

# South Belt-Ellington Leader

## 43 years of covering South Belt

Voice of Community-Minded People since 1976

Thursday, August 15, 2019

Email: [mynews@southbeltleader.com](mailto:mynews@southbeltleader.com)

[www.southbeltleader.com](http://www.southbeltleader.com)

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### St. Luke's holds senior fair

St. Luke Catholic Church, 11011 Hall Road, will host a senior information fair Saturday, Aug. 17, from 9 a.m. to noon in the parish hall. The event will feature dozens of vendors providing information, such as medical advice, exercise tips and vacation suggestions. Information will also be provided on part-time jobs, free fire alarms and oral cancer screenings. For more information, call the church at 281-481-6816.

### Gulf Freeway closures set

At least one lane on the northbound frontage road of the Gulf Freeway from FM 517 to FM 518 in League City will be closed daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Monday, Sept. 30.

At least one northbound and one southbound main lane and frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway from NASA Bypass/NASA Road 1 to SH 96/League City Parkway will be closed daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Tuesday, Dec. 31. Alternate entrance and exit ramps will be closed.

The northbound exit ramp on the Gulf Freeway at NASA Bypass/NASA Road 1 will be closed continuously through 5 a.m. Friday, Feb. 28, 2020. Motorists wishing to access these intersections may exit using the exit to FM 518 and proceed on the northbound frontage road to the intersections or exit using the Bay Area Boulevard exit ramp, U-turn and head south to the NASA Bypass or FM 528.

The northbound exit ramp on the Gulf Freeway between SH 96/League City Parkway and FM 518 will be closed continuously through 9 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 31.

Drivers traveling north on the main lanes will continue to NASA Road 1, exit, then U-turn and come back to FM 518.

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.

### Knights sell spaghetti

The Knights of Columbus Council 9201 will host a fundraising spaghetti dinner Friday, Aug. 30, from 5 to 7 p.m. in the St. Luke Catholic Church social hall, 11011 Hall Road. The menu will include all-you-can-eat spaghetti covered with the original KC 9201 pasta sauce, two made-from-scratch Italian meatballs, garden salad with Italian dressing, French bread and ice tea or lemonade. Cost is \$7 eat-in or take-out. For children under 12, the cost is \$3 (one meatball), eat-in only.

### Beltway closures planned

The eastbound and westbound U-turn lanes at Beltway 8 and Beamer will be closed continuously through 9 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 22.

At least one inside westbound frontage road lane on Beltway 8 at SH 288 will be closed daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Friday, Aug. 16.

At least one inside frontage road lane on Beltway 8 at Conklin will be closed daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Friday, Aug. 16.

Both northbound and southbound U-turn lanes at Beltway 8 and Crenshaw will be closed daily from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Friday, Aug. 16.

Both northbound and southbound U-turn lanes at Beltway 8 and Vista will be closed daily from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Friday, Aug. 30.

At least one alternate lane on the northbound Beltway 8 frontage road from Vista to SH 225 will be closed daily from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and nightly from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Friday, Aug. 30.

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

### PIP set for Aug. 20

The Houston Police Department's Positive Interaction Program will meet Tuesday, Aug. 20, at 7 p.m. at Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital, 11800 Astoria, in the staff meeting room on the first floor.

Guest speaker will be 311 Customer Service Representative Chelsea L. Dearman-Davis, who will address the city's 311 help line. PIP consists of police and citizens working together for safer neighborhoods. For additional information, call HPD Officer Richard Buitron at 832-395-1776.

### Prayer walk set for August

School Prayer Walks USA will host a prayer walk from 9 to 10 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 31, at Beverly Hills Intermediate School, located at 11111 Beamer Road. All are welcome to pray for the protection and peace of students and staff, especially those who have students attending. For additional information, call 281-484-0901.

### Rotary Club meets Thursday

The Rotary Club of Pearland meets every Thursday at 7:30 a.m. at Allendale's Kitchen & Cocktails, located at 5010 Broadway St. in Pearland. Meetings include a variety of speakers. The restaurant will open exclusively for club attendees with breakfast at one's own cost. For additional information, call 281-900-7257 or email [nalix@texasciti.zensbank.com](mailto:nalix@texasciti.zensbank.com).

## New Thompson campus stirs controversy

### Involved parties in discussions for possible relocation

The proposed location of the new Thompson Intermediate campus has caused some controversy among some area residents who see the current site as being problematic.

The existing planned site, located on Highland Meadows Drive in the Riverstone Ranch at Clear Creek subdivision, has been met with opposition from residents of both the Riverstone Ranch at

Clear Creek and Green Tee Terrace subdivisions, the two neighborhoods which would border the new campus.

Riverstone Ranch at Clear Creek homeowners, led by resident Elizabeth Drake, contend the current proposed location presents a safety hazard, as it is to be located deep within the subdivision, with the school's only entrance being

within a 90-plus-degree curve with limited sight of oncoming traffic in both directions.

Drake said the new campus would also have a very narrow school frontage on Highland Meadows Drive, the only street adjoining the proposed property.

Green Tee Terrace homeowners further complain that the current proposed site of the campus would contribute additional traffic to their community. Despite the Pasadena Independent School District not having the property rights to construct an entrance/exit onto Country Club Drive, which is currently designed to border the new campus on one side, some Green Tee Terrace residents are still concerned about parked

vehicles and foot traffic.

Residents from both of the aforementioned subdivisions have met on two separate occasions to discuss the matter in attempts to resolve the issue. Representatives from Pasadena ISD, the City of Pearland and Meritage Homes, the company responsible for developing the Riverstone Ranch at Clear Creek subdivision, have also been involved in discussions.

Pasadena ISD officials and community leaders have proposed a possible land swap with Meritage representatives that might allow the campus to be relocated on Hughes Road in another part of the Riverstone Ranch subdivision.

Continued on Page 2A

## Pasadena ISD backpack rules explained

### Regulations vary from campus to campus

There has been some confusion as to what types of backpacks students in the Pasadena Independent School District can carry this upcoming school year, as each individual campus sets its own policy.

Clear or mesh backpacks are required at the following schools: Atkinson Elementary, Meador Elementary, Morris Middle School and Thompson Intermediate.

Any type of backpacks are allowed at the following schools: Burnett Elementary, Bush Elementary, Frazier Elementary, Jessup Elementary, Moore Elementary, South Belt Elementary, Stuchbery Elementary, Melillo Middle School (no wheels), Roberts Middle School, Beverly Hills Intermediate and Dobie High School.

For a complete dress code list, see Pages 3A and 4A.

## Current proposed Thompson site



The proposed site of the new Thompson Intermediate campus has caused some controversy among some residents. The current property (shown above), located between the Riverstone Ranch at Clear Creek and Green Tee Terrace subdivisions, has drawn the concern from residents of both neighborhoods, who view the site as a safety hazard and source of added traffic congestion. Pasadena ISD officials are currently in discussions with the City of Pearland and Meritage Homes about a possible land swap to relocate the campus to another location.

## Harris County Precinct 2 deputies find man sleeping in stolen vehicle

On Wednesday, Aug. 14, deputies with the Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's office were notified by a worker from CIS in Brazoria County that their company truck was found to be stolen and located in the 10100 block of Sageglow.

A Precinct 2 deputy located the truck and waited for assistance, as the vehicle was occupied by an unknown male. An additional unit arrived on scene, finding a suspect, now identified as Alvin resident Edgar Tower, passed out in the front seat of the stolen vehicle. During the investigation, it was revealed and confirmed by Brazoria County that Tower burglarized the CIS Company, located

at SH 35 and County Road 129, and stole one company truck and drove it to a business in Alvin and parked it at the rear.

Tower was found to have stolen a second vehicle from CIS as well. After the theft, Tower traveled to Sageglow, where the vehicle was detected by company GPS.

Tower was later 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, which were additionally confirmed.

## City contracts waste assistance

Mayor Sylvester Turner won City Council approval Wednesday, Aug. 7, for experienced disaster relief companies to augment the city's trash pickup operations while the Solid Waste Management Department continues to receive new vehicles to replace its aged truck fleet.

The contractors' crews will work with city forces to collect junk waste and clear illegal dump sites across the city.

"Solid Waste employees have been working long hours six or seven days, often in the dark, to keep up with service schedules," Turner said in a press release. "With a temporary boost from the contract approved today, and the arrival of new trucks for the city, we are eliminating service delays for residents and reducing unusually high levels of stress on workers as well as on old equipment."

DRC Emergency Services, LLC and Nola Construction and Development Group, LLC will be paid up to \$1.9 million from the city's fund

balance to supplement the city services through December 2019.

Removing illegally dumped material from ditches and roadsides reduces the threats of drainage blockages during hurricane season and disease-carrying pests.

The city has ordered 175 new Solid Waste vehicles, including 90 garbage/recycling trucks, which will replace half of that fleet. Residents should already see the new trucks in their neighborhoods as the additional units are delivered through April 2020.

Since early 2019, the city has leased eight trucks and hired 10 driver/pickup crews from outside companies to supplement curbside pickup service while cities around the country have dealt with a shortage of drivers.

"We have appreciated the public's patience with the arrival of the new fleet, which will improve Solid Waste services," Turner said. "Houstonians will continue to see improvements."

## South Belt students return to school

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

With the exception of incoming freshmen, students in the Pasadena Independent School District will return to class Monday, Aug. 19.

To familiarize ninth-grade students with high school campuses before halls become crowded, they will begin class the previous school day on Friday, Aug. 16.

Students within the Clear Creek Independent School District will also begin classes Monday, Aug. 19.

Lutheran South Academy students began school on Wednesday, Aug. 14.

San Jacinto College will begin classes on Monday, Aug. 26.

In PISD, elementary students will attend school from 7:45 a.m. to 3:05 p.m.; middle school students will attend school from 8:40

a.m. to 4 p.m.; intermediate students will attend school from 8:10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.; and high school students will attend school from 7:15 a.m. to 2:35 p.m.

Students are tardy if they are not in class by the official start time. To prevent tardiness or disruption to the classrooms, students should arrive 15-30 minutes earlier than the start time. During that time they may eat breakfast, visit with friends

and arrive at the classroom on time to put away supplies and prepare for the school day.

For more Pasadena ISD back-to-school information, visit [www1.pasadenaisd.org](http://www1.pasadenaisd.org); additional Clear Creek ISD information can be found at [www.ccisid.net](http://www.ccisid.net); for Lutheran South Academy information, visit [www.lutheransouth.org](http://www.lutheransouth.org); and San Jacinto College information is available at [www.sanjac.edu](http://www.sanjac.edu).

## PISD announces pay increases

Thanks to the state's recent, massive school-funding overhaul, the Pasadena Independent School District is giving its staff members a significant pay increase.

Signed into law by Gov. Greg Abbott this past June, House Bill 3 will provide \$11.6 billion to Texas schools - roughly \$6.5 billion more than in previous years.

For Pasadena ISD, state revenue went from having a \$12.6 million dollar loss to a \$45.9 million gain.

The bill required that at least \$17 million of the new funding be spent on raises. So far, the Board has approved \$23 million for increased employee salaries and benefits.

The Pasadena ISD Board of Trustees unanimously approved a pay raise for all employees for the 2019-2020 school year. The approved pay raises are as follows:

- Teachers: 5.0 percent of midpoint with 5 or less years of experience.
- Teachers: 5.5 percent of midpoint with 6 or more years of experience.
- Counselors: 5.0 percent of midpoint with 5 or less years of experience.
- Counselors: 5.5 percent of midpoint with 6 or more years of experience.
- Librarians: 5.0 percent of midpoint with 5 or less years of experience.
- Librarians: 5.5 percent of midpoint with 6 or more years of experience.
- Nurses: 5.0 percent of midpoint with 5 or less years of experience.
- Nurses: 5.5 percent of midpoint with 6 or

more years of experience.

- Police: 4.0 percent of the midpoint for each pay grade.

- Paraprofessionals: 4.0 percent of the midpoint for each pay grade.

- Administrators: 4.0 percent of the midpoint for each pay grade.

- Administrative support - exempt: 4.0 percent of the midpoint for each pay grade.

- Administrative Support - nonexempt: 4.0 percent of the midpoint for each pay grade.

The starting teacher salary for the 2019-2020 year will be \$55,739.

Currently the district's monthly health insurance contribution is \$245 per employee. Along with raises, the Board of Trustees approved an increase to \$295 for the monthly health insurance contribution to offset any possible increases to our health insurance premiums.

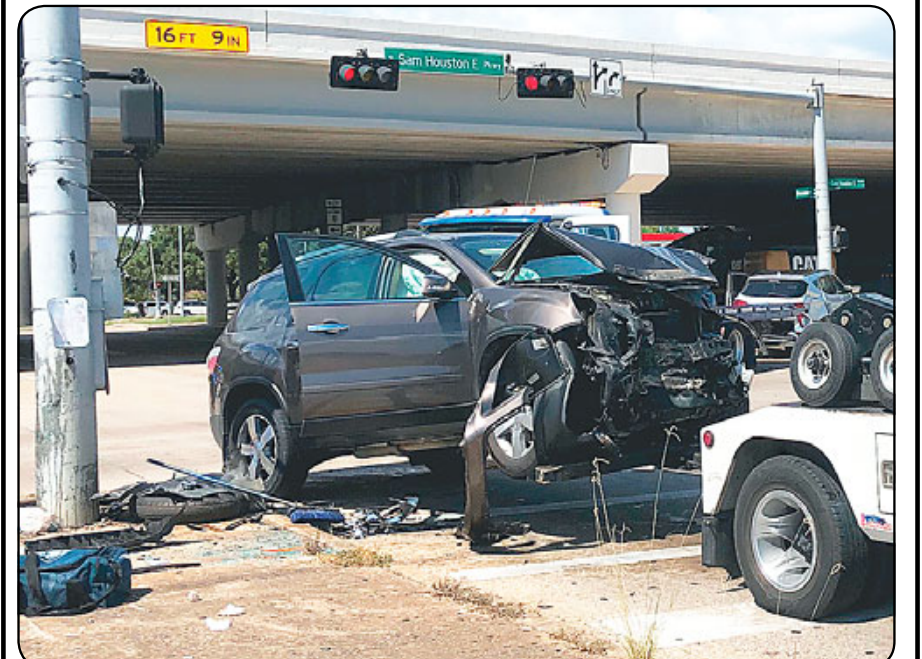
The Clear Creek Independent School District board already approved such a pay increase for its staff.

See the Aug. 1 edition of the *Leader* for more information.

## Leader correction

The photo from the San Jacinto Republican Women's annual Liberty Dinner that ran in the Aug. 8 edition of the *Leader* contained a mistake in the caption. The guest identified as Speaker of the House Dennis Bonnen was actually his brother, Rep. Greg Bonnen. The *Leader* apologizes for any confusion.

## Crashes continue at beltway, Beamer



Crashes continue to take place at the intersection of Beamer and Beltway 8. The above accident took place the afternoon of Tuesday, Aug. 13. The collision sent one driver to the hospital by ambulance. A second driver was transported to the hospital by a friend. The intersection is a frequent spot for such crashes, with accidents often happening multiple times in a week. A 2016 study determined it to be the most dangerous one in the South Belt community and the 66th most dangerous in the entire state. Photo by Marie Flickinger

# In My Opinion

## Maricle gives advice on roofing scams

A reminder to all residents in our area who are considering getting a new roof on their homes or after "the next storm" that hits our area.

HB 2102 comes into effect on September 1st, 2019. The waiving of deductibles has been improper in Texas since 1989. Unfortunately, due to a poorly worded statute, many contractors ignored the prohibition and the waiving of deductibles has become common in Texas. Reputable contractors who refused to break the law could not compete with the "deductible eaters."

Homeowners were lured to sign contracts with shady contractors with promises of "A Free Roof!" And homeowners were duped into committing insurance fraud when they failed to advise the insurance company in submitting a request for replacement cost hold back that the deductible portion of the claim had not

been incurred. HB 2102 fixes all of these problems by making it crystal clear that deductibles must be paid. Plain and simple.

A contractor commits a violation of the new law if it pays, waives, absorbs, rebates, credits, or otherwise declines to charge or collect a deductible. Contracts must also contain a disclosure statement that insurance deductibles must be paid. Finally, an insurance company may request "reasonable proof" that the deductible has been paid before making a replacement cost hold back payment.

This important legislation protects Texas consumers from illegal fraud schemes and ensure that reputable contractors who collect deductibles are on a level playing field in competing for business.

This is a good step forward for reputable contractors as the State of Texas takes action. Insurance companies will be auditing the contractors. Be careful of roofing scams.

**Chuck Maricle**  
Par 5 Construction

## Shaar Hashalom shares August dates

Congregation Shaar Hashalom will have an open house Sunday, Aug. 25, 10 to 11:30 a.m. Everyone will be able to connect with new friends, tour the synagogue, meet with the Rabbi, hear about CSH Hebrew and religious school programs, learn about Judaism, inquire about seats for the high holidays that will start with Rosh Hashanah on the evening of Sept. 29, and will offer some kosher food and coffee. Open house will be held at the congregation venue.

