

In My Opinion

Commissioner offers poststorm assistance

On behalf of Commissioner Adrian Garcia, we wish to inquire about the well-being of Harris County residents following last Thursday's storm. Are there any specific needs for assistance in your community? How is your community faring in the aftermath of the storm? Included in this email attachments are an English and Spanish flyer with recovery resources and information. Notably, three cooling centers are currently operational in Precinct 2 from 10 AM to 7 PM, offering shelter for individuals experiencing power outages.

Precinct 2 Cooling Centers: Leonel Castillo Community Center, 2101 South St., Houston, TX 77009
Leon Grayson Community Center, 13828 Corpus Christi St., Houston, TX, 77015
Baker Ripley Aldine Campus, 3000 Aldine Mail Route Rd., 77039 For requests regarding debris removal in unincorporated areas of Harris County, please contact 713-274-3880. This service operates daily from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.. Residents are encouraged to utilize this number once debris has been placed within the right-of-way (ROW) in front of their property. Service requests may also be submitted online at www.hcp2.com.
Best regards,
Susana Castillo
Community Liaison

Knight shares info on PTSD awareness

National PTSD Awareness Month, which takes place each June, ushers in an array of awareness campaigns run for the benefit of PTSD Survivors. PTSD, which stands for post-traumatic stress disorder, occurs in people after they have experienced a particularly traumatic event like war, violent physical/sexual/verbal assault, accidents, and so forth. Symptoms include depression, anxiety, nightmares, paranoia, insomnia, disturbing thoughts, and much more. Many people recover from PTSD after a few days, weeks, or months. Yet, for others, the recovery road might mean one year or more. This mental disorder is treatable, but due to the lack of knowledge about it, as well as the stigma attached to seeking mental help, many choose to ignore the problem and suffer through it.

Some studies suggest that suicide risk is higher among those who experienced trauma due to the symptoms of PTSD. A study from the National Comorbidity Survey, a national representative sample, showed that PTSD alone was significantly associated with suicidal ideation or attempts. A later study by the Canadian Community Health Survey data also found that respondents with PTSD were at a higher risk for suicide attempts. Among people who have had a diagnosis of PTSD at some point in their lifetime, approximately 27% have also attempted suicide. Another large-scale survey found that 24% of military personnel diagnosed with PTSD had experienced suicidal thinking within the past year.

According to the Journal of Emergency Services, a silent crisis is happening worldwide. First responders are quietly suffering because of the stigma surrounding the utilization of mental health services. First responders are approximately ten times more likely to have suicidal ideations and/or attempt suicide compared to the CDC national average.

The 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline is a free resource, available 24 hours a day for anyone who is in suicidal crisis or

emotional distress. 988 offers a free 24/7 text line where trained counselors support individuals in crisis.

The Jason Foundation is another available resource. The Jason Foundation offers the First Responders Training Module: Addressing Suicide with Youth in the Community and Within the Profession. The goal of this training is to provide First Responders with the knowledge, skills, and resources to enable them to be better able to recognize the signs of concern and elevated risk factors for suicidal ideation in youth within their community, as well as in co-workers and fellow first responders. The training is free and can be found online at www.jasonfoundation.com under the How To Get Involved tab.

CenterPointe Energy gives storm update

We understand the frustration and greatly appreciate your resilience following last Thursday's Category 2 hurricane-like winds and tornadoes that severely impacted our area and left more than 900,000 customers without power. Since then, we have restored more than 800,000 customers. Our efforts have resulted in steady progress, but there is still a lot of hard work ahead to restore those who remain without power.

We want to assure you that we are focused on a full restoration. Our crews address outages in levels, following our priority restoration process, by making repairs to restore electricity to the largest number of customers first.

The remaining outages are now localized, which refers to outages affecting smaller segments of customers. These outages tend to be more difficult to restore and may require special crews, equipment and repairs, and could take longer to complete.

Despite the challenges, our work continues. More than 7,000 resources have been hard at work the past several days and continue to focus on restoring electricity to each and every customer.

We remind you to visit our online page to identify what service area you are part of, view detailed updates based on your area and explore our interactive map. We will be updating this site as additional information becomes available.

For additional information, follow us on X (formerly Twitter) at @CenterPointe and enroll in our Power Alert Service®.

While our crews are busy at work, we encourage you to check your weatherhead, the point where power enters the home through an electric service drop, which is often a pipe located on the side of the residence or building. If the weatherhead is damaged, we cannot safely restore service to the home until a licensed electrician has made the necessary repairs.

We encourage you to share these details with your family and friends who may not have access to this information.

As a reminder: Stay at least 35 feet away from downed power lines and damaged electric utility equipment and report them to the company at 713-207-2222.

If you or someone in your home depends on electricity for life-sustaining equipment, we recommend you make other arrangements until power is restored.

If you plan to use a portable generator make sure it's located in a well-ventilated area. Never run it inside, even in your garage.

CenterPointe Energy

Doris Jean Hargraves



Doris Jean Hargraves (nee Mauldin) was born May 27, 1943, and passed away May 20, 2024, in Pearland after years of battling cancer. Jean, as her family and friends called her, met her future husband, Claude Hargraves, when she was 12. Upon her graduation from high school, they married and were together for 61 years.

Jean is survived by her son Robert Hargraves and wife, Donna, of Damon, Texas; five grandchildren; one great-grandchild; brother Michael Mauldin and wife, Linda, and sister Beth Hovland and husband, Harold, both of Houston; as well as several very loved nieces and nephews. Jean was preceded in death by her husband, her parents Robert and Tessie Mauldin, her beloved son Richard Hargraves and her brother Bobby Mauldin.

The last years of Jean's career were as an executive assistant to several audit partners and managers at the firm Deloitte. She started working at Deloitte in the report department and advanced to her last position during her nearly 40 years with the firm. Jean was always available and able to provide guidance or assistance if needed. She made

many wonderful lifelong friends that she cherished.

Jean and Claude were active in their community, supporting Sagemont Little League and football, serving on various boards, and holding an office on various Sagemont associations.

The family shall miss her greatly but find comfort knowing she is at peace and with her Lord and Savior.

The funeral service will be held at Peevey Funeral Home at 11 a.m. Thursday, May 30, 2024, with visitation one hour prior to the service.

James Franklin Horton Jr.



James Franklin Horton Jr., was born May 17, 1944, in Roswell, N.M. and died peacefully May 11, 2024, in Austin.

He is predeceased by his parents James Franklin Horton Sr. and Carolyn Hampton Horton, Dianne Wahl Horton and stepson Brandon Lamb. Jim is survived by his wife, Debra Lamb Horton; and children James Franklin Horton III and Kelly Loyd Horton of Golden, Colo., Tamatha Horton Smith of Fort Worth, and Jeremy Horton of Dayton, Nev.; stepson, Jared Lamb and wife Lauren of

Austin; and grandchildren Emma Smith DeFoore (Jake DeFoore), Natalie Smith, Trammel Horton and Katie Horton Hartshorn, (spouse Trevor Hartshorn). Jim will be missed by his siblings, Dr. Larry W. Horton and Deborah Horton Fink Sailsbery, Ed.D. as well as many cousins, nieces and nephews.

Jim grew up in Greenville, Ill., graduating from Greenville High in 1962. He finished his college education at the University of Illinois and was awarded a Ph.D. from University of North Texas.

Jim was a lifetime educator, committed to making the world a better place through learning. He served as college president at North Lake College, Irving; chancellor of San Jacinto College District of the Higher Colleges of Technology in United Arab Emirates with a 12-college system serving the entire country of the UAE; and chancellor of the Yavapai Community College System in Arizona.

His innovations at each of these institutions brought about transformational learning for the fortunate students who attended. He had a love of aviation and served as an academic liaison for Guidance Aviation in Prescott.

Jim was passionate about community involvement and was a member of multiple professional organizations. He received many awards during his career, but was most proud of the NASA Public Service Award given for his development of the concept of an aerospace academy, which was an exceptional NASA learning experience for young scientists and their high school teachers.

As an avid deep-sea diver and lover of wildlife, Jim requested an ocean-centered

Celebration of Life in southern Texas. In July or August, his beloved children, grandchildren and family members will scatter his ashes in the ocean returning him to God's creation.

He was a person who made a difference in this world. Every day, he lived into the belief expounded by Nelson Mandela "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

His philosophy on community colleges was: "The community college is a high point in the realization of our nation's democratic ideals. In an age of increased complexity, every citizen must have the opportunity to continue learning. Consequently, I am a devout believer in the (open door)/comprehensive community college philosophy. I also believe that open admissions policy places greater responsibility on the college for the success of each student."

Jim was known as the most generous, brilliant, talented, inquisitive person. He was a true gentleman, a lover of music, art, flying, hiking, diving, animals, cultural diversity and nature.

He will be greatly missed.

Brian Lowell Glenn



Brian Lowell Glenn, a South Belt resident since 1988, passed away on Sunday, April 28, 2024, after a bravely fought battle with Alzheimer's/dementia. He died peacefully in his sleep at Orchard Park at Southfork Assisted Living and Memory Care Facility in Manvel. He was 68 years of age.

He was born on July 4, 1955, in Merced, Calif. to Lowell L. and Ruth G. Glenn and along with his parents, he is preceded in death by both maternal and paternal grandparents.

Growing up in a military household, Brian's family lived in California, Europe (Italy and England), Nebraska and Texas, briefly residing in San Antonio. The family's last move was in 1970 when they made Pearland their home. He graduated from Pearland High School, Class of 1974, where he was a member of the Oilers football team.

Throughout his adult life, Brian worked at several jobs as carpenter, welder, mechanic, service writer and many others; before finding his true passion in the field of medicine. He earned his License Vocational Nurse (LVN) diploma and his associate in applied science-nursing (RN) from San Jacinto College South campus and Alvin Community College, respectively. Brian began his nursing career at UTMB-Galveston in 1997 before retiring after 18 years in the field, from Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital in 2015. His retirement however was short-lived as Brian returned to the workforce in 2016, working at AutoZone on Scarsdale Boulevard., before retiring for the second and final time in 2018.

