

ZIP COVID numbers reported

There has been a sharp increase in the number of local COVID-19 cases in recent weeks. (See related chart and statistics on this page.)

Each of the past two weeks, ZIP code 77089 saw a spike of approximately 100 cases per week.

In all, there have been two coronavirus-related deaths in the South Belt area – one in ZIP code 77089 and one in ZIP code 77034.

By comparison, during the week of June 4, there was an increase of only 16 cases in ZIP code 77089, and only two new cases were reported in ZIP code 77075.

Over the past two weeks, Houston hospitals have made national headlines, as the threat of dwindling capacity looms. Some hospitals have even transferred patients to nearby cities to allow for additional room.

Locally, the spread of the coronavirus has forced the closures of several area businesses, some temporary and some permanent.

While schools are planning to reopen in the fall with in-person instruction (distance learning will also be an option), the current status of the disease has left many parents and teachers concerned.

Both Gov. Greg Abbott and Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo have taken steps in recent weeks to encourage the wearing of face masks and to slow reopening efforts.

For more information or to view the latest Harris County statistics, visit publichealth.harriscountytexas.gov/Resources/2019-Novel-Coronavirus.

Beltway closures planned

At least one westbound Beltway 8 frontage road lane will be closed east of Scott Street daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Wednesday, July 15.

At least one northbound and one southbound Beltway 8 frontage road lane will be closed from Vista to SH 225 daily from 8:30 to 3:30 p.m. through Thursday, Aug. 6.

At least one northbound and one southbound Beltway 8 frontage road lane will be closed from Vista to SH 225 nightly from 8:30 to 5 a.m. through Thursday, Aug. 6.

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

Gulf Freeway closures set

The northbound exit ramp on the Gulf Freeway at NASA Bypass/ NASA Road 1 will be closed continuously through 5 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 31.

At least one lane of the northbound and southbound entrance ramp from NASA Bypass/NASA Road 1 to SH 96 and exit ramp from NASA Bypass/NASA Road 1 to SH 96 will be closed nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Thursday, Dec. 31.

Two alternate lanes on the Gulf Freeway frontage road will be closed from NASA Bypass/NASA Road 1 to SH 96/League City Parkway daily from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. through Thursday, Dec. 31.

The southbound entrance ramp on the Gulf Freeway will be closed at FM 518 until further notice.

At least one southbound frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway from FM 517 to Hughes in Texas City will be closed until further notice. The southbound entrance ramp at FM 517 in Texas City will also be closed until further notice.

There will be a total closure at the southbound IH 610 connector ramp at the Gulf Freeway through 5 a.m. Monday, Sept. 28.

The northbound connector ramp from the Gulf Freeway to the IH 610 South Loop, along with one inside lane, will be closed nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Thursday, Dec. 31.

At least two alternate main lanes and frontage road lanes on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from IH 610 South Loop to Broad Street nightly from 7 p.m. to 6 a.m. through Thursday, Dec. 31.

The northbound and southbound entrance ramp from IH 610 South Loop to Broad Street and the northbound and southbound exit ramp from IH 610 South Loop to Broad Street will be closed nightly from 9 p.m. to 3 a.m. through Thursday, Dec. 31.

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

Free food distribution set

Pct. 2 Constable Chris Diaz will host a food distribution Saturday, July 11, at St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church, 11011 Hall Road at 10 a.m. This is on a first come, first served basis, while supplies last. Drive-thru only.

Helicopters search area

Several South Belt residents reported a police manhunt taking place the afternoon of Monday, July 6, along the Gulf Freeway between Scarsdale Boulevard and Dixie Farm Road, involving both helicopters and K-9 units. Multiple residents reported officers with police dogs were searching their properties. While some social media users claimed the manhunt was related to a drug bust, the Houston police department was unable to confirm this. See next week's *Leader* for a possible follow-up story.

Runoff July 14; controversial races in both parties

The 2020 primary runoff elections are set to take place Tuesday, July 14.

Originally scheduled for May 26, the elections were postponed by Gov. Greg Abbott due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Voters will decide who will fill many significant positions.

Among these are the positions of Harris County Precinct 2 constable and the U.S. House District 22 representative seat being vacated by Rep. Pete Olson.

The race for the position of Harris County Precinct 2 constable is a runoff between incumbent Chris Diaz and challenger Jerry Garcia.

Diaz is running on his leadership experience, while Garcia is campaigning on his work as a police officer and the need for change, accusing Diaz of being corrupt.

During March's primary contest, Diaz re-

ceived 34 percent of the vote to Garcia's 39 percent.

The election had proven to be controversial, as a second candidate also named Jerry Garcia – the cousin of Diaz's wife, Jacinto City Mayor Ana Diaz – also appeared on the ballot, causing confusion among voters.

Despite withdrawing from the race, the second Garcia still received 9 percent of the vote.

roughly on par with legitimate challenger George Coffney Jr., who also received 9 percent, and ahead of candidate Alberto "Bert" Rivera, who only received 7 percent. (While Goffney was once a staunch opponent of Diaz's, even going as far to threaten him with arrest at a local candidate forum, he is now actively campaigning for the constable.)

Even if the scores of both Garcias were com-

bined, however, it would have still been just shy of the 50-percent needed to avoid a runoff.

Diaz has been embroiled in multiple other scandals while in office, including two recent lawsuits filed by former and current employees who accuse him of misconduct.

A group of 11 former Precinct 2 employees wrote a letter to the editor endorsing Garcia in

Continued on Page 2

Virus sharply increases in local ZIP codes

There has been a sharp increase in the number of local COVID-19 cases in recent weeks. (See related chart and statistics on this page.)

Each of the past two weeks, ZIP code 77089 saw a spike of approximately 100 cases per week. Similar figures are being reported in ZIP

code 77075. By comparison, during the week of June 4, there was an increase of only 16 cases in ZIP code 77089, and only two new cases were reported in ZIP code 77075.

Over the past two weeks, Houston hospitals have made national headlines, as the threat of dwindling capacity looms.

Some hospitals have even transferred patients to nearby cities to allow for additional room.

Locally, the spread of the coronavirus has forced the closures of several area businesses, some temporary and some permanent.

While schools are planning to reopen in the fall with in-person instruction (distance learning will also be an option), the current status of the disease has left many parents and teachers concerned.

Both Gov. Greg Abbott and Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo have taken steps in recent weeks to encourage the wearing of face masks and to slow reopening efforts.

For additional information or to view the latest Harris County statistics, visit publichealth.harriscountytexas.gov/Resources/2019-Novel-Coronavirus. (See related information this page.)

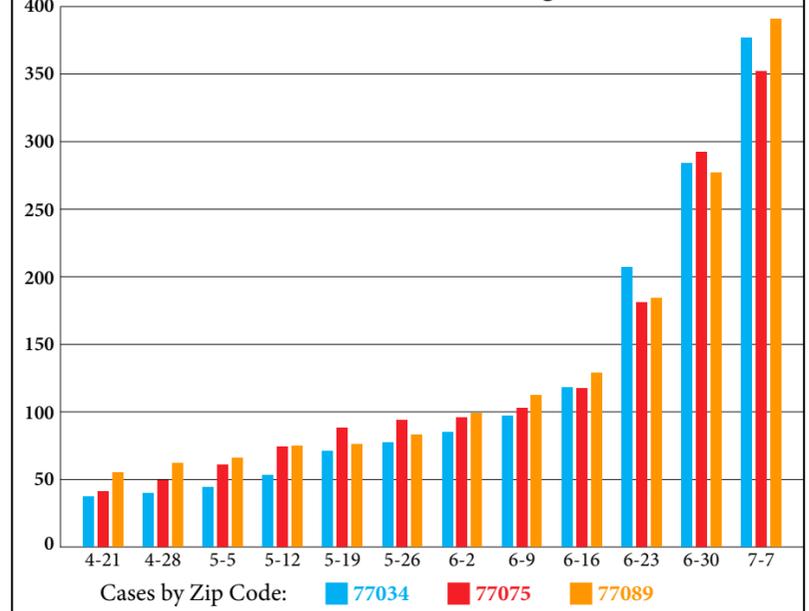
Signs of the time – it's time to vote



Early voting for the July 14 primary runoff elections will continue through Friday, July 10. South Belt residents may cast their ballots at any early polling location. Additionally, Harris County residents may now also vote at any polling location on Election Day, July 14. Campaign signs are shown above at the polling location at the Harris County annex located at the corner of Scarsdale and Beamer.

Photo by Marie Flickinger

Area ZIP codes see major increase



Centers closed; kids meal available

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department has closed all 19 community centers that have been serving as locations for the 2020 Summer Enrichment Program until further notice due to the rapidly changing circumstances and the accompanying situations surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic.

This includes both the Sagemont Community Center and Beverly Hills Community Center.

"This was a difficult decision to make as we understand the impact this will have on the families and children who have signed up for the Summer Enrichment Program," said Steve Wright, director of Houston Parks and Recreation Department.

"But in light of the changing circumstances regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, and with regard to the safety of the families we serve as well as our staff, we felt this was the most responsible decision to make. We will continue to follow the advice of public health authorities regarding

the safety and protection of everyone and remain committed to providing safe, wholesome activities at all our community centers when we reopen."

The closures will not affect the operation of the department's meal program for youth offered at the community centers.

"We will continue to offer the Curbside Meal Program for youth through our community center sites," Wright continued. "These sites continue to provide meals for young people ages 1 to 18, Monday through Friday, and are listed on our website at www.houstonparks.org."

Swimming pools
All City of Houston swimming pools, including those at both Sagemont Park and Beverly Hills Park, remain closed until further notice due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

For additional information on the city of Houston Parks and Recreation Department, visit www.houstonparks.org.

Governor's order mandates face masks

Gov. Greg Abbott on July 2 issued an executive order requiring all Texans to wear a face covering over the nose and mouth in public spaces in counties with 20 or more positive COVID-19 cases, with few exceptions.

The governor also issued a proclamation giving mayors and county judges the ability to impose restrictions on some outdoor gatherings of more than 10 people and making it mandatory that, with certain exceptions, people cannot be in groups larger than 10 and must maintain six feet of social distancing from others.

"Wearing a face covering in public is proven to be one of the most effective ways we have to slow the spread of COVID-19," said Abbott. "We have the ability to keep businesses open

and move our economy forward so that Texans can continue to earn a paycheck, but it requires each of us to do our part to protect one another – and that means wearing a face covering in public spaces. Likewise, large gatherings are a clear contributor to the rise in COVID-19 cases. Restricting the size of groups gatherings will strengthen Texas' ability to corral this virus and keep Texans safe. We all have a responsibility to slow the spread of COVID-19 and keep our communities safe. If Texans commit to wearing face coverings in public spaces and follow the best health and safety practices, we can both slow the spread of COVID-19 and keep Texas open for business. I urge all Texans to wear a face cover-

Continued on Page 8

Space Center closed, but has kids program

In accordance with health guidelines from Harris County, the City of Houston and the latest stay-at-home ordinance, Space Center Houston will extend its closure until further notice.

Space Center Houston was originally scheduled to reopen July 1.

"It is our commitment to support the community during this challenging time. Therefore, as a community leader guided by science, we will extend our closure until further notice to help protect the health and safety of our employees, guests and the community," said William T. Harris, president and CEO of the science and space exploration learning center. "We remain vigilant about the coronavirus (COVID-19) and will continue to take every precaution following all health and safety guidelines as we work together to get through this pandemic. Unity will help us

get through this, and we ask our community to come together to help control the pandemic by following all state, city and health guidelines."

Space Center Houston will continue to monitor the latest updates from state, local and CDC officials and will continue to adjust its plans and protocols accordingly to ensure it can offer the safest experience possible for everyone.

The closure includes regular operating hours, member Welcome Back Days, Explorer Camps, Space Center U, all public, education and private programs and events. Participants enrolled in education programs and ticket holders with timed admission tickets will be contacted and offered the choice of being put on a list to be called to reschedule when a new opening date is set, or being issued a refund.

Continued on Page 8

SoHo eviction uncovered

With the controversial election for constable of Precinct 2 being held this Tuesday, it appears that one of those working hardest to ensure the re-election of incumbent Chris Diaz is Lee Hernandez, the constable's suspended chief deputy. Although he is on suspension, Hernandez has been working for Diaz daily at local election polls.

Hernandez, whose salary, according to county records is \$138,896, was suspended due to an alleged illegal eviction in South Houston on Jan. 29. Hernandez and two others were suspended on June 10 after a member of the Harris County Attorney's office, following up on their initial request for documents four months earlier, appeared at the office of Diaz demanding the videos from the camera recorders of those involved

in the incident.

This was done in March and again in May with two additional inquiries asking for an update on the Freedom of Information Act request. No official word has ever been submitted in writing to the *Leader*.

The *Leader* officially, under FOIA, requested the video and correspondence including emails related to the incident. The initial request was made March 18 and should have been answered within 10 days. Due to COVID, the time period was extended.

The South Houston incident involved removing occupants from the residence in which they had been paid tenants. To evict people under this

Continued on Page 8

Charges filed in BLM shooting



In response to the drive-by shooting reported in the *Leader* last week, dozens of concerned residents gathered to peacefully protest and show support for the Black Lives Matter movement Thursday, July 2. Protesters gathered at St. Luke's Catholic Church and marched to Santiago Hernandez's South Belt residence in the 10500 block of Sageberry. Although Hernandez had been arrested and placed in police custody by the time that the protest took place, protesters lined the sidewalks along Kirkfair Drive for more than four hours, chanting "Hey, hey, ho ho, racism has got to go," and hoping to spread awareness. Jadarion Henderson and Derrick Green, both targeted by Hernandez in the drive-by shooting, are shown displaying BLM signs used in the protest. Hernandez has been charged with three counts of assault with a deadly weapon, with the possibility of being charged with additional hate crimes.

