

Heavy trash pickup set

City residents south of Fuqua will have heavy trash pickup Thursday, March 11 (second Thursday of the month). City residents north of Fuqua and west of the Gulf Freeway will have heavy trash pickup Friday, March 12 (second Friday of the month). March is for tree waste. Due to a larger amount of debris being discarded during the COVID-19 pandemic, pickups may be delayed. For information, visit www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste or call 311.

Drive-thru fish fry continues

St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church, 11011 Hall Road, will host a drive-thru fish fry Fridays through March 26, 4 to 7 p.m. in the rear parking lot. Dinner consists of a breaded USA catfish fried fillet, hush puppies, cole slaw, corn on the cob, French fries, tartar sauce and a drink. Baked fish fillets are available in limited quantities. Cost is \$10. Cash and credit are accepted. All money raised will benefit KC local and community projects.

Beltway closures planned

At least one northbound and one southbound Beltway 8 frontage road lane will be closed from SH 225 to Vista daily from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and nightly from 8:30 p.m. to 5 a.m. through March 4.

At least one northbound and one southbound Beltway 8 frontage road lane will be closed at Spencer Highway continuously through 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 9.

At least one eastbound Beltway 8 frontage road lane will be closed from Furman to Scott Street/Fellows Road daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Thursday, March 4.

The closures are associated with the ongoing project to widen Beltway 8 from two to four lanes in each direction.

Gulf Freeway closures set

Two alternate northbound and southbound main lanes and frontage road lanes on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from NASA Bypass/NASA Road 1 to SH 96 daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and nightly from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Friday, Dec. 31.

At least one northbound and one southbound lane on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from FM 517 to FM 518 in League City daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Wednesday, March 31. Closures may intermittently affect two lanes of traffic and include alternate entrance and exit ramp closures.

At least one northbound and one southbound lane on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from FM 2004/Camp Wallace Access Road to FM 519/Main Street in La Marque daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Wednesday, March 31.

The northbound exit ramp from the Gulf Freeway to NASA Bypass/NASA Road 1 will be completely closed through Friday, Dec. 1. Motorists wishing to access these intersections may exit using the exit to FM 518 and proceed on the northbound frontage road to the intersections or exit using the Bay Area Boulevard exit ramp, then make a U-turn and travel south to the NASA Bypass or FM 528.

Two alternate northbound and southbound main lanes and frontage road lanes on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from IH 610 South Loop to Broad Street nightly from 7 p.m. to 6 a.m. through Friday, Dec. 1.

Both the northbound and southbound entrance and exit ramps between IH 610 South Loop and Broad Street will be closed nightly from 9 p.m. to 3 a.m. through Friday, Dec. 31.

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

SLL plans March 22 start

Should things go as planned, the Southbelt Little League plans to host its first pitch of the 2021 spring season March 21. SLL officials have been coordinating with county officials on safety protocols, etc., to ensure a safe return to play at El Franco Lee Park. The March 22 date will allow the league to bypass start/stop measures concerning spring break.

Salvador withdraws

Pasadena ISD board of trustee candidate Salvador Serrano Jr. has withdrawn his name from the ballot in the upcoming May 1 school board election. Serrano was running for the Position 1 seat being vacated by outgoing board member Fred Roberts. Noble J. Alix Jr. and Paola Gonzalez Fusilier remain in the contest to replace Roberts.

Voters will also decide who will fill the Position 2, 3 and 4 seats. Early voting will begin Monday, April 19, and continue through Tuesday, April 27.

COVID numbers continue

As of Wednesday, March 3, there were 112 confirmed deaths among South Belt residents due to the COVID-19 pandemic, up three from the previous week. Reporting of deaths related to COVID-19, however, may be delayed by local officials.

Of the 4,910 confirmed cases in 77089 (total population: 53,866), 275 remain active. To date, 49 from the ZIP code have died from the disease, increase of two from the previous week.

In 77075 (total population: 43,933), 193 of the 3,594 confirmed cases remain active. A total of 30 from the ZIP code have died, no increase from the previous week. Of the 3,716 confirmed cases in 77034 (total population: 40,532), 184 remain active. To date, 33 residents from ZIP code 77034 have died from the disease, up one from the previous week. According to Harris County Public Health officials, the vast majority of the fatalities suffered from pre-existing health issues.

Countywide, there are 353,450 total confirmed cases. Of those, 330,859 have recovered from the disease, while 19,262 cases remain active. A total of 3,311 deaths have been reported in Harris County.

Statistics are updated daily and include numbers from within both the Houston city limits and throughout Harris County. To view an interactive map, visit publichealth.harriscountytexas.gov/Re-sources/2019-Novel-Coronavirus.

Sagmont election March 21

The Sagmont Maintenance Committee will hold the annual election for committee members, Sunday, March 21, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at The Gardens Houston, 12001 Beamer Road. All homeowners are urged to participate in the voting.

Hays accused of killing grandmother, brother

A double homicide took place around 11 a.m. Tuesday, March 2, in the 11100 block of Cayman Mist Drive near Beltway 8 and Blackhawk.

According to police, the victims were the shooter's grandmother and younger brother.

The suspect was apprehended near the Gulf Freeway and Edgebrook shortly after the incident.

While no names had been released by police at press time, neighbors identified the victims as Carmen Hays and Bryce Alexander. The shooter was identified as Eric Hays. Alexander was a former Dobie High School student.

According to police, officers responded to a shooting-in-progress call to find the two victims dead, apparently killed by gunfire.

During this time, family members were

tracking the suspect down, eventually confronting him in the parking lot of the Academy store in the 10400 block of the Gulf Freeway. A struggle ensued, with Hays being struck in the head at least once. He was not seriously injured, police said.

Family members were able to detain Hays until police arrived. The suspect was arrested without incident and taken into custody.

"They were able to take the individual, detain the individual," said HPD Commander Matt May.

"Our officers arrived. They were able to recover the weapon that was used — or a weapon we believe was used — and were able to take the suspect into custody."

Prior to the arrest, a massive manhunt was un-

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Arrow shows location of double murder on Cayman Mist at Carmalee.

Franklin Moses named Secondary Principal of the Year

Dobie Principal Franklin Moses was recently named Pasadena ISD's Secondary Principal of the Year.

"Franklin Moses' leadership story revolves

around the central theme of service and support," a Pasadena ISD press release stated. "Franklin is child-centered and academically focused in all of his decisions."

Mr. Moses has continued the strong traditions of J. Frank Dobie High School and has built a climate and culture that is beyond compare. Franklin Moses is a great example of how effective leadership can have a profound influence on the entire school community."

Moses has served in the position since 2012. He previously served as assistant principal at Dobie, beginning in 2005.

He is the fifth principal in Dobie's 52-year history, succeeding Steve Jamail, who had held the principal position for 11 years.

A Louisiana native, Moses is a 1998 graduate of McNeese State University and a former math teacher and girls' basketball coach at DeRidder High School in Louisiana.

Pasadena ISD Superintendent of Schools Dr. DeeAnn Powell praised Moses' performance.

"Franklin Moses is a model leader and well-respected among all stakeholders," said Powell. "His Dobie pride is evident in all of his decisions. We are proud of the accomplishments J. Frank Dobie High School has achieved under his leadership. Pasadena ISD is fortunate to have Mr. Franklin Moses represent the district as the Secondary Principal of the Year."

This sentiment was shared by Pasadena ISD Associate Superintendent Alyta Harrell.

"It is a privilege and joy to work with Franklin," Harrell said. "His mantra is 'Better,' and he does just that — Franklin makes people better. With his ability to facilitate and guide others to have a growth mindset, students, staff, parents and community partners feel a sense of ownership and pride because of his leadership. His high standards and expectations of success for all makes the honor of Principal of the Year a

well-deserved accolade."

Similar praises were lauded by colleagues when nominating Moses for the honor.

"Franklin has been a personal mentor for me and taught me things to do as a principal," said one colleague. "He is respected among his peers

and is an advocate for the South Belt. He is asked to support many community and district events that spotlight the district." A second colleague reinforced this point.

"Mr. Moses has faithfully served as principal

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CB teacher arrested on sexual assault

A Clear Brook High School teacher was arrested Saturday, Feb. 27, on sexual assault charges that allegedly took place out of state in 2016.

Ricardo Valle, 34 of Seabrook, was charged with two counts of sexual assault, one count of official misconduct, one count of endangering the welfare of a child and one count of criminal sexual contact.

Valle served as a choir teacher at Brook since August 2018. He has been placed on administrative leave pending the outcome of the charges.

According to investigators, the alleged crimes took place while Valle was as a music teacher at Ocean City High School in Ocean City, N.J. Valle reportedly resigned from his position in June 2016 after the allegations were first reported. Clear

Creek ISD officials said they were unaware of the accusations when they hired Valle and a thorough background check had been conducted on him.

"The Texas Education Agency, for certified educators, requires all candidates be fingerprinted prior to receiving certification," said CCISD Communications Officer Elaina Polsen. "In CCISD, prior to hiring a candidate, we verify that the candidate has been fingerprinted and approved through TEA. Fingerprinting provides us with Texas DPS information, as well as FBI background information. Updated information is added directly to the Texas clearinghouse. Important note: the clearinghouse allows us to receive

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Friendswood man arrested by Pct. 2



Wesley Wisnoski

A Precinct 2 warrant execution on Friday, Feb. 19, led to a police chase and multiple other charges being filed.

The incident began around 5 p.m. when deputies with the Precinct 2 Evening Shift District Patrol

assisted the Gulf Coast Violent Offenders Task Force to execute a felony warrant in the 11800 block of Beltway 8 near the Gulf Freeway for defendant Wesley Wisnoski of Friendswood

on federal firearms possession charges.

Upon attempting to execute the warrant, Wisnoski fled the scene, attempting to elude Deputies. After a brief vehicle chase, Wisnoski's vehicle struck a concrete curb, leaving his vehicle inoperable.

Deputies and agents were able to take Wisnoski into custody at this time without further incident.

Wisnoski was taken into custody by Precinct 2 deputies and charged with felony evading in a motor vehicle, as well as felony possession of a controlled substance after methamphetamines and heroin were discovered on him at the time of his capture.

The federal felony warrant for possession of firearms was also confirmed.



Dobie high school principal, Franklin Moses was named the Pasadena ISD Secondary Principal of the year. He is shown here when the announcement was made.

Sparks fly over teacher trespass

Sparks flew Tuesday, Feb. 23, at the virtual Pasadena ISD monthly school board meeting when former Pasadena High School teacher and current PISD trustee candidate Yen Huynh Rabe used her allotted time to criticize the district for recently issuing her a trespass warning after she reportedly entered her former campus without permission to distribute drinking water to students following the recent winter storm.

Pasadena ISD officials condemned the action, saying it was a clear violation of safety protocols.

"When I found out from some faculty members and students that an alternative water source was not provided for students who forget to bring their water bottles, I wanted to donate bottled drinking water," Rabe said during her public presentation.

When Rabe mentioned her trustee candidacy, however, she was quickly rebuffed by Pasadena

ISD Board President Vickie Morgan.

"No ma'am. No, no, no," interjected Morgan. "We don't, Ms. Rabe. Everybody is to not listen to that. This is not a political announcement."

Now an instructor in Houston ISD, Rabe was issued the warning at her new campus by Pasadena ISD police following an investigation into the matter.

Rabe said she viewed the warning as a threat from current school district officials.

"This incident amounts to intimidation, as I tried to highlight the lack of quality drinking water for students," Rabe said.

Morgan again countered Rabe, suggesting that additional information had been omitted from her description of the events that transpired that day.

"Ms. Rabe, one thing you left out of your speech was how you gained entry into that school," Morgan said. "You gained entry through a student. So, this becomes a safety issue then."

Pasadena ISD Superintendent Dr. DeeAnn Powell noted that Rabe had sent several text-message correspondences with students on the day in question and had even used selfies taken with

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Good Samaritan delivers roses

An unknown good Samaritan(s) recently delivered a dozen roses to every doorstep on Sage-trail near Hughes Road.

The random act of kindness took place Wednesday, Feb. 17, as conditions remained frigid and icy from the historic winter storm that struck the South Belt community.

The incident was brought to the *Leader's* attention by longtime Sagement resident Joyce Shannon. "I thought it was marvelous," said Shannon. "It was like some angel dropped light into the darkness."

Shannon reached out to her neighbors to see if they knew the source of the surprise flowers. One female neighbor said she assumed her son had sent them, while a male neighbor joked that he had gotten them for his wife and she was not allowed to read about it in the *Leader*.

