



# South Belt-Ellington Leader

## 42 years of covering South Belt

Voice of Community-Minded People since 1976

Thursday, May 24, 2018

Email: mynews@southbeltleader.com

www.southbeltleader.com

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### Memorial Day closings set

**South Belt-Ellington Leader**  
 The Leader will be closed Monday, May 28, in observance of Memorial Day. Normal office hours will resume Tuesday, May 29, at 9 a.m.

**Clear Brook City MUD**  
 Offices of Clear Brook City MUD will be closed on Monday, May 28, and reopen Tuesday, May 29, at 8 a.m. Payments may be left in the drop box at the drive-through window.

CBCMUD residents whose trash service falls on Monday will have regular trash service pickup Memorial Day, May 28. All trash should be placed at curbside no later than 7 a.m.

### Sagemont to honor fallen

To celebrate Memorial Day, Sagemont Church's grounds will be transformed into a temporary memorial garden to pay homage to fallen Texas soldiers. In the soldiers' honor, 38,000 American flags will be flown around the church's 170-foot-tall cross – each representing a Texas soldier who died in battle from the days of the Republic of Texas back in 1836 to the present.

The theme for the event was *Every Flag Has a Name*, and guests were invited to personalize the experience by leaving names of fallen loved ones on a Memorial Wall, also located on the church property. Inside the church's lobby, a life-sized replica of the Liberty Bell will be on display.

The memorial will be in place from Saturday, May 26, through Friday, June 1. All community members are invited to participate in the event. Those wishing to help erect the flags should meet at the cross on the church grounds at 9 a.m. Saturday, May 26, and bring a #3 screwdriver and a hammer.

A special Memorial Day service will be led by former U.S. Army Chaplain Grant Rothberg at 9 a.m. Monday, May 28. During the service, Rothberg will read the names of all Houstonians who have died in battle since Sept. 11, 2001.

### Robbery suspect arrested

Deputies from the Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's office arrested a male suspect the afternoon of Wednesday, May 23, for allegedly stealing a purse from someone in the Food Town parking lot at Scarsdale and Beamer. The suspect was apprehended behind the Shell station, located at the northwest corner of the same intersection. Deputies said the suspect, who is not from the area, had just been released from Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital.

### Ashley Pointe to host party

The Ashley Pointe Homeowners Association will host a summer kick-off pool party Saturday, May 26, at the Ashley Pointe Aquatic Center, 12315 Blackhawk, beginning at 1 p.m. The event will feature hot dogs, popcorn, drinks, prizes and music. Food and drinks will be provided on a first come, first served basis. See related ad on page 6A.

### Gulf Freeway closures set

At least one northbound and one southbound main lane and frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway from NASA Bypass/NASA Road 1 to SH 96/League City Parkway will be closed daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Monday, Dec. 31. Alternate entrance and exit ramps will be closed.

The northbound frontage road of the I-45 Freeway from FM 518 to NASA Bypass/NASA Road 1 will be continuously closed through 5 a.m. Friday, Aug. 31. Traffic traveling north on the frontage road will take I-45 north main lanes from the FM 518 entrance to the NASA Road 1 exit.

### PISD holds fund meetings

The Pasadena Independent School District will hold a pair of informational meetings, Monday, June 4, to seek public comments on the needs and usage of Title I, II, III and IDEA B federal funds.

The meetings are set for 9 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. in the Special Programs Office at the Pasadena ISD Administration Building, located at 1515 Cherrybrook Lane, Room SP104, in Pasadena.

The purpose of the meetings is to discuss how the district uses these funds to provide supplemental support in improving its special programs. For additional information, contact the PISD Special Programs Office at 713-740-0225.

### Library presents KorUs

Houston Youth KorUs will visit Parker Williams Branch Library, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd., on Wednesday, May 30, at 6:30 p.m. to perform traditional and folk songs as well as original compositions from both Korea and the United States. KorUs is a Houston-area choir that promotes cultural exchange between Korea and the United States and comes to the library during Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

For additional information about these events, call the library at 281-484-2036.

### Paul to visit Kirkwood

Kirkwood Civic Club will host state Rep. Dennis Paul at its meeting on Thursday, May 31, at the Sagemont Park Community Center, 10507 Hughes Road, at 6:30 p.m. All residents of the Kirkwood subdivision are encouraged to attend. Other neighboring residents are also invited.

# Beverly Hills student caught with gun

A male student at Beverly Hills Intermediate was arrested for bringing an unloaded gun to school Wednesday, May 23.

The incident comes fresh on the heels of the recent school shooting in Santa Fe that killed 10 and wounded 13 others.

School officials were alerted of the weapon by an anonymous tip from a fellow student. Pasadena Independent School District Associate Superintendent Alyta Harrell credits the school's *See Something, Say Something* campaign for bringing the issue to light.

"It seems to be working," Harrell said. "It could have been a lot worse."

Per school policy, the student will not be allowed back on campus for one calendar year, Harrell said.

A letter was sent to parents notifying them of the incident.

A previous letter had already been sent to parents following the Santa Fe shooting, notifying them of increased security throughout the school

district and offering suggestions to keep current students safe and to prevent similar incidents from taking place in the future.

"As we return for our last days of school, I want to share with you that we will have increased security around the district throughout the remainder of the school year," PISD Superintendent DeeAnn Powell said in a letter to parents. "You may receive communication from your

campus about additional safety requests such as no backpacks, enforcement of IDs or limited visitors during these last few days. Please know that we will have officers placed strategically in the district around the clock in the coming days. So please remind your students that this is not a time for senior pranks or activity that would lead to criminal charges. I request that you monitor your

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## Thompson robotics places 4th in world



The Thompson robotics team, the RoboLions, recently excelled at the VEX World Championships, held in Louisville, Ky., placing fourth out of 400 teams from all over the world in programming skills. Under the leadership of Naoreen Shafi, the team accomplished this feat, despite being displaced from their campus for several months due to Hurricane Harvey. Team members shown above are, left to right, (front row) RJ Schreier, Dominic Alanis, Benson Cubos, Raul Diaz, Billy Junkin, (back row) Grace Nguyen, Janelle Barreiro, Jade Cabrera, Jacob Hernandez, Matthew Collins and Jeremiah Palma.

*Photo submitted*

## Hartwell memorial cross removed

A memorial cross marking the site where former South Belt resident Derek Hartwell fatally crashed his motorcycle in the 9400 block of Blackhawk in October 2016 has been removed, upsetting friends and family members.

At press time, it was unclear who had removed the cross, as the Clearwood Crossing Homeowners Association and the municipal utility district responsible for maintaining the esplanade that housed the memorial have both denied responsibility.

Hartwell's father, David Hartwell said the cross, which was custom-made by a friend, had deep sentimental value.

"His kids go by there, and they're kind of in shock," Hartwell said. "It was a place for them to go other than the cemetery. To them, that was the last place he was at."

The ordeal is reminiscent of a similar incident that took place in 2015, where the mother of an 8-year-old boy killed in the 11400 block of Blackhawk was told by the Sagemeadow Maintenance Committee to remove her son's memorial cross. That decision was met with widespread protest, and an agreement was made to allow the memorial to stay put, provided it was kept clean and free from clutter.

**Continued on Page 2A**



Before



After

## Kingspoint warehouse catches fire

Multiple units from the Houston Fire department responded to a warehouse fire around 10:40 p.m. Thursday, May 17, in the 10700 block of Kingspoint near the Gulf Freeway.

Firefighters arrived on scene to find smoke and fire coming from the side of a metal warehouse and forced entry. A second alarm was requested for additional manpower.

The site was determined to be a furniture manufacturing business with paints and chemicals in

storage.

Firefighters from HFD Stations 70, 26, 52, 61 and 93 were able to contain the blaze within an hour.

While there was no visible damage from outside the building, it is estimated the fire caused around \$500,000 in damage.

Arson investigators ruled the fire was accidental in nature.

No injuries were reported.

## Runoff election results tabulated

The results from the May 22 Democratic and Republican primary elections have been tallied, with two local Congressional races being decided.

In the Democratic race for the U.S. House District 22 nomination, Sri Preston Kulkarni handily defeated Letitia Plummer, receiving 55.77 percent of the vote. In all, Kulkarni received 759 votes to Plummer's 602 votes.

Kulkarni will face Republican incumbent Pete Olson in November's general election.

In the Republican contest for the U.S. House

District 29 nod, Phillip Aronoff edged out Carmen Maria Montiel, receiving 51.87 percent of the vote. Aronoff received 1,151 total votes, while Montiel received 1,088.

Aronoff will face Democrat Sylvia R. Garcia in November's general election to determine who will fill the seat recently vacated by Rep. Gene Green, who is retiring after serving nearly half a century in public office.

The general elections are scheduled to take place Tuesday, Nov. 6.

## Hurricane season begins June 1

The 2018 hurricane season will begin Friday, June 1, and continue through Nov. 30.

In their annual forecast, meteorologists with The Weather Channel Professional Division have predicted a total of 13 named storms (winds of 39 mph or higher), six hurricanes (winds of 74 mph or higher) and two major hurricanes (Category 3, 4 or 5; winds of 111 mph or higher) this season.

The 30-year average is 12 named storms, six hurricanes and three major hurricanes.

South Belt residents should plan accordingly, in the event that a major storm should strike the area. The Harris County Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management (OHSEM),

working in conjunction with the City of Houston and the State of Texas, have issued evacuation routes for community members, should the need arise to leave town.

The South Belt area, including ZIP codes 77089 and 77075, are located in what the OHSEM refers to as ZIP-Zone C.

In the case of a Category 4 or 5 storm, those residing in ZIP-Zone C are urged to evacuate by traveling west on Interstate 10 or by heading north on Interstate 45 and highways 290 and 59.

The OHSEM warns against traveling east, as it will take evacuees closer to the coast and into the more vulnerable ZIP-Zone B.

**Continued on Page 4A**

## Thompson relocates to Riverstone

The Pasadena Independent School District Board of Trustees recently approved relocating Thompson Intermediate to a new campus that is to be built near the Riverstone Ranch subdivision on a piece of property already owned by the school district.

The land was originally to be used for an 11th PISD intermediate campus, but other options were evaluated after Thompson suffered extensive damage during Hurricane Harvey.

Following the historic storm, Thompson stu-

dents were temporarily housed at Beverly Hills Intermediate for five months, while school officials and an independent committee studied the issue.

PISD Superintendent Dr. DeeAnn Powell said the existing Thompson campus will still be utilized for programs that have yet to be determined.

The new campus is expected to open in August 2021. See future editions of the Leader for additional information.

## Chamber accepting hero nominations

The South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce has confirmed its annual installation banquet will take place Thursday, July 19, at the Lone Star Flight Museum located at Ellington Airport.

Now in its 34th year, the event's theme is *A Salute to the Heroes of Harvey*.

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott has agreed to attend the function and join the chamber in honoring local heroes from the devastating storm.

The chamber is currently accepting nominations for possible honorees.

"The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members," the chamber posted on its Facebook page, quoting Coretta Scott King. "In the minutes, hours, days, weeks and months following Hurricane Harvey, Coretta Scott King's words have never been truer. In the blink of an

**Continued on Page 2A**

## City still operating Harvey centers

To help residents most impacted by Hurricane Harvey, the City of Houston is continuing to operate 12 Neighborhood Restoration Centers throughout the city, including one in the Edgebrook area.

"We are taking a neighborhood-by-neighborhood approach to getting assistance to the many people who need it," said Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner.

The Edgebrook Neighborhood Restoration Center is located in a mobile bus at St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church at 10727 Hartsook St. The center is open Tuesday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Neighborhood Restoration Center program began this past November when the city, along with the BakerRipley nonprofit organization, opened a pilot version at the Kashmere

Multi-Service Center at 4802 Lockwood Drive on the northeast side. The center was a success, and in January, the city opened eight additional centers. In mid-March, the city opened four more Neighborhood Restoration Centers.

The centers offer assistance with multiple services, including disaster case management, temporary housing assistance, legal aid, mental health and wellness care, home repair and rebuilding information and employment help.

Houston residents in need of assistance related to Harvey recovery who cannot come to a center are asked to call Texas 2-1-1 (877-541-7905), so a trained case manager can be made aware of their individual needs and connect them with recovery services. For more information or to see a complete listing of restoration centers, visit [HoustonRecovers.org](http://HoustonRecovers.org).

## Man charged in Gulf Freeway crash

A man was arrested Sunday, May 20, following a crash that injured a Houston police officer in the 12300 block of the Gulf Freeway near Fuqua.

Jeremy Rene Leos, 27, was charged with intoxication assault causing serious bodily injury of a peace officer in the 263rd District Court.

According to police, the incident occurred around 2:25 a.m., as the officer was already responding to a previous accident at the aforementioned address. The officer was reportedly in the

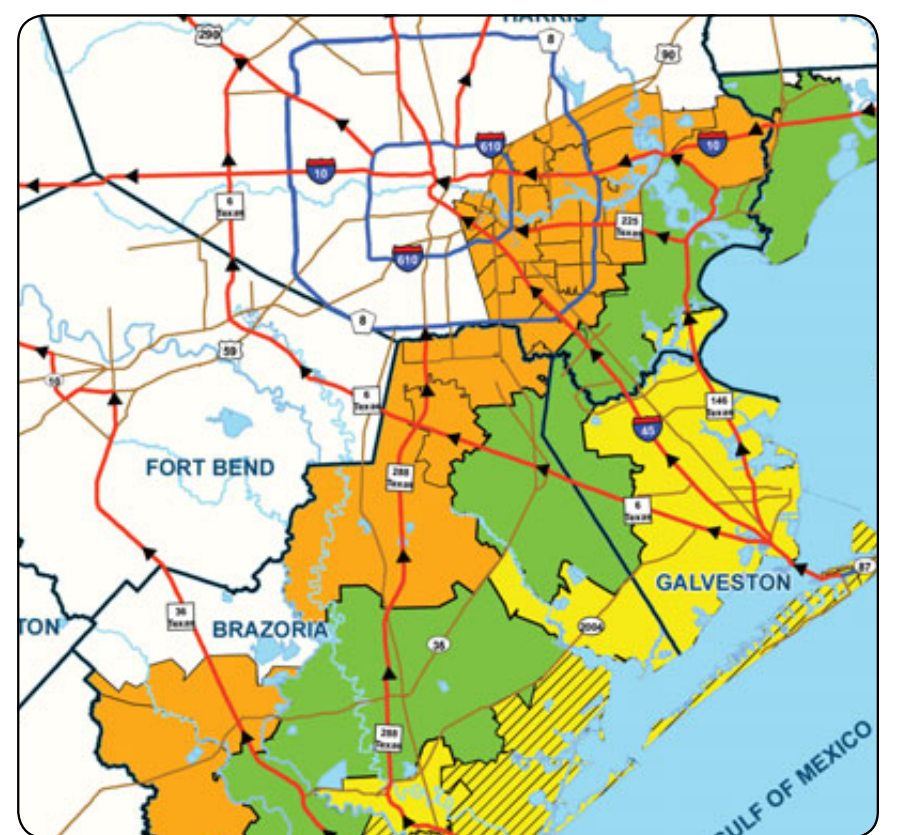
process of moving a party from the first accident to a safer spot when he heard a white Dodge Ram pickup truck driven by Leos screech its tires before striking the officer and his patrol car.