Rabbi Stuart Federow is hosting free, open to the public, weekly discussions. The sessions are held every second Thursday of the month at Sawa Restaurant and Grill, 16608 El Camino Real from 7 to 9 p.m. Anyone can join the discussion and bring questions, thoughts and opinions to share with everyone present.

Congregation Shaar Hashalom located at 16020 El Camino Real, is the conservative synagogue in the Bay Area. The entire community is invited to attend. For more information, contact the synagogue office at 281-488-5861 or at csh@shaarhashalom.org.

## Israeli folk dancing dates set

Israeli folk dancing will continue through the summer. The dances are held at Congregation Shaar Hashalom Mondays from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Dates for the remainder of August are 19 and 26. September dates are 9, 16 and 23. The only October date is Oct. 28, due to the Jewish high holy days. The cost of \$4 per session or \$35 for 10 sessions for CSH members and \$5 per session or \$45 for 10 sessions for nonmembers will cover expenses.

Newcomers are welcome to join the group. Congregation Shaar Hashalom is located at 16020 El Camino Real.

The community is invited to attend. For more information, call 281-488-5861 or email csh@shaarhashalom.org.

## Local library events set

### Bracewell Branch Library

The following events are scheduled for the Bracewell Branch Library, 9002 Kingspoint: Thursday, Aug. 15, 6 – 7:45 p.m. Book club: Meet for a lively discussion of this month's book selection "Bluebird, Bluebird" by Attica Locke. Call the library to reserve a copy and to learn more information.

Thursday, Aug. 15, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Spanish computer class for adults and seniors  
Monday, Aug. 19, 2:15 – 5:15 p.m. Citizenship class. The classes cover the 100 civics questions and how to prepare for the citizenship interview. Other topics include the citizenship application and qualifications. Class participation is by appointment only.

Tuesday, Aug. 20, 1:15 – 5:15 p.m. Citizenship class. Class participation is by appointment only.

Wednesday, Aug. 21, 10:15 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. Citizenship class. Class participation is by appointment only.

Wednesday, Aug. 21, 10:30 a.m. Polliwog club. Little polliwogs will hop into nature by developing nature knowledge and skills through a variety of books, songs, crafts and hands-on animal experiences brought to you by Harris County Precinct One constables. This is a special three-week series. Space is limited. Sessions are open to the first 30 children. Register online, by phone or in person. The next session is Aug. 28.

Wednesday, Aug. 21. Computer courses: 2 p.m. Computer Basics; 3:15 p.m. Internet Basics; 4:30 p.m. Basic PowerPoint

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

Bracewell hours are: Thursday noon – 8 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 1 – 5 p.m.; Sunday, closed; Monday, 2 – 6 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

### Parker Williams Library

The following events are scheduled for the Parker Williams Library, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd.: Thursday, Aug. 15, 10 – 11:30 a.m. Sudoku for Adults session. Learn the tricks of solving Sudoku puzzles from longtime aficionado Marie. Practice logical thinking skills and keep one's brain active. Games are provided and all levels are welcome.

Thursday, Aug. 15, 10:30 a.m. Computer Basics. Meet in the library computer lab to learn and practice a variety of basic computer skills, from the computer hardware and operating system to the internet. Register is requested.

Thursday, Aug. 15, 4 p.m. – Community craft: Making pencil holders. This easy DIY Pencil Holder project gives good inspiration for a personal desk or for students returning to school. All materials are provided.

Friday, Aug. 16, 4:30 – 5:45 p.m. Beginning Spanish. Learn beginning level Spanish grammar and vocabulary in class sessions and using a free app anytime. Put it into practice in conversations and activities with fellow learners during class. Registration is requested.

Saturday, Aug. 17, 1 – 2:30 p.m. Intermediate Spanish with Mercedes. Brush up on Spanish by practicing listening and speaking with fellow learners and instructor Mercedes. (Class will also meet June 29.) Registration is requested. (Sessions are also Aug. 24 and 31). Registration requested.

Saturday, Aug. 17 at 3 p.m. Cinespace Mini-Film Festival. Cinespace, a festival of short films, is a collaboration between NASA and the Houston Cinema Arts Society. Artists must use at least 10 percent of their footage from NASA archives. The 2019 contest just ended so winning films are not yet determined, but meet at the library to watch some winning films from previous years' contests.

Monday, Aug. 19, 2 – 4 p.m. Genealogy group: The Parker Williams Genealogy Group is an informal group that meets the first and third Monday to discuss family history research (beginner to advanced). Meetings are free and open to anyone interested in tracing family history.

Monday, Aug. 19, 1 p.m. Teen Advisory Group, for ages 13 and older. For those who want books that are not offered at the library, meet in the library community room to voice an opinion and listen to a discussion on how the library staff can better serve its patrons.

Monday, Aug. 19, 4:30 – 5:45 p.m. Beginning Spanish. Learn beginning level Spanish grammar and vocabulary in class sessions and using a free app anytime. Put it into practice in conversations and activities with fellow learners during class. Registration is requested.

Monday, Aug. 19, 6 – 7:30 p.m. Magic: The Gathering Gameplay, a dueling card game from Wizards of the Coast, for ages 8 and older. For those wanting to learn, a staff member will be present for instruction. A special thank you is given to Strike Zone for the generous donation of Magic: The Gathering cards. For more information, visit <http://www.hcpl.net/sites/default/files/feb-MTG-1.jpg>.

Wednesday, Aug. 21, 4:30 – 5:45 p.m. Beginning Spanish. Learn beginning level Spanish grammar and vocabulary in class sessions and using a free app anytime. Put it into practice in conversations and activities with fellow learners during class. Registration is requested.

Below are the programs that occur every week, unless the library is closed:

Tuesday, Babytime lapsit, 10:30 a.m. For babies from birth to 18 months, featuring a mother-baby lapsit time with fingerplays, songs and playtime.

Wednesday, Preschool storytime, 10:30 a.m. For children, ages 3 to 5 years, storytime features stories, songs, fingerplays and a craft.

Wednesday, 2 – 3 p.m.: Basic computer classes (Vietnamese). Learn mouse, keyboarding, basic internet skills and more at this weekly class in Vietnamese. Registration is requested.

Thursday, Toddler storytime, 10:30 a.m. For toddlers from birth to 3 years, storytime features stories, songs, fingerplays and bubbles.

Saturday, Vietnamese learning time, for adults and children ages 8 and older. Classes begin at 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11:15 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. It's a great time to take a class to help with a skill for work, gain understanding of a topic or learn a language. There are many free classes available online at the library website or on the internet, through universities or other sources. Practice navigating the internet to learn about these, or sign up for one. For more information on these programs, speak with Loc Bui.

For more information on all other programs, call the library at 832-927-7870.

Library hours are: Thursday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Friday, 1 – 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.; Sunday, closed; Monday, 1 – 9 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; and Wednesday, 10 a.m. – 9 p.m.

# HFOT to build home for SFC Escobedo



Sgt. 1st Class Henry Escobedo

The national nonprofit organization, Homes For Our Troops (HFOT) in Pearland will kick off the building of a specially adapted home for former South Belt resident Army Sgt. 1st Class Henry Escobedo on Saturday, Aug. 24. Escobedo was injured while serving in Iraq.

The Community Kickoff event signifies the start of the building process and will introduce Escobedo to the community.

The event will be held at HOPE Church Pearland, 4209 Broadway St., in Pearland at 10 a.m. Check-in time is 9:30 a.m. The public is welcome to attend.

In 2003, while serving as an infantryman with the 2nd Battalion, 37th Armor, 1st Armor Division, Escobedo sustained a concussion after falling off his vehicle in Baghdad/Al Kufa-Najaf, Iraq.

When he returned home, he experienced headaches and dry eyes. The condition worsened during his 2010 deployment to Iraq.

By the end of 2011, his vision deteriorated almost completely; he is now legally blind with minimal light per-

ception. Doctors eventually diagnosed him with Leber's Optic Neuropathy.

The home being built for Henry will feature more than 40 major special adaptations such as widened doorways for wheelchair access, a roll-in shower, and kitchen amenities that include pull-down shelving and lowered counter tops.

The home will also alleviate the mobility and safety issues associated with a traditional home, including navigating a wheelchair through narrow hallways or over thresholds, or reaching for cabinets that are too high. H-E-B and DaMar have significantly donated to this project.

HFOT has built 282 homes since the organization's inception in 2004. Homes For Our Troops relies on contributions from donors, supporters, and corporate partners for the building of each Veteran's home.

Community members may hold fundraisers or make donations. To find out more on how to get involved or make a donation, visit [www.hfotusa.org](http://www.hfotusa.org).

Escobedo a former South Belt resident and his son attended South Belt Elementary.

Read more about Escobedo and watch his video at [www.hfotusa.org/escobedo](http://www.hfotusa.org/escobedo).

## Elected officials share their words

### Judge Hill announces for Dist. 22



Former Pearlland city council member and current judge Greg Hill (back, right) announced his decision to campaign for Texas' 22nd Congressional District. Shown with him, left to right, are Pancho, his wife Amy, son Ford and daughter Isabella.

## Judge Greg Hill announces congressional bid for Dist. 22

Judge Greg Hill, a lifelong Republican, Brazoria County Court-at-Law Judge and former three-term Pearlland City Councilman announced his campaign for Texas' 22nd Congressional District on Wednesday.

"After much prayer and encouragement from my family and friends in Brazoria and southeast Harris counties, I am humbled to announce my candidacy for Congress," Hill said.

"Now more than ever, Congress needs a new generation of leaders who reflect mainstream suburban values, can restore common sense to Washington, and will fight to defeat the socialist agenda."

After graduating from Texas A&M University in 1993, Hill worked as a U.S. border patrol agent

and a high school Spanish teacher before earning his law degree. He went on to become an assistant district attorney in Galveston County, then opened his own practice.

Beginning in 2011, Hill served three terms on the Pearlland City Council before his election last year as County Court-at-Law and Probate Judge, handling criminal, civil and probate matters.

"As a judge and former prosecutor, I am committed to upholding the Constitution and the rule of law," said Hill. "As a former border patrol agent, I will work to ensure Congress secures our border while streamlining legal immigration. As a husband and father of two, I will fight to protect our families from threats foreign and domestic. And as a proud member of

this community one of the most dynamic, diverse and fastest growing in the country I will work to expand the Republican party and ensure CD 22 remains a great place to work, raise a family and live the American Dream.

"In 2020, our quality of life and economic vitality are on the ballot. The so-called 'Squad' led by socialist Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez has taken over the Democratic Party.

"I'm running for Congress to defeat their radical ideas, protect our pocketbooks and our families, and preserve our quality of life."

Hill and his wife Amy have two children, Isabella and Ford.

They are active in their local church and Greg serves on numerous boards and commissions in the community.

## METRO board OKs future plans

The METRO board of directors voted unanimously to approve the METRONext Moving Forward plan. Today's action calls for a referendum to be placed on the Nov. 5, 2019, ballot for voters to consider \$3.5 billion in bonding authority for METRO.

The balance of the \$7.5 billion plan would be funded through local dollars and federal funding grants. There

would be no new tax increases for implementing the plan. The METRONext plan includes 75 miles of METRO-Rapid service (Bus Rapid Transit) including a connection to Bush Intercontinental Airport, 16 additional miles of light rail with a connection to Hobby Airport, expanded two-way HOV/HOT lanes, 290 miles of BOOST or optimized bus service along heavily traveled routes

and signature bus service on Westheimer with limited stops.

The plan also calls for investments in 21 new or improved Park & Rides and transit centers, as well as accessibility and usability improvements for seniors and the disabled.

In all, METRONext includes about 40 transit projects. Learn more about the plan at [METRONext.org](http://METRONext.org).

## Leader checks out social media

By Natalie Abarca  
A member of The Official South Belt & Sagemont Area Crime Alert Facebook page posted security camera footage of two different incidents of three teen male suspects who allegedly attempted robbery.

It has not yet been confirmed that they are the same suspects in both incidents. All suspects were wearing backpacks and were on foot. The first incident occurred Aug. 11, at Tartan Walk Lane in the Durham Park subdivision. The second incident occurred Aug. 14 at 5:30 a.m. at Great

Hawk Lane in the same subdivision. For footage and picture, visit [The Official South Belt & Sagemont Area Crime Alert Facebook page](http://The Official South Belt & Sagemont Area Crime Alert Facebook page).

See related story on Page 1A.

The Leader did not release a picture since the alleged suspect may be a minor.

## South Belt Graphics & Printing

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# Death

## Charles Wayne Wottring



Charles Wayne Wottring, 80, passed away peacefully at his home July 21, 2019. He

was born in Houston Feb. 8, 1939, to John and Sarah Wottring.

Charles lived in the South Belt area all his adult life. He was a member of Easthaven Baptist Church, now South Belt Church and was an avid Bible reader.

He worked in maintenance services at Jones Hall, Hydril and the Astro dome.

Charles held a membership in the Houston Theater for more than 20 years. He loved classical music and played the organ and piano.

He is survived by his sister and caregiver Margaret Leard; his niece Kristal Hatcher; nephews Chris Leard and Linz Leard; and extended family.

# SJC announces calendar briefs

San Jacinto College has announced its calendar briefs.

**Fall registration open**  
Fall registration is open for all students and applicants through Thursday, Aug. 15. Beginning Aug. 16, payment is due upon registration. For questions, or more information, contact the campus business office at 281-998-6150.

**All-State Choir Camp**  
The All-State Choir Camp offers training for high school students on the TMEA All-State choral repertoire to help them successfully compete during the annual audition process.

**Foundation scholarship application opens**  
The San Jacinto College Foundation general scholarship application for spring 2020 opens Sunday, Aug. 18. For more information and to fill out a scholarship application, visit [sjcd.academicevents.com](http://sjcd.academicevents.com).

**Fall 2019 semester begins**  
Courses for the fall 2019 semester, including online courses, begin on Monday, Aug. 26. For more information, visit [sanjac.edu](http://sanjac.edu).

**Community Education Center events**  
The San Jacinto College Central campus Community Education Center is located at 8060 Spencer Highway in Pasadena in Building 1, room C-1.108.

The Community Education Center will host the following August workshops that are free and open to the public. To register, call 281-478-2786 or email [communityeducation@sjcd.edu](mailto:communityeducation@sjcd.edu).

Active Living After Cancer (ALAC) 12-part workshop, began Aug. 6 and runs until Oct. 15, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Scrambled Legs Chair Exercises, Aug. 29, noon to 1 p.m.

## Moore seeks vendors

Moore Elementary is looking for vendors to display goods during a Community Night/Tailgating event Monday, Sept. 30, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Contact Silvia Luna at 713-740-0656 or via email to [Siluna@Pasadenaisd.org](mailto:Siluna@Pasadenaisd.org) for additional information.

## PISD plans new intermediate school

Continued from Page 1A  
Such a move, however, would likely cost the school district additional funds.

Drake said discussions with Meritage officials had left her optimistic.

"Meritage will gladly meet with the City of Pearland and PISD to help resolve these issues and we are hopeful that a mutually beneficial agreement for all involved can be reached," a representative from Meritage recently wrote to Drake in an email.

Pasadena ISD officials met with Meritage representatives to discuss the matter on Wednesday, Aug. 14. Pasadena ISD Associate Superintendent Alyta Harrell said she, too, is hopeful that all parties involved will reach a mutual agreement.

Current plans call for relocating the Thompson campus to a piece of property already owned by the school district. The land was originally to be used for an 11th PISD intermediate campus, but other options were evaluated after Thompson suffered extensive damage during Hurricane Harvey.

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

The first phase of design for the new campus was approved by the PISD board this past December, with GDP Group being awarded the \$37.5 million contract to construct the 178,000-square-foot facility.

The new campus, which will permanently replace the original Thompson campus on Sagedowne, is expected to open in August 2021.

To keep affected residents abreast of the ongoing situation, Pasadena ISD officials have offered the following information to homeowners neighboring the proposed campus:

"In 2012, Pasadena ISD purchased a 26-acre tract of land in the southeast corner of the Riverstone Ranch community. In the 2014 bond, Pasadena ISD voters approved the construction of a new intermediate school for the neighborhood to meet the needs of our growing community and help Meritage, the developer of this master-planned community, fulfill its promise of a new school to their homeowners.

"Complications from increased construction costs and the impact Hurricane Harvey had on George A. Thompson Intermediate School, coupled with the most recent analysis of demographic enrollment, made it necessary for

Pasadena ISD to relocate Thompson Intermediate to this property.

"The City of Pearland, on three separate occasions, has approved the Meritage master plan to include a grade 7-8 campus. The much-anticipated school that has been in the planning and design phase for the past seven years is ready to be built.

"In past years, the current location has been the only option; however, Meritage has agreed to take a closer look at their development plans and consider another location.

"Moving forward, PISD, GPD Group architects, the City of Pearland, and Mer-

itage will continue working together to bring this design to a reality. The City of Pearland's permitting requires us to share information with residents that live within 200 feet from the property; however, we are going over and above the requirement by sharing it with the entire neighborhood and surrounding neighborhoods. It is important to us that we build a positive relationship with the community surrounding our campus. Part of a healthy relationship is communication.

