



South Belt-Ellington Leader

45 years of covering South Belt

The Voice of Community-Minded People since 1976

Thursday, June 10, 2021

Email: mynews@southbeltleader.com

www.southbeltleader.com

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K of C host BBQ sale

Knights of Columbus Council 9201 will host its BBQ Sandwich Sale at St. Luke the Evangelist, 11011 Hall Road, in the rear parking lot Saturday, June 19, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. or until food runs out. Meals are \$10 and include a chopped beef sandwich with trimmings (onions and pickles), chips and a soft drink or sausage on a stick for \$5. Proceeds benefit KC charities. For more information, call Richard Valdez at 713-542-1760.

St. Luke resale June 25

A mega resale shop hosted by St. Luke the Evangelist will be open Friday, June 25, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, June 26, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, June 27, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Length of sale will depend on availability of items. The sale will be held at St. Luke the Evangelist-Cenacle Learning Center (across from South Belt Elementary) at 1750 Riverstone Ranch, Pearland. All proceeds will support St. Luke the Evangelist.

PIP meeting June 15

The Houston Police Department's Positive Interaction Program will meet at 6 p.m. Tuesday, June 15, at the Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital Professional Building, 11914 Astoria, Room No. 200. Guest speaker will be Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia. For additional information, call HPD Officer Richard Buitron at 832-395-1776.

July 4 events canceled

Multiple July 4 events have been canceled due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The annual South Belt Fourth of July parade has been called off out of social-distancing concerns. This marked the third time in the parade's 34-year history that the event has not gone on as planned, as last year's event was also canceled out of coronavirus fears and the 2018 function was rained out. The yearly South Belt Fourth of July fireworks show at El Franco Lee Park has also been canceled due to the pandemic. Organizers of both events said they will return next year bigger and better than ever.

Active COVID cases down

As of Wednesday, June 9, there were 171 confirmed South Belt deaths due to COVID-19, up one from the previous week. Reporting of deaths related to COVID-19, however, may be delayed by local officials. Of the 5,661 confirmed cases in 77089 (total population: 53,866), 61 remain active. To date, 65 from the ZIP code have died from the disease, up two from the previous week. In 77075 (total population: 43,933), 49 of the 4,096 confirmed cases remain active. A total of 55 from the ZIP code have died, up one from the previous week. Of the 4,155 confirmed cases in 77034 (total population: 40,532), 48 remain active. To date, 51 residents from ZIP code 77034 have died from the disease, no increase from the previous week. According to Harris County Public Health officials, the vast majority of the fatalities suffered from pre-existing health issues. Countywide, there have been 402,387 total confirmed cases. Of those, 393,352 have recovered from the disease, while 4,345 cases remain active. A total of 4,667 deaths have been reported in Harris County. Statistics are updated daily and include numbers from within the Houston city limits and throughout Harris County. To view an interactive map, visit publichealth.harriscountytexas.gov/Resources/2019-Nov-19-Coronavirus.

Highway 3 closure set

At least one northbound lane and one southbound lane on SH 3/Old Galveston Road will be closed from FM 2351/Clear Lake City Boulevard to NASA Road 1 daily (excluding Sundays) from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. through Wednesday, June 30.

Beltway closures planned

At least one eastbound Beltway 8 frontage road lane will be closed at SH 288 nightly from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Sunday, June 13. At least one eastbound Beltway 8 frontage road lane will be closed from SH 288 to Kirby Drive nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Tuesday, June 15.

At least one northbound and one southbound Beltway 8 frontage road lane will be closed from Vista to SH 225 daily from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and nightly from 8:30 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Sunday, July 4. At least one southbound Beltway 8 frontage road lane will be closed at Spencer Highway daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Friday, June 11.

Gulf Freeway closures set

Two alternate northbound and southbound main lanes and frontage road lanes on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from NASA Bypass/NASA Road 1 to SH 96 daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and nightly from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Friday, Dec. 31. The northbound exit ramp from the Gulf Freeway to NASA Bypass/NASA Road 1 will be completely closed through Friday, Dec. 31. Motorists wishing to access these intersections may exit using the exit to FM 518 and proceed on the northbound frontage road to the intersections or exit using the Bay Area Boulevard exit ramp, then make a U-turn and travel south to the NASA Bypass or FM 528. At least one northbound main lane and one southbound main lane on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from FM 518 to FM 517 in League City daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Thursday, Sept. 30. At least one northbound lane and one southbound lane on the Gulf Freeway frontage road will be closed from FM 518 to FM 517 in League City daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Thursday, Sept. 30. Two alternate northbound and southbound main lanes and frontage road lanes on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from IH 610 South Loop to Broad Street nightly from 7 p.m. to 6 a.m. through Friday, Dec. 31. Both the northbound and southbound entrance and exit ramps between IH 610 South Loop and Broad Street will be closed nightly from 9 p.m. to 3 a.m. through Friday, Dec. 31.

SJC offers free tuition to all district '21 grads

Offer made available through grant from anonymous donor

San Jacinto College is offering up to three years of free tuition to high school graduates in its taxing district.

The move is made possible by a significant donation from an anonymous donor.

"On behalf of San Jacinto College, our board of trustees and the students who will benefit from this generous gift, I say 'Thank you,'" said Dr. Laurel Williamson, San Jacinto College deputy

chancellor and president. "This last year has been a challenge for so many students, and the ability to remove the financial burden for thousands of high school graduates will allow them to attend college and earn their workforce certificate or associate degree. We are incredibly grateful for this thoughtful and transformational gift." The funds will be used to create the 21 Forward scholarship All 2021 high school graduates

that live within the San Jacinto College taxing district at the time of their high school graduation are eligible.

The scholarship is good for up to three years at San Jacinto College (through Dec. 2024). Students must begin classes at San Jacinto College this fall, take a minimum of six credit hours each semester and must apply for financial aid annually.

The 21 Forward program is a last-dollar scholarship, meaning it kicks in only after all other grant and scholarship funding has been applied. Once all other funding sources have been applied, the remaining balance, if any, will be picked up by the anonymous donor.

The unnamed benefactor reportedly made the generous donation in response to recent gains made by the college district's minority students.

To stay enrolled in the 21 Forward program, a student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) as determined by financial aid at the end of each semester.

The San Jacinto College District includes six

independent school districts, including Channelview ISD, Deer Park ISD, Galena Park ISD, La Porte ISD, Pasadena ISD and Sheldon ISD. Homeschool, private school and GED graduates in the district are also eligible. Clear Creek ISD is not located in the college's taxing district.

A few South Belt homes, including some in the Ashley Pointe and Villa Verde subdivisions, are still located in the San Jacinto College tax district, despite being zoned to Clear Creek ISD and Pearland ISD schools. To verify whether or not they are in the college's taxing district, residents should check their Harris County tax records.

"We don't know who the anonymous donor is, but we do know it will go to good use in Pasadena ISD," said Dr. DeeAnn Powell, Pasadena ISD superintendent of schools. "I told the students there's no excuses. Each child has an opportunity, and finances won't stand in the way."

San Jac officials announced the scholarship program at each of Pasadena ISD's six gradu-

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Officials break ground at Ellington



Local officials on Monday, June 7, broke ground on the Ellington location of Collins Aerospace, a unit of Raytheon Technologies. Housed on an eight-acre piece of land, the 120,000 square-foot campus will support spaceflight and host Houston's first spaceflight incubator. Shown above at the groundbreaking are, left to right, Bob Mitchell, president, Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership; U.S. Rep. Randy Weber; Mario Diaz, executive director, Houston Airport System; Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner; Allen Flynt, vice president, Collins Aerospace; and state Sen. Larry Taylor.

Dávila wins Pasadena ISD recount

The votes from the Pasadena ISD Position 2 recount election have been tallied, with Crystal Dávila maintaining her victory over incumbent Mariselle Quijano, who had filed to challenge the results of the May 1 election.

While the new vote count was unavailable at press time, Pasadena ISD officials said the final tally was different than it was in May, requiring a new canvassing of the votes before Dávila may officially take her seat on the board of trustees. Pasadena ISD released the following state-

ment: "The recount in the May 1, 2021 Pasadena ISD election for Position No. 2 on the district's Board of Trustees did not change the overall outcome of the election. Ms. Crystal Dávila remains the elected candidate.

"According to Texas Election Code Section 213.033, Pasadena ISD is required to conduct a canvass for the office using the recount results since the recount resulted in a change to the vote

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New details emerge in Olson death

The body found last week in a Jasper motel room has been positively identified as missing 5-year-old Samuel Olson.

Olson's death was ruled a homicide, caused by blunt head trauma.

Theresa Balboa, the girlfriend of Olson's father, was charged with evidence tampering involving a human corpse. Balboa appeared in court Monday, June 7, where her bail was in-

creased to \$600,000. Her bail had initially been set at \$500,000, but prosecutors said she was a possible flight risk. Additional charges may be filed once Olson's autopsy is complete, prosecutors said. At the time of the alleged crime, Balboa was already out on \$15,000 bond for reportedly choking the boy's father this past November.

Olson's father reported the child missing

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Pct. 8 deputies make drug arrest

A recent traffic stop in the 12000 block of the Gulf Freeway conducted by deputies from Harris County Precinct 8 Constable Phil Sandlin's office led to multiple felony drug arrests.

During the traffic stop, the driver of the vehicle was identified as Arnold Victor Adams Jr., 48, and the passenger was identified as Nicole Lee Hamby, 37.

Both Adams and Hamby were found to be in possession of crack cocaine.

The Harris County District Attorney's Office was subsequently contacted and accepted felony charges of possession of a controlled substance on both subjects.

Adams' bond was set at \$1,500, while Hamby's bond was set at \$5,000.

The incident marks the latest in a string of recent drug arrests made by Precinct 8 and Precinct 2 deputies along the Gulf Freeway.



Arnold Adams Jr.



Nicole Hamby

Man stabbed by adult family member

Houston police are investigating a stabbing of a man that took place around 10 p.m. Monday, May 31, in the 4300 block of South Shaver Road near SH 3/Old Galveston Road.

The victim, Ramon Garcia, 31, was transported to an area hospital for treatment of non-life-threatening wounds.

According to Houston police, Garcia stated he was stabbed by an adult male family member during an argument in an apartment at the above

address. Paramedics were subsequently called and transported Garcia to the hospital. The family member in question allegedly fled the scene before officers arrived.

No charges had been filed at press time, pending further investigation.

Anyone with additional information in this case is urged to contact the Houston Police Department Major Assaults and Family Violence Division at 713-308-8800.

Pedestrian killed in Edgebrook crash

Houston police are investigating a fatal auto-pedestrian crash that took place around 9:20 p.m. Wednesday, June 2, in the 100 block of Edgebrook near SH 3/Old Galveston Road.

The identity of the male victim is pending verification by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences.

According to police, the driver of a silver Chevrolet Impala was traveling west at the above address when a pedestrian stepped into the street from the median and was struck by the vehicle.

The victim, who was not in the crosswalk, was pronounced dead at the scene.

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Fireworks regulations confuse many

The Fourth of July is around the corner, and many South Belt residents are understandably confused as to the current regulations involving the sale and possession of personal fireworks.

A new fireworks stand, located in the Food Town parking lot at Scarsdale and Beamer, has raised controversy this year, as it is presumed by local officials to be prohibited by area ordinances.

The Leader has been told by local officials that the stand was issued a permit from the City of Houston, despite the fact that the sale of the products is prohibited by an agreement between the city and the Clear Brook City MUD.

At press time, Wednesday, Clear Brook City MUD officials and other community leaders were taking steps to have the fireworks stand shut down.

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

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

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

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

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

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

In July 2008, City of Houston officials erroneously issued more than 30 citations on the stretch of Beamer between Astoria and Dixie Farm, as the northbound side of the street fell in the fireworks

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Local apartment unit catches fire

Houston firefighters responded to an apartment fire around 12:30 a.m. Monday, June 1, in the 11700 block of Fuqua near Gulf Palms Street, east of the Gulf Freeway.

Firefighters arrived on scene at the Eagles Landing apartment complex within six minutes and saw melted blinds through an apartment window. They kicked the locked door open and found heavy smoke. Firefighters then found the source of the blaze and quickly brought the fire under control.

