

Deputies respond to crime

A homeless man was arrested on a felony burglary of a business charge the morning of Wednesday, July 11, after allegedly breaking into the Pho Hai Van restaurant on Scarsdale and taking a donation cup containing around \$50. Precinct 2 deputies were able to identify Jason Williams – who reportedly lives in a tent in the community – from surveillance footage.

A pair of twin brothers were charged with felony theft of a firearm after allegedly breaking into a vehicle in the Kirkwood South subdivision Saturday, June 30. Brendon Jenkins and Bailey Jenkins were also identified using surveillance footage. Precinct 2 deputies are working with the both the Houston and Pearland police departments, as they suspect the brothers were involved in multiple other burglaries. A third suspect was also captured on video. Additional charges are expected. More information to follow.

Photo contest underway

The Leader is seeking 2018 vacation photos for possible publication. A first- and second-place prize of Schlitterbahn tickets will be awarded for July and August to the best submissions. Monthly first-place winner will be awarded eight tickets, while each month's second-place winner will be awarded six.

All submissions should include where and when the photo was taken, as well as identify each person in the picture and tell the story about the trip. All photos must be high resolution. Email photos to mynews@southbeltleader.com.

Dobie FB hosts car wash

The Dobie High School football program will host a fundraising car wash Saturday, July 14, at the Snowie's Snow Cones at Beamer and Scarsdale. Players will wash vehicles for a minimum \$5 donation from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Beltway closures planned

At least two eastbound and two westbound inside frontage road lanes on Beltway 8 at Genoa Red Bluff will be closed daily from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Friday, Aug. 3.

The eastbound entrance ramp to Beltway 8 between Beamer and Sabo is closed until further notice.

At least two eastbound and two westbound inside frontage road lanes on Beltway 8 at Crenshaw will be closed daily from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Friday, Aug. 3.

The intersection of Highway 3 and Beltway 8 will be closed nightly Friday, July 13, through Monday, July 16, from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m.

Sageglen to meet July 16

The Sageglen Community Association will hold its annual election meeting Monday, July 16, at the Sageglen Community Building, located at 11610 Sageyork, beginning at 7 p.m. Refreshments will be served. For more information, call 281-481-2160.

Gulf Freeway closures set

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

The northbound frontage road of the I-45 Freeway from FM 518 to NASA Bypass/NASA Road 1 will be continuously closed through 5 a.m. Friday, Aug. 31.

Traffic traveling north on the frontage road will take I-45 north main lanes from the FM 518 entrance to the NASA Road 1 exit.

HCMGA to host lecture

On Thursday, July 19, Harris County Master Gardeners will present *Raised Beds, Low Volume Drip Irrigation and Rain Barrels* – part of the *Green Thumb Lecture Series* – from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Freeman Branch Library, 16616 Diana Lane. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, visit <https://hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/pubGreenThumb.aspx> or call 713-274-0950.

Ellington e-recycling set

The City of Houston Solid Waste Management Department's monthly electronic recycling event will take place Saturday, July 14, at the Neighborhood Recycling Center at Ellington Airport from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Items accepted are PCs, servers, keyboards, mice, laptops, game consoles, monitors, small kitchen appliances, memory chips, hubs and routers, printers, copiers, scanners, fax machines, projectors, rechargeable batteries, cable boxes, car batteries, telephones, cell phones, PDAs, tape drives, hard drives, cords, cables and cameras.

For additional information, visit www.houstonsolidwaste.org or call 3-1-1.

PIP set for July 17

The Houston Police Department's Positive Interaction Program will meet Tuesday, July 17, at 7 p.m. at Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital, 11800 Astoria, in the staff meeting room on the first floor. PIP consists of police and citizens working together for safer neighborhoods. For more information, call HPD Officer Richard Buitron at 832-395-1777.

County to hold meeting on bond proposals

The Harris County Flood Control District will hold a public meeting Tuesday, July 17, at El Franco Lee Community Center, 9500 Hall Road, to discuss proposed projects associated with the county's upcoming bond election, set to take place Saturday, Aug. 25 – the one year anniversary of Hurricane Harvey's landfall in Houston.

If passed, the measure would provide \$2.5 billion in funding for flood mitigation endeavors throughout the county. The issuance of bonds would be spread over 15 years, and the expected tax increase for most homeowners would be limited to 1.4 percent or less.

The July 17 meeting is one of 23 scheduled prior to the election, with one being held in each of the county's watersheds. The local hearing will address efforts connected to the Clear Creek Watershed.

The purpose of the meeting is to describe proposed projects that could be candidates for funding in the bond program and to solicit the public's input on other flooding issues that should be addressed. Some of the proposed projects have been in the works for several years but have been delayed due to a lack of funding.

Each of the 23 public hearings has been declared a special meeting of the Harris County Commissioners Court so that members of Commissioners Court may attend and participate.

The county also has an interactive website detailing the status of more than 150 of the proposed projects throughout the county. Many of the endeavors would also receive federal funding, provided the county pays an allotted portion. To view a list of the current proposals, visit www.hcfd.org/bondprogram.

The following is a list of projects proposed for the Clear Creek Watershed:

- Subdivision Drainage Improvement; \$12 million (\$9 million partner share and \$3 million local match). Design and construction of these projects could reduce the risk of flooding for

more than 900 homes during a 1 percent rain or flood event.

- Storm Repair; \$553,000 (\$442,000 partner share and \$111,000 local match). This funding would address approximately 36 repair projects of erosion and infrastructure identified after Hurricane Harvey.
- Partnership; \$200 million (\$130 million partner share and \$70 million local match). Funds would go toward the design and construction of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Clear Creek Federal Flood Risk Management Project (see related story on this page). The 1 percent floodplain could be removed from up to 2,100 structures.
- Partnership; \$16 million (\$12 million partner share and \$4 million local match). Funds would go toward construction of South Belt Stormwater Detention Basin and channel conveyance improvements along Beamer Road Ditch (A120-00-00). Work would complement the federal Clear Creek project that could reduce the risk of flooding for more than 2,100 structures.
- Hughes Road Stormwater Detention Basin; \$6.1 million. Funds would go toward the design

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Loyal parade fans don't give up easily



Several dedicated residents braved heavy rains to show up at Beverly Hills Intermediate for the annual South Belt Fourth of July parade, not knowing the event had been canceled. This marked the first time in the parade's 31-year history that the event did not take place as scheduled. Some areas reported as much as 8 inches of rain. Photo by Davy Flickinger

Governor to attend dinner

Community leaders and elected officials are gearing up for the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce's 34th annual banquet, set to take place Thursday, July 19, at the Lone Star Flight Museum at Ellington Airport.

This year's event will honor local heroes from Hurricane Harvey. A wall featuring the names more than 10,000 honorees will be unveiled at the function. A similar wall was on a traveling display this past week, visiting the chamber, the Leader office, the Clear Brook City Municipal Utility District building and the Sagemont

Church Annex. The wall was initially to be displayed at the annual South Belt Fourth of July parade, but the event was canceled due to inclement weather.

Of the thousands of honorees, event organizers will formally recognize a small group of individuals who they feel are representative of the entire South Belt community's efforts during the devastating storm.

To be honored are the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department; Pasadena ISD Superintendent

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Police seek hit-and-run suspect

The Houston Police Department is searching for a suspect wanted for his involvement in a hit-and-run accident that took place around 4:15 p.m. Saturday, July 7, in the 9800 block of Fuqua between Blackhawk and Kingspoint.

According to police, the suspect was traveling east on the street in a tan Ford Expedition when he lost control of his vehicle and drove over the esplanade and into the westbound lanes of traffic. Police said the suspect driver crossed the path of a white Kia Sportage that struck the right passenger side of the Expedition, causing it to roll over.

The driver of the Expedition, which had temporary paper license plates, reportedly exited the vehicle and fled on foot. The driver of the Sportage – a 34-year-old female who was eight months pregnant – was transferred to Clear Lake

Regional Hospital in critical condition. While there, the woman was forced to undergo an emergency c-section to deliver the child.

A news report from ABC Channel 13 stated that the child died on Monday, July 9, but Houston police were unable to confirm this at press time. A spokesman for HPD said the last update they had listed the child as also being in critical condition.

The driver of the Expedition is wanted on a felony charge of failing to stop and render aid. He is described as an adult Hispanic male. Police said he could face additional charges if the child is, in fact, dead.

Anyone with any information on the suspect's identity or whereabouts is urged to call HPD's Hit-and-Run Unit at 713-247-4065 or Crime-stoppers of Houston at 713-222-TIPS (8477).

Students enjoy intimate graduation



The Pasadena Independent School District held a special commencement ceremony for two students who missed the original ceremony because the bus in which they were riding was involved in an accident. Shown above are Pasadena Memorial High School graduates Rosa Zalazar (left), a Scarsdale resident; and Jocelyn Sifuentes, a Freeway Manor resident.

Clear Creek drainage funds OK'd after 50 years of study

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announced Thursday, July 5, that it would allocate \$537 million of disaster supplemental funding to provide for several flood mitigation efforts in the Houston area, including the long-awaited Clear Creek drainage project.

Rep. Pete Olson, whose District 22 encompasses much of the South Belt community, applauds the decision.

"The Houston region was devastated by Hurricane Harvey last August," Olson said. "In addition to the recovery work that has already been done, one of my top priorities is to secure critical funds to prevent future flood damage. Projects like Clear Creek will prevent thousands of homes from potential future flooding. I thank the Army Corps for recognizing the importance of these projects to the Houston region. I also thank my Houston colleagues for their unwavering support during the process to secure these funds. I'm glad we can finally begin work on these critical projects to keep folks safe and prevent future flooding damage."

duction project and \$1.75 million to repair damages to the project

- Hunting Bayou; \$65 million to complete construction of the Hunting Bayou flood damage reduction project
- White Oak Bayou; \$45 million to complete construction of the White Oak Bayou flood damage reduction project and \$1.75 million to repair damages to the project
- Houston Ship Channel; \$30 million for maintenance dredging
- Sims Bayou; \$1 million to repair damages to the Sims Bayou flood damage reduction project
- \$9 million to fund a study to determine additional ways to reduce flooding risks

To see a complete list of studies and projects receiving funding visit <http://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Budget>.

The Corps has been studying the Clear Creek project since 1962 at the cost of more than \$35 million, but little work has been done to date.

Engineers had previously been working off a 1968 Congressional authorization. Over the years, however, the project had changed in scope and detail, requiring a new authorization to provide funding for its completion.

In all, the Corps has allocated \$295.2 million to initiate and complete construction of the Clear Creek flood damage reduction project. Local entities, including the Harris County Flood Control District, Galveston County and the Brazoria County Drainage District No. 4 have agreed to contribute \$77 million.

The endeavor, which will be divided into multiple phases, is estimated to take approximately six years to complete. At press time, it was unclear when construction would begin.

Additional Corps projects in the Houston area to receive disaster supplemental funding include the following:

- Buffalo Bayou and Tributaries; \$11.7 million to replace the Addicks project office and repair other damages to the Buffalo Bayou and Tributaries flood damage reduction project; \$6 million to initiate and complete a comprehensive study that will explore options for reducing flood risk in the Buffalo Bayou basin including Addicks and Barker dams; and \$1.5 million to complete construction of the Addicks and Barker dams safety project
- Houston Regional Watershed Assessment; \$3 million to initiate and complete a study to identify flood risk management options in the Houston area but outside of Buffalo Bayou
- Brays Bayou; \$75 million to complete construction of the Brays Bayou flood damage re-

Riverstone fish dying



Hundreds of dead fish recently washed up dead on the shores of the pond located in the Riverstone Ranch subdivision. The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department was notified of the deaths, but said it was unable to investigate the incident because it was on private property. At press time Wednesday, it remained unclear what caused the deaths.

Photo by Mosley Momie

PISD holds ceremony for 2 grads

The Pasadena Independent School District recently held a special commencement ceremony for the two Memorial High School students who missed the original graduation ceremony after their caravan of buses was involved in an accident on the way to the event.

Recognizing the significance of the occasion, PISD Superintendent Dr. DeeAnn Powell worked with Memorial administration to plan the event for Jocelyn Sifuentes and Rosa Zalazar, which included faculty, administration and the PISD Board of Trustees.

"Graduation is a great milestone for our students, one which Rosa and Jocelyn deserved to experience," said Memorial Principal Jeremy Richardson.

"We are thankful that we were able to come together as a Maverick family to recreate the commencement ceremony and to experience this moment of celebration with these young ladies and

their families."

The special ceremony, held at the Stanley J. Oakes Performing Arts Center, featured the pomp and circumstance of a traditional graduation, with speeches from Class President Brady Chant, Salutatorian Mariano Garcia, Richardson and Powell.

Nearly a dozen students from Pasadena Memorial High School were injured Thursday, May 31, when multiple buses had a collision on Beltway 8 near the Gulf Freeway while en route to NRG Park for graduation.

Of the 11 students injured, nine were able to still attend the delayed graduation ceremony, while Sifuentes and Zalazar were not.

One bus driver and a faculty member were also injured. Pasadena Independent School District officials said none of the injuries were severe.

Both girls are from the South Belt area. Zalazar is a Scarsdale resident, and Sifuentes is a Freeway Manor resident.

In My Opinion

Semler states America will survive

There are those who believe that America will never again be the same great nation that it has been for over 240 years. Previous administrations have allowed interpretations of the Constitution to remove references to God from many aspects of our lives. We have seen an increase in violence. We have seen violations of our Constitution exhibited by government officials.

These are a few examples of what has happened in this country over the past several years. These actions have only served to lower our faith in our government to preserve the values that have always been the root of our society. America will survive. We rebuilt after Pearl Harbor. We came back from the attack on 9-11.

Our Christian values, yes we are a Christian Nation, will serve as the corner stone upon which America will rebuild from the destructive actions of the past several years.

The actions taken to achieve these goals must be based on what is good for America as a whole. Our laws need to be for all Americans, regardless of race, color, creed or nationality. Ours is a two party system, the basis for a democratic society. Take politics out of the decision making. The focus must be on what this country needs to survive. The two parties and the President need to work out their differences and move on. There should never be a compromise just to appease one party over the other.

We elect the President and our representatives to congress. Their responsibility is to represent the people to protect our values and keep America strong.

Let us hold them to their task!

Robert Semler

Albrecht says, 'Here we go again'

Well folks, here we go again, really! Huge garage sale signs posted on both stop light poles at Scarsdale and Blackhawk. Again it is not legal to put signs on any city/county poles! This means: telephone, stop light, stop signs and street signs. No ads or garage sale signs, etc.!!!

On a positive note: I ate at La Forchetta, on Beamer, with my five dollar off coupon from SBL. The food was excellent as well as the service and the atmosphere was so comfortable with TV and music. Very relaxing and appropriately priced.

Michele Albrecht

Laredo announces prayer walk date

School Prayer Walks USA is planning another prayer event on Saturday morning, July 21st from 9 - 10 a.m. for one hour.

We will gather at Meador Elementary at 10701 Seaford Dr. and also Morris Middle School at 10415 Fuqua St. Our group has prayed for four of our neighborhood schools and will continue throughout the school year.

We ask anyone in our community to join us in a one hour of time of prayer. This is a non-denominational prayer time and all are welcome.

We are praying for our schools to have a much better year! Please support our teachers and staffs, throughout the school year as they have much to do this coming year and I know need our community support even more.

