



South Belt-Ellington Leader

45 years of covering South Belt

The Voice of Community-Minded People since 1976

Thursday, August 26, 2021

Email: mynews@southbeltleader.com

www.southbeltleader.com

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Little League meeting set

Southbelt Little League, formerly known as Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League, will hold a general members' meeting Wednesday, Sept. 1, at El Franco Lee Park Pavilion from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Active members registered during the spring baseball season are strongly encouraged to attend. Parents who wish to contribute to the league's success are also being sought.

Kirkwood Civic set Aug. 26

The Kirkwood Civic Club meets Thursday, Aug. 26, at 7 p.m. at The Gardens, 12001 Beamer. Visit the Kirkwood Civic Club Facebook page or call Ericka McCutcheon at 281-989-9990 for details.

CBC holidays info set

Clear Brook City MUD will close Monday, Sept. 6, Labor Day. The office will reopen Tuesday, Sept. 7 at 8 a.m. For customer convenience, check or money order payments may be left in the drop box on the drive-thru side of the building. No cash will be accepted in the drop box.

CBCMUD residents with trash service pickup on Monday/Thursday will have service Labor Day, Sept. 6. All trash should be at curbside no later than 6 a.m. Monday. Residents missing this trash pickup date will be serviced Thursday, Sept. 9. Residents with Tuesday/Friday service will not be affected.

Active COVID cases up

As of Tuesday, Aug. 23, there were 191 reported South Belt deaths due to COVID-19, up eight from the previous week. Reporting of deaths related to COVID-19, however, may be delayed by local officials.

Of the 6,685 confirmed cases in 77089 (total population: 53,866), 687 remain active, up 164 from the previous week. To date, 74 from the ZIP code have died from the disease, up four from the previous week.

In 77075 (total population: 43,933), 544 of the 4,642 confirmed cases remain active, up 174 from the previous week. A total of 59 from the ZIP code have died, up one from the previous week.

Of the 5,051 confirmed cases in 77034 (total population: 40,532), 578 remain active, up 182 from the previous week. To date, 58 residents from ZIP code 77034 have died from the disease, up three from the previous week (one less than the county initially reported).

According to Harris County Public Health officials, the vast majority of the fatalities suffered from pre-existing health issues.

Countywide, there have been 479,547 total confirmed cases. Of those, 423,758 have recovered from the disease, while 50,525 cases remain active, up 13,320 from the previous week. A total of 5,232 deaths have been reported in Harris County.

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

At-home vaccines offered

Harris County Public Health staff will provide vaccinations in the home. This is available to Harris County residents who are bedbound or homebound due to medical reasons, regardless of age. The staff will observe clients for 15-30 minutes after vaccinations to ensure no immediate reactions occur. For additional information, contact HCPH at 832-927-8787.

Highway 3 closures set

At least one northbound lane on SH 3/Old Galveston Road will be closed from FM 2351/Clear Lake City Boulevard to El Dorado Boulevard daily (excluding Sundays) from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. through Friday, Sept. 24.

At least one northbound lane and one southbound lane on SH 3/Old Galveston Road will be closed from NASA Road 1 to FM 518/Main Street daily (excluding Sundays) from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. through Tuesday, Aug. 31.

Beltway closures planned

At least one westbound Beltway 8 frontage road lane will be closed from Kirby to Bellfort daily from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. through Friday, Sept. 17.

At least one northbound and one southbound Beltway 8 frontage road lane will be closed from Vista to SH 225 daily from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and nightly from 8:30 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Monday, Sept. 6.

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

Gulf Freeway closures set

Two alternate northbound and southbound main lanes and frontage road lanes on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from NASA Bypass/NASA Road 1 to SH 96 daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and nightly from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Friday, Dec. 31. The northbound exit ramp from the Gulf Freeway to NASA Bypass/NASA Road 1 will be completely closed through Friday, Dec. 31. 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 Blvd. ramp, then make a U-turn and travel south to the NASA Bypass or FM 528.

