



South Belt-Ellington Leader

44 years of covering South Belt

Voice of Community-Minded People since 1976

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Email: mynews@southbeltleader.com

www.southbeltleader.com

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COVID numbers decrease

The number of recent local COVID-19 cases dropped significantly this past week, with only 260 new cases being reported in the South Belt community, compared to the roughly 500 from the previous week.

As of Wednesday, Aug. 12, ZIP code 77089 had 1,011 confirmed cases of COVID-19, according to Harris County Public Health officials. That figure is 91 higher than the 920 count reported on Wednesday, Aug. 5.

In ZIP code 77075, county officials are now reporting 949 known cases. This number is 73 higher than the 876 cases reported the previous week.

County officials are now reporting 1,040 cases in ZIP code 77034, up 96 cases from last week.

In all, there are currently 87,505 known cases in Harris County, an increase of 7,962 from last week. Of those, 36,113 remain active, up 2,813 from last week. A total of 50,465 have recovered from the virus in the county, an increase of 5,011 from the previous week. To date, 925 have died from COVID-19, up 137 from last week.

Statistics are updated daily and include numbers from within both the Houston city limits and throughout Harris County. To view an interactive map, visit publichealth.harriscountytexas.gov/Re-sources/2019-Novel-Coronavirus. (See related chart Page 3.)

Graduation issues available

Extra copies of the *Leader's* high school graduation issue, published on Aug. 6, are available at the newspaper office, 11555 Beamer. The special edition includes graduation information for Dobie, South Houston, CTHS, and Pasadena Memorial high schools.

Beltway closures planned

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

At least one northbound and one southbound Beltway 8 frontage road lane will be closed from Vista to SH 225 nightly from 8:30 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Thursday, Sept. 3.

At least one southbound Beltway 8 frontage road lane will be closed from San Augustine to Red Bluff continuously through 5 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 10.

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.

At least one alternate main lane and one frontage road lane on both the northbound and southbound sides of the Gulf Freeway will be closed from FM 518 to FM 517 daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Wednesday, Sept. 30.

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.

Constable figures final

The Democratic party chair released the certified election results for the recent runoff election. In the race of local interest, the figures are final with contender Jerry Garcia successfully defeating incumbent Chris Diaz. The final official count decreased by 10 votes for Garcia. The official count was Diaz, 4730 and Garcia 4949.

PIP by Zoom

The Houston Police Department Clear Lake Division will host a virtual Positive Interaction Program meeting on Zoom Tuesday, Aug. 18, at 7 p.m. A guest speaker is to be announced. PIP is held the third Tuesday of the month and consists of police and citizens working together for safer neighborhoods. For additional information about how to participate in the meeting, contact HPD Officer Richard Buitron at 281-642-3484 or richard.buitron@houstonpolice.org.

PISD, CCISD virtually start school Aug. 18

Tuesday, Aug. 18, will mark the start of the 2020-2021 academic year for the Pasadena Independent School District.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the school district will provide all instruction virtually until Sept. 8.

At that time, area students who have selected face-to-face instruction will return to their home campuses, while the remainder of students will continue to distance-learn until they feel comfortable enough to return to the school buildings.

A recent Pasadena ISD survey indicated that

approximately 65 percent of district parents are currently in favor of continuing studies from home.

The district will continue to provide meals for students who opt to study from home. Meals will be available at local campuses for pickup. Specific times were not available at press time.

Detailed information on 2020-2021 extracurricular activities was also unavailable at press time.

For up-to-date information on the Pasadena ISD reopening, visit www.pasadenaisd.org.

Clear Creek ISD
The Clear Creek Independent School District

has once again altered its reopening schedule, extending its first phase of brick-and-mortar instruction by one additional week, providing direct classroom instruction for approximately 10,000 students in pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, sixth grade, ninth grade and certain groups

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Sen. Taylor hosts virtual chamber of commerce meeting

State Sen. Larry Taylor was the featured guest Tuesday, Aug. 11, during a virtual meeting hosted by the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Com-

merce on the subject of education during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

A longtime member of the Texas Legislature, serving as both a state senator and state representative, Taylor currently chairs the Senate Committee on Education and also sits as a member on the Higher Education and Finance committees.

State Rep. Dennis Paul also joined the online discussion. Taylor, who currently represents state

Senate District 11, said the state is doing everything possible to keep local educators equipped with the supplies needed to perform their jobs safely. "We're doing everything we can," Taylor said, adding the state has provided funding for personal protective equipment (PPE), masks and sanitary supplies.

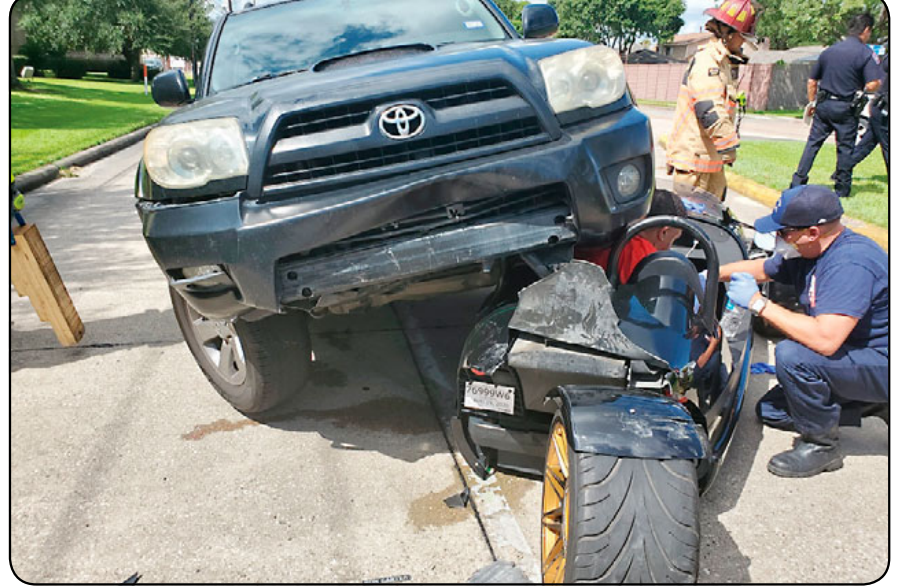
Taylor further said the state was targeting

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Father, son accident ends well



A father-son duo had a close call the morning of Tuesday, Aug. 11, when the pair got into an accident on Scarsdale Boulevard minutes after leaving their home. The father was reportedly following his son who was planning to get some adjustments on his newly purchased vehicle. While the accident, which involved a pickup truck and a three-wheeled motor vehicle, caused extensive property damage, no parties were injured in the crash. Members of the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department were called to extract the driver of the motorized trike. The father, Tom Lewis, was apparently following his son, Tom Lewis IV when the accident occurred. Miraculously the driver of the small vehicle was totally unharmed but was transported to the hospital to be examined. No ticket was issued in the accident. Photos by Dean Baier



Aggravated robbery at local Shell

A homeless man committed an aggravated robbery at the Shell station located at Beamer and Scarsdale Boulevard Monday, Aug. 11 at approximately 7 a.m.

A black male entered the Shell gas station Mon-

day, armed with a knife refusing to pay for the coffee.

He reportedly stole a pot of coffee and was arrested upon leaving the gas station by Harris County Constable Precinct 2 officers who quickly arrived on the scene. He was charged with aggravated robbery.

BAHEP reports on Ellington Field

In its continuing series of virtual general membership meetings, the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership hosted Col. Matthew Barker, 147th Attack Wing commander, Texas Air National Guard, Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base, on Thursday, July 30.

Barker spoke of current operations of Ellington's 147th Attack Wing, the MQ-9 remotely piloted aircraft program and future possibilities.

BAHEP President Bob Mitchell welcomed the virtual attendees to the meeting and talked about the group's current initiatives.

Robbie McAfoos, president of Barrios Technology and 2020 chair of the BAHEP board of directors, spoke of Barker's extensive background in his introduction.

Throughout his presentation, Barker spoke passionately about the mission of the Texas Air

National Guard, the quality and dedication of its personnel and its ongoing recruitment of talented people to fill openings in its many specialties.

"The one thing that I need you to come away with today is that this is a family business, and we are your neighbors," Barker said at the beginning of his presentation. "We are your 147th Attack Wing. We are your Texas Air National Guard. About 30 percent of our workforce is full-timers like me, but 70 percent of our great Texas airmen are right alongside of you in your schools, factories, stores and hospitals. It's a uniquely symbiotic relationship. We're always hiring, and you know where to find me."

Ellington Field JRB is home to all branches of the Department of Defense as well as the Coast Guard and NASA, which includes approximately

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Free legal eviction assistance available

The Houston Bar Association (HBA) is collaborating with Houston Volunteer Lawyers; Houston Lawyer Referral Service; Dispute Resolution Center; Lone Star Legal Aid; South Texas College of Law Houston; Thurgood Marshall School of Law Earl Carl Institute for Legal and Social Policy, Inc.; and University of Houston Law Center to respond to the Houston evictions crisis. Greater Houston Area residents needing legal assistance regarding an eviction are invited to visit HBA.org/Evictions for information on free legal representation for low-income persons, a self-representation

tool kit, mediation, lawyer referrals and more. It is important for those who received a Notice to Vacate or a citation to be removed from a home or evicted to act as quickly as possible.

To apply for free legal assistance through Houston Volunteer Lawyers (HVL), use this online intake or call HVL at 713-228-0735.

Applicants should be prepared to give information about their case to the fullest, including an eviction case number, if available.

All applicants will be required to provide identification

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Flood Control holds virtual meet

The Harris County Flood Control District will host a virtual community engagement meeting for the Mud Gully Channel Conveyance Improvements Project Tuesday, Aug. 18, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. (See photos on Page 3.)

The purpose of this meeting is to inform residents about the status of the Mud Gully project (HCFCD Unit A120-00-00 - Bond Project C-03) and share related information.

As part of the Clear Creek Federal Flood Risk Management Project, this project will make channel conveyance improvements along the Mud Gully tributary from the existing concrete channel lining near Sagerock Drive to downstream of Beamer Road. This project will be funded with federal funds and bonds approved by Harris County voters on Aug. 25, 2018. Com-

munity engagement is an important component of the county bond program, and resident participation is encouraged.

Residents may join the meeting online at PublicInput.com/MudGully or by phone at 855-925-2801 with Meeting Code 9734.

The meeting will begin with a brief presentation to share project updates, followed by a moderated Q&A session with Flood Control District team members. Residents will be able to submit questions and comments throughout the presentation. Any comments not addressed during the Q&A session will receive a response after the event.

A recorded version of the meeting will be available on the Flood Control District's website

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Info sought on Edgebrook area shooting

Houston police are investigating the shooting of a male suspect that took place around 11:25 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 4, at an apartment in the 9400 block of Clearwood Drive near the Gulf Freeway.

The suspect, Ronnie Terrell McDaniel, 30, is charged with burglary with intent to commit assault in the 179th State District Court. He suffered multiple gunshot wounds and remained hospitalized at press time.