A few of Shannon's neighbors were displaced due to the hard freeze and, with their permission,

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Joyce Shannon and her surprise bouquet

Biden comes to Houston via Ellington

President Joe Biden and First Lady Jill Biden visited Houston Friday, Feb. 26, to survey the damage and recovery efforts from the recent winter storm. The couple flew into Ellington Airport, causing extensive traffic congestion in the South Belt community and throughout the city.

The visit marked Biden's first trip to the state since taking office. Biden was joined for much of his visit with a bipartisan team of officials, including Republicans, Gov. Greg Abbott and Sen. John Cornyn, and six Democrats, including Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner, Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo and four Houston-area

members of Congress.

"When a crisis hits our states, like the one that hit Texas, it's not a Republican or Democrat that's hurting," Biden said. "It's our fellow fellow Americans that are hurting, and it's our job to help everyone in need." The Bidens made stops at the Houston Food Bank and Harris County Emergency Operations Center, before taking a tour of the FEMA super-site at NRG Stadium.

The president promised federal aid to help Texans recover not only from the historic freeze but also the public health and economic crisis associated with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

COVID vax program resumed

Following a shutdown associated with the recent hard freeze, Harris County Public Health has resumed its COVID-19 vaccinations and testing.

Residents who had vaccine and testing appointments that were canceled due to weather will be rescheduled. Those with appointments for their first or second vaccine doses, or waiting for their second vaccine appointment, will be contacted soon, officials said.

HCPH needs additional doses to vaccinate everyone waiting for their second doses. People who had their first vaccination were giv-

en cards with the type of vaccine they received and the date their next dose is due. This is not an appointment. Appointments are sent as text messages with the date, time, location and a QR code.

A delay of a few weeks between the first and second doses does not reduce the effectiveness of the vaccine. Eligible groups being vaccinated at this time are health care workers, people over 65 and those with underlying health conditions.

If one is in an eligible group, register for the HCPH waitlist at vacstrac.hctx.net/landing. Vac-

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Avoid winter storm scammers

As Texas recovers from winter storm Uri, many charities have been set up to help those in need, but the public should not let scammers prey on their kindness. Scammers want to help themselves to your money. They're competing with legitimate charities and taking advantage of the public's generosity.

Charity fraud schemes seek donations for organizations that do little or no work—instead, the money goes to the fake charity's creator.

Charity fraud schemes come in many forms: emails, social media posts, crowdfunding platforms, cold calls, etc. Always use caution when looking to donate to charitable causes.

The following tips can help people avoid these schemes:

Never let anyone rush one into donating. Pres-

suring people to act right away is something scammers do.

Give to established charities or groups whose work you know and trust. Don't assume the charity on social media or online is legitimate, even if it was sent by a friend.

Be aware of organizations with copycat names or names similar to reputable organizations.

Be wary of new organizations that claim to aid victims of recent high-profile disasters.

Research. Use the Federal Trade Commission's resources (<https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/how-donate-wisely-and-avoid-charity-scams>) to examine the track record of a charity.

Give using a check or credit card. If a charity or organization asks for a donation through cash,

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In My Opinion

Rabe given trespass warning by PISD

This is my reply to the Trespass Warning that was issued to me on Feb. 5th, the day after I donated water at Pasadena HS, by a PISD Police Officer at my workplace.

"This decision is based upon your prior refusal to act or leave peacefully." Nobody asked me to leave.

"your inappropriate behavior has persisted after you were verbally warned to cease the behavior."

No such thing happened.

"After receiving a verbal warning"

No such thing happened.

"you were also provided a written warning"

No such thing happened.

"were ejected"

No such thing happened.

"District has determined that your future presence on District property poses a risk of harm"

Bringing water to the school does not qualify as a risky behavior.

I request that this whole warning be rescinded before it further harms my reputation and hinder my ability to actively work on my campaign to be on the School Board.

What I would like to ask the Pasadena ISD School Board is "What are you going to do about K-12 students not having an alternative source of quality drinking water?"

Yen Rabe

including the cafeteria – a location the office staff had previously, and explicitly, told her she could not go. To the District's knowledge, the other adults involved in the water donation with Ms. Rabe did not accompany her during this time. The District's investigation also revealed that Ms. Rabe engaged in text conversations with a current PHS student both before and during the time she was at PHS on the 4th. Shortly after receiving a text from Ms. Rabe on the 4th, the current PHS student came to the front office, ultimately exited the front office with Ms. Rabe at approximately 11:38 a.m., and accompanied her to several of the locations she accessed without permission. At least one other student reported that Ms. Rabe requested the student's cell phone number during her unauthorized time on the campus. Ultimately, Ms. Rabe exited the building after 12 p.m. At no time did the office staff provide Ms. Rabe with a visitor's pass or other authorization/permission to access any portion of the campus beyond the front office, and/or foyer.

After leaving PHS on Feb. 4, 2021, Ms. Rabe and another individual who the District believes is Ms. Rabe's father called Parks Elementary to ask if they could donate bottled water to the campus. Based on information provided to the campus during the call, Campus administrators initially believed that Ms. Rabe's father worked for HEB and wished to donate bottled water to the campus. Upon arriving at the campus, Ms. Rabe and her father communicated with campus office staff regarding their visit and were allowed to deliver the water. To the District's knowledge, Ms. Rabe and her father were only at Parks for a short period of time and promptly left the campus after the water was unloaded. However, prior to leaving the campus, it was revealed that neither Ms. Rabe nor her father were affiliated with HEB.

PISD responds to Yen Rabe

On Feb. 5, 2021, Pasadena ISD issued a written Trespass Warning for all Pasadena ISD properties to Ms. Yen Rabe after a Pasadena ISD Police Investigation revealed Ms. Rabe engaged in conduct inappropriate for the school setting and inconsistent with the District's safety procedures for campus access. It is unfortunate that a number of inaccuracies have been publicized with respect to this situation, including information related to this individual's inappropriate actions.

Pursuant to the Texas Education Code, the District has the authority to remove individuals from district property and/or prevent individuals from entering district property when their presence is not appropriate for the school setting and disruptive to the educational environment. The issuance of this Notice was, and remains, aligned with the District's authority and longstanding goals of ensuring the safety of every Pasadena ISD student and maintaining an appropriate, non-disruptive educational environment.

Pasadena ISD campuses are currently closed to the general public due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the additional safety measures the District has put in place to protect our students and staff. Even during "normal" times, District buildings/campuses are not completely open to, or accessible at the will of, the public. Instead, all campus visitors, including parents, other family members, and community members, are expected to follow campus safety protocols upon entering a campus or building. This includes checking in with the front office, notifying office staff of the purpose of their presence on campus, following staff directives, and only accessing portions of the building and/or campus after receiving authorization or permission from a Pasadena ISD employee. When a visitor fails to follow the District or campus safety protocols, their behavior is inherently inappropriate for the school setting and disruptive to the educational environment.

An investigation into Ms. Rabe's activities in the District on Feb. 4, 2021, revealed the following information. Ms. Rabe contacted Pasadena High School at approximately 8:30 a.m. on the morning of Feb. 4, 2021, and left a message for the PHS principal. Before the principal could return Ms. Rabe's call, Ms. Rabe went to the campus. When she arrived at the campus before 11:00 a.m., Ms. Rabe, a former Pasadena High School teacher, was wearing a PHS "Eagles" shirt, was accompanied by other adults, requested to donate water, and requested an unscheduled, immediate meeting with the campus principal. Office staff at the campus informed Ms. Rabe that the principal was unavailable for a meeting at that time as she was in the school's cafeteria for lunch duty and offered to schedule a meeting between Ms. Rabe and the principal at another time. Ms. Rabe asked the office staff if she could go to the cafeteria to speak with the principal and was informed that she could not. Even though the principal was not available to meet with Ms. Rabe, the office staff accommodated Ms. Rabe's request to donate bottled water and other staff members even provided assistance in unloading the water and bringing it into the building. During this time, Ms. Rabe was joined on campus by two other current candidates for the PISD School Board. Because Ms. Rabe and the other adults with her entered and exited the front office and building several times during their interactions with the office staff, staff members believed that Ms. Rabe and all members of her party had left the campus at approximately 11:38 a.m. after unloading the bottled water. However, when Ms. Rabe left the front office at approximately 11:38 a.m., she did not exit the building as the office staff believed. Instead, Ms. Rabe proceeded to access areas of the building that she did not have the authority or permission to enter,

At its March 1 meeting, the San Jacinto College board of trustees unanimously voted to approve an Order of Cancellation for the San Jacinto College Trustees election previously scheduled to be held on May 1, 2021.

Positions 5, 6, and 7, which are currently held by John Moon Jr., Dan Mims, and Keith Sinor, respectively, were to be on the ballot, but were unopposed for the election.

Unopposed candidates will be sworn in to their elected position at the June 7, 2021 board meeting, which is after the official canvassing period.

Voters in the following school districts elect the seven San Jacinto Community College District Trustees: La Porte, Deer Park, Pasadena, Galena Park, Channelview, Sheldon, and portions of Clear Creek, Pearland and Humble.

Elections for the San Jacinto College board of trustees occur every two years, in odd-numbered years.

The board is elected in numbered at-large positions, 1 through 7, and serves six-year terms.

San Jac College cancels election

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Shooting leaves 2 dead

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derway throughout the South Belt community, causing concern and traffic congestion among area residents.

Large crowds of mourners gathered at the crime scene.

At press time, police said there was no known motive and information on the shooter was very limited.

The grandmother was known by her neighbors as a caring person, who did much to help her grandchildren, some of whom frequently stayed with her.

Alexander attended Dobie9 last year and was a face-to-face student at Dobie Main this year until he withdrew last month. Counseling will be available for students, school officials said.

Residents surprised with roses

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Shannon collected the flowers and gave them to a friend of hers who is suffering from cancer.

The roses were all tagged with a label from Bloom Haus, a brand of flowers associated with the Kroger florist.

At press time, however, it remained unclear if the area store was involved in the distribution or not.

Shannon suspects the flowers were leftover from Valentine's Day.

"The men weren't going out and getting flowers this year like they usually do because of the freeze," Shannon said.

Shannon views the gesture as a blessing.

"I was really blessed," Shannon said. "They're beautiful. I received a blessing."

When the Pasadena ISD Police Department interviewed Ms. Rabe, she admitted that she was aware of and understood the campus visitor procedures and acknowledged that she was never issued a visitor's badge by the front office at PHS or given overt permission to proceed beyond the front foyer or front office by a PHS staff member. When the officer asked Ms. Rabe if she had permission to access the campus in the manner in which she did, Ms. Rabe told the officer that a student had "invited" her into the campus, and while she "felt like [she] shouldn't have gone," she "took the liberty to go" anyway.

Local library events set

In case of storms or adverse weather, refer to library website for details.

Bracewell Branch Library

Bracewell Library, is located at 9002 Kingspoint. For information, visit https://houstonlib.org/location/bracewell-neighborhood-library?items_per_page=200 or for virtual programs, visit <https://houstonlibrary.org/learn-explore/library-events> or call 832-393-2580.

Bracewell HPL To Go curbside service is in operation

Contactless Curbside services, known as HPL To Go, is available by appointment Mondays, noon to 7 p.m.; Tuesdays and Thursdays, noon to 4 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Customers walking or riding a bike may also pick up reserved materials. For questions, call circulation at 832-393-2222. To use HPL To Go:

1. Place a hold through the online catalog or by phone.
2. Receive email or phone call of notification prior to scheduling a time for pickup.
3. Upon arrival, park and stay in the vehicle and call to notify staff of arrival.
4. Have MY Link card number and PIN ready.

Book drop

The book drop is open. Library materials can be returned with no overdue fees. The library continues to provide online resources so the public can enjoy the library at home. Large items such as FLIP kits or laptops should not be placed in the book drop. Keep those items until further notice.

Additional resources

The Houston Public Library has electronic resources, books, audiobooks, databases for research, tutoring, language learning, education and parent information for Texas residents with a library card. To get a card, visit the home page at www.houstonlibrary.org under Here's What's Happening. Clicking on Free Resources for All to access the digital resources and a link to obtain a temporary card. Also, under the Here's What's Happening link, the card titled Online Resources for Kids accesses a Virtual Storytime, provided on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 11 a.m. The archived storytimes can be found on Facebook under Houston Public Library Virtual Storytimes. Another virtual program is Craft.