Brian's adventurous spirit allowed him to pursue many hobbies, of which skydiving, cycling, hunting and reading were his passions. He spent many afternoons and weekends at The Original Spaceland drop zone in League City, becoming a master jumper. He enjoyed teaching and showing others the thrill of the hobby he loved so much. In cycling, Brian was affiliated with two local cycling clubs: The Wolfpack and SpaceCity Cycling. He often would be found at Bike Barn and Daniel Boone bicycle shops buying the latest gear to improve his riding skills. He participated in many of the annual MS 150 bicycle rides from Houston to Austin, raising awareness of and money for muscular dystrophy. When not skydiving or cycling, Brian enjoyed hunting, reading, playing his guitar and spending time with his family.

In addition to everything listed, Brian was a simple soul. He was kind and generous with a dry sense of humor that everyone, who crossed his path, grew to love and appreciate.

Though he loved being a nurse and staying active through his hobbies, Brian lived for his family and community. Following the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey, he took his trusty chainsaw up and down the neighborhood helping neighbors, whether he knew them or not, to remove debris from their yards. This was Brian simply being Brian. He was a great friend, co-worker, mentor, and neighbor to so many but most importantly, the best husband, father, father-in-law, grandpa/Peepaw, brother and uncle, for whom one could ask.

He is survived by his wife of 36 years, Cynthia Glenn; children David Garcia, Matthew and Breanna Glenn; daughter-in-law, Zoe Garcia; brother and sister-in-law, Ronald and Rosalie Glenn of College Station; sister Patricia Glenn of Plano, Texas; and the absolute joys of his life, his three grandchildren. Brian also leaves behind numerous nieces and nephews, extended family members and many friends/acquaintances.

A celebration of life for Brian will be held on Saturday, June 8, from 11 a.m. to noon at South Belt Church, 13100 Beamer, followed by a sharing of memories and a reception from noon to 2 p.m.

In keeping with Brian's wishes, the family is asking that the dress attire be casual wear and in lieu of flowers, one may make a donation to the Alzheimer's Association at www.alz.org, in his name. The family would like to express their deepest gratitude to Neptune Society and South Belt Church for their support during this difficult time.

Tommie Daniel Stringer



Tommie Daniel Stringer passed away on May 16, 2024, at the age of 72, after a long hard fought battle with leukemia.

Tom was born on November 1, 1951, to W. B. and Hazel Stringer, in Houston. He was a proud graduate of the 1970 mid-term class at Austin High School, and immediately went to work at Southwestern Bell Telephone (now AT&T).

He was employed there for 36 years, before retiring in 2006. While there, he worked in several departments, but by far, he loved his last position in the coin department, as a pay phone installer. He loved nothing more than loading his work truck every morning and driving all over the city to "see the sights" as he worked his orders. One of his favorite stops was at Astroworld. He found that if he got there early enough, he could assist in "test" riding the roller coasters and other rides as the staff did their morning safety checks before the park opened. Astroworld days always seemed to coincide with a day he would need one of his coworkers to assist him with his work orders. He made lifelong friends in the coin department, and always included them in any order that looked like it could be fun.

More than Astroworld or his beloved Houston Astros, Tom loved his family. He and Jackie married on November 17, 1979, and were blessed with three sons, Matthew, Daniel and Adam. He loved being a husband, father and grandfather. He never missed a baseball game, a school play, a music recital, or any other event in which they participated. He threw countless balls in baseball practice, with all three of the boys. He taught them to ride a bike, catch a fish, drive a car; took them to church, loved their mother, loved them, and showed them what a Godly man looked like.

Tom was a man of many talents, and willingly gave of his time and talents to many organizations. He was a volunteer firefighter for Southeast Volunteer Fire Department for many years, then volunteered as a reserve deputy sheriff for Harris County for many more years. There were countless others, as he always volunteered to help wherever he could be of use.

If he wasn't volunteering, he could be found working in his yard and flower beds. He always had a beautiful yard, filled with flowers of every variety and color, each season. He loved nothing more than cutting his grass and was thrilled when he could volunteer to cut others' grass, often showing up unasked, to cut their grass.

The loss of this husband, father, and grandfather will be felt for years to come. He was preceded in death by his parents, W.B. and Hazel Stringer; his brothers William (Bill) Stringer and Jack Stringer; his sister Jo-An Furlow; as well as his mother- and father-in-law, Jack and Tommie Tankersley. The family knows there was much rejoicing when he was reunited with his loved ones.

He is survived by his wife, Jackie Stringer; his sons, Matthew Stringer, Daniel Stringer and his wife Rachel, and Adam Stringer; as well as his beloved grandchildren Ivory Stringer, Kingston Stringer, and Grayson Maybray. He is also survived by his sisters-in-law, Linda Stringer and Judy Stringer; brother-in-law John Tankersley; and numerous nieces and nephews.

For those so inclined to honor Tom, consider a donation to:
- Leukemia and Lymphoma Society
By phone: 847-424-0600
By check: Leukemia Research Foundation, 191 Waukegan Rd Suite 105, Northfield, IL 60093.
- Sagemont Church Helping Hands Ministry. Gift cards preferred, in memory of Tom Stringer. Sagemont Annex, 11600 Hughes Rd, Houston, TX 77089.

Genoa students receive books



On Wednesday, May 8, the Astros Literacy Bus visited Genoa Elementary. More than 500 books were given free to students. The Astros Literacy Bus is sponsored by the Astros Foundation, OXY and retired HISD librarians. Pictured above, left to right, are (front row) Daisy Orta, Syrena Moreno, Victor Trejo, Everleigh Gal-

van, Kaden Parkey, Sophia Hernandez, Qualyn Robinson, Isabella Bui, (back row) Juan Zavala, Bella Wanglertsakunchai, Amiah Vega, Anthony Carite, Kendrick Hinojosa, Adamaris Cuellar, Jace Flores, Ivan Alaniz, Byron Walton, Gabriel Marin and Cassy Horton (teacher).

Photos submitted



Genoa students showed off their free books from the Astros Literacy Bus sponsored by the Astros Foundation, OXY and retired HISD librarians. Pictured above, left to right, are (front row) Edgar Guitierrez, Jacob Lopez, Paul Santillan, Noah Abarca, Helen

Le (back row) Meshia Horn (teacher), Ismael Meite, Giovanni Gomez, Viani Rivas, Avea Davila, Alyza Cruz, Arianna Mora, Valeria Cazares Guillen, Zai'lynn Tate, Angelina Maldonado, Sophia Guevara, Bella Mendoza and Leah Pantoja.

Primary runoff results

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test for the US House District 7 nomination, receiving 2,524 total votes to her opponent's 2,482 votes.

In the race for the U.S. House District 29 Republican nomination, Alan Garza easily defeated Christian Garcia, receiving 54 percent of the vote.

Many South Belt residents mistakenly went to the polls May 28 to cast their ballots for next month's Harris County Appraisal District runoff election, as the dates

were unclear on the county's election website.

Set to take place June 15, there was no mention of the HCAD runoff on the county's website until May 29 when the primary runoff was complete.

Two of the three HCAD board elections held May 4 will head to the June 15 runoff, with neither winner receiving more than 50 percent of the vote.

In the At-Large Place 2 race, Kyle Scott will face Me-

lissa Noriega.

In the At-Large Place 3 contest, Pelumi Adeleke will face longtime South Belt resident Ericka McCutcheon. President of the Kirkwood Civic Club, McCutcheon received approximately twice as many votes as Adeleke in the May 4 election but fell just short of the 50-percent threshold needed to avoid a runoff.

For additional information on the June 15 HCAD runoff election, visit www.harrisvotes.org.

Local library events set

Bracewell Branch Library

Bracewell Library is at 9002 Kingspoint. Customers are encouraged to visit the building to browse, check out and return materials, use the computers and Wi-Fi, and check out holds. For information, visit <https://houstonlibrary.org/>. For online learning, visit <https://houstonlibrary.org/online-learning-7556> or call 832-393-2580. Hours are Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Wednesdays, noon - 8 p.m.; Fridays, 1 - 5 p.m.; and Saturdays, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Bracewell is closed Sundays.

Thursday, May 30, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. Family story time.
Thursday, May 30, 3 - 4 p.m. Open Lab - computer class. Registration required.
Monday, June 3, 11 a.m. - noon. Open Lab - computer class. Registration required.
Tuesday, June 4, 1 - 2 p.m. Kids craft. Registration required.
Wednesday, June 5, 2 - 3 p.m. Roly the Clown. Registration required.
Visit <https://houstonlibrary.libcal.com/calendar/events> for more library events.

Book drop

The book drop is open. Library materials can be returned. The library continues to provide online resources to enjoy the library virtually. Large items such as FLIP kits or laptops should not be placed in the book drop, but taken inside.

Parker Williams Library

Parker Williams Library is open. Visit <https://www.hcpl.net/reopening> for reopening information or the main website at <https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library>. The library will follow state and county guidelines for mask and social distancing.

The book drop is open. Social media links are Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary and Instagram.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary.
The following events are scheduled for Parker Williams Library, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd.:
Thursday, May 30, 10 - 11:30 a.m. Conversation club.
Thursday, May 30, 10:15 - 10:45 a.m. Toddler time.
Friday, May 31, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Genealogy.
Monday, June 3, 11:15 - 11:45 a.m. Family story time.
Monday, June 3, 4:30 - 5:15 p.m. Book buddies.
Tuesday, June 4, 1 - 2 p.m. Homeschool hangout.
Tuesday, June 4, 1 - 2 p.m. Citizenship 101.
Wednesday, June 5, 4 - 5:30 p.m. Laser cutter orientation.

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

- After receiving notification that holds are ready for pickup, call 832-927-7870.
- Have a library card number and PIN handy.
- A pickup time and instructions will be given.
- Upon arriving, park in one of the two parking spots reserved for curbside holds.
- Be prepared to show a library card or other form of ID for verification.
Hours are Monday, 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Friday, 1 - 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Visit <https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library> for details.

