

Leader seeking old papers

The *South Belt Leader* is seeking old newspapers. The *Leader* has found many residents are seeking old newspapers for packing, animal care, school projects, etc. The *Leader* asks if any readers are in need of newspapers to not use current *South Belt Leader* issues, but give us a call at 281-481-5656 to pick up old recycled papers. Old newspapers may be dropped off, Monday-Thursday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Friday from 9 a.m. till noon. All old newspapers accepted, even the Houston Chronicle.

Electronic recycling July 13

The city of Houston Solid Waste Management Department's monthly electronic recycling event will take place Saturday, July 13, at the Neighborhood Recycling Center at Ellington Airport from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Recycling electronics keeps potentially harmful materials, such as mercury, cadmium, lead and cathode ray tubes out of the waste stream and the environment.

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. Collection events usually take place the second Saturday of each month. For more information, visit www.houstonsolidwaste.org or call 311.

Knights to host blood drive

The Knights of Columbus will host a blood drive on Sunday, July 21, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church, 11011 Hall. Blood is needed daily for medical needs. All are urged to donate. All are welcome. For more information, call Val Comeaux at 713-582-5358.

Sagemont maintenance meets

The Sagemont Maintenance Fund (SMF) will hold an annual association meeting Monday, July 15, at 6 p.m. at The Gardens Houston, 12001 Beamer. All Sagemont homeowners, according to the deed restrictions, are a member of the SMF. Only members in good standing and with no past due fees, can run for office or vote. The purpose of the meeting is to elect directors for the volunteer directors' positions. All Sagemont homeowners are encouraged to attend. Any homeowner interested in the volunteer positions is urged to contact the SMF at sagemont@att.net and/or attend the meeting.

First Sunday pop-up July 7

The First Sunday Pop-Up Market is Sunday July 7 at The Gardens Houston, 12001 Beamer from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event features local vendor and yard sale booths open to the public. Vendor space and yard sale spaces available. Booths start at \$10 each. For information call or text Kay Barbour at 713-419-3545

Sageglen Community meets

Sageglen Community Association will hold an annual meeting Monday, July 15, at 7 p.m. There are two board positions, and one architectural control position available for vote. Anyone interested in running for one of these positions, should contact the office at 281-481-2160 or email sageglen@sageglen.com for more information. All candidates should be at the meeting July 15. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be served and door prizes will be given.

Beltway 8 closure planned

At least one northbound frontage road lane on Beltway 8 will be closed from Greenshadow to SH 225 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily through Tuesday, July 16. The closures are associated with the ongoing project to widen Beltway 8 from two to four lanes in each direction.

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 nightly 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 Road in Texas City daily from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. until further notice.

At least one northbound and one southbound main lane and frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from FM 519/Main Street in La Marque to Tiki Drive in Galveston daily from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and nightly from 8:30 p.m. to 5 a.m. until further notice.

The closures are associated with an ongoing construction project to widen the freeway from three to five lanes in each direction and the frontage roads from two to three lanes in each direction.

Local COVID cases reported

The number of reported COVID-19 cases in the South Belt community remains roughly on par with the previous week, according to Harris County health officials. As of Tuesday, July 2, there were 295 active cases in 77089, no change from the previous week. To date, 134 from the ZIP code have died from the disease, no increase from the previous week.

In ZIP code 77075, there were six active cases, no change from the previous week. To date, there have been 84 deaths in the ZIP code, no increase from the previous week. In 77034, there were six active cases, no change from the previous week. To date, 92 residents from ZIP code 77034 have died from the disease, no increase from the previous week.

Statistics are updated weekly and include numbers from the Houston city limits and throughout Harris County. To view an interactive map, visit covid-harriscounty.hub.arcgis.com/pages/cumulative-data.

Hughes/Sabo closures July 4

At least one southbound lane of Hughes Road/Sabo Road will be closed continuously at Beltway 8 until further notice. The closures are associated with a city of Houston project to replace a force water main at the intersection.

FFA looking for hay

The Dobie FFA Booster Club is asking for donations of hay. To donate, contact Samantha Hernandez at 832-652-7579.

City finally cuts off \$4000+ water bill of vacant house

An abandoned residence in the 11200 block of Sageview local police say is frequented by squatters has continued to receive water bills from the city of Houston despite the homeowners being deceased for nearly four years.

Located near the corner of Hughes Road and Beamer, the house has been problematic for neighbors for several years, as it has become both unkempt and unsafe. The charge to address the dilapidated home has been promoted by longtime Sagemont resident and community activist Sandy Robb, who has been battling city and county officials for years to act on the matter.

According to sources familiar with the case, the last city water bill to be paid by the homeowners was in September 2020 for roughly \$57. Since then, the residence has continued to get monthly water bills, despite the house being deserted.

The accumulative water bill now totals nearly \$4,000, sources said.

With the assistance of Corey Glen from Houston District D City Council Member Carolyn Evans-Shabazz's office, the water was finally shut off this past week.

The previous week, staff from Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia's office secured the entrances to the abandoned home in an effort to keep out squatters.

Despite the home still having water service, Precinct 2 Sgt. Robert Sanchez said the toilets had been removed from the residence and there were signs that squatters had been using a portable tub as

a toilet.

According to Sanchez, the status of the home is currently in limbo as part of an estate, as the homeowners' surviving heirs apparently are not claiming it.

The issue with the water billing comes at a time when residents throughout the city have been experiencing problems.

Several South Belt residents have complained of excessive water bills for much of this past year, particularly in the Sagemont Park subdivision, where at least one resident saw his monthly statement jump from around \$30 to \$3,000.

Newly elected Houston Mayor John Whitmire campaigned on fixing the city's water billing problem and has taken multiple measures to address the issue since taking office earlier this year. See related story in last week's issue.

Wings Over Houston offers exclusive discount

Wings Over Houston is returning October 26-27 for its 40th anniversary.

They are offering an exclusive discount to those who sign up for the airshow's insiders' email list. Houstonians can get the best deals on attending one of Houston's largest annual events, featuring the renowned U.S. Navy Blue Angels. Insider tickets are to go on sale July 7.

To purchase tickets visit <https://wingsoverhouston.com/>.

Restoring electricity



CenterPoint had contractor crews working on various electrical outage problems throughout last week. Approximately 80 households were affected near Blackhawk and the Sagemark area. Outages lasted off and on all last week from Sunday, until Saturday, June 29. Photo by Marie Flickinger

Drainage improvements set

Newly elected City Council Member Fred Flickinger and the Houston Public Works Department would like to inform South Belt residents of ongoing drainage improvements being made in the Arlington Heights subdivision near Edgebrook.

Crews are currently conducting work on Coronation Drive, requiring lane closures for approximately eight weeks.

The affected section of Coronation Drive extends from SH 3/Old Galveston Road to Parkcrest Drive. (See accompanying map on page 3.) During this time, crews will be installing storm-water drainage and sanitary lines.

Beginning Wednesday, June 26, there will be a partial closure at the south end of Arlington Square Drive and driveways along Coronation Drive will be closed, Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The schedule for lane closures is as follows:
- Northbound lane closure: 4 weeks.
- Southbound lane closure: 4 weeks.

The purpose of the project is to construct storm drainage improvements that address and reduce the risk of structural flooding in the area by improving street conveyance and sheet flow and providing detention, as needed, for mitigation.

Continued on Page 4

Two women arrested near Beamer/Beltway

Two women were arrested on drug charges Thursday, June 13, after their alleged suspicious behavior caught the attention of Precinct 2 deputies patrolling the area around Beltway 8 and Beamer.

According to Precinct 2 officials, deputies were patrolling the aforementioned area when they spotted two females behind a dumpster.

When the women spotted the squad car, they were observed dumping their belongings and trying to hide from deputies.

Deputies were able to make contact with the females - later identified as 45-year-old Melissa

Jones and 47-year-old Melissa Lopez. During a search of their belongings, the suspects were found to have crystal methamphetamine, heroin, Xanax bar and other illegal substances in their possession.

Jones and Lopez were both transported to Harris County Jail and were booked. Jones was booked for possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver heroin and methamphetamine, while Lopez was booked for simple possession of a controlled substance. One of the women is from the Sabo area, the other is homeless.



Melissa Jones



Melissa Lopez

Drivers arrested for speeding

Two drivers were arrested Saturday, June 22, for allegedly causing a major accident while racing in the 10400 block of Beltway 8 near Blackhawk.

Precinct 2 Evening Shift deputies responded to a crash on the Beltway 8 service road at the above address involving three vehicles.

Upon their arrival at the scene, deputies con-

ducted a thorough investigation on what led up to the crash. A witness came forward with information pertaining to the crash, saying two of the vehicles were traveling side by side at a high rate of speed having a race.

Deputies detained two male individuals and

Continued on Page 4

Getting ready for July 4 parade



Shown are members of the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department who are working to get a donated stagecoach ready for Thursday's parade. The parade begins at Beverly Hills Intermediates at 10 a.m. July 4. It heads down Fuqua to Sabo, on to Hughes, until it meets Beamer, then left on Beamer till it ends at San Jacinto College South. SVFD members shown are (left to right) Bobby Shannahan, Curtis Tyer, Jerry Terrell and Chuck Tylka. Photo by Marie Flickinger

City begins transition to actual usage water bills in few months

The City of Houston will soon begin transitioning to actual usage water bills for some single-family residential customers who have working remote reading devices (RRDs).

