South Belt-Ellington Leader

Serving South Belt since 1976

Thursday, July 3, 2025 | Email: mynews@southbeltleader.com | www.southbeltleader.com | Vol. 50, No. 23

Holiday closures planned

South Belt-Ellington Leader

The *Leader* will be closed Friday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day. The offices will reopen at 9 a.m. Monday, July 7.

Clear Brook City MUD

The offices of Clear Brook City MUD will close at 3 p.m. Thursday, July 3, and will be closed Friday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day. The offices will reopen at 8 a.m. Monday, July 7. For convenience, check or money order payments may be left in the drop box on the drive-thru side of the MUD building. No cash will be accepted in the drop box.

Clear Brook City MUD residents who receive trash services on Friday will have normal pickup on Independence Day, July 4. All trash should be placed curbside no later than 6 a.m.

Leader *seeks submissions*

The *South Belt-Ellington Leader* encourages local schools, groups and individuals to continue sending story ideas and photos they'd like to see included in the newspaper. Submissions have declined following the death of *Leader* publisher Marie Flickinger in November. Contributions may be submitted to mynews@southbeltleader.com.

New Covenant feeds needy

Each month, New Covenant Christian Church, 10603 Blackhawk at Kirkfair, will have food distribution events the first and third Wednesday from 1 to 2 p.m. and the second and fourth Saturday of the month from noon to 1 p.m. or until supplies last. The purpose of the events is to provide food to people in need. For additional information, contact the church at 281-484-4230.

Gulf Freeway closures set

At least one northbound and one southbound main lane and frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from SH 96/Calder/Brittany Bay in League City to FM 519/Main Street in La Marque daily from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and from 8:30 p.m. to 5 a.m. until further notice.

At least one northbound and one southbound frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from Deats Road in Dickinson to FM 2004/Camp Wallace Access in Texas City from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. until further notice.

Coffee with the Constable

Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia will be at Donut Haven, 10802 Hughes Road at Beamer, from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. each Thursday morning as part of the weekly Coffee with the Constable series. For additional information, call Sagemont Civic Club President Kay Barbour at 713-419-3545.

Beltway closures planned

One outside lane of the eastbound Beltway 8 frontage road will be closed from Beamer to Hughes Road/Sabo from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays through Wednesday, Sept. 3.

One outside lane of the northbound Beltway 8 frontage road will be closed from Fairmont Parkway to Red Bluff in Pasadena continuously through Wednesday, Dec. 31.

One inside lane of the southbound Beltway 8 frontage road will be closed from Greenshadow to Red Bluff in Pasadena continuously through Wednesday, Dec. 31.

Hughes/Sabo closures set

At least one southbound lane on Hughes/Sabo will be closed continuously at Beltway 8 until further notice. Westbound Beltway 8 frontage roads may also be intermittently closed at Hughes/Sabo until further notice. The closure is associated with an ongoing Houston Public Works project to replace a force water main at the intersection.

Ellington eRecycling set

The City of Houston Solid Waste Management Department's monthly electronic recycling event will take place Saturday, July 12, at the Neighborhood Recycling Center at Ellington Airport from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

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

The collection events take place the second Saturday of each month. For additional information, visit www.houstonsolidwaste.org or call 311.

Sageglen to meet July 21

The Sageglen Community Association will hold its annual election meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, July 21, at the Sageglen Building located at 11610 Sageyork. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. for ballot registration. Photo ID will be required to receive a ballot. To be voted on are two board member positions and one Architectural Control Committee position. Guest speaker will be attorney Blair Farine from Daughtry & Farine. Light refreshments will be served. All homeowners in the Sageglen community are encouraged to attend the meeting or return their mail-in proxy ballot. For additional information, visit sageglen.com or call 281-481-2160.

Melillo students earn statewide STEM honor

Two teams recognized in challenge to improve future space exploration

Two teams of Melillo Middle School students were recently recognized in a statewide STEM competition aimed at improving space exploration.

Melillo's Space Explorers and Galaxy Explorers teams each earned Best in Show designations at the Texas Space Grant Consortium's Spring 2025 Build the Moon Challenge.

With NASA going back to the moon, crews will need infrastructure to support astronauts during their long-duration missions. In the Build the Moon Challenge, young researchers are tasked with creating their own concrete mixtures to build and develop future lunar habitats using lunar regolith simulant.

The lunar surface is covered with a fine-grained rocky material called regolith. Scientists can use this material to help build the infrastructure needed for future missions. This process is called In Situ Resource Utilization (ISRU).

Led by their coach Nicole Ram, a previous Texas Space Grant Consortium program participant, the Space Explorers and Galaxy Explorers created a landing pad, a brick wall and lunar habitat designs with their lunar simulant concrete mixtures.

"They love being a part of the Artemis generation," said Ram, who serves as a math teacher at Melillo. "What competition are we going to compete in next year?"

Open to students in middle school or junior high (grades sixth through ninth), winning teams may be eligible to receive grant funding through the TSGC's Build the Moon Challenge.

Part of the University of Texas Institute for Geophysics, the Texas Space Grant Consortium is proud to support programs like Build the Moon to help engage, educate and inspire the next generation of students.

One unidentified Melillo team member told TSGC officials it was hoped the Build the Moon Challenge could serve as a launchpad to a career in the space field later in life.

"I would love to work for NASA one day," said the student. "And being exposed to NASA's projects at a young age is allowing me to gain some type of experience for my future career."

Build The Moon applications are set to open again in the fall.

For additional information on the Texas Space Grant Consortium's Spring 2025 Build the Moon Challenge, visit btmc.competitionsciences.org.

Melillo reaches for the stars!

Melillo's Space Explorers and Galaxy Explorers teams each earned Best in Show designations at the Texas Space Grant Consortium's Spring 2025 Build the Moon Challenge. Team members shown above are Luke Burch, Jax De Soto, Robin Castillo, Adrian Cantu, Aarish Nizam, Mario Moreno and fifth-grade math teacher and STEM coach, Nicole Ram. A math teacher at the area middle school, Ram is a former participant in the TSGC program.

County reports 1st 2025 West Nile case

Officials urge residents to take precautions to avoid contraction

Harris County Public Health (HCPH) has confirmed the first West Nile virus (WNV) human case in 2025 in unincorporated Harris County (excluding the city of Houston). An adult male in eastern Harris County tested positive for West Nile virus and has made a full recovery.

"The confirmation of the first human case of West Nile virus in our community serves as an important reminder that mosquito-borne diseases are a serious threat in our area. We must take them seriously and protect ourselves and our loved ones," said Dr. Ericka Brown, HCPH's director of the Community Health and Wellness Division.

Historically, the summer months have been the peak time for WNV transmission in Harris County.

In 2024, there were 57 human cases of West Nile virus illness reported in unincorporated Harris County, along with three total WNV-related deaths – one in Houston, and two in the unincorporated part of the county.

"The surveillance program conducted by the Mosquito and Vector Control Division (MVCD) is essential for detecting the presence of West Nile virus in our community and helps guide efforts to protect our community members," said Dr. Courtney Standlee, HCPH interim director of MVCD.

If infected with the virus most people experience mild illness characterized by flu-like symptoms including fever, headache, body aches, and occasionally a skin rash and swollen lymph glands. West Nile virus infection in severe cases can develop into encephalitis, inflammation of the brain, or meningitis, inflammation of the membrane surrounding the brain.

Severe infections can cause high fever, headache, stiff neck, disorientation, coma, tremors, muscle weakness, and paralysis. Symptoms usually develop three to 15 days after infection with

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Annual parade set to roll July 4

Parade route has changed due to ongoing construction

Area residents are gearing up for the 35th annual South Belt Independence Parade, set to roll through the community Friday, July 4.

Residents are urged to note the parade will have a different route this year than in previous events, due to ongoing construction at Beltway 8 Hughes Road/Sabo. This marks the first time in the event's lengthy history that such a change has been made.

Unlike previous parade routes that began at the Beverly Hills Intermediate campus on Beamer north of Beltway 8, this year's parade will begin at Sagemont Church on Hughes Road south of Beltway 8. As in previous years, the parade route will still end at San Jacinto College South on Beamer. See map to the right.

Participants are encouraged to decorate their

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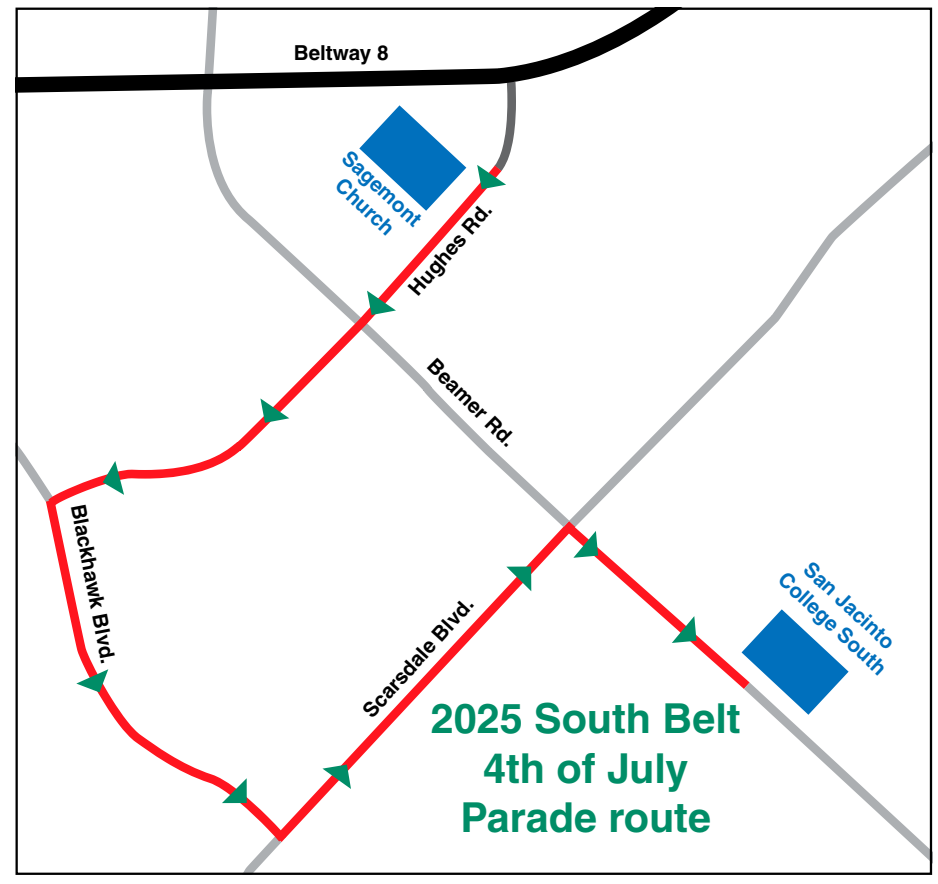

Beverly Hills pool remains closed

Closure due to lifeguard shortage; city offers $500 incentive

With local students now entering their second month of summer vacation, the city of Houston has yet to open the swimming pool at Beverly Hills Park, citing a national lifeguard shortage.

The pools at the city's Sagemont and Wilson Memorial parks each opened the first week of June after weeks of delay.

This marks the third consecutive year the city has faced such staffing issues. (The city's swimming pools were completely closed the summers of 2020 and 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.)

At press time, it remained unclear if the Beverly Hills pool would open this year or not. Houston Parks and Recreation Department officials merely said that additional swimming pools will open as more lifeguards become available.

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Carter recognized by USCG

U.S. Coast Guard Capt. Jonathan Carter, a 1995 Dobie graduate (right), is presented the Legion of Merit award during change-of-command ceremonies June 5 in Charleston, S.C. Presenting the award is U.S. Coast Guard Vice Adm. Nathan Moore.

Photo courtesy of U.S. Coast Guard

Dobie grad receives Legion of Merit

Jonathan Carter honored for service as U.S. Coast Guard captain

Highlighting the final sea-going chapter of his Coast Guard career, Capt. Jonathan Carter was awarded the Legion of Merit on June 5 for his two years of service as skipper of the USCGC Stone.

The award was presented to Carter during a change-of-command ceremony at the cutter's home base in Charleston, S.C.

Stone had recently returned from a 108-day deployment in the Eastern Pacific during which the cutter seized 45,600 pounds of cocaine with an estimated street value of $517 million. The seizure amount was a record for a single Coast Guard cutter on a single deployment.

Carter, a 1995 Dobie graduate, was presented with the Legion of Merit by Vice Adm. Nathan Moore, commander of the Coast Guard's Atlantic Area sector. Carter was cited for "exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services."

One of the nation's highest military honors, the Legion of Merit acknowledges exceptional contributions and dedication to the military and the nation.

Carter, who earned his commission in 2000, is currently transitioning to a new assignment at Coast Guard Headquarters in Washington. He was recently selected to serve as team leader for the implementation of Force Design 2028, a sweeping plan to dramatically enhance the role of the Coast Guard, especially in matters of national security.

During the change-of-command ceremony on June 5, Carter was formally relieved by Capt. Anne O'Connell, who became the fourth commanding officer of Stone, a 418-foot Legend class national security cutter with a crew of 120. Legend class cutters are the most technologically advanced ships in the Coast Guard.

During Carter's two years of service aboard Stone, the cutter steamed more than 37,000 nautical miles, visited 12 ports across six foreign countries while overseeing numerous patrols in the Florida Straits, Caribbean Sea and Eastern Pacific. Carter was cited for supervising a variety of successful missions, including maritime homeland defense and counter-drug operations.

"Stone's patrols were truly unique," Carter said during the change of command. "Leading allied forces to safeguard U.S. sovereignty and disrupting transnational criminal networks are two missions that come to mind, for which I am extremely proud. None of it was possible without this exceptional crew. Serving alongside you has been the opportunity of a lifetime."

During the ceremony, Carter presented each of his crew a commemorative medallion.

On June 10, Stone was one of two cutters honored by the Coast Guard Foundation at its annual gala banquet in Washington. Stone and its sister ship, the USCGC James, were honored for de-

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In My Opinion

King: Texas state revenues are plateauing

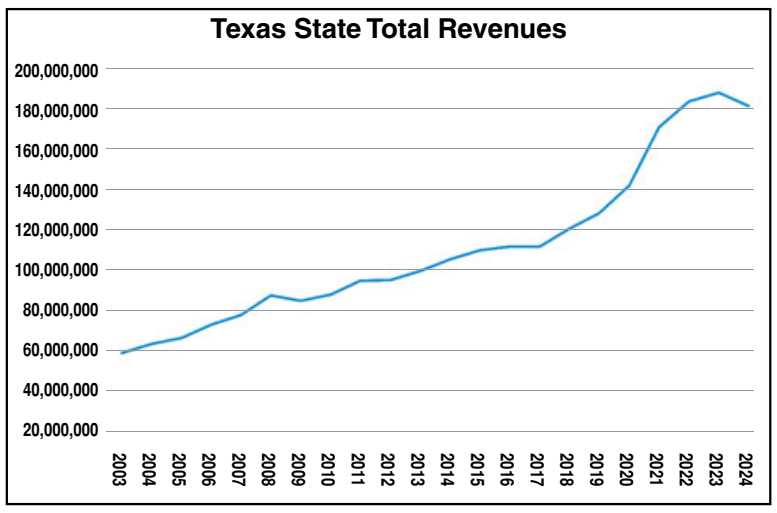
My colleagues at the Baker Institute and I have been closely monitoring the trends in the revenue sources that fund our state government. After decades of robust growth, we are now seeing clear signs that many of these revenue streams have leveled off — and in some cases, are beginning to decline.