New Covenant Christian Church Day Care Christian Based Child Care



New Covenant Christian Church provides Christian based child care for the local community. Director Nedra Jackson and her staff are here to take perfect care of your children while you work.

281.481.2003

www.newcovenantchristianchurchhouston.com
10603 Blackhawk Blvd. Houston, Tx 77089
Blackhawk @ Kirkfair

ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST
Catholic Church
Rev. Douglas J. Guthrie, Pastor
Rev. Kingsley Nwoko, Parochial Vicar
11011 Hall Rd.
(between Beamer & Blackhawk)
www.stlukesatholic.com

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil 5:30 p.m.
Sunday 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.*
Sunday 1 p.m. Misa en Español*
Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9 a.m.
Tuesday & Thursday 7 p.m.
Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions)
Thursday 7:45 to 8:30 p.m. Saturday 4 to 5 p.m.

Parish Office: 281-481-6816
Children's Faith Formation: 281-481-4251
Adult Faith Formation: 713-538-2862
All are welcome to come to worship and serve the Lord in a spirit of love, sharing, and hope.

Leader obituary policy

Obituaries submitted to the Leader are published free of charge. There must be a South Belt connection. Obituaries are edited to the Leader style.

Former PISD principals provide students with scholarships



Arnold Leal, uncle of former Matthys Principal Becky Vargas and retired coach from Corpus Christi, presented Leticia Garcia with a \$750 scholarship. Garcia, a former Matthys Elementary student, is a Class of 2024 senior in Sinton.

A group of four former Pasadena ISD principals from Matthys Elementary recently awarded \$750 scholarships to six former students from the area school.

Students who were awarded scholarships Thursday, May 16, included Elissa Herrera, Paola Diaz, Raul Martinez, Angela Herrera, Abraham Escareno and Leticia Garcia.

According to former Matthys Principal Becky Vargas, the original plan was to award just four scholarships but additional assistance was provided after the educators observed the determination of the former students.

"Originally we had planned to award four scholarships, but we were so touched by the determination and accomplishments of each of these students that we decided to award six instead," said Vargas, a longtime South Belt resident.

Vargas was joined in her generosity by fellow former Matthys principals Gilbert De Leon, the first principal at Matthys and also a South Belt resident; Karen Hickman; and Rhonda Parmer, who served as a teacher and then assistant principal at Matthys before becoming principal at Frazier Elementary.

Five of the six scholarship recipients are South Houston High School Class of 2024 students and one is a Skidmore-Tynan High School Class of 2024 student who lives in Sinton.

Four of the six recipients are receiving their associate degree from San Jacinto College through the Pasadena ISD Early College program.

All of the students are planning on attending four-year universities - University of Houston, Texas Tech and University of Texas-San Antonio.



Shown above are the local Class of 2024 seniors who received scholarships from former Matthys Elementary School principals. The students who presented the scholarships are, left to right, (back row) Becky Martinez, Paola Diaz and Elissa Herrera. Former Matthys principals are, left to right, (front row) Angela Herrera, Abraham Esareno, Raul Vargas, Karen Hickman, Gilbert De Leon and Rhonda Parmer.

West Nile virus found in county

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- Don't sweep lawn clippings, leaves, or litter into storm drains as this will prevent water from flowing, creating ideal mosquito-breeding sites.
- Minimize opportunities for standing water to accumulate by emptying stagnant water from flower pots, buckets, tires, or any other water-collecting objects.
- **Take action**

There are also several ways to take action and reduce mosquito populations.

- When using mosquito repellent, keep the following points in mind:
- Use as directed by the label instructions on the product.
- Do not use insect repellents on babies younger than 2 months of age.
- Do not use products containing oil of lemon eucalyptus or para-methane-diol on children younger than 3 years of age.
- Apply an EPA-registered repellent on one self and loved ones when outdoors.
- When possible, wear long sleeves, pants and socks.
- Treat standing water with larvicides in areas where water cannot be covered, emptied, or removed and will not be used for drinking. Larvicides are a type of pesticide that is applied to kill mosquitoes in their early stages of development (larvae) before they become biting adults. They are sold in forms of liquid, tablets, pellets, granules, and briquettes and available in most hardware stores. Larvicides are safe to use for the environment. Follow the instructions of the larvicide product one is using.
- Make sure to completely turn off outdoor faucets to prevent leaks; fix any faucets that are constantly leaking.
- Keep tight-fitting screens on doors and windows.

For additional mosquito prevention tips and resources, visit hcbptx.org/PreventTheBite.

Be smart; always be aware of disaster fraud

Survivors should be aware that con artists and criminals may try to obtain money or steal personal information through fraud or identity theft after a disaster.

In some cases, thieves try to apply for FEMA assistance using names, addresses and Social Security numbers they have stolen from survivors.

If a FEMA inspector comes to one's home and one did not submit a FEMA application, information may have been used without one's knowledge to create a FEMA application. If so, inform the inspector that one did not apply for FEMA assistance so they can submit a request to stop further processing of the application.

If one did not apply for assistance, but receives a letter from FEMA, call the FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362. The helpline will submit a request to stop any further processing of that application.

If one wishes to apply for FEMA assistance after stopping an application made in one's name without knowledge, the helpline will assist in creating a new application.

Scams

FEMA Disaster Survivor Assistance (DSA) crews, housing inspectors and other officials are working in areas impacted by the storms. They carry official identification badges with photo IDs. FEMA employees will also have access to your FEMA application number. FEMA and U.S. Small Business Administration representatives never charge applicants for disaster assistance, inspections or help in filling out applications. Don't believe anyone who promises a disaster grant in return for payment.

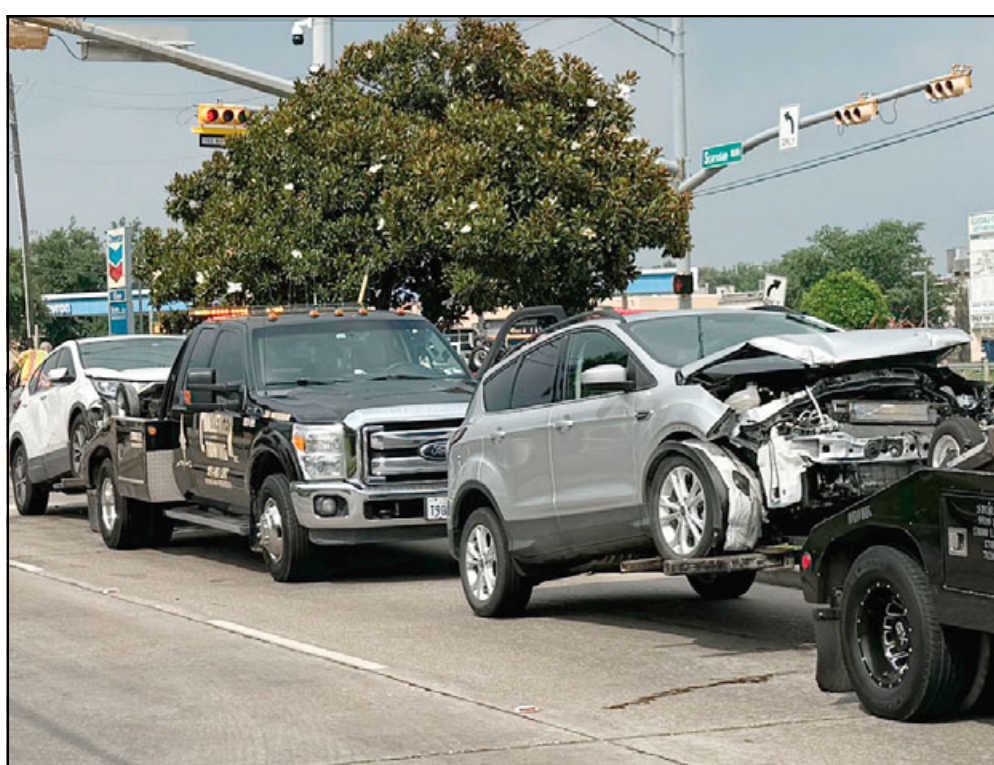
Don't give banking information to a person claiming to be a FEMA housing inspector. FEMA inspectors are never authorized to collect personal financial information.

If one believes they are the victim of a scam, report it immediately to local police or sheriff's department or contact the Office of the Texas Attorney General Consumer Protection Hotline at 800-621-0508.

Anyone who has knowledge of fraud, waste or abuse, can report these tips - 24 hours a day, seven days a week - to the FEMA Disaster Fraud Hotline at 866-720-5721. They can also email StopFEMA Fraud@fema.dhs.gov to report a tip.

For the latest information, visit fema.gov/disaster/4781. Follow the FEMA Region 6 Twitter at twitter.com/FEMARegion6 or on Facebook at facebook.com/FEMARegion6/.

Three-car accident sends some to hospital



On Tuesday, May 21, emergency services responded to a three-vehicle major accident that occurred at the intersection of Scarsdale and Beamer. Precinct 2 deputies temporarily closed the eastbound lanes of Scarsdale. Two people were transported by Southeast Volunteer Fire Department to Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital with minor injuries. Photo by David Flickinger



REGISTER NOW FOR SUMMER CLASSES!