"We plan to keep community members updated and informed of the construction progress of Thompson Intermediate."

## BAC recognized by Disney Motif Awards

The Bay Area Chorus of Greater Houston was recently recognized by the Walt Disney Motif Awards held at the House of Blues in Houston because of its involvement with youth advocacy in music and the fine arts.

The Bay Area Chorus offers scholarship funds to support local high school seniors interested in majoring in music education or vocal performance at an accredited college or university. A number of scholarship recipients are now choral directors teaching in Texas schools; many others maintain vocal studios and teach private voice to high school students.

The BAC has also been instrumental in the formation of the Bay Area Youth Singers and co-sponsors the BAYS summer music camp for children/young in the community. Regarding the Walt Disney Motif award, Jeanette Chase, remarked, "This is quite an honor and we are the first Choir/Chorus that has been selected by the committee which covers the entire U.S."

The Chorus will begin music rehearsals for their 55th season to present concerts in tribute to the veterans and military. Concerts dates are set for Nov. 9 at 7 p.m. at Dickinson First United Methodist Church and Nov. 10, at 4 p.m. at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church. Tickets to these concerts may be purchased online. All veterans and current members of the armed services will be admitted free of charge.

The Bay Area Chorus is an accomplished community chorus made up of volunteers with varying degrees of expertise, but who share the love of music. The artistic director is Milton Pullen who directed the chorus from 1970 – 1975 and returned to direct them in 2014. In addition to performing choral masterworks, the chorus also presents traditional holiday music, historic and contemporary classical choral music, spirituals, and folk songs from around the world and Broadway favorites. The mission is to enrich lives through choral music.

## Wedding, engagement policies

Wedding writeups must be run in the newspaper, not submitted, in the time outlined:

From wedding date to six weeks – photo and full article; Six weeks to three months – photo and limited information; After three months from wedding date – will not be run.

Engagement and wedding announcements are published free of charge on a first come, first served basis. Information must be submitted by noon on Friday to be considered for the next issue.

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### JFD 45th reunion Sept. 28

The J. Frank Dobie, Class of 1974, will hold its 45th reunion on Saturday, Sept. 28, at La Brisa on the Creek (Gala banquet room), 501 N. Wesley Drive, League City, from 6 to 11 p.m.

Friday night, Sept. 27, a night mixer will be held from 6 to 10 p.m. at T-Bone Tom's, located at 707 Hwy. 146 in Kemah. The mixer and reunion are both casual dress.

Tickets for the reunion are \$47 per person, which includes a fajita buffet and fixings.

A cash bar will be available.

Make checks payable to Dobie Reunion and mail to: Dobie Reunion, c/o Janet Kolajajek Thompson, 10306 Grand Brook Dr., Houston, Texas 77089.

### CCART plans fall events

The Clear Creek Association of Retired Teachers (CCART) will hold its first meeting of the 2019-2020 season on Tuesday, Sept. 10. The meetings are held at the Bay Area Community Center, located at 5002 NASA Parkway in Seabrook.

The program will be provided by Andrea Wilson who will be sharing information about the Longhorn Project at the Johnson Space Center. The meeting will conclude with a potluck salad and sandwich luncheon. Plan to bring a dish of a salad, sandwiches or dessert to share at the gathering.

The meeting will start at 9:30 a.m. for coffee with the business meeting beginning at 10 a.m. All Texas-retired school employees from the area are invited. The annual dues are \$50. For additional information, call 281-538-4056.

### Ossa helps Velasquez realize potential

Holding a Spanish literature book Marco Velasquez (below, left) has been chosen one of J. Frank Dobie High School's Shining Stars.

He selected 11th-grade Spanish literature instructor Luz Ossa to be named a distinguished educator.

Concerning his teacher, Velasquez said, "Ms. Ossa has always helped me realize my potential and helped push me toward achieving my goals."

"She has encouraged me many times to strive for a certain objective which I thought was out of reach. She believed in me when I did not even believe in myself and allowed me to overcome many obstacles. Ms. Ossa has encouraged me countless times to improve so that I can be where I am today."

Velasquez has kept busy inside and outside the classroom. "I played soccer for three years and competed in the UIL Math competition," he said. "I am also a Calculus BC tutor," Velasquez added.

Velasquez has displayed leadership by serving in the position of vice president of National Spanish Honor Society.

Looking toward the future Velasquez said, "After high school I plan to attend the University of Texas at Austin and major in aerospace engineering."

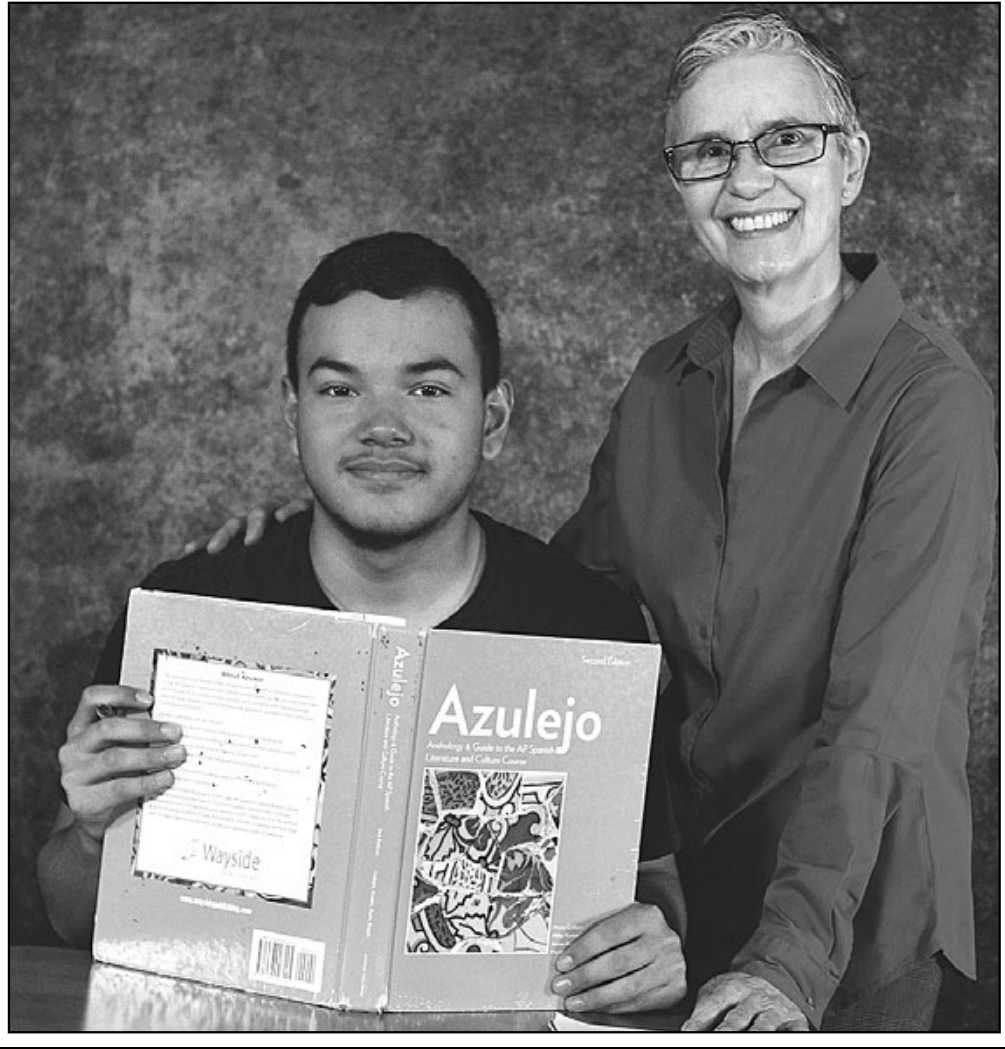
Velasquez added, "I plan to obtain my bachelor's degree and pursue a job in the space industry."

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

*The Shining Stars represent the top Dobie High school students.*

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

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



### Dobie cheerleaders enjoy Camp Fun



The Dobie cheerleaders are shown above having fun this summer at Camp Fun in their matching pajamas. Shown above are, left to right, (first row) Maddy Spray, Andrew Salas and Emily Guzman, (second row) Michelle Kelley, Allie Guzman, Maya Scott, Destiny Ramirez, Sarah Salazar, Isabella Lara, Cheryl Smith, Yen Tran, (third row) Leilani Moorman, Madisynne Reed, Savannah Brookland, Olga Cisneros, Lizzie Pineda, Damaris O'der, Sarah Young, (fourth row) Alysia Loosa, Chloe Ray, Laila Hernandez, Giselle Valencia, Gabbi Lozano, Brianna Almaguer and Amy Guzman.

Photo submitted

### CCISD announces standardized dress code

Several Clear Creek Independent School District schools have adopted standardized dress codes.

Contact the student's school to verify if there is a standardized dress code and to obtain a list of the dress code guidelines.

Students attending campuses with approved standardized dress codes will also adhere to district dress code requirements.

The CCISD dress code is established to teach grooming, hygiene, instill discipline, prevent disruption, avoid safety hazards, teach respect for authority, and prepare students for the future. Students whose religious beliefs require exemptions from the district's dress code in any way may be granted an exemption, provided the student presents a written statement, express-

ing a religious objection to the dress code that the district determines is bona fide.

Accordingly, the following shall apply:

- During normal school hours, secondary students shall be required to visibly wear identification badges (ID's).

- For students in pre-Kindergarten through eighth grade, no visible body piercing other than a student's ears will be allowed (e.g., no tongue piercing).

- No visible tattoos will be allowed.

- Appropriate clothing and shoes in good repair are required.

- Appropriate clothing shall cover midriff, shoulders and upper chest.

- No pajamas or undergarments shall be visible at any time.

- Inappropriate shoes include, but are not limited to, shower shoes, house slippers, and "heeled" (roller shoes).

- Any garment, regardless of what it is called, must be worn no shorter than mid-thigh.

- Pants or shorts shall be appropriately sized and worn at the natural waistline and shall not expose skin above

mid-thigh.

- Shirts may be required to be tucked in unless they are designed to be worn over the waistline and do not exceed four inches below the waistline.

- For students in pre-Kindergarten through eighth grade, tights, form fitting pants, leggings, jeggings, spandex, exercise pants, and yoga pants must be covered by mid length shorts, skirts, or long shirts which cover the bottom.

- For high school students, inappropriate tights, form fitting pants, leggings, jeggings, spandex, exercise pants, and yoga pants must be covered by mid length shorts, skirts, or long shirts which cover the bottom.

- No clothes, jewelry, and other accessories that contain suggestive, inappropriate, or vulgar slogans or images, or advertise or depict tobacco products, alcohol, drugs, or any other items prohibited at school.

- Spiked and/or leather accessories and/or chains are not permitted (wallets, etc.).

- Any type of garment that can be interpreted as gang-related is not allowed on campus during school hours or at any school-relat-

ed activity.

- Any non-religious head coverings (including but not limited to hats, caps, and jacket hoods) are not allowed to be worn on campus during school hours.

- Trench coats or oversized jackets are not allowed on campus during school hours.

- Sunglasses may not be worn in the building.

- Clothing/hairstyles, that in the judgment of the building administrators, pose a health or safety hazard and/or disrupt the educational process are not permitted.

Failure to comply will result in the student being required to change clothes. All class time missed is considered an unexcused absence.

The building administrators determine whether a student's dress is appropriate. Repeated offenses may result in more serious disciplinary action. Appropriate discipline procedures shall be followed in all cases.

Campuses may insist that all bags, backpacks, gym bags, etc., remain in a student's locker throughout the school day. (See Page 4A for PISD dress code.)

### Hometown Heroes ballroom dance

"Some Enchanted Evening" will be the theme of a ballroom dance Saturday night, Oct. 5, from 7 to 9:45 p.m. at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 East League City Parkway. Everyone is welcome.

DJ Neva Schroder will play a wide variety of ballroom music with a mix of dances popular locally!

Everyone is welcome including couples, singles, teens through seniors - "fun" is the focus.

Tables will be reserved for "Dancers without Partners" for those who choose to sit together for convenience in sharing partners.

The door fee is \$8 and the dress code is after-five or simply "as you like."

The City of Houston requires no smoking, alcohol or floor wax for the event.

If more information is needed, email neva@letsdanceballroom.org or visit the Facebook page for Ballroom Dancers of League City.

### 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 27, 2019 in 1315 Cherrybrook Lane, Pasadena Texas 77502. 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	\$1.0984/\$100 (proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax	Approved by Local Voters \$0.2800/\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

#### 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	5.90 % increase
Debt Service	0.75 % increase
Total expenditures	5.41 % 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	\$17,772,363,673	\$19,272,365,747
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$388,886,579	\$226,662,472
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$14,143,318,081	\$15,337,025,730
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$309,477,495	\$180,378,902

\*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\* \$746,935,000

\*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	\$1.2000	\$0.2800*	\$1.4800	\$3,908	\$6,159
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$0.9706	\$0.2111*	\$1.1817	\$3,674	\$6,281
Proposed Rate	\$1.0984	\$0.2800*	\$1.3784	\$3,933	\$7,227

\*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	\$130,208	\$150,829
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$94,438	\$110,746
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$1.4800	\$1.3784
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$1,397.68	\$1,526.52
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$128.84

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 \$1.3784. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of \$1.3784.

#### 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)	\$95,659,941
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$30,179,180

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.

### Lococo's class enjoyable for Villatoro

Dr. Kirk Lewis Career & Technical High School's Shining Star Rudy Alexis Villatoro (below, left) is shown with his teacher 10th-grade engineering instructor Peter Lococo whom he selected for the honor of distinguished educator. Villatoro commented about his teacher, "Over the last three years of high school, Mr. Lococo has been a great influence in the classroom. His charisma has made classwork much more enjoyable and he can make any student laugh."

"Mr. Lococo has taught all my classmates and me the skills needed to properly use all the machines and tools available to us at school and that is something truly valuable that we can use for the rest of our lives and careers. I really appreciate everything he has done to help me. Thank you, Mr. Lococo."

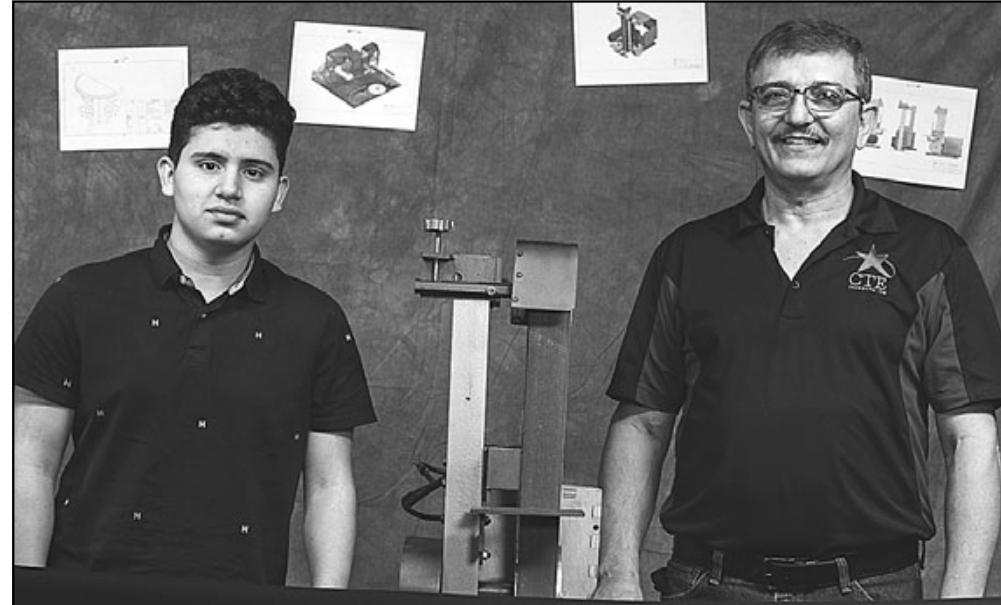
Villatoro has done community service work at Houston

Food Bank and by tutoring at Miller Intermediate School and has shown leadership working at CANstruction and taking the position of project leader.

Concerning the future, Villatoro said, "I plan to attend either Texas A&M or the University of Houston for mechanical engineering."

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

*The Shining Stars represent the top Dr. Kirk Lewis Career & Technical High School students. The information and photos were submitted by Pasadena Independent School District. The Leader is also running the Shining Stars from Dobie, Pasadena Memorial and South Houston high schools.*



# CTHS

# PISD establishes standardized dress

The Pasadena Independent School District has established the following standardized dress code for students.

**Shirts**  
Shirts may be any color. Logos are allowed just as prints, pictures, stripes and plaids are allowed. Logos shall not reference death, sex, drugs, alcohol, gangs or weapons. Shirts shall be appropriately sized with sleeves and free of inappropriate designs which include, but are not limited to, those related to death, sex, drugs, alcohol, gangs or weapons. Shirts must remain tucked in at all times. Undergarments must not be visible through the shirt.