Houston Public Library's many free online resources and digital services are available 24/7 with a 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. Until further notice, only electronic items (i.e. e-books, e-audio books, etc.) are eligible for holds and check-out. HPL has a robust collection of free e-books and audio books. Visit the catalog to determine if a previously requested hold selection may be in a digital format. Instructions on downloading the e-book or audio book are on the site.

All overdue fines/fees will be waived through June 30, 2021, retroactive to March 14, 2020. While the Bracewell Branch Library remains closed, Wi-Fi service is still available by coming to the library standing/sitting within 6 feet of the building. A password is not needed. Go to Settings, then Network and Internet, Wi-Fi and connect to HPL – Public.

HPL is not accepting book donations at this time. Visit www.houstonlibrary.org to find virtual programs and digital resources. For more information, visit www.houstonlibrary.org to chat with a librarian 24/7, or to send questions through HPL's email reference.

Parker Williams Library

Parker Williams Library, is located at 10851 Scarsdale Blvd. Visit the website at <https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library> or call 832-927-7870.

For tax help through AARP, call the library for an informational packet. Patrons will be given instructions on setting an appointment after receipt of packet.

The book drop is open. No late fees will be charged during the library closure. Social media links are Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary and Instagram.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary.

Parker Williams "No-Contact Curbside Holds Pick-Up"

After receiving notification that holds are ready for pickup, call 832-927-7870.

- Have a library card number and PIN handy.
 - A pickup time and instructions will be given.
 - Upon arriving at the library, follow the instructions given.
 - Be prepared to show a library card or other form of ID for verification.
- Curbside hours are: Monday – Thursday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Friday, 1 – 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Visit <https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library> for details.

Online services

- Use HCPL Wi-Fi service with HCPL's Drive-up Wi-Fi.
- Download e-books and audiobooks, stream movies, research and learn at www.hcpl.net.
- Attend an HCPL program or story time online through Facebook or YouTube.
- Check an account to renew loans or request books, e-Books, comics or graphic novels.
- 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.

Don't have an HCPL library card? Instant access can be obtained to all HCPL's digital materials and research tools with an iKnow Digital Access Card. Apply at <https://www.hcpl.net/services/iknow-card> for a HCPL card. For details, visit <https://www.hcpl.net>.

Thursday, March 4, 10:30 a.m. Virtual Toddler Time. Join Mr. John (John Harbaugh) and Mr. Jason Cruz virtually for family fun. While this program is designed for 18 months to 4-year-olds, all children and families are welcome to join virtually. Sign up once with a valid email address online at <https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library> to get a weekly invitation. #toddlertime #storytime #story #childrensbooks #reading #books #harriscountyp1 #HCPL.

Friday, March 5, 1 p.m. Draw with Me. Join Ariel Perez who tries something a little more difficult, but still fun and easy to follow. Participants will need pens and markers for the videos which will be featured at Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary and Instagram.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary.

Tuesday, March 9, 10:30 a.m. Virtual Story Time. Join Mr. John (John Harbaugh) and Mrs. Celeste (Celeste Plew) This program will be on Facebook Live at Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary. #storytime #story #childrensbooks #reading #books #harriscountyp1 #HCPL.

Tuesday, March 9, noon. Drawing with Ariel Perez for virtual fun and easy cartoon drawings featuring various doodles, numbers and letters. This video will be featured on Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary and Instagram.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary.

Wednesday, March 10, 1 p.m., Spanish storytime with Jason Cruz. The video will be featured on Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary.

Wednesday, March 10, 3:30 p.m., ages 16 and older. Dungeons & Dragons Online. Join Tanner Adams online. No prior experience is required. Contact tanner.adams@hcpl.net for details.

Leader checks out social media

By Natalie Abarca
A member of Southbelt/Sagamont Crime Alert Facebook group posted that on Tuesday, Feb. 23, at approximately 9:30 a.m., a Hispanic lady – in her mid 30s, about 5 feet 5 inches tall, weighing 200 – 215 pounds, wearing a mask – knocked on a door in Wood Meadow II. The member states that the man of the house went to the door and slightly opened it to see who was there and noticed a Tahoe or Suburban parked across the street with someone sitting in the front seat with a hoodie on. The woman repeatedly asked him if he remembered her. She asked for the female of the house by name, then pushed her way into the home and started going toward the back of the home. The woman said her name was "Maria" and

that she sold tamales at the transportation department for PISD. Maria demanded \$200 for another lady who was locked up. Maria continued to be demanding until the lady of the home got scared. The man gave the woman \$200 to get her out of the home. The residents were scared that the person sitting in the vehicle across the street would try to enter the home also and harm them. The incident was reported to the constables, but the member wanted to notify the community. Other members commented and also stated that they have also encountered the same situation.

A member of the Neighbor's app posted a video of two individuals checking cars to see if they were unlocked. The incident happened Monday, March 1, at

3:40 a.m., in the Sycamore Valley subdivision. The member contacted the non-emergency number to request a patrol of the area.

Harmon Lee Kirkpatrick



Harmon Lee Kirkpatrick, 77, affectionately known as "Harmon Lee" by his grandmother, was born Jan. 11, 1944, in Dayton, Ohio, Growing up in Trotwood, Ohio, Harmon was an accomplished musician who played the French horn and trumpet in the Madison High School marching band and the viola in the school orchestra. He held multiple records on the high school track team, one of which still stands to this day. Although his mother envisioned his future in music, Harmon went on to study chemical engineering at the University of Cincinnati. He did, however, play in the marching band at UC and spoke often of his memories of the college football games and his band family.

While attending University of Cincinnati, he met his soulmate, Patricia Ann Weber. They married in June 1967. That same month, Harmon graduated with a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering. He went on to earn a master's degree in engineering and a master's degree in business – all while attending night school and working full time with his young family.

In 1975, after living in Springfield, Mass., and Harmon, Ohio, Harmon and Pat moved with their two young children to Houston. The couple became involved in their new community of Clear Lake City and made lifelong friends. Together, with many treasured neighbors, they raised their family. Once the kids were grown, they moved to Pearland, to enjoy a shorter commute to work.

Harmon enjoyed many professional accomplishments during his career. He was a licensed chemical engineer in nine states, a chartered engineer in the United Kingdom, and a Fellow of the Institute of Chemical Engineers (IChemE). Over the course of his career, Harmon was employed at Monsanto, Enterprise Products, PCI and Rimkus Consulting Group. While at Rimkus, he offered expert witness testimony for more than 50 cases on eight different continents. He absolutely loved his 29-year career at Rimkus, traveling to more than 40 countries, offering solutions to complex problems with his extensive knowledge of chemical and refinery processes.

He had three patents, published three papers, authored four conference papers and presented fifteen seminars. Harmon's intellectual abilities were second to none and his willingness to share this knowledge kept him working and consulting even at a late age.

Harmon's quick wit and dry humor was like no other. He often joked and shared quirky puns, illustrating his unique sense of humor. Those who knew him knew how much he liked to share his knowledge and life experiences. He also enjoyed sharing stories from the summers he spent on his grandparents' tobacco farm in Eastern Tennessee. He had fond memories of fishing and swimming, Boy Scout camping trips, and hunting frogs and squirrels with his cousins. He cherished this time in nature and with family.

Family was everything to Harmon. He not only loved and enjoyed his children, but

Deaths

his grandchildren as well. With his gentle demeanor, patience and kind heart, he was a fantastic grandpa. He was at his proudest when attending the numerous football, baseball, soccer, basketball and volleyball games, as well as academic events like spelling bees and band concerts. He adored his grandkids and spent countless hours writing memoirs and life-lesson notes to them, hoping to share some of his wisdom and history to help them navigate their own futures.

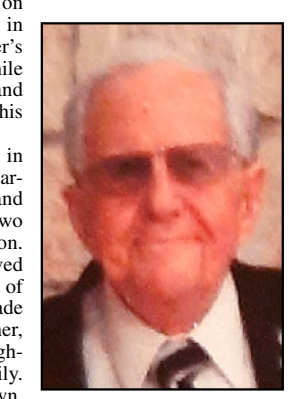
It is with great sadness that the family announces Harmon's passing on Jan. 21, 2021. With his devoted family at his side, he was called home, reminding them of his favorite John Denver song "Take Me Home, Country Roads."

He is survived by his loving wife; his daughter Jill Lynn Hunt and husband Keny of Tiki Island and their children Kaden and Cassidy; and his son Jason Harmon Kirkpatrick and wife Julie and their children Chloe and Nolan of St. Louis, Miss.; and many extended family members.

Harmon is also survived by his many lifelong friends, neighbors and colleagues. His knowledge and wisdom, extreme intellect, musical talent and love of family will live on forever in his family's hearts and memories.

A memorial service and Celebration of Life will be held at St. Luke The Evangelist Catholic Church later in the year.

William Don Holt Sr.



William Don Holt Sr., 88, former Sagelien resident, now of Meadowlakes, Texas, went to be with the Lord on Wednesday, Jan. 20, 2021. After several months of declining health, Don died peacefully with his loving family by his side.

Don was born in Paris, Texas, June 5, 1932. He graduated from East Texas State College (which is now Texas A&M at Commerce) with a degree in commercial art and advertising. Don married the beautiful Dorothy Ann Oakes Aug. 18, 1953, just before Don entered the U.S. Air Force as a second lieutenant. He was then off to flying school. During those years they lived in 10 different states and two foreign countries and he roamed the world accruing more than a million air miles. Don is a decorated Vietnam War veteran.

After retiring from the USAF as a major, Don spent nine years as a director at Arizona State University where he received his master's degree in business education. He was completing his doctorate when he was offered a job at Bayshore Hospital in Pasadena. He served there for 15 years and advanced to the position of senior vice president with a new company,

without a good principal. Franklin Moses is very deserving of Principal of the Year."

Milstead Middle School Principal Scott Pollack was named Pasadena ISD's Primary Principal of the Year.

Moses and Pollack will both go on to represent Pasadena ISD in the Region 4 Principal of the Year recognition, at a date to be determined.

Moses honored . . .

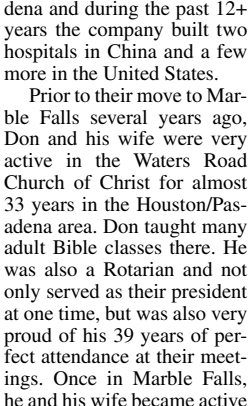
Continued from Page 1

at Dobie High School for a decade now," the colleague said.

"Generations of students and employees have benefited by his servant leadership and faithfulness to the South Belt community. Dobie High School experiences great academic, athletic and artistic success year in and year out.

"That does not happen

Mary Farias Garcia



Mary Farias Garcia, 90, died Feb. 25, 2021 in Houston.

She was born Sept. 15, 1930, in Victoria, Texas, but she spent more than 30 years as a resident of Sagamore. She worked in the banking industry for more than 15 years and attended St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church.

Mary is reunited with her husband Reyes Garcia, four sisters and two brothers.

She leaves behind to cherish her memories forever her sons Eddie Garcia and his wife Janice Putnam and C.J. Garcia and Lynn Garcia; and daughter Monica Huggins and her husband Rick.

Also surviving her are sisters Tillie Rodriguez and Lu Collins and her husband Dick; three grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren.

A visitation will be held Friday March 5, 2021, from noon to 2 p.m. with a service at Crowder Funeral Home in Pearland. Burial will be at Forest Park Cemetery in Webster.

South Belt-Ellington Leader

The Voice of Community-Minded People

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(Modified during COVID-19)

Saturday Vigil	5:30 p.m.
Sunday	10 a.m.*
Sunday	1 p.m. Misa en Español*

*Also Available on Facebook Live

Monday, Wednesday & Friday	9 a.m.
Tuesday & Thursday	7 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions)
Thursday 7:45 to 8:30 p.m. Saturday 4 to 5 p.m.