Photo by Marie Flickinger

In My Opinion

Past Diaz employees endorse Garcia

To Our Fellow Citizens, Taxpayers and Voters of the Harris County Constable's Office, Precinct 2 Area ("HCCO-2"): Greetings: Your help is urgently needed to stop public corruption!

We, the undersigned, all former employees of HCCO-2 and fellow Harris County citizens, respectfully submit the following message to you: the citizens, taxpayers and voters of this precinct concerning the upcoming Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's runoff election between Constable Candidates Jerry Garcia (Harris County Lieutenant) and Christopher "Chris" Diaz.

For many months now we have exposed clear, blatant and ongoing instances of waste, fraud, abuse and dishonesty concerning Chris Diaz, the current constable at HCCO-2. As such, it is abundantly clear that HCCO-2 - as your primary law enforcement provider - is a police agency with an internal crisis caused by a dangerous lack of real leadership. As veterans of the law enforcement service who truly care about the health, safety and welfare of the people of the South Belt area, we are asking you for your help to fix this problem and help ensure your family's future safety, especially in this age of civil unrest.

In short, our message to you - and our request of you - is that you join with us and other voters who are committed to stop the current culture of corruption at HCCO-2 and instead support a true law enforcement leader: Jerry Garcia (Harris County Lieutenant). As a long-time resident of the South Belt area who has raised his children here and been deeply involved in our community, Jerry Garcia (Harris County Lieutenant) truly cares about the people here. With over 21-years of real law enforcement experience, and with our support now, Jerry Garcia (Harris County Lieutenant) will lead the HCCO-2 back as a police agency that once again serves and protects the people of the South Belt community with honesty, courage and integrity.

We support a true police partnership with this community. We support Jerry Garcia (Harris County Lieutenant).

Vote for Jerry Garcia (Harris County Lieutenant) on July 14, 2020! Early Voting

runs through Friday, July 10.

Very respectfully,
**Joe Arellano,
Mike Behunko,
Dennis Cooper,
Larry Devoy,
Mike Kritzer,
Wayne Nichols,
Teresa Nichols,
Larry Petty,
Raymond Stewart,
Fred Taylor,
Janie Villartoro,**

Muecke: Berry Bayou Project update

Look at the good news I just received from Mayor Pro Tem Martin. The city has now agreed to move forward with this stalled project.

It mentions Arlington Heights but it connects to Berry Bayou which flows through parts of Freeway Manor. 15 years in the making.

This agreement allows the acquisition, design, construction and maintenance for the expansion of the C506-02, Crenshaw Stormwater Detention Basin, along Berry Bayou for flood mitigation.

The City of Houston will fund \$6,600,000 for the expansion of the existing C506-02 basin. Harris County Flood Control District will acquire, design, construct, and maintain the detention basin.

Upon completion, the City will have 77-acre feet of reserved detention volume for the Arlington Heights CIP Project, M-410006.

James E. Muecke

Balen-Garcia enjoys paper; wants recipes

Dear SBL, I just want to express my appreciation for your weekly newspaper. I am a Dobie graduate, was raised in the South Belt area, and still have family and friends there. I reside in The Netherlands now and so it is so nice that I can still know what is going on at "home" by reading *The South Belt Leader* via the internet. One suggestion: as I love to cook, would you please post a weekly recipe that might be a favorite from some of your readers. And thank you, *South Belt Leader* for being so

accessible. Sincerely,

Carolyn van Balen-Garcia

Mullikin on eyesores in the community

I would like to know why a neighbor has converted a lot that had a house on it into a junk yard. There are at least 4 cars on jacks without tires, etc. and it is junky. Because they have a fence crossing there does not make it any less of an eye sore.

I wrote to our so-called Congressman probably 2 years ago about this property and nothing to date has been done. There was a house there and the lady did not have insurance so the story goes and when the house burned down to the ground she had nothing. The neighbors next to it apparently think this is their property now and they can make it a junk yard. If they want to own a junk yard they should find "business" property to purchase not in a neighborhood. They should be made it clear the cars from this property!

If they want to own a junk yard they should find "business" property to purchase or rent, not in a neighborhood.

"Second eye sore" At the end of the 9700 block of Tiltree it appears several families live at this address on the left and it has food trucks, trucks and cars parked everywhere and it makes it almost impossible to make a turn at Tiltree and Easthaven without worrying about hitting another car that you can not see because of this mess.*

"Third issue on the same street" These houses are single family. There is a house that rents out an "apartment" on their property and they have so many trees and bushes it is impossible to read what their address is, however, they have signs from time to time "For Rent, Apartamento." This should not be allowed in our neighborhood. I know we do not have an active HOA but this makes our neighborhood a transient neighborhood and brings more crime into the area. Vicki Mullikin

Riverstone Ranch vs Gateway Academy

I am in full agreement with Ms Christina Davis concerning the eyesore that has plagued our beautiful neighborhood for the past 3 to 4 years, which is the non-construction/non-completion of this school. I also have taken this matter to our HOA Van Nor Properties and got the same "sorry, it's not our problem" response.

My wife and I bought our wonderful home 14 years ago here on Kirksage and it now stands in the shadow of this awful structure. It is an embarrassment to us the enter onto our street and this is the first thing we and our neighbors are forced to see. It is embarrassing whenever we have visitors an have to explain, no, the building is not being demolished! (Though we all wish it would be!) There has not been ANY constructive work done in at least the past 5 months!

I feel that our HOA could at least TRY to use some of its influence to help us, but we feel that they are only concerned about collecting our fees and be vigilant in the height of the grass on our lawns. If possible, could perhaps, the office of our

Commissioner, Rodney Ellis, be informed about this matter. As I mentioned at the beginning, I have been living in this neighborhood for 14 years, even before the school broke ground for the building.

I will give them the benefit of a doubt and say that "construction" has been going on for the past 6 to 7 years! Our entire neighborhood DOES NOT deserve to have this ugly structure as a "landmark" in our neighborhood. We need action from SOMEBODY! We are fed up because we have had no one to listen to us!

F.C. Martinez
Concerned Resident

Turnipseed wants Diaz defeated

As a resident of the South Belt for over 40 years, I have seen a difference in our local law enforcement with the different Constables who have been in office. In the past, South Belt had a more proactive approach to law enforcement. Deputies were visible, pulling people over for various infractions, in our neighborhoods patrolling and having a presence in our area. With the current Constable, we only see deputies on the road when they are responding to calls or taking advantage of COVID-19 and riots to promote the Constable through social media.

This may be a coincidence, but it is an election year. South Belt residents, myself included, are tired of the purse snatchings, auto burglaries, auto thefts and many other crimes that are now a common occurrence in our area. There has been a gradual increase in these types of crimes over the last 8 years. I attribute the increase in these types of crimes to the lack of patrolling, lack of police presence and lack of leadership we have with the current Constable. Things can be better if our local law enforcement officials could take a more proactive approach to law enforcement. Reacting to crimes that have already been committed is not enough. We need efforts to curb these crimes before they happen. Any resident who complains about the increase in these crimes that are occurring right here in our own neighborhood needs to be aware this comes from our elected official, the Constable, and how he chooses to run his department. Voting for the right candidate in the election is so important. I have seen things handled much better in the past with other Constables than the service we currently receive under our current Constable, Chris Diaz. He has held two terms in his position and over those two terms nothing has gotten better in the South Belt.

As evidenced by the increase in crime, it has only gotten worse. I cannot help but attribute that to the current leadership we have under Diaz. We need leadership with police experience and proven leadership in this position. The time for change is now. Please get out and vote for a candidate that can better serve our community and provide the law enforcement we so badly need in our community. The one we have now has NOT provided the service we deserve.

Jeff Turnipseed

Tuesday final day to vote in runoff

Continued from Page 1
this week's *Leader*. See this page.

The winner of the Democratic runoff election will face Republican Daniel Vela in November's general election.

The *Leader* has officially endorsed Garcia in the race. In the U.S. House District 22 race, Republican candidates Kathleen Wall and Troy Nehls will face each other in a runoff. Wall is the wife of tech millionaire Holloway Frost and a longtime Republican donor, while Nehls currently serves as Fort Bend County sheriff.

Wall previously ran for Congress in 2018, spending more than \$6 million in an unsuccessful bid to lead Texas House District 2.

This race has also proved to be controversial, as Wall has run ads accusing Nehls of turning a blind eye to sex trafficking while in office.

Additionally, Wall has made national headlines for

making campaign ads, in which she poses with an assault-style weapon and accuses the Chinese government of being a "criminal enterprise masquerading as a sovereign nation."

The winner of the primary will face Democrat Sri Preston Kulkarni in November's general election.

Kulkarni has also run for Congress before, coming within 5 percentage points of Olson in the 2018 contest for House District 22, which has become increasingly purple in recent years, due to demographic changes. Additional Democratic runoff elections of local interest include that of railroad commissioner, taking place between Roberto R. "Beto" Alonzo and Chrysta Castañeda. The winner will face Jim Wright in November's general election.

A sample Democratic ballot can be found at [harrisvotes.org/SampleBallot/DemocraticSampleBallot.pdf](https://www.harrisvotes.org/SampleBallot/DemocraticSampleBallot.pdf).

Additional Republican runoffs of local interest include the contest for sheriff, taking place between Paul Day and Joe Danna.

The winner will face incumbent Ed Gonzalez in November's general election.

To view a sample Republican sample ballot, visit [harrisvotes.org/SampleBallot/RepublicanSampleBallot.pdf](https://www.harrisvotes.org/SampleBallot/RepublicanSampleBallot.pdf).

Early voting will continue through Friday, July 10.

Residents may cast their ballots at any early polling location.

Harris County residents may now vote at any polling location on Election Day.

Nearby voting locations include the Harris County annex at 10851 Scarsdale and Beamers and the Freeman Branch Library at 16616 Diana Lane in the Clear Lake area.

Polling hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

To see a complete list of polling locations, visit [harrisvotes.org](https://www.harrisvotes.org).

Deaths

Gilbert Perez



Gilbert Perez, 85, beloved husband, father, brother and grandpa died July 6, 2020.

He was born Dec. 9, 1934, in Victoria County, Texas, to Santiago and Manuela Perez. Gilbert graduated Calhoun High School (Home of the Fighting Sandcrabs) in 1955. He entered the U.S. Army and was involved in missile and rocket testing while stationed at White Sands Missile Range, N.M. Gilbert earned an associate degree from Victoria College, and a Bachelor of Science from the University of Houston.

He also studied at the University of Santa Clara and San Jose State. His career included positions at Southwestern Industrial Electronics, Halliburton and Lockheed Aircraft Corporation.

Gilbert retired in 2000 from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration at the Johnson Space Center as a technical manager, aerospace technology. He was also the owner of Module 1 Designs and Gabby's Hall. Gilbert was a member of Lions International, League of United American Citizens, Mexican American Engineers and Sci-

entists, St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church and a board member of the Light-house of Houston.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers Manuel Perez and Jimmy Perez; and sisters Lorenza Saenz and Lupita Calzada.

Gilbert is survived by his beloved wife Elida Perez; son John Eugene and wife Marcelina Perez; granddaughters Gabrielle and husband Marco Cavazos and Emilia; and great-grandsons Josiah, Alejandro and Gabriel Cavazos. Also surviving are his siblings Angel Gutierrez and Henry Perez.

Gilbert will live on in his family members' many happy memories and stories which included living in California, abandoning his brothers-in-law in dark waters with a shark, always having ice cream in the freezer for Emilia, the ongoing A/C battle with Eugene, taking Gabby on unofficial tours of NASA, almost driving the lawnmower through the shed, him having a conversation with a toy talking bear, the rooster crowing outside the house at six in the morning, dogs under the house or under the bed, barbecuing chicken while going down a Houston freeway, the building of a not-so-straight dock, Marco almost being electrocuted by Gilbert more than once, and the pride he had in his grandsons and the great things they will accomplish. He will be missed, but not forgotten!

He will be laid to rest with full honors at the Houston National Cemetery, 10410 Veterans Memorial Drive. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, St. Luke the Evange-

Wanda Dingell



Wanda Dingell died June 19, 2020, at the age of 90. Her family said she felt no sting of death as Jesus held her hand.

She passed peacefully as her son Ronn Canon held her hands for her final precious moments here.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 50 years, F. F. (Pat) Dingell; parents, the Rev. Leonard O. and Jewel Gaston Canon; and brothers Leonard Canon Jr. of Baytown and Capt. Percy W. Canon of Milledgeville, Ga.

Survivors are her only child, son Ronn Canon; sister Patricia Woolard of Tyler, Texas; brother James Canon of Splendora, Texas; as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

The family received friends June 26, 2020, at Christian Temple Church, 9701 Alameda-Genoa Road. A Celebration of Life was held June 27, 11 a.m., at the same location. Interment was at 2 p.m. at Forest Park Cemetery, Webster.

Crime Stoppers to begin virtual summer programs

Though COVID-19 has disrupted countless summer plans Crime Stoppers is adapting to fit the needs of the community and is thrilled to bring you their nationally-recognized programming straight to you through ZOOM.