**Pants and jeans**  
Pants and jeans may be any color and must be hemmed. The fabric may have appropriate designs. Pants and jeans shall be free of inappropriate designs which include, but are not limited to, those related to death, sex, drugs, alcohol, gangs or weapons. Pants and jeans must also meet the following criteria:

- All pants and jeans must be appropriately sized, fitted, and worn at the waist. No hip huggers are allowed.
- All pants and jeans must be fitted in the crotch and legs, not baggy or excessively tight. Pants and jeans with hammer loops or of a cargo style are not permitted. Pockets on pants and jeans are acceptable at the waistline only.
- All pants and jeans must be of proper length and must not touch the floor.
- All pants and jeans must be free of slits.
- Pants and jeans must be free of holes or tears.
- Undergarments must not be visible through pants and jeans.
- Capri pants are permitted as long as they meet all criteria listed above.

**Dresses/skirts/jumpers**  
Dresses, skirts and jumpers may be any color and must be hemmed. Prints, pictures, stripes and plaids are allowed.

Dresses, skirts and jumpers shall be free of inappropriate designs which include, but are not limited to, those related to death, sex, drugs, alcohol, gangs or weapons. Dresses, skirts and jumpers shall be worn by female students only and these garments must meet the following additional criteria:

- All dresses, skirts and jumpers must be appropriately sized, not baggy or excessively tight.
- All skirts must be fitted and worn at the waist. No hip hugger skirts are allowed.
- All dresses must have sleeves.
- Manufacturer slits on dresses, skirts and jumpers can come no higher than two inches above the kneecap.
- All dresses, skirts and jumpers must be free of holes and tears.
- The hem length of all dresses, skirts and jumpers must be no higher than two inches above the kneecap.
- Undergarments must not be visible through dresses, skirts and jumpers.

**Shorts/skorts**  
**School Grades p-K-6**

Shorts and skorts may be any color, hemmed, appropriately sized, and the length must be no higher than two inches above the kneecap. The fabric may have appropriate designs. Shorts and skorts shall be free of inappropriate designs which include, but are not limited to, those related to death, sex, drugs, alcohol, gangs or weapons. Undergarments must not be visible through shorts and skorts. Denim shorts and skorts may be any color, hemmed, appropriately sized, and no higher than two inches above the kneecap. Shorts with hammer loops or of a cargo style are not permitted. Pockets on shorts and skorts are permitted at the waistline only. Students will participate in physical education activities with the clothes they wear to school.

**School Grades 7-12**  
No shorts and skorts allowed.

**Belts**

Belts are required for garments made with belt loops in grades 3 through 12. Belts should be securely fastened at all times.

**Spirit/D.A.R.E. shirts**  
Spirit/D.A.R.E. shirts may be worn on days designated by the campus principal. Girl Scout and Boy Scout uniforms are appropriate any time.

**Shoes**  
Students must wear shoes with backs that are appropriate for school. (Students participating in physical education activities must have appropriate shoes.) Skate shoes are not permitted. Shoes with laces or velcro straps must be securely fastened at all times.

**Sweaters/sweat shirts/light jackets/hoodies**  
Sweaters, sweat shirts, light jackets and hoodies of any color may be worn over the standardized shirt. Sweaters, sweat shirts, light jackets and hoodies shall be appropriately sized and free of inappropriate designs which include, but are not limited to, those related to death, sex, drugs, alcohol, gangs or weapons. Campus letter jackets or light jackets with an approved campus-specific logo are permissible.

**Coats/jackets school grades PK-4**  
Coats or jackets worn by students will be placed in an area designated by the teacher upon arrival to the campus, and the coats/jackets will remain in this area while students are in the classroom.

**School grades 5-12**  
Coats may be worn by students provided they are placed in the student's locker or designated storage area upon arrival and not removed until the conclusion of the school day.

All other rules and regulations, as defined in the Student Code of Conduct, regarding dress and grooming shall apply.

The principal and assistant principal(s) are authorized to make determinations regarding whether any fashion, fad, hair, jewelry or article of clothing is inappropriate for school wear or disruptive to the educational process or safety of the campus.

In addition, the following standards of student dress and grooming shall be maintained:

1. Hair must be neat, clean, well groomed, and may not have shaved designs.

2. No type of head covering, cap or hat (such as bandannas, sweatbands, etc.) may be worn on campus. No hair rollers or long-handled combs may be worn on campus.

3. Sideburns must be kept neatly trimmed and must not extend below ear level or flare at the bottom.

4. Symbols and/or styles which are identified with gang membership or representation shall not be allowed. A list of prohibited symbols and/or styles is posted next to the Student Code of Conduct in the principal's office. Students are responsible for reviewing the posted list to determine prohibited symbols and/or dress styles.

5. Mustaches and beards are prohibited, and faces must be clean-shaven.

6. Shirts and blouses must be buttoned within one button of the throat.

7. Halter tops and shirts or blouses with plunging necklines are prohibited. Tank tops or undershirts worn as outer garments are also prohibited. The midriff must not be exposed when the student goes through the normal activities of a school day (bending, stretching, etc.).

8. Articles of clothing, garments, make-up and accessories or advertisements are prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, any item that depicts the occult, gang membership, death, suicide, violence, drugs or alcohol.

9. Students at elementary school campuses may not use any type of cosmetics, including, but not limited to, mascara and artificial nails. Nail polish is acceptable.

**Continued on Page 5A**

# Over The Back Fence by Alexis

## SCHOOL DAZE

The following personnel of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays Aug. 15 through Aug. 21.

**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. Give a birthday shout-out Aug. 20 to **Byanka Padilla**.

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

**Meador Elementary**  
Celebrating a birthday Aug. 17 is **Tracie Nair**.

**Stuchbery Elementary**  
Enjoying a birthday Aug. 20 is **Tracy Duron**. The day for a party for **Cory Klein** is Aug. 21.

**Melillo Middle School**  
Sing a chorus of a birthday song Aug. 18

to **Valerie Espinosa**. Enjoying a birthday Aug. 19 is **Alice Wong**.

**Roberts Middle School**  
Celebrating a birthday Aug. 19 is **Joe Pena**.

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

**Thompson Intermediate**  
Happy birthday wishes are sent Aug. 15 to **Daniel Sawyer**. Give a birthday shoutout Aug. 17 to **James MacGregor**. On Aug. 21, blow out the birthday candles for **Sophia Medrano**.

**Dobie High**  
Send a birthday greeting Aug. 15 to **Rosamaria Singh**. The day for a birthday celebration for **Lorena Benavides-Sanchez** is Aug. 19. **Cindy Mutz** marks a birthday Aug. 21.

## FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS

The *Leader* sends birthday wishes to friends who have a birthday. For those wanting a birthday mentioned in this section, send an email to [mynews@southbeltleader.com](mailto:mynews@southbeltleader.com) with "OTBF: Friends Celebrate Birthdays" in the subject line by Friday noon for the next week's publication.

Thursday, Aug. 15: **Janna Hipps, Hector Pombo and Peggy Cox Hughes**; Friday, Aug. 16: **Nicole Love, Brandon Gray, Larry Bozka, Cynthia Weaver, Brandon Gray, Yvonne Molina and Irl Ellis**; Saturday, Aug. 17: **Denise Motezuma, Linda Rodriguez, Michelle Brovey and Paulo Espinoza**; Sunday, Aug. 18: **Marty Gomez, Cathy Shiple, Shametta Benson, Corina Lopez, Jo Anne Muse, Vita Bernal, Annette Barrientos and Chris Cook**; Monday, Aug. 19: **Robert Mireles, Nathan Nguyen, Pamela Walters, Jody Urschel-Oun, Shandy Lecourias, Pamela McDonald and Derrick Pyper**; Tuesday, Aug. 20: **Rachel McClure, Claire Speck, Kaysie Fojt Roach, Raymond Jackson and Todd Nathans**; and Wednesday, Aug. 21: **John Linares, Kip Ledgerwood, Gabrielle Loya, Brandi Washer and Leticia Gonzalez**.

## LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS

Email birthday, anniversary, vacation, congratulations, etc., to [mynews@southbeltleader.com](mailto:mynews@southbeltleader.com) with OTBF in the subject line by Friday noon for the next week's publication.

# Pasadena ISD, Clear Creek ISD set guidelines for free, reduced lunch

The Pasadena Independent School District and the Clear Creek Independent School District have both announced their free and reduced meal guidelines.

While both PISD and CCISD each rely on the same federal guidelines, each school district has released its own policy.

**Pasadena ISD**  
The Pasadena Independent School District is now accepting applications for free and reduced meals for children served under the 2019-2020 income eligibility guidelines.

To apply online, visit [pasadena.schoollunchapp.com](http://pasadena.schoollunchapp.com). Applications are also being accepted in person at each school site or at Child Nutrition Services, 1515 Cherrybrook Lane, Pasadena, TX 77502.

The process is safe, secure and fast.

**Free and reduced-price meal benefits policy**  
The following criteria will be used to determine a child's eligibility for free or reduced-price meal benefits. Breakfast is free to all students.

**Income**  
1. Household income that is at or below the income eligibility levels.

**Categorical or automatic eligibility**  
2. Household receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF); or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR).

**Program participant**  
3. Child's status as a foster child, homeless, runaway, migrant, or displaced by a declared disaster.

4. Child's enrollment in Head Start or Even Start.

**Income eligibility**  
For those households that qualify for free or reduced-price meals based on income, an adult in the household must fill out free and reduced-price meal application and return it to Mary Harryman, director for Child Nutrition at 1515 Cherrybrook, Pasadena, TX 77502.

Those individuals filling out the application will need to provide the following information:

1. Household income that is at or below the income eligibility levels.

2. No type of head covering, cap or hat (such as bandannas, sweatbands, etc.) may be worn on campus. No hair rollers or long-handled combs may be worn on campus.

3. Sideburns must be kept neatly trimmed and must not extend below ear level or flare at the bottom.

4. Symbols and/or styles which are identified with gang membership or representation shall not be allowed. A list of prohibited symbols and/or styles is posted next to the Student Code of Conduct in the principal's office. Students are responsible for reviewing the posted list to determine prohibited symbols and/or dress styles.

5. Mustaches and beards are prohibited, and faces must be clean-shaven.

6. Shirts and blouses must be buttoned within one button of the throat.

7. Halter tops and shirts or blouses with plunging necklines are prohibited. Tank tops or undershirts worn as outer garments are also prohibited. The midriff must not be exposed when the student goes through the normal activities of a school day (bending, stretching, etc.).

8. Articles of clothing, garments, make-up and accessories or advertisements are prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, any item that depicts the occult, gang membership, death, suicide, violence, drugs or alcohol.

9. Students at elementary school campuses may not use any type of cosmetics, including, but not limited to, mascara and artificial nails. Nail polish is acceptable.

**Continued on Page 5A**

Child Nutrition Services will notify the households of these children that they do not need to complete an application.

Any household that does not receive a letter and feels it should have should contact Blanca Banda, Secretary for Child Nutrition, at 713-740-0146.

Any household that wishes to decline benefits should contact Blanca Banda, Secretary for Child Nutrition, at 713-740-0146.

Applications may be submitted anytime during the school year. The information households provide on the application will be used for the purpose of determining eligibility.

Applications may also be verified by the school officials at any time during the school year.

**Determining eligibility**  
Under the provisions of the free and reduced-price meal policy, Blanca Banda, Secretary for Child Nutrition, will review applications and determine eligibility.

Households or guardians dissatisfied with the Reviewing Official's eligibility determination may wish to discuss the decision with the Reviewing Official on an informal basis.

Households wishing to make a formal appeal for a hearing on the decision may make a request either orally

or in writing to Carla Merka, chief financial officer, at 713-740-0146.

**Unexpected circumstances**  
If a household member becomes unemployed or if the household size increases, the household should contact the school. Such changes may make the children of the household eligible for benefits if the household's income falls at or below the attached current income eligibility guidelines.

**Clear Creek ISD**  
Clear Creek Independent School District students who are unable to afford the full price of school meals will be able to participate in a free and reduced-price meal program.

According to Fred Walker, Director of Child Nutrition Service, the district will use guidelines established by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to determine eligibility for participation in the National School Lunch/Breakfast Program. Reduced price meals will cost \$0.30 for breakfast and \$0.40 for lunch.

Qualification standards are based on the number of family members and income. Applicants must turn in the following information in order to be considered for the program:

- Eligibility Determination Group (EDG) number for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).

**Families who do not have the above information must list the following:**

- Names of all household members.

- The last four digits of the Social Security number of primary wage earner or household member who signs the form.

- Last month's income and how often it was received for each household member that receives an income.

- Signature of an adult household member.

Information submitted on the application may be verified as required by law. For more information about the program call 281-284-0712.

Foster children, who are

# Sandlin's officers make arrest at Union Tavern

Early in the morning, last week, Precinct 8 Deputies with Constable Phil Sandlin's office were dispatched to a weapons disturbance at the Union Tavern in the 400 block of Dorado Boulevard in Clear Lake.

It was reported that a male suspect was flashing a gun to other patrons of the establishment while causing a disturbance. Deputies responded to the scene and located the male suspect. As deputies attempted to detain the subject, he became combative and noncompliant reaching for his waistband area. During the altercation, Deputy D. Bustos was able to remove a loaded handgun from the subject's waistband.

After a brief struggle on the ground, the subject was successfully placed into custody without further incident. During a search of the subject, he was found to be in possession of what deputies believe to be cocaine and ecstasy. The subject was identified as Troy Anthony Lacour Jr.

The Harris County district attorney's office was contacted and felony charges of possession of a controlled substance and possession of a weapon where prohibited were accepted. Lacour was booked into the Harris County Joint Processing Center where he is being held at this time. As of press day, his bonds have not yet been set.

## Singles club dance Aug. 17

The Bay Area Singles Club monthly dance is scheduled for Aug. 17, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at VFW Lodge, Post 6378, 5204 Highway 3, in Dickinson. Participants are urged to bring party snacks to share.

Cost is \$8 for members and \$10 for nonmembers. For more information, call 832-483-3257 or 832-477-6778.

## Pasadena Little Theatre presents "Fat Pig"



Pasadena Little Theatre, presents Neil LaBute's "Fat Pig" Aug. 23 at Black Box Stage. Members of the cast shown above are Karen Rush as Helen (left) and Jonathan Parker as Tom. Tom and Helen hit it off right away but will everyone else hit it off with Helen? Photo by Zack Varela

Pasadena Little Theatre is proud to be celebrating its 65th anniversary kicking off the first show of the Black Box season with a comedy by Neil LaBute "Fat Pig."

Cow. Slob. Pig. How many insults can you hear before you have to stand up and defend the woman you love?

In the presentation, Tom faces just that question when he falls for Helen,

a bright, funny, sexy young woman who happens to be plus-sized and then some. Forced to explain his new relationship to his shallow (although shockingly funny) friends, he finally comes to terms with his own preconceptions of the importance of conventional good looks.

Neil LaBute's sharply drawn play not only critiques the slavish adherence to Hollywood ideals of beauty but also boldly questions one's

own ability to change what we dislike about ourselves.

Fat Pig features first time director at PLT Ya-Ya Smith. This production opens at Black Box Stage Aug. 23 and continues weekends through Sept. 1. Friday and Saturday showtimes are 8 p.m. and Sunday matinees are 2:30 p.m. To purchase tickets, call the box office at 713-941-1758, or visit [www.pasadenalittletheatre.org](http://www.pasadenalittletheatre.org).

# Remember When

**40 years ago (1979)**  
There were 22 new teachers at Dobie High School when the school year started.

Holli Naquin won Best Smile in the Miss Hemisphere beauty contest. She placed second runner-up in the contest and was awarded a \$2,100 scholarship to the New York Academy of Theatrical Arts.

**35 years ago (1984)**  
A Beverly Hills Intermediate School student was killed instantly when he was struck by a vehicle while crossing Beamer Road near Kirkfair on a motor bike.

Pasadena Independent School District board members proposed expanding bilingual education from kindergarten through fifth grade at each elementary school in the district.

**30 years ago (1989)**  
Realizing the need for additional schools and facilities, Clear Creek Independent School District's board of trustees voted to ask the public to authorize a \$40 million bond issue.

Riverside, Calif., scored a run in the bottom of the fifth inning to break a 2-2 tie and join South Belt's Colt All-Stars from the Colt World Series.

**25 years ago (1994)**  
Precinct 2 constables and workers from the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals spent five hours removing 35 animals from a Sagehen home.

Lightning struck Dobie High School, burning up two electrical circuits and six of the school's 12 air conditioning motors.

**20 years ago (1999)**  
Police were investigating the death of a 47-year-old man, whose body was found in the lake behind Beverly Hills Park.

King of Kings Lutheran Church at 10825 Alameda-Genoa Road closed.

**15 years ago (2004)**  
In a controversial vote, PISD trustees called for a \$299.88 million bond election that would coincide with the Nov. 2 general election. Trustee Fred Roberts, a South Belt resident, was the only vote against going forward with the election. The bond issue did pass in the general election after heated opposition.

The PISD board also voted to expand Dobie High School in order to accommodate an additional 500 students instead of building a sixth district high school. Opponents

said traffic was congested enough around Dobie and Moore Elementary, without additional students.

