



South Belt-Ellington Leader

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The Voice of Community-Minded People

Thursday, August 10, 2023 Email: mynews@southbeltleader.com www.southbeltleader.com Vol. 48, No. 28

HPD holds PIP meeting

The Houston Police Department's Positive Interaction Program will meet Tuesday, Aug. 15, at 6 p.m. at Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital, 11800 Astoria, in the CES Classroom on the first floor of the main building. PIP consists of police and citizens working together for safer neighborhoods. Guest speaker will be HPD Major Offenders Officer Nicole Frerichs, who will speak on animal cruelty. For additional information, contact HPD Officer Richard Buitron at Richard.Buitron@HoustonPolice.org or 832-395-1776.

Ellington eRecycling set

The City of Houston Solid Waste Management Department's monthly electronic recycling event will take place Saturday, Aug. 12, at the Neighborhood Recycling Center at Ellington Airport from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Recycling electronics keeps potentially harmful materials, such as mercury, cadmium, lead and cathode ray tubes out of the waste stream and the environment. Items accepted are PCs, servers, keyboards, mice, laptops, game consoles, monitors, small kitchen appliances, memory chips, hubs and routers, printers, copiers, scanners, fax machines, projectors, rechargeable batteries, cable boxes, car batteries, telephones, cellphones, PDAs, tape drives, hard drives, cords, cables and cameras. The collection events take place the second Saturday of each month. For information, visit www.houston-solidwaste.org or call 311.

Sagemeadow HOA meets

Sagemeadow subdivision's monthly HOA meeting will be held at The Gardens, 12001 Beamer on Thursday, Aug. 17, at 7:15 p.m. This month's guest speaker is Jeremy Ratcliffe from Harris County Flood Control District. This and all meetings are open to the public. For the meeting agenda or any more information, visit our website, www.sagemeadow.org.

City to collect heavy trash

City residents south of Fuqua will have heavy trash pickup Thursday, Aug. 10 (second Thursday). City residents north of Fuqua and west of the Gulf Freeway will have heavy trash pickup Friday, Aug. 11 (second Friday). August is for junk waste but tree waste will also be accepted. Pickups may be delayed. For information, visit www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste or call 311.

New Covenant feeds needy

New Covenant Christian Church, 10603 Blackhawk at Kirkfair will have new food distribution dates in August. The church will have food distribution the second and fourth Saturday monthly from noon to 2 p.m. This month, the church will also distribute school supplies the second Saturday (Aug. 12). The purpose of the pantry is to provide food to people in need in the community. For more information, contact the church at 281-484-4230.

Coffee with the Constable

Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia will be at Donut Haven, 10802 Hughes, from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. each Thursday as part of the weekly Coffee with the Constable series. The next event will take place Thursday, Aug. 10. For additional information, call Kay Barbour at 713-419-3545.

Local COVID cases reported

The number of active COVID-19 cases in the South Belt community remains on par with the previous week, according to Harris County health officials.

As of Tuesday, Aug. 8, there were 70 active cases in 77089, up two from the previous week. To date, 142 from the ZIP code have died from the disease, no increase from the previous week.

In ZIP code 77075, there were 12 active cases, no change from the previous week. To date, there have been 84 deaths in the ZIP code, no increase from the previous week.

In 77034, there were 21 active cases, no change from the previous week. To date, 92 residents from ZIP code 77034 have died from the disease, no increase from the previous week.

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

Beltway closed for repairs

Eastbound lanes of Beltway 8 will be closed from Blackhawk to the Gulf Freeway from 9 p.m. Friday, Aug. 11, through 5 a.m. Monday, Aug. 14. Detour signs will be in place but drivers may wish to seek another route.

All westbound Beltway 8 main lanes near Gulf Freeway will be closed through Thursday, Aug. 31, to make emergency repairs, according to Texas Department of Transportation officials.

All westbound traffic will be forced to exit the main lanes at SH 3/Old Galveston and be diverted to the Beltway 8 frontage lanes.

The westbound entrance ramps will be closed at SH 3/Old Galveston, Crenshaw and Genoa Red Bluff. The westbound main lanes will reopen at Beamer. Eastbound Beltway 8 main lanes and all connector ramps to the Gulf Freeway will remain open. TxDOT officials say the closures are necessary to make emergency repairs near the westbound Sabo exit, where the ground is sinking. The closures are expected to cause traffic delays.

Gulf Freeway closures set

One northbound main lane and one southbound main lane on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from FM 518 to FM 517 in League City daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Saturday, Sept. 30.

One northbound main lane and one southbound main lane on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from FM 517 in League City to FM 2004/Camp Wallace Access Road in Dickinson/Texas City daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Saturday, Sept. 30.

One northbound main lane and one southbound main lane on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from FM 2004/Camp Wallace Access Road in Dickinson/Texas City to FM 519/Main Street in La Marque daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Saturday, Sept. 30.

South Belt students return to school

New Thompson campus, free Pasadena ISD lunches among firsts

Summer is coming to a close, and that means it's time for South Belt students to return to school.

With the exception of incoming freshmen, Pasadena ISD students will return to class Monday, Aug. 14. To familiarize ninth-grade students with high school campuses before halls become crowded, they will begin class the previous school day on Friday, Aug. 11.

Clear Creek ISD will start the 2023-2024 school year the following week, with students in transition grades (prekindergarten, kindergarten, sixth grade and ninth grade) starting Monday, Aug. 21. This day is designed to allow time for students to get to know their new school. All remaining grades will

return the following day on Tuesday, Aug. 22.

New Thompson campus

This year will mark the opening of the new Thompson Intermediate campus in Pearland.

Located on a 21-acre plot of land on Hughes Road near South Belt Elementary, the new 178,000-square-foot campus was approved by voters in 2017 as part of a \$135 million bond referendum. Pasadena ISD officially broke ground on the new campus at a ceremony held at the school site Thursday, Oct. 28, 2001. Construction of the new school, however, was already underway prior to the ceremonial groundbreaking. Drymalla Construction Company was awarded

the \$39.5 million contract to construct the new campus.

Originally to be constructed on Highland Meadows Drive in the Riverstone Ranch at Clear Creek subdivision, the project was met with opposition from residents of both the Riverstone Ranch at Clear Creek and Green Tee Terrace subdivisions, the two neighborhoods which would have bordered the campus.

Some Riverstone Ranch at Clear Creek residents felt the proposed location presented a safety hazard, as it was to be located deep within the subdivision, with the school's only entrance being within a 90-plus-degree curve with limited sight of oncoming traffic in both directions.

Green Tee Terrace homeowners further complained that the initial site of the campus would have generated additional traffic in their community.

To rectify the problem, Pasadena ISD officials proposed a land swap with Meritage Homes, the developer in the area surrounding the school. Such a move, however, would cost the district significantly more money.

New plans called for relocating the Thompson

campus to a piece of property in the 8700 block of Hughes Road in the Pearland city limits.

The former Thompson campus suffered extensive damage during Hurricane Harvey.

Following the historic storm, Thompson students were temporarily housed at Beverly Hills Intermediate for five months, while school officials and an independent committee studied the issue.

Free PISD meals

In another first this year, free breakfast and lunch will be provided for all Pasadena ISD students.

Further, Pasadena ISD parents will not be required to fill out "free and reduced" lunch applications this year.

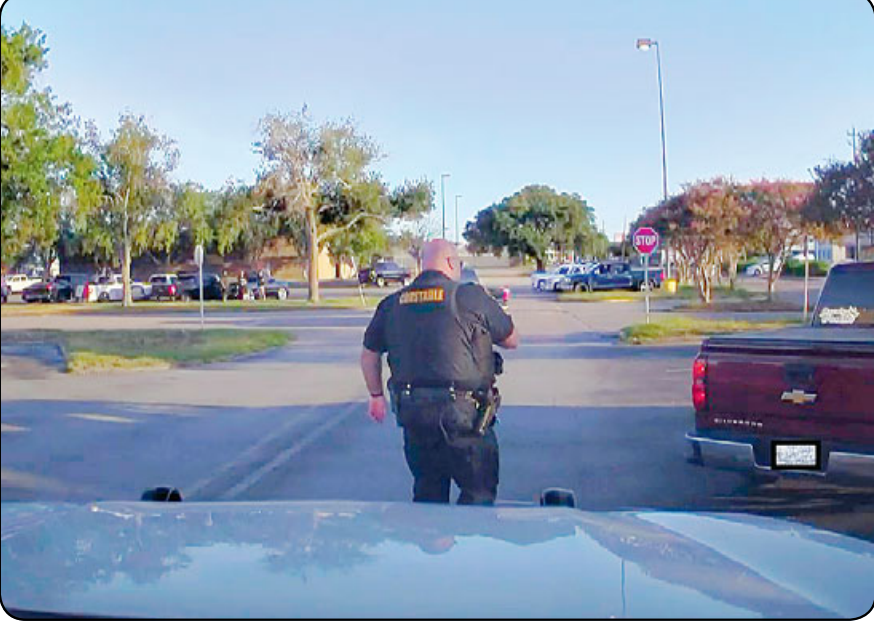
The free meals are part of a program sponsored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service.

The Community Eligibility Provision program provides meals at no cost to eligible school districts. Economically disadvantaged school districts must apply and be accepted into the program. PISD officials said the measure will do away with the stigma associated with free and reduced lunches.

Meals will be free to all students beginning on

Continued on Page 4

Pct. 2 deputies target takeovers



On Sunday Aug. 6, Precinct 2 deputies conducted an operation to prohibit parking lot and street "takeovers" in the area around Fuqua and the Gulf Freeway. Officials said the takeovers occur most frequently at the Fishing Tackle Unlimited parking lot. During this operation, deputies performed 32 traffic stops, issuing numerous citations for traffic violations and towing several vehicles for not being legal to operate on a public roadway.

State sales tax holiday set for Aug. 11-13

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar is reminding shoppers they can save money on clothes and school supplies during the state's sales tax holiday on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 11-13.

State law exempts sales tax on qualified items — such as clothing, footwear, school supplies and backpacks — priced below \$100, saving shoppers about \$8 on every \$100 they spend. The dates of the sales tax holiday and list of tax-exempt items are set by the Texas Legislature.

"As Texans prepare for the back-to-school bell, this is the perfect time to take advantage of the opportunity to save money on everything from blue jeans to ballpoint pens," Hegar said. "As the father of three, I know how these expenses can add up."

The Comptroller's office estimates that shoppers will save \$136 million in state and local sales tax during this sales tax holiday.