According to the State Comptroller's Monthly State Revenue Watch, state revenues fell by 4% in FY2024. This marked the first year-over-year decline since the Great Recession in 2009. Through the first nine months of the current fiscal year, revenues are up by just 0.17%. Moreover, the Comptroller, in his most recent revenue estimate to the Legislature, projected that revenues would remain essentially flat throughout this biennium.

You can find detailed trendlines for the various revenue sources in our report on the Baker Institute website. One aspect I suspect will surprise many of you is just how dependent the state has become on federal funds. These inflows spiked during the pandemic but are now receding.

I am afraid that the halcyon days of large State budget surpluses may be a thing of the past.

Bill King



USCG recognizes Carter

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ployments that seized a combined $1 billion in drugs in the Eastern Pacific.

Emcees at the $1,000-a-plate event were Fox News anchor John Roberts and his wife, ABC News reporter Kyra Phillips. Kristi Noem, secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, gave a keynote address.

Carter was slated to give a speech, but after saying a few words of thanks, he went off-script and gave up the podium to one of his crew members, Petty Officer 2nd Class Annah Fair, who accepted the award on behalf of both cutters. Fair's speech was warmly received by those in attendance.

Carter's sea-going record includes seven tours of duty, with command tours of four cutters: Aquidneck, Pea Island, Legare and Stone. He commanded Aquidneck in the Arabian Gulf war zone in 2007-08.

His staff assignments have included service as the first Coast Guard representative to the President's Emergency Operation Center at the White House – under President George W. Bush and President Barack Obama — and as a Coast Guard Liaison Officer to the Department of Homeland Security Operations Center.

Carter is a graduate of Sam Houston State, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in criminal justice. He holds a Master of Arts in national security and strategic policy from the U.S. Naval War College and Master of Strategic Studies from the U.S. Marine Corps War College.

While attending the Naval War College, he was a Vice Admiral Samuel L. Gravely Warrior Scholar, conducting advanced research in the field of undersea warfare.

His other awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Coast Guard Meritorious Service Medal, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Coast Guard Commendation Medal, the Coast Guard Achievement Medal and the Iraq Campaign Medal.

July 4 parade set

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vehicles and floats, as awards will be presented in various categories.

To be eligible for a prize, there is a $25 fee for noncommercial entries. There is no fee for noncommercial entries that do not wish to be eligible for a prize. All commercial entries must pay a $50 fee.

Entry forms are available online at www.southbeltleader.com and at the *Leader* office, located at 11555 Beamer at Beltway 8.

The South Belt Fourth of July parade will begin at 10 a.m., but participants are asked to arrive an hour early for lineup.

Local library events set

In case of storms or adverse weather, refer to library website for details.

Bracewell Branch Library

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

Thursday, July 3, 1 – 5 p.m. HPL get lit summer 2025.

Thursday, July 3, 3 – 4 p.m. Open lab computer help. Registration required.

Thursday, July 3, 4 – 5 p.m. Bring your family to storytime. Registration required.

Thursday, July 3, 5 – 6 p.m. Summer reading for grown-ups: musical performance by Les Touches. Registration required.

Monday, July 7, 11 a.m. – noon. Open lab computer help. Registration required.

Monday, July 7, 1 – 5 p.m. HPL get lit summer 2025.

Tuesday, July 8, 1 – 5 p.m. HPL get lit summer 2025.

Tuesday, July 8, 2 – 3 p.m. Henna workshop with Henna Love Houston. Registration required.

Wednesday, July 9, 1 – 5 p.m. HPL get lit summer 2025.

Visit https://houstonlibrary.libcal.com/calendar/events for more library events.

Book drop

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

Parker Williams Library

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

The book drop is open. Social media links are Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary and Instagram.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary.

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

Thursday, July 3, 10:15 – 10:45 a.m. Toddler time.

Monday, July 7, 1 – 2:30 p.m. ESL conversation club. Registration required.

Monday, July 7, 4 – 5:30 p.m. Laser cutter orientation. Registration required.

Tuesday, July 8, 10:15 – 10:45 a.m. Babies 'n' books.

Tuesday, July 8, 4 – 5 p.m. Bob Ross paint-along.

Wednesday, July 9, 10 – 11 a.m. Senior coloring club.

Wednesday, July 9, 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Tai Chi.

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

– After receiving notification that holds are ready for pickup, call 832-927-7870.
– Have a library card number and PIN handy.
– A pickup time and instructions will be given.
– Upon arriving, park in one of the two parking spots reserved for curbside holds.
– Be prepared to show a library card or other form of ID for verification.

Hours are Monday, 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Friday, 1– 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Visit https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library for details.

Online services

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

Don't have an HCPL library card? Instant access can be obtained to all HCPL's digital materials and research tools with an iKnow Digital Access Card. Apply at https://www.hcpl.net/services/iknow-card for a HCPL card. For details, visit https://www.hcpl.net.

South Belt-Ellington Leader

The Voice of Community-Minded People

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E-mail: mynews@southbeltleader.com

David Flickinger, owner

Elected officials share their words

Bettencourt delivers "eight pack" of property tax reform package

Texans asked for property tax relief, and Sen. Paul Bettencourt (R-Houston) has successfully delivered through the authorship and Senate Sponsorship of eight bold property tax rate reform measures passed during the 89th Legislative session. The comprehensive, bipartisan reforms are designed to reduce tax burdens by increasing fiscal transparency and accountability among local governments. They improve public access to tax rate data, require clearer ballot language for tax elections, and modernize the property tax appraisal and protest process. The legislation also includes targeted relief for disaster victims, seniors, and disabled homeowners, as well as measures to limit excessive debt service taxation. All of which have gone into law, adding to SB 4, SB 23, and HB 9 property tax exemptions that will be voted on the public this November 2025 election.

"These reforms will have a measurable impact on millions of Texas property taxpayers," said Bettencourt. "As I always say, what gets measured gets fixed! We are demanding correcting inequities, and ensuring local governments are transparent about what's really happening on tax bills."

One of the most immediately noticeable changes is how voters see bond and tax rate elections on the ballot. Under SB 1025, effective immediately, all ballots for bond or tax rate increases will now display "THIS IS A TAX INCREASE" prominently at the top, eliminating voter confusing language and giving taxpayers a clearer understanding of the impact. Meanwhile, SB 1023, effective 1/1/26, will require taxing entities to publish their truth-in-taxation worksheets with live links and full breakdowns of rate calculations, bringing real-time transparency to every local budget.

"We're making the system more responsive, more accountable, and most importantly, fairer for hardworking Texans," Bettencourt adds.

In times of disaster, taxpayers deserve relief, not automatic tax spikes. Thanks to HB 30 (Rep. Troxclair), taxing entities will now only be allowed to raise rates based on actual, unreimbursed disaster costs, eliminating the current 8% across-the-board hike. And under HB 1392 (Bucy), Texans won't be penalized with fees or interest when tax offices are closed unexpectedly, a common-sense fix that protects good-faith taxpayers. Other reforms strengthen protections for vulnerable Texans. SB 2520 ensures that seniors and disabled homeowners receive the lowest possible frozen tax rate using a two- year lookback, while SJR 84, if approved by voters in November, would adjust a home's taxable value proportionally if the property is destroyed by fire, a lifeline for homeowners during devastating losses, which included SB 467 (Sen. Paxton).

To ensure long-term taxpayer savings, SB 1453 requires local taxing entities to set debt service rates at the minimum needed to repay bonds, with a supermajority and public notice required to go higher. This change promotes budget discipline while preserving public trust. Finally, HB 1533 (Rep. Chen) delivers long-overdue reforms to the appraisal and protest process, streamlining notices and procedures to make the system more accessible and responsive for the average taxpayer.

"This 'eight pack' of bills are smart, taxpayer-focused changes that restore public confidence in the property tax system," Bettencourt adds. "From transparency on the ballot to fairness in the appraisal process, we are delivering solutions that matter." The new reforms simplifies how taxes are presented, calculated, and administered, especially for homeowners, seniors, and disaster victims, while holding taxing entities more accountable to the public they serve. "I want to thank House bill authors Troxclair, Bucy, Chen, Meyers for their support in passing these needed property tax reforms" Bettencourt ended.

For more info or to read each bill, visit the TLO.

County offers tips to avoid West Nile virus

Continued from Page 1

the virus.

Although the elderly and those with weakened immune systems are at the highest risk of severe illness, the virus poses a risk to all residents.

Residents are strongly recommended to take the following precautions to prevent mosquito bites:

– Wear long pants and long-sleeved shirts, especially from dusk to dawn.

– Use insect repellent that contains DEET. Children require insect repellents that contain less than 10 percent DEET. Do not apply DEET on babies. Adults need insect repellents that have more than 10 percent DEET.

– Keep storm sewers clean.

– Sweep up lawn clippings, leaves and limbs from sidewalks, driveways, curbs and gutters.

– Don't let lawn water or car washing water enter the street.

– Pick up litter and other debris from your yard and the street.

Keep mosquitoes out

– Keep doors and windows closed.

– Seal cracks and gaps in the house.

– If mosquitoes are in the house, use flying insect spray, following label instructions.

Other actions

– Empty, remove or dispose of anything in the yard that can hold water: flowerpot saucers, cans, toys, litter, rain barrels, plastic sheeting, etc.

– Pet water bowls and birdbaths should be emptied and refilled at least twice a week.

– Keep the rain gutters on your house clean and properly draining.

– Repair household water leaks, and move air conditioner drain hose frequently.

– Report water and sewer main leaks and breaks to 311.

Anyone with West Nile symptoms should speak to a physician and get tested.

For additional information about WNV or mosquito prevention tips, visit www.hcphtx.org/MC.

Constable urges caution

While fireworks are legal in the unincorporated parts of Harris County, residents are still urged to use caution with the products. The image below is published courtesy of Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia's office.

Rodriguez's artwork adorns new water tank

Dobie High School senior-to-be art student Ariana Rodriguez freely admits she never expected to be "the one."

In this case, being the one means that Rodriguez had her artwork chosen among more than 200 entries to be placed on the water tower in Sagemeadow. The water tower was painted earlier this year, and now will give both residents as well as Rodriguez and her family several years of memories along the way.

Longtime Dobie art department instructor Alma Umanzor and her staff last school year conducted a contest within the school's art department to determine just who would have their special work displayed on the water tower.

Umanzor says more than 200 entries were considered in the beginning and then pared to a select few. In the end, it was Rodriguez, then also an ROTC cadet, who was the chosen artist.

"We obviously had so many worthy nominations to consider," Umanzor said earlier this summer. I've been in the school district nearly two decades and have a long life of being in the art field. It always amazes me at what some of these students are capable of providing. The Pasadena ISD has incredible art students across the board, and clearly we are very proud of what the students are able to do here at Dobie High School.

"We are very proud of the program, and someone like Ariana doing what she can to show her own talent in the our field is something to be very proud of. We are very happy for Ariana, and also proud of the work that so many other students put together during the contest."

Rodriguez says that currently she has gravitated more toward sculpting and is looking forward to a collegiate study of architecture. But she has a grass roots beginning in sketching, so over a period of a couple of days she put together about five possible entries for the water tower contest.

She chose her favorite, submitted it for consideration and, quite frankly, was surprised to emerge as the winner.

"I think all of us take pride in our work and want to put out something that we can be proud of," Rodriguez said. "To be chosen the winner of a contest in which there were so many entries that deserved serious consideration for being placed on the water tower, I'm very proud to be able to see my artwork there.

"It's something that myself and my family can take pride in for a long time. It's my community, and it means a lot to me to be able to contribute something that hopefully so many residents can see and take joy in. I'm very thankful to have my artwork be displayed in such a beautiful way."

Dobie High School art student Ariana Rodriguez (second from left) and her family including, from left, Idalia Rodriguez (mother), Alexa Rodriguez (sister) and Alejo Rodriguez (father) admire Ariana's artwork on the Sagemeadow water tower.

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Deaths

Sabina Fuentes Bebee

Sabina Fuentes Bebee, 78, passed away Wednesday, June 25, in her home in Houston.

Sabina was born February 19, 1947, to Petra Montalvo and Pablo Fuentes in Alice. She attended William Adam's High School and graduated in 1965. After graduating she joined the military as a naval nurse and was stationed at a naval base in Corpus Christi. She met her husband, Rayford Bebee, when he became a patient of hers at the base. She completed her service in 1968 and married Rayford Dec. 20 of the same year.

The newlywed couple spent time in North Carolina where Rayford was stationed while he finished his service in the U.S. Marine Corps. Eventually they moved back to Texas settling into civilian life and in 1972 they welcomed their son Robert Bebee in Corpus Christi, later moving and settling in the Houston area where they welcomed daughter Ryssa Bebee in 1976. Together Rayford and Sabina shared 35 years of marriage, but continued on as loving best friends till his passing in June 2023.

Sabina worked as a telecom operator for a company that later became AT&T for more than 30 years, where she gained a sisterhood with lifelong friends. After retirement Sabina quickly dove into the grandmother life, spending time with her children and granddaughters.

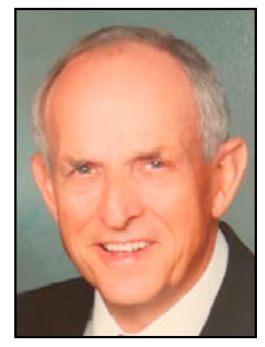
Sabina was a loving, giving, and graceful woman whose light and kindness will be missed here on earth by family and friends.

She is survived by her daughter; granddaughters Darianne, Krystalyn and Justice Garcia; grandson-in-law Elijah Pearson; great-grandsons Oakley and Mylan Pearson; great-granddaughter Salem Pearson; brothers Louis Manuel (Shawn) Fuentes, Joe (Yolanda) Fuentes, and Vicente (Alicia) Fuentes; and a plethora of nieces, nephews and cousins.

She is preceded in death by her father, and stepmother, Maria De Refugio Fuentes; mother; sisters Simona Ynfante, Valentina Celedon, Maria Elena Morales, Judith Fuentes, Maggie Soliz, and Elva Montalvo Aleman; brothers, Juan and Manuel Fuentes; brothers-in law, Francisco Celedon, Ernesto Morales Sr., and Manuel Ynfante Jr.; former spouse; and son. Sabina lived a long impactful life and now she may rest easy alongside her son and family for eternity.

The family received friends at Peevey Funeral Home, Tuesday, July 1. A service and interment will followed at South Park Cemetery.

Allen Eugene Munz



Allen Eugene Munz, a respected resident of Pasadena, passed away on June 19, 2025, at the age of 87. He was born on July 8, 1937, to parents J.R. Hodges and Mildred Buchanan and was the brother of John Turner Hodges.

Allen graduated from El Campo High School in 1955 and served in the United States Marine Corps from November 1955 to November 1958. In 1962, he married Betty Stepan in El Campo. Together, they raised three sons: John Kevin Munz, Blaed Alan Munz and Derek Steven Munz.

Throughout his career, Allen worked as a TV repairman in El Campo, in 1959. He later joined the Texas Highway Department in Houston as a licensed surveyor, worked at RW Patrick & Associates in South Houston, and continued his career at J. Morales Engineering in Pasadena until his passing.

Allen had a passion for hunting, playing golf with his sons and grandchildren, and coaching his sons in various sports including basketball, football, baseball and soccer. Later in life, he developed a love for creating stained glass artwork.