Deputies from Precinct 2 Constable Gary Freeman's office arrested a mother and daughter on theft and fraud charges from Harris, Brazoria and Matagorda counties.

Todd Krampitz, the cancer patient who mounted a billboard and television campaign to secure a new liver, underwent transplant surgery. The surgery was effective at first, but Krampitz died several months later.

After having eight juveniles soliciting monetary contributions, a man was arrested by Harris County Sheriff's deputies on Beamer at the Beltway. The youths were seen soliciting in the roadway, walking in and out of heavy traffic.

**10 years ago (2009)**  
Michele Staley was named the new principal of Clear Brook High School. Most recently, Staley had served as principal of Pearland High School.

Jose Luis Sosa was killed in a traffic accident in the 13900 block of the Gulf Freeway. He was driving a red Ford sport utility vehicle south on the freeway just

## Schneider's Broussard "Teacher of the Year"



Schneider Middle School teacher Juliette Broussard was named the 2020 Region 4 Elementary Teacher of the Year during the organization's 30th annual Teacher of the Year ceremony.

Broussard advanced to the regional level after being named Pasadena ISD's Elementary Teacher of the Year during the district's annual luncheon celebration, May 28, 2019.

She will represent elementary teachers from the Region 4 area at the Texas Teacher of the Year awards ceremony, which will take place Oct. 25.

Broussard, who leads the fifth-grade science team at Schneider Middle School, consistently has the highest benchmark, Mock STAAR and STAAR scores in Pasadena ISD.

She tutors students before and after school and voluntarily works with them during conference periods to help students achieve academic success.

Broussard goes above and beyond for her students. She is known to go to a student's residence to speak to the parents if they are struggling in school.

Her dedication to students has not gone unnoticed. She has won numerous science teaching awards and fellowships, such as the Eugene Chiappetta Chemistry and Environment Teaching Award. She attends summer training sessions at Rice University and spends countless hours implementing all she has learned to help students close performance gaps.

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## School supply giveaway full of monkey fun



### Clear Lake Division Back-to-School Bash

The Houston Police Department hosted its second annual School Supply Giveaway Saturday, Aug. 3, at Grace Community Church. The goal was to help lessen the burden on families by providing school supplies for the children. Shown above, left to right, being entertained by monkeys at the giveaway are Noah Abarca, Kelvin Lopez and Natalie Abarca. Noah will be entering pre-K at South Belt Elementary and Kelvin will be a fifth-grader at Melillo Middle School.

Photo submitted

## Esteban's lectures, stories impact Tran

Pasadena Memorial High School's Shining Star Timothy Tran (below, left) is shown with distinguished educator Luz Esteban-Torres who is a PMHS 12th-grade AP Chemistry teacher.

"From her intelligent lectures to her crazy Puerto Rican stories, Mrs. Esteban has not only impacted my educational career exponentially but also my daily life. As an educator, she steps beyond expectations challenging her students to do more. This small, yet strong woman defines the true meaning of being a distinguished and genuine teacher. Mrs. Esteban, thank you for always pushing me past my limits and helping me find the confidence to believe in myself. As a student, your words will forever live in my memory guiding me, as I remember that tiny voice telling me to do my homework," said Tran who commented about his teacher.

In regard to community service, Tran has been active with Pasadena Strawberry Festival, Crenshaw Park Clean-up, Houston Food Bank, Rugged Race, CT Church, Vietnamese Martyrs Church School, Turner Elementary School, Pasadena Rotary Fish Fry, Lion's Walk for Sight, Color Run, Asbury Winter Festival, Crawfish Festival and a church school car wash.

He also helped organize Hurricane Harvey school supplies after the flood disaster.

Tran has taken a leadership role being historian of National Honor Society, parliamentarian for the Class of 2019 and student council class officer. Outside the classroom, Tran has also been busy with basketball, Interact and Teal and Black Gala.

"In the fall of 2019, I plan to either attend the University of Texas at Austin or the University of Houston, where I will study biology and pursue dentistry. With my education, I plan to open new doors for my individual growth and continue to be a student of life. And for the far future, I can only hope to one day change the world and leave my mark all while enjoying the ride," Tran said.

The South Belt Shining Stars will be presented in a series of students being honored along with their favorite mentor. The Shining Stars represent the top Pasadena Memorial High School students. The information and photos were submitted by Pasadena Independent School District. The Leader is also running the Shining Stars from Dobie, Dr. Kirk Lewis Career & Technical and South Houston high schools.



## Handbook page: first homework assignment

Involved parents, dedicated teachers and committed principals form an invaluable partnership to improve the quality of education for all children in the Pasadena Independent School District.

By working together with other members of the community, the district can create

a safe, healthy and orderly environment that will help each child get the most out of his or her education.

The Student Handbook and Code of Conduct outlines the high expectations for student behavior and explains some of the procedures in which the district

designates as areas of interest. The guidelines contained in the booklet are based on policies developed and approved by the board of trustees.

The district strongly urges parents to take the time to read through the booklet with the student.

Parents and students then need to sign the acknowledgment page and return it to the school. This lets the district know that parents and students have read the Student Handbook and Code of Conduct and that they understand the procedures and consent to the responsibilities con-

tained in this booklet. The board of trustees, administration, teachers and support staff want the best for each child.

The district appreciates the cooperation and support, and the district looks forward to a great year in partnership with parents and students.

## Pasadena ISD details current regulations

Continued from Page 4A

10. Revealing or excessively tight garments are prohibited. Appropriate foundation garments and/or undergarments must be worn.

11. Pants or shorts may not be worn in any way that reflects gang affiliation or conceal contraband.

12. Shirts and blouses shall be appropriately sized and may not be worn in any way that reflects gang affiliation or conceals contraband. (See posted list in main campus office for gang affiliated attire.)

13. Patterned contact lenses are prohibited.

EARRINGS/BODY PIERCING

Males are not permitted to wear earrings of any type. Students are not permitted to wear other non-traditional rings (nose, lip, etc...). Students are not allowed to wear gauges or other devices to expand the earlobe. Clips, posts, and/or other devices designed to prevent the piercing area from closing are not permitted. Elementary students may not wear more than two earrings in each earlobe. Earrings larger than 1" in diameter or length are prohibited for elementary students.

TATTOOS

All tattoos must be appropriately covered.

BADGES

Student identification badges are required in high schools and may be required by intermediate schools.

Badges shall be replaced at the expense of the student if the badge is lost, stolen, broken, deformed, or distorted. The campus principal will specify when and how the badge is to be displayed.

VIOLATIONS

When a student's dress or grooming violates the guidelines provided herein, the principal shall request that the student make corrections and may take appropriate disciplinary action. If the problem is not corrected, the student may be assigned in-school suspension for the remainder of the day or until the problem is corrected. Repeated dress code offenses may result in more serious disciplinary action.

MEDICAL EXCEPTIONS

The principal, associate superintendent for campus development, or superintendent may grant an exception to any of the above provisions if a student has a physical or medical condition rendering compliance with the provisions detrimental to the student's physical health.

INTERPRETATION OF APPROPRIATENESS

The principal and assistant principal(s) are authorized to make determinations regarding whether any fashion, fad, hair, jewelry or article of clothing is inappropriate for school wear or disruptive to the educational process or safety of the campus.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The principal and the

sponsor, coach, or other person in charge of an extracurricular activity may regulate the dress and grooming of the students participating in or attending the activity.

GUIDANCE CENTER

Students assigned to the Guidance Center are to follow the district-wide dress code policy as designated by the Pasadena ISD Student Code of Conduct.

Book Bags, Backpacks, Purses

Book bags and backpacks may be prohibited

on any secondary campus under the authority of the campus principal. The campus principal may permit clear, transparent or mesh book bags or backpacks on campus provided the items are placed in the student's locker upon arrival and not removed until the conclusion of the school day. The principal may require clear or transparent backpacks only. Purses in excess of 8" x 10," satchels and briefcases shall be prohibited. Purses may not be worn as back-

packs. Elementary students shall be permitted to bring backpacks and book bags to school. The principal may require clear, transparent, or mesh backpacks only. Purses in excess of 8" x 10," satchels and briefcases shall be prohibited. Purses may not be worn as backpacks only.

## Fun Bunch group hosts event

The South Belt Ellington Fun Bunch Seniors 55+ serve as ambassadors to the chamber, representing the chamber through volunteer opportunities, community connections, social support, personal development programs and special events.

The group also enjoys participating in trips, luncheons and other social activities. Golden Angels is a project of the group through which members of the Fun Bunch work with administrators at area skilled nursing facilities, visiting long-term residents that do not have regular visitors. The Fun Bunch plans and organizes all activities for the group.

The Fun Bunch is hosting a Meet & Greet on Aug. 24 from 2 to 4 p.m. to introduce themselves to the community and to meet other like-minded

local community members.

Seniors 55 and older interested in joining the group are encouraged to attend to learn more about the Fun Bunch and the unique opportunities the group offers and see what they are doing to make a positive impact in the South Belt area.

The meet and greet will be held at the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce, 10500 Scarsdale Blvd., with door prizes, wine and munchies provided. For more information and to RSVP, call Sharon Turner at 713-419-6676.

## St. Luke divorce seminar set

The Catholic Community of St. Luke the Evangelist invites brothers and sisters from around the deanery to a Surviving Divorce seminar.

The event will take place on Saturday, Oct. 5, from 9 a.m. to noon in the youth room.

## NASA Aglow meets Sept. 12

NASA Aglow Community Lighthouse meets on the second Thursday of the month at 9:30 a.m. at Praise Chapel, located at 18516 Hwy. 3 in Webster. The public is welcome and encouraged to bring a friend.

The next scheduled meeting is Sept. 12. For more information, visit <http://aglownet.org/> or call the chapel at 281-338-6633.

## Zepeda values Molina's motivation, advice

South Houston High School distinguished educator Geraldine Molina is shown with SHHS Shining Star Rachel Zepeda. Molina taught Zepeda accounting in her sophomore year. "Mrs. Molina is the most hardworking and compassionate teacher that I have had the pleasure to meet my sophomore year. She has always encouraged me to become a better person that can overcome anything that life throws at me. With her motivation and advice I can firmly say that she is the reason that I have been able to make the best of life (and high school). There was never a dull moment in our small accounting class. Even after I didn't have her for a class, she still helped me out with school work, college applications and so many other things. Thank you Mrs. Molina for every single time you listened to me talk on and on. You truly are one of a kind," said Zepeda.

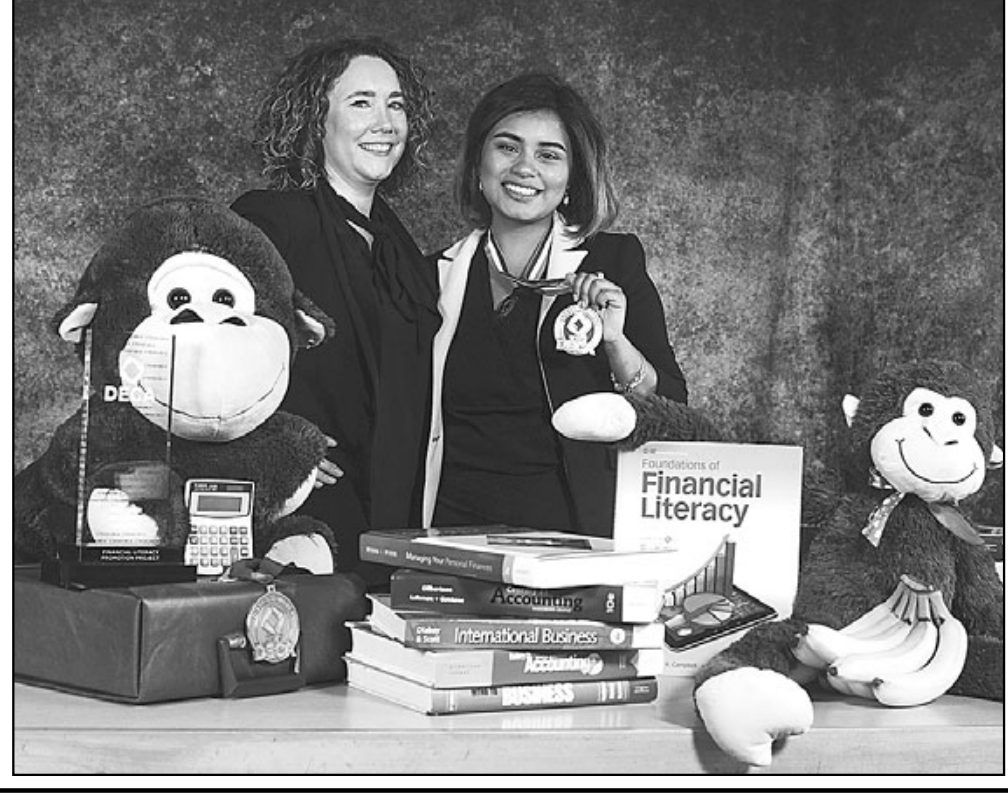
Zepeda has shown leadership as co-executive producer of Video Tech, captain of the Mighty Trojan Band Color Guard, vice president of L.A.S. Girls' Service Club, DECA

vice president of finance and treasurer of National Honor Society. She has also been active in Winter Guard, student council, Literary Criticism (UIL) and Key Club.

"I have volunteered in numerous events with National Honor Society and other clubs such as helping out at the Houston Food Bank. I also help out at school functions like school plays, dances and concerts. I spend a lot of time doing different projects that help our students have fun. Lastly, I also help spread financial literacy through my DECA's team campaign," Zepeda added.

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

The Leader is also running the Shining Stars from Dobie, Dr. Kirk Lewis Career & Technical and Pasadena Memorial high schools.



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Sunday School • 9:30 a.m. Mid-Week Service • 7:45 p.m.

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The Hernandez family recently visited daughter Tyara and son-in-law Michael Clark in Oahu. Shown above at the famous Jurassic Park fallen tree are, left to right, Michael Clark, Tyara Clark, Sofia Hernandez, Erika Hernandez, Lily Hernandez and Will Hernandez. Shown lower right, left to right, in a group pose are Michael Clark, Tyara Clark, Will Hernandez, Lily Hernandez, Sofia Hernandez and Erika Hernandez at Kuaola Ranch. In the bottom right photo, left to right, are Will Hernandez, Sofia Hernandez and Tyara Clark at Manoa Falls Trail. The family members have been South Belt residents for more than 25 years. Tyara Clark,



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**Cejas explore Dinosaur Valley**



The Ceja family members have been South Belt residents for the past 14 years. Adamaris Ceja graduated from Dobie in 2017 and Ramon is a student at Fred Roberts Middle School. Every year since the children were young, the Ceja family have visited Dinosaur Valley in Glen Rose, Texas. Shown in the top photo, left to right, are Ramon Ceja, Lizett Ceja and Adamaris Ceja at the entrance of Dinosaur Valley State Park. Shown above is Lizett pointing out the fossilized dinosaur tracks marked by the sign next to her at the Paluxy River.

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**Bay Area group assists students**

Assistance League of the Bay Area volunteers are preparing to make provisions for children through their largest philanthropic program, Operation School Bell.

This program provides clothing, shoes, and hygiene kits to children, pre-kindergarten through high school.

School districts served are Clear Creek, Dickinson, Friendswood, La Porte, Deer Park, Texas City and Odessa campuses in the Bay Area and on Galveston Island. Operation School Bell funding is raised through the Assistance League Resale Shop, 100 E. NASA Parkway, Suite 80 in Webster and the annual fundraiser, scheduled for Feb. 8, 2020 at Lakewood Yacht Club, "Mamma Mia! The Party."

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# SECTION B SPORTS & CLASSIFIED

## Brook, Dobie football to don pads as preseason moves on

It definitely feels hotter than 100 degrees, but that's not going to stop the pads from going on as high school football programs across the state inch closer and closer to opening night.

Count the Clear Brook Wolverines and Dobie Longhorns as two of those programs working double

time to prepare for what lies ahead. There simply doesn't seem to be enough time in a day right now for those involved with football, but the journey continues.

At Clear Brook, the Wolverines are excited about the possibilities this season. It will all start for the Wolverines Friday, Aug. 30, at La Porte, but prior to that, the locals will travel to The Rig in Pearland Friday, Aug. 23 to go head-to-head with Dawson in a scrimmage.

Like Clear Brook, Dawson, coached by former Wolverines' head man Mike Allison, is looking to make a big move in a tough District 23-6A alignment that includes frontrunner Pearland (10-

1) and a Strake Jesuit return, including dynamic receiver Loronzo Thompson and quarterback Shane Porter.

At Dobie, the Longhorns are enthusiastic


season as eight starters about the possibilities in 2019 as running back Darius Hale leads the offense along with a stable of solid receivers.

The defensive backfield will have three starters back as well as Dobie, fourth in the 22-6A standings last season, looks to improve.

Dobie will travel Aug. 23 to Beaumont, where the team will scrimmage against United. The regular season then gets started early for the Longhorns, who will play the first game of 2019 at Veterans Stadium against Santa Fe Thursday, Aug. 29.

