



South Belt-Ellington Leader

44 years of covering South Belt

Voice of Community-Minded People since 1976

Thursday, March 26, 2020

Email: mynews@southbeltleader.com

www.southbeltleader.com

Vol. 45, No. 9

Leader takes precautions

The *Leader* is now implementing a locked-door policy and is asking the public to refrain from personal office visits. Residents are asked rather to direct inquiries and suggestions to either 281-481-5656 or mynews@southbeltleader.com. After-hours phone calls may be directed to *Leader* publisher Marie Flickinger at 281-948-2714.

Dobie 50th postponed

The Dobie High School 50th reunion, has been postponed until the fall. See future editions of the *Leader* for updated information. Visit www.facebook.com/groups/503893767070695 for additional information.

Changes to Leader content

Due to a lack of sports- and school-related news in response to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, this week's *Leader* will be only eight pages in length, rather than its normal 12 pages. This year will also mark the first time in the *Leader's* 45-year history the paper will not have a graduation issue. While it remained unclear at press time if local school districts would still have graduation ceremonies, social distancing recommendations would prohibit much of the photography normally associated with the special edition.

Readers urged to send stories

The *Leader* staff is curious as to how South Belt families are spending their time now that local officials have suggested to social distance from others and refrain from public gatherings, forcing many to work and study from home. Readers are encouraged to email their adaptation stories and photos (list both first and last names, in order, left to right) to mynews@southbeltleader.com.

CBC new COVID-19 rules

Due to COVID-19 and out of concern for the health and wellbeing of staff and residents, the lobby of CBC MUD will be closed to any visitors until further notice. Customers are asked to use the drive-thru to make payments, apply for new service or make inquiries on an account. Preferred payment methods are debit/credit card, check or money order. However, cash will still be accepted.

Beltway closures planned

At least one northbound and one southbound frontage road lane on Beltway 8 from Vista to SH 225 will be closed daily from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. through Thursday, April 2.
At least one northbound and one southbound frontage road lane on Beltway 8 from Vista to SH 225 will be closed nightly from 8:30 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Thursday, April 2.
The closures are associated with the ongoing project to widen Beltway 8 from two to four lanes in each direction. At least one inside lane of the westbound Beltway 8 frontage road will be closed from Scott Street/Fellows Road to SH 288 nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Sunday, April 5.
At least one northbound and one southbound frontage road lane on Beltway 8 from Vista to SH 225 will be closed daily from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. through Thursday, April 2.
At least one northbound and one southbound frontage road lane on Beltway 8 from Vista to SH 225 will be closed nightly from 8:30 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Thursday, April 2.
There will be a total closure of the northbound Beltway 8 frontage road at SH 225 nightly from 8:30 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Wednesday, April 8.
The closures are associated with the ongoing project to widen Beltway 8 from two to four lanes in each direction.

Knights cancel fish fries

Knights of Columbus Council 9201 has once again canceled its fundraising fish fry dinners at St. Luke Catholic Church, 11011 Hall Road.

Gulf Freeway closures set

The southbound entrance ramp on the Gulf Freeway will be closed at NASA Bypass/NASA Road 1 until further notice. The southbound entrance ramp on the Gulf Freeway will be closed at FM 518 until further notice.
At least one northbound and one southbound frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway from FM 518 to FM 517 in League City will be closed daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Tuesday, March 31.
At least one northbound and one southbound frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway from FM 518 to FM 517 in League City will be closed nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Tuesday, March 31.
The closures are associated with an ongoing construction project to widen the freeway from three to five lanes in each direction and the frontage roads from two to three lanes in each direction.

Toastmasters meet online

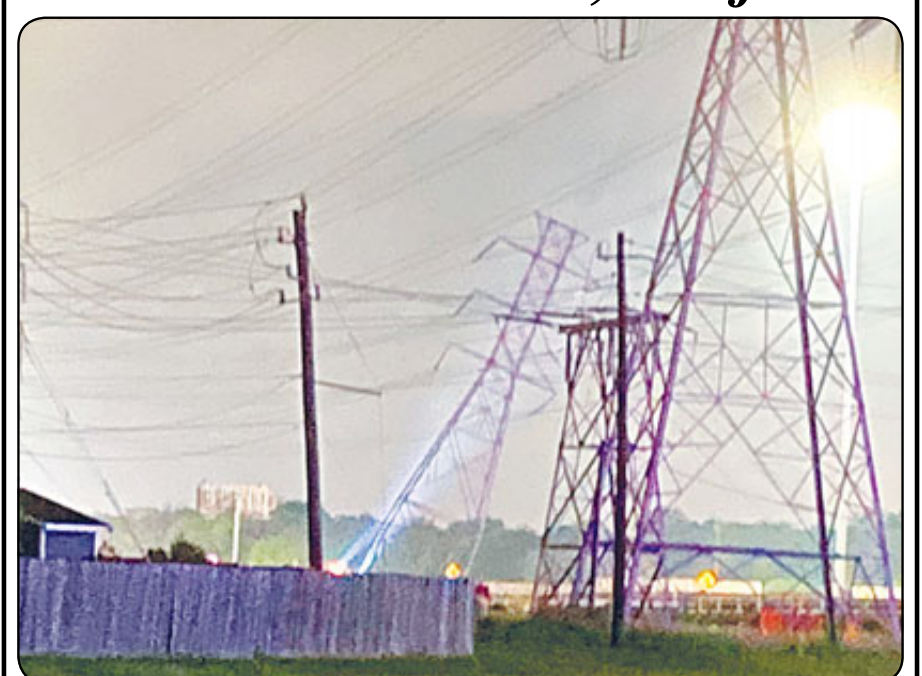
The Young Professionals SE Toastmasters Club has canceled in-person meetings. The group will conduct meetings virtually, Mondays, at 6:30 p.m. on the Zoom platform. The community is invited to join the meeting by typing <https://zoom.us/j/7535561426> (meeting ID is 753-556-1426). For information, visit www.youngprofessionalstoastmasters.com.

South Belt copes with COVID-19 fears

School may be out for remainder of year; graduation, prom postponed

The South Belt community continues to battle the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, as local schools remain out and several area businesses are forced to shutter their doors after Harris County and Houston officials issued a shelter-in-place order on Tuesday, March 24. Restaurants will remain open for takeout, delivery and drive-thru orders only. Daycares that provide support for essential employees will remain open.
On Tuesday, there were no known cases in the South Belt area, but 56 new cases in Harris County for a total of 134 in the county. Those numbers are expected to increase as the virus spreads and more tests become available.
The Houston Health Department on Friday, March 20, opened its first of four drive-thru testing centers. The site was first available to only first-responders with symptoms, before opening up to residents 65 or older with symptoms.
People 65 and older with cough, difficulty breathing and fever may call the Houston Health Department COVID-19 call center at 832-393-4220 between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. to be screened.
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Auto-tower accident; 2 injured



A suspected street race on Beltway 8 near Beamer led to a major accident Sunday evening, March 22, sending two to the hospital, one driver in critical condition. The second victim was a 9-year-old passenger. Charges are pending on one driver and possibly on the second, should he recover from his injuries. The above photo shows an ominous glow taken from a distance, as bystanders were not allowed near the accident, which took investigators several hours to clear. See related photo Page 8.
Photo by Marie Flickinger

City shares rodeo refund information

Newly elected Houston District D City Council Member Carolyn Evans-Shabazz released the following statement regarding Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo refunds:
The process
Everyone who purchased half-price Carnival Ticket Packs will have the option to roll their remaining tickets to be used at the 2021 Carnival or get a refund for unused ride and game tickets. Regardless if they choose rollover or refund, everyone must upload their ticket packs to the Rodeo Carnival app.
- All customers who have registered an account in the Rodeo Carnival app will receive a push notification (text message) informing the purchaser to open the Rodeo Carnival app and, if prompted to do so, install an update that will enable one to rollover or request a refund. The Rodeo Carnival app will walk one through the Rollover or Refund Process. This process has been made as simple as possible. Those who choose to rollover will immediately receive a card in their account that contains bonus tickets that represent 20 percent of the remaining half-price tickets.
- Once the Ticket Packs are uploaded to the app, it may take a few days before one receives the push notification to choose an option of Rollover or Refund. This is due to the approval process for changes made to the app through the app Stores. One will receive notification once it is approved.
- If someone purchased full-price carnival tickets and is requesting a refund, the purchaser must email info@rcsfun.com or call 602-935-4060. These are the tickets and packs bought on-site at the carnival.
Timeline
To ensure everyone's request is processed quickly, all Half-Price Carnival Packs need to be uploaded and the decision to roll-over or refund made by Friday, April 3, 2020.
Rollover half-price carnival packs
Ticket holders will receive a push notification via text message notifying them to open the Rodeo Carnival app and, if prompted, to get the latest update. The updated app will offer the ability to rollover half-price tickets to the next year. To thank those customers who roll over to 2021, they will receive 120 percent of their remaining tickets per pack. A card will automatically appear in their account. If someone had 100 tickets
Continued on Page 8

Seniors Helping Seniors needs names

Organizers of the annual Seniors Helping Seniors event are seeking the public's input in identifying local parties deserving of a free home overhaul.
Now in its 11th year, the charitable program pairs area high school seniors with local senior citizens in need of minor home repairs, primarily exterior painting.
The yearly endeavor is a joint project between Dobie High School and local sponsors, including Sagemont Church. Students provide the manpower, while sponsors provide the necessary materials.
Each year, approximately 100 student volunteers step up to the plate to help restore the
Continued on Page 2

Morris recognized as "Model"

Morris Middle School has been recognized as a Model Professional Learning Community at Work. The campus is among only 200 schools and school districts in the U.S. and Canada to receive this honor.
Morris is being recognized by Solution Tree, a leading provider of educational tools, for its successful implementation of their Professional Learning Communities at Work process and for increasing student achievement.
Schools and school districts with a successful PLC program implement a learning approach for students that is continuous and includes career-oriented learning, starting with administrators and teachers.
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Pandemic cuts national festival short for JFD band