He was a devoted member of Sagemont Church since 1974. Through his engineering and surveying work, he contributed to the construction of many church additions. Allen was actively involved in the church's youth bus ministry during the 1980s and 1990s, supported widows through a dedicated program from the 2000s until his death, and participated in the Royal Ambassadors Youth Program. He also led several couples' small groups and served as the church-wide director of couples' small groups.

Allen is survived by his wife; his children Kevin Munz and wife Sandra, Blaed Munz and wife Sabrea, and Derek Munz and wife Lara; and his grandchildren Megan Munz, Cullen Munz; Nathan Munz, Macy Hawkins (Jack), Mason Munz and Madelyn Munz.

He is preceded in death by his father; mother; brother; uncle, Carl O'Neil; aunt, Minnie O'Neil; and uncle, Gifford Hodges.

Services were held on Wednesday, July 2, 2025, at Pasadena Funeral Chapel.

Leader obituary policy

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

City seeks lifeguards

Continued from Page 1

A list of open swimming pools is routinely updated at www.houstontx.gov/parks/swimming.html.

City pool hours are 1 to 7 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 1 to 6 p.m. Sunday. All pools are closed for cleaning on Monday (except on Labor Day Sept. 1).

The city is offering a $500 incentive to potential lifeguards. All lifeguards must be 16 years of age or older. While all lifeguards must be strong swimmers, previous lifeguard experience is not necessary.

For more information on applying to become a city lifeguard, visit www.houstontx.gov/parks/pdfs/2025/AquaticsHiringProcess_2025.pdf or contact the HPARD's Aquatics Office at 832-395-7129.

Despite the national lifeguard shortage, all community swimming pools located in the South Belt area are open and operating on normal hours. For a complete listing of local swimming pool hours, see the May 22 edition of the *Leader*.

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Rev. Antonio Cisneros, Parochial Vicar
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Sunday	**8 a.m.** and **10 a.m.***
Sunday	**1 p.m.** Misa en Español*
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Tuesday & Thursday	**7 p.m.**

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions)
Thursday 7:45 to 8:30 p.m. Saturday 4 to 5 p.m.

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Children's Faith Formation: 281-481-4251
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Edwardses experience Alaskan cruise

Rain and cold weather did not dampen the spirits of South Belt residents Bill and Elaine Edwards as they cruised to Alaska. After flying into Seattle, Wash., they sailed through the Tracy Arm Fjord and witnessed the famous Sawyer Glacier which carved out the fjord during the ice age. Next stop was to Skagway, a mining town which was originally settled by John Nordstrom who later founded Nordstrom stores. They saw snow flurries as they rode a vintage train circling up steep mountains. Breathtaking views included waterfalls, gorges and the beginnings of the Yukon River. In Juneau, Alaska's capital city, Elaine feasted on king crab. Other ports included Ketchikan, Alaska and Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. Back in Seattle they had a 360° view of the city from the observation deck of the 605-foot-tall Space Needle which was constructed for the 1962 World's Fair. They then rode a monorail to the central business district. Bill said. "Pictures don't do it justice. Alaska is a place one must personally experience."

Lone Star Flight Museum to host summer camps

Camps available to children ages 6-15, continue through Aug. 1

Children of all ages can take advantage of a wide range of cool deals to beat the heat and fuel their passion for aviation this summer at the Lone Star Flight Museum.

Located at Ellington Airport in Houston, the Lone Star Flight Museum has produced 13 summer camps that run through Aug. 1. Four of them are brand new for 2025. Another new addition for 2025 is the Family Summer Pass.

New for 2025

LSFM Family Summer Pass: For only $80, the Family Summer Pass allows two adults and three children to experience the museum and take advantage of free museum admission all summer long and discounts on programs such as summer camps and workshops. The Family Summer Pass is valid now through Labor Day (Sept. 2, 2025). **Bonus:** After the summer, pass holders can apply the $80 toward a yearlong museum membership.

Remaining 2025 camps

Remaining LSFM summer camps for 2025 include the following:

– **Aero Girls (girls ages 10-12), July 7-11:**

Girls can do anything, including fly, build, or maintain any aircraft. Embrace the fundamentals of flight and be introduced to female professionals across aviation careers. Build confidence in STEM skills with fun aviation challenges like making a drone.

– **Pilot Maker Primary Training (ages 7-9), July 7-11:**

Does a child want to take to the skies one day? Learn the steps to become a pilot accepted into ground school with a strong understanding of airplanes. Campers will learn the basics of flight and aircraft mechanics so they will be ready for the next step, Basic Training (Ages 10-12).

– **Crafty Aircrafter (ages 7-9), July 14-18:**

Become the builder of a hot air balloon, glider or rocket. Every day will have a Maker challenge as campers create working model aircraft to take home. Explore things that look like they should not fly but do. Attendees will invent their own flying contraption using their creativity and ingenuity. Inventors study science to create their machines, and campers will learn the science that makes each aircraft work and how their models follow the same rules of flight.

– **Pilot Maker Advanced Training (ages 13-15), July 21-25:**

After completing Pilot Maker Basic Training, campers may continue their training to a greater skill set including flying in more real-world situations. Students have learned how to navigate a flight path, but can they calculate the trip and land with a 30-mph crosswind, at night, with a 1000 ft. cloud ceiling? In this next-level training, campers may test their piloting skills of maintaining altitude, controlled turns and instrument flight while dealing with weather conditions, convection currents and mechanical failures. Once campers complete the training, they will be ready for flight.

– Go Zero-G (ages 10-12), July 21-25:

Campers can cross the thin line from air to space. Students will learn the Space Shuttle is a rocket on its way to outer space, a satellite while in orbit and an aircraft upon its landing. Campers will see how astronauts lived in the shuttle cabin with a look at NASA's crew cabin trainer. Attendees will also inspect the flight simulator that trained all the shuttle pilots and learn how to fly from outer space to a thin runway.

– **Pilot Maker Basic Training (ages10-12), July14-18:**

Campers will follow flight school training as you learn the science that a pilot needs to know, such as how physics is used to control an aircraft and the mechanical elements inside the planes. Participants may practice simulator flying on the flight trainers using their new navigating and piloting skills as they progress through flight plans. Campers must complete Basic Training to be eligible for Pilot Maker Advanced Training (Ages 13-15).

– **Aces & Legends: Beyond the First 50 Years (ages 10-12), July 28-Aug. 1:**

Campers may dive into the planes and people that made history beyond the first 50 years of flight. Students will examine different aircraft and aerospace vehicles to see how differences in technology meant success or failure.

About summer camps

– Camps for children ages 6-15.

– Camp hours are 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Friday.

– Cost is $295 nonmembers/members save $30. Family Summer Pass holders save $15 (youth members must be on a membership at an Aviator level or higher).

– Each camper will receive a Lone Star Flight Museum water bottle for use all week.

– Parents/guardians are invited to the Friday Finale at 2 p.m. each week.

– Campers may pack lunch or preorder a week of boxed lunch for $50 from Minuti Cafe at the time of registration. Lunch includes a turkey, ham, or veggie sandwich, chips, fruit cup, cookie and a drink.

– Before & After Camp from 8-10 a.m. and 3-5 p.m.; includes snack and drink. Cost is $100 nonmembers/$85 members.

For the latest program and event information, call 346-708-2517 or visit online at LonestarFlight.org or on Facebook or Instagram.

Joiner III earns academic scholarships

Dobie Class of 2025 graduate and varsity baseball standout Willard Joiner III will receive The Links Incorporated Greater Pearland Area Chapter (above) and Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Metropolitan scholarship awards as he prepares to attend Prairie View A&M this fall. Joiner, who previously told the *Leader* he plans to study engineering collegiately, built a 3.8 grade point average while at Dobie and excelled as an All-District performer on the field in both varsity football and baseball during part of a rewarding athletic career.

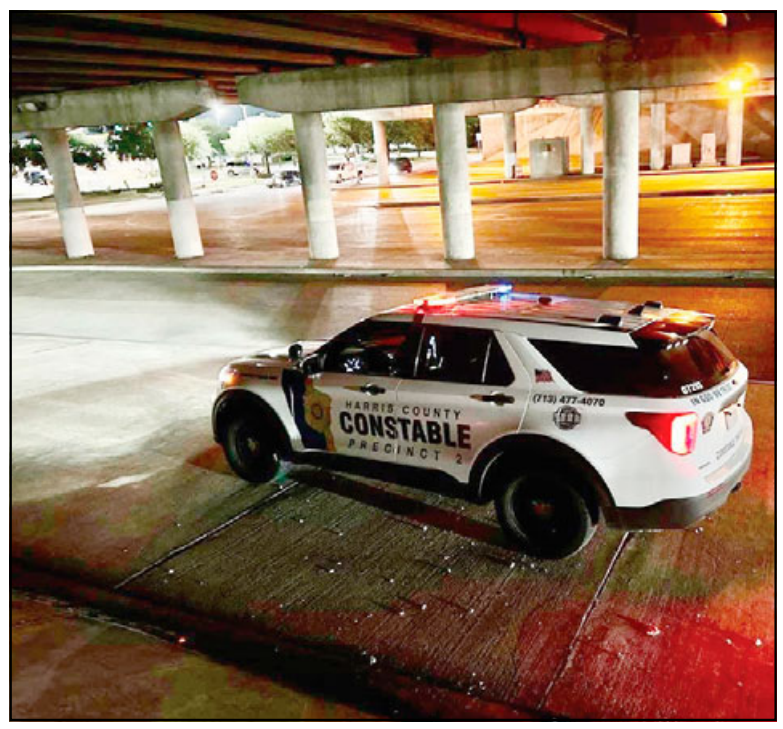
Pct. 2 deputies continue homeless patrols along Gulf Freeway

Joined by city, multiple nonprofits, county officials aim to provide permanent housing

Deputies with Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia's office have continued their criminal patrols along the Gulf Freeway to prevent homeless encampments beneath area overpasses.

"Precinct 2 deputies are committed to maintaining the safety of its residents by making sure there are no individuals sleeping under the bridges and setting up encampments," Garcia recently posted on his Facebook page. "We are committed to helping displaced individuals find permanent housing to get back on their feet."

Patrols target underpasses along the Gulf Freeway from Edgebrook to El Dorado Boulevard, with the most activity being reported under the Edgebrook overpass.



Precinct 2 deputies continue to patrol underpasses along the Gulf Freeway from Edgebrook to El Dorado Boulevard in an effort to prevent homeless encampments. In addition to criminal patrols, deputies also provide humanitarian assistance. With help from the city and multiple nonprofit groups, the county's long-term goal is to provide permanent housing for the affected individuals.

"This area in which they were observed has been a high crime area that is known for various amounts of criminal activity," a previous post on the constable's Facebook page read. "Citizens have expressed concerned in this particular area due to suspicious activity and panhandling."

The Edgebrook intersection at the Gulf Freeway has a particularly high rate of narcotics activity, according to Precinct 2 officials.

While criminal patrols are ongoing, Precinct 2 officials also devote much of their time to helping displaced individuals relocate and find safe shelter and other assistance.

In June 2023, coalition of local groups – led by Garcia's office and the nonprofit Hope Haven – conducted a massive sweep along the Gulf Freeway to provide housing to homeless in the area, as well as to clean up debris associated with such encampments.

The sites were scouted in advance by Precinct 2 Sgt. Ray Perez and Jonathan Spears, who serves as a housing navigator for the nonprofit organization Hope Haven. The pair combed the area five days a week for six months, reaching out to those in the area suffering from homelessness. After identifying problem areas and making contact with affected individuals, other agencies were brought in to assist, with the ultimate goal being to provide housing to the individuals.

"Enforcement alone just sweeps the problem down a block or into a neighborhood, which is even worse," said Marc Eichenbaum, who led MOHI at the time of the sweep. "The public sees it gone in just one day, but it takes months of preparation."

While MOHI was established by former Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner, his successor Mayor John Whitmire has also made combattng local homelessness a top priority of his administration.

"Our plan to end street homelessness and restore public spaces to make them safe and accessible to everyone is moving forward with momentum," Whitmire said earlier this year. "By collaborating with nonprofits like the Coalition for the Homeless and the Harris Center, we are already making a significant impact. The plan to end street homelessness focuses on several key elements and recognizes that responding to homelessness is a matter of public health and safety. We will move vulnerable people off the streets and on a path to wellness and recovery."

Whitmire identified the following four items as key elements in his plan to fight homelessness:

– Providing pathways to permanent housing.

– Ensuring public spaces remain safe and accessible for all.

– Addressing the root causes of homelessness, including mental health and drug use.

– Empowering outreach and law enforcement.

Whitmire's plan costs $70 million annually to fund, which includes federal and state assistance in addition to financial help from the philanthropic, private and nonprofit sectors.

Mike Nichols, director of the City of Houston Housing and Community Development, praised Whitmire's plan.

"The mayor's strategy is designed not only to provide safe, permanent housing for our most vulnerable citizens but also to enhance the safety and enjoyment of our public spaces for all Houstonians," said Nichols. "This initiative extends beyond offering individuals a safe place to call home – it fosters robust partnerships with entities like the Harris Center and law enforcement and secures long-range sustainable funding streams."

More than half of the annual $70 million will go toward rapid rehousing, officials said.

The following is a breakdown of funding for the city's plan to eradicate homelessness:

– $45 million: Rapid rehousing.

– $11 million: Permanent supportive housing.

– $3.8 million: Mental health hub and shelter.

– $3.6 million: Navigation center.

– $3.3 million: Outreach.

– $2.6 million: Diversion.

For information on Whitmire's homeless initiative, visit www.houstontx.gov/moc/2024/nov-update.html.

Pasadena to celebrate July 4

The city of Pasadena will host its 4th Fest Friday, July 4, at the Pasadena Municipal Fairgrounds, 7902 Fairmont Parkway, beginning at 4 p.m.

Visitors with special needs may enter early to enjoy the air-conditioned sensory-friendly HEB Kid Zone before the crowds arrive. Elsewhere on the grounds, families can enjoy food/drink vendors, amusement rides, games, contests and plenty of music. Live performances include winners of the Pasadena Strawberry Festival's *Pasadena Idol* contest.

At 7:15 p.m., the city of Pasadena will be presented the coveted Music Friendly Texas Designation by Gov. Greg Abbott's Texas Music Office.

Event highlights include the following:

– Sensory-friendly HEB Kid Zone opens at 3:30 p.m.

– Gates and activities begin at 4 p.m.

– DJ and live music from 6-9 p.m.

– Fireworks begin at 9:15 p.m.

Personal picnics, ice chests and coolers will be allowed, but attendees will need to bring their own chairs.

The event is free and open to the public, and no parking fee will be charged.

For additional information and maps of parking, visit www.pasadena4thfest.org.

AARP Webster sets meeting

AARP Webster Area Chapter 199 is welcoming one to join them at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, July 10, at the Bay Area Community Center, 5002 E. NASA Parkway, Seabrook 77586. They meet in the large building with the blue roof inside Clear Lake Park on the north side of NASA Parkway. One is invited to come to meetings and to enjoy coffee, cookies, and fellowship at 9:30 a.m. before the meeting starts at 10 a.m. Each month there is an entertainment or a speaker on various topics of interest to seniors, followed by a social activity.

The speaker for this event will be Dr. Karen Engle, superintendent of Clear Creek ISD. The social event will be sponsored by Brookdale Clear Lake. They will continue a patriotic theme with hot dogs and all the trimmings including chips, drinks and desserts. There will be a special presentation from the Honor Flight group.