According to police, officers responded to a report of a crash in the 12900 block of the Gulf Freeway near Fuqua, and upon arrival, found Mc-

Daniel suffering from multiple gunshot wounds. At the same time, other officers responded to a shooting at an apartment complex at the above address and determined the male in the crash was the suspect in the shooting.

McDaniel told officers he had a prior relationship with the female living at Clearwood Drive and had gone to her apartment armed and with the intent to confront her. He forced entry into her apartment and was then shot multiple times by a male inside the apartment, reportedly the

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CCISD provides low-cost internet

A nonprofit group launched by Clear Creek ISD recently announced a plan aimed at providing low-cost internet access to qualifying students during the ongoing coronavirus health crisis.

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought with it countless challenges for the world, whole economies and individual families.

But CCISD Cares, a 501(c)(3) support organization formed to assist Clear Creek ISD families with basic needs during times of crisis, intends to ensure that student success rates remain unaffectedly high throughout the ordeal.

As a result of the coronavirus and the increasing reliance on distance learning, CCISD Cares

has added internet access to the list of what constitutes "basic needs" in order for a student to

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Victim identified

Houston police are investigating the fatal shooting of a female found around 10 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 5, at the Sagemont Park Community Center, located in the 11500 block of Hughes Road near Beltway 8.

Brooke Ashley Flores, 29, was pronounced dead at the scene.

According to police, patrol officers respond-

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SWAT closes down Astoria Blvd.



City of Houston police SWAT responded to a call of a man pouring flammable liquid on himself and his property Sunday afternoon around 4:30 p.m. on Astoria Boulevard. They blocked off access to the four-lane divided road until they had the situation under control. No fire was started and the man was taken into custody reportedly for a mental evaluation. Photo by Marie Flickinger

SWAT activity Sunday in Scarsdale

SWAT officers responded to an incident on Astoria Boulevard Sunday, Aug. 9, in which an individual poured flammable liquid on himself and property, threatening to ignite.

Some online reports suggested the individual

may have also been nude and in possession of a machete.

Officers were able to de-escalate the situation and take the individual into custody for a mental evaluation.

In My Opinion

Jackson expresses thanks for Tyka, Cino

Times change. As do jobs and the people doing them. So it goes with the SVFD. Long time Chief Chuck Tyka is retiring. And well deserved it is. He will be missed in that capacity, however I see that he will continue to serve our community in many other ways.

Thank you, Chuck. And I read that David Cino will be the new chief. Congratulations, David, a well deserved promotion. The South Belt area can take comfort in continuing to have the best people available in all the right places. David, like Chuck, is also involved in other efforts to help and improve the South Belt community. We are lucky to have him among us. Thank you, David. **Ed Jackson**

HCMG Green Thumb Lecture set Aug. 18

The Harris County Master Gardeners present the Green Thumb Lecture Series event "Container and Small Space Gardening" online Tuesday, Aug. 18, from 7 to 8 p.m. at <https://www.facebook.com/events/263846504832963/>.

Don't be a victim: learn self-defense!

In light of recent multiple muggings and assaults in the South Belt area, free online classes of self-defense are being taught by the American Society of Karate for teens and adults (ages 13-80). These classes are Fridays at 7:30 p.m. in the comfort of one's own home.

No previous self-defense or martial arts experience is necessary. To preregister, visit <https://ring.centr.al/2XpnHWj> and fill out a short form. For details or additional information on martial arts classes, visit www.AskKarate.com, email Online@AskKarate.com or call 281-788-5930.

South Belt Chamber holds virtual meeting

On Thursday, Aug. 20, at 11 a.m., the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce will have a "Members Only" virtual event via Zoom. The meeting will cover "Protecting Yourself from Cyber Attacks, Security Threats and other Fraud," and will be presented by Texan Bank.

Local library events set

Bracewell Branch Library

Bracewell Branch Library is located at 9002 Kingspoint. The phones are open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, noon to 7 p.m., at 832-393-2580 for information.

Bracewell HPL To Go curbside service is in operation

Contactless Curbside services, known as HPL To Go, is available by appointment Mondays, noon to 7 p.m.; Wednesdays and Fridays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Customers walking or riding a bike may also pick up reserved materials. For questions, call circulation administration at 832-393-2222. All overdue fines/fees will be waived through Jan. 1, 2021.

To use HPL To Go:

1. Place a hold through the online catalog or by phone.
2. Receive email or phone call of notification prior to scheduling a time for pickup.
3. Upon arrival, park and stay in the vehicle and call to notify staff of arrival.
4. Have MY Link card number and PIN ready.

Book drop

The book drop is open. Library materials can be returned with no overdue fees. The library continues to provide online resources so the public can enjoy the library at home. Large items such as FLIP kits or laptops should not be placed in the book drop. Keep those items until further notice.

Additional resources

The Houston Public Library is focusing on providing electronic resources, books, audiobooks, databases for research, tutoring, language learning, education and parent information for any resident of Texas with a temporary library card. To get a library card, visit www.houstonlibrary.org on the Home Page and find the heading Here's What's Happening. Under that heading, there will be three cards. The middle one is Free Resources for All. Click on the card which will go to the page that lists the digital resources available and a link to obtain a temporary card.

Also, under the heading Here's What's Happening, look for the first card on the left, click on the heading titled Online Resources for Kids. One of the programs listed is Virtual Storytime. This is provided every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 11 a.m. The archived storytimes can be found on Facebook by searching Houston Public Library Virtual Storytimes. Another virtual program is Craft. Soon there will be STEM programs.

Houston Public Library's many free online resources and digital services remain available 24/7 with a MY Link Library Card at www.houstonlibrary.org, including e-books and e-audiobooks, streaming TV, movie and music services, online classes and tutoring and databases. Until further notice, only electronic items (i.e. e-books, e-audio books, etc.) are eligible for holds and check-out. HPL has a robust collection of free e-books and audio books. Visit the catalog to determine if a previously requested hold selection may be in a digital format. Instructions on downloading the e-book or audio book are also on the site.

All due dates for existing borrowed materials will be extended through the closure period. Until further notice, no new late fees and fines will be assessed during the closure period, retroactive to March 14, 2020. While the Bracewell Branch Library remains closed, Wi-Fi service is still available by coming to the library standing/sitting within 6 feet of the building. A password is not needed. Go to Settings, then Network and Internet, Wi-Fi and connect to HPL - Public.

HPL appreciates book donations, but is not accepting them at this time. The library staff requests that donations do not get placed outside library buildings, or at the book drops.

Visit www.houstonlibrary.org to find virtual programs and digital resources including e-books, e-audiobooks, streaming music and videos, online learning, online tutoring and much more. For more information visit www.houstonlibrary.org to find out how to chat with a librarian 24/7, or how to send questions through HPL's email reference.

Parker Williams Library

Parker Williams Library is located at 10851 Scarsdale Blvd. Although Harris County Public Library locations remain closed to the public, updates are found on the website.

The book drop is open. No late fees will be charged during the library closure. The library social media links are Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary and Instagram.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary. Call 832-927-7870 for additional information.

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 a 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 details.

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.

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

Parker Williams schedule of events this week

Thursday, Aug. 13, 10:30 a.m. Toddler Time Out. Join virtually for family fun on social media at Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary.

Friday, Aug. 14, 1 p.m. Draw with Me. Join Ariel Perez as the library tries something a little more difficult, but still fun and easy to follow. Residents will be needing pens and markers for these videos which will be featured on Facebook and Instagram.

Saturday, Aug. 15. Virtual Photo Club. This month's photo challenge is "Abstract." Residents are encouraged to go close in with their photo shots and post them online with the tag #HCPLphotoclub for a chance to be featured on the library's social media accounts: Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary and Instagram.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary.

Monday, Aug. 17, 4 p.m. Drawful 2. If residents are accomplished artists or hung in a gallery, then this is not the program for them. The library is calling on the worst artists to join in drawing ridiculous prompts on smartphones or tablets. The other players then attempt to figure out what the horrible artwork was virtually. Participants need a computer or tablet to run Microsoft Teams and a phone or tablet that will work as a drawing pad. Email pw@hcpl.net or jc@hcpl.net to register and get a Teams invite to the game.

Tuesday, Aug. 18, noon. Drawing with Ariel Perez for virtual fun and easy cartoon drawings featuring various doodles, numbers and letters. This video will be featured on social media.

Tuesday, Aug. 18, 4:30 p.m., ages 4-12 Yoga Story Time. A peaceful time for children to learn mindfulness through story, song, breathing and light movement virtually with Celeste Plew. Sign up once with a valid email address online at <https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library> to get a weekly invitation.

Wednesday, Aug. 19, 3:30 p.m. Ages 16 and older. Dungeons & Dragons Online. Join Tanner Adams online. No experience is required. Contact tanner.adams@hcpl.net for more information.

South Belt-Ellington Leader

— The Voice of Community-Minded People —

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Davy & Marie Flickinger, owners

Deaths

Paul Reid Sharpless



Paul Reid Sharpless entered the world Father's Day, June 20, 1976, the third of what was to be five siblings, children of James and Frances Sharpless.

He grew up in Sagemeadow, attended Frazier Elementary, Thompson Intermediate and Dobie High School, Class of '94. His special love was choir.

Later Paul attended San Jacinto College and graduated from MTI specializing in computer technology. He held many different jobs over the years but his real love was to "disassemble."

Paul was a gentle and empathetic soul. Even during the times he was unemployed he would give the shirt off his back to someone he thought needed it more. He was a loyal friend, a loving brother, avid fisherman and lover of dogs (especially his "bear-bear"). He was generous to a fault and a self-confessed "momma's boy." Anyone who knew him couldn't help but laugh at his fashion sense, especially those knee-hi socks and Bermuda shorts. He loved his family, but most especially his daughters who were his three "Princesses," Kyla, 14; Hayley, 9; and Avery Sharpless, 6, whom he called PJ (Paul Junior).

Besides his parents James and Frances Sharpless, he is survived by his siblings Brian and wife Sarah Sharpless, Wendy Sharpless, Christopher Sharpless and Laura and her husband Justin Gissendanner; his nephews and nieces Elliott and Noah Sharpless, Jacob and Samantha Gilbreath, Ashlyn and Logan Gissendanner; and many aunts, uncles and cousins who will miss him dearly.

A memorial service was held Friday, Aug. 7, at Niday Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests a consideration of donating to the GoFundMe account of Paul Sharpless Children's Fund.

Mark H. Remely



Mark H. Remely, 64, died peacefully after a courageous battle with cancer and COVID-19 Aug. 9, 2020.

He was born Sept. 19, 1955, in Painesville, Ohio to Robert and Marie Remely. He was a graduate of Thomas W. Harvey High School, Class of 1973.

Mark and his wife Margie moved to the South Belt area in 1988. He worked for many years in construction and remodeling. He owned his own remodeling company for many years. His favorite passion was carpentry. He built beautiful projects through the years. He

worked building maintenance and taught an elective course in technical arts at Faith Christian Academy in Pasadena for five years. He was so proud of his students and their accomplishments. Many of them won competitions at the district and state levels. He was a senior mechanical designer at Powell Industries. He made many wonderful friendships he cherished through his years there. He retired in 2017.