The Dobie High School Band was forced to return from its trip to the Music for All National music festival in Indianapolis this year March 13 due to the coronavirus pandemic.
Dobie band students had been preparing since November for the prestigious festival. Thousands of bands audition to be a part of the festival and the Dobie Band was one of 16 groups chosen. At the festival, students have opportunities to meet other students who share their passion in music, learn from renowned conductors and musicians, and watch other great bands perform.
The students arrived at the festival March 11 and were supposed to stay until March 14. However, due to growing fears of COVID-19 the festival was cut short for the safety of the thousands of students in attendance. Several scheduled events, such as the special opening ceremony
Continued on Page 8

Free breakfast, lunch for children

City and school officials have instituted plans to ensure area youth eat nutritious food during this health crisis by providing free meals.
Pasadena ISD
The Pasadena Independent School District has updated and expanded its grab-and-go free breakfast and lunch program.
Parents may drive by the participating campuses to pick up a breakfast and lunch meal for each child who is present in the vehicle. No meals will be available for parents or students walking up to the campus. Meals will be delivered to each vehicle. Parents are advised not to park.
Each student will receive a breakfast and a lunch at the time of pickup. A parent only needs to go through the line once. Each student will get two meals.
New times and locations:
9 - 10:30 a.m.
- Beverly Hills Intermediate (11111 Beamer Road, Houston, TX 77089).
- Queens Intermediate (14521 Queens Road, Houston, TX 77017).
- South Houston Intermediate (900 College Ave., South Houston, TX 77587).
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H-E-B, Food Town set senior programs

On March 20, H-E-B launched a program that allows seniors to order essential supplies by phone. The measure, a partnership with Favor Delivery, allows residents age 60 and older to place orders from a list of products available from H-E-B.
"We heard from our customers loud and clear, and we're ready to offer one of the safest, healthiest solutions in the marketplace dedicated to seniors who are worried about going out in public," said Martin Otto, H-E-B chief operating officer. "Together with Favor, H-E-B is committed to helping Texans get the products they need while slowing the spread of coronavirus in our communities."
H-E-B and Favor will staff its Senior Support phone line with volunteers from both companies to accept and process orders over the phone from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. seven days a week. To access the Senior Support Line, call 1-833-397-0080. Built by the Favor engineering team, this system allows company volunteers to process orders remotely from across the state. Seniors can also place their orders on Favor's website, or by downloading the Favor app and searching for "H-E-B".
"Through this same-day service, a Favor Runner will shop all orders at H-E-B and deliver directly to the customer's doorstep within just a few hours," said Jag Bath, Favor chief executive officer and H-E-B chief digital officer. "To further promote social distancing, Runners will leave all orders placed through the Senior Support Line at the customer's doorstep, eliminating close personal interaction."
All delivery and service fees are waived for the first 30 days of the program. Orders include a \$10 tip, which goes to the Favor runner, who will personally shop and deliver items.
The Senior Shopping Support Line will be available at more than 240 H-E-B locations, with plans to expand the service. Visit vordelivery.com/senior for more information.
Food Town
Food Town, located at the intersection of Scarsdale and Beamer, will maintain its seniors-only hours from 7 to 8 a.m., reserved solely for those 65 and older with a government-issued state ID or Texas driver license. Store hours for shoppers under 65 are 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Houston residents infected climbs to 55

The City of Houston Health Department announced 31 new positive coronavirus disease (COVID-19) cases on Tuesday, March 24, bringing the city's total cases to 55.
The new case, a female in the 50-60 age range, is hospitalized. She has no known travel or exposure history.
Positive COVID-19 test results from the department's laboratory no longer require confirmation by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The department will now use the phrase "positive COVID-19 case."
The Houston Health Department will report on new positive COVID-19 cases daily at 3 p.m.
Investigations conducted by the department will identify potential contacts exposed to the virus. The department will provide close contacts guidance about the virus and monitor them for the development of symptoms.
Social distancing guidance for all Houstonians:
- Avoid gatherings of 10 or more people.
- Maintain at least 6 feet of separation from other people.
- Avoid eating or drinking in bars, restaurants
Continued on Page 2

San Jacinto addresses coronavirus

In a recent meeting, the San Jacinto College Board of Trustees approved a resolution that allows the college to move to altered operations during the coronavirus (COVID-19) situation.
The altered operations began Monday, March 23, and will continue for the foreseeable future. As the COVID-19 situation develops, the college will make operational decisions about how to proceed at that time. As of March 23, the following will apply:
- All general education courses will be delivered online.
- All technical courses will be delivered through a combination of online and face-to-face by appointment, and in groups of no more than 10 people total. Students will be contacted by their individual faculty member with details.
- College staff began working remotely at 8 a.m. Friday, March 20, 2020, unless otherwise directed by their leader.
- All college facilities will be closed unless otherwise noted for face-to-face course delivery. No visitors and no students other than those noted
Continued on Page 8

Help needed

Some seniors in the South Belt area need help and the *Leader* is looking for residents who can help with shopping. Call 281-481-5656.

Atkinson cheering up students



Approximately 75 onlookers, including many children, were delighted to see a "parade" of 25 cars filled with Atkinson Elementary School personnel drive through the students' neighborhoods in vehicles with signs touting positive messages. This event was the brainchild of Stacy Fontenot, a PE teacher. Richard Whittaker, math coach, and Andrea Luna, dyslexia teacher, organized and mobilized school staff as a way to encourage families who are at home during the coronavirus pandemic, where changes in schedules and study habits can be unsettling. Above, and part of the parade, Lena Otiz, Atkinson principal, encourages students to "Stay safe."
Photo by Marie Flickinger

Publisher's Opinion

We are in it together, for the long haul!

To say this is a trying time is certainly an understatement. Just want to say a few words and share what many of you may be feeling. It has been a tough week mentally doing this week's *Leader*. I get a lot of joy from seeing so many in our community working to make things better for their neighbor. For example, Kelli Owens put together packages for seniors; many have been picked up. She did this all on her own. Pasadena ISD and San Jac have been rock stars in all they have been doing for the students in our community. So many heroes. Hopefully we can celebrate later,

but now we just need to get through this. I want to urge all our readers to know it is important to support the many small businesses in the community. At least those that remain open, such as our restaurants. We need these guys, support them! Many times during the day I just want to cry, but that does no good. I do believe in God and our country and, of course, in all our friends and neighbors. With friends, neighbors and family, I know everything will be O.K. God Bless,
Marie Flickinger,
Publisher

In My Opinion

Ybarra: world shaken by tiny coronavirus

America, and the World, is presently shaken by a tiny virus, so tiny that it is invisible to Man's naked eye. Fear of contracting an infection from such a small living creature, and facing sickness, and possibly death, is shaking mighty Man around the world! It is quite possible that God, the creator of Earth and the entire universe, is trying to get Man's attention! According to the Word of God, He tells us that in the beginning He created Heaven and Earth and everything in them, visible and invisible, and that we all belong to him. In the same "Word of God" He told us

how in Noah's time, he destroyed most of His living creation by the "Great Flood" because they became so WICKED. Since then, He has judged and destroyed many nations. God also punished many nations, in the hope they would return to Him, and follow his ways, including Israel, his chosen nation. This present world has become exceedingly wicked! God predicted this would happen, and that at His "appointed time" he will judge and destroy the wicked. Our extremely patient Creator is still trying to save us all. He loves us, and He is real, not a myth! His Word must be taught to all. Faith comes by hearing the Word, reading the Word, and following his Word. Jesus is, "the way, the truth, and the life."
Manuel Ybarra, Jr.

Elected officials share their words

Olson joins colleagues on COVID-19

On March 19, Congressman Pete Olson joined a bipartisan group of members of the Houston Congressional Delegation led by Rep. Lizzie Fletcher to release the following statement on COVID-19: "The spread of COVID-19 represents a serious and unprecedented threat to the health and safety of our communities. As members of the Houston Congressional Delegation, we are committed to working together for our region and country. We will work to acquire the resources, guidance, and support it needs to combat this

pandemic. Now is the time for all of us to work together to minimize the spread of coronavirus across our community and our country, protect hard working families that will be hit the most by this disease, and help small businesses stay afloat while we tackle this ongoing threat. We are Houston Strong and stand shoulder-to-shoulder with the community ready to make it through this together." Co-signing the statement with Olson and Fletcher were Reps. Dan Crenshaw, Sylvia Garcia, Al Green, Sheila Jackson Lee and Michael McCaul.

Libraries now at Bush, Hobby

Little Libraries are a popular amenity created to give passengers yet another option while traveling. Little Libraries promote literacy and offer varied book selections, from classics to modern publications. Passengers looking for reading options now have a unique answer. The libraries are open at William P. Hobby Airport and George Bush Intercontinental Airport. Increasingly, airport amenities are designed to take the boredom out of travel. With that in mind, both IAH and HOU added Little Libraries to the offerings available for passengers traveling with the only two 4-star airports in a single city within the Western Hemisphere. A Little Library is a "take a book, return a book" free book exchange. It is not a direct swap, however; individuals can take a book without returning one in kind, though it is encouraged. Just a few short years ago, mothers' rooms, yoga rooms

and art galleries would have all been rare and amazing amenities at most airports. Nowadays, they are becoming common in airports. Each of those features can be found at Houston Airports. Book selections include adult, teen and children's books, from the classics to modern publications and even include books in different languages. How does the check-out process work? "It couldn't be better designed to cater to the wants and needs of the customer," said Ella Ghica, customer service manager at IAH. "It works very simply," Ghica said. "There are no fees, no due dates and no limits. Passengers can keep the book they select if they choose. They can also donate a book on their next trip, also if they choose to do so." Little Libraries are available to all passengers, regardless of age. The libraries are stocked with donations, primarily from Volunteer Ambassadors.