Summer programs include:

Critical Conversations that S.A.V.E Lives in Partnership with The Texas Education Agency (TEA) for educators, administration; law enforcement Safe School Institute (SSI) Summer Camp for kids, teens and adults; and Safe Community Program (SCP)

and Events for parents and community members

To participate, browse their calendar here and click the "register here!" button to sign up for the presentation that interests you. If you have any questions please reach out via email.

NASA AGLOW speaker set for August

Christal Berlingert, is an ordained minister working through the LaVonne Chandler "Touched by Grace Ministries" and co-hosts with Chandler in their teachings on YouTube. Berlingert's fiery passion is evident as she flows with a prophetic anointing and a desire to set the captive free and see them walking in their God-given destiny!

The public is invited. Social distancing will be honored. The event is Thursday, Aug. 9, from 10 a.m. until noon at Praise Chapel, 18516 Hwy 3, Webster. NASA AGLOW is a part of Aglow International, an interdenominational organization of God-seeking women with more than 200,000 members meeting together each month through local AGLOW groups in 177 countries.

For additional information, contact Lorene Kelling at lorenenieto@yahoo.com.

Elected officials share their words

Cornyn: Democrats block bipartisan police reform measures

June 24, on the Senate floor, U.S. Sen. John Cornyn (R-TX) discussed Senate Democrats' decision to block the Senate from being able to debate or make changes to the JUSTICE Act, police reform legislation introduced by Sens. Scott, Cornyn, and others. Excerpts of Cornyn's remarks are below, and video can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6s80xxnNTo8&feature=youtu.be>.

"A couple of weeks ago, the Democratic leader came to the floor and urged the Majority Leader to bring police reform bills to the floor to be debated and voted on before July the Fourth. And when Sen. McConnell did exactly that, what did they do?"

"As soon as they were told that they would actually have a chance to vote on a police reform bill, they changed their tune."

"This was not a vote to finally pass the JUSTICE Act as-is, without any changes, or amendments. This was simply a vote to begin debating a bill. You can't finish a bill, you can't actually vote on legislation, if you're unwilling to start."

"This 'my way or the highway' legislative

strategy we have come to expect from our colleagues is absolutely shameful, and it's counterproductive."

"Even though there were many of our Democratic colleagues who decried the cruel and tragic death of George Floyd, when it came time to step up and actually do something about it, they absolutely refused."

"For weeks, we have watched people of all races, and cultures, and backgrounds marching and demanding action. They want to see greater transparency and accountability. They want better training and education for our police officers. And they want to know that at the end of the day, the color of your skin won't determine the nature and outcome of an interaction with a police officer. Let the record reflect that this morning, the Senate had the opportunity to take the first step toward passing reforms that would begin to heal the divisions and distrust between law enforcement and the communities they serve, and our Democratic colleagues unequivocally and shamelessly stood in the way."

Leader checks out social media

By Natalie Abarca
A member of *The Official South Belt & Sagemont Area Crime Alert* Facebook group posted surveillance videos of the member's home that was broken into Monday, June 22, on Rural Oak street.

A member of the same Facebook group posted the incident of a robbery at knife point on Monday, July 6, at 1:12 p.m. at the Shell gas station on Fuqua and Sabo.

On the same Facebook group a member posted photos of two men that were in the neighborhood near Hughes Road behind Donut Haven, knocking on doors. The member states that they were in a truck with a trailer. Other members commented on the post that the guys are offering to cut tree branches, and other members are warning the community not to fall for the scam.

A member of *People of Sagemont 2* Facebook group posted that their mother's house was broken into Sunday, July 5, at 10 a.m. by Sagehill and Hughes behind Texaco on Beamer Road. The member also stated that the suspect might be badly injured

from breaking into the window. If anyone knows the person or has information, contact the member through the Facebook post. Another member posted a picture of police and paramedics searching the area for a suspect that was apparently trying to get into vehicles, who was also the same suspect that broke into the house in the area.

A member of the same Facebook page posted that she returned home from the gym and noticed an old model tan color Chevy Trailblazer driving on the street at night with the lights off. The member stated she was unlocking her door when she noticed the vehicle. When she turned to look, the person in the vehicle stopped in front of her house and sped off. The vehicle went toward Scarsdale Boulevard and made a right toward Food Town with their headlights off. This incident occurred Monday, July 6, on Sagemont Drive.

A member of *Southbelt/Sagemont Crime Alert* Facebook group posted that the ACE Hardware on Beamer Road was broken into Saturday, July 4, around 2:30 a.m.

The constables were called to the scene. It was reported that not much was taken.

Church Directory

Attend the church of your choice

The Catholic Community of **ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST**
Rev. Douglas J. Guthrie, Pastor
Fr. Jhon Gallo-Florez, Parochial Vicar
11011 Hall Rd.
(between Beamer & Blackhawk)
www.stlukesatholic.com

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday	Vigil	5:30 p.m.
Sunday	7:30, 9:15, 11:15 a.m.	
Sunday	1 p.m. Misa en Español	
Monday, Wednesday, Friday		9 a.m.
Tuesday & Thursday		7 p.m.
Sacrament of Reconciliation	is celebrated	
Thursday 7:45 to 8:30 p.m.	Saturday 4 to 5 p.m.	

Parish Office 281-481-6816
Faith Formation 281-481-4251
Youth Ministry 281-481-4735

St. Luke's offers ministries for ALL-families, men, women, youth, children, young adults, single, divorced, separated, widowed.

New Covenant Christian Church

10603 Blackhawk
281-484-4230

Bill & Cheryl Hines, Pastors

We've Enlarged Our Day Care Facilities
Register Now! 281-481-2003

WEEKLY SERVICE TIMES

Sunday	Wednesday
Sunday School • 8:00 a.m.	Prayer Meeting • 7:00 p.m.
Worship Service • 9:00 a.m.	Mid-Week Service • 7:45 p.m.

Nursery Available at all Services

Parker Williams Library
The information for Parker Williams reads:
"All Harris County Public Library locations remain closed to the public. We will provide service updates as they are developed. The book drop at Parker Williams Library is open. No late fees will be charged during the library closures. Borrowers may return library materials to the exterior book drops at most HCPL locations. Do not leave any items outside the library or drop box."
Parker Williams "No-Contact Curbside Holds Pick-Up" is up and running!
- After receiving notification that holds are ready for pick-up, call 832-927-7870.
- Have your library card number and PIN handy.
- A pick-up time and instructions will be given.
- Upon arriving at the library, follow the instructions given.
- Be prepared to show a library card or other form of ID for verification.
Curbside hours are:
Monday - Thursday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Friday, 1 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Visit <https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library> for more information.

Online services
Harris County Public Library will continue to offer a wide array of online services:
- Use HCPL Wi-Fi service with HCPL's Drive-up Wi-Fi.
- Download e-books and audiobooks, stream movies, research and learn at www.hcpl.net.
- Attend an HCPL program or story time online through Facebook or YouTube.
- Check your account to renew loans or request books.
- e-Books, comics or graphic novels through OverDrive.
- Stream classic films, indie cinema, and award-winning documentaries on Kanopy.
- Listen to audiobooks through RBDigital or OverDrive.
- Read along and play with picture books on TumbleBooks.
For those who do not have an HCPL library card, instant access can be obtained to all HCPL's digital materials and research tools with an iKnow Digital Access Card. Apply at <https://www.hcpl.net/services/iknow-card> for a HCPL card.
For more information, visit <https://www.hcpl.net> or call 832-927-7870.

Smith receives HOPE award

Assistance League of the Bay Area recently bestowed their annual Stuart M. Williams HOPE award on Dr. Greg Smith, CCISD superintendent, at the organization's annual meeting.

The HOPE award, the acronym for Heroes of Positive Endeavors, is presented to a nonmember, company or group for a significant contribution to the Assistance League of the Bay Area. Smith embraces the organization as a stalwart partner of the school district and recently offered space for the Assistance League's philanthropic programs at the newly renovated Learner Support Center.

Additionally, Smith has served on the organization's Advisory Council for numerous years and is always willing to meet with members of the leadership team to address concerns and provide input to improve those philanthropic programs serving the students of the district. Smith's support of the Assistance League is unparalleled and recently remarked at a meeting, "Assistance League is shining a light into the dark."

Assistance League of the Bay Area is an all-volunteer, nonprofit organization that changes lives through philanthropic programs in the Houston Bay Area community.

For more information, visit the website at <https://www.assistanceleague.org/bay-area/>.



Shown is Dr. Greg Smith (left), CCISD superintendent, accepting the HOPE award from Lisa Holbrook, Assistance League of the Bay Area's 2019-2020 president.

Memorial's Shining Stars enjoy parade

The Pasadena Independent School District's Shining Stars are being presented in a series honoring students with their favorite mentor. The Shining Stars shown here represent the top Pasadena Memorial High school students. The information and photos were submitted by the staff of Pasadena ISD. Shining Stars from Dobie, South Houston and Lewis Career & Technical high schools are being presented in various issues of the *Leader*.



Jeremy Richardson, Pasadena Memorial principal, greets Shining Stars award recipients with an enthusiastic hand clap as they arrive for the parade.



Displaying the "Gig 'em Aggies" hand sign, Shining Stars award recipient Suzanne Trevino smiles as she follows through the parade line. She plans to attend Texas A&M University - College Station or the University of Texas at San Antonio to pursue a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering. Her goal is to bring a variety of blueprint ideas into mechanized realities that can improve the lifestyles of many.

UHCL's RN-to-BSN information session moves to Zoom format

Information for students wanting to enroll in the RN-to-BSN program at University of Houston-Clear Lake Pearlland campus can find out all they need during two upcoming virtual sessions to be held July 14.

Karen Alexander, program director and assistant professor of nursing, said that the information sessions would be live, not prerecorded, and accessible on Zoom.

"We want students to be able to ask any questions they want, so we are doing it live," Alexander said.

"We will go through a presentation in which we'll explain our requirements and we will let prospective students see why our program is best. "She said that students are always closely mentored throughout the program.

"We were able to work through the current adverse situation with them very successfully because we had already developed relationships with them in our face-to-face classes," she said.

"It made the transition to online classes this semester much easier. We have learned that establishing relationships and mentoring nurses is what it takes to make our students successful in this program."

To join the July 14 Zoom event, visit <https://uhcl.zoom.us/j/95691656116>.

For additional information about UHCL Pearlland's Nursing program, visit www.uhcl.edu/academics/degrees/rn-nursing-bsn.



Ashley Flores plans to attend the University of Houston-Clear Lake for undergraduate education. Her dream is to obtain a PharmD and become a pharmacist.



To obtain a liberal arts degree Alexa Rodriguez will decide between the University of Texas at Austin or Northwestern University. Although she has not made a final choice on her future career, she plans also to further her education by attending graduate school.



Pearl Phan intends to major in chemistry with a career track in pre-med. She was a class of 2020 officer, member of PMHS student council, PMHS environmental council, National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, Peace Conference, Superintendent's Student Advisory Committee, Houston Health Summit, Pasadena Noon Optimist Club and the Campus Idling Ordinance.

Task force to tackle threat of evictions; housing stability

City of Houston and Harris County recovery leaders recently announced the formation of a task force to prevent evictions while bridging gaps in housing stability that have been exposed during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Housing Stability Task Force, which will include stakeholders with deep experience in the community who touch all points of the housing stability cycle, will align resources to address evictions while developing strategies and recommendations to strengthen the region's housing delivery system.

Although the city and county each have independent czars leading their respective COVID-19 recovery efforts, city and county leadership decided to unify their efforts to deal with the unprecedented housing crisis through the creation of a joint task force.

"The magnitude of the economic hardship resulting from the pandemic is still unfolding and disproportionately impacts the lower income households in our community," said Marvin Odum, City of Houston COVID-19 Relief and Recovery czar.

"As an example, the City of Houston's rental assistance program was fully subscribed after only 90 minutes of being made available.

"It is important that we pull together the relevant stakeholders to help identify near-term solutions while laying a foundation to address the longer-term, systemic need to build a resilient housing ecosystem.

"At the same time, we must also keep expectations realistic, as there are simply not enough financial resources nor a sufficient supply of affordable housing stock available to avoid an immense amount of pain and difficulty for individuals, families, neighborhoods, and the broader community."

"Evictions were a serious issue before the COVID-19 pandemic, and they will continue to be of great concern throughout the course of the economic downturn," said state Rep. Armando Walle, Harris County Recovery czar.

"We unfortunately anticipate a substantial increase in the volume in the weeks and months ahead, and we are determined to make our best attempt at proactive planning to reduce as many as we can.

"The Houston region had systemic barriers to affordable housing before COVID, and the current crisis has exposed in plain sight the underlying system shortcomings.

"With key players at the table, working together toward the same end goals, we will structure our efforts to be responsive to the immediate crisis, even as we maintain a firm resolve not to lose sight of the importance of future work required to make housing stability a reality for more people."

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, the city and county were already experiencing a shortage of affordable rental housing and high eviction rates, particularly among low-income communities.

The pandemic, compounded by a downturn in the energy industry, has intensified the rental housing crisis beyond just very low-income residents.

It has also significantly impacted property owners, who face increased economic pressures due to the vast numbers of renters who have suffered loss of employment and income.

The task force will address three pressing needs: prevent evictions, mitigate impacts on tenants and landlords, and stabilize households for the benefit of public health.

