

South Belt-Ellington Leader

40 years of covering South Belt

Voice of Community-Minded People since 1976

Thursday, July 7, 2016

Email: mynews@southbeltleader.com

www.southbeltleader.com

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Vacation photos sought

The *Leader* is seeking readers' 2016 vacation photos for possible publication. A first- and second-place prize of Schlitterbahn tickets will be awarded monthly during June, July and August to the best submissions. Each month's first-place winner will be awarded eight tickets, while each month's second-place winner will be awarded six.

All submissions should include where and when the photo was taken, as well as identify each person in the picture and tell the story about the trip. All photos must be high resolution. Email photos to mynews@southbeltleader.com. Do not compress photos when emailing.

Lariaettes set dance clinic

The Dobie Lariaettes are having their annual Summer Dance Explosion Dance Clinic on Thursday and Friday, July 28 and 29, including dancing, games, crafts, and lunch.

The clinic will be held at Dobie High School from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. for children in Pre-K-eighth grade. Pre-registration is \$40, due by July 19, or at the door is \$50, cash or money order only. Participants will perform what they have learned Friday, July 29, at 3 p.m. in the Dobie auditorium, and they will also receive a clinic souvenir at this time. For more information contact Christy Gonzales by email at chrstygznls@yahoo.com

Highland Meadow meets

The monthly meeting of the Highland Meadow HOA has been rescheduled from July 13 to Monday, July 25, at 7 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Parker Williams Library, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd. Homeowners are encouraged to attend. Questions prior to the meeting go to Gina Victor with C.I.A. Services Inc., 713-981-9000 or CustomerCare@ciaservices.com

Lariaettes hold car wash

The Dobie Lariaettes will hold a car wash from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, July 9, in the CVS parking lot at 9410 Fuqua (corner of Fuqua and Blackhawk). Tickets are \$5 presale and may be purchased from any current Lariaette. Drive-ups are welcome and donations accepted.

Library seeks books

The Friends of Parker Williams Branch Library, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd., is in need of donations of gently used books, both soft and hard cover, fiction and non-fiction, especially children's books. CDs, DVDs and current magazines are also accepted.

Kirkmont Section 1 meets

The Kirkmont Association Section 1 will hold its monthly meeting Wednesday, July 13, at 10102 Blackhawk, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Meetings are held the second Wednesday of the month. The next meeting will take place Wednesday, Aug. 10. Resident questions, comments or concerns can be emailed to mykirkmont1hoa@yahoo.com.

Dobie FB car wash

The Dobie High School football program/booster club will host a car wash fundraiser Saturday, July 16, at Snowies' Snowcones in the Food Town parking lot on Scarsdale. Players will wash cars for a minimum \$5 donation from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Dobie football to meet

The Dobie High School football program/booster club will host its monthly club meeting Monday, July 11, beginning at 7 p.m., in the cafeteria. Both incoming and returning players are urged to attend as preseason discussions will be held regarding important dates during the season.

Bay Singles dance set

The Bay Area Singles Club Monthly Dance is July 16, from 7 to 10 p.m. at VFW Lodge at 5204 Highway 3, Dickinson, Post No. 6378. Bring party snacks to share. Cost is \$7 for members and \$9 for nonmembers. For more info call 409-948-1156 or 281-337-3112.

BibleWay health fair set

BibleWay Fellowship Baptist Church, 10120 Hartsok, will hold its annual Community Health Fair Saturday, July 16, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event will feature health screenings, immunizations for children up to 12 years old (bring immunization records), hearing tests and school supplies (while they last). All services are free. For more information, call 713-943-2215.

Easthaven summer camps

Easthaven Church, located at 13100 Beamer, will host multiple free summer camps for children ages eight to 12 later this month. Outdoor Adventure Camp will take place July 18-20 from 4 to 6 p.m. Attendees will learn shelter construction, camping skills and more. Culinary Camp will take place July 26-28 from 6 to 8 p.m. Attendees will learn baking, meal preparation and hosting. Enrollment is extremely limited. Register online at www.easthavenchurch.org.

Hughes Road construction causes headaches

Construction work along Hughes Road continues to irk local residents and business owners, who say the project is causing widespread confusion and traffic congestion.

A primary concern is the added traffic when traveling north on Beamer toward Hughes from Scarsdale. Drivers are often forced to wait up to an hour to make it through the intersection. Construction at the intersection of Beamer and Hughes has made it difficult to maneuver through the crossing, making it nearly impossible to access multiple businesses located at the corner. At

least one shop owner has temporarily shuttered his doors until the traffic situation improves.

The *Leader* has put a request in to the City of Houston Public Works and Engineering Department to see if the signals can be adjusted at the intersection to improve traffic flow. According to Public Works and Engineering spokeswoman Julie Gilbert, the city's Traffic Operations Division will be reviewing the intersection at Beamer and Hughes in the coming week and make adjustments if necessary.

A second concern is the high frequency of au-

tomobile accidents at the corner of Beamer and Hughes. While the official number of collisions was unavailable at press time Wednesday, the *Leader* has heard from multiple Houston police officers that at least one crash takes place per day at the intersection – some of which are serious in nature.

Since construction started at the intersection, at least one vehicle has fallen into the adjacent drainage ditch at the corner, and another vehicle has crashed through a residential fence, narrowly avoiding the area home.

On both the east and west sides of Beamer along Hughes, several residents are also encumbered by the construction and have been forced to take alternate routes to their houses.

Begun in June 2015, the Hughes Road Drainage and Paving Project will reconstruct Hughes Road from Beltway 8 to Sagecanyon. The \$11.7 million project is designed to mitigate flooding in the vicinity of Hughes Road, as well as pro-

vide key upgrades such as water lines, sanitary sewers, new concrete pavement, sidewalks and curbs, street lighting, traffic control and new signage.

Despite all of the current issues, construction is reportedly on schedule and set to be complete by the end of the year.

City officials said they are empathetic to area concerns and will try to address any problems and concerns.

"Public Works and Engineering recognizes that the ongoing construction is inconvenient to motorists, residents and businesses," Gilbert said. "PWE's designated ombudsman and full project team work with area residents and businesses to address concerns associated with construction as they arise. PWE appreciates everyone's patience during construction and urges motorists to follow traffic control protocols."

Resident questions and concerns may be directed to the city's 311 help line.

Brother John, Beth Morgan led parade



The Rev. John Morgan (left) and his wife, Beth Morgan, of Sagemont Church were the grand marshals for the annual South Belt Fourth of July parade. Shown above driving the Morgans is Sagemont's Emory Gadd, with his wife, Susan Gadd, and their granddaughter, Claire Gadd. See additional photos on Page 6A and in next week's *Leader*.

Photo submitted

Barbour named chamber director

Longtime area resident Kay Barbour was recently selected to serve as the new executive director for the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce.

Barbour began her new position Friday, July 1. She replaced outgoing executive director Sherry Trainer, who recently stepped down from the position to care for her sick daughter.

Former chamber executive director Sally Mitchell had been filling in for Trainer in recent months as an interim director.

A Sagemont resident of more than 35 years, Barbour and her husband, Greg, raised four children who all attended area schools. She additionally has two grandchildren, with a third on the way.

Barbour has a long history of volunteer work in the community, serving in multiple leadership roles in local schools that her children attended. She also brings 15 years of experience of non-



Barbour

profit work to the chamber. Most recently, she worked at the Resource and Crisis Center of Galveston County.

Barbour currently also serves as the president of the Sagemont Civic Club, replacing former president Julius Schindler, who stepped down from the position last year.

She was instrumental in the civic club's efforts to ban lawn parking in the Sagemont subdivision.

Barbour attended San Jacinto College South and the University of Houston-Clear Lake, ultimately earning a master's degree. She later returned to San Jacinto College for 13 years to work as an adjunct professor in the Department of Kinesiology.

In her spare time, Barbour enjoys playing with her grandchildren, running and spending time with friends.

Barbour is enthusiastic about her new role with the chamber.

"I am strongly committed to making the South Belt-Ellington area a better place to live, work and play," Barbour said. "I am looking forward to this opportunity to continue serving the community."

City of Houston activates heat emergency plan

For much of the past two weeks, the City of Houston has been operating under its Public Health Heat Emergency Plan, which calls for providing transportation to designated cooling centers.

The city has designated 47 public city facilities to act as cooling centers during periods of extreme heat. The nearest cooling center for South Belt residents is the Bracewell Neighborhood Library, located at 9002 Kingspoint.

In addition, the public is welcome to visit any public city facility (including Parks and Recreation facilities) during their normal operating hours to use air conditioning.

Some facilities are closed or have limited

hours on weekends, so it is necessary for residents to use the map at houstontx.gov/emergency to find an open facility.

Residents needing assistance in accessing cooling centers can request a ride from Houston METRO by calling the Houston 311 Help and Information Line (311 or 713-837-0311).

The National Weather Service declares a Heat Emergency when the heat index, a computation of air temperature and humidity, reaches 108 degrees on two or more consecutive days. A heat index of 108 is a potential health threat for all people and is particularly dangerous for high-risk groups.

Guidelines

The Houston Health Department (HHD) rec-

ommends residents begin taking precautions against high temperatures to avoid heat-related illnesses. High body temperatures can lead to damage to the brain or other vital organs and even death.

HHD recommends that residents check on elderly relatives, friends and neighbors for signs of heat exhaustion or heat stroke during the ap-

proaching hot summer months. Seniors are a population especially vulnerable to high temperatures. It takes them nearly twice the time of younger people to return to core body temperature after exposure to extreme temperatures.

Others who are particularly vulnerable include infants and children up to four years of age, those

Continued on Page 2A

Residents urged to inspect hail damage

South Belt homeowners are urged to inspect their roofs for hail damage, as such wear is often overlooked.

Severe storms that took place Friday, May 13, produced hail that damaged several area rooftops, particularly in the BellaVita subdivision. Many residents are unaware their roofs suffered damage because no leaking is taking place.

Kevin Dalley of Texas Top Roofing and Siding recommends that residents who think their houses may have been damaged by the storms call their insurance company to have an adjuster examine the property.

Dalley said homes with newer roofs probably weathered the storms without any issues, but roofs eight years old or older might need to be replaced.

Dalley further said residents should deal only with reputable local companies and avoid so-called "storm-chasers."

"Don't hurry," Dalley said. "If your roof's not leaking, you have one year to make a claim. Don't give in to high-pressure salesmen."

The *Leader* has several advertisers with longstanding ties to the South Belt community that do such repairs.

Dobie ninth-grade campus construction commences at Fuqua and Monroe

By Jay Do

Construction of the J. Frank Dobie High School's ninth-grade campus has recently commenced at the southeast corner of Fuqua and Monroe.

Set to open in time for the August 2017 school year to begin, the 169,275-square-foot campus, funded by the bond referendum approved by voters in November 2014, hopes to house 1,000 ninth-grade students, in an effort to combat the overcrowding issues the main campus of the high school now faces, as well as prepare for the rapid projected growth of the South Belt community.

"The overcrowding and the projected growth here in the South Belt area led us to develop this ninth-grade center," said Dobie High School Principal Franklin Moses. "The original building here at Dobie was maxed out at 3,400 students, and we reached 3,900 last year. With a projected growth of an additional 300 to 400 students, the district felt as if there was a need to try to alleviate the overcrowding, and the chosen way was to build a ninth-grade campus which would house about 1,000 freshmen and alleviate us back down to around 3,200 students at the main campus."

With two separate campuses of one school, Continued on Page 5A



Artistic rendering of the new J. Frank Dobie High School ninth-grade campus on Monroe at Fuqua

Dobie graduate saves man from fire

By Jay Do

A recent graduate of J. Frank Dobie High School was made a local hero after entering a burning house to save an elderly man's life without any regard for his own safety.

Cedric Washington is completely clueless as to why he took a different route to his grandmother's neighborhood on the evening of Monday, June 27. There was no plausible reason for taking the different route over his normal commute route, as the route was longer and offered no other advantage.

"I usually just drive straight down I-610 from my grandmother's house, but for some reason,



Washington

that day I decided to take a different route," said Washington. "I don't know why. It was just a feeling. That's all I can say. It was God leading me that way."

As Washington yielded to impulse and turned onto Teton Street and headed into a small neighborhood between Bellfort Street and the South Loop of I-610, he was soon faced with a house up in flames.

Continued on Page 2A

Parade photos wanted

The *Leader* is seeking readers' photos of the annual Fourth of July parade for possible publication. A prize of Schlitterbahn tickets will be awarded to the first-, second- and third-place entries. Email photos to mynews@southbeltleader.com. Do not compress photos when emailing.

In My Opinion

Joslin appreciates Stephanie Johnson

Boy Scout Pack 692 would like to send a big Thank You out to Stephanie Johnson at the Sagemont Community Center. In the past 6 months as our pack has grown and our need to partner with community members has increased, Stephanie has been strong, encouraging and supportive of us working together to build strong boys and community connections. It's unfortunate to say but sometimes

the people and entities that you would expect to be working towards growing a stronger community can be difficult and even impossible to connect with.

Stephanie has a keen understanding that her and the centers primary function is to support and engage the community. In her time as interim Director she has built a strong summer program as well as given us a secondary venue for meetings and events including most recently our Raingutter Regatta race. We thank you for your service to Sagemont.

Jeri Joslin

More glass recycling locations set

Through a new partnership with Strategic Materials Inc., North America's largest glass recycler, the City of Houston is able to offer residents a more convenient way to recycle glass.

"Since the removal of glass from the City's single stream recycling program earlier this year, we have been working to find ways for residents to conveniently continue to recycle glass," said Mayor Sylvester Turner. "I want to thank Strategic Materials for stepping up to the plate to provide a workable solution."

Strategic Materials is working with industry partners and local communities to cover the cost of glass recycling drop off boxes at a total of ten locations throughout Houston with the goal of continuing to expand the pro-

gram. The first two locations will open this weekend at:

- Sharpstown Park - 6600 Harbor Town Drive, accessible during park hours
- Salvation Army Family Store & Donation Center - 2208 Washington Ave, accessible 24 hours

"We are fortunate to be supported by the Mayor and the City in the pursuit to further support glass recycling," said Strategic Materials, Inc. CEO Denis Suggs. "We hope to identify additional partners within the community and our customer base to grow the recycling locations in the upcoming weeks and months. Our innate desire to preserve our environment and keep our city clean brings us together in a meaningful way to support glass recycling in Houston."