Apparel and school supplies that may be purchased tax free are listed on the Comptroller's website at TexasTaxHoliday.org.

During the annual sales tax holiday, qualifying items can be purchased tax free online or by telephone, mail, custom order or any other means (including in-store purchases) when either:

- The item is both delivered to, and paid for by, the customer during the exemption period; or,
- the customer orders and pays for the item, and the seller accepts the order during the exemption period for immediate shipment, even if delivery is made after the exemption period ends.

Texas' sales tax holiday weekend has been an annual event since 1999.

For additional information or to see a complete list of tax-free items, visit comptroller.texas.gov/about/media-center/news/20230727-texas-sales-tax-holiday-is-aug-11-13-1690388658447.

Meeting to address inheritance properties

Topics to include alternatives such as AirBnBs, rentals

The City of Houston Department of Neighborhoods, along with GEJ Properties, Community Collective for Houston and the Houston Black Real Estate Association will present its Don't Sell It, Build Wealth With It series Saturday, Aug. 26, from 10 a.m. to noon at the Community Collective (formerly the Power Center), located at 12401 Post Oak Road.

This program will educate the community about alternatives to selling inheritance properties. The presenters will discuss how to protect generational wealth and after the presentations, attendees will also be able to meet with a real estate agent to talk specifically about their prop-

erty.

Workshop topics include the following:

- How to convert inheritance property into an AirBnB.
- How to become landlord with the Houston Housing Authority.
- Options in lieu of selling family properties (renovation and renovation capital, land leases for signage, cell tower, parking, short-term rentals, donation, etc.).
- Legal protections to keep family property in the family, navigating title concerns and deed options.

To register, visit bit.ly/45at90o.

City's 2023 internship program a success

Turner touts Hire Houston Youth program

Mayor Sylvester Turner joined hundreds of Hire Houston Youth interns the morning of July 31 to celebrate the end of a successful summer internship season full of resource connections, career readiness training and financial literacy enhancement.

The event coined the "End of Summer Celebration," was produced by the Human Resources Department and the Mayor's Office of Education and Youth Engagement, where interns had the opportunity to meet one another, network with present employers, learn of available resources, and hear from a private sector employer and intern about their experiences with the program, as well as from Turner himself.

"Everyone that chose to participate in Hire Houston Youth and has completed or is in the process of completing an internship or job op-

portunity deserves to be celebrated. The youth of today have faced unprecedented times that involved a global pandemic, a national mental health crisis, and an increase in violence and yet, they have persevered," said Turner.

Hire Houston Youth serves as a facilitator to connect youth, ages 16 – 24, to eight-week paid local jobs and internships at the City of Houston and in the public, private, and philanthropic sectors where they are empowered with an "earn and learn" opportunity in Houston's dynamic economy.

Turner included Hire Houston Youth in the One Safe Houston crime reduction initiative to reduce violence, prevent crime, provide increased crisis intervention, engage the community and provide outreach opportunities to young people.

Continued on Page 4

Driver killed in high-speed crash

A man was killed in a crash around 3:20 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 3, in the 12200 block of the Gulf Freeway near Alameda Genoa/South Shaver.

The identity of the deceased male, believed to be 30, was pending notification to family member by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences at press time.

According to Houston Police Department officials, a silver Buick LaCrosse was traveling on the Gulf Freeway service road at a high rate of

speed when the driver lost control and struck a utility pole in front of a shopping center at the above address. The impact caused the Lacrosse to wrap around the pole.

Paramedics pronounced the driver dead at the scene.

No other persons or vehicles were involved in this crash.

The investigation was continuing at press time.

Naked man at center of SWAT standoff

A SWAT standoff involving a naked man took place early Tuesday, Aug. 8, at the Mustang Inn on Beltway 8 at the Gulf Freeway.

According to Houston Police Department officials, officers were called to the motel just after 2 a.m. about a weapons disturbance after a naked man was reportedly walking from room to room with a pistol and either a large knife or a machete.

When responding officers attempted to make contact with the suspect, he produced what looked like a pistol, prompting the officer to call for SWAT support.

When the SWAT team arrived, the man barricaded himself inside a room with a mattress against the window.

At one point during the standoff, the SWAT team attempted to send in a robotic dog named SPOT and the naked suspect came out of the room, grabbed the robot and took it inside.

The standoff came to an end around 8:45 a.m.

when the suspect came out of the room a second time, this time clothed and obeying police commands.

The suspect, who had reportedly been up all night smoking methamphetamine, was apprehended without incident. He has been charged with three counts of aggravated assault with a pistol, with additional charges pending. HPD officials said the suspect had previous run-ins with the department's Mental Health Division.

This marked the second SWAT standoff at the Mustang Inn in just one month, as a previous incident took place at the motel on Friday, July 7.

In that incident, a man barricaded himself in a room after stabbing a female victim. Justin Lee Riojas, 34, was arrested after a two-hour standoff when SWAT officers entered his room by force. He was subsequently charged with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon in the 177th State District Court.

Swimming pools close for summer

While the heat index may suggest otherwise, summer is coming to an end, and several local swimming pools are closing for the season. Once school begins, all area pools will be closed on weekdays.

The Ashley Pointe and Highland Meadow pools will close after Labor Day. Ashley Pointe's holiday pool hours are from noon to 8 p.m., while Highland Meadow's hours are from 3 to 8 p.m.

The Clear Brook Meadows and Riverstone Ranch pools will remain open two weekends past Labor Day, closing Sunday, Sept. 17. Pool hours are 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The Sageglenn pool will remain open weekends through the month of September, closing for the season Sunday, Sept. 24. Pool hours are from noon to 9 p.m. on Saturdays and from 1 to 9 p.m. on Sundays.

Firefighters cared for Duff



Longtime South Belt resident Billy Duff (left) recently died at 97 years old. For quite some time, firefighters from Houston Fire Department Station 70 "adopted" Duff and cared for her, particularly Robert Hyatt (right) and Chief Phillip Quintero. Hyatt would even check in on Duff during his free time to make sure the aging resident was OK. See related letter to the editor on Page 2.

In My Opinion

Residents thank #70 firefighters

The following was given us on behalf of Billy Duff, who then died (See related picture Page 1.) It is from residents in Beverly Hills where Ms. Duff died.

To: Chief Peña
We are writing you on behalf of Mrs. Billy Duff, to make you aware of the great and compassionate work your fireman of station 70 do.

We want you to know how much all of the visits that Chief Quintero and Albert means to the 97-year-old widow.

Too many times I'm sure all you hear is complaints, but the men at station 70 definitely care about our community.

A special shout out to Rob, who stops by on his own time to check on her and much gratitude to all the men who work station 70.

Sincerely,
Goerge Wright
Rhonda Smith
Debbie Harris

We love our Firefighters

Muecke upset over Crenshaw

This will not be nice. You know me well for trying to help the Freeway Manor/Edgebrook area, which includes some neighborhood areas. I tell it like it is. I was involved with Spencer Road and look at what a great road that turned out to be. Then Crenshaw back 17 years ago. Public Works had one hell of a good engineer that I had a great working relationship with, Mr. Menendez. He was let go under Mayor Parker, guess for being too good. We discussed how dangerous Crenshaw was due to the deep ditches on both sides. He looked at the list and said it is on the list but 17 years down

the road and he was correct, now 17 years. He then told me the plans, doing away with the deep ditches, wider roadway and sidewalks.

This morning I went to pan cake breakfast at St. Frances Cabrini. One member has to travel Crenshaw so asked are they finished. Well up to a point, road has been paved and now sidewalks, BUT THE DEEP DITCHES still in place. From the report you put out I was afraid the ditches would still be there. So did a drive by and he is correct, road paved and smooth, still very narrow and deep ditches and some sidewalks to where? Not what Mr Menendez said was planned. This road is next to a large school so a lot of turning traffic. Not sure other than Ms Haddock had a hand in this change in design. This is our tax money, and look what we got. Really nothing but a smooth paved road. We are very VERY disappointed.

Now another note. I have gone to Public Works many times about extending Hartsook from the barricade to South Shaver, this is not a long expensive distance. I was just asking for this to be put in the calendar, not happening immediately. This extension area is what the HCFCV is using as a road to haul out dirt onto Shaver. So why not just this area. Why not just put in the road extension. The property is undeveloped and available, try being pro active.

Drove by this area of South Shaver and there is some type road work happening at this location where the trucks exit but could not determine what for. Come on, with the new Milstead school road, churches and homes this short extension would be very helpful for traffic flow, be proactive. But your office said NO WAY??? What puzzles me about not putting this extension on the calendar is that Crenshaw was on for over 17 years. This short extension cannot be placed????

Jim Muecke

Dobie Varsity cheerleaders ready for 2023-2024 school year



Dobie High School's Varsity cheer team is geared up for the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year. Varsity cheerleaders shown above are, left to right, (front row) Lexie Martinez, Jazmyne Martinez, Angelina Sanchez, Izzy Romero, Brissa Marroquin, (middle row) Makayla Johnson, Audrey Paredes, Mandilyn Riter, Kim Tovar, Brianna Pedraza, Zoe Espinosa, Bella Rivera, (back row) Ashlyn Otero, Adrianna Avila, Jalissa Irvin, Chase Robinson, Evangeline Adams, Amirah Carraway and Alyssa Allen.

HPD investigate airport stabbing

Houston police are investigating the fatal stabbing of a woman found at 6815 Airport Blvd. about 3:10 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 7.

The identity of the victim, 50, is pending verification by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences.

According to HPD Homicide Division detectives Luncelford and Davis, HPD patrol officers responded to a residence at the above address and found the victim suffering multiple stab wounds. Houston Fire Department paramedics pronounced her deceased at the scene.

At this time the investigation remains on-going.

Anyone with information in this case is urged to contact the HPD Homicide Division at 713-308-3600 or speak anonymously to Crime Stoppers at 713-222-TIPS.

Red Cross says get ready

People in the communities are facing another active year of hurricanes and the American Red Cross, Texas Gulf Coast Region, urges everyone to get ready now and consider becoming a volunteer to help people affected by the growing number of disasters.

"Across the country, we're launching nearly twice as many major disaster relief operations as we did a decade ago," said Vanessa Valdez, interim communications director, American Red Cross Texas Gulf Coast. "Because of this jump in the number of large disasters to which we respond, we need more volunteers so we continue providing relief on a near-constant basis to make sure families are supported when they need it most."