Mark met his wife Margie when they were 12 years old when Margie moved four houses down the street. He was in love with her for nine years before they started dating. They dated for five years and on July 19, 1980, they were married in Painesville, Ohio, and recently celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary. They were best friends and their marriage was the perfect love story. They loved to travel and see new places throughout the United States.

Mark loved life and had a heart of gold. He and Margie were always willing to help anyone in need.

Mark is survived by his loving wife Margie Remely (Northrup); his brother Dan and wife Sue Remely; sister-in-law Celene Remely; mother-in-law Donna Northrup; brother-in-law Jim and wife Julie Northrup; brother-in-law Lee Northrup; sister-in-law Beth Northrup; sister-in-law Darla Northrup and husband Steve Tippett; Coco Ashley and husband Josh Ramos, whom he loved like she was his own daughter; and many nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

Mark was preceded in death by his parents, brother R. Bruce Remely, niece Rebecca Remely, father-in-law Roger Northrup and his grandparents. A memorial service will be held Saturday, Aug. 15, 2020, at First United Methodist, Pearland, at 3 p.m.

Marjorie Beth Moore



Marjorie Beth Moore, 87, died peacefully Monday, Aug. 3, 2020. She was born Nov. 23, 1932, in Houston to Robert and Matilda Philips.

She had been a member of the United Genoa Methodist Church since Jan. 2, 1944. She graduated from Pasadena High School in 1951, and then met the love of her life, John Alvin Moore, whom she married April 7, 1951. The couple had three children, Debra, Gary and John, to whom Marjorie was devoted and her every thought was always centered around her family.

Marjorie was blessed to have found her soul mate in her husband in such a way that some would call fate. It was at the downtown Houston bus stop waiting to travel to the Ellington Field stop, when they met and their journey officially began. John kept a conversation with Marjorie for the entirety of the ride, holding her back delicately as the bus took off. Following those conversations John walked Marjorie home. Later on as they sat on the porch swing, John had a certain feeling within himself that this would soon be more. Moments after, he asked for her telephone number, without

knowing that decision would change their fate forever.

Marjorie, also known as Nana, had her playful side. The immense amount of joy and love her grandchildren brought her created valuable memories for everyone she embraced, such as gathering the children around to play on the floor. Due to the great depths of her heart and the desire to please the ones she cared for, Marjorie never missed an opportunity to have loved ones visit.

Marjorie was a loving, generous and gracious woman. She had a way of making everyone who walked through her door feel loved. She had open arms for any member of the family, regardless of the circumstance. Marjorie found the good in every human; her heart held no judgment. She was tender, yet lively; her youthful side allowed the people closest to her, such as her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren to view her as not only a mother figure but also a friend. They will always treasure her deeply in their hearts.

She was preceded in death by her parents and sister Geraldine Collins. She is survived by her sister Rose Mary Brightwell; her husband of 69 years; daughter Debra Jean Waters and husband Keith; son Gary Wayne Moore and wife Brenda and son John Alan Moore and his wife Genie. She is survived by her six grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

A Celebration of Life was held Tuesday, Aug. 11, at South Park Funeral Home in Pearland. Interment followed at South Park Memorial Park.

Caren June Minter



Caren June Minter, 66, of Houston, died Aug. 7, 2020, after a very long battle with Spinal Muscular Atrophy. She was born in Houston June 29, 1954, to Bob and Mary McCoy. She grew up and graduated from Milby High School in Houston.

Caren retired from Reef Industries after 18 years employed as a human resources manager. She was known as one who wanted the best for everyone she loved. She was beautiful, inside and out. She loved her family and God. While her disease robbed her of physical movement, it never took away her spirit and faith in the Lord.

She was preceded in death by her parents; and her mother-in-law Nelda Minter and father-in-law George Minter.

She is survived by her husband of 47 years, Lynn Minter; her children Cristina and George Minter; daughter-in-law Glenda Minter; and grandchildren Gisela and Georgie Minter. She is also survived by brothers Bruce and wife Sylvia McCoy and Bobby and wife Cathy McCoy; sister Vickie and husband Bruce McClain; sisters-in-law Pat and husband Steve Riskey; Pam and husband Frank Wolf; and Tina and husband Mike Duke; 11 nieces and nephews; and 12 great-nieces and great-nephews.

The funeral service was held Tuesday, Aug. 11, 2020, at Niday Funeral Home.

Leader obituary policy

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

Elected officials share their words

Ellis: Court approves creation of Harris County Elections Administrator office

Preserving our democratic process must be a priority for Harris County. I'm proud that Harris County Commissioners Court has approved moving our electoral process away from a system that is based on the racist disenfranchisement of communities of color and embraced a contemporary system that reflects our county's values and diversity.

By creating the Harris County Elections Administrator office, the county is appropriately elevating the importance of elections and demonstrating the vital need to have those elections expertly overseen.

Splitting our county's election duties

between two offices, as we have previously done, eliminates the ability to streamline the electoral process and does not allow for our elections to be a year-round priority.

The Elections Administrator office is strongly supported by national voting rights experts and community-based organizations, and has been successfully adopted by local governments throughout the nation. Precinct One looks forward to working with the community as the process to create the office moves forward.

Rodney Ellis
Harris County Commissioner

Olson acts to name post office in honor of Pearland Mayor Tom Reid

Rep. Pete Olson (TX-22) announced legislation to name a local Post Office after Pearland Mayor and great Texan Tom Reid. Reid first served in the Pacific Theater in WWII, then worked on the Space Shuttle programs and various other projects at the Johnson Space Center.

Reid has served as Pearland's mayor for 37 years and, to date, is one of the oldest serving mayors in the U.S.

Among his many achievements over the decades include improving the community's infrastructure, promoting access to clean air and water for our expanding city and helping to establish Pearland's first public library.

His leadership has resulted in Pearland being one of the fastest growing cities in the United States.

"The Tom Reid Post Office will serve as a small token of appreciation for a lifetime of hard work and distinguished public service," Olson said. "Mayor Reid's strength, service and dedication are evident in the legacy he has established in Pearland."

"Every time a resident visits the Post Office, they will be reminded of his public service and contributions. Mayor Reid dedicated his life to the city of Pearland, and his efforts have made our community, the great State of Texas and America a better place."

The Olson bill, H.R. 7810, would designate the U.S. Post Office located at 3519 East Walnut Street in Pearland, as the "Tom Reid Post Office Building." All 36 members of the Texas congressional delegation have co-sponsored this bill.

Olson acts to help protect homeland

Rep. Pete Olson (TX-22) on July 21 acted to support our troops by voting in support of H.R. 6395, the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA).

This bill ensures that the Department of Defense has the resources needed to equip and prepare the men and women in our Armed Forces for threats at home and abroad. It also gives our troops a needed pay raise. The bill passed by a vote of 295-125.

"Today we acted to help the men and women who protect the homeland by passing the National Defense Authorization Act," Olson said. "This bill gives our military a much deserved 3 percent pay raise and provides them with needed tools to defend our homeland. As a Navy veteran, I'm proud to support our troops and will do all I can to ensure they have the resources needed to keep America safe."

William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act: The FY21 NDAA provides \$740.5B for national defense discretionary programs, as requested by the president and consis-

tent with the bipartisan budget agreement.

- Includes \$69B for Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO).
- Provides our troops a 3 percent pay raise and supports their families with the pay and benefits they deserve.
- Continues to fund nuclear modernization to ensure our nuclear deterrent is safe and reliable.

- Supports the procurement of Virginia-Class submarines, two Arleigh Burke destroyers, 79 F-35 aircraft, Apaches, Blackhawks, Abrams tanks, and Stryker upgrades.
- Increases funding for the procurement of advanced weapons system, autonomous systems, AI, and RDT&E.
- Establishes the Indo-Pacific Deterrence Initiative to fund emergent technologies, support our allies, and deter China.
- Continues to fund the European Deterrence Initiative to support our allies and counter Russian aggression.
- Provides DOD with the resources necessary to address COVID-19, including PPE, testing capabilities, and diagnostic testing.

Cornyn on COVID relief negotiations

U.S. Senator John Cornyn (R-TX) released the following statement after negotiations between Democrats and the White House on the next coronavirus relief bill stalled:

"Republicans proposed more than \$1 trillion for PPE, testing, vaccine development, schools, hospitals, small businesses, and unemployed Texans who continue to struggle," said Cornyn. "Republicans also tried multiple times to extend unemployment benefits, and offered concessions in an effort to deliver relief."

"Senator Schumer and the Democrats refused to compromise and insisted on an unrelated wish list including tax breaks for millionaires in New York and marijuana subsidies.

"Texas nurses, children, teachers, and small business owners who continue to be left out in the cold have no one but Senator Schumer to thank."

Background: Last month, Senate Republicans introduced the Health, Economic Assistance, Liability Protection, and Schools (HEALS) Act, which would:

- Support Texas workers and their jobs: Extends an added federal unemployment insurance benefit for Texans out of work.

- Provides \$1,200 direct assistance payments to Texans earning less than \$75,000 annually.

- Extends employee retention tax credit to help stabilize Texas jobs.

- Adds \$90 billion to the Paycheck Protection Program, in addition to the more than \$130 billion still remaining in the program.

- Expands the Paycheck Protection Program to include Main Street advocates and 501(c)(6)s.

- Support educators and students at all levels:

- Extends student loan deferment program from CARES Act.
- Provides \$70 billion in federal funding

for K-12 schools.

- Provides \$29 billion in direct funds for higher education.
- Provides \$5 billion for the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund.
- Support our health care workers in fighting the coronavirus:
- Provides an additional \$25 billion for healthcare provider relief fund.
- Adds \$16 billion for testing, contact tracing, and surveillance, on top of \$9 billion still available from previous bills.
- Adds \$26 billion for vaccine development.
- Adds \$15.5 billion to NIH for research.
- Appropriates \$4.5 billion to care for Americans' mental health, suicide prevention, and substance use disorder services.
- Provides \$7.6 billion for Community Health Centers.
- Provides \$225 million for rural health clinics.
- Protects frontline health care workers (as well as charities, educators, and small businesses) following public health guidelines from expensive and timely lawsuits.
- Care for our children through the pandemic:
- Includes an additional \$15 billion for childcare assistance.
- Cares for foster youth, including kids aging out of the system, with \$50 million and increased flexibility in program requirements.
- Appropriates \$10 million for state courts handling child abuse and neglect cases.
- Aid farmers and ranchers and facilitate the food supply chain:
- Adds \$20 billion in direct assistance for the agricultural industry and strengthens the farm safety net.
- Aid state and local governments:
- Adds flexibility for state and local governments using CARES Act funds, of which at least 25% must still be passed to downstream governments.

Leader checks out social media

By Natalie Abarca

A member of *People of Sagemont 2* Facebook group posted that when her husband walked outside to go to work, he noticed that their vehicles and others in the neighborhood were ransacked. The incident happened Monday, Aug. 10, on Sagemont Drive. The member believes that there are teenagers walking through the neighborhood looking through vehicles. There was nothing taken from the vehicles, but the person or persons left a mess. The member posted for others to be careful and keep an eye out. There were other members that commented that also had the same problem in the community.