A primary search was completed, and one victim was found and transported to the hospital. Crews checked the nearby units for extension and requested HFD Arson investigators to determine the cause and origin of the fire. At press time, the fire was still under investigation.

The fire caused approximately \$10,000 in damage. Firefighters were able to save around \$13,500 worth of property.

Firefighters from Stations 70, 71, 29, 36, 61, 93 and 24 responded to this incident.

More winter storm relief available

The Houston Harris County Winter Storm Relief Fund is investing an additional \$2.5 million in area nonprofits serving the most vulnerable families and individuals impacted by February's winter storm.

This latest round of grants provides funds for home repairs, complex unmet needs assistance

and emergency financial assistance. To date, \$17 million in donations has been pledged to the fund by generous companies, foundations and individuals and more than \$13.1 million has been distributed through a network of Houston area nonprofits for relief efforts. A final round of

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Deputies conduct narcotics bust



On Wednesday, May 26, deputies with Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia's Special Operations Division conducted a major narcotics operation at an undisclosed location, seizing large amounts of methamphetamine. The street value of the confiscated narcotics is approximately \$1.4 million. During the bust, deputies seized 50 kilograms of crystallized methamphetamine and approximately 10 gallons of liquid meth, which converts to around 28 kilograms of crystallized meth, for a total seizure of roughly 78 kilograms - or approximately 172 pounds. While begun in Precinct 2, the investigation led deputies to multiple surrounding areas. Several individuals are expected to be charged. The investigation is ongoing. The department's new canine Hero played an integral role in this operation. This latest bust follows a string of recent arrests by the Precinct 2 Constable's Special Operations Division that has removed hundreds of pounds of methamphetamine off the streets in recent weeks.

PISD holds 2020-2021 graduation ceremonies

Pasadena ISD recently held its graduation ceremonies for the Class of 2021. The seven ceremonies took place at the district's Veterans Memorial Stadium on May 25- May 28.

The ceremony was a joyful occasion and was topped off when San Jacinto College announced that they will provide three free years of college to each graduating student.

However, for the nearly 4,000 Pasadena ISD graduates who received their diplomas, crossing the finish line was no easy feat.

This particular group of students faced monumental challenges during their high school years. As freshmen in 2017, they endured the devastating effects of Hurricane Harvey. Some of these students were displaced not only from their campuses, but from their homes. But these students, like the Pasadena community, persevered. In March 2019, during their sophomore year, the ITC fire sent smoke

into their air and disrupted school for several days.

During their junior year in March 2020, the entire country and much of the world locked down for the coronavirus pandemic. As a result, these students had to adapt to virtual instruction for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year and part of the 2020-2021 school year. And lastly, true to form, graduates from Pasadena Memorial High School, crossed the stage in the middle of a rainstorm.

But yet, these graduates persevered. Not only that, they thrived with Pasadena ISD having the largest graduating class of Early College High School students in all of Texas.

As these students head off to college and their careers, we hope there are easier days ahead. We know that despite whatever challenges they face, they will succeed.

By Kadey Heidrich

Students dress for Hawaiian Day



Burnett Elementary was decorated in a Hawaiian Day theme as students dressed up to celebrate where Emeraldalda Paredes, assistant principal, will be spending much time during her retirement. Shown above, left to right, are Elayne Reyes, Draya Johnson, Adam Akyuz, Keila Ochoa and Aubree Deal.

ASK offers free self-defense

The American Society of Karate has virtual self-defense classes for teens and adults (ages 13-80). Newcomers are welcome. No previous self-defense or martial arts experience is necessary. To preregister, visit www.ASKKarate.com go to online events -> Mind Body Site -> Daily Classes. Sign up under the livestream Friday 7:30 p.m. class. Email Online@ASKKarate.com or call 281-571-3697 for details on additional martial arts taught by experienced black belt instructors.

Local library events set

Bracewell Branch Library
In case of storms or adverse weather, refer to library website for details.
Bracewell Library is located at 9002 Kingspoint, but is still closed. For information, visit <https://houstontext.com>. For online learning, visit <https://houstontext.com/online-learning-7556> or call 832-393-2580.

Bracewell HPL To Go curbside service is in operation
Contactless curbside services, known as HPL To Go, are available by appointment Mondays, noon to 7 p.m.; Tuesdays and Thursdays, noon to 4 p.m.; Wednesdays and Fridays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Customers walking or riding a bike may also pick up reserved materials. For questions, call circulation at 832-393-2222. To use HPL To Go:
1. Place a hold through the online catalog or by phone.
2. Receive email or phone call of notification prior to scheduling a time for pickup.
3. Upon arrival, park and stay in the vehicle and call to notify staff of arrival.
4. Have MY Link card number and PIN ready.

Additional resources
The Houston Public Library has electronic resources, books, audiobooks, databases for research, tutoring, language learning, education and parent information for Texas residents with a library card. To get a card, visit the home page at www.houstonlibrary.org under Here's What's Happening. Click on Free Resources for All to access digital resources and access a link for a temporary card. Also under Here's What's Happening, the card titled Online Resources for Kids accesses a Virtual Story time provided on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 11 a.m. The archived storytimes are found on Facebook under Houston Public Library Virtual Storytimes. Another virtual program is Craft.
HPL is not accepting book donations at this time. For more information, visit www.houstonlibrary.org to chat with a librarian 24/7, or to send questions through HPL's email reference.

Parker Williams Library
Parker Williams Library has now officially reopened its doors, subject to limited capacity. See the website at <https://www.hcpl.net/reopening> for information. 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.

Parker Williams "No-Contact Curbside Holds Pick-Up"
- After receiving notification that holds are ready for pickup, call 832-927-7870.
- Have a library card number and PIN handy.
- A pickup time and instructions will be given.
- Upon arriving at the library, follow the instructions given.
- Be prepared to show a library card or other form of ID for verification.
Curbside hours are: Monday - Thursday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Friday, 1 - 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Visit <https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library> for details.

Online services
- Use HCPL Wi-Fi service with HCPL's drive-up Wi-Fi.
- Download e-books and audiobooks, stream movies, research and learn at www.hcpl.net.
- Attend an HCPL program or story time online through Facebook or YouTube.
- Check an account to renew loans or request books, e-books, comics or graphic novels.
- Stream classic films, Indie cinema and award-winning documentaries on Kanopy.
- Listen to audiobooks through RBDigital or OverDrive.
- Read along and play with picture books on TumbleBooks.

Don't have an HCPL library card? Instant access can be obtained to all HCPL's digital materials and research tools with an iKnow Digital Access Card. Apply at <https://www.hcpl.net/services/iknow-card> for a HCPL card. For details, visit <https://www.hcpl.net>.
Thursday, June 10, 10:30 a.m. Virtual Toddler Time. Take time to have some fun and interaction with the little ones. Join Mr. John (John Harbough) and Mr. Jason (Jason Cruz) for a virtual Toddler Time through Microsoft Teams. Parents are encouraged to participate to facilitate interaction. While this program is designed for 18 months to 4-year-olds, all children and families are welcome to join virtually. Sign up once with a valid email address online at <https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library> to get a weekly invitation.
#toddlertime #storytime #story #childrensbooks #reading #books #harriscountyp1 #HCPL

Thursday, June 10, 7 p.m. '90s TV Show Trivia. For those who remember TGIF, Saturday morning cartoons and Arthur and Zoom, test one's knowledge with Ms. Jasmine (Jasmine Washington) and test one's knowledge with some '90s TV show trivia. Sign up with a valid email address online at <https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library>.
Friday June 11, 1 p.m. Draw with Me. Join Ms. Ariel (Ariel Perez) who tries something a little more difficult, but still fun and easy to follow. Participants will need pens and markers for these videos which will be featured on Facebook and Instagram.
Friday, June 11, 5 p.m. Is It Wrong to Watch So Much Anime? Episode 20: Beach Episodes. Ahh the summer! Time to sit back, relax, and watch more anime and time to hit the beach or at least watch favorite characters hit the beach. Mr. Jason and Mr. John will discuss beach episodes and share their favorites. This video will be featured on Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary. #anime #animefan #manga #otaku #animelove #harriscountyp1 #HCPL

Friday, June 11, 7 p.m. Among Us Spaceships. Crewmates. Impostors! Join Parker Williams for an online game of Among Us! Fix one's ship and survive before the impostor can find and put an end to it. An internet connection is required. Email jason.cruz@hcpl.net for more information.
Saturday, June 12, 11:30 a.m. Spanish/English program on how to make one's own ice cream. To help fight the heat, instructions will be given to mix simple ingredients to create one's own ice cream. Using knowledge of thermodynamics, a liquid will be cooled until it becomes a delicious solid. See details in Spanish on the library website.
Monday, June 14, 1 p.m. Library Cookbook: BBQ 101. Want to learn the basics of barbecue? Start from scratch with Mr. John, learn to light a grill and begin a home cook just right. This program will be on Facebook Live and can be found at Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary.
#barbecue #barbeque #barbequesauce #cookout #cookbooks #harriscountyp1 #HCPL

Tuesday, June 15, 10:30 a.m. Virtual Story Time. Join Mr. John and Mrs. Celeste (Celeste Plew) for the program on Facebook Live at Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary. #storytime #story #childrensbooks #reading #books #harriscountyp1 #HCPL
Tuesday June 15, noon. Drawing with Ms. Ariel for virtual fun and easy cartoon drawings featuring various doodles, numbers and letters. This video will be featured on Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary and Instagram.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary.
Tuesday, June 15, 1 p.m. Enjoy the Outdoors: Hiking 101. One thing that Mr. John loves the most is getting outside. Having hiked all over the west coast, he will show how to plan, prepare and pick the perfect place for one's first or next hike. This program will be on Facebook Live at Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary.
#hiking #hikingadventures #hikingtrail #hikingtrails #hikinglife #harriscountyp1 #HCPL

Tuesday, June 15, 1:30 p.m. Texas Workforce Solutions: Job Search Skills. Learn to evaluate communication in applications, resumes, basic introductions and interviewing. This event will be over Microsoft Teams. Call 832-927-7870 to register or register online at the events page.
Wednesday, June 16, 3 p.m. Pets of PW - Zeus. Get to know the beloved pets of those that work at the local Parker Williams Branch. Since June is Adopt-A-Cat Month, start with the library staff that have cats and learn about Mr. John's cat Zeus. This video will be featured on Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary and Instagram.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary.
#cats #catsofinstagram #cat #cats #harriscountyp1 #HCPL
Wednesday, June 16, 3:30 p.m., ages 16 and older. Dungeons & Dragons Online. Join Tanner Adams over Discord online. No prior experience is required. Email tanner.adams@hcpl.net for details.
Wednesday, June 16, 3:30 p.m. Community Craft. Father's Day craft: Paper Parrot. A mother's love is gentle and visible while father's love is quiet but sharp. Swing by the Parker Williams Library between Wednesday, June 16, and Saturday, June 19, to pick up a take home paper parrot craft to show him love.

Leader checks out social media

By Natalie Abarca
A member of Southbelt/Sagemont Crime Alert Facebook group posted a photo of a truck that has been spotted in the area. The member stated that the lady that owned it was crying uncontrollably, perhaps this was their livelihood. This was also other people's RVs and trailers that had also been burglarized. The member thinks that it's a long shot, but the burglars (they believe it was more than one) dropped an 18K gold cross at their unit, perhaps tripped and fell when the burglars were in the member's unit. The member stated that although nothing major was taken from their unit, they felt badly for others who were not so fortunate. Other members also commented that other CubeSmart storage locations in the area have been burglarized.
Another member of the same Facebook group posted a picture of a man that was caught on camera outside the member's home on Monday, May 31, at 2:55 a.m. The member stated that the man was on foot and was carrying something. The police were notified and have the picture of the suspect. This post was also shared on other social media pages.
A member of The Official South Belt & Sagemont Area Crime Alert Facebook group posted that if anyone noticed a black Ford pickup, license plate number HZL 5078 illegally dumping tree limbs and fence posts in people's yards, they are encouraged to contact Precinct 2.