AARP Chapter 199 is hosting a bus trip on Tuesday, July 22, to tour the Wharton 20th Century Tech Museum. Lunch will be at 9'ers Grill. One may register for this trip at the July 10 AARP meeting. One must be a member of our local chapter to participate in the chapter's bus trips.

If one is interested in joining AARP Chapter 199, annual dues are $8 per year per person. However, one must be a member of national AARP and show one's current national membership card to join any local chapter. AARP Chapters are separately incorporated affiliates of AARP. For more information, contact President Veronica Stanford at 409-256-1195 or at veronica_stfrd46@yahoo.

NASA Aglow Lighthouse meets July 26

NASA Aglow Lighthouse invites all to its meeting on Saturday, July 26, beginning at 10 a.m. at Praise Chapel, 18516 SH 3, Webster.

Bruce Klinger, who was born and raised in Houston by parents who were Assembly of God pastors, and who graduated from Texas A&M and began a 40-year career in Information Technology, will be the guest speaker. Recently retired, he and his wife, Teresa, began leading a Healing Life Group at a local church, teaching principles of divine healing and seeing God confirm his word with a demonstration of the holy spirit and power.

Bring a friend to the meeting as NASA Aglow celebrates the presence of the Lord.

Thefts continue at Target stores

Pearland Parkway, Baybrook stores targeted daily

Thefts continue to take place daily at local Target stores, according to officials with Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia's office. Both the Pearland Parkway and Baybrook Mall locations are the target of thefts ranging from small to large, officials said.

"We have at least one per day from one of the stores, if not both of the stores," said Precinct 2 Sgt. Frank Ponce. "And sometimes, we receive multiple calls per day from them."

On Saturday, June 21, Precinct 2 evening shift deputies received a call for service regarding a female who was concealing items at the Target located on Beltway 8 at Pearland Parkway/Monroe. The female, identified as 26-year-old Jhoselyne Martinez, was detained after passing all points of sale without paying for merchandise valued at approximately $178.

Jhoselyne Martinez

The Harris County District Attorney's Office was contacted and accepted the misdemeanor charge of theft.

Martinez was arrested and booked into Harris County Jail without further incident.

On Tuesday, June 24, Precinct 2 evening shift deputies received a call for service regarding a theft at the Baybrook Mall Target location.

Markell Baptiste

Asset protection officers advised deputies that two males were concealing items and passed all points of sale without paying for merchandise. Asset protection officers were able to provide an accurate description of the males and deputies were able to locate and detain both suspects. One male was identified as 24-year-old Markell Baptiste. The other male was an unidentified juvenile.

The Harris County District Attorney's Office was contacted and accepted the charge of theft on Markell, who was arrested and booked into Harris County Jail without further incident. The juvenile was charged and later released to a parent upon completion.

Past incidents

These recent thefts are relative small in comparison to some others that have taken place at the area stores in recent months.

On Monday, Feb. 17, Precinct 2 deputies responded to an incident at the Beltway 8 store, in which suspects Mya Johnson and Daniah King were arrested and charged with stealing around $1,200 in merchandise.

Last November, Precinct 2 deputies arrested four suspects in two separate incidents over a two-day span, alleging they had stolen approximately $7,000 worth of merchandise from two local Target retail stores (the Pearland Parkway store and the Baybrook store).

On Monday, Nov. 11, deputies arrested a husband-wife team at the Pearland Parkway location, accused of stealing nearly $4,000 worth of merchandise from the store.

Identified as Derrick Blake and Adriana Williams, the pair were taken into custody and each charged with felony theft > $2,500 < $30,000.

The following day on Tuesday, Nov. 12, Precinct 2 deputies responded to a similar call at the Baybrook Target, where Kanika Williams and Cierra Collins were accused of stealing more than $3,000 worth of merchandise (over the course of three visits to the store).

Both suspects were arrested on felony charges. Collins was charged with aggravated theft, while Williams was charged with aggravated theft and fleeing in a motor vehicle, after she attempted to evade arrest.

This past January at the Baybrook store, shoplifting suspect Tarsha Nicole Jones was found to have an outstanding warrant out of Nashville for identity theft.

At the Edgebrook underpass, teams engaged with 17 total people. Of those, 10 went to the coalition's housing navigation center and five self-resolved, according to Hope Haven officials.

Coalition for the Homeless Director of Communications Catherine Villarreal noted that a problem the team encountered around the Edgebrook site was that additional homeless encampments were located on private property, where the outreach teams have limited authority.

During the 2023 sweep, outreach teams encountered eight homeless individuals at an encampment near the Gulf Freeway and El Dorado Boulevard. Of those eight, three of the individuals were placed in shelters with a pathway to housing.

An encampment located near Fuqua and Sabo was addressed during the 2023 sweep. At that site, outreach team members encountered 12 homeless individuals. Of those 12, eight individuals were provided shelter and placed on a pathway to permanent housing.

The Fuqua encampment had been an issue for more than a decade with inhabitants being responsible for multiple fires over the years, officials said.

Multiple city agencies also took part in the 2023 encampment decommissions, including the Houston Police Department, METRO and the Solid Waste Department. The Mayor's Office for Homeless Initiatives (MOHI) is tasked with coordinating the city's homeless outreach efforts.

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South Houston High School announces sixth six-weeks honor roll

Officials of South Houston High School recently announced the sixth six-weeks honor roll for the 2024-2025 school year.

Ninth grade

Kailyn Marie Aceves, Kamyla Monserrat Acosta, Jennifer Sarai Aguilera Arana, Isis Sagrario Almendarez, Kaylee Danahy Arceo, Joshua Arredondo Garcia, Jose Antonio Avendano, Bruce Avila, Carlos Ayala, Genesis Baez, Ashley Bernal, Zaykawon Deon Bonner, Samantha Briagas, Nicole Bustamante, Luis Miguel Cabrera Vazquez and Christian Jesus Cacique Luna.

Ashley Giselle Calderon, Eduardo Calderon, Eimy Lizeth Calix Gomez, Jazmin Cantu Lopez, Azucena Dalit Cantu Zavala, Alessa Juliet Cantu, Arturo Carrillo, Nallely Esmeralda Ceron Valles, Kevin Alexander Chaires, Hailey Marylee Chavero, Adriana Marlene Chavez, Elaina Lisette Chavez, Bernardo Chevez, Estephany Jisel Chicas and D'Andre Malik Coleman.

Priscilla Janette Corona, Joseph Cortez, Harmony Alexander Dailey, Ma'Kayla Averi Davis, Imeriah Michelle Delacruz, Kevin David Diaz Viveros, Saida Paola Enrique Agustin, Charlyn Aysha Escalante, Jose Fernando Escobar Escobar, Adriana Yaquelin Espericueta, Ronaldo Espinoza, Angel Noe Flores Cantillano, Jaylin Franco and Kamila Franco.

Katerin Yamileth Fuentes Gomez, Isabella Gaeta, Anette Ximena Galeana Ramirez, Yeiri Isaac Garcia Bonilla, Fatyma Julysa Garcia Figueroa, Christian Alberto Garcia Ortega, Carlos Uriel Garcia, Jazlyn Skye Garcia, Ashley Victoria Garcia-Carranza, Yarexy Garza Santos, Lorenzo Garza, Larri Gomez Avila, Allen Joshua Gomez and Albert Adiel Gonzales.

Aldo Abrahm Gonzalez, Danna Paola Gonzalez, Julian Gonzalez, Makayla Nicole Goodman, Julio Xavier Guerrero, Kimberly Guerrero, Marco Antonio Guillen Banegas, Fher Carlos Gutierrez Guzman, Karla Gutierrez Reyes, Nevaeh Alyssa Gutierrez, Desiree Lee Hamblin, Karla Selena Henriquez Trejo, Giselle Hernandez and Michelle Hernandez.

Natalia Nevaeh Herrera, Parris Jenae Hill, Jorge Hinojosa, Mia Sky Hinojosa, Karen Infante Guzman, Milagros Celestinita Jaimes, Faith E'Mari Jenai Jordan-Owens, Allison Rubi Juarez, Miranda Juarez, Sariah Aubre Juarez, Julissa Leah Jurado, Ashley Naomi Lagunes Sanchez, Catherine An-vui' Le, Ivan Claudio Lemus, Jesus Leon, Analy Lira and Alex Manuel Lopez Novas.

Alexandra Loyola, Jayden Madrigal, Fabian Alejandro Marcano Pineda, Isabella Marquez, Alisson Michell Martinez Vasquez, Destiny Marie Martinez, Neyra Alisse Martinez, Aaron Dewayne Masters, Anderson Edgardo Mejia Vasquez, Sebastian Mendoza, Yeison Sleider Merchan Zerpa, Ja'Laih Lynette Za'Hannah Miles and Saoirse Reina Molina.

Oswaldo De Jesus Montecinos-Molina, Natalie Eileen Morales, Breyling Samir Moreno Herrera, Angel Moreno, Sa'Myra Janae Mourland, Jasson Atlai Navarro, Zahia Naveed, Andrea Negrete, Joshua Negrete, Anna T. Nguyen, Nicholas Bao-Tristan Nguyen, Kiara Leann Nieto, Jasmin Sofia Nunez Xiloj, Elisha Abigail Olivares and Yahir Emanuel Osteguin.

Haylee Brianna Owens, Caroline Yvette Padilla, Ithma Juliana Pena, Nayely Ariana Pena, Jacqueline Penaloza, Janeiry Patricia Perdomo Rivera, Aaron Josue Perez, Isabel Perez, Arnez Raydeon Perry, Oscar Angel Peterson, Thuong Ngoc Minh Pham, Nathan Pickney, Irvin Pleitez, Daiaraly Pruneda, Irvin Geovanny Quirino De La Cruz and Mia Lizeth Ramirez Rios.

Liria Ojenia Ramos Ramos, Christopher Gael Rangel, Carlos Daniel Rapalo Rivera, Elias Josue Realejo Morataya, Haydee Elizandra Reyes Aceituno, Cristina Aurelia Maria Reyes, Journey Angel Riggs, Jessie Eduardo Robles, Dionni Rodriguez Calderio, Itzel Rodriguez Castillo, Maria Guadalupe Rodriguez Zuniga, Brytzia Rodriguez and Danna Paola Rodriguez.

Joahan Alexander Rodriguez, Samantha Rodriguez, Samuel Valeriano Rodriguez, Sophie Rodriguez, Yaritza Rodriguez, Johan Rojas, Kevin Alexander Rojas, Azul Nicole Roman Pina, Julio Cesar Romero, Kristen Rosales Vazquez, Angel Xavier Salas, Aniaya La'Shay Sayles Brooks, Robert Kevin Luis E. Serrano and Donnese Rozau'n Shaw-Brown.

Giselle Rachel Smith, Eduardo Soto, Lexie Marie Suarez, Daira Naomi Tamayo Argueta, Julio Cesar Tamez Berrones, Joshua Anthony Tejada, Mirza Nelly Adriana Tiul Gualna, Alexander Benito Torres, Keyla De La Caridad Turro Torres, Ifechukwudeni Amechi Uwaka, Angela Guadalupe Valladares, Jordyn Valverde and Isabella Marie Vara.

Kevin Alejandro Varela Pineda, Aaren Ricardo Vargas, Alexa Sughey Vazquez Venegas, Janeli Beyonce Vega Bertadillo, Ashley Vilchis, Adam Villacorta, De'Onna Tracett Latrice Wells, Aubrii Isabella Yanez, Sofia Yepez Almanza, Daylen Joseph Young, Angel Lynn Zamora and Lilian Idaly Zermeno.

10th grade

Jesus Alejandro Aguilera Arana, Roel Rolando Alanis, Sariah Jane Albert Mottley, Azul Stephania Alfonso, Alexis Michelle Allen, Ariana Alvarado, Dibenhi Paulina Alvarez Alvarez, Emanuel Elizandro Amaya-Urias, Marelin Andrade, Gabriella Ngozi Anowey, Jocelyn Lynette Arevalo, Yeison Joel Argueta Carranza and Cherish Ifunanya Armstrong-Ekezie.

Jordana Maryellie Avila, Delilah Sannise Bailey, Oliver Barragan, Sergio Jeronimo Barreto Ramirez, Eric Oswaldo Beltran, Oscar Antonio Berumen, Ricardo Antonio Bravo, Sebastian Bravo, Elizabeth Campuzano, Pablo Yahir Carbajal Rodriguez, Jazzelle Nevaeh Cardona, Natalie Angelyn Castillo, Allison Marieth Castro Bonilla and Katia Valeria Ceron Guevara.

Britany Cerritos, Diana Guadalupe Chavez Casillas, Damian Angel Chavez, Jonathan Chavez, Leah Chavez, Jackeline Daniela Chavolla Najera, Marlen Milagros Colmenero, Daniela Sarai Coreas Rivas, Angelie Serenity Corona, Ivan Cruz, Willian Julian Cruz, Camila Victoria Del Villar Ramirez, Evanie Ruby Diaz, Joshua Steve Duran and Anthony Michael Durant.

Jared Sebastian Enriquez, Abigail Aniah Escobar, Jose Jonathan Falcon Cardenas, Natalie Victoria Flores, De Aiziah Nicole Foster, Emerson Xavier Funes, Aiden Seth Garcia, Sergio Garcia, Wendy Garcia, Adriana Jasmine Garza, Rafael Garza, Anthony Joseph Gomez, Alyssa Nicole Gonzalez Rodriguez, Karen Haydee Gonzalez and Melissa Alejandra Gonzalez-Moz.

Marcus J'Wan Green, Rafael Angel Guerra, Diego Alexis Guillen, Alessandra Guzman, Ruben Isaias Hernandez Zavala, Laysha Sidney Hernandez, Stephanie Ann Hernandez, Fidel Herrera, Anne Tresor Hounmetin, Giselle Alessandra Ibarra, Lizeth Infante Guzman, Enrique Izaguirre, Johana Iveth Jaime Fraga, Kyrionna Cyntrell Jefferson and Zanaa Elizabeth Johnson.

Jaylon Jay Joseph, Yasmine Simone Joseph, Alexander Juarez, Luis Guillermo Labrador Lucena, Karla Azucena Leiva Torres, Oscar Alexander Lemus, America Lira Carrizales, Camila Lisseth Loera, Christian Daniel Lopez Fuentes, Priscila Lopez Monjaraz, Adamari Edith Lopez, Diana Lopez, Jonathan Lopez, Sara Lopez and Nicholas Anthony Majano.

Roman Dario Mar, La'kee Anthony Marbley Baker, Gladis Yosselin Marquez Rodriguez, Andrea Aalizah Martinez, Arturo Mendoza, Nevaeh Marie Mendoza, Chelsea Menezes, Jan Carlos Menjivar Murillo, Jose Angel Meza, Osiel Mojica Zeferino, Vanessa Montenegro, Andrea Regina Mizhelle Montero Avila, Belen Morales, Abril Moreno and Xavier Alexander Muhammad.

Jose Ivan Munoz, Sonia Gabriela Murcia Reyes, Dabaris Dayana Navarrete Fonseca, Brayan Stiven Ordonez Quinayas, Emely Rose Orduno, Divanny Alexandra Orellana, Natalie Ortega Cordova, Elmer Alexander Padilla, Jesus Javier Palomec, Ernesto Alexander Palomo Medina, Jacob Abraham Pena, Scarleth Alondra Perez Diaz and Ricardo Andrez Perla.

