at Franciscan and combined (singles and doubles) wins in program history. Herrera was named first team All-PAC in singles and doubles this season. This is the fourth season in a row that she earned this recognition, as she now becomes the second player in program history to be named All-Conference eight times in her career. Herrera is a marketing major.

Wright picks GCU



San Jacinto College softball star Arianna Wright has announced that she will play at Grand Canyon University beginning next fall as the talented sophomore prepares to lead the Ravens into action next month. A College Park High School graduate, Wright as a college freshman put together one of the best offensive seasons in SJC program history as she was named a National Junior College Athletic Association second team All-American. While getting the Ravens to within one win of a third straight national tournament appearance, Wright hit .522 with team highs of 19 doubles, 17 home runs, 71 runs batted in, 57 runs scored, 82 hits, 13 steals and a .968 slugging percentage.



SJC's Arrington resigns; Wood named interim HC

Longtime San Jacinto College head baseball coach Tom Arrington has resigned his dual roles effective immediately as he continues to recover from a back injury, leaving the storied program without its Hall of Fame leader with the 2024 regular season weeks away from opening.

Arrington has stepped away fully, as he also vacates his role as North campus athletic director. In a corresponding release announcing the transition, San Jacinto College administration said, "As previously announced, San Jacinto College North campus Athletic Director and head baseball coach Tom Arrington has resigned. Coach Arrington led a successful baseball program for San Jacinto College as a member of the National Junior College Athletic Association Baseball Hall of Fame, and we wish him the best in his future endeavors."

"David Wood will serve as the interim head coach for the San Jacinto College Baseball program through the 2023-2024 baseball season. "Prior to working at San Jac, coach Wood was head coach at the University of St. Thomas for the 2022 and 2023 seasons, where he led the team to its first Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference baseball tournament

appearance. From 2011 to 2021, Coach Wood was on the coaching staff at St. Edward's University. Wood played for the Kansas City Royals organization from 2007 to 2009.

"The College will begin a national search in Spring 2024 for its next permanent head baseball coach."

A winner of more than 1,000 career games as San Jacinto College's head baseball coach, Arrington was inducted into the National Junior College Athletic Association's Hall of Fame in 2018. His teams six times reached the JUCO World Series championship round, while Arrington exits without a crown, his 40 overall head coaching wins at Grand Junction is tops nationally.

With Arrington in the lead role, San Jacinto College reached the JUCO World Series 15 times, with 20 former players reaching the MLB ranks and countless others currently playing within minor league affiliates.

Hunter Hollan, a left-handed starter with San Jacinto during the 2021 and 2022 seasons, was drafted by the Cincinnati Reds in the third round of the 2023 MLB draft. San Jacinto College, will open the 2024 season Jan. 20 against the Future Stars Main Event Stars at Globe Life Field in Arlington.

Boys' basketball teams at JFD, Brook face district

If playing one's best most is the ultimate goal, and it is for sure, then the Dobie Longhorns' varsity boys' basketball team had to feel good about itself entering District 22-6A play Dec. 19 against the Memorial Mavericks after press time.

With a 77-57 win over

Clear Lake and a 68-47 win over Klein Forest sandwiched around a 42-29 decision over Clear Falls, the Longhorns have indeed played some of their best basketball of the season of late, getting to 10-7 overall through the majority of nondistrict action.

Last season, Dobie

needed a 48-47 win over Pasadena to claim the fourth-place playoff seed while Deer Park, Memorial and South Houston forged a three-way tie at the top of the standings at 9-3.

Yet as much as things often stay the same in high school athletics, things could very well change.

A peer across the 22-6A landscape prior to the 22-6A opener Dec. 19 found Pasadena at a league-best 13-4, with South Houston at 13-5 and Deer Park at 13-6. Memorial was just a pace back at 11-5.

While Channelview and Rayburn could certainly play the spoiler's role on a given night, this race, like last year's, certainly appears to feature five programs battling for four spots.

The Longhorns/Mavericks matchup is the lone round of the 22-6A race to come in 2023, with the Longhorns to host the South Belt Holiday Classic Dec. 28-29.