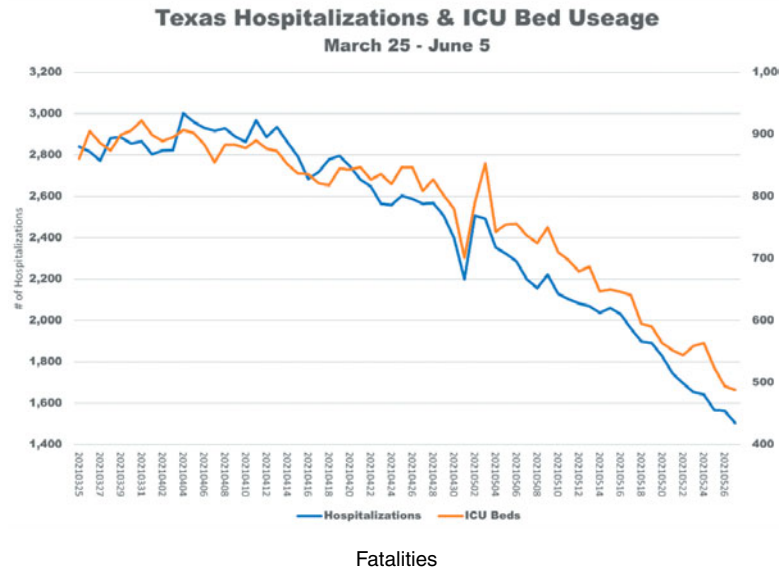
In My Opinion

By Bill King

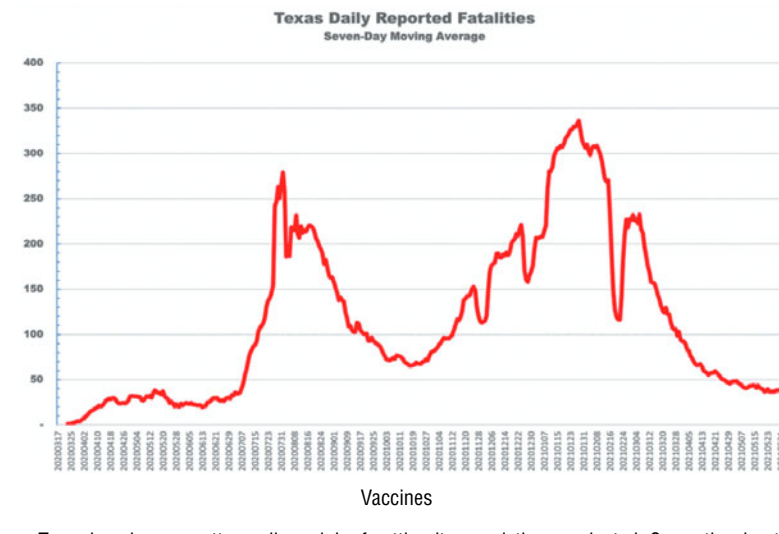
Texas COVID Stats Update Nearing the End

During the month of May, all COVID metrics in Texas continued to steadily fall with many reaching the lowest levels since the State began collecting data.

Hospitalizations
Over the month, total hospitalizations and ICUs fell by about half. Nineteen of Texas' twenty-two reporting regions saw decreases, with the largest coming in from Houston, Dallas and San Antonio. All of the border regions, which had been seeing an increase in cases, had significant reductions, with the exception of Laredo which had a very small increase.



Fatalities
The seven-day average for reported fatalities only declined by about 10% during May but has taken a sharper turn down in the first week of June, reaching 31 on June 5. The State actual date of death analysis is showing about 25 daily fatalities currently.



Vaccines
Texas has done a pretty mediocre job of getting its population vaccinated. Currently, about 43% of the over-18 population has been vaccinated, compared to the national average of 52%. However, where it really counts, Texas has done a better job with the over-65 population, with its fully vaccinated rate only trailing the national average by 74% to 71%.

Testing Results
Testing during May fell to approximately 46,000 per day. The seven-day average of "new cases" fell by a little over half (2,990 1,350) and fell even farther in the first week of June to just over 1,000. The State's positivity rate based on the date of specimen is now below 3%.

Conclusion
It has now been about three months since Governor Abbott eliminated the mask mandate and loosened restrictions to no apparent effect. Increasingly, the outcomes of various jurisdictions are devolving, regardless of the severity of their lockdowns or mask policies, to similar outcomes. As a result, more researchers are beginning to question the degree to which the various containment measures actually reduced community transmission. It is a debate that is destined to rage for years.

In any event, the epidemic phase of COVID is clearly rapidly winding down in Texas. The CDC excess death analysis shows that Texas had about 13% more deaths than normal in April. That was down from 17% in March. I suspect in June fatalities will be back to normal.

I will not report again on the Texas numbers until the end of June unless there is some significant change in the trajectory. I will continue to post data periodically on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn.

Dávila wins Pasadena ISD recount

Continued from Page 1
which the recount results are canvassed, the Pasadena ISD board president will issue the certificate of election for Position No. 2 and deliver it to Ms. Dávila.

"The district anticipates that Ms. Dávila will be sworn in and assume duties as a Pasadena ISD board member during the regular meeting on June 22, 2021."

Following the meeting at counts initially canvassed by the district on May 12, 2021. Pasadena ISD Board of Trustees will meet to conduct a canvass of the recount results. Notice of the meeting, at which the board will conduct the canvass of the recount results, will be posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act.



Crystal Davila

Pedestrian killed in Edgebrook crash

Continued from Page 1
The male driver, 73, remained at the scene, was questioned and released. He did not show signs of intoxication. No charges were immediately filed. The investigation is continuing. The accident

occurred just 15 minutes after another fatal auto-pedestrian crash took place in the 1500 block of Broadway, just around five miles away. In that incident, the driver said he was unable to see the pedestrian, who again was not

in a crosswalk. The driver stayed at the scene and showed no signs of intoxication. He was also questioned and released without charges. The investigation was ongoing at press time.

CCISD pre-K and kindergarten registration

Clear Creek ISD pre-kindergarten and kindergarten enrollment for the 2021-2022 school year is open and the district is hosting an in-person registration fair to support parents with the enrollment of their student.

CCISD offers free, full-day early learning programs for those who qualify, as well as a tuition-based pre-K program for residents who live within the district boundaries. For children turning 4-years-old on or before Sept. 1 and who reside in the district, CCISD offers tuition-based pre-K, on a space available basis, and free pre-K for families who qualify. To enroll in CCISD's full-day kindergarten program, student must reside within the district's boundaries and turn 5-years-old on or before Sept. 1.

be on hand to help parents and guardians register for the coming year. The registration fair will be held behind McWhirter Elementary in the exterior, community gym. Parking is located off of Austin St.

To finalize registration and qualifications for the free pre-K program, parents and guardians will need to bring the following required documentation to the registration fair:
- Birth certificate
- Immunization record
- Two proofs of residency in the CCISD (mortgage or lease and a gas, water or electric bill)
- Social security card (social security card is recommended but not required. A student who does not provide or have a social security card will be assigned a state identification number.)
- Parent/Guardian I.D. (driver's license, passport, military I.D.)
Additionally, if parents believe their child meets one of the seven qualifications for free pre-k listed below, the corresponding documentation

of qualification will also need to be provided at the time of registration.
- Limited english proficiency. Students qualifying as limited english proficient will be scheduled for a language testing date to confirm eligibility and placement in the pre-k program
- Economically disadvantaged. Students qualifying as economically disadvantaged must meet the federal income eligibility guidelines
- Homeless
- The child of a parent in the military or injured or killed while actively serving in the military
- Appropriate Department of Defense identification or documentation must be provided
- In or have been in the conservatorship of the state of Texas. Appropriate documentation for the Department of Family and Protective Services must be provided.
- The child of a person eligible for the Star of Texas Award, as a peace officer, firefighter or emergency medical first responder.

Visit www.ccisd.net/enroll for more information.

Pre-K and kindergarten registration fair
June 14-17 from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. at McWhirter Elementary, 300 Pennsylvania, Webster, TX 77598
CCISD bilingual (English and Spanish) enrollment and data specialists will

Atkinson honors teachers of the year



Atkinson Elementary staff members honored their teachers of the 2020-2021 school year. Shown, left to right, (front row) Teacher of the Year Stephanie Quintana, third-grade bilingual; New Teacher of the Year Mercedes Schriber, pre-kindergarten; and (back row) Paraprofessional of the Year Karen O'Connor. School officials thanked them for all the extra effort given to the students and faculty. Photo By Terry Salazar

Details emerge in missing child's death

Continued from Page 1
Thursday, May 27 - two days before his sixth birthday. Earlier that morning Balboa falsely reported the child's mother and someone in a police uniform had taken the boy. That story, however, unraveled when the mother provided police with home surveillance video showing she never left her house that day. Investigators said the child's body appeared to have been dead for several weeks. He was officially seen alive April 30 at his school in north-east Houston.

An arrest warrant affidavit stated that Balboa's male roommate told investigators he arrived home at his apartment May 10 to find Olson on the bed bruised and unresponsive. He and Balboa then reportedly put the child's body in the bathtub, where he'd stay

for two days. The roommate told investigators he then purchased some plastic wrap and duct tape from Walmart, before placing the boy's body in a plastic bin. He and Balboa then stashed the bin in a storage unit in Webster.
On June 1, another friend helped Balboa retrieve the bin, which was reportedly emitting a foul odor, and drove the woman to a Best Western motel in Jasper, roughly 130 miles away. After returning home, the friend called Crime Stoppers to report Balboa's location.
The South Belt community became an area of focus in the search after it was learned that the child had been seen at Balboa's apartment near Dixie Farm Road and the Gulf Freeway. Police and volunteers from Texas EquuSearch combed the surrounding area exhaustively searching for signs of the child to no avail.

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

LITURGY SCHEDULE
(Modified during COVID-19)

Saturday Vigil	5:30 p.m.
Sunday	8 a.m. and 10 a.m.*
Sunday	1 p.m. Misa en Español*

*Also Available on Facebook Live

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.

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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.

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Blackhawk @ Kirkfair

Fireworks regulations for South Belt area

Continued from Page 1
 Lutheran Church on Scarsdale in 2013, prompting extensive litigation from the Sagelein Civic Club. In the end, the bench sided with the church, and sales are expected to resume on the property this Independence Day. Transporting fireworks – even in municipalities where their sale is prohibited – is also now easier, thanks to a bill authored in 2013 by Lucio's son, Eddie Lucio III, who serves as a state representative in Brownsville. House Bill 1813 states it is now lawful in the state to transport the items, provided they are

kept in a nonpassenger area of the vehicle, such as a trunk or hatchback. Should one still get charged with possession of fireworks within the city limits, fines can range anywhere from \$500 to \$2,000 for each individual item. In 2007, the state raised the minimum age to purchase fireworks from 12 to 16. Parents of offending minors can also be fined, even if they are unaware their children are breaking the law. Local subdivisions located within the city of Houston include Sagement,

Sagement Park, Kirkwood, Genoa, Beverly Hills, Rainbow Valley, Eastridge Terrace, Sycamore Valley, Scarsdale and King's Place. Subdivisions not within Houston city limits and under Harris County's control include Clear Brook Meadows, College Place, Riverstone Ranch, Woodmeadow I and II, Highland Meadow, Ashley Pointe, Blackhawk, Meadows of Clear Creek, Sagemeadow, Estates of Green Tee, Sagelein, Kirkmont and Kirkwood South. The Bella Vita, Villa D'Este and Villa Verde subdivisions are located within the City of Pearland.

Robertson, Kirkwood, Genoa, Beverly Hills, Rainbow Valley, Eastridge Terrace, Sycamore Valley, Scarsdale and King's Place. Subdivisions not within Houston city limits and under Harris County's control include Clear Brook Meadows, College Place, Riverstone Ranch, Woodmeadow I and II, Highland Meadow, Ashley Pointe, Blackhawk, Meadows of Clear Creek, Sagemeadow, Estates of Green Tee, Sagelein, Kirkmont and Kirkwood South. The Bella Vita, Villa D'Este and Villa Verde subdivisions are located within the City of Pearland.