Red Cross volunteers make up 90 percent of their workforce. They're providing shelter, comfort, hot meals, health services and recovery support to families in need. In the last 10 years, the number of billion-dollar disasters in the U.S. increased 70 percent. And in this country, hurricanes accounted for eight of the 10 most costly weather disasters.

The need to help during disasters has never been greater. Visit redcross.org/volunteer today for information. Most-needed positions include:

Shelter support
Help at a shelter during a large disaster by welcoming and registering residents, serving meals, setting up cots, distributing blankets and personal hygiene kits, and providing information and other assistance to people in need.

Health services
Also needed are volunteers who can use professional skills as a licensed health care provider to deliver hands-on support, including care and education to people staying at a shelter during a large disaster. Qualified licenses include RN, LPN, LVN, EMT, Paramedic, MD, DO, PA, NP and APRN.

Disaster action team
While big hurricanes get the most news coverage, smaller disasters, such as home fires, are no less devastating to those affected. Join your local Disaster Action Team to help families in need by providing food, lodging, comfort, recovery assistance and other support.

Preparation is key. With the increasing risk of climate disasters, it's more important than ever to follow the three

steps below to help keep ones family safe. Plus, download the free Red Cross First Aid app so you'll know what to do if emergency help is delayed and the free Emergency app for weather alerts, open Red Cross shelter locations and more safety tips. Choose whether you want to view the content in English or Spanish with an easy-to-find language selector. Find these and Red Cross apps in smartphone app stores by searching for the American Red Cross or going to redcross.org/apps.

Build an emergency kit with bottled water, nonperishable food, flashlight and battery-powered radio. Include medications, important papers, phone chargers and emergency contact information.

Make evacuation plan with what to do in case one is separated from family during an emergency and if one has to evacuate. Make sure to coordinate with child's school, one's work and community's emergency plans — and don't forget pets. Know how to stay informed by finding out how local officials will contact one during a disaster and how to get important information, such as evacuation orders.

er. Visit redcross.org/volunteer today for information. Most-needed positions include:

Garza helps Pct. 2 constables beat the heat



Shown, left to right, are constables Lancaster, Rivas, Torres and Jones with Skyler Garza (center), age 8. Garza showed her appreciation for the men and women who risk their lives every day to keep citizens safe by treating them to her freshly squeezed lemonade to help beat the heat. The constables praised her for the lemonade and left a lasting impression on her. South Belt resident Daniel Garza, Skyler's grandfather, thanks Jerry Garcia for hiring these men and women to protect the community.

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REPLACEMENT & STORM WINDOWS

In My Opinion

King's prospective on Mayor's race

Two polls of likely City voters have now confirmed that the election for Houston's next mayor has become a two-person race between State Senator John Whitmire and Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee. All other candidates are polling in the low single digits. In the most recent poll, conducted by the University of Houston's Hobby, Whitmire edged Lee in the first round with 34%-32%, with 22% undecided and all other candidates getting a combined 12%. No other candidate received more than 3%.

In a hypothetical runoff between Whitmire and Lee, Whitmire got 51% to 33% for Lee. Between them in a runoff, 12% was undecided with 3% indicating they would not vote. In the hypothetical runoff, about half of the previously undecideds and almost all of those voting for another candidate broke for Whitmire. In contrast, Lee was only able to marginally expand her vote from the general election.

This is largely explained by the fact that a whopping 44% of Houstonians said they would never vote for Lee. That percentage for all other candidates was in the mid-teens. Whitmire was the least objectionable candidate with only 13% saying they would never vote for him.

Lee's high unfavorable rating was confirmed by another poll, conducted for the Houston Regional Business Coalition by Chris Perkins, one of the state's top pollsters. It showed that 30% of likely voters had a very unfavorable opinion of Lee and another 8% had a somewhat unfavorable opinion. Whitmire had only a 7% very unfavorable opinion and another 5% somewhat unfavorable opinion. That poll, which was conducted earlier this year, found that Whitmire and Lee will dominate the first round but with more undecideds. It also showed Whitmire with a substantial lead over Lee in a runoff at 45%-33%.

These polls generally confirm what I have found regarding the electorate that has historically decided the outcome of Houston mayoral elections. There are three dominant groups — whites that lean Republican, whites that lean Democratic and African-Americans. These groups are roughly the same size and will make up nearly 80% or more of the vote. While Latinos are the largest ethnic group in the City, they still make up a much smaller portion of the voters in City elections. The UH poll has them at 18%. I am skeptical it will be that high. Asian Americans and others will make up about 5-10%.

The partisan breakdown in the City leans strongly Democratic. The UH poll showed that 50% of City voters identified as a Democrat with 34% Republican and 16% unaffiliated. The Perkins poll had the partisan breakdown at 42%-23%-32%. I am inclined to think that the Perkins poll is probably closer to what the actual breakdown will be. But these breakdowns do not reflect the true damage that has been done to the Republican brand among City voters. In the Perkins polls, Donald Trump had a 65% unfavorable rating. That is about 10% above the national average for his unfavorable rating. Abbott has a 56% unfavorable rating in Houston, while his unfavorable rating statewide generally polls in the low 40s.

This brand damage is why it is impossible to elect anyone as mayor of Houston that is "running as Republican." After Lee filed, several Republicans called me to make the argument that they could rally the "Republican base" to get in the runoff and then win the runoff because of Lee's high unfavorable rating. The scenario is delusional. Anyone running as a Republican would have to denounce Republican leaders like Trump and Abbott to have any chance at winning the election, which would turn off the Republican base.

Also, it is important to note that while the number of Houstonians which have an unfavorable view of Lee is unusually high, she still has a net positive approval rating of 53%-38%, which is about the same as the approval rating for Biden within the City and in stark contrast to the 28%-65% for Trump. Indeed, the most favorable scenario for Lee would be for an identifiable Republican to make the runoff.

Houston pundits are fond of saying that no one pays attention to the mayoral election until after Labor Day and that it is too early to make any firm predictions. Historically, there has been some truth to that conventional wisdom. Bill White came out of nowhere in 2001, and in the summer of 2015 the polls were showing that I would have little chance of making the runoff.

But polling on this year's race shows a much starker separation between the two front-runners and the rest of the field than any I have ever seen. I am always cognizant of the immortal words of the great American philosopher, Yogi Berra, that "predictions are hard, especially about the future." Nonetheless, I will go out on a limb in this case and predict that the name of the person sworn in as mayor on January 1 will either be Whitmire or Lee.

Note 1 — It is interesting that the number of people who say they would never vote for Lee is higher than her unfavorable rating (44% vs 38%). That means that some people who hold a favorable view of Lee would nonetheless do not view her as good mayoral material.

Bill King

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Blackhawk @ Kirkfair

ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST Catholic Church

Rev. Douglas J. Guthrie, Pastor
Rev. Kingsley Nwoko, Parochial Vicar

11011 Hall Rd.
(between Beamer & Blackhawk)
www.stlukesatholic.com

LITURGY SCHEDULE

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

Parish Office: 281-481-6816
Children's Faith Formation: 281-481-4251
Adult Faith Formation: 713-538-2862
All are welcome to come to worship and serve the Lord in a spirit of love, sharing, and hope.

3D DISCOVERY KIDS

11590 Hughes Rd. Houston, Tx 77089
Fall 2023 3DDK Private Elementary School

Now accepting enrollment for the following grade levels: PreK3, PreK4, Kindergarten (Age 5 by Sept. 1), First grade - Fifth grade. We are a Private Christian-based School that offers an accelerated robust program, smaller student ratios, and a personalized environment with a homeschool similarity.

PROGRAM BENEFITS
ABEKA Christian Based Curriculum
Small classroom group size ratio 10 per grade level maximum
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We offer a 10% Sibling, Teacher/Educator, or Military discount
Additional fees not included with tuition: Books, Abeka materials and Uniforms
For additional information please contact our center at 281-484-2376

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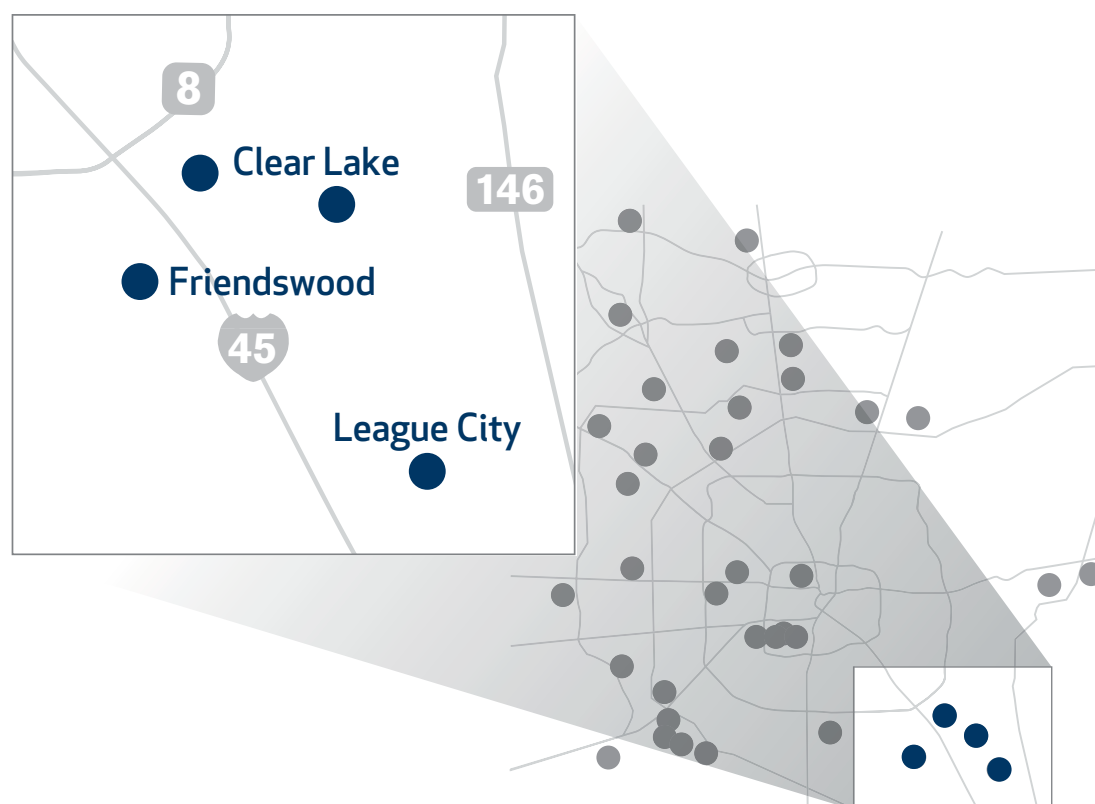


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Freeman helps Estrada out of comfort zone



Shining Star Julissa Estrada, BPA vice president and member of the National Honor Society, plans to attend college to become a psychologist.