The City of Houston Solid

Waste Management Department will send out notices as the other eight locations are added to this pilot program. The locations and progress of the program will also be available on the Strategic Materials company website. These new drop off locations sponsored by SMI and partners are in addition to the nine existing City of Houston neighborhood depositories where residents are able to recycle glass and other items.

Due to cost concerns, glass was removed from the City's curbside recycling program last March. Information about this pilot project, curbside recycling and other topics is available at www.houston.solidwaste.org.

Remember to empty and rinse all glass containers, and remove all corks, caps and lids before dropping them off.

City announces heat plan

Continued from Page 1A who are overweight and people with heart and respiratory problems.

Heat exhaustion, usually associated with heavy activity, is the body's response to an excessive loss of water and salt contained in sweat. Signs include profuse sweating, paleness, muscle cramps, weakness, dizziness, headache, nausea or vomiting, a weak-but-rapid pulse and fainting.

The skin may be cool and moist. If heat exhaustion is untreated, it may progress to heat stroke.

Heat stroke occurs when the body's temperature rises rapidly, the sweating system fails and the body is unable to cool down. Body temperature may rise to 106°F or higher within 10 to 15 minutes. Heat stroke can cause death or permanent disability if emergency treatment is not given.

Heat stroke symptoms include an extremely high body temperature (above 103°F, orally), red, hot and dry skin (no sweating), rapid and strong pulse, throbbing headache, dizziness, nausea, confusion and unconsciousness. Staying indoors, preferably in an air-conditioned home or building such as a library, shopping mall or multi-service center, is the best protection against the heat.

Electric fans may provide comfort, but when the temperature is in the high 90s, fans without refrigerated air only spur the movement of hot humid air, which will accelerate body heating and raise internal body temperature. Taking a cool shower or bath or moving to an air-conditioned place is a much better way to cool off.

To avoid heat-related illness:

- Increase water con-

sumption. Drink lots of liquids even before getting thirsty, but avoid those with caffeine, alcohol or large amounts of sugar because these can actually result in the loss of body fluid.

- Conduct outdoor work or exercise in the early morning or evening when it is cooler. Outdoor workers should drink plenty of water or electrolyte-replacement beverages and take frequent breaks in the shade or in an air-conditioned facility. Those unaccustomed to working or exercising in a hot environment need to start slowly and gradually increase heat exposure over several weeks.

- Wear light-colored, loose fitting clothing that permits the evaporation of perspiration.
- Do not leave children, senior citizens or pets unattended in a vehicle.
- A wide-brimmed hat helps prevent sunburn as well as heat-related illness. Sunscreen also protects from the sun's harmful rays and reduces the risk of sunburn.
- If the house is not air-conditioned, seek accommodations in air-conditioned facilities during the heat of the day: malls, movie theaters, libraries, multi-service centers, etc.
- Take frequent cool baths or showers if your house is not air-conditioned.

Local library events set

Parker Williams Library

Thursday, July 7, 2:00 p.m. Summer Movie. Feature presentation of "We are Marshall", PG.

Thursday, July 7, 4:30 p.m. Hour of Code

Friday, July 8, 2:30 p.m. Magician John O'Bryant, The Magic Dork.

Monday, July 11, 2:30 p.m. Fitness and Nutrition with the HERO & S Foundation.

Tuesday, July 12, 3:00 p.m. Teen Tuesday-Find Your Faction. (11 yrs +)

Wednesdays, July 13, 2:30 p.m. Mick Corley, Reading is for Winners.

Wednesdays, Preschool Story Time, 10:30 a.m.

Thursdays, Toddler Story Time, 10:30 a.m.

Saturdays, Vietnamese Learning Time. Classes are at 10 a.m., 11:15 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. For more information on these programs, speak with Loc Bui.

For more information on these programs, call the library at 281-484-2036

Bracewell Branch Library

The following events are scheduled for July at the Bracewell Branch Library, 9002 Kingspoint.

Thursday, July 7, at 6 p.m. Teen Video Gaming

Tuesday, July 12, at 10:30 a.m. - Ballet Talk; Peter Pan

Wednesday, July 13, at 10:30 a.m. - Kids Craft

Thursday, July 14, at 6 p.m. - Teen Video Gaming

Tuesday, July 19, at 10:30 a.m. - Nature Discovery Center: Bunny Buddies

Wednesday, July 20, at 10:30 a.m. - Kids Craft

Thursday, July 21, at 6 p.m. - Teen Video Gaming

Tuesday, July 26, at 10:30 a.m. - Pocketwatch Puppets

Wednesday, July 27, at 10:30 a.m. - Kids Craft

Thursday, July 28, at 6 p.m. - Teen Video Gaming

Bracewell hours are Sunday and Monday - Closed; Tuesday and Wednesday - 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursday - noon to 8 p.m., Friday - 1 to 5 p.m., and Saturday - 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information on these programs, call the library at 832-393-2580.

Rotary Club scholarships awarded



Recipients of the Gulfway-Hobby scholarships were recently announced. Established in October 1965, the Rotary Club has committed itself to "service above self" and has prided itself with activities dedicated to the high principles of Rotary. Recipients

of this year's scholarships are shown above. Pictured are, left to right, Yessika Pena, Devin Tucker, Samantha Esquivel, Jonathan Castaneda, Hannah Broyles, Alaina Johnson, Andrew Canales and Gladys Rivera.

Local resident saves man from fire

Continued from Page 1A

"When I was coming down the street, I saw the house on fire and the whole neighborhood standing outside around the house," said Washington. "Everyone started screaming 'They're still in there,' so I got out of my car, ran to the garage door and a bunch of us tried to get the garage open in order to get into the house."

Once the garage door was open and access to the house was granted, Washington wasted no time fixating upon his own welfare, dropping to his knees and entering the burning house in search of the trapped individual. With his vision impaired by the dense smoke, all Washington could hear was the distinct sound of burning wood as he made his way throughout the house.

"It was actually pretty hard to find the person," said Washington. "Once I got into the house, I got onto my stomach and I crawled through the house, swinging my arms as I was going to see if I could feel anybody. The smoke was really thick so I couldn't really see anything."

Using his phone as a light, Washington eventually came upon the elderly man, unconscious and oblivious of the dire situation taking place

around him.

"I finally got to the man and found him sleeping on the couch," said Washington. "I woke him up and tried to tell him that his house was on fire. He didn't really respond and so I kept rocking him trying to get him to get up. Eventually, I had to drag him to the door. Once I got to the door, everyone else grabbed him and took him outside."

Once outside, Washington was informed that the man's wife was still trapped inside the house. Washington, again, attempted to enter the house, but was stopped by the surrounding neighbors. Already suffering from symptoms of smoke inhalation, Washington likely would not have been able to reach 74-year-old Helen Mitchell and return safely. She was pronounced dead at the scene of the blaze.

Both Washington and 75-year-old Malcolm Mitchell were transported to a nearby hospital. While Mitchell was in critical condition, Washington sustained only minor injuries.

"I had smoke in my lungs, but nothing too major," said Washington. "I was holding my breath as long as I could and stayed low to the ground, which probably helped."

Mendoza proactive in area Scout recruiting

By Jay Do
Local resident and district commissioner of the San Jacinto District Boy Scouts of America Robert Mendoza has taken it upon himself to become proactive in recruiting new members for the scouting program.

Founded in 1907 by Robert Baden-Powell in Great Britain, the program was adopted in the United States in 1910 as the Boy Scouts of America and has since grown to become one of the nation's largest and most prominent values-based youth development organizations.

"There's more than just Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts in the scouting program," said Mendoza. "The Cub Scouts is from seven years old to 10 years old, then they become eligible for Boy Scouts when they turn 11 and the cutoff is at age 18. They either make the highest rank of Eagle Scout at that point or they just drop out. There's another program called Venture, and it's from ages 14 to 21.

There are other branches with different age groups. There are over

10 different branches that they can go into in the scouting program, including law enforcement, law and things like that, and it trains them and teaches them more about what they might want to do when they reach adulthood."

Despite a staggering membership count of over 2.5 million youth, Mendoza admits that the program is not for everyone.

"It's not for everybody. My oldest son dropped out as a Star, while my younger went all the way to become an Eagle Scout. I've been involved in youth programs like Little League and soccer, and one of the differences between the sports activities and Boy Scouts is that you typically have to be big or fast to be successful in sports, whereas with the Boy Scouts, you can be the smallest kid on the block, but if you have the desire and it's in your heart, you can achieve your goals."

Scouting has suffered in recent years from a decreased number of new members.

"I've held a couple of meetings at the Sagemont Community Center and they've allowed me to come in when they're having youth parents signups, and I've shown them the things that the Boy Scouts have to offer and the closest units in our area," said Mendoza. "Starting in July, I will either be out at the community center, the grocery stores or the library within certain hours to talk to people about the scouting program. The reason I'm trying to do it now is that the Scouts has always done their recruiting process in the fall right around the time that school starts and that is the busiest time for schools and the Scouts have to take a backseat. What I try to do is circumvent the process by starting earlier. Even if I just hand out applications to the community, people can become aware that there is a scouting program in the area that their sons can join. Re-

gardless of whether they join one here or whether they join one elsewhere, at least they know about scouting. That's my main objective."

With a mission to provide a program for young people that builds strength of character and develops exceptional citizens, Mendoza understands the imperativeness of seeing to it that the Boy Scouts continues to grow.

"The Boy Scouts exists to introduce the youth of the community to a scouting program, one that encourages them to make ethical, moral decisions throughout their lives," said Mendoza. "We go out and help the community by helping the church. We take turns mowing the grass with the other ministries of the church. When the church has certain events, we help them with

that. We also participate in the South Belt Clean-up and Scouting for Food. The Eagle Scouts do projects for various non-profit organizations in the community. They've done things like build ramps for veterans who have become disabled in wars and build benches for the Buddy Bench program. Our motto is to do a good turn daily, and they certainly do that."



First and second place finishers of the Raingutter Regatta Emil Caballero and Joel Chapa blow it out in the final Regatta race.



Cub Scout Pack 692 recently met at the Sagemont Community Center to participate in a Raingutter Regatta as part of their summertime fun program. Scouts received catamaran kits requiring them to sand their outriggers and decorate their boats and sails. The boys raced two at a time in a bracket tournament with prizes going to 1st, 2nd

and 3rd place. The Cub Scouts pictured above are (front row) Mauricio Campos, Ramey Ali, (middle row) Angel Trevino, Caleb Kouches, Joaquin Caballero, Brandon Ruiz, Kevin Pino, Jake Joslin, Emil Caballero, Nathan Lind, Joel Chapa, Braxton Mayo and Sabino Hernandez Jr.

Deaths

Virgil Fitzhugh Gant



Virgil Fitzhugh Gant, 68, died Sunday, June 26, 2016. The visitation with recitation of the rosary was Tuesday, July 5, at St. Helen Catholic Church in Pearland. The funeral Mass was celebrated Wednesday, July 6 at 10 a.m. at the church, with interment following at Mt. Olivet Catholic Cemetery in Dickinson.

His love of God and his family was always evident. He is survived by a large family including his wife of 40 years, Deborah, children Tammy, Alex, Laura, and Mary Beth, six grandchildren, and brothers Greg and Henry.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to: Pearland ISD Education Foundation, 1928 N. Main, Pearland, Texas 77581, www.pearlandisd.org/foundation; St. Helen Catholic Church Campaign Fund, St. Helen Catholic Church, 2209 Old Alvin Road, Pearland, Texas, 77581; Assisting Better Living Everywhere Missions (ABLE), <https://ablemission.org/donations>, ABLE-Austin, 2900 North Quinlan Road, Suite 240/319, Austin, Texas, 78732 or Rotary International, www.rotary.org.

June Webb Hodges

June W. Hodges, 65, died after a valiant battle with pancreatic cancer on Monday, July 4, 2016. Hodges was born on March 26, 1951. A celebration of life will be held at 3 p.m. Saturday, July 9, 2016 at Sagemont Church.

She was born in Tokyo, Japan and graduated from Wichita Falls High School.

She married the love of



her life, James Paul Hodges in 1970. She owned and operated a local cake bakery for many years and ended her career working for Kroger South Belt and then in Friendswood. Cakes were her passion and she went to work every day with a smile.

Hodges was preceded in death by her husband in 1998. She is survived by her loving mother and father, Chieko and Kenneth Webb; sister Teresa Webb; faithful dogs Gabe and Charlie; children John Hill, Krissa Norton, Jason Hodges, Kim Robbins and Lisa Hudson; grandchildren Ashley Ball, Serina Hill, Gregory Norton, Victoria Gauthier, Alexander Norton, Johnny Norton, Kelly Hudson; niece Sara Sultana; great grandchildren Zayden Carder and Adalyn Ball and numerous loving family members and friends.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Make A Wish Foundation or The American Cancer Society. Flowers may be sent to the Hodges and Webb family at 11300 S. Sam Houston Pkwy E., Houston, Texas 77089.

Ted James Rankin



South Belt resident Ted James Rankin, 76, died in Houston Monday, June 27, 2016.

He was born the youngest of two sons to Clausell and Edna Rankin on June 25, 1940 in GAINESVILLE, Alabama. At 10 years old, his family moved to Cincinnati where he graduated from Taft High School. He enlisted in the Army and served two years. While stationed at Fort Benning, Georgia, he met and fell in love with Patricia Delores Forbes (in his words, "a beautiful rose from the West Indian Garden"). They were married Dec. 22, 1962 in New York City. On April 22, 1976 they were blessed with their beautiful daughter, Melissa.

He completed his Bachelor of Science degree in construction management at Pratt Institute and went on to a successful career at Union Carbide and ARAMCO Oil Company in Saudi Arabia, where he and his family traveled and experienced many cultures on several continents. After several years, he returned to Houston, and worked at the Harris County Sheriff's Department as a substance abuse counselor for almost 10 years.

Rankin was a man of strong faith who believed in following the steps of the Lord, especially the gift of giving, whether it was sharing his warm spirit or financial support.