Fernando Pina, Axel Jesus Pompa Wenses, Alexander Portillo, Abigail Lynn Ramirez, Jeremy Anthony Ramsey, Mariana Rebolloso, Yulisa Reyes Orantes, Yamilet Reyes, Amy Belen Rivera Jimenez, Dante Maximiliano Rocha, Cecilia Rodriguez, Christian Jaime Rodriguez, Nancy Carolina Ruano, Anthony Alexander Ruiz and My'Shayla Denise Russell.

Marilynn Diana Salazar, Aaron Guadalupe Salinas, Sebastian Israel Sanchez, Alexander Julian Sandoval, Genesis Alexis Sandoval, Azul Serrato, Stephanie Michelle Soto, Aniya Liana Spacek, Alexia Tamez, Kate Xochitl Tello, Sofia Torres, Juan Antonio Tovar, Zeferino Tovar, Reeanna Chardae' Turner and Merary Abigail Umana Rivera.

Ricardo Dario Vargas, Hanna Vazquez, Dimas Villarreal, Jayleen Ximena Villarreal, Cynthia Villeda, Lyndon B. Warner, Brayden Louis Watkins, Aaliyah Rasique Williams, Vivian Zamarripa, Uriah Amari Zamora, Somary Itzel Zavala, Melanie Aide Zendejo and Ailany Zuniga Rivera.

11th grade

Melody Ajanae Acosta, Za'Niyah Jerschelle Agege, David Aguilar, Adaliz Alejandro, Jozeph Andrew Alejo, Ludvin Alejandro Aleman Retana, Jocelyn Desiree Alvarez, Jose Alberto Angulo, Erik Josue Arana, Audel Arellano Duarte, Yefferson Eliseo Argueta Argueta, Naetochukwu Great Armstrong-Ekezie, Manuel Arredondo Garcia and Arturo Avila.

Christopher Harold Avila, Ruby Ayala, Devon Ameena Barnwell, Liliana Cryztal Benavides, Zaid Betancourt, Cesar Briagas, Jayneria Kniree Brown, Mia Giselle Caballero, Kimberly Michelle Calderon, Jesse Camacho, Karina Isabel Carrizales, Alejandro Castillo, Arelyn Castillo, Keisy Juliza Castro, Angeleyne Cervantes, Sonia Chavez Ortega and Katia Chavez.

Tyrek Marquise Cooper, Jonathan Corral, Andres Cruz, Efren Cruz, Kayla De La Cruz, Kristal Anahi Delacruz, Angela Laidemy Duarte, Hannah Avon Eldreth, Nicole Escobar, Guillermo Edmilson Flores, Gideon Mekhi Fowler, Diego Alejandro Franco Morales, Maria Guadalupe Frausto, Anthony Dario Funez, Alejandro Galindo, Andy Garcia and Angel Edrian Garcia.

Angela Garcia, Ayleene Marie Garcia, Dayana Guadalupe Garcia, Gianna Maria Garcia, Litzy Garcia, Jaslynn Lineth Garza, Mia Janelle Garza, Chloe Anese Gillespie, Ladarius Lamont Glover, Jose Rodrigo Godoy, Carlos Elias Gomez, Maite Gomez, Roy Angelo Gomez, George Jesus Gonzalez Agulla, Antonio Gonzalez, Joel Gonzalez and Raul Ivan Gonzalez.

Meagan Danielle Grays, Brianna Gisel Grimaldo, Sumayah Alure Guadalupe, Nahomi Sherlyn Guerrero Mendoza, Ainez Angelin Gunilla Quiala, Joe Israel Gutierrez, Dayanis Araceli Hinojosa, Ann Precieuse Hounmetin, Halen Jamiah Houston, Roman Huerta, Janette Hurtado, Mariela Angelica Ico Ojom, Anthony Bryan Jaime Fraga and Mayra Jaime.

Teyana La'Nay Jenkins, Angelina Labrada Idrobo, Jennifer Landeros, Averie Renae Lasalle, Anahi Ledesma, Ivan Lopez, Jaqueline Lopez, Jennifer Lopez, Anahi Lule, Jayden Isaiah Luna, Maria Adriana Lux Velasquez, Helen Marisol Maradiaga Munoz, Dylan Martinez, Gerardo Martinez, Mariana Martinez, Yair Martinez and Amanda Marie Medina.

Maximo Christopher Mendoza, Kinereth Grissel Meraz Zelaya, Beatriz Victoria Meza, Adam Ray Mize, Valeria Montenegro, Leyla Ariana Montoya, Sophia Paola Morales Rodriguez, Isai Emanuel Morales, Juan Jesus Morales, Obed Julian Morales, Keyvin Adrian Ochoa Arce, Lia Otero Cuza, Madelaine Samantha Palma, Ria T. Pandya and Jazmyn Alexis Parra.

Alexa Paulin, Hector Javier Pena, Jayden Alexander Pena, Alexa Paola Pineda, Michel Azucena Prado Cabrera, Ernesto Quiroz, Johana Ramirez, Jolina Elizabeth Ramirez, Maretzi Yamilet Ramirez, Reggie Habib Rangel Quinones, Alexis Omar Rangel, Ceasar Gerardo Rasso, German Daniel Realejo Morataya, Michelle Angelique Reyes and Yasmine Reyes.

Valerie Rodriguez, Alexia Giselle Romero, Melani Romero, Yamilette Salinas, Freddy David Sanchez Lopez, Sheryl Fernanda Sanchez Ortiz, Christian Gerardo Sanchez, Consuelo Joann Sandoval, Scott Blake Santana, Alexandra Santiago, Sophia Sauceda, Joseph Keshawn Sayles Brooks, Gabriel Serrato, Shannon Dominique Shaw and Vanessa Sierra.

Andrea Nicole Silva, Eric Silva, Julio Alberto Soledad Rivera, Grace Elizabeth Sonnier, Edgar Moises Sorto Sorto, Kayla Marie Suarez, Sarah Suarez, Filiberto Isaias Tamayo, Erendira Dayanara Torres, Hayden Tinh Tran, Valery Trevino, Kaylin Upton, Noah Elijah Urias, Vanessa Vargas, Isabel Celeste Vasquez and Jayden Adonias Vasquez.

Xander Ray Vasquez, Katherine Sophia Villalobos, Markevia D'Nea Willis, Annethe Valleria Zacarias Trevizo, Armando Zavala and Estrella Zavala.

12th grade

Benjamin Josue Acosta, Dalilah Acosta, Agustin Jaime Aguilar, Isaela Monique Aguilar, Jazlynn Angel Aguilon, Ghisell Danae Agurto Toapanta, Omar Alfaro, Adrian Rene Alvarez, Carolina Alvarez, Kevin Excel Alvarez, Anderson Jose Amaya Urias, Leslie Irene Anaya Rauda, Emilio Anaya, Annastasia Chiamaka Anowey and Jose Guadalupe Aragon.

Gabriela Alexis Aranda, Jocelyn Maree Aranda, Johnny Enrique Argueta, Esmeralda Arredondo, Galia Barbosa, Maria Fernanda Barboza Castro, Yamilet Becerril, Aryanna Benitez, Nevaeh Dolores Bernal, Suany Jissel Bonilla Acosta, Alyssa Ann Bowshier, Reginald Ti'Andre Brooks, Carlos Rodery Burgos Reyes, Andrea Guadalupe Cabrera, Benito Cadena and Michelle Cano.

Vicente Carachure, Nevaeh Alianna Castellanos-Buenrostro, Emiliano Castilleja, Adamari Castillo, Natalia Castillo, Eladio Cervantes, Selina Marisol Chamorro, Mauriontе' D. Chatman, Melanie Estrella Chaverria, Cesar Gabriel Chavez, Manuel Canelo Chavez, Da'Jonae Latrice Citizen, Perla Elizabeth Colmenero, Rosa Contreras and Victoria Raengel Contreras.

Ivan Eleazar Coronel, Juan Manuel Cortes, Nataly Coto-Chong, Emanuel Cruz Mont, Jeady Cruz, Valerie Del Valle, Isaac Isaiah Delacruz, Jaime Yadiel Delgado Sanchez, Krystal Delgado, Lorenzo Delgado, Melanie Yathziri Diaz Tamayo, Nathan Alexander Diaz, Valeria Danahe Duran Iracheta, Ailen Sarahi Duran, Elizabeth Marie Erwin and Kayleen Lupe Erwin.

Sharon Milhuska Escalante, Aaron Alexander Escareno, Kevin Alexis Escobar, Edna Michelle Fernandez, Jennifer Flores, Ariana Franco, Jaziel Galvan, Joheli Enmanuel Garcia Gonzalez, Isbery Abigail Garcia Romero, Cesia Marai Garcia Velasquez, Briahnna Lynkepfer Sherrie Garcia, Carla Andrea Garcia, Diego Eli Garcia, Joey Lopez Garcia and Lupita Garcia.

Marc Anthony Garcia, Xavian Garcia, Rogelio Garibay, Tania Garza De Leon, Aldemy Joselin Garza, Alinna Zenett Garza, Brizeida Yaris Garza, Giselle Alexis Garza, Isabella Garza, Mia Jazmin Gaytan, Deborah Debabush Getu, Alejandro Gomez Avila, Maribel Gomez Camero, Fabian Gomez Pegueros, Christopher Joel Gomez and Angie Lilian Gonzales.

Freddie Gonzales, Daniel Gonzalez, Destiny Lee Gonzalez, Diana Lee Gracia, Yenny Granados, Aldo Guajardo, Amy Marie Guerra, Cynthia Azul Guerrero, David Emmanuel Guevara, Debanhy Alizdey Guillen, Karina Lorraine Guillen, Rayne Marie Hale, Edgar Hernandez, Jason Hernandez, Joselyn Hernandez, Kendy Denisse Hernandez and Moises Hernandez.

Ana Celia Herrera, Camila Hill, Kaitlyn Elizabeth Houston, Thanh Truc Huynh, Ryan De'Shawn Jack, Ja-Nia Marlay Jerry-Jenkins, Aniya Cyann Johnson, Marina Gissell Joya Campos, Adrian Juarez, Jorge Saul Manuel Lazarin, Kamren Jade Linsey, Cecilia Yesica Lopez Gonzalez, Frankie Lopez Guevara, Adrian Alexander Lopez and Antonio Rodriguez Lopez.

Elijah Sincere Lopez, Jazmin Lopez, Juan Ramon Lopez, Luis Gerardo Lopez, Felix Reyli Lozano, Patricia Nohemy Luna Argueta, Zariah Amori Madison, Evonny Madrigal, Carol Marie Magana, Raquel Janae Malbro, Edith Maldonado, Alonso Marquez, Brianna Elyssa Martinez, Cymora Giselle Martinez, Daniel Vladimir Martinez and Eduardo Isaias Martinez.

Emely Martinez, Giselle Victoria Martinez, Joanith Yasireth Martinez, Leonila Martinez, Louis Ray Martinez, Ramiro Martinez, Raphael J. Martinez, Ricardo Ivan Martinez, William Darwin Martinez, Ximena Rosalia Martinez, Adrian Medina, Cecilia Abigail Molina, Cindy Giselle Molina, Adriana Montemayor and Javier Isaias Montenegro.

Xavier Geovanni Montes Garcia, Kayden Micheal Montez, Sonia Stefany Morales Cordon, George Nicholas Morales, Jonathan Jahaziel Morales, Kevin Alexis Morales, Miguel Angel Moreno, Kiara Rochel Moya De La Rosa, Daphne Moya, Dayana Moya, Guadalupe Nicole Murillo Galloso, Gerald Yahir Murillo, Damian Ty Navarro, Kimberly Negrete and Kristi Ngoc Nguyen.

Leslie Caterine Oliveros, Eric Sebastian Orellana, Jeremiah Louis Orta, Vanessa Ximena Ortiz, Ashley Naomy Padilla Garcia, Yareli Elizabeth Padilla, Jalissa Denise Page, Fanny Brigeth Palma, Noah Emmanuel Zamudio Parras, Kelly Kamleshkumar Patel, Alazay Marie Patino, Kesly Pedraza, Josue Javier Peres Delarca, Annaly Itzel Perez and Thien Phuc Pham.

Jack Gui Phu, Isabel Pinedo, Gabriela Estefany Portillo, Jovanny Enrique Portillo, Valerie Michelle Portillo, Sanyu Powers, Jovany Quezada, Christy Chris Ram, Xiomara Sophia Ramirez, Caitlin Alysse Ramos, Tatyana Reyzel Ramos, Aliyana Marie Rangel, Hugo Sebastian Rangel, Roberto Rangel, Roselyn Rangel, Camila Rebolloso and Inary Monserrat Reyes.

Yaneli Reyes, Joselin Jamileth Rios, Cassandra Rivas, Chelsea Jane Robertson, Allison Robles, Emma Nayeli Robles, Jonathan Rocha, Angel Oziel Rodriguez Castillo, Dayanara Rodriguez, Giovany Rodriguez, Raul Anthony Rojas, Aldamaris Roman Tellez, Alexis Jacquline Romero, Luis Angel Rosales, Emily Rubalcava and Aylin Salinas Trevino.

Julio Cesar Sanchez Mendiola, Nicolas Emmanuel Sanchez Ramirez, Aylin Sanchez, Deevanie Gizzelle Sanchez, Jeilyn Sanchez, Lindsey Alize Sanchez, Diego Fabian Santillan, Rodolfo Sarmiento, Jonathan Yahir Saucedo, Madison Dereon Scott, Ilana Nevaeh Silva, Irene Yaretzi Soto, Cameron Damond Spiller, Natalie Terrones, Jakeya Nashae Toliver and Alondra Ly Torres.

Xiomara Berenice Torres, Nancy Georgina Trevino, Betzabet Trinidad Yepez, Francisco David Tudon Alvarado, Aaliyah Mona Valyan, Joaquin Vargas, Jonathon Alonzo Vargas, Cesia Nohely Vasquez Lopez, Maniah Janay Velez, Ruby Vences, Pamela Melina Viera, Sairah Ivania Villalobos, Adrianna Villanueva Oyervidez, Annalisa Villarreal and Mariah Nicole Vizcaino.

Aiden Jamal Williams, Michael Andres Yepez, Crystal Zavala, Yeira Arlyn Zavalija Garcia and Ruby Maritza Zuviri.

Remember When

45 years ago (1980)

The three-year squabble between the only remaining local member of the Sagemont Maintenance Committee and the Sagemont Civic Club was reportedly close to being resolved.

Two South Belt area beauties, Angela Shiflett and Jill Miller, competed for the title of Miss Texas in Fort Worth. Shiflett competed as Miss Duncanville and Miller as Miss Pasadena.

40 years ago (1985)

The Brio Site Task Force was conducting an extensive environmental study required by the Environmental Protection Agency.

The board of regents of San Jacinto College accepted a petition requesting deannexation of the North campus from the system, and they approved a salary increase for district employees.

The interim Pasadena Independent School District superintendent was preparing to relinquish his job to the new superintendent, Dr. Lon Luty.

35 Years ago (1990)

A 27-year-old woman died from stab wounds in an attack in her home in Woodmeadow.

A 10-foot boa constrictor attached itself to a car chassis to escape the heat. It was finally caught by its owner.

A Houston grand jury subpoenaed food service purchasing records of the Pasadena Independent School District.

Representatives of the Brio Site Task Force said they would welcome a health survey of the problems associated with the Brio site.

South Houston High School principal James Barber said requests by parents and teachers prompted him to withdraw his retirement resignation.