Additional winter storm relief available

Continued from Page 1
 grants will be distributed in June. "The ongoing investment of relief funds significantly impacts the lives of many individuals and families in our community," said Mayor Sylvester Turner. "As people continue recovering from the winter storm, they are not alone as they repair homes damaged by broken pipes and water. I thank the donors, nonprofit partners, Greater Houston Community Foundation and United Way of Greater Houston. By working together, they have implemented a smooth process to address the unmet needs of people who suffered greatly during the storm." This message was reinforced by Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo. "With hurricane season just days away, countless households are still saddled with plumbing problems, crumbled Sheetrock and ruined carpet because of a freeze that happened more than three months ago," Hidalgo said late last month. "I am grateful to our partners who stepped up to help our neighbors fortify their homes at a time when they are most in need."

located for a Construction Unmet Needs Fund to provide additional resources that can be accessed by nonprofit home repair partners to complete repairs on severely damaged homes that require more resources than what is currently available. In this round, local nonprofit Avenue receives a systems grant to administer the Construction Unmet Needs Fund. In addition, a systems grant is provided to Memorial Assistance Ministries to administer a Complex Unmet Needs Fund, which was also funded in a previous grant round. This fund serves low-income renters and homeowners who have been impacted by the winter storm and have unmet needs that go beyond the resources available from nonprofit partners who are supporting recovery. For eligible families, the fund will provide support for expenses such as homeowners insurance deductibles, furniture loss, basic household needs and relocation costs for renters who must move due to winter storm damage. For eligibility requirements and how to apply, visit www.mamhouston.org/freeze. Assistance is also available by calling 713-574-7533 (English) or 713-574-7536 (Spanish) or emailing Freezehelp@mamhouston.org. Due to anticipated high-call volume, applicants should expect a response period of up to 72 hours when leaving a voicemail.

An additional grant of \$100,000 will be used by ICNA Disaster Relief to provide flexible emergency financial assistance. To date, more than 5,000 individuals have received financial assistance and more than 300 homes have been repaired through grants from the storm fund, including the home of Angela and Craig Villegas, who experienced prolonged power loss that led to busted pipes and extensive damage to their home. "Our home flooded during Hurricane Harvey and we were only able to move back in a year ago, so to have to go through this again has been extremely difficult, both emotionally and financially," said Angela Villegas. "We're so grateful to The Restoration Team for making these repairs, thanks to a grant from the relief fund, so we can get back home with our family," Villegas said. Those who were impacted by the storm and reside in the City of Houston or Harris County are asked to take the following steps to be connected with available resources:

Home repair assistance
 - Complete the Connective Home Repair Application at www.connectivetx.org/winterstorm/home-repair.
 - For assistance completing the Connective Home Repair Application, call the Alliance at 346-396-6903 for guidance in English, Spanish and Vietnamese and, if needed, other languages.

Financial assistance
 - For help accessing financial assistance, call the Alliance at 346-396-6903 for guidance in English, Spanish and Vietnamese and, if needed, other languages.
 - The 211 Texas/United Way Helpline is also available to connect those in need with a nonprofit partner providing assistance in your area. Launched by Turner and Hidalgo, the Winter Storm Relief Fund's purpose is to support nonprofits providing relief and recovery efforts for individuals, families and communities impacted by the 2021 Severe Winter Storm Emergency in Harris County and the City of Houston. Along with disaster home repairs, the fund supports temporary housing and other basic needs relief and is dedicated to filling the gaps that may not be met by other local and federal efforts. Greater Houston Community Foundation and United Way of Greater Houston jointly oversee and administer the grant distribution process with the help of a grants committee. GHCF and UWGH continue to share information about all grants publicly on the fund's website, www.WinterStormReliefFund.org, and through other communications for complete transparency about the expenditure of funds. The Foundation and United Way are now accepting donations online at www.WinterStormReliefFund.org.

Roberts receives grant for kinesthetic learning



Roberts Middle School was granted a \$2,500 check from the PISD Education Fund that was fully funded for kinesthetic learning. Shown above are, left to right, Dr. DeeAnn Powell, superintendent; Graciela Hernandez, coach; Barry and Denise Burleigh, Burleigh Chiropractic; Judy Harrison, PISD education fund board president; Hector Del Rio and Steve Sipes, PISD education fund director.



Chris Cantu, equipment lieutenant

Dobie names 2021-2022 colorguard officers

Dobie Longhorn colorguard teammates introduced their new 2021-2022 officers and congratulated them on their new leadership. The team is all set for the next school year. The members of the 2021-2022 include (not pictured) Aleyda Avalos, Maricela Aguilar, Miranda Cano, Skylar Edokea, Mariah Elkins, Jayla Gonzalez, Ke'myra Green, Patience Hayes, Deseree Hernandez, Moises Hernandez, Josie Herrera, Cyan Huerta, Addison Idele, Cassidy Idele, Joelle Jagdeo, Jamiya Lacy, Serenity Lane, Dezire Lewis, Jennika Lim-Tom, Emma Lopez, Jacqueline Martinez, Joslyn Miniell, Janaycia Mitchell, Aniyah Neely, Kynadi Nines, Bridget Peralta, Anabeloe Perez, Isabella Perez, Natalie Quiroz, Delailah Ramos, Hilda Robles, Emily Rodriguez, Jaretsy Rodriguez, Jasell Salazar, Heidi Sanchez, McKenzie Smith and Deashia Williams.



Sage Tucker, dance lieutenant



Eleezabeth Torres, lieutenant

J. Frank Dobie 2021 Senior Spotlights

Senior Spotlights were chosen by the J. Frank Dobie High School graduating Class of 2021.

Photos were not available of the following:
 Most Likely to Succeed Boy Joseph Lukner
 Most Studious Boy Lewis Le
 Most Dependable Boy Jason Nguyen

HPD hosts youth program

The Houston Police Department Southeast Division Post 8300 is offering its Explorers program every Tuesday at 5 p.m. at the HPD Southeast Patrol Station, located at 8300 Mykawa, to area youth considering a career in law enforcement. The Explorers program provides educational training programs for young adults on the purposes, mission and objectives of law enforcement. The program provides career orientation experiences, leadership opportunities and community service activities. The primary goals of the program are to help young adults choose a career path within law enforcement and to challenge them to become responsible citizens. For additional information, call HPD officer L.E. Anderson at 346-397-1363 or email lloyd.anderson@houstonpolice.org.

Stuchbery names fourth nine-weeks honor roll

Stuchbery Elementary officials announced the fourth nine-weeks honor and merit rolls.

Third grade Honor roll
 Jesus Alfaro, Rachel Cummings and Nyssa Garcia Chavez.

Merit roll
 James Cruz, Austin Nguyen, Georgia Rodriguez and Noah Stone.

Fourth grade Honor roll
 Osama Abdallah, Andrews Anthony, Jade Arce-neaux, Jayden Boyd, Jayvon Fortson, Allison Hua, Luke Kearby, Alexander Maravilla Cabrera, Aliorah Martinez, Desiree Mejia Leon, Carissa Mendez, Mackenzi Pegues, Allee Ramirez, Zoey Rogers, Madison Silva, Ayden Sullivan, Jessica Tran, Jose Turriartes Gomez and Ashton Wilson.

Merit roll
 Salma Abdallah, Kingston Auzenne, Fernando Balanta, Jailla Bandy, Aiden Brantley, Gabriel Castillo, Sophia Galindo and Jayden Goodwin.

Tiffany Kamau, Tenley Meldrum, Victoria Obregon, Brody Sammarco, Jayden Tran, Hailey Vargas and Madi Lynn Wallace.

Salt Grass Potters holds pottery sale

The Salt Grass Potters Guild will hold its annual holiday sale of original handmade pottery Saturday, June 12, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, June 13, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The sale will be held at the Dickinson Railroad Museum, 218 FM 517 Road, W., Dickinson, TX 77539. There will be about 20 artists on hand to answer questions about their work with a variety of items from functional dishware to purely decorative clay pieces and also sculpture. Many items are suitable for decoration or as gifts. For more information or in case of a change in venue, contact Eleanor at 713-851-4012, Clark at 832-414-3993 or the website at www.saltgrasspotters.com.

Attractions
Hotel
Golf

SUMMER ROAD TRIP

PLAN YOUR ISLAND GETAWAY!
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Dobie captures state track title; Guy gets 1st place in 1600-meters

By Glenn Sattell
For the first time in its history, Dobie High School has a state track championship. Five representatives from Dobie totaled 29 points Saturday in Austin, all placing in the meet, to give the school its initial state track championship. Dobie had one first, one second, and three fourth-place finishers. And for 13-year Dobie coach John Bryan, it is believed that he is the first coach in the area to bring home two state champion-



Gawayn Guy glides to a 15-year-old on his way to the state 5-A 1600-meter championship with a 4:11.6 time. His victory over El Paso's Martin Saenz won the team championship for Dobie.

ships in one year. Dobie also won the state cross country title this year with two of the five state track finalists competing on that unit.
"It is a tremendous feat," exclaimed PISD Athletic Director Gerald Meyer. "To think of the massive number of students and schools in this state, it's really something special. It's a great honor for Dobie High School."

Dobie finished five points ahead of runner-up Texas City, which had 24. Galveston Ball and Killean Ellison tied with 21 points, while three schools, Fort Worth Dunbar, Dallas South Oak Cliff and Dallas Fort Worth Wyatt, all recorded 20 points apiece. Clear Lake joined Killean and Houston Sterling in ninth place with 16 points each.
Dobie's state track title is matched only by Pasadena of the PISD schools. The only other PISD school to win a state track championship was Pasadena High School back in 1957. At the time, Bryan was just a sophomore at the school and though he later ran for Pasadena High School, he wasn't a member when the school won the first PISD state championship.

Bryan said he was somewhat surprised at winning the state meet because Dobie was without a relay team in the meet, but said he felt things "broke just right" for the team.
"I'm very thankful that things broke right for us. It's a pleasant surprise," he said.

Two runners, Gawayn Guy and Greg Johnson, both having signed letters of intent with Rice University, helped bring home Dobie's first-ever state championship when they ran first and fifth respectively in the state cross country meet earlier this year. The pair again played significant roles in capturing the state track and field title.
Guy, who last year won the 800-meter run in the state meet, took the 1600-meter race this time around with a time of 4:11.6, a clocking he'd been shooting for since the district meet. Guy finished two full seconds ahead of Martin Saenz of El Paso in the 1600-meters for Dobie's only first-place finish.

Johnson ran fourth in the 3200-meters, an event Guy had qualified to run in but decided to concentrate on just the 1600-meters. Johnson's time of 9:25.6 was five seconds better than fifth-place finisher Glenn Wells of Arlington and 10 seconds off the winning pace of San Antonio Jay's Roland Reina.
Along with Guy, state two-timer Paul Miller made good use of a second chance with a second-place finish in the pole vault. Miller, after a disappointing state appearance last year (he was sixth), came back to clear 15' even and showed luck with him by winning a coin flip for second place with El Paso Eastwood's Toby Bell after Bell had also cleared 15'.
Sprinter Lawrence Mitchell came up a half-second behind the winning time of Fort Worth Wyatt's Darryl Austin in the 200-meter dash. Mitchell crossed the line in 21.3 seconds to record a fourth-place finish in the

event, while Sammy Shimfessell also came in fourth with a time of 1:52.3 in the 800-meters.
Bryan said he hopes the state title will attract younger boys to become involved in the track programs in the area and feels by winning the state championship, the program at Dobie will prosper.
"It's got to have a positive effect," he said. "I hope it will create more interest in track here and encourage more boys to get involved in track at the intermediate level," said Bryan.



Paul Miller goes over the pole vault bar at 15'6", then grazed it on his way down. He tied for second place at 15' with El Paso Eastwood's Toby Bell. Del Rio's Mark Bruce cleared 15'6" to win the state 5-A competition.

In the *Leader* last week, the related post was the 1980 Dobie track team making it to regionals and advancing. This post is the team advancing from regionals and winning the state track championship for their first time in history. To see many different events that have happened in the history of the South Belt area, one can visit the blogs of Dobie graduate Tory Mask at [South Belt Houston Digital History Archive](#).