In that one, the locals will face MacArthur and Katy Taylor in pool play. Over in District 24-6A, the Clear Brook varsity boys hope to make headway in a district race that could be open for the taking.

Clear Creek (13-7), Clear Lake (11-7) and Clear Springs (10-6) played the best basketball by record as the nondistrict portion of the schedule has played out to now.

At 8-12 overall, Clear Brook is certainly another program aiming to play its best basketball when it matters most. The Wolverines are young in some spots, but come with no excuses.

"We are working on playing at a high level consistently. At times we show great signs of being a really good team," Clear

Brook head coach Nathan Janak said.

"We are working hard to eliminate mistakes. We have a large number of first year varsity players who are getting better each game.

"24-6A is just that – a nightly battle. We will continue to develop our toughness so we can play through adversity during district play."

Dobie varsity boys – Winners of three straight games to improve to 10-7 overall, the Longhorns entered District 22-6A play Dec. 19 after press time against the Memorial Mavericks at home, then will resume league play in January.

Clear Brook varsity boys – At 8-12 overall, the Wolverines went into District 24-6A play Dec. 19 after press time against the Clear Lake Falcons (11-7) at home, then will resume league play in January.

Dobie varsity girls – The locals overcame a loss to defending 22-6A champion Deer Park to cruise past Pasadena. The Longhorns resumed District 22-6A play Dec. 19 after press time against the Memorial Mavericks on the road, then will resume league play in January.

Clear Brook varsity girls – The two-time league champions have defeated Clear Falls and Brazoswood to start league play and have won 26 consecutive league games.

Dobie's Moreno Jr. meets Gigi



Longtime Dobie tennis coach Manuel Moreno Jr. (right) had a chance to meet professional tennis legend Gigi Fernandez earlier this month. Fernandez was recognized primarily as a doubles specialist during her professional career. She won a career doubles Grand Slam with 17 Grand Slam women's doubles titles – six French Open, five US Open, four Wimbledon and two Australian Open, winning at least one Grand Slam title every year from 1988 to 1997, except 1989, and for three straight years winning three of the four Grand Slam doubles titles in the same year (1992-1994). She won 14 of her 17 Grand Slam titles partnering with Natasha Zvereva.

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Peace on Earth

Wishing our South Belt Neighbors a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

"THE SOLD TEAM"

Sandra Yandell & Laura Yandell

281-464-SOLD

Las Haciendas

MEXICAN BAR & GRILL

We would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Joyful New Year. Thanks to the South Belt community for their continued support.

Las Haciendas & the Escobar Family

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Stafford (12821 Southwest Frwy.) 281-240-3060
League City (2951 Marina Bay Dr.) 281-240-3060
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The Works Includes

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- Wash
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*MONTHLY UNLIMITED WASH PLANS (PER VEHICLE)

Full Service Oil Change \$49.99

plus FREE Car Wash

- Includes our 16 point inspection - Oil Change (Up to 5 Quarts Conventional Oil)
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- Check Air Filter & Cabin Filter
- Check Belts
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- Check Wiper Blades
- Check & Fill Power Steering Fluid.
- Check Battery Element

Up to 5 Qts Conventional Motor Oil - 16 Point Check • With coupon. Not valid with any other offer or discount. Expires 1/15/24.

J. Frank Dobie High School announces second 6-weeks honor roll

Dobie High School officials recently recognized their honor roll students for the second six-weeks of the 2023-2024 school year.

Ninth grade
Aiden Aguilar, Steven Aguilar, Arlette Aguirre, Marianne Aiello, Deacon Akinloye, Jordan Alanis, Vianka Alanis, Rimas Alazh, Carlos Albarcan, Ernesto Alcantar and Illan Aldana.

Mauricio Garcia, Samuel Garcia, Ayden Garza, Diego Garza, Gerardo Garza, Karel Garza, Valeria Garza, Kaylah Gibson, Romeo Gill, Loraine Gomez Mercedes and Orlando Gomez.