Leos then attempted to flee the scene on foot but was taken into custody with assistance from an HPD K-9 unit and other responding officers.

The officer suffered two broken wrists and was transported to Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital, where he was treated and released.

Leos was determined to be intoxicated and subsequently charged.

## Evacuation routes set



Shown above are the Harris County hurricane evacuation routes. Most of the South Belt is located in ZIP-Zone C, represented in orange. In the event of an evacuation, residents in ZIP-Zone C are urged to travel west or north. ZIP-Zone B is represented in green, while ZIP-Zone A is shown in yellow.

# In My Opinion

## Laredo invites all to prayer walk

Sadly again we have another senseless act of violence where we have now fatalities at Santa Fe High School, so close to our area. As we grieve for those parents and grandparents, brothers and sisters who had loved ones this day, I also am heartbroken.

About 2 years ago, I felt very strongly about walking around our own area schools and to pray for their protection and for God to protect us from these types of tragedies and allow His peace to presence to cover our schools. He is the only answer.

We live in a world where there is darkness that fills the minds of these perpetrators, who can go into our schools and kill our young people.

This is not acceptable, and as parents and grandparents we can make a difference by joining together in prayer and asking God to hear us and heal our land. I started a prayer initiative called School Prayer Walks USA in March of this year.

We gather on a Saturday morning at one of the schools in our community and pray for students, teachers, staff and first responders.

We have had beautiful times of prayer as we pray for one hour. Please join us at our next prayer walk in June to be announced later in the *South Belt Leader* and on our Facebook page School Prayer Walks USA.

Patricia Laredo

## Judges demand prompt injunction

The fallout from Federal Judge Lee Rosenthal's order in the Harris County bail case, *ODonnell v. Harris County*, et al., continues.

Despite the Fifth Circuit having held that Judge Rosenthal's order was "overbroad" and must be modified or rescinded, Judge Rosenthal has for months refused to change the order, allowing the Plaintiffs one more hail mary at the Fifth Circuit to try to give the judge the power — through what would be a legal backdoor — to order the Sheriff to continue to release defendants on "unsecured sheriff's bonds."

In court filings late last week, the Harris County Criminal Court at Law Judges told a panel of the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals that enough is simply enough. In their motion, the Judges are requesting "the court to stay the District Court's invalidated preliminary injunction," informing the panel that Judge Lee Rosenthal's order has created a "law enforcement and public safety crisis." Said the Judges:

"Roughly half of all unsecured release bonds issued pursuant to the preliminary injunction have been forfeited because the arrestee failed to appear for his or her court date. Literally thousands of criminal defendants released pursuant to the District Court's order have evaded their day in court, and justice, by failing to appear."

The Judges pulled no punches when describing to the panel why they feel they are suffering "grievous irreparable harm":

"The District Court's order is wreaking havoc upon Harris County's ability to op-

erate a functioning criminal justice system. There is good reason why secured money bail has been an integral part of the American criminal justice system since the Founding: secured money bail helps ensure appearance at trial. Since the preliminary injunction went into effect, a staggering 49.3 percent of all unsecured personal bonds issued in obedience to the preliminary injunction—an average of nearly 20 per day—have been forfeited because the arrestee failed to appear in court. By comparison, only 10 percent of secured money bonds have been forfeited for this reason. Accused criminals cannot be brought to justice or deterred from committing future crimes when a federal court order neuters state courts' ability to compel those suspects to answer the charges against them and, if convicted, to serve their sentences."

Not exactly the rosy picture bail reformers predicted would happen, and certainly not something they can continue to blame on natural disasters or other unrelated phenomena. It is important to keep in mind that when surety bonds are forfeited, bail agents are 100% financially responsible and will cure the forfeiture by returning those defendants to court — or pay the entire amount of the forfeiture. The outcome of Judge Rosenthal's order is even worse than it appears on its face.

As we reported last week, the Arnold Foundation, who is the Harris County vendor paying in part for the lawsuits against Harris County, which has cost the county in excess of \$7 million in legal expenses, is also the proprietor of the Public Safety Risk Assessment tool.

Relying on the Arnold Foundation instead of secured bail is what the Arnold Foundation wants, and yet public officials in Houston continue to allow the Arnold Foundation to engage in its social re-engineering. That should come as no surprise—if they didn't, we are sure the Arnold Foundation would find more ways to sue Harris County, costing taxpayers more millions — just so the conscience of the Enron-enriched founders of the Foundation can be properly soothed as they continue their country-club lifestyle.

The failure of Judge Rosenthal's order of free releases, without regard to public safety, has reached critical mass with the latest statistics reported. There can be absolutely no doubt that when criminals get a free pass at the pretrial phase of justice, they will thumb their nose at the system.

As we have previously reported, many charged that have been set free without consequence go on to graduate to more severe criminal activity because they know the system will simply let them get away with it. In fact, failing to appear in court in Harris County, Texas would actually be a good legal strategy because there is really no way that the police will ever re-arrest thousands and thousands of fugitives.

From here, we fully expect to hear another round of excuses from the Plaintiffs' Attorneys. We are certain they are: (1) attempting to come up with a litany of other excuses to try to explain the failure they assured the judge would never happen; or, (2) they are hoping hurricane season comes early so they have something else to pin the failures on.

Jeff Clayton  
Executive Director  
American Bail Coalition

# Elected officials share their words

## Mayor Sylvester Turner issues Santa Fe shooting statement

The tragedy at Santa Fe High School is a painful reminder that our children are vulnerable in the very place we send them to be nurtured and educated. My thoughts and prayers are with the victims and their families who must live with the heinous actions committed by cowards.

But for those of us in government, expressions of support are not enough. The next steps should be policy changes to provide school districts in our local communities and across Texas with resources to keep students and teachers safe.

School districts across Texas should consider installing

metal detectors in all campus buildings. Metal detectors are a deterrent to anyone who might try to bring deadly weapons into schools. They also can detect weapons carried by the undetected.

As we care about protecting travelers and visitors to federal, state and locally owned buildings, we must also show the same sense of urgency, concern and compassion toward children and adults in schools. Schools must be made to be as safe as airports and government buildings.

The cost of installing metal detectors may be an obstacle for some school districts. Therefore, I call on state elect-

ed leaders to make funding metal detectors and other security measures in schools a priority across Texas.

When schools open in the next school year, metal detectors should be in place to provide additional safety for our children.

For now, there is no end in sight to the evil school shootings plaguing our country. We must make a change now because our children's lives are worth protecting. I will explore further possible policy changes in consultation with the Mayor's Commission Against Gun Violence, whose members I will announce in a few days.

## Sen. Cruz releases message on Santa Fe school shooting

U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz, Friday with Gov. Greg Abbott, Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, and law enforcement officials, participated in a press conference to provide updates and a message of support following the senseless shooting at Santa Fe High School.

Excerpts of Cruz's message to the Santa Fe community are below.

"I'll tell the people of Santa Fe, you are right now being lifted up at this instant in prayers by millions of people across Texas, across the country, and across the world. And in the public policy arena, we need to be doing everything humanly possible to stop this

from ever happening again. To stop violent criminals. To stop them from getting firearms. To stop them from getting access to schools. To incarcerate them when they try to illegally purchase firearms.

"In the days ahead, we'll discover more about this particular shooter. About what red flags, what warning signs there may have been or there may not have been. And I am sure we'll have a robust conversation about what more could have been done to prevent this horrible atrocity. But Texas, as a state, we'll make it through this.

"This community, Santa Fe, will make it through

this, leaning on each other, praying for each other, standing with each other. We will make it through this.

"And we thank the incredible heroes that we saw today. Those in law enforcement that rushed into harm's way, teachers and students, we know that we are going to hear the bravery that manifested in the face of evil. Bravery that we know was done, at least in some instances, at great cost and great sacrifice, including the sacrifice of people's own lives. And so, we celebrate that bravery, that courage, and at the same time we grieve the horror of this mass murder."

## Boykins expresses deep sorrow, offers condolences to Santa Fe

It is with a heavy heart that Council Member Dwight Boykins shares yet another school shooting that has claimed the lives of multiple innocent people at Santa Fe High School, just 40 miles outside of Houston. Boykins shares his deepest condolences with these families as they cope with their loved ones being taken so soon.

Boykins also hopes for a full and speedy recovery for those that were injured in this tragedy, especially retired Houston Police Officer John Barnes who provided security to Santa Fe High School.

"Enough is enough," said Boykins. "It is time to adopt strong, strict laws to address gun violence in this state and in this country."

"The uptick in gun violence ravaging schools and communities throughout the United States must cease.

This specific shooting hits very close to home with Santa Fe considered to be a neighboring city.

"Again, we must strengthen federal, state and local laws to prevent these types of tragedies from taking place. We can no longer sit back and watch our children fear for their lives while obtaining an education due to lapsed laws that allow guns in the hands of violent people."

## District E News

By Council Member Dave Martin

April was a busy month for the District E Office and as we prepare for the upcoming Hurricane Season and we continue to monitor and evaluate progress on the local, state, and federal levels on Post-Harvey progress. The Army Corps of Engineers held a pre-bid conference last week and is expected to bid the dredging project within the next few weeks. Shortly after the contract is awarded, the dredging over the West Fork of the San Jacinto River is expected to occur as soon as the contractor can get mobilized. Once there is a confirmed dredging start date, we will provide notification to the community.

Additionally, the City of Houston submitted a Notice of Intent to apply for a Hurricane Harvey Disaster Relief - 4332 Grant (HMGP) for the addition of flood control infrastructure on the Lake Houston Dam Spillway. The HMGP is funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and has a single mission which is to provide financial assistance to projects that seek to prevent or reduce future losses to lives and property, as well as minimize the costs of future disaster response and recovery. The Notice of Intent was recently approved by the Texas Department of Emergency Management. The City of Houston is now working diligently to complete this application and submit for selection. To learn more about the selection process, you may visit this website.

While we await these projects, it is important to note that hurricane season begins

June 1 and runs through November 1. The National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has updated their Hurricane Center Products and Services you may see those changes here and we encouraged you to review them. To ensure that you are prepared, please follow the suggestions below:

- Determine your risk.
- Develop an evacuation plan.
- Secure an insurance check-up.
- Assemble disaster supplies.
- Strengthen your home.
- Identify your trusted sources of information for a hurricane event.
- Complete your written hurricane plan.

The City additionally offers a free Disaster Preparedness Guide for all Houston residents, which is available for download at [houstonoem.org](http://houstonoem.org). For a free, printed copy of the guide, residents can call 311 at (713) 837-0311. This guide aids Houstonians through the emergency preparedness process, which include having an emergency kit, a disaster plan, staying informed, and knowing your neighbors.

Other flood resources that you may find helpful may be found on the Houston Office of Emergency Management, United States Geological Survey, as well as the Harris County Flood Warning System websites.

It is a privilege serving you. As always, please feel free to contact my office should you have any comments, questions or concerns to share.

## Fox to serve as justice of the peace

At the request of Harris County Commissioner Rodney Ellis, Commissioners Court on Tuesday appointed Reginald J. Fox — a local attorney — to serve temporarily as Justice of the Peace, Precinct 7, Place 1.

Hilary Green resigned the position in March after 10 years on the bench.

Fox, who will not seek the position in the General Election, will sit on the bench until mid-November. The recommendation for Fox to serve as interim justice of the peace came from a selection committee that carefully evaluated applicants to recommend the best-qualified candidate.

"I'm grateful to the selection committee for its due diligence during this process. Mr. Fox is well-versed in the

types of cases that justices of the peace oversee, how the docket is run and is ready to step into this role," Ellis said Tuesday, May 1.

Fox, a staff attorney at Lone Star Legal Aid, works in the agency's Housing and Consumer Unit, where he represents indigent clients in cases such as convictions, disputes less than \$10,000 and neighborhood disputes. He also has worked the mental health docket that Harris County justices of the peace preside over to determine if there is probable cause to detain a person picked up on a mental health warrant. In addition, he has experience in landlord-tenant law, which is a large part of the JP court's docket.

Fox received his undergraduate degree in business administration from Wiley College and law degree from Texas Southern University's Thurgood Marshall School of Law.

Each political party will nominate a candidate for the Nov. 6 election by a convention of the precinct chairs representing the precincts located in Precinct 7. The winner will take the office permanently after the votes are canvassed.

"Ultimately, the voters will decide who will replace Judge Green in November. Until that time, I am confident that Mr. Fox will serve as interim justice of the peace with integrity, fairness and efficiency, and I'm grateful for his willingness to serve," Ellis said.

# Deaths

## Mildred Andrea Bibie



Mildred Andrea Bibie, 86, of Houston died on May 4, 2018. She was born to John and Andrea (Jensen) Young in Philadelphia on May 18, 1931. Shortly after World War II ended, Mildred attended Peirce Business College where she earned her business degree. She later joined Arthur H. Thomas Company (now Thomas Scientific). This is where she met her husband John (Stan) Bibie.

Mildred was an avid traveler visiting Europe, Cuba and Bermuda. She also explored America from coast to coast by train, skied in Vermont during her youth, and traveled frequently to New York to watch shows on Broadway. Some of her fondest stories were of banana daiquiris in Cuba, the glass-bottom boat in Florida and carting petticoats around Europe.

In 1968, Mildred and Stan and their two small children, Carolyn and Mark, moved from Philadelphia to Houston when Stan went to work in the space program. They had one more child, Susan, the only native Texan in the family. The family resided in Sagemont for 25 years until Mildred retired and moved to a smaller place.

After the children were born, Mildred stayed at home and devoted her life to her family. She put others before herself and made time for family and friends. Mildred was a dedicated mother and supported all her children in all their extracurricular activities.

After the children were grown, Mildred returned to the workforce as a financial aid specialist at the University of Houston and made many new friends.

Mildred will be remembered for her affection to her

family, for her love of crafts and crossword puzzles and, especially, for her meatballs.

There were cards for every holiday, tree trimming parties at Christmas and art and crafts all year. She thoroughly spoiled and enjoyed her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Mildred was preceded in death by her husband and by her sister Norma Young. She is survived by her children and their spouses Carolyn and Jason Miles, Mark Bibie and Susan and Darren Lanmon; grandchildren Samantha Riascos, Christopher Lanmon, Eric Miles, Scott Miles, Johnathan Lanmon and Matthew Lanmon; seven great-grandchildren and a great-grandchild on the way.