Many of the donors are book lovers who said they were looking to clear space from their homes while contributing to a worthwhile cause. "For many travelers, it's a good time for you to do some reading while you're waiting for your flight," Ghica said. More and more airports in the United States are partnering with local libraries to enable travelers the option of reading opportunities while they wait or as they travel. But the U.S. is not alone. In Amsterdam, Schiphol Airport's library is 10 years old and contains more than 500 books. "This is another tremendous opportunity for Houston Airports to offer value to our customers," Rambo said. Users are welcome to stay and read before boarding a flight and to take a book with them or return it to the airport. Airport volunteers oversee the airport shelves to ensure they are adequately stocked and to ensure book content is appropriate.

Death

Quinnie Corley



Quinnie Juanita Millis Corley, 89, died March 12, 2020, in Baytown. She was born Sept. 6, 1930, in Mendenhall, Miss.,

the daughter of the late George John Millis and Besie Berry Millis. Juanita enjoyed painting and working on folk art. She served her church as a Sunday schoolteacher for many years and in Women's Missionary Union work; and was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, working with the Order of Rainbows for Girls. Juanita and her husband Flynt Corley owned Greens Bayou Utility Company where she was the bookkeeper and office manager. Juanita's love in life was to be with her family, especially her grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents; four brothers; three sisters; and her beloved husband. She leaves behind to cherish her memory her son Reggie Corley and wife Julie; daughters Faye Holloway, Bebe Johnson and Mary Mims and husband Dan. In addition, she leaves her seven grandchildren: Alicia Eberlan; Wesley Holloway and wife Jasmine; Flynt Holloway; Kim Johnson; Curtis Drobin; Arthur Mims and wife Virginia; and Amanda Mims and significant other Jenn. Juanita also leaves nine great-grandchildren; two great-great grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews and extended family. Her caregiver for several years was Theresa Kuykendall. She was mother-in-law to Dan Mims, San Jacinto College board member. Condolences and memories may be shared online at www.steflingwhite.com.

Genoa celebrates Dr. Seuss



Genoa Elementary celebrated Dr. Seuss' birthday and Read Across America week by dressing like characters from his books, especially on Cat in the Hat Day. Shown above are, left to right, Jocelyn Avila, kindergartener; Elva Moreno, Genoa resource teacher; and Nicolette Martinez, kindergartener. Photo submitted

Avoiding exposure to COVID-19

Continued from Page 1 and food courts – use drive-thru, pickup or delivery options. – Avoid discretionary travel, shopping trips, social visits. – Do not visit nursing homes or retirement or long-term care facilities unless to provide critical care situations. Practice healthy hygiene habits: – Wash hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use hand sanitizer when washing hands is not an option. – Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands. – Cover coughs and sneez-

es with a tissue-not hands; throw tissue away. If tissues are not available, use a sleeve. – Avoid close contact with people who are sick, especially if at higher risk for coronavirus. – Get plenty of rest, drink plenty of fluids, eat healthy foods and manage your stress to keep one's immunity strong. – Work or engage in schooling from home whenever possible. Human coronaviruses most commonly spread from an infected person to others through: – Respiratory droplets released into the air by coughing and sneezing. – Close personal contact,

such as touching or shaking hands. – Touching an object or surface with the virus on it, then touching one's mouth, nose or eyes before washing your hands. Privacy protection laws only permit the release of limited patient information. The health department is unable to release any additional patient information. Visit HoustonEmergency.org/covid19 for updated information about local risk, routine protective actions, frequently asked questions, communication resources, rumor control, emergency preparedness tips and more.

Memorial hospitals implement more precautions for visitors

Memorial Hermann Health System modified its visitor policy by reducing the number of visitors per patient, limiting visitation hours and implementing workforce screening, which became effective March 17, until further notice. These new, additional precautionary measures are to further protect the health of patients, the workforce and the community and prevent the potential spread of Coronavirus Disease

2019 (COVID-19). The new modifications to the visitor policy for acute-care and rehabilitation hospitals and convenient care centers include changing visitation hours to 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, with visitation being limited to one adult (18 years or older) visitor per patient, per day; and screening all visitors, including vendors and contractors, at designated entry points, including the emergency center. For patients in isolation or patients under investigation, visitation will continue to be limited to one adult (18 years or older) per patient, per day. These visitors will be required to wear personal protective equipment and will not be permitted to visit common areas within the facility. Limited exceptions will be made for palliative care, supportive care, hospice, NICU, pediatrics and labor and delivery.

The brief screening process includes a temperature check and questionnaire. Individuals cleared through the screening process will receive a color-coded wristband which must be worn throughout their hospital visit. Visitors who are sick or do not meet screening criteria will not be allowed to enter the facility. Additional modifications are being implemented to other Memorial Hermann lo-

ocations. Memorial Hermann Long-Term Skilled Nursing Facility will no longer allow visitors, per CDC recommendations. Memorial Hermann Medical Group will no longer accept walk-in patients. Patients are encouraged to call their physician's office ahead of time to book an appointment and tell the office what symptoms are being experienced. Memorial Hermann urgent care centers will currently remain open. Patients are

encouraged to call ahead if they are experiencing flu-like symptoms. Memorial Hermann will implement health screenings for employees, physicians and other workforce members across all facilities. This includes a questionnaire and temperature readings before entering any Memorial Hermann facility. For a complete list of Memorial Hermann locations and facilities visit <http://www.memorialhermann.org/locations/>.

Harris County Clerk closes main office and annexes to public

The Harris County Clerk will close its main office and annexes to the public on the advice of county leadership as a measure to help contain and mitigate the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19). The closure will take effect March 18 and continue until further notice. "We are actively monitoring government guidance and following protocols," said Harris County Clerk Diane Trautman. "The health and safety of both the public and our employees is our highest priority."

Employees will continue serving the public by email and phone, but residents are reminded that they can access most services online. Among these, electronic filing in real property, electronic filing in the courts (county, civil and probate) and personal records. Electronic filing for campaign and personal finance is also available online. The Harris County Clerk's office is currently working on a plan to continue to make voting accessible for the upcoming elections. This includes discussions with the Harris County Commissioners Court, the Texas Secretary of State and several other governmental entities to make the plan feasible and timely. Residents are encouraged to follow the Harris County Clerk on social media or visit HarrisVotes.com for updates and information. "I can assure you our office will do all it can to make sure voters are able to cast a ballot in the elections they qualify to vote in," added Trautman. "Once the plan is ready it will be shared with the public."

Seniors helping Seniors seeks seniors

Continued from Page 1 homes of three to five local senior citizens. In past years, organizers Jimmy Sawyer and Gilbert Aguilar would go door-to-door seeking recipients. This year, however, due to COVID-19 scares, the group is seeking recommendations. At press time, it was unclear if the annual event would

still take place at its regularly scheduled time due to pandemic concerns. While the event normally occurs during late April/early May, it may now be pushed back to fall, Sawyer said. Military veterans are also eligible to participate in the program. Anyone who knows of a potential recipient may contact Sawyer at 281-382-1217.

Le-Tran receives ESL Teacher of the Year



Moore Elementary ESL teacher Christina Le-Tran (second from right, middle row) received the honor of Pasadena Independent School District ESL Teacher of the Year. She is now in the running for the Texas ESL Teacher of the Year. She is a finalist for the Houston Area Association of Bilingual Educators (HAABE) Elementary Teacher of the Year. She was chosen to be the Pasadena ISD Elementary ESL Teacher of the Year by a district committee after reviewing all the nominations and plans to attend the HAABE Teacher of the Year banquet April 25 where the Houston area winner will be announced. Shown are, left to right, (front row) Rolando Merchan, PISD bilingual/ESL/dual language program coordinator; (middle row) Deedee Pitts, assistant principal; Le-Tran; Jill Lacamu, Moore principal; (back row) Stephanie Saavedra and Aniyushka Martin, PISD bilingual/ESL/dual language program specialists. Photo submitted

Leader checks out social media

By Natalie Abarca A member of The Official South Belt & Sagemont Area Crime Alert Facebook group posted that Houston police are investigating the fatal shooting of one man and the wounding of another at 6003 Gulf Freeway (South Interstate 45) Service road about 8:05 p.m. Sunday, March 22. The identity of the deceased victim, 52, is pending verification by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences. HPD Homicide Division Officers E. Martinez and R. Montalvo reported that HPD patrol officers responded to a shooting call at a convenience store at the above address and found two men with gunshot wounds behind the store. HFD paramedics transported the males to different area hospitals. One man was pronounced deceased, while the other, 49, remains in stable condition. Witnesses reported hearing at least three gunshots. The suspects, described only as two black males, fled the scene in a newer model, dark-colored or black sedan.

Anyone with information in this case is urged to contact the HPD Homicide Division at 713-308-3600 or Crime Stoppers at 713-222-TIPS. On the same Facebook group a member shared a post of an auto accident that occurred Sunday, March 22, around 10 p.m. The accident happened on the South Beltway 8 feeder road near Beamer Road. Apparently the two drivers were traveling at high speeds when the Cadillac's driver lost control and crashed into a steel utility pole. The post was shared on other Facebook groups. See page 1A for related photo. A member of *Southbelt This & That* (Official) posted a picture of three boys that were behind the member's house walking around with a gun. The member states that the gun might be a BB gun. The boys tried to "stare them down" but moved quickly when saw the member pulling out a camera. The member asks the community to keep an eye out for children to help keep them out of trouble.

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Local library events set

A notice on the City of Houston Public Library website reads, "Houston Public Library temporarily suspends service to implement COVID-19 procedures. The Houston Public Library values the health and safety of our staff and customers as a top priority. We are actively monitoring guidance from the Houston Health Department, as well as local, state and federal authorities to do our part to support the health of the entire community. This is a time of rapidly changing conditions regarding COVID-19, and in our efforts to help prevent the spread of this disease in our region, the Houston Public Library has suspended service at all locations until further notice. This suspension also includes all public programs and events. Remember the library's many free online resources and digital services are always available 24/7 with MY Link Library Card at www.houstonlibrary.org, including e-books and e-audiobooks, streaming TV, movie and music services, online classes and tutoring and databases. Visit the City of Houston's Emergency Operations Center website at <https://houstonemergency.org/covid19> or call 832-393-4220 for more information meant to slow the spread of COVID-19 and reduce the number of people infected. For more details visit: www.houstonlibrary.org."