She credits distinguished educator Matthew Freeman, CTHS business information management, accounting, entrepreneurship and business practicum teacher with positively impacting her academic life.

She says, "Once Freeman took over our pathway, not only did I find interest in the field, I stepped out of my comfort zone and became open to a variety of career options. Mr. Freeman will never fail to try his best for each student and our pathway as a whole.

"It is evident that he cares for us and will do what he can to deliver a fun and memorable high school experience. Being his student has been an honor, which I hope many upcoming students can appreciate in the future."

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

The Shining Stars represent the Top Lewis Career & Technical High School students.

The information and photos were submitted by the Pasadena Independent School District.

The Leader is also running Shining Stars from South Houston, Pasadena Memorial and J. Frank Dobie high schools.

Bui appreciates Baxter-Swindle's example

Distinguished scholar Brandon Bui chose C. Baxter Swindle, Pasadena Memorial AP environmental science teacher, to be his distinguished educator.

He relates, "I chose Mrs. Baxter-Swindle as my distinguished educator because she is an astounding teacher who cares and understands her students. She has been influential in my life because not only does she teach her curriculum efficiently to make sure

her students are successful, she is also very compassionate, humorous, understanding, warm-hearted, thoughtful, and cares truly for all her students. Furthermore, Mrs. Baxter has greatly impacted my senior year. She has taught me to put my well-being and mental health first and has given helpful advice for challenges I have faced this year. I am going to miss our morning conversations we have at the beginning of third period and the jokes we make during class. I will forever be grateful for having the pleasure of having Mrs. Baxter as an educator. Thank you, Mrs. Baxter, for being a phenomenal teacher and one of my best and favorite teachers!"

Bui plans to major in business at UT-Austin, and has been involved in volunteer work within Asbury United Methodist Church, student council, National Honor Society, as well as Pasadena Memorial's golf and orchestra events. In addition, he is involved in the American Legion Texas Boys State.

He holds the position of class officer historian, student council historian, superintendent student advisory committee senior representative and is a member of DECA. The South Belt Shining Stars will be presented in a series of students being honored along with their favorite mentor. The Shining Stars represent the Top Pasadena Memorial students. The information and photos were submitted by the Pasadena Independent School District.

The Leader is also running Shining Stars from South Houston, CTHS and J. Frank Dobie high schools.



Badon cares for Tran as if her own



Carol Tran, Dobie Shining Star, emphasizes how distinguished educator Angela Badon has impacted her academic career.

"Ms. Badon never fails to maintain an engaging and fun class; in fact, her class is one of my favorite classes to go to every day. She brings a familial warmth to her students and treats her students as if we were her children. In my freshman and sophomore years, she offered me private violin lessons at no charge because she was understanding of my family's financial situation. Even when she was going through her own personal struggles, she still managed to keep a positive attitude at school. I am incredibly grateful for her guidance over these past four years."

Badon is an orchestra teacher at Dobie; Tran holds the leadership position of orchestra officer. Tran is also a member of the Asian Student Association and plans to major in environmental science at UT-Austin.

The South Belt Shining Stars will be presented in a series of students being honored along with their favorite mentor. The Shining Stars represent the Top J. Frank Dobie High School students.

The information and photos were submitted by the Pasadena Independent School District.

The Leader is also running Shining Stars from South Houston, Pasadena Memorial and Kirk Lewis Technical high schools.

Oseguera moves Carrillo to enjoy learning



South Houston Shining Star Daniel Carrillo is a member of the National Honor Society and engaged the UIL Computer Science Competition. He plans to major in mechanical engineering at the University of Houston following his graduation.

Chosen as his distinguished educator is SoHo computer science teacher, Michael Oseguera. Carrillo says of Oseguera's influence, "Over time, my interest in school diminished slowly, always seeming like a chore rather than the next step in life. However, through talking with Mr. Oseguera, I came to realize the reason why. Classes had lost their meaning without the curiosity I once had, such that class would bore me more than anything. For me to care, it needed to be something I found fascinating. Through his help and supportive guidance, I understood those interests and revitalized my desire to keep learning, even past my laziness."

The South Belt Shining Stars will be presented in a series of students being honored along with their favorite mentor. The Shining Stars represent the Top South Houston High School students. The information and photos were submitted by the Pasadena Independent School District.

The Leader is also running Shining Stars from Pasadena Memorial High School, CTHS and J. Frank Dobie high schools.

JFD 40-year reunion

The JFD Class of 1983 will hold a 40 year reunion Sept. 15-17. Contact jfdclassof1983@gmail.com, if not on the Facebook reunion page.

Students return . . .

Continued from Page 1

For more information on the program, visit www.fns.usda.gov/cn/community-eligibility-provision.

Start times

In Pasadena ISD, elementary students will attend school from 7:45 a.m. to 3:05 p.m.; middle school students will attend school from 8:40 a.m. to 4 p.m.; intermediate students will attend school from 8:10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.; and high school students will attend school from 7:15 a.m. to 2:35 p.m. Students are tardy if they are not in class by the official start time. To prevent tardiness or disruption to the classrooms, students should arrive 15-30 minutes earlier than the start time.

During that time they may eat breakfast, visit with friends and arrive at the classroom on time to put away supplies and prepare for the school day. For additional Pasadena ISD back-to-school information, visit www1.pasadenaisd.org/parents_students/back_to_school.

Clear Creek ISD

This will mark the first full school year with Dr. Karen Engle in the position of CCISD superintendent. A longtime Clear Creek ISD leader Engle had been named the lone finalist for the position in November 2022. Before retiring from the

Clear Creek ISD

position in November 2022. Before retiring from the

Internship successful

Continued from Page 1

Hire Houston Youth ensures that Houston's youth and young adults have alternative ways to spend their idle time and an opportunity to receive training and acquire skills needed for a successful path to higher education and future careers.

"Houston's future is not only connected to the success of our local youth, but it is dependent on it," said Human Resources Director Jane Cheeks. "Our youth deserve employment opportunities that connect them to the local workforce, allowing them to make informed choices about their future career path and contribute to Houston's economy."

These opportunities would not have been possible without the City of Houston's corporate partners, community leaders, corporations and philanthropic entities.

The Class of 2023 interns are the last class of interns under Turner's administration.

"When I launched Hire Houston Youth in 2016 through my Office of Education and Youth Engagement, it was with the goal in mind that we would connect youth to local jobs where they are empowered with an "earn and learn" opportunity in Houston's dynamic economy," said Turner.

"Looking at all of you is looking at a promise fulfilled. A promise to empower our youth through educational and employment opportunities."

The Mayor's Office of Education and Youth Engagement worked to register more than 600 employers to participate in the program.

Boosting disconnected youth and young adults' interaction and experience with STEM careers will increase their awareness of the career opportunities that these fields can offer," said Mayor's Office of Education and Youth Engagement Director Olivera Jankovska.

Although the summer is ending, it is not too late for youth to get involved. The Hire Houston Youth website still boasts thousands of internships and job opportunities that are available year-round. If one is an employer interested in joining Hire Houston Youth, visit hirehoustonyouth.org/employers/, and if one is a youth or young adult wanting to register, visit hirehoustonyouth.org/youth.

Remember When

45 years ago (1978)

For the second year in a row, the Dobie-South Houston American Legion team won the state championship in American Legion baseball.

The State Department of Highways and Public Transportation installed traffic signals at three intersections connected with Interstate 45 at South Belt.

40 years ago (1983)

Due to damage done by Hurricane Alicia, area schools postponed their opening day.

Trustees of the Pasadena school district adopted a \$77.96 million budget for the 1983-84 school year at the regular August board meeting.

35 years ago (1988)

Dobie Associate Principal Peggy Walters became the first woman ever elected to the office of state coordinator in the State Principals Association.

Glenn White, assistant superintendent of personnel at Pasadena Independent School District, took on the title of personnel director for the city of Pasadena.

30 years ago (1993)

Southbend subdivision's swimming pool was destroyed as dump trucks began filling in the pool during the week.

South Belt resident Brian George, 21, was sentenced to life in prison after being found guilty in the 1990 stabbing death of Carrie Renee Stovall, 27, in the 11400 block of Camphorwood. Because the jury decided George may not have intended to kill Stovall, the life sentence was given.

The Brio toxic waste site gained national attention when CBS's Eye on America featured it on Connie Chung's news broadcast. The report on environmental contamination in residential areas featured Brio for 1.5 minutes of a four-minute report. Former Southbend residents Nancy and Ronnie Weber, who said they still owned the home they bought for \$80,000, were featured.

25 years ago (1998)

The Dobie varsity cheerleaders won top honors at the UCA Camp held in San Marcos at Southwest Texas State University.

The South Belt 14-year-old all-star team lost to Pasadena twice in the South Zone finals falling just one game short of the World Series.

20 years ago (2003)

The Clear Brook High School ninth-grade center was deleted from a revised bond package proposed by the Clear Creek Independent School District board of trustees.

Jessica Carter Swenson became the new journalism teacher and newspaper and yearbook advisor for Dobie High School.

15 years ago (2008)

The U.S. Army's 75th Battle Command Training Division hosted an event at Ellington Field to dedicate the new Joint Forces Reserve Center at the base and to honor the change of command for the division. The dedication of the new Joint Forces Reserve Center was attended by several area VIPs and politicians, including U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, who served as the event's keynote speaker.

NAM Development and SFK Development Inc. purchased an additional 135 acres of land contiguous to the acreage already owned by them. The property was previously part of the South Bend subdivision. The firms planned to develop the tract

into a mixed-use facility focused toward active adults, 55 years of age or older, and retirees living in a gated community of single family housing. Due to the presence of the Brio site in the neighborhood, the area was very thoroughly tested for both soil and underground water contamination and health hazards. Test results were within the normal limits.

One man was fatally shot and another seriously wounded following a disturbance at the Sage Hollow apartment complex in the 10700 block of Fuqua. Four males were arguing outside the complex when gunfire erupted. Andrae Prentice Shelton, 28, was pronounced dead at the scene. The second victim was transported to Ben Taub General Hospital, where he underwent surgery. One of the other two men fired the shots, then fled with a companion, police said. No immediate arrests were made.