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Genoa Elementary's 100th day of school

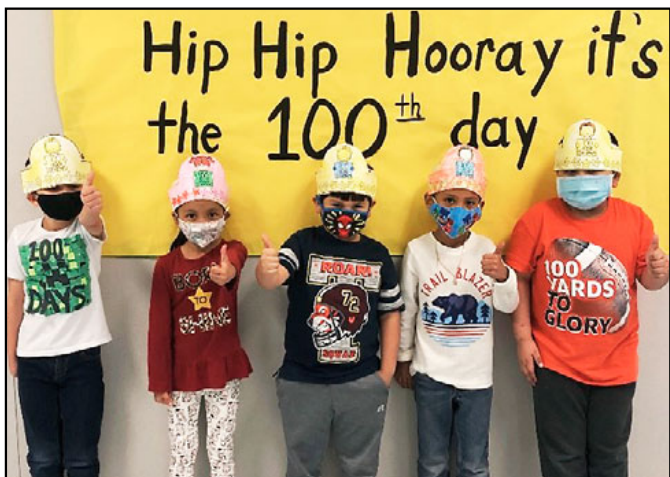
Genoa Elementary students and staff celebrated the 100th day of school by dressing up as 100-year-olds and decorated T-shirts displaying 100 items. The school was among many in the South Belt area to host a day of celebration.



Genoa students celebrated the 100th day of school. Standing in front of a decorated board are Maria Montelongo's kindergarten class, left to right, (front row) Allison Alvarado, Natalia De La Cerda, Camila Flores, Melanie Sandoval, Nohe Ordenez (back row) Anahy Gutierrez, Sophia Medrano, Franchesca Robles, Hadassah Del Angel and Juan Hernandez. Photo by Maria Montelongo



Melissa Portillo's fourth-grade class celebrates the 100th day by wearing T-shirts decorated with 100 items. Displaying their decorated shirts are, left to right, Maria Vargas, Belen Reyes, Bryant Valadez and Angie Amaya. Photo by Melissa Portillo



Silvia Gonzalez's class members pose in front of their "Hip, Hip, Hooray" banner as they celebrate the 100th day of school. Shown left to right are Adan Avina, Ivana Gonzalez, Alexander Garcia, Byron Siberian and Gael Olivera. Photo by Silvia Gonzalez

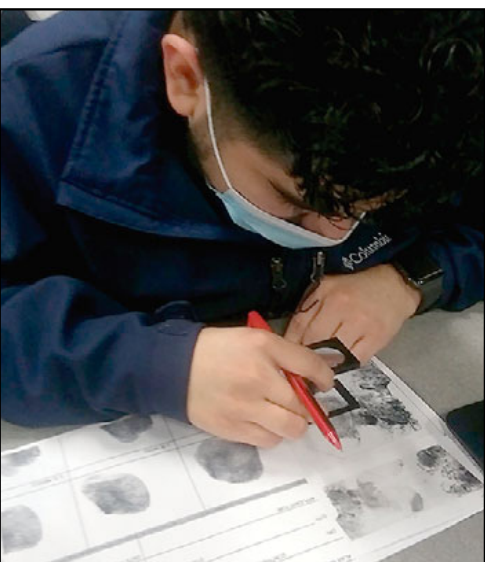


All smiles behind their masks are, left to right, Aaliyah Antunez, Alyza Cruz and Ieri'yn Littleberry who are stacking 100 pencils to celebrate the 100th day of school. The trio are displaying the number 100 with their hands. Photo by Christa Wiggins



Kindergarten students creating their own stack of 100 pencils for 100th day of school are, left to right, Alejandra Vazquez, Sophia Guevara and Preslee Davis. Photo by Christa Wiggins

Career and Technical Education students of the month



To the left, criminal justice students learned how to retrieve a latent print, roll a 10-print card and compare the two prints to obtain a match. This match could be presented in court as evidence in a trial. They learned the different minutia points as well as had the opportunity to see their prints up close using a balloon. Examining fingerprints is Bryan Mata a Career & Technical High School criminal justice student.

At right, Edwin Vasquez, a culinary student, cooks some beef tenderloin with sautéed shallots and seared mushrooms with garlic. Vasquez is part of the CTHS Pasadena ISD culinary class.



Moore celebrates Lunar New Year



Moore Elementary recently celebrated Lunar New Year, the Year of the Ox. Students shown above in traditional Chinese attire are, left to right, (first row) Walker Nguyen, Jonthan Luu, Sophia Mai (dragon), Oliver Theriot-Baggerly, Lyann Tran (second row) Arian-na Castellano, Nhi Banh, Jayden Tran, Calvin Tran, Jessica Tran, Dharma Figueroa, Priscilla Nguyen-Vu (third row) Sylvia Theriot, Travis Tran, Izaiz Roncancio, Marcus Jacques, Trieu Nguyen, Bang Nguyen, Christina LeTran (fourth row) Minh Dang and Han Tran.

Burnett Beavers celebrate 100th day of school



Second-grader Eddy Varela (left) and Kameron Joseph celebrate the 100th day of school with gray hair.



Denisse Cortez (left), a Burnett resource teacher, poses with Dylan Canales, a Burnett kindergartener, on the 100th day of school.



In celebration of the 100th day of school Michael Melendez, a kindergarten student, wore a shirt decorated with 100 eyes.

PISD spotlights Walker

During February, PISD celebrated teachers throughout Pasadena ISD. Community School



Kimberly Walker

in Pasadena, shined a spotlight on Kimberly Walker, an economics and speech teacher. Walker is a kind

instructor who serves as the social media liaison and as a minister at her church.

In addition, Walker works to create community partnerships to sponsor the campus's McKinney-Vento students.

Thanks to Walker's outreach, the students in the program are provided with many essential items such as food, clothing, Christmas gifts, gift cards, hygiene products and baby supplies.

In preparation for the cold weather, Walker collected winter clothing and other necessities for students.

"She is a warm, caring individual who always has a smile on her face," said Jennifer Capra, principal at Community School.

Avoid winter storm scammers

Continued from Page 1
gift card, virtual currency, or wire transfer, it's probably a scam.

Practice good cyber hygiene using the following:
- Don't click links or open email/text attachments from someone you don't know.
- Manually type out links instead of clicking on them.
- Don't provide any per-

sonal information in response to an email, robocall or robotext.
- Check the website's address—most legitimate charity organization websites use .org, not .com.
- If one suspects one has been victimized or has information about these types of schemes, one can:
- Contact one's financial institution immediately upon suspecting or discovering a fraud.
- Report fraud to the FBI at tips.fbi.gov.
- Report online fraud to the FBI's (IC3) Internet Crime Complaint Center at

www.ic3.gov.
- File a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) at ReportFraud.ftc.gov.

Resources:

Links to useful resources include:
<https://www.fbi.gov/scams-and-safety/common-scams-and-crimes/charity-and-disaster-fraud>
<https://www.consumers.ftc.gov/features/how-to-navigate-wisely-and-avoid-charity-scams>
<https://www.consumers.ftc.gov/destacado/como-donar-sabiamente-y-evitar-estafas-de-caridad>

Harris County Promise deadline March 5

High School seniors from South Houston, Sam Rayburn and Dobie high schools who applied and were accepted to the Harris County Promise at San Jac Program must apply to San Jacinto College through ApplyTexas.org by Friday, March 5.

There is no cost to apply. The Harris County Promise at San Jac Program provides financial assistance to help cover the costs of attending college.

For more information, visit sanjac.edu/harris-county-promise-program or contact Chalen Rice at Chalen.Rice@sjcd.edu.

Frazier offers scholarships

Frazier Elementary is offering five scholarships to graduating Dobie High School seniors who attended Frazier Elementary School.

Applications are available at Dobie's College Now office and are due back to that office by March 26.

LEGAL NOTICE

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a (Mix Beverage Permit and FB by TFC Seafood LLC dba The Famous Crab Cajun Seafood N' Oyster), to be located at 12130 Dickinson Rd, Houston, Harris County, Texas. Officers of said corporation are Raymon Lin, Wei Zheng.

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All interested vendors please visit:
<https://portal.usac.org/suite/>

Form 470 Application Number:210016284

Please see RFP at <https://erate.esc12.net/R12>

Frazier celebrates 100 days of school



Frazier Elementary recently celebrated the 100th day of school. Students wore shirts decorated with 100 items and participated in classroom activities. Students in Charity Boone's first-grade class posed in front of a 100-days sign, left to right are, Jaxon Jimenez, Elianni Ortega and Luna Robles Pena.



Jaxon Vela, a pre-K student in Michelle Huitron's class, strings 100 Fruit Loops to make a 100-days necklace.



Students in Kristi Vela's second grade class posing for a 100 days-photo wearing their decorated shirts are, left to right, Kevin Richardson, Justin Nino, Mason Aguirre, Gregory Garcia, Adelyn Guillen, Ariannah Gutierrez, Julianna Guerra and Sophia Guerrero.



Fourth-grade teacher, Kalpana Mobley celebrated 100 days of school with her students. Shown are, left to right, Jude Arizaga, Mobley and Armando Reyes.



Celebrating the 100 days of school are students in Amanda Brewton's second-grade class. Showing off their 100-day shirts are, left to right, Ethan Hernandez, Samantha Arriola, Michael Aguirre, Luke Irizarry and Audrey Gonzales.



Samuel Palacios, a pre-K student in Michelle Huitron's class, uses a bingo dotter to make a 100-days picture.

CrossRoads UMC donates water to Burnett



Burnett officials are thankful for their partnership and friends from CrossRoads UMC for getting pallets of water to help their Burnett families after the winter storm and boil order. Standing in front of the water are, left to right, Jae Lee, Burnett principal; Paul Margheim; and Ted Hook. Burnett officials extend a big "thank you" to Rick Holgin for setting this up and the Rev. Cesar Martinez, pastor of Crossroads.

Three Clear Creek JROTC programs receive top honor

The JROTC programs at Clear Falls High School, Clear Creek High School, and Clear Lake High School

Burnett donates to animal shelter



Karina Diaz, Burnett Elementary counselor, is shown above at the Pasadena Animal Shelter with Teddy the dog. Teddy is up for adoption along with other dogs at the shelter. Diaz dropped off food from Burnett's Random Acts of Kindness food drive at the shelter.

have been named as Honor Units with Distinction (HUD) by the Department of the Army.

This is the highest rating a unit can receive.

The Army's JROTC Program for Accreditation (JPA) is a rigorous three-year program to recognize units that maintain exceptionally high standards of training and discipline in all areas of program operation.

Out of more than 1,750 Army JROTC programs nationwide, fewer than 10 percent earn this award.

This was the first year for Clear Falls, while Clear Creek and Clear Lake both earned it in their last inspections.

For the formal inspection, both the cadets and their instructors are evaluated and inspected on a variety of elements including service-learning projects, portfolios, unit reports and interviews.

"The cadets put in many hours conducting the ser-

vice-learning project and preparing to brief the inspectors," said retired Army Lt. Col. Wendell Harris who is the district coordinator of military science and senior Army instructor.

"They are also required to come up with a continuous improvement plan for the program, implement the plan and assess the results."

Clear Creek JROTC

Cadets will receive merit points and individual awards for their performance.

The HUD designation also allows the instructors to nominate students for the U.S. service academies.

"We would like to acknowledge how proud we are of our JROTC programs," said Harris.

"This is an outstanding achievement requiring countless hours of hard work and dedication by our cadets and cadre.

"It is in keeping with CCISD's mission statement ensuring all students achieve, contribute and lead with integrity."

Green Thumb lecture scheduled March 8

The Green Thumb Gardening Lecture "Composting" presented by Harris County Master Gardeners with Houston Community College is scheduled for March 8.

The free virtual lecture on composting will be from 10-11:30 a.m. Register early at hccs.edu/community-learning-workshops.

Remember When

45 years ago (1976)

Staff members of Community Bank on Telephone Road were really in the spirit of "Go Texan Days" and greeted customers in "Good Ole Western Wear."

40 years ago (1981)

David Terry Haley, head coach at San Jacinto Intermediate, was selected to replace Eddie Francis in the Pasadena Independent School District at the regular monthly board meeting.

More than 100 parents from the Sageglen and Green Tee subdivisions attended the Clear Creek Independent School District board of education meeting to urge the board to purchase land in the northwest portion of the district for an intermediate school and a high school.

35 years ago (1986)

Safeway's five Drugs for Less stores, including the location on Hughes Road, closed their doors because the chain as a whole was not profitable.

A METRO representative told a crowd of 50 current and potential bus riders that while the South Belt area posed several geographic constraints for local METRO bus service, routes could be formed if interest was great enough.

30 years ago (1991)

Officials at the Environmental Protection Agency Region 6 in Dallas agreed to supplement the Brio Superfund Repository with related information. Brio project manager Lou Barinka said he saw no problem with putting the requested documentation involving possible health risk in the files.

Between a possible tax rollback and the Texas Legislature, Clear Creek Independent School District could have lost up to \$10 million for the 1991-1992 school year.