Patricia Laredo
School Prayer Walks USA

Alafa reports Harvey Hurricane activity

I had a gasoline generator that powered my house, never lost contact with the weather or news when the power went out. Had food in 2 refrigerators, filter water and ice. When Highland Meadow lost power I created 7 group text of all the homeowners that I knew, their cell # and I provided them with weather information through the night and early morning that first day and continued up to the point that we had our electricity restored. Also provided all the shelters that were available and where to go to get picked up like the one at Beamer and Beltway 8 that

was transporting people to Dobie High School. Also provided when they were full and not taking anymore. I provided 2 rechargeable flashlights for 2 families that had no electricity for days. Walked in the flooding waters up to my chest to dropped off 5 gallons of gasoline for a homeowners generator. While the floodwaters still 4 feet high picked up some homeowners in my Toyota 4 x 4 and drove them to the Shell station at Scarsdale and Beamer for food and gasoline for there generator. Went out to the intersection of 2 streets to unclog some of the water drains with my house flaggpole. I was communicating with two homeowners that were out of town and wanted to know if they had water in their house and when it would be safe to return home.

One of the homeowners was pregnant and was due any day but did not want the baby to be born in Dallas, Texas, yes a true Houston Texan family! Once the water drained from my grass to the street, I provided my Houston Texans Man Cave for homeowners to charge their cell phones, watch the news, get filter water and ice. I ran an extension cord from my generator to my neighbor to power up his refrigerator to charge their cell phones, watch the news, get filter water and ice. I helped a homeowner remove a water damaged natural gas stove from his kitchen, through a tight door entrance and out onto the sidewalk.

The Lord has gifted everybody in different ways and this is how I was able to help out. Thank you,

Rudy Alafa

Cade recognizes Tammie, Keith

I would like to add Tammie and Keith Nielsen to the Harvey Heroes list.

They both went way above and beyond in helping my wife and me out after Hurricane Harvey. They both helped organize the volunteers that removed all of the damaged furniture in our house and also removed the sheetrock, insulation, tile and floors in our house after we received 3 1/2 feet of water. Keith piled up the debris and got the city to remove it from our property twice. He brought over fans to dry out the wood and concrete floors before we started rebuilding the house. He had all of the Necessary tools and equipment to rebuild our house.

They also removed all of the salvaged items in our house and placed them in storage until we could rebuild our house. Keith personally rebuilt our house by securing sheetrock and installing it along with insulation. He taped, floated, sanded the sheetrock. He also applied the texture and paint to the walls.

He removed all of the kitchen cabinets and appliances that were destroyed from the flood. We could not have gotten through this without their help. This was a huge task and very physically and emotionally draining due to losing personal items like pictures, etc. They were there to help us go through all of our personal items and salvage what we could. They were a tremendous support to our family during a devastating time and we could not have gotten through it without their help and expertise in rebuilding our house.

They also did the same thing for an elderly woman named Rosie who did not have any help. Keith and Tammie picked her and her dog up and took them to a shelter. Keith helped her with her house and salvaged the items that could be salvaged. She didn't have any close relatives to help her out but Tammie and Keith immediately saw that she needed help and provided that for her. Her car was also flooded and Keith helped her secure a replacement vehicle and deal with the insurance company. She was extremely happy to have a place to stay with her dog until her house was able to be occupied again.

Without Tammie and Keith Nielsen's caring for their fellow citizens, these two families would have been lost. They helped both of these families get through a very devastating disaster.

God blessed our community by having this two loving and caring people in it. A simple thank you isn't sufficient enough to show them how much they are appreciated for what they did for the people in their community.

Thanks,
Mike & Joanne Cade

Israeli folk dancing sessions to be held

Few people really enjoy cardiovascular exercises per se. But it doesn't have to be a chore: Dancing is an excellent way to exercise while having fun. Israeli folk dancing sessions are conducted at Congregation Shaar Hashalom and are not built on one another, so anyone can start any time.

The dances are held at Congregation Shaar Hashalom on Mondays, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. July dates are 16, 23 and 30. August dates are 6, 13, 20 and 27.

The cost is \$4/session or \$35/10 sessions for CSH members and \$5/session or \$45/10 session for nonmembers. Everyone is welcome to join the group - even if you haven't attended before.

Congregation Shaar Hashalom is located at 16020 El Camino Real and is the conservative synagogue in the Bay Area. The entire community is invited to attend.

For more information, contact the synagogue office at 281-488-5861 or at csh@shaarhashalom.org.

AARP Webster chapter sets meeting

AARP Webster Area Chapter 199 welcomes everyone to meet at 10 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 17, at the Bay Area Community Center, 5002 E. NASA Parkway, Seabrook. They meet in the large building with the blue roof inside Clear Lake Park on the north side of NASA Parkway.

Everyone is invited to come to the meetings and to enjoy coffee, cookies and fellowship at 9:30 a.m. before the meeting starts at 10 a.m. Each month, there is entertainment or a speaker on various topics of interest to seniors. Some months there will be a potluck lunch.

On Friday, Aug. 17, Dawn Monachino, the education specialist at Houston Audubon, will give a presentation that includes live animals. She usually brings a song or two for audience participation. Monachino's interest in wildlife started when she was young but it really developed later in life, becoming her second career. She worked at the Houston Zoo, Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium and the Denver Zoo. She is very fortunate to combine her two careers of music and wildlife in one position. Monachino's presentation will begin at 10:30 a.m. after the chapter business meeting.

There will be a potluck lunch at the Aug. 17 meeting. Members and visitors are encouraged to bring a dish to share after the meeting ends.

The AARP Chapter also organizes day trips for AARP Chapter 199 members by bus to local area points of interest at minimal cost. The next day trip will be on Monday, Aug. 20, to Stanzel Model Aircraft Museum and Schulenburg Historical Museum in Schulenburg. Lunch will be at the Oakridge Smokehouse Restaurant. The bus leaves at 8 a.m.

If anyone is interested in joining the group, annual dues are \$6 per year per person. However, one must be a member of national AARP to join any local chapter. AARP Chapters are separately incorporated affiliates of AARP. For more information, contact Earl Mallett at 281-484-2589 or earlmallett@sbcglobal.net.

Elected officials share their words

District E News

By Council Member Dave Martin

I'm sure many of you have heard by now Harris County has been hosting meetings across the County regarding their upcoming bond election taking place on Aug. 25, for the Harris County Flood Control District.

Registered voters in Harris County will be asked to vote on what could be \$2.5 billion in bonds for flood risk reduction projects throughout the county. If you are currently not registered to vote but would like to participate in this election you must register to vote by Monday, July 25.

The County has identified more than 150 potential projects as candidates for bond funding, organized by watershed. In District E, there are several watersheds that overlap the district's boundaries including: San Jacinto River, Luce Bayou, Spring Creek, Greens Bayou, Sims Bayou, Armand Bayou, and Clear Creek. If you are unsure which watershed you reside in, visit <http://www.harriscountytexas.com/cb>.

Projects across the watersheds include but are not limited to: sediment control projects, improved drainage, construction of flood control devices and improved channels.

To review the list of potential projects you may visit the HCFCD website. Additionally, there are two public meetings left in District E.

1. San Jacinto River Watershed: Tuesday, July 10, from 6 to 8 p.m., at King-

wood Park High School, 4015 Woodland Hills, Kingwood. If you are unable to attend the San Jacinto River Watershed meeting you may submit your comments online at <https://www.hcfcd.org/bond-program/watersheds/san-jacinto-river-bond-program/submit-feed-back-san-jacinto-river-watershed/>.

2. Clear Creek Watershed: Tuesday, July 17, 6 to 8 p.m., at the El Franco Lee Community Center. If you are unable to attend the Clear Creek Watershed meeting you may submit your comments online at <https://www.hcfcd.org/bond-program/watersheds/clear-creek-bond-program/submit-feed-back-clear-creek-watershed/>.

It is important for residents to attend these meetings and provide input on projects they would like to see within their communities. The meetings will provide group discussions regarding the watershed projects as well as allow residents to ask subject matter experts within HCFCD specific questions about proposed projects within their areas.

I urge all District E residents to attend their meetings to make sure your concerns are met with these proposed bond projects. All watersheds work together and these proposed projects will be completed over the next 15 years, we as residents of the City need to make sure we do our part to participate in the process.

Boykins comments on president's trade war impact on city, district

Council Member Dwight Boykins released the following statement in regard to the president's trade war and the impact it will have on Houston and his district:

"For much of the last century, fair and open trade between nations has served as a key component toward securing global stability. Economies have risen and fallen based in large measure on their ability to import and export goods and merchandise while rejecting the impetuous hankering of protectionism.

"Around the world, free trade has led to the creation of hundreds of millions of jobs, lifted families out of poverty, and forged crucial and sustainable pathways of success. By stark contrast, widespread trade barriers have triggered economic disaster and fostered resentments that helped to spawn two world wars.

"Yet despite the insurmountable evidence buttressing the merits of strong, free, and fair trade, the Trump

Administration has descended down the reckless path of confrontation, imposing stiff tariffs on China and many of our strongest allies like Canada, Mexico and the European Union. This is a fool-hearted move that will hurt the state of Texas and cities like Houston, including the people I represent in District D.

"Already, the President's actions have driven up the cost of domestic oil and gas production, which relies heavily on specialty steel imports from nations like China. Texas has been hurt disproportionately, with oil and gas industry experts warning of significant layoffs at Houston energy and manufacturing firms if the trend continues.

"President Trump's tariffs on steel and aluminum may also harm Houston's construction industry, increasing the cost of new homes and forcing delays to the manufacturing of facilities tied to oil and gas.

"Once again, jobs hang in the balance. Last year, Tex-

as exported \$265 billion in goods, far more than any other state. Ironically, most of these goods went to the nations targeted by the Administration's tariffs, a fact exacerbating the ill-effects of the latest misguided and destructive "Trumpian" policy.

"To a region still struggling to recover from Hurricane Harvey, President Trump's tariffs could not come at a worse time. An analysis by Trade Partnership Worldwide, an international trade and economic consulting firm, concludes that for every job saved, the Administration's protectionist stance could place as many as 13 people out of work. Many of those who may suffer call the Bayou City home.

"This policy undermines the global substructure that prevents economies from collapsing and nations from coming apart. The President's trade war is reckless, irresponsible, and could very well create outcomes Houston and District D can ill afford."

County seeks public input

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and construction of the Hughes Road Stormwater Detention Basin. Work would complement the federal Clear Creek project that could reduce the risk of flooding for more than 2,100 structures. At press time, it was unclear where the proposed basin would be located (the county originally referred to the proposal as the Hall Road

Stormwater Detention Basin).

The public hearing will take place from 6 to 8 p.m. Brief opening remarks will begin promptly at 6 p.m., but the residents are encouraged to come anytime between 6 and 8 p.m. for the open house portion of the meeting and to provide input to local officials.

Should the venue reach capacity, the open-

ing remarks will take place twice - at 6 p.m. and at 7 p.m.

The opening remarks will also be livestreamed on the HCFCD Facebook page and will be posted at www.hcfcd.org/bondprogram following the meeting.

For more information, contact Harris County Flood Control District Bond Program Hotline at 713-684-4107.

Community health fair to be held at Bible Way

Bible Way Fellowship Baptist Church, 10120 Hartsook, will hold its annual community health fair Saturday, July 21, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. Services available include health screenings, health displays, vendors, health professionals to address health concerns, prize drawings and much more.

Local library events set

Bracewell Branch Library

The following events are scheduled for the Bracewell Branch Library, 9002 Kingspoint: Saturday, July 14, 10:30 a.m. Spanish computer class
Saturday, July 14, 2 p.m. Citizenship class
Tuesday, July 17, 10:30 a.m. Meet at the library for Pocketwatch Puppets
Wednesday, July 18, 1 p.m. Teen video gaming
Wednesday, July 18, Computer courses: 2 p.m. Computer Basics; 3:15 p.m. Internet Basics; 4:30 p.m. Basic Powerpoint
Bracewell hours this week are: Thursday, noon - 8 p.m.; Friday, 10 - 5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Sunday, closed; Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Parker Williams Library

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

Thursday, July 12, 3 p.m. Teen Thursday presents Cosplay Tips and Tricks, for ages 12 and older, to learn different tips and tricks when you are designing your own cosplay outfits.

Friday, July 13, 4 p.m. Community Craft presents Design-A-Flip-Flop for ages 7 and older. Meet in the library community room to design a pair of flip-flops. Materials and flip-flops are generously provided by the Parker Williams Friends of the Library.

Saturday, July 14, 2 - 4 p.m. Magic: The Gathering Gameplay, for ages 8 and older. A staff member will be present for instruction. A special thank you is given to Strike Zone for the generous donation of Magic: The Gathering cards. For more information, visit <http://www.hcpl.net/sites/default/files/Feb-MTG-1.jpg>.

Monday, July 16, 2 - 4 p.m. Genealogy group: The Parker Williams Genealogy Group is an informal group that meets the first and third Monday of each month to discuss family history research (beginner to advanced). Meetings are free and open to anyone interested in tracing family history.

Monday, July 16, 6 p.m. Magic: The Gathering Gameplay, for ages 8 and older. Special appreciation is given to Strike Zone for the generous donation of Magic: The Gathering cards. For more information, visit <http://www.hcpl.net/sites/default/files/Feb-MTG-1.jpg>.

Tuesday, July 17, 10:30 a.m. Computer Basics: flyers, cards and brochures. Learn how to use resources such as Microsoft Publisher and the website canva.com to create flyers, invitation cards, brochures, and more. Registration is requested.

Tuesday, July 17, 2 p.m. Musical movies: *Tangled*, rated PG, 100 minutes, for ages 10 and older. Meet in the library community room for a musical movie on Tuesdays throughout the summer. For the musical movies, singing along isn't just allowed, it's encouraged!

Wednesday, July 18, 2:30 p.m. Program Summer: Hampstead Stage presents *Treasure Island* for ages 5 and older. Beat the heat, meet at the library and enjoy some theater.

Wednesday, July 18, STEM time: Sound vibrations. Meet in the library community room to learn about scientific concepts behind sound vibrations, sound waves and much more.

Below are the programs that occur every week:

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

Wednesday, 2 - 3 p.m. Basic computer classes (Vietnamese). Learn mouse, keyboarding, basic internet skills and more at this weekly class in Vietnamese. Registration is requested.

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

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

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

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

Publisher's Opinion

Help us honor South Belt Harvey Heroes

Next Thursday there will be a special event in the South Belt area. Gov. Greg Abbott has agreed to attend the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce annual banquet. It was my dream, after what this community went through during Hurricane Harvey, to have an event where we could honor some of the many people who made that terrible event tolerable. (See related story Page 1A.)

Our community did a fabulous job of taking care of their neighbors. The event on July 19 will be a great opportunity to show our neighbors and the public just how blessed we are to live in such a fantastic community.

We are honoring a group of volun-

teers, some of whom even risked their lives to help others.

We need to stop and realize in this crazy political world of today, that all is not lost. We are so fortunate to live in a community that really lives the commandment to love their neighbor. When there is trouble, our neighbor is there to help.

I thank the governor for agreeing to attend our banquet and help acknowledge our community and our South Belt Harvey Heroes representatives.

If members of the community want to attend, tickets for \$60 each are still available and include visiting the Lone Star Flight Museum. Hope to see you there.

—Marie Flickinger

Chamber event includes governor

Continued from Page 1A

Dr. DeeAnn Powell; local contract officers from the Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's office; Jason and Rebecca Carter; Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital; the Houston Fire Department; D.D. Matthews; Charles Smith; Mike Gibson; Hilton Koch; Sagemont Church; Christian Temple; Dr. Mary Campbell-Fox; the Texas State Guard; the U. S. Coast Guard; Reena Benitez; Kat Kiel;

Travis Teichelman; Jessica Cordero; Thi Nguyen; Kenzie Fernandez; Jessica Rowland; The Texas Air National Guard and Matthew Vela.