Those customers will soon receive official letters that their accounts will return to actual water usage no sooner than 60 days from the date of the notification. As a result of this change, the customers will notice a change in their water bill from the blue "set usage" to white "actual" usage bills.

The Houston Public Works Customer Account Services team has verified multiple readings to ensure the device is functioning and sending accurate information on water usage. Additional verification will take place during the 60-day transition period.

It's important to note that with the transition, some customers may observe that their actual usage

is higher than their set usage. This could result in a higher monthly bill once the set usage billing period ends.

"We want to ensure that you are fully informed about these changes and are prepared for any potential adjustments in your bill, allowing you to plan accordingly," said Houston Public Works Chief Operating Officer Randy Macchi. "This update only applies to single-family residential customers with an upgraded, working remote reading device."

Other customers will remain on set usage bills until they have a verified functioning remote reading device. Customers can track the replacement of their RRD using the dashboard at improvetwaterbills.org.

Houston Public Works continues to ramp up the deployment of remote reading devices. Currently,

Continued on Page 4

Two fatal accidents in two days

Two fatal traffic accidents took place on the Gulf Freeway in just two days this past weekend, 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 pending verification by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences at press time.

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

Continued on Page 3

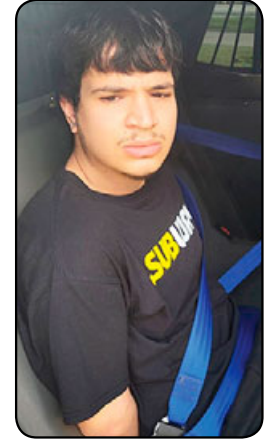
20-year old charged with fentanyl murder

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 last year in Texas, anyone who knowingly provides a substance that causes the death of another is to be charged with

See Page 3



Luis Alberto Delacruz

Lawsuit claims Garcia ineligible

According to a new lawsuit, Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia is no longer eligible to serve as commissioner after accepting an appointment in 2021 to serve on the Gulf Coast Protection District Board.

Filed by attorney Jerad Najvar on behalf of Mark Goloby, the lawsuit contends that Garcia effectively resigned from his post as commissioner by accepting the 2021 appointment - and again in 2023 - as the two offices have "conflicting loyalties."

"These overlapping authorities make the district (Gulf Coast Protection District) and the county not only partners but potential competitors regarding projects, priorities and funding, in an array of matters touching upon the same real estate and tax base," the lawsuit states.

"The offices of district director and Harris County commissioner are, therefore, legally incompatible and may not be held contemporaneously by the same individual."

Because of the overlapping offices, the lawsuit states that Garcia is not entitled to his salary as commissioner - roughly \$180,000 per year.

"Because Garcia vacated his office on Commissioners Court in or about June 2023, he is not entitled to the commissioners' salary paid to him monthly from taxpayer-supported county funds," the lawsuit states. "Consequently, any further payment of salary to Garcia will be an illegal expendi-

ture and must be enjoined."

The lawsuit further calls into question whether or not past 3-2 votes at Commissioners Court that passed with a Garcia-supported Democratic majority should still be enforced.

"Because Garcia was not actually entitled to vote on such matters, these items were not actually approved, and any expenditure(s) based on such votes were and are illegal," the lawsuit states.

With the assistance of Democratic County Judge Lina Hidalgo casting the deciding vote, the divided Commissioners Court has approved multiple controversial issues by a 3-2 vote, including a redistricting plan that essentially swapped the boundaries of the two Republican-led precincts, helping to solidify Democratic control of the court the following election.

The lawsuit has received scant media coverage, with the only known report on the subject being published by *The Texan* - ironically a publication from Austin, rather than Houston.

The *Leader* reached out to Garcia's office for comment but the commissioner's office maintained comments could not be made on the ongoing litigation.

The lawsuit is of concern to South Belt community leaders who say they are very pleased with Garcia's representation of the community. Many want to know how they can help the situation.

Elected officials share their words

County Commissioner Rodney Ellis on Henrietta Lacks

Harris County Commissioner Rodney Ellis Honors the 'Immortal Life' of Henrietta Lacks, Recognizes Her Contribution to Life-Saving Treatments

"Seventy years. That's how long it took to find justice for Henrietta Lacks and her family for the cells illegally harvested from her body. Today we acknowledge the impact of her 'Immortal Life' and the 'HeLa Cells' on global health – as well as the countless lives their use have ultimately saved. Yet we know that finding justice means far more than just a day in the sun. It's also not merely a tool to wield against those who have wronged and victimized.

In the words of Bernice King: Justice and revenge are not the same thing. Justice is a continuum that includes accountability, change toward preventing further injustice, strategic hope, etc."

So, while we celebrate the life of Ms. Lacks with her family, we must forever remain vigilant that further injustice is not perpetrated on future generations. Henrietta Lacks must be remembered not just for her contribution to science, but also for her humanity. And, her legacy serves as a symbol for all who seek a free society and raise the standard of ethical practice.

Rodney Ellis
Commissioner

Dr. Carolyn Evans-Shabazz updates on District D

Summer is here, and exciting progress is underway in District D! I am delighted to share the latest developments and initiatives aimed at enhancing our community. I am thrilled to announce that the Evolve Microshare Program "RYDE" will continue in District D, thanks to a new partnership with Metro. This program is essential in providing free and accessible transportation options to our residents, and I am dedicated to advocating for its expansion and success.

In City Council meetings and discussions with various departments, I have been a steadfast advocate for our district, particularly regarding Capital Improvement Projects. These projects are crucial for the continued growth and enhancement of our infrastructure, ensuring that District D remains vibrant and thriving.

I am deeply saddened to report the passing of the legendary Jewel Brown. Her contributions to our community and the world of music have left an indelible mark, and she will be greatly missed. We will honor her legacy and remember the joy and inspiration she brought to so many.

As we navigate the new budget, please know that we are actively listening to our constituents. Your voices are essential in shaping the programs and initiatives that will benefit District D. We are committed to ensuring these efforts genuinely improve the quality of life in our district.

You have my word that I will continue to work tirelessly for the betterment of District D. Together, we can achieve great things and make our community an even better place to live, work, and play.

Warm regards,
Dr. Carolyn Evans-Shabazz
Councilwoman, District D

Congressman Babin reacts to first 2024 presidential debate

U.S. Congressman Brian Babin issued the following statement in response to last night's presidential debate.

"If anyone came away from last night still somehow under the guise that Joe Biden is mentally sound, they are living in a fantasy world," said Babin. "THIS is why we've been pushing for cognitive tests for Biden since he first came into office. It should be clear to everyone now that his team of radical advisors – not the president himself – has been pulling the strings in the White House. Under Biden's confused gaze, America's pillars and global standing are crumbling to the ground. He has failed miserably, from national security to economic security to energy security and everything in between. Our nation has turned into a laughing-stock; we can NOT afford another four years of self-inflicted crises and kowtowing to our enemies."

Brian Babin, Congressman

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.

Monday, July 8, 11 a.m. – noon Open lab computer help.
Tuesday, July 9, 2 – 3 p.m. Ebru art.
Tuesday, July 9, 4 – 5 p.m. Youth board games.
Wednesday, July 10, 2 – 3 p.m. Painting party with a splash kids art.
Wednesday, July 10, 6 – 7 p.m. Conversational living English lesson.
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 following events are scheduled for Parker Williams Library, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd.:
Thursday, July 4, 10:15 – 10:45 a.m. Toddler time.
Thursday, July 4, 2 – 4 p.m. Tech help.
Friday, July 5, 1 – 2 p.m. Genealogy.
Friday, July 5, 4 – 5 p.m. Lego club.
Monday, July 8, 11:15 – 11:45 a.m. Family story time.
Tuesday, July 9, 10:15 – 10:45 a.m. Babies 'n' books.
Wednesday, July 10, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. Family place- child workshop.
Wednesday, July 10, 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Community craft: recycled bottle cap spinner.

Death

Judith Ann "Judy" Stonecipher



Judith Ann "Judy" Stonecipher passed away at home

June 27, 2024, at the age of 84.

Judy was born in Duncan, Okla. to Oral and Marie Snider on Jan. 24, 1943. After graduating from high school, she took a job as a bookkeeper at the local B.F. Goodrich. Through mutual friends, she met the love of her life, Carl E. Stonecipher. They were married in November 1964.

Her husband's job brought them to Houston where they began their family. Judy gave birth to a son, Carl E. Stonecipher Jr. in August 1969.

After staying home to care for her son, she returned to work as an inventory control specialist in the steel industry.

She worked her way into a career as salesperson specializing in plate steel.

After the death of her husband in March 2010, Judy retired. She was an avid knitter and made many blankets which she gave away to friends and donated to charity.

She enjoyed the friendship of many people through her Silver Sneakers exercise classes at the YMCA. Judy will be missed by many.