30 years ago (1995)

Pasadena Independent School District students in grades 3-7 surpassed the previous year's TAAS (Texas Assessment of Academic Skills) test scores. South Belt students topped district averages on every test.

Clear Brook High junior Julie Carr won first place in the Visual Arts Scholastic Event's statewide competition. Her entry was a colored pencil drawing.

25 years ago (2000)

Winners of the 13th annual July Fourth Parade were as follows: Commercial – Target, Randalls and Girl Scout Troop 161; noncommercial – Sagemont Cowgirls, Kirkwood South Christian Church and King of Glory Lutheran Church.

Two Dobie students, Adam Witas and Lam Nguyen, were named National Merit Scholars.

20 years ago (2005)

Houston Mayor Bill White appeared in the annual Fourth of July parade for the third consecutive year.

Community leaders were preparing for the Base Realignment and Closure hearings. The first would be held locally at Ellington, and the second would be in San Antonio. A local delegation was trying to convince BRAC to leave the Texas Air National Guard at Ellington for local and national security.

The PISD board of trustees put an end to rumors regarding Superintendent Dr. Rick Schneider's retirement by renewing his contract for an additional six months.

San Jacinto College South was named one of two 10-year founding institutions to participate in a national funding known as the "Foundations of Excellence in the First College Year." The program would be used to refine the overall approach to educating new students.

Weber Elementary teacher Ronald Wach was named the Clear Creek Independent School District's Teacher of the Year for the elementary level by the Space Center Rotary Club.

Former Sageglen resident Rick Carr unveiled a full-sized replica of the Liberty Bell at a service at Sagemont Church.

15 years ago (2010)

A 6-year-old boy who had recently completed kindergarten at Stuchbery Elementary died after reportedly being beaten by his estranged father. According to Houston Police Department officials, Tekkerrious "T.K." Jackson had asked his mother, Lucy Jackson Adams, 30, of Sagemont, if he could spend the summer with his father, Alex McGowen Duncan, in an effort to bond with him. Police say that when Jackson failed to go to sleep as instructed by his father, he was repeatedly struck in the chest by Duncan, 34, who resided in the 4900 block of Polk.

10 years ago (2015)

An alligator was captured from the pond at the Riverstone Ranch subdivision. The creature had instilled fear in many homeowners who thought it might be a threat to their children or pets. After multiple complaints to Harris County and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department proved fruitless in removing the animal, local residents contacted Chris Stephens, also known as "Gator Chris," from Van-Mor Properties, the company responsible for managing the Riverstone Ranch homeowners association. Stephens used a traditional fishing rod and reel to catch the alligator, which was released to a conservation farm in El Campo.

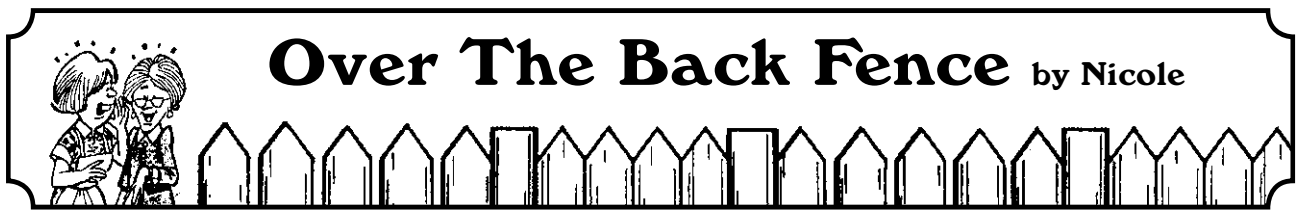
5 years ago (2020)

There was a sharp increase in the number of local COVID-19 cases, with ZIP code 77089 reaching 100 new cases per week for two consecutive weeks. ZIP code 77075 had similar figures. The South Belt community suffered its first COVID-related deaths, with two 77089 residents dying from the virus. Gov. Greg Abbott issued an executive order requiring all Texans to wear a face covering over the nose and mouth in public spaces in counties with 20 or more positive COVID-19 cases. The governor also issued a proclamation giving mayors and county judges the ability to impose restrictions on some outdoor gatherings of more than 10 people and making it mandatory that people cannot be in groups larger than 10 and must maintain six feet of social distancing from others. The Houston Parks and Recreation Department closed all 19 community centers that had been serving as Summer Enrichment Program locations.

1 year ago (2024)

A 20-year-old South Belt resident was arrested in the 11100 block of Sage Linda Lane Tuesday, June 25, on murder charges out of Brazoria County. Luis Alberto Delacruz is accused of providing fentanyl that caused the fatal overdose of a 19-year-old Pearland resident back on March 13. According to a law passed in 2023 in Texas, anyone who knowingly provides a substance that causes the death of another is to be charged with their murder. The arrest was part of a successful warrant execution by Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia's Special Operations. This successful arrest warrant was in collaboration with the Pearland Police Department and Pasadena Police Department who played crucial roles in the investigation. Over the course of the investigation, Delacruz was identified as the male suspect wanted for the murder out of the Brazoria County Sherriff's Office and was taken into custody at his residence without incident.

Two fatal traffic accidents took place on the Gulf Freeway in just two days, according to police. A motorcyclist was killed during a police chase around 10:50 p.m. Friday, June 28, in the 8700 block of the Gulf Freeway, north of College Avenue/Airport Boulevard. The identity of the dead male, 24, was not immediately released. According to Houston Police Department officials, the chase began in South Houston, where a patrol sergeant with South Houston Police Department attempted to pull over a black Ducati motorcycle traveling at a high rate of speed in the 1200 block of College Avenue. As the sergeant attempted to pull over the motorcycle, the motorcyclist refused to stop, and a pursuit ensued. The operator of the motorcycle entered the northbound lanes of the Gulf Freeway and traveled at a high rate of speed, with the South Houston PD sergeant following at a distance. As the pursuit approached the IH-610 South Loop, the sergeant turned off his emergency equipment and discontinued the pursuit but attempted to monitor the motorcycle's direction of travel. The motorcyclist then took the 610 Loop westbound exit ramp. As the motorcyclist was on the flyover exit ramp, he struck the retaining wall on the right side and was ejected. The operator landed on the southbound shoulder lane of the Gulf Freeway. Paramedics responded to the accident and pronounced the motorcyclist dead at the scene. No HPD officers were involved in the incident. The following day around 10:10 p.m. Saturday, June 29, a female pedestrian was killed in the 10700 block of the Gulf Freeway near Edgebrook.The identity of the dead female, 40, was not immediately available. According to Houston Police Department officials, the female pedestrian was believed to be walking in the right shoulder of the freeway at the above address when she was struck by a vehicle after it traveled from an entrance ramp onto the northbound lanes of the freeway. The driver left the scene. Paramedics were called and pronounced the female dead at the scene. The male driver, 82, was later located after his family reported he had been involved in a crash while driving his gray Toyota RAV4. The male was questioned and released with no charges filed.



Over The Back Fence by Nicole

ABIGAIL TURNS 13!

Best wishes for a happy birthday July 3 are sent to **Abigail Durham,** who turns 13 years old, from parents **Courtney** and **Chris Durham**, brother **Jackson** and baby sister **Penelope**; aunt **Kimberly** and husband **Matt Lipina**; cousin **William Lipina**; grandparents **Fred** and **Leslie Flickinger**; great-grandmother **Olive Falkowski**; great-grandfather **John Fairchild**; great-grandfather **David Flickinger**; great-uncle **David Flickinger** (*Leader* president) and his wife **Ellie**; and great-great-aunt **Alexis Lochner**.

NOAH CELEBRATES 10TH BIRTHDAY!

Best wishes for a great tenth birthday July 5 are sent to **Noah Abarca** from parents **Natalie** and **Jose Abarca**; brother **Kelvin Lopez**, sisters **Elliana** and **Isabella Abarca**; grandparents **David Flickinger** (*Leader* president) and wife **Ellie**; and great-grandfather **David Flickinger** and **Kina Reyes**.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, DWIGHT!

Birthday wishes are in order for former Houston City Council Member **Dwight Boykins,** who celebrates a birthday July 6, from his friends at the *South Belt Leader.*

BIRTHDAY CHEERS FOR CHERYL

Local author **Cheryl Bolen** of Green Tee, formerly of Sagemont, is wished a happy birthday July 8. Sending best wishes are her husband **John**; son **Bo Bolen**, *Leader* staff member; son **John Bolen** and his wife **Jodi**; and family and friends in the South Belt area.

ROBERT ENJOYS A BIRTHDAY

Robert Griffin of San Antonio will celebrate a birthday July 8. Robert is wished a great day by his family.

SCHOOL DAZE

The following staff of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays July 3 through July 9.

Atkinson Elementary

Send a birthday greeting July 6 to **Prachi Bhatt**.

Burnett Elementary

Give a birthday wish to July 3 to **Kasi Al-Ayoubi. Maura Rodriguez** celebrates a birthday July 6.

Bush Elementary

Light the birthday candles July 4 for **Diana Arredondo**.

Frazier Elementary

Blow out the candles July 7 on **Patricia Perez's** birthday cake.

Genoa Elementary

Alejandra Alcala celebrates a birthday July 3. Sing a happy birthday song July 7 to **Debra Rice**.

Hancock Elementary

Chantal Peraza enjoys a birthday July 3. Join in the birthday fun July 7 for **Leidiana Peraza**.

Meador Elementary

Fireworks will fly on the July 4 birthday for **Derenda Dehoyos**.

Moore Elementary

Marking a birthday July 6 is **Olga Soto**.

South Belt Elementary

July 6 is the day for a fun celebration for **Briana Diaz**.

Stuchbery Elementary

Blow out the birthday candles July 6 for **Cristel Hines**. Best wishes for a wonderful birthday July 7 are sent to **Johnny Tsikis**.

Beverly Hills Intermediate

Send a happy birthday greeting July 3 to **William Agan**. Remember to wish **Cecillee Williams** a happy birthday July 5.

Thompson Intermediate

July 3 is the day for a cake for **Yadira Lozano**. Blow out the birthday candles July 5 for **Steven Reyes**. July 7 is the day for a fun celebration for **Lisa Matay**. Send a happy birthday wish July 9 to **Julie Monarez**.

FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS

Thursday, July 3: **Nancy Smith**, **Frank Castillo**, **Bill Phenix** and **Benny Outland**; Friday, July 4: **Detric Bowie**, **Tina Garrett, Bob Shaw**, **April Smith**, **Miles Thomas** and **Brent McCrary**; Saturday, July 5: **Stacey Imboden**, **Jeanette Tickell**, **Chris Constance**, **Shannon Raymond Covington**, **Francisco Campos**, **Elindabeth Kolar**, **James Notias**, **John Colunga**, **Ashley Chapman** and **Stacey Buchanan**; Sunday, July 6: **Teri Perkins**, **Cristel Anne**, **Lisa Shepherd**, **Bonnie Miller**, **Wally Barbier** and **Cristel Lasater**; Monday, July 7: **Christopher Poole**, **Beth Pope**, **Petrea Phenix**, **Sarah Wingo**, **Shawn Shockley**, **Gloria Martinez**, **Julie Valenti** and **Larry Bowden**; Tuesday, July 8: **Sammy Shimfessel**, **James Cook**, **Denise Patterson**, **Margie Remely**, **Zul-Tan Jackson**, **Erik Valdez**, and **Shannon Lawrence**; and Wednesday, July 9: **Patsy Jimenez**, **Raquel Rodriguez**, **Traci Feil**, **Carolyn Garza** and **Shevlyn Spafford**.

LEADER *WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS*

Email announcements of anniversaries, vacations, and graduations to mynews@southbeltleader.com with OTBF in the subject line by Friday noon for the next week's publication. For birthdays, type "OTBF: Friends Celebrate Birthdays" in the subject line.

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SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

Fall high school 2025 sports prep soon begins at area schools

Time seemingly flies within the University Interscholastic League's annual extracurricular activities calendar as "fall" sport preseason practices will begin in less than a month.

July is almost always the slowest month by far in terms of the annual public school athletics calendar, but Aug. 1 will bring a fast change to all of that.

Volleyball will be served up first as the UIL will allow preseason practices to begin Fri., Aug. 1, with scrimmages then beginning Aug. 8.

The first day of the regular season is Aug. 12 for Dobie as the Longhorns will host Baytown Sterling at 6 p.m. on the main campus. Dobie will also play at Goose Creek Memorial Aug. 15.

For the first time in a very long time, the high school volleyball preseason has been extended courtesy of the UIL by a couple of days in order to allow more time for preparation leading into opening day.

In previous seasons, high school programs typically had seven practice/scrimmage days prior to the opening of the regular season. In essence, an additional two days have been added to the equation.

Preseason high school workouts for programs that participated in spring workouts such as Dobie may begin preseason workouts Aug. 11. Dobie will open the 2025 varsity football season Aug. 29 at Clear Brook.

The UIL does not specify an official start date for team tennis or cross-country at the high school level, but both Dobie programs will begin preseason workouts later this month.

The Longhorn team tennis program has enjoyed a terrific run of success under longtime head coach Manuel Moreno Jr., while the Dobie boys cross-country program will be looking to defend its 22-6A championship from a season ago.

Individual district champion Cruz Jasso will be joined by key returning runners Jordan Roman, Johan Villavicencio and others in a bid to repeat the successes of a season ago.

The Dobie girls cross-country program will reload a bit within the program after 2025 senior Lauren Garza, one of the greatest runners in program history, graduated.

But longtime head coach Mo Hickman seemingly always finds a way to put together an exceptionally competitive program.

Key dates involving Dobie High School students include Aug. 13. Sophomore class students are invited to attend a back-to-school orientation at the main campus from 9 to 10 a.m.

This will allow students who previously attended Dobie9 to familiarize themselves with the layout of the main campus.

The first day of classes for high school students within the Pasadena ISD is Aug. 14.

At the Dobie9 campus, parent night will be held Aug. 11 beginning at 6 p.m., and the first day of freshman classes on campus is Aug. 13. That first day will include a shortened schedule from 7:15 to 11:35 a.m., and the first full day of classes is Aug. 14.

Alyssa Espinosa (1) made quite an impression at the varsity level as a sophomore a season ago and will return in 2025 as the Dobie varsity girls' volleyball program begins preparation for the start of the regular season. Dobie will host Baytown Sterling Aug. 12. *Photo by Gloria Wallace*

Dobie varsity football head coach Danny Fitzmorris will begin his second season as he leads "Team 57" into preseason workouts beginning Aug. 11. Dobie, a playoff qualifier a season ago, will open the regular season Aug. 29 against Clear Brook on the road.

JFD volleyball tryouts Aug. 1-2

Dobie varsity girls' volleyball head coach Dawn Sexton and her staff will host 2025 tryouts August 1-2 on the main campus. Incoming freshmen will try out from 9 a.m. to noon, with sophomores, juniors and seniors then trying out from 1 to 4 p.m. both days. All players looking to attend the tryouts must have their current Pasadena ISD athletics physical as well as all of their Rank One forms completed.

Dobie volleyball offers camps

Dobie varsity volleyball coach Dawn Sexton and her staff are excited to offer a pair of summer camps aimed at both helping younger players develop their skills within the sport as well as preparing incoming high school-aged players for the upcoming 2025 season.

Students entering the first through eighth grades are invited to attend the Longhorns' developmental camp July 21-23 at Beverly Hills Intermediate.