SUMMER 2024 CLASSES BEGIN JUNE 3

5 CONVENIENT CAMPUSES AND ONLINE

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| CENTRAL CAMPUS 8060 Spencer Hwy. Pasadena, TX 77505 | SOUTH CAMPUS 13735 Beamer Rd. Houston, TX 77089 | NORTH CAMPUS 5800 Uvalde Rd. Houston, TX 77049 |
| MARITIME CAMPUS 3700 Old Hwy. 146 La Porte, TX 77571 | GEN PARK CAMPUS 13455 Lockwood Rd. Houston, TX 77044 | SAN JAC ONLINE sanjac.edu/online |

ENROLL TODAY

SAN JACINTO COLLEGE

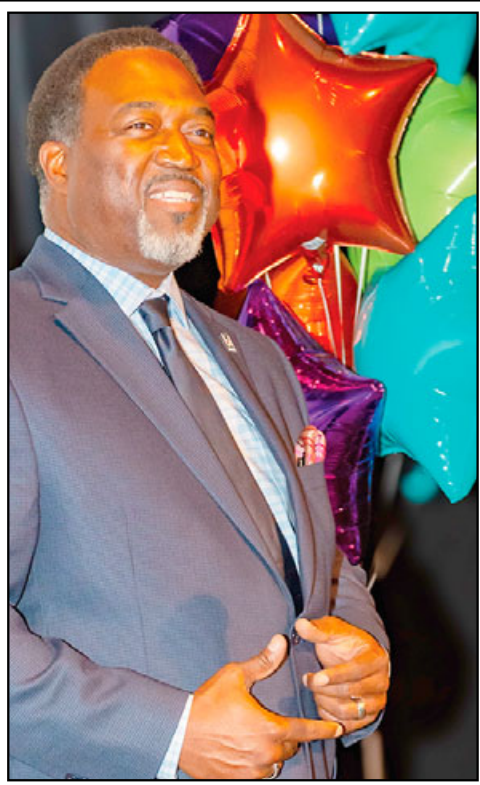
An Equal Opportunity Institution

The Southeast VFD needs you!

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

Your community needs you!

Chamber honors area students



Noble Alix Jr., chairman of the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce board, gave opening remarks to recipients on their achievements and commitment to education. On behalf of the chamber, Alix and Tristian Williams (chamber board member) handed recipients a Texas Flag, Senate proclamation and a Certificate of Achievement award.

On May 16, members of the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce celebrated graduates' remarkable achievements and recognized their commitment to education, navigation of the scholastic journey and pursuit of excellence. The event was held at the Marie Spence Flickinger Fine Arts facility at San Jacinto College South. Chamber members are immensely proud of each graduate's journey — the late nights of studying, the perseverance through challenges and the countless hours of hard work. Their accomplishments reflect their dedication and the collective strength of the area's educational community. The chamber has expressed the following message to the families, moms and dads, grandparents, uncles and aunts, and the countless others who invested in the chamber honorees: "We thank you for your investment! May educational pursuits remain a cornerstone building block to keeping South Belt Strong!" "As we come together, let us remember that education is not merely about acquiring knowledge but about shaping character, cultivating empathy, and empowering future leaders who can boldly represent South Belt with pride. Our scholarship recipients embody these ideals, and we are confident that their impact will resonate far beyond these walls."



Lisa Holbrook is the executive director of the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce.



Oscar Garza, served as master of ceremonies at the chamber event. He was a 2023 scholarship recipient who introduced the 2024 recipients, named their high schools and announced what university they would attend. He gave a personal speech on what it meant to him to receive the scholarship and how all scholarships received have helped him be worry-free about funding his education and be able to concentrate on his schooling.



Tristian Williams, chamber board member who served as the scholarship committee chair, introduced officials at the event and the master of ceremonies. He assisted in handing recipients a Texas flag which flew over the capitol and gave them a Senate proclamation and Certificate of Achievement award from the chamber.

New detention basin now open



A ribbon-cutting was hosted by County Commissioner Adrian Garcia and Harris County Flood Control Monday, May 13, at 10 a.m. Built by the Harris County Flood Control District on property owned by the county, the South Shaver Stormwater Detention Basin will provide flood damage reduction benefits during heavy storms and mitigate impacts of future public city of Houston drainage projects as appropriate. Attending were, left to right, Marie Flickinger; Troy McCarley (PISD); Susana Castillo; Jeremy Ratcliff (HCFCD); Pooja Bhatta (HCFCD); James "Jim" Muecke; Claudia Cruz (HPD); Judge Dolores Lozano (HC-JP2-2); Garcia; Angela Solis (City of Houston D.O.N.); Rashaun Jones (HCFCD); Tina Peterson, executive director (HCFCD); Council Member Fred Flickinger; Ray Soto; Amy Hinojosa; Bianca Carrizal (state Rep. Mary Ann Perez's staff); Marjorie Pena (Baker Ripley); Arely Ambriz (Sen. Carol Alvarado's staff); Dr. Varner (OMBC pastor); Rosanne Peters; Scott Pollack (Milstead Middle School principal); and Mary Varner (first lady OMBC).

Summer activities outlined for youth

Continued from Page 1
include Stuchbery Elementary, 11210 Hughes Road; Thompson Intermediate, 11309 Sagedowne; and Dobie High School, 10220 Blackhawk. Stuchbery will serve breakfast from 7:30 to 8 a.m. and lunch from 10 to 11:45 a.m. Dates are Monday, June 3, through June 20, Monday through Thursday. Thompson will serve breakfast from 8:30 to 9 a.m. and lunch from 11 to 12:30 p.m. Dates are Monday, June 3, through June 14, Monday through Friday. Dobie will serve breakfast from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and lunch from 10:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Dates are June 3 through June 18, Monday through Friday. Meals will be provided on a first-come, first-serve basis. For additional information on Pasadena ISD's summer meal program, or to see a complete list of dates, times and locations, visit www1.pasadenaisd.org/about/news/current_news/pasadena_isd_2024_summer_food_program_schedule. Pasadena ISD is offering several different sports camps at campuses throughout the district. Camps will be available in multiple sports, including

basketball, volleyball, baseball and more. Pasadena ISD sports camps will be available at all skill levels, from beginner to advanced. For additional information on Pasadena ISD's 2024 summer sports camps, visit www1.pasadenaisd.org/about/news/current_news/pasadena_isd_2024_summer_camps_2024. **Clear Creek ISD** Clear Creek ISD will offer summer school at the intermediate and high school levels. Each school level will offer two sessions, with each session offering both morning and afternoon classes. Summer Semester I will run from June 10 to June 20, Monday through Thursday. Morning classes will run from 7:45 to 11 a.m. Afternoon classes will run from 11:30 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. Intermediate Summer Semester II will run from June 24 to July 3, Week One: Monday – Friday, Week Two: Monday – Wednesday. Morning classes will run from 7:45 to 11 a.m. Afternoon classes will run from 11:30 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. Clear Creek ISD's High School Summer Semester I will run from June 10 to June 20, Monday through Thurs-

day. Morning classes will run from 7:30 to 10:15 a.m. Afternoon classes will run from 10:45 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. High School Summer Semester II will run from June 24 to July 3, Monday through Friday. Morning classes will run from 7:30 to 10:15 a.m. Afternoon classes will run from 10:45 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. Clear Creek ISD will offer STAAR retesting June 3 through June 14, Monday through Friday, at Clear Lake High School at 2929 Bay Area Blvd., from 2:20 to 5 p.m. For additional information about Clear Creek ISD's summer school program, visit www.ccisd.net/summer. Clear Creek ISD will also provide free meals to children ages 18 and younger at participating schools this summer as part of the federal Summer Food Service Program. Like Pasadena ISD, both breakfast and lunch will be served. For a complete list of dates, times and locations, visit www.ccisd.net/student meals. On its website, Clear Creek ISD has a list of summer enrichment programs for district students, including summer camps, online activities and reading programs. To

see the list, visit www.ccisd.net/summer. **Public libraries** Both the Harris County Parker Williams Library Branch, 10851 Scarsdale, and the Houston Bracewell Library Branch, 9002 Kingpoint, will also offer summer reading programs for area students. To see a list of summer activities at the Parker Williams Library Branch, visit hclpl.net/locations/PW. To see a list of summer activities at the Bracewell Library Branch, visit houstontxlibrary.org/srp. **Swimming pools** While several subdivisions in the South Belt area have already opened their swimming pools for the summer (see last week's *Leader*), the City of Houston had yet to announce its 2024 summer plans at press time, leaving the status of both the Sagemont and Beverly Hills pools unknown. During the 2022 and 2023 summer seasons, many of the city's swimming pools were closed due to a nationwide lifeguard shortage. City pools were opened in a staggered fashion the previous two years, with the most popular swimming pools opening first. The city is currently seeking lifeguards for the 2024 season. A \$500 bonus is being offered to lifeguards who can work throughout the entire summer. For more information on becoming a city lifeguard, visit www.houstontx.gov/hr/careers.html. City officials said an official announcement regarding the pool openings would be made later this month. For additional information on the city's swimming pool openings, including dates, times and locations, visit www.houstontx.gov/parks/swimming.html.

Prepare for hurricane

Continued from Page 1
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 their windows with shielding materials and to secure or put up any loose items around their homes. Evacuees should fill their 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 urged to notify family and friends (especially those out of 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. For more information, visit www.hcocom.org. The Harris County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management offers the following tips: **Preparedness** When a hurricane warning is issued by the Weather Service and the coastal area is threatened, residents should: - Monitor local TV and radio stations. - Fuel vehicles and generators. - Check disaster supply kit. - Cover windows with plywood. - Bring in all furniture, toys and any other objects that could become missiles. - Moor boats to a safe and secure place. - Take pictures of property and contents for insurance. - Evacuate immediately, if advised. If residents stay home during the hurricane and are

not in a flood prone area: - Fill bathtubs and available containers with water. - Turn off utilities, if requested. - Remain indoors in a closet, bathroom or hallway on the lower level of the house, away from windows. - Cover oneself and family members with a mattress or a dining room table to protect oneself from falling debris. **Supply kit** - Water – At least seven day supply (one gallon per person per day). - Food – At least seven-day supply of nonperishable/canned food (Change out stored water and food supplies every six months). - First aid kit. - Flashlight, batteries. - Battery powered radio. - Medicines and items (pain relievers, diapers, etc.). - Tools and supplies. - Sanitation (toilet paper, personal hygiene items, etc.). - Change of clothes and bedding. - Cash. - Important family documents (birth certificates, insurance/bank accounts, etc.). - Food, water, kennels or pet crates and medicine for pets. **Stay informed** - If residents live in a low-lying, flood-prone area, they may be mandated to leave, because heightened seas and tides can affect such homes. - If residents live in a mobile home in any evacuation zone, plan to evacuate anytime a hurricane threatens. Powerful winds are capable of destroying mobile homes. - If residents are traveling with young children, elderly family members or people with functional access needs, they should leave early. Waiting for a general evacuation can put their health at risk and lengthen travel time. **Flood insurance** Those wishing to purchase flood insurance must do so at least 30 days before a storm to guarantee coverage.