Aracely Gonzalez, Ezequiel Gonzalez, Marcos Gonzalez, Marissa Gonzalez-Velez, Taylor Gray, Caela Griffin, Wendy Guerrero Celay, Lawrence Guerrero, Jaylyn Guevara and Saaimah Gul.

Araceli Gutierrez, Hung Hang, Vivian Hang, Emery Hardy, Muzna Hasan, Abigail Hernandez, Edward Hernandez, Julian Hernandez, Julius Hernandez and Kingston Hernandez.

Oscar Hernandez, Aubrie Herrera-Renteria, Cleveland Hill, Prince Hill, Kevin Hong, Chelsea Hua, Jaxon Humphrey, Issac Ibarra, Daisha Jackson, Emma Jacob and Ximena Jasso Moreno.

Monica Jasso, Joseph Jimenez, Julian Jimenez, Ashia Jones, Ariana Kainer, Jack Kearbey, Jordan King, Marina Kostikoglou, Duy Lam, Zylha Lam, Amaya Langellier and Anthony Le.

Hau Le, Huy Le, Huy Le, Kim Le, Sheyla Le, Genesis Leal, Hayden Limas, Lauren Liscano, Jennifer Lopez Carasco, Audrey Salazar, Esther Lopez, Allyson Marquez, Laila Martin and Adrienne Martinez.

Ashley Martinez, Miah Martinez, Serina Martinez, Molly Mata, Jonathan Maximos, Pretty McCoy, Kacey McDonald, Adlin Mena, Grace Menahem, Emma Mendiola, Mohammad Mian, Karen Mier and Mckenzie Milburn.

Damon Miles, Dylan Mohwinkel, Jenna Molina, Morgan Momie, Evan Mora, Ashley Moreno, Samuel Moreno, Aidden Moses, De Moses, Alena Moya, Charleston Nash and Zainab Naveed.

Joshua Negron, Clara Ngo, Alissa Nguyen, Anh Nguyen, Cody Nguyen, Dennis Nguyen, Duy Nguyen, Haiy Nguyen, Hieu Nguyen, Jocelyn Nguyen, Justin Nguyen and

Kevin Nguyen, Khanh Nguyen, Linh Nguyen, Mark Nguyen, Minh Nguyen, Nicholas Nguyen, Quan Nguyen, Quynh Nguyen, Vincent Nguyen, Ijeoma Nmezi, Louisa Obah and Lilly Oliva.

Estefani Orellana Ramirez, Jezebel Orellana, Jose Orta Guzman, Nathaniel Padilla, Mikeal Pantaleon, Garren Parker, Celeste Perez, Nevaeh Perez, Michael Pettis, Jonny Pham, Queana Pham and Truc Pham.

Vincent Pham, Minh Pham, Savannah Pichardo, Samantha Portillo, Andrew Posey, Jathan Price, Isaac Quiroga, Yamileth Rramales, Amelie Ramirez, Fabian Ramirez, Mia Ramirez and Kendrick Ramos.

Jazlynn Randall, Brandon Ray, Justin Ray, Melanie Redondo Rodriguez, Ana Reyes, Diego Reyes, Pablo Reyes, Aldo Reyna, Madelyn Richardson, Adelynn Rincon and Marco Rincon.

Evolet Rivera Chairez, Gloria Robin, Kaylee Robles, Magaly Rodriguez De Lucio, Aubree Rodriguez, Kayli Rodriguez, Maylene Rodriguez, Nelson Rodriguez, Tatiana Rodriguez and Xavier Rubalcava.

Christopher Rubio, Isaias Ruiz, Jasmine Russell, Arlette Salazar, Audrey Salazar, Isaac Salinas, Erik Sanchez Ortiz, Aliyah Sanchez, Carlos Sanchez, Eduardo Sanchez and Emily Sanchez.

Eniko Sanchez, Jonathon Sanchez, Mariah Santana, Ava Saucedo, Johnathan Saucedo, Sophia Saucedo, Zaire Scott, Barbara Senegal, Noah Serna and David Shaffner.

Jamaya Simmons, Deshaun Singleton, Savannah Smith, Trijah Smith, Persephone Soria, Alejandro Sosa, Alina Sosa, Samyria Spriggs, Briana Sullivan, Jennifer Tan and Han Tat.