On June 3, Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner and Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo called on the county's justices of the peace to delay eviction proceedings until August 24, in line with the federal CARES Act timeline.

A state eviction moratorium was lifted May 19, and the protections offered by the CARES Act apply only to properties with federally backed mortgages.



Ailany Caceres is pursuing the goal of graduating from a four-year university to become a registered nurse. After obtaining her Bachelor of Science in nursing, she plans to return to school to become a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist and seek a job in the medical field.



Carlyle Benson plans to attend Yale University and major in statistics and data science with a potential double major in political science. She hopes to earn a graduate degree and pursue a career in either government data science or sports analytics.



Andy Torres will be enrolling in John Hopkins University to obtain a minimum of a bachelor's degree in applied mathematics and a minor in chemistry. After the completion of his major, he hopes to have a wide range of opportunities in the workforce.



Doing business under cover of masks are justice Rep. Armando Walle, Harris County Recovery czar; Judge Sharon Burney, Justice of the Peace Precinct 7, Place 2; Jeremy Brown, Justice of the Peace Precinct 7, Place 1; and Marvin Odum, City of Houston COVID-19 Recovery czar.



Seann Robbins plans to pursue a Bachelor of Science in computer hardware engineering at either the University of Texas Austin or Rice University.



Sarah Gullion intends to study computer science at Texas A&M University to become a computer programmer.



Steven Nguyen has a goal to major in a business-related degree at the University of Houston and complete a bachelor degree.

Harris County COVID-19 Relief Fund to help via community-based organizations

Harris County has established the Harris County COVID-19 Relief Fund to provide much-needed relief to Harris County residents most impacted by the global pandemic.

The \$30 million fund, which will be administered by Greater Houston Community Foundation, aims to strategically serve a large number of the most vulnerable people, in particular county residents who may not be eligible for other COVID-related funding and/or who cannot afford to wait for assistance.

The Harris County COVID-19 Relief Fund is expected to assist about 20,000 households to provide support with housing, electricity, food, child care and other essential needs.

"Harris County on its own can't unilaterally turn around the economic fallout from COVID-19, but we are committed to running the most impactful, targeted program to support the hardest-hit families in our community," said Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo.

"If we want the entire community to get through this, it means helping the

most vulnerable among us." Funds will be disbursed in two ways to help ensure equitable distribution.

First, the fund will partner with trusted, high performing community-based organizations that are already actively supporting the community and have deep relationships and understanding of families with emergency needs.

These organizations will work with eligible individuals and families to complete a simple application, verify eligibility, and provide financial assistance.

The first round of grants to these organizations was estimated to disburse in June.

"The coronavirus pandemic has created both a health and financial crisis in our region," Harris County Precinct One Commissioner Rodney Ellis said.

"Our communities are hurting. And it is our duty as public servants to make sure that our most vulnerable residents, who were already living paycheck to paycheck, do not lose everything in the midst of this crisis."

"Advancing a relief fund with enough resources – and

structure to ensure those resources reach the most vulnerable in our community – was a key priority for our county."

Second, the fund will invite all eligible low-income Harris County residents to complete an application through a multilingual call center and/or website to participate in a fair, randomized process.

Given the incredible need, Harris County knows resources will be insufficient.

That is why a randomized process will be used to select eligible households to receive financial assistance.

Eligible individuals will be matched with a community-based organization to understand their needs, verify eligibility, and provide assistance.

The public will be given a minimum of one week's notice for when this process will be opened.

"Right now, the focus of our work is to get the Harris County COVID-19 Relief Fund up and running as quickly as possible. Much like previous relief efforts, such as the Harris County Small Business Loan program, our goal is to expedite the process and get money into the hands of our most vulnerable residents fast while also making sure it's done right," said Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia.

"I have total confidence that our partners at Greater Houston Community Foundation will be successful in this endeavor."

"The Foundation is a recognized leader in disaster recovery efforts, and their performance managing the Bush-Clinton Katrina Fund as well as the Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund proves they are the right organization to participate in a fair, randomized process."

The fund is open to Harris County low-income residents, including those excluded by the CARES Act or immigrant households, adults listed as dependents, and people who may receive Pandemic Unemployment Assistance but cannot afford to wait for months.

Eligibility and disbursement guidelines for the fund include:

- Those who have experienced adverse economic impact related to COVID-19; and
- Households below 60 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI), or are accessing public benefits that already confirm they are very low-income.
- Survivors of domestic violence, or youth aged out of foster care, or those in homeless shelters.

Applicants cannot have received benefits from any City of Houston or other Harris County program administered for the same purpose.

Frazier enjoys end of year



Frazier Elementary held an End-of-the-Year Parade Thursday, May 28. Frazier families decorated their vehicles and drove through the school parking lot to wave goodbye to their teachers and pick up their report cards. Above, joining in the festivities at school year's end with a friendly sea serpent on top of the car are, left to right, Maria Morin, mother; Jordan Garcia, fourth-grader; and Juan Garcia, father.



Giving everyone air hugs in the car parade at the end of the school year are, left to right, Krystal Henry, mother; Ava Morin, pre-K student; and Joseph Morin, father.

UHCL's art school keeps young artists engaged online

Liam Lehnert is a budding 9-year-old artist who has been spending part of his summer home quarantine time drawing, painting and gluing in front of a computer screen.

He's taking online classes at University of Houston-Clear Lake's Art School for Children, and he's been paying close attention to the instructions of David Moya, art school director, who models the day's lesson for the students and does plenty of examples.

Liam's mother, Jennifer Lehnert, teaches classes for the Art School for Children, but during the home quarantine necessitated by the spread of the COVID-19 virus, she's had to watch Moya on the computer alongside her son.

"I actually graduated from UH-Clear Lake's teacher education program which is where I met Dr. Moya," she said.

"I took his 'Arts and the Child' class, where I shared with him that I'd been discouraged from seeking an art teaching degree because there were more jobs for generalists."

But he told me it was important to follow my passion and encouraged me to be an art teacher."

Lehnert said she returned to UHCL, got her master's degree and her art teaching certification, and has taught at UHCL's Art School for Children for three semesters. "I'm sad because I can't teach now, and I'm really eager to get back to it."

In the meantime, Liam, a student at Frontier Elementary in Angleton I.S.D., has been enrolled in nearly all the summer online classes.

"Even though it's online, I still think he's gotten a lot out of the classes," she said. "If you don't have the materials, Dr. Moya always gives you some options. He's very responsive to the needs of the group, and each class seems to be better than the last."

She said that Moya is always encouraging the kids to do their own creations, and gives the kids examples. "He added a little quiz at the end of the lesson, to ask kids what they learned," she said. "It's always something about the culture, the element of art they learned, or other aspects of the lesson that he thinks is important."

He gets the responses, reviews them and then lets the kids know what were the correct answers. It's always done with a lot of positivity."

"Even though some summer programs have decided to allow face to face classes, we wanted to offer a fully virtual and interactive learning experience for families that might not be ready for more public interactions," Moya said. "I believe we are still able to offer a similar level of rigor, interaction, and learning compared to in person classes from the comfort and safety of home. Initially our program was set for only the month of June, but we are looking to add additional classes in July taught by UHCL students and alumni."

"My favorite part of the classes is just making the stuff," Liam said. "I love my Hawaiian art picture (from the Art of the Pacific class). I like the Lorax from the Dr. Seuss class. I feel like I'm learning a lot and I've

Harris County Commissioners Court approves critical funding to assist many Houston area women's centers

The COVID-19 pandemic has, unfortunately, led to a rise in cases of domestic violence in Harris County.

The Harris County Sheriff's office reported a 40 percent increase in domestic violence-related assault cases, and the Houston Area Women's Center, Houston's largest and most comprehensive service provider and advocate for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and sex trafficking is experiencing a surge in demand for services.

To assist the agency, Harris County Commissioners Court unanimously approved Commissioner Rodney Ellis' measure that will provide \$117,300 to support the Houston Area Women's Center so it can continue serving vulnerable families during this unprecedented time.

The funding will allow the center to hire new personnel for child care services and programming.

"I am proud that we were able to support the important work of the Houston Area Women's Center by providing this critical funding," said Ellis.

"The services that they provide for vulnerable families in Harris County are vital, particularly right now as we continue to deal with the effects of the COVID-19

epidemic.

"In this time of need, we need to ensure that these families are taken care of and have adequate resources."

"We are thankful for the support of Commissioner Ellis and Harris County," said Emilee Dawn Whitehurst, president and CEO of the Houston Area Women's Center.

"Our community is currently experiencing a spike in domestic violence and we often forget the toll that takes on children."

"The recent shutdown of schools and summer programs has led to increased responsibilities for our agency to provide for the school-aged children quarantined at our emergency shelter."

"This funding will allow us to hire new staff to provide supervision, care, and stimulation for the children housed on our secure campus."

Precinct 1 and the Houston Area Women's Center have a long-standing partnership, and Ellis is committed to continue to support the agency's important services for vulnerable families in Harris County.

UHCL offers noncredit foreign language program classes

The Continuing Education Office in the College of Human Sciences and Humanities at University of Houston-Clear Lake is offering new, noncredit foreign language program classes in French, German, Russian, Spanish, Mandarin Chinese, Italian, Brazilian Portuguese and beginning and intermediate Arabic.

For those who are nonnative English speakers, English enhancement programs are also available.

Classes are small and can be customized to fit your needs.

For more information, contact Christine Paul, director of Foreign Language and Continuing Education Programs at 281-283-3033.

Remember When

40 years ago (1980)
In an election sparked by controversy, write-in candidates Joe Champion and Norma Stroud were elected to the Sageglen Community Association board.

Houston City Council passed a motion to have the city legal advisors prepare an ordinance that would permit the introduction of fluoride into the city's water system.

Almeda Mall was undergoing approximately \$2 million of improvements which included more parking for shoppers.

Sageglen resident Angela Shifflet placed in the top 10 out of 69 girls in the Miss Texas pageant.

35 years ago (1985)
Redesigning and widening of the Kingspoint/Kleckley intersection at Almeda Mall would cost \$267,743 and would take two months to finish.

Houston Arson investigators arrested a southeast Houston man in connection with the May 29 fire at the

Sagemont Townhomes on Beamer. The fire was allegedly set to get back at the man's ex-wife who lived in the townhomes.

The South Belt Security Alliance filed a \$10,000 lawsuit against Southeast Security Associates for remarks made against the company on a local news program.

Mouth-to-mouth resuscitation by a lifeguard at the Sageglen Community Association swimming pool was credited with saving the life of a 3-year-old girl.

Houston homicide detectives investigated the skeletal remains found on Dixie Farm Road near Clear Creek, south of the creek.

30 years ago (1990)
The Veteran's Administration altered its policy. Under the new policy, any veteran considering buying a new home in Southend would have to visit the regional VA office to review the information on file before a case number or appraiser could be assigned.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development announced it was temporarily discontinuing insuring mortgages in the Southend subdivision.

Lawyers for two Weber Elementary School students charged the Clear Creek Independent School District with fraudulently withholding documents concerning alleged contamination of the school's water supply in 1985.

25 years ago (1995)
Christopher Williams, Mr. J. Frank Dobie High School of 1984, was killed at Fort Sill, Okla., during a training exercise. He reportedly lost his life while trying to save the lives of many of his men.

A nine-member Community Partnership Team from the Clear Creek Independent School District supported a reduced bond issue.

Cash, checks and charge slips were stolen from Ace Central Hardware during an after-hours burglary.

Only two of the original 670 homes in Southend

remained three years after a court settlement in which the subdivision's developer agreed to take title to all houses.

20 years ago (2000)
Rep. Ken Bentzen announced \$10 million in federal funding for a new supply complex for the Air National Guard located at Ellington Field.

Southeast Volunteer Fire Department called on the community for assistance. The fire department was seeking volunteers to help serve the 30,000 residents in its zone. It was serving the area with only 30 volunteers – a ratio of 1,000 to 1.

15 years ago (2005)
At a public hearing in San Antonio, accusations were made that the decision to eliminate the Texas Air National Guard at Ellington was flawed, inaccurate and mathematically wrong. The accusations were addressed to members of the Base Realignment and Closure committee by Rep. Tom DeLay, Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, County Commissioner Sylvia Garcia and Houston Mayor Bill White.

Trial dates were set for two of the four men accused in the murder-for-hire killing of South Belt resident Luan Cong Pham. The other two men remained in the Harris County Jail awaiting trial.

10 years ago (2010)
Multiple law enforcement agencies raided two suspected illegal gambling operations on the Gulf Freeway at Fuqua. Undercover FBI agents, deputies from the Harris County Sheriff's Office and officers from the Houston Police Department conducted the raids, which netted 14 arrests. Police described the locations as nondescript storefronts with no visible signage.

Nancy Flores was named the new principal of Morris Middle School. She replaced Susan Blalock, who retired.

The South Point Park and Ride expansion project finalized with the ribbon-cutting for the new facility located at 12410 Kirland at Interstate 45 South. The capacity of the facility was more than doubled, adding 390 extra parking spots.

5 years ago (2015)
The Pasadena Independent School District board of trustees approved multiple administrative promotions involving staff members with close ties to the South Belt community.

Advertise in the Leader!
Call 281-481-5656

Over The Back Fence by Alexis

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, DWIGHT!
Birthday wishes are in order for former Houston City Council Member Dwight Boykins who celebrated a birthday Monday, July 6, from his friends at the South Belt Leader.