Parker Williams Library
The regularly scheduled events for the Parker Williams Library, have been canceled. The notice on the website reads, "For the health and safety of our staff and customers, effective March 17 through April 1st, Harris County Public Library will temporarily transition to offering limited and no-contact in-person services to the public. Library buildings will not be accessible for public use. We will continue to offer limited library services: – Curbside library holds pick up (Monday - Thursday 10 AM to 6 PM, Friday 1 PM to 6 PM, Saturday 10 AM to 5 PM). – Curbside Grab-and-Go program kits – Attend an HCPL program or story time online through Facebook or YouTube – Check your account to renew loans or request books – Download eBooks, comics or graphic novels through OverDrive – Stream classic films, indie cinema and award-winning documentaries on Kanopy – Listen to audiobooks through RBDigital or OverDrive – Read along and play with picture books on TumbleBooks – Ask us a question by phone or email – Get book recommendations – Register for a library card online – No late fees will be assessed during this time. Please follow @harriscountypub on Facebook or Twitter for updated information." For additional information, call the library at 832-927-7870.

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Saturday	Vigil	5:30 p.m.
Sunday	7:30, 9:15, 11:15 a.m.	
Sunday	1 p.m.	Misa en Español
Monday, Wednesday, Friday		9 a.m.
Tuesday & Thursday		7 p.m.

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SECTION B SPORTS & CLASSIFIED

Spring sports programs clinging to hope of restart

How will the remainder of what was left and the spring sports season be remembered? Yes, there is still a glimmer of hope that some of these young men and women will be allowed to finish out their seasons in the coming weeks, while some have already been denied that vision.

In many of those cases, it's important to remember the great athletes and performances.

There was the Dobie varsity girls' soccer team, which with a late-season tie against Atascocita kept its dim playoff hopes alive with two games remaining only to see things end prematurely.

The key notes from the Lady Longhorns' season? Victoria Chu capped her standout career by leading the Lady Longhorns in goal-scoring both as a junior and senior.

And there's Taiya Mitchell, who certainly has a collegiate future if she chooses. Over three terrific varsity seasons, Mitchell was one of the best players in the area on her defensive end for the Lady Longhorns.

The season is also done early at San Jacinto College, where the softball program (19-4) looked to be onto something special before the National Junior College Athletic Association made its decision to end the spring sports campaign.

Whether or not the Coyotes could have made their way to nationals will always be up for debate at this point, but there is little doubt the locals had positioned themselves nicely.

Beginning the season unranked nationally, SJC had climbed as high as No.16 in the country before play was called. Head coach Kelly Saenz at some point will see a good bit of the team's high-powered offense exit, but solid pitching, led by

North Shore graduate Cat Cavazos, is eligible to return.

This season cannot be recovered at this point, but the San Jacinto players created a lifetime of memories, nonetheless.

No one wants to see the

varsity boys' soccer playoffs wiped away. With the University Interscholastic League seemingly pushing off its date for a return to action, things could get tight.

Alief Elsik was featured recently on the news as perhaps the varsity boys' soccer program having the most to lose given its lofty status within the region, but then there is six-time District 22-6A champion Dobie.

The Longhorns dominated a tough 22-6A landscape once again and certainly deserves to play on. Time, as short as it may be getting, will tell.

The track and field, baseball, softball and spring tennis seasons remain as the ones most likely to continue even on an abbreviated slate.

There's little doubt that Clear Brook sophomore Camryn Dickson hopes to

get the chance to return to state in the 100 or perhaps even the 200.

When the baseball season does play on, Dobie will still have to contend with Atascocita and Kingwood, perhaps even Summer Creek, for supremacy in 22-6A.

But the Longhorns, led by a standout three-headed pitching staff of Daniel Garza, Alan Lopez and Dom Martinez, will be up for the task, and senior catcher Justin Blogg doesn't want things to end, either.

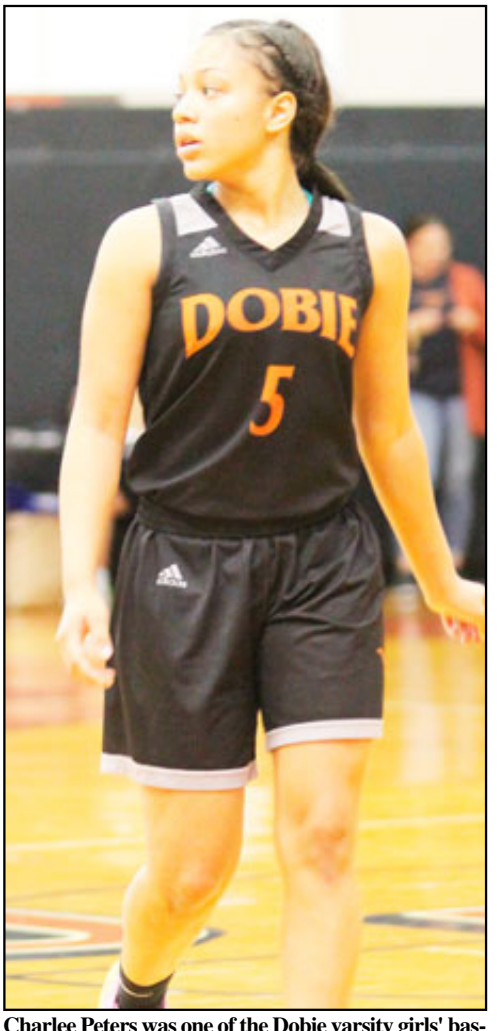
At 5-1 in 22-6A action when play ended, Dobie is well on its way to the post-season and deserves that right. So do all of the other programs in their position.

So as the coronavirus pandemic plays havoc with everyone's lives, it's important to remember that high school careers matter. Here's to a soon return to action.

The event will be awarded as planned.

The 2020 event was set for May 1-3 but has been postponed indefinitely. Lajaunie is still seeking scholarship donations not only now but throughout the year. To assist with the Lajaunie scholarship fund, direct email to Lajaunie at cjlajaunie@gmail.com.

JFD's Peters, Rivera land on 22-6A hoops first team



Charlee Peters was one of the Dobie varsity girls' basketball team's leaders, during the past two seasons. After getting this year's squad over the 20-win mark, Peters was a District 22-6A first-team pick.



Dobie sophomore Vanessa Rivera (22) joined the varsity program for 2019-2020 and contributed in a big way in all phases of the game. After her tremendous debut, Rivera was a 22-6A first-team selection. See more on the 22-6A varsity girls' basketball all-league selections on Page 5. Photos by John Bechtle

Brook ex Florez lands new gig

Lupe Florez, who resigned as Clear Brook's varsity football head coach shortly following the 2019 season, has landed on the Marshall High School staff as an assistant under head coach Jake Griedl, who was named the leader of the Marshall program earlier this year after being the team's offensive coordinator.

Dobie VB youths will happen

While the event has been postponed, Dobie varsity volleyball head coach Dawn Sexton ensures that the planned spring league for incoming fifth and sixth-grade students will take place when the appropriate time comes.

Those in attendance will receive two weeks of instruction followed by four weeks of scrimmage play, all for \$60 cash only. The action will take place at Dobie9.

Sexton will release the new dates as soon as they become available.

For added details, direct email to Sexton at dsexton@pasadenaisd.org.

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Sophomores pace Horn girls' all-district look

Regional finalist Summer Creek and Atascocita understandably earned many of the top individual awards within the District 22-6A varsity girls' basketball landscape, but it's

also important to note the inclusion of Dobie, which certainly appears to have a bright future.

University of Texas commit Elyssa Coleman was the league's Most Valuable

Player, and Coach of the Year Carlesa Dixon of Summer Creek saw four of her players make the 22-6A first team. There was also Humble's Kameryn Phillips, the Newcomer of the Year.

Dobie was shut out of the individual honors, but that doesn't mean head coach Jasmine Hartman doesn't have something nice brewing as the Lady

Continued on Page 5

Talented San Jac baseball left to wonder

Among the "what if" stories for the spring of 2020 sports season will surely be that of the San Jacinto College baseball team.

Ineligible for the postseason in 2019 because of scholarship infractions, the Gators nonetheless won the Region 14 crown, complete with a 42-12 overall record.

Heading into this season with a dozen or more collegiate signees and at least two MLB draft-likely pitchers, the Gators expectedly were rolling along when the coronavirus pandemic hit.

had proven to be the class of Region 14 when the halt came. Now all that is left for the Gators as well as the rest of the National Junior College Athletic Association is to ponder the possibilities.

A sophomore-dominated lineup was coming up with key hits to win games for San Jacinto. Mitchell Parker, one of those pitchers who will have a decision to make if the 2020 June amateur draft is actually held, was off to a 5-0 start on the bump with a nation's best

64 strikeouts. His 1.19 earned run average was elite.

Fellow left-hander Luke Little, projected as an early round draftee, was limited to nine innings total this spring but had struck out 17 batters in his work.

Then there is sophomore Brandon Birdsell, who jumped out to a 5-0 record on the mound with a 2.48 ERA.

San Jacinto had the tools to make a run at Grand Junction for the Division I world series. That won't happen now, but

there will be other chances for a great many Gators.

Little has signed with the University of South Carolina, a lifelong dream fulfilled should he not sign professionally. The University of Kentucky has signed Parker, provided the pro ranks don't get him yet. There are many other Gators headed to four-year programs, including Texas Tech University signee Birdsell.



Luke Little



Mitchell Parker



Brandon Birdsell

Gator trio draws draft consideration

The MLB June amateur first-year player draft, if indeed it goes off as scheduled, could get very interesting locally.

rankings in strikeouts before the season was shut down.

Three sophomore pitchers from San Jacinto College, including left-handers Luke Little and Mitchell Parker along with righty Brandon Birdsell, are among Perfectgame.com's Top 400 list for draftable prospects.

A University of Kentucky signee, Parker is also expected to be drafted early enough to warrant a decision on whether to turn pro or continue with college.

