

# South Belt-Ellington Leader

## 40 years of covering South Belt

Voice of Community-Minded People since 1976

Thursday, July 28, 2016

Email: [mynews@southbeltleader.com](mailto:mynews@southbeltleader.com)

[www.southbeltleader.com](http://www.southbeltleader.com)

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### Cabrini holds blood drive

St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church, 10727 Hartsok, will host a blood drive Sunday, July 31, from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Francesca Hall. For more information, call Richard Perales at 713-946-1223 or Jose Peña at 832-638-8391.

### Orchestra Car Wash July 30

The Dobie Orchestra will hold a car wash from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 6 in the Snowie's parking lot at 10902 Scarsdale. Tickets are \$5 for a car wash and an additional \$3 for tire shining. Drive-ups are welcome and donations accepted.

### Lariaettes set dance clinic

Dobie Lariaettes will host the annual Summer Dance Explosion Dance Clinic Thursday and Friday, July 28 and 29, including dancing, games, crafts, and lunch at Dobie from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. for Pre-K-eighth grade. Registration is \$50 at the door, cash or money order only. Participants will perform Friday, July 29, at 3 p.m. in the auditorium. They will receive a souvenir. For information contact Christy Gonzales at [chrstygznls@yahoo.com](mailto:chrstygznls@yahoo.com).

### Leader seeks Mueller

The *Leader* is attempting to contact South Belt resident Nancy Mueller to award her a prize of Schlitterbahn tickets for her July Fourth parade photos that ran in the July 14 edition of the paper. Multiple attempts to reply to her email have been unsuccessful. She is asked to call the *Leader* office at 281-481-5656.

### Gulf Freeway closures set

At least one northbound and one southbound main lane and frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway from FM-1959/Dixie Farm Road to FM-528/NASA Road 1 will be closed nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Monday, Aug. 22. Alternate exit and entrance ramps will be closed.

At least one northbound and one southbound main lane and frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway from FM-1959/Dixie Farm Road to FM-528/NASA Road 1 will be closed daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Tuesday, Aug. 23. Alternate exit and entrance ramps will be closed. The closures are associated with widening the freeway from three to five lanes in each direction and the frontage roads from two to three lanes in each direction.

### Parade winners named

The winners of the 29th annual South Belt Fourth of July parade have been announced. The award for the most patriotic commercial entry went to Bomber's Sports Bar. The prize for the most patriotic noncommercial entry was awarded to Joe Hinojosa. Taking home the trophy for the most original noncommercial entry was the Dobie Lariaettes.

### Stuchbery registration set

Stuchbery Elementary will hold Pre-Kindergarten early registration on Tuesday, Aug. 9, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Early registration for Kindergarten-4th grade will be Wednesday, Aug. 10, from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Thursday, Aug. 11 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Documents needed for registration include original or certified copy of birth certificate, Social Security card, shot records, last report card from previous school, parent's ID and two proofs of residence (lease, mortgage payment coupon/receipt, or deed plus a current utility bill). For pre-kindergarten requirements or other questions, call the school at 713-740-0752.

### Vacation photos sought

The *Leader* is seeking readers' 2016 vacation photos for possible publication. A first- and second-place prize of Schlitterbahn tickets will be awarded monthly during July and August for the best submissions. Each month's first-place winner will be awarded eight tickets; 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 (first and last name) and tell the story about the trip. All photos must be high resolution. Email photos to [mynews@southbeltleader.com](mailto:mynews@southbeltleader.com). Do not compress photos when emailing.

### Beltway closures set

A U-turn lane at Beltway 8 and Blackhawk will be closed from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Friday, Aug. 12. The closure is expected to impact both the eastbound and westbound frontage roads.

At least one inside lane on the eastbound and westbound frontage roads from Beamer Road to SH-35/Telephone Road will be closed daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Sunday, July 31.

A U-turn lane at Beltway 8 and SH-35/Telephone Road will be closed daily from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Monday, Aug. 1. The closure is expected to impact both the eastbound and westbound frontage roads.

The closures are associated with the ongoing project to widen Beltway 8 from Beamer to Highway 288 from two to four lanes in each direction.

## Clear Creek ISD releases 2016 survey results

The Clear Creek Independent School District has published its 2016 survey results from parents, staff, community and students.

During the 2015-2016 school year, the school district conducted four surveys, three through email and one by telephone.

The majority of responses reflected a perceived improvement of district performance over previous surveys. The data collected will be used as a means for continuous improvement for

CCISD.

### CCISD Grade

When asked to give CCISD a grade, 88 percent of the community gave an A or B, 83 percent of parents gave an A or B, 75 percent of students gave an A or B, and 92 percent of staff gave an A or B. When asked about the biggest challenge facing the school district, the community ranked testing and regulations (28 percent) as the top challenges followed by overcrowded schools.

These challenges have shifted in rankings compared to the 2014 survey in which school funding and parental involvement were ranked at the top.

### Academic Preparedness

In the area of academic performance and student preparedness for the next grade level, 88 percent of parent respondents feel their child is prepared to do well in the next grade level, 83 percent say their child is receiving the kind of instruction that is appropriate for his/her abilities,

and 72 percent feel the level of difficulty associated with homework is appropriate. When surveyed about the same types of questions, 88 percent of students also feel that they are prepared to do well in the next grade level, college or future career, 83 percent say they are receiving the kind of instruction that is appropriate for his/her abilities, and 84 percent believe they get the support they need to be successful. Ninety-three

Continued on Page 2A

## Bats emerge from Scarsdale bridge



A large colony of bats was recently discovered living under the bridge at the intersection of Scarsdale and Beamer. The bats reportedly emerge each night around dusk between 8:25 and 8:35 p.m. (shown above). During the day, the creatures can be seen hiding in crevices under the bridge (shown below). While it is unclear what species the bats are, Houston is home to more than 10 varieties. See related photo on Page 2A. Photos by Ronnie Thomas



## Bat colony swarms Beamer, Scarsdale

A bat colony has recently been spotted under the bridge at Scarsdale and Beamer.

The bats were brought to the *Leader's* attention by South Belt resident Ronnie Thomas, who owns Snowies Shaved Ice at the aforementioned intersection.

"My daughter said 'look at all those birds,' and I said 'those aren't birds,'" Thomas recalled. Thomas said the bats emerge each night between 8:25 and 8:35 p.m.

"It looks like a black cloud," Thomas said. During daylight hours, the bats can be seen hiding in crevices under the bridge.

According to the City of Houston Parks and Recreation Department, the United States is home to 47 bat species. Texas is home to 33 species of bats, and the Greater Houston area is home to 11 bat species. Local varieties include the Mexican free-tailed bat, big brown bat, evening bat, Eastern red bat, Northern yellow bat, tri-colored bat (previously known as Eastern pipistrelle), hoary bat, Seminole bat, Southeastern myotis, silver-haired bat and Rafinesque's big-eared bat (state threatened species).

The city's website further states that, despite urban myth, bats are not blind. They have average vision, excellent hearing and the added ability to use echolocation like an extra sense.

Bats in Houston eat insects. They find their in-

sect prey using echolocation, which is the use of ultra-high frequency sounds for navigation. The bat sends out a pulse of sound from its mouth. The sound bounces off an object, such as a moth, and then echoes back to the bat's ears. The bat continues to send out the sound pulses until it catches the insect.

Bats are important for pest control since they eat insects and agricultural pests. Favorites on the bat menu are moths, ants and beetles. A Mexican free-tailed bat can eat as much as two-thirds of their body weight in insects.

The estimated 100 million Mexican free-tailed bats living in the Texas Hill Country could eat up to 1,000 tons of insects each night. A smaller colony of 250,000 Mexican free-tailed bats located under the Waugh Drive bridge in Houston is estimated to consume around 2.5 tons of insects each night.

While bats are generally passive in nature, experts warn to not interact with them, as they may bite in self defense.

Contrary to other myths, bats aren't particularly prone to having rabies. According to the Parks Department, less than a half of 1 percent of the animals are infected with the virus.

Bats that contract rabies usually die quickly, and people are advised to not touch ones that have been grounded.

## New church to open near Alameda Mall

The construction of a massive new church near Alameda Mall has intrigued many area residents, with the *Leader* receiving numerous inquiries about the new structure.

The Mountain of Fire and Miracles Ministries - often shortened to just MFM Ministries - will be located across the street from the mall in the 10000 block of Kleckley in the pair of buildings that once housed the long-closed Marshalls and Target stores.

According to the church's website, the ministry is "devoted to the revival of apostolic signs, Holy Ghost fireworks and the unlimited demonstration of the power of God to deliver to the uttermost."

Originally founded in Nigeria by Dr. Daniel Kolawole Olukoya, MFM Ministries now reportedly has branches located around the globe, with locations on every continent. A church spokesman said the ministry has more than 100 locations in London alone, and more than 80 branch-

es can be found in the U.S. The spokesman estimated the group has between 4 million and 5 million members worldwide.

The new Kleckley location is being built to serve as the church's U.S. headquarters, the spokesman said. In addition to worship space, the new facility will include office and education areas.

The church spokesman said he expects the new branch to be a boom to local businesses, including both the mall and area hotels, as visitors are expected to regularly attend extended classes at the new location.

At press time, it was unclear when the new facility would open, as church officials were waiting on city permits to go through.

For additional information on the church's history and its teachings, visit [www.mountainoffire.org](http://www.mountainoffire.org).

See related photo on Page 2A.

## Chamber, college host gun meeting

The South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce and San Jacinto College South will host a "community conversation" on the state's new open carry and campus carry laws Tuesday, Aug. 9, at the college's Marie Flickinger Fine Arts Building beginning at 6 p.m.

Organized by Precinct 2, Place 1 Justice of the Peace Jo Ann Delgado, the event will feature presentations from Harris County Attorney Vince Ryan's office and Harris County District Attorney Devon Anderson's office.

Ryan and Anderson will both be available for questions after the presentations.

Signed into law by Gov. Greg Abbott in June 2015, the open carry law went into effect at the beginning of this year.

The regulation allows the state's licensed handgun holders, who previously had to keep their firearms concealed, to now carry them openly in a hip or shoulder holster.

While it was already legal for Texans to carry long guns or rifles in public, the new law allows citizens to also carry handguns in plain view. Texas is the 45th (and largest) state in the nation to implement such a measure.

Those wishing to open carry must be at least 21, have a clean criminal and psychological record, complete classroom training and pass a shooting test.

The state's new campus carry law, which allows those with concealed handgun licenses to carry their weapons on college and university campuses, will take effect at public universities Monday, Aug. 1. The law will take effect on community college campuses the following year on Aug. 1, 2017. Private universities may opt out of the new law.

The law will not allow open carry on campus. Delgado encourages residents to attend the function and educate themselves on the new regulations.

"I hope the South Belt community comes out and takes advantage of hearing from our county officials on this important topic," Delgado said. "Being well-informed on the laws that govern open carry and campus carry will assure a safer community."

For additional information on the meeting, contact chamber director Kay Barbour at 281-481-5516.

## Kirkwood to honor law enforcement

By James Bolen

In the wake of recent turmoil in the country and what many view as increasing anti-police sentiment, the Kirkwood Civic Club will host an event Monday, Aug. 1, aimed at shoring up support for local law enforcement officials.

Spearheaded by Kirkwood Civic Club President Ericka McCruteon, *Blue Monday*, will be an effort to calm heightened tensions, while building trust between area citizens and authorities.

"We want our police officers to know we're in solidarity with them," McCruteon said. "As a community leader, it's important for me to let them know they have our support."

To participate, local residents are urged to shine blue porch lights or tie blue ribbons around trees to honor area officers.

While the blue lights may be purchased elsewhere, McCruteon said arrangements have been made with Central Ace Hardware, located at 11676 Beamer, to provide the bulbs, which will be offered at a discounted price. (The colored bulbs will reportedly be stocked near the front door.)

"I want to patronize Ace Hardware because they always support the National Night Out," McCruteon said.

Although the *Blue Monday* event will technically take place from only 7 to 11 p.m., McCruteon said residents are welcome to shine the blue lights all month long, should they choose to do so.

"Asking residents to shine the bulbs for too

long is a waste of energy," McCruteon said. "But tying blue bows around your trees or door handles doesn't use any energy."

The local event comes fresh on the heels of recent shootings in Dallas and Baton Rouge, La., that left eight police officers dead and 12 others injured. Many see the shootings as retaliation for the recent deaths of multiple unarmed blacks at the hand of police and associated with the growing Black Lives Matter movement.

McCruteon said, however, broadcast stories often fail to tell the whole story and actually serve to only exacerbate the problem and further promote racial division.

"I am an African-American, and it's not always the way it is portrayed in the media," McCruteon said. "My husband and I pastor in church, and we encourage people to respect authority."

McCruteon has longstanding ties to law enforcement, as her father, brother and sister are all police officers, and her husband is a former officer. She feels it is imperative to offer them and their colleagues support in this time of ongoing crisis.

"The law is good," McCruteon said. "If you want to live in a civilized society, you must support the police. If we don't support the police, what will fill the vacuum? Gangs? Anarchy? If we don't support (the police), chaos will fill the vacuum. There's always evil to fill the vacuum."

For more information about the event, contact McCruteon at 281-989-9990 or [erickamcc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:erickamcc@sbcglobal.net).

## County urges offenders to Make it Right!

While the event is still roughly one month away, there has been an overwhelming response to the county's upcoming crime-resolution function, set to take place at Sagemont Church Saturday, Aug. 27.

Organized by Harris County District Attorney Devon Anderson, *Make It Right!* will allow residents with low-level criminal offenses in precincts 2 and 8 to resolve their cases without having to go to court or the fear of being arrested.

Offenders with outstanding Class C warrants or other pending charges in the aforementioned precincts will have a chance to address their issues in a non-traditional manner, with no immediate financial payment being required. (Bad check offenders must bring financial restitution for their cases to be dismissed.)

All offenses must be nonviolent misdemeanors to be addressed. Acceptable offenses include

criminal mischief (less than \$100); criminal trespass; continuing obligation of a child now an adult; minor consuming, possessing alcohol; minor in possession of tobacco; parent contributing to a non-attendance; issuance of a bad check (though defendants still have to pay restitution); failure to ID; failure to appear; drug paraphernalia; public intoxication; disorderly conduct; and theft (of less than \$100).

Traffic offenses and felonies will not be eligible for dismissal.

The function will also feature a job fair and free legal resources.

A similar function was held last month for offenders in Precinct 7, and a third is being planned in October for offenders in Precinct 3. Additional functions will take place later, but no dates have been set.

For information, call 713-274-0490.

## Houston police respond to Kroger fight

Houston police responded to a large fight at the Kroger at Beltway 8 and Sabo late Saturday, July 23.