On the same Facebook group another member posted a video of a police stand-off surrounding a house of a man that was threatening his family and wanting to burn

the house down. The incident happened Sunday, Aug. 9, at New Rochelle and Astoria. In the end, police were able to arrest the man. See related story on Page 1.

A member of *People of The Official South Belt & Sagemont Area Crime Alert* Facebook group posted surveillance videos of a suspect that broke into vehicles Aug. 4, at Ashley Pointe subdivision. If anyone has any information on the identity of the suspect, contact Harris County Precinct 2 at 713-477-4070 or 281-481-9189. One's identity can remain anonymous. This post was also shared on other social media groups.

A member on the same Facebook page posted surveillance video of suspects walking in the neighborhood checking for unlocked cars doors. The incident happened on Tuesday, Aug. 11, on Sagemont and Sagemont.

Church Directory

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.stlukecatholic.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.

CCISD nonprofit to provide low-cost internet

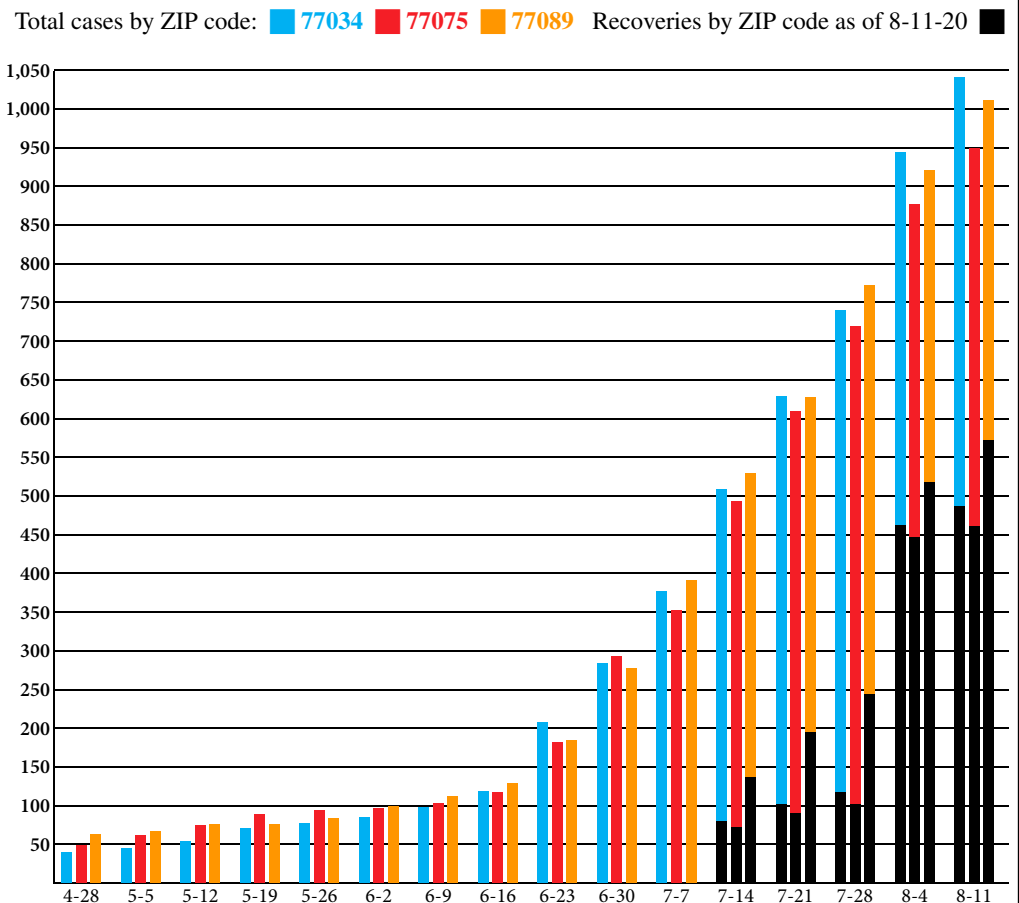
Continued from Page 1
 succeed academically.
 Clear Creek ISD has planned to provide three modes of instruction in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. The district will hold in-school instruction with safety and prevention measures in place as well as offer families a high-quality online experience through the newly developed Clear Connections Online Learning Program.
 Additionally, CCISD has outlined an instructional model that provides for a continuation of instruction in the event a classroom or a school must temporarily move to a School-to-Home instruction model due to COVID-19.

This three-pronged offering translates to the critical need for all students to have the capability to access their learning remotely whenever necessary. The challenge lies in the data that in Clear Creek ISD, economically disadvantaged families total nearly 29 percent of the population – with that number expected to rise given the economic ripple effects of the health crisis and resulting shutdowns.
 Through tax deductible donations to CCISD Cares and the "Access for All" initiative, organizations and individuals may support the district's efforts to provide Wi-Fi hotspots to families facing hardship so that students are

not cut off from their learning and academic progress.
 Clear Creek ISD is able to identify students lacking viable internet access through surveys and follow-up discussions with the family to pinpoint the barriers and identify possible free access points and solutions.
 If these options are exhausted and the family is still unable to secure a reliable internet or Wi-Fi connection, the district plans to supply a low-cost hotspot so that students in each household can connect to their online instruction, learning applications and coursework. The supplied Wi-Fi hotspot only provides internet capability for the district-issued devices in the

home and is subject to CCISD firewall protections.
 When the COVID-19 pandemic first interrupted in-person instruction during the spring semester, the Clear Creek Education Foundation underwrote emergency hotspots for students facing hardship so they could access remote learning tools and receive and submit assignments.
 The Texas Education Agency is working with a major internet provider to classify school districts as corporate customers. Additionally, the TEA has committed to covering a portion of the cost of the hotspot units.
 These new moves translate to significant discounts on internet service and hotspots for low-income families. Clear Creek ISD estimates that a household would receive the Wi-Fi access for \$110 for the entire school year. Early forecasts indicate the need for between 700 to 1000 units to bridge the digital divide for economically disadvantaged CCISD students.
 Through the district's one-to-one student device initiative, CCISD provides a laptop to students in grades 4 through 12.
 During a July 20 special meeting, the board of trustees voted to approve an emergency purchase of laptops for students in kindergarten through third grade for the 2020-2021 school year as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Area ZIPs see COVID slight improvement



Shooting info sought

Continued from Page 1
 male's new boyfriend.
 McDaniel then fled the scene and crashed his car on the Gulf Freeway, ripping his truck in half. He was transported to Clear Lake Regional Hospital in critical condition.
 The investigation into the incident caused extensive traf-

Special thank you



A special South Belt Leader "thank you" goes to Dave Whittington of Whittington Towing who picked up vehicle trash that was left on the Beamer-Kirkfair esplanade this past weekend. The vehicles were driven off from the scene, so none were towed. A pile of trash from the vehicles was left at the scene. The Leader recruited help from Sgt. Robert Sanchez of the constable's office to get the trash removed. He enlisted Whittington to assist. The Leader would like to thank both for helping keep our community just a little cleaner.
 Photo by Marie Flickinger

Free legal aid available

Continued from Page 1
 tification and proof of income. Certain exceptions to residence and income requirements may apply to special groups such as veterans.
 Visit the How to Get Help page at www.MakeJusticeHappen.org for additional information.
 A legal caseworker will notify each applicant if other documents are required.
 If an application is accepted, HVL will try to place the

Taylor addresses South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce on education

Continued from Page 1
 The senator said it was particularly important to address this issue, as studies show that low-income students have performed the worst during the pandemic, as many have "dropped off" from connectivity from online instruction.
 Conversely, Taylor said

Dead woman found at Sagemont Center identified

Continued from Page 1
 vehicle and found Flores unresponsive in the back passenger seat. Houston Fire Department paramedics responded to the scene and pronounced Flores deceased from multiple gunshot wounds.
 Investigators reportedly believe Flores was shot prior to being transported to the area parking lot.
 While the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences had no last-known address for Flores on record, she is described online as being from Southwest Houston.
 At press time, there was no known motive or suspect(s), police said.
 Anyone with information in this case is urged to contact the HPD Homicide Division at 713-308-3600 or Crime Stoppers of Houston at 713-222-TIPS (8477).

Texas A&M Agrilife Homegrown lecture set Aug. 20

Texas A&M Agrilife extension of Harris County will be having a free virtual Homegrown Lecture Series event Thursday, Aug. 20, from 10 to 10:30 a.m., titled "Focusing on Fall Vegetable Varieties" by Kim Perry, Cooperative Extension Program-Agriculture and Natural Resource, Prairie View A&M. Register through Eventbrite at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/home-grown-lecture-series-tickets-114355369990?aff=erelpanelorg#>. Deadline to register is at 8 a.m. the day of the event. For information, visit hcmga.tamu.edu.

Online Nurse's Aide Classes
 Your Nursing Journey Begins Here
 Pathway Personal Care and Educational Services
832-516-9321
 ALL CLASSWORK DONE ONLINE ONE WEEK LAB
 ONE WEEK IN PRACTICE LAB
 Nursing Assistants are the frontline of our country's healthcare system. Providing direct care in every setting, from hospitals to nursing homes.

Genoa sisters find quarantine sweetness

Two Genoa students, Jennifer and Isabella Resendez, ages 9 and 7 respectively, are sisters and creators of the new venture "Dipped By Jenn and Bell."
 COVID-19 caused a hardship on the girls because they no longer had anything to look forward to like school, birthday parties, movies or play dates.
 One afternoon their mom, Daffney Poynor, made some chocolate covered strawberries as a treat for the girls and their siblings, and as always, they wanted to jump right in and help.
 Poynor taught them the process and the girls were inspired to make and learn more, and started their own chocolate-dipping business.
 Instead of being stuck at home with nothing to do, the girls found something to make them happy and kept them entertained while staying safe inside.
 At first the pair sold to friends and family to

Notice of Public Meeting to Discuss Budget and Proposed Tax Rate

The Pasadena Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 7:00 PM, August 25, 2020 in 1515 Cherrybrook Pasadena TX 77501. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax	\$1.0730/\$100 (proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax	\$0.3100/\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

Approved by Local Voters

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget
 The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories.

Maintenance and operations	2.21% increase
Debt Service	0.77% increase
Total expenditures	2.09% increase

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value
 (as calculated under Section 26.04, Tax Code)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$19,681,055,489	\$20,765,451,048
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$231,001,968	\$200,641,469
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$15,769,948,423	\$16,638,848,063
Total taxable value*** of new property***	\$185,096,227	\$160,769,102

*Appraised value is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.
 **"New property" is defined by Section 26.012(17), Tax Code.
 ***"Taxable value" is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

Bonded Indebtedness
 Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$1,090,013,889

*Outstanding principal.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$1.0984	\$0.2800*	\$1.3784	\$4.202	\$6.950
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$1.0946	\$0.2987*	\$1.3933	\$3.944	\$7.293
Proposed Rate	\$1.0730	\$0.3100*	\$1.3830	\$4.140	\$6.589

*The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$150,671	\$158,990
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$111,668	\$120,617
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$1.3784	\$1.3830
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$1,539.23	\$1,668.13
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$128.90

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is \$1.3830. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of \$1.3830.