25 years ago (1996)

The youth sports complex at El Franco Lee Park officially opened.

20 years ago (2001)

A year had passed, and there were still no leads in the cases of Jonathan Barrica or Gail Totman.

Stuchbery Elementary School's library was named in memory of longtime teacher Kay Galvan.

15 years ago (2006)

South Belters prepared for the upcoming election day which included one hotly contested race for local Justice of the Peace. George Risner faced challengers Vicky Morris and Leobaldo "Leo" Cardenas in the Democratic primary.

South Belt physician Dr. Mary Campbell-Fox was honored as the PISD 2006 Distinguished Alumna at a reception held in her honor.

The combination of alert neighbors and a quick response from Precinct 2 Constable Gary Freeman's deputies resulted in the arrest for possession of a controlled substance and a failed home burglary.

10 years ago (2011)

Members of Houston's new professional soccer team Dynamo paid a visit to the San Jacinto College South campus for a scrimmage against the Coyotes' men's team.

Dobie senior Eddie Nunez led the Longhorn charge by winning the varsity category and posting the highest score in state varsity competition history. Dobie also finished

first in the Super Quiz portion of the meet. Clear Brook finished fourth in the competition, and Pearlard finished fifth, making three of the top five placing schools in the state from the Greater South Belt area.

For the second time in a month, a local game room was shut down by authorities. Lucky Bee Game Room, 10930 Kingspoint, was one of three game rooms that was raided following a 10-month investigation by the Houston Police Department's Vice Division. The other two game rooms were Gulf Paradise, 8310 Gulf Freeway, and Lucky Game Room, 2728 South Richey. Five suspects were

arrested and charged with felony money laundering.

South Houston High School celebrated the opening of the school's Hall of Honor at a ceremony coinciding with the 54th anniversary of the school's opening in 1957. Among the inductees were South Belt residents Emory Gadd, Cheryl (Williams) Bolen and Norton White. While not officially on the list of inductees, the ceremony also honored former longtime South Belt resident Al Carter, who was largely responsible for organizing the event.

The results from the March 1 primary elections were tallied, with the Harris County

Precinct 2 constable Democratic race heading to a May runoff between incumbent Chris Diaz and George Goffney Jr. Diaz received 45 percent of the vote to Goffney's 21 percent. Joe "Joey" Martinez received 17 percent of the vote, while Ruben Loreto received 16 percent. In the Republican primary for the constable position, Daniel Vela avoided a runoff, defeating Joe Alanis 51 percent to 49 percent.

Incumbent Chris Diaz received 35 percent of the vote to challenger Jerry Garcia's 39 percent. The race had proven to be controversial, as a second candidate also named Jerry Garcia - the cousin of Diaz's wife, Jacinto City Mayor Ana Diaz - also appeared on the ballot, causing confusion among voters.

Despite withdrawing from the race, the second Garcia still received 9 percent of the vote (1,347 votes), roughly on par with legitimate challenger George Coffney Jr. and ahead of Alberto "Bert" Rivera, who received only 7 percent. The winner of the Democratic runoff election held in May faced Republican Daniel Vela in the general election held in November.

1 year ago (2020)

The results from the March 3 primary elections were tallied, with the hotly contested race for the Democratic nomination in the race for the position of Precinct 2 constable headed

Over The Back Fence by Alexis

SIBLINGS CELEBRATE SAME BIRTHDAY

Special birthday hugs are sent to Robert "Austin" Scarberry (2007 Dobie grad) on Sunday, March 7, from his daughters Jade and Lily Scarberry. Austin served his country in the U.S. Coast Guard. His sister, Jenny (Hayes) Laney (1997 Dobie grad), also has a birthday March 7. Hugs and kisses are sent from Jenny's husband Josh Laney and children Brayden, Baylee and Olivia. Best wishes for a great birthday are sent to both from proud parents Robert and Jannie Scarberry, former longtime South Belt residents; brother Joseph Hayes (2000 Dobie grad); sister Stacey (Hayes) Flowers (2005 Dobie grad), husband Stephen and children Kennedy, Owen and Evie; and brother Tyler Scarberry (2010 Dobie grad).

ROBERT MARKS A BIRTHDAY

Robert Scarberry, retired longtime Dobie auto collision repair teacher and former longtime South Belt resident, celebrates his birthday Tuesday, March 9. Birthday wishes are sent from wife Jannie; children Jenny (Hayes) Laney and husband Josh, Joseph Hayes, Stacey (Hayes) Flowers and husband Stephen, Austin Scarberry and Tyler Scarberry; and grandchildren Brayden and Baylee Espinosa, Olivia Moreno, Jade and Lily Scarberry, and Kennedy, Owen and Evie Flowers.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, DIDDY!

Diddy Clark celebrates a birthday Tuesday, March 9. Best wishes are sent for a wonderful day from her family, friends and co-workers at the Leader.

SCHOOL DAZE

The following personnel and staff of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays March 4 through March 10, 2021.

Bush Elementary

The day for a birthday gift for Marilyn Beltran is March 4.

Frazier Elementary

Greetings for a wonderful birthday are sent to Vanessa Rodriguez March 7.

Moore Elementary

The day for a birthday to Guadalupe Hudson is March 9.

South Belt Elementary

Remember to wish Kami Brown a happy birthday March 4.

Stuchbery Elementary

Marking a birthday March 6 is Melissa Cardenas.

Melillo Middle School

Birthday wishes are sent March 4 to Raven Lowe. Break out the party favors March 10 for Diane Wheeler, school principal.

Thompson Intermediate

The day for a birthday celebration for

Caleb Lopez is March 6. Light the birthday candles March 9 for Alexandra Alvarado. Dobie High

Celebrating a happy birthday March 7 is Heather Adams.

FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS

Thursday, March 4: Susan Rogers, Vanessa Murillo, Leslie Lytle, Gigi Childers, Chaunte Harvey, Linda Eckerman, Michael Krafka and Nan Laux; Friday, March 5: Laura Arnett, Marty Pendleton, Karen Gonzalez, Amy Tisnado, Chris Lively, Mary Granger and Camille Maloney; Saturday, March 6: Keith Kirby and Cydrice McMillian; Sunday, March 7: Amber McMurrugh, Susan Metger and Christopher Kennard; Monday, March 8: Diana Vela, Matt Anderson, Michelle Fuller and Mark Solis; Tuesday, March 9: Cheryl Stell, Rudy Rivera, Leah Lister, Lance Botkin, Susan Zientek, Monte Long and Jo Richards; and Wednesday, March 10: Jim Daigle, and Sheila Dill.

LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS

Email announcements of anniversaries, vacations, and graduations to mynews@southbeltleader.com with OTBF in the subject line by Friday noon for the next week's publication. For birthdays, type "OTBF: Friends Celebrate Birthdays" in the subject line.

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SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

Track and field off and running

The Dobie varsity track and field programs wasted little time getting into the swing of things, as the Lady Longhorns were second overall and the boys fourth at the Bayshore Olympics Feb. 26 in La Porte.

The Dobie girls aided their effort with a pair of relay wins and a second place finish in a third for 56 of their 121 overall points. St. Agnes was the runaway winner with 183 team points.

Dobie's boys' squad delivered a solid overall effort in its season debut, scoring 63 points and getting overall wins from Alberto Campa and Jeremiah Ballard during the event.

Strake Jesuit scored 173 team points for the win, and Clear Lake amassed 155 points.

The Lady Longhorns got 20 points each for their 4x1 and 4x2 relay wins, plus another 16 points for second place in the 4x4.

The 4x1 win came at 50.89 seconds as Doneya Porter, Deiara Jackson, Briana Haywood and Ambron Jones combined in the event.

At the 4x2 distance, Dobie won in a time of 1 minute, 51.08 seconds as Haywood teamed with Denim Boone, Jackson and Ariana Walls.

It was then Walls, Mia Sanchez, Sophia Perez and Jones for second place at 4:25.38 in the final event of the meet, the 4x4.

In the girls' 100, Dobie's Jackson claimed second place at 12.93, with team-

Continued on Page 6

Wolverine baseballers get off to 2-2 early on

The historic winter storm wiped away opening day, and Clear Brook's varsity baseball team lost two games at the David Anzaldúa tournament in La Porte Feb. 25-27 in which they held multi-run leads.

Still, the Wolverines emerged from the first week of play at 2-2 overall, and veteran head coach Gene Flores is very pleased about the possibilities as the March 4-6 Clear Creek ISD Invitational comes.

The Wolverines will now face bonafide post-season bracket fillers North Shore, Pearland, Deer Park, Friendswood and Kingwood during the three-day CCISD event,

and Flores is interested to see what transpires.

"The bottom line is the District 24-6A race basically features a play-off-like atmosphere every night, so this tournament will help us prepare for district play," Flores said.

"You have to pitch well, play solid defense and come up with key hits, plus you have to be able to stretch your pitching over five games in three days. We will see increased velocity, better hitting and just overall great baseball teams, so we are excited."

During week-one play in La Porte, Brook opened its season with a 5-3 win over Magnolia but then lost to Deer Park after a

Continued on Page 6

JFD boys seize 22-6A soccer lead

A 1-2 start to the District 22-6A season is now in the rearview mirror as the Dobie varsity boys' soccer team has taken over first place down the stretch.

Jonathan Torres had two goals and Jordi Garcia and Isaac Cortez also scored as the Longhorns dominated Deer Park 4-0 in a showdown for the top spot March 1 in the drizzle at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena.

With six straight wins and remaining games coming against the bottom three teams in the standings, Dobie has what would be a seventh consecutive league title within its sights.

Alejandro Vigil, Gerardo Martinez and Cortez assisted on goals as the Longhorns avenged a first-half loss to the Deer.

With 21 points (nine games), Dobie has overtaken Channelview (19 points, nine games) and Deer Park (17 points, 10 games) in the standings.



At right, Jonathan Torres (9) came up with a pair of goals in a 4-0 shutout of Deer Park March 1 at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena as the Longhorns took over first place in the standings.
Photo by Donna Alsdorf

Lady Horns red-hot after comeback

By John Bechtle Sports Editor

The Dobie varsity girls' softball team could not have positioned itself any better entering District 22-6A action, having won four straight games and five of six overall during the Haynie Memorial Invitational Feb. 25-27.

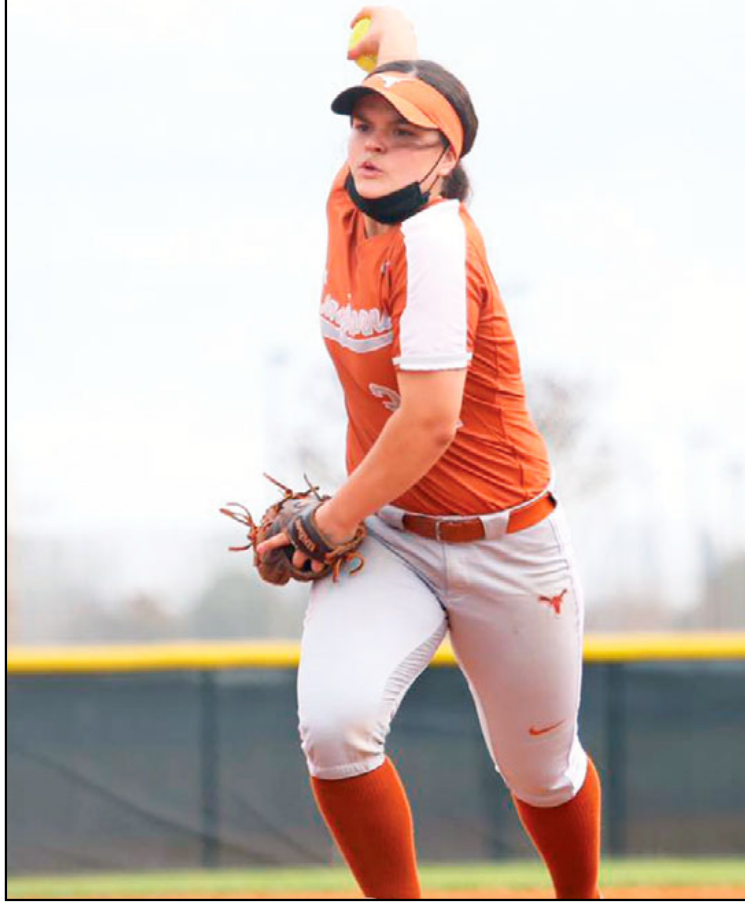
Shellie Ferguson's walk-off double sent the locals home for the weekend in a great mood following a 6-5, come-from-behind win over 2019 Class 6A state champion Katy.