According to police spokesman John Cannon, officers responded to an assault in progress call at 10:40 p.m. to find a large group of people fleeing the store's parking lot on foot.

Officers took a statement from a 15-year-old male who was bleeding from the mouth, who said he and his cousin were inside the store leaning on a cooler when they spotted two black males in the parking lot, who were staring at them.

He told officers they didn't know the other males, also thought to be in their teens, but said

they appeared to want to fight.

The teen then reported the two males entered the store, and one of them took a swing at him, leading all four males to take the fight outside the store, where it dispersed when police arrived.

The 15-year-old was transferred to Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital to be treated for injuries to his mouth.

Cannon said it was unclear why the fight had attracted so many onlookers. The *Leader* heard reports the incident might have been gang-related, but police were unable to confirm this.

Anyone with any information on the alleged attackers is urged to contact HPD at 713-884-3131.

## Local bats leave mess behind



A colony of hundreds of bats has recently been spotted living under the bridge at Scarsdale and Beamer. The winged creatures leave behind large amounts of excrement under the bridge (shown above). Known in Spanish as guano, the excrement is often used as fertilizer because of its high content of nitrogen, phosphate and potassium – nutrients essential for plant growth. See related story and photos on Page 1A.  
Photo by Ronnie Thomas

## Elected officials speak out

### Diaz shares active shooter plan

Have you developed a safety plan to protect yourself and your family during an active shooter incident?



son to surprise the public or workplace by firing indiscriminately at people as targets of their anger, rage, or even pleasure, there can be no "good reason," or plausible explanation. Often, these shooters are calculating-killers who develop detailed plans, arm themselves heavily with military-type assault weapons, high-capacity magazines, and they dress themselves with ballistic vests and "battle" utility gear. Indeed, they are menacing, but internally, many have problems with mental health, such as anxiety, depression, or mood-disorders. Many are loners, or somewhat reclusive, alienating themselves from family, friends, and coworkers and may turn to alcohol or drugs for therapy. Others have had problems adjusting socially to their school or work environment, including those who cannot hold a meaningful job or even complete their school work. A few fit the profile of "radicalized" extremists, who announce their allegiance to a threat group, outlaw gang, or terrorist organization. Some consider themselves failures. All are dangerous, and will kill as many people as possible, until they reach a point where they are either killed by police, an armed survivor, or until they feel their despair and their attack has reached a brick wall. For some, shooting or exploding themselves ends their inner turmoil and outer expression of rage.

**Evade**  
Make yourself an elusive target by running away from the shooter and the scene. This may be simply to run in any direction from where the shooter may be. If indoors, this means evacuating the premises. If you are in a heavily-populated room, determine early upon your arrival where the exits are located. It is highly recommended by security experts to identify secondary exits. During an emergency or disaster, most people will crowd toward the main entrances or exits, creating a "bottle neck" and complicating the attack by creating a safety risk or providing more targets for the shooter.

**Leaving quickly** means leaving personal effects behind, and notifying others not to enter the area. This also means calling 9-1-1 with specific information and following instructions of police officers and security personnel who are responding to the scene and may not have accurate information. Finally, all persons in an active shooter scenario are potential suspects so it is safe to keep your hands visible to responding police, and help others who are injured, if possible. Variations of this first option include, "Avoid" and "Run."

**Cover and/or Conceal**  
A second option is simply to "shelter-in-place" or to hide where the police is not likely to find you. This involves making it hard for the shooter to locate you and includes closing doors and blocking them with items likely to stop the shooter from entering. Silence your cellular phone, turn lights off, and keep curtains and blinds closed. Televisions and machinery should be turned off and you should hide behind objects that are likely to deflect or absorb gunfire and to keep you hidden from the gunman's view. Keep quiet, and remain hidden until informed by the police that the threat is over. It is desirable to hide in an area that does not prevent you from further movement, and which does not result in an easy target for the shooter.

**Attack**  
"Fighting" may be an option of initial or last resort, but depends upon many factors, including your degree of confidence, opportunity, and

familiarity with your weapon, if you are authorized to carry a weapon. For unarmed individuals, a decision to pick a weapon of opportunity, a set of keys, a knife, scissors, or anything likely to disorient, distract, or destroy the shooter, may be a decision between life and death. Some authorities suggest that this should be a decision of last resort, such as when a life may be in imminent danger and serious injury or fatality may be a likely outcome. Yelling, committing to your decision, and moving swiftly and certainly toward the attack increases the likelihood of a successful attack on the shooter.

**Calling 9-1-1**  
If you witness an active shooter situation and can safely request assistance, call 9-1-1 and provide specific information, such as

- A specific location (street address or name of business or venue)
- A physical description of the shooter(s) and his (their) location
- Type of weapons used and victim information

If possible, remain on the telephone with the operator to provide updated information and your contact information in the event the police need additional information.

**Recovery**  
Once the police have secured the scene, it may be necessary to provide a statement to investigators. Since each perspective of the witnesses may be different, it is wise to keep your personal observations to yourself and not repeat your viewpoints to others who may have seen the shooter(s) commit other atrocities. If you are able to render any assistance to others at the scene, and are qualified, it is expected that you help others as needed. Remember, the scene of the crime may involve multiple locations, so it is necessary to keep all evidence intact. If you know where weapons, or anything of potential evidentiary value is located, please inform the police. No one, except competent authorities should handle any weapons or evidence, and the public will be instructed to allow for forensic analysis of the scene. Many scenes are quite graphic and chaotic, and victims should have their dignity and self-worth protected.

## Cornyn bill holds countries accountable for dangerous foreign nationals

Countries refusing to repatriate convicts in U.S. illegally could face sanctions

U.S. Senator John Cornyn, along with Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) and Sen. Chris Murphy (D-CT), have introduced the Remedies for Refusal of Repatriation Act, or "Casey's Law."

Named for a Connecticut resident who was murdered by a Haitian criminal who was not deported after his release from prison, Casey's Law would establish clear criteria to identify and hold accountable countries that systematically refuse or delay the repatriation of their citizens who have been convicted of a violent crime, or who pose a threat to public safety.

"Illegal immigrants convicted of violent crimes should not be left on our streets, and if other countries won't cooperate in taking them back there should be consequences," Cornyn said. "I thank Senator Blumenthal for working with me to address this ongoing problem and keep our country safe from dangerous individuals who shouldn't be here."

**Background on "Casey's Law"**

The Remedies for Refusal of Repatriation Act, or "Casey's Law," ensures that when countries put Americans at risk by refusing to accept deported criminals, those countries are held accountable. The bill would require that the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) establish procedures to determine whether a foreign country systematically and unreasonably refuses or delays the repatriation of nationals who are in the United States, and have been convicted of a felony or crime of violence, or are a threat to national security or public safety. Once it has been established that a country meets this criteria, DHS and the State Department would then notify their government that the United States may deny visas to their citizens.

DHS and State would also publish this information on their website, so that the public is fully informed about which countries systematically

### Local library events set

**Parker Williams Library**  
The following events are scheduled for the Parker Williams Library, 10851 Scarsdale.  
Thursday, July 28, 2 p.m. Summer Movie. Feature presentation is *Speed Racer*, rated PG.  
Friday, July 29, 2 p.m. Book discussion on the novel *The English Spy* by Daniel Silva  
Tuesday, August 2, 3 p.m. Teen Tuesday - Summer of Fandom Jeopardy (11 years +)  
Wednesday, August 3, 2:30 p.m. Sugar Shockers! With the Houston Food Bank  
Wednesdays, Preschool Story Time, 10:30 a.m.  
Thursdays, Toddler Story Time, 10:30 a.m.  
Saturdays, Vietnamese Learning Time. Classes are at 10 a.m., 11:15 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. For more information on these programs, speak with Loc Bui.  
For more information on these programs, phone the library at 281-484-2036.

**Bracewell Branch Library**  
The following events are scheduled for July at the Bracewell Branch Library, 9002 Kingspoint.  
Thursday, July 21, at 6 p.m. – Teen Video Gaming  
Tuesday, July 26, at 10:30 a.m. – Pocketwatch Puppets  
Wednesday, July 27, at 10:30 a.m. – Kids Craft  
Thursday, July 28, at 6 p.m. – Teen Video Gaming  
Bracewell hours are Sunday and Monday - Closed; Tuesday and Wednesday - 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursday - noon to 8 p.m., Friday - 1 to 5 p.m., and Saturday - 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
For more information on these programs, call the library at 832-393-2580.

# Deaths

## Thomas Rayford (Tommy) Gothard



Thomas Rayford "Tommy" Gothard, 74, died Tuesday, July 19, 2016. He was born in Houston, son of Cotsie Ruth (Ray) and George Howard Gothard, on June 28, 1942. He was a loving husband, father and grandfather. Gothard proudly served in the U.S. Army Reserves for seven years and worked for Sears Roebuck & Co., where he retired after 30 years. He taught Sunday school and served as a deacon for several years at Sagemont Church. Gothard met the love of his life, Mary, shortly after graduating from Milby

High School, and married her three years later on April 24, 1964.

Gothard is preceded in death by his beloved mother, Cotsie, and his only brother, Herbert Donald "Don" Gothard.

Gothard is survived by his wife of 52 years; father George "Herb" Gothard; sons Greg and wife Heather, and Gary and wife Carrie Gothard; three grandchildren, Kendall, Elijah and Elise Gothard; and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

A memorial service celebrating Gothard's life was held Friday, July 22, at Niday Funeral Home.

## Lanh Dieu



Lanh Dieu, 81, died on Sunday, July 17, 2016, after a brief battle against esophageal cancer.

Dieu was born on Oct 14, 1934, in Bien Hoa, Vietnam. She immigrated to the United States in 1983 and had lived in Houston ever since. She became a naturalized U.S. citizen in 2001.

A resident of the Wood Meadow subdivision for 22 years, Dieu's last days were spent at home surrounded by loving family and close relatives.

A funeral service was held on Wednesday, July 20, at Winford Funeral Home.

Dieu loved to cook for her family and friends. She enjoyed socializing, traveling, going to Buddhist temples and spending time with her grandchildren.

She is survived by her daughter Kim Dang; son Lac Quoc Dang; daughter Tuyet Van Thi Phan; one daughter-in-law; one son-in-law; nine grandchildren; two siblings; and several nieces and nephews.

Memorial gifts in Dieu's memory may be made to MD Anderson Cancer Center, P.O. Box 4486, Houston, TX, 77210-4486.

## CCISD releases 2016 survey results

**Continued from Page 1A**  
percent of staff believe their campus does a great job of challenging students to their full potential, compared to 87 percent in 2014.

**Communication**  
Between 2014 and 2016, the community's satisfaction with the district's communications has increased from 89 percent to 91 percent. Eighty percent of parents say their student receives meaningful feedback from teachers compared to 63 percent in 2014. Eighty-one percent of students also agree that they receive helpful feedback about their work. Ninety-two percent of staff say they communicate frequently with most parents of students.

**Leadership**  
When asked to provide

impressions, the community responded with an 89 percent positive impression of the school district. When asked about the leadership at the campus level, 88 percent of parents, 84 percent of students and 91 percent of staff were satisfied.

**Technology**  
Eighty-four percent of teachers say they incorporate the use of student tablets/laptops into their lessons. Through this, 81 percent of students agree that their teachers effectively integrate technology into their teaching. The ability to use Microsoft Office applications and the ability to create projects were the two highest responses from students, staff and parents when asked which skills students are better at

when using a district-issued laptop or tablet. Eighty-five percent of staff and 68 percent of students believe student learning is enhanced because of the Latitude-2-Learn program.

Community results are based from a 2016 Baseline & Associates phone survey with a 4.9 percent margin of error. The parent, student and employee results are based from email surveys. Total 2016 email survey respondents: 3,038 parents, 18,320 students and 2,270 staff members.

To view all four surveys, visit [www.ccisd.net/communications](http://www.ccisd.net/communications). For more information, contact the Office of Communications at 281-284-0020 or by email at [information@ccisd.net](mailto:information@ccisd.net).

# In My Opinion

## Johnson educates Leader readers on Relay Texas

Relay Texas is sponsored by the State of Texas. It is a system that assists the speech and hearing impaired by furnishing equipment for an individual that cannot speak well or hear well to use the phone system to communicate with others. The equipment is purchased through the state by being issued a voucher to cover the cost. The equipment consists of a keyboard that is smaller than a regular computer keyboard and a set of speakers.

A person using the Relay Texas system begins by dialing 711. An operator will answer, asking the caller for the number to be called. The operator will dial the number and when the party answers, the operator will provide identification and ask if the party has ever had a relay Texas call. Here is where the problems start. 98 % of the general public are not familiar with Relay Texas. They perceive this is another telemarketer call and hang up.

So much for Relay Texas. If the caller is able to connect with the person called the caller will type what he/she wants to say ending with GA (go ahead). The operator will tell the called person what the caller said. The called person will speak and the caller can hear them. Then the conversation can go forward.

We all need to be advised about this wonderful system because now Cancer Centers are having head and neck patients live longer than five years. However, we are developing side effects such as losing our ability to speak. There will be more and more cancer survivors using systems like this. There are patients that have lost their hearing but they can still speak. They just can't hear. I can hear but I cannot speak well enough for people to understand me.

The phone number 711 is good in every state in the Union. So the next time an operator ask if you are familiar with Relay Texas please don't hang up. You might miss a call that is important to someone.

T. Dudley Johnson

## Church replaces old Target



A massive new church is being constructed on Kleckley across from Almeda Mall in the pair of buildings that once housed the Marshalls and Target shopping centers. Originally founded in Nigeria, the Mountain of Fire and Miracles Ministries now reportedly has branches on every continent. The new location will serve as the organization's U.S. headquarters.  
Photo by James Bolen

## Elected officials speak out

### Rep. Olson denounces ruling he says fails to protect right to vote

South Belt Rep. Pete Olson on July 20 issued the following statement in response to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals ruling that struck down Texas Voter ID Law, which establishes the types of photo identification election officials can and cannot accept at the polls:

"I am disappointed in this ruling that fails to protect the sacred right to vote and ensures only U.S. citizens have the right to participate in our electoral process. I am confident that Governor Abbott and our legislature will continue to develop a workable solution."

### Sen. Sylvia Garcia comments on 5th Circuit's voter ID opinion

On July 20, the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit en banc affirmed a district court's finding that Senate Bill 14 of the 82nd Regular Session, the "Voter ID" legislation, violates the Voting Rights Act through its discriminatory effects. The Court also remanded the case back to the district court for a remedy to the discriminatory effects before the November 2016 elections.