Fund Balances
 The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment.

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$178,048,312
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$26,729,133

A school district may not increase the district's maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district's debt service.

CoH suspension jury trials until Sept. 30

Due to changing circumstances regarding the COVID-19 pandemic and to encourage the health and safety of the public and court staff members from the spread of the COVID-19, the City of Houston Municipal Courts Department has extended the suspension of all jury trials through September 30, in conjunction with the Texas Supreme Court's order.
 The Court remains open for all other proceedings.
 Members of the public should contact a health care provider and not come to court if they are experiencing symptoms similar to COVID-19.
 Once cleared by a physician, individuals may visit any City of Houston court location to speak with an annex judge to reset a case.
 Masks/face coverings must be worn at all times within the courthouse facility.
 Temperatures will be taken before entry is granted.
 Visit the Municipal Courts website at www.houstontx.gov/courts for continued updates on all court locations and hours of operation.
 If one's jury trial was scheduled from June 1, 2020 to Sept. 30, resets began in person at all City of Houston court locations Saturday, Aug. 1, 2020 and will continue through Wednesday, Sept. 30, until 5 p.m.
 Visit the Municipal Courts' website at www.houstontx.gov/courts for information on all court locations and hours of operation.
 It is important to note that if an individual fails to reset their case(s) when Municipal Courts resume operations, an arrest warrant may be issued.
 Through Sept. 30, there will be no jury trials or jury duty.
Jury trials
 If one is a defendant scheduled for jury trial during this period, one does not have to appear.
 One must reschedule one's setting in person no later than Wednesday, Sept. 30, by 5 p.m., to receive a new court date.
 All jury trials will resume on Thursday, Oct. 1, unless further notification is provided.
 It is important to note that if an individual fails to reset their case(s) during the reset period by Sept. 30, an arrest warrant may be issued.
Jury duty
 Jury duty will resume Thursday, Oct. 1, unless further notification is provided.
 For additional announcements and information call the City of Houston Help-line at 311, or 713-837-0311. If outside of the City of Houston, or visit the Municipal Courts website at www.houstontx.gov/courts.



Jennifer Resendez is shown holding a selection of her chocolate-covered strawberries.



Isabella Resendez displays a container full of fresh strawberries for her sweet treats.

COVID-19 surge testing begins at county's two stationary sites

In partnership with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), both Harris County Public Health's (HCPH) Ken Pridgen Stadium and San Jacinto College Central campus locations have been transitioned to surge testing sites, with the aim of increase testing capacity and at the same time, develop faster lab turnaround times.

The temporary transition, lasting roughly two weeks or until 30,000 testing samples are reached, began at both stationary sites Thursday, Aug. 6, and operational hours are Monday through Saturday from 6 a.m. to 1 p.m.

In addition to these hours, HCPH has introduced evening testing at the stationary locations which will occur every Tuesday (Pridgen) and Thursday (San Jacinto) from 4 to 8 p.m. to better support the community.

With the additional resources and new process, testing capacity at each location will increase from 750 tests per day to 1,250 and residents should receive their results in three to five business days.

exposed to someone with COVID-19; and anyone who is worried about possibly having the virus. These surge sites rely on a separate network of labs for processing and will help clear the backlog of tests causing delays.

"Surge testing in Harris County marks an important milestone in our efforts to mitigate COVID-19 locally and we are grateful to our federal and state partners for this opportunity," said Umair A. Shah, MD, MPH, HCPH executive director. "It is vital that our residents have access to free testing, but this partnership also helps address the need of increasing our testing capacity and residents getting their results faster."

How to register for surge testing

Residents must preregister for surge testing. Anyone can sign up for testing at one of the surge locations directly through doineedacovid19test.com or by visiting ReadyHarris.org. Residents can also register by calling 832-927-7575. Residents who sign up for testing online will need to create a profile, take the brief online assessment and select the site location and time.

One can confirm the appointment and make sure to bring the test voucher ID number to the appointment. The voucher ID number is required or the testing will not be administered to the applicant.

Additionally, the testing voucher is only valid for the date of the test and cannot be used on a separate date.

Note that this is a separate registration process rather than ongoing HCPH testing, and individuals who prefer to go to HCPH mobile sites will continue to register by visiting www.hcph.org or by calling 832-927-7575.

Receiving results

Residents should expect their test results in three to five business days. An email notification will be sent to the users that their results are available through the patient portal.

Results can be accessed by visiting www.doineedacovid19test.com and entering the same username and password that were used to sign up for testing.

Since HCPH will not have access to an individual's username and passwords, everyone who registers for surge testing needs to maintain a record of their username and passwords.

While waiting for test results, participants are urged to practice social distancing, staying home as much as possible, wearing a face covering in public, washing one's hands often and cleaning high-touch surfaces regularly.

Harris County Public Health mobile testing sites

HCPH will continue to offer COVID testing at four mobile locations which rotate throughout Harris County precincts.

Each mobile unit has the ability to test 200 residents per day with a two- to four-day turnaround time for results.

To sign up for testing, residents may call 832-927-7575 or sign up via www.covidcheck.hctx.net/.

New road to Ellington opens



A third entrance to Ellington Field has just been completed by the City of Houston. The road is an entrance off Space Center Boulevard. To date, the road does not have a name, but that is expected to change in the next couple of weeks. The original two entrances to Ellington are from Old Galveston Road. Photo by Marie Flickinger

City of Houston announces "More Space" program

On Aug. 5 Mayor Sylvester Turner and City Council members approved the new "More Space" program to help restaurants accommodate more customers while maintaining social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The new program allows any restaurant to convert 50 percent of its off-street parking spaces to serve customers.

This expanded outdoor dining space will enhance business and operations for restaurants and allow Houstonians to patronize businesses while following strict health and safety guidelines.

"Houston is eager to re-engage, and Houston's restaurants are excited to see their customers return. At the same time, we want to keep everyone safe and I encourage people to continue social distancing, wearing a mask and washing their hands frequently," said Turner. "Since occupancy is lower during this time, parking spaces can be converted to places to serve customers. It is a win-win."

The City's Planning and Development Department led the multi-departmental effort with input from several Management Districts, individual restaurants and an array of stakeholders.

The City developed the program to accommodate additional capacity for guests looking to dine outdoors.

"Space can only do one thing at a time. It's great that the City can prioritize space

for customers to socially distance over space for parking that isn't being used," said David Fields, Houston's Chief Transportation Planner.

The program will include the following guidelines:

- Allow each restaurant to convert up to 50 percent of its off-street parking to space for serving food (serving only, not food storage or preparation).
- This program would be entirely voluntary. Restaurants may opt-in but not required to participate.
- Social distancing rules (6-foot spacing) would still apply.
- Driveway access, pedestrian access, and ADA-spaces must remain. The program will last through COVID-19 space restrictions.

- The overall program and/or individual sites will be revocable at any time, if safety concerns are identified.

To make this program as effective as possible and minimize the process, restaurant owners who would like to participate must submit a Notification Form to track program participation.

This will help the City receive feedback on the program and learn from it in the future.

The "More Space" program became effective Aug. 5, 2020.

Restaurants seeking to participate in the program need to complete and submit the Notification Form which is found at <http://houstontx.gov/planning/MoreSpace.html> where more details are available.

Barker then spoke of Ellington's MQ-9, a Remotely Piloted Aircraft, or RPA.

"From the operational side, it is flying local training missions and also has the capability to do combat operations anywhere in the world from Ellington Field," said Barker. "The MQ-9 is about the size of an F-16, a regular fighter airplane, and can carry about the same amount of bombs and missiles. It can stay up for upward of 12-15 hours without having to refuel. That makes a very flexible, a very capable weapon system. We are unique in that we are one of only three air national guard units that has both of those capabilities."

Ellington Field is also the home of another flying asset - RC-26. The colonel related that during Hurricane Harvey in 2017 that the RC-26 handled about 600 infrastructure requests from the city engineers to go to Barker Addicks Reservoir to look for areas that might be problematic. He added that the MQ-9 can also help out in that regard and has assisted other states during fire seasons.

Barker recalled one particular mission.

"Last year we flew an exercise with Tennessee regarding the numerous fault lines in that state," Barker said. "We launched our aircraft from Ellington and handed it off to Tennessee Air National Guard controllers. They flew a 10- or 12-hour mission doing those types of imagery and assessment requests that their state would require in the event of a natural disaster due to an earthquake."

"The RC-26 is what I fly. It's a relatively small, but very capable, twin engine reconnaissance aircraft. Only the Air National Guard flies that airplane. We are one of only 10 states lucky enough to have it. In the past, we've done some good work helping our federal law enforcement partners on the border. Primarily what we have used it for is on counter drug missions. We have had great and quantifiable results in terms of some very large, high profile seizures."

Barker also talked about Ellington's Air Support Operations Squadron, which is made up of battlefield airmen who deploy with the Army. They are able to bring combat air power to bear in

Ellington Field update by BAHEP

Continued from Page 1

7,000 full-time and part-time personnel.

"We are the only major military presence in the third largest city in the nation - a city of over 80,000 veterans," said Barker.

Current missions

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"From the operational side, it is flying local training missions and also has the capability to do combat operations anywhere in the world from Ellington Field," said Barker. "The MQ-9 is about the size of an F-16, a regular fighter airplane, and can carry about the same amount of bombs and missiles. It can stay up for upward of 12-15 hours without having to refuel. That makes a very flexible, a very capable weapon system. We are unique in that we are one of only three air national guard units that has both of those capabilities."

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Barker recalled one particular mission.

"Last year we flew an exercise with Tennessee regarding the numerous fault lines in that state," Barker said. "We launched our aircraft from Ellington and handed it off to Tennessee Air National Guard controllers. They flew a 10- or 12-hour mission doing those types of imagery and assessment requests that their state would require in the event of a natural disaster due to an earthquake."

"The RC-26 is what I fly. It's a relatively small, but very capable, twin engine reconnaissance aircraft. Only the Air National Guard flies that airplane. We are one of only 10 states lucky enough to have it. In the past, we've done some good work helping our federal law enforcement partners on the border. Primarily what we have used it for is on counter drug missions. We have had great and quantifiable results in terms of some very large, high profile seizures."

Barker also talked about Ellington's Air Support Operations Squadron, which is made up of battlefield airmen who deploy with the Army. They are able to bring combat air power to bear in

the form of air strikes from joint attack aircraft for the maneuver unit commander. They are experts in close air support.

The colonel detailed plans to improve the quality of life and infrastructure at Ellington.

"The real excitement of Ellington Field JRB's installation development plan shows that senior leaders outside of Texas in the Air National Guard and the Air Force think that Ellington and its missions have great longevity - enough to invest the thousands of dollars it takes just to write this plan so that we can link it to a disciplined and well thought out programmatic construction plan for what the next decades at Ellington Field are going to look like for whatever mission sets might come along," Barker said.

Future missions, possibilities

In 2024, the Air National Guard is going to find out where the next two F-35 bases will be located. The first two were awarded to Alabama and Vermont.