Little, who has signed to attend the University of South Carolina, is considered a first-round talent in most circles with his mid-90s fastball and complementary repertoire at his disposal. In limited action in 2020, Little struck out 17 batters in nine innings of work.

Parker went 5-0 this season and was leading the JUCO

As for Birdsell, he attended Texas A&M out of high school and wound up at San Jacinto College, where he was also 5-0 early on this season.

He is headed to Texas Tech University, unless the pro ranks get him first.

Of interest, senior right-hander Masyn Wynn of Kingwood High School, whom Dobie has faced in District 22-6A play as well as the postseason, is also on Perfectgame.com's Top 400 list and very well could choose the pro ranks.

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4 - various size paper holders, 2 - Beseler negative carriers 35mm and 23C. \$150. Please call 281-485-5114. 4-9

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CALENDAR

Due to current circumstances, it is advisable to verify if meetings are still being held prior to attending.

THURSDAY, MARCH 26
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.
7:30 a.m.
Rotary Club of Pearland - Meets Thursdays at 7:30 a.m. at Pearland Chamber of Commerce, 6117 Broadway St., in Pearland. Variety of speakers. For information, call 281-900-7257 or email nalix@texascitizensbank.com.
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 or email the director at jpochnsner@aol.com for details.

Noon
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 3525 Broadway, Pearland. For details, call 713-686-6300.

7 p.m.
Kirkwood Civic Association meets at the Sagemont Park and Community Center (new location), 11507 Hughes Road. For more information, call Ericka McCutcheon at 281-989-9990.

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 additional information, call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com.

FRIDAY, MARCH 27
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 or email the director at jpochnsner@aol.com for details.
6:30 p.m.
Bay Area Genealogical Society - Meets monthly, the last Friday, at University Baptist Church, 16106 Middlebrook Dr., Clear Lake. Coffee and socializing prior to 7 p.m. meeting. No meeting in December. For additional information, visit www.TxBayAreaGen.org.

7 p.m.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com.

8 p.m.
Serenity Now Al-Anon Group - meets at CrossRoads UMC Fridays, 8 to 9 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Family members and friends of problem drinkers/addicts share, learn Al-Anon principles, that they are not alone, and discover choices available. For additional information, call 281-484-9243.

SATURDAY, MARCH 28
7:30 a.m.
Alcoholics Anonymous - "Breakfast with Bill," Saturdays, 7:30 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.
11 a.m.
StartSchoolLater.net (SSL) Houston Chapter - informational meeting about the link of teen sleep deprivation to depression and low academic performance. The public is welcome, 11 a.m., on the fourth Saturday at the Parker Wil-

liams Library, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call 281-229-1409. RSVP is requested for meeting attendance.
11 a.m.
Al-Anon Meeting (Women Only, English) - For women affected by an addict. Saturdays, 11 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, Cornell Conference room #111. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.
1 p.m.
Clear Lake Bridge Club - Open games Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at jpochnsner@aol.com for details.
8 p.m.
Alcoholics Anonymous - meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call 281-484-9243.

SUNDAY, MARCH 29
1 p.m.
Clear Lake Bridge Club - Open games Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at jpochnsner@aol.com for details.
2 p.m.
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.

5:30 p.m.
Celebrate Recovery - A faith-based 12-Step Program, Sundays, 5:30 p.m., in the Chapel at Life Church, 9900 Alameda Genoa. Call 713-419-2635 for details or to RSVP for child care.
8 p.m.
Alcoholics Anonymous - meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For more information, call 281-484-9243.

MONDAY, MARCH 30
10 a.m.
Al-Anon Deer Park - Mondays, 10 to 11 a.m. Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P Street, Deer Park. Enter through back of church. Call 409-454-5720 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 or email the director at jpochnsner@aol.com for details.
11:30 a.m.
Overeaters Anonymous Deer Park - 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P Street, Deer Park. Enter through Fellowship Hall in back of church. Call 409-454-5720 for details, or drop in.

Noon
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 3525 Broadway, Pearland. For details, call 713-686-6300.

6 p.m.
Scrabble Club #511 - Meets Monday at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua. Come, improve crossword playing skills. Call 281-488-2923 for details.
6:30 p.m.
Toastmasters - The Young Professionals Southeast Toastmasters Club #05324194 has gone virtual! Meeting is Mondays, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m., at the website, https://youngprofessionalsstoastmasters.com/. Young Professionals SE Toastmasters Club is committed to its member's safety during this National Emergency and will conduct virtual meetings every Monday (except holidays), effective 3/16/2020, to ensure its members continue their journey to becoming confident communicators and leaders. To be a guest at the virtual meeting, select the "contact us" button on our home page menu

(www.youngprofessionalsstoastmasters.com) to obtain access to our virtual meeting platform. For additional information, call Karen Nunn at 832-722-9061 or Carolyn Carmichael at 832-372-3565.
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 building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com.
7:30 p.m.
Congregation Shaar Heshalom - Israeli Folk Dancing on Monday, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m., 16020 El Camino Real, 77062. \$4/session or \$35/10 sessions for CSH members and \$5/session or \$45/10 sessions for nonmembers. Everyone is welcome. For details, contact 281-488-5861 or csh@shaar-heshalom.org.
12 p.m.
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 Jesse at 832-725-8479 or Rita at 281-309-2801.

7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.
9:30 a.m.
Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum - Exhibits include dioramas, a turn-of-the-century doctor's office and an old-time kitchen. Tuesday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., 204 S. Main, Pasadena. For details, call 713-472-0565.
10 a.m.
Clear Lake Bridge Club - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at jpochnsner@aol.com for details.

Noon
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 3525 Broadway, Pearland. For details, call 713-686-6300.
12:30 - 1:30 p.m.
Free dance lessons - taught by Lewis and Betty Whistler (35 years of experience) at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 E League City Parkway, on Tuesdays. Bringing a partner is not required. There is a different dance focus monthly. For details, call Betty at 832-517-5833. For questions about League City's activity card, call the park office at 281-554-1180.
1:30 p.m.
TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) - #1530 meets at the Sagemont Park Community Center, 11507 Hughes Rd., 1:30 p.m. For information, call Jeanette Sumrall at 713-946-3713.
2 p.m.
Clear Lake Bridge Club Lab Class - Tuesday, 2 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. For details or classes, contact Dr. Glandorf at drglandorf@sbcglobal.net or call 281-488-6318.
7 p.m.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1
7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.
9:30 a.m.
Carmelites - a nondenominational senior citizen social group that meets at St. Bernadette Catholic Church, 15500 El Camino Real, in Clear Lake on the first and third Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. for a time filled with fun, fellowship,

ending library, coffee and bingo. The meetings are open to those ages 50 and older, with no dues. Day trips and extended trips are available. Deposits are being taken for Black Hills, Badlands and Legends of the West in South Dakota, July 15-21, 2020; and a Hawaiian Cruise on the Pride of America/Norwegian Cruise Line, Nov. 7-14 2020. For additional information, call Marilyn 713-444-6744.
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 or email the director at jpochnsner@aol.com for additional information.
11:30 a.m.
Houston Hobby Airport Lions Club - meets monthly, first and third Wednesday, Golden Corral, 4021 Spencer Hwy., Pasadena. December may be an exception. For information, email Teresa Dover at doverbookkeeper@aol.com.
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 3525 Broadway, Pearland. For details, call 713-686-6300.
1 - 3:30 p.m.
Hometown Heroes Park - has Hump Day Dance for free practice ballroom dances (not lessons) in a casual environment. A variety of rhythms are played from entry to advanced dancing levels at 1001 E. League City Pkwy. League City nonresidents must purchase activity card (see Tuesday 12:30 p.m. dance for details). Help is available to assist learning dance moves. For more information on the activity card, call the city at 281-554-1180.
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 building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com.
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 more information, call 281-484-9243.

THURSDAY, APRIL 2
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.
7:30 a.m.
Rotary Club of Pearland - Meets Thursdays at 7:30 a.m. at Pearland Chamber of Commerce, 6117 Broadway St., in Pearland. Variety of speakers. For information, call 281-900-7257 or email nalix@texascitizensbank.com.
10 a.m.
Fun Bunch - for senior citizens, ages 55 and older, meets the first Thursday of each month at 10 a.m. at the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce, 10500 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call Ronn Canon at 281-610-8999 or the chamber at 281-481-5516 for additional information.
Clear Lake Bridge Club - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at jpochnsner@aol.com for additional information.
Noon
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 3525 Broadway, Pearland. For details, call 713-686-6300.
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 additional information, call 713-661-4200.

7 p.m.
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Sophomores pace JFD girls' all-district look

Continued from Page 3
 Longhorns enter a revamped 22-6A beginning next season. Victoria Rivera, making a big splash in her first season at the varsity level, was a first-team selection this season and gives the locals a significant lift moving forward. Ditto for sophomore Keasia Robinson, right now a three-sport star who has plenty of athletic ability. She was a second-team all-district selection this season. Janae Tucker, poised with three seasons left after a solid freshman season, made the honorable mention list, giving the Lady Longhorns quite a bright look heading into 2020-2021. Granted, few people want to look into next school year what with the coronavirus pandemic having severely hampered what's left of this one to this point, but the Dobie varsity girls' basketball program could very well make some big noise next season and beyond. Charlee Peters, J. Frank Dobie's other first-team all-

district pick after a solid run this season, will graduate, but she has shown the way for the future of the program. Not that any program desires for an easier time of things, but the Lady Longhorns now will not have to see the likes of Atascocita, Summer Creek or Humble until the first round of the playoffs or beyond. Beginning next season, Dobie, already the king of the Pasadena ISD ranks, will contend with newcomers Deer Park and Channelview in 22-6A play, giving the locals legitimate title hopes. Off the court, six Lady Longhorns also made their way onto the all-academic team, meaning there's more than just basketball on the minds of these ladies. Looking ahead, the Dobie girls' basketball program is in terrific shape. Head coach Jasmine Hartman brought high expectations with her when he arrived just after the 2017-2018 campaign, and the Lady Longhorns have followed her lead.