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

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

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

Both the northbound and southbound entrance and exit ramps between IH 610 South Loop and Broad Street will be closed nightly from 9 p.m. to 3 a.m. through Friday, Dec. 31. The closures are associated with an ongoing 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.

Harvey remembered on four-year anniversary

By James Bolen

With the four-year anniversary of Hurricane Harvey taking place, the *Leader* would like to reflect on the historical storm that both devastated and united the South Belt community.

Harvey wreaked havoc on the area Friday, Aug. 25, through Tuesday, Aug. 29, causing unprecedented flooding and the displacement of hundreds of residents.

Despite the storm making landfall in Corpus

Christi as a Category 4 hurricane with winds reaching 130 mph, it was the nonstop precipitation that delivered the most damage locally, after the system was downgraded back to a tropical storm.

Area residents were forced to endure roughly five straight days of nonstop rain, while Harvey hovered slowly above, reminiscent of Tropical Storm Allison in 2001.

According to the Harris County Flood Control District, the Beamer Ditch gauge at Hughes Road recorded approximately 40 inches of rainfall during the duration of the storm, with roughly half falling within a 24-hour period on Sunday.

By comparison, the devastating Allison dropped just under 30 inches.

A release from the National Weather Service declared Harvey officially set the record for the most

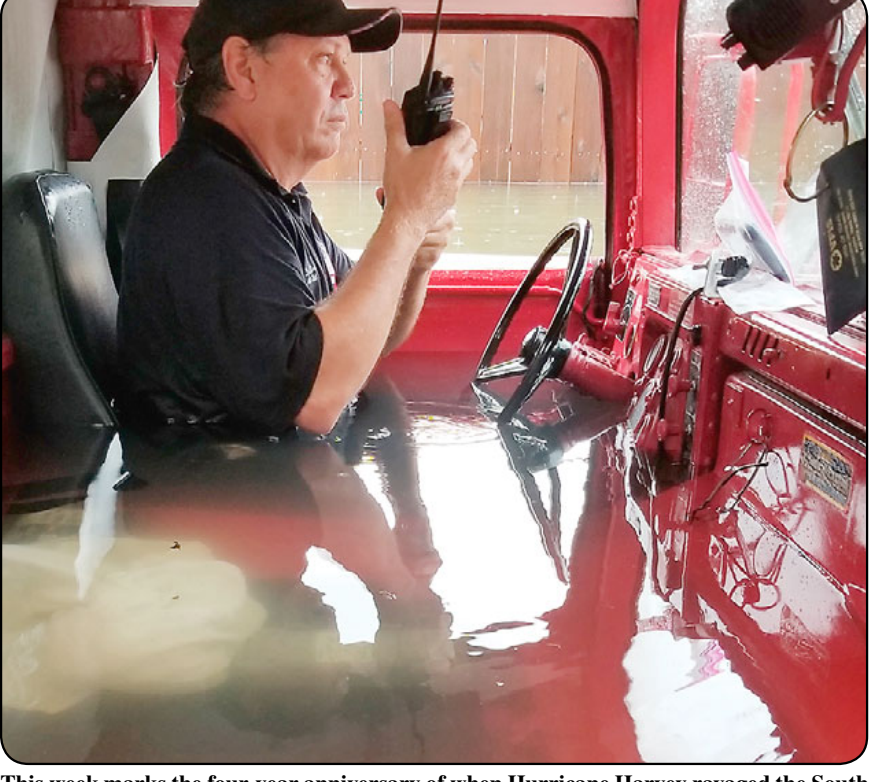
rainfall caused by a single storm in the contiguous United States, with the gauge located on Mary's Creek at Winding Road registering 49.20 inches at 9:20 a.m. Tuesday (unverified reports claimed the gauge on Cedar Bayou at FM-1942, just east of Houston, received 51.88 inches).

The previous record of 48 inches took place in Medina during Tropical Storm Amelia in 1978.

For point of reference, George Bush Intercontinental Airport receives an average of 49.77 inches of rainfall annually, meaning Harvey produced a year's worth of rain in just a handful of days. Both George Bush Intercontinental Airport and Hobby Airport were closed through Wednesday due to the extreme weather.