Lynn's request. Remembrances may be sent to: Bluebonnet Youth Ranch in Yoakum, Texas, or Bridge Over Troubled Water in Pasadena, Texas.

## Mary "Pat" Kloss



Mary "Pat" Kloss, 85, was born May 13, 1933, in Indianapolis and died on May 19, 2018. She had been a resident of the South Belt area since 1973.

Mary Kloss was preceded in death by her husband, Floyd Kloss and sister Eleanor Teepee. Survivors to cherish her memories include her daughters Michele Cole and husband Robert; Linda Kloss; Susan Bowen and husband Dale; Laurie Sheppard and husband Jim; and Patti Dailey and husband Dudley. She is also survived by grandchildren Hollie Salas, Heather Mahoney and Michael Bowen; and great-grandchildren Ava Mahoney, Sienna Salas, Autumn Mahoney, Luka Salas and Ashlynn Mahoney. Mary is survived by siblings Robert Prestel and wife Jamie, Jimmy Prestel and wife Phyllis and sister Annette "Mickey" Lentz as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

Mary was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother. She was a registered nurse for more than 50 years and devoted her life to helping others. She truly loved to travel, spend time with family and play Scrabble.

A celebration of life with a memorial Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday, May 30, at 11 a.m. at St. Juan Diego Church, located at 3301 Pasadena Blvd. A gathering of family and friends will follow at Living Springs Church, 4821 Spencer Highway, where lunch will be served.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations are requested to be made to the American Cancer Society.

## Lynn Maxwell Caudle



Lynn Maxwell Caudle died at the age of 91 on May 17, 2018. She was a 25-year resident of South Belt. She joyfully joined her husband, her sons and many family members and friends who have gone before her. She leaves behind her large and wonderful family.

She is survived by her sons Martin Ray Maxwell of Fort Collins, Colo. and Michael Glenn Maxwell of Houston; nine grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

The sorrows in her life were by far surpassed by her happiness. She is known for the food drives in the town-homes where she lived.

For her 90th birthday, Lynn asked that people would give her socks for needy children. This resulted in more than 1,600 pairs of socks being collected. Many of these socks which went to the children were distributed by the *South Belt Leader* and prompted others to start their own sock drives.

No services are planned, at

## Chamber seeks nominations

Continued from Page 1A

normal people were transformed into heroes. These heroes manned boats, canoes or jet skis, provided food, brought water, mucked houses, pushed cars, donated supplies, babysat kids, provided shelter, clothing, furniture, medicine, diapers... the list is endless. The South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce is compiling a massive list of these heroes and wants the names of every individual who volunteered their time and energy following the devastation to our community. Please help us by providing the names of as many people as you can who have any way, large or small, helped out someone in our community. If you do not know names

but know the group these individuals were with, please give us the name of the group. The Chamber will be recognizing a small sampling of these individuals at our *Salute to the Heroes of Harvey* banquet on Thursday, July 19. We will be using the names of all the individuals in a special project. Remember, real heroes don't wear capes."

## Hartwell cross removed

Continued from Page 1A

Hartwell, 40, was killed as he was traveling south on Blackhawk on a silver Harley Davidson and was struck by a blue Dodge Durango SUV at the intersection of Wolcott Park Lane between Fuqua

and Almeda Genoa. The driver of the SUV exhibited no signs of intoxication and was questioned and released at the scene without charges.

A temporary memorial cross has since been erected at the crash site.

## Leader checks out social media

By Laura Benavides Scallan

A member of the *people of sagemont* 2 Facebook group shared an image that states the Texas Fuego 2K17 team is in search of a bracket pitcher and a utility player. They will hold open practice and tryouts on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. There will be private tryouts held on Saturdays at the South Belt Softball Fields, 9654 Hall Road. For any questions, call 832-921-0826.

Another member of the same group states that her husband's truck was stolen from their home off Sagemont. The member states the truck is rare since it's a single cab dually F350 with smoke-out lights. A

picture of the truck was posted by the member. Contact the member with any information via Facebook.

On the same Facebook group, a member shared about the benefit event for Santa Fe High student Sarah Salazar that will be held on Saturday, May 26. For more information, see event information on Facebook.

A member of the *South Belt-Ellington Neighbors* Facebook group shared a post from the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce regarding its *Salute to the Heroes of Harvey*. The post was also shared on the *Sagemont Civic Club* Facebook group.

For more information, visit the chamber Facebook page.

A photo was shared on the *Pets of Southbelt* Facebook page of two German shepherds on Torrington Lane. One of the dogs had a pink collar on it.

Another member of the same Facebook group shared a photo of her lost puppy near Blackhawk and Carmalee. If found, message the member on Facebook.

Another member of the same Facebook group shared photos of a pit bull that wandered into her back yard. The dog is black with white markings on its neck and has a collar. The dog is located off Carmalee and Fuqua.

## Southbelt Summer Kickoff canceled

The Southbelt Summer Kickoff that was scheduled for June 2 at Clear Brook City Park has been canceled.

## Correction on Dobie French student names

In last week's issue, the Dobie High School French students were recognized and received honorable mentions but were named incorrectly. The honorable mentions for level II are Luis Figueroa, Adrian Garcia, Alejandra Gracias, and Frida Quiroz. The honorable mentions for level III are Elsa Ceballos and Emily Estrada.

## Houston Symphony performs at Dobie

The Houston Symphony will be performing at J. Frank Dobie High School as part of its annual "Sounds Like Fun" community concert series on Friday, June 8, at 7:30 p.m. in the school's auditorium. There will be preperformance activities for kids such as the instrument petting zoo at 6:30 p.m. The concert is for all ages, is free and open to the public.

## Bay Area Quilt Guild sets meeting

The Bay Area Quilt Guild has set its monthly meeting on Tuesday, June 5. Fellowship begins at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting starts at 7 p.m. at Mount Olive Lutheran Church, 10310 Scarsdale. The speaker will be Sharon Wilhelm and the program title is *Quiltbox of 96 Crayola Colors*. Visitors can attend two meetings for free. For more information, call Debby Benson at 713-248-8757 or check the website at [bayareaquiltguild.org](http://bayareaquiltguild.org).

## Island-themed dance to be held June 2

An island-themed ballroom dance, will be held at Hometown Heroes Park, Saturday, June 2, from 7 to 10 p.m. John Rubberg will play all rhythms and keep the beautiful floating hardwood floors moving all evening. The public is welcome, including couples, singles, students and seniors, regardless of dance ability. The door fee is \$8 per person. The event is in compliance with the city policy that requires no smoking, no alcohol or floor wax. The dance is sponsored by Let's Dance, coordinated by Neva and Bill Schroder. For more information, call 417-838-2204.

## Local library events set

### Bracewell Branch Library

The following events are scheduled for the Bracewell Branch Library, 9002 Kingspoint: Thursday, May 24, 6 p.m. Book Club: *Ethan Frome* by Edith Wharton  
Wednesday, May 30, 10:30 a.m. Toddler storytime  
Wednesday, May 30, Computer courses: 2 p.m. Computer Basics; 3:15 p.m. Internet Basics; 4:30 p.m. Basic Powerpoint  
For information on events at Bracewell Library, call 832-393-2580.  
Bracewell hours this week are: Thursday, noon – 8 p.m.; Friday, 10 – 5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.; Sunday and Monday, closed; Tuesday and Wednesday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
Bracewell Public Library will be closed Monday, May 28, for the Memorial Day holiday.

### Parker Williams Library

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

Saturday, May 26, 2 – 4 p.m. Magic: The Gathering Gameplay, for ages 8 and older. Special appreciation is given to Strike Zone for the generous donation of Magic: The Gathering cards. For more information, visit <http://www.hepl.net/sites/default/files/Feb-MTG-1.jpg>.

Tuesday, May 29, 10:30 a.m. Computer basics. Improve skills on the internet, email, Facebook and other social media. Registration is requested.

Tuesday, May 29, 2 p.m. Book Discussion: *Please Look After Mom* by Kyong Suk Sin. Visit the library to get a copy of the book and join the group to discuss it.

Wednesday, May 30, 5 p.m. Computer class: *Your Vacation Power Point*, for ages 8 and older. Learn to share vacation memories with friends and family by making a modern power point slideshow. Meet at the computer lab to learn how to create title slides, insert pictures, use transitions and animations, and add in a voice-over to narrate pictures.

Wednesday, May 30, 6:30 p.m. Houston Youth KorUs choir performs. This Houston-area choir promotes cultural exchange between Korea and the United States and performs songs in both Korean and English. The choir has performed at Rice University, the Asia Society and St. Anthony Cathedral Basilica in Beaumont.

Below are the programs that occur every week:

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

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

Saturdays, Vietnamese learning time. Classes begin at 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11:15 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. For more information on these programs, speak with Loc Bui.

For more information on events, call the library at 281-484-2036.

Library hours this week are: Thursday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Friday, 1 – 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.; Sunday and Monday, closed; Tuesday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; and Wednesday, 10 a.m. – 9 p.m.

All Harris County public library branches are closed Monday, May 28, for Memorial Day.

## South Belt-Ellington Leader

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# PISD May Chess Championship names winners



Shown above are the third-grade top finishers, left to right, Aiden Aguilar, first place; Juan Martinez Pablo, second place; Isaac Garza, third place; Nelson Torres, fourth place; and Steven Aguilar, fifth place.



Shown above are the fourth-grade top finishers, left to right, Juan Vega, first place; Harold Funez, second place; Victoria Choriceanu, third place; Ricardo Fernandez, fourth place; and Nicholas Kemp, fifth place.



Shown above are the fifth-grade top finishers, left to right, Jimmy Bui, first place; Samantha Garcia, second place; Christopher Saha-gun, third place; Jericho Urbano, fourth place; and Vinh Nguyen, fifth place.



Shown above are the sixth-grade top finishers, left to right, Nathaniel Luna, first place; Arath Dodin, second place; Jonathan Salazar, third place; Mauricio Gloria, fourth place; and Juan Garcia, fifth place.



Shown above are the secondary top finishers, left to right, Dylan Campos, first place; Hussiel Arias, second place; Patrick Ortega, third place; and Xavier Valerio, fourth place. Not pictured is Isaac Villarreal, fifth place.

# PISD holds May Chess Championship

On Saturday, May 12, Pasadena Independent School District held its eighth annual May Chess Championship at Beverly Hills Intermediate. A total of 222 students participated, and 31 campuses were represented including one high school, five intermediate schools, six middle schools and 19 elementary schools. Of all the schools that participated, 27 were from Pasadena ISD, three were from Deer Park ISD and one was a private school. In all divisions, each student played five games, receiving one point for each win and half a point for each draw.

**Top finishers**  
**Third grade**  
 First place – Aiden Aguilar, Frazier Elementary.  
 Second place – Juan Martinez Pablo, Laura Bush Elementary.  
 Third place – Isaac Garza, Morales Elementary.  
 Fourth place – Nelson Torres, Young Elementary.

**Fourth grade**  
 First place – Juan Vega, Genoa Elementary.  
 Second place – Harold Funez, Genoa Elementary.  
 Third place – Victoria Choriceanu, Genoa Elementary.  
 Fourth place – Ricardo Fernandez, Genoa Elementary.  
 Fifth place – Nicholas Kemp, Frazier Elementary.

**Fifth grade**  
 First place – Jimmy Bui, Morris Middle School.  
 Second place – Samantha Garcia, Milstead Middle School.  
 Third place – Christopher Sahagun, Milstead Middle School.  
 Fourth place – Jericho Urbano, Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School.  
 Fifth place – Vinh Nguyen, Fred Roberts Middle School.

**Sixth grade**  
 First place – Nathaniel Luna, Fred Roberts Middle

School.  
 Second place – Arath Dodin, Fred Roberts Middle School.  
 Third place – Jonathan Salazar, Milstead Middle School.  
 Fourth place – Mauricio Gloria, Fred Roberts Middle School.  
 Fifth place – Juan Garcia, De Zavala Middle School.

**Secondary**  
 First place – Dylan Campos, seventh-grader, Thompson Intermediate.  
 Second place – Hussiel Arias, eighth-grader, Beverly Hills Intermediate.  
 Third place – Patrick Ortega, eighth-grader, Beverly Hills Intermediate.  
 Fourth place – Xavier Valerio, seventh-grader, Thompson Intermediate.  
 Fifth place – Isaac Villarreal, 12-grader, Pasadena High School.

Second place – Genoa Elementary.  
 Third place – Stuchbery Elementary.  
**Fourth grade**  
 First place – Genoa Elementary.  
 Second place – Laura Bush Elementary.  
 Third place – Meador Elementary.  
**Fifth grade**  
 First place – Fairmont Elementary.  
 Second place – Morris Middle School.  
 Third place – Deepwater Elementary.  
**Sixth Grade**  
 First place – Fred Roberts Middle School.  
 Second place – Milstead Middle School.  
 Third place – De Zavala Middle School.  
**Secondary**  
 First place – Beverly Hills Intermediate.  
 Second place – Thompson Intermediate.  
 Third place – South Houston Intermediate.

# UHCL announces calendar briefs

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

**Register for foreign language course**  
 Learn a new language and get personal attention from expert teachers in University of Houston-Clear Lake's non-credit Foreign Language Program. Small classes and private tutoring are available for Spanish, Chinese, German, Japanese, Russian and more. Registration is open through June 11 and classes are held June 11 – July 20. Group courses are \$156 per student; 10 hours of private instruction costs \$600, or five hours for \$300. To learn more or to register, call the Foreign Language and English Enhancement Program at 281-283-3033 or visit [www.uhcl.edu/academics/extended](http://www.uhcl.edu/academics/extended).

**UHCL to close for Memorial Day**  
 University of Houston-Clear Lake, 2700 Bay Area Blvd., will be closed Monday, May 28, in observance of Memorial Day. No classes will meet and all offices will be closed, including UH-Clear Lake's Alfred R. Neumann Library. To find out more about the university, visit [www.uhcl.edu](http://www.uhcl.edu). For any emergencies during the holiday, call the UHCL Police Department, 281-283-2222.

**Register for Environmental Institute of Houston summer camps**  
 Register now for University of Houston-Clear Lake's Environmental Institute of Houston's full-day, half-day and evening camps. Camps start June 11 and feature nature walks, bird-watching, fishing, dip-netting, games and more as first- through

eighth-grade students learn about the environment and students' place in it. Themes include Citizen Science Camp, Birding Camp and Hunger Games Camp. Prices range from \$100-\$250 per child depending on the session. For more information, call EIH, 281-283-3045 or visit [www.uhcl.edu/environmental-institute/education/summer-camps](http://www.uhcl.edu/environmental-institute/education/summer-camps).