Remember When

45 years ago (1979)
The Catholic Community of St. Luke the Evangelist held services at the new church facility located at Hall Road and Sageberry. Parishioners had been using the cafeteria at Thompson Intermediate School for the previous four years. The Southeast Volunteer Fire Department was in need of trained medical volunteers to work during the day. Bonnie Walker was named coordinator of mathematics, and Charles Matthys was selected as supervisor of vocational education in Clear Creek Independent School District.

The lawsuit against the Pasadena Independent School District and the coaching and training staff at Dobie High School concerning the death of Donald Roventini Jr. was dismissed by Judge Nancy Atlas. **20 years ago (2004)** Community leaders and residents were shocked to learn the City of Houston had plans to demolish the Sagemont pool. The Pasadena Independent School District announced it would continue with plans to build a new high school in the Hobby Airport area. Houston City Council approved plans to extend El Dorado Boulevard from the Gulf Freeway to Beamer. This was in an agreement between the city and the Clear Creek Independent School District resulting from CCISD's plans to open a new school in the area. Harris County officials were studying the need for a traffic light to be installed on Blackhawk at Kirkville. As a result of outstanding academic performance, 10 Beverly Hills Intermediate students and four students from Thompson Intermediate received state recognition through the Duke University Talent Identification Program. Construction on a new Walgreens began on Fuqua at Sabo Road. **15 years ago (2009)** Investigators from the Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's office got a break in the May 7 arson case at Weber Elementary when one of the two suspects returned to the school and again attempted to set fire to the building. A resident walking his dog on the Blackhawk hike and bike trail spotted two men throwing Molotov cocktails at the school, as had been done earlier in the month, and detained the suspects while he phoned authorities. Dobie freshman Brianna Perez was seriously injured in a hit-and-run accident in the 8100 block of Alameda Genoa. Longtime South Belt resident Emory Gadd was named the year's Distinguished Alumnus from South Houston High School at an award ceremony. A 1965 graduate of the area school, Gadd had devoted much of his time to his alma mater, the Pasadena Independent School District

and the community as a whole. Dobie High School science teacher, Sandra Hall, retired after serving 34 years in the education field. She had been a teacher, department head, curriculum writer, strategist, tutor and an assistant principal. She had been married to Lonnie Hall for 38 years; the parents of Londra Brown, Lanita Simmons and Landon Hall; and the grandparents of Sheridan Victoria Simmons. **10 years ago (2014)** An 8-year-old boy died May 29 from injuries incurred the day before while playing by an area ditch near the intersection of Grapewood and Sageleg. Leonel Eduardo Reyes was discovered floating in the ditch by his 16-year-old brother. Reyes, a second-grade student at Burnett, was later determined to have drowned. St. Luke's church blessed and officially christened its new Cenacle Learning Center. The ceremony was conducted by Bishop George A. Sheltz, auxiliary bishop for the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston. The 10,000-square-foot learning center was the first of five buildings to be constructed on the church's new property on Riverstone Ranch Road. **5 years ago (2019)** A family dog was shot during a home invasion early Friday, May 24, on Sagewick Drive. According to police, four masked men forced their way into the house through the back door around 12:45 a.m., then pinned the homeowner

down in the kitchen. One of the men then guarded the man at gunpoint, while the remaining three suspects ransacked the home. The family dog attempted to save the father but was shot in the paw by one of the suspects. The dog was taken to a veterinarian for emergency treatment and was expected to be OK. No immediate arrests were made. A suspect was officially charged with murder in the August 2018 death of South Belt resident Candace Kitchen Manning, Terrace Washington, 27, was already in jail after allegedly admitting to police that he had admitted Manning and later set fire to her vehicle to destroy evidence. He, however, denied killing her. Autopsy results, however, revealed that Manning had been strangled and beaten to death. Following the determination of death by the medical examiner's office, prosecutors filed a capital murder charge against Washington. **1 year ago (2023)** Dobie High School named its 2022 Teacher of the Year and New Teacher of the Year. Coach Shane Brown was named Teacher of the Year, while Coach Hector Saldivar was named New Teacher of the Year. Clear Brook High School was placed on lockdown Wednesday, May 25, after a scare involving a gun. According to Clear Creek ISD officials, the incident began when alert Brook students reported a social media post of a student holding a gun. While the photo was not taken on school grounds, law enforcement officers still viewed the post as a possible threat and removed the student in question from class to be searched. During the search, police discovered an unloaded gun and immediately placed the campus on lockdown. The lockdown was lifted once law enforcement deemed the campuses safe.

35 years ago (1989)
Students attending Clear Creek ISD schools improved their TEAMS scores in every category for every grade level except one over the previous year, thus maintaining the district's above average performance. Former band and orchestra director at Beverly Hills and Thompson intermediate schools, Jimmy Foster, 58, died. Three anonymous South Belters contributed their time and efforts in saving the life of a small dog that was shot by a group of youths armed with BB guns. **30 years ago (1994)** It became official that none of the three South Belt intersections on Beltway 8 would allow left turns from the middle lane. The Rev. Dominic Pistone left the Catholic Community of St. Luke the Evangelist after serving as the church's pastor for 10 years. **25 years ago (1999)** Approximately 750 South Belt area residents welcomed The Gardens to the community at its grand opening.

Over The Back Fence by Natalie

MATT CELEBRATES A BIRTHDAY
Matt Griesmeyer celebrates a birthday June 4. Best wishes are sent to Matt from his former co-workers at the Leader. **HAVE A GREAT BIRTHDAY, BOBBY**
Bobby Griffin, co-founder of the South Belt-Ellington Leader, is wished a happy birthday on Sunday, June 5, from son, David Griffin and wife Angie; daughter Tracy Giles and husband Jim; grandchildren Robert and Kenneth Griffin and wife Lacie, Aaron Giles and wife Ashley, Cody Giles and wife Liz and Kristen Giles; great-grandchildren Jaxson, Jace and Braelyn Giles and Ellie Griffin; friends; and co-workers at the Leader. **SCHOOL DAZE**
The following staff of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays May 30 through June 5. **Atkinson Elementary**
Remember to wish Sanderi Asbeck a happy birthday May 31. **Burnett Elementary**
Blow out the birthday candles for Eric Snell who enjoys a birthday June 1. **Bush Elementary**
Give a birthday shoutout to Stephanie Miller, principal, for a May 30 birthday. Enjoy a slice of birthday cake with Suzanne Anderson

June 4. **Frazier Elementary**
Remember to wish Kayleigh Howard a happy birthday June 2. **Genoa Elementary**
Suzanne Morgan enjoys a birthday June 3. **Hancock Elementary**
Birthday greetings go out to Ariana Guerra May 30. Damaris Juarez celebrates a birthday June 4. **South Belt Elementary**
Meghan Dodson celebrates a birthday May 31. June 3 is the day for a fun celebration for Melissa Felts. **Stuchbery Elementary**
The day for a celebration for Jose Wong is June 4. **Meillio Middle School**
Send a birthday greeting May 31 to Kelsey Huerta. Remember to wish Julie Reed a happy birthday June 1. Blow out the birthday candles June 2 for Maria Eufrazio. Send a birthday greeting June 4 to Lisa Hoffpauir. June 5 is the day to break out the balloons and birthday cake with ice cream for Gabriel Busch and Elizabeth Soto. **Beverly Hills Intermediate**
Give a birthday shoutout June 4 to Guadalupe Ayala.

Dobie High
Break out the cake, ice cream and party favors May 30 for Karol Brock and Kathy Eads. The day for a double-layer birthday cake for Gerson Garcia and William Rampp is June 2. Sing a special birthday song June 3 to Robert Pfeister. Remember to wish Gilbert Deleon a happy birthday June 4. **FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS**
Thursday, May 30: Laura Stanford, Tanya Cole, Sandy Zeigler and Stacey Brewer; Friday, May 31: Gabi Hernandez, Sharon Rushing and Eddie Carlton, Saturday, June 1, Shawn Mims, Carroll McCullough, Lauren Lozano, Telly Arnold, Joseph Niscavits and Karen Osborn; Sunday, June 2: Elizabeth Paredes-Trevino, Linda Miller, Melissa Garza and Justin Hilliar; Saturday, Monday 3: Sasha Divine, Richard Lelsz, Elbert Giron Sr., Susan Arnold and Jennifer Medina; and Wednesday, June 5: Zach Fisher, David Reyes, Minnie Gaeckler, Jessica Cordero and Merri Taylor. **LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS**
Email announcements etc., to mynews@southbeltleader.com with OTBF in the subject line by Friday noon for the next week's publication. For birthdays, type "OTBF: Friends Celebrate Birthdays" in the subject line.

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SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

Dobie soccer's Manrique exits after 10 straight crowns

By John Bechtle
Sports Editor

Justo Manrique, the architect of the greatest era in Dobie boys' soccer history, has resigned as the Longhorns' head coach after 11 seasons and will now take the same role at Cypress Fairbanks ISD's Bridgeland High School. The Longhorns in 2023 won the District 22-6A championship for the 10th consecutive season, which has been one of the longest title runs in the Class 6A ranks regardless of sport during that time span. Manrique delivered a

great deal of success during a brief stay at Aldine MacArthur High School before being named varsity boys' soccer head coach at Dobie around this time in 2013. The Longhorns reached the postseason in Manrique's debut season as a No. 4 seed in 2014 and subsequently lost in the opening round of the playoffs. Since that first year, few programs from a statewide level have matched Dobie's success. Dobie won the Region III championship in 2017 and advanced to the state

tournament for the first and only time in program history. The 2022 squad made its way to the Region III title match before losing to eventual state champion Seven Lakes. Last season's league title winner reached the area round before a loss to Alief Elsik. Family needs were the biggest factor in his decision to leave Dobie, Manrique told the *Leader*. His wife's parents reside in the Cy-Fair area, and it's time to move closer to them. "My wife has followed me first to Aldine

and then to Dobie and has been supportive of my career for a long time," Manrique said. "It's time for me to do the same for her. I'll always admire what we have been able to do at Dobie. We've had a good run. It's never a great time to leave a place in our business, but this is best for my family." As Manrique has now passed through the doors at Dobie in an official capacity for the final time, he is of course grateful to the players for their willingness to dig deep with a vision of team success,

but also to the administration both at the district level and at Dobie all these years. "Expectations have always been high, and we have held high standards both on and off the field at Dobie," Manrique said. "Sometimes tough decisions were made for the betterment of the team. But I always had that support behind the scenes, and I appreciate that. I'm very proud of the standard we set at Dobie. It's always tough to leave the returning players behind, but it's time."