San Jacinto College to offer free tuition

Continued from Page 1
ceremonies. Powell said the announcements were met with roaring applause.
"They were elated," Powell said of the students and their parents, adding that teachers were also kept in the dark about the new measure. "They were just as surprised."

The 21 Forward program is similar to San Jacinto College's Promise program, which also offered free tuition to area students. The Promise program, however, was offered to only Pasadena ISD students. The Promise program also required students to attend school full time, whereas the 21 Forward program allows students to attend either full time or part time.
Pasadena ISD has a lengthy relationship working with San Jacinto College on mutual projects, including Early College High School, Dual Credit programs and work-

J. Frank Dobie HS scholarship recipients, awards

J. Frank Dobie High School Class of 2021 students are recipients of the following scholarships and awards:
Maliha Akhter Academic Excellence Scholarship (UH)
Breleana Anderson Merit Scholarship (Dillard University)
Bridge Scholarship (Miles College)
President's Promise Scholarship (ASU)
Maryam Badr Practice for the SAT Scholarship
Alexus Ballare Academic Excellence Scholarship (TLU)
Academic Excellence Scholarship (Austin College)
Legacy Scholarship (HBU)
Julia Bui Darren Lajaunie Tennis Scholarship
Hannah Collazos Dobie Hall of Honor Scholarship
Jefferson Cevallos Board of Trustees Scholarship (Doane)
Football Scholarship (Doane)
Myrihael Diggs Honor Scholarship (UMHB)
Crusader Scholarship (UMHB)

Christian Service Scholarship (DBU)
Dean's Award (DBU)
Xavier Academic Scholarship (Xavier U)
Miliana Flores Achieve Scholarship (TAMUCC)
Alyssa Gomez University of Houston Academic Excellence Scholarship (UH)
Roy Gomez Dobie Hall of Honor Scholarship
Joseph Hinojosa Trent Paul Sims Memorial Scholarship
Jennifer Ho Darren Lajaunie Tennis Scholarship
Casey Junkin Dobie Hall of Honor Scholarship
Phi Beta Kappa Alumni Association of Greater Houston Scholarship
Briana Keim Legacy Scholarship (HBU)
Ryle Lawson Academic Scholarship (Baylor)
Victoria Lazo Dexter High School All-American Team Bowl4Life Scholarship
Tony Le Academic Excellence Scholarship (UH)
Abel Limachi Practice for the SAT Scholarship
Rice QuestBridge Scholarship (Rice)
Lailah Martinez Excellence Scholarship (TWU)
Cadie Masterson Distinguished Achievement Scholarship (CCU)
Honor's Scholarship (UMHB)
Nathan C Fritsch Memorial Scholarship
President's Award (McMurry U)
President's Scholarship (U of Tulsa)
Chancellor's Award (ACU)
Christian Service Scholarship (DBU)
President's Award (DBU)
President's Scholarship (Albion College)
Forks of the River Scholarship (Albion College)
Distinguished Scholarship (Arcadia U)
Fellows Scholarship (High Point U)
Barry E Harris Memorial Scholarship
Huy Nguyen Leigh Ledford Memorial

Scholarship
Henry Nguyen Dobie Hall of Honor Scholarship
Lanna Ortega Legacy Scholarship (HBU)
Leyna Pham UT Award (UT)
Jaden Rendon UT Award (UT)
University Leadership Network Scholar (Trinity U)
Houston Methodist Clear Lake Athletic Trainer Scholarship
Francesca Reyes University of Houston Academic Excellence Scholarship (UH)
Jocelyn Salazar Trustee's Scholarship (Regent)
Quest Whole Leader Scholarship (ORU)
Mason Recognition Award (GMU)
Julio Silva University Award (ACU)
Amari Singleton Legacy Scholarship (HBU)
Kevin Trinh Presidential Scholarship (TLU)
Alexander Villarraga Diana Siefert Scholarship (UMHB)
Honor Scholarship (UMHB)
James & Lena Hagan Scholarship (UMHB)
Thuc Vo Dobie Hall of Honor Regent's Merit Award (Pacific)
Tiger Excellence Award (Pacific)
Vassar College Scholarship (Vassar)
Budington Scholarship (CC)
Murchison Scholarship (Trinity U)
Academic Excellence Scholarship (UH)
Swarthmore College Scholarship (Swarthmore)
Catharine Lealant Scholarship (Macalester)
UT Award (UT)
Deanjanae Williams Honor Scholarship (UMHB)
Saniya Wilson Presidential Scholarship (Wingate)
Residential Scholarship (Wingate)
Bulldog Pride Scholarship (Wingate)
Merit - Trustee Award (McMurry)
Dean's Award for Academic Excellence (ACU)
ACU Endowed Scholarship (ACU)
Mason Recognition Award (George Mason)

South Houston High School scholarship recipients, awards

South Houston High School Class of 2021 students are recipients of the following scholarships and awards:
Itzaira Aguilar Texas State University Achievement Scholarship
University of Houston Academic Excellence Scholarship
LSU Flagship Scholars Non-resident
LSU President's Student Aid Job Award
Texas A&M Grant
University of Santa Cruz - California Dean Academic Scholarship
University of Houston Cecile Foerster Scholarship Endowment
Evelynn Aguilon Texas A&M University Academic Scholarship
Alicia Almaguer University of Houston Academic Excellence Scholarship
Angelina Alvarez-Carrera Texas Tech University Presidential Scholarship
Angelito Alvarado Texas A&M University - San Antonio Achiever Promise Scholarship
Marquayn Anthony Hastings College Athletic Scholarship
Erin Bougere HBU Institutional Grants

Esmeralda Bravo University of Texas - Arlington Maverick Academic Scholarship
Anai Cardoza College Board Opportunity Scholarship
William Castillo Jr. The University of Texas at Austin Academic Award
University of St. Thomas Academic Award
Cristina Cordova Wence Northeast Texas Community College NJCAA Athletic Scholarship
Arly Cruz Flores Houston Baptist University University Grant I Metropolitan State University of Denver Academic Award
Bianca Espinal California College of Arts Houston Baptist University
Tiffany Espinoza Valladares University of Mary Hardin-Baylor Honor Scholarship
Adilene Esquivel Merino Stephen F. Austin State University Academic Excellence Scholarship
Jasmine Flores Hasting University Academic Scholarship
University of Texas - Dallas Academic Scholarship

Christopher Franco Cruz Houston Baptist University Academic Award
University of St. Thomas Academic Award
DePauw University Academic Award
Fateenmaa Freeman Lawrence University Academic Award
University of Texas - Austin Academic Award
Alexa Garcia Houston Baptist University Legacy Scholarship
University of New Mexico Academic Scholarship
Daniela Garcia Harvey Mudd College Texas A&M University Regent's Scholarship
Texas A&M University Century Scholar Award & Grants
University of Texas - Austin DELL Scholars & UT for Me Scholars
Sam Houston State University Academic Scholarship
Liliana Garcia The University of Texas at Austin Academic Scholarship
University of Texas - Austin Texas Excellence Award
Phi Beta Kappa Scholarship
Lisamaria Garcia University of Houston Academic Scholarship
Eric Garza University of Texas - Austin

Dell Scholars and UT for Me Scholarships
University of North Texas Dean's Executive Scholarship III
Fryda Gonzalez Texas Housing Scholarship
Jeanette Gonzalez Houston Baptist University Academic Award
Northland College Academic Award
Georgetown College Academic Award
Valeria Gonzalez Drake University Presidential Scholarship
Felician University Academic Scholarship
University of Texas at Austin Academic Award
Danyele Guzman Howard College Athletic Trainers Scholarship
Rebekah Hernandez Utica College Academic Award
Andres Hurtado University of Houston Academic Excellence Scholarship
Wingate University Presidential Scholarship Award
Teffani Lopez Quest Whole Leader Scholarship
Houston Baptist University Grant II Academic Award
Oral Roberts University Quest Whole Leader Schol-

arship
Saint Leo University Academic Scholarship
Maria Luna Rosas HAABE Scholarship
Luis Luna Texas Lutheran University Presidential Scholarship
Abilene Christian University Scholarship
Samantha Maldonado Houston Baptist University Merit Scholarship
University of Texas - El Paso Taliyah Mann Dean's Scholarship
Howard Payne University Medaille College Trustee Scholarship
Giovanni Martinez Houston Baptist University Academic Scholarship
Lucia Martinez Houston Baptist University Academic Award
University of St. Thomas Academic Award
Texas A&M University Scholarship
Norma Martinez University of Illinois at Springfield Academic Award
University of St. Thomas Academic Award
Texas A&M University Pioneer Award
Houston Baptist University Grant I Academic Award
Yuliana Martinez Florida Memorial University Academic Award

Houston Baptist University Academic Award
University of St. Thomas Academic Award
Rutmarie Mateo University of Houston Academic Award
Texas State University Academic Scholarship
University of Mary Hardin - Baylor Academic Scholarship
Rebecca Moreno Houston Baptist University Legacy Scholarship
Juliana Navarro Olivet Nazarene University Merit Scholarship and Grants
University of Mary Hardin - Baylor Honor Scholarship & Grants
Illinois State University Redbird Scholar
University of Memphis Academic Scholarship
University of Arizona Grant Academic Award
Alesia Nmezi Houston Baptist University Academic Award
Stony Brook University Academic Award
Eastern Mennonite University Academic Award
South Houston MOXIE Scholarship Recipient
University of Texas - Austin Dell Scholars and UT for Me

Scholarships
University of Houston Academic Excellence Scholarship and Grants
University of Texas - Dallas Academic Excellence Scholarship
Texas A&M University Academic Scholarship
Isaac Nunez Jr. Hastings College Athletic Scholarship
Miguel Nunez Jr. Oral Roberts University Quest Whole Leader Scholarship
Amarachi Obi Eastern Mennonite University Academic Award
Georgetown College Academic Award
University of Texas - Austin University Leadership Network Scholarship
Arturo Olvera Houston Baptist University Academic Award
Eastern Kentucky University Academic Award
Bloomfield College Academic Award
Georgetown College Academic Award
Rebecca Ortiz Texas A&M University Academic Scholarship
Keqwon Palm Jr. Hastings College Athletic Scholarship
Di'kierra Phillips Tulane University Academic Award
New York Institute of Technology Academic Award
Texas Christian University Academic Award
Houston Baptist University Academic Award
Andrea Pierre Texas Tech University Matador Scholarship and Grant
Jennifer Priego Pasadena South Rotary Norman S. Clauson Scholarship
Marangelly Rangel University of Houston Academic Excellence Scholarship and Grant
Stephanie Reyes Texas State Distinguished Scholarship
Ascension Rizzuto Pasadena South Rotary Reiko Denison Scholarship
Stephen F. Austin State University Lumberjack Grant
Sierra Robertson Houston Baptist University Academic Award
University of St. Thomas Academic Award
Daughter's of the Revolution Good Citizenship Scholarship
Kimberly Rojas Pena University of Texas - Austin Academic Award and Grant
Texas A&M University Century Scholar Award
Texas A&M University Merit Scholarship
Stephen F. Austin State University Regents' Scholarship
Stephen F. Austin State University Academic Excellence Scholarship
Texas Tech University Academic Scholarship
Houston Baptist University Academic Scholarship
Southwestern University Academic Scholarship
Texas State University Academic Scholarship
University of Mary Hardin - Baylor Academic Scholarship
Kai Salazar Pasadena ISD Coca Cola Scholarship Award
Samantha Samaniego Houston Baptist University Academic Award
Lane College Academic Award
Cameron University

Remember When

45 years ago (1976)
The Sagemont Jaycees held a raffle and raised \$400 for community service projects. They raffled a CB radio, which was won by Duane Voytotski.

20 years ago (2001)
A return of Tropical Storm Allison flooded the area leaving 20 inches of rain in the week.
The City of Houston began a \$25 million program for debris removal.
15 years ago (2006)
Sagemont Church celebrated its 40th anniversary by hosting more than 5,000 people in the Reliant Center. The Rev. John D. Morgan, pastor since Sagemont's inception, was presented with a financial contribution to his retirement fund during the event.