**UH-Clear Lake open summer and fall registration**  
 New and returning students at University of Houston-Clear Lake can register for summer and fall courses in open registration through June 1 for summer courses and through Aug. 25 for fall courses. Freshman students must attend an orientation before registering for courses. Class schedules are available online at [www.uhcl.edu/academics/resources](http://www.uhcl.edu/academics/resources). UHCL

is located at 2700 Bay Area Blvd. For more information, contact the Office of the Registrar at 281-283-2525 or email [records@uhcl.edu](mailto:records@uhcl.edu).

**Register for Kids U summer camps**  
 University of Houston-Clear Lake's Center for Educational Programs ensures the learning doesn't stop this summer with Kids U summer day camps. Registration is online and is open for pre-K through 12 grade students interested in on-campus fun, focusing on creative writing, art, game design, coding, dinosaurs, bugs and more from nine different subject areas. Prices vary with each camp. UH-Clear Lake is located at 2700 Bay Area Blvd. To register or for more information, visit [www.uhcl.edu/education/centers-initiatives/center-educational-programs](http://www.uhcl.edu/education/centers-initiatives/center-educational-programs).



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# Gomez wins



Jessica Gomez, a student from the cosmetology department at San Jacinto College, won first place in the job interview category at the SkillsUSA Texas College Postsecondary Student Leadership State Conference.

# Two SJC students win gold, qualify

San Jacinto College students Scott Benson and Jessica Gomez took gold medals at the SkillsUSA Texas College Postsecondary Student Leadership State Conference in April. "I was honestly a little bit surprised to win," said Benson, a future automotive service technicians (FAST) student. "I didn't think I was good enough, but with all of the hands-on training I've had it was like muscle memory. If you understand how a machine works, you can fix any problem."

Gomez, a cosmetology student from San Jacinto College's South campus, took first place in the job interview category.

This competition is divided into three phases: completion of employment applications; preliminary interviews with receptionist; and, in-depth interviews. Contestants are evaluated on their understanding of employment procedures faced in applying for positions in their occupational areas.

San Jacinto College Central Campus' Benson took the gold medal in automotive service technology, a competition encompassing all aspects of servicing a vehicle including on-vehicle work, simulations, bench and component testing and a written test.

As first place winners, Benson and Gomez both qualify to compete at the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference in Louisville, Kentucky in June.

# Symphony announces 10 family-friendly, free summer concerts

The Houston Symphony announced on May 15 the details of its free, family-friendly Summer Neighborhood Concerts and ExxonMobil Summer Symphony Nights. A summer tradition, these evening concerts are held in casual venues across Greater Houston, making these performances accessible to people of all ages and backgrounds.

This year's Summer Neighborhood Concerts - led by Associate Conductor Robert Franz - will be held in schools and churches across Greater Houston and will feature daring works by Beethoven and Wagner as well as John Williams' *Summer of the Heroes*, Tchaikovsky's blazing *Symphony No. 4* and Williams' *Remembrances from Schindler's List*, which will feature young violinist Katherine Butler of Virtuosi of Houston.

The Houston Symphony returns to Miller Outdoor Theatre for the 78th consecutive time for ExxonMobil Summer Symphony Nights, an annual tradition that introduces rising guest artists and outstanding soloists and conductors to Houston audiences.

This year's special and diverse lineup features leading female conductors and young musicians from culturally diverse backgrounds as Miller celebrates its 95th anniversary.

On June 22, Hong Kong-born conductor Elim Chan - the first female conductor to win the Donatella Flick Conducting Competition - will lead Mendelssohn's "Scottish" Symphony and Bruch's lively *Violin Concerto No. 1*, which features rising Venezuelan violinist Rubén Rengel, winner of the 2018 Annual Sphinx Competition.

Rengel is currently pursuing his Master's degree at the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University under the remarkable guidance of Paul Kantor. Nicholas Hersh, associate conductor of the Baltimore Orchestra and artistic director of the Baltimore Symphony Youth Orchestra, takes the podium the following day on June 23 to lead a program featuring Tchaikovsky's impassioned *Symphony No. 5* and Böhmé's romantic *Trumpet Concerto*, which features Houston Symphony associate trumpet John Parker in his solo debut with

# Over The Back Fence by Alexis

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY, LINDA!**  
Linda Heinrich, aka "Nana" or "Queen" Linda of Sagemeadow celebrates her 72nd birthday on Monday, May 28. Congratulations and best wishes are sent to her from her husband Ted Heinrich; son Carl Heinrich and his wife Martha Heinrich and their children Carl Heinrich IV, Drayton Heinrich, Meadaux Heinrich and Easton Heinrich; daughter Piper Sais and her husband Anthony Sais and their daughter Parker Sais, who all say, "We love you!"

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY, LUIS!**  
Wishes for a happy birthday are sent to Luis Escobar on Monday, May 28, from his family and co-workers at the Leader.

**SCHOOL DAZE**  
The following personnel of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays May 24 through May 30.

**Atkinson Elementary**  
Special birthday wishes are sent May 27 to Karen Jernigan.

**Burnett Elementary**  
Light the birthday candles for Althea Smith on May 30.

**Bush Elementary**  
The day for a birthday celebration for Audra Smith is May 26. Give a birthday shout-out to Stephanie Miller for a May 30 birthday.

**Frazier Elementary**  
Send a happy birthday greeting May 24 to Mayra Villarreal. May 26 is the day to celebrate with a double-layer cake for Teresa Garcia and Angie Oquin. Join in singing a birthday song May 27 to Sherril Pouls.

**Meador Elementary**  
Blow out the birthday candles May 25 for Heather Cline.

**South Belt Elementary**  
The day for a birthday present for Viridiana Escalante-Barron is May 29.

**Meillio Middle School**  
May 27 is the day for a cake for Griebling Collin. Enjoying a memorable birthday May 30 is Judith Tamez.

**Beverly Hills Intermediate**  
Send birthday cards May 25 to Matthew Martinez and Summer Robertson. Light the candles on a double-layer cake May 28 for Ashley Collier and Cedric Lilly.

**Thompson Intermediate**  
Send a happy birthday greeting May 25 to Erynn Kalisek. Jennifer Darcy marks a birthday May 27. Sing a birthday song to Jessica Fitzmoris on May 28.

**Dobie High**  
Sing a happy birthday song May 24 to Lisa Barrett. Blow out the candles May 29

# Beverly Hills student caught with gun on campus

Continued from Page 1A  
child's social media and text communication and alert us of anything you feel is not right. We will take all threats toward school safety seriously regardless of intent."

While the Clear Creek Independent School District had already stepped up its security following the February school shooting in Parkland, Fla., it will now take additional measures, according to Superintendent Greg Smith.

"In February, we added five additional security monitors to the high schools," Smith said in a statement to parents and staff. "These full-time monitors patrol the exterior of the school building to make sure all doors are locked and report any suspicious activity. This extra set of eyes at the high school level has been a welcome addition to our security protocols. In light of the Santa Fe High School shooting, we will be bringing in additional police officers. This heightened police presence will remain through the last day of school, May 31, 2018. We are working with the Galveston County Sheriff School Liaison Division to secure an additional officer at each high school and each intermediate school. These additional officers will also patrol their nearby elementary schools. We have also reached out to our local municipalities to ask for their assistance to provide an extra layer of police presence at our elementary schools until the end of the school year."

Smith further said that students' backpacks may be subject to search for additional security.

Both school districts have stressed the need for parents to monitor their child's social media activity.

"As adults, we know children gravitate to social media as a means of communication and collaboration," Smith said. "We also know this is a place where threats, credible or not, are created and shared quickly. Please monitor your child's social media account and remind them of the tenets of positive digital citizenship. In the event they see a post that is suspicious or threatening, tell them not to share it but rather report it immediately to you or a trusted adult. All threats will be investigated by law enforcement and criminal charges will be pursued when appropriate. Making a terroristic threat involving a school is a felony offense, as is possessing certain unlawful weapons, including firearms, on school premises."

To make an anonymous tip in PISD, visit <https://asp.schoolmessenger.com/pasadenaisd/quicktip>. To make an anonymous tip in CCISD, call 281-284-TIPS (8477) or email [crimestoppers@ccisd.net](mailto:crimestoppers@ccisd.net).

Both districts have additional counselors available to students in need.

**Copycat incidents**  
There have been multiple other arrests throughout the Greater Houston area since the Santa Fe shooting, where students have been charged for making terroristic threats. At press time, there had also been arrests in Friendswood, La Porte, League City, La Marque and Huffman.

While a gun was involved in at least one of the incidents, no shots were fired, and no one was injured.

**Local connection**  
At least one of the victims in the Santa Fe shooting has close ties to the South Belt community.

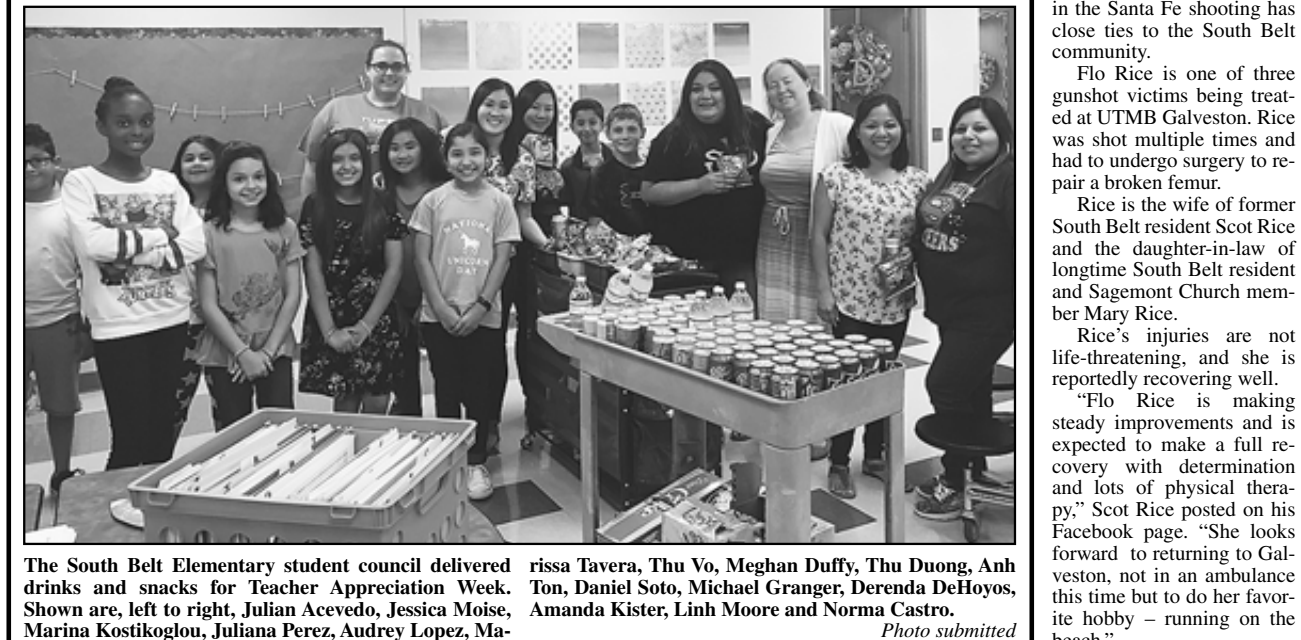
Flo Rice is one of three gunshot victims being treated at UTMB Galveston. Rice was shot multiple times and had to undergo surgery to repair a broken femur.

Rice is the wife of former South Belt resident Scot Rice and the daughter-in-law of longtime South Belt resident and Sagemont Church member Mary Rice.

Rice's injuries are not life-threatening, and she is reportedly recovering well.

"Flo Rice is making steady improvements and is expected to make a full recovery with determination and lots of physical therapy," Scot Rice posted on his Facebook page. "She looks forward to returning to Galveston, not in an ambulance this time but to do her favorite hobby - running on the beach."

# SB student council shows appreciation



The South Belt Elementary student council delivered drinks and snacks for Teacher Appreciation Week. Shown are, left to right, Julian Acevedo, Jessica Moise, Marina Kostikoglou, Juliana Perez, Audrey Lopez, Marissa Tavera, Thu Vo, Meghan Duffy, Thu Duong, Anh Ton, Daniel Soto, Michael Granger, Derenda DeHoyos, Amanda Kister, Linh Moore and Norma Castro.

# Remember When

**40 years ago (1978)**  
Two local schools were the victims of vandalism and theft in five separate break-ins. Thompson Intermediate was targeted twice and Dobie was hit three times.

A 16-year-old Sagemont youth Roland Dominguez was named to the South Texas All-Star Soccer team for the second straight year.

**35 years ago (1983)**  
Casey Sink and Jenny Tharp were selected as the outstanding eighth-graders at Beverly Hills Intermediate School and were presented with medals from the American Legion Post 409.

Harris County arson officials were investigating two fires which occurred in the South Bend subdivision in fewer than five days.

**30 years ago (1988)**  
The Dobie senior class of 1988 donated \$1,200 to Project Graduation.

The percentage of Pasadena Independent School District students mastering the Texas Educational Assessment of Minimum Skills rose over the previous year in each of the four grades for which scores were released.

**25 years ago (1993)**  
Harris County Sheriff's officers were seeking four Hispanic males in connection with a drive-by shooting that left one teenager wounded in Southbend. Sources said the shooting occurred outside a high school graduation party on Southcanyon. Witnesses said David Pena of South Houston was leaving the residence at 11:59 p.m. when a maroon Mustang drove slowly by, then the four suspects got out of the car. One suspect fired a .380 pistol between two and six times, hitting Pena in the right leg. Witnesses gave chase but were unable to keep up.

An unknown person or persons lined Beamer Road with bogus roofing company signs over the weekend. Each sign was for a different bogus company, with minority groups the supposed roofers in many cases.

**20 years ago (1998)**  
Dorothy Sloan won a car raffled by Dobie's Project Graduation.

The Dobie baseball team defeated Spring's Josh Beckett, who became a major league pitcher, to advance to the 5A region semifinals.

**15 years ago (2003)**  
Students from Atkinson Elementary made chickens of principal Lena Rohne and assistant principal Diane Wheeler using honey and feathers. The two had promised the activity if the students reached high scores in reading and completed tests on books read.

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation named its scholars for the year including several students from Clear Brook and Dobie. The finalists for Clear Brook were Radhika Bhat, Sivabrananiam Bhavani, Yu Cao, Nawcek Chowdhury, Ngoc Anh Nguyen, Anoop Sheshadri and Megan Yang. Dobie NMSC scholars were semifinalist Brandt Smith; commended scholars John Dokhani, Francine Lai, Zainab Lai, Kevin Nguyen and Sheila Scott; Hispanic scholar finalists Teresa Richard and Maritza Valle; and national achievement semifinalist Shannon Valley.

**10 years ago (2008)**  
In a unanimous vote, longtime South Belt resident Stuart Stromeyer was named president of the Clear Creek Independent School District Board of Trustees.

Also at the board meeting, members voted to approve District 5 representative Dee Scott as vice president and District 3 representative Ken Baliker as secretary. In addition, Win Weber was sworn in as the new District 2 member to the board, replacing former president and retiring board member and Paula Tomasi.