LSA softballers earn honors

Lutheran South Academy Class of 2024 senior Kat Maldonado, a Texas Southern University signee, was a Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools All-State first team honoree following a standout senior season. Two Lutheran South Academy players were honored as All-State second team picks, including Addison Smith and Bri Collazo. The Pioneers' Lauren Brown was an All-State honorable mention pick. Brown, Collazo, Maldonado and Smith were first team All-District picks, while second team All-District choices included Emily Bankson, Alex Garza and Jill Whitehead. The Pioneers' All-District honorable mention honorees were Jady N Maldonado and Ava Zamora. Brown and Collazo were also Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools Academic All-State honorees.

Pioneer baseball scores AD

The Lutheran South Academy varsity baseball team had Roland Aguilon, Grant Burns, Omar Serna Jr. and Jaylen Walker chosen as first team All-District performers while Victor Coronado Jr., David Fulton and Brody Smith were second team honorees. Zeke Ramirez and James Stoeckel were honorable mention picks. Coronado, Fulton, Serna and Smith were also Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools Academic All-State honorees.

SJC softball drops two of three

A pair of one-run losses brought San Jacinto College's stay at the National Junior College Athletic Association's Division I World Series to a close as the 12th-seeded Ravens went 1-2 over three days at the event in Oxford, Ala. It was Region 14 nemesis Galveston that ended the Ravens' season with a 3-2 win in an elimination round game May 22, with San Jac finishing 2024 at 42-25.



A former standout player at Dobie, Danny Fitzmorris is returning to his roots as he is the new varsity head football coach of the Longhorns after the Pasadena ISD school board approved his hiring May 28. Fitzmorris, a Dobie graduate and a longtime youth football player with the Sagemont Cowboys, has been an assistant coach at several high school stops within the Houston area over the years. He is coming to Dobie after having been at Pasadena Memorial for the 2023-2024 school year. See more on Fitzmorris' hiring in the June 6 *Leader* issue.

Cowboys' FB offering Fitzmorris scholarship

The Sagemont Cowboys and Cowgirls have announced submission guidelines the 3rd Annual Mary Beth and Tom Fitzmorris Memorial Scholarship Fund, dedicated to honoring the longtime members of the organization. In honor of the Fitzmorris family, the organization will award a \$500 scholarship to a former participant of the Sagemont football program. Class of 2024 graduates who are former Cowboys or Cowgirls and have previously been part of the organization for at least three seasons are eligible to apply. Applicants must submit an essay explaining their time with the organization and what they are planning to study in college, including their career path after graduation. Each applicant is required to submit a copy of their high school transcripts with their essay. All paperwork/documents must be submitted to the Sagemont Cowboys organization no later than June 16. Submissions are to be directed to Cowboys' athletic director Denny Wranich Jr. at dwrnich82@gmail.com.



A successful run of things as head boys' soccer coach at Aldine MacArthur earned Justo Manrique the opportunity to lead things at Dobie as he arrived on campus in 2013.



Justo Manrique won 195 total matches while at Dobie, leading the Longhorns' boys' soccer program to 10 consecutive district championships from 2015 to 2024.



Clear Brook High School Class of 2024 graduate Jaylon Owens, a regional qualifier in the 100 and 200 sprints during his senior season this spring, will continue his education and track and field career at Louisiana Tech University in Ruston, La., after signing a letter of intent with the Bulldogs. Those joining

Owens at the signing included, left to right, Andre Owens (father), Aliyah Owens (sister), Judy Harris Owens (mother), Jaylon Owens, Harlem Owens (niece), Ashton Owens (brother), Jourdyn Owens (sister), Benji Owens (nephew) and Ernestine Cuelar (grandmother).

Brook's Owens likes La. Tech

Literally turning hope into reality in less than a calendar year, Clear Brook Class of 2024 graduate Jaylon Owens is one of several Wolverine track and field stars who will join the collegiate ranks beginning this fall. And to think that at this point last summer, there was very little reason to consider the then junior as a possible Division I track and field competitor speaks to just how far the sprinter has come. Nursing hip and back injuries as a junior, Owens instead watched as Class of 2023 senior Raymond Felton grabbed most of the headlines in the sprints, turning his own standout final season with the Wolverines into a collegiate opportunity with the University of Evansville in

Evansville, Ind. As for Owens, he got himself healthy and had quite a summer season with the H-Town Hurricanes, reaching the Amateur Athletic Union's Junior Olympics at Drake University. Owens was part of the Hurricanes' age 17-18 national championship 4x400 relay team and also won a bronze medal in the 200 at 21.1 while earning fourth in the 100. One of the dominant sprinters during the 2024 high school season, Owens won golds in the 100 and 200 at the 24-6A and 23-6A/24-6A area meets to reach the Region III Championships. "I'm proud of the season I put together," Owens said. "I wasn't at my best at regionals. The meet was the same day as our prom, and we had several rain delays. I just wasn't in top form." Regardless, Owens said he drew Division I collegiate interest from several top programs. He liked the picture that Louisiana Tech University Director of Track and Field Brian Johnson has laid out in Ruston, La. Owens will compete this summer with his H-Town program with more nationals success in mind, then will get ready for the next step. "I'm excited to join the Louisiana Tech program, and I think I can contribute fast," Owens said. "I had some pretty good interest out there, and felt like coach Johnson presented a great opportunity."

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Dobie graduate Christa Williams Yates is returning to the state high school softball tournament, this time as head coach of Kingwood, as the Mustangs will represent Region III May 31 and June 1 in the 6A final four at McCombs Field on the campus of the University of Texas at Austin. Williams Yates built her legacy as one of the greatest pitchers in the sport as she led Dobie to state softball championships in 1993 and 1995. A member of the inaugural induction class of the Pasadena ISD Athletics Hall of Fame, Williams Yates is in her first season as head coach at Kingwood, where the Mustangs have won 23 consecutive games leading up to the state tournament. Christina Borsche Mata, also a state championship teammate of Williams Yates while at Dobie and a former head coach at Pasadena Memorial, is the varsity assistant coach at Kingwood.

JFD hoops

Dobie varsity girls' basketball head coach Jasmine Hartman, varsity boys' basketball head coach Timir Patel and their staffs will host a pair of youth basketball camps for boys and girls June 25-27 at the Dobie9 campus, with incoming first- through fifth-grade students attending from 8 to 10 a.m. and incoming sixth- through ninth-grade students attending from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The focuses of the camps will include individual skills training, team building exercises, strategy sessions, fitness and conditioning drills and friendly game play. Cost of each camp is \$60 per student and may be paid in cash on the first day of the camps or via the camp link at www.dobiepride.com. For additional information, direct email to Hartman at jhartman@pasadenaisd.org.

Dobie volleyball

Dobie varsity volleyball head coach Dawn Sexton and her staff will host a pair of youth camps July 24-26 at the main campus, with incoming third- through sixth-grade students attending from 9 to 11 a.m. and incoming seventh- and eighth-grade students attending from noon to 2 p.m. The focuses of the camps will include individual skills training, team building exercises, strategy sessions, fitness and conditioning drills and friendly match play. Cost of each camp is \$50 per student and may be paid in cash on the first day of the camps or via Cash App at [SDvbbooster](https://www.cash.app). For additional information, direct email to Sexton at dsexton@pasadenaisd.org.

Brook girls' hoops

Clear Brook varsity girls' basketball head coach Mileka Loydrake and her staff will host the 2024 Wolverines' Youth Basketball Camp June 4-5 at the high school. Students entering the third through sixth grades as of the 2024-2025 school year will attend the Elementary camp from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. each day and receive both team and individual instruction in all phases of the game. The Elite camp will include students entering the seventh through ninth grades from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cost of each camp is \$65. Register no later than May 31 to ensure a camp T-shirt. To register, follow the Clear Brook girls' basketball program on Instagram at [@BrookGBB](https://www.instagram.com/BrookGBB) or on X at [@CBHSLadyB](https://www.x.com/CBHSLadyB).

Clear Brook boys' hoops

Clear Brook varsity boys' basketball head coach Nathan Janak and his staff will host the 2024 Wolverines' youth basketball camp June 24-27, as students will receive instruction, both individually and from a team standpoint in all phases of the game. Students entering the fourth through sixth grades as of the 2024-2025 school year will attend from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. each day at \$125 per student, with boys and girls entering kindergarten through the third grade attending from 9 to 11 a.m. at \$85 per student. Students entering the seventh through ninth grades will attend from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. at \$125 per student. Registration details are available at wolverine-basketball-camp.square.site. Direct any questions to Janak at njanak@ccisd.net.