He was a member of a Pearland home bible study group where he studied the bible. He was an enthusiastic member of Silverlake Community Church until his passing. He is survived by wife Patricia Rankin; daughter, Melissa Chisum (husband Gene); grandchildren Ashton and Benjamin Tinsley and a host of family and friends.

Our Family Has Grown!




Now with two locations to better serve our community

Niday - Fairmont Funeral Home
6777 Fairmont Pkwy. • Pasadena
281.991.0575

Niday Funeral Home
12440 Beamer • Houston
281.464.7200

Still family owned and operated, our exceptional service and affordability set us apart from other funeral homes. The moment you sit down with us, you will feel and see the difference. Niday Funeral Home services all cemeteries and offers a range of funeral and cremation options.

Planning in advance can be one of the most thoughtful decisions you make for your family. Our plans are transferable should you move, and we also accept most existing policies from other funeral homes.



Niday Funeral Home
12440 Beamer Road
281.464.7200
www.nidayfuneral.com

Dobie HOSA, NHS volunteers at library

Periodically, Parker Williams Branch Library does a survey of the number of customers that use the library. The latest count was during the week of June 13-18 after school was out at Dobie High School. Both HOSA and National Honor Society students volunteered.

Diana Vidal, Dat Nguyen, Alice Phan, Derek Nguyen, Taylor Nguyen, Steven Ly, Vy Pham, Gabriel Unica, Hector Rojas, Mary Doan and Chealse Cubos volunteered with the National Honor Society.

National Honor Society vice president Destinee Vargas and HOSA historian An Duong coordinated the Dobie student volunteers for the customer count at the library. Anne Regier, Dobie High School, has retired after 30 years as a health science teacher and HOSA sponsor. The new HOSA sponsors are Cheryl Sanders and Linu John. Lachee Payne and Jennifer Bland are the sponsors for NHS at Dobie High School.



Members of the J. Frank Dobie High School HOSA and National Honor Society recently volunteered at a survey count at the Parker Williams Branch Library. Pictured above, left to right, are NHS members Steven Ly and Alice Phan.

San Jac offers textbook savings

San Jacinto College is preparing to launch a general studies associate degree program that will provide significant cost savings to students because they will not have to buy traditional course materials such as high-cost textbooks.

In lieu of traditional print textbooks that can cost as much as \$300 per copy, students who participate in the new program will use digital Open Educational Resources (OER), course materials which are free and accessible online. San Jacinto College full-time students currently pay approximately \$700 per semester for printed textbooks, which amounts to nearly one-third of the total spent on tuition, fees and textbooks per term.

San Jacinto College will pilot OER courses during the spring 2017 semester and the full OER general studies associate degree program is tentatively scheduled to be available for students with the start of the fall 2017 term.

Some San Jacinto College faculty have already been using free OER materials on a limited basis but the new general studies associate degree program will make exclusive use of OER material as curriculum, which will be a first for the College.

The OER concept, informally called "open source," is becoming more widespread among colleges and universities around the nation. "Free, open source materials have been used by many faculty around the country for some time now," commented Mark Johnson, San Jacinto College North Campus English and modern languages department chair. "OER degrees have been started at colleges in Virginia and New York and

provided dramatic savings for students. For example, students at Virginia's Tidewater College saved over \$60,000 in textbook costs during the first semester of its OER degree launch. Tidewater also had a significant increase in student completion rates in its OER courses."

Johnson is coordinating the launch of San Jacinto College's OER general studies associate degree program and he recently attended a national OER conference in San Francisco. At the conference, he learned that OER classes have other benefits in addition to reducing costs. "With OER materials, instructors actually have more higher quality materials than ever before," he said. "With OER, rather than textbook publishers determining course content, faculty share their expertise and take the lead role as subject matter experts who choose, review and create free and sharable course texts. More importantly, when our faculty use OER material they become heroes to students by removing financial barriers and creating equity in education in a way that's never been done on such a large scale."

The launch of San Jacinto College's OER general studies associate degree is supported in part by a \$74,676 grant from Achieving the Dream through Austin Community College, the main recipient in Texas and one of four partners in the project. Other partners are El Paso Community College and Alamo Community College. Money from the grant will pay faculty to develop courses and help pay for faculty training. The result will be courses where students do not pay for course materials.

Courses based on open source curricula can be as effective, and in some ways even more effective, than courses that employ printed textbooks, according to Dr. Laurel Williamson, San Jacinto College deputy chancellor and president. "Using open source materials provides a great deal of flexibility because faculty and students are not locked into the use of a specific text for a two- to three-year period," she commented. "There is no issue with publishers going to new editions or making changes to an expensive text after it has been in print for a single year."

Williamson said there will be a rigorous review of all OER course materials by faculty members. "The quality of the curriculum will be comparable to what is available in traditional textbooks," she said. "We will continue to maintain the high standards we expect in the classroom, but no longer will a student have to choose between buying the textbook or paying the rent. Research shows that student performance may improve because students no longer try and complete course work without the expensive textbooks."

"The course-supporting materials are available at no cost. This extends the open access for students that is a critical part of the community college mission and supports the central mission of San Jacinto College: student success."

Garcia starts clothing line



Former South Belt resident Christopher Garcia's launch of the Godson clothing line has been met with positive feedback and much potential for continued growth. Garcia is shown above wearing a Godson shirt.

Former South Belt resident launches Godson clothing line

By Jay Do
Former South Belt resident Christopher Garcia has recently launched an ambitious endeavor into the clothing and fashion design industry.

A longtime resident of the community, Garcia moved to the area during his fourth grade year with his parents, Martin Garcia and Anita Porche-Garcia, and attended Frazier Elementary, followed by Thompson Intermediate and J. Frank Dobie High School. Garcia was a decorated athlete during his time at Thompson and Dobie, recognized at the district level on several accounts for his achievements in track and field and served on the varsity track team for all four years of his high school career. Despite being offered the opportunity to continue his success in track at the collegiate level, Garcia chose to pursue education full time, enrolling first at the University of Houston before advancing to Texas A&M University at Prairie View to work towards a degree in mechanical engineering.

Inspired by a speaker at an engineering conference and fueled by an entrepreneurial mindset, Garcia began the Godson clothing line shortly after his arrival at Prairie View A&M.

"In April of 2014, I started my clothing brand, Godson," said Garcia. "It came from my entrepreneur mindset. I used to make money selling shoes for the first two years of college and that eventually branched over to clothing, because I wanted something to complete my outfits. I had attended an engineering conference during my first year at A&M, and the speaker really encouraged us to follow our dreams. That really stuck with me. At the time, I was helping my friend who was an artist to promote his music and merchandise. In the midst of that, we decided to do a branch off that didn't have anything to do with music, but rather a general clothing line with a vision behind the brand, and that's when Godson was founded. I started at a fashion show at Prairie View A&M with one t-shirt design and I received some really good feedback from the fashion show, so I just continued to put out more designs and the brand has just grown and evolved from there."

In spite of having chosen to pursue a degree in a field radically different from his course of business, Garcia believes studying mechanical engineering has instilled in him core values that have proven invaluable in the growing of his business and insists he would not have done it any other way.

"Like a lot of other college students, I pursued a major thinking about how I was going to use it and what it was going to get me in life," said Garcia. "What a lot of people don't realize is that college gives you a different way of thinking and it changes your mindset. Just like training gets your body ready for what you would do in a game, you wouldn't be lifting weights in the middle of a game. Being in college did the same thing for me. It's trained me to think a certain way, and it's trained me to be resourceful with my time and apply basic time management skills.

These are things that I use in daily life and I wouldn't have learned if I hadn't pursued engineering. Being in college in general has taught me a lot about what my values are, because there are so many distractions in college. I've learned to stay true to what I believe in and the blueprints that I've laid out for the brand. In regards to engineering, I think that when you pick a certain discipline to study, everything you do is centered around that one thing, so pursuing a mechanical engineering degree has taught me to keep my priorities straight and manage my time efficiently."

Frustrated with the mundane clothing styles that he had worn growing up, Garcia focuses on designing clothing styles different from anything else currently offered by the fashion industry and targets young adults around his age.

"Right now, my target base is from middle school students to young adults in the 30s," said Garcia. "According to my statistics, that's exactly where I'm at. It just came naturally to me, because I transitioned from shoes to clothes. I wanted to make something that not only looked good on me, but was also exclusive and different from everything that I'm seeing. I grew up stuck with clothes that everyone else was already wearing, like a lot of other people, so I wanted to do something about it. I figured I'd design my own clothes so that I could wear what literally no one else was wearing. I just started creating a few designs and collaborating with a few of my friends to get feedback from them to really target onto that consumer base. We've received great feedback, as far as we know, from people who are in that consumer base."

Entering a competitive market filled with larger and more established clothing brands, Garcia must find ways in which to distinguish his brand from competitors. Proudly standing behind a mission to develop a brand of "creative fashion design with a divine purpose in mind," Garcia hopes that consumers will be drawn to the core foundations upon which his brand is built.

"My brand is different from the competition because of the values behind it," said Garcia. "Just based off first impressions, a lot of people are immediately drawn to my brand, just because of the name, what we stand for and the whole mission behind the brand. I started the brand to inspire others, just as I was inspired at the engineering conference by that speaker. Putting this brand out is my way of trying to elevate and inspire others to follow their dreams. Sometimes, brands won't have the best quality, but they'll sell just because of the brand movement and the motion behind the brand. I think that the

motion behind my brand is really priceless."

Garcia now seeks to expand awareness of his brand by delivering content on social media networks and sponsoring athletes.

"Currently, we're working hard on all the social media networks that there are to keep content in the face of our consumers," said Garcia. "I'm working on official launches for this summer. I've also collaborated with a number of other people to build the culture behind the brand. I've worked with artists to create merchandise for their fans so that's like getting a whole new consumer base through their fans. I've locked in one, but I'm trying to get up to three Olympic athletes to sponsor for the Olympics this summer for more exposure. I have a few friends who have been drafted in the last NFL draft, and I'm hoping to sponsor some of them to get more exposure as well. The main thing I'm focusing on now is setting myself apart by hosting my own events and sponsoring athletes to get as much exposure as I can."

In regard to the future of Godson, Garcia hopes to see his merchandise in more stores and a number of his own brick-and-mortar stores established in the near future.

"Before this summer is over, I hope to have hosted two events of my own," said Garcia. "By the end of the year, I hope to have my clothing in five stores. I'm in two right now, I'm hoping to get three more by the end of the year. Further on, I hope to have my own flagship store by 2020, approximately two years after I graduate. I hope to have my first store in Houston and a second store in Los Angeles by 2022."

For Garcia, Godson is more than a means to a paycheck. The fruits of his labor come in the form of inspiring others.

"Seeing other people act on their own ideas and visions through my inspiration has been the most rewarding experience to come out of starting this clothing company," said Garcia. "It has happened so many times that it is almost surreal now. If someone is debating about whether or not to start their own business, I would tell them to take that risk and go for it. Life is all about risks. You will find that when you take risks, it's way more rewarding and fulfilling especially if you love what you do."

"At the end of the day, I'm trying to make money to keep food on the table, but I don't want that to be the forefront of the company, because that's not the forefront of life. If you're a CEO in this business, you know that there has to be more to it than just making money, because when hard times come, there has to be something more than money to keep you going."

RockSteady Boxing aids fight against Parkinson's disease

By Jay Do
The husband of a long-time former area resident has recently taken it upon himself to bring a new and groundbreaking development in the fight against Parkinson's disease to the South Belt community.

After being diagnosed with the disease, Cliff Padgett enrolled in the Rock Steady Boxing program's Kingwood location after seeing its television advertisements. He is married to Bonnie Siscoe Padgett, former longtime South Belt resident and businesswoman. Bonnie owned Siscoe Dance Studio on Hall road for approximately 20 years.

The frequent commute proved to be a nuisance to Padgett, leading him and Bonnie, to join local gym owner Paulette Frank in establishing Rock Steady Boxing South Houston.

"I started at the one in Kingwood, and it was a two hour drive every other day," said Cliff Padgett. "It got to the point where it was taking up a lot of my time, so I wanted to start one in our area, because there are other people there from Clear Lake and Galveston who were having to make that drive. I figured I'd start one down here, because it'd help me a lot and it'd help a lot of other people. The mission of the Rock Steady Boxing is to expand all over the United States so that everyone who has Parkinson's can take advantage of it. I knew that I would need someone who had a gym in order to be able to do something like this, and I immediately thought of Paulette, because she had a gym and had worked with blind people at one point. As soon as I approached her with the idea, she went crazy about it, so now we're in this together."

utes is the non-combative boxing where they hit the heavy bags and they have someone paired with them to work on hand-eye coordination so they can regain their motor skills. There are only two things known to help with Parkinson's, and exercise is the only one known to keep symptoms at bay. Medicine helps, but not to the extent that exercise does. Parkinson's disease is a disorder that progresses when the body doesn't produce enough dopamine, and exercise helps the body to produce endorphins, which in turn helps it to produce dopamine."

While the program places an emphasis upon restoring the physical aspects affected by Parkinson's, Rock Steady Boxing also works to improve the mental and emotional aspects toiled by many affected with the disease through bonds of camaraderie.

"The other premise of Rock Steady Boxing is the idea of fighting back," said Cliff Padgett. "There's nothing to be done about this disease to stop it. There's no cure for it as of now. The idea of actually fighting is what really helps in this situation. Instead of staying at home and being lazy and blaming whatever, it gives you a sense of fighting back and the belief that if you fight hard enough, it might actually work. You're there with other people, other men and women, that have this disease. We all band together, we all sweat together and we'll all get through it together."

Despite being a relative young program, Frank is fully aware of the Rock Steady Boxing South Houston's next steps in order to better serve the community.

"The best way to evaluate the improvement of the participants is to have assessments," said Frank. "The Kingwood location does an assessment once every six months. I want to do an assessment at our location once every three months. Once we get bigger, we're going to have levels. We want to be able to separate the groups so that someone who is at a really high level does not have to be with someone who is at a really low level, and vice versa. We want to have an effective system where we can keep checking their improvement and move them around to different levels to better serve them. Right now, because we only have four participants, we only have the one group. I can see where they would benefit from being in their own isolated groups, because we would be able to focus on them more and concentrate on exercises that are for them."

Being the new program that it is, Rock Steady Boxing South Houston now faces its most difficult challenge in spreading awareness.