The CCISD Board of Trustees also unanimously approved a salary plan for the 2008-2009 school year which included a minimum increase of \$1,500 per teacher with more senior teachers receiving between \$1,750 and \$2,750 depending on their years of service.

**5 years ago (2013)**  
Longtime South Belt resident and U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Fernando "Nando" Flores died after crashing his vehicle on Edwards Air Force Base in California. According to police, Flores, a 2005 Dobie graduate, lost control of his car and struck a utility pole, killing him on impact. Born on Independence Day, Flores followed in his grandfather's footsteps by joining the Air Force in January 2009. During his Air Force tenure, Flores did two tours overseas, serving in Saudi Arabia and Abu Dhabi.

The Pasadena Independent School District Board of Trustees voted to name the district's new central swimming facility for the late Dennis L. Shippey, whose career as swimming and diving coach at Dobie High School spanned nearly three decades. Trustees also named Daniel Hoppie the new principal at Morris Middle School. Hoppie had previously served as assistant principal at Thomp-

# Cory takes new role



Hope Cory is the San Jacinto College North Campus Student Government Association president and recently was appointed as a student representative to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

# THECB appoints SJC student to state board

San Jacinto College student Hope Cory has been appointed by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board as a student representative.

"This is an amazing opportunity that I'm so thankful for," said Cory. "I was encouraged to apply by my advisor and I'm excited to get to work."

Cory, who graduated May 12, will take on her new role as a THECB student representative in June. As a student representative, she will serve on the committee for undergraduate education with an emphasis on the 60x30 strategic plan. This THECB strategic plan has set a goal that by 2030, at least 60 percent of Texans ages 25-34 will have a certificate or degree.

"I think it's amazing to set that huge goal," Cory said. "I'm excited because it facilitates pathways for students, employers and so many other avenues not only at San Jac, but all over the state."

This is not the 21-year-old's first foray into the world of politics. She served as the San Jacinto College North Campus Student Government Association president for the last three semesters and was chosen to attend a trip to Washington D.C., with the Economic Alliance Houston Port Region to meet and speak with Texas representatives.

Currently, Cory plans to transfer to the University of Houston-Clear Lake and major in public policy.

Now, as a graduate from San Jacinto College, Cory will pass on the SGA presidency torch.

"I fell in love with San Jac and I don't want to leave," Cory said. "I love how much the faculty are encouraged to support students, to show interest and support. My SGA advisors have made a huge impact on me in the last year and a half. They will continue to be my life mentors."

# Evacuation routes set

Continued from Page 1A  
Should the Texas Department of Public Safety issue a mandatory evacuation, contraflow operations will likely be put into effect to expedite the flow of traffic.

On Interstate 10, east-bound lanes will be reversed at FM 359 in Brookshire, just east of Sealy. The contraflow lanes will end at Loop 1604 in San Antonio.

Southbound lanes on Interstate 45 would be reversed north of Highway 242, just south of Conroe. The contraflow lanes will end at US 287 near Ennis, 40 miles south of Dallas.

On Highway 290, contraflow operations will begin just west of FM 1960. Northbound traffic from State Highway 6 will be able to turn west onto 290 contraflow lanes. Contraflow operations will continue to FM 1948 near Burton.

Contraflow operations on Highway 59 will begin just west of Kingwood Drive and continue to Nacogdoches.

County officials recommend each household assemble a disaster relief kit that includes key items such as flashlights, cell phones, extra batteries, battery chargers, a portable radio, a first aid kit, emergency water and food, medical supplies, a nonelectric can opener, a highway map, and important documents, such as driver's licenses, passports, insurance policies and health cards.

Residents are urged to cover windows with shielding materials and to secure or put up any loose items around homes.

Evacuees should fill vehicles with gasoline as early as possible and take only one automobile, as extra cars create traffic congestion.

Those leaving town are encouraged to bring extra cash in case banks are closed and ATMs are not working. Fleeing citizens are also urged to notify family and friends (especially those out of the area) of their plans and destinations.

Disabled individuals and seniors who require assistance leaving the area should call the state's help line at 211 or visit [www.211texas.org/211](http://www.211texas.org/211).

For details or to utilize an interactive evacuation map, visit [www.hcoem.org](http://www.hcoem.org).

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# Mary Harryman named Breakfast Hero

While movies about superheroes dominate the nation's box offices, Pasadena ISD has a superhero of its own to celebrate. PISD Child Nutrition Director Mary Harryman was recently named one of only five national winners of the 2018 Breakfast Hero Contest by the anti-hunger campaign, No Kid Hungry, for her work following Hurricane Harvey.

The contest, launched during National School Breakfast Week in March, celebrates champions who make school breakfast possible for kids in need. The list of winners includes ed-

ucators and administrators from school districts across the country who were nominated by members of their local community. "Mary has worked tirelessly to ensure students at Pasadena ISD continue to receive healthy meals following Hurricane Harvey," said Texas Hunger Initiative representative John Puder, who also nominated Harryman. "Not only has Pasadena worked to provide meals under challenging conditions, but they've expanded alternative breakfast options and after-school meal programs."

Harryman said that the

district and her department faced numerous obstacles and challenges post Harvey, but the first challenge was taking care of her employees and staffing the kitchens. "Out of our 650 child nutrition employees, 125 experienced significant flooding and 50 lost everything," said Harryman. "Harvey hit our department hard and created staffing challenges. In some cases, we had to move employees to different campuses closer to where they lived because they lost their vehicles or were displaced."

She said that by doing this, it allowed the district to begin serving students as

soon as they came back to campus following Harvey. "We didn't just want to offer an emergency box meal or sack lunch, but we wanted to give them a hot meal. This required us working with our different vendors to get food delivered and every student got a complete hot meal for breakfast and lunch," said Harryman. Harryman said that the effects from Harvey are still being felt across the community. According to her latest numbers, the percentage of students on free and reduced meal plans has risen from 78 percent at the beginning of the school year to more than

86 percent. Puder said that all these factors played a large role on his decision into why he nominated Harryman for the award. "Despite all the challenges Pasadena ISD faced, not one single meal was missed," said Puder. "It is very impressive that Mary was able to keep the kitchens open to feed students hot meals."

To find out more about Pasadena ISD's free and reduced meal program, visit the website <http://www1.pasadenaisd.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=80772&pageId=239156>.

# Scouts Pack 692 earn Tiger rank



Scouts Pack 692 earned the Tiger rank at an award ceremony on May 14 at St. Luke's Catholic Church. The scouts will join the Wolf Den in the fall. Shown above are, left to right, Rey Vega; Kaydin Howard; Danny Pena; Kyle Crawford; and Jackie Crawford, scout den leader. Photo submitted

# Meador Elementary chess team competes



Texas Hunger Initiative representative John Puder (left) presents Mary Harryman, Pasadena Independent School District child nutrition director, with a banner for being named a 2018 Breakfast Hero Contest winner. Photo by Jade Wise

# Ryan, World Series ring bedazzle BAHEP's members at May luncheon

Baseball runs deep in Reid Ryan's family. His dad, Nolan, pitched for 27 years spanning four decades and was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1999. Nolan was part of the New York Mets organization when it won the World Series in 1969, his only World Series appearance. Now, Reid personally knows the euphoria that comes with that level of success as president of Business Operations for the Houston Astros since May 17, 2013.

The Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership invited Reid to speak at its May general membership meeting to share his thoughts on the Astros' 2017 World Series title. There was definitely a level of anticipation in the air even before Reid took the stage wearing his bedazzling World Series ring.

BAHEP members filled the room with laughter when Reid confessed that

the most in demand "person" from the Astros organization is the Commissioner's Trophy at #1. Astros Mascot Orbit is #2 trailed by José Altuve at #3!

**Speaks of goal setting, teamwork and failure**

Reid began his presentation saying, "The game of baseball bonds generations. Fathers and sons. Grandparents and grandchildren. You can learn so many things from this game. Today, I'm going to talk about goal setting, teamwork, and dealing with failure. Not enough kids and not enough people in America today can handle dealing with failure."

Reid spoke about Jim Crane, owner of the Astros, relating, "Jim is one of the most driven individuals you will ever meet. During the first staff meeting we had after winning the World Series, he told us that this wasn't the finish line for us; it was just

the starting point. "From day one of the season, everybody in our organization knew what the goal was - to build a sustained winner. We took a lot of shots along the way, but Jim had a plan."

**Never Settle**

Reid said that the mantra for the Astros this year is Never Settle. He made it very clear that the Astros are not satisfied with just one World Series championship. Reid then spoke of Astros General Manager Jeff Luhnow and Manager A.J. Hinch.

He explained how Luhnow rebuilt the Astros when he came on board in December 2011, and now the Astros' teamwork revolves around Hinch who joined the club in September 2014. He told about the wonderful camaraderie that the team has and said, "They are great players, but they are even better human beings. When you have guys

that like each other, that root for each other, the sky's the limit. These guys have the common denominator that they don't want to be good, they want to be great. "José (Altuve) is making our players better, and Justin (Verlander) is making our pitchers better. Talent raises talent."

Finally, Reid spoke of failure saying, "In baseball, you have to learn to deal with failure. My dad used to always say, 'Don't let the failure of your last pitch ruin the success of your next one.' You see it with the Astros. They live in the moment. They wipe it. They move on to the next one and try to learn from it."

In closing he told everyone, "We feel that we have one of the best teams in the American League. With baseball, we play 162 games. You need a team to run the marathon, but you also need a team to run the sprint. Now we have that."

# San Jacinto Museum of History Association announces its participation in Blue Star Museums program in 2018

The San Jacinto Museum of History Association has announced its participation in the Blue Star Museums program in 2018, offering free entrance to all active duty military personnel, including National Guard and Reserve, and their families from Monday, May 28, Memorial Day, through Monday, Sept. 3, Labor Day. Up to five family members will also be admitted free of charge.

The museum association will give qualifying personnel

free access to the *Texas Forever The Battle of San Jacinto* digital presentation; the nearly 500-foot elevator ride to the observation deck atop the San Jacinto Monument with views of the historic battleground of San Jacinto and many square miles of surrounding area; and the museum's special exhibit, *A Destined Conflict: The U.S. - Mexican War*, which looks at the events following the Texas Revolution that led to the United States' first foreign war.

Beyond these attractions

there is plenty to do at the monument or the museum: the San Jacinto Museum's permanent gallery exhibiting books to bayonets, swords to six shooters; the San Jacinto Battleground; picnic tables, grills and water faucets; and the 1,210-foot long marsh trail and boardwalk that provides views of the native prairie, tidal marsh and bottom-land forest.

The museum and its attractions are open daily year-round 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., in-

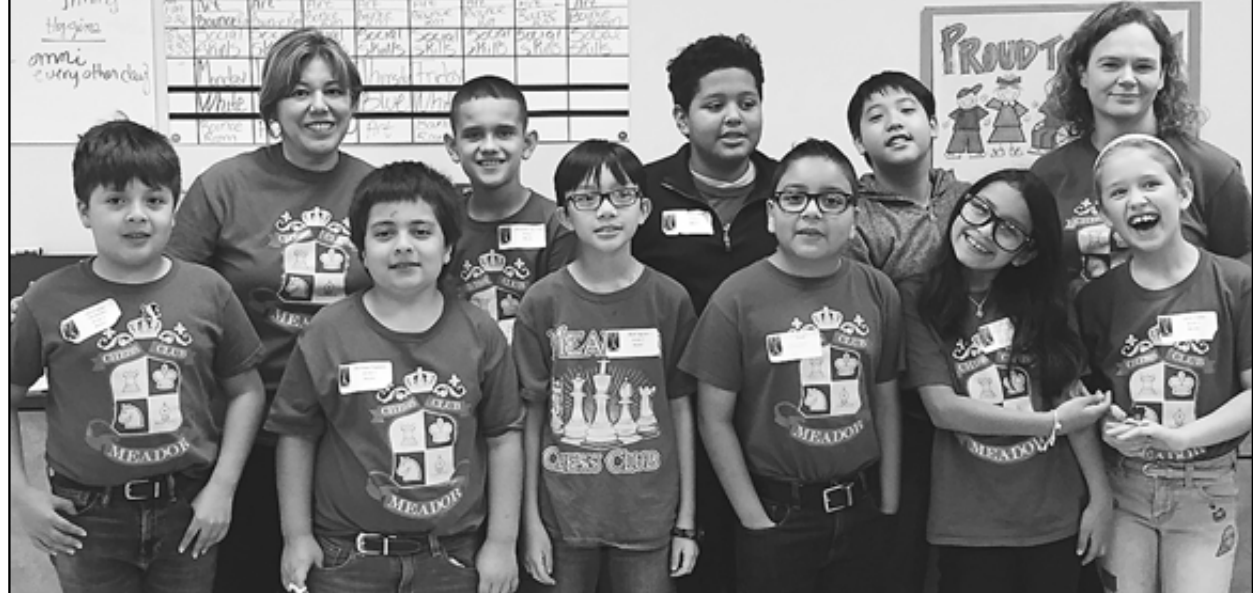
cluding Independence Day, Labor Day and nearly all holidays. All attractions are wheelchair accessible.

The program is open to any bearer of a Geneva Convention common access card, a DD Form 1173 ID card or a DD Form 1173-1 ID card, which includes active U.S. military as well as members of the National Guard and Reserve, U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps and the NOAA Commissioned Corps. Family

members can enter for free without the serving person, based on the spouse dependent ID.

Blue Star Museums is a collaboration among the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense, and more than 2,000 museums throughout the U.S. to offer free admission to the nation's 1.4 million active duty military personnel and their families from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

# Meador Elementary chess team competes



The Meador Elementary chess competition team dedicated a lot of hard work the entire school year. Fourth-graders won third place for Meador at the May 12 district chess competition at Beverly Hills Intermediate. Shown are, left to right, (front row) Christopher Hernandez, fourth-grader; Matthew Espinoza, third-grader; Minh Nguyen, fourth-grader; Abraham Guillen, third-grader; Jillian Mikulski, third-grader; Lexi Cowan, third-grader; (back row) Connie Daumas, chess coach; Alejandro Martinez, fourth-grader; Hussai Arias, fourth-grader; Richard Le, fourth-grader; and Corin Culpepper, chess coach. Photo by Heather Cline

# Ryan guest speaker at BAHEP



Shown at the recent BAHEP luncheon are left to right, Joan McKinne, Bob Mitchell's fiancée and general manager of Norman Frede Chevrolet; Reid Ryan, president of Business Operations for the Houston Astros; and Bob Mitchell, BAHEP president and longtime South Belt resident.