Incoming first- and second-grade students will attend the camp from 9 to 10:30 a.m. at a cost of $35 per participant. Incoming third- through sixth-grade students will attend from 9 to 11 a.m. at a cost of $50 per participant, while incoming seventh- and eighth-grade students will attend from noon to 2 p.m. at a cost of $50 per student. To register, visit the link at https://square.link/u/5GddvXYw.

Players ages 14 through 18 may attend the Longhorns July 28-30 camp, to be held at Dobie main at $60 per participant. Dawn Sexton and other experienced volleyball coaches will direct participants in skill development, team building exercises, strategy sessions, fitness and conditioning drills as well as friendly match play.

Incoming sophomores, juniors and seniors will attend the camp from 9 a.m. to noon, while incoming freshmen will attend from 1 to 4 p.m.

Visit the Dobie High School website issued link at https://square.link/u/5GddvXYw to register. For any questions, direct email to Sexton at dsexton@pasadenaisd.org.

Brooks Jr. feels at home with Houston Cougar football

By John Bechtle
Sports Editor

Jason Brooks Jr. is back on the field and feeling healthy ahead of his graduate senior year of football at the University of Houston, and the Cougars are counting on Brooks, a Dobie graduate, to make a big difference up front heading into the 2025 season.

Once a three-year starter for the Longhorns at left tackle, Brooks settled in as the starter at left guard during the spring workouts as Cougar head coach Willie Fritz and his staff have made a concerted effort to revamp both the offensive and defensive fronts with a huge second season in the Fritz era beginning Aug. 28 at home against Stephen F. Austin.

As of late spring, the Cougars had returning starters David Ndukwe at left tackle and Demetrius Hunter at center. Three transfer portal players, including Brooks at left guard, Dalton Perryman at right tackle and right guard Matthew Wykoff were working together up front.

Brooks began his collegiate career at Vanderbilt and then played portions of three seasons at Oklahoma State. Perryman is joining the Cougars after being at Texas Tech, while Wykoff formerly played for the Cal Bears.

In today's college recruiting landscape, the perceived quickest way to fix a deficiency or build depth is to score players through the transfer portal.

Fritz and his staff obviously felt as though an upgrade was needed along the offensive line, and Brooks is one of those guys getting an opportunity to make a difference while playing closer to home.

"I really like the flow and the continuity and teamwork that we've been able to show to this point," Brooks said.

"A big part of it is always just being out there on the field and being able to work together.

"While five different guys are responsible for doing their job on a given play or a given series, it's equally as important to work together as a group, know your responsibility and just perform."

A Class of 2020 Dobie graduate, Brooks played the final of his three varsity seasons in 2019 under then head coach Kevin Berneathy, helping guide the Longhorns to a 9-2 overall record.

Brooks originally signed with Vanderbilt coming out of high school, but exited the Commodore program after one season.

He joined Oklahoma State University prior to the start of the 2022 season, playing in 11 total games as a sophomore.

A second-team Academic All Big 12 honoree in 2023, Brooks started the first seven games of the campaign before an injury setback.

He missed the 2024 season due to injury and announced his inclusion into the transfer portal before joining the Cougars.

Brooks earned his bachelor's degree while at Oklahoma State and plans to make his mark in real estate once he is done playing football.

The Cougars have had a handful of offensive linemen drafted into the NFL in the past several seasons. Whether he is drafted next April or signs on as an undrafted free agent as former Longhorn standout Johnathan Baldwin did earlier this spring with the Green Bay Packers, Brooks plans to make enough of an impression in his final season with the Cougars to give himself a chance to play professionally.

"For me it's all about staying healthy and being out there on the field for my team," Brooks said.

"I think I've shown in the past that I can perform at a high level on the interior of the offensive line. That's my goal this season, is to go out there and put some good tape together.

"We have something good going on here at Houston. We've had some good competition going on, are in tune with what the coach and staff is looking for us to do out there on the field, and I think it's all going to add up to a good run.

"It's my final season of college football and I'm looking forward to the opportunity to show again what I can do. It's exciting to be back home, and I'm looking forward to the opportunity to be able to play in front of family and friends while helping the Cougars reach some of our goals."

Dobie graduate Jason Brooks Jr. was a consistent starter with the Oklahoma State Cowboys over the 2022 and 2023 seasons before injuries affected his play. Now having joined the University of Houston through the transfer portal, Brooks figures to be the starter at left guard at UH entering the 2025 season.

Thompson still seeing success as big part of Mississippi College program

By John Bechtle
Sports Editor

It's been so far, so great for Kennedy Thompson midway through her track and field weight throwing career at Mississippi College as the former Clear Brook High School state discus medalist has excelled with the Choctaws both on and off the athletic field.

Thompson might feel as though time has flown by during her two academic years at Mississippi College, the state's oldest college that is home to roughly 6,500 students. Athletically, the Choctaws compete in the NCAA Division II ranks as part of the Gulf South Conference.

Studying public health, Thompson said she plans to focus on epidemiology in the future and currently is on track to graduate a semester early with her bachelor's degree in hand. Epidemiology is the branch of medicine which deals with the incidence, distribution, and possible control of diseases and other factors relating to health.

It's not easy for any college athlete to juggle the demands of class studies along with year-round performance-based activities no matter the sport. Whether it's weight room responsibilities, daily practices for competition or travel around the region and country for meets, athletes simply must do whatever is necessary to get business handled in the classroom. To this point, Thompson has delivered.

One in a very successful line of throwers within the Clear Brook program, Thompson has continually both reached and exceeded some of her goals through sheer hard work. She has never shied away from simply doing whatever is necessary whether it be in the classroom as an outstanding student or as an exceptional performer in the weights.

"I'm just trying to represent my program in the best way that I know how, and to also make myself and my family proud along the way," Thompson said. "I have had incredible support both in the classroom and out here on the field with my coaching staff, and we are all working together to achieve the same goal. We finished third in conference this year as a program, which was great for us. Next season we'll try to push it further. Coming to Mississippi College was a great decision for me and I look forward to what I can achieve these last two competitive seasons."

Continued on Page 8

Dobie graduate Jacoby Davis lands coaching role with Longhorns

Dobie High School has welcomed back one of its own as Class of 2017 graduate Jacoby Davis has joined the athletic department coaching staff ahead of the 2025-2026 school year.

Davis, who previously played varsity football and varsity basketball with the Longhorns as a student-athlete in his own right, will be the junior varsity boys' basketball coach as part of first-year head coach Branford Jones' staff and will also assist varsity girls' track and field head coach Charles Washington with that program next spring.

Davis, a Lamar University graduate, had been working at Thompson Intermediate the previous couple of school years as a student security provider and had reached out to Dobie varsity head football coach Danny Fitzmorris previously about possibly joining the Longhorns.

While Fitzmorris has no openings on his football staff heading into the 2025 season, a reshuffling of the basketball staff under the direction of Jones created a spot.

Davis said he may never forget the phone call he received from Fitzmorris, who is also a Dobie graduate.

"I think I was in awe," Davis said. "It's truly a dream come true to be able to return to Dobie High School at a place where I had so many memories of my own as a student-athlete.

"Coach Fitzmorris actually was on staff as an assistant at Dobie while I was playing here, so obviously it's an honor to be able to come back to a program that I love so much.

"I'm willing to do whatever I can to be of help to both the coaching staffs and the athletes as we all work together to have success as Longhorns. I certainly won't take it for granted."

While there are no current openings on the football staff, both Fitzmorris and Davis admit that the eventual goal is to find a spot on the football field for Davis as a coach.

He's thrilled to be working with Jones and the Longhorns' basketball program, and was on hand assisting with the summer group as Dobie competed in a recent Texas Association of Basketball Coaches Showcase.

Davis has also been volunteering his time assisting with the strength and conditioning program at the school ahead of his official start with the district Aug. 1.

Davis's twin brother, Jeremy Davis, is set to begin his second season on staff at Alvin High School as the twins have now found their way within the high school coaching ranks.

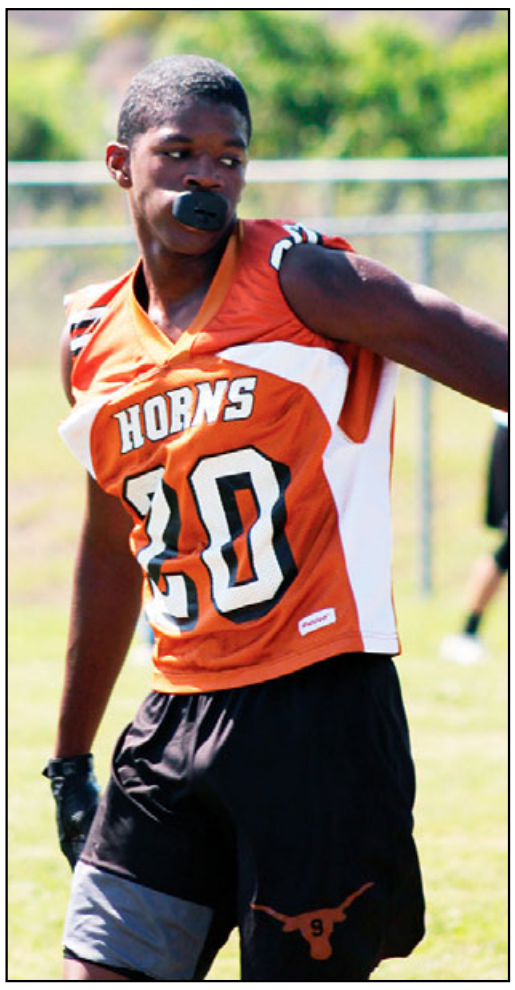
Jacoby Davis, who along with his brother played youth league football with the Southbelt Dolphins as the family resided in the South Belt area, says he feels as though his professional career, while in its early stages, has come full circle.

"Just being around the athletes at Thompson intermediate, I knew that I wanted to get involved with coaching," Davis said.

"Now, being able to be a part of the staff at Dobie High School is special to me and my family. I couldn't think of any other place that I'd rather be. I'm looking forward to what I hope is a long career with the Longhorns.

"When you are growing up, you can't really dream of something like this happening. But things happen for a reason, and I've been given a great opportunity to be able to lend my skills and some of my thought processes to the student athletes today.

"I'm looking forward to getting started. Even being out there with the basketball guys during the TABC event, it was great to be able to work together to achieve a common goal. That's all we're here to do. It's very exciting to be a Longhorn, and I look forward to coming to work every day."



Jacoby Davis played receiver for the Dobie varsity football team in 2016 and also lent his talents to the varsity basketball program. Now at Dobie as a first-year educator and coach, Davis will be part of the varsity boys' basketball staff under new head coach Bradford Jones and will lead the Longhorns' junior varsity program. His teaching field is physical education.

Dobie's Martinez is AGH selection

Juelz Martinez continues to collect the postseason accolades following the completion of an outstanding four-year career with the Dobie varsity baseball program. The standout outfielder, headed to San Jacinto College, was named to the All-Greater Houston second team for 2025, setting single season team records with 45 hits, 45 runs scored and 30 stolen bases.

Jeremy Davis was a three-sport standout at Dobie High School, playing football and basketball and also excelling watering the weights during the track and field season. He advanced to regionals in the discus as a senior in 2017.

Jeremy Davis, 2017 JFD graduate opening second season with Alvin

By John Bechtle
Sports Editor

While 2017 Dobie High School graduate Jacoby Davis will officially begin his first calendar school year with the Longhorns heading into 2025-2026, his twin brother, Jeremy Davis, has received a promotion as part of the Alvin High School varsity football coaching staff as he begins year two with the Yellowjackets.

Jeremy Davis, who played quarterback among his positions while at Dobie and also played varsity basketball and reached the regional round in the weights in track and field, graduated with a bachelor's degree in kinesiology from Lamar University and went on to earn his master's degree in business administration.

During his first school year at Alvin in 2024-2025, Davis coached the tight ends on the football field and also led the Yellowjackets' junior varsity boys basketball program while teaching sophomore world history.

Davis during his high school career at Dobie had a few opportunities to go up against Alvin competitively, and now takes pride in being able to lead today's student athletes into competition as they build their own paths to success both on and off the playing fields.

"One of the things that I admire about many of the athletes that I work with here at Alvin is that they don't try to be somebody they're not," Davis said.

"These guys are proud to wear the burnt orange with the capital A and just want to go out there and be the best versions of themselves that they can be.

"I think it helps that I am in a similar age range to them. I get a lot of questions about what it was like transitioning from high school to becoming an athlete who had a chance to compete at the college level. I can appreciate the opportunity to guide a lot of these guys on a path to success because it truly is different for everybody.

"At the end of the day, all you can really do is try to be better than you were the previous day and let the results take care of themselves. I really have enjoyed coaching to this point and hope that I have a long career.

"There's a lot of reward in being able to lead today's young men and women. It hasn't been that long since I was in their shoes, and I think they can respect that and understand where I'm coming from.

"We are all working together to put these guys in the best possible position to be successful."

The twin sons of Erica and Terrence Davis competed in summer track and field with the South Belt Track Club, then went on

Continued on Page 8

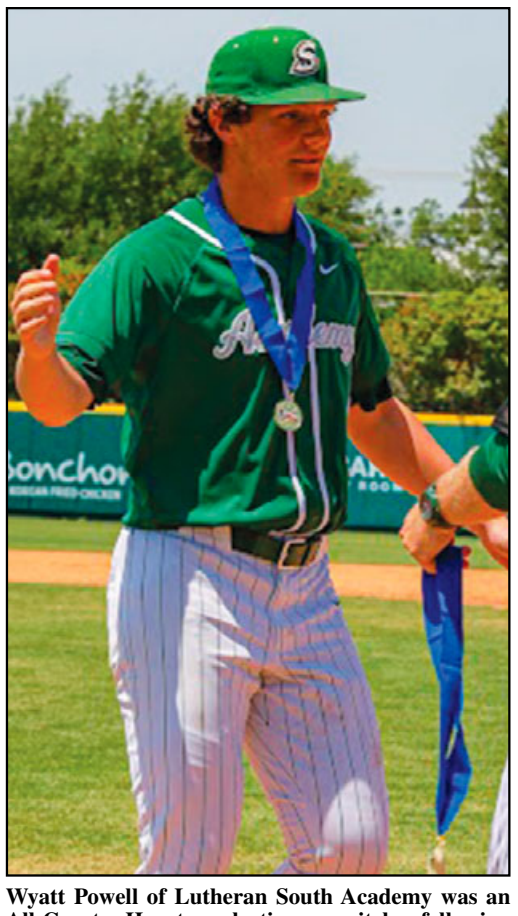
Lutheran South state champs earn All-Greater Houston nods

Lutheran South Academy Junior shortstop Marcus Cantu was an All-Greater Houston selection as he hit 366 this season with 12 doubles, three home runs and 23 runs driven in. He also scored 58 runs and stole 20 bases. Cantu is currently committed to the University of Texas.

One of two Lutheran South Academy All-Greater Houston pitching nominees, senior Grant Burns, threw a gem in the state championship game to earn the win on his way to all tournament team accolades. Burns, a Wharton Junior College signee, was 12-1 as a senior with an 0.83 earned run average.

Lutheran South Academy senior catcher Omar Serna was named the private school Hitter of the Year as part of 2025 All-Greater Houston selections. Serna, who played his first two seasons at Dobie, lifted the Pioneers to a 5A state championship after hitting 491 for the season with 54 hits total, including 16 doubles, 8 home runs, 56 runs driven in and 26 run scored. Widely viewed as a potential second round draft choice in the July Major League Baseball Draft, Serna last weekend reiterated his commitment to attend Louisiana State University.