A visitation will be held at Peevey Funeral Home, Monday, July 8, from 6 to 8 p.m. The rosary will be recited at 7 p.m.

The funeral service will also be held at the Peevey Funeral Home, Tuesday, July 9, at 2 p.m. Interment will be at Duncan Cemetery in Duncan at a later date.

In My Opinion

Electrical tips help stay cool, saving \$\$

The temperatures continue to climb, and Reliant is sharing helpful tips for staying cool while reducing energy usage and costs.

As one of Texas' largest utility providers, Reliant wants all Texans to feel prepared and informed on how to save money and energy during the summer heat.

The following tips can be used with accreditation to Reliant:

Follow the 4x4 principle. Setting your thermostat four degrees higher when you're away from home for more than four hours can help reduce electricity usage.

Adjust your thermostat. Raising the temperature of your home by even a few degrees also reduces energy consumption. Every degree of cooling below 78 degrees increases your energy use by 6-8%.

While the suggested temperature for ideal energy use in the summer is 78, a comfortable temperature setting is a personal preference – just know every degree makes a difference.

Rotate your ceiling fan counterclockwise for a wind chill effect. This can make the temperature in a room feel up to four degrees cooler, allowing you to be more comfortable and adjust your thermostat to save money.

Don't forget to turn off your fan when leaving the room.

Use blinds or curtains to reduce solar heat gain by up to 50 percent.

Direct sunlight can increase the demand on your A/C by as much as 30 percent.

Check air filters monthly and replace as necessary. A clean air filter can keep your A/C running at peak condition.

Avoid using heat-producing appliances like the clothes dryer, dishwasher, or oven during the hottest times of day.

These appliances can cause your A/C to work harder to keep your home cool.

Best, Bradlee Borgfeldt
Senior Account Executive

Jack in the Box opens new facility



On June 20, the Jack in the-Box location on Scarsdale Boulevard officially opened the newly built facility. The old facility had been torn down and replaced with the new building. In attendance were staff members and South Belt-Ellington Chamber members. Attending were, left to right, (front row) James Bishop (Clear Brook City MUD), Jim Towey (Clear Brook City MUD), Rose Guzman (Jack in the Box), Emory Gadd, Marie Flickinger (SBE Chamber and Leader), Celeste Warren (Jack in the Box), Caprice Linington (Jack in the Box), Stephanie Premanand (Jack in the Box), Rosanne Kerr (SBE Chamber), Lisa Holbrook (SBE Chamber), Criston Goss (Jack in the Box), (back row) Reyna Lara (SBE Chamber), Cecelia Ganje (Clear Brook City MUD), Da'shaun Foster (Jack in the Box), Chris Clark (SBE Chamber and Clear Brook City MUD), Savion Premanand (Jack in the Box), Elizabeth Driver (Jack in the Box), Deandra Woods (Jack in the Box), Loriana Batancourt (Jack in the Box), Cindy Ursprung (community member) and Anita Eakman (SBE Chamber).

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LITURGY SCHEDULE

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

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

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The Voice of Community-Minded People

11555 Beamer 281-481-5656
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Davy & Marie Flickinger, owners



What goes UP,

must come DOWN.

Stray bullets CAN KILL.

If you hear celebratory gunfire:

- Call 911
- Notify Crime Stoppers Anonymously at **713-222-TIPS**

OFFICE OF DISTRICT ATTORNEY
HARRIS COUNTY, TX



KIM OGG

HARRISCOUNTYDA.COM

Concerns about water in Beamer ditch



As work continues on the Beamer Road ditch, residents have called the *Leader* concerned about the constant standing water in the ditch. This is a result of construction in the ditch which necessitates blocking part of the ditch during construction. If a heavy rainfall were to occur, the blockage would be opened so the drainage could flow properly. The estimated time for completion of the ditch is scheduled for early this fall. *Photo by Marie Flickinger*

Welcoming new business to South Belt



Enjoying the recent grand opening of MacAbaugh's Cafe & Catering are (left to right) Anita Eakman, office manager, South Belt-Ellington Chamber; Lisa Holbrook, executive director, South Belt-Ellington Chamber; Kevin Venable, community development manager, AMOCO Federal Credit Union; Stephanie Clawson, business and community outreach specialist of Methodist Hospital Clear Lake; John Herman, Clear Lake City branch manager of AMOCO; and Steven McCormick and Erica Rodabaugh, owners of MacAbaugh's, located at the corner of Beamer and Astoria. Clawson was the winner of the door prize at the event held June 20.

Red Cross organization suggestions for safety tips for July 4th holiday

Independence Day is here, and plans might include fireworks displays, a backyard picnic, or perhaps fun at the beach.

The American Red Cross offers these tips so one can enjoy a fun-packed, safe holiday.

"We're all looking forward to the 4th of July holiday. It's a time for fun with friends and family," said Shawn Schulze, CEO American Red Cross Texas Gulf Coast Region.

"We here at the Red Cross want everyone to enjoy their celebration and to be safe."

Firework safety
The safest way to enjoy

fireworks is to attend a public fireworks show put on by professionals. Stay at least 500 feet away from the show.

Many states outlaw most fireworks. Leave any area immediately where untrained amateurs are using fireworks. If one is setting fireworks off at home, follow these safety steps:

- Never give fireworks to small children, and never throw or point a firework toward people, animals, vehicles, structures or flammable materials.
- Always follow the instructions on the packaging.
- Keep a supply of water close by as a precaution.

- Make sure the person lighting fireworks always wears eye protection.
- Light only one firework at a time and never attempt to relight "a dud."
- Store fireworks in a cool, dry place away from children and pets.

Picnic safety
Wash hands before preparing the food.

- Don't leave food out in the hot sun.
- Keep perishable foods in a cooler with plenty of ice or freezer gel packs.
- If cooking on the grill, never grill indoors. Keep the grill out in the open, away from the house, the deck,

tree branches or anything that could catch fire.

Always supervise the grill when in use. Don't add charcoal starter fluid when coals have already been ignited. Use the long-handled tools especially made for cooking on the grill to keep the chef safe.

Make sure everyone, including pets, stays away from the grill.

Beach safety
Watch the weather and get out of the water at the first sign of lightning or the rumble of thunder. Stay indoors and away from water for 30 minutes after the last lightning flashes or thunder roars.

Plan ahead for aquatic activities:

- Swim only at a beach with a lifeguard, within the designated swimming area. Obey all instructions and orders from lifeguards and ask them about local conditions.
- Always designate a "water watcher" whose sole responsibility is to keep a close eye and constant attention on everyone in and around the water until the next water watcher takes over.
- Children, inexperienced swimmers, and all boaters should wear properly fitted U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jackets.
- Protect neck - don't dive in headfirst. Walk carefully into open waters.

Watch out for and avoid aquatic life.

- If caught in a rip current, stay calm and don't fight it. Swim parallel to the shore until out of the current.
- Then, turn and swim to shore.
- If one can't swim to shore, float or tread water until free of the rip current
- and then head toward shore.
- Draw attention to yourself by waving and calling for help.

GLO monitoring Gulf storms

On July 1 Texas Land Commissioner Dawn Buckingham, M.D. announced that the Texas General Land Office is monitoring three active Atlantic systems with a possibility of impacting Texas.

"The Texas General Land Office stands ready to help Texans prepare for, and recover from, hurricanes and tropical storms," said Buckingham. "The GLO is monitoring the current storm systems in the

Atlantic and will increase readiness procedures as needed in accordance with emergency preparedness plans. I urge all Texans to take the time now to prepare evacuation kits and plan evacuation routes should the need arise."

According to the National Hurricane Center, the eye of Hurricane Beryl made landfall on Carriacou Island at 11:10 a.m. AST. Data indicates that Beryl's maximum sustained

winds have increased to 150 mph.

For weather watches, warnings and advisories for Texas, visit <https://alerts.weather.gov/cap/tx.php?x=1>.

The GLO encourages Texans to follow the early warning preparedness tips:

- Monitor storm systems in the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico. Watch local news and follow the National Hurricane Center on Twitter or Facebook.

- Review the disaster evacuation checklist and have your "go bag" ready in case of evacuation.
- Know your available evacuation routes and review them with your family. Be sure to plan multiple routes and be ready for potential road closures.
- For additional safety tips related to storm surge, flooding, and other dangers, visit evacuation.texas.gov/preparedness.

SJC earns marketing awards

The San Jacinto College External Relations department has had a busy award season with the addition of 11 more prestigious awards. This recognition further solidifies the department's position as a leader in educational advertising and public relations and comes as a result of the hard work and dedication of the college's external relations team, which continues to excel in showcasing the institution's achievements and impact.

The Educational Advertising Awards, the largest educational advertising awards competition in the country, received more than 2,000 entries this year from colleges, universities and secondary schools across the nation. Despite fierce competition from institutions with enrollments exceeding 30,000 students, San Jacinto College stood out with its exceptional submissions:

- Gold - Annual Report.
- Gold - Installation.
- STEM Wall Graphics.
- Bronze - Website.

These awards underscore San Jacinto College's commitment to excellence in creative design. The recognition received for the institution's annual report, innovative STEM wall graphics, and user-friendly website reflects the college's dedication to providing an engaging and informative experience for students, faculty and the community.