"Awareness is our big-

Continued on Page 6A

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Clear Lake bridge meets

The Clear Lake Bridge Club has regular scheduled games every day during the month of July. The club is located in the heart of Clear Lake just off El Camino Real at 16614 Sea Lark, Houston. Weekdays, the games begin at 10 a.m., while the Saturday and Sunday games begin at 1 p.m. For the inexperienced bridge player the club offers lab games on Tuesday at 2:00 p.m. and on Sunday at 2:00 p.m. These games, which cost \$6.00, offer regular in-

structors from the bridge classes to help understand the bidding process and to give advice when games are played. It is not necessary to bring a partner, but it is often fun to learn with a friend. For class information contact Dr. Dave Glandorf at 281-488-1365, or by email at drglandorf@sbcglobal.net. This month there are beginning and advanced classes available. For more information about games, call the club at 281-480-1911

Finian's Rainbow showing

"Finian's Rainbow," the always magic musical that debuted on Broadway over 55 years ago, is an original and satirical play that seems forever sprayed with the magic of stardust that audiences still love and find fascinating. Fantasy, reality, Irish folklore, and romance are all found in this comedy, written by Harburg, Lane and Saily. It opens July 8 and runs through July 31 at the Bay Area Harbour Playhouse in Dickinson. Something full of buoyancy, airily off the ground, it is peopled by a handsome and delightful cast of characters that make for a skylarking frolic. Director Bennie Nipper brings out the mischief as actors portray a Leprechaun, a not overly-bright sheriff, a deaf/mute, a loud-mouthed big senator and other fun roles. Veteran actors David Blystone, Sam Kee, Daniel Par-

tida, Nyah Taylor and Mollie Akin return to the stage to lead the 25-plus cast. Cameron Vega, Maggie Bledsoe, Stephanie Hendrickson, Felipe Bautista, Colbee Dickson and Klaira Jackson keep the action moving. Foot tapping is expected as Irish folk songs, gospel tunes, and popular Broadway hits are presented by singers coached by Whitney Nolder and accompanied by pianist Andrea Warren. Performances will be Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2:30 p.m. at the playhouse, 3803 Highway 3 in Dickinson. The production will be downstairs on the large, Main Deck stage. Tickets begin at \$12; discounts are available for seniors, military, and groups of ten or more, and the parking is free! For more details call 281-337-SHOW (7469) or visit www.harbourtheater.com.

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Over The Back Fence by Alexis

BIRTHDAY CHEERS FOR CHERYL
 Local author Cheryl Bolen of Green Tee, formerly of Sagemont, is wished a happy birthday Friday, July 8. Sending best wishes are her husband John, son and Leader staff member, Bo, son, John, and family and friends in the South Belt area.

ROBERT ENJOYS A BIRTHDAY
 Robert Griffin of Utah will celebrate a birthday Friday, July 8. Robert is wished a great day by his grandparents, Leader co-founder Bobby and her husband Kenneth Griffin, and other family members in the South Belt area.

SCHOOL DAZE
 The following personnel and staff members of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays July 7 through July 13.

Atkinson Elementary
 Birthday greetings are sent to Regina Barnes July 13.

Burnett Elementary
 Sing a happy birthday song to Jessica Skirvin on July 8.

Bush Elementary
 Send a happy birthday greeting to Joleah Pierce on July 10. Karen Smith marks a birthday July 13.

Meador Elementary
 Celebrating a birthday July 8 is Sanjuanita Nuncio. On July 10, send special birthday wishes to Detra Colbert.

Blow out the birthday candles July 12 for Laura Moreno. Michelle Cason enjoys a birthday July 13.

Moore Elementary
 Stacy Huntley celebrates a birthday July 9. Light the birthday candles July 10 for Anna Avergonzado.

South Belt Elementary
 Send a birthday greeting July 11 to Vanessa Lewis. July 12 is the day for a birthday celebration for Jody Finch.

Stuchbery Elementary
 Sing a happy birthday song to Johnny Tsikis on July 7. Denise Palos celebrates a birthday July 8. Iliana Quezada and Joy Degidio are wished a happy birthday July 13.

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

Beverly Hills Intermediate
 Blow out the birthday candles for Jocelyn Lidrbach July 13.

Thompson Intermediate
 On July 13 happy birthday greetings are sent to Susie Haas.

Dobie High
 The day for a double birthday celebration for Sharice Gilbert and Daniel Perez is July 9. Sergio Garza marks a birthday July 10. Light the candles on a double-layer cake on July 11 for Maria Maya and Elva Mendiola. Birthday greetings are sent to Carol McDonald July 12. The day for a party for Cynthia Wilems is July 13.

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

Thursday, July 7: Christopher Poole, Beth Pope, Petrea Phenix, Sarah Wingo, Shawn Shockley, Gloria Martinez, Julie Valenti and Larry Bowden; Friday, July 8: Sammy Shiffessel, James Cook, Denise Patterson, Margie Remely, Zoltan Jackson, Erik Valdez, and Shannon Lawrence; Saturday, July 9: Patsy Jimenez, Raquel Rodriguez, Traci Feil, Carolyn Garza and Shevlyn Spafford; Sunday, July 10: Tannia Leal, Sharon Blackston, Juanjose Armenta-Aguirre and Jimbo Shiffessel; Monday, July 11: Andy Cross, Anne Allen, Kolleen Bingham and Jasmine Mendez; Tuesday, July 12: Sharron Moore, Mary Renfro Heldman, Emma Rodriguez and Pam McEntire Ellis; and Wednesday, July 13: Stephanie Pyle, Robin Read, Sandy Ward, Angela Wilkerson, Robin Stone Collins and Tyler Pearson.

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

Lariaette officers successful at camp



The J. Frank Dobie Lariaette military officers and social committee recently attended Crowdpleaser's Officer Camp in Galveston. The committee spent four days focusing on leadership, team building, technique and choreography and received many honors. The military officers earned blue ribbons for all four evaluations, as well as A Division 1 Superior Performance rating on their home routine and Elite Gold Performance Award. They were also awarded the Meticulous Award for always paying attention to details throughout camp. The social committee was awarded the Helping Hands Award for attitude and giving spirit throughout camp, being recognized for willingness to not only volunteer when staff needed assistance, but also a giving spirit in working with fellow teams. Pictured above are, left to right, (front row) Social Executive Sylar Rocha, Co-Head Social Executive Brittany Gonzales, Co-Head Social Executive Gabriela Munoz, Social Executive Katherine Maslonka, (back row) Lt. Jazmin Guerrero, Maj. Julia DaSilva, Col. Marissa Krustchinsky, Lt. Col. Alayna Cano and Lt. Adela Alanis.

Remember When

40 years ago (1976)
 In spite of the flooding in the South Belt area and predictions of more to come, most Houstonians didn't carry the government subsidized flood insurance.

35 years ago (1981)
 Sageglen resident Tracy Davis was part of the team which set the world's record for parasailing.

Plans are underway for the construction of Kingsgarden, a new duplex subdivision to be built off Kingspoint Road.

30 years ago (1986)
 Harris and Galveston counties signed an agreement to share in an \$80 million flood control project that was 18 years in the making.

Fuqua became a major thoroughfare for the South Belt community.

25 years ago (1991)
 The Brio Task Force awarded the Brio Superfund remediation design contract to a company known as one of the worst Environmental Protection Agency regulation violators. Chemical waste management's Environmental Remediation and Construction division (ENRAC) was to proceed with the design contract for remediation of the site including incineration.

Ellington Field received a \$5 million federal award which was to be used to increase the airport's capacity, in turn relieving the air traffic at Hobby Airport.

20 years ago (1996)
 Construction began on fire station #93 near Sycamore Valley at 975 FM1959.

Robert Duncan, Nick Helton and Jimmy Wright, all 17, were charged with aggravated assault with reckless bodily injury and possession of a prohibitive weapon for allegedly injuring two Pearland teens with a bottle bomb.

15 years ago (2001)
 Harris County officials planned to go door to door to check for repairs being done in the area without permits. Without a permit for repairs, flooded homes could have faced a lawsuit or fines.

Donna Benfiglio, 32, a pioneer transplant patient of Dr. Michael DeBakey, died. Benfiglio was the first American to receive the DeBakey Ventricular Assist Device (VAD) and lived to receive a heart transplant.

10 years ago (2006)
 The annual South Belt Fourth of July parade was spared a deluge of rain by about 45 minutes. Although coming close, the parade had never been rained out since it began in 1988.

Officials from Precinct 2, Constable Gary Freeman's office made South Belters aware of a robbery at a local gas station and separate incidents where several checks had been stolen from residential mailboxes.

Harris County Republican precinct chairs met June 29 to advance the process of selecting a replacement for Tom DeLay's vacated congressional position on the November ballot.

The 18-year wait for a connection between Scarsdale Boulevard and Yost Road was expected to be over by the end of the year.

5 years ago (2011)
 Three South Belt teens were charged with capital murder following the fatal shooting of a League City man. Stephen Roman-Garza, Andrew Robles and Erick Valdez, all 18, were charged in the killing of Daniel Lee Clark, 23, in League City. Robles was a Dobie student at the time of the shooting, and Roman-Garza was a former Dobie student. According to League City police, Clark was trying to prevent his truck from being stolen from his driveway around 2:15 a.m. when shots were fired. Police responded to find Clark with multiple gunshot wounds. Neighbors tried unsuccessfully to revive him.

The annual South Belt Independence Day parade and fireworks show was scheduled for Monday, July 4. In its 24th year, the parade was scheduled to begin at Beverly Hills Intermediate School, ending at San Jacinto College South.

The theme for the Fourth of July parade was *Honoring Community Builders* and was a tribute to all individuals, organizations and businesses that contributed to the South Belt community over the years. For the first time in the history of the Fourth of July parade, the Rev. John Morgan, senior pastor at Sagemont Church, was scheduled to take part in the parade, riding in a convertible Ford Thunderbird, driven by the Rev. Emory Gadd, associate pastor at Sagemont.

Members of Buddy Griffin's All-Star Youth Banjo Band were to follow the pastors.

1 year ago (2015)
 An alligator was captured from the pond at the Riverstone Ranch subdivision. The creature had instilled fear in many homeowners who thought it might be a threat to their children or pets.

After multiple complaints and giving spirit throughout camp, being recognized for willingness to not only volunteer when staff needed assistance, but also a giving spirit in working with fellow teams. Pictured above are, left to right, (front row) Social Executive Sylar Rocha, Co-Head Social Executive Brittany Gonzales, Co-Head Social Executive Gabriela Munoz, Social Executive Katherine Maslonka, (back row) Lt. Jazmin Guerrero, Maj. Julia DaSilva, Col. Marissa Krustchinsky, Lt. Col. Alayna Cano and Lt. Adela Alanis.

Judaism, Religion in General:

Free open discussions

Congregation Shaar Hashalom's Rabbi Stuart Federow hosts free, open to the public, monthly discussions. Sessions are held the second Thursday of every month at Victor's, 1425 NASA Pkwy., (next to McDonald's), at 7 p.m. Anyone can join the discussion and bring questions, thoughts and opinions to share with everyone present. The entire community is invited to attend. For more information, contact the Synagogue office at 281-488-5861 or at csh@shaarhashalom.org.

Harris County monthly real estate tax sale a success

Harris County Tax Assessor-Collector Mike Sullivan is working to reclaim lost revenue for Harris County residents. Thousands of properties sit vacant throughout the county, creating unsafe conditions and lowering property values. Many property owners are delinquent, and for years they fail to meet their tax obligations. With help from the county's delinquent tax attorneys, Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson, LLP, drastic improvements are made to eyesore properties across Harris County. To learn more, visit the website at www.hctax.net. For questions, call 713-274-8000.

Israeli Folk Dancing set

Israeli folk dancing is continuing through the summer. The dances are held at Congregation Shaar Hashalom, 16020 El Camino Real, Mondays from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. July dates are 11, 18 and 25. The cost, \$4 per session or \$35 for 10 sessions for CSH members, \$5 per session or \$45 for 10 sessions for nonmembers, will cover expenses. Everyone is welcome to join the group. Congregation Shaar Hashalom is located at in Houston. The entire community is invited to attend. For more information, contact 281-488-5861 or at csh@shaarhashalom.org.

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New Dobie campus opens August 2017

Continued from Page 1A
Moses will face the difficult task of creating a unified high school experience between the two campuses.

While the campus will only house first year ninth-grade students, measures will have to be taken in order to ensure that students are provided with the same academic and extra-curricular opportunities as students on the main campus.

"We will implement several integrated opportunities to remove the feel of isolation or exclusivity," said Moses.

"The freshmen at the new campus will have the same opportunities as those on the main campus. One school with two campuses is our vision going forward. Everything will be the same at the new campus."

Among the measures taken to ensure a quality high school experience will be an exclusive staff selection process, assigning solely Dobie faculty and staff members.

"Just like there will be nothing but Dobie students, there will be only Dobie faculty and administrators. The staff distribution will be a selection process as we go through the upcoming year," said Moses.

"We've already started discussions with some of our teachers and staff about going to the ninth grade campus. We've started with our freshmen teachers and talked to them individually about going in that direction for the following year."

Bearing in mind the vision of one school with

two campuses, Moses has focused his efforts on building the sense of school spirit at the new campus that is unique to Dobie. Dubbed "Dobie Pride", Moses has seen exceptional success in developing and cultivating the school spirit at the main campus since taking over as principal of the school in January 2012 and now hopes to carry that success to the new ninth-grade campus.

"A major part of cultivating the Dobie Pride is having our own people over there, our own teachers and our own administrators," said Moses. "They'll be the ones to build that pride. We'll be doing pep rallies over there. Every time we have a pep rally at the main campus, we'll take our band and cheerleaders and everyone over there and we'll have a big pep rally over there as well."

"There are some things that we have talked through that haven't been put in place yet, but there are things that we've thought about to help build that culture that's so unique to Dobie. They'll be on the same Megalun schedule and they'll run JFDTV on Fridays just like we do at the main campus. There's going to be a lot of collaboration between the two campuses in order to instill that pride and spirit that we have here at Dobie so that they can be a part of it and it'll be easier for them to transition over to the main campus."

The addition of another campus to a school that will require separation of faculty and students is sure to pose difficulties

for any school, and Moses believes that Dobie will be no exception.