"We've long known that voter ID has discriminatory effects on some groups. Today's victory provides a path forward for all Texans who have been disenfranchised by Voter ID's confusing and onerous requirements. I'm hopeful that the district court will take immediate action to make the voting process less burdensome and will ensure that not one more citizen will be denied their right to vote.

"Even one citizen being denied their rights is too many. No citizen should be prevented from participating in our democratic process, especially on the basis of race. I will keep fighting in the Legislature for laws that treat all Texans equally," said Sen. Sylvia Garcia.

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Harris County Attorney Office  
**Speaker: Douglas Ray**

**Devon Anderson**  
Harris County District Attorney Office  
**Speaker: Justin Woods**

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San Jacinto College South Campus  
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# Lamb, Smith serve SVFD



Longtime friends, left to right, Karen Smith and Colleen Lamb joined the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department together in October 2013 to serve and give back to their community.

# Lamb, Smith lead rehab unit, complete EMT training

By Jay Do

Longtime residents of the South Belt community and volunteers of the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department Colleen Lamb and Karen Smith recently both passed the training and courses required to be certified as emergency medical technicians.

Both Lamb and Smith joined the fire department as volunteers in October 2013 as a means to give back and serve their community.

Lamb, the daughter of Southeast's first fire chief Ed Murphy, was exposed to the department from a young age. Lamb moved to the area at the age of 12 and attended Beverly Hills Intermediate, Thompson Intermediate and J. Frank Dobie High School before advancing to San Jacinto College to double major in computer science and nursing.

"I've always wanted to join," said Lamb. "My dad was the first chief when it was still the Sagement Volunteer Fire Department. I remember walking around at 12 years old and collecting money from homeowners to buy the first vehicle. I've always wanted to join, so when I became a nurse

and became comfortable with nursing, I joined."

Likewise, Smith grew up in the South Belt community, attending South Houston High School, followed by San Jacinto College, to major in nursing and was also encouraged to join the fire department by a family member.

"I love to help people," said Smith. "My son is a volunteer firefighter, and I enjoyed seeing what he did, so went there just wanting to help out and have been there for three years."

Together, the two empowered individuals established the rehab unit of the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department, committed to providing aid to firefighters responding to fire calls and those affected by those fires.

"With rehab, we go to fires, and we have coffee, hot chocolate, food, change of clothes to take care of the firemen and the homeowners," said Lamb. "We keep them warm and give them something to drink. We can also take blood pressure and things like that. If someone is dehydrated or needs to go to the hospital, we can call for an ambulance to get them

transported. It's basically taking care of the firemen and the homeowners and their families. We started the program about two and a half years ago, and we have used it three times for major fires in the area. I know our firefighters love it, because they don't have to worry about where they're going to get drinks or food when they're out there for hours on end."

As the area served by the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department receives a relatively small number of fire calls, Lamb and Smith both completed training to obtain certification to serve as emergency medical technicians in January in an effort to serve the fire department in other ways.

"We'll still continue the rehab, but it's mostly used for fires," said Smith. "Luckily, in our area, we don't have that many fires. We get a lot more calls for EMTs. I kept hearing our fire chief tell us at the meetings about needing more EMTs and I was already a nurse, so I decided to become an EMT to give more of my time and help a little bit more than just focusing on rehab."

Being a full-time nurse,

Smith found the adjustment to being an emergency medical technician to be rather jarring.

"There are a lot of differences between being a nurse and being an EMT," said Smith. "Being a nurse, there's a lot that I can do, but with the state of Texas laws, there's a lot that we can't do on the streets with an EMT license."

"With an EMT, we do emergency things. We get things done, and we get the patient to the hospital if we need to. It's a very rewarding experience, because we're the people that can make a difference between whether someone lives or dies. With my nursing job, I'm mostly on the phone all day and it's a very unexciting."

Also holding a career as a full-time nurse, Lamb also found it difficult to stay within the compliances and regulations set upon emergency medical technicians by the Texas Department of State Health Services.

"I'm a nurse in a real world, and when I come over here, I'm an EMT, so there are certain things that I cannot do," said Lamb. "There are a lot of differences between the two. I

can start IVs as a nurse. I can push medication. As an EMT, it's very basic. I can't do anything invasive. I can take temperatures and blood pressure, but I can't do anything about it. In my real, daily world, for example, if someone came in and their blood pressure was sky-high, I could give them a medication for it to bring it down. As an EMT, I can't do that."

Lamb and Smith have both found the experience of volunteering with the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department to be a positively rewarding one.

For Lamb, the satisfaction of serving with the fire department stems from being able to help others.

"I look to help out the people in the neighborhood," said Lamb. "There's a need for people who are willing to donate their time for people in need, and I'm one of the ones who wants to donate and help. Being an EMT, you get called for a lot of emergency calls. You might get called on for a motor vehicle accident, for example, and come across someone who's been critically injured. It definitely makes you appreciate life and health

more, knowing what can happen and being able to witness what some people have to live through. I'm quite happy to be able to do what I'm doing, and I love it."

Similarly, Smith finds service to others and the camaraderie associated with the fire department to be the most rewarding aspects of her experience with the fire department.

"I hope to get the satisfaction and reward of being able to volunteer and give my time," said Smith.

"It makes me feel good and makes me feel like I'm doing something for my community as well as for the guys at the fire department. Getting to know everybody and seeing how the fire department is like one big family is the most rewarding thing that I've experienced since joining. I've got an extended family," Smith said.

"The calls that we've made, just being there to help that person that may need to be taken to the hospital, or may just need someone to tell them that they're fine. Just being able to help out and being a part of that extended family," said Smith.

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# Former South Belt resident launches Deadly Doodles



Former South Belt resident Drake Williams' launch of the Deadly Doodles clothing line has been met with positive feedback and much potential for continued growth. Williams is shown above wearing a Deadly Doodles shirt.

By Jay Do

Former South Belt resident Drake Williams has recently launched an ambitious endeavor into the clothing and fashion design industry.

A longtime resident of the community, Williams attended Atkinson Elementary, Beverly Hills Intermediate and J. Frank Dobie High School. Williams went on to attend Texas A&M University at College Station and graduated in May 2015 with a degree in visualization.

Fueled by an entrepreneurial mindset and inspired by an artistic mentality, Williams founded the Deadly Doodles clothing line shortly thereafter in October 2015.

"I've had an entrepreneurial spirit since elementary school," said Williams. "Since I've always loved drawing, art, and being creative, the two worlds naturally collided. Creating apparel gives me a chance to impact culture. I have the power, same as influencers such as Kanye West, to change the course of not just fashion but the styles of our era and youth. It's exhilarating to be in control of your own business, a creation of your ideas and dreams."

Williams believes his years at Texas A&M have instilled in him core values that have proven invaluable in the growing of his business.

"My degree in visualization helped me learn the complete process of how to turn being creative into a career," said Williams. "Over my time there it helped me realize the ins and outs of finding my place in the career known as graphic design and motion graphics. I learned how to take drawing, and turn it into so much more than just doodles. Apparel design, branding projects, website design, the opportunities were endless. These were all things - fields - I did not know existed until stepping into the Visualization program at Texas A&M."

Williams focuses on designing clothing styles different from anything else currently offered by the fashion industry and targets anyone who appreciates his distinctive design styles.

"The target audience for Deadly Doodles is simply everyone," said Williams. "I naturally tend to attract more

of the creative, free-thinking, and youthful demographic, but I legitimately have fans of all ages and I love that. If someone appreciates what I'm doing then they're a homie of mine, no question."

Entering a competitive market filled with larger and more established clothing brands, Williams now faces the challenge of finding ways in which to distinguish his brand from competitors. Proudly standing behind a mission to develop a fashion trend completely different from the current norms, Williams hopes that consumers will be drawn to the core foundations upon which his Deadly Doodles is built.

"My brand is different than all others because no one else can create the same artwork that I can," said Williams. "No one else has the same vision I have, and can clearly see trends and where the trends of fashion are going. My designs don't always reflect trends, and I take pride in that. Substance is something I stand for with my brand, and originality goes a long way, especially today when so much of what we see is sequels or photocopies of a rip-off."

Williams now works to expand awareness of his brand by delivering content on social media networks and collaborating with local artists, making an effort to actively engage with his customers to the fullest extent of his abilities.

"I use social media and word of mouth heavily to grow the brand through social media," said Williams. "I run an online webstore where I conduct business, and have begun doing pop-up shops in order to actually make in person sales with customers. That's something that is a big step for me and the brand in terms of where I want to be in the future. Collaborating with other artists has been another way of getting the brand out there. Exposing yourself to different audiences, and hopefully connecting with new people you initially didn't have the chance to connect with. I'm always trying to learn new techniques of e-commerce and web marketing to constantly evolve and adapt to what is going on within the market."

Despite the resounding success of Deadly Doodles in the short time since its establishment, Williams refuses to sit idly by and continues to seek for measures in which to cultivate and develop his brand.

"When I think of the future of the brand I can't help but feel great excitement," said Williams. "I hope to see the brand being my full time job, honestly. Spending the days conceiving new apparel, researching product, networking with the audience and having the time to go above and beyond my cur-

rent time commitment would be insanely cool."

"I see the brand collaborating with some of my brands, artists or even musicians. Like Vans for instance, I would love to collab with them one day. Some people might think that collaborating with Vans is too high of a goal, but I don't think it is. We should always set our sets high with where we want to be in life. Even if we don't meet our goal, at least we'll have worked hard enough to end up further than we could have been. The sky

isn't even the limit, and I want to take this brand worldwide. I hope to see the brand being able to support my family."

For Williams, the most rewarding aspect of launching his own brand and business comes in the form of seeing his dreams come to fruition and become a reality.

"Seeing the brand actually exist to this day is a dream come true in itself," said Williams. "I try not to take that for granted, and often to get wrapped up - everything I could be doing better, to

acknowledge just how much I've actually done up until this point."

"I took an idea and turned it into a tangible, legitimate brand that is bringing merchandise to people around the world, all while featuring artwork I have designed, ungoverned by any agency, art-director or higher up. I am creating what I want."

Having found the experience of establishing his own business to be a life-changing one, Williams encourages others to do the same, especially if they are caught in

Continued on Page 4A

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## Williams designer . . .

Continued from Page 3A the debate as to whether or not to do so.

"Just do it," said Williams. "If you have an idea, and want to create a brand, just do it. Take your time, be patient, and don't be a copycat. Spend time creating original artwork, designs, a good logo, and a

few social media accounts. Make some merchandise, create an online website, and begin to sell your first items. Never look back, or think you can't do it. Never give up, and keep moving forward. It's not easy to work hard every day, but that's what separates the leaders from the followers."

## Olson votes to protect healthcare providers

On July 13, South Belt Rep. Pete Olson (Texas-22) voted to protect the rights of individuals and healthcare providers who have ethical and religious objections to abortion. Olson was a cosponsor of and voted in support of H.R. 4828, the Conscience Protection Act. This bill will prevent the federal government, and any state or local government that receives federal funds from penalizing, retaliating against, or otherwise discriminating against a health care provider on the basis that the provider does not participate in abortion services.

"While there is agreement on both sides that no one should be forced to have an abortion, there is no protection for those healthcare providers who oppose performing an abortion on moral, ethical or religious grounds," Olson said.

"The Constitution protects these individuals from government discrimination for refusing to participate in the taking of innocent life. I applaud the House for acting to

protect these sacred constitutional protections."

Background on the need for H.R. 4828: In violation of a federal law known as the Weldon Amendment, the California Department of Managed Health Care requires health plans to cover abortions.

Religious employers in California that offer group health plans to their employees lodged an objection with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), which has oversight responsibility for enforcing the Weldon Amendment, noting that the state's action violates the Weldon Amendment.

On June 21, HHS sent the state and the objecting sponsors a letter stating that HHS refuses to take any action because the insurance companies have no moral or religious objection to abortion coverage. The Weldon Amendment provides that states receiving federal funds may not discriminate against health plans based on their decision not to cover or pay for abortions.

## SJoffers maritime classes before deadline

The San Jacinto College maritime program is offering engineering courses to help mariners meet new U.S. Coast Guard regulations that will go into effect on Jan. 1, 2017.

The following courses are being offered: Engine Room Resource Management, Leadership and Teamwork, Leadership and Managerial Skills, Designated Duty Engineer 4000 Horsepower, Qualified Member of the Engineering Department Oilier and Management of Electrical and Electronic Control Equipment.

Additional maritime engineering courses are under development. The following courses are expected to be offered by the January 2017 deadline: Rating Part of an Engineering Watch Motor Only Assessments, Officer in Charge of an Engineering Watch Motor, Auxiliary Machinery, Basic Electronic and Electricity and Instruments and Controllers.

All San Jacinto College maritime courses are taught in the new Maritime Technology and Training Center on the maritime campus, 3700 Old State Highway 146 in La Porte. Students train in mari-

time engineering using equipment that includes refrigeration, electrical controller, desktop simulation, comprehensive pump, hydraulic and pneumatics trainers.

All classes are USCG approved. Upon successful completion students will receive their certificates, which will then permit them to gain employment in the offshore workforce.

San Jacinto College offers the maritime program for working mariners to update their USCG certifications, an associate degree program in maritime transportation for those who are new to the industry and an associate degree for cargo handling/logistics, transferable to the Texas Southern University maritime logistics program and the University of Houston College of Technology logistics program. Introduction to Ships and shipping courses are included in the college's business administration associate degree, transferable to Texas A&M University in Galveston through an articulation agreement.

For more information, visit [sanjac.edu/maritime](http://sanjac.edu/maritime).

# Over The Back Fence by Alexis

**SCHOOL DAZE**  
The following personnel and staff members of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays July 28 through Aug. 3.

**Atkinson Elementary**  
Sing a happy birthday song to **Stacy Fontenot** Aug. 1.

**Burnett Elementary**  
Blow out the birthday candles for **Maria Romero** Aug. 2.

**Bush Elementary**  
**Maria Flores** celebrates a birthday July 29. Send a happy birthday greeting to **Daria Bumgardner** on Aug. 1. Enjoy a slice of birthday cake with **Alicia Garcia** on Aug. 3.

**Frazier Elementary**  
A birthday greeting is sent to **Norma Sanchez** on Aug. 1.

**Meador Elementary**  
Marking a birthday Aug. 1 is **Kimberly Tanner**. Birthday greetings are in order for **Karen Barton** on Aug. 3.

**Moore Elementary**  
Blow out the candles on a double-layer cake for **Martha Perales** and **Cindy Walker** July 29. The day for a party for **Eduardo Ledezma** is Aug. 1.