Dobie Future Farmers of America participated in a benefit for Joshua Cranfill, infant son of Allan and Kara Cranfill, who was diagnosed with Rhabdomyosarcoma.
The theme of the annual South Belt July Fourth Parade was *Proud To Be an American*.
Jean Liew, daughter of Yook-Ying and Wai-Ping Liew, was awarded the distinction of being the first

Dobie High School student named Latin Student of the Year in Texas at the 2006 State Latin Convention.
10 years ago (2011)
The City of Houston Municipal Courts 2011 Amnesty Program was extended until 11:59 p.m. June 11. Court officials encouraged anyone with delinquent court matters to take advantage of the extra time to resolve them and avoid arrest. "We are offering additional time for citizens to participate in this cost-sav-

ing program so that they can have the peace of mind to go about their day-to-day affairs without the fear of being arrested. We are available for anyone who has questions; just call us at 311 if we can be of assistance," said presiding Judge Barbara E. Hartle, director of the program.
5 years ago (2016)
Sagemont Church celebrated its 50th anniversary with multiple services June 5, culminating with a special outdoor celebration that eve-

ning. Over the past five decades, the church has grown from a mere 16 members to a congregation of more than 20,000 - one of the largest in the country, with ministries all around the globe. The church, then known as Sagemont Baptist Church, was founded in 1966 by the Rev. John D. Morgan. The original church, located on 5.46 acres of land, cost a meager \$160,000 to construct. Around the year 2000, the church added a \$12.5 mil-

lion children's building and parking lot expansion and a church retreat in Danbury. A recent expansion at Sagemont included the installation of a 170-foot, 90-ton cross on the church's property along Beltway 8 near the Gulf Freeway. The expansion also included the construction of a new \$30 million worship center and adult education facility. Sagemont's buildings and property are valued at more than \$50 million.
Sagemont's budget and offering receipts total roughly \$20 million annually. Mission gifts have increased to more than \$2 million per year, and total gifts received over the church's history total around \$250 million. Sagemont Church has baptized more than 16,800 people, and more than 300 people have been licensed or ordained through the church.

Over The Back Fence by Alexis

GILES MARK 29TH ANNIVERSARY
Tracy and Jim Giles of Kirkwood South celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary June 10. Congratulations and best wishes are sent from their children Kristen and Cody Giles and Aaron and wife Ashley and sons Jaxson and Jace Giles; parents Bobby and Ken Griffin; other family members and friends; and the *Leader* staff.
HAPPY BIRTHDAY, LESLIE!
Leslie Flickinger celebrates a birthday Friday, June 11. Wishes for a wonderful day are sent by her husband Fred; daughter Kimberly and husband Matt Lipina; daughter Courtney and husband Chris Durham and children Abigail, Jackson and Penelope; mother-in-law Marie (*South Belt Leader* publisher) and husband David Flickinger; and brother-in-law David (*Leader* president) and his wife Ellie Flickinger.
SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY AWARDS DEGREES
Congratulations are in order for the South Belt students earning degrees during the 2021 spring semester at Sam Houston State University. The students being honored are **Summer Basham**, Bachelor of Arts, philosophy; **Victoria Campbell**, Bachelor of Science, health sciences, cum laude; **Chelsea Hickman**, Bachelor of Science, education; **Jorge Martinez**, Bachelor of Science, construction management; **Erinn O'Brien**,

Bachelor of Science, animal science; and **Cheyenne Rolif**, Bachelor of Fine Arts, animation.
BILL CELEBRATES A BIRTHDAY
Local businessman Bill Winning celebrates his birthday Tuesday, June 15. Best wishes are sent from his wife Carol, from family and friends and the staff at the *South Belt Leader*.
HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MARCUS!
Happy birthday wishes go to **Marcus Anderson** from friends at the *Leader* who enjoys a birthday June 15. He is a Precinct 2 officer who has served the South Belt area.
SCHOOL DAZE
The following staff of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays June 10 through June 16.
Genoa Elementary
June 10 is the day for a celebration for **Silvia Gonzalez**. Enjoying a memorable birthday June 11 is **Felicia Oliva**. Send a birthday greeting June 12 to **Cheryl Helaire**.
Meador Elementary
Remember to wish **Genoveva Arrona** a happy birthday June 13.
Moore Elementary
Light the candles on a birthday cake for **Laura Rodriguez** June 11. The day for a party for **Shelly Blair** is June 16.
South Belt Elementary
Break out the balloons and party favors June 12 for **Cuc Nguyen**.

Stuchbery Elementary
Blow out the birthday candles June 13 for **Lisette Gallegos**. Best wishes for a wonderful birthday June 14 are sent to **Heather Trog**.
Melillo Middle School
Remember to send a birthday greeting June 16 to **Lauren Sanchez**.
Thompson Intermediate
David Martin is wished a happy birthday June 11. Sing a happy birthday song to **Rachel Heffernan** June 13. **MaryBeth Nicol** celebrates a birthday June 16.
FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS
Email personal events to mynews@southbeltleader.com with OTBF in the subject line by Friday noon for the next week's issue. For birthdays, email with "OTBF: Friends Celebrate Birthdays" in the subject line.
Thursday, June 10: **Russell Simon, Mariela Ramirez, Shawn Barras** and **Francine Bretado**; Friday, June 11: **Greg Medina** and **Debbie Mills**; Saturday, June 12: **Charlie Groover, Marilyn Millet** and **Edily Watson**; Sunday, June 13: **Daniel Huston, Rhonda Jones, Heidi Beckham** and **Keshia Rodriguez**; Monday, June 14: **Thomas King, Thomas Golightly, Sandra Torres, Dale Brister, Karl Jasso** and **Sandy Gutheinz**; Tuesday, June 15: **Margarita Duron, Oscar Guevara, Jen Joyce, Corrie Gallaway, Jason Evans** and **Derek Gray**; and Wednesday, June 16: **Michael Amos, Sandra Waldrop, Arturo Ayala, Melissa Farr** and **Caitlin Caughlin**.

Continued on Page 8

Parker Williams Genealogy resumes meetings June 18

The Parker Williams Genealogy Group meeting is set for Friday, June 18, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. inside the Parker Williams Library located at Scarsdale Boulevard and Beamer Road.

This is the first meeting of the group since the library closed last year due to the pandemic.

Anyone interested in researching their family history is invited to attend. This is a temporary day and time. For more information, email Liz Hicks at eroottrot@usa.net.

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SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

JFD graduate Griffin has Dawson GBB role

Sharee (Shepherd) Griffin, a key contributor to the 2002-2003 Dobbie varsity girls' basketball run to state, will now head the same program at Dawson High. Griffin, a longtime staff member with the Eagles, has held a variety of assistant coaching roles within the program, most recently as the boys' junior varsity basketball coach. Griffin starred collegiately at Southern Methodist University, where she had a program-record 101 steals.

Summer league at SLL

The Southbelt Little League is currently accepting individual and team registration for the 2021 summer league season, with first pitch set to be delivered June 21.

Each team will play a guaranteed 10-game schedule, with 12 games possible, and all teams will then compete in the postseason.

The majority of games will be played during the week, with an every-other-weekend slate also in play to allow for league players to additionally take part in select team weekend

action and the like.

Individual player registration is \$85 plus a \$50 raffle fee, while team (11 or 12 players) fees are \$1,150 per team.

Individual players who register will receive a cap and team T-shirt, while teams must provide their own.

The divisions include T-ball (age 6-under), Coach Pitch (8-under), Minor (10-under) and Major (12-under).

Visit southbeltll.org to register through June 11 online.

SJC baseball fourth at nationals

McLennan freshman pitcher Logan Henderson turned in one of the greatest tournament performances in National Junior College Athletic Association World Series history, striking out 17 over eight brilliant innings to guide the Highlanders to the 2021 Division I World Series crown with a 7-3 win over Central Arizona.

Henderson went on to pocket Most Valuable Player honors after winning two games in the tournament, and the Highlanders won their first national title since 1983 with the win.

And while McLennan flew out of Grand Junction, Colo., as the NJCAA's new Division I title holder, San Jacinto returned home without what would have been a first title under head coach Tom Arrington.

Make no mistake, Arrington and his staff have continued to develop and grow a San Jacinto College program that first wins at

high rate and then sends a good number of its players to the NCAA Division I ranks or to major league baseball through the amateur player draft.

Arrington is a member of the NJCAA Hall of Fame and has won more than 900 career games.

The Gators won another 51 this season against just 15 losses, but the championship has eluded the Gators once again in 2021.

Seeded fourth in the tournament, the Gators opened action in Grand Junction with an 11-3 win over Miami-Dade, scoring seven runs in the eighth inning to break open a tight game.

A night later, Mason Auer's two-run single in the bottom of the ninth inning allowed the Gators to walk-off Shelton State 11-10, and the Gators' Cole McMillian then went three scoreless innings for the save in a 7-4 win over Central Arizona.

At that point, the Gators were 3-0 in the tournament

and into the semifinals. But McLennan slowed the locals' progress, winning 13-10.

In the elimination game for a spot in the title round, Central Arizona broke San Jac's collective heart with an 11-10 walk-off win.

Auer, Chase Adkinson and Sabin Ceballos all earned All-Tournament Team honors, and Ceballos was awarded with the Jay Tolman Most Outstanding Defensive Player honor.

San Jacinto College wound up fourth this season, with McLennan first, followed by Central Arizona runner-up and Crowder third.

As for 2022, things like the MLB draft and previous and future Division I signings will have to shake out.

The team's top trio of arms are all freshmen, headed by Thomas Burbank at 12-0 with a 1.88 earned run average.

Matt Tieding was 9-2, with Hunter Hollan at 8-3

with a 3.08 ERA and a no-hitter in his pocket.

SJC 11 Miami-Dade 3

A seven-run eighth turned a tight game into a laughier as the Gators wound up 11-3 winners over Miami Dade in the final game of the opening round May 28.

San Jacinto's Alan Shibley blasted a two-run homer deep to center field in the fourth to double the Gators' lead to 4-1 and also doubled while scoring twice and driving in three runs.

Warren Laster tripled twice and knocked in three runs, and Sabin Ceballos and Chase Adkinson both had two hits as part of an 11-hit attack.

Hunter Hollan started on the mound for the Gators and got the win after 4 2/3 innings of work, allowing one earned run.

The Gators had seven extra-base hits in the game. In the end, San Jacinto College went 3-2 in the World Series.

Pleasants an NFCA All America pick

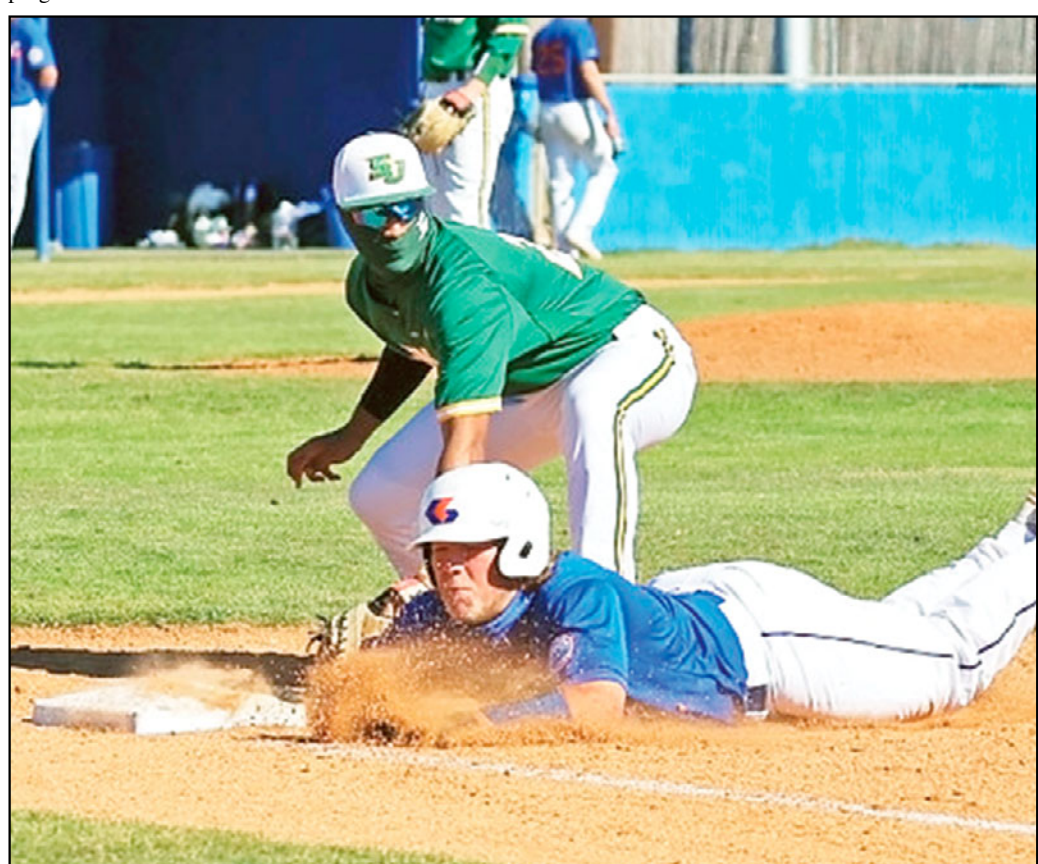


Dobbie Class of 2019 graduate and current Louisiana State University softball star Taylor Pleasants has been named a National Fastpitch Coaches Association second team All-America selection following the 2021 season in which she helped the Tigers reach the Super Regional postseason round. Pleasants was one of three LSU players to start every game in 2021. The Tigers' starting shortstop was third on the team in batting average, second in runs, third in hits and the team leader in runs batted in with 59 and home runs with 13. She joins Bianka Bell (2015, first team) and Tar Asbill (2000, third team) as the only players in LSU history to be named an All-America at shortstop. Photo courtesy LSU Athletics