Youth soccer

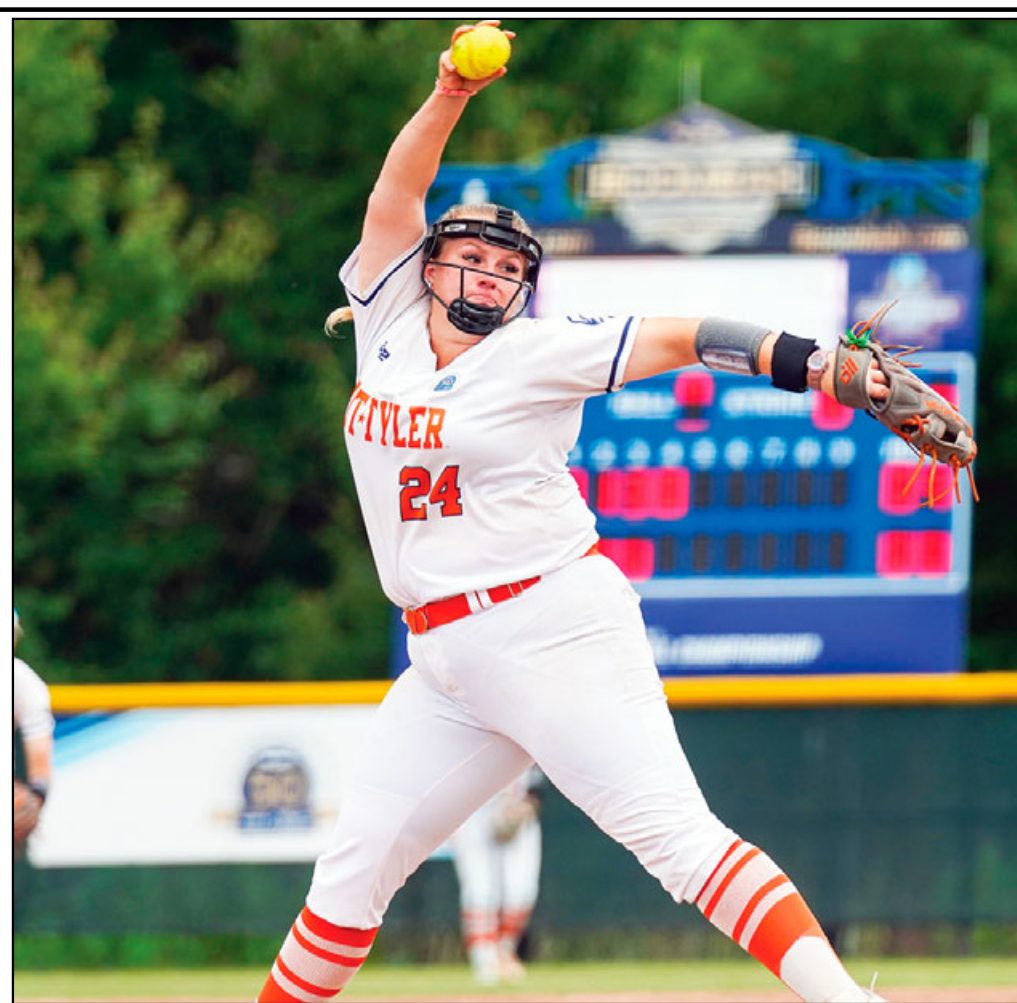
The South Belt Youth Soccer Club is set to host its Summer Skills Camp June 11 through July 9, coming to El Franco Lee Park each Tuesday and Thursday, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Boys and girls in the 2013 through 2017 age groups are eligible to participate at \$95 per player (10 sessions). Registration is ongoing at www.southbeltssoccer.org.

Dobie strength/conditioning

The Dobie coaching staff will host six weeks of strength and conditioning training in June and July, with returning 10th through 12th-grade students attending from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. each day and incoming freshmen following from 9:45 to 11 a.m. The dates are June 10, 11 and 13, June 17, 18 and 20, June 24, 25 and 27, July 1-2, July 8, 9 and 11 and July 15, 16 and 18.

Haygood, UT-Tyler win crown

San Jacinto College softball alumna Christin Haygood was named the NCAA Division II World Series Most Valuable Player after leading her UT-Tyler team to the national championship following a best-of-three series sweep of Western Washington May 25 in Longwood, Fla. Haygood threw four complete games at the series, carrying a no-hitter into the sixth inning of the deciding game. At 23-1 overall for her junior season, Haygood was dominant throughout 2024 as UT-Tyler finished at 58-8. In five total games at the World Series, UT-Tyler outscored the opposition 30-5. Haygood was the Lone Star Conference Newcomer of the Year during the regular season.



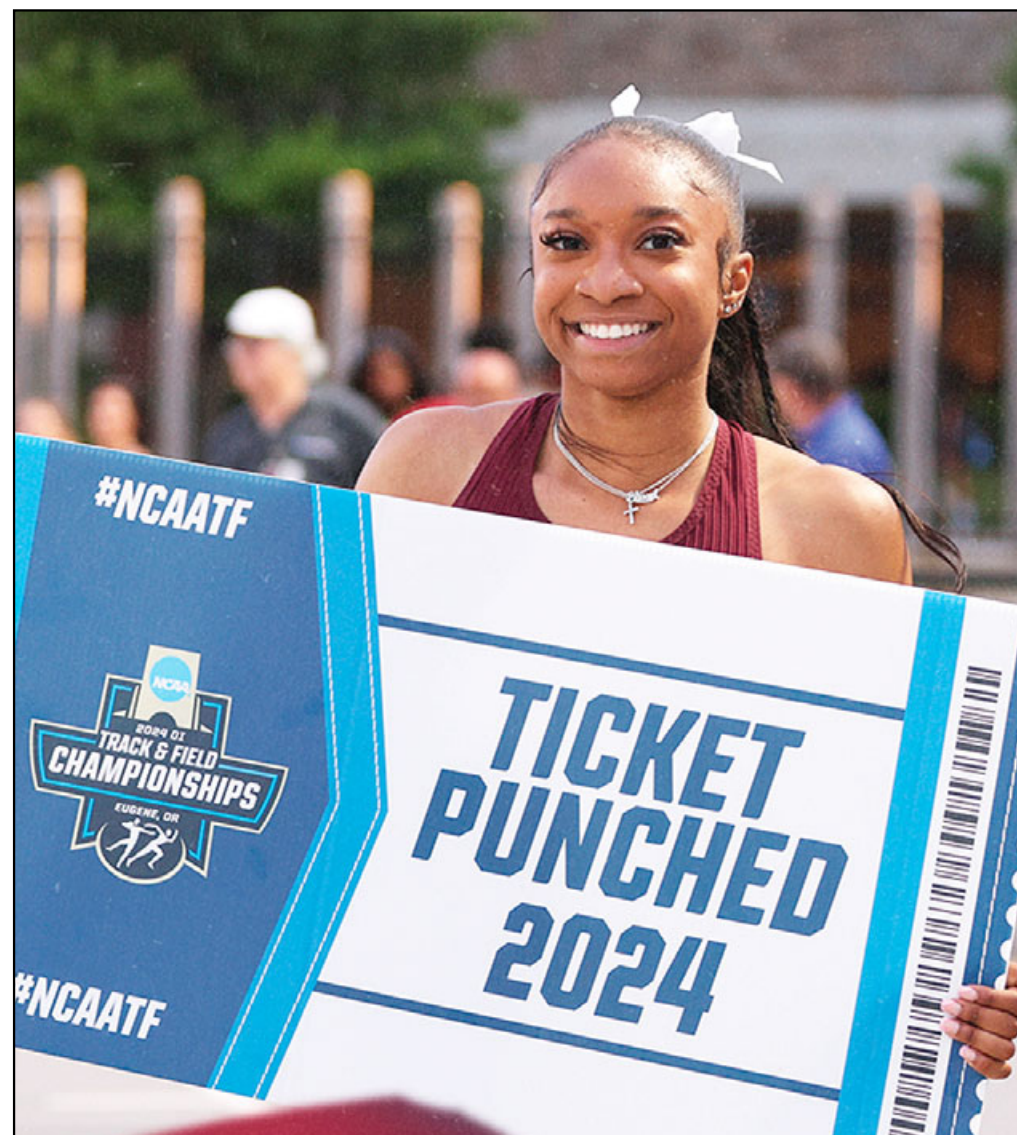
Pleasants finishes career at LSU as Stanford advances

A seven-run home half of the fifth inning was the big blow as host Stanford went on to defeat Louisiana State 8-0 in the third and deciding game of the super regional series between the No. 8 and No. 9 national seeds May 26 in Stanford, Calif. While Stanford advanced to the College World Series to face top-seeded Texas in an opening round game May 30, LSU's season came to an end. With it also came the close of the stellar career of Dobie Class of 2019 graduate and LSU graduate student Taylor Pleasants. On the first page of Dobie softball all-time greats, Pleasants also delivered an honor-filled career with the Tigers over parts of five seasons. Pleasants was a career .311 hitter with 47 home runs and 217 runs batted in. She also had a career .945 fielding percentage at the shortstop position and was a multitime All-Southeastern Conference nominee. Last month, USA Softball named Pleasants to the Women's National Team roster scheduled to take on Team Japan in the July 4-8 Japan All-Star Series. The ESPN on-air broadcast team reported May 26 that Pleasants will join the LSU coaching staff in 2025 as a graduate assistant.

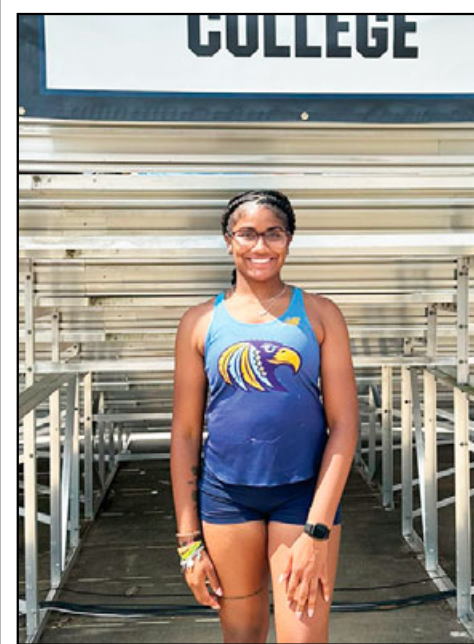


Dickson, Aggie teammates reach NCAA track and field nationals

The Texas A&M University women's track and field team logged 15 NCAA National Championship qualifications in all following the completion of the West Regional Round One May 24-25 in Fayetteville, Ark. Clear Brook High School graduate Camryn Dickson (at right), currently a sophomore with the Aggies, was in the middle of it all as she will compete in the 100 and 200 at nationals, in addition to joining her teammates for a pair of relays. A third-place time of 22.58 seconds in the 200 sends Dickson to nationals, and she also reached the NCAA finals in the 100 as her clocking of 11.10 was fourth-best. Dickson was in on the fun as the Aggies' 4x100 relay squad ran a season best of 43.33, third in the event and good for a ticket to Eugene. The foursome for TAMU also included Semira Killebrew, Leeah Burr and Laila Hackett. To conclude the West Regional, Dickson, Jaydan Wood, Jermaisha Arnold and Clear Springs graduate Kennedy Wade posted a time of 3 minutes, 28.53 seconds, a season best for the group. The NCAA Outdoor Nationals will be held June 5-8 on the University of Oregon campus in Eugene.