Dobie and Clear Brook are eligible to put the pads on Aug. 15, and that signals the time that preseason preparation gets ramped up.

Just two weeks remain prior to the start of the regular season for both programs, and Clear Brook and Dobie expect to be competing in the postseason when the dust settles in November.



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## Sterling stops Dobie VB; Houston Memorial over Clear Brook

District 21-6A title hopeful Baytown Sterling stayed unbeaten this season at 3-0, handing Dobie a 25-15, 25-21, 25-18 victory at the Dobie9 campus Aug. 13.

Cadie Masterson had nine assists, and Taiya Mitchell led the way with five kills for the Lady Longhorns, who are now 0-3 heading into the Lady Gator Classic at Dickinson High School Aug. 15 and Aug. 17.

the true movers and shakers of the first two days of the Adidas John Turner Classic in Pearland, a 58-team power-driven tournament that is considered the state's most prestigious.

Opening day - Aug. 8 - saw the Lady Wolverines go unbeaten in three pool play matches without dropping a set. Brook

crushed past Alief Elsie 25-12, 25-10 and had to work a little harder for a 25-22, 26-24 victory over San Antonio Christian.

In the final match of pool play, Brook advanced with a 25-21, 25-17 victory over Kingwood Park.

Ramping things up a day later, the Lady Wolverines scored impressive wins over Friendswood (20-25, 25-23, 25-20) and Pearland (25-20, 18-25, 25-18) but fell just short of making the tournament's gold bracket after a 25-22, 22-25, 26-24 loss to Belaire.

There was a letdown for Brook on the final day of the Turner Classic as they

fell 25-19, 25-15 to Coronado and 25-14, 25-16 to San Antonio Brandeis, but five wins in six matches to begin things was certainly impressive enough to earn the Lady Wolverines some early-season staves.

Elsewhere from the Adidas event, The Woodlands won the whole thing, coming from behind to defeat San Antonio Reagan 14-25, 25-21, 25-18. Episcopal also slipped past Deer Park 25-23, 25-21 for third place.

Every team within the 24-6A ranks competed in the event with the exception of Alvin. Clear Springs wound up winning the tournament's silver bracket, taking down Ridge Point in three sets.

The Clear Falls Lady Knights won four matches over the first two days and then defeated San Antonio O'Connor in three sets for the championship in the bronze division.

Having won five of eight overall matches, Clear Brook was declared to have finished 23rd overall in the event.

Continued on Page 3B

omore, had 17 assists against the Lady Knights.

In a 25-17, 21-25, 25-17, 25-22 loss to La Porte Aug. 9, Mitchell led the way with 13 kills while Victoria Thomas recorded 10.

Natalie Onozie, a sophomore, had 17 assists against the Lady Knights.

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## Lady Wolverines go 5-3 at Adidas classic

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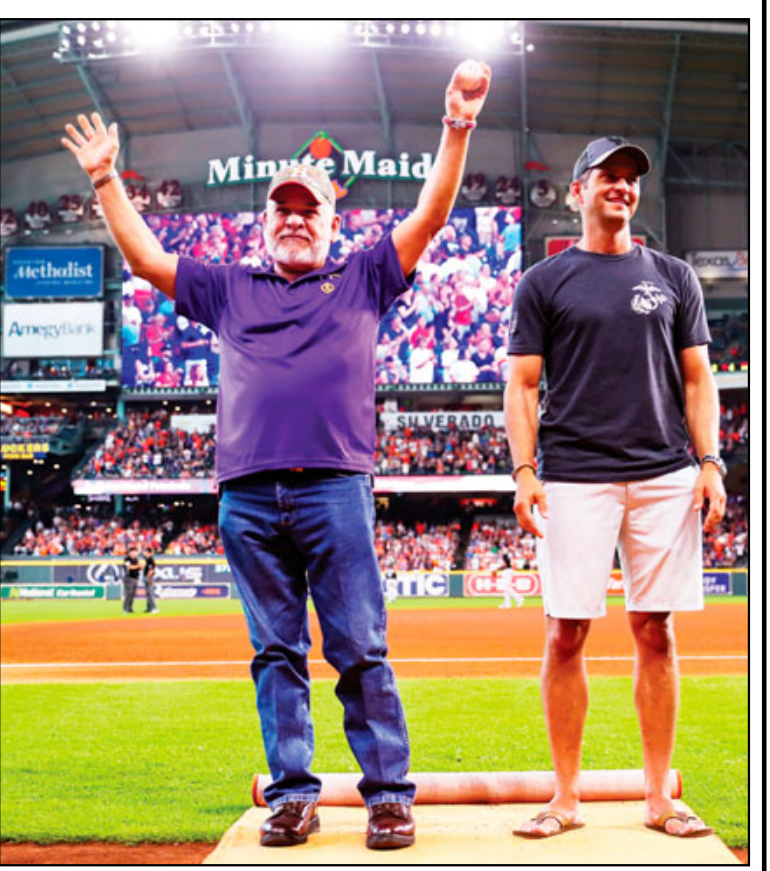
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Continued on Page 3B

## Astros honor South Belt's Cerda

At right, longtime South Belt resident Antonio Cerda III (left) was one of the honorees Aug. 7 at Minute Maid Park as the Houston Astros recognized him and Jason Shaw (right) in their Operation Military Appreciation ceremony prior to the Astros' game against Colorado. Cerda was a Lance Cpl. with two years of service in the Marine Corps. Shaw was a sergeant with nine years of service to his country. Cerda and his wife, Yolanda, are parents of Dobie High School graduates Matt and Antonio Cerda IV. For more on Cerda, see Page 6B.



## Local teams on road Bay Area Football League kicks off Aug. 17

The new-look 15-team Bay Area Football League will kick off Saturday, Aug. 17, with 14 teams in action against one another to get things started.

The longstanding youth football league based in the Southeast Houston

area has a newcomer or two for 2019, but local stalwarts the Sagemont Cowboys, Southbelt Dolphins and Ellington Rams, still headline the party.

The Rams will begin their season at the Pasadena Panthers, while the Dolphins will also be on the road at the Alvin Raiders. The Cowboys, meanwhile, will be going against the East End Eagles in Pasadena.

The league lineup for 2019 includes the Pearland Hurricanes, the Pearland Texans, East End, the Cowboys, the Dolphins, the Rams, the Raiders, the Panthers, North Shore

Mustangs, South Houston Trojans, Pearland Patriots, Texas City Stingrays, Magnolia Park Sharks, the Southeast Houston Wildcats and the League City 49ers.

Each week will begin with the pee wee division game at 8 a.m., followed by the senior game at 9 a.m.

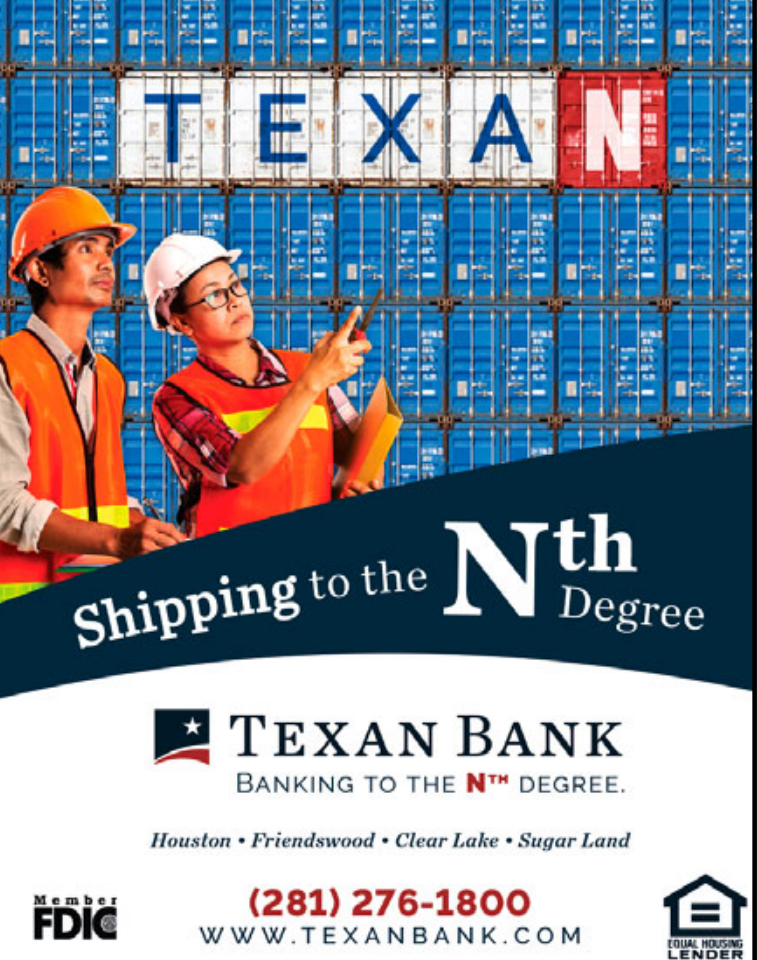
The junior game is at 10:45 a.m., followed by the sophomore game at 12:45 p.m. The day ends with the freshman game at 2:15 p.m.

The Cowboys will host a one-day eve pep rally at El Franco Lee Park, with everyone associated with

the event invited to drum up support Friday, Aug. 16 at El Franco Lee Park. The festivities will begin at 6:45 p.m.

The Cowboys will play their home games this season at El Franco Lee Park, and the Dolphins will play at Blackhawk Park. The Ellington Rams will play their home games at Dobie High School.

Each of the league's teams will be vying to reach the BAFL Super Bowl round, which comes Sunday, Nov. 24, at Rice Stadium.



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• Clear Coat Protectant
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## SBGSA fall ball has limited spots

South Belt Girls Softball Association officials have announced openings for the 6-under, 8-under and 12-under divisions for the league's upcoming fall ball season.

The registration fee is \$70, and there are no residency restrictions. There

are no fundraising responsibilities, and those who register may be eligible for sibling discounts.

To register for the fall ball league, visit [www.southbeltsoftball.com](http://www.southbeltsoftball.com).

Registration for the fall league ends Aug. 31 as the season gets underway.

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## SJC's Rutledge gets first win at Hagerstown

At right, former San Jacinto College right-hander Jackson Rutledge, the No. 17 pick in the first round of the MLB June Amateur Draft by the Washington Nationals, is settling in quite well with Nats' Class A Hagerstown affiliate. On Aug. 9, Rutledge earned a win after throwing five scoreless innings, allowing two hits, walking two and fanning six over his outing. Rutledge, the 2019 National Junior College Athletic Association's Pitcher of the Year and currently the Nationals' No. 3-ranked prospect, is 1-0 overall over seven appearances and has struck out 21 batters in 23 1/3 innings with a 3.86 earned run average. Rutledge pitched earlier this year with San Jacinto College, leading the nation in ERA as a sophomore and finishing second in total strikeouts.



## San Jac's Pascoe, Quinones with Toronto

At right, Mike Pascoe is another of the many former San Jacinto College pitchers aiming for a breakthrough into the big leagues. The former Gator was a 24th-round selection of the Toronto Blue Jays in the 2018 MLB First-Year Player Draft and is currently teammates with another one-time Gator, Luis Quinones, with the Class A Vancouver Canadians. To this point, Pascoe is 0-1 with a 6.43 earned run average with the Canadians, having fanned 18 hitters over 14 innings but also issuing 13 walks. For his brief career, Pascoe is 1-3 with a 5.67 ERA. As for Quinones, he is currently 0-1 with a tiny 1.06 ERA, having struck out 23 hitters in 17 innings of work.



# JFD team tennis uses determined effort to score early-season wins

By John Bechtel  
Sports Editor

The Dobie Longhorns aren't yet ready to have the 2019 District 22-6A team tennis trophy stenciled with the JFD logo just yet, but this group and their coach are having the time of their lives, even in this stifling heat.

Maybe there isn't a bigger example of Dobie's true team tennis spirit than its Aug. 13 victory over Katy at the Longhorn courts.

The final results will show that Dobie was tied at eight matches apiece with the Tigers before reeling off three straight singles wins to take the duel 11-8.

The win, while it was just the Longhorns' third in seven tries, was special for everyone involved.

"That's the great thing about team tennis," explained Dobie head coach Manuel Moreno Jr.

"There's room for a different hero every (time out). We had one of our

girls' singles players out with a family situation so three of the players had to slide up one spot.

"It might not sound like a big deal, but it is. It's like a football team losing one of its starters. When you are used to playing with the same starting 11, it's huge when you have to make a move.

"One move in one spot might also affect moves in two others in our case. We had a different girls' doubles combination and a different mixed doubles pair. And we just fought through both in San Antonio and against Katy."

Against Katy, Megan Rodriguez, Thailony Kam Trevino and Jocelyn Salazar all moved up a spot in singles, with Kam Trevino and Salazar getting decisive wins over the Tigers.

Tracy Tran also moved over to play mixed doubles with Kyle Redmon. They didn't win, but competed well nonetheless. Playing against a tough

schedule that has already included the likes of Dawson and Friendswood, the Longhorns have won two of their last four.

They fell to Smithson Valley and Laredo United but then defeated San Antonio Harlen on a trip to the Alamo City.

"I was really proud of the kids in San Antonio," Moreno said. "It got to where it was really hot for that last match against Harlen. The kids really pulled through."

Make no mistake. Regional power Kingwood went unbeaten last season in District 22-6A action and took the crown.

Atascocita will also be tough to handle this season, but Moreno is excited to be working with this group.

"When you consider that our top priority is being ready (Sept. 6) for that district opener at Summer Creek, I really believe we are ahead of schedule," said Moreno, now in his 21st year with the Long-

horns. "We are still working on some of the doubles combinations, but I think we are close to getting them set.

"Overall, we are still young and inexperienced. We don't have great depth, which could hurt us. But these kids are determined to do well, and they have definitely energized me.

"They root for each other and have come together very well as a team as a tennis family. It's been a lot of fun to be out there with them every day.

It's hot and humid out there this time of year, but they have not let that affect their attitudes about success.

"We have had great team leadership, particularly from our captains. I'm proud to be their coach, and this might be one of the best groups of kids I've been around in my 21 years. It isn't always like that, but this group is special to be around every day."



At right, Dobie boys' doubles teammates Dylan Ta (left) and Hayden Lazo celebrate after winning a point during the Exes Matches earlier this month at Dobie. Ta, a junior, is working his way through challenge matches to earn a spot on the Longhorns' starting ladder, while Lazo has been playing No. 4 boys' singles for the team. Both players have been instrumental in the locals' team-first concept en route to three key wins.

### Dobie 16, S.A. Harlen 3

Note: Dobie improved to 3-4 this season with two straight wins.  
Boys' doubles

- 1) Sebastian Delgado/Quan Dinh (D) def. Kiernan Groves/Lathan Skrobarcek 8-4.
- 2) Hayden Lazo/Tristan Pedraza (D) def. Jamar Booker/Jordan Bufford 8-1.
- 3) Lael Martinez/Brian Nguyen (D) def. Micah Oettel/Evan Turner 8-0.

#### Girls' doubles

- 1) Julia Bui/Gisell Morales (D) def. Victoria Gehrman/Rachel Rosser 9-7.
- 2) Kristy Morales/Thailony Kam Trevino (D) def. Val Mora/Geri Scott 8-1.
- 3) Jennifer Ho/Megan Rodriguez (D) def. Ariel Quintero/Victoria Renteria 8-1.

#### Mixed doubles

- 1) Tracy Tran/Kyle Redmon (D) def. Merring/Milian 8-2.

#### Boys' singles

- 1) Lathan Skrobarcek (H) def. Sebastian Delgado 6-1, 6-2.
- 2) Quan Dinh (D) def. Kiernan Groves 6-2, 6-0.
- 3) Tristan Pedraza (D) def. Jamar Booker 6-3, 7-6 (7-5).
- 4) Hayden Lazo (D) def. Evan Turner 7-5, 6-2.
- 5) Kyle Redmon (D) def. Jordan Bufford 6-4, 6-1.
- 6) Brian Nguyen (D) def. Micah Oettel 6-0, 6-0.

#### Girls' singles

- 1) Julia Bui (D) def. Victoria Gehrman 8-0.
- 2) Rachel Rosser (H) def. Kristy Morales 9-7.
- 3) Gisell Morales (D) def. Val Mora 8-0.
- 4) Geri Scott (H) def. Jennifer Ho 6-2, 6-2.
- 5) Megan Rodriguez (D) def. Victoria Renteria 6-4, 6-1.
- 6) Thailony Kam Trevino (D) def. Ariel Quintero 6-1, 6-2.

### Dobie 11, Katy 8

#### Boys' doubles

- 1) Dinh Bui/Jackson Roberson (K) def. Sebastian Delgado/Quan Dinh 8-4.
- 2) Jacob Colby/Kyle McCary (K) def. Hayden Lazo/Tristan Pedraza 8-6.
- 3) Romero/Trung Vo (K) def. Lael Martinez/Brian Nguyen 8-6.