"We have a long history as a fighter unit; so, there's the potential down the road that we could get one of those missions," Barker said.

There has also been much discussion and excitement about the future home of the U.S. Space Force headquarters. Gov. Greg Abbott has communicated to the president that Ellington Field should be a preferred location.

"Those deliberations are complicated, and we are working with our municipal partners and the fact-finding team to the extent that it is appropriate," Barker said of the ongoing discussions.

Barker further elaborated on another possible assignment for Ellington.

"On July 29, the secretary of defense announced that AFRICOM (the United States Africa Command) headquarters in Stuttgart, Germany, which is the major combatant command for any operations by any U.S. military unit in or supporting or touching the African continent, is moving from Stuttgart to a location to be determined. Ellington Field has long been discussed as a candidate for headquarters of AFRICOM. We're excited to watch those developments."

Following the colonel's presentation, he answered several questions submitted by the virtual attendees.

To view the virtual general membership meeting, visit www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wp6A_LCRGNM&feature=youtu.be.

Space Center Houston hosts virtual campout

Grab the camping gear and head to the backyard because the night sky is calling nature lovers to camp out.

During this unique time, Space Center Houston will host a virtual campout from 6 to 9 p.m. Aug. 22.

Hear from NASA astronaut Kjell Lindgren as he shares his mission experiences.

Build one's own rocket, build one's own Mars helicopter and enjoy a planetarium show.

Make science come to life through the wonders of space exploration.

Set up tents and share photos on social media using the hashtag #SpaceCenterHOU.

Ordinarily, Space Center Houston's Campouts are paid programs.

The nonprofit organization 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, one needs only to pay whatever one is able to pay.

Register now at spacecenter.org/virtual-campout.

At registration, one needs only to pay whatever one is able to pay.

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Remember When

40 years ago (1980)

Trustees of the Pasadena Independent School District approved a tax rate of \$1 per \$100 valuation at a special meeting. The new tax rate represented a 7.5 percent increase in tax revenues over the 1979 rate.

The Dobie High School Lariatettes hosted their third annual Muscular Dystrophy Kick-a-thon in the Astroarena. What started out as a project for Dobie's 80 drill team members three years before, had become a regionwide, 1,700-girl event. Pledges for the year totaled more than \$75,000.

At least six burglaries or attempted burglaries occurred in the South Belt area in the course of four days.

Officer Loti Brewer of the Harris County Sheriff's Department's south district patrol (including the South Belt area) was promoted to the rank of chief petty officer in the U.S. Naval Reserve.

Brewer received the top rating of the three men chosen from 60 who qualified for the rank nationwide.

35 years ago (1985)

The Wings Over Houston air show, sponsored by the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce, was set

to be held at Ellington Field. The event would feature the Ghost Squadron of the Confederate Air Force, 100 vintage World War II aircraft and modern static military aircraft displays and jet fighter flybys. There was also to be a civilian aerobatic act, including a wing-walking act.

Dobie High School Principal Frank Braden sent a memo to all faculty directors of extracurricular activities to be on the lookout for any type of hazing activities within the groups during the upcoming school year.

The Sageglen Community Association was in the process of "cracking down" on residents in Sageglen who had erected satellite dish antennae on their properties. It was said that the satellite antennae were violations of the deed restrictions in the subdivision and were a nuisance to most persons who lived there.

30 years ago (1990)

Construction crews from Austin Bridge Company started putting together field offices for the extension of Beltway 8 from Interstate 45 to Beamer Road. The project was to have a 300-day completion schedule.

A benefit bake sale and car wash was planned by Kro-

ger employees to help defray hospital costs for employee Erwin Whitney who had suffered a seizure the previous week and remained unconscious. Whitney formerly worked at the Target near Alameda Mall.

The South Belt Palominos baseball team won their first-ever world championship at the Palomino World Series in Greensboro, N.C.

25 years ago (1995)

The Clear Creek school district tallied 26,246 students on the fourth day of school, a 4 percent enrollment increase over the same day the previous year. Clear Brook High School enrollment jumped by 4.8 percent to 1,543.

Nearly 2,000 homes in the Sagemont subdivision began the city of Houston's automated refuse collection program with only Thursday collections. In addition, a separate yard trimming pickup would be conducted each Monday.

Work was underway on the more than \$6 million, 900-space Park 'N Ride facility being constructed behind the Sabo townhouses.

The so-called Fuqua Park & Ride was expected to open the following spring.

South Belt area 4-year-

old Pamela Ann Kinsel, the daughter of Bill and Margaret Kinsel, was selected Tiny Miss American Rodeo Queen in a Galveston competition.

20 years ago (2000)

Three locals who took part in national competition included Patricia Marie Alders, Miss Teen Houston; Nikki Williams, Miss Junior Teen Houston; and Angela Marie Hunter, Ms. Houston.

The Rev. Mark Butcher and the Freeway Baptist family celebrated the church's 50th anniversary.

Jerry Speer was sworn onto the Pasadena Independent School District Board of Trustees.

After Kathleen Woodworth's horse was killed by a train, the staff at the stables collected enough money to buy her a new one.

Sagemont Church opened Sagemont Centre for the Arts.

15 years ago (2005)

All three proposed schools for the South Belt which were to be open for the new school year were placed on hold by PISD. A demographic study revealed that student growth was far below projections.

Texas Gov. Rick Perry assigned 12 Remotely Piloted Vehicle Predator drones to Ellington Field. Not all RPVs would be physically stationed at Ellington, but they would be radio controlled from there.

CCISD accepted an inter-local agreement with League City to ensure the completion of the district's fourth high school. The campus would be located on Palomino Lane and was anticipated to be open for the 2007 school year.

The PISD board of trustees was seeking community input to develop a profile for the new superintendent of schools. The new superintendent would replace Dr. Rick Schneider, who had announced his upcoming retirement. Deputy superintendent Kirk Lewis was ultimately hired in April 2006 after trustees limited the search to PISD employees.

10 years ago (2010)

Change Happens, a local community-based nonprofit organization serving at-risk families and youth hosted its 10th annual Children's Health Day from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 14, at Alameda and Northwest Malls. "We started this program to make health care resources accessible to families, especially uninsured children in our community," said the event's founder/CEO the Rev. Leslie

Texan Bank kicks off online challenge

On Aug. 3, Texan Bank started a charity challenge on Facebook. For the challenge, Texan Bank is asking one to share a Texan Bank post and use #charitychallenge.

In return, Texan Bank will donate \$1 for every share with the goal to hit 1,000 shares for a contribution of \$1,000.

The bank is kicking off the challenge in August with

Kidz Harbor located in Liverpool, Texas. Kidz Harbor's mission is to help the abused and abandoned children of Texas.

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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 has devoted to the Leader.

SCHOOL DAZE

The following personnel and staff of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays Aug. 13 through Aug. 19, 2020.

Atkinson Elementary

Aug. 15 is the day to celebrate a birthday for **Rebecca Garcia**.

Burnett Elementary

Share in the birthday fun Aug. 17 with **Jennie Graham**. Send a happy birthday greeting to **Melisa Evans** Aug. 18.

Bush Elementary

Light the birthday candles for **Laura Ramsahai** Aug. 17.

Frazier Elementary

The day for a double-layer cake for **Jennifer Umana** and **Kristi Vela** is Aug. 14.

Genoa Elementary

Give a birthday shoutout Aug. 13 to **Francisca Bizana**. **Jackie Moreno** celebrates a special birthday Aug. 16.

Meador Elementary

Enjoying a birthday Aug. 17 is **Tracie Nair**.

Moore Elementary

Jill Lacamu, Moore principal, is wished a happy birthday Aug. 13.

Stuchbery Elementary

Best wishes for a wonderful birthday Aug. 19 are sent to **Lorena Benavides Sanchez**.

Melillo Middle School

Aug. 13 is the day for a double-layer cake for **Patricia Concha** and **Debra Yocum**. Sing a chorus of a birthday song Aug. 18 to **Valerie Espinosa**. Celebrating a birthday Aug. 19 is **Alice Wong**.

Roberts Middle School

Break out the balloons and party favors Aug. 19 for **Joe Pena**.

Beverly Hills Intermediate

The day for birthday fun for **Charlotte Nelson** is Aug. 17.

Thompson Intermediate

On Aug. 13, light the birthday candles for **Cliff Neel**. Happy birthday wishes are sent Aug. 15 to **Daniel Sawyer**. Give a birthday shoutout Aug. 17 to **James MacGregor**.

Dobie High

Bryan Due celebrates a birthday Aug. 14. Send a birthday greeting Aug. 15 to **Rosamaria Singh**.

FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS

The Leader sends special birthday wishes

es 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. 13: **Nicole Foster, Carlos Gomez, Shawna Merchant, Lisa Iguess, Anthony Dittlich, Erica Sadler, Dinah Palmer and Bill Weatherford**; Friday, Aug. 14: **Roger Woest, Connie Alberti, Richard Golenko and Pete Ortiz**; Saturday, Aug. 15: **Janna Higgs, Hector Pomo and Peggy Cox Hughs**; Sunday, Aug. 16: **Nicole Love, Brandon Gray, Larry Bozka, Cynthia Weaver, Brandon Gray, Yvonne Molina and Irl Ellis**; Monday, Aug. 17: **Denise Moctezuma, Linda Rodriguez, Michelle Brovey and Paulo Espinoza**; Tuesday, Aug. 18: **Marty Gomez, Cathy Shipley, Shametta Benson, Corina Lopez, Jo Anne Muse, Vita Bernal, Annette Barrientos and Chris Cook**; and Wednesday, Aug. 19: **Robert Mireles, Nathan Nguyen, Pamela Walters, Jody Urschel-Oun, Shandy Lecourias, Pamela McDonald and Derrick Pypor**.

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.

Smith, II. "It's held just before school starts to help families prepare by offering free services and products such as school supplies, health screenings and immunizations" he added. Volunteers gave out free school supplies to participating youth while supplies lasted. In addition to Change Happens's Children's Health Insurance and food stamp programs, Children's Health Day was at capacity with more than 80 local providers of children's services including: the Houston Rockets, the Houston Dynamo, American Red Cross, City of Houston Health Department, Aflac, A Tooth Doctor for Kids, the Houston Public Library and many more. Fun aspects for children included interactive activities, door prizes and live, culturally diverse entertainment featuring local artists and performers. Program organizers invited several public figures to attend and demonstrate their support for Children's Health Day.

5 years ago (2015)

The San Jacinto College Board of Trustees unanimously voted to call for a \$425 million bond referendum in the November 2015 election. The funds would provide workforce training, make renovations and improve infrastructure. Nine buildings were renovated - most of which were more than 30 years old.

The measure easily passed, with 68 percent voting in favor of it.

1 year ago (2019)

On Wednesday, Aug. 14, deputies with the Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's office discovered a man sleeping in a stolen vehicle in the 10100 block of Sageglow. Edgar Tower was charged with unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, having an outstanding felony warrant for possession of a controlled substance in Galveston County and other misdemeanor warrants from Friendswood and League City.