"I think the logistics piece will be the most difficult part of implementing this campus," said Moses. "We have to try to figure everything out before we start school, things like transportation, classes that will be offered, special situations and scenarios. I think developing the pride and culture about that place in the first year will be a challenge. It's not just going to be a different thing for the students, but for the teachers as well."

"Whereas the students have never been in a high school setting, the teachers will have to adjust, because they've been a part of this huge family here at Dobie of 230 teachers, and now they're going to have their own separate family over there of 50 or so teachers. These are some things that we're trying to think about and plan ahead for to make the transition for both students and teachers as seamless as possible."

Having already successfully implemented the Dr. Kirk Lewis Career and Technical High School into the district, Moses believes that the experience will prove beneficial in moving forward with the ninth-grade campus.

"Working through the transportation between CTHS and Dobie has really taught us a lot about ensuring our students the appropriate instruction time that is needed, and that will affect the way we schedule things at both campuses in order to maximize that time," said Moses. "CTHS is a

very small scale, because the majority of students stay when they go there and we have a very small percentage of students that go back and forth between the two campuses, but it has taught us to make sure to schedule appropriately for programs that come back to the main campus and we try to optimize the amount of instruction time for every student."

Despite all the challenges that the implementation of the ninth grade campus will pose to the school, Moses is sure that the campus will prove advantageous to all those involved, and be especially favorable for freshmen students who attend the campus.

"The campus is definitely going to ease the transition," said Moses. "Eighth to ninth-grade, research shows, is the toughest transition that a student makes in their education. This way, we will have a year to transition from intermediate to high school, whereas past students had one day to transition to a high school setting."

"I think it will be beneficial for the students who attend the campus after it opens to have a year to prepare for high school, to transition from intermediate culture and policies and the way intermediate schools do things to the way high schools do things. It's going to allow students a gradual transition instead of an immediate change from an intermediate setting to a high school setting, and I think it's going to benefit these students greatly."

In regards to long-term

expectations of the campus, Dobie that fine traditions of success and prove to be a worthwhile addition to Dobie and the Pasadena Independent School District.

"I think we're going to see an increase in our state scores," said Moses. "Those teachers and administrators will be able to focus on those 1,000 ninth-graders, whereas when they are at the main campus, they're part of the big plan, and there are a lot of things going on in a big campus. At the ninth-grade campus, they are the big thing. They are the only thing. They are the only show. We'll be able to focus more on ensuring our students are grasping the content and that they are totally prepared for those exams."

"I think they'll be able to focus more on attendance and truancy and those things that freshmen sometimes fall into the trap of. I think our ninth to tenth-grade promotion rate is going to be better, because they'll be the only show in town, the only focus."

"That ninth-grade year is so critical. If you have a successful ninth-grade year, you're four times more likely to graduate on time than if you have an unsuccessful ninth-grade year."

"Being able to put them all in one location and letting them be the only show in town in that building, I think we're going to see huge gains in many areas. I think it's going to be a positive plus for our students, our campus and ultimately, our district."

Hoang exhilarated by Fernandez's compassion

Michelle Hoang, one of J. Frank Dobie High School's Shining Stars, is shown with distinguished educator Erin Fernandez, an instructor of health science and clinical rotations.

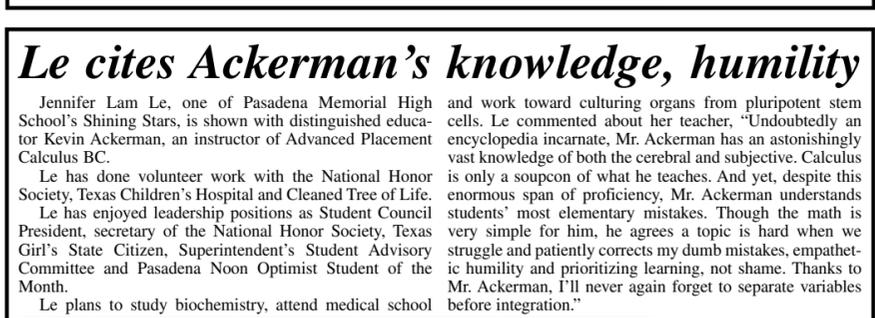
Both were honored at the annual Pasadena Independent School District Shining Stars Gala, which recognizes the top students from each high school and their favorite teachers.

Hoang has regularly volunteered with the Vietnamese Martyrs Catholic Church. She has also held a leadership

position as study captain of the Latin Club, with focus on vocabulary. Hoang plans to attend the University of Texas at Austin to major in chemistry.

Regarding her teacher, Hoang said, "Mrs. Fernandez has been such an outstanding educator. She was my Clinical Rotation's teacher in 11th grade and my Health Science in 10th grade, and through these two years of observation, she has modeled excellent work ethics to her students. Through her lesson plans and visits to the hospitals, she has helped guide me towards finding my future career. For a woman that has been through so much in her lifetime, I admire the amount of dedication she has toward her line of work and her family. I cannot thank her enough for what she has done for me and I hope to one day achieve the amount of compassion she has for others."

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



The South Belt Shining Stars will present a series of the students being honored along with their favorite mentor. This is the third in the series of 10. The 10 Shining Stars represent the Top 10 Dobie High School students. Information and photos were supplied by the Pasadena Independent School District. The Leader is also running Top 10 Shining Stars from Memorial and South Houston high schools.

Le cites Ackerman's knowledge, humility

Jennifer Lam Le, one of Pasadena Memorial High School's Shining Stars, is shown with distinguished educator Kevin Ackerman, an instructor of Advanced Placement Calculus BC.

Le has done volunteer work with the National Honor Society, Texas Children's Hospital and Cleaned Tree of Life. Le has enjoyed leadership positions as Student Council President, secretary of the National Honor Society, Texas Girl's State Citizen, Superintendent's Student Advisory Committee and Pasadena Noon Optimist Student of the Month.

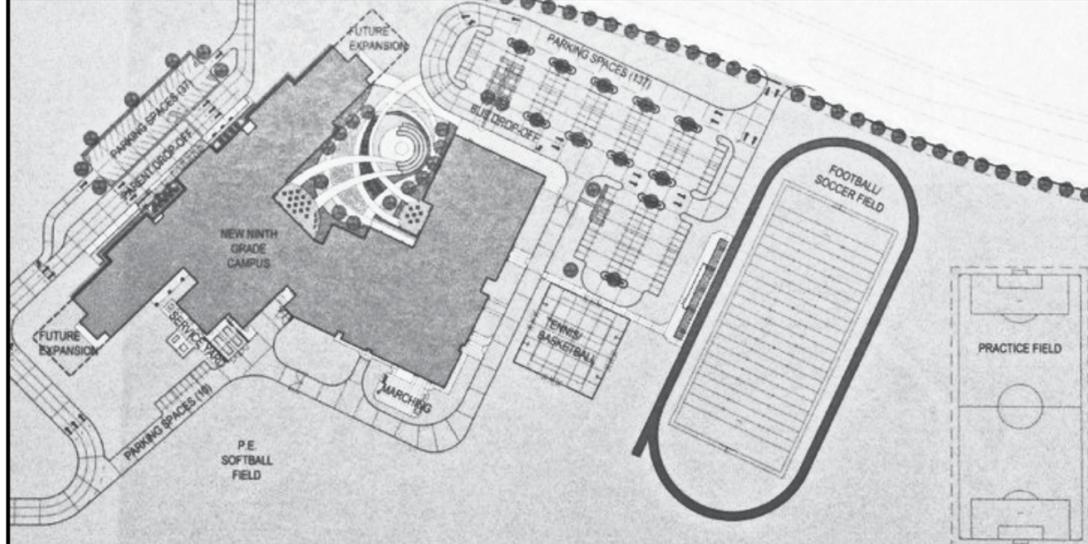
Le plans to study biochemistry, attend medical school

and work toward culturing organs from pluripotent stem cells. Le commented about her teacher, "Undoubtedly an encyclopedia incarnate, Mr. Ackerman has an astonishingly vast knowledge of both the cerebral and subjective. Calculus is only a soupçon of what he teaches. And yet, despite this enormous span of proficiency, Mr. Ackerman understands students' most elementary mistakes. Though the math is very simple for him, he agrees a topic is hard when we struggle and patiently corrects my dumb mistakes, empathetic humility and prioritizing learning, not shame. Thanks to Mr. Ackerman, I'll never again forget to separate variables before integration."

The South Belt Shining Stars will be presented in a series of 10 students being honored along with their favorite mentor. This is the third in the series of 10. The 10 Shining Stars represent the Top 10 Pasadena Memorial High School students. The information and photos were supplied by the Pasadena Independent School District. The Leader is also running the Top 10 Shining Stars from Dobie and South Houston high schools.



The South Belt Shining Stars will be presented in a series of 10 students being honored along with their favorite mentor. This is the third in the series of 10. The 10 Shining Stars represent the Top 10 Pasadena Memorial High School students. The information and photos were supplied by the Pasadena Independent School District. The Leader is also running the Top 10 Shining Stars from Dobie and South Houston high schools.



Artist's rendering from IBI Group architects for the layout of the J. Frank Dobie 9th grade center at Monroe and Fuqua

San Jac South digitizes Leader archives

By Jay Do
The San Jacinto College South Campus, under the leadership of Head Library Director Richard McKay and in a collaborative effort with the University of North Texas, is currently undergoing the task of digitizing archives of the Leader's issues.

"Basically, what's going on is we have a huge number of back issues of older newspaper copies, and newspaper is not permanent," said McKay. "It was never made to last a long time, and some of the archives we have are going on to be upwards of 30 years old. If we don't do something about it, they're just going to disappear."

Sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Library of Congress, the National Digital Newspaper Program was established in July of 2004, aimed at creating and maintaining a publicly available, online digital archive of historically significant newspapers published in the United States. The University of North Texas was selected as the administrator of the program in Texas, and has since published digitized archives of Texas newspapers on a website called the Portal to Texas History.

"The University of North Texas is offering these \$1,000 mini-grants to have things digitized," said McKay. "When they're digitized, they become

available to anyone with an internet connection. They can either go to the Leader's website or to the Portal to Texas History website. We already have issues from 1981 and 1982 digitized, and issues from 1983 and 1984 are in the process of being digitized. The next batch will be 1985 and 1986."

The undertaking of digitizing the Leader's archives has proven to be a tedious, laborious and time-consuming effort, although contributions from the University of North Texas and others involved in the project has made it a reasonably economical one.

"It takes about a year or so to do a batch of two years' worth of issues," said McKay. "It's definitely not instant gratification. The mills grind slowly, but you can't hate the price. Last year, the project superintendent basically did it for free. I had won the \$1,000 grant from the University of North Texas and there was still a \$500 overage and she just said to forget about it. It did take them about a year to do the work, but we're not in any huge rush. I know this is a long term project, and I'm certain we'll have an ongoing relationship with the University of North Texas as we go through this and when it's completed. This is how you preserve a very valuable archive."

McKay has been faced

with a number of difficulties since embarking on the endeavor.

"My first difficulty was finding the program," said McKay. "They don't advertise, and I had to talk with a few people in the Texas State Library for ideas on where to look. Finding this project was a godsend and it has been going exceptionally well. If it were not for this program, I'm not sure how we would be able to do what we've done. My second difficulty is time. Newspapers were never intended to last, and time is their enemy. Not only is time bad for the pages themselves, but issues are easily lost. When they're lost, they're practically impossible to replace. We've already had problems with gaps in the archive and we might never fill them."

Despite the challenges, McKay still believes in the importance of the project and feels that the benefit it brings to the community will make it a worthwhile venture.

"The Leader is a unique voice for local history," said McKay. "No other newspaper covers local news in the way that the Leader does, especially in the early issues of the newspaper. There is no substitute for the Leader coverage for things like the Brio site and the development of this community. All of that stuff is in the archives of the Leader. No other paper has

the same combination of local content, ads, letters to the editor, and a consistently populist editorial stance. This community has a history, and the Leader is arguably the best point of access to it. The archive is fragile, though. If we don't work to digitize it, in time it could easily be damaged to the point where it would be virtually useless. As far as the process being time consuming is concerned,

it's not a problem. It's one of the ways that San Jacinto College gives value to the community it serves. Digitizing the archive will make our community history available to anyone with an internet connection. Right now, you can sit right at your kitchen table and read, for instance, the August 12, 1981, issue in its entirety, if you feel like it. It's a pleasure as well as a privilege for us to offer it."

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South Belt community celebrates Fourth of July



Dozens of participants from the South Belt took to the streets in cars, trucks, motorcycles and floats in the annual Fourth of July parade as hundreds more gathered to watch. This year's parade served as a tribute and celebration of anniversaries of local organizations that have been monumental in the development of the community.

Members of the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department are shown above with their evacuation equipment.



Members of the Houston Fire Department's Station 70 located on Beamer Road also took part in the parade. Shown above is a Station 70 fire engine driving along the parade route.

More parade photos next week!

These photos by David and Marie Flickinger



Among the area organizations to participate in the parade was the J. Frank Dobie High School Cheerleaders. Shown above next to a Kawasaki Teryx is Genesis Juarez, 16, is a member of the Dobie cheerleading squad and will be a junior when school starts in the fall.



Les and Donna Haulbrook, pose for a picture with their granddaughter, Ali Haulbrook on the parade route. The Haulbrooks founded the now 20-year-old South Belt Spectacular Cookoff and ran it for the first five years of its establishment. The event is now being organized by the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department



Community members and area law enforcement entities members partook in the parade and are shown visiting before the event. Left to right are: Ali Haulbrook, with grandmother Donna Haulbrook, Ana Diaz, Jacinto City Mayor, Chris Diaz, Harris County Precinct 2 Constable, Glenn Williams, Sagemeadow Utility District and

St. Luke's Knights of Columbus; Houston Police Department Captain Jerome Stevens, Chris Clark, advisor to Clear Brook City MUD and retired Harris County Sheriff officer Craig Guth, also a member of the Knights are shown at the starting point of the parade in the Beverly Hills Intermediate parking lot.



Left to right, Neil West, Eloise West, Diane Lister and Bobby Lister prepare to start the parade. Neil West has been responsible for organizing the lineup since 1989. He is now aided by his son-in-law, Bobby Lister.