# Olson acts to expedite study to protect Texas Gulf Coast

Rep. Pete Olson on May 22 joined with his Texas colleagues to expedite a study to protect the Texas Gulf Coast from future hurricanes. Olson is an original cosponsor of H.R. 5897, the Coastal Texas Protection Act, which directs the Army Corps of Engineers to expedite completion of the Coastal Texas Ecosystem Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study (Coastal Texas Study). This study is already in progress to recommend a comprehensive strategy to mitigate damage and reduce flood risks from coastal storms and erosion. This bill also provides a necessary exception for the project under the Coastal Barrier Resources Act so that federal funds can be used for this study.

"Hurricane Harvey has only highlighted the critical urgency for the Coastal Texas Study," Olson said. "Houston and the Gulf Coast region can't wait for a five year study to be completed to determine the best

solution to protect our region and our resources. We must make sure that the six million people that call the Texas Gulf Coast home are properly protected from the next hurricane. It's not just Texas that would be impacted either with the billions of dollars in economic activity that move through our region and would be impacted by a shutdown in the event of another hurricane.

"I want to thank Rep. Randy Weber and Sen. John Cornyn for their leadership on this important issue and urge quick action so this study can be completed as soon as possible."

The Coastal Texas Protection Act directs the Corps to expedite the completion of the Coastal Texas Study, and provides a necessary exception for the project under the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA). The CBRA restricts the expenditure of federal funds associated with coastal barriers to avoid encouraging development of such barriers. Without this exception, the Coastal Texas Study could face significant delays. Such exceptions have been enacted in the past, most notably for coastal barrier systems in Louisiana.

**UHCL closed for holiday**

The University of Houston-Clear Lake, 2700 Bay Area Blvd., will be closed Monday, May 28, in observance of Memorial Day.

No classes will meet and all offices, including UHCL's Alfred R. Neumann Library,

will be closed. For more information about the university, visit the website [www.uhcl.edu](http://www.uhcl.edu).

For any emergencies during the holiday, call the UHCL Police Department at 281-283-2222.

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Food and drinks provided on a first come first serve basis.

**Baker loves her Riverstone friends**



Riverstone Ranch resident Rosa Baker, shown here with Grey Goose, is urging her fellow neighbors to not take eggs away from the ducks at the subdivision's pond. Baker claims there is a pair of females who poke the ducks with sticks each morning then take all their eggs away from them. "I love and care for all of them," Baker said. The resident is shown above being affectionate with one of the birds.

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## HABCA all-stars to include locals

A trio of players from state champion Lutheran South Academy as well as Clear Brook star Gavin Machado are expected to compete in the 2018 Houston Area Baseball Coaches Association All-Star Game series next month.

HABCA officials began notifying players and their high school coaches as of May 22. The chance to compete alongside the best of the best is a fitting end for the three Lutheran South Academy invitees.

Senior left-hander Colby Johnson homered and allowed just one hit in getting the Pioneers to the state championship game.

Teammates Ethan McDonald and Owen Hill, also HABCA all-star choices, played key roles throughout the season as the Pioneers went 31-7, winning their second state crown in four years.

Machado, a University of Texas at San Antonio signee, had a huge senior season at the plate despite the Wolverines struggling in District 24-6A play.

## San Jacinto College heads to JUCO World Series, again

By Amanda Fenwick  
SJC Marketing

The San Jacinto College baseball team won the 2018 Region XIV Tournament last week with an 8-7 win over Northeast Texas Community College, earning its fourth consecutive berth in the Alpine Bank Junior College World Series.

San Jac (49-13, 28-7) will face Monroe College (New York) on Sunday, May 27 at 9 a.m. CST.

Overall, this is the 26th JUCO World Series appearance for San Jac, which has won five national titles and finished as national runner-up on 10 occasions.

Freshman Tyrice Silas (Cypress Falls High School) leads San Jac this season averaging .418 at the plate.

In 141 at bats, he has 59 hits, including 12 doubles, four triples and 20 RBI.

Freshman Alerick Soularie (Atascocita High School) is hitting .403 this season in 176 at bats, with 71 hits, 17 doubles, eight triples and 10 home runs.

On the mound, San Jac is led by Region XIV South Pitcher of the Year Jacob Cantleberry. The sophomore from Greenwood, Indiana (Center Grove High School) owns a 2.99 ERA in 75.1 innings pitched.

He is 12-2 on the year, and has struck out a team-best 89. Freshman Trey Dillard is 2-0 on the year with seven saves. He has a 1.80 ERA and has struck out 30.

Coming off a Region XIV win in which head

coach Tom Arrington was named the Region XIV Coach of the Year and will be inducted in the NJCAA Baseball Hall of Fame, San Jac will look for its sixth ever baseball national title. The last two seasons, San Jac has been the national runner-up.

**SJC Region XIV picks**  
San Jacinto College's Region XIV postseason honorees include first-team selections Soularie, Silas, Cantleberry, Dillard, catcher Jake Matheny, infielders Nick Neville and Sergio Macias, designated hitter Peter Zimmerman and relief pitcher Rylan Kaufman.

The team's Region XIV second team picks were outfielder Matt Goodheart, starting pitcher Devon Roedahl (8-2) and relievers Aaron George

and Reid Morgan.

**Macias leads way**  
Against Northeast Texas in the Region XIV title game May 16, it was

Macias who guided the Gators to the finish line, ensuring a fourth straight World Series berth.

With the game tied at

6-6 in the eighth inning, Macias blasted a two-run homer to right-center field, giving his team the lead for good. SJC relievers surren-

dered a ninth-inning run, but the Gators held on for an 8-7 victory to claim the Region XIX crown.

Continued on Page 6B



San Jacinto College freshman Alerick Soularie will lead the Gators into their 23rd all-time appearance at the National Junior College Athletic Association's Division I Alpine Bank World Series after helping his team defeat Northeast Texas 8-6 May 16 in the

Region XIV championship game. Soularie, from Atascocita High School, is batting .403 this season with 17 doubles, eight triples and 10 homers. He is one of several Gators selected to the all-Region XIV first team. Photo by Gary Stallard

## Brook boys' basketball expected to hire Janak

The Clear Brook High School boys' athletics coaching staff has seen a noticeable makeover this spring, largely courtesy of Bay City High School.

In February, Clear Brook approved Lupe Florez to be the school's new varsity football head coach and boys' campus athletic coordinator.

Florez, who came to Clear Brook via Bay City High School, then watched as former Blackcats' varsity boys' basketball head coach and varsity boys' golf coach Nathan Janak landed at Clear Brook as

the varsity boys' basketball head coach.

While he is still awaiting a Clear Creek ISD meeting to secure official board approval of his hiring, Janak is expected to replace Christian Thompson, who guided the Wolverines for five seasons prior to his exit this spring.

When Florez left Bay City to come to Clear Brook in March, Janak briefly served as the district's interim athletic director.

For more on Janak's youth summer hoops camp, see Page 3B.

## NJCAA JUCO World Series

**San Jacinto (48-13)  
vs. Monroe, NY (27-24)  
Sunday, May 27, 9 a.m. CST  
Grand Junction, Colo.  
Tourney runs through June 2  
www.njcaa.org**

## JFD's Mitchell named Def./P/Y in D-22-6A

Dobie varsity girls' soccer star Taiya Mitchell (11) was named the District 22-6A Defensive Player of the Year for the second consecutive season at the end of the 2018 campaign. Mitchell, a three-year starter, led the way as the Lady Longhorns wound up third in the final 22-6A standings and went up against Atascocita in the first round of the playoffs. The best part? Mitchell will return in 2019 for her final season as the Lady Longhorns get set to face Atascocita, Kingwood, Summer Creek, Humble and the rest of Pasadena ISD in the reloaded District 22-6A ranks. For more on the selections, see Page 2B.

Photo by Jade Wise



## At season's end, it's a wrap for four SJC programs

By John Bechtle  
Sports Editor  
The San Jacinto College baseball team is head-

ed to its fourth consecutive National Junior College Athletic Association Division I World Series beginning May 27.

But for four of the college's athletic programs, there will be no more regional or national appearances. Simply put, the end of the line has come.

Following the completion of a comprehensive four-year study of the entire athletic program, including the costs associated with the repair, remediation or replacement of existing facilities; the continued flow of scholarship funding to an athlete pool that included a majority of out-of-district students and several other factors, the college's Board of Trustees unanimously voted in October, 2016, to discontinue men's soccer, women's volleyball and men's and women's basketball following the completion of the 2017-2018 academic year.

It appeared to be a swift decision, and the board's maneuver was met with great disdain and disappointment in several corners.

How could the college simply eliminate four of the college's longstanding and most successful programs in the blink of an eye?

Why were the college's women's softball and baseball programs salvaged?

Why weren't supporters of the programs, community leaders and other longtime SJC followers given input and more time to help with a possible solution. What was it going to take to salvage the programs? How could school officials simply eliminate coaching positions in a quick and unified decision?

There were those questions and many more that arose following the trustees' decision. Yet the realities must be stated.

When it became increasingly apparent that the programs would be eliminated, the respective coaching staffs and athletic training personnel were notified roughly 18 months in advance. In the end, remaining faculty and staff members were offered, and, in several cases, accepted other positions with the college.

Some of the coaching staff members ultimately chose to take positions with other college and university programs.

For instance, SJC men's soccer coach, Ian Spooner, is now an assistant on staff with the Florida Gulf Coast University men's soccer program.

Mike Madrid, who led the college's women's basketball team to its first-ever national tournament appearance during the 2016-2017 campaign, left at school year's end to become an assistant coach at the University of Texas at El Paso.

Kayla Weaver, first assistant to Madrid two seasons ago and the team's head coach for the 2017-2018 return to nationals, is

headed to UT-Tyler as an assistant coach.

A significant factor concerning both school officials and Board of Trustees members was the costs that were going to be involved to replace Anders Gymnasium on the Central campus and either extensive repairs or replacement of Nichols Gymnasium on the North campus.

Continued on Page 6B

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## District 22-6A

### Varsity Girls' Soccer

#### Most Valuable Player

*Nyah Shepherd, Deer Park, Jr.*

#### Co-Offensive Player/Year

*Arely Alaniz, Deer Park, Soph.*

*Trinity Rouse, La Porte, Sr.*

#### Defensive Player/Year

*Taiya Mitchell, Dobie, Jr.*

#### Goalkeepers of the Year

*Tania Maldonado, Memorial, Sr.*

#### Newcomer of the Year

*Jayden Thompson, La Porte, Fr.*

#### Utility Player of the Year

*Culami Cantu, South Houston, Sr.*

#### Senior of the Year

*Amber Ruiz, Memorial*

#### Coach of the Year

*Mark Turner, Memorial*

### First Team Forwards

*Camden Chance, Deer Park, Fr.*

*Alejandra Magana, Dobie, Sr.*

*Victoria Chu, Dobie, Soph.*

### First Team Midfielders

*Audrey Addison, Deer Park, Fr.*

*Lexington Kneeder, Deer Park, Soph.*

*Kiki Hinojosa, La Porte, Sr.*

*Kimberli Izaguirre, Dobie, Sr.*

*Mia Davis, Memorial, Soph.*

*Julissa Farias, Memorial, Soph.*

*Marina Jasso, Memorial, Sr.*

*Rayleigh Stiles, West Brook, Jr.*

*Julissa Gonzales, Rayburn, Soph.*

### First Team Defenders

*Makayla Baxter, Deer Park, Fr.*

*Gabby McDonald, Deer Park, Sr.*

*Marissa Wheeler, Deer Park, Sr.*

*Madelynn Piat, La Porte, Fr.*

*Alyssa Ruffin, La Porte, Sr.*

*Zithlaly Medrano, Dobie, Sr.*

*Kate Simmons, West Brook, Jr.*

*Zaima Ortiz, Pasadena, Sr.*

*Vanessa Hernandez, South Houston, Sr.*

### First Team Goalkeeper

*Peyton Mendenhall, La Porte, Sr.*

### Second Team Selections – Dobie

*Alondra Acevedo, midfielder, Jr.*

*Hillary Bazaldua, defender, Sr.*

*Aylin Bonilla, forward, Jr.*

*Bryanna Rodriguez, defender, Jr.*

### Honorable Mention Selections – Dobie

*Marissa Maxwell, defender, Soph.*

*Mystique Ortega, defender, Jr.*

*Emily Solis, forward, Jr.*

*Ayline Vela, forward, Sr.*



Above, Dobie forward Victoria Chu (3) emerged as a valued scoring option this season during her sophomore season with the Lady Longhorns' varsity squad. After her great season, Chu was named a first-team all district selection. At right, Alejandra Magana (20) simply had a great varsity career with Dobie, playing parts of four seasons on head coach Bryan McDonald's team. After the 2018 season, Magana was awarded first team All-District honors for the second consecutive season. *Photos by John Bechtle*



Dobie defender Kimberli Izaguirre (19) was the 22-6A Newcomer of the Year as a junior in 2017, and she capped her tremendous two-year run at the varsity level by landing All-District first team status this season. *Photo by Jade Wise*



The Lady Longhorns' Zithlaly Medrano (right), a 22-6A first team selection, frequently had to mark the district's top offensive players. Here, she tracks the ball while keeping up with eventual Co-Offensive Player of the Year Arely Alaniz (10) of Deer Park. *Photo by John Bechtle*

### Summer camps, clinics, misc.

The Thompson Intermediate coaching staff has scheduled a variety of camps and fitness activities aimed at keeping first-year and returning Lion athletes active this summer.

Parents must provide medical insurance coverage as the Pasadena ISD does not do so for these types of events.

**Boot Camp** – Available in three different 9 to 11 a.m. sessions, the Lions' boot camp for boys and girls will include strength training, agility drills, tire work, stair climbing, ladder work, weight training, conditioning and more. The sessions are June 11-14, June 18-21 and June 25-July 28. Registration is \$25 cash only per session (\$25 for one session, \$75 for all).

**Soccer Camp** – The Lions' July 9-12 soccer camp for boys and girls will include training in all phases of the game, including offensive and defensive alignments, conditioning, goalkeeping, etc. Registration is \$25 cash only per student. Camp hours are 9 to 11 a.m.

**Basketball Camp** – The Lions' July 16-19 basketball camp for boys and girls will include training in all phases of the game, including offensive and defensive alignments, conditioning, passing, dribbling, rebounding, shooting, etc. Registration is \$25 cash only per student. Camp hours are 9 to 11 a.m.

**Volleyball Camp** – The Lady Lions' July 31-Aug. 3 volleyball camp for girls will include training in all phases of the game, including offensive and defensive alignments, conditioning, passing, hitting, serving, blocking, etc. Registration is \$25 cash only per student. Camp hours are 9 to 11 a.m.

**Strength/Conditioning Camp** – The Lions' July 23-26 strength and conditioning camp for boys and girls will include strength training, agility drills, tire work, stair climbing, ladder work, weight training, conditioning and more. Registration is \$25 cash only per student.

Camp hours are 9 to 11 a.m.