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SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

Lady Horns' volleyball eyes Sept. 15 opener

Six head-to-head matchups will precede Dobie's District 22-6A start as the state looks to swing into the high school volleyball season Sept. 15.

The Lady Longhorns will host tryouts and the first day of preseason workouts for returning players Sept. 7 and then will begin scrimmages Sept. 11. The regular season has Dobie visiting Baytown Sterling Sept. 15.

After another road match Sept. 18 at Shadow Creek, the Lady Longhorns will have their first home match Saturday, Sept. 19 against Spring.

Dobie will play a total of seven Saturday matches in an effort to accommodate the condensed schedule.

The District 22-6A portion of the schedule for Dobie begins Tuesday, Sept. 22, at Channelview. Also of special interest, the Lady Longhorns will have the first of two matchups

against 22-6A frontrunner Deer Park Oct. 9, at Deer Park.

Dobie head coach Dawn Sexton has put together a

25-match regular season for her program.

Bidistrict playoff losses to Deer Park in each of the past two seasons has the

Lady Longhorns eager to even the score now that the two programs are district foes. See Dobie's full 2020 schedule on Page 6.



The Dobie volleyball program will get the first look at Dobie High School's newly renovated gymnasium, which includes fresh on-court decals as well as wall art. The main playing surface at Dobie's main campus will see plenty of action as the volleyball program will play 13 of its 25 scheduled matches at home over a period of just under two months.

Waddell, son of Dobie graduates, gets MLB call

Brandon Waddell, son of 1980 Dobie High School graduates Terrie (Birdsong) and Charles Waddell, has been added to the Pittsburgh Pirates' 28-man roster.

Waddell who was added to the 60-man Player Pool Aug. 7 and sent to the Pirates alternate site in Altoona was called up to Pittsburgh for an Aug. 9 game against the Detroit Tigers.

A Clear Lake High School graduate, Waddell played under the guidance of Rupert Jaso, current Pasadena ISD director of athletics, who was then head coach of the Falcons.

Waddell went on to help the University of Virginia win the College World Series in 2015, as the starting pitcher in Game 3 of the Championship series

on limited rest.

A fifth-round draft pick of the Pirates in June 2015, Waddell, now 26, has fashioned a career record of 30-30 with a 4.12 earned run average. He's pitched in 115 career games, including 85 as a starter. Waddell who spent his first day on the Pirates roster in the bullpen, is actively awaiting his MLB debut.



Brandon Waddell



The Waddell family from left, including Samantha (sister), Charles (father) and Terrie (mother) joined Pittsburgh Pirates minor leaguer Brandon Waddell in spring training in 2018. Charles and Terrie are 1980 Dobie graduates, while Samantha and Brandon both graduated from Clear Lake High School.

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SJC alum back in MLB

Taylor Hearn, who pitched for San Jacinto College during his freshman season in 2013, is back in the big leagues with the Texas Rangers after appearing in a game

with the team earlier this month. Originally a fifth-round pick of the Washington Nationals, Hearn has appeared briefly in parts of two seasons with the Rangers.

School staffs in session, athletics not far behind

Aug. 10, 2020 could very well go down in Texas high school sports history as one of the most noteworthy days of this century.

While educators at Clear Brook, Dobie and many of those in their school districts officially pulled up in front of campuses for the first day of 2020-2021 academic year preparedness, schools across Texas in the Class A through Class 4A ranks began preseason foot-

ball and volleyball workouts. And suddenly, at long last, a return to action in the 5A and 6A ranks is drawing nearer.

The University Interscholastic League weeks ago set Labor Day Monday, Sept. 7, as the first allowable day for preseason workouts. In what has become a rarity over the past six months, that schedule is holding true.

Volleyball programs are

allowed to begin matches just a week later, and Dobie will do so by opening its season Tuesday, Sept. 15. Meanwhile, Clear Brook will begin its campaign at Pearland as the region looks to return to some form of normalcy.

When Sept. 15 does arrive, it will have been almost six months to the day of when the last competitive high school sporting event took place within Region

III. And football won't be far behind. Class 5A and 6A programs may also begin workouts Sept. 7, five weeks behind what was originally planned.

Actual live football games in the 6A ranks may kick off as of Sept. 24.

The District 22-6A and District 24-6A full schedules, which are expected to include 10 games, have yet to be officially released.

But an online listing of Pasadena Memorial's schedule has the Mavs facing Dobie Nov. 13, so the 22-6A schedule exists.

Further, Clear Brook has set its 10 opponents even if the exact dates are not yet official.

Dobie and Clear Brook will begin their respective team tennis seasons Sept. 11-12 as part of the Remembering Ike Invitational, and the UIL has set dates for the beginning of the cross-country season.

It's all set to get going, and for most the day can't come soon enough.

TAPPS restart schedule has LSA fall athletics ready to go

The Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools has issued its fall athletics starting dates, which will have the Pioneers of Lutheran South Academy ready to get back to action after the statewide coronavirus-related delays.

Advancing to the second round of the playoffs in 2019, the LSA football program will see Nov. 7 bring the first eligible day for practice, and the pads are due to be donned as of Sept. 11.

TAPPS 11-man programs may scrimmage as of Sept. 17, and games can begin a week later, Sept. 24. The

playoff bracket must be set as of Nov. 9, and the state championships are Dec. 11-12.

The Pioneers are eligible to return to the volleyball practice court as of Labor Day Monday, and the season can include matches as early as Thursday, Sept. 10.

The TAPPS volleyball postseason will then start Nov. 5, and the state championships are Nov. 18-20.

The regional champion Pioneer boys' soccer team is also itching to return to the field after 20 overall wins and a state semifinal appearance in 2019.

Junior Jace Windom

should lead the way once more after the midfielder had 26 goals and 14 assists a season ago.

Senior Eli Garrabrant is eligible to return following a 14-goal, 20-assist campaign.

The Pioneers will also welcome the talents of Braden Leimkuehler in the nets after he was involved in 27 overall matches as a junior.

Preseason soccer matches can begin Sept. 7, and the regular season openers can begin as soon as Sept. 10.

The TAPPS playoff bracket must be set as of Oct. 29, and the state championships are Nov. 12-13.

Dobie sets Remembering Ike team tennis Sept. 11-12

When the University Interscholastic League provided the go-ahead for an early September return to live action for team tennis programs, Dobie High School head coach Manuel Moreno Jr. clearly jumped into action.

Reviving an event he figured was to fall victim to the coronavirus pandemic, Moreno instead was able to whip up a tidy eight-team field for the 2020 Remembering Ike Invitational.

Dobie and Clear Brook are two of the host sites for the Sept. 11-12 event, which also has Dawson and Pearland hosting.

The remaining four programs will include Clear Creek, Clear Springs, Friendswood and La Porte as the eight look to quickly jumpstart a season that will have lost roughly five weeks once things begin.

To best serve social dis-

tancing measures, there will be no more than two teams at each site at any given time frame, therefore resembling basis head-to-head play.

After the first round plays out at four separate locations on Sept. 11, Dawson and Pearland will host semifinal action Sept. 12, with Dawson then hosting the championship final Sept. 12, at 2:30 p.m.

Dobie and Clear Brook will serve as loser's bracket sites, with Moreno to formally schedule those times and locations as the event draws closer.

Teams will go head-to-head against one another in the usual team tennis format, playing six each of boys' and girls' singles matches, three each of boys' and girls' doubles matches and a mixed doubles match for 19 in total. The matches will run as eight-game pro sets.

District 22-6A nor Dis-

trict 24-6A coaches have released full schedules at this time, but suffice to say the respective district schedules will quickly take center stage when the season gets rolling.

Team tennis matches may begin Sept. 8, and the regular season must be completed by Oct. 24, leaving just seven weeks.

The team tennis state tournament is set to be played the second week of November.

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Dobie hosts Clear Creek
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Clear Brook hosts Friendswood
Sept. 11, 2:30 p.m.

Dawson hosts La Porte
Sept. 11, 2:30 p.m.

Pearland hosts Clear Springs
Sept. 11, 2:30 p.m.

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Dobie High School 2020 Varsity Volleyball Schedule

- Sept. 11 at Barbers Hill scrimmage, 4 p.m.
 - Sept. 12 La Porte scrimmage, 9 a.m.
 - Sept. 14 Tri-team scrimmage, 4 p.m.
 - Sept. 15 at Baytown Sterling, 6:30 pm.
 - Sept. 18 at Shadow Creek, 6:30 p.m.
 - Sept. 19 Spring, noon
 - Sept. 22 at C.E. King, 6:30 p.m.
 - Sept. 25 Dickinson, 6:30 p.m.
 - Sept. 26 Barbers Hill, noon
 - Sept. 29 *at Channelview, 6:30 p.m.
 - Oct. 2 at St. Agnes, 5:30 p.m.
 - Oct. 3 Nederland, noon
 - Oct. 3 MacArthur, 2 p.m.
 - Oct. 6 *at Pasadena, 6:30 p.m.
 - Oct. 9 *at Deer Park, 6:30 p.m.
 - Oct. 13 *Memorial, 6:30 p.m.
 - Oct. 16 *at Rayburn, 6:30 p.m.
 - Oct. 17 at Goose Creek Memorial, 1 p.m.
 - Oct. 20 *South Houston, 6:30 p.m.
 - Oct. 23 *Channelview, 6:30 p.m.
 - Oct. 24 *at Alvin, 12:30 p.m.
 - Oct. 30 *Pasadena, 4:30 p.m.
 - Oct. 31 Galveston Ball, 1 p.m.
 - Nov. 3 *Deer Park, 6:30 p.m.
 - Nov. 6 *at Memorial, 6:30 p.m.
 - Nov. 7 Morton Ranch, 1 p.m.
 - Nov. 10 *Rayburn, 6:30 p.m.
 - Nov. 13 *at South Houston, 6:30 p.m.
- * District 22-6A matches
Subject to change per COVID guidelines

Clear Brook baseball duo receive Astros' academic scholarships



Clear Brook Class of 2020 graduates and Wolverine varsity baseball players Zachary Woolley (above) and Owen Kiszka were recipients of the Houston Astros' annual collegiate education scholarships, which they ac-

cepted this summer. Both players enjoyed solid careers within the baseball program at Clear Brook before their respective senior season was cut short in March when all spring sports play was stopped.

Few days remain within SBGSA fall registration

The South Belt Girls Softball Association has a select few days remaining with its online registration now running through just Aug. 15 for the upcoming fall league season, with easy-to-follow steps.

There are open spots available in some of the age groups, with waiting lists available in others. The league will make every effort to place all waiting list players on teams as additional coaches become available.

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 requirements. The online registration is located at www.southbeltsoftball.com.

Payments of \$60 per player may only be made by credit card. No cash will be accepted. SBGSA coaches advise those families wishing to play to proceed with getting on a waiting list if necessary as teams will be added when coaching spots are filled. To get on a waiting list, call or text SBGSA player agent Adriana Estrada at 832-891-3579.

All registrant families will be required to submit birth certificate proof electronically. For additional information, visit the SBGSA league sites via Twitter or Facebook at southbeltgirlssoftball.com.

Coaches sought
South Belt Girls Softball Association officials are 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. Former college players may also apply to coach.