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott has agreed to attend the event and join the chamber in honoring the local heroes.

Other elected officials expected to attend the banquet include U.S. Rep. Pete Olson; U.S. Rep. Randy Weber; state Rep. Dennis Paul; state Sen. Sylvia Garcia; state Sen. Lar-

ry Taylor; Pearland Mayor Tom Reid; Pasadena Mayor Jeff Wagner; and Houston City Council Member Dave Martin.

The stories of some of the heroes will be published in the *Leader*. See related letter on Page 2A.

Tickets to the banquet are \$60 each. For more information, contact chamber president Kay Barbour at 281-481-5516 or info@southbeltchamber.com.

Moore announces Meet the Teacher Night

Moore Elementary Meet the Teacher Night will be held on Thursday, Aug. 16, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Students may drop off school supplies and meet their teachers.

Class assignments will be posted on the front windows by 4 p.m. that day. Parents may purchase last year's school shirts and get information about ordering current spirit shirts.

LSFM hosts World Series trophy

The Lone Star Flight Museum has scored its own home run with the exclusive appearance of the Houston Astros World Series trophy on Saturday, July 21, from 10 a.m. to noon. Visitors are encouraged to make their own history with a photo of the trophy against a background of historic aircraft. As a special treat, members can get in the express line for a personal photo with the trophy. The LSFM is located at Ellington Airport, 11551 Aerospace Avenue. The new museum hours are Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sundays from noon to 5 p.m.

Flood bond meeting July 17

Continued from Page 1A

and construction of the Hughes Road Stormwater Detention Basin. Work would complement the federal Clear Creek project that could reduce the risk of flooding for more than 2,100 structures. At press time, it was unclear where the proposed basin would be located (the county originally referred to the pro-

posal as the Hall Road Stormwater Detention Basin).

The public hearing will take place from 6 to 8 p.m. Opening remarks will begin at 6 p.m., but the residents are encouraged to come anytime between 6 and 8 p.m. for the open house portion of the meeting and to provide input to local officials. Should the venue reach capacity, the

opening remarks will take place twice - at 6 p.m. and at 7 p.m. The opening remarks will also be livestreamed on the HCFCD Facebook page and will be posted to www.hcfcd.org/bondprogram following the meeting. For more information, contact Harris County Flood Control District Bond Program Hotline at 713-684-4107.

BAHP holds auditions for Doublewide, Texas

Auditions for *Doublewide, Texas*, a hilarious comedy about residents of one of the smallest trailer parks in Texas - four doublewides and a shed - will be held Monday, July 30, and Tuesday, July 31, at 7 p.m. at the Bay Area Harbour Playhouse in Dickinson.

"The audition date was originally set for *A Piece of My Heart*," said Bennie Nipper, artistic director of the theater. "But we have postponed production of that play and will be doing this great comedy about Texans instead."

The hilarious fast-moving play is written by Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope and Jamie Wooten, three Texans who have penned several other award-winning plays about fellow-Texans.

It will be directed by Nipper and will be on stage Sept. 7 through Sept. 23 in the upstairs Top Deck theater. Nipper will be seeking six females and three males to play the feisty residents who do not want their trailer park to be annexed by their small neighboring town of Tugaloo. Nipper promises that the play will delight actors as they tell the story of the park residents who are fighting "the big guys."

Performances will be on Friday and Saturday nights at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2:30 p.m., Sept. 7 - Sept. 23. The theater is located at 3803 Highway 3 in Dickinson. For details call 281-337-7469 or visit www.harbourtheater.com.

CCISD safety committee releases preliminary recommendations

Continued from Page 5A

The Clear Creek Independent School District School Safety Committee has developed a set of preliminary recommendations to address facilities, security personnel, student mental wellness, security training and protocols, policies and procedures, and communications in an effort to improve overall safety for students and staff.

The committee is comprised of parents, staff, law enforcement officers, mental health experts, students and faith-based leaders. The group met over the course of several weeks in June and July to evaluate current safety

measures, develop a list of future considerations, and came to a wide consensus on a set of recommendations for the CCISD Board of Trustees to consider for approval.

Prior to making a final recommendation to the school board, the committee is seeking the community's feedback. The committee will hold a public meeting on Monday, July 16, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at Clear Springs High School, 501 Palomino Lane, League City. This meeting will also be streamed live online at www.ccisd.net.

The committee will consider the feedback and make revisions, if necessary, prior to making the final recommendation to the school board on Monday, July 23. The committee will accept comments but will not answer questions. Questions can be submitted on comment cards at the meeting and responses will be emailed and posted on the district's website. The public can also send comments to ccidsafet@ccisd.net.

Consensus statement on metal detectors, arming teachers and marshals at school
Continued on Page 5A

UHCL leads state for nationally certified school psychologists

Continued from Page 5A

University of Houston-Clear Lake led the state of Texas for producing the most graduates to be certified by the National Association of School Psychologists in the 2017-2018 fiscal year.

The NASP certified 12 UH-Clear Lake graduates during the fiscal year, topping the list of the 12 Texas institutions that operate school

psychology degree programs. Across the state, NASP certified a total 58

National health care fraud takedown results in arrests

FBI Houston and the Houston-Area Medicare Fraud Strike Force arrested twelve individuals, including two health care professionals, for their alleged participation in health care fraud schemes. The arrests were the result of a nationwide Medicare fraud takedown—the largest health care fraud enforcement action in American history.

The local Houston arrests were achieved through the efforts of personnel from multi-

ple law enforcement partners, including the Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Department of Health and Human Services Office of the Inspector General, the Texas Office of the Attorney General-Medicare Fraud Control Unit, the United States Attorney's Office of the Southern District of Texas, and the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigative Division. Law enforcement aggressively targeted the most egregious schemes involving the billing of Medicare and Medicaid and private insurance programs for medically unnecessary services and compound prescription drugs, as well as violations of illegal kickbacks.

"These individuals rob this nation of its precious taxpayer dollars," said FBI Special Agent in Charge Perrye K. Turner. "Some Houston-area medical professionals, including doctors, nurses and pharmacological representa-

tives, have chosen to break the law and place their greed before those whom they are charged to heal. Health care fraud investigations, involving both public and private insurance programs, are considered a high priority throughout the FBI. The FBI and our partners will continue to target and hold accountable those who defraud the system."

Twenty-nine state Medicaid Fraud Control Units also participated in this week's

De Leon aids Palos' student development

Victoria Palos (left), one of J. Frank Dobie High School's Shining Stars, is shown with distinguished educator Gilbert De Leon, 12th-grade pre-calculus and calculus teacher at Dobie High School.

As a student, Palos has volunteered for marathons, the Houston Food Bank, festivals, at Pasadena Independent School District elementary and middle schools, the Alzheimer's Association and St. Anne's Catholic Church.

As for the future, Palos plans to attend Texas A&M University to major in mechanical engineering and minor in Spanish. She hopes to continue her education to pursue a master's degree in chemical engineering, and then secure a research position at an engineering firm.

Palos commented, "Not only is Mr. De Leon the best calculus teacher I ever had, but he's also the only calculus teacher I ever had. Nonetheless with his dry humor and passion for teaching, he manages to motivate numerous fatigued and sassy teenagers to understand the complex concepts of BC Calculus, sometimes with the help of candy. Besides serving as an exceptional teacher, Mr. De Leon also serves as a quality, as well as free, therapist with his wise advice and insightful suggestions. Jokes aside, Mr. De Leon is the type of person who is always willing to listen and help in any way he can no matter the issue. Mr. De Leon's mentor-

ship and instruction for the past two years aided my student development and reinforced my pursuit of a career centered on STEM."

The South Belt Shining Stars will be presented in a series of students being honored along with their favorite mentor. The Shining Stars represent the top Dobie High School students. The information and photos were submitted by Pasadena Independent School District. The Leader is also running the Shining Stars from Pasadena Memorial, South Houston and Lewis Technical high schools.



Chapman helps transform Sanchez

Elxis Marie Hernandez Sanchez (left), one of Lewis Career and Technical High School's Shining Stars, is shown with distinguished educator Sara Chapman, 11th-grade advanced placement English teacher at Lewis Career and Technical High School.

Sanchez spent her time as a volunteer at Texas Children's Hospital Pediatric Clinic and at St. Peter's Episcopal Church food pantry.

Sanchez's plans for the future include attending Yale University. She then hopes to complete medical school and become a doctor.



In regard to Chapman, Sanchez said, "Mrs. Chapman transformed me from a good writer to a great writer. She pushed me to convey my thoughts in a form that an audience could understand. Under her instruction, I learned how to master the art of using language to make others see through my point of view. She taught me how to engage the reader. It was her insightful words that reverberated in my head while I was filling out college applications, as they allowed me to communicate with the daunting audience of college admissions committees."

The South Belt Shining Stars will be presented in a series of students being honored along with their favorite mentor. The Shining Stars represent the top Lewis Career and Technical High School students. The information and photos were submitted by Pasadena Independent School District. The Leader is also running the Shining Stars from Dobie, Pasadena Memorial and South Houston high schools.

The Department of Health and Human Services announced today that from July 2017 to the present, it has excluded 2,700 individuals from participation in Medicare, Medicaid, and all other federal health care programs, which include 587 providers for their conduct related to opioid diversion and abuse.

"This takedown is a warning to fraudsters that their crimes will be uncovered," said C.J. Porter, special agent in charge for the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services Office of Inspector General. "Along with our law enforcement partners, we will work to ensure that criminals who orchestrate these schemes are brought to justice."

The national takedown targeted more than 590 charged defendants across 56 federal districts, including more than 150 doctors, nurses and other licensed medical professionals, for their alleged participation in health care fraud schemes involving approximately \$2 billion in false billings.

"Health care fraud is a betrayal of vulnerable patients, and often it is theft from the taxpayer," said Attorney General Jeff Sessions. "In many cases, doctors, nurses, and pharmacists take advantage of people suffering from drug addiction in order to line their pockets. These are despicable crimes."

The FBI encourages anyone with any information regarding health care fraud to contact the Medicare hotline at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). Tips may be submitted through the FBI tips website at <https://tips.fbi.gov>.

FEMA coordinates partner assistance as transitional sheltering assistance ends

After 10 months of providing emergency shelter through Transitional Sheltering Assistance, FEMA ended the program on June 30 for hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria survivors. Intended to provide emergency shelter, TSA is a temporary solution that bridges survivors into more permanent options. To date, FEMA has spent more than \$432 million on survivor lodging for TSA, and provided rental assistance to more than 25,000 TSA participating families to help them find permanent housing solutions.

The remaining households in TSA have either received rental or repair assistance from FEMA; have a habitable home with utilities on; or are not eligible for additional FEMA housing assistance.

FEMA and its partners have conducted outreach on several occasions and a total of 97 percent of those enrolled in the program have successfully transitioned to more permanent housing. Federal, state, and voluntary organization partners will continue to provide assistance through disaster case management to those who still require long-term solutions.

For more information on the TSA program, visit the website <https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/134529>. For more information on FEMA disaster recovery activities, visit <https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2018/06/27/resources-are-available-survivors-femas-transitional-sheltering-assistance>.

UH-Clear Lake releases recent calendar briefs

The University of Houston-Clear Lake, 2700 Bay Area Blvd., has released its recent calendar briefs.

Friday morning continuing education
University of Houston-Clear Lake's Friday morning continuing education presents its summer miniseries in July. Tailored for the appetites of lifelong learners, topics vary week-to-week and are presented by experts in their subjects.

The Friday programs feature two separate sessions, one at 9 a.m. and another at 11 a.m. All sessions are held at UH-Clear Lake While registration is required, residency, age, academic history and student status do not apply.

• July 13, 9 a.m. "Joy of Dance." This is a crash course in the major forms of

partnered dance – ballroom, swing and country for singles or couples.

• July 13, 11 a.m. "NASA: The Stories Behind the Glories." Hear little-known, insider stories and anecdotes about U.S. human spaceflight mission events and astronauts.

• July 20, 9 a.m. "1968: Worst Year in American History – Democratic Convention in Chicago" at 9 a.m. This is the third in a four-part series about 1968.

• July 20, 11 a.m. "Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine: A New Hope for Chronic Disease and Pain Management." AOM has been used for thousands of years to treat conditions similar to the ones people experience today.

Members pay a one-time membership fee of \$12 for

the summer miniseries and \$18 for each class. The membership fee includes class materials, borrowing privileges at the UHCL library and discounts at the UHCL bookstore and Patio Café. Parking permits are available in Bayou Building, room 1618 for \$5. To register, visit www.uhcl.edu/academics/extended/friday-morning-ce. For more information, call 281-283-3033.

Hawk Adventure
Prospective University of Houston-Clear Lake students and their families are invited to tour UH-Clear Lake's 524-acre campus in a one-hour walking tour led by current UH-Clear Lake students.

Attendees will also receive information about applying to the university. Featured stops on the tour

include Alfred R. Neumann Library, the UHCL Art Gallery, and natural features such as Potter Pond and Horsepen Bayou. To learn more about Hawk Adventure or to register, visit www.uhcl.edu/admissions/events/hawk-adventure.

Managing change, conflict
Learn how to successfully cope with organizational change and learn techniques to define the change process, communication and resolve conflict in "Skillfully Managing Change and Conflict" as part of the Management and Leadership Certificate Program at University of Houston-Clear Lake.

The course, offered by the Center for Executive Education, is geared toward aspiring or new supervisors, and leaders who wish to gain

new knowledge for today's work environment. The course takes place on Fridays, July 13 and 27, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. The fee is \$850, and group rates are available. For more information, call 281-283-3120 or email cee@uhcl.edu.

Movie night: "Disobedience"
Plan to attend "Disobedience" on movie night July 14 at 7 p.m. in the student services and classroom building lecture hall.

A woman returns to the religious community that shunned her, rekindling a forbidden relationship. The characters then explore themes of passion, self-awareness and freedom of choice. The film is rated R.

Admission to the film is free for students with a UHCL student ID and \$4 for all others. Parking is free and available in Visitor Lot D.

UHCL returning students' fall registration
Returning students at University of Houston-Clear Lake can register for fall courses in open registration through Aug. 24. Freshmen students must attend an orientation before registering for courses.

Class schedules are available online at www.uhcl.edu/academics/resources. For more information, contact the office of the registrar at 281-283-2525 or email records@uhcl.edu.

UHCL new student application deadline
The final application deadline for new students planning to enter University of Houston-Clear Lake in the fall 2018 semester is Aug. 1. For more details on deadlines, visit the UH-Clear Lake Office of Admissions at www.uhcl.edu/admissions. To apply, visit ApplyTexas.org. For more information, call 281-283-2500, or email admissions@uhcl.edu.

Volunteers needed
Help maintain the beauty of the University of Houston-Clear Lake campus by volunteering at Habitat Work Days each Tuesday morning in July with the Environmental Institute of Houston.

Helpers should meet at 9 a.m. at the North Annex office, located inside Entrance 3 off Middlebrook Drive.

Volunteers assist in upkeep, including clearing paths, cleaning the pond and other conservation tasks. For more information, call UHCL Environmental Institute of Houston at 281-283-3950 or email eih@uhcl.edu.

To learn more, visit the website www.uhcl.edu/envir

Davidson thanks role model Emmons

Gillian Davidson (right), one of Pasadena Memorial High School's Shining Stars, is shown with distinguished educator Eve Emmons, Pasadena Memorial High School 12th-grade advanced placement English literature teacher.

In regard to volunteer work, Davidson has attained more than 200 hours in community service through different activities. She loved spending Saturdays at the Pasadena Animal Shelter walking dogs and helping the animals find forever homes. She has also spent a considerable amount of time volunteering with different organizations within Houston's Japanese community and with the National Honor Society.