Additionally, San Jacinto College received recognition in the 11th Annual Education Digital Marketing Awards for its Institutional Website, earning the esteemed gold award. This acknowledgment high-

lights the college's proficiency in leveraging digital platforms to effectively engage with its audience and promote its mission of student success.

The college also received a bronze Paragon award from the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations for Excellence in Writing - Short Form. The award-winning piece, "Navy Veteran Finds New Purpose at San Jac," written by Courtney Morris, senior communications projects coordinator, showcases the power of storytelling in capturing the transformative experiences of San Jacinto College adult students.

The 2023 Paragon Awards, which drew 1,531 entries from 210 colleges across the country, were judged by 65 professionals from the marketing and public relations industry. San Jacinto College's success in this prestigious competition highlights its proficiency in crafting compelling narratives that resonate with audiences nationwide.

Recently, the department received a Houston American Marketing Association crystal award for the 2023 mascot launch. In 2022, the college decided to move from three mascots to unify the campus. The launch was the culmination of nearly a year of work to select, name, design, and announce the mascot, Poe the Raven.

The Crystal Awards applaud outstanding achievements and serve as a platform for organizations to rediscover their core values, re-engage with their identity, and reinvent themselves for a brighter future.

And at the Public Relations Society of America Houston ceremony, the team racked up five Excalibur awards. The team took home a bronze Excalibur in the annual report category for the Chancellor's Report to the Community, three silver Excalibur awards in the social media category for Community College Month, the creative or unconventional tactics category for the Fortune Cookies campaign and the video category for the Excellence Award video, and one gold Excalibur in the special projects category for the mascot launch.


PRSA Houston's Excalibur Awards honor outstanding public relations professionals, programs, and tactics. The Excalibur Awards ceremony provides attendees with the opportunity to network with Houston's top PR professionals while celebrating the best work of the previous year with great food and a fun atmosphere.

"These awards serve as a testament to the dedication and creativity of our external relations team," said Teri Crawford, vice chancellor of external relations. "Their continued efforts to highlight the exemplary work being done at San Jacinto College are truly commendable and deserving of these recognitions."


These recent awards further exemplify the dedication and hard work of the external relations team in the educational advertising, marketing and public relations fields. Other recent awards earned by the department include six awards won from NCMPR district Medallion awards.

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PASADENA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

2 fatal accidents in 2 days

Continued from Page 1
killed in the 10700 block of the Gulf Freeway near Edgebrook.

The identity of the dead female, 40, was pending

verification by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences at press time.

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.

The investigation was ongoing at press time.

20-year-old charged in murder via fentanyl

Continued from Page 1
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 Pearlman 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 Sheriff's Office and was taken into custody at his residence without incident.

Delacruz is currently in the Brazoria County jail, being held on \$250,000 bail.

MSU names local 2024 grad list

Local students graduated from Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls, Texas, in Spring 2024. Midwestern State University had 678 undergraduate and graduate students in spring 2024 with the provision that they meet all requirements as prescribed by the faculty and administration. Honor

graduates receiving bachelor degrees included 64 summa cum laude, 74 magna cum laude, and 90 cum laude. Honor requirements are a grade point average of 3.9-4.0 for summa cum laude, 3.7-3.89 for magna cum laude, and 3.5-3.69 for cum laude. Additionally, four graduates earned Redwine

Presidential Scholar designation, five were named Redwine Scholars, and seven earned Redwine Honors Scholar recognition. Sixteen students received President's Medals.

Thao Nguyen, of the South Belt area, received a Bachelor of Science in radiologic sciences, cum laude.

Gonzalez designated master trustee

By Gustavo Trevino
After a year of hard work and deep dives into education advocacy and board governance, the 33 members of Leadership TASB Class of 2024, including Pasadena ISD board assistant secretary, Paola Gonzalez, celebrated at a graduation ceremony June 21 during Summer Leadership Institute in Fort Worth.

The board members, who hail from districts across Texas, successfully completed the rigorous program, earning title of master trustee. They now join the ranks of the more than 1,000 Texas board members who have participated in the leadership training program in its more than 30-year history. "Leadership TASB affords trustees a unique opportunity to experience other districts and interact with trustees across the state," said Gonzalez.

Shelli Conway, an Anna ISD trustee, member of LTASB Class of 2020, and 2024 board president of the LTASB Alumni Association



Pasadena ISD trustee Paola Gonzalez (left) was presented with a master trustee certificate by Shelli Conway, LTASB Alumni Association president.

City begins actual usage

Continued from Page 1
more than 34,000 RRDs have been installed since the launch of the Water Bill Improvement Plan on April 1, 2024.

The city of Houston expects to install approximately 125,000 remote reading devices throughout Houston by the end of 2024.

Houston Public Works continues to enhance customer service through the Water Bill Improvement Plan.

The following changes have taken place since the plan launched:

- Expanded in-person customer service availability.
- Customers can schedule in-person or virtual appointments.

was the emcee for the evening. "For these trustees actually celebrate a beginning, not an end," Conway said. "Tonight is a commencement, the beginning of something new. Your journey as guardians of the education of Texas school children takes a turn tonight, and there are more than 5.5 million children counting on you."

Graduates were joined by family, friends, and board members, and included a ceremony, dinner and dancing. During the ceremony, Robert Long, III, LTASB program director and director of Board Development Services, recounted the journey the trustees went on over the year.

"They have pushed boundaries, transcended challenges, and exceeded expectations in fulfilling the requirements set forth by our program," Long said. "With remarkable dedication they have embraced our vision to cultivate leaders who champion public education and who seek innovative solutions to the complexities facing our schools today."

The Class of 2024 met for

the first time in September 2023 at tEDCON23 in Dallas. Participants are chosen through a competitive application process with a maximum of 36 trustees each year based on criteria including dedication to board service and participation within their districts and communities. Over the year-long program, which included four visits to locations across the state, trustees learned about innovative education programs, gained deeper knowledge of board governance, and learned how to advocate on behalf of their districts.

"The immersion cohort style of learning is like no other training TASB offers," said Gonzalez. "Becoming a master trustee was of utmost importance to me because I want to be the very best advocate, leader, and public servant I can be for students, educators, staff and community of Pasadena ISD."

One thing all the LTASB graduates agreed upon is the importance of taking what they learned and using it to advocate on behalf of Texas public school students.

Tammy Hawkins, vice president of the Ector County ISD school board, said she sits on several boards and that participating in LTASB was "one of the best experiences I've ever had in my life."

Traveling across the state and visiting different districts and talking with other trustees helped her see how districts share the same problems and challenges.

"I believe I am the first ever Leadership TASB participant/graduate from Pasadena ISD," said Gonzalez.

Gonzalez added that there is an application and selection process. "I highly encourage every board member in Texas that is eligible to apply for this opportunity."

- Employed new quality control measures for an easier resolution process.

- Streamlined relief requests into one centralized form.

- On March 20, 2024, City Council voted to repeal City Ordinance 47-72 to make it easier to provide accurate adjustments to customers.

Pair arrested . . .

Continued from Page 1
identified one male as 20-year-old Jose Chacon, who was the sole occupant of a black Dodge Charger R/T. Chacon is a Pasadena resident. The other male who was detained was identified as 32-year-old James San-

Erroneous water billing has been an ongoing issue for many area residents over the past year, with some homeowners having monthly statements jump from around \$30 to more than \$3,000.

For more information on improvements to billing, visit www.houstonpublicworks.org/improvewaterbills.

chez, who was driving a gray Ford Mustang GT. Sanchez is from Crosby.

Both males were transported to the Harris County Jail, where they were booked without incident. No serious injuries were involved.

Everses celebrate 60th wedding anniversary



Jay and Marilyn Evers celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary on June 21 with a weekend trip to Galveston. They met in Tyler, Texas on a blind date instigated by Marilyn's Lee High School students and boys from the high school basketball team that Jay was coaching. After much encouragement from these teenagers, a date was arranged. Three weeks later Jay and Marilyn were engaged and five months later they were married in the First Baptist Church of Norman Okla. So sixty years ago the girl from Oklahoma married the boy from Arkansas and they became lifelong Texans. They are the parents of Joyce Evers Hevrin, Deron Evers and Angela Evers Cheshire; and the grandparents of six. Jay and Marilyn are charter members of Sagemont Church and longtime residents of the Sagemont community. He retired as vice president of Unisys Corporation and she is retired from her position as a college business professor.



Texas A&M Green Thumb series features Fall's Best Vegetable Garden

Green Thumb series hosted by Texas A&M agrilife extension has set meetings for July.