#### Girls' doubles

- 1) Julia Bui/Gisell Morales (D) def. Sara Guilfu/Juliana Perez 8-4.
- 2) Kristy Morales/Thailony Kam Trevino (D) def. Bali Nguyen/Victoria Zemanek 8-5.
- 3) Jennifer Ho/Megan Rodriguez (D) def. Bossact/Autumn Joyce 8-4.

#### Mixed doubles

- 1) Mindy Nguyen/Daniel Garza (K) def. Tracy Tran/Kyle Redmon 8-6.

#### Boys' singles

- 1) Sebastian Delgado (D) def. Jackson Roberson 9-8 (7-4).
- 2) Dinh Bui (K) def. Quan Dinh 8-3.
- 3) Kyle McCary (K) def. Tristan Pedraza 9-7.
- 4) Jacob Colby (K) def. Hayden Lazo 8-5.
- 5) Kyle Redmon (D) def. Trung Vo 8-2.
- 6) Daniel Garza (K) def. Brian Nguyen 8-2.

#### Girls' singles

- 1) Julia Bui (D) def. Sara Guilfu 8-0.
- 2) Kristy Morales (D) def. Juliana Perez 8-2.
- 3) Gisell Morales (D) def. Bali Nguyen 8-1.
- 4) Megan Rodriguez (D) def. Victoria Zemanek 8-6.
- 5) Thailony Kam Trevino (D) def. Mindy Nguyen 8-5.
- 6) Jocelyn Salazar (D) def. Autumn Joyce 8-1.

### Dobie hosts

#### Clear Creek

Fri., Aug. 16, 9 a.m.

### Dobie hosts

#### Shadow Creek

Fri., Aug. 16, 3 p.m.

### Dobie hosts

#### Alvin

Tues., Aug. 20, 3 p.m.

At right, the Dobie boys' doubles duo of Brian Nguyen (left) and Lael Martinez have started strong for their team this season through seven matches and counting. They scored an easy 8-0 win over San Antonio Harlen and played well in the No. 3 boys' doubles spot despite an 8-6 loss. The sophomores are a strong part of both the present and future for the Longhorns.

Photos by John Bechtel



# JFD FB edges closer to opener

On the strength of a 7-3 run last season that included the program's first playoff berth since the 2015 season, the Dobie Longhorns are reaching for much more this season.

With nondistrict home games against Santa Fe and Bellaire prior to the arrival of 22-6A action, the Longhorns are looking for a pair of wins to get things going, just as they did in 2018. From there, a tough road game against Summer Creek gets the league ledger underway.

There is also a big challenge coming later in the season against district champion Atascocita, but the Longhorns are also eyeing a road game at Kingwood that could move the needle a bit more.

What does any of this mean? The Longhorns will look to win at least eight regular season games for the first time in nine seasons.

In 2010, the Longhorns crushed Deer Park en route to the league championship with current NFL receiver Blake Jackson at quarterback.

Dobie suffered a significant loss to a very physical Beaumont West Brook team that year but wound up 8-3.

Could an 8-3 record or better be in the offing this season? It's certainly possible, and it all begins Aug. 29, at home against Santa Fe.

- Thurs., Aug. 29, 7 p.m.**  
*Santa Fe at Veterans*
- Sat., Sept. 7, 6 p.m.**  
*Bellaire at Veterans*
- Fri., Sept. 20, 7 p.m.**  
*\*at Summer Creek at Turner*
- Thurs., Sept. 26, 6 p.m.**  
*\*Pasadena at Veterans, Homecoming*
- Sat., Oct. 5, 6 p.m.**  
*\*at Humble at Turner*
- Sat., Oct. 12, 6 p.m.**  
*\*at Kingwood at Turner*
- Fri., Oct. 18, 7 p.m.**  
*\*Atascocita at Veterans*
- Thurs., Oct. 24, 6 p.m.**  
*\*Rayburn at Veterans*
- Fri., Nov. 1, 7 p.m.**  
*\*at South Houston at Veterans*
- Thurs., Nov. 7, 6 p.m.**  
*\*Memorial at Veterans*
- \* District 22-6A games**  
*Home games at Veterans Stadium*

# 2019 Dobie Longhorns Subvarsity Football Schedule

<u>Junior Varsity Orange</u>	<u>Junior Varsity White</u>	<u>Freshman Orange</u>	<u>Freshman White</u>
<b>Wed., Aug. 28, 6:30 p.m.</b> <i>at Santa Fe</i>	<b>Wed., Aug. 28, 4:30 p.m.</b> <i>Deer Park (M)</i>	<b>Wed., Aug. 28, 6:30 p.m.</b> <i>Santa Fe (A)</i>	<b>Wed., Aug. 28, 4:30 p.m.</b> <i>Santa Fe (A)</i>
<b>Thurs., Sept. 5, 6:30 p.m.</b> <i>at Bellaire</i>	<b>Thurs., Sept. 5, 6:30 p.m.</b> <i>at Conroe Grand Oaks</i>	<b>Thurs., Sept. 5, 4:30 p.m.</b> <i>Bellaire (9)</i>	<b>Thurs., Sept. 5, 4:30 p.m.</b> <i>Conroe Grand Oaks (M)</i>
<b>Thurs., Sept. 19, 6:30 p.m.</b> <i>*Summer Creek (A)</i>	<b>Thurs., Sept. 19, 4:30 p.m.</b> <i>*Summer Creek (A)</i>	<b>Thurs., Sept. 19, 6:30 p.m.</b> <i>*at Summer Creek</i>	<b>Thurs., Sept. 19, 4:30 p.m.</b> <i>*at Summer Creek</i>
<b>Wed., Sept. 25, 4:30 p.m.</b> <i>*at Pasadena</i>	<b>Wed., Sept. 25, 4:30 p.m.</b> <i>*Kingwood (M)</i>	<b>Wed., Sept. 25, 6:30 p.m.</b> <i>*Pasadena (V)</i>	<b>Wed., Sept. 25, 6 p.m.</b> <i>*Pasadena (V)</i>
<b>Thurs., Oct. 3, 4:30 p.m.</b> <i>*Humble (M)</i>	<b>Thurs., Oct. 3, 4:30 p.m.</b> <i>*Humble (9)</i>	<b>Thurs., Oct. 3, 6:30 p.m.</b> <i>*at Humble</i>	<b>Thurs., Oct. 3, 4:30 p.m.</b> <i>*at Humble</i>
<b>Thurs., Oct. 10, 4:30 p.m.</b> <i>*Kingwood (M)</i>	<b>Thurs., Oct. 10, 4:30 p.m.</b> <i>*Kingwood (M)</i>	<b>Thurs., Oct. 10, 6:30 p.m.</b> <i>*at Kingwood</i>	<b>Thurs., Oct. 10, 4:30 p.m.</b> <i>*at Kingwood</i>
<b>Thurs., Oct. 17, 6:30 p.m.</b> <i>*at Atascocita</i>	<b>Thurs., Oct. 17, 4:30 p.m.</b> <i>*at Atascocita</i>	<b>Thurs., Oct. 17, 6:30 p.m.</b> <i>*Atascocita (A)</i>	<b>Thurs., Oct. 17, 4:30 p.m.</b> <i>*Atascocita (A)</i>
<b>Wed. Oct. 23, 6:30 p.m.</b> <i>*Rayburn (V)</i>	<b>Wed., Oct. 23, 4:30 p.m.</b> <i>Ridge Point (V)</i>	<b>Wed., Oct. 23, 4:30 p.m.</b> <i>*Rayburn (9)</i>	<b>Thurs., Oct. 31, 4:30 p.m.</b> <i>*Rayburn (M)</i>
<b>Thurs., Oct. 31, 4:30 p.m.</b> <i>*South Houston (M)</i>	<b>Thurs., Oct. 31, 4:30 p.m.</b> <i>Legacy (9)</i>	<b>Thurs., Oct. 31, 6:30 p.m.</b> <i>*South Houston (V)</i>	<b>Thurs., Oct. 31, 4:30 p.m.</b> <i>*South Houston (V)</i>
<b>Wed., Nov. 6, 6:30 p.m.</b> <i>*Memorial (V)</i>	<b>Wed., Nov. 6, 4:30 p.m.</b> <i>*Memorial (V)</i>	<b>Wed., Nov. 6, 4:30 p.m.</b> <i>*Memorial (9)</i>	<b>Wed., Nov. 6, 4:30 p.m.</b> <i>*Memorial (M)</i>
<b>* District 22-6A games (M) Dobie main campus (9) Dobie9 campus (A) Auxiliary Stadium (V) Veterans Stadium</b> <i>Schedules subject to change</i>	<b>* District 22-6A games (M) Dobie main campus (9) Dobie9 campus (A) Auxiliary Stadium (V) Veterans Stadium</b> <i>Schedules subject to change</i>	<b>* District 22-6A games (M) Dobie main campus (9) Dobie9 campus (A) Auxiliary Stadium (V) Veterans Stadium</b> <i>Schedules subject to change</i>	<b>* District 22-6A games (M) Dobie main campus (9) Dobie9 campus (A) Auxiliary Stadium (V) Veterans Stadium</b> <i>Schedules subject to change</i>

## Sports Calendar

## Local sports news, notes

## Lutheran South endures Adidas play

### TENNIS

**Thursday, Aug. 15**

Dobie varsity at George Ranch, 4:00

**Friday, Aug. 16**

Dobie varsity hosts Katy, 9 a.m.  
Dobie varsity hosts Shadow Creek, 3:00

### VOLLEYBALL

**Thursday, Aug. 15**

Dobie varsity at Dickinson, tourn., TBA

**Friday, Aug. 16**

Brook varsity hosts Summer Creek, 5:30  
Brook JV hosts Summer Creek, 4:30  
Brook freshman A hosts Summer Creek, 4:30  
Brook freshman B hosts Brazoswood, 5:30

**Saturday, Aug. 17**

Dobie varsity at Dickinson, tourn., TBA

**Tuesday, Aug. 20**

Brook varsity hosts Dulles, 5:30  
Dobie varsity hosts Spring, 5:30  
Dobie JV hosts Spring, 4:30  
Brook JV hosts Dulles, 4:30  
Dobie freshman A hosts Spring, 5:30  
Brook freshman A hosts Dulles, 4:30  
Dobie freshman B hosts Spring, 4:30  
Brook freshman B at Clear Falls, 5:30

### CROSS-COUNTRY

**Friday, Aug. 16**

Dobie all teams at Huffman Relays, 8 a.m.

**Friday, Aug. 23**

Dobie all teams at La Porte Inv., 8 a.m.

### PISD has season tix for football

Season tickets for any of the Pasadena ISD high school football programs, including Dobie, are on sale now through Friday, Aug. 23, from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m., at the Pasadena ISD Athletic Office located at 2906 Dabney within Phillips Gym. Individual tickets only will be available after Aug. 23. The cost for season tickets are \$6 each presale. This is a savings of \$1 per ticket off the \$7 gate price. There are no reserved seats sold. Student tickets are also available for \$3 each and may be used for any varsity regular season game at Veterans Stadium. Varsity home games will be played at 7 p.m. on Friday and 6 p.m. on Thursday and Saturday, with a couple of exceptions. To purchase season tickets for Dobie or any of the other four PISD high school football programs, visit the district website at [www.pasadenaisd.org](http://www.pasadenaisd.org). Once there, go to the Athletics tab and then refer to the ticket information link. The season ticket packages for Dobie are \$42 each, which represents a \$1 discount per game ticket. Stadium parking is free.

### Thompson Intermediate to host equipment pickup

The Thompson Lions' final equipment pickup session for the 2019-2020 school year will be Aug. 16 from 1 to 3 p.m. for all football players who missed the first date. There will be a \$65 participation fee due at the time of pickup for football players. For more information, direct email to coach Doug Sawyer (boys) at [dsawyer@pasadenaisd.org](mailto:dsawyer@pasadenaisd.org) or coach Tiffany Nelson (girls) at [TNelson@pasadenaisd.org](mailto:TNelson@pasadenaisd.org).

### Harris Memorial Scholarship run planned

Friends and former colleagues of longtime Dobie High School staffer Barry E. Harris have finalized plans for the first-ever South Belt 5K and Kids 1K Run/Walk, benefiting Harris' scholarship fund. Harris was a longtime Dobie instructor and Pasadena ISD athletics supporter prior to his death in 2018 from the affects of cancer. Proceeds from the South Belt 5K and Kids 1K events will go to aid the Harris scholarship fund in future years. The event, complete with a certified course, is set for Saturday, Nov. 9, beginning and ending at Dobie High School while traveling through El Franco Lee Park. The 5K run will go off at 7 a.m., with the kids event to begin at 8 a.m. The entry fee for the 5K run is \$35 per participant, while the kids 1K is \$25 per participant. To register, visit [www.runsignup.com](http://www.runsignup.com).

For additional information, direct email to [southbelt5k@yahoo.com](mailto:southbelt5k@yahoo.com). Those who would like to donate to the Barry E. Harris Memorial Scholarship Fund year-round may do so by sending checks to Dobie High School, Attn: Barry E. Harris Scholarship, 10220 Blackhawk, Houston, Texas, 77089. Include Barry E. Harris Scholarship in memo line. Donations are also accepted online via [Pasadenaisd.revtrak.net](http://Pasadenaisd.revtrak.net). Click on high schools, select Dobie High School then click on the Barry E. Harris Scholarship link.

### Continued from Page 1B

The Lutheran South Academy volleyball team also competed in the tournament, and while the results weren't what the Lady Pioneers would have liked, the groups picked up plenty of valuable experience as the season continues.

The Lady Pioneers

draw one of the tournament's toughest pools to begin the action Aug. 8, losing to eventual gold bracket representatives Bellaire and Ridge Point as well as Barbers Hill. Bellaire defeated Lutheran South 25-12, 25-14, while Ridge Point was a 25-12, 25-19 winner over the locals. Lutheran South

won a set against Barbers Hill but wound up on the short end of a 23-25, 25-19, 25-17 score. On the second day of the event, the Lady Pioneers lost to San Antonio Brennan 25-22, 22-25, 25-15 and then came up short against Mission Veterans Memorial in a 25-20, 25-10 match. In the finale of

the day, Waller handed LSA a 21-25, 25-21, 25-16 loss. The Lady Pioneers finished play at the Adidas Turner Classic with two more tough opponents. Atascocita defeated the locals 25-19, 25-23 and then Clear Lake went up against LSA, winning 25-19, 25-16.

## Adidas John Turner Classic Final Results

**Gold Bracket Championship – The Woodlands def. S.A. Reagan, 14-25, 25-21, 25-18.**

**Gold Bracket Third Place – Episcopal def. Deer Park, 25-23, 25-21.**

**Silver Bracket Championship – Clear Springs def. Ridge Point 23-25, 25-18, 25-22.**

**Silver Bracket Third Place – New Braunfels def. Clemens 25-16, 25-22.**

**Bronze Bracket Championship – Clear Falls def. S.A. O'Connor 25-21, 25-19.**

**Bronze Bracket Third Place – Austin Westlake def. S.A. Brandeis 25-21, 18-25, 25-21.**

# CALENDAR

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 15

**AA Meeting** – "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.  
**Rotary Club of Pearland** – Meets Thursdays at 7:30 a.m. at Allendale's Kitchen & Cocktails, 5010 Broadway St., in Pearland. Variety of speakers. For information, call 281-900-7257 or email [nalix@texascitizensbank.com](mailto:nalix@texascitizensbank.com).  
**Clear Lake Bridge Club** – 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at [jpochsner@aol.com](mailto:jpochsner@aol.com) for details.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** – Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 3525 Broadway, Pearland. For details, call 713-686-6300.

**Texas German Society, South Belt (SE) Chapter** – A social group focused on the culture, music, heritage and language of Texas German immigrants. Meets the third Thursday, monthly, 6 p.m., Fellowship Hall of Mount Olive Lutheran Church, 10310 Scarsdale Blvd. Visitors welcome. Email [OpaGivesHugs@gmail.com](mailto:OpaGivesHugs@gmail.com) for details.

**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** – Women's Group, 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](http://www.hascona.com).

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**Bay Area Singles Club** – monthly dance at 7 – 10 p.m. at the VFW Lodge, Post 6378, located at 5204 Highway 3 in Dickinson, 77539. Bring party snacks to share. Cost is \$8 for members and \$10 for nonmembers. For more information, call 832-483-3257 or 832-477-6778.

**Alcoholics Anonymous** – "Breakfast with Bill," Saturdays, 7:30 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.  
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**Bay Area Bluegrass Association** – bluegrass music show and jam session on the third Saturday (except December.) Stage show is at 7 p.m. Pickers may bring instruments and come early. Free. Johnny Arolfo Civic Center, 300 Walker, League City. For details, visit <http://www.bayareabluegrass.org>.

**Alcoholics Anonymous** – meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For information, call 281-484-9243.  
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**Grief Support Group** – For adults who have lost a loved one. Meets Sundays, except Mother's Day, Easter and Christmas. 2 to 3:15 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena. For details, call 281-487-8787.  
**Celebrate Recovery** – A faith-based 12-Step Program, Sundays, 5:30 p.m., in the Chapel at Life Church, 9900 Alameda Genoa. Call 713-419-2635 for details or to RSVP for child care.  
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**Al-Anon Deer Park** – Mondays, 10 - 11 a.m. Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P Street, Deer Park. Enter through back of church. Call 409-454-5720 for details, or drop in.