TANKSLEYS ENJOY ANNIVERSARY
Eli and Sheila Tanksley celebrate their 49th anniversary July 10. A shoutout is given to them from family, friends and the staff of the South Belt Leader.

SCHOOL DAZE
The following personnel and staff members of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays July 9 through July 15, 2020.

Atkinson Elementary
Celebrating a birthday July 13 is Regina Barnes. July 14 is the day for a birthday party for Melanie Zelenka. Break out the party favors and balloons for Claudia Trevino July 15.

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

Bush Elementary
The day for a celebration for Joleah Pierce is July 10. Break out the balloons and party favors July 11, for Liz Soliz. Send a happy birthday greeting to Lizbeth Cavazos on July 15.

Frazier Elementary
Megan Herrera celebrates a birthday July 11.

Genoa Elementary
Sing a happy birthday song July 9 to Maria Vazquez. Join in the birthday celebration July 13 for Elizabeth Binnicker. July 15 is the day for a birthday cake for Kathryn Martinez.

Meador Elementary
Blow out the birthday candles July 11 for Guadalupe Navarrete. Cheers for a happy birthday on July 14 for Corin Culpepper and Johanna James.

Moore Elementary
Light the birthday candles July 14 for Ana Herrera.

South Belt Elementary
Send a special birthday card July 13 to Kellie Hernandez.

Stuchbery Elementary
Best wishes for a wonderful birthday July 12 are sent to Clarissa Ridge. Kayla Ogden enjoys a special a birthday July 14.

Roberts Middle School
July 13 is the day for a celebration for Aaron Donias.

Beverly Hills Intermediate
Enjoying a July 13 birthday is Jocelyn Brown.

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

Dobie High
Birthday greetings are sent to Carol McDonald on July 12. Melania Duarte celebrates a birthday July 14.

FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS
The Leader sends birthday wishes to friends. For those wanting a birthday mentioned in this section, email mynews@southbeltleader.com with "OTBF: Friends Celebrate Birthdays" in the subject line by Friday noon for the next week's publication.

Thursday, July 9: Patsy Jimenez, Raquel Rodriguez, Traci Feil, Carolyn Garza and Shevlyn Spafford; Friday, July 10: Tannia Leal, Sharon Blackston, Juanjose Armenta-Aguirre and Jimbo Shiffessel; Saturday, July 11: Andy Cross, Anne Allen, Kollene Bingham and Jasmine Mendez; Sunday, July 12: Sharron Moore, Mary Renfro Heldman, Emma Rodriguez and Pam McEntire Ellis; Monday, July 13: Stephanie Pyle, Robin Read, Sandy Ward, Angela Wilkerson, Robin Stone Collins and Tyler Pearson; Tuesday, July 14: Elaine Ann Monagas, Monay Noyobiz, Courtney Amelia Alba, Riva Saenz, Verónica Mier and Jeffrey Robert McGee; and Wednesday, July 15: Soyla Tovar, Irma Villanueva, Rachel Garza, Marlon Taylor, Teresa Reynolds Abel and Harley Rankins.

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

Rotary Club meets virtually
The Rotary Club of Pearland now meets every Thursday at 7:30 a.m. virtually on Zoom at https://us02.web.zoom.us/j/81372891968. Meeting ID: 813 7289 1968. Details are on the Pearland Chamber of Commerce website under the calendar. Meetings include a variety of speakers. For additional information, email nalix@texascitizensbank.com.

Largest selection of wigs in Texas!

FEATURING **ESTETICA DESIGNS** WIGS & EXTENSIONS

The Right BRA, The Right Form! by JODEE
Caring Fitters Trained & Certified to Help With All Your After Breast Surgery Needs.
Great selection of Mastectomy Swimsuits

RAQUEL WELCH SIGNATURE COLLECTION OF WIGS & HAIR ADDITIONS

Becky's
125 E. Galveston Street
League City
281-332-6407

Could I be Pregnant?

I need a pregnancy test
I need to know what to do
We are here for you. We care!
All Services are Free and Confidential.

281-484-0005
Beltway 8 South
Crisis Pregnancy Center

Exceptional Grooming at Common Sense Prices

281-484-9655

Best Friends Boutique
Groom & Board

Tues.-Sat. 7am-6pm
11506 Hughes Rd.
South Belt @ Hughes

BFBGrooming.com Family owned and operated since 1985

FURNITURE RE-DO

- Re-Pair
- Re-Finish
- Re-Glue
- Re-Screw

'We Re-Do For You'

For Free Estimates Call:
Jeff Davis 281-481-3216

SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

San Jacinto College draft history among nation's best

When it comes to getting against the success of the selected into Major League San Jacinto College program, which has enjoyed a

particularly good relationship with the big leagues since the 2016 draft five

years ago. Currently, the program is still celebrating after 2020

players Luke Little (Cubs) and Mitchell Parker (Nationals) were picked last

month and subsequently signed. Three other former Gators also signed after being drafted in 2020.

The Gators made big news in 2019 after national JUCO Pitcher of the Year Jackson Rutledge was taken No. 17 overall in the first round by the Washington Nationals.

Rutledge, a hard-throwing right-hander, led the nation in strikeouts and was second nationally in earned run average as he led the Gators, who were ineligible for postseason play, to the Region XIV conference championship.

As the highest San Jacinto College draft choice ever, Rutledge wasted little time in signing with the Nats, agreeing to a signing bonus of \$3.4 million.

Rutledge pitched in the Nats' minor league system at two stops last summer and showed enough to be part of the team's 60-play pool for the 2020 MLB season.

While Rutledge isn't likely to pitch in Washington during the regular season coming up, he's clearly

marked as a starter-in-waiting as the Nats move into 2021 and beyond.

Also in 2019, the Gators saw Dane Acker go in the 23rd round to the Arizona Diamondbacks.

Choosing not to sign, Acker instead went to the University of Oklahoma, pitched a no-hitter for the Sooners earlier this season, and signed for more than \$400,000 as a fourth-round selection of the Oakland Athletics in the 2020 draft.

Then there was Mitchell Parker, a lefty who led the JUCO ranks in 2020 during the abbreviated season. A 2019 pick of the Tampa Bay Rays in the 27th round, Parker instead stayed with the Gators and earned a \$100,000 signing bonus in 2020 after going to Washington.

A potential diamond from 2019 for the Gators? Luis Quinones went in the 34th round to Toronto as a right-handed pitcher and excelled with the Jays.

Now 23 years of age, Quinones signed with the Jays for a \$100,000 bonus and then excelled primarily

in relief at Class A Lansing in the summer of 2019.

In 12 appearances, Quinones struck out 57 in 36 2/3 innings of work, posting a 2-2 mark with a 2.95 ERA. Like hundreds of other minor leaguers, Quinones will need to find success in returning after the canceled 2020 minor league season, but the Jays' brass no doubt knows of him after

his strong showing last summer.

Also in 2019, San Jacinto's Johnathan Jones (Milwaukee) and Bryant Salgado (San Diego) were drafted but did not sign.

The 2018 MLB First-Year Player Draft included seven players being chosen. Rylan Kaufman, the first Gator picked (12th round to

Continued on Page 6

Dobie staff urges physicals

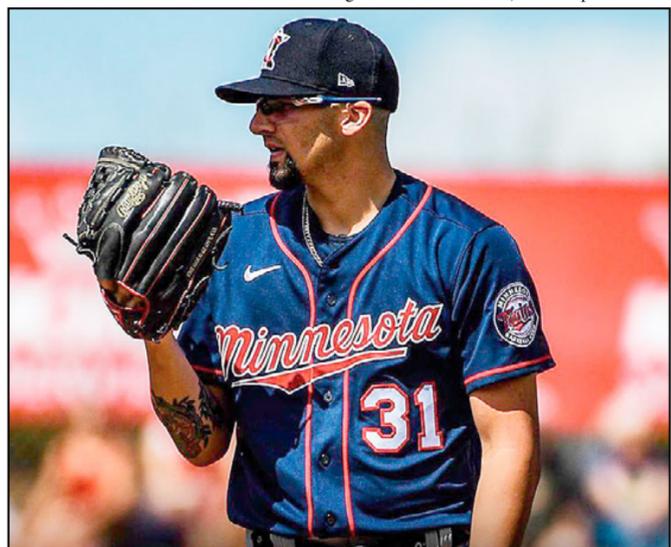
During this break in the action for high school athletics, the Dobie coaching staff is reminding student athletes now is the perfect time to arrange for an athletic physical that is required to be on file within the athletic department no later than Aug. 1. Urgent Clinics Medical Care is offering the physicals to Dobie students for \$20 each. A convenient location is 8498 S. Sam Houston Parkway. The phone number is 832-831-3974. Students are asked to enter the building with just one parent or guardian due to COVID-19 social-distancing guidelines.

SBGSA seeks fall ball coaches

South Belt Girls Softball Association officials are busy planning for the fall season, which includes recruiting prospective coaches for the various age group divisions.

The league needs additional coaching help in the 6-under and 12-under divisions, with no experience required. Those with previous coaching experience are also needed in the 14-under division.

For additional information on the openings, direct email to sbgsaplayeragent@gmail.com.



Devin Smeltzer went in the fifth round of the 2016 MLB First-Year Player Draft by the Los Angeles Dodgers. Now with the Minnesota Twins via trade, the former Gator left-hander could very well be part of the Twins starting rotation in 2020.

Revisiting Dobie's 2010 district football championship

If the Dobie Longhorns are to win their first district championship in 10 years later this fall, the locals will likely need to defeat both Channelview and Deer Park on the road.

The last time Dobie did that? Ironically, it was during that championship run in 2010, back before Class 6A even existed.

The way that 2010 season began, it might have been difficult to imagine a title run.

It all began with a 43-13 nondistrict loss to Alief Taylor.

The Longhorns also suffered a 17-14 loss to Dickinson but came back with consecutive nondistrict wins over Channelview and Hum-

ble to exit that portion of the schedule at 3-2.

From there, Dobie reeled off five consecutive wins in 22-5A action, including a final 34-13 win at Deer Park to capture the crown.

Memorial actually finished second in league play that season, suffering a 31-7 loss to Dobie.

Running back Demarcus Boyd was named the Offensive Player of the Year, with Justin Edwards the Defensive Player of the Year as Dobie scored postseason honors. The Longhorns' Jim Phillips was also named Coach of the Year.

Offensively, quarterback Blake Jackson was a first teamer along with running

back Andrew Robinson, offensive linemen Zach Fondal and Dylan Wall and kick returner Davion Hurst.

Defensively in addition to Edwards, Cody Early, Kerry Henderson Jr., Chris Uzom-

SBGSA sets an online fall league registration

The South Belt Girls Softball Association will open online registration beginning July 13 for the upcoming fall league season, with easy-to-follow steps.

Girls ages 4 to 16 are eligible to play at \$60 per player, and there are sibling discounts available to multi-player families. There are no residency require-

ments. The online registration runs through Aug. 15 at www.southbeltsoftball.com.

For additional information, visit the SBGSA league sites via Twitter or Facebook at southbeltgirls softball.

Coronavirus restrictions once again threaten fall sports start

Another week, another couple of coronavirus-related decisions that could threaten the beginning of fall season high school sports, including the University Interscholastic League's 100th season as well as volleyball and cross-country and team tennis. There has been no official word from UIL officials concerning a delay to preseason workouts, fastly approaching Aug. 3 for football and volleyball.

Yet with Gov. Gregg Abbott issuing a face covering order statewide that extends to late August and Harris County officials being allowed to strongly discourage group gatherings of 10 or more for the foreseeable future, something will have to give.

While it seems to many that there has been little positive yet plenty of negative since the middle of March, there has been an uptick of

both countywide and Texas coronavirus cases, prompting the caution.

Many statewide school districts have halted summer strength and conditioning and sport-specific workouts until July 13, yet there is little reason today to believe a restart will come then.

There is still hope for an Aug. 3 start until an official announcement comes.

And sooner than later now, something will have to

be decided. The same goes for youth leagues such as the Bay Area Football League, the South Belt Girls Softball Association and the South Belt Youth Soccer Club, among others.

The bottom line? Most Houston area parks, and practice and playing facilities, remain closed to team activities. Until that changes, there will be no movement forward.

2019 Lajaunie tennis scholarship postponed due to COVID-19 virus

An unexpected closure of the host site Harry Taylor Tennis Center in Pasadena

due to coronavirus concerns forced another cancellation of the Darren Lajaunie

Scholarship Fund Tennis Tournament. Tournament officials have

already awarded 2020 academic and youth tennis camp scholarships despite issues with completing the ninth annual event due to the coronavirus.

Event founder Camille Lajaunie stated via the tournament's Facebook page that she remains hopeful that this year's event can be eventually played.

For additional information, visit dltennischolarships.com.

Local soccer stars make AGH squads



Dobie senior and four-year varsity performer Eli Donahoe made the All-Greater Houston second team, announced July 5, after guiding his Longhorn group to a sixth consecutive District 22-6A championship in 2020. Also, Lutheran South's Jace Windom, who had 26 goals and 14 assists during his sophomore season to guide the Pioneers to the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools state final four, made the AGH Private School team.

Austin Frederick III Financial Advisor
Edward Jones MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING
 281-232-0128
 17320 Grand Pkwy, Suite C • Sugarland, Texas 77479
 austin.frederick@edwardjones.com • www.edwardjones.com

DIXIE DELI
 364A FM 1959 (between I-45 & Hwy 3)
 281-484-3083
 Hours: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
DAILY SPECIAL - \$5.55
 6" PO-BOY, CHIPS & DRINK

Join us on Facebook!
 Get local news and updates between issues!