**South Belt Elementary**  
A birthday greeting is sent to **Lakitha Green** July 28. July 31 is the day for a birthday cake for **Kristen Denbleyker**. **Elda**

**Harkins** is sent a birthday greeting Aug. 2. **Stuchbery Elementary**  
Blow out the birthday candles July 29 for **Susan Brady**. **Goretti Rerri** is wished a happy birthday July 30.

**Melillo Middle School**  
Wishes for a wonderful birthday are sent to **Norberta Mercado** and **Suzan Ybanez-Harvey** Aug. 2.

**Roberts Middle School**  
Light the birthday candles July 31 for **Luis Arroyo**.

**Beverly Hills Intermediate**  
Share a slice of birthday cake Aug. 2 with **Shasta Williams**.

**Thompson Intermediate**  
On July 31, happy birthday greetings are sent to **Wayne Sanders**. On Aug. 1, **Patricia Tabarez** and **Bob Boyes** celebrate a birthday. **Jazmine Fly** is sent a birthday greeting Aug. 2.

**Dobie High**  
**Angela Badon** and **Yvette Castillo** celebrate a birthday July 30. Light the birthday candles July 31 for **Amanda Cowart** and **Stacey Grayson**. The day for a triple-layer cake for **Lidia Castaneda Rivera**, **Sherrie Kent** and **Claudette Reed** is Aug. 3.

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

Thursday, July 28: **Ariana Mena**, **Trina Akins**, **Al Maldonado**, **Johnny Carmona**, **Alyssa Chambers**, **Tori Mask**, **Dana Milburn** and **Sandy Nelson**; Friday, July 29: **Codie Salyer**, **Linda Brisbay**, **Oscar Rodriguez**, **Wanda Veltman**, **Tracy Samford**, **Gina Trevino**, **Donielle Taverner**, **Albert Perez** and **Tiffany Barras**; Saturday, July 30: **Donald Rogers**, **Anne Hyma**, **Brenda Molina Correa**, **RP Wocka**, **Danielle Mendoza**, **Melanie Benney**, **Oren Martin**, **Christine Elliott** and **Randy Kelley**; Sunday, July 31: **Gloria Wallace**, **Robert Gentry**, **Jennifer Kramer**, **David Freeman**, **Jacob Stahle**, **Felix Garcia**, **Jim Waltz** and **Ashley Glover**; Monday, Aug. 1: **Gabriel Diaz**, **Helen Kainer**, **Andrew Burks**, **Denny Wranich Sr.**, **Emilio De Los Santos**, **Ryan Hanzelka**, **Jo Lyday** and **Scott Bishop**; Tuesday, Aug. 2: **Mayra Elizabeth**, **Patricia Lynn Krivik**, **Ana Acosta**, **Juanita Herrera**, **Sue Hinojosa**, **Dori Honohan**, **Terry Barclay** and **Donna Northrup**; and Wednesday, Aug. 3: **Angela James-Farrar**, **Joaquin Jimenez**, **Jennifer Pena-Zuniga** and **Gina Valdez**.

**LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS**  
Email birthday, anniversary, vacation, congratulations, etc., to [mynews@southbeltleader.com](mailto:mynews@southbeltleader.com) with OTBF in the subject line. Items must be submitted by Friday noon for the next week's publication.

## Memorial Hermann Southeast sets record for drive

Employees, physicians and volunteers at Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital raised a record \$24,741 and collected 37 pounds of food during its Annual Food Drive for Southeast Area Ministries (SeAM).

"I'm so proud of our employees, physicians, and volunteers who are dedicated to making a difference in people's lives and serving our

community," said Kyle Price, Sr. Vice President, CEO, Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital.

"As health care providers, we know the importance of a healthy diet and the serious implications a lack of food can have on a child's physical and mental health," said Price.

According to the Houston Food Bank, roughly one

in four children are at risk of hunger in southeast Texas. SeAM works to provide food to nearly 2,000 families across southeast Houston each month.

"This donation is a vital part of our ministry and we are extremely grateful to the physicians, administration and staff at Memorial Hermann Southeast," says Daer Platt, SeAM's director of

operations. "Donations like this are so important, especially in the middle of the year. I'm not sure we could make it through the summer without this kind of generosity and support."

SeAM, working in close partnership with the Houston Food Bank, can turn just a few dollars into food for two to three days because of the organization's bulk and dis-

counted food buying power. The charity provides food, clothing, and household and financial assistance for those in need in southeast Houston.

Memorial Hermann Southeast Chaplaincy Services and Partners in Caring raised awareness and donations for its Annual Food Drive through a raffle, bake sales, and other unit and department fundraisers.

## Memorial Hermann Southeast collects food



Chaplain Eddie Simmons, along with Selma Atatural and Cindy Salgado from Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital, deliver donations to Daer Platt, director of operations of Southeast Area Ministries (SeAM).

## Remember When

**40 years ago (1976)**  
The Southeast Volunteer Fire Department officially moved into its new quarters, Station #1 in Scarsdale.

The San Jacinto College Board of Regents approved proposed plans for the building of a campus on its new college site located near Beamer and Choate Road.

**35 years ago (1981)**  
Harris County Sheriff's deputies and Houston police confiscated \$70,000 in stolen merchandise, including a truck and boat. Stolen property included televisions, stereos, clothing and

video equipment. San Jacinto College regents met in an open hearing and voted to raise the district's tax rate by at least 3 percent.

**30 years ago (1986)**  
A tank trailer containing residual amounts of anhydrous ammonia sank into the pavement of a vacant Safeway store parking lot at Hughes and South Belt and released traces of gases into the atmosphere.

Three 10th-grade Dobie students, who were caught trying to steal a car, were charged with burglary of a motor vehicle, were sent to Galveston Juvenile Detention Center for a week, went before a judge and were released into parental custody. The juveniles were connected with at least seven automobile burglaries in the Pearland area.

**25 years ago (1991)**  
Sageglen parents of Weber students were able to have their students transferred by placing a phone call and making the request.

Mercantile Trust Co. and the Brio Task Force were being sued by the Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League and Girls Softball Association for a loss of the use of the United Sports Association fields and the time in building the ballpark.

**20 years ago (1996)**  
Ayrshire and Griggs corporations reportedly sold a portion of their 135 acres at the beltway-tollway and Gulf Freeway to AMC.

David Graham and Michael Phillips, both 11, were given \$200 each after finding and turning in a bag containing \$1,900, passports and credit cards

belonging to an Australian tourist who had left it at the Sageglen pool.

**15 years ago (2001)**  
SBHLL 14-year-old All-Stars reached the finals in Waco before falling to Gregory-Portland 4-3.

The City of Houston hosted a buy-out meeting for residents in the 100-year flood plain.

**10 years ago (2006)**  
A police chase which lasted nearly two hours passed through the South Belt area four times. The chase ended when suspect Kenneth Wayne Pool crashed into a ditch between Fairmont and Spencer in Pasadena.

PISD insurance premiums skyrocketed, reportedly due to the high cost of property damage in the 2005 hurricane season.

**5 years ago (2011)**  
Following the passing of the state budget, the Pasadena Independent School District rehired roughly 50 teachers who were originally laid off due to funding concerns. Working with projected cuts of \$21 million per year over the next two years, the school district had initially laid off 340 employees, including 180 instructors. For the South Belt community, this meant the loss of 16 area teachers, three of whom were rehired in the school district.

After serving seven distinguished years as principal at Frazier Elementary, Rhonda Parmar stepped

down to further pursue her career goals. Under Parmar's leadership, Frazier was rated "Exemplary" by the Texas Education Agency for the previous five consecutive years. In 2010, Parmar was named PISD's Region 4 Principal of the Year and the Texas Elementary Principals and Supervisors Association's National Distinguished Principal.

A fatal traffic accident occurred during the early morning hours leaving one dead and another hospitalized when a silver Chevrolet Trailblazer crashed in the 11300 block of the Gulf Freeway northbound feeder road at Hartsook, south of Edgebrook. The driver, Adam Joseph Garcia, 30, of Pasadena, was pronounced dead at the scene, while a female passenger, 33, was transported by Life Flight to Memorial Hermann Hospital in stable condition. Witnesses at the scene reported seeing the victim driving erratically. He was observed to be speeding, tailgating other drivers and weaving through traffic. The driver lost control of the vehicle and struck a utility pole.

**1 year ago (2015)**  
A man died July 24 after being shot inside a local strip club. The incident happened at the Lounge Plaza Men's Club in the 12300 block of the Gulf Freeway near Fuqua. Witnesses reported that the victim and the suspect had an altercation earlier in the evening. The suspect later returned with a pistol and shot the victim multiple times in the chest and leg. The victim was transported to a nearby hospital, where he later died. Pasadena Independent

## Steve Rosa to address Pearland GOP club

The South Belt community is invited to Pearland Area Republican Club's summer hospitality social meeting to be held on Tuesday, Aug. 16, at the Church of Christ annex, 2217 N. Grand Blvd.

The group will welcome special guest speaker Steve Rosa with the Brazoria County Sheriff's Depart-

ments Office of Emergency Management. Rosa will share important insights about hurricane preparedness for Brazoria County residents.

The public is invited to attend and bring a friend. Free refreshments and snacks will be served.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. The meeting begins at 7 p.m.

## Israel folk dancing good for exercising

And the dancing continues... nobody wants to stop. Dancing is a great way to do cardiovascular exercises while having fun! The sessions are not built on one another, so joining now still enables catching up quickly.

The dances are held at Congregation Shaar Hashalom on Mondays, from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. August dates are 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29.

September dates are 12, 19 and 26 (no session on September 5, which is Labor Day). Heads up: October 31 will be the only day that month when the dances will take place, since the Jewish High Holidays occupy most

of October.

Investment in the dances of \$4/session or \$35/10 sessions for CSH members and \$5/session or \$45/10 session for nonmember will cover expenses.

Everyone is welcome to join the group - even if this is the first time.

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 visit the website [csh@shaarhashalom.org](http://csh@shaarhashalom.org).

## Judaism discussions set

Congregation Shaar Hashalom's own Rabbi Stuart Federow is hosting free, open to the public, weekly discussions. The sessions are held every second Thursday of the month at Victor's, 1425 NASA Pkwy., at 7 p.m.

The public is invited to join the discussion and bring

questions, thoughts and opinions to share.

Congregation Shaar Hashalom, located at 16020 El Camino Real, is the Conservative synagogue in the Bay Area. For more information, contact the office at 281-488-5861 or at [csh@shaarhashalom.org](mailto:csh@shaarhashalom.org).

## Local artist exhibit ends

Experience the work of local artists during the 2016 Bay Area Juried Exhibition, which ends Aug. 11.

All artists in the show live within a 30-mile radius of University of Houston-Clear Lake.

Artwork on display includes sculpture, photography, digital painting and more. Curator Daniel Fuller of the Atlanta Contemporary

Art Center juried the exhibition. Entrance to the gallery is free, and gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Thursday and 9 a.m. to noon on Friday in the Bayou Building, 2700 Bay Area Blvd. Paid parking is available in the visitor lot. To learn more about the exhibit, call Jeff Bowen, 281-283-3376, or visit [www.uhcl.edu/artgallery](http://www.uhcl.edu/artgallery).

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## Dobie bowling teams head to nationals



Members of the J. Frank Dobie boys and girls bowling teams who will participate in the National Bowling competition this weekend are, left to right, (front row) Karis Pham, Shelby Henderer, Daniel Harder, Jose Hernandez, Nyomi Carrington, Monica Zabala, Kaylynn Garcia, (back row) Michael Castillo, Sydney Meijia, Joseph Castillo, Noah Mejia, Brandon Harder, Robert Lazo, Chelsea Keener, Nicholas Luna, Clarissa Castillo and Coach Shannon Howard.

## Dobie boys, girls bowling teams advance High School Bowling National Championships

**By Jay Do**  
Both the boys and girls teams of the J. Frank Dobie High School bowling team will soon represent not only their school and district, but also the state of Texas in the 2016 United States High School Bowling National Championship hosted by the United States High School Bowling Foundation in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida on July 30 and 31.

The journey to nationals has proven to be a long and arduous one, with members of both teams committing countless hours over the course of the past school year to ensure the success of the team.

"My kids work really hard," said head bowling coach Shannon Howard. "These kids have worked hard honing their skills all year. They practice every week, sometimes twice a week. A lot of them are in different leagues. We have kids who just started bowling this past year and kids who have been bowling since they could walk. The ability level on the team varies, but the kids who have been doing it their whole life manage

to peer-coach the kids who need help. Rather than complaining about the kids with the lower skill set being on their team, they help bring them along so that everyone is closer to matching the level of play of the kids who have been doing it their whole lives."

The fruits of the team's labor have become glaringly evident, as its members have continued to uphold Dobie's fine traditions of success with decisive victories at the regional and state levels for the third consecutive year, making history along the way.

"This is the first time in the history of the state play-offs that they've had both the boys and the girls team from the same school to place in finals," said Howard.

Both teams placed eighth in the Texas High School Bowling Championships, qualifying them to advance to the national championships.

Despite not being recognized as an official sports organization by the Texas University Interscholastic League, opportunities offered at Dobie have enabled Howard and her team mem-

bers to achieve the unprecedented levels of success.

"We have been very blessed to be given the opportunity to be considered a sport on our campus," said Howard. "Because our principal chooses to recognize our program as a sport, he gives us credibility, whereas UIL has not done that yet. That carries a lot of weight. He's really done a lot to help us overcome the belief that bowling is just a club or an activity that a lot of teams are faced with."

Since the state championships, the team has continued to work to better themselves, focusing on a particular strength that Howard believes will prove essential at the national championships.

"We've been practicing all summer," said Howard. "We've practiced baker, which is a specific play where everybody bowls five frames and then rotates for the next five frames. Our kids are very talented individually, and they've been practicing the baker game, because that's where our forte has been. Every year, we've been able to save it with the baker if

we're struggling as a team, so we're really working on improving our baker game."

Whereas other teams may bring highly skilled bowlers to the competition, Howard believes the camaraderie of the Dobie members will prove to be an unassailable asset to the team.

"We do a lot of team bonding," said Howard. "This team is a family. They fight like family, they love like family. That's the way we're able to repeat our success so consistently, sometimes with a different group of kids. We do everything together. We do fundraising together, we do our community service together. They have bonded as a team and as a coach I feel that that's what sets our program apart."

Team member Robert Lazo agrees. "Most of our team is comprised of bowlers that began at a very young age somewhere around 6 years old, so we've all been bonded together for years now and we are a big family," said Lazo. "We all have each other's back no matter what, and that is what I think will set our

team apart from others. I have no doubt that this will serve as an advantage to us in the long run."

For Lazo, the opportunity to represent his school, hometown and state is one that he does not carry lightly.