Fall's Best Vegetable Garden by Harris County Master Gardeners will be on July 8, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. and will teach one how

to prep a backyard garden by preparing the soil and using fertilizer and learn to discover which vegetables are best to grow for the fall season. This free virtual lecture will be hosted by Houston Community College. Register in advance at

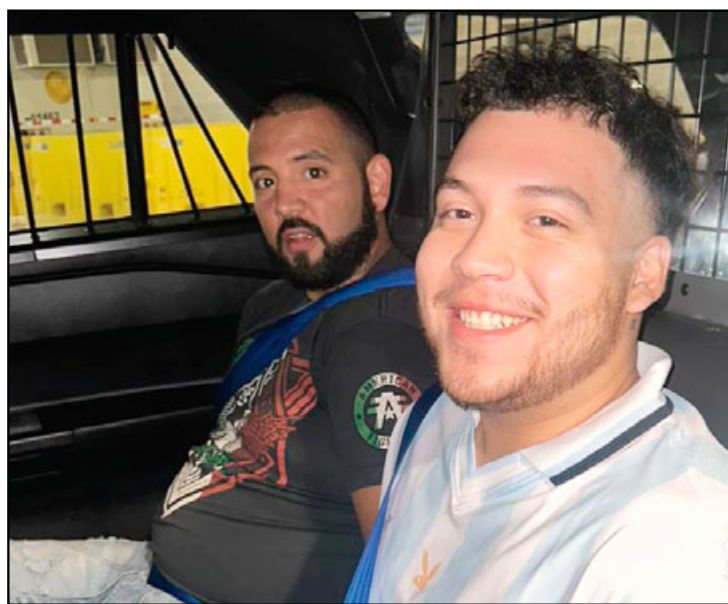
hcc.idloom.events/gardening-series/register to receive link.

Fall's Best Vegetable Garden by Harris County Master Gardeners on Tuesday, July 16, 11 a.m. - noon will teach one how to prep a backyard garden by preparing the soil,

using fertilizer and discover which vegetables are best to grow for the fall season. The free virtual lecture is hosted by Harris County Public Library via Facebook Live at facebook.com/harriscountypl/events. No reservation is required.

Composting by Harris County Master Gardeners will be featured on Thursday, July 11, at 12:30 p.m. at Genoa Friendship Gardens, 1210 Genoa Red Bluff Road. Learn best practices and techniques to make one's own compost. The event is free and open to the public hcmga.tamu.edu.

Caused major accident



Jose Chacon (left) and James Sanchez, both males from outside the South Belt community were arrested for speeding and causing a major three-car accident at Beltway 8 and Blackhawk.

Drainage ...

Continued from Page 1

Plans also call for the implementation of storm-water drainage, waterlines, wastewater lines, paving, sidewalks, driveways, curbs, wheelchair ramps, permanent signs, pavement markings and streetlights along the following streets: East Edgebrook, Empress, Princess, Outlook, Ravenhead, Viceroy and Parliament.

In addition, necessary utility upgrades will be made. Aside from minor paving restorations, a proposed 12-inch waterline will be constructed primarily by trenchless construction on East Edgebrook Drive east of Harris County Flood Control District to South Shaver Street.

For more information on the Arlington Heights Drainage Improvement - Subproject 1, visit Engage Houston at www.engagehouston.org/arlington-heights-1.

Miller makes LeTourneau dean's list

Karen Miller from the South Belt area was named on the spring 2024 dean's list at LeTourneau University in Longview. Miller is pursuing a Bachelor of Inter-

disciplinary Studies. The dean's list recognizes students who have achieved a grade point average between 3.50 and 3.99 for the semester.




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Remember When

45 years ago (1979)
Angela Shiflett, Miss Deer Park, was selected fourth runner-up in the Miss Texas Scholarship Pageant.

A Kirkwood South home suffered approximately \$1,100 in damages due to a fire.

40 years ago (1984)
Champions of the 1984 Metro Tournament, the Sagemont-Beverly Hills Junior Division All-Stars, were preparing to travel to Salt Lake City for the National Tournament.

Construction was set to begin on a shopping center, which would be located on 15 acres of property 300 feet south of Kingsport directly behind the Mason Jar restaurant.

35 years ago (1989)
South Belt Teen Miss Emily King, Junior Miss Christine Lamm and Miss South Belt Piper Heinrich rode in the annual July Fourth parade.

Tropical Storm Allison stirred up more than water and mosquitoes as the heavy rainfall caused runoffs from the Brio Superfund site into the streets of Southbelt subdivision, once again raising health concerns of the residents.

30 years ago (1994)
Dobie High School student Paco Boquer, a member of the Texans '77-'78 soccer team, represented South Belt at the national tournament.

The vast majority of those who attended the nearly four-hour-long community meeting about the Brio Superfund site supported dumping the incineration plans in lieu of a study designed to contain the wastes instead.

25 years ago (1999)
Pasadena Independent School District teachers were to receive a \$3,700 raise.

Harris County officials opted not to reroute Mud Gully. David Pierce, head varsity baseball coach at Dobie High School, resigned his post.

20 years ago (2004)
Pasadena Independent School District Superintendent Rick Schneider issued a letter to parents discussing the new bus service for Moore Elementary and Dobie High schools. The letter cited traffic concerns as a safety issue. PISD officials hoped that more students arriving by bus would cut down on the number of cars around Moore and Dobie.

15 years ago (2009)
The 22nd annual South Belt Fourth of July parade was a huge success with roughly 20 vehicles and floats taking part.

Several residents living in areas not incorporated by the city of Houston received parking tickets issued by the city.

It was announced Goodwill would occupy a large portion of the building at Fuqua and Sabo Road that formerly housed Kroger. The Kroger at that location was the first major grocery store for the South Belt area and closed

down soon after a new Kroger opened at the corner of Beltway 8 and Sabo Road.

10 years ago (2014)
Beverly Hills Intermediate was recognized as a "Texas School to Watch" by Texas Middle School Association and the National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform. The school was one of only nine in the state to receive the honor.

5 years ago (2019)
A groundbreaking was held to celebrate the beginning of work on Phase 1 of the Houston Spaceport at Ellington Airport. Phase 1 of

construction was designed to provide the necessary infrastructure to attract potential tenants of the future facility, the 10th to be licensed in the nation. Once complete, the new spaceport would feature suborbital commercial flights, zero-gravity scientific and medical research, astronaut training and development, space tourism and more. San Jacinto College also announced its plan to construct a satellite campus on the Houston Spaceport grounds to provide aerospace industry workforce training.

1 year ago (2023)
The annual South Belt Fourth of July parade returned with a bang Tuesday, July 4, with several hundred of area residents taking part in the celebration. The year's parade, held 33 out of the last 36 years, had been put on hold since 2020 due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. (The parade was rained out in 2018.) Dozens of local groups decorated their vehicles as part of the event, which was a salute to Ellington Field.

A man was found fatally shot inside a parked car about 3:05 a.m. Monday, July 3, at an apartment complex in the 1200 block of Redford near Edgebrook and the Gulf Freeway. Erick Romero, 30, was pronounced dead at the scene. According to Houston Police Department officials, patrol officers responded to a shooting call in the parking lot of an apartment complex at the above location and found Romero inside a parked vehicle shot to death. No immediate arrests were made. Dubbed a hot spot for violent crime by Houston police, this marked the first fatal shooting of the year at The Redford apartment complex. By comparison, there were at least five fatal shootings at the complex by this time of the previous year. There were at least 13 total shootings at the complex in 2022.

NOAH CELEBRATES 9TH BIRTHDAY!
Best wishes for a great ninth 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-grandparents Marie and 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 grandmother, Leader co-founder Bobby Griffin and other family members in the South Belt area.

SCHOOL DAZE
The following staff of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays July 4 through July 10.

Burnett Elementary
Give a birthday wish to July 8 to Amanda Lee.

Frazier Elementary
Blow out the candles July 7 for Patricia Perez.

Genoa Elementary
Sing a happy birthday song July 7 to Debra Rice.

Hancock Elementary
Lorena Perez enjoys a birthday July 4. Join in the birthday fun July 7 for Leidiana Peraza. July 10 is the day for a cake for Ashley Sylvester.

Meador Elementary
Fireworks will fly on the July 4 birthday for Derenda Dehoyos. Blow out the birthday candles July 8 for Sanjuanita Mercado.

Moore Elementary
Marking a birthday July 6 is Olga Soto. July 7 is the day for a fun celebration for Marina Chavez.

Stuchbery Elementary
Blow out the birthday candles July 6 for Cristel Hines. Best wishes for a wonderful birthday July 7 are sent to Susan Brady and Johnny Tsikis.

Melillo Middle School
Joey Bernsen enjoys a birthday July 5. Marking a birthday July 6 is Sherry Gates. Remember to wish Melissa Miller a happy birthday July 10.

Beverly Hills Intermediate
Blow out the sparkler birthday candles July 4 on a cake for Bethany Wilson. Remember to wish Cecillee Williams a happy birthday



Over The Back Fence by Natalie

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SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

Dave Campbell's has Dickinson atop District 24-6A ranks

Cowboys set weigh-ins

The Sagemont Cowboys will host official weigh-ins and equipment handout July 13 and July 20, both from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the teams facility at El Franco Lee Park.

All new and transfer players will need to provide a birth certificate at the time of weigh-ins. All remaining balances are due, and fundraising raffle tickets will be handed out. The Cowboys will begin the 2024 Bay Area Football League season August 17 at the Magnolia Park Sharks.

Cowboys at Magnolia Park Aug. 17, All Day

SBGSA fall ball '24 offers early sign-up

The South Belt Girls Softball Association is continuing early registration for its fall ball season through June 30 as families have the chance to take advantage of discounted prices.