Dobie graduate Ortiz scores career win 200 at UH-Victoria



Dobie graduate Lindsey Ferguson Ortiz passed a milestone earlier this season, getting career win No. 200 and then some in her seventh season as head coach of the UH-Victoria women's softball program. After starring at Dobie as a player, Ortiz was a team captain for two seasons at UH-Victoria before joining the coaching staff.

Lindsey Ferguson Ortiz and her UH-Victoria Jaguar women's softball team certainly had high hopes this season, especially after the Dobie High School graduate, now in her seventh season as head coach, collected her 200th career victory very early in the 2020 campaign. Thanks to a complete sports shutdown, the run is over for the Jaguars for now, but what a run it has been for Ortiz. A talented two-way player for Dobie, Ortiz both pitched and hit her way to a scholarship opportunity at Galveston College. She then joined the upstart program at UH-Victoria for its debut season in 2008. A team captain in both her junior and senior years, Ortiz earned both all-conference honors for her play and all-academic accolades in the classroom before she finished playing. Overall in 97 career games, Ortiz hit .281 to cap her playing days. And it didn't take Ortiz long to find work. Landing the role of assistant coach at UH-Victoria prior to 2010, Ortiz eventually took over the Jaguars' program in 2014 and has done very well for herself, the players and the

program. Ortiz posted an impressive 33-15 record in that 2014 debut and has largely kept the wins coming. Now at 203-106 for her career, Ortiz led UH-Victoria to the Red River Athletic Conference championship in 2019, and the team reached the Dodge City bracket championship round - the opening of National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics postseason play - before twice losing to the nation's top-ranked program. Over the years at UH-Victoria, Ortiz has maintained close to her roots. Numerous Dobie graduates as well as several former San Jacinto College players have gone on to play for her. Currently, former Dobie standout catcher Marissa Longoria was in her final season with the Jaguars, having enjoyed a solid three-plus year run despite the stoppage. Pitcher Michelle Kristoff, also a graduate of Dobie, spent two seasons at San Ja-

cinto College and was 5-6 early this season with a 3.65 earned run average before the season terminated. It's not the way anyone wanted to see the spring sports season come to an end, but Ortiz will return for 2021, perhaps with a few more local products on the roster. She has eclipsed 200 career wins and surely welcomes more. It's obvious she has been a perfect fit for UH-Victoria.

looking for another chance at the top spot. The 2019 team also had graduation losses, and head coach Aaron Schneider grappled with an injury-depleted pitching staff early on, but the Pioneers were nonetheless 12-5 overall and 2-0 in league play when the stoppage came. In both sports, LSA is the defending state holder until someone takes it from them, but these two groups still have hope of defending their crowns in 2020, no matter the day it comes.

Lutheran South champs on hold

Count the defending state champion Lutheran South baseball and softball programs as among the many across the state and nation that merely want a return to normalcy. In 2019, the Pioneers pulled off the daily double, winning Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools Division II state championships in consecutive weeks. For now, there is no chance for a repeat, but it still could come next month.

The LSA softball program, guided by Dobie High School graduate Nicole Andrade, entered 2020 in a bit of restock mode after losing its top pitcher and best overall offensive player to the collegiate ranks after last season. Still, Andrade and crew are hopeful of being allowed to make another deep postseason run with its talented roster when and if the time comes. The LSA baseball program, winner of three state crowns this decade, is also

Lady Longhorns land hoops accolades



Dobie sophomore Keasia Robinson (23) was a second-team All-District selection this season and promises to be a key performer for the Lady Longhorns' varsity girls' program as it moves into a revamped 22-6A beginning next season. At left is teammate Charday Terrell (3), a senior. Photo by John Bechtle

- District 22-6A Varsity Girls' Hoops**
Most Valuable Player
Elyssa Coleman, Atascocita
Defensive Player/Year
Kyleigh McGuire, Atascocita
Newcomer/Year
Kameryn Phillips, Humble
Coach of the Year
Carlesa Dixon, Summer Creek

- First-Team Selections**
Maliyah Johnson, Summer Creek
Mailyn Wilkerson, Summer Creek
Adaora Nwokeji, Summer Creek
Hillary Broussard, Summer Creek

- DeDe Davis, Atascocita*
Blake Matthews, Atascocita
Victoria Rivera, Dobie
Charlee Peters, Dobie
Keona Chatman, Humble
Savannah Wilson, Kingwood
Kemoni Irvin, Pasadena
Sally Patricio, Sam Rayburn

- Second-Team Selections**
Kennedy Studdert, Kingwood
Maddie Vanderpool, Kingwood
Alyssa Garza, South Houston
Keasia Robinson, Dobie
Makylee Duhon, Atascocita
Kori Fenner, Atascocita
Alayia Francis, Summer Creek
Kaitlyn Duhon, Summer Creek
Britney Telles, Pasadena
Kayla Hall, Pasadena Memorial
Jashya Wortham, Humble
Kazarea Taplin, Humble

Honorable Mention - Dobie

- Janae Tucker, Dobie*
Charderial Terrell, Dobie
All-Academic - Dobie
Kendall Brown, Dobie
Annette Eonne, Dobie
Madison Garrett, Dobie
Vanessa Lam, Dobie
Charlee Peters, Dobie
Victoria Rivera, Dobie

Today's Longhorns connect with past



It was old Dobie meeting new Dobie at the Corpus Christi Spring Fling Tennis Tournament before the coronavirus pandemic postponed the season. Current Smithson Valley head coach and Longhorn tennis alum Jimmy LaLonde, second from left, gives the "Hook 'Em!" sign with current senior Longhorns, from left to right, Gisell Morales, Sebastian Delgado, Kristy Morales, Son Truong and Thailony Kam Trevino.

JVs excel before break

At the Alvin High School JV Tennis Tournament, winning hardware were, from left to right, Dobie's Melanie Vo and Tommy Nguyen (A mixed doubles), and Kathleen Nguyen (girls' A singles). For now because of the coronavirus pandemic, this has been a key highlight for these players, many, whom no doubt, hope to make the jump to the varsity program for 2020-2021 and beyond. The current season cannot begin prior to May 4 at last report, but it may be possible for some of these players to be out hitting tennis balls before the end of the school year.



Freshmen show promise at MacArthur

Dobie's freshmen tennis team turned in its best showing to date at the Aldine MacArthur Tournament before the coronavirus break, with most of the team's players coming home with medals. Left to right are Nathan Pavalonis (boys' A singles, second place); Dominic Ortiz and Thang Tran (boys' A doubles, first place); Nhi Dinh (girls' B singles, first place); Linh Phan and Diana Dang (girls' B doubles, first place); and Tiffany Tran (girls' A singles, first place).



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Over The Back Fence by Alexis

JUDGE DELGADO MARKS A BIRTHDAY
 Judge Jo Ann Delgado, Harris County Justice of the Peace, Pct. 2, Place 1, celebrates a birthday March 26. Happy birthday wishes are sent to her from the *Leader* staff.

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO JUDGE RISNER
 Best wishes for a happy birthday are sent to Judge George Risner, Harris County Justice of the Peace, Pct. 2, Place 2, who celebrates a birthday March 27 from the *Leader* staff.

JUDY MARKS A BIRTHDAY
 Wishes for a wonderful birthday are sent March 30 from friends and the *Leader* staff to Judy Harrison, former staff member at San Jacinto College.

SCHOOL DAZE
 The following personnel and staff members of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays March 26 through April 1, 2020.

Atkinson Elementary
 Special birthday greetings are sent to Jennifer Youngblood March 27.

Meador Elementary
 Join in the birthday fun March 28 with Any Melindez. Light the birthday candles March 29 on a cake for Cecelia Stewart.

Moore Elementary
 The day for a party for Melissa Hickman is March 28. On March 31, Cheryl Ivens

celebrates a special birthday.

South Belt Elementary
 Warm wishes for a wonderful birthday are sent to Brandi Ballard March 26. Celebrating a birthday March 27 is Natalie Simpson. Birthday wishes are sent to Mackenzie Watson on March 28.

Melillo Middle School
 March 27 is the day for a fun celebration for Deborah Bass.

Roberts Middle School
 Enjoying a birthday March 31 are Jeffery Hamilton and Maribel De La Fuentes.

Beverly Hills Intermediate
 Send a greeting March 26 to Janis McKinney. Send birthday greetings March 28 to Samantha Thompson.

Thompson Intermediate
 Shaurice Spellman marks a birthday March 27.

Dobie High
 Cheers are sent for a March 26 birthday for Victoria Armenta and Tracy Whatley. Blow out the birthday candles for Stephanie Albert on March 27. Birthday wishes are sent to Maria Martinez on March 28. Marking a March 29 birthday is Julia Castellanos. Enjoy a slice of birthday cake March 30 with Leslie Siegler-Keton. Send a birthday greeting April 1 to Johnetta Roy.

FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS
 The *Leader* sends birthday wishes to

friends. For those wanting a birthday mentioned in this section, email mynews@southbeltleader.com with "OTBF: Friends Celebrate Birthdays" in the subject line by Friday noon for the next week's publication.

Thursday, March 26: Andrew Crow, Lori Johnson, Kevin Waters, Victoria Michelle, Sunday Evans and Brittany Waters; Friday, March 27: Chad Rivers, Erica Torres-Saenz, Eudocio Salinas, Cheryl Woods, Donna Hanson, Joan Zuhiga, Sharon Finney and Jimmy Massiccott; Saturday, March 28: Moses Mondragon, Jennifer Blake and Zina Corpus; Sunday, March 29: Melissa Oliviera, Marquice Scott, Adam Stringer, Mary Wilms, Veronica Rivera and Bobby Rodriguez; Monday, March 30: Marilynn Kiel, John Berlitz, Gina Escobar, Michelle Matzahn, Walter Luna and Kristin Baxter; Tuesday, March 31: Sabita Harnamji, Beth McDonald, Marsha Flournoy, Ami Havivy, Sabine Jones, Eric Schwab, Gilbert Marlowe, Cheryl Padora, Eliza Gillock, Gloria Bustamante and Sandy Cline; and Wednesday, April 1: Sharon Lay, Carol Baccaro, Charlie Heaton and Natasha Logan.