"This opportunity means everything to me," said Lazo. "We are excited as ever to represent not only Dobie High School, but also the city of Houston and the state of Texas in this event. We have been preparing non-stop for months now, and I can't wait to get there and show the country what we can do. Hopefully, we can make everyone proud."

Howard anticipates the team's performance at the competition to be as remarkable as ever and the outcome to be nothing short of exceptional, but places having fun as the foremost priority of the team.

"I have no doubt they will do very well," said Howard. "They're very relaxed, and that's a good thing, because I always want them to have fun. I always tell them that if they're not having fun, then they shouldn't do this because their heart isn't in it. From watching them practice, I can tell you that their hearts are in it. They're very confident, but they also have a lot of fun and have a good time. That's ultimately all that matters."

As a coach, Howard finds it difficult to put her pride for the team into words.

"I'm very proud of this team," said Howard. "These kids are really amazing. The amount of pride I have for them and their ability to have this kind of commitment to the sport is just overwhelming. These kids work very hard, and they're not given anything. We work together as a unit, and every year I have that worry that we're going to fall off a little bit, but so far, that hasn't happened yet. Every year, they just work harder and become the best that they can be. They have to sometimes give things up and make certain choices for the team. A lot of these kids chose not to go on a summer vacation because they're committed to getting the team to do well at nationals. For me, I'm just proud of all the hard work they've put in."

## Perez grateful for Hickman's support, faith

Ashley Christine Perez, one of J. Frank Dobie High School's Shining Stars, is shown with distinguished educator Rowena Hickman, a volleyball coach.

Both were honored at the annual Pasadena Independent School District Shining Stars Gala, which recognizes the top students from each high school and their favorite teachers. Perez has volunteered with the National Honor Society,

PetSmart's Adoptathon, HOSA and Melillo tutoring and fall festivals. Perez has enjoyed leadership positions as president of the Math Club and Latin Club, captain of the volleyball team, and secretary of the National Honor Society. Concerning the future, Perez plans to attend college and medical school. Following her time in medical school, Perez hopes to become a part of Doctors Without Borders.



Regarding her teacher, Perez said, "She has always had faith in me as a player and as a person altogether. Her support means so much to me."

The South Belt Shining Stars will present a series of the students being honored along with their favorite mentor. This is the sixth in the series of 10. The 10 Shining Stars represent the Top 10 Dobie High School students. Information and photos were supplied by the Pasadena Independent School District.

The Leader is also running Top 10 Shining Stars from Memorial and South Houston.

## Salinas thankful for Rodriguez's support

Daisy Salinas, one of Pasadena Memorial High School's Shining Stars, is shown with distinguished educator Norma Rodriguez, an instructor of algebra.

Salinas has done volunteer work as a peer mentor for intermediate students and senior homeroom.

She has also participated in many extracurricular activities and organizations, including the National Honor Society, the Spanish Honor Society, orchestra, Colorguard, HOSA and DECA.

Salinas plans to attend the University of Texas at Austin

to major in finance. Following her finance degree, Salinas hopes to work her way up to become a CEO of a corporation and create an international business to repay everyone that has assisted her in her education, especially her supportive parents. Salinas commented about her teacher, "Mrs. Rodriguez, an incredibly generous teacher, has been my idol to pursue my dreams. Not only was she always helpful by devoting her time for tutoring in the mornings and evenings, she molded me into knowing what a hard working woman truly is. With her amusing side, she has never failed to bring a smile to my face.

I learned the foundations of mathematics with her exceptional style of teaching. Mrs. Rodriguez has, without a doubt, been my inspiration for being a positive individual. If I were to describe her in one word, it would be persevering."

The South Belt Shining Stars will be presented in a series of 10 students being honored along with their favorite mentor. This is the sixth in the series of 10.

The 10 Shining Stars represent the Top 10 Pasadena Memorial High School students. The information and photos were supplied by the Pasadena Independent School District.

The Leader is also running the Top 10 Shining Stars from Dobie and South Houston high schools.



## Memorial Hermann adds healing garden



Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital recently opened a healing garden for employees as part of the hospital's \$14 million renovation. Employees, physicians and volunteers provided the funding for the project.

## Employees, volunteers provide healing garden at MSHS

Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital recently opened a new healing garden on campus. The healing garden is located on the third floor of the hospital near the intensive care unit and will provide employees with outdoor space to reflect and recharge.

The healing garden is part of a larger \$14 million expansion and renovation project currently underway at the hospital.

The healing garden is unique in that the funding for the project was provided exclusively through donations from employees, physicians and volunteers at Memorial Hermann Southeast.

"The healing garden is a special place because it was made possible by our employees and our volunteers," says Kyle Price, Sr. Vice President and CEO, Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital.

"Our physicians, nurses and staff work with patients and families in various stages of wellness and illness each day and at times a hospital can be a stressful environment. We want to be certain the emotional and spiritual needs of our staff are being met and the healing garden will play an important role in serving those needs."

The healing garden has been repurposed from un-

used outdoor space. The benches, fountain and landscaping will provide doctors, nurses and staff a quiet space for reflection.

Currently, Memorial Hermann Southeast is renovating each of the hospital's 237 patient rooms and seven nursing stations. The renovation and expansion project is expected to be complete by 2018.

Memorial Hermann Southeast is located at 11800 Astoria Blvd. For information on the many high level services available at Memorial Hermann Southeast visit <http://www.memorialhermann.org/locations/southeast/> or call 281-929-6100.

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Wedding writeups must be run in the newspaper, not submitted, in the time outlined:

From wedding date to six weeks - photo and full article; Six weeks to three months - photo and limited information; After three months from wedding date - will not be run.

Engagement and wedding announcements are published free of charge on a first come, first served basis. Information must be submitted by noon on Friday to be considered for the next issue.

# Leader Schlitterbahn vacation photo contest set

## Manzanalese celebrate anniversary on cruise

Bennie and Irma Manzanalese recently celebrated their 48th wedding anniversary with a tour of the Caribbean, visiting Jamaica, the Cayman Islands and Cozumel, aboard the Carnival Freedom cruise ship.

While on their cruise, the couple saw the depths of the Gulf of Mexico aboard the Atlantis Submarine in Cozumel and had the opportunity to see a turtle farm.



Irma and Bennie enjoy dinner in the Posh dining room, where formal dress is required for attendance.



Irma and Bennie pose for a picture with a backdrop of the Carnival Freedom cruise ship.



Bennie and Irma, with a native friend, enjoy their first stop in Jamaica.



Irma pauses for a picture on the deck of the Atlantis Submarine before submerging 130 feet into the Gulf of Mexico.

## Lizama family takes first trip to Disney World

South Belt residents Roger Lizama Sr., Sebastian Lizama, Israel Lizama, Marisa Lizama and Roger Lizama Jr. recently took their first trip to Disney World in Orlando, Florida. The family found the trip to be particularly special, as both the young children and grown adults were able to enjoy the magical Disney experience. The Lizamas are residents of the Durham Park subdivision, with Roger Lizama Jr. graduating from J. Frank Dobie High School.

Photo submitted



## Yost family announces new family member



The Yost family started its summer hearing the announcement that the second child of Michael and Carrie Yost is a girl. Family members from Dallas and Arizona gathered at the Frankie Carter Randolph Park over the Fourth of July week-

end to celebrate the news. Pictured above are, left to right, (front row) Allison Yost, Steven Yost, Lucas Yost, Michael Yost, Carrie Yost, T.K. Yost, Christian Yost, Jensen Yost, (back row) Sydney Yost, Nancy Yost and Susannah Yost.

## Mata family has fun in the sun



At the Catalonia Riviera Maya Hotel, 5-year-old Gianna is shown holding exotic parrots of the region.



Gianna poses for a picture in front of the Catalonia Riviera Maya Hotel's Chinese garden.



Willie, Jilena and Gianna Mata enjoy the clear waters and white sands of Isla Contoy Island.



Gianna poses with another parrot at the Catalonia Riviera Maya Hotel.

## Joe, Lidia Mendoza take road trip to visit Colorado



Joe and Lidia Mendoza of the Sagemont subdivision recently took a road trip to visit Colorado. While on their trip, the couple enjoyed breathtaking views of the San Juan National Forest in Silverton and visited the ancient archaeological sites of the Pueblo people at the Mesa Verde National Park in Montezuma County. Joe is a sixth grade instructor of social studies at Fred Roberts Middle School and Lidia is currently a student at the University of Houston at Clear Lake.

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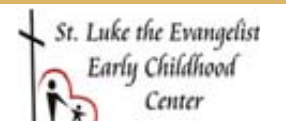
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Jilena Mata, daughter Gianna Mata, and parents Willie and Debbie Mata recently traveled together to their favorite and most convenient place - Mexico. They explored Cancun and Isla Contoy Island. The Matas are longtime South Belt area residents of the Sagemeadow subdivision, with Gianna attending South Belt Elementary School.

# SECTION B SPORTS & CLASSIFIED

## August 1 is nearing; so are FB workouts

The time is near. The Dobbie varsity football program is looking to take a big step or two this season, and it all begins Monday, Aug. 1, as players will don T-shirts and shorts for non-contact drills and conditioning work for much of the week.

What an exciting time of year it is – sans the extreme heat. Dobbie has a legitimate shot to win its first district championship since the 2010 season.

But this season is about much more than carrying the 22-6A title trophy out of Bulldog Stadium come Nov. 4.

Entering his second season as head coach, Mike Norman is intent on carving out a bigger piece of the pie for the Longhorns. Class of 2016 linebacker Dedrick Simpson became

the school's first major Division I commitment in more than a decade in April, and there are others who should follow suit this season and beyond.

Then there's the issue of playoff wins. Dobbie has not had one since 2004.

Of late, the Longhorns haven't been able to get over the proverbial hump otherwise known as North Shore, the current Class 6A, Division I state champion.

Whether it's a win over North Shore or Atascocita come Nov. 11 or so in the bidistrict round of the playoffs, the Longhorns want to reach week 12.

But that's a ways off. More important to Norman and his staff right now is the players in the program picking up where they left off during offsea-

**Preseason workout slate**  
**Clear Brook – (Aug. 1-3) Sophomores through seniors workout 4:30 to 7 p.m.**  
**Dobbie – (Aug. 1-3) Sophomores through seniors workout 4 to 6 p.m.**

son workouts last spring. The team appears set at a number of offensive positions, but there are openings. The same goes for the defensive side of the football. The faster the answers are found, the better for Dobbie.

The Longhorns will scrimmage Strake Jesuit Friday, Aug. 12, at Crusader Stadium. There is plenty to achieve before that time comes.

**CB back to work**  
 Like Dobbie, Clear Brook's football program is excited to get back to work under the direction of second-year head coach Mike Allison.

From Aug. 1 to Aug. 3, all Wolverine players will work out in the afternoons. When the pads go on

beginning Aug. 4-5, the Wolverines will shift to morning workouts in an effort to beat the heat.

Brook will practice for two weeks before taking on Texas City in a scrimmage Aug. 12, at Stingaree Stadium in Texas City.

The second week provides an interesting matchup as Clear Brook hosts Dobbie in an Aug. 19, scrimmage, set to be played at Challenger Stadium in Webster, which is opening for football for the first time beginning this season.

## Brook, Dobbie VB will look to contend

Can Clear Brook and Dobbie end their 2016 varsity volleyball playoff absences in quick order? The time is coming for the answer to begin developing.

Both programs will begin preseason workouts Monday, Aug. 1, with tryouts getting started at 8 a.m., and returning player training continuing throughout the day.

Those lengthy workouts will continue through Thursday, Aug. 4, and scrimmages will then be held Aug. 5 and Aug. 6. After another workout day Monday, Aug. 8, the regular season starts Tuesday, Aug. 9.

Clear Brook will con-

tinue its opening night "tradition," taking on private school power St. Agnes at Lady Wolverine Gymnasium. The varsity action begins at 6:30 p.m.

At Dobbie, the Lady Longhorns will play a tri-match Aug. 9, with Elkins and Atascocita visiting. Varsity play will begin at 4 p.m., and subsvarsity play will take place on an adjacent court.

Is a journey back to the postseason in the cards for Clear Brook or Dobbie? Obviously Clear Brook head coach Meredith Thompson along with Dobbie head coach Dawn Gutierrez Sexton hope so, but there is plenty of prov-

ing to do along the way. It may sound like a broken record, but the District 24-6A alignment was already the toughest in Region III, and the arrival of Alvin doesn't figure to make things any simpler for anyone.

Can Clear Brook and Dobbie end their 2016 varsity volleyball playoff absences in quick order? The time is coming for the answer to begin developing.

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The Houston Area Volleyball Coaches Association revealed its Fab 50 list for the 2016 campaign, and it's littered with players from the 24-6A ranks.

Clear Creek, which reached the Region III semifinals in 2015 before a loss to Fort Bend Austin, lost just two players on its entire roster.

Fab 50 members Caitlyn Burroway, Maddie Flora, Hannah Froeschl and Melissa McNeil lead the way for Clear Creek. Friendswood had a pair of Fab 50 members, including Kelly Colwell and Shannon Murphy.

Clear Falls, the Region III champion two seasons ago, has standouts Briana Garcia and Sophie Shaaf on the Fab 50 list, and

Clear Brook counters with Fab 50 nominees Jaden Newsome, a four-year letterwinner, as well as Jordan Russell.

Alvin, the newcomer to the 24-6A ranks, lost all-time digs leader Taylor Horsfall to graduation, but first-team 22-6A selection Chloe Holden leads the way, along with second-team pick Sydney Dungen.

In 24-6A, it boils down to the fact that Clear Falls, Clear Springs, Clear Creek, Friendswood and even Clear Lake have challenged for the Region III tournament title in recent years.

Alvin is out to prove it can hang with the big dogs after a successful four-year run in 22-6A.

Continued on Page 3B

## Shiflett Realtors has them Pasadena ISD athletics department to sell football season six packages

Now through Friday, August 19, from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., Pasadena Independent School District 2016 football season ticket packages will be on sale in the PISD Ticket Office, located at 2906 Dabney in the Phillips

Field House. Individual tickets only will be available after August 19.

For Dobbie High School football fans, the packages will also be sold at Roy Shiflett Realtors, 11559 Beamer Road (the intersection of Beam-

er and Beltway 8 next to the South Belt-Ellington Leader office) as well as the PISD Ticket Office.

The costs for tickets are \$6 each (\$36 for six Dobbie games at Veterans Stadium). This is a savings of \$1 per ticket off the \$7 gate price. There are no reserved seats sold.

Student tickets are also available for \$3 each and may be used for any varsity regular season game at Veterans Stadium.

Varsity home games will be played at 7 p.m. on Fridays and 6 p.m. on Thursdays and Saturdays.