A charter bus carrying several members of the Vietnamese Martyrs Church on Kingspoint crashed in Sherman, killing 17 and injuring dozens of others. The 55-passenger bus was traveling to Carthage, Mo., when the vehicle's right front tire blew out, causing the bus to hit a guardrail and tip over. According to authorities, 12 passengers died at the scene, while dozens of others were transported to various North Texas hospitals, where five others later succumbed.

10 years ago (2013)

The Texas Education Agency released its 2012-13 State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) accountability ratings, with both the Pasadena Independent School District and the Clear Creek Independent School District earning a "Met Standard" designation.

An armed robbery suspect crashed his truck into Morris Middle School during a police chase. The unidentified male driver was armed with a shotgun and accused of taking part in two separate "jump out" robberies earlier in the day. Around 1 p.m., police spotted a vehicle matching the description of the one used in the robberies and attempted to pull over the driver. The driver refused to stop, and a chase ensued. During the chase, the suspect lost control of his vehicle and smashed

5 years ago (2018)

A former deputy from the Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's office, accused of fatally shooting a prominent Houston doctor the previous month, took his own life Friday, Aug. 3, as police were closing in on him. Joseph Pappas, who served with the Precinct 2 department under Constable Gary Freeman, had been formally charged with murder the previous day for the July 20 killing of Dr. Mark Hausknecht, a well-known local surgeon and former cardiologist for President George H.W. Bush. According to police, the 65-year-old physician was riding his bike to work in the Texas Medical Center when Pappas - also riding a bicycle - passed him, turned around and shot him in the head and torso. The doctor was rushed to Ben Taub Hospital, where he was pronounced dead. Houston police said Pappas likely carried a 20-plus-year grudge against the doctor for the death of his mother, who had died on Hausknecht's operating table in 1997. Other sources familiar with the case said additional factors may have contributed to the shooting.

1 year ago (2022)

Two teens were accused of three local murders in a 12-hour killing spree that began the afternoon of Sunday, July 31. Evan Scott Redmond, 18, and Camren Keith Johnson, 19, were each charged in the murders.

The first homicide took place around 3 p.m. Sunday on Blakely Grove Lane off Pearland Parkway. The victim was identified as Nathaniel Alaniz, 19. Pearland police initially responded to reports of gunshots coming from inside a residence, where a man was confirmed dead. Less than 12 hours later in Houston, the pair of suspects allegedly murdered two more people near Fuqua and Monroe, killing Joshua Perkins, 20, and Charlie Castaneda, 22. According to Houston Police Department officials, patrol officers responded to a shooting call at a

convenience store about 1:35 a.m. Monday, Aug. 1, in the 10600 block of Monroe and located a male victim inside the business. He had suffered multiple gunshot wounds. Houston Fire Department paramedics transported the man to an area hospital, where he was pronounced dead. Detectives learned the victims were inside a white Mercedes Benz in the parking lot. The suspect, Redmond, exited the front passenger seat of a black Nissan Altima and entered the Mercedes. Surveillance video evidence indicated at least one shot was fired. One victim exited the driver's seat of the Mercedes and ran into the business.

The Nissan fled the scene, followed by the Mercedes, stolen and being driven by Redmond. Officers located the second victim on the roadway in the 1000 block of Pearland Parkway.

It appeared he was thrown from the Mercedes. He had suffered multiple gunshot wounds. Pearland Fire Department paramedics pronounced the man dead at the scene. Patrol officers later observed the stolen Mercedes and attempted a traffic stop. The driver failed to comply and a pursuit ensued. It ended when the Mercedes rolled over and crashed in the 2200 block of Dixie Farm Road.

Redmond was in the driver's seat of the stolen vehicle. Paramedics transported him to an area hospital with minor injuries.

Redmond admitted to his role in the shooting and subsequent incidents. HPD officers later located the Nissan Altima at a residence in Pearland. Officers took Johnson into custody without incident.

He later admitted to being the driver of the Nissan. Both suspects were charged with capital murder.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, REBECCA! Birthdays wishes are sent to **Rebecca Lilley**, director of physician resources at Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital, South Belt Chamber board member and active community member, who celebrates a birthday Aug. 11, from friends and the *Leader* staff.

JANNIE CELEBRATES A BIRTHDAY Happy birthday wishes are sent to former *Leader* staffer **Jannie Scarberry** who celebrates a birthday Aug. 13 from her family, friends and the *Leader* staff. She and her husband, **Robert**, are former longtime South Belt residents. The *Leader* staff is appreciative of the many years she devoted to the *Leader*.

SCHOOL DAZE The following staff of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays Aug. 10 through Aug. 16.

Atkinson Elementary
Lini Abraham celebrates a birthday Aug. 11. Send a birthday greeting to **Martha Reed** Aug. 12. Aug. 15 is the day to celebrate a birthday with **Rebecca Garcia**.

Burnett Elementary
Send a happy birthday greeting Aug. 10 to **Cassandra Moon**.

Genoa Elementary
Give a birthday shoutout Aug. 16 to **Jackie Moreno**.

Moore Elementary
Send a happy birthday greeting Aug. 11 to **Letty Garcia**. **Nancy Revils** celebrates a birthday Aug. 12. **Jill Lacamu**, Moore principal, is wished a happy birthday Aug. 13.

South Belt Elementary
Salma Meziou celebrates a happy birthday Aug. 10.

Melillo Middle School
Enjoying a special birthday Aug. 10 is **Kayla Joos**. Aug. 13 is the day for a double-layer cake for **Patricia Concha** and **Debra Yocum**.

Beverly Hills Intermediate
Sing a happy birthday song Aug. 10 to **Kevin Schulba**.

Thompson Intermediate
Sing a chorus of a birthday song Aug. 10 to **Yvette Orion**. On Aug. 11, enjoy a slice of birthday cake with **Travis Teichelman**. On Aug. 13, Light the birthday candles for **Cliff Neel**. Happy birthday wishes are sent Aug. 15 to **Daniel Sawyer**. Give a birthday shout-out Aug. 17 to **James MacGregor**.

Dobie High
Aug. 12 is the day for a cake for **Chantel Dolson**. **Bryan Due** celebrates a birthday Aug. 14.

FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS
The *South Belt-Ellington 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, Aug. 10: **Alex Limon, Zerick Guinn and Keith Black**; Friday, Aug. 11: **Martin Zuber, Felicia Minjares, Jill Hansen, Shannon Burke and Sonja Terry**; Saturday, Aug. 12: **Leslie Rojas, Maricela Lopez and Mike Millikin**; Sunday, Aug. 13: **Nicole Foster, Carlos Gomez, Shawna Merchant, Anthony Dittrich, Erica Sadler, Dinah Palmer and Bill Weatherford**; Monday, Aug. 14: **Roger Woest, Connie Alberti, Richard Golenko and Pete Ortiz**; Tuesday, Aug. 15: **Janna Higgs and Hector Pombo**; and Wednesday, Aug. 16: **Nicole Love, Brandon Gray, Larry Bozka, Cynthia Weaver, Brandon Gray, Yvonne Molina and Irl Ellis**.

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.

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SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

SBGSA hosts fall sign-up

The South Belt Girls Softball Association is continuing online registration for its fall season at www.southbeltsoftball.com as players in the 6-under through 14-under divisions are welcome to play with no residency restrictions for the fall season.

The fall ball registration will run through Aug. 20 and is \$75 for all players. Games will begin in September and will be played at the league's facility at El Franco Park as well as neighboring facilities within a 30-minute commute.

For additional information about the season, including coaching and volunteer opportunities, direct email to southbeltgirlssoftball@live.com.

SBYSC has online registration

The South Belt Youth Soccer Club is hosting fall registration now through August 15 at regular registration rates as league officials prepare for play, with practices set to get started this month.

Youths in the under-4 through under-8 age divisions will pay \$125; those in the under-9 and under-10 age divisions will pay \$145; those in the under-11 and under-12 age divisions will pay \$165 and the under-13 through under-19 divisions will pay \$185.

All registration fees include a uniform consisting of a team shirt, shorts and socks. Parents are required to provide shin guards, soccer cleats and soccer ball.

The league is seeking volunteer coaches, assistant coaches and team parents, particularly for the U4-U8 age groups. Fees may be paid by credit and debit cards only at www.southbeltsoccer.org.

Thompson FB equipment pickup

The Thompson Intermediate football staff has a remaining day for incoming seventh- and eighth-grade players to pick up their equipment prior to the start of preseason workouts.

Athletes are required to first have a completed and up-to-date physical on file with the school and have their Rank One online forms completed. Athletes must also have their required shots updated.

The equipment pickup date is Aug. 11, from 1 to 3 p.m. on campus.

The Lions will begin preseason workouts the first day of school, which is Aug. 14.

Beverly Hills athletics news

The Beverly Hills Bears' football equipment pickup dates are Aug. 10 (3:30 to 4:15 p.m.) and Aug. 11 (3:30 to 4:30 p.m.) on campus.

Beverly Hills' first football practice is Aug. 14, the first official day of school, from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Athletes are required to first have a completed and up-to-date physical on file with the school and have their Rank One online forms completed.

BHI community day is Aug. 26

The Beverly Hills Intermediate athletic department will host a community day featuring the football and volleyball programs Aug. 26 on the school campus from 9 a.m. to noon. There will be food, games and fun for the entire family as the Bears celebrate the start of the fall season.

PISD, CCISD online tickets

Local high school sports fans will again head online during the 2023-2024 school year to purchase tickets for their favorite teams and events. In continuing with the online access to which most school districts across the state now turn to, PISD athletic officials will have weekly individual event tickets available at www.pasadenaisd.org/athletics.

Cash is not accepted at districtwide events, with parents and other attendees instead purchasing tickets online. For the 2023 varsity football season at Veterans Memorial Stadium in Pasadena, adult tickets are \$7 each. Pasadena ISD athletic director Rupert Jaso said the district's Friday night varsity football games will again be streamed free of charge, also at www.pasadenaisd.org/athletics.

Those looking to attend Clear Creek ISD events will also be required to buy tickets online via ccisd.net/athletics. For varsity football games at Challenger Stadium in Webster and Veterans Memorial Stadium in League City, presale ticket costs are \$7 each for adults and \$5 for students four years and older. Ages 3 and under get in free. Game day tickets are \$9 each.

Visit www.ccisd.net/athletics and visit ticket information in order to purchase event tickets on a weekly basis.

As for streaming availability, Clear Creek ISD is partnering with the for-pay site at NFHS Network.