Davidson plans to attend the University of Texas in Austin. She hopes to pursue a major in biochemistry in the College of Natural Sciences and Dean's Scholars honors degree program. She is determined to finish college in three years. After college, she wants to pursue a career in the medical field as a researcher in experimental medicine.

Davidson commented on Emmons, "Literacy is a

bridge from oppression to liberation. Reading is an escape from reality – the very opportunity for humans to transport to the metaphysical world, where one discovers new dreams, learns to live valiantly, and unearths unconditional self love. Mrs. Emmons has unlocked my mind to a world of endless secrets and opportunities embedded in books, a revelation through literature. I had the enlightening joy of rediscovering my love for reading in her class this year, and so to Mrs. Emmons: "Thank you for being a passionate teacher, a powerful and strong woman, and a brilliant role model."

The South Belt Shining Stars will be presented in a series of students being honored along with their favorite mentor. The Shining Stars represent the top Pasadena Memorial High School students. The information and photos were submitted by Pasadena Independent School District. The Leader is also running the Shining Stars from Dobie, Lewis Career and Technical and Pasadena Memorial high schools.



Varvoutis encourages, believes in Linares

Matthew Linares (right) one of South Houston High School's Shining Stars, is shown with distinguished educator Brenda Varvoutis, South Houston High School 12th-grade choir teacher.

Linares has done some community service in which he mentored a junior high robotics team, rehearsed and performed twice for the Houston Achievement Place Gala and hosted the debate tournaments at school.

Linares' future plans include studying aerospace engineering at Texas A&M. While there, he hopes to participate in the honors college of engineering and the Texas A&M University Singing Cadets. After college, Linares wishes to pursue a career in aerospace engineering at NASA, SpaceX or Boeing.

In regard to Varvoutis, Linares said, "Mrs. Varvoutis has never stopped believing in me since I walked into the choir

room my freshman year. She has constantly encouraged me to push past my limits and to reach an understanding of the power of music deeper than I could have ever imagined. This intense appreciation for music has been a blessing for me. Every time life bogged me down, the music was there to pick me up off my feet and give me the confidence to tackle any challenge with enthusiasm."

The South Belt Shining Stars will be presented in a series of students being honored along with their favorite mentor. The Shining Stars represent the top South Houston High School students. The information and photos were submitted by Pasadena Independent School District. The Leader is also running the Shining Stars from Dobie, Lewis Career and Technical and Pasadena Memorial high schools.

The final application deadline for new students planning to enter University of Houston-Clear Lake in the fall 2018 semester is Aug. 1. For more details on deadlines, visit the UH-Clear Lake Office of Admissions at www.uhcl.edu/admissions. To apply, visit ApplyTexas.org. For more information, call 281-283-2500, or email admissions@uhcl.edu.

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To learn more, visit the website www.uhcl.edu/envir



Texans Recovering Together provides free, confidential crisis counseling

Recovering from Hurricane Harvey doesn't just mean rebuilding a home or finding a new job. Long after one's physical recovery is complete, the signs of stress and trauma may remain.

Texans Recovering Together provides free, confidential crisis counseling and referral services to help survivors work through their disaster recovery. The program is run by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission and funded through grants from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) totaling

\$13.9 million.

Crisis counseling providers visit homes and community settings for Texans Recovering Together, rather than conducting sessions in an office. Counselors are available in 31 counties affected by Harvey, and survivors can dial 2-1-1 to be referred to a local provider.

More than 147,000 survivors of Hurricane Harvey have received individual crisis counseling, group crisis counseling, public education, community networking services, educational contacts or basic support through Texans Recovering Together. Services provided include stress management techniques, coping mechanisms and connections to disaster-relief resources.

Additionally, staff have provided nearly 145,000 secondary services, including handling telephone and hotline contacts, and distributing digital and printed educational materials.

The crisis counseling program enhances mental health resilience among survivors who are displaced, jobless, homeless, impoverished or faced with stress and other common responses to disaster trauma. Experts say the stress of adjusting to new circumstances and beginning to rebuild after a disaster may not set in for up to a year.

For further information on Hurricane Harvey and Texas recovery, visit the Hurricane Harvey disaster web page at www.fema.gov/disaster/4332. Facebook at www.facebook.com/FEMAHarvey, the FEMA Region 6 Twitter account at www.twitter.com/FEMARegion6 or the Texas Division of Emergency Management website at <https://www.dps.texas.gov/dem>.

SJC releases calendar

San Jacinto College has released its recent calendar briefs.

Registration now open

Registration is now open for fall classes that start on Aug. 27. For more information on steps to register, visit sanjac.edu/apply-register/overview/registration.

August graduation application deadline

The last day for students to apply for August 2018 graduation is Thursday, July 12. Students who meet graduation requirements in August 2018 will participate in the fall 2018 commencement ceremony, which will be held on Sunday, Dec. 16, at Minute Maid Park.

Summer camps

The following San Jacinto College summer camps will take place the month of July. For more information and to sign up, visit sanjac.edu/calendar/summer-camps.

- Maritime venture camps, two sessions, July 23-27
- Water-bots camps, two sessions, July 16-20 and 23-27
- Woodwind and brass camp, July 16-20
- STEM survivor camp, July 16-20
- All-state choir camp, July 16-20.

Tips to keep pets safe during storm season

While no one is immune from the devastation of a natural disaster, preparing before a storm hits is key to keeping everyone in one's family—including one's pets—safe.

Here are six ideas to keep in mind for a pet in mapping out a disaster preparedness plan.

- Have the pet micro-chipped. In the event of an emergency—natural or otherwise—ensure the pet can get back if separated. Collars and ID tags, though important, can break or detach. Microchips—computerized and scannable implants about the size of a grain of rice—are more fool-proof since they are inserted under a pet's skin.
- Bring pets inside at the first sign of danger. Disasters can be disorienting for pets, and they could run away or hurt themselves reacting to loud noises and strange changes to their landscape. Also, rain, flying debris and high winds pose a danger.
- If one has to leave, keep the pet close. Leaving pets behind during a natural disaster is never a good idea because they could escape or become exposed to a number of life-threatening hazards. Keep them on a leash or in a pet carrier so they don't escape even in a "familiar" neighborhood.
- Determine where one will go. Coordinate, in advance, to stay with friends or family members, or find a pet-friendly hotel outside the disaster area. Have those conversations and do research well ahead of time so there is a plan in place when needed.
- Create a pet-friendly resource list. Not all emergency shelters will accept pets, so have a plan B. Develop a list of the pet-friendly hotels outside one's immediate area. Research a list of veterinarians in the area should the pet need medical care. Also,

figure out which boarding facilities are nearby in case one will need to separate from a pet for a time.

- Pack an emergency bag. One will want emergency provisions packed for a pet well in advance of a catastrophe so one can evacuate one's home quickly if needed. Choose an easy-to-carry bag, label it and keep it where everyone in the family can find it quickly. The bag should include a pet first aid kit; enough food and bottled water for a week (rotate this every couple of months to keep it from going bad); medications (check periodically to ensure medicines in an emergency bag don't expire); cleanup supplies; food and water dishes; bags (or litter for cats) for collecting waste; an extra collar and leash; photocopies of medical records; towels; recent photos of pets; and a favorite toy or chewy for their comfort. It's also a good idea to have a sturdy carrier or crate for each pet.

"What's good for us is good for our pets," said Kris Kiser, president and CEO of the Outdoor Power Equipment Institute, the international trade association representing more than 100 power equipment, engine and utility vehicle manufacturers and suppliers. "My dog Lucky the TurfMutt is a member of the family, so we have a plan for keeping him safe in the event of an emergency, and we encourage all pet parents to do the same."

By having all this in place, one can immediately put a pet preparedness plan into action when a storm is coming instead of spending valuable time trying to determine what needs to be done to best protect your pet.

For facts, tips and fun activities for families from Lucky the TurfMutt, visit www.TurfMutt.com.

Over The Back Fence by Alexis

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO THE COLES
Anniversary wishes are sent to **Bill and Kim Cole** who celebrate their 23rd wedding anniversary on Sunday, July 15, from friends and the *Leader* staff.

BOYKINS CELEBRATED A BIRTHDAY
Belated birthday wishes are sent to Houston City Council Member **Dwight Boykins** who celebrated a birthday Friday, July 6, from friends and the *South Belt Leader* staff.

SCHOOL DAZE
The following personnel of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays July 12 through July 18.

Atkinson Elementary
Celebrating a birthday July 13 is **Regina Barnes**. The day for a birthday party for **Claudia Trevino** is July 15.

Burnett Elementary
Sing a happy birthday song to **Teresa Abel** on July 15.

Bush Elementary
Send a happy birthday greeting to **Lizbeth Cavazos** on July 15. Light the birthday candles July 18 for **Carla Galvan**.

Meador Elementary
Blow out the birthday candles July 12 for **Laura Moreno**. Three cheers for a happy birthday on July 14 for **Corin Culpepper**.

FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS
The *Leader* sends happy birthday wishes to friends who celebrate a birthday this week:

Thursday, July 12: **Sharron Moore, Mary Renfro Heldman, Emma Rodriguez and Pam McEntire Ellis**; Friday, July 13: **Stephanie Pyle, Sandy Ward, Angela Wilkerson, Robin Stone Collins and Tyler Pearson**; Saturday, July 14: **Elaine Ann Monagas, Monay Noyobiz, Riva Saenz, Verónica Mier and Jeffrey Robert McGee**; Sunday, July 15: **Steve Cummings, Sorita Sann, Soyla Tovar, Irma Villanueva, Rachel Garza, Marlon Taylor, Teresa Reynolds Abel and Harley Rankins**; Monday, July 16: **Jessika Paquinto, Mark Campbell, Kelly McBeth, Angie Roach, Clarissa Garza Andrus and Brad Janacek**; Tuesday, July 17: **Christina Trevino, Crystal Ybarra, Corey Cephus, Myra Rowe, Marsa Outland Brister, Vicki Sorensen, Jenelle Lee, Kimberly Sommerfelt and Mary Jason Rowe**; and Wednesday, July 18: **Maddie Patterson, Keith Milam, Luis Revilla, Diann Richardson, Cathy Todd, Steve Garza, Misha Lesley-Burkins, Kathy Haigler and Michelle Malveau**.

Light the birthday candles July 14 for Ana Herrera.

South Belt Elementary
Sing a birthday song July 12 to **Jody Finch**.

Melillo Middle School
Marking a special birthday July 18 is **Jennifer Vann**.

Roberts Middle School
Light the birthday candles July 13 for **Aaron Donias**.

Beverly Hills Intermediate
Celebrating a July 13 birthday is **Jocelyn Brown**. Send a birthday greeting July 18 to **Krystal Smith**.

Thompson Intermediate
Sing a chorus of a birthday song July 13 for **Susie Haas**.

Dobie High
Birthday greetings are sent to **Carol McDonald** on July 12. **Melania Duarte** celebrates a birthday July 14. Send a birthday greeting July 15 to **Nathan Wernig**. Enjoy a double-layer birthday cake July 17 with **Ernestina Martinez and Lawrence Wald**. **Michelle Malveau** enjoys a birthday July 18.

Light the birthday candles July 13 for Aaron Donias.

Light the birthday candles July 13 for Susie Haas.

Light the birthday candles July 13 for Susie Haas.

Light the birthday candles July 13 for Susie Haas.

Light the birthday candles July 13 for Susie Haas.

Light the birthday candles July 13 for Susie Haas.

Glimpse into the past



Shown above is Dianne Connealy standing outside the home of her parents Dick and Dorthene Randall on Christmas Day, 1967, before its completion in Sagemont. One can notice there are no homes or trees in the background. There was only a telephone pole and empty fields as far as one could see toward Pearland. The Randalls moved to Sagemont when Dick was hired at NASA. The house is located three blocks west on Hughes from Beamer Road. Back then, Dixie Farm Road was called FM 1959, and Scarsdale, San Jacinto College and Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital didn't exist. Almeda and Baybrook malls also had not been built. As for schools, there was no Thompson Intermediate, no Dobie High School, no Frazier Elementary and no Moore Elementary. Stuchbery Elementary was already built and running, but it did not have kindergarten classes available. Dick eventually retired from NASA in 1994 after 20 years. It's been more than 50 years since then, and times have changed. Dianne, who grew up in the home, attended Stuchbery, Thompson and Dobie. After graduation, she attended San Jacinto College and Texas A&M. She later graduated with a master's degree from the University of Houston-Clear Lake. Dianne married Chris Connealy, who was a Dobie football captain, and later became the fire chief of the Houston Fire Department. Dianne and Chris had two sons, Brent and Kyle Connealy. In 2010, Dianne died suddenly of cancer. The Randalls are still in the same home and are the last people on their street to be original owners of the house. In June, they celebrated their 57th anniversary and in July they will both celebrate their birthdays.

Dobie cheerleaders' breakfast fundraiser a success



The J. Frank Dobie High School cheerleaders held a successful breakfast fundraiser at Applebee's with the help of Justin Whittredge, and his staff. The event took place at the Fairmont location on Saturday, June 30. The proceeds raised will benefit the Dobie 2018-2019 cheerleading program. Shown are, left to right, (front row) Claudia Ayala, Victoria Ayala, Valerie Gonzalez, Katherine Belle, Olga Cisneros, Laila Hernandez, Becky Hernandez, (back row) Alan Nguyen, Andres Melchor, Sara Otwell, Whittredge, Jimmy Salinas and Briana Loreda.

Sisterhood holds garage sale

The Sisterhood of Congregation Shaar Hashalom is holding the annual 150 Family Garage Sale. Great prices and a huge selection make bargain hunting fun and exciting for all members of the family. Sale items include gently used furniture, books, clothing, toys and games, kitchen and décor items, craft supplies and more. Lots of easy and safe handicap parking is available to make shopping easier.

Shopping hours are Sunday, July 15, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 16020 El Camino Real in Clear Lake (between El Dorado and Bay Area Blvd). Congregation Shaar Hashalom is the conservative synagogue serving the Clear Lake Bay Area for more than 50 years.

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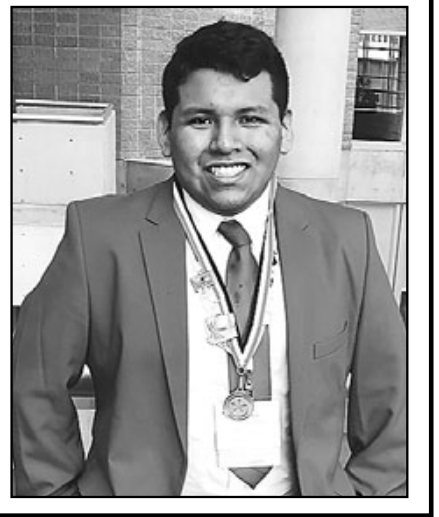
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Dobie FCCLA team makes history, brings home the gold



The Dobie High School Family, Career and Community Leaders of America team made history by bringing home the gold at national competition. This is the first team in Dobie FCCLA history to make it to nationals to compete. The long journey started in January at regional competition Feb. 16 - 17 in Galveston. The team placed second and was able to compete in the state competition in Dallas April 5 - 7 where the team also placed second. After state, the team advanced to compete in nationals in Atlanta on June 27 where the team brought home the gold from national competition. The team had participated in Dobie FCCLA for the past two years. In 2017 the team won third place at regionals but failed to place in state. Shown left after placing second in state are team members, left to right, Enrique Cordova, Steven Cortez and Daniel Mejia. Posing, right, is Mejia after the team had placed second in regional competition. In preparation for the fall, Cortez plans to attend San Jacinto College, and Cordova and Mejia plan to attend the University of Houston.