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**Serenity Now Al-Anon Group** – meets at CrossRoads UMC Fridays, 8 to 9 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Family members and friends of problem drinkers/addicts share, learn Al-Anon principles, that they are not alone, and discover choices available. For details, call 281-484-9243.  
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**GARAGE SALES**  
10307 GLENKIRK DR. Sat., August 17, 8 a.m. Multi-family garage sale. Clothes, furniture, china, glassware, decor, etc. 8-15  
**MISCELLANEOUS**  
FOREST PARK EAST CEMETERY: Three spaces, choice location Section 206, lot 89, spaces 7, 8, 9. Call 281-487-7932. TF  
FOR SALE. Antiques - Early American - before

1830. 3 walnut chests, 1 walnut commode, 2 hanging oil lamps - made electric, 2 slant top desks (cherry & maple), 1 cherry wall cupboard, 1 pine washstand and 1 antique bed. Call 281-795-9474. TF  
**REAL ESTATE**  
HOUSE FOR SALE. 9839 Tiltree St. 77075. 3-1.5-2, 1518 sq. ft. New roof, never flooded. \$170,000. Call 832-654-5380. 8-15  
HOME FOR SALE - by owner. 11107 Sageheather. 1781 sq. ft. Call 281-795-9474 TF  
BEAUTIFUL HOME FOR SALE. Like new in Sagemeadow subdivision. 4 bedrooms, 4 full baths, low taxes, never flooded. You will love it. Call 281-774-8606. 9-5  
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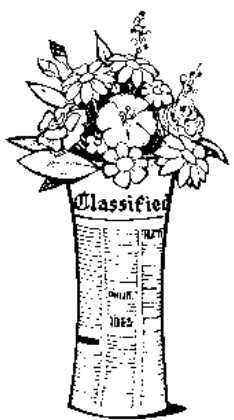
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## Support Leader Advertisers

## CALENDAR

Continued from Page 3B

### MONDAY, AUGUST 19

**Toastmasters** - The Young Professionals Southeast Toastmasters Club #05324194 meets Mondays, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m., at the South Belt Chamber of Commerce, 10500 Scarsdale Blvd., next to the fire station. For details, call Karen Nunn at 832-722-9061 or Carolyn Carmichael at 832-372-3565 or visit <https://youngprofessionalstoastmasters.com/>. 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 details email LynneAnnH@yahoo.com or visit [www.crisishotline.org](http://www.crisishotline.org) or call 832-416-1177. 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](http://www.hascona.com). 7 p.m.

**The Clear Lake Gem and Mineral Society** - Meets the third Monday at Clear Lake Park Bldg., 5001 NASA Pkwy., Seabrook. Presenters explore topics such as fossils, planetary geology, mineralogy, lapidary, jewelry making, fossil and mineral collecting. Field trips to Texas collecting sites and surrounding states. Door prizes. Free parking. For details, visit [www.clgms.org](http://www.clgms.org).  
**Congregation Shaar Hashalom** - Israeli Folk Dancing on Monday, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m., 16020 El Camino Real, 77062. \$4/session or \$35/10 sessions for CSH members and \$5/session or \$45/10 sessions for non-members. Everyone is welcome. For details, contact 281-488-5861 or [csh@shaarhashalom.org](mailto:csh@shaarhashalom.org).  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Saint Luke's 12 Step Recovery, open meeting Mondays, 7:30 p.m. in the Education Bldg., 11011 Hall Rd., For details, call Jesse at 832-725-8479 or Rita at 281-309-2801. 7 p.m.

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 20

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

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

**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at [jpochsner@aol.com](mailto:jpochsner@aol.com) for details. Noon

**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 3525 Broadway, Pearland. For details, call 713-686-6300. 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

**Free dance lessons** - taught by Lewis and Betty Whistler (35 years of experience) at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 E League City Parkway, on Tuesdays. Bringing a partner is not required. There is a different dance focus monthly. For details, call Betty at 832-517-5833. For questions about League City's activity card, call the park office at 281-554-1180. 1:30 p.m.

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

**Clear Lake Bridge Club Lab Class** - Tuesday, 2 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. For details/classes, contact Dr. Glandorf at [drjglandorf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:drjglandorf@sbcglobal.net) or 281-488-6318. 7 p.m.

**Houston Skyscraper Shadows Civic Club** - meets the third Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at 7900 Fuqua (inside Covenant of Faith United Methodist Church). There is no meeting in December. For details, contact Cathy@houston skyscraper shadows.org or call 713-332-6294. 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](http://www.hascona.com). 7 p.m.

**Rotary Club of Pearland** - Meets Thursdays at 7:30 a.m. at Allendale's Kitchen & Cocktails, 5010 Broadway St., in Pearland. Variety of speakers. For details, call 281-900-7257 or email [nalix@texascitizensbank.com](mailto:nalix@texascitizensbank.com). 10 a.m.

**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at [jpochsner@aol.com](mailto:jpochsner@aol.com) for details. Noon

**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 3525 Broadway, Pearland. For details, call 713-686-6300. 7 p.m.

**Positive Interaction Program** - meets the third Tuesday, 7 p.m., at Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital, 11800 Astoria, first floor staff meeting room. PIP is police and citizens working together making neighborhoods safer. Bring a friend. For information, call Officer Richard Buitron at 281-218-3900. 7 a.m.

### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21

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

**Carmelites** - a nondenominational senior citizen social group that meets at St. Bernadette Catholic Church, 15500 El Camino Real, in Clear Lake on the first and third Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. for a time filled with fun, fellowship, lending library, coffee and bingo. The meetings are open to those ages 50 and older, with no dues. Day trips and extended trips are available. Deposits are being taken for Black Hills, Badlands and Legends of the West in South Dakota, July 15-21, 2020; a Hawaiian Cruise on the Pride of America/Norwegian Cruise Line, Nov. 7-14 2020. For additional information, call Marilyn 713-444-6744. 9:30 a.m.

**The Community Club** - meets monthly on the third Wednesday at Golden Corral, 4021 Spencer Hwy., in Pasadena. Social time is 9:30 a.m.; meeting is at 10 a.m. The club is a charitable organization of women helping the Salvation Army feed and care for homebound elderly/disabled people, children and the homeless, providing scholarships for Bridge Over Troubled Water clients. Day trips may be scheduled, followed by a guest speaker/program with fellowship and lunch. New members and guests are invited. For details, email [jmopry@yahoo.com](mailto:jmopry@yahoo.com). 10 a.m.

**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - Open games Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at [jpochsner@aol.com](mailto:jpochsner@aol.com) for details. 11:30 a.m.

**Houston Hobby Airport Lions Club** - meets monthly, first and third Wednesday, Golden Corral, 4021 Spencer Hwy., Pasadena. December may be an exception. For information, email Teresa Dover at [doverbookkeeper@aol.com](mailto:doverbookkeeper@aol.com). Noon

**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 3525 Broadway, Pearland. For details, call 713-686-6300. 1 - 3:30 p.m.

**Hometown Heroes Park** - has Hump Day Dance to practice ballroom dances (not lessons) in a casual environment. A variety of rhythms are played from entry to advanced dancing levels at 1001 E. League City Pkwy. League City nonresidents must purchase activity card (see Tuesday 12:30 p.m. dance for details). Help is available to assist learning dance moves. For details on the activity card, call 281-554-1180. 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](http://www.hascona.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](http://www.bayareaturningpoint.org) for details. **THURSDAY, AUGUST 15**

**Rotary Club of Pearland** - Meets Thursdays at 7:30 a.m. at Allendale's Kitchen & Cocktails, 5010 Broadway St., in Pearland. Variety of speakers. For details, call 281-900-7257 or email [nalix@texascitizensbank.com](mailto:nalix@texascitizensbank.com). 10 a.m.

**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at [jpochsner@aol.com](mailto:jpochsner@aol.com) for details. Noon

**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 3525 Broadway, Pearland. 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 details, call 713-661-4200 or visit [www.hascona.com](http://www.hascona.com).

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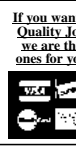
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# His senior year upcoming, Cabreja relishes one last season on the courts

By John Bechtle  
Sports Editor

His dream of playing collegiate tennis long since realized, former Dobie tennis standout Luis Cabreja is aiming to relish every moment as that college playing career winds to a close.

When it is all said and done sometime before next May, it will no doubt be a bitter sweet time for Cabreja. Then again, what a ride it has been.

In April 2016, Cabreja lost an early-round boys'

singles match at the Region III Spring Championships at Deer Park High School. For many of his peers, it was the last chance to represent the burnt orange and white out there on the court. But Cabreja wanted more.

Invited to join the men's tennis program at Schreiner University in Kerrville, Cabreja figured he could find a way to keep playing the game he loves, albeit at a stiff price.

An NCAA Division III athletic program, Schreiner cannot provide athletic scholarships to its athletes. Simply put, you can come play, but you have to pay your way.

That first year, Cabreja worked hard at his craft but found it difficult at times to crack a Mountaineer lineup that at that time had produced a national ranking.

"Just like in high school, you have to play the challenge matches every other week to try to claim your spot," Cabreja said. "My freshman year,

we were nationally ranked and had a strong lineup. I was playing at No. 7 for a lot of the season but made my way up to No. 6 toward the end of the season. It was a competitive atmosphere, and I learned a lot about college tennis that first year.

"No matter who you play for or at what level you are, just about everybody used to be the best player on their high school team. When you get to college, it's another level all together. You either get

out there and compete, or you're going to be falling behind. That's what we try to get across to the first-year players now. Everybody is good, and you've got to get after it."

Following his freshman season at Schreiner, Cabreja says he did just that. He and a pal that had played at East Texas Baptist University poured countless hours into training and practice. Granted, the 2016-2017 team that had been nationally ranked graduated quite a few gift-

ed players, but Cabreja saw it as an opportunity. "By my sophomore year, I was able to take over the No. 1 spot in men's singles, and I've been the No. 1 player for two years now.

"It's been a challenge, but that's what I took it as. After my freshman season, we were working out six and seven days a week and doing what we had to do to make that transition long lasting in the college game. But I loved it and still do. I love the intensi-

ty, and I've always been up for a challenge. It's been a privilege and an honor to play No. 1 singles for my team, but it's taken a lot. Early morning weight room work, going to class, tennis practices...it's all part of it.

"But I had a goal of playing college tennis and was willing to do whatever it took to achieve that. Whether it was our mother, father, uncles, what have you, we always had great family support. I think I've made them proud."

Cabreja's older brother, Jose, played baseball at Dobie and also saw his dream come true of playing collegiately. He finished his career at Texas Southern University.

Jose is currently completing his master's degree work in accounting and is working full time with Memorial Hermann.

As for Luis, he is on track to graduate next May. He's majoring in business with a minor in communications. He enjoyed time this summer in-

terning at a marketing firm and hopes to continue into the future.

"I've thought some about coaching, but I think it's more likely that I go into the real world and get into business or marketing," he said.

"Tennis has been great, and I'm going to do everything I can to enjoy my senior year. I'm sure I'll always love the game, but at some point I will get a job and be in the real world. Tennis is something I'll never forget."

A true belief in team has always led Dobie Luis Cabreja (right) back to the Longhorn Courts when possible. Earlier this month, the Schreiner University senior-to-be and Mountaineers top-ranked men's singles player took part in the Longhorns Exes matches, competing with former Dobie doubles partner Ruben Vargas and others. A business major, Cabreja is on track to graduate next May and said he is likely headed for the "real world" of business. Before that, however, Cabreja is intent on enjoying what now very well could be his final season of competitive tennis.

Photos by John Bechtle



Luis Cabreja (left) played his final match as a Dobie Longhorn in April 2016 at Deer Park High School as he took part in the Region III Spring Championships with Dobie head coach Manuel Moreno Jr. (right) looking on. Determined to play the sport colle-

giately, Cabreja headed for Schreiner University, an NCAA Division III program in Kerrville. Battling his way onto the singles ladder at No. 6 as a freshman, Cabreja, to be a senior, has been the Mountaineers top-ranked singles' player two years running.

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## Local Purple Heart recipient receives Astros' special honor

A Purple Heart recipient and two-year active duty member of the United States Marine Corps, Lance Cpl. Antonio Cerda III was thrilled to be recognized by his longtime home town team as the Houston Astros hosted Operation Military Appreciation Day during the Astros Aug. 7 game against Colorado.

A lifelong Astros' fan who joked that he once upon a time would sneak into the Astrodome to watch his squad, Cerda admitted the thrill it was – albeit perhaps a little overwhelming – to be standing on the field of play in the third inning, his name echo-

ing over the public address system.

"Oh yes, an absolutely tremendous experience," Cerda said. "We were sitting maybe 30 rows back in the lower section, and in the third inning they came and got us to be in the ceremony."

"They told me to smile and stand there and wave until they said to stop, and it was just a lot of fun. I can't thank the Astros enough for allowing me to be part of it."

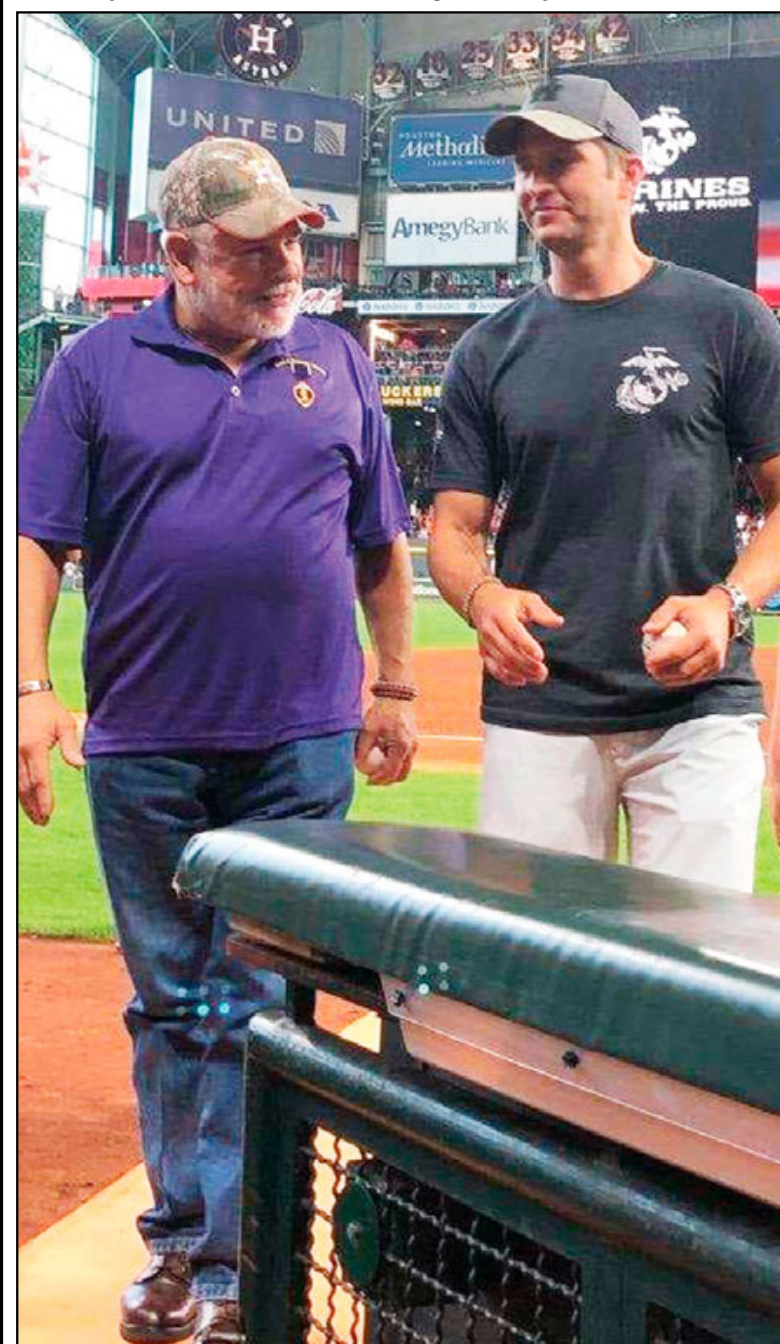
Formed in 1932 in Springfield, Va., the Military Order of the Purple Heart is a congressionally chartered United States war veterans organization. It is unique in that

its members are exclusively men and women who have received the Purple Heart award while serving as a member of the U.S. military.

When National Sr. Vice Commander Felix Garcia asked Cerda about taking part in the event with the Astros, naturally he was all in. And now, it's a memory that can never be taken away.

"It was truly a special day," said Cerda, who attended the game with his wife, Yolanda, and granddaughter Alivia Grace Cerda.

"It's an experience being out there on the field. It's something I'll never forget."



Longtime South Belt resident Antonio Cerda III (left) and fellow Purple Heart recipient Lance Shaw, both veterans of the United States Marine Corps, exit the field after being recognized by the Houston Astros as part of Operation Military Appreciation Day at Minute Maid Park Aug. 7.