By some estimates, Harvey created as much
Continued on Page 3

Cino responds, despite flooding



This week marks the four-year anniversary of when Hurricane Harvey ravaged the South Belt community. Despite the immense damage caused by the storm, it also brought out the best in people, as many went above and beyond the call of duty to help their fellow neighbor. Shown above is Southeast Volunteer Fire Department Chief David Cino (then assistant chief), whose own home was flooded, driving through high water to rescue others. (See related photo this page.)

County offers \$100 vaccine incentive

In an effort to improve vaccination rates and better protect area residents from COVID-19, Harris County Public Health will provide \$100 cash cards to residents receiving their first dose of the COVID-19.

"Our public hospitals are strained to their breaking point," said Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo at a press conference Tuesday, Aug. 17, adding that most of the hospitalizations are needless, as the vaccine is safe and effective.

The measure will cost \$2.3 million and will be pulled from \$900 million in federal funds provided to Harris County by the American Rescue plan.

To receive the cash incentive, shots will have to be administered at an HCPH site, and residents will have to sign a waiver prior to the vaccination and remain in the post-vaccination waiting area at an HCPH vaccination site for the 15-to-30 minutes recommended. The payments begin immediately and continue through Aug. 31.

The announcement comes as the surge of COVID-19 cases continues to worsen in Harris County, due to the more transmissible Delta variant and the county's relatively low vaccination rate.

As of Tuesday, 2,512 people were hospitalized for COVID-19 in Harris County - almost a 300 percent increase over the previous month, according to data from Southeast Texas Regional Advisory Council. Nearly 57 percent of eligible Harris County residents have been fully vaccinated, according to state data.

"As to whether we expect success from this initiative, I hope so," Hidalgo said. "I really hope this is the small push folks need to be able to get the vaccine." Vaccinations at HCPH sites are free, and no appointment is required. To find a nearby location, visit publichealth.harriscountytexas.gov. If an appointment is preferred, visit vacstrac.hctx.net or call 832-927-8787. Face coverings are required.

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HPD's PIP meetings return to virtual

Out of COVID-19 concerns, the Houston Police Department's monthly Positive Interaction Program meetings have returned to virtual, with the Aug. 17 function taking place on Zoom.

The move will stay in place until Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital (where the local PIP meetings take place) resumes its normal visitor's policy. (See related story on this page.)

This marks the second time the meetings have been held virtually, as they were previously moved to Zoom in spring 2020, as the pandemic first began to gain strength. In-person PIP meet-

ings then resumed in May 2021 as the vaccine became more available and cases began to decline. Face masks, however, were still required.

For more information on how to participate in the meetings, email HPD Officer Richard Buitron at richard.buitron@houstonpolice.org or call 832-395-1776.

PIP history
The Houston Police Department has had a Community Service Division since the 1970s. When a group of citizens requested a presenta-

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MHSH returns to no visitor policy

As cases of COVID-19 continue to increase at an alarming rate in the Greater Houston area, Memorial Hermann is reinstating a no visitor policy at all facilities across its system.

Hospital officials believe this difficult decision is necessary to protect the health and safety of employees, physician partners, patients and the community as the environment continues to quickly evolve. At this time, volunteers will be allowed to

continue serving if they so choose, ensuring all the necessary safety precautions are being taken.

There will be limited compassionate exceptions to the policy. All approved visitors will be required to clear a health screening before entering the facility and wear a Memorial Hermann-provided mask.

Limited inpatient exceptions
For all acute care hospitals, Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital and the Memorial Hermann Prevention and Recovery Center:

- One adult visitor (18 and over) per laboring, antepartum and postpartum patient per day. This same visitor may stay overnight.

- One parent/guardian visitor per pediatric patient per day. This same visitor may stay overnight.

- One visitor for patients receiving emergent care. (Age restrictions do not apply to visitors under 18 who are present in the Emergency Center with a patient. Minors who accompany Emergency Center patients must remain with the patient.)

- One adult visitor for patients at the time of discharge following a surgery or procedure.