Dobbie will play its season opener at Veterans Stadium on Saturday, Aug. 27, against Summer Creek. Additionally, the Longhorns are scheduled to play a pair of Thursday night games, first against Memorial and then against Sam Rayburn.



At left, an 18-year hobby finally came to an end as former Clear Brook High School softball player Erin Begle (3) finished her career at the University of Dallas, but she had plenty to smile about after multiple all-conference selections and an All-American nomination following her senior season. In the frame at left is Katie Lee, a Dobbie High School graduate who now owns the Crusader record for career pitching wins. She will be a senior this school year.

Photo by Al Carter

## Begle family softball fun ends; Dallas U star finishes up strong

**By John Bechtle Sports Editor**  
 Having completed a star-studded four-year stay at the University of Dallas as a member of the women's softball program, former Clear Brook High School standout Erin Begle has no regrets.

Nor should she have any. Joining a UD program that was not performing at a high level upon her arrival, Begle and many of her eventual teammates helped institute a turnaround of sorts.

The University of Dallas did not do a whole lot of winning early on in Begle's stay.

The Crusaders won just six games in 2013 and followed that up with a 12-29 run of things a season later.

Dallas posted a winning season at 20-16 in 2015, and went 21-23 this season, Begle's final with the program.

Especially during that first season, Begle experienced just a smidge of culture shock.

At Clear Brook, she had been a part of winning program, having watched her older sister Bridgette, catcher Molly Fichtner and others reach the collegiate ranks and then have great success.

Not so much at UD, but Begle went with the program.

"I was, honestly, a little bit shocked at the level of play," she said. "I was coming from Clear Brook and the Class 6A level

where we certainly played against some of the best teams and players in the state.

"It didn't look too great overall, but I loved the school, and I have always strived to leave something behind better than it was when I got there.

"I just wanted to do what I could to help the program grow and achieve better results."

Begle did her part and then some from the very first time she set foot on the University of Dallas practice field.

While UD went 6-31 in 2013, Begle appeared in all 35 games, hitting .447 with 31 runs scored and 16 runs driven in. For her efforts, she landed a Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference second team berth.

She was also part of a cultural change within the University of Dallas program.

Players were held accountable and expectations were heightened. The Crusaders also welcomed 2013 Dobbie High School graduate Katie Lee for the 2014 season.

A member of the National Honor Society and recognized as a Trailblazer as a senior, Lee also put together a solid season in the circle for the Lady Longhorns. She continued that steady work at UD.

As a freshman, Lee led the team with six wins and a 2.82 earned run average.

A season later, Lee shattered the school re-

cord for wins with 19, and her 212 innings pitched also eclipsed the previous school mark.

"We just tried to build good work habits out on the practice field that would translate to the game field," Begle said.

"Being on the field was like a ministry for me. I wanted to be around those that shared the same love of the game."

"With Bridgette (class of 2010 Clear Brook graduate) being two years ahead of me, I talked to her about some of the things it takes to be a leader.

"Whether it be the game of softball or anything else in life, you will learn

Continued on Page 6B

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## Perla makes ES All-Americans



Marisa Perla, a Morris Middle School student, will represent the Southeast Region at the USA Elite Select All-American Games in Kissimmee, Fla., as a youth softball player. A pitcher for the Texas Glory Atkins-Saenz 10-U team, Perla is the daughter of Jaime and Henry Perla, residents of the Southbridge subdivision.

## South Belt sports news, notes

### South Belt Youth Soccer Club sign-up

The South Belt Soccer Club is now accepting on-line registration for the fall 2016 season as youth boys and girls age 4 to 18 are welcome to join the league.

Children eligible for the under 5 to under 8 (4, 5, 6 and 7-year-olds) will pay \$115 to register, while children in the under 9 and under 10 groups (8 and 9-year-olds) will pay \$130. Those in the under 11 and older (10 to 18-year-olds) will pay \$170 to register.

Families may register their children by visiting [www.southbeltsoccer.org](http://www.southbeltsoccer.org), and simply follow the prompts. After registering on-line, families will be required to present a copy of their child's birth certificate to the SBYSC team coach.

Only credit card/debit card payments will be accepted at the time of on-line registration. A late fee will be assessed after Sept. 1, 2016.

The registration fee covers/uniform shirt, shorts and socks in addition to the league-wide fundraiser. Parents will be responsible for providing shin guards, soccer cleats and a practice ball.

Practices begin in August, with games set to begin in September. Regular season games will be held on Saturday and Sunday afternoons, either at El Franco Lee Park or Beverly Hills Park.

### Dobie End of Summer Swim Clinic Aug. 1-4

Dobie High School swimming coaches Bradley Nguyen and Kyle Ediger will host the Longhorns' End of Summer Swim Clinic Monday through Thursday, Aug. 1-4, at the Beverly Hills Intermediate pool.

Students age 6 through 14 are eligible to attend the clinic, which will run from 5 to 6 p.m. each day. Cost of the clinic is \$50, cash only.

The Pasadena Independent School District does not provide medical insurance coverage for these types of summer or extracurricular activities, so parents are responsible for such coverage. For more information on registration details, direct emails to Nguyen at [kt\\_nguyen@pasadenaisd.org](mailto:kt_nguyen@pasadenaisd.org).

### Dobie swim to open workouts Aug. 1

In conjunction with the End of Summer Swim Clinic, Dobie High School swimming coaches Bradley Nguyen and Kyle Ediger will open preseason workouts to both current Longhorn swimmers and incoming freshmen as of the 2016-2017 school year. The workouts will run Aug. 1-4, from 3 to 5 p.m., which is prior to the start of the youth clinic. Both events will be held at the Beverly Hills Intermediate pool.

The Pasadena Independent School District does not provide medical insurance coverage for these types of summer or extracurricular activities, so parents are responsible for such coverage.

For more information on registration details, direct emails to Nguyen at [kt\\_nguyen@pasadenaisd.org](mailto:kt_nguyen@pasadenaisd.org).

### SJC softball tryouts Aug. 12

The San Jacinto College softball team will host tryouts for the 2017 season on Friday, August 12. High school seniors are invited to attend. Pitchers and catchers will try out from 2 to 4 p.m., and infield and outfield prospects will try out from 4 to 6 p.m. All tryouts will take place at the San Jacinto College South Campus softball field located at 13735 Beamer. Participants are asked to register for tryouts with Assistant Softball Coach Kelsey Walters, at [kelsey.walters@sjcd.edu](mailto:kelsey.walters@sjcd.edu) or 281-998-6150 ext. 3524.

### Rising Stars off to nationals

The Rising Stars Track Club is set for the season finale, the 2016 Amateur Athletic Union Junior Olympic Games beginning Friday, July 29, at Turner Stadium in Humble. The local team qualified 33 of its athletes, many in more than one event, for the national competition. Athletes first had to advance past district and regional competition. The AAA Junior Olympic Games will run through Aug. 6. The *Leader* will have a list of top finishes for the Rising Stars when the results become available.

### Bay Area Football League starts Aug. 13

Practices are underway, and each of the Bay Area Football League's teams are busy preparing for the start of the season, which comes Saturday, Aug. 13. On opening day, the Southbelt Dolphins will host the Ellington Rams in a series of games at Blackhawk Park. Meanwhile, the Sagemont Cowboys will face the Pasadena Panthers at Pasadena High School. The pee wee game begins at 8 a.m., followed by senior play at 9 a.m. Junior action comes at 10:45 a.m., followed by sophomore play at 12:30 p.m. The freshmen complete the day's action at 2:15 p.m.

### Dobie exes tennis coming Aug. 13

Any former Dobie High School varsity tennis players are invited to take part in the Longhorns' annual series of exes matches Saturday, Aug. 13, at the Longhorn Courts. Current Dobie players will engage in doubles competition against any former players, including those from the 2015-2016 school year. An informal pre-tournament workout will be held prior to the start of play, which comes at 9 a.m. For more information, direct email to Dobie head coach Manuel Moreno Jr. at [mmjtenicon@aol.com](mailto:mmjtenicon@aol.com) or [mmoreno@pasadenaisd.org](mailto:mmoreno@pasadenaisd.org).

### Thompson FB equipment pickup is Aug. 12

The Thompson Intermediate football coaching staff will welcome players for the first of two equipment pickup dates Friday, Aug. 12, at the school. Eighth-grade students may pick up their practice gear from 10 a.m. to noon, with the seventh-graders invited to do so from 1 to 3 p.m. A second equipment pick-up date will be Monday, Aug. 22, from 1 to 3 p.m.

# 2016 Clear Creek ISD Varsity Football Schedule

<p><b>Clear Creek</b> South Houston Friday, Aug. 26 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>at Channelview Friday, Sept. 2 Ray Maddry Stadium, 6 p.m.</p> <p>Houston Heights Saturday, Sept. 10 Challenger Stadium, 6 p.m.</p> <p>Clear Springs Friday, Sept. 23 Challenger Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>at Clear Brook Friday, Sept. 30 Challenger Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>at Alvin Thursday, Oct. 6 Alvin ISD Stadium, 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Friendswood Saturday, Oct. 15 Veterans, 1 p.m.</p> <p>at Dickinson Friday, Oct. 21 Vitanza Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Clear Lake (HC) Friday, Oct. 28 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>at Clear Falls Friday, Nov. 4 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m. (HC) Homecoming</p>	<p><b>Clear Springs</b> Pearland Friday, Aug. 26 Challenger Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Dobie Saturday, Sept. 3 Challenger Stadium, 6 p.m.</p> <p>at La Porte Friday, Sept. 9 Bulldog Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>at Clear Creek Friday, Sept. 23 Challenger Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Alvin Friday, Sept. 30 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>at Dickinson Friday, Oct. 7 Vitanza Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Clear Falls Friday, Oct. 14 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>at Clear Brook Friday, Oct. 21 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Friendswood (HC) Friday, Oct. 28 Challenger Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>at Clear Lake Friday, Nov. 4 Challenger Stadium, 7 p.m. (HC) Homecoming</p>	<p><b>Clear Brook</b> at Bellaire Friday, Aug. 26 Butler Stadium, 6 p.m.</p> <p>La Porte Friday, Sept. 2 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>South Houston Friday, Sept. 9 Challenger Stadium, 6 p.m.</p> <p>at Clear Falls Friday, Sept. 23 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Clear Creek (HC) Friday, Sept. 30 Challenger Stadium, 6 p.m.</p> <p>Friendswood Friday, Oct. 7 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>at Clear Lake Friday, Oct. 14 Challenger Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Clear Springs Friday, Oct. 21 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>at Alvin Friday, Oct. 28 Alvin ISD Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Dickinson Saturday, Nov. 5 Challenger Stadium, 1 p.m. (HC) Homecoming</p>	<p><b>Clear Falls</b> at Spring Friday, Aug. 26 Turner Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Bellaire Saturday, Sept. 3 Veterans Stadium, 6 p.m.</p> <p>at Sam Rayburn Saturday, Sept. 10 Veterans Stadium, 6 p.m.</p> <p>Clear Brook Friday, Sept. 23 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>at Friendswood Friday, Sept. 30 Winston Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Clear Lake Friday, Oct. 7 Challenger Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>at Clear Springs Friday, Oct. 14 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Alvin (HC) Friday, Oct. 21 Challenger Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>at Dickinson Friday, Oct. 28 Vitanza Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Clear Creek Friday, Nov. 4 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m. (HC) Homecoming</p>	<p><b>Clear Lake</b> at Baytown Sterling Saturday, Aug. 27 Stallworth Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Texas City Friday, Sept. 2 Challenger Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Clements Friday, Sept. 9 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>at Alvin Friday, Sept. 23 Alvin ISD Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Dickinson Saturday, Oct. 1 Challenger Stadium, 1 p.m.</p> <p>at Clear Falls Friday, Oct. 7 Challenger Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Clear Brook (HC) Friday, Oct. 14 Challenger Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>at Friendswood Friday, Oct. 21 Winston Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>at Clear Creek Friday, Oct. 28 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Clear Springs Friday, Nov. 4 Challenger Stadium, 7 p.m. (HC) Homecoming</p>
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# 2016 Pasadena ISD Varsity Football Schedule

<p><b>Dobie</b> Summer Creek Saturday, Aug. 27 Veterans Stadium, 6 p.m.</p> <p>at Clear Springs Saturday, Sept. 3 Challenger Stadium, 6 p.m.</p> <p>at Morton Ranch Friday, Sept. 9 Rhodes Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>at Dawson Friday, Sept. 16 The Rig, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Deer Park Friday, Sept. 23 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>at Memorial Thursday, Sept. 29 Veterans Stadium, 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Sam Rayburn Thursday, Oct. 13 Veterans, 6 p.m.</p> <p>at South Houston Friday, Oct. 21 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Pasadena (HC) Friday, Oct. 28 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>at La Porte Friday, Nov. 4 Bulldog Stadium, 7 p.m. (HC) Homecoming</p>	<p><b>Pasadena</b> Galena Park Friday, Aug. 26 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>at Chavez Saturday, Sept. 3 Barnett Stadium, 6 p.m.</p> <p>Bellaire Friday, Sept. 9 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>at South Houston Thursday, Sept. 22 Veterans Stadium, 6 p.m.</p> <p>St. Thomas (HC) Friday, Sept. 30 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>La Porte Thursday, Oct. 6 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>at Deer Park Friday, Oct. 14 Abshire Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Memorial Thursday, Oct. 20 Veterans Stadium, 6 p.m.</p> <p>at Dobie Friday, Oct. 28 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Sam Rayburn Friday, Nov. 4 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m. (HC) Homecoming</p>	<p><b>Sam Rayburn</b> at Clements Thursday, Aug. 25 Rhodes Stadium, 6 p.m.</p> <p>Aldine Friday, Sept. 2 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Clear Falls Saturday, Sept. 10 Veterans Stadium, 6 p.m.</p> <p>at Needville Friday, Sept. 16 Blue Jay, 7 p.m.</p> <p>La Porte Saturday, Sept. 24 Veterans Stadium, 6 p.m.</p> <p>at Deer Park Friday, Oct. 30 Abshire Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Memorial Friday, Oct. 7 (HC) Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>at Dobie Thursday, Oct. 13 Veterans Stadium, 6 p.m.</p> <p>South Houston Thursday, Oct. 27 Veterans Stadium, 6 p.m.</p> <p>at Pasadena Friday, Nov. 4 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m. (HC) Homecoming</p>	<p><b>South Houston</b> at Clear Creek Friday, Aug. 26 Challenger Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Galena Park Saturday, Sept. 3 Veterans Stadium, 6 p.m.</p> <p>at Clear Brook Friday, Sept. 9 Challenger Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>at Rosenberg Terry Thursday, Sept. 15 Traylor Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Pasadena Thursday, Sept. 22 Veterans Stadium, 6 p.m.</p> <p>at La Porte Friday, Sept. 30 Bulldog Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Deer Park (HC) Saturday, Oct. 8 Veterans Stadium, 1 p.m.</p> <p>at Memorial Friday, Oct. 14 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Dobie Friday, Oct. 21 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>at Sam Rayburn Thursday, Oct. 27 Veterans Stadium, 6 p.m. (HC) Homecoming</p>	<p><b>Memorial</b> at College Park Friday, Aug. 26 Woodforest Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Vidor Thursday, Sept. 1 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>at Aldine Saturday, Sept. 10 Thorne Stadium, 6 p.m.</p> <p>Pearland Friday, Sept. 16 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Dobie Thursday, Sept. 29 Veterans Stadium, 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>at Sam Rayburn Friday, Oct. 7 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>South Houston (HC) Friday, Oct. 14 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.</p> <p>at Pasadena Thursday, Oct. 20 Veterans Stadium, 6 p.m.</p> <p>La Porte Saturday, Oct. 29 Veterans Stadium, 1 p.m.</p> <p>at Deer Park Friday, Nov. 4 Abshire Stadium, 7 p.m. (HC) Homecoming</p>
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# Volleyball workouts begin Aug. 1 across Region III

Continued from Page 1B

Clear Brook and Dickinson have been highly-competitive without being able to get over the hump.