Eva Taylor, Aiden Tellez, Sara Teng, Aiden Teran, Germaine Thibodeaux, Daria Thomas, Taylor Thomas, Dezae Thompson, Marlee Tillman and Ja-nasia Tompkins.

Delonnie Torres, Jaylyn Torres, Ximena Torres-Zuniga,

Mikalah Tramble, Anne Tran, Daniel Tran, Katie Tran, Kaylie Tran, Phuc Tran, Sandra Trevino, Alex Truong and Mai Truong.

Nina Truong, Tuyet Truong, Yen Truong, Jeremiah Turner, Thomas Turruibiartes, Dennis Umanzor, Alan Vallejo, Aiden Vara, Emmanuel Vasquez, Faith Vazquez and Susan Velazquez.

Brooklyn Veltman, Malory Ventura, Liliana Vilches, Julian Villaseor, Adrian Villatoro, Madison Villatoro and Alex Vouffo.

Angelina Vu, Minh Vu, Christopher Wickliff, Courtney Williams, Eric Williams, Amaya Wilson, Jaya Yadav, Mohammad Zaid and Xamira Zambrano.

10th grade
Aubrey Adler, Leonela Aguila, Lorenzo Aguirre, Kayla Akinfenwa, Blessing Akinloye, Sureal Alcorta, Jalynn Alix, Emanuel Alvarez, Jaiden Alvarez, Angel Amador and Montserrat Amaya Fernandez.

Paloma Arguello-Contreras, Karla Argueta De Leon, Hussai Arias, Jasmine Arreola, Kendall Ashworth, Isabella Avila, Ivan Ayala, Brylon Badger and Mikalya Bain.

Kaitlyn Baines, Blue Banda, Piper Battarbee, Nathaniel Belleville, Suheyel Belman, Tanner Bo, Katia Boardman, Brinee Bolton, Diana Bonilla, Jordyn Brown, Megan Bui and Isabella Byron.

Victoria Caballero, Julian Calderon Vargas, Oscar Calix, Allen Campos, Anthony Cancel, Ashley Cantarero, Amber Cao, Thien Cao, Sophia Carbajal, Sofia Careaga, Steffani Carrington-Casimir and Kimberly Castillo.

Joel Chapa, Alonzo Chapman, Daniel Chavez, Jasylyn Chavez, Zenaida Cisneros, Rodriana Cole, David Contreras, Adrian Corral, Cecilia Cruz, Hailey Cubos, Aidan Dang and Bao Dang.

Christina Dang, Kevin Dang, Quyen Dang, Arianna Davidson, Jordan De Robles, Dinah Dean, Ivette Del Toro, Daphney Deleon, Josselyn

Delgado and Julie Delgado. Aiden Diaz, Andre Diaz, An Do, Hayden Do, Kelley Do, Kevin Do, Jeulis Domingo, Anthony Dominguez, David Ekong, Diego Esparza, Chloe Estes and Cooper Estes.

Kamilah Estrada, Cheyenne Evans, Daisi Evans, Norman Fabian Alba, Diana Figueroa-Maldonado, Christopher Flint, Gavin Flores, Valentin Flores and Savannah Flores-Lewis.

Linnea Fonseca, Essence Gabriel, Lexi Galindo, Dianna Galvan, Reynold Galvan, Angel Garcia, David Garcia, David Garcia, Edward Garcia, Johnny Garcia and Layla Garcia.

Alyria Garcia-Garcia, Emily Golenko, Adam Gonzales, Nathaniel Gonzales, Frank Gonzales-Adame, Miranda Gonzalez-Pavel, Pavel Gonzalez, Ryleigh Gonzalez and Massiah Gordon.

Daniela Guerrero, Abel Gutierrez, Abigail Gutierrez, Jade Hall, Dima Harmouch, Ky'aziah Haymon, Lance Heath, Jonathan Henton, Alejandro Hernandez and Ashley Hernandez.

Luis Hernandez, Olivia Hernandez, Christopher Hernandez-Chavarria, Morgan Hill, Nhat Ho, Trinity Hoang, Alexander Hofstetter, Trinh Huynh and Azya Jackson.