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San Jacinto College freshman infielder Sabin Ceballos (at left, with mask) was awarded with the Jay Tolman Most Outstanding Defensive Player honor at the 2021

National Junior College Athletic Association's JUCO World Series and also made the event's All-Tournament Team after helping the Gators to a fourth-place finish.

Wolverine football sets 2021 schedule

Combining the global pandemic with the arrival of a first-year head coach, the Clear Brook football program had to feel like it was playing from behind during what wound up being a 4-6 overall season.

But things are looking

much more normal these days for the Wolverines, who have set their 10-game schedule for 2021, complete with seven games at the friendly confines of Webster's Challenger Stadium.

The Wolverines will open the season Aug. 26 at home against the Texas City Stingarees.

In league play, the locals will vie with the likes of Clear Falls, Clear Creek, Clear Lake and Brazoswood for a spot in the Division II playoff field.

District 24-6A play begins Sept. 24 leaguewide.

Clear Brook Wolverines 2021 Varsity Football Schedule

- Aug. 26 Texas City (CH) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 3 Friendswood (CH) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 10 at La Porte 7 p.m.
- Sept. 17 at Fulshear 7 p.m.
- Sept. 24 *at Clear Lake (CH) 7 p.m.
- Oct. 1 *Clear Falls (CH) 7 p.m.
- Oct. 8 *Clear Creek (CH) 7 p.m.
- Oct. 15 *at Brazoswood 7 p.m.
- Oct. 22 *Dickinson (CH) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 5 *Clear Springs (CH) 7 p.m.

(CH) Games at Challenger Stadium
*District 24-6A games

Dobbie grad Mercado a hit at World Series

Many local fans had their eyes on San Jacinto College during the JUCO World Series in Grand Junction, but there were at least a few Dobbie alum keeping tabs on former Longhorn standout Jeffrey Mercado.

The Dobbie Class of 2019 graduate helped Crowder College of Neosho, Mo., earn the tournament's top seed with a 52-6 record entering play.

Crowder lost its national tournament opener 10-3 to Indian Hills but then bounced back to get a 9-8 win over Florence-Darlington Tech.

Crowder then downed Walters State 14-6 and bested Indian Hills a second time, 12-8. Mercado's team wound

up third overall, one spot ahead of San Jacinto, following a 15-5 loss in six frames to eventual national champion McLennan.

Mercado, a freshman, opened with a 6 for 12 start at the event with two home runs, four runs scored and six runs batted in.

For the season over 44 games played, Mercado hit .450 with 51 runs batted in, 51 runs scored, 67 hits, 10 doubles and five homers to go with 17 stolen bases.

At press time, Mercado, a shortstop/second base guy, had not signed with a Division I NCAA program.

His Grand Junction performance could change that, or Mercado can return to Crowder in 2022.

SBYSC has online sign-up

The South Belt Youth Soccer Club has begun online registration for the fall 2021 season, with registrants able to take advantage of a \$20 discount through June 30.

Families may visit the league website at www.southbeltsoccer.org to take advantage of this opportunity.

Only credit or debit cards will be accepted as forms of payment. All registered players will receive a uniform, which includes jersey, shorts and socks.

Parents will be required to provide shin guards, a ball and cleats.

The discounted fees are \$100 per under-4 through under-8 players, \$120

per under-9 and under-10 players, \$140 per under-11 and under-12 players and \$160 per under-13 through under-19 players.

Those signing up online from July 1 to July 31 will see a \$20 fee increase, which jumps to a \$40 increase for those registering Aug. 1 through Oct. 31.

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Longhorns' top baseballers land All-District 22-6A varsity baseball selections

Cox is top DH; Miguel Torres key utility

Photos by Gloria Wallace



The Longhorns' Miguel Torres was the 22-6A Utility Player of the Year as he hit .300 in league play, scored four runs and drove in three more runs.



Senior Colton Cox provided a big bat in Dobie's lineup as he scored 22-6A Designated Hitter of the Year honors after registering 13 hits and seven runs batted in over the team's 12 games.



Dobie senior Matthew Castillo stepped up and gave the Longhorns' a much-needed lift on the mound this season as he performed well enough to earn District 22-6A second-team honors along the way in his final season.



The Longhorns' Luis Nieves (2) got off to a strong start in 2021 and carried that all the way through Dobie's 8-4 run in District 22-6A action as he was a second team all-league pick. The sophomore will be one of the team's key returnees in 2022.

Most Valuable Player

Eric Rodriguez, Memorial

Newcomer of the Year

Andrew Rincon, Memorial

Coach of the Year

Terry Garza, Memorial

Utility Player of the Year

Miguel Torres, Dobie

Designated Hitter of the Year

Colton Cox, Dobie

All-District First Team

P - Matthew Potts, Deer Park

P - Jackson Cleveland, Deer Park

P - Adam Cantu, Pasadena

P - Noah Torres, Dobie

C - Jesus Nunez, Pasadena

1B - Blake Juarez, Memorial

2B - Andres Mendez, Memorial

SS - Edwin Moreno, Channelview

3B - Blake Michalsky, Deer Park

OF - Tyler Thompson, Deer Park

OF - Sebastian Martinez, Channelview

OF - Rey Izaguirre, Memorial

OF - Ryan Saxton, Dobie

OF - Kaden Fernandez, Memorial

22-6A Second Team – Dobie

OF - Luis Nieves

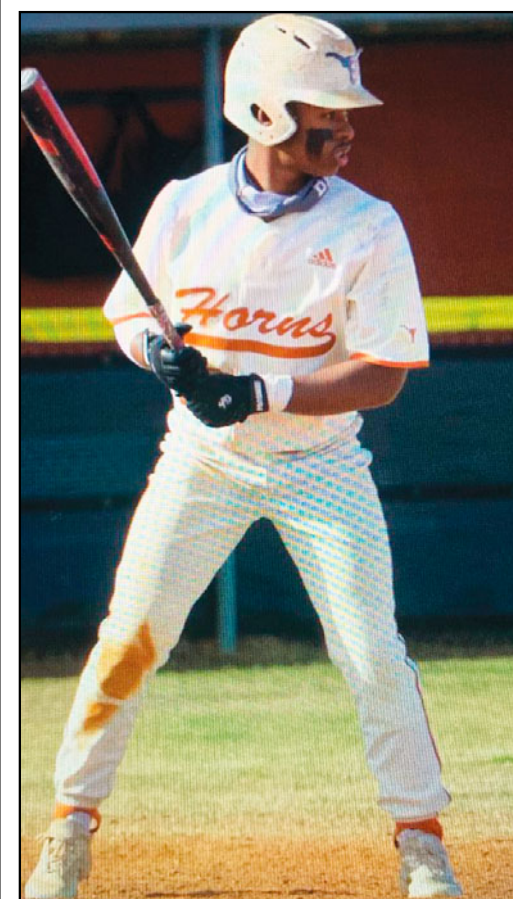
P - Matthew Castillo

22-6A Honorable Mention – Dobie

OF - Jake Perez



Dobie senior Noah Torres went 4-2 on the mound, fanning 11 in two games and 10 in another to earn half of the Longhorns' eight wins en route to 22-6A first-team honors.



Junior Ryan Saxton was a District 22-6A first-team outfielder as he had 12 hits and scored eight runs for the Longhorns.

Myers, Ole Miss baseball advance

The Ole Miss baseball squad, including Dobie graduate Tyler Myers (right), knocked out Southern Mississippi 12-9 in the Oxford Regional June 7 and now moves on to further postseason action against Arizona in the Tucson Super Regional best-of-three series. At 44-20, the Rebels are now one series win from reaching the College World Series in Omaha later this month. As for Myers, he fired five solid innings of two-run relief with a career-high six strikeouts in an eventual Ole Miss loss to Southern Miss June 6. Arizona is the nation's fifth-ranked team, with Ole Miss 12th.



Ole Miss Athletics photo

San Jacinto's Uresti is Midwest first team

San Jacinto College sophomore Alexis Uresti, who this season helped guide the Coyotes to a program-best third place finish at the National Junior College Athletic Association's Division I Championships in Yuma, Ariz., continues to collect postseason honors. Uresti, who is now San Jacinto College's all-time single season leader in batting average (.510) and stolen bases (38) based on her 2021 season, was named a Midwest Region first-team performer. The sophomore, who added 57 runs scored, 53 runs batted in, 12 doubles and seven home runs, is expected to garner NJCAA All-America consideration later this month.



Lions' staff continues summer workouts

The Thompson Intermediate boys' coaching staff is still offering a full summer of strength and conditioning and football skills training running sessions at \$25 cash a week per student.

The 2021-2022 school year are encouraged to take part in the Monday through Thursday weekly strength and conditioning sessions at \$25 cash a week per student.

The 9 to 11 a.m. daily sessions will include weight room work and

strength and conditioning drills as well as agility training.

The football skills training will follow daily from 11 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$15 cash per week per student unless enrolled in the strength and conditioning sessions.

The dates for the weekly training sessions include June 14-17, June 21-24, June 28-July 1, July 12-15 and July 19-22, six weeks in all.

The Lions' annual summer youth football camp is set for July 27-29 at Dobie High School as the

Longhorns' coaching staff will assist in the event. Cost of the 9 to 11 a.m. camp is \$25 cash per student.

The staff has marked football equipment pickup dates as Aug. 6 and Aug. 13, and the Lions' first practice is Aug. 17.

Youth sports camps

Brook boys' hoops camp

Clear Brook varsity boys' basketball head coach Nathan Janak, fresh off leading his program to the 2020-2021 District 24-6A championship, is set to host the Wolverines' youth basketball camp June 14-17 at the school. Session I is \$125 per student, runs from 9 a.m. to noon each day and is open to those entering the fourth through sixth grades as of the 2021-2022 school year.

Session II is open to boys and girls entering kindergarten through the third grade as of the 2021-2022 school year and is \$80 per student. Session III is open to those entering the seventh through ninth grades and runs from 1 to 4 p.m. each day at a cost of \$125 per student. To register online, visit <https://tinyurl.com/BrookBBallCamp>.

Dobie youth volleyball camps

Dobie varsity volleyball head coach Dawn Sexton will host the Lady Longhorns' youth volleyball camps July 20-22 at the school. Session I, open to students entering the third through sixth grades as of the 2021-2022 school year, runs from 9 to 11 a.m. each day, while Session II is open to those entering the seventh and eighth grades. The July 26-28 morning session camp runs from 9 a.m. to noon each day and is reserved for those entering the 10th through 12th grades, while incoming freshman students will attend the afternoon session from 1 to 4 p.m.