Every match night, it could be a five-setter in 24-6A action.

Clear Brook will have to win the big points to come out with a playoff berth.

**JFD could rise**

Things could be looking up for Dobie in District 22-6A, where Region III power Pearland as well as perennial playoff squads Alvin and Dawson have moved on to other

reside in 22-6A.

The Lady Longhorns will be led by last year's 22-6A Newcomer of the Year Taylor Pleasants as well as several other key returnees.

The competition? Deer

Park has been a nemesis for the Lady Longhorns in district play over the years.

In 2015-2016, Deer Park went 21-13 overall but ran the table in District 21-6A to the tune of

12-0. The Lady Deer were swept 3-0 in the first round of the playoffs by Alvin.

But Deer Park graduated four first-team All-District 21-6A players, leaving four second-teamers to pick up the slack.

Deer Park figures to be led by four juniors, including outside hitters Emily Kent and Morgan Bailey, right side Ally Combs and defensive specialist Raney Wesley. District play begins Sept. 9.

## Opening Night

**Dobie hosts Elkins/Atascocita**

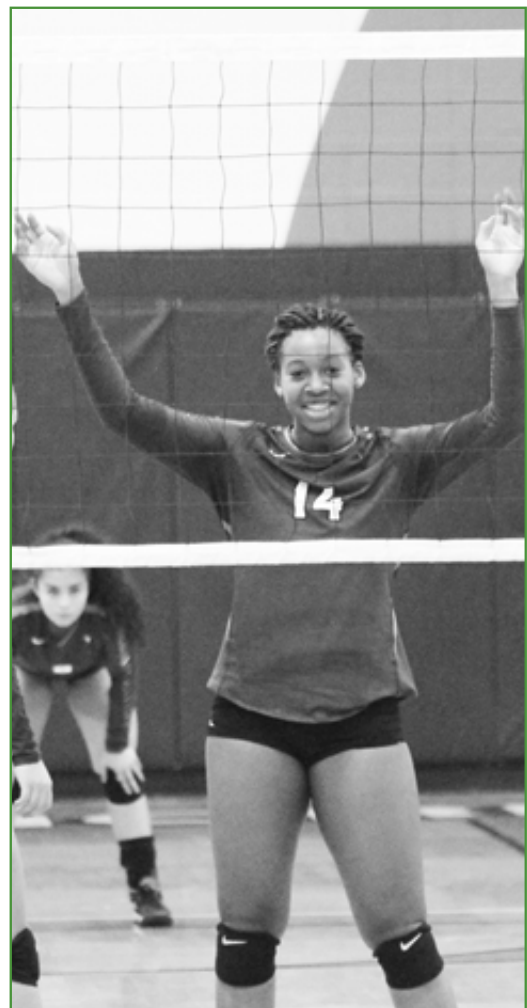
**Brook hosts St. Agnes Tuesday, Aug. 9**

districts courtesy of the realignment.

The Dobie contingent won't say it will settle for this, but merely downing the other four Pasadena ISD schools – Memorial, South Houston, Rayburn and Pasadena – will lead to a playoff berth.

The reality is that Dobie should challenge for the 22-6A championship this season after going 8-8 in league play in 2015.

All eight losses were to programs which no longer



**Dobie junior Natasha Walters gained plenty of varsity playing experience as a sophomore in 2015 and will be relied on to provide solid net coverage again on the front row as the Lady Longhorns eventually seek a return to the playoffs.**



**Jackie Garcia got quite a bit of playing time at setter as a sophomore, meaning that position should be set as Dobie begins preseason workouts Aug. 1. Dobie begins the season Aug. 9 in a tri-match against Elkins and Atascocita.**

# Brook, Dobie volleyball head to early tourneys

The Clear Brook and Dobie varsity volleyball teams will quickly jump into tournament play during the first week of the regular season.

The Lady Wolverines are set to play in the Adidas Texas Invitational, hosted for the 19th season by Pearland ISD. With 88 teams in all, including three Texas state champions from the 2015-2016 season, the ATD boasts one of the nation's largest and most competitive field of teams nationally.

Aside from Pearland High School, tournament matches will be played at Turner High School, Pear-

land Junior High School, Dawson High School, Berry Miller Junior High School, Pearland Junior High School East, the regular season.

Clear Brook will play each of its Thursday, Aug. 11 pool play matches at Manvel High School, against New Braunfels, Coppell and La Porte. Trophy round play will then ensue Aug. 12-13.

Lewisville Hebron, the 2015-2016 Class 6A state champion, headlines the tournament along with

5A state champion Lucas Lovejoy and Argyre, the defending Class 4A champions. Austin Westlake, Clear Creek, Pearland, Friendswood, Alvin and others are also expected to provide plenty of excitement.

Three-day tournament passes will be available Thursday, Aug. 11 only. They will be \$30 for adults, \$20 for senior citizens and \$12 for students. Single day tickets are \$12 for adults, \$8 for seniors and \$5 for students. Tournament proceeds

go to support the Pearland ISD Education Foundation, the Deweyville Flood Victims Fund and the Lyndsay Hodges Breast Cancer Awareness Fight, which helps support Clear Falls High School varsity volleyball coach Lyndsay Hodges, who is battling breast cancer.

**Dobie to S.A.**  
The Dobie Lady Longhorns will make their first tournament appearance of the season at the Northside ISD Varsity Volleyball Tournament in San Antonio.

Dawn Gutierrez Sexton, beginning her second season as head coach at Dobie, has high hopes for her team, which returns several key players from a season ago.

In San Antonio, Dobie will face a pair of local high school programs – Holmes and Clemens. Other teams included in the two-day tournament include Antonian, Madison, Floresville, Taft, John Paul, El Paso Eastlake, Warren, Southwest, Judson, Clark, Steele and Boerne.

## Adidas Texas Invitational Volleyball Aug. 11-13, Pearland ISD

### Thursday, Aug. 11 matches

**Clear Brook vs. New Braunfels, 11:30 a.m.**

**Clear Brook vs. Coppell, 3:15 p.m.**

**Clear Brook vs. La Porte, 4:30 p.m.**

*all at Manvel High School*

**\*Friday, Aug. 12 and Saturday, Aug. 13 is gold, silver and bronze division trophy play.**

## Northside ISD Volleyball Aug. 12-13, San Antonio

### Friday, Aug. 12 matches

**Dobie vs. Holmes, 9 a.m.**

**Dobie vs. Clemens, 10:15 a.m.**

*at Taylor High School*

**\*Saturday, Aug. 13 is gold, silver and bronze division trophy play.**

# Coyotes unveil 2016 men's soccer slate



**Sophomore midfielder Juan David Agredo (14) is a key piece to the puzzle for the San Jacinto College men's soccer team, which is looking to reach the national tournament this season after missing**

**out by one win in 2015. Agredo, who graduated from Bellaire High School, helped the 2015 team finish at 12-6-1, a season that ended with a district final loss to Tyler.**

Ian Spooner, San Jacinto College men's soccer head coach, has released the 2016 schedule.

The team has 10 home games scheduled, seven of which will be Region XIV matches, and two matchups against San Jac's rival and last year's national runner-up, Tyler Junior College.

"The schedule will be very challenging this year from start to finish," said Spooner, who has been with the team for four seasons.

"We want to play the top teams, so I have no doubt the guys will be up for the challenge."

San Jac will open its season with two home games against the University of St. Thomas and Our Lady of the Lake University on Aug. 13 and 17.

The team then heads to San Antonio to face the University of the Incarnate Word, before ending the month in Mississippi against nationally ranked Eastern Florida State College (Aug. 26) and Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College (Aug. 27).

"It will be a good test for the guys to start on the road against a very talented Eastern Florida team, the third-ranked team in the nation, and a quality Mississippi Gulf Coast team at their home field," said Spooner.

In September, San Jac will begin Region XIV play with four home games against Angelina College, Mountain View College, Northeast Texas

Community College and Paris Junior College.

The team will then hit the road Sept. 16 and 17 to face Coastal Bend College and Laredo Community College. On Sept. 23 and 24 the team will see two home games against last year's national runner-up Tyler Junior College and Jacksonville College.

The team will bring the month to a close in Angelina versus Angelina College.

San Jac will see 10 games in October, three of which will be at home against Coastal Bend College, Laredo Community College and Southwest Christian College.

The remaining seven games will be spent on the road against nationally ranked Richland College, Northeast Texas Community College, Paris Junior College, Jacksonville College and Tyler Junior College.

The Region XIV Tournament will take place Oct. 26-29 and the district championship will be on Nov. 4-6.

The National Junior College Athletic Association national championship is scheduled for Nov. 16-21 in Tyler.

"It will be a long and grueling season, so we have to make sure the team is in good shape. We will start two-a-day training sessions in August," Spooner concludes.

"Team building will also be very important to our team's success this season; we have to make sure that all the guys are on the same page and not putting themselves before

the team. "If we can do these things, we should have a great opportunity to go far in the postseason."

Last season, the team went 12-6-1 overall, winding up second in Region XIV. Returning to the team

that led the region in shot percentage is Juan David Agredo, Jeffrey Hernandez, Hikaruhiro Meike, Luis Almedia, Ricardo Ramos, Antone Jarvis, Jorge Callejas, Brayan Gomez and Kosta Vastakis.

## San Jacinto College 2016 Men's Soccer Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Aug. 13	St. Thomas	7 p.m.
Aug. 17	Our Lady of the Lake	7 p.m.
Aug. 19	Univ. of the Incarnate Word	7 p.m.
Aug. 26	at Eastern Florida (Miss.)	7 p.m.
Aug. 27	at Mississippi Gulf Coast	5 p.m.
Sept. 1	*Angelina	7 p.m.
Sept. 3	Mountain View	7 p.m.
Sept. 9	*Northeast	7 p.m.
Sept. 10	*Paris	4 p.m.
Sept. 16	*at Coastal Bend	4 p.m.
Sept. 17	*at Laredo	4 p.m.
Sept. 23	*Tyler	7 p.m.
Sept. 24	*Jacksonville	4 p.m.
Sept. 30	*at Angelina	5 p.m.
Oct. 2	*at Richland	2 p.m.
Oct. 7	*at Northeast	3 p.m.
Oct. 8	*at Paris	4 p.m.
Oct. 11	*at Jacksonville	7 p.m.
Oct. 14	*Coastal Bend	6 p.m.
Oct. 15	*Laredo	4 p.m.
Oct. 19	*at Tyler	7 p.m.
Oct. 22	Southwest Christian	7 p.m.
Oct. 26	Region XIV Round One	TBA
Oct. 29	Region XIV Final	TBA
Nov. 4-6	at District Championships	TBA
Nov. 16-21	at NJCAA Championships	TBA

\* - Region XIV match

# CALENDAR

## THURSDAY, JULY 28

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

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

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

**Kirkwood Civic Association** meets at the Sagemont Community Center, 11507 Hughes Rd. For details, call Ericka McCrutchon at 281-989-9990.

**CrossRoads UMC** – ESL classes Tuesday and Thursday, 6:30 p.m. at the church, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Course, books and child care are free. For details, call 281-484-9243 or visit [www.crossroads-umc.org](http://www.crossroads-umc.org).

**Well Spouse Support Group** – meets monthly at CrossRoads UMC, 10030 Scarsdale, the last Thursday with those who are the husband, wife or partner of a chronically ill/disabled person, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Free childcare provided. No meetings in Nov. or Dec. For details, contact Jennifer Miller at [houstonwellspouse@gmail.com](mailto:houstonwellspouse@gmail.com) or 713-724-2360, or visit <http://www.wellspouse.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.

**Al-Anon (English)** – Support for family and friends of alcoholics/addicts, 7 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, room 215. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.

**Alateen** – Support for teens, friends and family members of alcoholics/addicts, 7 p.m., First United Methodist Church,

1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, room 208. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.

**Alcoholics Anonymous** – Alcohol problems? Meetings are Thursdays, 8:30 to 9:30 p.m., and Sundays and Tuesdays, 8 to 9 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For details, call 713-204-2481.

**FRIDAY, JULY 29**

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

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

**Un Dia a la Vez Alanon Group (Spanish)** – Support for family/friends of alcoholics or addicts. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 6 p.m., First United Methodist Church, room 215, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.

**Bay Area Genealogical Society** – Meets monthly, the last Friday, at University Baptist Church, 16106 Middlebrook Dr., Clear Lake. Coffee and socializing at 6:30; meeting at 7 p.m. No general meeting in Nov. or Dec. For information, visit [www.TxBayAreaGen.org](http://www.TxBayAreaGen.org).

**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** – Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2245 N. Main St., Pearland. For information, 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.

**AI-Anon** – meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Friday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For information, call 281-484-9243.

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

**SATURDAY, JULY 30**

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

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

**AI-Anon Meeting (Women Only, English)** – For women whose lives are affected by an addict. Saturdays, 11 a.m., First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Cornell Conference room #111. Call 281-487-8787, or just 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 for details.

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

## SUNDAY, JULY 31

**Clear Lake Bridge Club** – Open games Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.

**Alcoholics Anonymous** – meeting at CrossRoads UMC

**Clear Lake Bridge Club Lab Class** – Sunday and Tuesday, 2 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. For details or classes, contact Dr. Glandorf at [drglandorf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:drglandorf@sbcglobal.net) or call 281-488-6318.

**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 Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy. For details, call 281-487-8787.