- Family members for patients in hospice or supportive medicine.

- Patients with a disability, including cognitive impairment, or other medical condition who

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Man shot inside Fuqua apartment

Houston police are investigating the shooting of a man that took place around 7:20 p.m. Monday, Aug. 16, in the 12300 block of the Gulf Freeway near Fuqua. The victim, 26, was transported to an area hospital in critical condition.

According to police, the victim was in an apartment complex at the above address when he was shot multiple times by an unknown suspect. The wounded man ran to a nearby apartment for

assistance.

Paramedics were called and transported the victim to a nearby hospital. At this time, there is no known motive or suspect description.

Anyone with information in this case is urged to contact the Houston Police Department's Major Assaults and Family Violence Division at 713-308-8800 or Crime Stoppers of Houston at 713-222-TIPS (8477).

Nehls quarantines due to COVID-19

U.S. Rep. Troy Nehls, who represents much of the South Belt community, recently announced on Twitter he tested positive for COVID-19.

The announcement came just days after the congressman tweeted that a close family member had contracted the disease. Despite being fully vaccinated, Nehls said he is experiencing mild symptoms. He encourages others to also get vaccinated.

"All Americans are free to make their own health decisions, but I strongly encourage getting vaccinated," Nehls posted on Twitter. "It is scientifically proven to drastically reduce the risk of severe illness and death from COVID." Nehls plans to quarantine for at least 10 days. Gov. Greg Abbott announced the previous week he, too, got COVID-19. Abbott, however, said he is asymptomatic.

Pct. 2's Sujo recovers following crash

Harris County Precinct 2 Deputy C. Sujo continues to recover from home after being struck by a drunken driver during a traffic stop Aug. 4 on Beltway 8 between Blackhawk and Pearland Parkway.



Deputy C. Sujo

"Although it will take some time until he fully recovers, he is asking for continued prayers to

keep his spirits up," a post read on Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia's Facebook page.

Sujo was responding to a traffic stop at approximately 1:30 a.m. when he was hit by a driver who then fled the scene. The driver initially stopped by Sujo preceded to render aid until emergency crews arrived.

The deputy was then transported to a nearby hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

Precinct 2 and Precinct 8 deputies were able to track down the fleeing driver, later identified as 33-year-old Oscar Ivan Villegas.

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Man dies in Highway 3 car accident

Houston police are investigating a fatal crash that took place about 7:30 a.m. on Sunday, Aug. 22, in the 8700 block of SH 3/Old Galveston Road.

The identity of the male victim was pending verification by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences at press time.

According to police, the victim was driving a

white Ford Ranger pickup truck north at the above address when he left the roadway, veered into a ditch and struck the drainage culvert.

Paramedics pronounced the victim dead at the scene. No other persons or vehicles were involved in the crash.

At press time, the investigation was continuing.

Swimming pools scheduled to close

While the heat index may suggest otherwise, summer is coming to an end, and several local swimming pools are closing for the season.

All area pools are now closed on weekdays.

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

The Clear Brook Meadows and Riverstone Ranch pools will remain open two weekends past Labor Day, closing Sunday, Sept. 19. Pool hours are 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The Sageglen pool will remain open weekends through the month of September, closing for the season Sunday, Sept. 26. Pool hours are from noon to 9 p.m. on Saturdays and from 1 to 9 p.m. on Sundays.

Benitez goes extra mile to volunteer



Despite the extensive damage caused by Hurricane Harvey, the storm also brought out the best in many people, with residents stepping up and helping their neighbors in need. The above photo embodies that spirit. While she suffered no storm damage herself, Reena Benitez, 16, is shown wading through waist-high floodwaters in the wake of Harvey to volunteer at the makeshift shelter erected at Dobie High School. Photo by Marie Flickinger

CCISD K-6 grade virtual option set

The Clear Creek Independent School District is now accepting applications for students in Kindergarten through sixth grade who would like to enroll in a CCISD Virtual Learning Program. This option is in response to COVID-19 since children under 12 years old are not eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine.