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

Remember When

40 years ago (1980)
 The Pasadena Independent School District board voted to reject bids to repair fire damage at Burnett Elementary and rebuild the job.

A ribbon-cutting was held for the new Palmer Drug Abuse Program's South Belt office.

The Southeast Volunteer Fire Department staff reported it had responded to a record 26 calls in 25 days during March.

A farewell reception was planned for the Rev. and Mrs. Vic Johnson of King of Glory Lutheran Church. The Johnsons were moving to Dayton, Iowa, for a new assignment.

35 years ago (1985)
 Burger King decided to build a restaurant on Scarsdale and Chickwood in front of the Sagedale Shopping Center. The corporation agreed to keep its sign under 25 feet, as recommended by MUD 13.

30 years ago (1990)
 The opening of the Harris County Annex on Scarsdale at Beamer was celebrated with a ribbon-cutting.

Friendswood Mayor Paul Schrader helped to form the Brio/DOP Leadership Group in an effort to answer community questions concerning the South Belt area toxic waste dumps.

At least two suits were filed by former tenants against the owners and management of

the Scarsdale Village Shopping Center for alleged breaches of contract.

The South Belt Civic Coalition planned a public meeting to answer area residents' questions about water service and rates.

25 years ago (1995)
 The Clear Creek Independent School District called a meeting to receive public input regarding school boundaries.

The Texas Department of Transportation announced that construction on the Fuqua Park & Ride would soon begin.

South Belt optometrist Dr. B. J. Garner attended fighter pilot school at Kingsley Air Force Base in Oregon.

J. Frank Dobie students helped stuff several thousand eggs for the upcoming Easter egg hunt at El Franco Lee Park.

20 years ago (2000)
 Patrol Sgt. Larry Petty was credited with the speedy apprehension of burglars who broke into a next-door neighbor's home.

Dr. Allison Cambre, pastor of Cokesbury Methodist Church, was officially transferred to West University United Methodist Church.

Audra "Audi" Resendez, 19, was to compete in the Miss Texas Pageant.

15 years ago (2005)

After an undefeated season, the Beverly Hills Intermediate School academic team continued to the National Academic League's national tournament.

No decision had been announced by PISD whether the controversial book *Forever* would be removed from school libraries.

Three unidentified males reportedly robbed a beauty shop on Scarsdale.

The League City City Council voted to improve and expand Palomino Lane into a four-lane divided highway. Approval was needed in order to further the progress of CCISD's fourth high school.

Tuan Tran and Haley O'Neill were honored as outstanding male and female students at San Jacinto College South's annual student awards ceremony.

10 years ago (2010)
 John Ralph Ruff, 51, of League City was killed in a single-vehicle motorcycle accident in the 12600 block of Beltway 8. Ruff was riding a 2006 Harley Davidson motorcycle traveling west when he lost control on the I-45 South connector ramp causing him to go down striking the concrete.

Clear Brook seniors Brian Lemke and Karl Schaefer were named finalists in the 2010 competition for National Merit

Scholarships.

5 years ago (2015)
 A Clear Brook High School student was transported by LifeFlight to the Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital after being stabbed by another student March 26. According to Clear Creek Independent School District officials, the ninth-grade student was stabbed with a folding pocket knife in the leg, abdomen and neck. The 10th-grade student suspected in the stabbing was taken into police custody.

On March 30, Sagemeadow resident Charles Jordan was one of 20 people nationwide to be recognized by the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission. Jordan was honored for his selfless actions that likely saved the life of dog-attack victim Monica Garza the previous year.

1 year ago (2019)
 Two armed robberies took place in a two-day period, as residents were outside their own homes. The first incident occurred Saturday, March 23, in the 9400 block of Tree Bridge near Blackhawk, while the second occurred Sunday, March 24, in the 11900 block of Sagecliff.

Police did not believe the two incidents were related. No immediate arrests were made.

Moore hosts Art Community Night



Shown above are Guadalupe Hudson (left), art teacher, and Damian Hudson.



Shown above are second-grader Ivory Reyes (left) and his mother Caroline Luevanos.



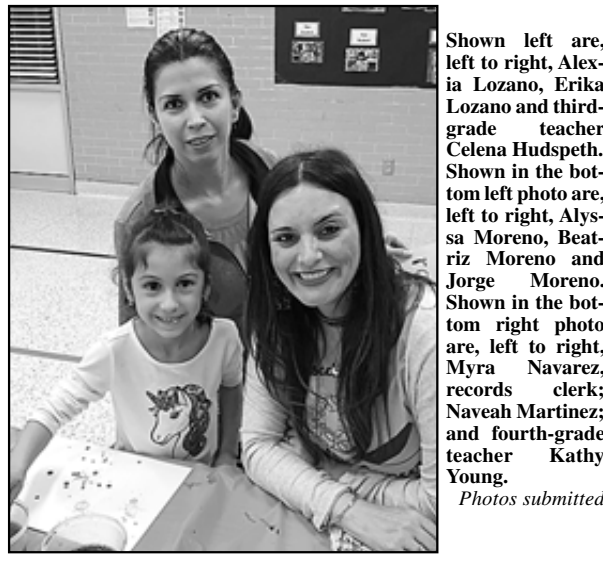
Shown are, left to right, Mariella Carmona; Lupe Carmona; and Leah Carmona.



Shown above are Rosa Ferrufino (left) and Roselyn Ramirez.



Shown above are, Lorenzo Garcia (left) and Hope Garcia.



Shown left are, left to right, Alysia Lozano, Erika Lozano and third-grade teacher Celena Hudspeth. Shown in the bottom left photo are, left to right, Alysia Moreno, Beatriz Moreno and Jorge Moreno. Shown in the bottom right photo are, left to right, Myra Navarez, records clerk; Naveah Martinez; and fourth-grade teacher Kathy Young. Photos submitted



Cornyn: next coronavirus bill will include direct aid to Texas workers

U.S. Sen. John Cornyn (R-TX) spoke on the Senate floor about the two laws Congress has passed to address the coronavirus pandemic and the next steps they are working on. Excerpts of Cornyn's floor remarks are below.

"Think about the waiter at your favorite local restaurant, the person who cuts your hair, the individual who sweeps the aisles after a basketball game, the housekeeper who cleans rooms at a hotel. They are among the millions of workers across the country who are trying to survive this new reality. Here in the Senate we're working as quickly as possible to support them."

"The restaurants, the hardware stores, the salons, the gyms and countless other small businesses operated by our neighbors are facing tough decisions."

"Over the last couple of days, I've talked about a number of my constituents, fellow Texans, who were experiencing hardship. One whose revenue is down about 60 percent. One who's rotating her employees so each can at least get some work. One who's terrified that this could sink the business he's worked on for 25 years."

"I wanted to assure all

Texans that we are working as quickly as possible to find the best solutions. The centerpiece of the phase three deal will be that direct aid to American workers who have been displaced."

"We're working to get our health care providers the resources and equipment they need to continue fighting this virus on the front lines."

"I'm proud of the fact

that when Texas faces a crisis, whether it's hurricanes or tornadoes that have devastated our state in recent years, Texans come together and support one another."

"This is not a time for us to engage in business as usual. This is a time for us to come together in a new and very important but different way. Stay home, take this seriously and we'll get through this together."

Driver license offices close temporarily

Gov. Greg Abbott recently announced that Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) driver license offices across the state are closing immediately.

This temporary closure will not apply to those seeking an initial Commercial Driver License (CDL). DPS offices that provide CDL testing will remain open solely for the purpose of providing initial CDLs.

Visits will be by appointment only and can be scheduled by emailing cdldappointments@dps.texas.gov.

This exception will allow commercial drivers to continue to ship goods across the state of Texas.

This announcement follows the governor's suspension of certain provisions of the Texas Transportation Code to delay

the expiration date for driver licenses, commercial driver licenses and other identification documents.

"Our commercial drivers are essential to the consistent flow of goods throughout the state and we will continue to ensure those seeking an initial CDL can do so," said Abbott.

"Closing driver license offices to those not seeking an initial CDL is another step the state is taking to encourage social distancing in our communities," Abbott said.

Though expiration dates have been temporarily suspended, individuals seeking to renew their driver license or personal identification certificate should check the DPS website to see if they are eligible to renew online.

Schools, city provide kids' meals

Continued from Page 1
 - Kendrick Middle School (3001 Watters Road.

- Shaw Middle School (1200 East Houston, Pasadena).

11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
 - Dobie High School (10220 Blackhawk Blvd.)

- Sam Rayburn High School (2121 Cherrybrook Lane, Pasadena).

- Pasadena High School (206 South Shaver St.)

- South Houston High School (3820 Shaver St., South Houston).

- Pasadena Memorial High School (4410 Crenshaw Road, Pasadena).

There is no cost for the meals. The program is open to all Pasadena ISD students and any child under the age of 18.

City of Houston

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department began its Curbside Meal Program for youths, ages 1 to 18, beginning Monday, March 23.

Local distribution sites include the Sagemont Community Center, 11507 Hughes Road; and the Beverly Hills Park Community Center, 10201 Kingspoint Road.

The Curbside Meal distribution of a snack and lunch will take place Monday through Friday from 1 to 3 p.m. On Monday, March 23, a total of 50 meals were available at each site. This may increase to 200 per site, based on participation.

To ensure social distancing is maintained throughout the curbside meal distribution, meals will be placed in the trunk of the recipient's car.

Guidelines for meal distribution

Community Center staff will distribute each participant the lunch and snack at one time. Each child will receive one lunch and one snack.

Only children who come to the site for pick-up can receive the lunch and snack. A parent cannot take food for a child that is not present at the time of pick-up.

The Curbside Meal Program is an adaptation of the federally funded and state managed After-School Meal program which operates through HPARD's Community Centers.

Funding for the program comes from a grant from the Texas Department of Agriculture Child and Adult Care Food Program.