Available age groups include ages 3 through 14, with a cost of \$80 per player during the early registration session. The regular registration price will then increase to \$85 per player.

New for 2024, the cost for the 4-and-under age group is \$40 per player.

A new offering from SBGSA officials, the 4-and-under age group is aimed as an introduction into the sport for those 3-4 year-olds interested in playing in a fun-filled environment.

There will be five to six girls per team, with a focus on fundamentals as well as shorter practices and game times.

To register for the fall league, visit www.southbeltsoftball.sportngin.com. For more information, direct email to southbeltgirlssoftball.com.

Dickinson – the defending champion of District 24-6A, simply reloads from season to season. The Gators went 6-0 a season ago in route to the championship, before an overtime playoff loss to Pearland. For 2024, the Gators appear headed for another title push.

Clear Springs – Second to Dickinson a season ago, the Chargers also appear in great shape to make a push toward the league championship. *Campbell's* has Dickinson edging out the Chargers, but head coach Anthony Renfro's team has plenty of firepower with which to make a move toward the top.

Clear Falls – The Knights have become a perennial playoff power over the past five seasons, and the program certainly has what it takes to make a run at the league title.

Dear Park – The newcomer to the 24-6A ranks, has made it a habit of making the playoffs each season, and should have plenty on offense, defense and special teams to be able to make a run in the standings.

With the arrival of the annual *Dave Campbell's Texas Football* magazine, the 2024 high school football season has officially begun.

In district 24-6A, the talent pool got a little deeper in the offseason as the University Interscholastic League added Deer Park to the ranks.

The Deer, a perennial playoff power within the district 22-6A field for many seasons, will join a talent-rich district that already includes Dickinson, Clear Springs and Clear Falls.

What it all means is, with the big four of Dickinson, Springs, Falls and Deer Park holding down the top four spots, programs such as Clear Brook, Clear Creek, Clear Lake and Brazoswood may find the going a little bit tough as the season progresses.

As expected, *Campbell's* gave the district championship nod to de-

fending champion Dickinson, where longtime head coach John Nelson has regularly led the Gators to the postseason.

Clear Springs, ready to go back at it under veteran head coach Anthony Renfro, will be looking to challenge the Gators as the 24-6A season unfolds.

Clear Falls, a playoff representative for each of the past five seasons, could also upset the plans of any of the top teams, as the Knights appear ready for another deep run.

Where does this leave Deer Park? The Deer should be in really good shape with head coach Austin Flynn at the controls.

The Deer will make the move to the 24-6A ranks and will be playing for a spot in the Division I playoff bracket.

It will take a terrific effort by any of the remaining programs in the district to make a playoff push in 2024. Simply put,

the big four of Dickinson, Springs, Falls and Deer Park appear to have plenty of firepower, whereas the other four programs will have to pull an upset or two in order to advance, according to *Campbell's*.

Clear Creek was a playoff team a season ago, but the Wildcats lost plenty of talent to graduation and could be in reload mode.

Clear Lake was 4-6 a season ago, then also lost a great deal of talent to graduation.

Clear Brook will also be looking to make a move and its third season under head coach Patrick Sanders after the Wolverines were 3-7 overall a season ago.

The Brazoswood Bucs, meanwhile, have a new head coach, and will also be looking to make headway in the 24-6A ranks as the games take on more meaning in October.

Dickinson and Deer Park would head to the Division I playoff bracket, with Springs and Falls ticketed for the Division 2 field if things indeed go according to *Campbell's* take in its preseason annual.

Continued on Page 6

Dobie football hosts free camp July 12

The Dobie coaching staff will host a free youth football camp July 12, beginning at 6 p.m. on the main campus. Kindergarten students through those entering the sixth grade as of 2024-2025 are welcomed to attend.

The camp, officially the Matt Bergeron Camp, will honor Bergeron, a former longtime Sagemont Cowboys' player and Dobie High School graduate who died earlier this year.

Dobie tennis to start this month



The Dobie High School tennis program will begin voluntary and mandatory workouts as the preparation for the Aug. 5 season opener against Friendswood begins. Longtime Dobie head coach Manuel Moreno Jr. will host voluntary practice sessions July 8 and July 15, both from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Dobie main tennis courts. Moreno will then host mandatory workouts July 22-25 as well as July 29-30. Moreno, beginning is 26th year at Dobie and 43rd overall in youth tennis, is excited about the way the Longhorns' season is shaping up as the program enters a revamped District 22-6A lineup.

High school volleyball dates set



The Clear Brook and Dobie High School volleyball coaching staffs will host youth volleyball camps in the latter part of the month in preparation for the start of the season in August. Dobie will host a youth volleyball camp July 24-26 while Clear Brook's camp runs July 29 through August 1. For more information on those camps, see Page 8. Preseason high school volleyball workouts begin August 5. Both Clear Brook and Dobie will open the regular season August 13, with Dobie playing at Baytown Sterling, and Clear Brook hosting St. Agnes. Above is Dobie's Amaya Langellier (1).

Newsome heads to Mississippi State women's volleyball



Clear Brook graduate Kailin Newsome will play her graduate season at Mississippi State University after joining the program in the offseason via the transfer portal. A standout vol-

leyball player at Southeastern Louisiana, Newsome will now join the Southeastern Conference as she rounds out her stellar career.

For the latest in youth sports camps updates, see Page 8. Happy July 4!

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Dave Campbell's Texas Football predicts playoff contenders in 24-6A

Continued from Page 5

Campbell's lists Clear Springs quarterback Julian Salazar as its preseason Offensive Most Valuable Player selection, while its preseason Defensive Most Valuable Player choice is linebacker Preston Pitts of Clear Falls.

Defending District 24-6A champion Dickinson gets the nod from Campbell's as the league champion for 2024, followed by Clear Springs, Clear Falls and newcomer Deer Park in that order.

Clear Creek, Clear Lake, Clear Brook and Brazoswood round out the eight-program league and figure to be the four chasing a playoff berth.

Should Campbell's selection of the four playoff representatives from 24-6A hold true, Dickinson and Deer Park would go to the Division 1 playoff bracket, leaving Clear Springs and Clear Falls to head to Division 2.

Among the other four programs, Clear Creek, Clear Lake, Clear Brook or Brazoswood would advance to the Division 2 bracket based on enrollment.

Dickinson Gators (9-2 overall in 2023, 6-0 as 24-6A champions)

Campbell's gives defending district 24-6A champion Dickinson the nod to repeat even as realignment takes over for the 2024 season.

The Gators were 9-2 overall a season ago, including a perfect 6-0 run through district play before a bidistrict playoff loss to Pearland in overtime.

Dickinson has now been to the playoffs for 11 straight seasons under veteran head coach John Snelson, and the Gators should be in good shape to contend once again for the championship.

While the Gators return just two starters on defense, Snelson will welcome back seven starters on offense as the unit looks to lead the way, especially early on.

Dickinson will have arguably the top offensive line in the district, led by Tyler Thomas, Jonathan Martinez, Lance Eader and Aaron Moran.

Wide receiver Jeremiah Scoby is a big target on the outside, while the Gators are also looking for big things from tight end Mason Peterson. Also

will look toward Camryn Jones as well as safety Marzellus Hunter and defensive end Chase Lewis.

With an enrollment figure of 3,859, Dickinson is the largest school by enrollment in the 24-

6A field and would head to the Division I playoff bracket. Peterson had 25 catches for 311 yards and five touchdowns a season ago, while Scoby had 17 catches for 305 yards and four touchdowns as they

figured to be key targets offensively.

Defensive ends Jacyn Mason and Lewis will lead the defensive front, while Jones also returns after a 51-tackle season a year ago.

The rest of the unit is inexperienced, so early development will be key to the overall success on that side of the football.

Clear Springs (7-5 overall in 2023, 4-2 in league play and a Division I area round qualifier)

It's another season, and another projected playoff berth for the Clear Springs Chargers as veteran head coach Anthony Renfro returns his team from a Division 1 area-round playoff berth a season ago.

Campbell's preseason Offensive Most Valuable Player Julian Salazar returns at quarterback to lead the offense for the Chargers.

Salazar passed for just over 2,000 yards and 12 touchdowns a season ago, adding almost 300 yards rushing and three scores as he finished his junior season by being named the Offensive Player of the Year within 24-6A for

2023.

With six starters returning on defense, the Chargers will look to keep the opponent off of the scoreboard in 2024 while the offense finds its footing early on.

Defensive lineman Za'Qwaun Nunn and Brody McGee are leaders up front, while defensive backs Caden Ward and Zach Parrish will take care of business in the back.

Defensive back Austin Ware, linebacker Dylan Cervantes and athlete Mu'izz Toukara should contribute in a big way as the Chargers make a push toward the top of the district.

Nunn had 73 overall tackles, including 12 stops for loss and seven sacks as he put together a tremendous campaign a season ago.

Defensive back Parrish had 80 tackles a season ago, and is considered the leader of the secondary.

The biggest concern for the Chargers will be replacing the loss of four offensive linemen to graduation.

Running back Corey Hosea figures to carry a large load in the backfield to start the season, while wide receiver Freddy Fincher is also looking for a big season as he catches

passes from Salazar.