**Football Camp** – The Lions' July 30-Aug. 2 football camp will include strength training as well as drills in all phases of the game, including passing, receiving, ball carrying, tackling, defensive secondary work and more. Registration is \$25 cash only per student. Camp hours are 9 to 11 a.m.

**Aug. 10** – All football players, including incoming seventh-grade students, will pick up their football practice gear and pay a one-time \$65 participation fee. All volleyball players, including incoming seventh-grade students, will pick up their practice gear and pay a one-time \$45 participation fee. Eighth-grade pickup time is 10 a.m. to noon, with seventh-grade pickup time to follow from 1 to 3 p.m.

#### Clear Brook youth girls' basketball camp

Clear Brook varsity girls' basketball coach Garrett Hilton and his staff will host the Clear Brook Lady Wolverine basketball camp for incoming fifth- through ninth-graders as of the 2018-2019 school year. The camp will be held June 11-14 at Clear Brook High School. Enrollment fee is \$90 before June 1 and \$100 thereafter. Walk-up registration is \$100.

The camp is available only to Clear Creek Independent School District students. Families are also required to provide participants' medical insurance. For more information, call Hilton at 817-504-4866 or direct email to him at ghilton@ccisd.net.

#### Dobie youth boys' basketball camp

Dobie varsity boys' basketball coach Kevin Cross and his staff will host the Longhorns' annual basketball camp for incoming fifth-through ninth-graders as of the 2018-2019 school year. The camp will be held June 9-12 at Dobie High School. Enrollment fee is \$50 and includes a camp t-shirt. The preferred registration web address is at <http://pasadenaisd.revtrak.net>.

Families are also required to provide participants' medical insurance as the Pasadena ISD does not provide such coverage for these types of events.

# Berneathy, stresses summer participation

As the end of the current school year approaches, first-year Dobie High School varsity football coach Kevin Berneathy is pleased with the progress the program has made since his arrival in February.

Still, Berneathy stresses that much of that progress could be for naught if players choose not to continue to make physical strides this summer.

While announcing the dates for the Longhorns' upcoming voluntary strength, agility and quickness workouts, the head coach said atten-

dance will be noticed. "I tell the kids that our 2018 season on the field will play out in direct proportion to the work we do in the offseason," Berneathy said.

"I am excited about how far the kids have come within the program with some of the strength gains they have made and so forth, but it won't mean much if some of them take two months off.

"You're either getting stronger or weaker, faster and quicker or not. There is no in-between. You're either getting better or worse."

To further encourage attendance, Berneathy pointed out that the strength, agility and quickness workouts will be free to the participants. In other words, there is not an excuse to not be there.

"I just don't believe in charging the kids money to use a facility that they were able to use free all school year," Berneathy said. "That's not the way we are going to do things here at Dobie High School."

Berneathy also hopes the summer voluntary workouts promote continued team unity within the

Longhorn program. Heading into the 2018 season, there promises to be a mix of veteran returnees but also quite a few newcomers at the varsity level. The time to bond and grow together as a team, Berneathy believes, is now.

"I feel like we have assembled a coaching staff that will hold players accountable, and we have discussed that very thing since I arrived here. The most ability is accountability. We believe in that 110 percent."

Berneathy will also soon release youth football camp details.

# Dobie slates all-athlete strength, agility, quickness training

The Dobie High School coaching staff has outlined its summer dates for the school's voluntary strength, agility and quickness training sessions. The sessions are free of charge, and while participation is indeed voluntary, student athletes entering the seventh through 12th grades as of next school year are encouraged to attend. High school athletes are encouraged to attend the 9 to 11 a.m. sessions, while intermediate and younger students are encouraged to attend from 5 to 7 p.m.

**Dates: June 11-14, June 18-21, June 25-28, July 9-12, July 16-19 and July 23-26.**

**Thursday, Aug. 2: Mandatory football parent meeting. Students need not attend. 6 to 7:30 p.m. in school auditorium.**

**Friday, Aug. 3: Mandatory football player meeting. Varsity/JV players attend 9 to 10:30 a.m.; freshmen attend from 11 to 12:30 p.m. in athletics field house.**

**Monday, Aug. 6: Mandatory football report for first day of preseason workouts.**

# Lajaunie memorial scholarship fund awards Dobie seniors

Nine Dobie High School players were awarded academic funding through the Darren Lajaunie Memorial Scholarship Fund May 16 as part of Senior Awards Night at the school.

Darren Lajaunie was a 1984 graduate and co-vice-dictator who played varsity tennis for Dobie.

The scholarship fund was set up in his memory in 2012 by his wife, Camille and son, Andrew, as a way to remember the contributions Darren made to the sport of tennis and the impact he made on the community.

Lajaunie lost his battle with melanoma in May, 2011 and was an electrical engineer with Lockheed Martin at the Johnson Space Center for more than 22 years.

The nine seniors applied for the Grand Slam College Scholarship and, thanks to the generosity of sponsors and donors from the 2018 Darren Lajaunie Memorial Tennis Tournament held at Strawberry Park, April 27-29, each received a scholarship.

The recipients of a \$1,500 scholarship included Emily Nguyen, who has been playing tennis for six years and is dedicated to her studies and the game.

Nguyen has been a positive influence for her team best displayed as she helped Dobie grab second place at the District 22-6A Championships last fall.

Academically, Nguyen is a member of the Key Club, the school's orchestra, the Science Club and the Latin Club.

In addition, Nguyen has registered more than 65 hours of volunteer work, which she says has taught her to be more empathetic and compassionate toward others.

Nguyen says the tennis player who has inspired her the most is her Dobie coach and teacher Manuel Moreno Jr.

She realizes that Coach Moreno's inspirational words "winning is not an individual effort, it's a team effort" has inspired her to become a teacher because of the compassion Moreno has shown for his students and the game of tennis.

Nguyen said she would like to take that life lesson and pass it on to her students when it's time for her

to take a teaching role.

Beginning this fall, Nguyen will be attending the University of Houston-Clear Lake campus to study early education.

Another recipient of the scholarship was Tommy Nguyen, who is affectionately known on the Dobie tennis team as Lil' Tommy because there are two players with the same name on the team.

Lil' Tommy has been playing tennis for four years and said he owes his success to his older brother who encouraged him to play the game.

Nguyen claims "tennis changed my life for the better, by motivating me to be the best I could be on and off the courts."

While enduring a house renovation due to Hurricane Harvey, his teammates and coach also motivated him to stay strong, which pushed him to be a better tennis player.

Nguyen's volunteering experience has taught him strong social skills and a way to stay in touch with the community.

In the classroom, Nguyen is a member of the National Honor Society, the Key Club and the Math Club.

His favorite tennis player is Argentina's Juan Martin del Potro because of del Potro's persistence and confidence for playing tennis.

Nguyen said he will be attending the University of Houston beginning this fall, where he plans to study finance.

Six more Dobie High School Grand Slam recipients are receiving a \$1,000 scholarship for college.

DLTS's board of directors decided that each of these students displayed qualities that reflect those of Darren and, thus, voted to award them a scholarship.

A recipient of a \$1,000 scholarship was Ann Truong, who has been playing tennis for four years and said she loves how tennis has sharpened her mental ability and the bond she has formed with her teammates.

Truong's ultimate goal is to continue to play tennis in the future, but she plans to concentrate on her studies in college.

The senior added that she has drawn her inspiration from professional ten-

nis player Maria Sharapova because Sharapova was the first professional player she ever saw play, and she loves the way Sharapova strives for victory each time out.

Academically, Truong is a member of the Key Club at Dobie and also the school's orchestra.

Truong said she loves volunteering at a Vietnamese school because it helps her be more involved with the community.

Beginning this fall, Truong said she will be attending the University of St. Thomas to study nursing.

Another Lajaunie scholarship was awarded to Lan Phan, who has been a dedicated tennis player for four years and consistently played in the starting lineup for Moreno and the Longhorns.

Phan is currently ranked within the top ten percent of the Dobie graduating class and has received academic excellence for the last three years.

She is a member of the Key Club and learned that volunteering has become a passion because "I wanted to make a bigger impact the community and wanted to

be more than just a member volunteering."

Phan said she has drawn inspiration and strength from professional tennis player Billie Jean King because "of her bold actions as an activist to destroy barriers for equality in women's tennis for equal prize money."

Phan placed second in the Lamar University Invitational mixed doubles tournament this year and said she owes much of her success to her "planner" because it has helped organize her life.

The soon-to-be graduate will need to update her "planner" because she will be attending Texas A&M University to study nursing and public health this fall.

Another \$1,000 college scholarship was awarded to Tina Ha, who has been playing tennis for six years and has found a second family with her teammates playing tennis.

She said she volunteers at her church and has helped local restaurants and families rebuild after Hurricane Harvey.

Ha has also volunteered during two local marathons,

passing out food and water to runners, adding that she enjoys working in the Vietnamese community during holiday events.

Ha has been a member of the Dobie orchestra for the last four years and has enjoyed the Key and Latin Clubs for the last three years.

The senior credits her time management skills to her extracurricular activities, because it has helped her "manage her time wisely."

Ha said she draws her inspiration from professional player Roger Federer because "he has achieved so much and he believes in himself."

Ha added that beginning this fall she plans to attend the University of Houston, where she plans to study business.

A Lajaunie scholarship was also awarded to senior Leilani Vargas, who has been playing tennis for six years and said she has found a second family with her Dobie teammates, Moreno and her classmates.

When she is not playing tennis Vargas likes to focus on her music, dance and

volunteering hobbies.

She has been a four year member of the Dobie orchestra and is a member of the Key Club, where she has been able to give back to the community that has emotionally supported her high school tennis passion.

Vargas said the tennis player who has inspired her the most is Federer because "he has great sportsmanship and stays humble through all his glory."

She owes her passion for tennis to her father and brother, which has created a closer family bond for them. Vargas told Lajaunie staffers she will be attending the University of Houston to study business beginning this fall.

Senior Adrian Tamez was also awarded a Lajaunie scholarship. Tamez said he has been an avid player for the last five years.

The Class of 2018 graduate added that he has been able to balance his Advanced Placement academic career with tennis because of his time management skills.

He has to "constantly motivate himself to get through the tough weeks

of school work and tennis practice."

Tamez is a officer in the National Honor Society and said that he enjoys volunteering because he "enjoys helping people in need."

Playing tennis at Dobie has become more than just a sport to Tamez, he said because "it feels like a second family."

Tamez also looks up to Federer because the multi-Grand Slam championship winner always gives more than 100 percent on the court."

The senior said he plans to play tennis in local tournaments in the Houston area during and after college.

Following high school graduation, Tamez said he will be attending the University of Houston to study biomedical engineering.

Yet another Lajaunie college scholarship was awarded to Daniel Botello, who has been playing tennis for a little over four years and made the Dobie varsity team in his sophomore year.

Botello said he enjoys tennis because he finds that "it helps me unwind and is a great stress release."

He enjoys volunteering as a Jehovah Witness preacher and has sought to make a positive impact on the lives of others.

He has drawn inspiration from his Dobie tennis team that has helped with his self-determination and motivation.

Botello said he will continue to play tennis as a hobby and hopes he can come back to Dobie to practice occasionally. He is a member of the Dobie choir. Following high school, Botello said he will be attending the University of Houston to study computer science.

The last college scholarship of \$250 was awarded to "Big" Tommy Nguyen, who has been playing tennis for six years and said it has become his passion because it has made a positive impact on his life.

Nguyen attributes his passion for playing to Moreno who, he said, has taught him about "team chemistry and sportsmanship."

The senior added that tennis at Dobie "has been the best four years of my life and has taught me to be a better person."

He is inspired by professional tennis player Kei Nishikori of Japan because, "He has a huge heart and never gives up against any opponent."

Nguyen is a member of the Key Club and Latin Club. According to his teachers, Nguyen "encourages his classmates to do their best."

The Class of 2018 senior said he will be attending San Jacinto College' South campus, where he plans to study culinary arts.

The Darren Lajaunie Tennis Scholarship Fund has raised more than \$12,500 for tennis camp and college scholarships in 2018 and will return to Strawberry Park next year for more fun and excitement.

All donations are tax deductible, and those donations are welcomed at any time.

Special thanks goes to the City of Pasadena and to staff members at the Harry Taylor Tennis Center for their hard work and preparations both before, during and after the event. See more at website, www.DLTennisScholarships.com as well as Facebook.



Nine Class of 2018 Dobie High School graduates received college academic scholarships through the Darren Lajaunie Memorial Scholarship Fund during Senior Awards Night at the school May 16. Those recipients included, left to right, "Big" Tommy Nguyen, Daniel

Botello, "Lil" Tommy Nguyen, Tina Ha, Ann Truong, Adrian Tamez, Leilani Vargas, Lan Phan and Emily Nguyen. With the students (fifth from right) is Andrew Lajaunie, son of Darren Lajaunie, a 1984 Dobie High School graduate and lifelong tennis enthusiast.

# CALENDAR

## THURSDAY, MAY 24

**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.

**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at jpochnsner@aol.com for details.

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

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

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

**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.

**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - Open games on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 10 a.m., located at 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at jpochnsner@aol.com for more information.

**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - West End Group,

noon, Shepherd of the Heart United Methodist Church, 12005 County Rd. 39, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.

**Bay Area Genealogical Society** - Meets monthly, the last Friday, at University Baptist Church, 16106 Middlebrook Dr., Clear Lake. Coffee and socializing prior to 7 p.m. meeting. No meeting in November/December. For more information, visit www.TxBayAreaGen.org.

**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2245 N. Main St., Pearland. Call 713-856-1611.

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

**Alcoholics Anonymous** - "Breakfast with Bill", Saturdays, 7:30 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.

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

**StartSchoolLater.net (SSL) Houston Chapter** - informational meeting about the link of teen sleep deprivation to depression and low academic performance. The public is welcome, 11 a.m., on the fourth Saturday at the Parker Williams Library, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call 281-229-1409. RSVP is requested for meeting attendance.

**Al-Anon Meeting (Women Only, English)** - For women affected by an addict. Saturdays, 11 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, Cornell Conference room #111. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.

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

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

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

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

**Celebrate Recovery** - A faith-based 12-Step Program, Sundays, 5:30 p.m., in the Chapel at Life Church, 9900 Alameda Genoa. Call 713-419-2635 for details or to RSVP for child care.

**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of NA meets Sundays, 7 p.m., 2245 N. Main St., Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.

**Alcoholics Anonymous** - Alcohol problems? Meets

Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7 to 8 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For details, call 713-306-4366 or 713-480-4166.

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

## MEMORIAL DAY MONDAY, MAY 28

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

**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - Open games Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at jpochnsner@aol.com for details.

**Overeaters Anonymous Deer Park** - 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P Street, Deer Park. Enter through Fellowship Hall in back of church. Call 409-454-5720 for details, or drop in.