Both monthly and annual subscription rates are available at NFHSnetwork.com.

Lajaunie tennis shifts to Dec. 2

The Darren Lajaunie Scholarship Fund Tennis Tournament continues its 12th year celebration with the second of three doubles jamboree mixer events as organizers continue to raise funds for youth tennis scholarships.

With the sponsorship efforts underway for 2024, various sponsorship levels remain available to individuals or businesses at DLTTennisScholarships.com, where the "Be A Sponsor" tab may then be selected.

The scholarship fund is named in honor of Lajaunie, a Dobbie High School graduate and lifelong tennis enthusiast who died in 2011 after a lengthy cancer battle.

The remaining jamboree series events will be held at the Harry Taylor Tennis Center in Pasadena, with as many as 60 players (30 doubles teams) competing during the final Dec. 2 event.

Individual players who would like to register without a predetermined playing partner will be paired with another player prior to the event.

Players/teams earn points for performance during each jamboree segment. Players may register for play at DLTTennisScholarships.com.

Astros option Julks to AAA

Following a solid start to his debut season with the Houston Astros, Clear Brook High School graduate Corey Julks has been optioned to Class AAA Sugar Land amid a lengthy hitless streak with the MLB club.

An eighth-round draft choice of the Astros in 2017 out of the University of Houston, Julks made his way onto the big league roster following a strong showing in spring training and at one point was hitting better than .280 before his hitless streak began.

In a corresponding move, the Astros promoted Jonathan Singleton to Houston, and he traveled to Baltimore for the start of a three-game set there.

With the Astros, Julks hit .245 with six home runs and 32 runs driven in over 286 at bats. He stole 15 bags and had an OPS of .652.

Veteran leadership sparks JFD football

Familiarity with the coaching staff. A full off-season, spring practice sessions and summer work done. Veteran leadership at several position groups, and lights on the primary on-campus practice and game field.

Pick any of the reasons, and there was plenty to be excited about as the Dobbie upperclassmen began preseason workouts Aug. 7 with an eye toward the regular season opener Aug. 25 at Clear Brook. "We're very excited to get out on the field and get going for 2023," said Dobbie varsity football head coach Demond Stafford said as he enters year two as the Longhorns' leader.

"The first objective is to get everybody in and get the group together as a whole, and from there, we feel like we have a good headstart to this season, as opposed to 2022.

"We have some key leadership back at a num-

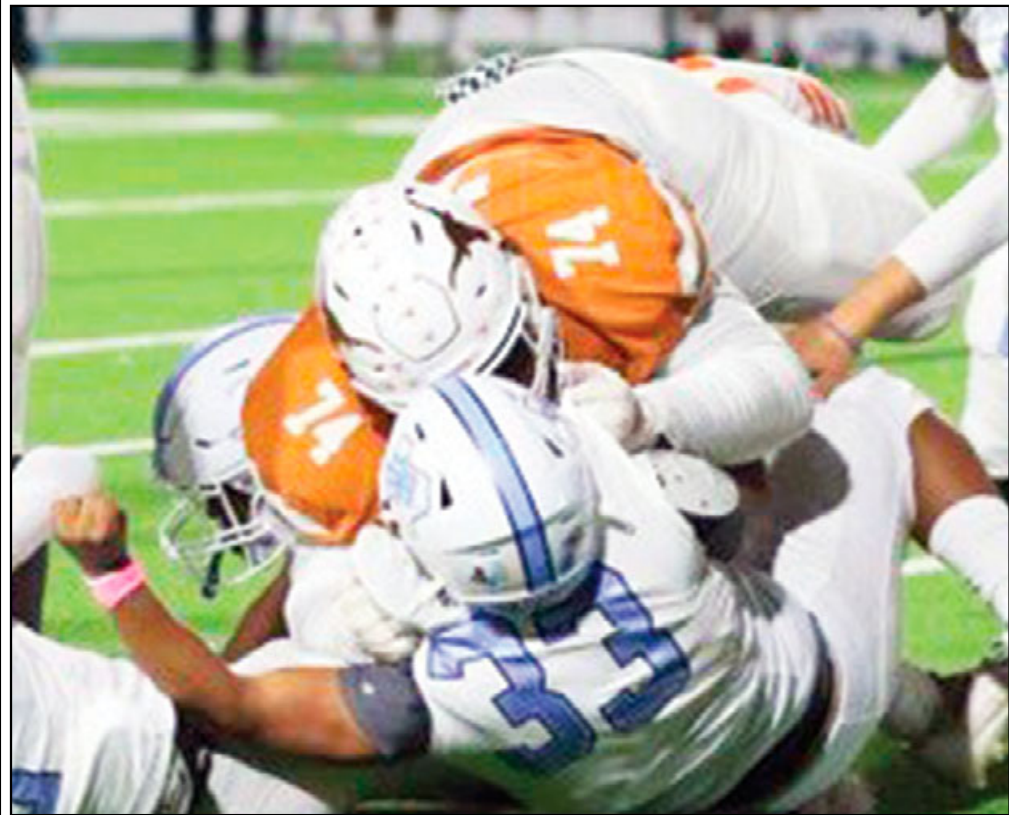
ber of position groups, the coaching staff has been in place, the kids have bought in completely to what we want to do here at J. Frank Dobbie, and we are very excited about the possibilities."

Dobbie's freshmen began preseason practices July 31 and have already scrimmaged against Ridge Point.

The entire program will scrimmage against La Porte Aug. 17 at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena before the Longhorns open the regular season Aug. 25 against the Wolverines at Veterans Memorial Stadium in League City.

"We feel like year two has a much different feel for a variety of reasons," Stafford said. "Nobody is making excuses, but we lost 40 seniors after the 2021 season. I came in April 11, and we had two weeks to prepare for spring practice. I had to

Continued on Page 6



Dobbie senior offensive lineman Evan Jordan (74) returns for a third season to anchor the Longhorns up front as the locals continue preseason workouts in anticipation of the 2023 campaign. The Longhorns will scrimmage La Porte Aug. 17 at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena, then head to League City for the regular season opener versus Clear Brook at Veterans Memorial Stadium.

Dobbie cross-country to pair up at Clear Lake



The Dobbie cross-country program will open its 2023 season Aug. 11 at the Clear Lake High School pairs competition, a relay event designed to combine a bit of fun along with competition to start things. The Longhorn girls' program, coming off three straight District 22-6A titles, will need to reload this season but can expect big things from ju-

nior Lauren Garza (left) and Kyla Lobo (above), a senior. Lobo finished second in the district a season ago and was 43rd at regionals, while Garza was fourth at district and wound up 93rd at regionals. Dobbie boys' head coach Stephen Cross lists Chris Lopez, Damian Rosas, Francisco Dunn and Johan Villavieco as his key returnees.

JFD grads lift USA in Japan

At right, Dobbie High School graduates Taylor Pleasants (left) and Chris Malveaux participated in the U.S. Women's National Team's Japan All-Star Series, with Pleasants a roster member and Malveaux an assistant coach. Japan won the series final 1-0 and thus captured two of the three games. Pleasants is set to continue her storied career at Louisiana State University next spring while Malveaux is an assistant coach at the University of Tennessee.



Dobbie, Clear Brook volleyball to take on Gators' field Aug. 17

The Dickinson High School volleyball program will host its 32-team Gator Invitational Aug. 17 and Aug. 19 as the varsity season closes out week two of nondistrict and tournament play.

Dobbie is in the Blue bracket for Aug. 17 along with Alief Elsik, Alvin, Barbers Hill, Brazoswood, La Porte, Morton Ranch, and Sweeney.

The Longhorns will take on La Porte at 11 a.m., and will then go against either Brazoswood or Elsik at 1 p.m. The bracket finales are later in the day as each team will play three best-of-three matches.

Clear Brook will face Houston Lamar in a first-

round match at 8 a.m. in the White bracket, which also includes Baytown Lee, Channelview, Foster, Goose Creek Memorial, Pearland and Santa Fe.

The Wolverines will then face either Channelview or Foster in a second-round match at 11 a.m.

The tournament's Black bracket includes Alief Hastings, Angleton, Brazosport, Clear Lake, Elkins, Hastings, Manvel, Needville and Second Baptist, while the Red bracket features Baytown Sterling, event host Dickinson, Hightower, Katy Paetow, North Shore, Sam Rayburn, Shadow Creek and Stafford.

Fast forward to Aug. 19 as trophy day will feature bronze, silver and gold bracket action.

Dickinson Gator Invitational Aug. 17 and Aug. 19

Aug. 17 Bracket Play
Brook vs. Houston Lamar, 8 a.m.
Dobbie vs. La Porte, 11 a.m.

BAFL Cowboys kick off at Brazosport

The Sagement Cowboys and Cowgirls are ready to kick off the 2023 Bay Area Football League season Sat., Aug. 12, with a trip to Freeport to face the Brazosport Longhorns.

With nearly 150 total players in uniform, the Cowboys will go against the Longhorns in opening-week play. The Cowgirls' cheerleaders, drill team members and mascots will also perform routines during game breaks and halftimes of games.

Along with the Cowboys, BAFL includes the Alvin Raiders, Angleton Wildcats, Bay Area Buccaneers, Brazosport Longhorns, East End Eagles, Hitchcock Red Raiders, La Porte Texans, League City 49ers, Magnolia Park Sharks, Manvel Texans, Pasadena Panthers, Pearland Patriots, Pearland Texans and Southeast Houston Wildcats.

The Cowboys' contingent will also be on

the road Aug. 19 at their home games at 3215 Alvin Raiders, who play Highway 35 in Alvin.

Cowboys at Brazosport
Aug. 12, at Freeport Intermediate
BAFL Game Start Times
Pee wee – 8:30 a.m.; Seniors – 9 a.m.;
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Dickson, Owens deliver track and field medal-winning efforts



Texas A&M sophomore Camryn Dickson was part of the U.S. women's gold medal-winning 4x100 relay squad at the U-20 Pan American Championships as the foursome set an American age group-record of 42.88 seconds to capture gold Aug. 5. Dickson, a Class of 2022 graduate, was joined by Avery Lewis, Shawnti Jackson and Keila Jackson in the event in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico. Dickson also posted a time of 11.48 for a bronze medal in the 100 final.