UHCL calendar set

Continued from Page 3A

These areas are also encouraged.

Any interested individuals or groups are encouraged to attend but registration for spectators is also requested. Registration is free.

To register, visit www.uhcl.edu/center-robotics-software/events.

2018 CAMEO Emerging Artists Show

UHCL Art Gallery hosts this year's Clay Arts Museum and Educational Organization Emerging Artists Show, which showcases works of Texas higher education ceramics instructors and their students.

The result is a unique display of varying artistic perspectives.

The show continues through Aug. 2. Gallery hours are Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., and Friday, 9 a.m. - noon.

Admission is free. The gallery is located in the Bayou Building at 2700 Bay Area Blvd. Parking is available in the visitor lot or Student Lot D.

For more information, contact Jeff Bowen, art gallery director at 281-283-3376 or visit www.uhcl.edu/art-gallery.

Former Houston Mayor Jim McConn issued a challenge to the local chamber of commerce asking its members to be responsible for a voter registration program.

25 years ago (1993)
Walter Ginn, formerly superintendent of the physical plant maintenance section at Hobby Airport, was promoted to senior superintendent at Ellington Field. He would have responsibility for on-site management of Ellington under the city's aviation director, Paul Gaines.

Houston Police Chief Sam Nuchia presented Kirkwood South's Neil West a public service award at a ceremony. West was specifically recognized for developing an anti-gang program for fifth-graders titled *Gangs Are No Good (G.A.N.G.)*. While the program targeted fifth-graders, it also involved Dobie High School students who wrote and performed anti-gang skits for the elementary students.

A ribbon-cutting was held for the Johnson Space Center Credit Union's new branch office.

The Sagemont Cowgirls selected new officers for the

Remember When

40 years ago (1978)
Donald Roberts was the victim of a hit-and-run accident.

Dr. James E. "Gene" Stuchbery, 83, for whom Stuchbery Elementary was named, died of heart failure.

Sagelegen residents overwhelmingly approved a proposed plan to build a recreation center, complete with swimming pool and tennis courts.

John Robinson, a Dobie High School senior, won the mile run at the state championship Junior Olympic meet held in Lubbock.

35 years ago (1983)
The salary freeze imposed by the Pasadena Independent School District left many of its teachers feeling their contract renewal was violated.

Observation of flooding in the area after four days of rain prompted Harris County Flood Control to re-evaluate drainage of the HL&P ditch.

30 years ago (1988)
The South Belt Civic Association was scheduled to plant approximately 120 trees as the result of being reimbursed for the destruction of about 150 trees in the Beamer Road esplanade.

drill team. They were Lt. Col. Courtney Kennedy, Col. Courtney Burns, Col. Tiffany Clark, Lt. Col. Shannon Robinson, Lt. Shawna Roberson, Maj. Celina Clark, Capt. Megan McKinney and Lt. Lindsay Saucedo.

20 years ago (1998)
Uduak "Judy" Inyangumia was found dead in her Kirkwood home. Her father, Ekerete Inyangumia, was charged with her murder.

Judge Ted Poe was the guest speaker at the July meeting of the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce.

15 years ago (2003)
PISD spokesperson Kirk Lewis admitted that Memorial High School principal Billye Smith was wrong in offering an additional \$3,000 annual stipend to new head football coach Tom Gooden.

Former South Belt resident and Dobie graduate Linda Koetter Bates, 41, was stabbed to death in her Angleton home.

10 years ago (2008)
Houston Councilman Mike Sullivan hosted a town hall meeting to discuss the land use compatibility regulations affecting the Ellington

Field area.

The South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce Governmental Affairs Committee hosted a meeting on Monday, July 14, to discuss the school funding dilemma in the Pasadena Independent School District. Attending the meeting were PISD Superintendent Kirk Lewis and House District 144 candidates Ken Legler and Joel Redmond.

Grace Community Church announced its plan to erect two massive crosses along Interstate 45.

To be located at the church's south campus near Dixie Farm Road and at the church's north campus near The Woodlands, the crosses would mark both the south and north entrances to the city, according to Grace's pastor, Steve Riggie. The two crosses, which could reach a height of 200 feet, would be among the largest in the world.

An investigation conducted by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services confirmed a local mother's complaint that her child had been left on a bus traveling to an area day care center. The mother said she was notified of the incident when she picked her daughter up roughly 1.5 hours after the incident.

5 years ago (2013)
The Pasadena Independent School District board of trustees approved capping enrollment to reduce overcrowding at several South Belt area campuses, including Dobie High School, Thompson Intermediate, Melillo Middle School, Laura Bush Elementary and Garfield Elementary. The enrollment cap would affect only new transfer requests. The enrollment caps would not affect students who live within the schools' set boundaries.

1 year ago (2017)
South Belt resident and South Houston police detective Paul Brantly was presented the Police Officer of the Year Award by the South Houston Masonic Lodge No. 1295. Brantly has had a distinguished career in law enforcement, earning the 100 Club Hero Award and the Texas Commission of Law Enforcement Valor Award in 2012. Brantly attended Stuchbery Elementary, Thompson Intermediate and Dobie High School.

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USACE releases summary of work plan

On July 5, 2018, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers released a summary of its work plan for studies and construction projects related to funding provided in the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018, which was passed and signed into law Feb. 9.

The Harris County Flood Control District reports that many of the requests are included in the posted work plan.

Studies, which are at full federal expense, include:

- \$3 million for the Section 216 Study led by the Corps, which will evaluate the existing Addicks and Barker reservoirs and recommend operational changes and/or physical projects to improve the effectiveness of the reservoirs in reducing flood risks upstream and downstream; and
- \$3 million for a county-wide drainage study to look at Harris County's drainage in-

frastructure as a system, identifying potential inadequacies and potential improvements to the overall system.

Also included is federal funding to complete ongoing construction of four active federal flood risk reduction projects on which the flood control district is currently working with the Corps. These construction projects include:

- \$75 million for the Brays Bayou Federal Project, consisting of around 21 miles of channel improvements, 11,400 acre-feet of stormwater detention volume, and 30 bridge replacements or modifications;
- \$295,165,000 for the Clear Creek Federal Project, which includes 15 miles of channel improvements and around 1,400 acre-feet of additional stormwater detention volume in several basins;
- \$65 million for the Hunt-

ing Bayou Federal Project, which calls for around 4 miles of channel improvements, 1,000 acre-feet of stormwater detention volume and 17 bridge replacements or modifications; and

• \$45 million for the White Oak Bayou Federal Project, consisting of more than 15 miles of channel improvements and almost 3,000 acre-feet of stormwater detention volume.

The timing of the release of funding and important procedural details still needs to be addressed in the near future, but the fact that these investigations and projects were specifically named and have targeted funding is "very positive news," said Russ Poppe, executive director of the flood control district.

"The Corp's work plan announcement is great news for us as we have been advocating for project funding of these

critical projects for many years," Poppe said. "This secured funding will allow us to complete these projects in a much shorter timeframe – as compared to the uncertainty of annual appropriations – and will reduce flood risks for thousands of Harris County residents."

The work plan also includes short-term funding for repairs to damaged drainage infrastructure, and while several projects within Harris County are listed, exact dollar amounts have not yet been allocated.

The flood control district greatly appreciates the Texas congressional delegation for passing and funding the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 in response to Hurricane Harvey, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for selecting to complete these critical flood risk-reduction projects in Harris County.

Hoggard, Fisher announce engagement

Robert and Lindy Hoggard of South Belt announce the engagement and upcoming marriage of their daughter Ashley Hoggard to Christopher Fisher of Orland Park, Ill., son of Robert Fisher and Melanie Sweeney.

The prospective groom graduated from Providence Catholic High School in 2007 and from McKendree University in 2011 with a bachelor's degree in international relations. Chris moved to Texas in 2013 to attend the Houston Fire Academy. Chris is a firefighter for the Houston Fire Department and works in Houston's South Union neighborhood.

The bride-to-be graduated from Dobie High School in 2011 and from San Jacinto College in 2014 with an Associate of Science degree. She then attended the University of Texas School of Dentistry at Houston and graduated in 2016 with a Bachelor of Science degree in dental hygiene. Ashley is a dental hygienist at a family practice located in Friendswood where the couple reside.

The couple plan to marry in August in Galveston.



Highland Meadow HOA celebrates July 4



Highland Meadow Homeowners Association held its first 4th of July Celebration on Saturday, July 7, at the Highland Meadow pool. Grilled hot dogs, soft drinks and potato chips were served and a variety of music was played. Rudy Alafa (far right), event coordinator and president of Highland Meadow HOA, and his wife Liz Alafa, secretary of Highland Meadow HOA (second from right), cooked up a special meal for Harris County Pct. 2 Constable's office. The event was originally

planned for July 4, but was rescheduled due to rain. Shown, joining the festivities are, left to right, Frank Cruz, vice president of Highland Meadow HOA; Pct. 2 Deputy J. Burford; and state Rep. Carol Alvarado, District 145. Alvarado was invited as a guest speaker and she spoke to the homeowners about the importance of communication among the residents, precinct constables and Texas state representatives.

Photo by Betty McGinnis

Cervantes, Contreras plan to marry

Jonathan Cervantes and Monica Contreras have announced their engagement. Both have been living in the South Belt area for 25 years.

Jonathan, the son of Aaron and Elizabeth Cervantes, graduated from Dobie High School in 2009 and works as a salesman for Frito Lay.

Monica, the daughter of Jose and Nora Contreras, graduated from South Houston High School in 2008 and works as a sales associate at James Avery.

The couple plan to marry in Houston in January 2020.



UH-Clear Lake offers early childhood education master's degree fully online

University of Houston-Clear Lake's Early Childhood Education Master of Science has been available to educational professionals for years, but starting fall 2018, the degree will become available fully online, to help busy education professionals maintain their employment while advancing their career.

"The face-to-face degree will remain available and is unchanged. The online version is a mirror version of that degree," said Shanna Graves, associate professor of early childhood education. "All the courses are available online, including the electives and the

capstone project."

A capstone project is a multifaceted assignment that serves as a culminating intellectual experience for students, typically at the end of an academic program. With the early childhood degree, students have options for their capstone experience—they can choose to complete a 160-hour practicum internship or complete a master's thesis.

Graves said that professionals who have a teaching certificate and wish to obtain an advanced degree as well as professionals working in the private sector that don't

require certification but wish to have an advanced degree could benefit.

"There are some individuals who have a bachelor's degree in another field but wish to get a master's in childhood education," said Graves. "We've had a number of students enroll in this program who have degrees in other fields who are career-changers."

Graves said the degree requires only 36 credit hours to complete.

"It's possible to finish in under two years," Graves said. "The quality of the classes is as excellent as always, but there are many peo-

ple who just can't make it to campus. This online degree makes advancement possible for everyone, regardless of their location. The program is flexible and students can work at their own pace."

The face-to-face version of this degree plan has received recognition from the National Association for the Education of Young Children, the most prestigious and desired recognition in the field.

For more information about the Early Childhood Education Master of Science, visit www.uhcl.edu/academics/degrees/early-childhood-education-ms.

Consensus statement made for CCISD safety committee

Continued from Page 2A

The team of volunteers explored the use of metal detectors, the arming of teachers, and the solicitation of marshals with concealed handgun licenses. The group came to a wide consensus that these measures, at this time, would shift CCISD from a nurturing learning environment to one synonymous with a penitentiary.

The committee does not recommend these options.

The group found research and evidence that metal detectors would not stop a motivated shooter nor do they effectively detect weapons. A 2015 TSA study found a failure rate of 95 percent with high-quality equipment, full-time and trained screeners, and intensive support personnel. Michael Dorn, direc-

tor of non-profit Safe Havens International, said, "Properly funded and run metal detectors can be quite effective in reducing the risk of the more common types of weapons violence in schools (gang-related violence, etc.) but it is much harder to dissuade a determined attacker who is willing to risk death or who plans to kill himself or herself."

The group participated in a case study of the metal detection program at Davis High School in the Aldine Independent School District. They found the screening process takes up to 45 minutes for a school population of 2,500. Teachers and campus staff operate 12 detection sites because by law, police officers cannot conduct searches without proba-

ble cause. The group felt the length of time students wait outside to go through the detectors would create a secondary safety hazard.

The group and district staff intentionally sought evidence to indicate that metal detectors are effective in the prevention of gun violence and could not identify a source. One comprehensive study by the Journal of School Health concluded, "There is insufficient data in the literature to determine whether the presence of metal detectors in schools reduces the risk of violent behavior among students, and some research suggests that the presence of metal detectors may detrimentally impact student perceptions of safety."

The group discussed whether a metal detector

program would also include after-school activities and evening events such as band concerts, basketball games, open houses, recognizing the absence of an active metal detector would allow persons to bring and intentionally hide weapons to use at a later time.

For these reasons, the CCISD School Safety Committee does not recommend the installation of metal detectors inside schools based on evidence of significant fail rates of weapon detection, secondary safety issues for students waiting outside, and the redirection of campus teachers and staff time to operate metal detectors every day.

The committee reviewed the state regulations over the Guardian Plan, a program that allows schools to have

staff carry weapons on campus, and the Marshal Plan, a program where citizens can serve as armed personnel in a school setting. The group did not feel state regulations provide for the appropriate vetting, psychological examination, or training of guardians or marshals.

In the end, the committee felt adding 15 additional police officers, 15 student support counselors, enhancing training and prevention techniques, and improving security systems would provide a far more stronger shield than metal detectors, guardians and marshals.

The school district, through a similar or follow-up committee, should continue to explore safety improvements on a regular and consistent basis.

Harris County encourages preparation while traveling during hurricane season

As one makes travel plans this summer, the Harris County Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management reminds residents that hurricane season is underway.

While traveling during hurricane season presents a unique set of potential challenges, proper awareness and preparation can allow for an issue-free vacation.

When planning a trip, keep the potential weather of your destination in mind. Locations along the Gulf Coast, the Atlantic and the Caribbean are all vulnerable to tropical weather between the months of June and Novem-

ber. Safety should remain the number one priority while traveling. It is better to cancel or postpone a trip than to be caught in a hurricane.

Travel insurance can help minimize any financial losses one may encounter in the case of an unforeseen storm interfering with travel plans. Make sure insurance covers trip interruption and trip cancellation. Also, make sure to have medical coverage either through a health care plan or through additional travel insurance.

If traveling to a coastal area, or an area that is known to be struck by hurricanes, be

proactive. U.S. nationals can subscribe to Smart Traveler Enrollment Program which will get one in touch with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate to make them aware of one's presence in the area. More information can be found at <https://step.state.gov/>.

If a tropical storm or hurricane develops while one is on vacation, leaving one with no time to evacuate, it is important that one is prepared. Having an emergency plan will allow one to stay calm and safe throughout the storm. Hotels should provide one with any resources and emer-

gency information one needs to stay safe. If one is on the road it is important to keep an emergency kit with any supplies one will need including food, water, medication, and important documents.

Download the free Ready-Harris app from the app store or Google Play to create a family disaster plan that accounts for family, pets and home during one's travel plans.

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LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday	Vigil	5:30 p.m.
Sunday		7:30, 9:15, 11:15 a.m.
Sunday	1:00 p.m. Misa en Español	
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Leader to award Schlitterbahn ticket prizes in vacation pic contest

The *Leader* is seeking vacation photos for publication. A first- and second-place prize of Schlitterbahn tickets will be awarded for July and August. All submissions should include where and when the photo was taken, as well as identify each person in the picture and tell the story about the trip.

All photos must be high resolution. Email photos to mynews@southbeltleader.com.