Left to right, Steve Cummings, the Rev. John Morgan and the Rev. Emory Gadd of Sagemont Church pose for a picture at the parade. Morgan and his wife, Beth, served as grand marshals of this year's parade, in recognition of the 50th anniversary of Sagemont Church. Cummings, who grew up in the South Belt area, is employed by Gay Pontiac, supplier of the yellow convertible.



Southeast Volunteer Fire Department members left to right, Jerry Terrell, David and Shelly Cinco pause for a quick picture along the parade route. The Southeast Volunteer Fire Department now runs South Belt Spectacular Cookoff.

Rock Steady Boxing fights Parkinson's



Parkinson's disease affects about a million Americans. Every year, 50,000 more get the diagnosis, a number that continues to increase as the population ages. Victims face a gradual loss of control over their muscles, leading to tremors, loss of balance and difficulty walking or speaking. Boxing is only one of an expanding group of movement therapies gaining in popularity as antidotes to Parkinson's. Other Parkinson's patients are drumming, dancing to a Latin beat, practicing the ancient Chinese art of tai chi or golfing. Members of Rock Steady Boxing South Houston are pictured above doing a non-combat exercise. Shown left to right are Bonnie Padgett, Cliff Padgett, Kekoa Grube, Aaron Frank, David Ament, Susan Schatz, Jeff Southard, Erin Strickhouser and Jeanie Mckowen Thuneman.

Photo by Paulette Frank

Rock Steady Boxing aids in Parkinson's

Continued from Page 3A
gest challenge right now," said Frank. "Rock Steady Boxing is a relatively new program, but it's especially new for our area. The focus now is getting the idea out so people know that it's here, especially on the onset before the disease progresses. There are months and months of proof and evidence that this program slows down the progression of Parkinson's, so it's important that people are aware that this resource is here and it can help them."

While Parkinson's is more common in elderly citizens, with one in every 10 individuals likely to be diagnosed with the disease, Rock Steady Boxing welcomes participants of all ages.

"Typically the age group is around 60, but there are also people involved

as young as their early 30s," said Frank. "One of the worst things that I've learned since being in the program is that some people, particularly younger business leaders, tend to hide the fact that they have the disease out of fear of retribution for their job. They're worried that they might lose their job because other people may think that they cannot function normally. You can see the frustration in these people. Once awareness becomes more widespread, these people won't have to be afraid to speak out. If they hide it, that means that they might not be getting the help that they need and the disease may be getting progressively worse."

Bonnie believes that a key to victory in the fight against Parkinson's lies in not only spreading aware-

ness of the Rock Steady Boxing program, but also of the disease as a whole.

"The important thing here is raising awareness," said Bonnie Padgett. "Everyone has awareness of cancer, but not everyone has awareness of Parkinson's. There are so many symptoms of Parkinson's that you can be unaware of if you're not heavily involved with someone who has the disease. You have the introductory sense of what Parkinson's does to somebody in order to have it make sense to you. A lot of people think it's hopeless once they get the diagnosis, so it's important for them to realize that it's not. This program prolongs not just someone's life, but also the quality of life."

Having been such an integral part of the program, Frank believes in the sheer

importance of Rock Steady Boxing and is committed to the cause of helping those affected with Parkinson's to overcome the disease.

"So many people, I feel, will hear their doctor say something, and they will just sit down and wait until they roll over and die," said Frank. "People don't have to accept anything just because it's what their doctor says. Having people come up to me and tell me how much the program has helped them has been the most rewarding thing to me about being involved in this program. It makes me feel as if though I have done my job and it gives me motivation to continue coming up with more ways to help them. All I have to hear is that I have helped them to improve their quality of life and that's all the motivation I need to continue."

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SECTION B SPORTS & CLASSIFIED

Junior Olympic nationals invite Rising Stars

What a regional track and field few days it was for the Rising Stars Track Club, the South Belt's longtime youth organization under the guidance of head coach Ivory Kimble. Nineteen different athletes scored top-3 medals, and seven of those athletes landed those same top-3 medals in multiple events. There were plenty of sensational athletes and teams at the Amateur Athletic Union/Junior Olympics Region 17 National Qualifier June 29 through July 2, at Guy K. Traylor Stadium in Rosenberg, yet it was tough to top the Rising Stars Track Club. Six Rising Stars won regional championship titles, headlined by female 12-year-old division competitor Camryn Dick-

son, who reeled off victories in the 100-, 200- and 400-meter dashes. How about the Davis twins, who will be seniors at Dobbie High School next month? The pair qualified for nationals in six different events, with Jeremy Davis winning the male 17-18-year-old javelin throw and then placing third in the 110-meter hurdles. Jacoby Davis, meanwhile, had a terrific meet in each of his events, including the high jump and javelin. So it's on to the Amateur Athletic Union/Junior Olympic Games July 30 through Aug. 6, at Turner Stadium in Humble. It certainly appears the Rising Stars are in line to

vie for national titles in various events, especially with a little home cooking coming their way. Several locals appear to have a great shot at winning gold at nationals, and Dickson is at the top of the list. As she did last season, Dickson once again stood out for the locals. Her victory in the 100-meter dash came in a time of 12.94 seconds, and her win at the 200-meter distance came at 26.11. Dickson finished off a banner competition for herself by winning the 400-meter dash in a time of 1 minute, 30 one-hundredths of a second. The Rising Stars put on a show in the javelin event throughout the competition, led by Jeremy Davis's win in the male 17-18-year-old division, outdistancing the entire field by a wide margin at 168 feet, 10 inches.

Jacoby Davis, meanwhile, was fourth in the same event after his best throw reached the 130'1" mark.

In short, 34 of 38 athletes from the Rising Stars are headed to the national championships.

Season after season, this team just keeps turning heads with outstanding work on the track.

Braylan Shelby came away with gold medals in the male 11-year-old division, claiming the 800-meter run (2:24.82) and the long jump (15'1 3/4"). Elsewhere, Sydney Devereaux was first in the female 15-16 division's 1,500-meter run, clocking in at 4:55.89. Her time of 2:21.44 was second in the 800-meter run. All around, the Rising Stars came away with national advancement times at the right time. To qualify for nationals, athletes in individual events had to place within

Continued on Page 3B



At right, female 12-year-old division competitor Camryn Dickson was a show-stealer for the Rising Stars, winning gold medals for first place in the 100-, 200- and 400-meter dashes at the Amateur Athletic Union/Junior Olympic Region 17 Championships June 29-July 2, in Rosenberg. Next up is the AAU/JO Nationals in Humble, beginning later this month. Courtesy photo

Lady Rams seek drill, cheer, etc

The Ellington Lady Rams are seeking drill (ages 8 to 13, as of Aug. 1, 2016), cheer (ages 9 to 13, with tryout) and mascot (ages 5 to 7) team members for the upcoming season. Families of prospective candidates must provide a copy of their child's birth certificate at registration. For more on opportunities with the Lady Rams, call drill team director Cindy Soto at 832-216-5325.

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SBHLL all-stars end TD15 season

The 40th anniversary season of the Sagamont-Beverly Hills Little League officially came to a close as the final two contestants in the final two contestants in the Texas District 15 all-star tournament play were

eliminated. Sagamont's 10 and 12-year-old age group teams remained in the hunt nearly to the end, with the 10-year-old team winning four straight games and the major 12s claiming three consecutive wins at

one point. In that 10-year-old division, SBHLL suffered a 22-1 loss to Pearland East in the Texas District 15 tournament opener. Down but not out, Sagamont-Beverly Hills

scored a 12-2 win over East End and then edged Southeast Little League 1-0. Next came a 6-4 victory over Friendswood as the locals made a bid for a big

Continued on Page 2B

Menjivar an athlete helping athletes

By John Bechtle Sports Editor
Clear a spot, Green Bay Packers' organization. If Mel Menjivar has it her way, she'll one day be an athletic trainer for one of the National Football League's most famous franchises. It'll be a while before she can get to Green Bay, home city of the Packers, the NFL's third oldest franchise. The class of 2016 Dobbie High School graduate is set to begin her freshman year at Stephen F. Austin University in Nacogdoches. She'll study kinesiology out of the gate, and certainly hopes to quickly qualify for the university's athletic training program.

If Menjivar's past is any indication of what the future holds, she'll do just fine. The Menjivar family has been living in the South Belt area for quite some time. Mel's older sister, 20-year-old Jahaira, attended South Houston High School and graduated from there. She's now a student at the University of Houston-Clear Lake. Mel went to South Houston High School as a freshman, then transferred to Dobbie High School. She was a member of the girls' basketball pro-

gram for three years, took part in Latin Club activities and joined Dobbie's student athletic training program in 2013-2014. Having been diagnosed with scoliosis at a young age, Menjivar recognized a way to give back to athletes the way she had been helped in times of need. It was just a perfect match. "Having scoliosis and having been taken care of (medically) for a lot of my life, I knew being an athletic trainer was a great way to help athletes in some of the same ways," Menjivar said. "I've always really

enjoyed it. J. Lo (Dobbie boys' athletic trainer Jesse Lopez) says that the more you put into something like athletic training and the more time you stay involved, the more you're going to learn and improve in the field. "It really hasn't ever mattered to me about how much time is involved. I want to learn as much as I can." All Dobbie student athletic trainers are required to participate during the football season. During her sophomore and senior years, Menjivar assisted with the Longhorn baseball program. While sidelined with an injury during her junior season and therefore unable to play basketball, Menjivar worked with the Lady Longhorns' hoopsters. Menjivar said the working relationship between a student athletic trainer and injured athlete has to involve trust, but it may not always start that way. "Sometimes an athlete will look at you sort of

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Dobbie class of 2016 graduate Melany Menjivar was honored as one of the Longhorns' Trailblazers for the school year after posting a 4.3 grade point average while also playing varsity girls' basketball. Menjivar is now headed to Stephen F. Austin University to study kinesiology.

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Sagemont-Beverly Hills all-star baseball play finishes; 10-year-old, major 12 comebacks fall just short in D15

Continued from Page 1B
comeback. OFA then fell victim to Sagemont's resurgent offense in a 12-2 rout, but Pearland East ended the fun for the locals with an 11-1 victory.

Pearland West went on to win the tournament. The SBHLL 12-year-old major division squad entered the tournament with plenty of momentum and confidence but were

on the short end of two tight games. In the opener, SBHLL fell 3-2 to Pearland West but then came away with a 15-7 victory over Friendswood.

Next, Sagemont crushed OFA 11-0 and then topped East End 10-8 in a back-and-forth slugfest. Unfortunately, SBHLL's season came to an end as Pearland West scored its second victory

over the locals, this one by a 5-2 count. Unlike in previous Texas District 15 all-star seasons of late, the Pearland Little League did not dominate this time around. Teams from the Pearland Little League

won the 9-, 10- and 12-year-old divisions in addition to the 13-14-year-old Junior division, but Friendswood championed the 11-year-old division, and East End was the 15-16-year-old senior division champion.

San Jac College softball tryouts Aug. 12



The San Jacinto College softball team will host tryouts for the 2017 season on Friday, August 12. High school seniors are invited to attend. Pitchers and catchers will try out from 2 to 4 p.m., and infield and outfield prospects will try out from 4 to 6 p.m. All tryouts will take place at the San Jacinto College South Campus softball field located at 13735 Beamer. Participants are asked to register for tryouts with Assistant Softball Coach Kelsey Walters, at kelsey.walters@sjcd.edu or 281-998-6150 ext. 3524. As this year's National Junior College Athletic Association Region XIV champions, San Jac finished the 2016 season with an overall record of 38-25, after its third-ever appearance at the NJCAA National Softball Tournament, with freshman Kaitlin Kerl (above) playing a big role for the team. For more information on San Jacinto College softball, visit sanjacsports.com.

Locals eye NJCAA berth

San Jacinto College volleyball to test proven 2016 opponents

By Calyn Hoerner, SJC
San Jacinto College Volleyball Head Coach Sharon Nelson has announced the 2016 schedule, and once again, it's loaded with top-notch competition. San Jac is scheduled to play seven home games, in addition to the San Jac Military Classic, and matchups with last year's national champion College of Southern Idaho and national runner-up Western Nebraska Community College at the Iowa Western Community College Invitational.

itary Appreciation Classic will take place Sept. 1-3 on the San Jacinto College Central campus.

The Classic will feature Blinn College, Hillsborough Community College, North Central Texas College, Brookhaven College, Laredo Community College, Northeastern Junior College, Victoria College, Hill College, Lee College, Panola College and Wharton County Junior College.

"Our 2016 schedule

three home games against Victoria College (Oct. 4), Blinn College (Oct. 18), and Wharton County Junior College (Oct. 25).

The rest of the month will be spent away at Laredo Community College (Oct. 7), Coastal Bend College (Oct. 8), Lee College (Oct. 13), North Central Texas College (Oct. 15), and Tyler Junior College (Oct. 15).

"The 2016 team dynamics should challenge and compete throughout



Ines Bawedin



Kayden Thomas

is designed to place us against some of the other top ranked programs in the country," added Nelson.

Following the Classic, San Jacinto College will begin Region XIV play with three home matches against Coastal Bend College, Laredo Community College and Lee College, before setting off to Baytown for the Lee College Tournament Sept. 16 and 17.

The team will then head to Brenham and Wharton to face Blinn College and Wharton County Junior College, before closing out the month at the Tyler Junior College Invitational in Tyler Sept. 30 through Oct. 1.

In the month of October San Jac will have

our entire schedule," concluded Nelson.

The Region XIV conference tournament will take place Nov. 4 through 6 in Baytown.

The National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) national championship is scheduled for Nov. 16 through 19 in Casper, Wyoming.

Six players will return from last year's team that went 28-15 overall, including first-team all-Region XIV selection Ines Bawedin and honorable mention honoree Kayden Thomas.

Nelson has added nine freshmen to this year's team.

For more information about the San Jacinto College volleyball program visit sanjacsports.com.

San Jac baseball's Fernandez to join NJCAA National Team

The National Junior College Athletic Association has announced the 2016 National Team roster and coaching staff that will participate in the 82nd National Baseball Congress World Series beginning later this month.

Players from 22 colleges, including San Jacinto College and spanning each of the three divisions of NJCAA baseball, the national team includes some of the best two-year college players from across the country.