Senior third baseman Victor Coronado was one of four Lutheran South Academy players to gain All-Greater Houston nomination following the program's state championship run. A Texas State University signee, Coronado hit .393 with 14 doubles, five home runs, 55 runs driven in and 37 run scored.



Wyatt Powell of Lutheran South Academy was an All-Greater Houston selection as a pitcher following a senior season in which he won 11 of 12 overall decisions, striking out 83 hitters in 69 innings of work while posting an earned run average of 1.18. He is headed to McLennan Junior College.

Lutheran South Academy's Aaron Schneider was named the All-Greater Houston Coach of the Year among the private schools after guiding the Pioneers to the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools 5A Division II State Championship. Schneider has now won five state crowns over a 10-year period at LSA.

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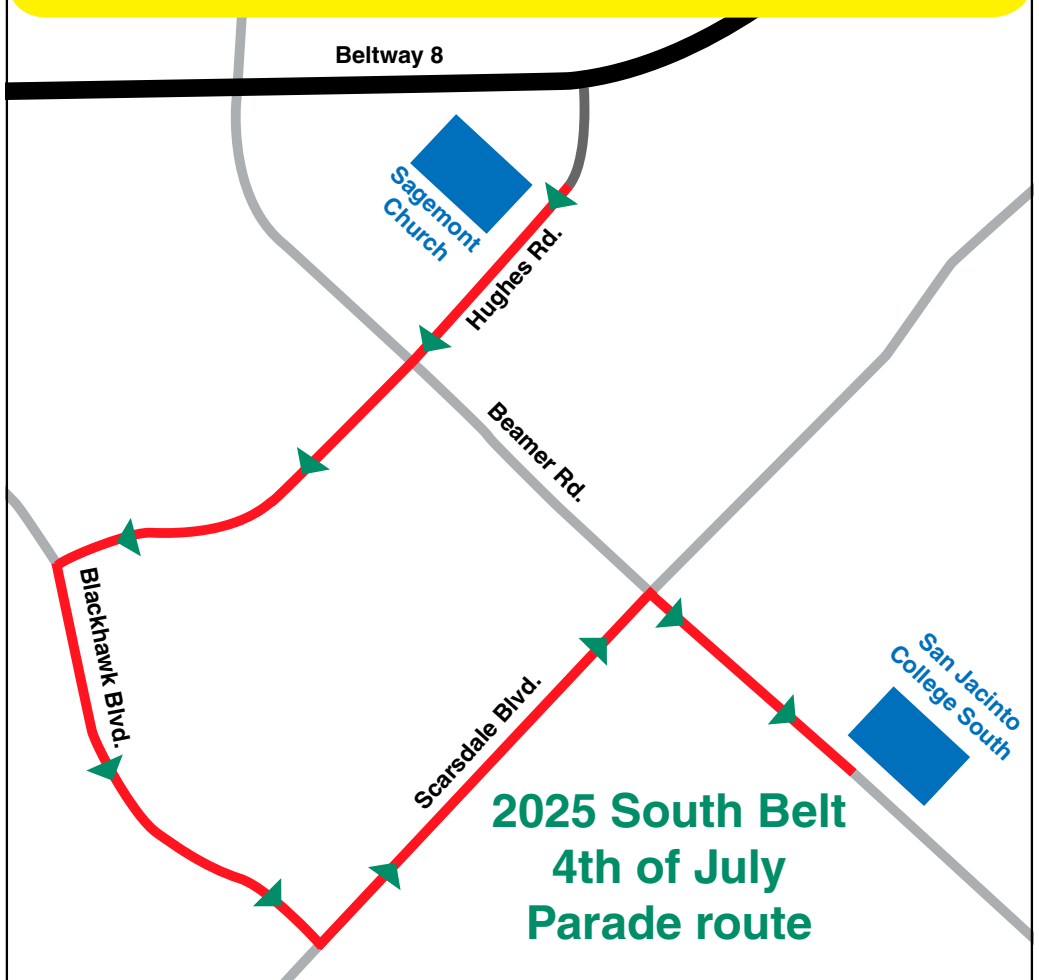

Information and entry forms available at southbeltleader.com/parade.html

CALENDAR

THURSDAY, JULY 3

7 a.m. **AA Meeting** – "Breakfast With Bill," Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., and Saturday at 7:30 a.m., Hope Community United Methodist Church, 2838 Lily St. Call 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit https://aahouston.org/meetings/.

7:30 a.m. **Rotary Club of Pearland** – Check website for time and location https://pearlandrotary.com/events/calendar or call 832-293-9860.

9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** – Exhibits include dioramas, a turn-of-the-century doctor's office and an old-time kitchen. Open Tues. – Sat., 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., 204 S. Main, Pasadena. Call Karen Hollon at 713-472-0565 for appointment. Tours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

FRIDAY, JULY 4

7:30 a.m. **AA Meeting** – "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.

9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** See Thursday's notice.

Noon **Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) – Imperfect Nooners Group**, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or at https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners. Call 713-686-6300 for more information. Meets Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** – Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com or https://nastuff.com/. Meets Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

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

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

8 p.m. **Beverly Hills Sharers Group AA** – meets at CrossRoads UMC, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Call 281-484-9243.

SATURDAY, JULY 5

7:30 a.m. **AA Meeting** – "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.

9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** – See Thursday's notice.

9:30 a.m. **Congregation Shaar Hashalom** – See Friday's notice.

SUNDAY, JULY 6

8 a.m./10:15 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** – has worship Tuesday at 11:30 a.m., Wednesday at 7 p.m. (Bible study, Book of Revelation, at 6 p.m.) and Sunday at 8 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.,11456 Space Center Blvd. (in back of a medical/retail community). For details, call 281-479-7285 and leave a message, or stop by.

5:30 p.m. **Celebrate Recovery** – A faith-based 12-Step program, in the Life Kids Chapel at Life Church, 5125 Preston Ave. Pasadena, TX 77505. Call 713-419-2635 for details.

8 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous** See Friday's notice.

8 p.m. **Beverly Hills Sharers Group AA** – meets at CrossRoads UMC, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Call 281-484-9243.

MONDAY, JULY 7

5 p.m. **New Directions** – Age 55 and older meets the first and third Mondays for a pot-luck dinner with activities and/or guest speakers at 600 Hobbs Road, League City, TX 77573, (community room). For further information, call Jill at 646-489-4367.

6 p.m. **Scrabble Club #511** – Meets Monday at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua. Join in the fun and improve crossword skills. COVID-19 vaccination required. Email huff_reunion@juno.com for details.

7 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** – St. Luke's Group, 12-Step Recovery, open meeting Mondays, 7 p.m. in the Education Bldg. in room 6, at 11011 Hall Road, 77089. For details, call Rita at 281-309-2801.

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) – #0683 Friendswood chapter meets at the Friendswood Methodist Church, 110 N. Friendswood Dr. in the educational bldg., room 201. For information, call Lynette Ringrose at 832-858-4617 or Dorothy Pourteau at 713-875-8820.

7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** – See Friday's notice.

TUESDAY, JULY 8

Join Wise Owls on every second and fourth Tuesday of the month. For companionship and games at United Methodist Church, 12501 Palmsprings Drive. Call Shirley at 713-449-9959.

7 a.m. **AA Meeting** – "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.

10 a.m. **CCART** – The Clear Creek Association of Retired Teachers meets the second Tuesday, monthly, Sept.-May, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., Bay Area Community Center, 5002 NASA Parkway in Seabrook near Landolt Pavilion. Texas-retired school employees from surrounding school districts welcome. Annual dues are $50.

9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** – See Thursday's notice.

10:30 a.m. **Tri County Republican Women** – General meetings are held the second Tuesday, except June and July, Golfcrest Country Club, 2509 Country Club Dr., Pearland. Lunch available for $20. Exact cash or a check requested. To RSVP, visit www.tricountyrw.club/.

11:30 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** – See Sunday's notice.

6:30–7:30 p.m. **Southeast Houston Toastmasters** – The Southeast Houston Toastmasters Club #05324194 meets virtually with the exception of the second and fourth Tuesdays (hybrid meeting) at sehouston.toastmastersclubs.org. In-person address, 10500 Scarsdale Blvd. (SB Chamber of Commerce). Visit the website or call Karen Nunn, at 832-722-9061 for information.

7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA) –** See Friday's notice.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 9

7 a.m. **AA Meeting** – "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.

9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** – See Thursday's notice.

Carmeliters – a nondenominational senior citizen social group meeting at St. Bernadette Catholic Church, 15500 El Camino Real, in Clear Lake on the first and third Wednesdays for a time filled with fun, fellowship, lending library with books and puzzles, coffee and bingo. The meetings are open to those ages 55 and older, with no dues. Day trips and extended trips available. Deposits are now being taken for Poland For details, call Marilyn at 713-444-6744.

Noon **Ballroom Dancing –** A ballroom dance group welcomes visitors every Wednesday to enjoy free dancing from 12:30 to 3 p.m. at Hometown Heroes Park Ballroom, 1001 East League City Parkway, League City. Everyone is welcome to enjoy dancing to a selection of CD music provided by DJ Neva Schroder and guest DJs. This weekly dance does not include lessons. Free lessons are taught by Jerry Sanford at the same location on Mondays from 1:30 to 3 p.m. While these opportunities are free and provided by volunteers, the park system requires participants to register and get an activity card for all park activities. For more information about the activity card, one may ask at the front desk or call 281-554-1180.

7 p.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** – See Sunday's notice.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) – See Friday's notice.

8 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous** – See Friday's notice.

8 p.m. **Beverly Hills Sharers Group AA** – meets at CrossRoads UMC, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Call 281-484-9243.

THURSDAY, JULY 10

7 a.m. **AA Meeting** – "Breakfast With Bill," Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., and Saturday at 7:30 a.m. Hope Community United Methodist Church, 2838 Lily St. Call 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit https://aahouston.org/meetings/.

7:30 a.m. **Rotary Club of Pearland** – Check website for time and location https://pearlandrotary.com/events/calendar or call 832-293-9860.

9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** – Exhibits include dioramas, a turn-of-the-century doctor's office and an old-time kitchen. Open Tues. – Sat., 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., 204 S. Main, Pasadena. Call Karen Hollon at 713-472-0565 for appointment. Tours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Clear Brook graduate Thompson shining brightly at Mississippi College

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"It was definitely a little bit of a challenge my freshman year as I adjusted to work out for track and field and then my class studies on top of everything else," Thompson said.

"I am a visual learner, so it was a big adjustment for me having to focus on learning on the road, adjusting my study habits and working with advisers and study assistants to learn how to better handle my classwork.

"I'm proud of where I'm at at this point as I am a semester ahead and should be able to graduate early."

For all of her outstanding work in the classroom, Thompson has been equally as impressive for the Choctaws within the track and field program. The discus was her strong suit in high school, and she also was fairly proficient with the shot. Collegiately, Thompson has added the hammer throw during the spring outdoor season, and has excelled in all three events.

As for indoor competition, Thompson has a career best of 48 feet, 4 inches in the weight throw. Outdoor, Thompson's career bests include 145-8 in the discus, 146-5 in the hammer and 39-6 in the shot.

In May, Thompson finished second in the Gulf South Conference in the discus with that 145-8 throw and is looking forward to what the possibilities are both as a junior and senior moving forward.

Thompson said she initially made the decision to attend the Mississippi College based on the community, the coaching staff within the program and the general positive vibe she got on campus.

Halfway through her journey collegiately, Thompson admits she could not have asked for anything more than what she has received at Mississippi College.

"I have absolutely loved my stay here," Thompson said. "Everyone in the community is so friendly, it's a terrific town to be a part of and my coaching staff has been terrific all along the way.

"I've been able to achieve a lot of my goals in my various events these first two years, and I feel like it has shown me in life but if you work hard and stay true to something, you can have a lot of success.

"I've never been afraid of the hard work, but at the same time the results have been great and I'm very happy with where I'm at at this point.

"I still have a lot of things that I would like to achieve both in the classroom and within the track program, so I'm just going to keep working and see where it takes me."

JFD star helps lead Texas Storm to nationals

At left, Dobie senior-to-be Johan Villavicencio (far right) and his Texas Storm Track teammates, from left, Korey Griffth, Quoc-Bao Ngo and Janiel LeBron Delgado, have qualified for nationals in the boys' age 17-18 4x800 after finishing third in a time of 8 minutes, 7.05 seconds at an Amateur Athletic Union Region 17 qualifying event. The AAU Junior Olympic Games will be held Turner Stadium in Humble beginning July 28.

Clear Brook High School graduate Kennedy Thompson has performed exceptionally well through her track and field career at Mississippi College. A state medalist in the discus with the Wolverines, Thompson established career bests in the discus, shot and hammer during the 2024-2025 season.

Romans reach AAU nationals

The Roman brothers, including Miller seventh-grade student Julian Roman (left) and Jordan Roman will compete in two distance events later this month at the Amateur Athletic Union Junior Olympics at Turner Stadium in Humble. Julian Roman will compete in the 1,500 and 3,000 events as well as the 4x800 relay. Jordan Roman, a sophomore-to-be at Dobie High School, ran a personal record of 4 minutes, 18 seconds in the boys' age 15-16 1,500 at the Amateur Athletic Union Region 17 qualifying event to reach nationals. The Romans compete with the Pearland Track Xpress summer program and Jordan will soon join his Longhorn varsity boys' cross-country teammates as they begin preparation to defend their District 22-6A championship later this fall.

Jeremy Davis leads way at Alvin

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to play both football and basketball with the Longhorns at Dobie.

Blessed with incredible athletic ability and size for a high school athlete, Jeremy Davis for sure had professional aspirations on the football field as the two began their collegiate journey at Missouri Southern State University in Joplin before transferring to Lamar University in Beaumont.

Davis has since earned both bachelors and masters degrees and will join the Yellowjackets as they begin preseason workouts Aug. 11. Davis coached tight ends a season ago and has now been elevated to the role of special teams coordinator.

James Gage resigned a season ago as the head football coach at Alvin, and the former Manvel defensive coordinator Matt Bass has been in charge since April.

Following the football season, Davis will be Alvin's head junior varsity boys basketball coach and is looking forward to matching wits with his brother as the Longhorns and Yellowjackets will go head to head twice this season in 22-6A play.

Davis and his wife, Ally, are the parents to daughter Chandler. All is well, and Davis is looking forward to another season of leading young athletes forward in their academic and athletic careers.

"These are great kids, and they absorb what we are teaching them," Davis said. "It's rewarding to be able to give back after all of the years of outstanding leadership I received."

South Belt soccer club registers

The South Belt Youth Soccer Club has opened registration for the fall 2025 season as early registration will allow players to save $20 on registration fees through July 14.

Registration fees include $125 per player for the under 4 through under eight age groups, $145 per player for the under 9 and under 10 age groups, $165 per player for the under 11 and under 12 age groups and $185 per player for the under 13 through under 20 age groups.

The league will provide uniform items such as shirt, shorts and socks, while parents are required to provide shin guards, soccer cleats and a soccer ball.

The league will continue to seek volunteer coaches, assistant coaches and team parents, particularly for the under 4 through under 8 groups.

Visit wwwsouthbeltsoccer.org and click on the registration fall 2025 tab to get started on registration details. The regular season begins in August, and games will be contested primarily on weekends at El Franco Lee Park and other locations in the community.

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