There is legislation pending under Texas Senate Bill 15 to provide funding to Districts for temporary virtual learning options this school year. CCISD anticipates the bill will be approved.
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Death

Jaime Ramirez

Aug. 14, 2021. He was born in Houston Nov. 16, 1975, and raised in southeast Houston where he attended Southmayd Elementary, Deady Middle School and Milby High School.

His favorite Bible verse was John 3:16 which states, "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have life everlasting." An entrepreneur, he opened up his own lawn care business and was the former owner of Ramirez Lawn Care with clientele including the U.S. Postal Service, FedEx, and various commercial hotel chains.

Jaime is survived by his parents Elias Sanchez Ramirez and Maria Lopez Ramirez; his brothers Elias Jr. Ramirez and Fabian Ramirez; his son Jaime Ramirez Jr.; and numerous loving family members.

The visitation will be held Saturday, Aug. 28, 2021, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with the funeral service at 2 p.m.

Both services will be held at Integrity Funeral Home Forest Lawn Cemetery, 8601 Alameda-Genoa Road, Houston. The funeral service will be followed by a graveside service at 2:30 p.m.

Jaime's parents owned Majestic Hair Design previously located on Sabo Road.

Epidemic of public corruptions in Texas by Bill King

In case you missed it, Greg Groogan just reported on one of the most egregious political pay-offs I have ever seen. Several weeks ago, Harris County Commissioners Court awarded a nearly \$11-million contract to Elevate Strategies, LLC to do "vaccine outreach" in Harris County. Elevate Strategies is owned by Felicity Pereyra.

It does not appear that it had any employees at the time of the award and apparently is operated out of an apartment in Montrose in this complex.

According to Ms. Pereyra's LinkedIn page, she has zero public health experience. Rather, since getting her BA in History from UH, she has spent almost her entire career as a Democratic operative, including stints with the Hillary Clin-

When questioned about Elevate Strategies' obvious lack of qualifications, Hidalgo, with a straight face, defended the selection saying that running a vaccination campaign is the same as running a political campaign. What an insult to the intelligence of Harris County residents.

The contract is to be funded from grants doled out by the federal government. To put \$11 million of taxpayer money in some perspective, the average family in the US pays about \$15,000 in income each year. That means that all of the income tax paid by about 700 families this year will go to funnel this money into Ms. Pereyra's company.

Hidalgo came into office promising a new era of ethics and "best practices" in county government. Instead, she has presided over some of the worst corruption in the history of Commissioners' Court. In nearly three years, she has still done absolutely nothing to resolve the high-profile case of the county spending hundreds of thousands of dollars of taxpayer money to store a private art collection.

Of course, in Texas corruption is a bi-partisan sport. This \$11 million boondoggle comes just a couple of months after our governor accepted a \$1 million campaign contribution from the head of an energy company that made a \$2.4 billion profit from the collapse of the energy grid in February.

You may recall that shortly after the storm, Abbott's then-head of the Public Utility Commission assured energy investors in a private telephone call that the PUC would resist any efforts to claw back the excessive profits made during the storm.

What is perhaps most perplexing about the corruption of today is that both the Harris County District Attorney's Office and the U.S. Attorney's Office are completely AWOL. There was a time when both were considerably more diligent in investigating such matters. A decade ago, former commissioner Jerry Eversole was indicted and driven from office for allowing a long-time friend, who was also a county contractor, to pay for vacations they went on together. Not to defend that conduct, but the thousands of dollars involved in that case pale in comparison the \$11 million doled out in this contract.

In most states, the state attorney general also has the power to bring corruption cases, but not in Texas. Theoretically, having another office looking into these kinds of cases would be a good thing, but I don't know anyone who would want to give any additional prosecutorial power to the current ethically-challenged occupant of that office.

So, Texans' only avenue to address the epidemic of corruption in all levels of our government is at the ballot box - by voting out this current batch of rascals. But to do that, Texans will have to look beyond their partisan loyalties and hold members of both political parties accountable.



ton campaign, the Democratic National Committee, and the mayoral campaign of Adrian Garcia, who voted for her contract.