Headlining the roster are ABCA/Rawlings NJCAA Division I Baseball Player of the Year Brylie Ware from Neosho County (Kan.), 2016 Division I Baseball Defensive Player of the Year Caleb Knight of Connors State (Okla.) and Division III Pitcher of the Year Jonathan Groff from Tyler.

Ware won the Division I Triple Crown this season following one of the

finest-ever seasons in NJCAA Division I history, covering 58 years. The freshman led the nation with 122 hits, 125 runs batted in, 123 runs scored, a .560 batting average, a .660 on-base percentage and a 1.228 slugging percentage. His 29 home runs were good for second nationally.

San Jacinto's Jorge Fernandez, was one of the finest close-out relievers in the game over the 2015



Jorge Fernandez

and 2016 seasons. The 2014 Del Rio High School graduate was 2-1 with a 1.99 earned run average as a freshman in 2015 before dominating his way to a 2-1 mark with 10 saves over 18 appearances this season.

In 18 innings of work, primarily as SJC's closer, Fernandez fanned 29 over 18 innings of work.

Overall, the NJCAA National Team features 11 NJCAA All-Americans, five NJCAA Marucci Elite Hitters, two ABCA Gold Glove Award winners, three national champions and 18 NCAA Division I signees.

Beginning July 29 and continuing through Aug. 13, the NJCAA National Team will go head-to-head against elite amateur teams from across the nation. The tournament will played at Lawrence-Dumont Stadium in Wichita, Kansas, which has hosted the event since 1935.

National Baseball Congress NJCAA National Team

Pos.	Player	College
P	Jeb Bargfeldt	Cisco (Texas)
P	Jacob Barton	LSU Eunice (La.)
P	Brooks Buckler	Tallahassee (Fla.)
P	Chase Burks	Chattahoochee Valley (Ala.)
P	Jorge Fernandez	San Jacinto (Texas)
P	Kolton Gonnerman	Marshalltown (Iowa)
P	Jonathon Groff	Tyler (Texas)
P	Carson LaRue	Cowley County (Kan.)
P	Jarrett Montgomery	Northwest Florida State
P	Daren Osby	Walters State (Tenn.)
P	Blake Pflughaupt	Galveston (Texas)
P	Doug Still	Jefferson (Mo.)
P	Travis Stone	Weatherford (Texas)
C	Caleb Knight	Connors State (Okla.)
C	Handsome Monica	Northwest Florida State
C	Ryan Toliver	Neosho County (Kan.)
IF	Rhett Aplin	Seminole State (Fla.)
IF	Jax Biggers	Cisco (Texas)
IF	Jared Gates	Iowa Western
IF	Deyvid Silva	Tallahassee (Fla.)
IF	John Tatum	South Florida State
IF	Brylie Ware	Neosho County (Kan.)
OF	Devlin Granburg	Cisco (Texas)
OF	Mason Irby	Jones County (Miss.)
OF	Marvin Malone	Colby (Kan.)
OF	Mitchell Morimoto	Mesa (Ariz.)

South Belt sports news, notes

2016-2017 athletic physicals stressed

Two-a-day football and volleyball workouts will get underway at the high school level Monday, Aug. 1, and various coaching staffs are again stressing the importance of student-athletes taking care of their 2016-2017 athletic physical responsibilities ahead of time.

The University Interscholastic League, the official governing body of extracurricular activities in Texas, requires all student-athletes to have a completed athletic physical on file at their school of attendance.

Student-athletes must have this done prior to being allowed to take part in any practice or workout. There are no exceptions.

It's an issue seemingly every school year as some student-athletes simply do not get this handled. It's a maddening experience for coaches.

Families of athletes who have yet to undergo and to in an athletic physical for the 2016-2017 school year may take the first step by contacting school officials.

There is a printable form available at dobie.pasadenaisd.org under the Quick Links tab.

Dobie head start football camp July 25-28

Dobie varsity football head coach Mike Norman and his staff will host the 2016 Head Start Football Camp July 25-28, at Dobie High School. Incoming seventh- through ninth-grade students as of the 2016-2017 school year are invited to attend the four-day camp (M-TH). Entry fee for the event, which will be held from 9 to 11 a.m. each day, is \$50 cash/money order or credit card per student. No checks will be accepted.

Norman and his staff will provide instruction in all phases of the game, and participants will receive specialized training at all positions on the football field. A \$10 late fee will be assessed for all registrants after July 21. Participants should wear a T-shirt, shorts, socks and tennis shoes and bring cleats (optional), water bottle and sunscreen. The Pasadena Independent School District does not provide medical insurance coverage for these types of summer or extracurricular activities, so parents are responsible for such coverage. For more information, direct email to Norman at MNorman@pasadenaisd.org.

Dobie High School youth volleyball camps

Dobie High School varsity volleyball head coach Dawn Gutierrez Sexton and her staff will host the first of several age group-aimed youth camps July 12-14, at Donna Branch Court at the school.

Students entering the third through the sixth grades as of the 2016-2017 school year are eligible to take part in the camp. Each daily session runs from 9 a.m. to noon, and the cost is \$50 per participant. Instruction in all phases of the game and game action will all be included.

There will also be separate incoming ninth grade and incoming 10th through 12th grade camps held July 26-28, from 9 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$50 per participant. The camps are voluntary, but also serve as a great opportunity for incoming Dobie players to prepare for the 2016 season.

The Pasadena Independent School District does not provide medical insurance coverage for these types of summer or extracurricular activities, so parents are responsible for such coverage. For more information, direct email to Gutierrez Sexton at DGutierrez2@pasadenaisd.org.

Dobie High School volleyball tryouts will be held Monday, Aug. 1. The *Leader* will provide additional information as the tryout date nears.

Thompson strength/conditioning camp

The Thompson Intermediate coaching staff will host the 2016 strength and conditioning camp July 18-21 at the school. Students entering the sixth- through eighth grades as of the 2016-2017 school year are eligible to attend.

Participants will engage in a variety of weight training and running/conditioning activities aimed at preparing student-athletes for the new school year. Cost of the camp is \$25 cash only. No checks or credit cards will be accepted.

The Pasadena Independent School District does not provide medical insurance coverage for these types of summer or extracurricular activities, so parents are responsible for such coverage. For more information or to register, direct email to DSawyer@pasadenaisd.org.

South Belt Youth Soccer Club sign-up

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

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

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

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

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

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

Clear Brook volleyball camp

Clear Brook High School varsity volleyball head coach Meredith Thompson and her staff will host the 2016 Lady Wolverines' Youth Clinic July 25-28, at the high school.

Students entering the third through ninth grades as of the 2016-2017 school year are eligible to attend. Third through fifth-grade students will attend from 8 to 9:30 a.m., at a cost of \$80 per student. Sixth through eighth-grade first-year players will attend from 8 to 10:30 a.m., at \$100 per student. Advanced eighth-grade and ninth-grade players will attend from 10:45 a.m. to 1:45 p.m., at \$100 per student. After July 15, a \$20 late fee will apply to all registration costs.

The Clear Creek Independent School District does not provide medical insurance coverage for these types of summer or extracurricular activities, so parents are responsible for such coverage. For more information or to register, direct email to Thompson at mthomps1@ccisd.net.

Dobie End of Summer Swim Clinic

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

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

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

For more information on registration details, direct emails to Nguyen at ktnguyen@pasadenaisd.org.

Thompson youth volleyball

The Thompson Intermediate volleyball coaching staff will host the 2016 Lady Lions' youth clinic July 25-28, from 5 to 7 p.m., at the school.

Students entering the seventh or eighth-grades as of the 2016-2017 school year are eligible to attend. The fee is \$25 cash only per student.

Coaches Jessica Fitzmorris and Brooke Jordan and other clinic personnel will provide instruction in all phases of the game, including serving, receiving, passing, digging, setting and more. Participants should wear proper volleyball attire, including shorts, T-shirt, athletic shoes, knee pads, etc.

The Pasadena Independent School District does not provide medical insurance coverage for these types of summer or extracurricular activities, so parents are responsible for such coverage. For more information on the clinic or to register, direct email to Fitzmorris at JFitzmorris@pasadenaisd.org.

Dobie FB car wash

The Dobie High School football program/booster club will host a car wash fundraiser Saturday, July 16, at Snowies' Snowcones in the Food Town parking lot on Scarsdale. Players will wash cars for a minimum \$5 donation from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Dobie football to meet

The Dobie High School football program/booster club will host its monthly club meeting Monday, July 11, beginning at 7 p.m., in the cafeteria. Both incoming and returning players are urged to attend as preseason discussions will be held regarding important dates during the season.

Rising Stars seek national titles

Continued from Page 1B
the top eight in the designated events. Relay teams were required to score in the top five, but the Rising Stars did not enter any relay teams.

Male 17-18
There were plenty of headliners in the male 17-18-year-old division. Jeremy Davis had the win in the javelin throw and was also fourth in the discus at 160'0". In the 110-hurdles, a time of 14.91 was good for third place as Davis continued to display his multi-event skills.

At 49'7", Davis was able to claim fifth place and a national berth in the shot put.

His brother, Jacoby, was fourth in the high jump after clearing 6'0". He also reached 40'11" for 10th place in the triple jump.

The RS's Donovan Johnson also rolled his way to nationals as a Rising Star, grabbing fifth, sixth and eighth-place finishes in his events.

In a time of 15.30, Johnson claimed fifth in the 110-hurdles, and his sixth-place finish came in the 400-meter dash at 1:00.86. With a throw of 88'7", Johnson was eighth in the javelin.

Zion Walker was a regional champion in the 1,500-meter run, coming in at 14:12.12. Caleb Devereaux, meanwhile, was second in the 800-meter run with a clocking of 1:57.77.

Devereaux backed up that effort with another bronze medal and second place in the 1,500-meter run (4:15.94).

At 42'3", Jalon Jamer-son won a bronze medal in the triple jump, making his way to the 43'2" mark. Cody Turner was solid as well for the locals, sixth in the long jump at a distance of 21'11" and seventh in the triple jump (41'1 1/4").

Female 17-18
There were plenty of standouts in the female 17-18-year-old division. Marissa Lozano was second in the 3,000-meter distance run at 12:15.6, and her time of 5:18.67 was also second in the 1,500-meter run.

Lozano also ran the 800-meter event, taking eighth at 2:31.85. The Rising Stars excelled in the F17-18 javelin throw. D'Erica Pou Carter's best throw of 66'5" was fifth, just ahead of Lozano's sixth-place throw of 59'4".

Alaysia Selby, meanwhile, was ninth with a toss of 37'2".

Camille Singleton, who will be a senior at Dobie this fall, claimed a pair of top-9 finishes.

She was fifth in the 200-meter dash with a time of 24.72, and her clocking of 12.41 was ninth in the 100-meter dash.

Blake Thomason ad-

vanced in the 800-meter dash, placing fourth in a time of 2:22.02. She also took part in the 400-meter dash, placing 13th at 1:09.40.

Also from the F17-18s, class of 2016 graduate Justice Henderson, competing unattached to a team, won her specialty event, the long jump, at 19'1 1/2". Her time of 12.24 was sixth in the 100-meter dash.

Male 15-16
Deon Brown was great in the weight events. His throw of 39'6 1/2" was second in the shot put.

He paired that with a fourth-place effort of 112' in the discus. Throwing the javelin, Brown displayed his versatility by finishing sixth with a heave of 106'5".

Cameron Devereaux was part of a memory-filled meet for the family, placing ninth in the 800-meter run at 2:04.75. In the javelin, Devereaux's best throw of 103'3" placed him seventh, and at 4:28.38, Devereaux was sixth in the 1,500-meter run.

Female 15-16
There were also a great number of terrific performances in the female 15-16-year-old group for the Rising Stars.

Sydney Devereaux was a regional champion, and she also took 10th place in the 400-meter dash with a time of 1:00.10.

Abigail Balli placed third for a bronze medal in the 800-meter run, taking home a time of 2:23.94. In the same event, Shelby Devereaux's time of 2:27.55 was good for sixth place.

The Rising Stars also took charge in the jav-

elin in the age group, with Shelby Devereaux sixth (67'8"), Jasmine Carrera ninth (54'10) and Atziri Galarza 12th (42'9").

Galarza's time of 14:10.15 was 11th in the 3,000-meter run, and Carrera placed 12th in the triple jump after clearing 27'8 1/4".

Male 14
Returning to the javelin, the Stars' male 14-year-old division competitors came through.

The locals' Mikey Ramirez (111'1") took a bronze medal for third place, with teammate Dominic Caballero fourth with a heave of 110'4". Matt Kovacevich placed eighth (94'5").

Caballero also placed fifth in the shot put (40'11"), and Kovacevich was far from done.

At 4:34.29, Kovacevich was second in the 1,500-meter run, and he finished the 3,000-meter run at 10:58.92 for seventh place. His distance of 34'4" in the triple jump was ninth-best.

Female 14
Amari Singleton was the lone Rising Stars' athlete in the female 14-year-old division, and she was great.

A time of 5:22.51 scored her a bronze medal for third place in the 1,500-meter run. At the 800-meter distance, Singleton was fourth at 2:27.42 in the 800-meter run. Singleton's leap of 30'9 1/2" was seventh-best in the triple jump.

Male 13
Devin Caballero was a big player for the Rising Stars in the meet. His throw of 77'6" in the turbo javelin was second-best as he moved on to nationals.

His throw of 29'10 3/4" was fourth in the shot put.

Running the 1,500-meter distance at 4:58.45, Caballero placed 10th. And Christian Ross, the lone competitor in the 1,500-meter racewalk, moved on to nationals at 21:51.07.

Female 13
In the turbo javelin, Christianne Ross had a throw of 38'9" for fourth place as she was the lone athlete in the age division for the Rising Stars.

Male 12
As for the male 12-year-olds, Torik Algbiedon was eighth in the 1,500-meter run in a time of 5:20.53, and turbo javelin competitor Joshua Ross was ninth (60'2").

Ross saved his best for

the 1,500-meter racewalk, heading to nationals with a time of 10:17.69.

Male 11
Braylan Shelby's victories in the 800-meter run (2:24.82) and in the long jump (15'1 3/4") were the gold stars of the male 11-year-old division. At 75'3", Elijah Jackson placed sixth in the turbo javelin.

Male 10
In the male 10-year-old division, the Stars again had their share of success.