Thompson excels



Clear Brook Class of 2023 graduate Kennedy Thompson completed the Gulf South Conference Outdoor Track and Field Championships with her Mississippi College teammates at Montevallo College at Montevallo, Ala. Thompson grabbed the Choctaws' program record with a throw of 41.14 meters in the discus and also delivered a shot mark of 10.91 meters to go with a hammer toss of 44.63 meters.

Dobie High School Tennis 2023-2024 Award Winners

Varsity Honorees

Ms. Dobie Tennis

Leena Pham

Mr. Dobie Tennis

Isaac Reynolds

Most Valuable Girls' Player

Hailey Maldonado

Most Valuable Boys' Player

Pitou So

Girls' Top Gun

Hailey Maldonado

Boys' Top Gun

Nestor Garza

Darren Lajaunie Student-Athlete Award

Kayla Tran

Jackie Cheramie Fighting Longhorn

Amalia Reyes

Jonathan Barrica Fighting Longhorn

Tre Ramirez

Steve Jamail "Dobie Pride" Award

Leslie Figueroa and Ryan Le

Most Improved Girls' Player

Panza Abigail

Most Improved Boys' Player

Jacob Kostikoglou

"Be A Hero" Award

Dulce Mejia and Diego Flores

Girls' Newcomer of the Year Award

Hallie Vu

Boys' Newcomer of the Year Award

Jordan De Robles

Desire to Win Award

Valerie Huynh and Rigo Alanis

Mrs. Coach Howard Spirit Award

Tiffany Nguyen

Coach Howard Inspiration Award

Chloe Estes

Captains 2024-25

Chloe Estes and Pitou So

Co-captains 2024-25

Dulce Mejia and Tre Ramirez

Coach's Award 110%

Vince Bui, Kevin Do, Vyvy Do

and Nolan Tran

Service Ace Award

Jonathan Alexander, Alena Morgan

and Eric Perez

Junior Varsity Honorees

Top Gun

Victoria Caballero

Most Improved Girls' Player

Aranza Gonzalez

Most Improved Boys' Player

Evan Nguyen

Coach's Award 110%

Hania Matin

Service Ace Award

Yazmyne Gaines, Felicity Padilla and

Joselyn Romero

Freshman Honorees

Top Gun - Angelina Vu

Most Improved Girls' Player - Marina

Kostikoglou

Most Improved Boys' Player - Jonathan

Maximos

Coach's Award 110% - Vivian Hang, Kel-

vin Nguyen, Jazalynn Randall and Trjah

Smith

Service Ace Award - Xavier Delgado and

Minh Nguyen

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Dobie baseball standouts earn 22-6A All-District honors following season



Isaiah Jones had a stellar debut to his varsity baseball career at Dobie as he was honored as the 22-6A unanimous choice as Newcomer of the Year. The freshman hit .593 with 16 runs scored, 16 hits, 11 runs batted in, 11 steals and 10 walks.

Photos by Donna Alsdorf and Gloria Wallace



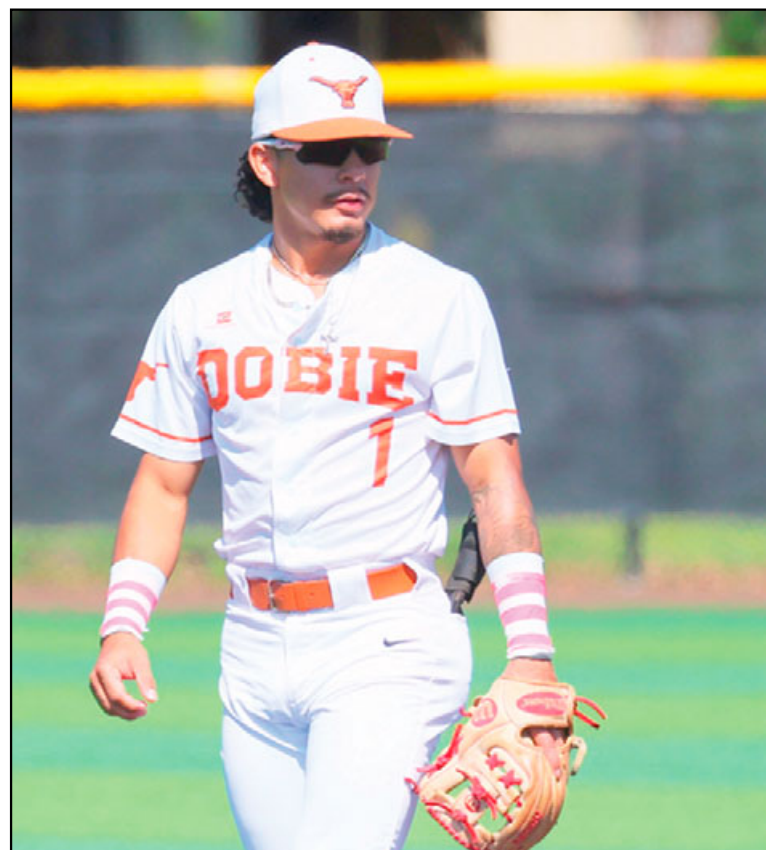
Dobie junior outfielder Will Joiner III was a 22-6A first team All-District selection as he hit .424 with 14 runs scored and 11 runs batted in as he helped lead the Longhorns to the area playoff round. He added four stolen bases as well as a home run and a triple. Joiner also plays football at Dobie, is part of the school's golf team and has done some powerlifting.



Dobie's Eduardo Loera was an All-District selection for the third time in his career, earning a first team nod in 2024 as he hit .650 with 13 hits and 11 runs batted in. He showed his versatility by handling several infield spots and was honored for his work at third base.



Aiden Sanchez of Dobie turned in another stellar season for the Longhorns, earning his second straight unanimous first team All-District honor after posting a 5-0 record on the hill with 35 strikeouts and a 1.38 earned run average. The left-handed pitcher is also a standout defensive player within the football program.



Dobie senior shortstop Junior Orozco was a unanimous pick as a first team All-District performer, delivering a stat-stacked season for the Longhorns. Orozco, who will join the San Jacinto College baseball program this fall, hit .444 in his final season with 14 runs scored, 12 hits, 12 stolen bases and 10 runs driven in.



Juelz Martinez was an All-District selection for the third straight season, setting a Dobie varsity baseball program record for runs scored with 40 as part of a 2024 season that also included a .333 batting average, 15 runs scored, 14 hits, 11 steals, four doubles and a triple.



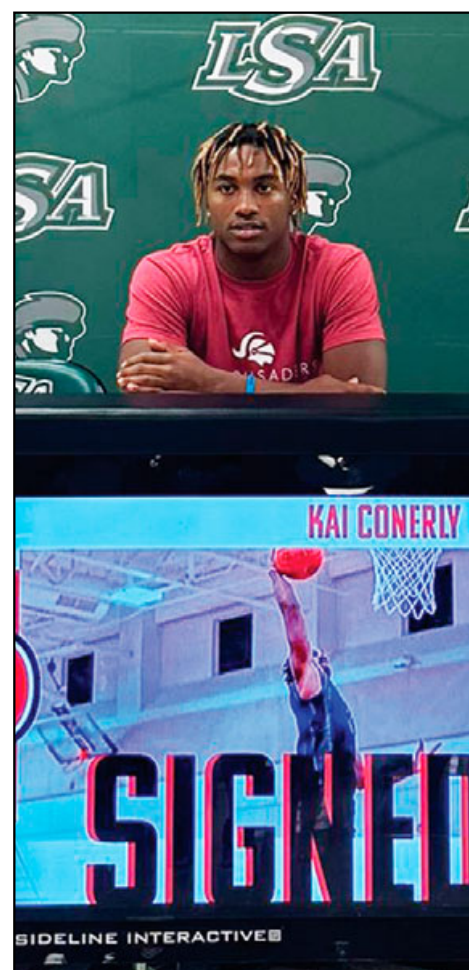
Cruz Torres (6) of Dobie was selected to the 22-6A All-District first team for the second straight season as he won four games in league play and set a program record for single-game strikeouts with 14. He had 36 strikeouts in 27 1/3 innings of work with an earned run average of 0.768.

CB's Rhine signs



Clear Brook Class of 2024 graduate Rhi'Anna Rhine (seated) will continue her education and track and field career at the University of St. Thomas in Houston after inking a letter of intent with the Celts. Those with Rhine at the signing included, left to right, Wolverines' head track coach Erica Alexander and assistant coach Chelsea Pratt.

Conerly picks DCC



Lutheran South Academy Class of 2024 graduate Kai Conerly will continue his education and basketball career at Dallas Christian College in Farmer's Branch, Texas, after signing a letter of intent with the Crusaders. DCC is a member of the National Christian College Athletic Association.

Second Team Selections – Dobie

Angel Garcia, Jr. (1B)

Honorable Mention – Dobie

Michael Montano, Sr. (2B)

Julian Valencia, Jr. (C)

Antonio Hernandez, Sr. (P)

Liam Vasquez, Sr. (OF)

All-Academic Team – Dobie

Angel Valencia

Antonio Hernandez

Will Joiner III

Michael Montano

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