Clear Brook senior Jaylon Owens put together a memorable week at the Amateur Athletic Union's Junior Olympic Games at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa, winning a national championship with his H-Town Hurricane teammates in the 4x400 relay and grabbing a bronze medal in the 200 with a personal record of 21.1. Owens, who this week began preseason workouts with the Wolverines as a senior defensive back, also set a PR in the 100 at 10.6 for fourth place. He also took part in the 4x100 with the Hurricanes as the relay group placed fifth. The Hurricanes won the national championship in the 17-18-year-old 4x400 relay at 3 minutes, 11.01 seconds as Jacoric Allen led off with Owens next and then Mason Roseboro and Nolen Richie finishing the win. The 4x100 relay included Owens, Richie, Cortney Brown and Sincere Timpson, taking fifth at 41.38.

Brook hoopster Garcia to play at Tiffin



Clear Brook High School Class of 2023 graduate and varsity basketball player Jaiden Garcia (seated) is set to continue his education and playing career at Tiffin University in Tiffin, Ohio, where he plans to study nursing while competing for the Dragons. Those with him at the signing included, left to right, (standing) James Harmon (family friend), Jaizac Garcia (brother), Jamie Garcia (father), Jaicee Garcia (brother) and Minerva Garland (grandmother).

San Jacinto College baseball trio earn signing bonuses after draft

One current and two former San Jacinto College baseball players were selected in the 2023 Major League Baseball Draft. Right-handed pitcher, Cale Lansville was selected in the 14th round by the San Francisco Giants. Lansville pitched in 15 games during the 2023 season and started in 14 finishing the season with 106 strikeouts. Alum Sabin Ceballos, an infielder and catcher with the University of Oregon last spring, was picked in the third round (94th overall) by the Atlanta Braves. He was also selected in the 14th round of the 2022 MLB Draft by the Los Angeles Angels. Ceballos is now in the Braves' minor league system after receiving a signing bonus of \$597,500. Left-handed pitcher Hunter Hollan was picked in the third round (74th overall) by the Cincinnati Reds. Hollan, at the University of Arkansas in 2023, was also selected in the 15th round of the 2021 MLB Draft by the Milwaukee Brewers. Five San Jac alumni were signed as undrafted rookies. Chase Adkison, currently playing for Oklahoma State University, was picked by the St. Louis Cardinals. Cole Turney, currently at Cumberland University, was picked by the Detroit Tigers and J.J. Sanchez was signed by the Toronto Blue Jays. Trey Dillard was signed by the Philadelphia Phillies and Ryan Hernandez was signed by the Los Angeles Angels. The San Jacinto College baseball programs finished the 2023 season with an overall record of 33-22, including 22-14 in conference play. See more San Jac baseball news on Page 8. For more information about San Jacinto College athletics, visit sanjacsports.com.

Dobie FB excited for workouts

Continued from Page 5
hire eight new coaches. There were transitional details a season ago that aren't there now. Factor in the returnees we have, and we feel really good about being able to find a rhythm in a hurry this year." In Stafford's debut season, the Longhorns scratched out a 13-6 win over Clear Brook in the opener but then lost three straight nondistrict road games at Grand Oaks,

Dickinson and Houston Lamar. A loss to Deer Park in the District 22-6A opener had the Longhorns at 1-4 midway through the season. Three wins in five games down the stretch were enough for the 4-6 Longhorns to grab fourth place before a 6A Division I bidistrict playoff loss to North Shore. Now, the Longhorns move forward with high-gear hopes. The Longhorns

have standouts back at each level of the defense. Team captain C.J. Richard and Derrick Kelly both return, as does linebacker Dempsey Spears.

A.J. Hernandez also shifts to linebacker, while Rodrick Drumgo and Darius Jones man the defensive line along with Aiden Sanchez.

Stafford has Juan Huerta set to lift the offense in the passing game, while Cameron Mathews and Demarcus Hodges give the Dobie wing-T offense plenty of game-breaking ability at running back.

Third-year lineman Evan Jordan and Markel Terry are returnees along the offensive line, and Ethan Nguyen is an option at receiver as the locals hunt more depth there. Daniel Campero is a standout third-year kicker.

"Feeling much better about knowing one another, the systems and the capabilities from the get-go," Stafford said. "It's always exciting to get a new season started."

Clear Brook Football JV Black Schedule

| Date | Opponent | Time |
|----------|----------------|-----------|
| Aug. 24 | at Dobie | 6 p.m. |
| Aug. 31 | Baytown Lee | 5:30 p.m. |
| Sept. 6 | Pas. Memorial | 5:30 p.m. |
| Sept. 14 | at Deer Park | 6 p.m. |
| Sept. 21 | Clear Falls | 5:30 p.m. |
| Sept. 27 | at Brazoswood | 6 p.m. |
| Oct. 5 | Clear Lake | 6 p.m. |
| Oct. 12 | at Clear Creek | 6 p.m. |
| Oct. 26 | Clear Springs | 6 p.m. |
| Nov. 2 | Dickinson | 6 p.m. |

Clear Brook Football JV Red Schedule

| Date | Opponent | Time |
|----------|----------------|-----------|
| Aug. 24 | at Dobie | 4:30 p.m. |
| Aug. 31 | Baytown Lee | 4 p.m. |
| Sept. 6 | Pas. Memorial | 4 p.m. |
| Sept. 14 | at Deer Park | 4:30 p.m. |
| Sept. 21 | Clear Falls | 4 p.m. |
| Sept. 27 | at Brazoswood | 4:30 p.m. |
| Oct. 5 | Clear Lake | 4:30 p.m. |
| Oct. 12 | at Clear Creek | 4:30 p.m. |
| Oct. 26 | Clear Springs | 4:30 p.m. |
| Nov. 2 | Dickinson | 4:30 p.m. |

Dobie Football JV White Schedule

| Date | Opponent | Time |
|----------|----------------|-----------|
| Aug. 24 | Clear Brook | 4:30 p.m. |
| Aug. 31 | at Grand Oaks | 4:30 p.m. |
| Sept. 7 | at Dickinson | 4:30 p.m. |
| Sept. 13 | at Hou. Lamar | 4:30 p.m. |
| Sept. 21 | Deer Park | 4:30 p.m. |
| Sept. 27 | at Deer Park | 4:30 p.m. |
| Oct. 5 | Memorial | 4:30 p.m. |
| Oct. 11 | at Channelview | 4:30 p.m. |
| Oct. 18 | Sam Rayburn | 4:30 p.m. |
| Oct. 26 | at S. Houston | 4:30 p.m. |

Dobie Football Freshman White Schedule

| Date | Opponent | Time |
|----------|----------------|-----------|
| Aug. 24 | at Clear Brook | 4:30 p.m. |
| Aug. 31 | Grand Oaks | 4:30 p.m. |
| Sept. 7 | Dickinson | 4:30 p.m. |
| Sept. 13 | Hou. Lamar | 4:30 p.m. |
| Sept. 21 | at Deer Park | 4:30 p.m. |
| Sept. 27 | Pasadena | 4:30 p.m. |
| Oct. 5 | at Memorial | 4:30 p.m. |
| Oct. 11 | Channelview | 4:30 p.m. |
| Oct. 18 | at Sam Rayburn | 4:30 p.m. |
| Oct. 26 | S. Houston | 4:30 p.m. |

Dobie Football JV Orange Schedule

| Date | Opponent | Time |
|----------|----------------|--------|
| Aug. 24 | Clear Brook | 6 p.m. |
| Aug. 31 | at Grand Oaks | 6 p.m. |
| Sept. 7 | at Dickinson | 6 p.m. |
| Sept. 13 | at Hou. Lamar | 6 p.m. |
| Sept. 21 | Deer Park | 6 p.m. |
| Sept. 27 | at Deer Park | 6 p.m. |
| Oct. 5 | Memorial | 6 p.m. |
| Oct. 11 | at Channelview | 6 p.m. |
| Oct. 18 | Sam Rayburn | 6 p.m. |
| Oct. 26 | at S. Houston | 6 p.m. |

Dobie Football Freshman Orange Schedule

| Date | Opponent | Time |
|----------|----------------|--------|
| Aug. 24 | at Clear Brook | 6 p.m. |
| Aug. 31 | Grand Oaks | 6 p.m. |
| Sept. 7 | Dickinson | 6 p.m. |
| Sept. 13 | Hou. Lamar | 6 p.m. |
| Sept. 21 | at Deer Park | 6 p.m. |
| Sept. 27 | Pasadena | 6 p.m. |
| Oct. 5 | at Memorial | 6 p.m. |
| Oct. 11 | Channelview | 6 p.m. |
| Oct. 18 | at Sam Rayburn | 6 p.m. |
| Oct. 26 | S. Houston | 6 p.m. |

Clear Brook Football Freshman Black Schedule

| Date | Opponent | Time |
|----------|------------------|-----------|
| Aug. 24 | Dobie | 4:30 p.m. |
| Aug. 31 | at Baytown Lee | 4:30 p.m. |
| Sept. 6 | at Pas. Memorial | 4:30 p.m. |
| Sept. 14 | Deer Park | 4:30 p.m. |
| Sept. 21 | at Clear Falls | 4:30 p.m. |
| Sept. 27 | Brazoswood | 4:30 p.m. |
| Oct. 5 | at Clear Lake | 4:30 p.m. |
| Oct. 12 | Clear Creek | 4:30 p.m. |
| Oct. 26 | at Clear Springs | 4:30 p.m. |
| Nov. 2 | at Dickinson | 4:30 p.m. |

Clear Brook Football Freshman Red Schedule

| Date | Opponent | Time |
|----------|------------------|--------|
| Aug. 24 | Dobie | 6 p.m. |
| Aug. 31 | at Baytown Lee | 6 p.m. |
| Sept. 6 | at Pas. Memorial | 6 p.m. |
| Sept. 14 | Deer Park | 6 p.m. |
| Sept. 21 | at Clear Falls | 6 p.m. |
| Sept. 27 | Brazoswood | 6 p.m. |
| Oct. 5 | at Clear Lake | 6 p.m. |
| Oct. 12 | Clear Creek | 6 p.m. |
| Oct. 26 | at Clear Springs | 6 p.m. |
| Nov. 2 | at Dickinson | 6 p.m. |

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CALENDAR

THURSDAY, AUG. 10
7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill," Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 713-686-6300 or visit https://aahouston.org/meetings/.
7:30 a.m. **Rotary Club of Pearland** - Meets at either Pearland Chamber of Commerce, 6117 Broadway St., or on Zoom. See Pearland Chamber of Commerce calendar or call 281-485-3634.
9:30 a.m. **NASA Aglow Community Lighthouse** - Praise Chapel, 18516 Hwy. 3. The public is welcome and encouraged to bring others. Call 281-910-1971 or visit aglownet.org.
11:30 a.m. **ABWA - Southeast Express Network** - American Business Women's Association-South meets at Big Horn BBQ, 2300 Smith Ranch Rd. Lunch is \$20 (cash or check). Includes networking with professional business women and guest speakers. Reservations appreciated. Visit www.seen-abwa.org.
Noon **AA** - Imperfect Nooners Group, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or at https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners. Call 713-686-6300.
7 p.m. **Congregation Shaar Hashalom** - free discussion about Judaism and religion in general at Sawa Restaurant and Grill, 16608 El Camino Real, Houston. Contact socialaction@shaarhashalom.org for more information.