At 60'11" in the turbo javelin, Ayden Salcedo scored a bronze medal, and he took part in two other events, placing 13th in the 1,500-meter run and 15th in the 800-meter run.

Male 9
Menelik Gurnell landed

a pair of medals. He was second with a throw of 60'3" in the turbo javelin, and he placed third in the shot put after his fine throw of 22'8", and Noah Caballero was just one spot back, fourth at 22'2".

At 6:02.06, Caballero was ninth in the 1,500-meter run.

Nationals coming soon
There will be a little break in the competitive action but little practice rest for the Rising Stars.

At this point, it's time to see if all of the hard work that has been logged over the previous several months can pay off.

The Rising Stars have 34 athletes headed to Turner Stadium in Humble for the big dance, and there's hope for titles.

2016 AAU/JO National Qualifier Rising Stars Track Club Winners

Athlete	Event	Score
Jeremy Davis	Javelin	168'10"
Camryn Dickson	100-meter dash	12.94
Camryn Dickson	200-meter dash	26.11
Camryn Dickson	400-meter dash	1:00.30
Braylan Shelby	800-meter run	2:24.82
Braylan Shelby	Long jump	15'1 3/4"
Nadi'ya Shelby	Long jump	12'10"
Sydney Devereaux	1,500-meter run	4:55.89
Zion Walker	1,500-meter run	4:12.12
Christian Ross	1,500-meter racewalk	21:51.02

South Belt Girls Softball AS 6s second at La Porte



The South Belt Girls Softball Association's 6-under all-star team was rewarded for a long and successful day of play at the La Porte Girls Softball Association's host tournament, eventually taking second place. The locals played their first game at 8 a.m. and completed play in their final game at 10:45 p.m. Members of the team are, left to right, (front row) Seren-

ity Thomas, Abigail Brooks, Camryn Love, Maddison Montemayor, Alesi Estrada, Makayla Lechuga, Madelynn Galvan, (middle row) Jaylyn Torres, Sasha Cepeda, Tatum Mayeaux, Reina Estrada, (back row) coaches Joe Estrada, Crystal Love and Zeke Galvan.

CALENDAR

THURSDAY, JULY 7

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

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

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group of AA, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. Call 713-856-1611.

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

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

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

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

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

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

FRIDAY, JULY 8

AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" each Tuesday through

Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.

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

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - West End Group of AA, noon, Shepherd of the Heart United Methodist Church, 12005 County Road 39, Pearland. Call 713-856-1611.

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

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

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

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

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

SATURDAY, JULY 9

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

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

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

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

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

SUNDAY, JULY 10

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

Clear Lake Bridge Club Class - Sunday and Tuesday, 2 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. For classes, contact Dr. Glandorf at drglandorf@sbcglobal.net or call 281-488-6318.

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

Scleroderma Support Group - Do you, or someone you know have scleroderma - a rare illness caused by collagen overproduction? Join a support group on the second Sunday, 3 to 5 p.m., at Pasadena Bayshore Hospital, 4000 Spencer Hwy., Pasadena. Bring a friend. Call Jacob Davila at 281-706-6232, or email jdavila@scleroderma.org.

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

6:30 p.m.

Beverly Hills Intermediate Football Camp July 25-28 (M-TH) at Dobie High School

Applicant's Name: _____

School: _____

Grade entering 2016-2017: _____

Age: _____ Height: _____ Weight: _____

Positions: Offense: _____ Defense: _____

I wish to enroll my child in the 2016 football camp. I understand that neither the coaches nor anyone connected with the football camp will assume any responsibility for accidents, medical, dental or other expenses incurred as a result of injuries sustained during the camp. I further acknowledge that my child is physically fit to participate.

Parent / Guardian signature: _____

Home phone: _____ Work phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Emergency contact/phone: _____

Physician/phone: _____

Camp to be held at Dobie High School

Cost is \$30 per student. Please no checks or money orders. Cash only.

Camp hours are 9 to 11 a.m. each day for both incoming seventh-grade and eighth-grade students.

Report 15 minutes early July 25. Bring tennis shoes. Cleats optional.

For more information, call coach Ben Portis at 713-299-0251.

Camp information: The camp is designed for those student-athletes who will be entering either the seventh or eighth-grade at Beverly Hills Intermediate as of the 2016-2017 school year. Participants will take part in technique drills and also perform strength and conditioning activities in addition to pass catching, receiving, blocking, tackling and more. The camp staff will also cover the rules and regulations involving intermediate level games.

Thompson Intermediate Football Camp July 25 to July 28 (M-TH) at Dobie High School

Applicant's Name: _____

School: _____

Grade entering 2016-2017: _____

Age: _____ Height: _____ Weight: _____

Positions: Offense: _____ Defense: _____

I wish to enroll my child in the 2016 football camp. I understand that neither the coaches nor anyone connected with the football camp will assume any responsibility for accidents, medical, dental or other expenses incurred as a result of injuries sustained during the camp. I further acknowledge that my child is physically fit to participate.

Parent / Guardian signature: _____

Home phone: _____ Work phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Emergency contact/phone: _____

Physician/phone: _____

Camp to be held at Dobie High School

Cost is \$25 per student. Please no checks or money orders. Cash only.

Camp hours are 9 to 11 a.m. for all participants.

Report 15 minutes early July 25. Bring tennis shoes. Cleats optional.

For more information, direct email to coach Doug Sawyer at DSawyer@pasadenaisd.org. Camp information: The camp is designed for those student-athletes who will be entering either the seventh or eighth-grade at Thompson Intermediate as of the 2016-2017 school year. Participants will take part in technique drills and also perform strength and conditioning activities in addition to pass catching, receiving, blocking, tackling and more. The camp staff will also cover the rules and regulations involving intermediate level games.

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Continued on Page 4B

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CALENDAR

Continued from Page 3B

MONDAY, JULY 11

6 p.m.
Scrabble Club #511 - Meets Mondays at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua, 6 p.m. Come and improve crossword game playing skills. Call 281-488-2923 for information.

Mended Hearts Cardiac Support Group - A national organization dedicated to inspiring hope in heart patients and families meets the second Monday at the Clear Lake Heart Towers auditorium, 495 Medical Center Blvd., Webster. A free meal begins at 6:30 p.m., followed by a speaker. For information, call 281-538-4648.

Pearland Overeaters Anonymous HOW Meeting - Monday at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 2535 E. Broadway, Pearland. Use door near recycling bins. For details, call 713-865-3668 or visit www.oahouston.org. 7 p.m.

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

Sagemont Civic Club - Meetings are held the second Monday, 7 p.m., Sagemont Park Recreation Center, 11507 Hughes Rd.

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

Congregation Shaar Hashalom - Israeli Folk Dancing on Monday, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m., 16020 El Camino Real, 77062. \$4/session or \$35/10 sessions for CSH members and \$5/session or \$45/10 sessions for nonmembers. Everyone is welcome. For information, contact 281-488-5861 or csh@shaarhashalom.org.

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

TUESDAY, JULY 12

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

Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum - Exhibits include dioramas, an old-time kitchen and a turn-of-the-century doctor's office. Tuesday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., 204 S. Main, Pasadena. For details, call 713-472-0565. 10 a.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Houston Space City Lions Club - Meets the second and fourth Tuesday, 7 p.m., at Luby's (11595 Fuqua). For details, call George Malone at 281-438-7243. 8 p.m.

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

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13

7 a.m.

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

Young at Heart Club - Meets the second and fourth week monthly (except Nov. and Dec.), Covenant United Methodist Church, 7900 Fuqua. Lots of activities, trips, etc. Call Doris Byerly at 713-944-4474 for information. 10 a.m.

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

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

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

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

Un Dia a la Vez Alanon Group (Spanish) - Support for family/friends of alcoholics or addicts. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 6 p.m., First United Methodist Church, room 215, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in. 7 p.m.

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

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

Bay Area New Democrats - Meet at the Clear Lake Court House at 1020 W. NASA Pkwy., Suite 204. For information, visit www.bayareanewdemocrats.org. 8 p.m.

Alcoholics Anonymous - meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For information, call 281-484-9243. **THURSDAY, JULY 14**

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

NASA Aglow Community Lighthouse - Second Thursday of the month, 9:30 a.m., Praise Chapel, 18516 Hwy. 3 in Webster. Public welcome and encouraged to bring others. For information, call 281-910-1971. 10 a.m.

Clear Lake Bridge Club - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details. 11:30 a.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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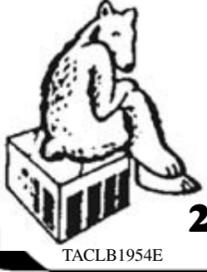
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Certainly one of the top-performing student athletic trainers and a quick study in the Sports Medicine program at Dobie, class of 2016 graduate Melany Menjivar is off to college at Stephen F. Austin in Nacogdoches and hopes to eventually become an athletic trainer with the Green Bay Packers of the National Football League.

Menjivar has big dreams; to continue athletic training

Continued from Page 1B
awkwardly because they are afraid you don't know what you are doing," Menjivar said.

"You usually end up building a great bond, which makes it a little bit-sweet when they recover. That usually means you won't be able to work with that person as much."

Menjivar's hard work on the field or court has never been in question. She said her dad has always preached the importance of hard work.

Athletic trainer Jesse Lopez, one of two Pasadena ISD staff employees at Dobie along with Ruth Gonzales-Grasty and an instructor of the youth athletic training program, was effusive in his praise of Menjivar's efforts under his watch.

"Mel was by far the best student athletic trainer in the program for the 2015-2016 school year," Lopez told the *Leader*.

"Both Ruth and I feel that way, and even the program as a whole voted, and she came out on top. She breezed through our Sports Medicine course work and excelled in the athletic training room and anywhere she took care of Dobie's athletes."

"She even managed to play basketball while a part of being in our program. Mel worked very hard throughout her time at Dobie, and I'm pretty confident that she will do the same while in college."

"Being an athletic trainer is not like most

careers where you have typical hours and typical clientele, but you may get the chance to be a part of some amazing sporting events.

"Since the athletic trainers are more of the behind the scenes people, they rarely get any recognition."

If Menjivar does indeed go on to become an athletic trainer for the Packers, as per her dream, she will achieve a first. Lopez has little doubt she can pull it off.

"Mel has the desire to become an athletic trainer for the Green Bay Packers, which have never had a female trainer before," Lopez said.

The NFL as a whole I believe only has 3 to 5 female athletic trainers, and that has only happened in the past five years or so.

"It would be awesome if Mel made it to that level, but I've told her numerous times that it won't be easy by any means."

"Mel definitely made her mark within the Dobie Sports Medicine Program, and only time will tell where else she will make her mark. I'm anxious to see what becomes of her in the near future."

And if academic performance comes up, Menjivar is good there, too.

Graduating within the top 12 students of her senior class last month, Menjivar was honored as one of Dobie's annual Trailblazers, recognizing academic performance.

She also was the annual winner of the Gabby

Romero Memorial Scholarship, named in honor of the former Dobie student-athlete who passed away in 2009 following a battle with cancer.

Menjivar was originally set to attend Blinn College in Brenham but is now headed to Nacogdoches.

She will also see her basketball playing days end. She played multiple sports at Beverly Hills Intermediate and was a reserve on the Dobie varsity girls' basketball team in 2015-2016. Dobie head coach Shane Brown, like Lopez, was thrilled to have Menjivar in the program.

"Mel is a tremendous, young lady," Brown said. She's very responsible, has a strong work ethic, and carries herself with a great deal of character."

"Mel is one of those kids you just know is going to go out and do good things - represent herself and her family well. She was a JOY to coach. My only regret is that she had to graduate."

So now it's off to Stephen F. Austin in a month or so for Menjivar.

Then, with just a little bit of luck and perhaps a break or two, Menjivar will head for Green Bay, Wisconsin one day, where perhaps Lambeau Field will be her office.

"The Green Bay Packers are our family's favorite team," she said. "I plan to get my state license and then my national license. It would be my dream job to work for the Packers as a female athletic trainer."

Campbell's tabs Dobie football third in District 22-6A

Despite the arrival of realignment beginning with the 2016-2017 school year, there are those who believe things won't change for the Dobie varsity football program.

At long last, Dave Campbell's Texas Football has been released to the public, along with a thorough rundown of projected finishes for each of the state's districts.

So how do things shake out in 22-6A for 2016, according to Campbell's? The prognosticators have tabbed the La Porte Bulldogs as the team to beat for the 22-6A championship

back November. Next up is Deer Park, which crushed Dobie in the 2015 season opener between the two programs.

Dobie draws Campbell's interest as the No. 3 team in the revamped league, with Memorial favored to grab the final playoff seed.

South Houston, Pasadena and Sam Rayburn will again be left to duke things out at the bottom of the standings, according to Campbell's.

Dobie is coming off a 5-5 regular season in 2015, complete with a fifth straight loss to North

Shore, which went on to win the Class 6A, Division I state championship.

If Campbell's predictions for 2016 hold true to form, Dobie could very well find itself facing North Shore yet again this season in the first round of the playoffs. Atascocita is another possibility.

Of note, the Longhorns' dual-threat senior quarter-

back Jeremy Davis was selected as Campbell's preseason Offensive Player of the Year in District 22-6A.

Davis, who shared time at signal-caller with the now graduated Tyler Giron in 2015, stacks up to be one of the Longhorns' most highly-recruited players of this century.

On defense, La Porte could be stout with preseason Defensive Player of the Year Terrell Bernard leading the way. Dobie

will begin District 22-6A action at home against Deer Park Friday, Sept. 23, at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena.

Dobie hopes to play for the District 22-6A championship come Friday, Nov. 4, in the regular season finale against La Porte at Bulldogs' Stadium in La Porte.

The Longhorns have made the playoffs the previous five seasons. Dobie last won a district championship in 2010.



At 6 feet, 4 inches and weighing 215 pounds, Dobie senior quarterback Jeremy Davis is a dual threat player who has been named by Dave Campbell's Texas Football as the preseason Offensive Player of the Year in District 22-6A. He also projects to be Dobie's most highly-recruited player of this century.

Campbell's 22-6A Projected Finish

1. La Porte
2. Deer Park
3. Dobie
4. Memorial
5. S. Houston
6. Pasadena
7. Sam Rayburn

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