Alejandro Jimenez Hernandez, Davion Johnson, Jordan Johnson, Maya Johnson, Siah Johnson, Marcus Jones, Isabella Labra, Cadyn Lagrone and Keyla Lara Villanueva.

Alex Le, Danton Le, Minh Le, Nathan-Cuong Le, San Le, Jandel Leon Ortiz, Santiago Lopez, Franca Luengo Montano, Peyton Lynn, Ava Macias and Kristin Madise.

Abraham Martinez, Jaczyn Martinez, Xavier Martinez, Mark Mata, Ty Mata, Hadriana Marin, Katherine Matute, Dulce Mejia Hernandez and Isaac Mendez.

Lennyn Mendoza, Mehreen Mir, Jessica Moise, Cristian Monge, Simon Montemayor, Nathan Montez, Briana Mora, Hector Morales and Nevaeh Mosley.

Anthony Moussambani Mandje, Jacoby Muniz, Marley Munoz, Addison Murdock, Jawad Naser, Heidi Nganou and Tommy Ngo.

Andrew Nguyen, Chloe Nguyen, Cj Nguyen, Dan Nguyen, Diana Nguyen, Gia Nguyen, Hannah Nguyen, Hoang Nguyen, Linh Nguyen and Mary Nguyen.

Matthew Nguyen, Minh Nguyen, Ngan Nguyen, Nhan Nguyen, Nina Nguyen, Tiffany Nguyen, Thu Ninh, Kamilah Oliva and Awele Ozieh.

Amairani Pena, Isabella Pena, Angelica Perez, Jesus Perez, Stephany Perez, Hannah Pham, Thi Pham, Marianne Pineda Ordenez and Cynthia Pineda.

Emyly Pineda, Wilson Ponce, Alevia Powell, Daniel Puente, Brianna Puga, Soha Magana, Gil Manzano, Wilbert Martinez Gamez and Alexandria Martinez.

Jacqueline Martinez, Juelz Martinez, Leyla Martinez, Naomi Martinez, Priscilla Martinez, Rubi Martinez, Chloey Matthews, Zaniya McClain and Kiana McCombs.

Alexander Medina, Leilani Mejia Lozano, Jose Mejia, Kevin Mejia, Joy Menahem, Cristian Mendez, Priscilla Mendoza, Miguel Mercedes, Lucius Monarez, Isabella Monita and Diego Montelongo.

Aliyah Moore, Fernando Morales, Danilo Moran, Jesusha Moreno, Gisele Morgan, Shazia Mustapha, Janelle Navarrete, Abriana Neco, Aniyah Neely, Jack Ngo and Paul Ngo.

Peter Ngo, Riley Nguyen, To, Allen Nguyen, Anh Nguyen, Cindy Nguyen, Dylan Nguyen, Jacky Nguyen, Jenny Nguyen, Linda Nguyen, Nhi Nguyen, Nhi Nguyen, Nhu Nguyen and Quan Nguyen.

Thanh Nguyen, Thuy Nguyen, Trish Nguyen, Diego Nunez, Giovanni Nunez, Aleena Nunez-Lozano, Mollie O'Rourke, Alfredo Ochoa Galicia, Dominic Ortiz, Hope Ortiz and Henry Pacheco-Moreno.

Angel Padilla, Felicity Padilla, Jabez Palma, Angelina Paquinto, Adam Perez, Cassandra Perez, Eric Perez, Michael Perez, Julianne Pham, Michelle Pham and Khanh Phan.

Tony Phan, Jamare Philbert, Uriel Polito, Richard Postel, Tahllon Provost, Madison Puente, Samantha Pulido, Tracy Quach, Jaden Quiroz, Lilli Ramirez, Robert Ramirez and Martin Ramos.

Matthew Rangel, Abriana Reynolds, Angel Rhodes, Diederid Ridwan, David Rios, Diego Rios, Jayden Rios, Tania Rios, Grettel Rivas, Hilda

Oscar Barajas, Valerie Barrera, Guillermo Barron, Perla Bazzan, Christopher Bellamy, Skylar Bellot, Nevaeh Ben-Smith, Josselyn Benitez, Lorianna Betancourt Mejia and Jared Bonilla Bonilla.