Clear Falls (7-5 overall in 2023, 5-1 in league play and a Division 2 area-round postseason berth)

The Clear Falls Knights will be looking to make another big push in the 24-6A ranks this season after going 7-5 overall in 2023, including five and one in district play.

The Knights eventually advanced to the Division 2 area playoff round.

For 2024, head coach Zach Head will look toward quarterback Jacob Champagne to have a big season, after the signal-caller had a breakthrough run in his first season as a starter.

Athlete Dylan Proctor will play a major role on offense, as will receiver Nathaniel Cox and running back Cameron Kern.

Wide receiver Gavin Smith figures to be another key target for Champagne, while Garrison Munoz will also fit into the passing game.

Offensive lineman Jacob Lockstein is a four-year starter along the front, but one of the Knights' biggest concerns will be replacing three other multi-year starters along the offensive front.

Proctor rushed for 442 yards and three touchdowns and also caught 34 passes for 450 yards and six touchdowns.

As Campbell's top choice for defensive MVP, Pitts is coming off a season in which he had 104 total tackles, including 17 tackles for loss, six quarterback sacks and a pair of interceptions.

Deer Park (9-2 overall in 2023, 5-1 as league runner-up in 22-6A)

Following a 9-2 overall season a year ago, 24-6A newcomer Deer Park figures to add plenty of competitiveness to the league this season.

Veteran head coach Austin Flynn will return five players on offense as well as six players on the defensive side as the Deer look to make a statement in their new surroundings.

Quarterback Landon Kieselhorst will lead the way offensively after passing for 1,647 and 17 touchdowns a season ago while rushing for 378 yards and six touchdowns.

Offensive lineman Roberto Rodriguez leads the way up front along with Manuel Bustamante, Landon Exner and Rylon Votion.

Flynn listed Zach Zuniga as the team's top sophomore newcomer as Zuniga will look to make things happen at running back this season.

Receiver LaShawn Punuco aims to do big things on the outside along with Sebastian Saldana and Trey Martinez.

The Deer Park junior varsity team went 9-1 a season ago, leaving Flynn to believe there are plenty of players who could make a difference at the varsity level this time around.

On the defensive side, linebacker Adam White and cornerback Andre

Jackson lead the way along with cornerback Ethan Chavez and defensive tackle Cameron Colquitt.

Defensive end Braylon Akunola is another player the team expects big things from in 2024.

Flynn feels great about the Deer Park defense heading into the 24-6A ranks for the first time this season as White returns after a 49-tackle season.

Colquitt had 21 overall tackles, including four tackles for loss.

Overall, the Deer looked to be in great position to make a statement in their first year within the 24-6A ranks.

Campbell's has Deer Park seeded fourth in the overall standings in the preseason, and the Deer would head to the Division 1 playoff bracket should they advance.

It's easy to see why Campbell's has targeted the foursome of Dickinson, Clear Springs, Clear Falls and Deer Park as the clear-cut playoff four pack in district 24-6A.

As for the other four programs including Brazoswood, Brook, Creek and Lake, there is work to do as they may need to pull an upset or two on the way to a possible playoff berth.

Clear Creek (7-5 overall in 2023, 3-3 in league play and a Division 2 area round playoff finalist)

The 2023 season ended with an area-round playoff berth for the Clear Creek Wildcats under head coach Dwayne Lane as a 3-3 record in district play allowed the team to advance to play 12 overall games.

A return in 2024, however, could be difficult as several key performers have since graduated.

Linebackers Wyatt Smith, Luke Crowder and Christen Hunter will lead the defense as the Wildcats will lean on that side of the football, particularly early in the season.

The Wildcats will be seeking new playmakers on the offensive side of the ball, with receiver Javion Taylor returning as the team's primary weapon on that side.

Taylor will be a big name to look at, while athlete J'shon Parks will likely have an expanded role.

Making the postseason for a second straight season in Creekland could be a challenge.

However, Lane has been there and done that, and could have the Wildcats positioned for another surprise run in 2024.

Clear Lake (4-6 overall in 2023, 1-5 in league play)

Clear Lake head coach Donald Lawrence returns for his second season as the Falcons could be in rebuilding mode.

Following a 4-6 overall run in 2023, the Falcons return just seven overall starters this season.

The defense returns a pair of starters in the secondary, including defensive backs Camer-

on Nelson, who had 97 overall tackles, and Aden Scruggs, who had 31 stops a season ago.

The offense will be led by lineman Jack Wadzeck and receiver Luke Mazur, while Caleb Benjamin figures to get a long look at running back.

For the Falcons, it could be a rebuilding season. However, Lawrence and his staff should get a first-hand look at a bunch of players who will represent the program's future.

Clear Brook (3-7 overall in 2023, 2-4 in league play)

Head coach Patrick Sanders returns for his third season as he will look to get the Wolverines back toward playoff contention in 2024.

The Wolverines, 3-7 overall a season ago, expect a big season defensively from Jayveon Johnson on the end as well as defensive tackle Kyle Forbes.

Receiver Jayden Price will be a big weapon on the outside, and running back/cornerback D'Angelo Burrell is also hopeful of a big season on either side of the football, or both.

The Wolverines' top sophomore heading into the 2024 season is Eli'Jah Rubins as Sanders believes he can handle a solid load offensively as the Wolverines lean on multiple sources to generate offense.

One of the biggest concerns for Clearbrook will be replacing four starters in the defensive secondary.

Brazoswood (3-7 in 2023, 0-6 in league play)

First-year head coach Eric Luster, formerly of North Forney, has been chosen to turn things around for the Brazoswood Buccaneers.

Following a program changing season that included a playoff berth in 2022, the Buccaneers slipped back to 3-7 overall in 2023, including a winless march through 24-6A play.

As Luster works to get things going this season, he will rely heavily on his defense, including end Jackson DeAtley, who had 30 tackles, including six tackles for loss and three quarterback sacks a season ago.

Cornerback Mallon James should make a difference in the book secondary, while other defensive help comes from safety Jayce McCallistor, cornerback Jackson Zuniga, end Cooper Blanchard and linebacker Christian Keefe.

The Buccaneer offense will be led by returning All-District running back Jose Trevino, as well as quarterback David Nunez.

The offensive line is guided by Rylan Smith-Yonts as well as Cade Ingram. al may take a big jump for Brazoswood to make a difference in this year's district alignment, but luster heads in to the 2024 season with plenty of optimism for his program.

Dave Campbell's Texas Football

Preseason Defensive MVP

Preston Pitts, Clear Falls, LB

Preseason Offensive MVP

Julian Salazar, Clear Springs QB

Projected Order of Finish

1. Dickinson (Div. I)
2. Clear Springs (Div. II)
3. Clear Falls (Div. II)
4. Deer Park (Div. I)
5. Clear Creek
6. Clear Lake
7. Clear Brook
8. Brazoswood



Dickson makes trial 200 semis

At left, Texas A&M-sophomore sprinter Camryn Dickson punctuated her sophomore season by advancing to the semifinals in the 200 at the United States Olympic Trials last week at the University of Oregon. A Clear Brook High School graduate, she also advanced to the NCAA Nationals earlier this summer in the 4x400 relay. Dickson, a three-time state meet qualifier while with the Wolverines, has had quite the start to her career in College Station, and certainly will look to bigger things as she moves toward the 2025 season.

Clear Brook's Barnes, Bolden reach Junior Olympic track meet



Clear Brook junior-to-be Patricia Barnes is one of several South Belt area summer track and field competitors who have qualified for the Amateur Athletic Union's Junior Olympic Games later this month and into August. Barnes will compete nationally in the 800 at the JO's at North Carolina A&T University in Greensboro. At the Region 17 Championships, Barnes qualified for nationals as she was second in the 800 in a time of 2 minutes, 26.57 seconds in the girls' age 15-16 division.



Darwin Bolden II of the Pearland Track Xpress was the discus gold medalist and silver medalist in the boys' age 17-18 division to reach the Amateur Athletic Union's Junior Olympic Games at North Carolina A&T University in Greensboro. Bolden won the discus at 162 feet, 9 inches and tossed the shot 48-11 1/4. He will begin his senior year at Clear Brook next month, where he also plays basketball.



Clear Brook head coach Patrick Sanders and his staff will look to get the Wolverines through to the postseason amid a deeper mix of programs within the 24-6A ranks.

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CALENDAR

THURSDAY, JULY 4
7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill," Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., and Saturday at 7:30 a.m. Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit https://aahouston.org/meetings/.
7:30 a.m. **Rotary Club of Pearland** - 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 713-472-0565 for appointment. Tours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

FRIDAY, 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.
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.

SATURDAY, JULY 6
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** - All services are live and Zoom online. For details on the 7 p.m. Friday night or the 9:30 a.m. Saturday service, Judaism classes, film series, and lunch with the Rabbi, visit https://www.shaarhashalom.org.
1 p.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - offers a knitting class, Saturdays 1 p.m. Call 281-479-7285 prior to coming.

SUNDAY, JULY 7
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, 5215 Preston Ave. Pasadena TX, 77505. Call 713-419-2635 for details.
8 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous** See Friday's notice.