The Tigers led 5-3 heading into the bottom of the fifth inning before the Lady Longhorns rallied.

Continued on Page 6

At right, Dobie's Karlie Barba (22) delivers a pitch during the Lady Longhorns' easy win over Calvary Baptist Feb. 27, which was followed by a dramatic walk-off win over 2019 state champion Katy as Shellie Ferguson came through.

Photo by Brittney Hernandez



JFD baseball starts slow

Whether it was growing pains, a bit of tough luck or simply tough competition, the new-look Dobie varsity baseball team was winless in the opening week of play at 0-6.

The capper came Feb. 27 as host Alvin blanked the Longhorns 6-0, allowing five singles along the way over five frames.

The locals didn't have much more luck Feb. 26 at Clear Falls as the Knights took a 9-3 win with five runs in the fifth, and Pearland plated four runs

in the bottom of the sixth of an eventual 6-3 victory.

Noah Torres and Luis Nieves drove in runs against Falls, and Jacob Perez was 2 for 3 with a run scored and two more driven in against Pearland.

Marcelo Merced also doubled and drove in a run against Pearland despite the loss.

Clements escapes Clements walked off the Longhorns 8-7 in the bottom of the sixth inning of the nightcap at Friendswood as the locals saw

leads of 6-3 and 7-6 slip away.

Luis Nieves and Juan Estrada drove in two runs each for the Longhorns, and Mikey Torres had two

Continued on Page 6

Brook's run ends at 22-3 Summer Creek boys prevail over Wolverines in area hoops

The words Summer Creek are liable to stay scribbled on the white board throughout the off-season in the Clear Brook locker room. Yet who needs a reminder?

Summer Creek's Amaree Abram and Jaleen Goodman had 20 points each as the Bulldogs held off Clear Brook yet again, downing the Wolverines 71-68 in the Region III boys' basketball playoff round Feb. 24 at Phillips Field House in Pasadena.

The Bulldogs, who also enjoyed a three-point win over the Wolverines in last season's same area round, improved to 18-5.

The Wolverines, with 48 wins over the last two seasons, ended their 2020-2021 run at 22-3 despite getting 20 points from Marcus Millender and 16 more from Christian Bradshaw.

There is disappointment today and probably

tomorrow, yet there is also plenty to be proud of as the 2021-2022 quest gets underway this weekend.

Brook won 14 straight games to begin the season and earned a Texas Association of Basketball Coaches state ranking that climbed to No. 21 in the final regular season poll. Summer Creek was at No. 14.

After a one-point loss to Clear Lake, the Wolverines buckled down to win the District 24-6A crown before dropping a meaningless regular-season finale to Clear Falls by two points.

Bidistrict champions for the second straight season following an 11-point win over Pearland, the Wolverines went toe-to-toe with Summer Creek before this run ended.

The Wolverines' three losses were by a combined margin of six points.

Head coach Nathan

Janak has already overseen the best two-year run in program history. The players have performed so well, and while few are interested in looking ahead, the future remains bright.

The Millender brothers - Kemo and Marcus - both return. So does Bradshaw as well as Ja'Michael Young, who had 13 points against Summer Creek.

And after missing the season following knee surgery, Zyon Little, a 6-foot-5 dynamo who was an all-district performer as a freshman in 2019-2020, will return.

The UIL playoff bracket stays the same each season.

The Wolverines will surely run into Summer Creek next season should both teams win bidistrict games, and it's likely something Clear Brook will be thinking about until then after consecutive losses.

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 ★NEW! Sageglen - Beautiful 4-2-2 with new flooring, fresh paint throughout, both formals, vaulted ceiling in den, gated driveway! Won't last! #MAR
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PISD Baseball at Dobie

March 4 Games

JFD vs. Austin, 12:30 p.m.
JFD vs. First Baptist Christ., 3 p.m.

March 5 Game

JFD vs. Bay. Sterling, 3 p.m.

March 6 Game

JFD vs. MacArthur, 12:30 p.m.

March 9 22-6A Opener

JFD hosts S. Houston, 4 p.m.

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Lady Longhorns second at Bayshores

Continued from Page 5

The Lady Longhorns came up big in the 200 as Haywood's time of 27.72 was second, with Boone third in a time of 27.98 and Porter fifth at 28.66. Jones, meanwhile, was third in the 300 hurdles with a clocking of 50.32. She also went 4 feet, 8 inches in the high jump for third place.

At 34-3, Jackson captured second place in the triple jump, with Walls sixth at 30-5. Meanwhile Ridge was fifth at 15-7 and Natalie Onozie sixth on more tries at the same 15-7 distance in the long jump.

On the boys' side of

things, Campa and Ballard shone brightest for the Longhorns. Campa won the 3200 run at 9:55.60, with teammate Jhancarlos Carpio fourth with his clocking of 10:12.94.

In the 1600 event, Campa's clocking of 4:35.06 placed him third, with Carpio sixth at 4:45.66.

Ballard's victory came in the 110 hurdles as he cruised to the win in a time of 16.05.

The Longhorns' Antonio Lopez had a top throw of 118-11 for second place in the discus event, and Ballard's best of 5-10 placed him sixth in the high jump.

Third place went to Dobie in the 4x4 relay as

Falcon Relays Up Next

Clear Lake High School

Fri., March 5

Boys' and Girls' Events

Zach Wallace, Jonathan Jean, Cameron Gray and Travis Webb combined for a time of 3:43.04.

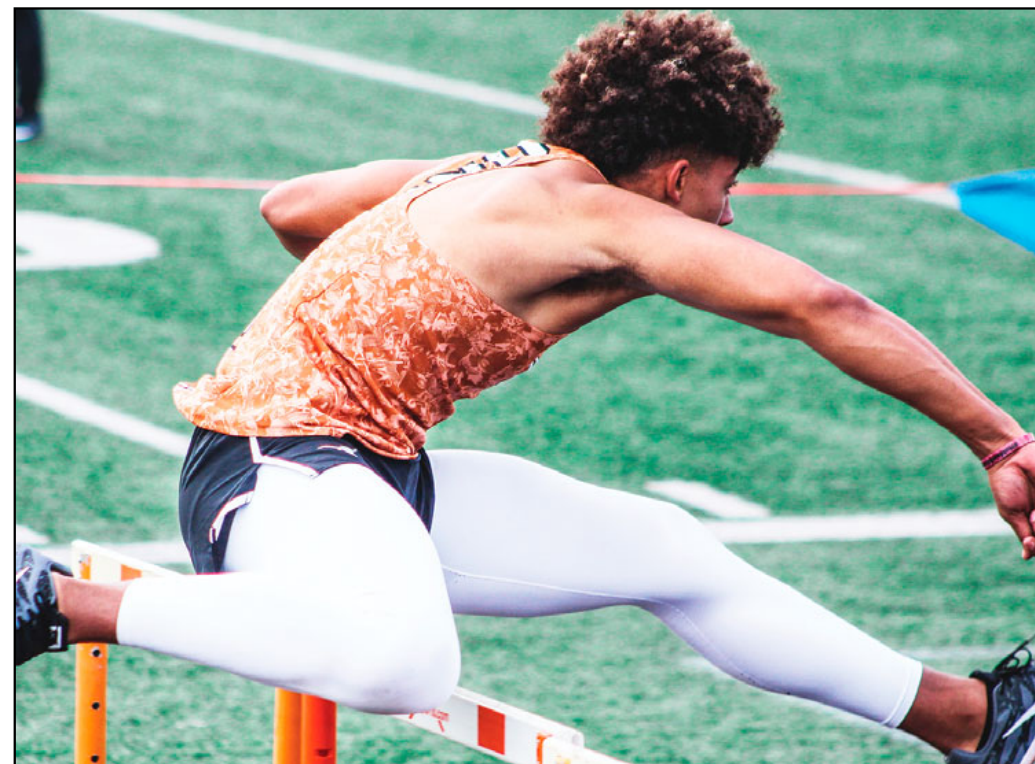
At the 4x1 distance, it was Jalen Baldwin, Ballard, Gray and Jean fourth in a time of 44.54. Meanwhile, Trajan Davis was clocked at 11.64 for fifth in the 100, with teammate Keith Evans sixth at 11.66.

Sanchez's time of 1:06.59 was fourth-best in the 400 dash, with team-

mate Sophia Perez fifth at 1:06.84.

The Lady Longhorns came up big in the 200 as Izzy Padilla was fifth in the 3200-meter run for the Lady Longhorns in a time of 13:04.03, and her time of 5:59.89 placed her sixth in the 1600-run.

Teammate Jocelyn Olivares was fourth in the 1600 with a time of 5:51.86 as she started strong.



Dobie senior Jeremiah Ballard scored one of two individual golds at the La Porte ISD Bayshore Olympics Feb. 26. Ballard's victory came in the 110 hur-

dles as he cruised to the win in a time of 16.05, and he was sixth in the high jump at 5 feet, 10 inches.

Photo by Gloria Wallace

Dobie baseball off to winless start

Continued from Page 5

hits, scored twice and had a double among his two hits.

In the second game of the day, Friendswood ran away with a 13-3 win.

The Mustangs plated eight runs in the third inning on the way to an 11-3 victory over five frames as

the Longhorns fell to 0-2.

Ball takes opener

In the season opener at Galveston Ball, the Longhorns had four hits, all singles.

A rough fourth inning was enough to send the Longhorns to a 6-3 defeat at Galveston Ball Feb. 23 as the locals got off to a

sluggish start on the island.

In that crucial bottom of the fourth, a 3-0 Dobie lead turned into a 4-3 deficit as the Tors used four hits and three walks to take the lead.

Juan Estrada had two hits for the Longhorns, who had four hits, but 11

strikeouts.

Noah Torres drew the opening-day start on the mound for the Longhorns and struck out five over three frames, allowing no earned runs. Now, it's on to Pasadena ISD play March 4-6. Dobie will play four pool games over three days.

JFD girls string together four wins

Continued from Page 5

with Ferguson's blow ending things.

Jasmin Benitez singled to open the fifth, stole second and moved to third on

Karlie Barba had two hits and knocked in a run.

Perla heats up

Perla was one of many standouts on the second day of play at Dobie as the

at the plate, and Perla had two hits and scored a run.

Perla also recorded the final out of the five-inning game for a save.

In the second game of

the day, the Lady Longhorns managed four hits in a 3-1 loss to Kingwood.

Perla took her second tough loss of the season despite six strong innings

in the circle. She allowed five hits and one earned run.

It would be Dobie's lone loss of the three-day stretch of games.

Sienna Softball at Dobie

March 4 Games

JFD vs. Angleton, 9 a.m.

JFD vs. Klein Collins, 3 p.m.

March 5 Games

JFD vs. Humble, 9 a.m.

JFD vs. Brazoswood, 1 p.m.

March 6 Games

JFD vs. Cy-Fair, 9 a.m.

JFD vs. Heights, 1 p.m.

a passed ball with no outs. Karlie Barba singled to get Dobie within 5-4, and she then stole second.

Barba moved to third base on a fly out for the first out, and Bella Perez reached on an error as Barba scored for a 5-5 tie. Aliyah Barajas took over for Perez on the basepaths and scored to start the celebration with Ferguson's game-winning double to center field as the locals capped the weekend with the four straight wins to go 5-2 overall.

Karlie Barba was 2 for 3 with three runs scored and a pair of runs driven in. She also had a triple. Marisa Perla earned the win in the circle, allowing just two earned runs over five innings with seven strikeouts and four walks.

The Lady Longhorns fell to 1-2 with a split of games on the first day of the Haynie event Feb. 25 but then came back to win the four straight.

As part of the final day of play Feb. 27, the Lady Longhorns drubbed Calvary Baptist 13-1 in advance of the Katy matchup as Perez doubled twice and drove in four runs.

Leslie Longoria added two hits, scored a run and drove in two runs, and

Lady Longhorns defeated Barbers Hill 3-2 and then used a six-run fourth to down Cy-Lakes 8-1.

In the win over Barbers Hills, Perla had a three-run double in the third inning and was also the winning pitcher as she went the five-inning distance.

Benitez was 2 for 2 with a run scored, and Longoria had a hit and scored a run. Kristen Barba also had a hit and came around to score on Perla's big hit.

Dobie banged out 14 hits in the 8-1 win over Cy-Lakes as five players had two hits, including Longoria with two runs scored and a run batted in.