USA KARATE
 Now Enrolling for the Summer 2020 School Age Program
 Call for our weekly rate specials!
 • KARATE TRAINING • FIELD TRIPS
 COME LEARN:
 • RESPECT • FOCUS • CONFIDENCE • DISCIPLINE • AND MORE
 1101 Resource Pkwy. 281-484-9006
 1853 Pearland Pkwy. #109 832-736-9006
 We have space available at each location

Las Haciendas MEXICAN BAR & GRILL
 Limited Seating Available
 Order Online @ www.lashaciendasgrill.com
 Curbside pickup available. Margaritas available with food orders!
 11 a.m. - 10 p.m.
 South Belt • 281-484-6888
 12933 Gulf Freeway
 NASA • 281-557-3500 1020 NASA ROAD 1 @ 45
 League City • 281-334-2175 2951 MARINA BAY DR. STE. 150
 Stafford • 281-240-3060 12821 SOUTHWEST FRWY.

Whether it's Curbside Pickup, Local Delivery or Catering, Choose DAN'S to Dine!

 Local Delivery/ Curbside Pick-Up
281-369-9000
 12373 Scarsdale Blvd.
 Sun. - Thur. 11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.
 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Fri & Sat.

SOLD RSR
 ROY SHIFLETT REALTORS
 281-481-3733
BUYING or SELLING?
 We're South Belt's #1
 ★ 50 Years Experience
 ★ Great Office Location
 ★ Knowledgeable Personal Service
SOLD RSR
 ROY SHIFLETT REALTORS
 281-481-3733
 The Name You Know!
 With Experience You Can Trust!
 (Free Home Inspection With Estimate of Value)
Call Today!

TEXAN BANK IS A SBA APPROVED LENDER
 CALL US TODAY TO APPLY FOR THE PAYCHECK PROTECTION PROGRAM
Texan Bank CARES

 BANKING TO THE NTH DEGREE.
 Houston • Friendswood • Clear Lake
 Sugar Land • River Oaks
 Member FDIC (281) 276-1800
 WWW.TEXANBANK.COM
 EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

Kwik-Kar
 LUBE • AUTO REPAIR CARWASH
 Now Hiring Cashiers, Car Wash Personnel & Lube Technicians
 Mon. - Sat. 8am - 5pm
 Sun. 9am - 5pm
 APPOINTMENTS RECOMMENDED FOR ALL WASH SERVICES (Wash Packages, Details and Hand washes)
 All vehicles SANITIZED (\$10 value) www.islandbreezecarwash.com
 No need to wait shuttle service now available!
 shuttle service only available within a 5 mile radius
\$10 Off Auto Alignment
 With coupon only. No reproductions. Not valid with any other discount.
 11210 Scarsdale (Between I-45 & Bearner)
 281-484-5945
ISLAND BREEZE CAR WASH
 Now Offering A Full Line Of Exterior Washes "Wash & Go in under 5 min."
 The Works Includes \$20
 • Island Breeze LAVA Carnauba Wax
 • Underbody Rinse
 • Wheel Cleaning (By Hand)
 • Clear Coat Protectant
 • Tire Shine (By Hand)
 • Hand Drying
 \$50 Monthly
 Wheels & Tires \$13
 Includes "Shine & Polish" Plus
 • Rain-Guard
 • Tire Shine (In Tunnel)
 • Clear Coat Protectant
 \$35 Monthly
 Shine & Polish \$10
 Includes "Express Exterior" Plus
 • Tri-Color Wax
 • Wheel Cleaning (In Tunnel)
 • Underbody Rinse
 \$29 Monthly
 Express Exterior \$6
 • Wash
 • High Velocity Drying (In Tunnel)
 \$20 Monthly
***MONTHLY UNLIMITED WASH PLANS (PER VEHICLE)**
Full Service Oil Change \$29.99
 Includes our 16 point inspection - Oil Change (Up to 5 Quarts Conventional Oil)
 • Install New Oil Filter
 • Complete Chassis Lube
 • Check Brake Fluid
 • Check & Fill Power Steering Fluid
 • Check & Fill Transmission Fluid
 • Check Air Pressure in all Tires
 • Check Gear Boxes
 • Check Battery Fluid
 • Check & Fill Windshield Washer
 • Vacuum Interior
 • Check Air Filter & Cabin Filter
 • Check Breather Element
 • Check PCV Valve
 • Check Radiator Overflow Reservoir
 • Check Belts
 • Check Wiper Blades
 plus
FREE Car Wash
 Up to 5 Quarts Conventional Motor Oil - 16 Point Check - With coupon. Not valid with any other offer or discount. Expires 7/23/20.

Rutledge, Smeltzer among Gators' MLB draft gems of past five years

Continued from Page 5 Mike Pascoe signed for a \$100,000 bonus after going in the 24th round to Toronto. And Chris Robinson signed for \$25,000 after being picked in the 35th round by San Francisco. Of note, San Jacinto College outfielder Alerick Soularie, who attended Atascocita High School, was chosen in 2018 in the 29th round by St. Louis.

He did not sign, instead electing to attend the University of Tennessee. A preseason All-American selection in some circles while with the Vols earlier this spring, Soularie was picked by Minnesota in the second round in June, earning a signing bonus of \$900,000.

Looking back at the 2017 draft, the Gators' Aaron Bond led the way for the locals as he was chosen in the 12th round by the San Francisco Giants, signing for \$125,000. It was the second straight year that Bond had been picked as his name was called in 2016 as well. He went in the 39th round to St. Louis but did not sign.

Also from 2017, the Gators' Michael Smith collected \$197,500 after he went in the 18th round to Tampa Bay as a pitcher. Clearly, former Gators Bailey Cummings signed for \$125,000 after the pitcher was a 29th round pick of Philadelphia. Donnie Diaz was a 23rd round pick of Boston but instead chose to attend the University of Texas. He has since battled injuries as a reliever. Dating five years back now, left-hander Devin Smeltzer earned All-American status after getting the Gators to the JUCO World Series championship round. Originally a fifth round selection of the Los Angeles Dodgers in 2016, Smeltzer signed and was traded in 2017 to Minnesota. He saw big league action with the Twins in 2019, now has a TOPPS rookie baseball card and very well could see significant action this season.

Roger Clemens and Andy Pettitte head the list of future major league stars from the north campus, but longtime SJC head coach Tom Arrington and his staff continue to develop draft-worthy players today.

Injuries, individual team depth charts and simple luck all play a role in a players' journey following any draft, but it's clear San Jacinto College has become a popular stop for pro scouts.

San Jacinto College MLB Draftees Since 2016

Round Player Team 2016 Draft

- 5 Devin Smeltzer LA Dodgers
- 8 Ryan January Arizona D'Backs
- 22 Cody Nesbit Kansas City Royals
- 26 Brandon Montgomery LA Dodgers
- 28 Nick Schumpert Atlanta Braves
- 30 Montana Parsons Chicago Cubs
- 39 Aaron Bond St. Louis Cardinals

2017 Draft

- 12 Aaron Bond San Francisco Giants
- 18 Michael Smith Tampa Bay Rays
- 23 Donnie Diaz Boston Red Sox
- 29 Bailey Cummings Philadelphia Phillies

2018 Draft

- 12 Rylan Kaufman Kansas City Royals
- 16 Trey Dilliard LA Dodgers
- 24 Herbert Iser Baltimore Orioles
- 24 Mike Pascoe Toronto Blue Jays
- 29 Alerick Soularie St. Louis Cardinals
- 35 Chris Roberts San Francisco Giants
- 39 Jordan Myrow LA Dodgers

2019 Draft

- 1 Jackson Rutledge Washington Nats
- 23 Dane Acker Arizona D'Backs
- 27 Mitchell Parker Tampa Bay Rays
- 31 Jonathan Jones Milwaukee Brewers
- 34 Bryant Salgado San Diego Padres
- 34 Luis Quinones Toronto Blue Jays

2020 Draft

- 4 Luke Little Chicago Cubs
- 5 Mitchell Parker Washington Nats



Jackson Rutledge became the earliest San Jacinto College baseball draft pick ever in 2019, going No. 17 overall in the first round to Washington and earning a signing bonus of \$3.4 million. For 2020, Rutledge has made his way onto the Nats' 60-player eligibility list as the organization's top minor league pitching prospect.

LEADER READERS

25 Words - \$8 for 1 week - 3 Weeks - \$21; Business: 25 Words - \$10 for 1 week - 3 Weeks - \$27

HELP WANTED

NOW HIRING SERVICE TECHNICIANS

For a local well established sign company

- Electrical/Electronic experience a plus
- Must be 25 years old with good driving record.
- Background & drug screening required.

Call: 713-944-6200
Or Email Resume to: Brigitte@specorp.com

HELP WANTED

Entry level full time job.

- Answering phones
- Basic computer work.
- Pull permits, etc.

Call 713-898-6670

Baywood Crossing Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center

Is seeking experienced full time and part time CNAs, CMAs, RNs and LVNs. If you want to work in a dynamic and fulfilling team environment, then Baywood Crossing is for you.

We offer competitive pay rates and benefits.

Please stop by and complete an application at 5020 Space Center Blvd., Pasadena OR give us a call at (713) 575-1800

SEEKING ELECTION VOLUNTEERS TO ASSIST WITH THE CAMPAIGN FOR CONSTABLE LT. JERRY GARCIA

Must be inspiring and energetic ready to assist the campaign. There are three shifts available from June 29 - July 14. Students may earn volunteer hours for school. Call 281-841-4547.

CAREGIVER

FORMER NURSE. Caregiver/ companion/ sitter. Services provided in home or hospital. Live in South Belt area. Call 832-338-4819. 7-23

PETS

FREE KITTENS to loving home. Female, silver & black tabby. Male, orange & white tabby. 11 weeks old. Dewormed. Can bring to you. 281-481-1717. 7-16

COMPUTER

COMPUTER REPAIR. South Belt Area. Free Estimates. New Computers For Sale. Deal with a Technician, Not a Salesman. Call Harry 713-991-1355. 8-6

MOVING SALE

11506 SAGEWIND DR. Sat., July 11, 7 a.m. - 2 p.m. All Must Go! Garage items, furniture, women's clothing, shoes and much more! 7-9

SERVICES

ATT TV \$49.99 monthly, 3 screens/internet 1000 mbps bundle \$99 and \$100 gift card. Directv free NFL ticket, free Premiums for 3 months. Call 832-800-5664. 7-23

HANDYMAN

Exterior painting, wood fences, pressure washing, gutter cleaning, landscaping and mulch. Affordable prices. Free estimates. 832-406-0183. 7-16

PRESSURE WASHING!

Free Estimates. Call Scott and Sons at 979-235-0645. House, driveways, sidewalks, boats R.V.'s, etc. Time for cleaning. Free Estimates! 7-23

Support Leader Advertisers

LAWN & GARDEN

ADRIAN'S TREE SERVICES.COM

713-501-0184

LICENSED, INSURED, AFFORDABLE

- FREE ESTIMATES •

Professional Trimming, Shaping, Removal

Arbor King Tree Service

- Tree Removal • Tree Topping • Trimming
- Thinning Out • Elevating • Stump Grinding
- Emergency Storm Damage

Free Estimates
South Belt Resident 832-660-3622 We will work with you

CALENDAR

Due to the current public health situation, it is advisable to verify if meetings are still being held prior to attending. Since Gov. Greg Abbott has initiated Strike Force for the reopening of Texas some groups have resumed their meetings. For Alcoholics Anonymous meetings in the area, visit <https://aahouston.org/meetings>. For Narcotics Anonymous (NA) meetings, visit www.hascona.com. For Al-Anon meetings, visit www.houstonalananon.org/meetings.html.

open meeting, 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com.

Serenity Now Al-Anon Group - meets at CrossRoads UMC Fridays, 8 p.m., when the church reopens. Family members and friends of problem drinkers/addicts learn Al-Anon principles and discover choices available. For details, call 281-484-9243 or visit <http://www.houstonalananon.org/meetings.html>.

Alcoholics Anonymous - "Breakfast with Bill," Saturdays, 7:30 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit <https://aahouston.org/meetings/>.

Al-Anon Meeting (Women Only, English) - For women affected by an addict. Saturdays, 11 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room #111. Call 281-487-8787 or visit <http://www.houstonalananon.org/meetings.html> for additional information.

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

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

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

Overeaters Anonymous Deer Park - 11:30 a.m. Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P Street, Deer Park. Enter through Fellowship Hall in back. Call 409-454-5720 for additional information, or drop in.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or online at <https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners>. For additional information, call 713-686-6300.

Toastmasters - The Young Professionals Southeast Toastmasters Club #05324194 has gone virtual! Meeting is Mondays, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m., at the website, <https://youngprofessionalsoastmasters.com>. Young Professionals SE Toastmasters Club is committed to its member's safety during this National Emergency and will conduct virtual meetings every Monday (except holidays), effective 3/16/2020, to ensure its members continue their journey to becoming confident communicators and leaders. To be a guest at the virtual meeting, select the "contact us" button on our home page menu (www.youngprofessionalsoastmasters.com) to obtain access to our virtual meeting platform. For information, call Karen Nunn at 832-722-9061 or Carolyn Carmichael at 832-372-3565.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Saint Luke's Group 12-Step Recovery is meeting outdoors temporarily near the tennis courts behind St. Luke's at 7 p.m., weather permitting. For details, call Jesse at 832-725-8479 or Rita at 281-309-2801.