FRIDAY, AUG. 11
7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2930 E. FM 518, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). Call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com or https://nastuff.com/.
7 p.m. **Congregation Shaar Hashalom** - All services are live and on Zoom. For details regarding services, Judaism classes, film series, and lunch with the Rabbi, visit https://www.shaarhashalom.org.
8 p.m. **Serenity Now Al-Anon Group** - meets at CrossRoads UMC, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Family and friends discover choices available. Call 281-484-9243.

8 p.m. **AA** - meets at CrossRoads UMC, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Call 281-484-9243.
SATURDAY, AUG. 12
7:30 a.m. **AA** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
9:30 a.m. **Congregation Shaar Hashalom** - See Friday's notice.
11 a.m. **Al-Anon Meeting (Women Only, English)** - For women affected by an addict. Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, Cornell Conference room #111. Call 281-487-8787 or visit https://www.houstonalananon.org/.
1 p.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - offers a knitting class. Call 281-479-7285 prior to coming.

SUNDAY, AUG. 13
8 a.m./ 10:15 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - has worship at 11456 Space Center Blvd. in the back of a medical/retail community. Call 281-479-7285 or stop by.
2 p.m. **Grief Support Group** - Meets at Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy. Call 713-944-9186.
5:30 p.m. **Celebrate Recovery** - A faith-based 12-Step program, in the Life Kids Chapel at Life Church, 9900 Almeda Genoa. Call 713-419-2635.
8 p.m. **AA** - See Friday's notice.

MONDAY, AUG. 14
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - 204 S. Main, Pasadena. Call 713-472-0565 for tours.
Noon **AA** - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday noon notice.
1:30 - 3 p.m. **Hometown Heroes Dance** - at Hometown Heroes Park. Volunteers teach dance lessons. Call 281-554-1180.
6 p.m. **Scrabble Club #511** - Meets at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua. Join in the fun and improve crossword skills. COVID-19 vaccination required. Call 281-488-2923.
7 p.m. **AA** - St. Luke's 12 Step Recovery open meeting in the education building, in room 4, at 11011 Hall Rd. Call 832-725-8479 or 281-309-2801.
7 p.m. **TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)** - #0683 chapter meets at the Methodist Church, 110 N Friendswood Dr. in the educational building, room 201. Call 832-858-4617 or 713-875-8820.
7 p.m. **NA** - See Friday's notice.

TUESDAY, AUG. 15
7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - See Monday's notice.
11:30 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - See Sunday's notice.
Noon **AA** - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday noon notice.
2 p.m. **Local NARFE Meeting** - NARFE Chapter 941 meets at El Franco Lee Park Community Center, 9500 Hall Rd. Visitors welcome. Call 713-734-1461 or 281-464-9708.
6:30 - 7:30 p.m. **Southeast Houston Toastmasters** - The Southeast Houston Toastmasters Club #05324194 meets virtually at seahouston.toastmastersclubs.org. Call 832-722-9061.
7 p.m. **Houston Skyscraper Shadows Civic Club** - meets the third Tuesday of the month at 7900 Fuqua (inside Covenant of Faith United Methodist Church). Contact Cathy@cheyder@sbcglobal.net or call 346-970-3507 for details.
7 p.m. **NA** - See Friday's notice.
7 p.m. **The Clear Lake Gem and Mineral Society** - Helen Hall Library, 100 W Walker St. For individuals interested in earth sciences.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 16
7 a.m. **AA** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
9:30 a.m. **Carmelitters** - a nondenominational senior citizen social group meeting at St. Bernadette Catholic Church, 15500 El Camino Real. Call 713-444-6744.
10 a.m. **The Community Club** - meets at Golden Corral, 4021 Spencer Highway. Charitable organization of women helping the Salvation Army feed and care for others. Email Jmopry@yahoo.com.
Noon **AA** - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday noon notice.
12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. **Hometown Heroes Humpday Dance** - at Hometown Heroes Park. Casual Ballroom dancing offered. Call 281-554-1180.
7 p.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - See Sunday's notice.
7 p.m. **NA** - See Sunday's notice.
8 p.m. **AA** - See Friday's notice.

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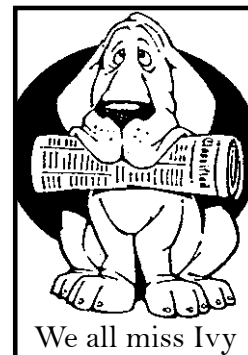
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Newsome begins 2023 volleyball at Southeastern Louisiana



The Southeastern Louisiana University volleyball team's historic run to the Southland Conference championship in 2022 earned it more awards as Kailin Newsome was named Louisiana's Player of the Year while head coach Jeremy White was named the state's Coach of the Year and Cicily Hidalgo earned second team All-Louisiana honors it was announced by the Louisiana Sports Writer's Association. Newsome, who led Clear Brook to the District 24-6A championship in 2019 and is the Wolverines' all-time kills leader, added the Louisiana Player of the Year award and first team All-Louisiana honor to her list of 2022 accolades which includes a spot on the American Volleyball Coaches Association All-South Team and a first team All-Conference nod. Following a Southland Conference Freshman of the Year award and first team All-Conference honor in the spring 2021 COVID season, Newsome transferred to Wichita State for a season and then returned to SLU, finishing with 467 kills, the fourth-most in a single season in SLU history. She had 1,172 total attacks on the year, seventh-most in program history and was the lone player in both the Southland Conference as well as the state of Louisiana to have more than four kills per set for the season, finishing at 4.17. Having also been named Louisiana's 2020-21 Freshman of the Year, Newsome is now a two-time All-Louisiana first-team selection. Looking to build off the success of the 2022 season, the 2023 Lady Lions' season begins with the Green & Gold scrimmage August 18. SLU will then host Grambling, Washington and Texas-El Paso Aug. 25-26 as part of the Southeastern Showdown in Hammond, La. Newsome is a senior this season yet has two years of collegiate eligibility remaining due to the 2020 pandemic-shortened campaign.

Volleyball season served up



The high school volleyball season began Aug. 8 after press time with Dobie, including senior Aly Frias (above) taking on Baytown Sterling and Clear Brook going up against St. Agnes. Dobie and Clear Brook resume action Aug. 10-12 at the John Turner Invitational in Pearland, while Dobie plays at Goose Creek Memorial Aug. 11. The Wolverines are at Kingwood Aug. 15, while Dobie is at Crosby the same day.

Photo by Donna Alsdorf

NJCAA 2022-2023 honorees include San Jacinto College baseball players

By Jacquelyn Conger SJC Public Relations
The National Junior College Athletic Association recognized 15 San Jacinto College baseball players for their achievements on and off the field during the 2023 spring season.
Raven baseball student-athletes earned the following awards: Jake Bennett, catcher, first team All-South Conference, All-Region XIV; Gage Boehm, pitcher, second team All-Academic; Lex Garcia, pitcher, first team All-South Conference; Jack Hicks, infielder third team All-Academic; Cullen Horowitz, outfielder, second team All-Academic; Austin King, outfielder, third team All-Academic; Keagan Knutson, infielder, first team All-Academic; Cale Lansville, pitcher, first team All-South Conference; Zachery Mack, pitcher, second team All-Academic; Jose Molina, outfielder, third team All-Academic; Luke Nail, outfielder, first team All-South Conference; M.J. Rodriguez, infielder, second team All-South Conference; Joan Roman, pitcher, second team All-South Conference; Trey Rucker, outfielder, second team All-Academic and Malikai Wickley, infielder, third team All-Academic.
"I am proud of the players for their hard work and dedication to our program and institution," said baseball head coach Tom Arrington.
"It is an honor for them to be recognized for their performances on the field and in the classroom this season."
The San Jacinto College baseball program finished the 2023 season with an overall record of 33-22, including 22-14 in conference play.

San Jacinto College softball players earn 2023 NJCAA postseason nods

By Jacquelyn Conger SJC Public Relations
The National Junior College Athletic Association recognized 13 San Jacinto College softball student-athletes for their achievements on the field and in the classroom during the 2023 spring season.
Raven softball athletes earned the following awards: Rayne Althaus, utility, third team All-Academic; Ella Casas, infielder, second team All-South Conference; Kendra Cutlip, utility, first team All-Academic; Kiren Diaz, outfielder, third team All-Academic; Izzy Farmer, infielder, first team All-South Conference, second team All-Region XIV; Chloe Foster, outfielder, first team All-South Conference, second team All-Region XIV; Emma Garcia, infielder, second team All-South Conference; Christin Haygood, pitcher, first team All-South Conference, first team All-Region XIV; Kylie Hernandez, infielder, third team All-Academic; Leslie Longoria, outfielder, first team All-South Conference, second team All-Region XIV, second team All-Academic; Haleigh McDonald, catcher, second team All-South Conference; Mia McLeer, catcher, second team All-Academic; and Arianna Wright, infielder, first team All-South Conference, first team All-Region XIV, second team All-American, third team All-Academic.
Additionally, Haygood and Wright were named Pitcher of the Year and Player of the Year respectively for both All-South Conference and All-Region XIV.
During the 2023 season, sophomore pitcher Haygood made 161 strikeouts in 149 innings with a 1.50 ERA. Freshman infielder Wright hit a .522 batting average with 17 home runs and 71 runs batted in.
Both players were also recognized by the National Fastpitch Coaches Association, with Haygood earning Second Team NFCA Midwest region and Wright earning First Team NFCA Midwest region and Second Team NFCA All-American.
"We appreciate the recognition of our Ravens student-athletes for their hard work in the classroom," said softball head coach Kelly Saenz.
"As a softball player at San Jacinto College, it's important to produce on the field, but it's equally, if not more important, to be an exceptional student as well. We are proud of all of our student-athletes and appreciate their commitment to our program and the work we do."
The San Jacinto College softball program finished the season with an overall record of 42-19.

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