Karlie Barba had two hits, scored a run and drove in another, and Perla produced an RBI with one of her two hits.

Pena had two hits, and Haley Napper was 2 for 3 with two runs batted in and a run scored. Jayla Arenas doubled twice, scored a run and drove in another.

Karlie lifts Dobie

Karlie Barba hindered Bridgeland in two phases as she allowed two hits and no runs over 4 2/3 innings in the circle in an eventual 2-1 win in the first game Feb. 25.

Barba also went 2 for 3



Shellie Ferguson's (19) walk-off double was the game-winner as the Lady Longhorns stunned 2019 6A state champion Katy 6-5 Feb. 27, winning four straight and five of six overall to enter 22-6A play on a roll. Photo by Brittney Hernandez

Sports notes, news items

Hall of Fame scholarship applicants sought

Pasadena ISD high school students are encouraged to apply for the PISD Athletics Hall of Fame scholarship award, presented annually to deserving students.

Sponsored by the PISD Education Foundation, the scholarship award will be presented later this spring. The deadline to submit applications for the two scholarships totaling \$2,500 each to one deserving male student and one deserving female student is March 26.

To access the application, visit www.pasadenaisd.org, choose departments, choose athletics, and then choose hall of fame scholarships 2021. For more information or help with accessing the scholarship online, call 713-740-0838.

Harris scholarship fund accepting donations

Barry E. Harris Memorial Scholarship Fund co-founder Shane Brown is accepting donations to help fund the 2021 scholarship that will be awarded to a deserving Dobie High School student in May.

The fund is in honor of Harris, who was a longtime educator at Dobie High School and supporter of Pasadena ISD athletics. He passed away in 2018 at the age of 65 due to complications from cancer.

Class of 2021 Dobie High School seniors may now apply for the Barry E. Harris Scholarship by visiting the College Now tab located on the J. Frank Dobie High School website. The deadline to apply is March 27.

Lajaunie tennis tourney seeks funds

Event organizers are busy with early plans for the 10th annual Darren Lajaunie Tennis Scholarship Fund tournament, with 2021 fundraising efforts underway.

While the 2020 event did not take place due to the coronavirus pandemic, the Lajaunie fund awarded two youth scholarships as well as six others to deserving Dobie High School senior tennis players.

As for 2021 fundraising efforts, those are being accepted both on the Lajaunie tournament site on Facebook at Darren Lajaunie Scholarship Fund as well as www.DLTennisScholarships.com.

For additional information on donations or tournament sponsorship opportunities, call tournament founder Camille Lajaunie at 281-480-6933.

Wolverines split four

Continued from Page 5

3-0 lead turned into a 4-3 defeat at Deer Park High School.

A day later, the Wolverines got a great effort from Tyler Gaudet in a win over Port Neches-Groves but then got fogged out of a possible matchup against host La Porte.

On the final day, the Wolverines had multiple leads against Huffman yet fell 14-12.

With two-other inning-eating arms out the first week, Flores turned to Gaudet and Cody My-

ers, with great results. And overall, he is thrilled with the general makeup of his team.

"I know it's easy to say this type of thing, but in my 14 years, I don't think I've had a more team-oriented group," Flores said.

"They really push and support one another, and that's big. We are going to face tough competition every time going forward, and I like the way we compete. We don't have tons of pop, but we figure out ways to put up some runs in key spots."

Hernandez, Dobie girls stay in hunt



The Dobie varsity girls' soccer team began a tough stretch of three games in four days beginning at Deer Park March 2 after press time and at Channelview March 4 with a possible playoff berth still available to the squad. Locals are 4-3 in District 22-6A action with five games to play. Sophomore Karen Hernandez (9) scored a career-high

four goals in a 6-1 win over Pasadena Feb. 26 as freshman Aylin Reyes and senior Laura Diaz also scored goals. Kori Pounds, Hernandez, Reyes and Frankie Reyes scored goals Feb. 24 in a 4-1 win over South Houston as Marina Vasquez (8) also played well.

Photo by Donna Alsdorf

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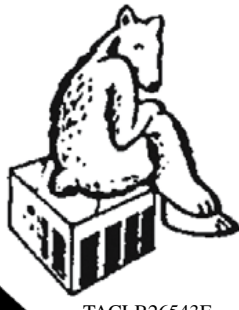
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It is advisable to verify if face-to-face meetings are being held prior to attending. For Alcoholics Anonymous meetings, visit <https://aahouston.org/meetings>; for Narcotics Anonymous (NA) meetings, visit www.hasconan.com; for Al-Anon meetings, visit www.houstonalanon.org/meetings.html for additional information.

NOTE: Clear Lake Bridge Club - The club is currently closed. Visit <https://aclbunit174.org/clearlak/clean-blue-working/clearlake.html> for games or email jpochsner@aol.com for additional information.

THURSDAY, MARCH 4
7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., and Saturday at 7:30 a.m. First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit <https://aahouston.org/meetings/>.

7:30 a.m.
Rotary Club of Pearland - Meets Thursdays at 7:30 a.m. either at Pearland Chamber of Commerce, 6117 Broadway St., Pearland, or online on Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81372891968>. Meeting ID: 813 7289 1968. Additional information is found on the Pearland Chamber of Commerce website under the calendar tab.

Noon
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or online at <https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners>. Call 713-686-6300.

7 p.m.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Women's Group, open meeting, 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit <https://nastuff.com/>.

FRIDAY, MARCH 5
7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" See Thursday's notice.

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.

Congregation Shaar Hashalom - All services are online. Join the 7 p.m. Friday or the 9:30 a.m. Saturday service and visit <https://www.shaarhashalom.org/calendar> and click on calendar link. For more, visit <https://www.shaarhashalom.org/shabbat-online.html>.

FRIDAY, MARCH 5
7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" See Thursday's notice.

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FRIDAY, MARCH 5
7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" See Thursday's notice.

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.

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

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

SATURDAY, MARCH 6
7:30 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" See Thursday's notice.

9:30 a.m.
Congregation Shaar Hashalom - See Friday's notice.

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, drop in or visit <http://www.houstonalanon.org/meetings.html> for more information.

SUNDAY, MARCH 7
8 p.m.
AA - meeting at CrossRoads UMC. See Friday's notice.

MONDAY, MARCH 8
10 a.m.
Al-Anon Deer Park - 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 visit <http://www.houstonalanon.org/meetings.html>.

Noon
AA - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday's notice.

6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Toastmasters - The Young Professionals Southeast Toastmasters Club #05324194 meets on a virtual site at <https://youngprofessionalsoastmasters.com/>. To be a guest, select the "contact us" button on the toastmasters' home page to obtain access. For more information, contact Karen Nunn at 832-722-9061 or Carolyn Carmichael at 832-372-3565.

7 p.m.
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Saint Luke's 12-Step Recovery, open meeting, education Bldg., room 4, 11011 Hall Rd. Call Jesse at 832-725-8479 or Rita at 281-309-2801.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group. See Friday's notice.

TUESDAY, MARCH 9
7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" See Thursday's notice.

7:30 a.m.
Rotary Club of Pearland - See Thursday's notice.

Noon
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday's notice.

7 p.m.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group. See Friday's notice.

THURSDAY, MARCH 11
7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" See Thursday's notice.

7:30 a.m.
Rotary Club of Pearland - See Thursday's notice.

Noon
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday's notice.

7 p.m.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group. See Thursday's notice.

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7:30 a.m.
Rotary Club of Pearland - See Thursday's notice.

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Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group. See Thursday's notice.

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Rotary Club of Pearland - See Thursday's notice.

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Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group. See Thursday's notice.

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AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" See Thursday's notice.

7:30 a.m.
Rotary Club of Pearland - See Thursday's notice.

AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" See Thursday's notice.

9:30 a.m.
CCART - The Clear Creek Association of Retired Teachers meets the second Tuesday, monthly, Sept.-May, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., Bay Area Community Center, 5002 NASA Parkway in Seabrook near Landolt Pavilion. Texas-retired school employees from surrounding school districts welcome. Annual dues are \$50.

Noon
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday's notice.

10:30 a.m.
Tri-County Republican Women - General meetings are held the second Tuesday, at Golfcrest Country Club, 2509 Country Club Dr., Pearland. Guest speaker March 9 is Konni Burton, founder and CEO of The Texan, a statewide news outlet focused on stories relevant to Texans. Lunch is available for \$15. Exact cash or a check requested. To RSVP visit <https://tcrtwx.org/> or call Susan Hooper at 832-723-7671.

7 p.m.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group. See Friday's notice.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10
7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" See Thursday's notice.

Noon
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday's notice.

7 p.m.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group. See Friday's notice.

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 - CrossRoads UMC meeting. See Friday's notice.

THURSDAY, MARCH 11
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7:30 a.m.
Rotary Club of Pearland - See Thursday's notice.

Noon
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7 p.m.
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Noon
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7 p.m.
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COVID vax program resumes

Continued from Page 1

For those who don't currently qualify for the vaccine, county officials encourage to get tested.

"If you are waiting to be vaccinated, don't get frustrated, get tested," a message on the county's website reads. "Testing is still critically important to help stop the spread of COVID-19. Testing, wearing a mask and social distancing will help protect you and your family until there is enough vaccine for everyone. Testing is free and you get the results in three to five days."

To sign up, visit hphctx.org or call 832-927-7575.

NRG Park
The Houston Health Department and Harris County Public Health collaborated this past week to ensure the FEMA-supported COVID-19 mass vaccination site opening at NRG Park prioritizes the area's most vulnerable populations and underserved communities.

The site is expected to fully vaccinate approximately 126,000 people by serving 6,000 per day seven days per week for three weeks before transitioning to second doses for three weeks. Both departments will use their waitlists to schedule appointments for the drive-thru site.

"Our nationally recognized COVID-19 response, led by the Houston Health Department, focuses on access and equity," said Mayor Sylvester Turner. "By collaborating with partners and following the data, we can direct people from our most affected and vulnerable communities to the NRG Park site while simultaneously continuing to offer vaccine directly in communities."

This message was reinforced by Sherri Onyiego, Ph.D., MD, interim local health authority for Harris County Public Health.

"This pandemic has exposed long-standing inequities in our communities that

are the most vulnerable to disease," said Onyiego. "We look forward to working with our federal partners to expand our current vaccination efforts, especially to those communities who have been disproportionately impacted."

Houston Health Department
The Houston Health Department's strategy for the NRG Park site will utilize its Area Agency Aging waitlist with the following prioritization criteria:

– Priority 1: People age 65 and older who live in a high-risk ZIP code.

– Priority 2: People age 65 years and older.

– Priority 3: People age 60-64 with underlying medical conditions who live in high risk ZIP codes.

– Priority 4: People age 60-64 with underlying medical conditions.

Houston's high-risk ZIP codes are geographic areas with people more vulnerable to severe COVID-19 illness as identified by positivity rate, underlying health condition and economic and social data.

The department's waitlist remains open for people age 65 and older and people age 60

and older with chronic health conditions.

Those who qualify may call the department's Area Agency on Aging at 832-393-4301 to leave a voicemail with their name and phone number.

Calls will be returned for screening and scheduling. An online registration portal for those who meet the criteria opens Tuesday at HoustonEmergency.org/covid19.

In addition to the FEMA site, HHD will continue to schedule vaccinations at Bayou City Event Center, Delmar Stadium, its health centers and multi service centers and partner federally qualified health centers and pharmacies.

People can register for the HoustonRecovery subscription of AlertHouston to learn about new Houston Health Department appointment opportunities through email, text message, voice call or mobile app push notification.

Harris County Public Health

Harris County Public Health is providing initial vaccinations to those most at risk to COVID-19 that meet the State's guidelines of 1A and 1B.

Harris County will utilize its current vaccination waitlist at vacstrac.hctx.net/landing or individuals can call 832-927-8787 (If registering online, do not use Internet Explorer or Microsoft Edge.) Individuals who meet the criteria will be randomly selected from the following age cohorts prioritized first: 75+; 65 – 74; 55 – 64; 45 – 54; 35 – 44; 25 – 34; 25 – 34; and 16 – 24 (16+ due to Pfizer guidelines).

In addition to the age cohorts, HCPH will be prioritizing areas where there have been COVID health disparities (using the CDC's social vulnerability index and where data shows there are increased COVID cases or deaths and/or COVID under-testing). HCPH will continue to provide Moderna vaccinations to the community. To learn more about HCPH's vaccination efforts, visit www.hphctx.org/covidvaccine.