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

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

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

Continued on Page 4B

\*\*\*\*\*

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## CALENDAR

Continued from Page 3B  
**TUESDAY, MAY 29**  
7 a.m.  
**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.  
9:30 a.m.  
**Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - Exhibits include dioramas, a turn-of-the-century doctor's office and an old-time kitchen. Tuesday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., 204 S. Main, Pasadena. For details, call 713-472-0565.  
10 a.m.  
**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at jpochsner@aol.com for details.  
Noon  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.  
**Rotary Club of Pearland** - Meets Tuesdays, noon to 1 p.m., Golfcrest Country Club, 2509 Country Club Dr., Pearland. Lunch is \$15. Variety of interesting speakers. For information, call 281-900-7257 or visit nalix@texascitizensbank.com.  
12:30 - 1:30 p.m.  
**Hometown Heroes Park** - has free dance "lessons" Tuesdays following the senior luncheon taught by 35-year dance area instructors Lewis and Betty Whistler at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 E. League City Pkwy. For questions regarding lessons, call 832-517-5833. League City Parks Dept. requires an activity card for all participation of activities. Seniors (age 55 and older) get a free "full activity card." Nonresident seniors pay \$25 a year for this full activity card. If under age 55, there is a "special limited to ballroom activity card" (residents pay \$25/year, non-residents pay \$37.50) to enjoy "daytime" ballroom activities. Saturday night ballroom dances require a door fee to cover expenses. For questions about the activity card, call the park office at 281-554-1180.  
1:30 p.m.  
**TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)** - #1530 meets at the Sagemont Park Community Center, 11507 Hughes Rd., 1:30 p.m. For information, call Jeanette Sumrall at 713-946-3713.  
2 p.m.  
**Clear Lake Bridge Club Lab Class** - Tuesday, 2 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. For details or classes, contact Dr. Glandorf at drglandorf@sbcglobal.net or call 281-488-6318.  
7 p.m.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church-youth bldg. For information, call 713-856-1611.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** - Alcohol problems? Meets Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7 to 8 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For more information, call 713-306-4366 or 713-480-4166.  
**WEDNESDAY, MAY 30**  
7 a.m.  
**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.  
10 a.m.  
**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - Open games Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at jpochsner@aol.com for details.  
Noon  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.  
1 - 3:30 p.m.  
**Hometown Heroes Park** - has free Hump Day Dance to practice ballroom dance (not formal lessons) 1 to 3:30 p.m. Wednesdays, 1001 E. League City Pkwy. League City nonresidents must purchase activity card (see Tuesday 12:30 p.m. dance for details). Help is available to assist learning dance moves. For details, call Neva Schroder at 417-838-2204.  
7 p.m.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church-youth bldg. For information, call 713-856-1611.  
**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.bayareaturnpoint.org for information.  
8 p.m.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** - meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For information, call 281-484-9243.  
**THURSDAY, MAY 31**  
7 a.m.  
**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.  
10 a.m.  
**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at jpochsner@aol.com for details.  
Noon  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.  
6:30 p.m.  
**Kirkwood Civic Association** meets at the Sagemont Community Center, 11507 Hughes Rd. For details, call Ericka McCutcheon at 281-989-9990.  
7 p.m.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Women's Group, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-856-1611.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** - Alcohol problems? Meets Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7 - 8 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For details, call 713-306-4366 or 713-480-4166.

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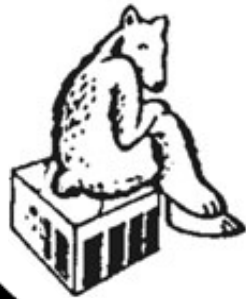
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# For San Jacinto sports quartet, 2017-2018 represents the finale

**Continued from Page 1B**

It's a well-known fact that state funding to community colleges like San Jacinto have dramatically decreased in recent years. Like it or not, there is less money to go-around these days.

With an estimated replacement cost of more than \$20 million concerning Anders Gymnasium – still more to come at Nichols – hard decisions had to be made and votes had to be cast.

Nearly four full years after all of these discussions were started, four of the college's six athletic programs have dissolved.

There were plenty of people who were outraged that the college would simply eliminate the programs, including three that enjoyed success on a national level for decades.

The women's volleyball program began in 1974 and last won a national title in 1987.

The Ravens finished as national runners-up three times. Head coaches Becky Lidolph (640) and Sharon Nelson (430) combined for more than 1,000 career wins.

The men's soccer team officially began Region XIV play in 1994 and was the NJCAA runner-up in 2008.

Jamaican born Dane Richards, the leader of that 2008 team, was the National Player of the Year.

In recent years, the team battled Tyler for regional supremacy. Tyler, by the way, has won four straight national crowns.

San Jacinto's men's basketball program was one of the nation's most storied for decades. After a 14-19 debut season in 1961-62, the Ravens scored their first national championship in the 1967-68 season.

From 1982-1983 through the 1985-86 seasons, the Ravens won three national titles under coach Ronnie Arrow.

His 1985-86 team was just one of four in NJCAA history to go undefeated en route to a national title.

Scott Germander, initially an assistant under Arrow, led the Ravens to national runner-up finishes in both 1997 and 2003.

His son, Scott R. Germander, himself a former Raven player, guided the team over its final six seasons.

The women's basketball program won a South Zone championship in 1983 but then operated in relative anonymity for decades before head coach Mike Madrid delivered a revival of sorts.

Madrid led the 2016-2017 team to its first national tournament berth,

and Kayla Weaver led this season's team back to nationals, where it won a game for the first time ever.

With respect to fundraising efforts coming from outside sources to save the programs, were benefactors or donations turned down? The truth is no.

There were rumors circulating as early as last summer than a multi-million dollar donation had been turned down. It simply did not happen.

Sam Cassell and Steve Francis both played for the San Jacinto College program and later went on to enjoy vast success in the NBA.

Cassell emailed San Jacinto College Chancellor Brenda Hellyer indicating he would like to discuss the matter but was not in touch again after she responded with additional contact information. The college had no talks with Francis.

Former Houston Oiler and prominent Houston area sports figure Spencer Tillman was said to be involved in a fundraising effort aimed at saving the programs.

But in a telephone conversation with *Leader* publisher and SJC Board of Trustees member Marie Flickinger, Tillman stated that he had intended to look into the matter in hopes of helping.

In the end, Tillman said his window of opportunity to do so regrettably closed.

There are those who have taken direct aim at Hellyer during much of this.

Jack Mayer, ironically the college's contract-employed and paid public address announcer on the Central campus for many years, is one of the stated administrators of the Facebook-based Save San Jac Athletics page.

Mayer's post on March 21 displays the team logos of the four programs being eliminated as states: RIP 1961-2018...Cause of death..Brenda Hellyer.

While Mayer and others are certainly entitled to their opinions, Hellyer in no way, shape or form was allowed to make this decision alone.

Neither did Flickinger, or any of the other BOT members. It was a unanimous vote in the end.

Other things to consider include that attendance was in fact declining at the college's sporting events.

There is very little funding created through ticket sales. In fact, in recent years, attendance was often free of charge to fans. Still, the gymnasiums sat half empty or worse on most nights.

In addition, the city's major metropolitan news-

paper for many years at least allowed the college to submit brief paragraphs and line scores.

Roughly a decade ago, employees of that paper said that top editors had decided to quit taking the submissions. These days, when SJC qualifies for nationals, it might get a 60 second snippet on television. Nothing more.

Also, while the NJCAA is certainly a leader in the JUCO sports world, it's not the NCAA.

The NJCAA's stated online mission is to promote and foster two-year college athletics. Unlawful discrimination is incompatible with this mission and detracts from the organization's goal of promoting healthy and fair competition.

The NJCAA prohibits unlawful discrimination based on sex, race, color, national origin, ancestry, disability, religion, creed, sexual orientation, age or any other characteristic protected by applicable law in the NJCAA's governance, programs, regulations and employment practices.

But while the NCAA awards programs huge financial gains for reaching postseason football bowl games, NCAA men's and women's basketball postseason tournaments and more, there are no such financial windfalls in JUCO sports.

When SJC sports teams qualify for nationals, the college is responsible for the vast majority of costs associated with those out-of-town trips. The college also receives no help in athletic scholarship funding.

Take for instance the Gator baseball program that only days ago qualified for a fourth straight world series appearance. That trip to Grand Junction, Colo., has previously cost the college tens of thousands of dollars. The college will pay this bill, too.

In totality, the decision to eliminate four of the college's six athletic programs was not made overnight nor hastily. It wasn't made solely by Hellyer. And it certainly wasn't based on one factor alone.

Including the rental costs associated with housing the student-athletes, the college was said to be losing roughly \$2.5 million per year to assist approximately 160 athletes.

On an annual basis, San Jacinto College serves 45,000 credit and non-credit students. Sometimes in life, decisions are made that seem unfair to some, or many. Perhaps this was one of them. Then again, nothing lasts forever. The time had simply come to do this.

# Gator baseball to seek elusive national championship

**Continued from Page 1B**

So now the Gators will chase a national title that has eluded them in both the 2016 and 2017 seasons despite needing just one win to collect the trophy.

This season's national tournament field of 10 is as competitive as ever, with nine of the 10 holding national rankings.

Walters State, the regular season-ending No. 1 ranked team is 54-6 and is led by two-way performer Landon Knack.

On the mound, Knack leads the nation with 13 wins, and he has also hit .347 this season with 11 home runs.

Second-ranked Iowa Western (50-5) gets a big contribution from pitcher Sean Chandler, he of an 11-0 mark with a 1.06 ERA.

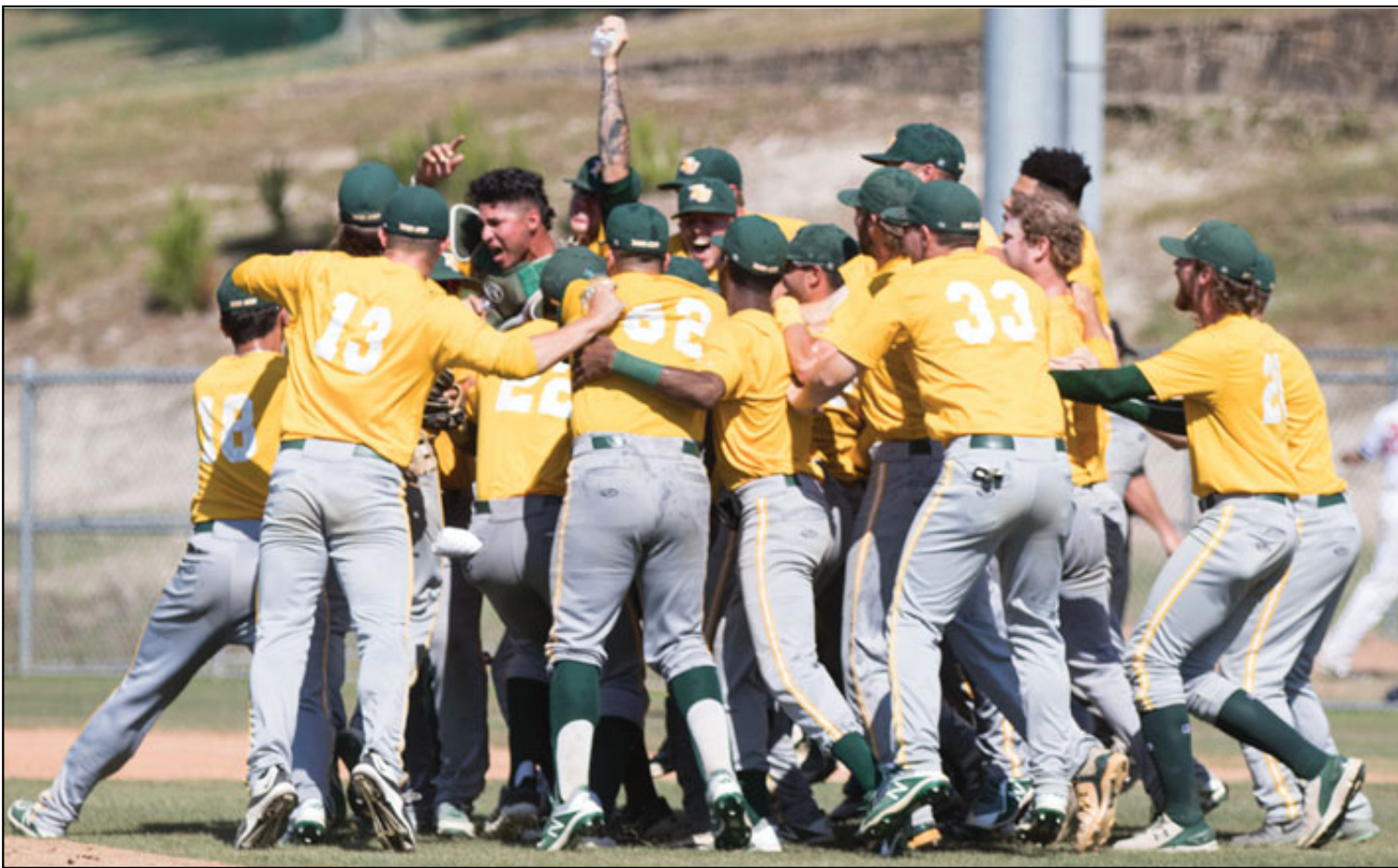
Chattahoochee (Ala.) is 47-10 and ranked third nationally, and San Jac (48-13) is next at No. 6.

Macias is a big offensive force with team highs of 13 homers and 79 RBIs.

Jefferson (Mo.), ranked No. 8 at 50-9, has Joey Polak, the nation's leader in home runs (30) and RBIs

(102). Chipola, which defeated San Jacinto in consecutive national championship games in 2018 to win it all, is 40-15 and sits at No. 14 nationally.

Southern Idaho comes in at 47-10 entering the national tournament, and Monroe (N.Y.), San Jacinto's first-round opponent, is ranked 20th and has put together a 33-14-1 slate. Barton (Kan., 44-13) and Temple (Texas) round out the field as the NJCAA's Division I national title is up for grabs. SJC is again on the prowl.



Members of the San Jacinto College baseball team rushed the field May 16 at Roadrunner Field on the campus of Angelina College after defeating Northeast Texas 8-7 in the Region XIV winner-take-all championship game. With the win, the Gators qualified for their fourth consecutive trip to the National Junior College Athletic Association's Division I World Series in Grand Junction, Colo. The locals open play May 27 at Sam Suplizo Field against Monroe College. San Jac has played for the national championship in both the 2016 and 2017 seasons, losing to Yavapai (2016) and Chipola (2017). The 2018 tournament runs May 26 through June 2, and updated results can be found at [www.njcaa.org](http://www.njcaa.org). Photo by Gary Stallard

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San Jacinto College's Jeffrey Hernandez (2) fends off an opponent in a late-season men's soccer game in 2015 as the Coyotes chased a Region XIV crown. In the history of the men's soccer program, coming in 1994, the team twice played for a national crown but fell a bit short both times.