MONDAY, JULY 8
Noon Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday's noon notice.
1:30 - 3 p.m. **Ballroom Dancing** - at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 E. League City Parkway, League City, 77573, is open. Neva and Bill Schroder coordinate Wednesday sessions for casual ballroom dancing (not dance lessons). Park activity cardholders attend free. Call 281-554-1180 for details.
5 p.m. **New Directions Singles** - Age 55 and older meets the first and third Mondays for a potluck dinner with activities and/or guest speakers at Webster Presbyterian Church, 201 W. NASA Parkway. For further information please call Jill at 646-489-4367.
6 p.m. **Scrabble Club #511** - Meets Monday at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua. Join the fun and improve crossword skills. COVID-19 vaccination required. Email huff_reunion@juno.com for info.
7 p.m. **TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)** - #0683 Friendswood chapter meets at Friendswood Methodist Church, 110 N Friendswood Dr. in the educational bldg, room 201. For information, call Lynette Ringrose 832-858-4617 or Dorothy Pourteau 713-875-8820.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group, 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-Friday.
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - St. Luke's 12 Step Recovery, open meeting Mondays, in the Education Bldg. in room 4, 11011 Hall Rd., For details, call Jesse at 832-725-8479 or Rita at 281-309-2801.

TUESDAY, JULY 9
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/.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10
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) See Friday's notice.
7 p.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.
7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** See Friday's notice.
8 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous** See Friday's notice.

THURSDAY, JULY 11
7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill," Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., and Saturday at 7:30 a.m. Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit https://aahouston.org/meetings/.
7:30 a.m. **Rotary Club of Pearland** - 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 713-472-0565 for appointment. Tours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
9:30 a.m. **NASA Aglow Community Light-house** - Second Thursday of the month, 9:30 a.m., Praise Chapel, 18516 Hwy. 3 in Webster. The public is welcome and encouraged to bring others. For details, call 281-910-1971 or visit aglownet.org.
11:30 a.m. **ABWA - Southeast Express Network** - American Business Women's Association-South American Business Women's Association - Meetings are held January - November on the second Thursday of the month at Big Horn BBQ, 2300 Smith Ranch Rd., Pearland, TX 77584. Lunch is 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. (\$20 cash or check). Includes networking with professional business women and guest speakers. Women of all ages/occupations invited. Bring business cards. Reservations appreciated. Visit www.seen-abwa.org.

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Introduced June 18 as Auburn University's co-head softball coaches, Kate (left) and Chris Malveaux expressed gratitude for their opportunity, appreciation for Auburn softball's past, enthusiasm for its future, and love for each other. "Thank you so much for being an amazing wife," Chris Malveaux said.

Dobie grad leads Tigers Auburn introduces Malveauxs as softball's co-head coaches

Editor's Note: Chris Malveaux, a Class of 1995 Dobie High School graduate, has joined his wife, Kate Malveaux, as the co-head coaching duo of the Auburn University softball program. Officially introduced at Auburn University June 18, the following story details their arrival in Auburn, Ala.

By Jeff Shearer AuburnTigers.com
Embracing the uniqueness of their situation, Auburn softball co-head coaches Chris and Kate Malveaux see their partnership as a plus. "The reason why this is going to work really well," Kate Malveaux said, "is what he is may not be my strength. "My strengths may not be his, so you get the best. Every head coach is going to have flaws. You don't have those flaws because you get both. People all the time want to say why it won't work instead of why it will."

Introduced June 18 at the Woltoz Center, the Malveauxs expressed gratitude for their opportunity, appreciation for Auburn softball's past, enthusiasm for its future, and love for each other. "Thank you so much for being an amazing wife," Chris Malveaux said, looking at Kate nearby with their children, Ellie and Gabe. "I've loved this journey and I'm excited for this new stage to be able to share this with you."

"Chris is my rock," Kate Malveaux said. "He has pushed me to be better every step of the way. I am so grateful that we get to do this together." The fourth and fifth head coaches in program history, Kate focuses on catchers and baserunners while Chris concentrates on offense. "Chris is a brilliant mind," Kate Malveaux said. Assistant coach Ryker Chason will handle pitching while DJ Sanders works with infielders and helps with offense. "I love going on a journey with people," Chris Malveaux said. "Being in the trenches, in the cages, on the field and in the dugout. I love that journey, being on a team and being able to do it with people. We are so fortunate to be here in such an incredibly special place."

The Malveauxs come to the Plains from Tennessee, where the Lady Vols succeeded under husband-and-wife co-head coaches Ralph and Karen Weekly for two decades. "They gave us a shot to work together," Kate Malveaux said. "They gave us the blueprint that husbands and wives can do it." Kate Malveaux recounted Auburn's previous accomplishments, including SEC championships, Women's College World Series appearances and individual accolades. "They are what laid the foundation for us to come in and do what we're going to do here," Kate Malveaux said.

With 2024 WCWS finalists Oklahoma and Texas joining the SEC in two weeks, college softball's most competitive league is only getting stronger, a challenge the Malveauxs accept. "We're not afraid to work," Kate Malveaux said. "We've proven that we can build, and we can build fast. "We're going to chase championships. That's what we're going to do here and that's what we expect out of our players. "We're incredibly honored and humbled to usher in a new era of Auburn softball. "We want this community, alumni, donors and fans, we want you to be part of it because you are part of the family. That matters to us, so come out and be a part of it. It's going to be fun."

Lutheran South football program gets fresh start under Meekins

Corby Meekins is set to make his debut as the leader of Lutheran South Academy's football program next month as the Pioneers look to make a statement in the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools ranks. The arrival of *Dave Campbell's Texas Football* magazine in mailboxes across the state has added to the enthusiasm of the arrival of the 2024 season, with Lutheran South kicking off a new era under Meekins and his staff. A playoff team a season ago, the Pioneers will once again be aiming to make headway in the Division II District 4 alignment, a league controlled by Second Baptist for quite some time.

Campbell's has the Pioneers listed fourth in the Texas Association of private and parochial schools division 2 district 4 rankings, while Second Baptist gets the nod for the district championship. Fort Bend Christian is listed second, followed by Cypress Christian and then the Pioneers. The Woodlands Christian and Beaumont Kelly are also part of the District 4 ranks. The Pioneers will be aiming to improve upon a 4-6 regular season in 2023, which then led to a wild 45-42 first-round playoff loss to San Antonio Christian. Players to watch for Lutheran South in 2024 include receiver/defensive back Braedon Robinson, tight end/defensive lineman David Streecher, quarterback John LeBlanc, offensive lineman/defensive lineman Ryan Reed, receiver/defensive back Cowboy Gilbert and receiver/defensive backs Christian Calvo and Case Noack. Meekins, the former longtime head football coach at Aldine Westfield and then an assistant coach at the University of Houston, now re-enters the high school ranks with a career record of 114-26. Robinson had nearly 800 yards receiving a season ago, while LeBlanc passed for nearly 1600 yd and 12 touchdowns.

Dobie VB plans July activities

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

With an eye toward the start of preseason high school workouts, Dobie varsity volleyball head coach Dawn Sexton and her staff will host incoming freshmen through returning seniors July 29-31 at Dobie main. The returning sophomores, juniors and seniors will train from 9 a.m. to noon each day, while incoming freshmen will attend from 1 to 4 p.m.

SBYSC opens fall season registration

The South Belt Youth Soccer Club has begun registration for the 2024 fall season and is currently offering early registration prices through July 14 at www.southbeltssoccer.org. Regular registration will then run July 15 through August 16 as the league continues to prepare for the season. Registration is accepted via credit or debit card only. Practices will begin in August, and teams will typically train two days a week in the early evenings. Games will begin in September after the Labor Day holiday, and continue through November. The registration fee includes a team jersey top, shorts and socks. Parents will provide shin guards, soccer cleats and a soccer ball. Registration age groups, fees and more information is available by visiting www.southbeltssoccer.org.

Clear Brook summer volleyball camp activities

Clear Brook High School volleyball head coach Meredith Thompson and her staff will host the 2024 Wolverine Youth Volleyball Camp July 29 through Aug. 1. Session I is open to incoming third through fifth-grade students and will run from 8 to 10 a.m. each day. Session II is reserved for sixth- through eighth-grade students and will also run from 8 to 10 a.m. each day, while session III will include all incoming ninth- grade students in addition to elite level eighth-grade players. This session will run from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. each day. Sessions I and II are \$90 per camp participant, while session III is \$100 per participant. Walk-up registration fees increase by \$10 accordingly. The Clear Brook youth camp will focus on the fundamentals of volleyball including serving, hitting, blocking, defense, team play and more. For more information direct email to Thompson at mthomp1@ccisd.net.

Clear Brook's Calhoun dazzles on mound

Clear Brook Class of 2021 graduate Aaron Calhoun had an impressive summer league baseball outing for the Greenville Fly Boys of the Appalachian League June 29, striking out nine over 5 2/3 innings on the mound. Calhoun, who as a senior at Clear Brook High School in 2020 led the Wolverines to the 24-6A championship while earning Most Valuable Player honors, will be a senior at the University of Texas at Arlington this school year.

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