The NRG Park site is appointment only and people with appointments should arrive no sooner than 30-minutes before their schedule slot.

People without appointments will be turned away.

South Houston TAFE students headed to state



South Houston High School TAFE students are headed to state competition. Shown pointing to their certificates are, left to right, Stephanie Estrada Herrejon for Project Visualize, Educational Awareness, and Professional Portfolio; Alexis Alvarez for Professional Portfolio; Amy Melendez Leonzo for Professional Portfolio; Samantha Galindo for Professional Portfolio; and Emily Govea for Professional Portfolio.

City of Houston, multiple partners providing hot meals to storm victims

Working with local partners, the City of Houston this past week provided millions of hot meals to area residents affected by the winter storm.

"Last week's historic winter storm left many families in the greater Houston area displaced and in need of additional assistance to recover," said Mayor Sylvester Turner. "Many families, through no fault of their own, have homes that are uninhabitable because of the damages from the arctic blast and therefore cannot cook meals to feed their loved ones."

"The City of Houston is proudly partnering with CrowdSource Rescue, Operation BBQ Relief, the Salvation Army and the offices

of Council members (Abbie Kamin and (Amy) Peck) to provide hot meals to thousands of Houstonians who are currently recovering from the aftermath of this storm.

"The reality is that until the least of the people in our city recover, we are still not

yet fully recovered."

A massive food distribution event was headquartered at Northwest Mall from Tuesday, Feb. 23, through Friday, Feb. 26. On Wednesday, Feb. 24, Turner delivered the nine-millionth meal at the drive-thru facility.

Operation BBQ Relief is a nonprofit organization that provides hot meals to communities impacted by disasters and the first responders that are on the ground helping.

"Houston is part of the Operation BBQ Relief family, as we previously served nearly 400,000 meals in the wake of Hurricane Harvey," said Stan Hays, CEO and cofounder of Operation BBQ Relief. "Our teams and volunteers are working around the clock to ensure Houstonians in need receive a comforting hot meal after

this unprecedented winter storm."

Kamin appreciates the efforts of all those who made the event a success.

"This is a Texas-sized disaster, and true to Houston's spirit, we are seeing a Texas-sized outpouring of generosity and grit as we come together to help others," said Kamin. "Launching this effort helps ensure our residents have the resources they need during this ongoing crisis. My sincere thanks to everyone who has been involved and worked with me on this—it's an all-hands-on-deck effort."

fort including Mayor Turner and our amazing city departments and employees, invaluable community groups like CrowdSource Rescue, Operation BBQ Relief and Salvation Army, along with thousands of volunteers bringing food and water to people in need around the city."

This sentiment was shared by fellow Council member Peck.

"I am so thankful for everyone who stepped up to help our city after this very difficult week," said Peck. "So many people are still struggling because of COVID, and this storm made things even more difficult."

CrowdSource Rescue and Houston METRO also teamed up to deliver hot meals to the homes of seniors and people with disabilities.

"CrowdSource Rescue is grateful to partner with Operation BBQ Relief, a world-renowned disaster response organization," said Matthew Marchetti, CrowdSource Rescue cofounder. "We welcome the ability to continue to better serve our hometown."

This is a continuation of a partnership with the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities who worked with CrowdSource Rescue to reach out to people with disabilities to bring bottled water, food and other necessities in the immediate aftermath of the winter storm.

"Grit and resilience are characteristics both Houstonians and the broader disability community have in common," said Gabe Cazares, director of the Mayor's

Office for People with Disabilities. "We are grateful for the partnership with CrowdSource Rescue and Operation BBQ Relief. Through this joint effort, thousands of Houstonians will benefit from the comfort of a hot meal. Many people with disabilities lack access to reliable transportation, and this partnership ensures a safe home delivery to those most in need."

CCISD musicians earn highest honor

Twenty-three Clear Creek ISD high school musicians representing band, choir and orchestra recently earned the honor to participate in the Texas Music Educators Association All-State Ensembles. This is the highest honor for musicians at this level.

Beginning each fall, more than 70,000 high school students from across the state audition in their region. Individual musicians perform selected music for a panel of judges who rank each instrument or voice part.

A select group of musicians then advance to Area. The highest-ranking musicians judged at the TMEA Area competitions qualify to perform in one of 15 Texas All-State Bands, Orchestras and Choirs.

list of students who have been named as an All-State musician all four years of high school. He was also selected as one of only four students in Texas to receive the 2021-2022 TMEA Executive Board Undergraduate Scholarship.

"I was so ecstatic," said Goldner, who plans to pursue a music education degree after high school. "The feeling was surreal. Being in band has definitely taught me skills such as discipline and time management which are going to be very helpful when I go to college."

With safety restrictions in place due to COVID-19 this year, the competition transitioned from an in-person event to online auditions where students sent in a recording of their musical piece for judging.

"The change was huge, forcing the entire state to run auditions on a platform we had not used before," said Rob Phillips, Clear Springs High School choir director and VPA department chair. "I think the students generally handled the shift very well. Our students were very successful in the process and enjoyed the ability to perfect their audition submission recording."

ERCOT storm investigation begins

Five board members of the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT), including the chair and vice chair, officially resigned from the organization Wednesday, Feb. 24, following widespread criticism of the group's performance during the recent Texas freeze. A sixth person who was planning to fill a board seat also withdrew his nomination as a candidate.

All six live outside Texas. According to a filing with the Public Utility Commission of Texas on Feb. 23, Sally Talberg, board's chair; Peter Cramton, vice chair; Terry Bulger, finance and audit committee chair; Raymond Hepper, human resources and governance committee chair; and Vanessa Anesetti-Parra, director for the independent retail electric provider market were all stepping down.

Talberg, Cramton, Bulger, and Hepper released a signed statement, suggesting the move was prompted by concerns about out-of-state leadership in the group.

"We want to acknowledge the pain and suffering of Texans during this past week," the statement read. "Our hearts go out to all Texans who have had to go without electricity, heat and water during frigid temperatures and continue to face the tragic consequences of this emergency. We have noted recent concerns about out-of-state board leadership at ERCOT. To allow state leaders a free hand with future direction and to eliminate distractions, we are resigning from the board effective after our urgent board teleconference meeting adjourns on Wednesday, Feb. 24, 2021."

Gov. Greg Abbott, a sharp critic of the organization following the storm, welcomed the resignations.

"When Texans were in desperate need of electricity, ERCOT failed to do its job, and Texans were left shivering in their homes without power," Abbott said. "ERCOT leadership made assurances that Texas' power infrastructure was prepared for the winter storm, but those assurances proved

to be devastatingly false. The lack of preparedness and transparency at ERCOT is unacceptable, and I welcome these resignations. The State of Texas will continue to investigate ERCOT and uncover the full picture of what went wrong, and we will ensure that the disastrous events of last week are never repeated."

Mayor Sylvester Turner, said some of the blame also falls on the governor himself, as well as the state Legislature. "Last week, Houstonians and communities across our state found themselves vulnerable and literally in the dark due to ERCOT's mismanagement of the power grid," Turner said. "Having out-of-state board members resign will not change the failed oversight by the Public Utility Commission or the lack of common sense policy by the Texas Legislature. ERCOT alone should not be made the scapegoat."

"When I was in the Texas Legislature, I filed a bill in 2011 relating to the PUC to ensure ERCOT has adequate reserve power to prevent blackout conditions.

That bill never got a hearing. The PUC oversees ERCOT, and the governor appoints all three commissioners. The resignations do not change the fact that the PUC and the Texas Legislature failed to provide oversight or enact common-sense policy.

The time to act is now. I urge the 87th Texas Legislature to make the necessary changes to the oversight of our electric grid to prevent this type of disaster from happening in the future."

Multiple lawsuits have already been filed against ERCOT for its failed response to the winter storm. It remains unclear, however, if the nonprofit ERCOT, which falls under the PUC's jurisdiction, can be held liable by such suits: The Texas Supreme Court is expected to decide this year whether ERCOT is entitled to sovereign immunity, a legal concept that protects governmental agencies from lawsuits.

Sparks fly . . .

Continued from Page 1

students in campaign promotions, another possible ethics violation.

Powell further contended Rabe was even aware that she was violating protocol.

"When she was asked by the police officer why she did not follow procedures, Ms. Rabe admitted to our police officer, and I quote, that she knew it wasn't right, but a student invited her in the building."

The superintendent said it is the school district's responsibility to enforce guidelines to keep students and staff safe.

"We are responsible for the safety of all staff, all students," Powell said. "That's the bottom line, and that's what I'm committed to as superintendent. Ms. Rabe, you should know better than the general public."

Powell assured Rabe the warning was nothing person-

al.

"I'm sorry that had to be done, but that was just a warning that we all have to — no matter who we are, a parent, a community member. No one wants someone coming on the campus, accessing our children, texting them phone numbers and taking selfies with them, when they have no reason to be on that campus."

Despite the contentiousness of the meeting, Powell still expressed gratitude for Rabe's efforts.

"We appreciate the donation, and I thank you for that," Powell said. "Please in the future, all we ask, that's all we do, we ask that you follow our safety procedures and protocols."

While no fine or punishment was levied with the Pasadena ISD Police Department's warning, Rabe has vowed to appeal it.

See related letters Page 2.

San Jacinto College announces upcoming March events

San Jacinto College announced March events.

FAFSA Days and Nights
Every Monday in March the San Jacinto College financial aid office will host FAFSA Days, 10 a.m. – noon, and FAFSA Nights, 2 – 4 p.m. These informational sessions will help guide applicants through the FAFSA process. No appointment is necessary. Visit www.sanjac.edu/admissions-aid/financial-aid/fafsa-help-events.

March 4 – 25
San Jac home baseball
All home games are played at the San Jac North Campus John Ray Harrison field at Andy Pettitte Park (N-22) and are free and open to the public. To see the full schedule, visit www.sanjac.edu/baseball2021/schedule.

– Thursday, March 4, 6 p.m.: vs. Blinn

– Saturday, March 13, 2 p.m. and 5 p.m.: vs. Galveston College

– Tuesday, March 16, 6 p.m.: vs. Alvin Community College

– Saturday, March 20, 2 p.m. and 5 p.m.: Alvin Community College

– Thursday, March 25, 2 p.m.: vs. Coastal Bend

March 5 – Harris County Promise Deadline
High School seniors from South Houston, Sam Rayburn, and Dobie High School who applied and were accepted to the Harris County Promise at San Jac Program must apply to San Jacinto College through ApplyTex as.org by Friday, March 5. There is no cost to apply. The Harris County Promise at San Jac Program provides financial assistance to help cover the costs of attending college.

For more information, visit sanjac.edu/harris-county-promise-program or contact Chalen Rice at Chalen.Rice@sjcd.edu.

March 9 – A women's history month virtual event
Join the San Jacinto College South campus Tuesday, March

9, from 10:15 a.m. – 1:10 p.m.

Students will share pivotal historical speeches from the women's movement and share their own experiences in a story slam. To register, contact Christina Crawford at christina.crawford@sjcd.edu.

March 10 – 27
San Jac College softball home games:
All home games are played at the San Jac South

campus softball fields and are free and open to the public. To see the full schedule, visit www.sanjac.edu/softball2020-2021/schedule.

– Wednesday, March 10, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.: vs. Kilgore College

– Saturday, March 20, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.: vs. Galveston College

– Saturday, March 27, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.: vs. Coastal Bend College

March 11
Woodwind Studio Recital
Join the San Jacinto College Central Campus Music Department for a woodwind studio recital. To learn more, contact Timothy Kochen at timothy.kochen@sjcd.edu.

March 15 – 21
College closed: spring break
The college will be closed from March 15 – March 21.

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CB teacher arrested

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real time updates any time an arrest, etc. occurs -- even after hire.

"In CCISD, we also require a minimum of three references. Four were collected for Mr. Valle. All four references for Mr. Valle were positive. There was no information shared regarding this alleged incident to CCISD until we heard of the arrest this weekend."

Valle was arrested by officers with the Seabrook Police Department and was transported to the Harris County Jail, pending extradition hearings.

Clear Brook Principal Sharon Lopez sent out the following letter to students and parents March 1:

"In the Clear Creek Independent School District, we are committed to providing a safe environment for all students. We received a report that Ricardo Valle, a Clear Brook High School teacher, was arrested this weekend and was criminally charged based on allegations in a different state. Mr. Valle was not

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