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

**Alcoholics Anonymous** – Candlelight Meeting, Sunday, 6:30 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.

**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** – Vigilance Group of NA meets Sundays, 7 p.m., 2245 N. Main St., Pearland. For information, 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.

**Alcoholics Anonymous** – Alcohol problems? Meetings are Thursdays, 8:30 to 9:30 p.m., and Sundays and Tuesdays, 8 to 9 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For details, call 713-204-2481.

**MONDAY, AUGUST 1**

**Al-Anon Deer Park** – Mondays, 10 to 11 a.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 information, or just drop in.

**Clear Lake Bridge Club** – Open games Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call 281-480-1911 for details.

Continued on Page 4B

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chip, dark grey, with distinct blk markings, white throat, chest, and paws. Grn grey-ish eyes, very loving, may be skittish, not very vocal, no collar, 6 yrs old. 281-412-7020, 281-543-0753 7-28

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**LOOK - SUPER BARGAIN - COLORADO** Forbes Park (look on internet) 1539 Shumway Place. Premium lot at end of cul-de-sac bordering common land. 2 acres, trees, ready to build on. Paid \$18,000 + 6 years taxes, sacrifice \$14,000 cash or \$2,000 down and 36 payments of \$372.22. Contact Bill Turner in Willis, TX at 936-856-6470

**HELP WANTED**  
HELP WANTED: Creative Housekeeper four (4) hours per week. Experienced helpful, maybe two homes. Fred 281-788-5115 8-4

**HOME HELP NEEDED:** Two senior citizens need help with housekeeping and some cooking, 6 days a week. For more information call 281-992-8026. TF

**LOCAL ACCOUNTING FIRM** needs bookkeeper, experienced in quickbooks, payroll, sales tax, non-smoking office. Fax resume to 281-484-6987. 8-4

**MISCELLANEOUS**  
ROSEWOOD MEMORIAL CEMETERY LOTS: 3 Lots available, located in the veterans section across from Baby land \$2400 each or best offer. 713-946-0477 7-28

**FOREST PARK EAST CEMETERY:** Three spaces, choice location Section 206, lot 89, spaces 7, 8, 9. Call 281-487-7932 TF

**FREE PRESSURE WASHING (OOPS)** I meant free estimates. Houses, driveways, sidewalks, etc. Call Scott at 979-235-0645 7-28

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**The Southeast VFD needs you!**



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

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**281-481-5656**

# CALENDAR

Continued from Page 3B

**MONDAY, AUGUST 1**  
11:30 a.m.  
**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 information, or just drop in.

Noon  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group of AA meets at noon at 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611. 2 p.m.

**Genealogy Group** - Parker Williams Genealogy Group meets from 2 to 4 p.m. on first and third Mondays of each month at the Parker Williams Library, Beamer at Scarsdale. Public is invited. For information, 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 to 4:45 p.m., Clear Lake Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster. Visit [www.hapsonline.org](http://www.hapsonline.org) for details. 6 p.m.

**New Directions Singles** - Age 60 and older meets the first and third Mondays for a potluck dinner with guest speakers, 6 p.m., 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 information. 6:30 p.m.

**Pearland Overeaters Anonymous HOW Meeting** - Monday at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 2535 E. Broadway, Pearland. Use door near recycling bins. For details, call 713-865-3668 or visit [www.oahouston.org](http://www.oahouston.org). 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 building). For information, call 713-856-1611.

**Friends Helping Friends Grief Support Group** - meets Mondays, Kindred Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster, 7 to 8:15 p.m., in the Team Conference Room. Anyone who's lost a loved one is welcome. Free. For information, call Mrs. Barry Craven at 281-486-4241 or R. Sanchez at 281-337-4365. 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 session for nonmembers. Everyone is welcome. For details, contact 281-488-5861 or csh@shaarhashalom.org. 7:30 - 8:30 p.m.

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

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 2**  
7 a.m.  
**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., in the Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in. 9:30 a.m.

**Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - Exhibits with dioramas, an old-time kitchen and a turn-of-the-century doctor's office, Tuesday - 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, 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details. 11:30 a.m.

**Local NARFE Meeting** - National Association of Retired Federal Employees, Chapter 1321, meets the first Tuesday at Clear Lake Community Center, 5001 NASA Pkwy. Lunch is \$6. For information, call Bob Mitchell at 281-333-2881. Noon

**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners of AA meets at noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For information, call 713-856-1611.

**Rotary Club of Pearland** - Meets Tuesdays, noon to 1 p.m., Golfcrest Country Club, 2509 Country Club Dr., Pearland. Lunch is \$15. Variety of speakers. For details, call 281-900-7257 or visit [nax@texascitizensbank.com](http://nax@texascitizensbank.com). 1 p.m.

**Trailmixers** - Meets the first Tuesday at Luby's, 11595 Fuqua. Former and current employees of J. Frank Dobie High School are welcome. 1 p.m.

**Ballroom Dance Practice** - Tuesdays, Hometown Heroes Park. Enjoy free dancing, 1 to 3 p.m., on a beautiful floor. Instructor available to assist. Everyone is welcome! For details, call 281-554-1180. 1001 East League City Pkwy. 1:30 p.m.

**TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)** - #1530 meets at the Sagemont Park Community Center, 11507 Hughes Rd., 1:30 p.m. For information, call Jeanette Sumrall at 713-946-3713. 2 p.m.

**Clear Lake Bridge Club Lab Class** - Sunday and Tuesday, 2 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. For details or classes, contact Dr. Glandorf at [drglandorf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:drglandorf@sbcglobal.net) or call 281-488-6318. 6 p.m.

**Un Dia a la Vez Alanon Group (Spanish)** - Support for family/friends of alcoholics/addicts. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 6 p.m., First United Methodist Church, room 215, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena. Call 281-487-8787. 6:30 p.m.

**CrossRoads UMC** - ESL classes Tuesday and Thursday, 6:30 p.m. at the church, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Course, books and child care are free. For information, call 281-484-9243 or visit [www.crossroads-umc.org](http://www.crossroads-umc.org). 6:30 p.m.

**Bay Area Quilt Guild** - Meets the first Tuesday, Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, 10310 Scarsdale Blvd. Fellowship is at 6:30 p.m.; meeting/program begins at 7 p.m. Visit [www.Facebook.com/BayAreaQuiltGuild](http://www.Facebook.com/BayAreaQuiltGuild). 7 p.m.

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

**Alcoholics Anonymous** - Alcohol problems? Meetings are Thursday, 8:30 to 9:30 p.m., and Sunday and Tuesday, 8 to 9 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For information, call 713-204-2481. 8 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3**  
7 a.m.  
**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or drop in. 10 a.m.

**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - Open games Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details. 11:30 a.m.

**Houston Hobby Airport Lions Club** - meets monthly, first and third Wednesday, 11:30 a.m., Bravos Mexican Restaurant, 10906 Fuqua. December may be an exception. For details, call Monica Montoya at 281-794-5531. Noon

**American Business Women's Association Bay Area Vision Chapter** - Meets at Bon Appetit Cafe, 18027 Point Lookout Dr., 77058, monthly, first Wednesday, noon to 1:30 p.m. Professional speaker often present. For details, contact Christie O'Rear at [christieorear@gmail.com](mailto:christieorear@gmail.com). Noon

**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group of AA meets at noon at 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For information, call 713-856-1611. 1 p.m.

**Hometown Heroes Park** - has free Hump Day Dance to practice ballroom dance, 1 to 3:30 p.m. Wednesdays, 1001 E. League City Pkwy. League City nonresidents must purchase activity card. Help is available to assist learning dance moves. For details, call Neva Schroder at 417-838-2204. 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

**CrossRoads UMC** - Invites everyone to the Wednesday night service beginning with a light meal and fellowship at 5:30 p.m., followed by a praise, worship and prayer service at 6:30 p.m., then a Bible study led by both pastors (English and Spanish). Everyone is welcome! 6 p.m.

**Un Dia a la Vez Alanon Group (Spanish)** - Support for family/friends of alcoholics or addicts. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 6 p.m., First United Methodist Church, room 215, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in. 6:30 p.m.

**The Catholic Community of St. Luke the Evangelist Church** - celebrates the Mass of the Sorrowful Virgin monthly on the first Wednesday, 11011 Hall Rd. There will be a special guest Aug. 3, Sept. 7 and Oct. 5 at 6:30 p.m. For details, call 281-481-6816. 7 p.m.

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

**Bay Area Turning Point Crisis Intervention** - Call 281-286-2525 (24-hour crisis hotline) for confidential domestic violence/sexual abuse support group for women. Visit [www.bayareaturningpoint.org](http://www.bayareaturningpoint.org) for information. 8 p.m.

**Alcoholics Anonymous** - meets at CrossRoads UMC Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call 281-484-9243. 7 p.m.

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 4**  
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 information, or just 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 for details. Noon

**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group of AA, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For information, call 713-856-1611. 6:30 p.m.

**CrossRoads UMC** - ESL classes Tuesday and Thursday, 6:30 p.m. at the church, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Course, books and child care are free. For information, call 281-484-9243 or visit [www.crossroads-umc.org](http://www.crossroads-umc.org). 7 p.m.

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

**AI-Anon (English)** - Support for family and friends of alcoholics/addicts, 7 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, room 215. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in. 7 p.m.

**Alateen** - Support for teenagers, friends and family members of alcoholics/addicts, 7 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, room 208. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.

**The Bay Area Writers League** - Meets the first Thursday monthly, Barnes and Noble, Bay Area Blvd. and Gulf Fwy., 7 p.m. Newcomers welcome. 8:30 p.m.

**Alcoholics Anonymous** - AA meetings are Thursdays, 8:30 to 9:30 p.m., and Sundays and Tuesdays, 8 to 9 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For information, call 713-204-2481.

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Above, like her older sister Bridgette did at Lipscomb University from 2011 to 2014, Erin Begle handled the shortstop duties during her four-year stay at the University of Dallas, where she landed plenty of all-conference accolades from 2013 to 2016.

At left, Erin Begle hit .447 as a freshman, .342 as a sophomore, .354 as a junior and .360 during her best season as a senior. Also in 2016, Begle led the University of Dallas in slugging percentage (.612), on-base percentage (.426), runs batted in (30), doubles (13), home runs (5) and total bases (77).

Photos by Al Carter

## Dobie players, alum at RBI baseball



Dobie High School baseball players again have represented well as part of the Astros RBI summer program. In 2015, players Isaiah Myers and Kaelon Woods were part of successful Astros RBI efforts, and this summer Owen Castillo (left) and Zack Frias (right) joined in on the fun. The two were joined by former Dobie player Frank Mora, who is in his second season as an Astros RBI coach. Castillo was also part of the program in 2015. This summer, Castillo and Frias helped the Astros RBI team go undefeated at 5-0 during regional play in New Orleans, which gave the team a World Series berth. The trio will be in Ohio beginning Aug. 3, for the series. Castillo and Frias were solid contributors to Dobie's successful junior varsity baseball team in 2016. As juniors-to-be, both players are hopeful of making the jump to the varsity level when the season 2017 gets underway. Mora's younger brother, Michael, pitched for Dobie's varsity team in 2015 before graduating.

## Begle helps elevate U Dallas softball; now it's on to teaching H.S. English

**Continued from Page 1B** about struggling, but you can also learn the types of things that it takes to bounce back."

As a junior, Begle played in 28 games while dealing with an injury to her shoulder. She still hit .354 and scored 16 runs and drove in 17 more.

With Lee (19-12, 3.35 ERA) leading the way in the circle, the University of Dallas posted a 20-16 overall record.

The Crusaders went 21-23 during 2016 as Begle enjoyed the finest season of her career.

She led the team in several categories, including batting average (.360), slugging percentage (.612), on-base percentage (.426), runs batted in (30), doubles (13), home runs (5) and total bases (77).

Begle started each of the team's 41 regular season games, and was named a USCAA All-American first team performer. Then in an instant, her career came to an end in May.

"I'm not sure it's truly hit me that I'm not putting on the cleats anymore," Begle said.

"I just always tried to

have a good time and not take anything for granted. My youngest sister, Kate, didn't play softball in college but she loved softball.

"We're not here to make the play, we are here to make the grade, and I think I did that."

Begle did indeed earn a bachelor's of English from the University of Dallas and will begin a semester of student teaching at MacArthur High School in the Dallas/Fort Worth area.

Once earning her teaching certificate, Begle will decide whether Dallas or the Houston area suits her future wants and needs as she begins teaching high school English full-time.

She'll miss the game. Bridgette has. Kate has. Bridgette originally signed a letter of intent at Blinn College in Brenham but did not play there.

Instead, the Lipscomb University (Nashville, TN.) coaching staff landed Begle as a middle infielder, and she went on to start 215 games over four seasons with the Bisons.

But there are things about being a lifelong softball player that neither

Begle will miss so much. "This has basically been an 18-year hobby, but it's also a lot of work and dedication.

"Bridgette and I have talked about being in the 'Ladies No Longer Playing Softball' club. We'll have more time for friends and families.

"We don't have to do burpees anymore. We don't have to be at practice every day, and our knees don't have to be swollen anymore.

"Bridgette and I both have dealt with knee problems while playing, and it'll be nice to give my body a chance to recover.

"I truly am looking at the next chapter of my life and what that may bring."

Bridgette, like Erin, also earned a bachelor's in English. During the 2015-2016 academic campaign, Bridgette completed her first year of law school, and could follow in the footsteps of her parents, Eileen and Brian Begle, both lawyers.

At least on the softball field, the Begle legacy of solid play, team leadership and dedication has come to an end, but what a great time it was.

## Taylor helps his Team USA set 4x100 relay meet record

Just ahead of the start of his career at the University of Miami, Brandon Taylor has established himself as a world-class track and field athlete.

The class of 2016 Clear Brook High School graduate helped the United States win a gold medal and set a meet record in the 4x100-meter relay at the International Association of Athletics Federations World U20 Championships July 23, in Bydgoszcz, Poland. Michael Norman Jr.,

who set a meet record in the 200-meter dash earlier in the competition, blasted out of the blocks to give USA a lead in the event. Hakim Montgomery ran the second leg and Taylor handled the third before Noah Lyles closed out the victory in a time of 38.93 seconds.

The 4x100 relay represented Taylor's lone event of the meet.

He did not run the 100-meter dash, and the meet did not include a 4x200-meter relay, an-

other typical event for someone of Taylor's sprint abilities.

While Team USA heads to Brazil for the 2016 Olympic Games, Taylor will eventually focus on qualifying for the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo.

Taylor will now prepare to head to Miami, where he will join the men's team at the University of Miami. Up first will be the indoor season beginning in mid January 2017. Taylor will be featured in the 60-meter dash.

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