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

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com.

Sagamont Civic Club - Meetings are held the second Monday, Sagamont Park Recreation Center, 11507 Hughes Road.

AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit <https://aahouston.org/meetings/>.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or online at <https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners>. For additional information, call 713-686-6300. 1:30 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 additional information, call 713-661-4200 or visit the website www.hascona.com.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15

AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit <https://aahouston.org/meetings/>.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or online at <https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners>. For details, call 713-686-6300.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com.

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

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

THURSDAY, JULY 16

AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit <https://aahouston.org/meetings/> for additional information.

Rotary Club of Pearland - Meets Thursdays at 7:30 a.m. online on Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81372891968>. Meeting ID: 813 7289 1968. Details are on Pearland Chamber of Commerce website under the calendar.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or online at <https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners>. For details, call 713-686-6300.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Women's Group, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For additional information, call 713-661-4200 or visit the website www.hascona.com.

SERVICE

Attention advertisers, make your ad stand out with color. Call 281-481-5656 for information. Participants will be limited to 10, so call soon if you want included.



SOUTH BELT
A/C & HEATING INC.

CALL FOR A/C CHECK-UP

Free Estimates on New Equipment

American Standard
HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

100% Financing to Qualified Buyers

281-484-1818

4403 F.M.2351

www.Southbeltair.com

TACL B26543E

GET IT TODAY!

LEWIS CONSTRUCTION
www.YourCompleteHomeCare.com
We have been Same Name & Phone Number Since 1991

713-944-5257
Quality Work - Dependable
Free Estimates - References

Painting Interior & Exterior
Additions - Kitchens
Bathrooms - Garages

Siding All Types - Floors
Conversions - Patios - Fences
Concrete - Carpentry Work

If you want a Quality Job we are the ones for you.

Owner: Myron Lewis
Please Check Us Out - We Are Here To Stay

BONANZA AIR & HEAT*
281-922-5665

SUMMER CHECK-UP TIME!

Someone You Can Trust • NEVER A SERVICE CALL CHARGE
We Service ALL Makes & Models • We Honor Competitor Coupons

Call about our Preseason A/C Systems Upgrade Specials Save \$\$\$\$\$\$

Goodman Air Conditioning & Heating
Financing Available
TACL B002755C
*Preferred Air of Houston LLC dba

Garage Door Problems? Call Big Edd's

Serving Houston & Surrounding Areas Since 1979

Repair/Replacement **281-480-8898**
Garage Doors & Openers **713-784-4238**

ELECTRIC
REPAIRS & INSTALLATIONS

40 Years Experience

- Free Estimates
- Senior Citizen Disc.
- No Service Charge
- Res./Comm.
- Master Electrician
- Insured
- TECL#21246

281-484-8542
LOW PRICES HIGH QUALITY

We accept most major credit cards.

SAGEMONT ELECTRIC SVCS.

Primary Plumbing Services

COMMERCIAL RESIDENTIAL

713-643-7228

Ruben Muñoz - MPL 17449

WINNER BEST ROOFING COMPANY IN BAY AREA

TEXAS TOP Roofing & Siding

5 Year Labor Warranty

Kevin Dalley '76 Dobie Grad
Chris Dalley '79 Dobie Grad

- Vinyl Siding
- Hardi Board Siding

281-481-9683

REPLACEMENT & STORM WINDOWS

Annual maintenance will save you money.

10% off Repairs
Free estimates on new equipment.

Airstream
AIR CONDITIONING & HEATING

TACL B23730E

281-481-6308

PAR 5 ROOFING & CONSTRUCTION
(844) PAR-FIVE

South-Belt area owned and operated
Residential & Commercial Roofing
Complete Interior & Exterior Home Remodeling

GAF Certified **GOOD HOUSEKEEPING**

Fully Insured & Bonded - Always Free Estimates!

844-727-3483

cmaricle@par5roof.com
www.par5roof.com

ELLIOTT'S REMODELING
A Full Service General Contractor

EXTERIOR/INTERIOR

- BATHS / KITCHENS • ROOM ADDITIONS
- PAINTING • FLOORING • SHEETROCK WORK
- SIDING • ROOFING • CONCRETE • FENCES
- GARAGE CONVERSION • INTEGRITY
- COMMUNICATION • QUALITY

281-487-2234 REFERENCES • 30+ YRS. EXP.

A & M PAINTING

- PAINTING INTERIOR/EXTERIOR • REMODELING • SHEETROCK
- TAPE & FLOAT • DEMOLITION • HAULING • FENCES
- CARPENTRY • PRESSURE WASHING

Alvaro Bravo **281-642-2939** Free Estimates

After Hours Plumbing Service
Commercial, Industrial & Residential

Sewer • Water Heaters • Drains
Leaks • Water • Repairs • Gas

\$50 OFF Any Service w/coupon
Free Estimates - MPL#41513 - Hablo Español
Military, Law Enforcement & Senior Discount
www.afterhoursplumbingservicehouston.com

832-715-6441

ANY SEASON TERMITE & PEST CONTROL, LLC
Residential & Commercial

TRUSTWORTHY and RELIABLE

Providing environmentally friendly services with your children and pets' safety in mind.

Jimmie Sue Orth Owner
Richard (Dick) Orth Operator
B.S. Chemistry
Trinity University

281-484-6740
Family Owned and Operated Since 1984

COUPON

\$200 OFF FOUNDATION REPAIR OR SEWER REPAIR
(on jobs \$2,500 & up)

Not valid with any other offer. One coupon per house.

FOUNDATION REPAIR UNDER SLAB SEWER REPAIR HOUSE LEVELING

Allied Foundations
281-479-5247
FREE ESTIMATES

R.B. GARAGE DOORS
Garage Door Experts • 20 Years Experience
Affordable Prices • Free Estimates

- *Replace Garage Doors
- *Garage Door Openers
- *Crashed Door Resets
- *Lube, Tunes & Springs

ROGELIO 832-755-5245
www.rbgaragedoorsouston.com rbgaragedoors@gmail.com
• Genie • Craftsman • Lift Master • Chamberlain

GULF TEX REMODELING
Residential & Commercial • Insured

Kitchens • Baths • Plumbing • Painting • Sheetrock • Flooring
Patios • Concrete • Fences • Commercial Design & Build Out

Serving Houston for over 25 years

Flood Disaster Specialist **832-891-4610** Free Estimates

THE AIR CONDITIONING AND APPLIANCE PEOPLE
713-291-4612 • 346-375-2091

Service & Installation
Residential & Commercial
4210 Young St., Pasadena, TX 77504

A-BETTER PLUMBING

Complete Home Residential Service Plumber

CALL TODAY FOR SPECIALS

A-Rated on Angie's List
281-692-1684

JT Garage Door Systems

Free Estimates
Repair, Replace, Install
Over 20 Years of Experience
Contact Jason Teel
281-991-7697

G & F APPLIANCE REPAIR

We service all major home appliances. Our Professional Technicians will provide you with service you can trust.

MENTION THIS AD AND SAVE \$10
281-650-4777
SAME DAY SERVICE

J&M SERVICE CO.
A Complete Service Company Since 1983

Specializing in Bath & Kitchen Remodels

- CERAMIC TILE
- WOOD FLOORS
- GRANITE
- CULTURED MARBLE
- PLUMBING
- TUB & SHOWER CONVERSIONS
- MEET ADA STANDARDS
- SAFETY GRIP BARS
- COMPLETE REMODELS

281-235-8073
REFERENCES AND PROOF OF INSURANCE ON REQUEST
Free Estimates

A/C & Appliance Repair

- Former Sear's Technician
- Insured & Licensed (TACL44251C)

713-505-7534

Triple M Plumbing

281-484-4777
Call 281-455-1175

Melvin D. Glover III
Master License # 8069

HOME SERVICES
Fencing, Doors, House Painting & Handyman Services
No Job too Small Justin 785-614-4945

Morgan's Janitor Service

Complete Building Maintenance
Floor Stripping & Waxing
One Time Jobs or Contracts
Insured and Bonded

281/481-1850 or 281/485-4341
Member South Belt-Ellington Chamber

Advertise in the LEADER!
281-481-5656

Looking to improve your yard the easy way. See our Advertisers for your Lawn & Garden! on page 6

Shade The Sun Solar Screens
WE ALSO DO BLINDS!
832-492-2216
Houston, TX 77089 Free Estimates

Jennifer Bell
Franchise Owner/
Licensed Home Inspector
TREC #TX 23949

jennifer.bell@pillartopost.com
www.pillartopost.com/jbellteam
Independently owned and operated franchise. T-713-741-6443 C-713-542-9601

CLASSIFIED FOR WHEN LIFE BRINGS YOU A SHOCK OR TWO!

Our Classifieds will give you a wide selection of professional service people who advertise there. You can compare and choose from among them in the SERVICES columns and be ready for anything shocking ahead!

The Classifieds - read them and use them; They're there when you need them!

281-481-5656

Need Help Finding Your Dream Home?

Let the Leader Classifieds Be Your Guide!

281-481-5656

visit us online at www.southbeltleader.com

BOOKKEEPING

Cynthia L. Veters, CPA
Individual-Corporate-Partnership & Estates

- All Tax Preparations
- Financial Statement Preparation
- Monthly Accounting Services
- Individual & Business Tax Planning
- Payroll & Other Related Services

281-481-4184

SoHo evictions under two investigations

Continued from Page 1
 situation, a court order is needed. In this case there was no court order and papers were not served until the Jan. 29 incident. The papers that were served on Jan. 29 required the parties involved show up at the court of Judge JoAnn Delgado on Feb. 6. When the complainant went to court, the case was dismissed as the papers had been incorrectly filed. The *Leader* has been told Hernandez became involved in this incident as a favor with the cooperation of the South Houston Police Department. The South Houston Police Department has been quiet on the incident and has made only one public statement on the issue. That was a Facebook entry posted immediately after the eviction and arrest of three individuals. The Facebook posting acknowledged the eviction and the arrest of people that were found with stolen property and described them as trespassers and squatters. After this was posted, it was quickly removed from the Facebook site. Although South Houston Police claimed that the evicted were trespassers and squatters, in court it was learned the evicted had paid rent, making them tenants rather than trespassers and squatters. When the *Leader* called the South Houston Police officials for comments for a story, which appeared in the *Leader* Feb. 13, all the South Houston officials would say is "Call Precinct 2," which is Diaz's precinct district. There was reportedly no official request from South Houston Police Department nor the owner of the property to the Diaz office that prompted the unlawful

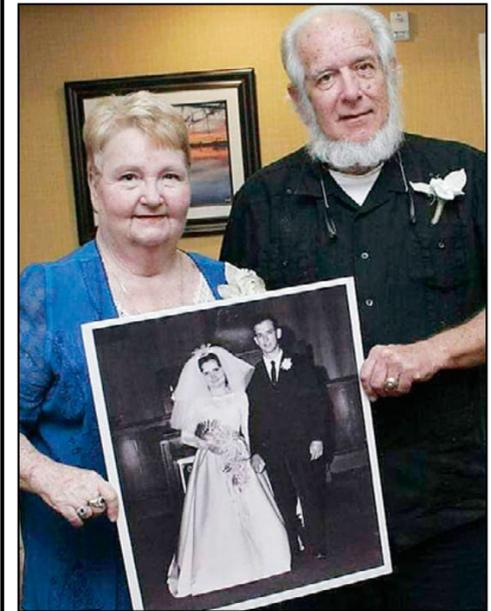
eviction. No call was made to dispatch. The decision to evict the occupants appears to have been made between Hernandez and South Houston police. Hernandez was reportedly visiting in South Houston, where he lives helping to promote Diaz's campaign when the incident began. The primary election was approximately five weeks after the incident. Hernandez did contact the head of the Precinct 2 civil department requesting a couple of officers be sent to the scene. Hernandez talked to the head of the civil department who offered to help him, as Hernandez was in charge of the criminal department and not as knowledgeable of the civil side of the department. Hernandez reportedly refused the assistance saying he could handle it. Upon arriving at the scene, the civil officers reportedly balked at Hernandez's request for them to evict the occupants. Hernandez, however, insisted his orders be carried out, reminding them he was the one in charge. The *Leader* has been told that when the additional constable deputies joined Hernandez, the South Houston Police department representatives were at the scene. South Houston police have been oddly silent except for the Facebook entry that disappeared shortly after being posted. The only thing the *Leader* has been able to learn about the involvement of South Houston has been a frequently reported rumor that someone who is an official in South Houston had hoped to buy the property after the tenants were evicted. The *Leader* has been unable to confirm this. That rumor has come multiple times. Only one person's name has

been attached to the multiple rumors. Hernandez reportedly ordered the deputies to use bolt cutters to break into the residency. The residency was occupied at the time, and the officers were met by a woman at the door who did not invite them in. The officers entered anyway. Video of the incident reportedly shows an officer place his taser close to the body of one of the occupants of the residency at one point. The resident was reportedly handcuffed at the time. Although there may have been a threat of tasing the handcuffed man, he was not tased. The video also indicates before the civil deputies arrived, a tow truck was used to tear down the gate that had the property blocked off from the officers. The video shows upon the arrival of the civil officers, a blue rope was lying on the ground wrapped around the gate, which had been pulled from its hinges. It is not known if this was done under the direction of Hernandez or the South Houston Police Department. The video shows one of the occupants resisted arrest and tried to escape but was caught by the deputies. Diaz initially said he believed in transparency and wanted the *Leader* to have the records. He sent a statement regarding his intention to the district attorney's office. Then he changed his mind. According to county officials, he has the right to withhold the records as there is an ongoing investigation being conducted by Precinct 1 Constable Alan Rosen. One concern that some who have seen the videos have is an apparent missing 18-minute segment from one of the videos. One of the deputies reportedly started his video upon his