Antonio Bonilla, David Bonilla, Diego Bonilla, Maurice Bryant, Kaylie Bui, Stephany Bui, Vince Bui, Briana Cabrales, Emoni Cade, Hector Callejas and Rosette Calvillo.

Kailele Canales, Emily Cano, Donny Cantu, Bernice Cardozo, Ariana Castaneda, Jada Castaneda, Thomas Castellan, Christian Castorena, Eugenia Caudillo-Fernandez and Paris Cervantes.

Victor Chapa, Maria Chavez Blanco, Danielle Chenier, Dekoven Cherry, Kobi Conaway, Davia Constantino, Avangelina Cosse, Adriel Cruz and Kimberly Cumpian.

Talini Curtis, Santiago Cuya, Daniel Davila, Ulani Davis, Galilea De La Garza, Miranda De La Rosa, Emely De Leon Benavides, Johan Delapaz, Anthony Dinh and Kristin Do.

Vyvy Do, Jocelyn Dominguez, Tyree Drumgo, Kirsten Duong, Sarah Espinal, Andre Espinosa, Bethany Espinoza, Alvaro Estrada, Bryce Evans, Viviana Fernandez, Jose Flores and Lindzey Flores.

Peyton Fontenot, Ruby Fonyuy, Gabriel Fulgado, Melody Galdamez, Jenny Gallardo, Michael Gama, Elina Gamez, Andrea Garcia, Angel Garcia and Elizabeth Garcia.

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Alfonso Gonzales-Adame, Christian Gonzalez, Dayanara Gonzalez, Jacqueline Gonzalez, Jayla Gonzalez, Lizette Gonzalez, Marcus Goree, Ke'myra Green and Emily Grimaldo.

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Peter Ngo, Riley Nguyen, To, Allen Nguyen, Anh Nguyen, Cindy Nguyen, Dylan Nguyen, Jacky Nguyen, Jenny Nguyen, Linda Nguyen, Nhi Nguyen, Nhi Nguyen, Nhu Nguyen and Quan Nguyen.

Thanh Nguyen, Thuy Nguyen, Trish Nguyen, Diego Nunez, Giovanni Nunez, Aleena Nunez-Lozano, Mollie O'Rourke, Alfredo Ochoa Galicia, Dominic Ortiz, Hope Ortiz and Henry Pacheco-Moreno.

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Moore 2nd graders write Santa letters

Continued from Page 4
10 dollars. I help my mom wash dishes, help my sister, and help with the bed.

Leia garcia
I would like Among Us, playdough and a toy car I have been good and been paying attention at school.

Iker Gomez
I want a lego Titanic foxi and cameras. I want to see you at night. I am a good friend and love my family.

Aldo Gonzalez
This christmas I want Roblox, art things and a sweater. I have helped my mom and clean my room and im nice.

Noelia Gutierrez
Hi Santa. I want 2 Legos. I also want a box w/ art things Last I want an Elf. I have been good and clean my room. Good year!

Alfredo Hernandez
Hi I would like an Elf I really like christmas. I also want a tablet, an inflatable and a doll. I have been good and play with my brother

Brittany Nuñez
For Christmas I want iphone 15 and Legos Also monstercam toys I Help

my mom clean and do my Homework.

Edwin Ortiz
Hello Santa. For Christmas I want a dog stuff animal, a computer and a teddy bear. They are my favorite. I have been good and help my parents. Have a good hristmas

Wendy Tamayo
This year I want some gifts because I have been good. I want a lego city police, super mario maker 2 and controllers. I do my homework and listen to my mom. With love

Jose Luis Tovar
Hi. I think I have been good this year. I want a flute, snuf cat, and stitch airpods. I clean my room and do my home homework. I love you santa. With love

Allison Villarreal
Hi Santa; how was your day i want to tell you things i want for Christmas. I want a computer. Also i want toy cars. For last i want a oculus. I want all of that because am nice with my friens. Also i clean in my house For last i follow the instructions

Edric Samayoa

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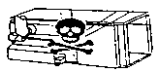
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CALENDAR

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

7 a.m. **AA** - "Breakfast With Bill." Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 713-686-6300 or visit https://aahouston.org/meetings/.