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

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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 a list of Al-Anon meetings, visit www.houstonalanon.org/meetings.html.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13

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.

7:30 a.m.

Rotary Club of Pearland - Virtual meeting Thursday, 7:30 a.m., online on Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81372891968>. Meeting ID: 813 7289 1968. Information for the event is on the Pearland Chamber of Commerce website under the calendar tab.

9:30 a.m.

NASA Aglow Community Lighthouse - Second Thursday of the month, 9:30 a.m., Praise Chapel, 18516 Hwy. 3 in Webster. The public is welcome and encouraged to bring others. For details, call 281-910-1971 or visit [aglownet.org](https://www.aglownet.org).

11:30 a.m.

ABWA - Southeast Express Network - American Business Women's Association-South will have a virtual meeting Thursday, July 9, All attendees must preregister. To RSVP for the meeting and to obtain additional information, visit the website at www.seen-abwa.org.

Noon

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.

7 p.m.

Pearland Area Republican's Club - meets on the second Thursday of the month at the Pearland Church of Christ Annex, 2217 N. Grand Blvd., Pearland, when the church is open. For details, email pearlandarearepublicanclub@gmail.com or visit www.facebook.com/PARCTX. Sheriff Troy Nehls is guest speaker.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Women's Group, open meeting, 2930 E. Broadway (FM-518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). Call 713-661-4200 or visit <https://nas.tuff.com/>.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14

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.

7 p.m.

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

Congregation Shaar Hashalom - All services are online. Join the Friday night service at 7 p.m. or the Saturday Shabbat at 9:30 a.m. service on a computer, tablet or smartphone by using the GoToMeeting app and accessing the link <https://www.gotomeet.me/cshonline> with the access code 471-821-285. For those who don't have a computer, services may be accessed by calling (+1)-571-317-3122. For members who wish to download a copy of the prayer book for the online service, visit <https://www.shaarhashalom.org/prayer-book-for-online-service.html>.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15

7:30 a.m.

AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 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/>.

9:30 a.m.

Congregation Shaar Hashalom - All services are online. Join the Friday night service at 7 p.m. or the Saturday Shabbat at 9:30 a.m. service on a computer, tablet or smartphone by using the GoToMeeting app and accessing the link <https://www.gotomeet.me/cshonline> with the access code 471-821-285. For those who don't have a computer, services may be accessed by calling (+1)-571-317-3122. For additional information for members who wish to download a copy of the prayer book for the online service, visit <https://www.shaarhashalom.org/prayer-book-for-online-service.html>.

8 p.m.

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

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16

8 p.m.

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

MONDAY, AUGUST 17

Noon

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.

6:30 p.m.

Toastmasters - The Young Professionals Southeast

Toastmasters Club #05324194 has gone virtual! Meeting is Mondays, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m., at the website, <https://youngprofessionalstoastmasters.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.youngprofessionalstoastmasters.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.

7 p.m.

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

7 p.m.

Survivors of Suicide Support Group - gives coping skills in a non-threatening environment to adults who have lost a loved one to suicide. For additional information, email LynneAnnH@yahoo.com or visit www.crisishotline.org or call 832-416-1177.

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 or visit <https://nastuff.com/>.

7 p.m.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Saint Luke's 12 Step Recovery program, open meeting Mondays, 7 p.m. in the Education Building in room 4, 11011 Hall Road. For additional information, call Jesse at 832-725-8479 or Rita at 281-309-2801.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18

7 a.m.

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

Noon

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.

7 p.m.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 22930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com or visit <https://nas.tuff.com/>.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19

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

Noon
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.

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

7 p.m.
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.

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

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20

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

7:30 a.m.
Rotary Club of Pearland - Meets Thursdays at 7:30 a.m. either at Pearland Chamber of Commerce, 6117 Broadway St., Pearland, or online on Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81372891968>. The meeting ID: 813 7289 1968. Additional information is available on the Pearland Chamber of Commerce website at <https://www.pearlandtexaschamber.us/> under the calendar tab.

Noon
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.

7 p.m.
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 www.hascona.com or <https://nastuff.com/>.

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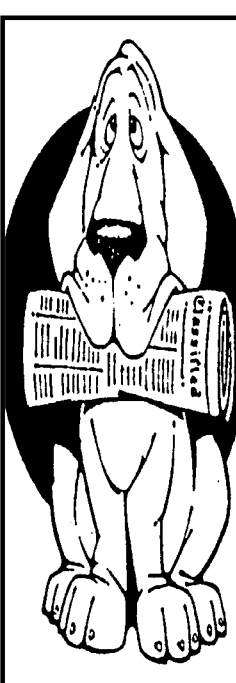
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Harris County Flood Control continues work in South Belt area

Flood Control busy enlarging 100-acre retention pond to improve area drainage



Residents are seeing many Sprint trucks in the South Belt area as they transport truckloads of dirt from the former Southbend subdivision as the most recent flood control project. Currently the site contains

a 100-acre retention facility which will be greatly increased with the approved expanded project. The new project will take approximately two years.

Photos by Marie Flickinger



These drainage pipes, which previously drained Southbend subdivision are waiting to be taken out of the subdivision. The drainage project will greatly improve

retention which will help keep water from streets and homes in the area. Flood Control is hosting a virtual meeting Tuesday, Aug. 18 (see story Page 1.)

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Houston USO to hold golf tournament Sept. 14

The public is invited to USO Houston's inaugural fundraiser, the Houston USO-Charity Golf Tournament at Pearland Golf Club Monday, Sept. 14, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The tournament includes both breakfast and lunch, as well as a silent auction.

For 79 years, the USO has lifted the spirits of America's troops and their families.

In Houston, the USO provides a touch of home to more than 250,000 troops and military family members annually who visit the USO centers at Bush Intercontinental Airport, Hobby Airport, Ellington Field

Joint Reserve Base and the Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS) in downtown Houston.

USO Houston serves the 10,500 soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines, and coast guardsmen and their families who are based in Greater Houston and Southeast Texas, as well as those locally based families that are geographically separated from loved ones who are deployed or stationed overseas.

The USO is here for those who need its services the most: troops and military families; the wounded, ill and injured

troops and their caregivers; troops in transition; and families of the fallen.

Locally, USO provides programming around these key pillars: family strengthening; health, wellness and resiliency; and education, employment, and community reintegration.

Sponsorships for the tournament range from \$100 to \$10,000, with all proceeds benefiting USO Houston's programs for troops and military families.

For additional information, contact Terri Riemer with USO Houston, at 832-691-8524, or visit the event and registration page at <https://www.pearlandtexaschamber.us/events/details/houston-uso-charity-golf-tournament-21670>.

The USO is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and donations are tax deductible (Tax ID # 13-1610451) to the fullest extent permitted by law. The Houston USO is thankful for one's consideration and continued support of U.S. troops.

Cubos turns 12



Hailey Sunshine Cubos turned 12 on Aug. 11. She will be a seventh-grader at Thompson Intermediate. She celebrated her birthday at the movies with her cousins, and due to COVID-19 and social distancing, her parents Erik and Claudia Cubos were able to rent out the entire theater for the celebration. She also had a Taco Bell-themed dinner afterward with her parents and siblings.

Flood meeting set

Continued from Page 1

site and YouTube channel after the event. Meeting accommodations can be made for those with disabilities. If needed, contact 346-286-4152 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. (See photos this page.)

For flood control questions, contact the Flood Control District at 346-286-4152, or fill out the comment form online at www.hcfed.org/Mud-Gully. For more information on the Clear Creek Federal Flood Risk Management Project, visit www.hcfed.org/C-03.

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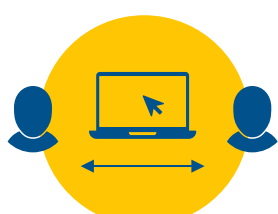
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Students return to school

Continued from Page 1

of special education students beginning Aug. 31. The remaining grade levels and special education students will return to brick-and-mortar instruction on Sept. 14, versus the initial plan of having all students return on Sept. 8.

"This gradual phase in of groups of staff and students is recommended by health officials," said CCISD Superintendent

Dr. Greg Smith. "We have seen great success in bringing people into brick and mortar in groups whether it is the nearly 1,500 students who have participated in strength and conditioning camps in July to our 5,000 employees returning to work this week."

Students who opt out of brick-and-mortar instruction will continue to learn virtually from home. District officials

said that qualifying students will be provided a low-cost Wi-Fi service to maintain their studies. See related story on Page 1.

Clear Creek ISD is also expected to continue providing meals to students who virtually learn, but details were unclear at press time.

For more details on CCISD's reopening plan, visit www.ccisd.net/reopen.

Comptroller celebrates 30 years

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar is highlighting the 30th anniversary of the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act and reminding families about the Texas Achieving a Better Life Experience Program, established to help individuals with disabilities and their families save money to pay for disability-related expenses critical to maintaining one's health, independence and quality of life.

Signed into law July 26, 1990, the ADA prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in employment, state and local government, public accommodations, commercial facilities, transportation and telecommunications.

"The ADA represents landmark legislation that has protected the rights of millions of disabled Americans," Hegar said. "It laid the foundation for programs such as Texas ABLE, which further helps remove barriers for people with disabilities."

"Texas ABLE has been a game changer, and our office is proud to be part of this important program that creates a path for individuals with disabilities to save and achieve a better life experience."

Established by the Texas Legislature and administered by the Texas Prepaid Higher Education Tuition Board through the Texas Comptroller's office, the Texas ABLE program allows Texans with disabilities to save for the future in tax-advantaged accounts while preserving their eligibility for important government benefits such as Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Medicaid.

The program is open to eligible Texans who experience the onset of a disability before the age of 26 and are entitled to SSI or Social Security Disability Insurance benefits, or have a condition on the Social Security Administration's list of Compassionate Allowanc-

es Conditions or a physician's diagnosis of a qualifying condition.

Through Texas ABLE's special eGift tool, anyone — the individual with the disability, family members, friends or even a special needs trust — can make direct contributions to the account. Accounts can be established by the beneficiary of the account or by someone with legal authority to act on his or her behalf.

Any earnings on ABLE account funds are not subject to federal income tax if used for qualified disability expenses.

Each eligible individual can have only one ABLE account.

For information on Texas ABLE, including associated fees and contribution limitations, or to open an account, visit TexasABLE.org or call 844-4TX-ABLE (844-489-2253).

TIMELINE	ACTION	RATIONALE
AUGUST 18, 2020	Staff Professional Learning: Safety Protocols, SEL, Engagement, Technology, School-to-Home, Clear Connections preparation	Allows staff time to learn and prepare for new safety protocols, prepare for online learning, and fully support students
AUGUST 24, 2020	All students begin online	Enables staff and students to experience new online learning expectations and begin instruction
AUGUST 31, 2020	All students online; Brick and Mortar: PK/K, 6th, 9th, Students in Special Education self-contained classrooms	Provides time for staff to train small groups of students transitioning to new schools on safety protocols while continuing instruction
SEPTEMBER 8, 2020	All students who selected Brick and Mortar on campus	Endorsed by Galveston County Health Officials