The Request for Proposals set out a litany of requirements many of which Elevate Strategies patently does not meet, such as being in business for a minimum of three years.

The County Purchasing Department has confirmed to Groogan that it was directed to waive some of the requirements for Elevate Strategies, including providing financial information.

Leader obituary policy

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

In My Opinion

James Muecke chastises, instructs on local crime

Shame on you, only 9 people listened in. Your safety and life depends on how we know and understand crime.

Now crime just in our neighborhood, not that is committed with business on Edgebrook, then the high crime activity at the apartments and the crime with business along I-45.

All very high; shoplifting, theft, vehicles and so forth. Lock your car. 1 criminal mischief, 4 auto thief, 2 burglary of a home, 2 burglary of a vehicle and 1 theft of weapon.

Several pickups stolen. Not that many really, BUT you could be next. Don't forget catalytic converters. Just today the police recovered over 200/300 that two guys had stolen.

As I said crime at the business and apartments is very high especially near I-45S and Edgebrook. A problem with homeless people on the streets begging. Remember you could be just driving by or shopping.

I urge you to be very careful visiting a bank/ATM, getting gasoline and maybe walking. All this is explained at the meetings plus when in person we have some great speakers.

Jim Muecke

Judy Harrison speaks out about Precinct 2

Our Constables are essential to the safety and security of our community. Constable Jerry Garcia has asked for more funding so that he can bring much needed police services to our precinct, our community. I want the same services that are afforded to residents in the other highly funded precincts. With the rise in crime, and because our precinct has been historically neglected and underfunded, we need an increase in the Precinct 2 budget.

I want Commissioners Court to fund the requests Constable Garcia brought before them in January 2021.

Do you know that Precinct 2 is the lowest funded of the 8 precincts?

Do you know that Precinct 2 receives \$29 per person whereas Precinct 6, with less people and less land area, receives \$75 per person?

Do you know that Precincts 2 and 8 (our South Belt area) have 81 deputies each whereas Precincts 1, 4 and 5 have between 350 and 450 deputies each?

Constable Garcia is asking for 30 more deputies to work the precinct. He is asking for 5 more dispatchers to adequately cover the many varied tasks the Constables Office mandates. He is asking for 81 body cameras. Precinct 2 currently has 16 cameras, and they are outdated!

What can you and I do? We can join the Petition Drive to support Constable Garcia's efforts. We can write/email the members of Commissioners Court asking for Constable Garcia's requests to be granted. We can go to Commissioners Court and speak on behalf of our community.

If we do not speak up as tax-paying citizens of Harris County Precinct 2 NOTHING will change! We must let Adrian Garcia, Rodney Ellis, and Lina Hidalgo know that we want a more equitable budget among the Precincts.

Judy Harrison

Leader checks out social media

By Natalie Abarca

A member of *The Official South Belt & Sagemont Area Crime Alert* Facebook page shared surveillance videos and photos of their husband and father-in-law's work van broken into again.

The member stated that two weeks ago the vans were broken into and it appeared to be the same car and guy as the recent break-in. The member also stated that the accused suspects broke the window and also broke the camera. This post was shared on other social media pages.

A member of *People of Sagemont 2* posted a picture of a man that pulled up on their 16-year-old daughter Friday, Aug. 20, at 10:45 p.m. while she was getting out of her car. The member stated that the man was trying to get her to take him home because his car was broken down, she then

Kindergarten-6th grade virtual option now offered at CCISD

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Students who do not have access to a computer or the internet from home should complete the Technology Access Form in Skyward Family Access.

Sixth-grade electives will be art and personal fitness.

Grades K-5 will have access to art and physical education curriculum, but it may not be entirely synchronous.

Academic success and attendance are criteria for continuation of virtual learning.

Seventh-12th grade courses are not offered in this virtual learning program since vaccinations are available for children over 12 years old.

CCISD Virtual Learning Program is not a rolling enrollment program. All applicants must be received by Aug. 28, 2021, at 11:59 p.m.