arrival at 9:53 a.m. on the morning of Jan. 28. The *Leader* has learned that when the recordings were turned over to the county 18 minutes were missing from one tape. The video is showing a beginning time of 10:11 a.m. As of yet, no one has addressed this issue. It is believed there may be an unedited version of the video, but if so, it has not been released to Harris County Attorney's office officials as of yet. The Harris County Attorney's office initially began an investigation into the January incident within days of when the incident occurred. But reportedly due to the coronavirus, the project was slow in getting underway. The county attorney's office is not conducting a criminal investigation, but rather determining whether the civil law and correct county procedures were followed and what recommendations should be made to keep the situation from happening again, if rules were violated. If the county attorney's office finds laws that constituted a crime were broken, the county attorney's office would turn the issue over to the Harris County District Attorney's Office. The apparent only criminal investigation being conducted was requested by Diaz and is being conducted by Constable Alan Rosen's office. While some have questioned Rosen's ability to do an independent investigation since he has publicly endorsed candidate Diaz in the upcoming election, Rosen assured the *Leader* he would do a thorough investigation, and it would be truly independent. According to *Leader* sources, Rosen's staff has begun the investigation and, in fact, spent multiple hours

questioning one of the participants, even though that participant was only at the scene for approximately half an hour. South Houston police have been oddly silent except for the Facebook entry that disappeared shortly after being posted. Another problem connected with this incident is the fact Hernandez reportedly ordered two deputies on the scene to change their official reports. When the deputies refused, a third deputy was told to write a report contradicting the original reports and did so days later. This was apparently done in an effort to avoid a legal/criminal issue that may arise. In addition to three members of the personnel being suspended on this case, an additional male supervisor was suspended on the same day as the others but for a physical attack on a fellow female deputy in a separate incident while on duty and in a marked Precinct 2 vehicle. The episode, which occurred during the daytime hours at a Stripes gas station on Federal Road, was captured on video, as well as reported by a witness. The female victim filed a report with the Houston Police Department accusing the supervisor of assault. According to several employees of Diaz, the suspended employee has admitted to the assault, but Diaz is still retaining him as an employee even after the suspended employee admitted the assault. Harris County has a clear policy of zero tolerance on work-place violence, which Diaz seems to ignore placing the County in civil liability position. Several sources state that Diaz refuses to terminate the employee for workplace violence as it could cost him votes in the runoff, due to the suspended supervisor's community relations.

The Heinrichs celebrate 55th anniversary



Best Wishes to Linda and Ted Heinrich of Sagameadow who celebrate their 55th anniversary Friday, July 10. They first met when they were set up on a blind date on Dec. 12, 1965, and were married July 10, 1965. Congratulations are sent from son Carl Heinrich, wife Martha and their children Carl IV, Drayton, Meaux and Easton, and from their daughter Piper Heinrich and her daughter Parker Sais. The family say they are so grateful to have such loving parents and grandparents and especially say, "Congratulations on this amazing milestone! You both are so loved!"



Posing for a photo circa 1975 are the young couple in the early years of their marriage with their children, left to right, Carl, Ted, Linda and Piper Heinrich. In the lower photo, the family gathers in a more recent pose. Left to right are Ted, Linda, Piper and Carl Heinrich.

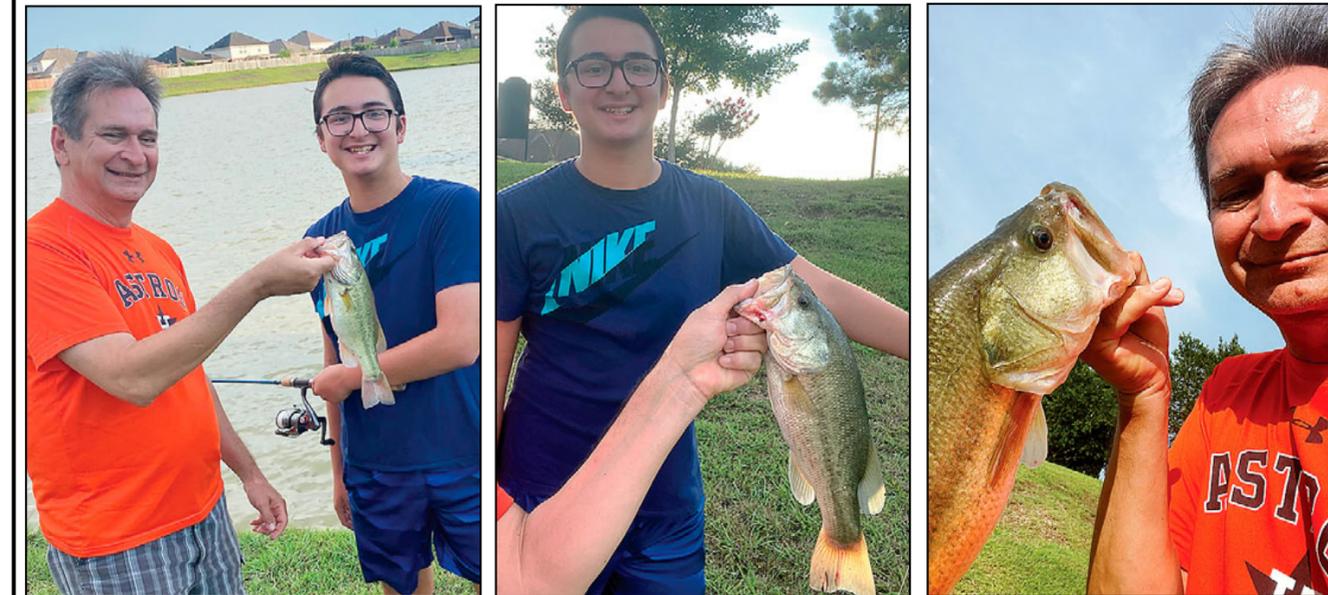


"The Maritime Center of Excellence at San Jacinto College is a state-of-the-art facility and program. I am truly proud to represent such an establishment in Southeast Texas and sponsor legislation that will help provide opportunities to our nation's maritime workforce, while strengthening America's trade and national security in the process," added Garcia.

Garcia, Babin support SJC maritime

On July 1, Congresswoman Sylvia R. Garcia and Congressman Brian Babin filed H.R. 7456, which would create a grant program for community and technical colleges offering exceptional training programs for maritime industry professions. The bill would also authorize \$200 million nationwide to fund the grant program. The bill would directly impact San Jacinto College, which has campuses in both Garcia's and Babin's districts. "Maritime industry jobs are a critical part of our nation's economy, and an essential part of Houston's economy. Yet research has shown that there may soon be a shortage of maritime industry workers," said Garcia. "San Jacinto College is playing a vital role in educating our next generation of maritime industry professionals. I am happy to work with Congressman Babin, and our other original cosponsors, to support exceptional maritime industry training programs, such as those offered at San Jacinto College," added Garcia. "The Maritime Center of Excellence at San Jacinto College is a state-of-the-art facility and program. I am truly proud to represent such an establishment in Southeast Texas and sponsor legislation that will help provide opportunities to our nation's maritime workforce, while strengthening America's trade and national security in the process," added Babin. The bill is also supported by Roger Guenther, Executive Director of Port Houston; Vinny Pilegge, Chairman of the Greater Houston Port Bureau; Bob Mitchell, President of the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership; and Capt. Robert Thompson, presiding officer for the Houston Pilots.

Salinases enjoy a day of fishing at College Place



Enjoying a recent afternoon in the community are, left to right Freddy Salinas and James Salinas residents of College Place subdivision. The duo decided to get out of the house and enjoy fishing in the local College Place pond. Freddy Salinas described the time as "Kicking the COVID-19 blues with a little father-son fishing!"

HCAD upgrades website for virtual protest hearings

Harris County property owners who have chosen either a remote or in-person meeting or hearing will be able to submit property information electronically through HCAD's Electronic Filing and Notice System. Property owners will be able to submit evidence documents for either a remote or in person meeting with an appraiser or a remote or in-person hearing with the Appraisal Review Board or they can bring evidence with them for an on-site meeting. A remote meeting would be done virtually with either an appraiser or with the ARB for a hearing. Property owners will receive an addendum to the "Notice of Protest Hearing" that will contain specific information about the remote hearing and the options available for providing evidence. The district recommends submitting evidence electronically using owners.hcad.org at least three days before the meeting date. Property owners can upload up to 25 megabytes of documentation. However, a property owner can also drop off evidence at the HCAD building or mail evidence, but if dropped off or mailed, it must arrive at least five days before the hearing date so the district can upload the documents. "This is a new and improved mechanism for uploading hearing evidence," said Roland Altinger, chief appraiser. "We already had the iSettle process for providing property value information, so we built on that to create this new option for property owners to provide their evidence." If a property owner is already scheduled for an in-person meeting and wants to change to a remote meeting, they can call 713-812-5860. A secure drop-off box is available from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Hwy. 290 entrance if a property owner must bring something to the appraisal district office. The telephone information center is available at 713-957-7800 for account questions and HELP@HCAD.org is available for email questions. Fillable forms are available online and can be mailed to the appraisal district using the address on the form. **About HCAD** The Harris County Appraisal District is a political subdivision of the State of Texas established in 1980 for the purpose of discovering and appraising property for ad valorem tax purposes for each taxing unit within the boundaries of the district. The district has approximately 1.8 million parcels of property to assess each year with a total market value of approximately \$633 billion. The appraisal district in Harris County is the largest in Texas, serving approximately 500 taxing units, and one of the largest appraisal districts in the United States. For further information, visit www.hcad.org.



KATHALEEN WALL

THESE ARE A FEW OF MY FRIENDS FOR YEARS

 RAND PAUL U.S. SENATOR (KY)	 RANDY WEBER TX CONGRESSMAN	 ROGER WILLIAMS TX CONGRESSMAN	 PENNY NANCE CEO & PRESIDENT OF CWA	 MARJORIE DANNENFELSER PRES. SUSAN B. ANTHONY LIST
---	---	--	---	---

YOU CAN TELL THE CHARACTER OF A PERSON BY THE COMPANY THEY KEEP.

 GREG ABBOTT GOVERNOR	 DAN PATRICK TX LT. GOVERNOR	 KEN PAXTON TX ATTORNEY GENERAL	 GLEN HEGAR TX COMPTROLLER	 SID MILLER TX COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE
 WAYNE CHRISTIAN TX RAILROAD COMMISSIONER	 BRYAN HUGHES STATE SENATOR DIST. 1	 BOB HALL STATE SENATOR DIST. 2	 MAYES MIDDLETON STATE REP. DIST. 23	 VALOREE SWANSON STATE REP. DIST. 150

Space Center Houston hosts special project

Continued from Page 1
 Until Space Center Houston reopens, residents may continue to engage in science learning and enjoy a variety of its expanded virtual learning experiences through its digital resources page at www.spacecenter.org/resources. To stay up to date, follow Space Center Houston on its social media pages and sign up for its newsletter at spacecenter.org. **Virtual campout** Residents are encouraged to grab their camping gear and head to the backyard because the night sky is calling for a campout. During this unique time, Space Center Houston will host a virtual campout Saturday, July 11, from 6 to 9 p.m. Participants may hear from NASA astronaut Dr. Robert Satcher, as he shares his mission experiences. Participants can create their own Martian lander, design their own robotic hand and enjoy a planetarium show. Campers can use household items to make science come to life in their backyard. Ordinarily, Space Center Houston's campouts are paid programs. The nonprofit is making science learning accessible without price being a barrier during the COVID-19 crisis. As a result, this virtual campout is open to anyone who would like to participate. At registration, participants may pay whatever they are comfortable paying. To register for the virtual campout, visit spacecenter.org/virtual-campout.

Order requires masks

Continued from Page 1
 IMAGE-07-02-2020.pdf. Additionally, the governor released a new video message to coincide with his executive order, encouraging Texans to do their part to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and keep their communities safe. To view the complete executive order, visit open.texas.gov/uploads/files/or ganization/open-texas/EO-GA-29-use-of-face-coverings-during-COVID-19. To view the video, visit www.youtube.com/watch?v=uRZdTkxAvE&feature=youtu.be.

COUPON

\$200 OFF

(on jobs \$2,500 & up)

FOUNDATION REPAIR OR SEWER REPAIR

Not valid with any other offer. One coupon per house.

FOUNDATION REPAIR UNDER SLAB SEWER REPAIR HOUSE LEVELING

Allied Foundations

281-479-5247

FREE ESTIMATES



NOW OPEN - Covid-19 Precautions in Place

Call the Office for your appointment

Specializing in Personal Injury Cases



Barry Burleigh, D.C.
Chiropractor

(281) 481-1623
www.burleighchiro.com

11700 Beamer Rd.
Houston, TX 77089

Confused about Medicare? (Who isn't!)




FREE NO Obligation Consultations

11700 Beamer Road (Inside Burleigh Chiropractic)
(832) 517-3976 • email cdb63@att.net