7:30 a.m. **Rotary Club of Pearland** - Meets at either Pearland Chamber of Commerce, 6117 Broadway St., Pearland, or on Zoom. See Chamber calendar or call 281-485-3634.

9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - Exhibits include dioramas, a turn-of-the-century doctor's office and an old-time kitchen, 204 S. Main, Pasadena. Call 713-472-0565 tours.

Noon **AA** - Imperfect Nooners Group, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or at https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners. Call 281-479-7285.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

7 p.m. **AA** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.

7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2930 E. FM 518, Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). Call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com or https://nastuff.com/.

9 a.m. **Congregation Shaar Hashalom** - All services are live and on Zoom. For details regarding services, Judaism classes, film series and lunch with the Rabbi, visit https://www.shaarhashalom.org.

8 p.m. **Serenity Now Al-Anon Group** - meets at CrossRoads UMC, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Family members and friends of problem drinkers/addicts share and discover choices available. Call 281-484-9243.

8 p.m. **AA** - meets at CrossRoads UMC, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Call 281-484-9243.

Noon **Food Drive** - New Covenant Christian Church hosts food drive, 10603 Blackhawk Blvd, Houston. Call 281-484-4230.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

8 a.m./ 10:15 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - worship and Bible study programs, 11456 Space Center Blvd. (in back of a medical/retail community). Call 281-479-7285.

2 p.m. **Grief Support Group** - For adults who have lost a loved one, Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena. Call 713-944-9186.

5:30 p.m. **Celebrate Recovery** - A faith-based 12-Step program, in the Life Kids Chapel at Life Church, 9900 Alameda Genoa. Call 713-419-2635.

6 p.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - Christmas Eve Service, of Lessons & Carols with Holy Communion. Call 281-479-7285.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

Noon **AA** - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday noon notice.

9 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - Lessons & Carols service with Holy Communion. Call 281-479-7285.

7 p.m. **AA** - St. Luke's Group, 12 Step Recovery, open meeting in the Education Bldg. in room 4, 11011 Hall Rd. Call 832-725-8479 or 281-309-2801.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26

7 a.m. **AA** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.

11:30 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - See Sunday's notice.

Noon **AA** - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday noon notice.

6:30 - 7:30 p.m. **Southeast Houston Toastmasters** - Club #05324194 meets in-person at 10500 Scarsdale Blvd (SB Chamber of Commerce). Visit sehoustontostmastersclubs.org or call 832-722-9061

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27

7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.

Noon **AA** - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday noon notice.

7 p.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - See Sunday's notice.

7 p.m. **NA** - See Friday's notice.

8 p.m. **AA** - See Friday's notice.

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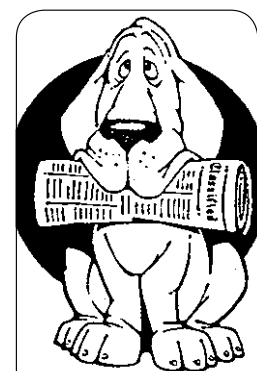
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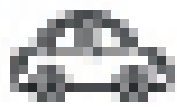


SMALL BUSINESS SAFETY TIPS



**Protect Your Business – Protect Your Customers
Protect Your Employees**

**Let's work with police and prosecutors to
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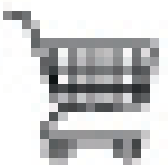
Parking Safety

- Illuminate all parking areas
- Utilize Security patrols
- Post signage about outside camera security



Cyber Security

- Safeguard customer data first
- Background checks on all employees with access
- Train employees on avoiding email scams



Retail Storefront

- Plan & Train employees on an emergency response
- Make exit signs visible & bright
- Employ extra security
- Post signage about indoor camera security



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KIM OGG

OFFICE OF DISTRICT ATTORNEY
HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS