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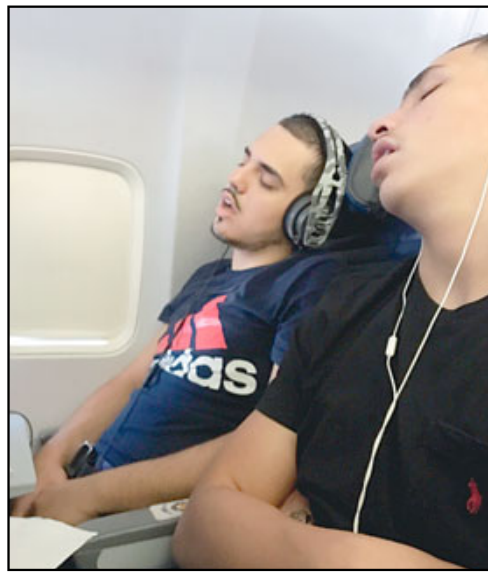
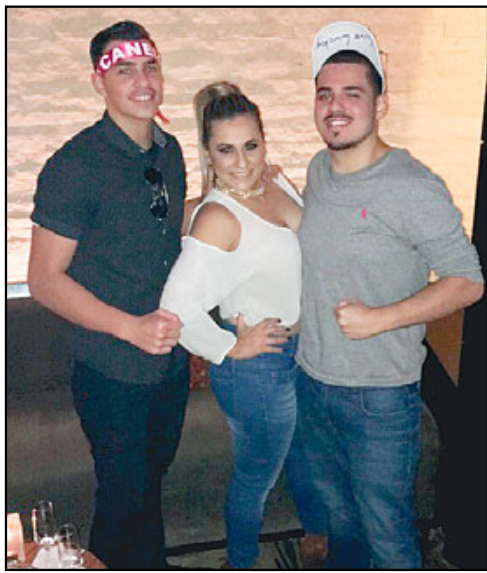
VISA M.C. **BBB**

Trevino family visits Las Vegas



The Trevino family, who have been residents of South Belt for 10 years, took a vacation to Las Vegas and stayed at the Mirage hotel. The family was able to experience the Gennady Golovkin vs. Canelo Alvarez boxing match at the MGM Grand Hotel. Shown above left are, Carlos Trevino (left) and Fabian Trevino ringside. Shown above

right, Carlos (left) and Fabian pose in front of a promotional sign. Shown below left are, left to right, Fabian, Ana Enriquez Trevino and Carlos. While in Vegas, the family also visited several hotels and attended a Michael Jackson One show. Below right, Carlos (left) and Fabian catch up on sleep on the flight home to Houston.



Colemans experience Destin

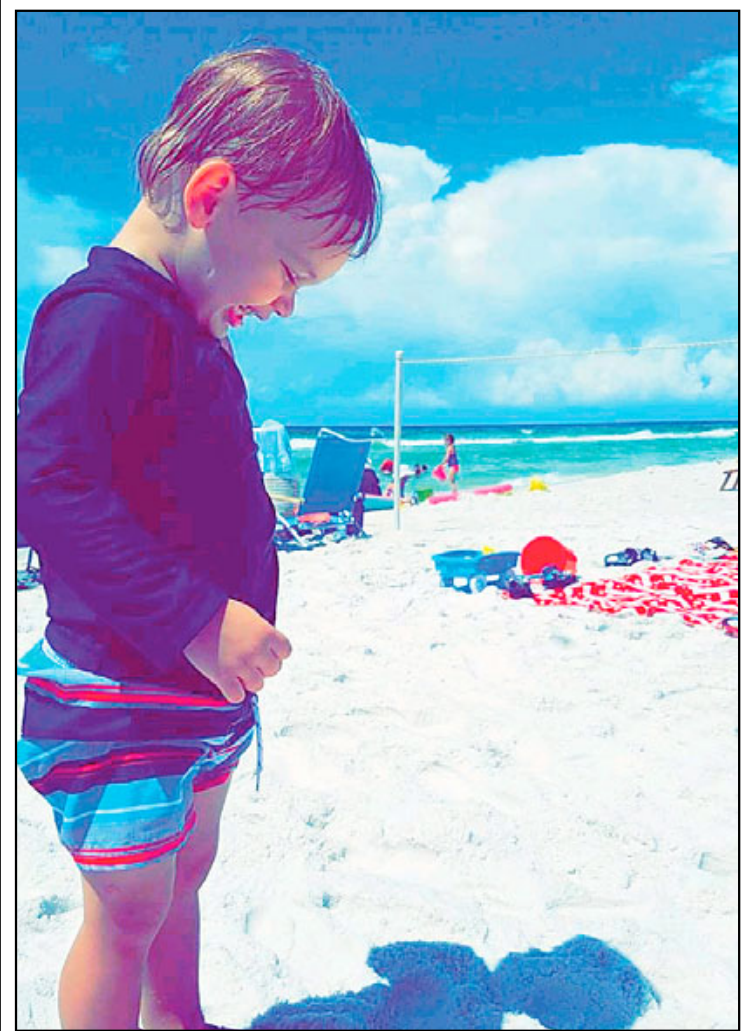
Having lost their home off Blackhawk during Hurricane Harvey, Tim Coleman (left) and Destiny Coleman traveled with their three sons to Destin, Fla., to enjoy a fun and relaxing vacation.



The family was able to enjoy activities while in Destin. They went on a sightseeing boat tour and finished the long days on the beach. Shown below are, left to right, Kai Coleman, Eli Coleman and Trace Coleman.



The family also visited the indoor gulfarium to watch a spectacular dolphin and sea lion show. Shown above, Eli eyes an alligator that just wants to show off its teeth. Shown below, Eli is all smiles enjoying some fun in the sun at the beach.



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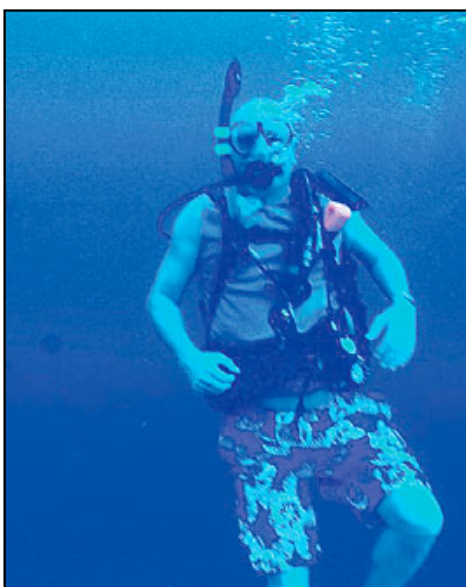
For more information, go to www.stlukesec.com or contact the ECC directly at (281) 741-7497 email eccregistrar@stlukesecatholic.com

stlukesec.com

Brewer goes diving



Shown above and below, longtime South Belt resident Greg Brewer visited the Flower Garden Banks sanctuary the weekend of June 29 aboard the M/V Fling.



Brewer was diving between 70 and 100 feet underwater. The Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary is a U.S. National Marine Sanctuary located 100 nautical miles offshore Galveston.



FALL CLASSES — BEGIN — AUG. 27



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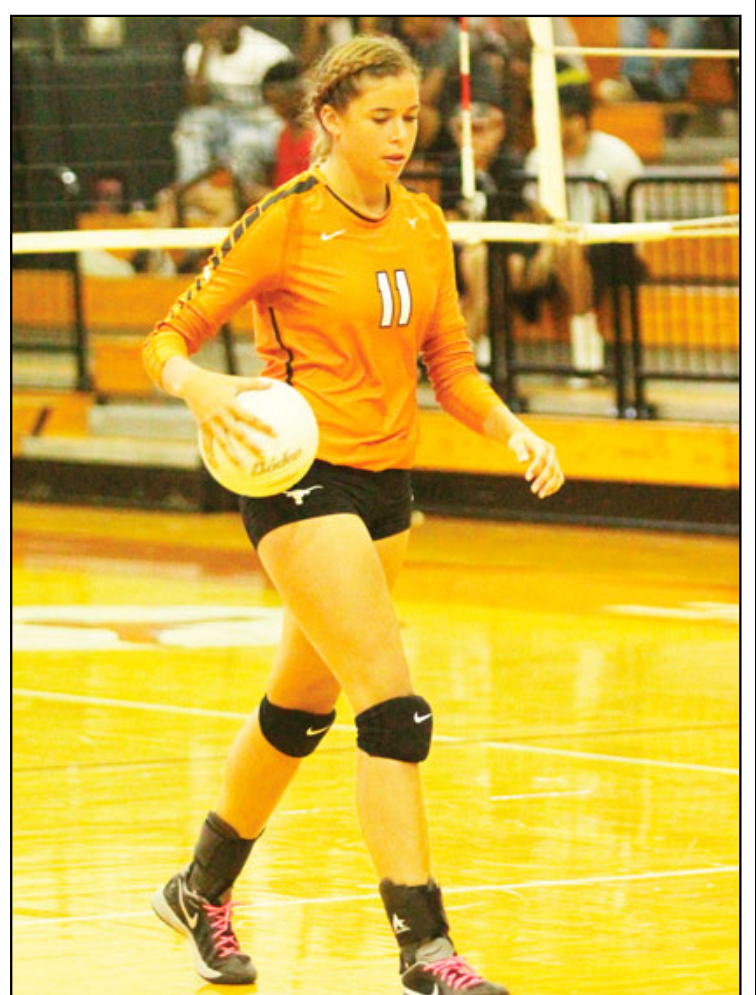
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SECTION B SPORTS & CLASSIFIED

SBHLL junior stars bow out at sectionals

Battling rainouts and delays throughout a soggy Section III tournament, the Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League's junior division all-star team was ultimately eliminated from the tournament. The locals opened the double-elimination event against a very tough West University squad, losing 16-0 to slip into the loser's bracket. SBHLL bounced back with a 13-3 win over the host Huffman team July 9, and then returned to the field shortly thereafter to face Dickinson. In that elimination game, Dickinson was able to come away with a 13-3 victory.

GHVCA lauds Dobie's Pleasants



Dobie senior outside hitter Taylor Pleasants will begin the fourth and final season of what has already been a brilliant varsity volleyball career Aug. 1, as the Lady Longhorns begin workouts. She will do so as one of the top returning players as she was named as a Preseason Player to Watch by the Greater Houston Volleyball Coaches Association. As a junior in 2017, Pleasants was named the Offensive Player of the Year in District 22-6A. Clear Brook players Katlin Newsome and Kennedy Crutchfield also made the prestigious list. See Dobie and Clear Brook schedules on Page 2B.

Berneathy, Dobie High School football staff to host youth camp July 30 through Aug. 1

Dobie varsity football head coach Kevin Berneathy and his staff are near the conclusion of the Longhorns' annual strength and conditioning program, which means the staff is ready to host the 2018 Longhorn Youth Camp July 30 through Aug. 1 at the school. The youth camp is open to those entering the third through eighth grades as of the 2018-2019 school year. Participants will receive instruction in all phases of the game, including passing, receiving, running the football, blocking, tackling, pass defense, the kicking game, special teams responsibilities and more. The camp also represents a great time for those in attendance to learn the "way of doing things" within the Dobie football program. Cost of the camp is \$40 per student and includes a camp T-shirt, certificate of participation and possible camp awards. Participants should wear proper attire, including shoes (cleats if possible), shorts, T-shirt, etc. Water will be provided, but participants may also bring their own. Parents must provide medical insurance for their children as the Pasadena ISD does not provide such coverage for events of this type. For additional information, call Berneathy at 713-740-0370 ext. 04165.

Brook's Julks rolling at Astros' Class A BC

Corey Julks, a Clear Brook High School graduate and 2017 eighth-round draft choice of the Houston Astros, has been on a roll of late. In June, Julks was promoted to the Astros' Advanced Class A Buies Creek Astros team, where he has played both in the outfield and as designated hitter. Now through 20 games with Buies Creek, Julks has batted .342 with seven

Green, ex-Dobie player re-signs with Rockets

Gerald Green, who played for a brief time at Dobie High School, has signed a one-year extension with his hometown Houston Rockets. The small forward made the varsity boys' basketball team at Dobie during his junior season but eventually withdrew from the school due to academic issues. He went on to play at the now defunct Gulf Shores Academy in Houston, where he drew the eyes of NBA scouts while on the travel circuit. At that time, the NBA still allowed American high school players to make a direct jump to the professional ranks, and Green did. Originally the No. 18 overall selection in the 2005 NBA draft by the Boston Celtics, Green has played for a host of teams while carving out a career as a valued role player, usually off the bench. Signed by Houston midway through last season, Green averaged 12.1 points per game over 41 outings while providing a shooting spark from distance. Green's new deal calls for him to make the league minimum of \$2.4 million over the course of the 2018-2019 campaign. He is also credited with extensive volunteer work after Hurricane Harvey.

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Brook's Machado heads to UTSA



Clear Brook Class of 2018 graduate Gavin Machado came up with a big offensive season after signing a letter of intent to continue his playing career at the University of Texas at San Antonio. See more about Machado's future plans on Page 6B. Courtesy photo

Robinson Fastpitch camp slated

The Robinson Fastpitch Camp for youth softball players is coming to the South Belt Girls Softball Association's facility at El Franco Lee Park next month. The camp will be held Friday, Aug. 10, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cost of the camp is \$140 per participant and will include instruction from coaches from such collegiate programs as UH-Victoria, Louisiana State, Centenary, Sam Houston, Hardin-Simmons and more. Players entering the seventh through 12th grades as of the 2018-2019 school year are eligible to attend. To register for the camp, visit www.mcdonaldclincs.com. For more information, direct email to camp director and Dobie High School graduate Iver McDonald Robinson at ivermac18@gmail.com.

Area girls' softball sets fall ball sign up

The South Belt Girls Softball Association is now offering online registration for its fall ball season. There are no fundraiser fees, and additional sibling discounts are available. Visit www.southbeltsoftball.com for registration details.

Clear Brook 7-on-7 makes final 32 field

Sweeping three teams in pool play action, Clear Brook advanced to the championship bracket at the Adidas 7-on-7 State Championships June 29-30 in College Station. Following a perfect 3-0 run through pool play, the locals were defeated 40-32 by Georgetown in the round of 32. College Station won the 2018 Division 1 crown.

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Clear Brook Lady Wolverines

2018 Varsity Volleyball Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Aug. 3	Dobie, La Porte scrimm.	noon
Aug. 4	at Clear Falls scrimm.	9 a.m.
Aug. 7	at Bridgeland	1 p.m.
Aug. 9-11	at Pearland tourn.	TBA
Aug. 14	Houston Memorial	5:30 p.m.
Aug. 17	at Summer Creek	6 p.m.
Aug. 21	at Dulles	6:30 p.m.
Aug. 24	Cypress Creek	6 p.m.
Aug. 30	Clear Creek ISD tourn.	TBA
Aug. 31	at Deer Park	6:30 p.m.
Sept. 1	Clear Creek ISD tourn.	TBA
Sept. 4	Ridge Point	6:30 p.m.
Sept. 7	*at Clear Creek	6 p.m.
Sept. 11	*Clear Falls	5:30 p.m.
Sept. 14	*at Clear Springs	4 p.m.
Sept. 21	*at Dickinson	4:30 p.m.
Sept. 25	*at Alvin	6 p.m.
Sept. 28	*Clear Lake	6 p.m.
Oct. 2	*Clear Creek	6 p.m.
Oct. 5	*at Clear Falls	6 p.m.
Oct. 9	*Clear Springs	6:30 p.m.
Oct. 12	at Pearland	4:15 p.m.
Oct. 16	*Dickinson	6 p.m.
Oct. 19	*Alvin	6 p.m.
Oct. 23	*Clear Lake	6 p.m.

* - District 24-6A matches

Dobie Lady Longhorns

2018 Varsity Volleyball Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Aug. 3	at Clear Brook scrimm.	noon
Aug. 4	Tri-team scrimm.	9 a.m.
Aug. 7	at Elkins	6 p.m.
Aug. 10	Alvin	6 p.m.
Aug. 14	at Baytown Sterling	6:30 p.m.
Aug. 16	at Dickinson tourn.	TBA
Aug. 18	at Dickinson tourn.	TBA
Aug. 21	at Spring	5:30 p.m.
Aug. 24	Dulles	6 p.m.
Aug. 28	*Summer Creek	6:30 p.m.
Aug. 30	at Santa Fe tourn.	TBA
Aug. 31	*at Pasadena	6:30 p.m.
Sept. 1	at Santa Fe tourn.	TBA
Sept. 4	*at Humble	6:30 p.m.
Sept. 7	*at Kingwood	6:30 p.m.
Sept. 11	*Atascocita	6:30 p.m.
Sept. 14	*at Rayburn	6:30 p.m.
Sept. 18	*South Houston	6:30 p.m.
Sept. 21	*at Memorial	4:30 p.m.
Sept. 25	Dickinson	6:30 p.m.
Sept. 28	*at Summer Creek	6:30 p.m.
Oct. 2	*Pasadena	6:30 p.m.
Oct. 5	*Humble (at Phillips)	4:30 p.m.
Oct. 9	*Kingwood	6:30 p.m.
Oct. 12	at Atascocita	6:30 p.m.
Oct. 16	*Rayburn	6:30 p.m.
Oct. 19	*at South Houston	6:30 p.m.
Oct. 23	*Memorial	6:30 p.m.

* - District 22-6A matches

Dobie tennis opens practice July 19; exes matches are Aug. 11



Entering his 20th season at Dobie High School as varsity tennis coach and 35th overall in high school tennis, Manuel Moreno will open preseason workouts July 19 at the school.

Former Dobie High School team tennis doubles partners Albert Luu (left) and Luis Cabreja could be among those in attendance as the Longhorns host their annual exes matches Saturday, Aug. 11, at the school's courts.

Anyone who has played tennis at Dobie during head coach Manuel Moreno Jr.'s 19-plus seasons at the school are invited to compete. Direct email to Moreno at mmoreno@pasadenaisd.org.

Strike Force 10-under wins USSSA World Series championship



The South Belt-based Houston Strike Force 10-under baseball team went undefeated at the United States Specialty Sports Association World Series June 26-30, in Destin, Fla., dedicating the victory to one of their coaches, Eric Michaud, who passed away in February. Members of the team are, left to right,

(front row) Jayden Rios, Julian Carrillo, Donny Cantu, Jr., Isaiah Hinojosa, Ethan Perez, Carson Webb, Landon Babbitt, Grant Shepherd, Lalo Rivas, Eric Michaud Jr., Kayson Aragon, (back row) coaches Donny Cantu, Jose Perez and Brandon Webb.

8U Kryptonite takes third at La Porte

At right, representing the South Belt Girls' Softball Association, the 8U Kryptonite played in the TGA Smith Frenzy Tournament in La Porte June 30, eventually taking third place in the event. Members of the team are, left to right, (front row) Destiny Sidiropoulos, Gabby Ramirez, Emma Parker, Madison Villatoro, Katie Salinas, Addisyn Castorena, (middle row) Sasha Cepeda, Cecilia Velasquez, Gisselle Morales, Alayna Rodriguez, Alyssa Arredondo, Izelliah Williams, (back row) coaches Alex Lacamu, Jay Rodriguez and Justin Parker.

Submitted photo



Sports camps, clinics, misc.

Clear Brook, Dobie youth VB camps

Official preseason volleyball tryouts and workouts will come Wednesday, Aug. 1, with the regular season beginning Tuesday, Aug. 7.

With that in mind, Clear Brook High School varsity volleyball head coach Meredith Thompson and Dobie varsity volleyball head coach Dawn Sexton are hosting youth camps just ahead of the start of the preseason.

At Clear Brook, Thompson and her staff will host incoming third-through ninth-grade students (as of the 2018-2019 school year) July 23 through July 26, at Lady Wolverines' gym.

Participants will gain instruction in all phases of the game, including serving, setting, passing, digging, hitting and offensive and defensive strategies.

Those entering the third- through the fifth- grades will attend the first session from 8 to 9:30 a.m., and sixth- through eighth-grade beginner-level players will attend from 8 to 10:30 a.m.

Eighth- and ninth-grade advanced-level players will attend the camp from 10:45 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. Pre-registration cost for third- through fifth-grade students is \$80 if received by July 15 and \$100 thereafter.

The cost for the other two sessions is \$100 if received by July 15 and \$120 thereafter. Payment must be made by cash, cashier's check or money order. No personal checks will be accepted.

For any camp information, direct email to Thompson at mthomp1@ccisd.net.

Sexton and her staff will host the Lady Longhorns' 2018 volleyball camps for incoming fifth- through 12th-graders as of the 2018-2019 school year.

Fifth- and sixth-grade students are invited to attend July 17-19, from 9 to 11 a.m. Cost is \$40 per student, cash only. Seventh- and eighth-grade students are invited to attend July 17-19, from noon to 3 p.m. Cost is \$45, cash only.

Sexton will then host 10th- through 12th-grade students July 24-26, from 9 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$45, cash only. Incoming freshmen will attend from 1 to 3:30 p.m. Cost is \$40, cash only.

Families are also required to provide participants' medical insurance as the Pasadena ISD nor the Clear Creek ISD provide such coverage.

Thompson sets summer camp series

The Thompson Intermediate coaching staff has scheduled a variety of camps and fitness activities aimed at keeping first-year and returning Lion athletes active this summer. Parents must provide medical insurance coverage as the Pasadena ISD does not do so for these types of events.

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

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

Strength/Conditioning Camp – The Lions' July 23-26 strength and conditioning camp for boys and girls will include strength training, agility drills, tire work, stair climbing, ladder work, weight training, conditioning and more. Registration is \$25 cash only per student. Camp hours are 9 to 11 a.m.

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

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

Brook could enhance postseason odds in 24-6A

In the July 5 issue, the *Leader* examined some of the challenges facing not only Dobie but the rest of the Pasadena mix as the fall athletic season nears in the newly re-vamped District 22-6A.

While the likes of Atascocita, Summer Creek, Kingwood and Humble are poised to cause a competitive boost in 22-6A, can the same be said for District 24-6A, where Clear Brook resides?

The best answer? Probably not. While Pasadena ISD leaders surely had to frown at the University Interscholastic League's Feb. 1 realignment that covers two school years, Clear Creek ISD personnel may have likely been smiling.

The gist of the new-look 24-6A? Friendswood will drop back down to the Class 5A ranks as of 2018-2019, leaving only Alvin and Dickinson to join Brook, Clear Creek, Clear Falls, Clear

Lake and Clear Springs in 22-6A.

As the varsity football season nears, there is very little doubt as to just who figures to lead the pack.

Clear Springs rolled to the District 24-6A championship a season ago and made its way to the title with a 6-1 mark.

The Chargers hammered Pearland in the bidistrict playoffs but then suffered a similar fate in a huge area-round loss to North Shore.

This season, Clear Springs is likely to go head-to-head with Dickinson for the 24-6A crown.

As for Dickinson, the Gators overcame an 0-2 start to 24-6A action last season and went on to win their final five regular season games.

In the postseason, Dickinson pounded Alief Hastings in the first round but then fell to Atascocita in the area round.

It will take a huge surprise for Clear Springs and Dickinson not to advance to the postseason, leaving Brook, Creek, Falls, Lake and Alvin to battle for the remaining two spots.

Clear Lake had its best season in several years in 2017 but now must replace several top offensive pieces who are now set to play collegiately.

Clear Creek will begin a new era under first-year head coach Dwayne Lane, who must also replace standout quarterback Sam Matthews and others.

What about Alvin, Clear Brook or Clear Falls?

Alvin seemingly makes strides but ultimately just misses out on the postseason year after year.

Falls, meanwhile, has had its share of struggles in recent years, going 4-25 over the past three seasons.

Is Brook ticketed for a re-

turn to the postseason under new head coach Lupe Flores? That very well could be the case. Like Clear Lake, the Wolverines will have first-year starters at several key offensive skill positions.

But will the Wolverines' overall athleticism lead them to a race-changing win over a Lake or a Creek, or even a Springs? Time will tell, and that time is inching closer.

How about the 24-6A volleyball ranks?

The exit of District 24-6A champion Friendswood will create an opening for a team come playoff time.

But the facts are the facts. District 24-6A has been the most competitive of its kind in the Region III ranks for more than a decade, and it doesn't figure to change anytime soon.

In 2017, Clear Falls reached the Region III championship before losing to Seven Lakes. The Lady

Knights will again be skilled in 2018.

Then there is Clear Springs and Clear Creek, programs that have reached the Region III Final Four in the past.

Clear Brook, however, could be that program to make a big jump this season.

Returnees Caitlin Newsome and Kennedy Crutchfield were named to the Houston Area Volleyball Coaches Association's Players to Watch list. They could very well lead Brook back to the postseason.

Alvin? Former Clear Brook star Suzy Boulavsky Buechele is in her fourth season with that program, and the Lady Yellowjackets have had some success under her leadership.

Other fall sports such as cross-country and team tennis? Again, the exit of Friendswood from the 24-6A ranks should increase the chances

for other programs to reach the postseason, district or regional levels.

Clear Brook has had a decades-long battle going with the likes of Clear Creek and Clear Lake for a spot in the playoffs. But with Friendswood now back to 5A, the Wolverines are a near-lock to grab one of the four available playoff spots later this fall.

Clear Brook has been fairly steady in cross-country in recent seasons, and could also be positioning itself to challenge the likes of Clear Lake, Clear Creek and others.

In summary, while Dobie and the rest of the Pasadena ISD ranks will surely need to elevate their levels of play in some of the fall sports, there are some increased opportunities to reach the postseason with Friendswood having moved to 5A. It all begins soon, and the chips will fall where they may.

2018 Pasadena ISD Varsity Football Schedule

Dobie	Memorial	Pasadena	Rayburn	S. Houston
at Santa Fe Friday, Aug. 31 Indian Stadium, 7 p.m.	Kempner Friday, Aug. 31 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	at Galena Park Friday, Aug. 31 GPISD Stadium, 7 p.m.	Goose Creek Memorial Thursday, Aug. 30 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	at Clear Falls Saturday, Sept. 1 Challenger Stadium, 6 p.m.
at Bellaire Friday, Sept. 7 Butler Stadium, 7 p.m.	at Dickinson Friday, Sept. 7 Vitanza Stadium, 7 p.m.	at Chavez Thursday, Sept. 6 Barnett Stadium, 7 p.m.	at Episcopal Friday, Sept. 7 Candice Simmons Field, 7 p.m.	Goose Creek Memorial Friday, Sept. 7 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.
Summer Creek Saturday, Sept. 22 Veterans Stadium, 6 p.m.	Summer Creek Friday, Sept. 14 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	South Houston Thursday, Sept. 13 Veterans Stadium, 6 p.m.	at Humble Thursday, Sept. 13 Turner Stadium, 7 p.m.	Pasadena Thursday, Sept. 13 Veterans Stadium, 6 p.m.
Pasadena Saturday, Sept. 29 Veterans Stadium, 6 p.m.	Pasadena (HC) Friday, Sept. 21 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	Memorial Friday, Sept. 21 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	at Kingwood Friday, Sept. 21 Turner Stadium, 7 p.m.	Humble Thursday, Sept. 20 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.
Humble (HC) Friday, Oct. 5 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	at Humble Thursday, Sept. 27 Turner Stadium, 7 p.m.	Dobie Saturday, Sept. 29 Veterans Stadium, 6 p.m.	at Atascocita Friday, Sept. 28 Turner Stadium, 7 p.m.	Kingwood (HC) Friday, Sept. 28 Challenger Stadium, 6 p.m.
Kingwood Friday, Oct. 12 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	at Kingwood Thursday, Oct. 4 Turner Stadium, 7 p.m.	at Summer Creek Friday, Oct. 5 Turner Stadium, 7 p.m.	South Houston (HC) Thursday, Oct. 11 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	Atascocita Thursday, Oct. 4 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.
at Atascocita Saturday, Oct. 20 Turner Stadium, 6 p.m.	at Atascocita Saturday, Oct. 13 Turner Stadium, 6 p.m.	Humble (HC) Thursday, Oct. 18 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	Memorial Friday, Oct. 19 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	Rayburn Thursday, Oct. 11 Veterans Stadium, 6 p.m.
Rayburn Friday, Oct. 26 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	Rayburn Friday, Oct. 19 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	Kingwood Thursday, Oct. 25 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	Dobie Friday, Oct. 26 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	Memorial Saturday, Oct. 27 Veterans Stadium, 6 p.m.
South Houston Friday, Nov. 2 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	South Houston Saturday, Oct. 27 Challenger Stadium, 7 p.m.	Atascocita Thursday, Nov. 1 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	Summer Creek Saturday, Nov. 3 Veterans Stadium, 1 p.m.	Dobie Friday, Nov. 2 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.
Memorial Thursday, Nov. 8 Veterans Stadium, 6 p.m. (HC) Homecoming	Dobie Thursday, Nov. 8 Veterans Stadium, 6 p.m. (HC) Homecoming	Rayburn Friday, Nov. 9 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m. (HC) Homecoming	Pasadena Friday, Nov. 9 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m. (HC) Homecoming	at Summer Creek Friday, Nov. 9 Turner Stadium, 7 p.m. (HC) Homecoming

CALENDAR

THURSDAY, JULY 12

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

NASA Aglow Community Lighthouse – Second Thursday of the month, 9:30 a.m., Praise Chapel, 18516 Hwy. 3 in Webster. The public is welcome and encouraged to bring others. For details, call 281-910-1971.

Fun Bunch – for senior citizens, ages 55 and older, meets the second Thursday of each month at 10 a.m. at the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce, 10500 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call Ronn Canon at 281-610-8999 or the chamber at 281-481-5516.

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

ABWA - Southeast Express Network – American Business Women's Association-South meets the second Thursday, Spring Creek Barbeque, 9005 Broadway (FM-518), Pearland. Lunch is 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. (\$20). Includes networking with professional business women and guest speaker. Women of all ages/occupations invited. Bring business cards. Reservations appreciated. Visit www.seen-abwa.org.

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

Pearland Area Republican's Club – meets monthly on the second Thursday (except December, June and July) at the Pearland Church of Christ Annex, 2217 N. Grand Blvd., Pearland. For details, call Gary at 281-993-8335.

7 p.m.

Congregation Shaar Hashalom's – Rabbi Stuart Federow hosts free discussions on Judaism and religion in general, open to the public, second Thursdays, at Victor's, 1425 NASA Pkwy., (next to "space" McDonald's). This is the conservative synagogue in the Bay Area. For details, contact the office at 281-488-5861 or at csh@shaarhashalom.org.

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

FRIDAY, JULY 13

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

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

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) – West End Group, noon, Shepherd of the Heart United Methodist Church, 12005 County Rd. 39, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.

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

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

SATURDAY, JULY 14

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

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

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

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

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

SUNDAY, JULY 15

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

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

5:30 p.m.