Shoppers still making long lines



Midmorning at Sam's late last week showed no slow down of people shopping. Most grocery store owners declare there is no shortage of items and urge people relax and don't panic buy. Seniors are urged to take advantage of special shopping arranged for them. (See more information on Page 1.) Photo by Davy Flickinger

Pandemic cuts national festival short for JFD band

After earning the right to attend the Music for All National Music Festival in Indianapolis this year and raising the \$1,200 expense for each student, the pandemic cut short the dream of the Dobie High School Band when the governor of Indiana canceled the event 11 hours before they were to perform. Left to right are (first row) assistant director Clay McNeill, Brayann Mendez, Deanna Castellano, Marissa Maxwell, Kianna Casco, (second row) Cristo Lopez, Abraham Pizano, Lizbeth Flores, Renata Cadena, Viviana Frias, Daisy Gonzalez, Giovanni Luna, director of bands Kevin Erickson, (third row) assistant director Daniel Giedraitis, Connor Erickson, Wesley Godwin, Jesse Bustamante, Juan Rodriguez, Victoria Dao, Evan Rodriguez, Christian Reyes, A. J. Corpus, Timmy Phan, (fourth row) Tin Ly, Julian Mata, Carlos Hernandez, Ryan Sarazen, Aaron Garcia, Savannah Garza, Ethan Hernandez, Roy Gomez, Christopher Acevedo, Andrew Garcia, Nathan Lopez, (fifth row) Irene Kim, Amaode Uchendu, Luis Salinas, Raul Belman, Hector Delgado, Michael Garza, Adrian Martinez, Joshua Gamez, Samuel Tinoco, Brenna Cook, Chanel Lofton, Mauricio Lopez, Raymond Ulloa, (sixth row) Luke Burton, Benny Rodriguez, Fernando Gonzales, Sebastian Herrera, Elias Montez, Jacob De La Rosa, Zachary DeHoyos, Caleb Tamez, Terrance Teagle, Julian Hernandez, Kyle Stokes, Colby Arnold, Eric Wilson, Christopher Monita and Andy Neira.



Continued from Page 1
ny with a guest speaker and master classes with professional musicians, were canceled.

"Music for All was very conscious of any events that were going to put many people in close contact," said Kevin Erickson, Dobie band director. "They pretty much canceled every event we had scheduled in hopes of holding on to our performance."

At the festival the group was to be evaluated by conductors and other band professionals. After the per-

formance the band was to receive a 45-minute clinic from the evaluator.

"It's a great learning opportunity for the students. They have put more than 100 hours into the program in sections, full rehearsals and in individual preparation."

Despite the festival's best efforts to keep the performance on the schedule, the governor of Indiana ordered the events with more than 50 people to be canceled.

"At that point it was out of their hands," said Erickson. "As a band director you

don't want to disappoint the students and tell them they won't be able to perform, but it was in the best interests of the bands performing and the evaluators."

The band had performed a dress rehearsal before they were told they wouldn't get to perform.

"I especially feel for the seniors," said Erickson. "The dress rehearsal could be the last time they perform together with the current state of things."

Despite all the hard work the students put out to get to

the festival, they were very understanding of the situation.

"It was disappointing because it was one of the biggest things we worked for this year and we were about to complete it and it was taken away from us," said band student Daisy Gonzalez. "But the festival was trying to accommodate the circumstances and I'm glad they took precautions for safety measures."

Dobie band students not only worked hard to get to the Music for All festival, but they also paid \$1200 each to

be able to cover expenses to attend the trip. However, the trip being cut short has students hoping for a reimbursement.

"I believe we should be paid something back," said Gonzalez. "We didn't get the full experience of the trip."

The fees covered the charter bus, hotel, attendance at the festival and more for the students.

"At this moment I have no more information on getting any money back, but we are seeking to get some reimbursement," said Erickson.

COVID-19 information for public water

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) would like to provide important information regarding public water systems and preparing for and responding to the Coronavirus/COVID-19 outbreak.

A centralized website has been organized at <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/response/covid-19/covid-19-public-water-system-disinfection>.

The website contains up-to-date information concerning drinking water compliance, technical assistance, public water system guidance and other available resources related to drinking water.

COVID-19 is a virus that is susceptible to disinfection and standard treatment and disinfection processes are expected to be effective. TCEQ emphasizes the importance of maintaining adequate disinfectant treatment at public water system in accordance with TCEQ's rules to ensure continued health protection of drinking water. For questions or immediate assistance, contact the TCEQ regional office that serves the county or call the TCEQ's emergency hotline at 1-888-777-3186. Contact information for TCEQ regional offices can be located at <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/agency/directory/region/reglist.html>.

County or local emergency-management coordinators may be able to obtain assistance for water or wastewater system. Contact local government officials (city mayor,

county judge, or emergency management coordinator).

Often, the county judge may also serve as the emergency-management coordinator for the area. If not, that office can tell whom to contact.

A list of county judges is available at <https://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/voter/judges.shtml>.

Information on state emergency management, including the state district coordinator is through the Texas Division of Emergency Management and can be found by visiting <https://tdem.texas.gov/field-response/>.

More assistance is available through: TX WARN: 866-989-9276 or info@txwarn.org. The mission of the Texas Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network is to support and promote statewide disaster response and mutual aid assistance for public and private water and wastewater utilities. This is a free service.

Several third- and fourth-grade students were among thousands statewide that participated in choosing the title of the 2020 Texas Bluebonnet Book Award. Each student read at least five new books on the Bluebonnet list and voted for their favorite book. They were treated to a Bluebonnet breakfast by school librarian

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Morris recognized as model school

Continued from Page 1
The three components of a PLC call upon educators to focus on learning, build a collaborative culture and create a results orientation.

Schools are recognized based on strict criteria, including demonstration of a commitment to PLC concepts, implementation of these concepts for at least three years and clear evidence of improved student learning over that period. Once measurable results can be seen, the school must showcase its practices, structures and culture and submit an application to the PLC Review

Committee.

Educators in the schools and districts selected for this recognition have shown "a commitment to helping all their students achieve at high levels. They have been willing to alter the structure and culture of the organization to reflect their commitment. We applaud them and congratulate them for achieving this milestone on the never-ending PLC journey," said an official of the organization. Recognized model PLC schools are listed on allthingsplc.info, where they share implementation strategies, structures and per-

formance with educators interested in improving schools. Tools for collaboration, articles

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Food cards
All food cards purchased for 2020 will rollover and be valid for the 2021 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo.

— If one purchased a food card online and has not picked it up, it will be available at Will Call in 2021.

Grounds admission tickets

Getting Rodeo refunds for 2020 season

Continued from Page 1
remaining, they will see 120 next year.

Refund half-price carnival packs
For those seeking a refund on unused half-price ride and game tickets, ticket holders will need to make sure they have registered their Carnival Packs in the Rodeo Carnival app. Within the next few days they will receive a push notification, via text message, with a notification to open the Rodeo Carnival app and they will need to ensure the latest version of the app is installed. The updated app will offer the abil-

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Coping with COPVID-19

Continued from Page 1
People who meet the testing criteria will be provided a unique identification code and instructions on where to go for testing.

The site will only accept people with an identification code obtained through the screening process. People who show up without an identification code will not be tested.

The Houston Health Department, Harris County Public Health and the local medical community will open three additional testing sites in the coming days and announce an online and updated phone-based screening process.

"The drive-thru sites will augment testing by our local medical providers," said Dr. David Perse, local health authority for the Houston Health Department.

"We recommend people with symptoms first seek COVID-19 testing from their family doctor before seeking screening for a drive-thru site."

Area schools will remain closed through Friday, April 10, but are expected to continue doing so for a longer duration during this crisis.

Both Pasadena ISD and Clear Lake ISD have adapted to utilize virtual online instruction, while many parents have also been spending their newfound free

time homeschooling their children.

Despite the challenges, Pasadena ISD Superintendent of Schools Dr. DeeAnn Powell is hesitant to call off such events as graduation and the senior prom.

"We're not willing to call everything off yet," Powell said. "We're going to do what's best for the kids, so they can celebrate these milestones. I'm not sure how, but I don't want to tell seniors they graduated at a bad time."

Powell added she is grateful for the overwhelming support she and her fellow staff members have received through these difficult times.

For additional updates, visit houstonsemergency.org/covid19.

Leader distribution
For now, the Leader is still up and running and available in print form through several area locations. However, due to recent closures, the paper will be available only at spots deemed essential, such as grocery stores and pharmacies.

Government officials have also designated the press as essential in this time of crisis, and the Leader will continue to publish as long as possible, and online information will also continue to be updated.

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Reported race results in wreck

A suspected race of two vehicles on the east bound Beltway feeder road between Blackhawk and Beamer Road resulted in this vehicle (red arrow indicates the car) being wrapped around a giant electrical transmission tower. This photo was taken approximately 10 hours after the accident. The vehicle was not removed until the wires were stabilized. (See additional photo Page 1.)
Photo by Davy Flickinger

A suspected race of two vehicles on the east bound Beltway feeder road between Blackhawk and Beamer Road resulted in this vehicle (red arrow indicates the car) being wrapped around a giant electrical transmission tower. This photo was taken approximately 10 hours after the accident. The vehicle was not removed until the wires were stabilized. (See additional photo Page 1.)
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Moore celebrates Bluebonnet awards



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Lourdes Guenard. Enjoying the breakfast above are, left to right, Camila Salomon, Isabella Muñoz, Xitlalic Gonzalez and Alexander Chaney. Shown below, girls gathering with glee are, left to right, Nevaeh Martinez, Amara Valdez, Lourdes Guenard (librarian), Majesty Valentine and Melhanny Machado.



At the boys' table above, enjoying donuts are, left to right, Jesse Martinez, Ajani Jones, Izaiac Roncancio, Ethan Vega, Pedro Pena and Jayden Mandigo. Shown

below and donning all smiles are, left to right, Asia Jones, Jacob Gonzalez, Lourdes Guenard (librarian), Marcus Olivarri and Jeremy Beteta. Photos submitted



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