Those who preregister online may pay \$50 cash online on the first day of the camp. For additional details, direct email to Sexton at dsexton@pasadenaisd.org.

Newsome adds to VB honors

Southeastern Louisiana outside hitter Kailin Newsome has been named the Louisiana Volleyball Freshman of the Year, the Louisiana Sports Writers Association announced Tuesday.

Newsome, a Clear Brook Class of 2020 graduate, also earned first team All-Louisiana honors from the LSWA after closing out the regular season with double-doubles in each of her last 10 matches. She recorded 11 double-doubles overall.

The District 24-6A Most Valuable Player in 2019-2020 and the Lady Wolverines' all-time kills leader, was an explosive component of the potent Southeastern Louisiana offense, finishing the regular season as the Southland Conference leader in overall kills (280) and ranking second in both kills per set (4.18) and total points (280.5).

She helped lead the Lady Lions (11-5, 9-3 in Southland Conference play) to their first winning season in nearly two decades and the program's highest seed in the history of the Southland Conference Tournament.

Newsome was previously named Southland Conference Freshman of the Year and was a first team all-conference selection.

She earned an honorable mention for the All-Region squads released by the American Volleyball Coaches Association.



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CALENDAR

It is advisable to verify if face-to-face meeting prior to attending. For Alcoholics Anonymous, visit <https://aahouston.org/meetings>; for Narcotics Anonymous (NA) meetings, visit www.hascona.com; for Al-Anon meetings, visit www.houstonalanon.org.

THURSDAY, JUNE 10
7:30 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill," Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., and Saturday at 7:30 a.m. First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit <https://aahouston.org/meetings/>.
7:30 a.m.
Rotary Club of Pearland - Meets Thursdays at 7:30 a.m. either at Pearland Chamber of Commerce, 6117 Broadway St., Pearland, or online on Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81372891968>. Meeting ID: 813 7289 1968. Additional information is found on the Pearland Chamber of Commerce website under the calendar tab.
Noon
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or online at <https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners>. Call 713-686-6300 for more information.
7 p.m.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Women's Group, open meeting, 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit <https://nastuff.com/>.
FRIDAY, JUNE 11
7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
Noon
Hometown Heroes - Ballroom dances are open Fridays, noon - 1:30 p.m., Mondays and Wednesdays, 2 - 3:30 p.m. and on the 3630 sq. ft. room equipped with floating hardwood floor. These are not dance lessons but casual dances. For information, call the park office at 281-554-1180.
7 p.m.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com.
CONGREGATION SHAAR HASHALOM - All services are online. Join the 7 p.m. Friday or the 9:30 a.m. Saturday service at <https://www.shaarhashalom.org/shabbat-online.htm> and log in for or email ritual@shaarhashalom.org for the link.
8 p.m.
Serenity Now Al-Anon Group - meets at CrossRoads UMC Fridays, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Family members and friends of problem drinkers/addicts share, learn Al-Anon principles and discover choices available. For details, call 281-484-9243.
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS - meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call 281-484-9243.
SATURDAY, JUNE 12
7:30 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
9:30 a.m.
Congregation Shaar Hashalom - See Friday's notice.
11 a.m.
Al-Anon Meeting (Women Only, English) - For women affected by an addict. Saturdays, 11 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, Cornell Conference room #111. Call 281-487-8787, drop in or visit <http://www.houstonalanon.org/meetings.html> for more information.
SUNDAY, JUNE 13
8 p.m.
AA - meeting at CrossRoads UMC. See Friday's notice.
MONDAY, JUNE 14
10 a.m.
Al-Anon Deer Park - Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P Street, Deer Park. Enter through back of church. Call 409-454-5720 for information or visit <http://www.houstonalanon.org/meetings.html>.
Noon
AA - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday's notice.
6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Toastmasters - The Young Professionals Southeast Toastmasters Club #05324194

meets on a virtual site at <https://youngprofessionals.toastmasters.com/>. To be a guest, select the "contact us" button on the toastmasters' home page to obtain access. For additional information, contact Karen Nunn at 832-725-9061 or Carolyn Carmichael at 832-372-3565.
7 p.m.
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - St. Luke's 12-Step Recovery, open meeting, education Bldg., room 4.11011 Hall Rd. Call Jesse at 832-725-8479 or Rita at 281-309-2801.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group. See Friday's notice.
TUESDAY, JUNE 15
7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
Noon
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday's noon notice.
7 p.m.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group. See Friday's notice.
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16
7 a.m.
AA - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
Noon
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday's noon notice.
7 p.m.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group. See Friday's notice.
Bay Area Turning Point Crisis Intervention - Call 281-286-2525 (24-hour crisis hotline) for confidential domestic violence/sexual abuse support group for women. Visit www.bayareaturningpoint.org for information.
8 p.m.
Alcoholics Anonymous - CrossRoads UMC meeting. See Friday's notice.
THURSDAY, JUNE 17
7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
7:30 a.m.
Rotary Club of Pearland - See Thursday's notice.
Noon
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday's noon notice.
7 p.m.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Women's Group. See Thursday's notice.

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PRESSURE WASHING! Free Estimates. Call Scott and Sons at 979-235-0645. House, driveways, sidewalks, boats, R.V.'s, etc. Time for cleaning. Free Estimates! 6-17

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Pasadena Memorial High School 2021 scholarship recipients, awards

Pasadena Memorial High School Class of 2021 students are the recipients of the following scholarships and awards:

Yenais Aguilar
Vanessa Flores Memorial Scholarship

Nicole Alvarez
Houston Baptist University President's Scholarship

Fatima Arif
University of Texas Dell Scholarship
University of Houston President's Scholarship
University of Houston Academic Excellence Scholarship

Alondra Avila
A&M Scholarship

Maria Baldazo
Houston Baptist University Scholarship

Donovan Berotte
Pasadena ISD Hall of Fame Scholarship
Penn State Provost Award
EMS Dean's Freshman Scholarship
University of Houston Academic Excellence Scholarship
Houston Baptist University Founders Scholarship
Missouri University of Science and Technology Spirit of Success Scholarship

Missouri University of Science and Technology Diversity Scholarship
Missouri University of Science and Technology Groundbreaker Scholarship
University of Alabama Leadership Scholarship
University of Alabama Presidential School Scholarship
University of Texas UT Award
University of Texas Excellence Scholarship
H&M Engineering Scholarship
Texas A&M FEA Scholarship
Texas A&M National Recognition School Scholarship
University of Oklahoma Welcome Home Residential Scholarship
University of Oklahoma MPGE Freshman Scholarship
University of Oklahoma Mewbourne College Freshman Scholars
Louisiana State University Ronald E. and Cecelia M. Rindard Scholarship
Louisiana State University Flagship Scholars Scholarship
University of Kansas KU Excellence Scholarship
Colorado School of Mines Merit Award
Texas Tech Presidential Merit Scholarship
National Award Scholarship
Laura Bustamante
University of Alaska NANOOK Scholarship
Jasmin Castillo
University of Houston Down-

town Merit Scholarship
Kevin De Hoyos
Stanley Family Engineering Scholarship
Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Houston Area Scholarship
Meagan Dryden
Oral Roberts University Quest Whole Leader Scholarship
Roy Galang
University of Oklahoma Welcome Home Residential Scholarship
Mia Garza
Houston Baptist University President's Scholarship
Houston Baptist University Church Matching Scholarship
EW Portis Foundation Scholarship
Caleb Gonzalez
Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference Soccer Scholarship
Mariah Gonzalez
Eckerd College Merit Award
Paige Harbuck
Maverick Cheer Alliance Senior Scholarship
Charles Hayes
Gustavus Adolphus University Athletic Scholarship
Sienna Hope
Michigan State University Scholarship
Hawaii Pacific University Non-Resident Scholarship

Purdue University at Fort Wayne Freshman Scholarship
Texas State University Scholarship
Loyola University Freshman Scholarship
Thiel College Academic Scholarship
Humaira Hoque
Lamar University Cardiac Elite Scholarship
University of Houston Academic Excellence Scholarship
Jose Jimenez
University of Concordia-Wisconsin Athletic Scholarship
Mariani Marchante
Legacy Scholarship
Gabriela Martinez
Texas A&M College of Engineering DT Scholarship
Texas A&M National Recognition Scholarship
Texas A&M TAMU Support Award
Janelle Miramontes
University of Texas Dell Scholarship
Nancy Molina
Strawberry Festival Scholarship
University of Texas Dell Scholarship
Janelle Nevarez
University of Houston Academic Excellence Scholarship
Magdalena Nguyen
University of Houston Academic Excellence Scholarship
Krystal Olivis
Houston Baptist University Founders Scholarship

Natalie Ortiz
Maverick Cheer Alliance Senior Scholarship
Noah Peter
George and Mary Josephine Hamman Foundation Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Houston Area Scholarship
Vi Pham
University of Houston Tier One Scholarship - Full Ride
Houston Baptist University Founders Scholarship
A&M Commerce Presidential Scholarship
LeTourneau University Deans Scholarship
Trinity University Murchison Scholarship
Baylor Academic Scholarship Interact 4-Way Test Essay Contest
TASSP All-State Academic Excellence Scholarship
Kristine Raju
New Hawk Scholarship
Emma Rebstock
Texas Tech Presidential Merit Scholarship
Texas Tech College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources Scholarship
Olga Rios
Stanley Family Biomedical Engineering Scholarship
Mojtaba Sadeghi
University of Texas at Austin Full Ride Terry Scholarship
Amazon Future Engineer Scholarship
Stanley Family Biomedical Engineering Scholarship
Northwestern University Scholarship

Strawberry Festival Scholarship
University of Texas At Austin Excellence Scholarship
University of Texas at Austin College of Natural Sciences Scholarship
Johns Hopkins University Scholarship
Shell FCU's John Garrison Scholarship
Nathan Sandoval
Stanley Family Engineering Scholarship
University of Texas Engineering Scholarship
University of Houston Academic Excellence Scholarship
Stephanie Santos
Regents' Scholarship
University of Houston Academic Excellence Scholarship
CLEN UG DT Scholarships

National Recognition Scholarship
TAMU Tuition Support Award
University of Houston Academic Excellence Award
Kolbey Taylor
University of Wyoming Athletic Scholarship
Anthony Troung
University of Houston Academic Excellence Scholarship
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Stuchbery honors Get Fit Jog runners

Stuchbery Elementary third- and fourth- grade students can run once a week for Get Fit Jog throughout the year. Each student who was awarded ran more than 50 miles. The school honored these students for being their top runners.

Hiding smiles behind their masks are runners Emma Lopez (left) and Aiden Padilla, third-graders.

Grateful to be honored as runners are Salma Abdallah (left) and Ashton Wilson, fourth-graders.

SoHo HS scholarship recipients, awards named

Continued from Page 4

Academic Award
Weber State University Academic Award
Hanna Tran
Sewanee The University of the South Scholarship
University of Texas - San Antonio Distinguished Presidential Scholarship
Paola Urban
The University of Texas -Austin Academic Award
Houston Baptist University Academic Scholarship
University of Illinois at Springfield Academic Award
University of St. Thomas Academic Scholarship
Wingate University Academic Scholarship
Moore College of Art & Design Presidential Scholarship
Alexander Vela
University of Houston Academic Excellence Scholarship
University of Houston James H. and Minnie M. Edmonds Scholarship
Valeria Vera
Neumann University Academic Award
Tulane University Academic Award
Truman State University Academic Award
Austin College Academic Scholarship
Texas Christian University Academic Scholarship
The University of Texas -Austin Academic Award
New York Institute of Technology Scholarship
Houston Baptist University Academic Scholarship

Hudson Vo
Texas A&M University Regent's Scholarship
Texas Tech University Presidential Merit Scholarship
Landon Wenke
University of Houston Academic Excellence Scholarship
University of St. Thomas Basilian Distinguished Scholarship
University of St. Thom-

as Presidential Excellence Scholarship
Fatima Zavala
Texas State University Distinguished Scholarship
Lamar University Academic Award
Stephen F. Austin State University Lumberjack Academic Award
Houston Baptist University Legacy Scholarship

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