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

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

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

MONDAY, JULY 16

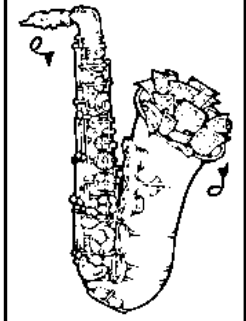
Al-Anon Deer Park – Mondays, 10 - 11 a.m. Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P Street, Deer Park. Enter through back of church. Call 409-454-5720 for details, or drop in.

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

Seniors and Law Enforcement Together – SALT meetings are 10:30 - 11:30 a.m., Madison Jobe Senior Center, 1700 East Thomas St., in Pasadena on the third Monday. No December meeting. January meeting is on the second Monday. Meetings start timely and teach seniors how to avoid identity theft, scams, fraud, etc. Police officers and sheriffs may be in attendance. Free. Refreshments served. For details, call 713-477-0175.

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

Continued on Page 4B



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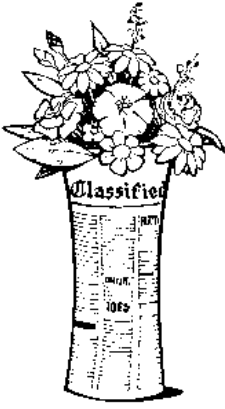
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tools, many more items. 7-12
10702 NICOLES PLACE TRAIL. Fri & Sat, July 13 & 14, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Glassware, dishes, holiday decor. Lots of good stuff. 7-12
8834 DANBURY HOLLOW in Clearwood Crossing. Fri & Sat, July 13 & 14, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Lots of good stuff. 7-12
13710 MARYLEBONE DR. Sat, July 14, 7 - 11 a.m. Plenty of clothes, all sizes. 7-12
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CALENDAR

Continued from Page 3B
MONDAY, JULY 16
Noon
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611. 2 p.m.
Genealogy Group - The Parker Williams Genealogy group meets from 2 - 4 p.m. on the first and third Mondays at the Parker Williams Library, Beamer at Scarsdale. The public is invited to attend. For details, email Liz Hicks at erootrot@usa.net. 3:15 p.m.
Houston Area Parkinson Society - Free exercise and speech therapy for adults with Parkinson's, 3:15 - 4:45 p.m., Clear Lake Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster. Visit www.hapsonline.org for details. 6 p.m.
New Directions Singles - Age 50 and older meets the first and third Mondays for a potluck dinner with activities and/or guest speakers at Webster Presbyterian Church, 201 W. NASA Pkwy. For details, call Margarita at 832-715-9658.
Scrabble Club #511 - Meets Monday at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua. Come, improve crossword playing skills. Call 281-488-2923 for details.
Pearland Overeaters Anonymous HOW Meeting - Mondays at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 2535 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland. Enter door next to recycling bins. For details, call 713-865-3668 or visit www.oahouston.org. 7 p.m.
Survivors of Suicide Support Group - gives coping skills in a non-threatening environment to adults who have lost a loved one to suicide. For details email LynneAnnH@yahoo.com or visit www.crisishotline.org or call 832-416-1177.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church-youth bldg. For information, call 713-856-1611. 7:30 p.m.
The Clear Lake Gem and Mineral Society - Meets the third Monday at Clear Lake Park Bldg., 5001 NASA Pkwy., Seabrook. Presenters explore topics such as fossils, planetary geology, mineralogy, lapidary, jewelry making, fossil and mineral collecting. Field trips to Texas collecting sites and surrounding states. Interested persons welcome. Door prizes. Free parking. For details, visit www.clgms.org. 7:30 p.m.
Congregation Shaar Hashalom - Israeli Folk Dancing on Monday, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m., 16020 El Camino Real, 77062. \$4/session or \$35/10 sessions for CSH members and \$5/session or \$45/10 sessions for nonmembers. Everyone is welcome. For details, contact 281-488-5861 or csh@shaarhashalom.org.
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Saint Luke's Group, 12 Step Recovery, open meeting Mondays, 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. in the Education Bldg., 11011 Hall Rd., 77089. For details, call Russell at 832-483-6715.

TUESDAY, JULY 17
7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in. 9:30 a.m.
Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum - Exhibits include dioramas, a turn-of-the-century doctor's office and an old-time kitchen. Tuesday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., 204 S. Main, Pasadena. For details, call 713-472-0565. 10 a.m.
Clear Lake Bridge Club - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at jpochnsner@aol.com for details. Noon
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611. Noon
Rotary Club of Pearland - Meets Tuesdays, noon to 1 p.m., Golfcrest Country Club, 2509 Country Club Dr., Pearland. Lunch is \$15. Variety of interesting speakers. For details, call 281-900-7257. Email nalix@texascitizensbank.com. 1 - 2 p.m.
Free dance lessons - taught by Lewis and Betty Whistler (35 years experience teaching dance) at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 E League City Parkway, on Tuesdays from 1 to 2 p.m. Bringing a partner is helpful but is not required. All ages are welcome. Each month, features a different focus. In July, basic Cha-Cha lessons are taught. For questions about this class or other lessons they teach, call Betty at 832-517-5833. For questions about League City's activity card requirements, call the park office at 281-554-1180. League City Parks Dept. requires an activity card for all participation of activities. Seniors (age 55 and older) get a free "full activity card." Nonresident seniors pay \$25 a year for this full activity card. If under age 55, there is a "special limited to ballroom activity card" (residents pay \$25/year, nonresidents pay \$37.50) to enjoy "daytime" ballroom activities. 1:30 p.m.
TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) - #1530 meets at the Sagemont Park Community Center, 11507 Hughes Rd., For information, call Jeanette Sumrall at 713-946-3713. 2 p.m.
The National Active and Retired Federal Employees - NARFE Chapter 941 meets the third Tuesday, El Franco Lee Park Community Center, 9500 Hall Rd. Visitors welcome. For details, call Roy at 713-734-1461 or EFL Center at 281-464-9708. No meeting in Aug.
Clear Lake Bridge Club Lab Class - Tuesday, 2 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. For details/classes, contact Dr. Glandorf at drglandorf@sbcglobal.net or 281-488-6318. 6:30 p.m.
Breast Cancer Support Group - Meets on the third Tuesday from 6:30

to 8 p.m. in the lobby of the Clear Lake Regional Breast Diagnostic Center, 200 Medical Center Blvd., Suite 106, Webster. For details, call 281-526-6840. 7 p.m.
Houston Skyscraper Shadows Civic Club - meets the third Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at 7900 Fuqua (inside Covenant of Faith United Methodist Church). There is no meeting in December. For details, contact Cathy@houston skyscrapershadows.org or call 713-332-6294.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church-youth bldg. For information, call 713-856-1611.
Positive Interaction Program - meets the third Tuesday, 7 p.m., at Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital, 11800 Astoria, first floor staff meeting room. PIP is police and citizens working together making neighborhoods safer. Bring a friend. For information, call Officer Richard Buitron at 281-218-3900. **WEDNESDAY, JULY 18**
7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in. 9:30 a.m.
Carmelites - a nondenominational senior citizen social group that meets at 15500 El Camino Real in Clear Lake on the first and third Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. for a time filled with fun, fellowship, lending library, coffee and bingo. The meetings are open to anyone age 50 or older and there are no dues. Day trips and extended trips are available. Deposits are being taken on the Nashville Show trip (Nov. 25 - Dec. 1) and the Classic Danube River Cruise with Oberammergau Passion Play (June 7 - 16, 2020.) Plan ahead to join the trips. For more information, call Marilyn at 713-947-2388. 9:30 a.m.
The Community Club - meets monthly on the third Wednesday at Golden Corral, 4021 Spencer Hwy., in Pasadena. Social time is 9:30 a.m.; meeting is at 10 a.m. The club is a charitable organization of women helping the Salvation Army feed and care for homebound elderly/disabled people, children and the homeless, providing scholarships for Bridge Over Troubled Water clients. Day trips may be scheduled, followed by a guest speaker/program with fellowship and lunch. New members and guests are invited. For details, email Jmopry@yahoo.com. 10 a.m.
Clear Lake Bridge Club - Open games Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at jpochnsner@aol.com for details. 11:30 a.m.
Houston Hobby Airport Lions Club - meets monthly, first and third Wednesdays, Golden Corral, 4021 Spencer Hwy., Pasadena. December may be an exception. For information, call Monica Montoya at 281-794-5531. Noon
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611. 1 - 3:30 p.m.
Hometown Heroes Park - has free Hump Day Dance to practice ballroom dance (not formal lessons) 1 to 3:30 p.m. Wednesdays, 1001 E. League City Pkwy. League City nonresidents must purchase activity card (see Tuesday 12:30 p.m. dance for details). Help is available to assist learning dance moves. For details, call Neva Schroder at 417-838-2204. 7 p.m.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church-youth bldg. For information, call 713-856-1611.
Bay Area Turning Point Crisis Intervention - Call 281-286-2525 (24-hour crisis hotline) for confidential domestic violence/sexual abuse support for women. Visit www.bayareaturningpoint.org for details. 8 p.m.
Alcoholics Anonymous - meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call 281-484-9243. **THURSDAY, JULY 19**
7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in. 10 a.m.
Clear Lake Bridge Club - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at jpochnsner@aol.com for details.
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611. 6 p.m.
Texas German Society, South Belt (SE) Chapter - A social group focused on the culture, music, heritage and language of Texas German immigrants. Meets the third Thursday, monthly, 6 p.m., Fellowship Hall of Mount Olive Lutheran Church, 10310 Scarsdale Blvd. Visitors welcome. Email OpaGivesHugs@gmail.com for details. 6:30 p.m.
Harris County Master Gardeners - presents *Raised Beds* on Thursday, July 19, at 6:30 p.m. in the Freeman Branch Library, 16616 Diana Lane. This is a free Harris County Master Gardener event. For details, visit https://hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/pubGreenThumb.aspx or call 713-274-0950. 7 p.m.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Women's Group, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-856-1611. 7:30 p.m.
The Bay Area Writers' League - Meets the first and third Thursdays monthly to improve writing skills, Barnes and Noble, 1029 W. Bay Area Blvd., 7:30 p.m. Newcomers welcome.

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Following monster offensive season, Brook's Machado off to UTSA

By John Bechtle
Sports Editor

Undeterred by his team's seemingly endless string of poor luck throughout the 2018 varsity baseball season, Clear Brook senior Gavin Machado went out and delivered one of the best overall offensive seasons across the Houston area.

Even now, the University of Texas at San Antonio signee says that aside from the Wolverines' single-digit win status, he

wouldn't change a thing. "Even with our record, I think you learn some life lessons through that," Machado said.

"We were out there battling every day. We beat Clear Springs once in district play, and they went four rounds deep in the playoffs.

"Even though the wins didn't show through, it's probably the best group of teammates I've ever been a part of. There was never a dull day out there. Those

guys are my brothers, and I hope all of us remain friends for a long time."

It's that type of attitude that very well could lend Machado well as he moves on to UTSA and, perhaps, professional baseball one day.

There's no denying Machado's talent. The 24-6A all district first team catcher hit better than .600 until the final four games of the season.

Despite a bit of a downturn in four games against

Friendswood and Dickinson, Machado hit better than .450 for the season and swatted six home runs.

"I hurt myself and looked at my stats before those last four games," Machado joked. "I told myself I wasn't going to do that. But I set goals for myself.

"I wanted to hit at least .450, I wanted to get first team all district and first team All-Greater Houston.

I achieved two of those."

The secret to Machado's success, when he was clearly the Wolverines' biggest offensive threat? As a catcher defensively, he had a few ideas.

"I was looking for the fastball middle away (outside) and pretty much trying to leave everything else alone," Machado said. "If a pitcher threw a curveball inside or went down out of the strike zone, I did my best to lay off.

"Being a catcher, I know how many times I've called for a pitcher to throw a fastball away, and if that pitcher misses and throws it over the heart of the plate, you have a good pitch to hit.

"That was my focus for pretty much all season. I just tried to go up thinking that the only way a pitcher was going to win a plate appearance against me was if I beat myself. I tried not to chase the ball and swing at strikes."

Machado also credited local hitting instructor and former Houston Astros player Willie Ansley for helping refine his stroke and approach at the plate, things the two have been working on for the past eight years or so.

It certainly paid off for Machado, who has been one of the Wolverines' top performers over the past three years after overcoming elbow issues as a freshman.

Now, he's ready to take his game to the next level. Though he had previously agreed to play at UT-Rio Grande Valley, a coaching change there necessitated

that Machado de-comit. After a visit to UTSA, Machado said he knew he wanted to be a Roadrunner.

"San Antonio is a big city a little bit like Houston, and I just felt right there," he said. "I had some other schools looking at me, both Division I's and some of the top JUCO programs.

"The coaching staff is great at UTSA. It felt like the place for me. I feel

like it definitely took a lot of pressure off my shoulders for this season. It's just baseball. Go out there and play hard, and let the results play out. You have nothing to lose if you just go out there and battle. That's all you can do in baseball."

So now Machado is mere weeks away from leaving for college. He was supposed to represent Clear Brook once more at the Houston Area Baseball

Coaches Association senior all-star game, but rain forced its cancellation. Organizers have since elected to not reschedule the event.

"I'm disappointed we didn't get to play the all-star game," Machado said. "I was looking forward to testing my skills against the best of the best. But I'll get that chance at UTSA. They have a solid JUCO catcher coming in from McLennan, and also

a senior coming back. "But my goal is to start as a freshman. All players want in the game of baseball is a chance to perform.

"At Brook, I tried to make sure my teammates stayed positive no matter what the situation was. Negativity is poison and contagious in the dugout. Positivity is something we can feed off. I'm going to carry that with me to UTSA."



At left, Gavin Machado told the Leader his role as a catcher has allowed him to understand the game of baseball better and give him a great feel for the flow of action. He hopes to step in behind the plate as soon as possible at UT-San Antonio after signing a letter of intent earlier this school year to join the Roadrunner program. A three-year varsity performer at Clear Brook, Machado saved his best for last as a six home run-season helped land him District 24-6A first team honors and an invitation to play in the Houston Area Baseball Coaches Association's senior all-star game. Machado said he originally planned to study engineering but is considering a move toward a business degree.



Clear Brook senior catcher Gavin Machado (13) put together a big-time offensive season, smacking six home runs and hitting better than .600 overall until the season's final few games. The key? Machado

hunted fastballs on the outer portion of the plate, believing that was the plan of attack from many opposing pitchers. Submitted photos



A terrific all-around senior season, including hitting well above .450 for the campaign and playing solid defense, allowed Clear Brook senior Gavin Machado to be named the 24-6A first team all district catcher.

Led Texas to CWS

Pierce, former JFD baseball leader, lands Baseball America honor at UT

Baseball America has named former Dobie varsity baseball head coach and current University of Texas head coach David Pierce as its College Coach of the Year.

Pierce, in just his second season in Austin, led the Longhorns to the College World Series, where they posted a 1-2 record after three hard-fought games.

From 1996 through 2001, Pierce was the varsity baseball head coach at Dobie High School.

Having gotten Dobie to three Region III semifinals during his time at the high school level, Pierce went on to enjoy success both as a collegiate head coach and assistant coach before landing in Austin.

Pierce was honored as the Big XII Coach of the Year this spring after the Longhorns captured its first conference title since 2011.

The Longhorns eventually battled their way back from possible elimination, beating Tennessee Tech twice to reach the College World Series for the first time since 2014.

Overall, the Longhorns posted a 42-23 record this

season with Pierce calling the shots.

What a big summer it has been for former Dobie baseball players and coaches, with Pierce included.

In June, Dobie graduate Corey Cephus, the varsity baseball coach at Cypress Ranch, helped his team to the Region III championship before a loss in the state semifinals.

Also, Dobie graduate Shaun Stanton, a varsity baseball assistant coach at Class 5A Prosper, watched as his team made its way to the regional finals.

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