From Aug. 24-28, 2021, at 11:59 p.m., the district is accepting enrollment into the

South Belt-Ellington Leader
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 Davy & Marie Flickinger, owners



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LITURGY SCHEDULE
 (Modified during COVID-19)

Saturday Vigil	5:30 p.m.
Sunday	8 a.m. and 10 a.m.*
Sunday	1 p.m. Misa en Español*

*Also Available on Facebook Live

Monday, Wednesday & Friday	9 a.m.
Tuesday & Thursday	7 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions)
 Thursday 7:45 to 8:30 p.m. Saturday 4 to 5 p.m.

Parish Office: 281-481-6816
 Children's Faith Formation: 281-481-4251
 Adult Faith Formation: 713-538-2862

All are welcome to come to worship and serve the Lord in a spirit of love, sharing, and hope.

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Harvey remembered on four-year anniversary

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 as 25 trillion gallons of water being dissipating - roughly the equivalent of what Lake Tahoe collects in rainfall and snow-melt combined every 118 years, according to the Reno Gazette-Journal.
 The hurricane, which some referred to as a 500-year storm, caught many residents off guard, as they did not evacuate ahead of time, nor were they instructed by local officials - a somewhat contentious point, as Texas Gov. Greg Abbott had advised to do so at the state level.
 While there were approximately 80 storm-related deaths

in the Greater Houston area, none were from immediate South Belt community - despite it being one of the hardest-hit spots in the city.
 The lack of casualties was due, in large part, to the heroic efforts of local emergency personnel.
 First responders from nearly every tier of government assisted in the crisis, including the U.S. Coast Guard, the Texas National Guard, the Houston police and fire departments, the Harris County Sheriff's Office, all local precinct constables' offices, the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department and others.
 Several local residents, along with volunteers from other areas, rolled up their sleeves and pitched in to aid in the rescue efforts, providing boats, large trucks and manpower.
 When streets began to flood and the need became apparent, *Leader* publisher Marie Flickinger contacted Dr. DeeAnn Powell, Pasadena Independent School District superintendent, and arranged to use Dobie High School as a temporary shelter for the displaced. What started off as just a few dozen residents seeking refuge soon

Galang thankful for Gonzalez's support

Pasadena Memorial High School's Shining Star Roy Galang (below, left) is shown with distinguished educator Dolores Gonzalez who teaches ninth- and 10th-grade AVID I, AVID II and Spanish I.
 Commenting on his teacher, Galang said, "When I was in Ms. Gonzalez's AVID classes in my freshman and sophomore year, she was always supportive of my future endeavors and made sure that the class was on track with their classes. During Spanish I in my freshman year, Ms. Gonzalez was optimistic about teaching the class Spanish and introducing the culture. Ms. Gonzalez's support and optimism when she was teaching has greatly affected my four years of high school. Even when I attended my college classes at San Jacinto College in my junior and senior years, she never stopped supporting - and I am grateful for this."
 Extracurricular activities for Galang include Early College High School Program, Name That Book, spelling and vocabulary

UIL, National Honor Society, Superintendent Student Advisory committee and former Academic Decathlon member.
 Community service activities for Galang include tutoring at Pasadena Memorial High School and Teague Elementary School, fall festival (junior year), district Academic Penathlon (sophomore year) and assisting staff members with test materials or a classroom for the next school year.
 "After high school, I will be attending University of Oklahoma for a bachelor's degree in meteorology," Galang 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 *Shining Stars* from Dobie, Dr. Kirk Lewis Career & Technical and South Houston high schools.

Delgado administers Thompson's oath



Evelyn Husband Thompson (left) was appointed by Gov. Greg Abbott to the office of Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapist. Thompson was administered her oath of office by Justice of the Peace Jo Ann Delgado (right) on Aug. 13. Shown above with Thompson and Delgado is William Thompson, Evelyn's husband.
 Photo by Luis Garza

escalated into approximately 1,500. Several also brought their pets to the facility.
 In an outpouring of support, hundreds from the community donated warm clothes, blankets, food, baby supplies and other needed items. At its peak, the makeshift shelter had more than 150 volunteers.
 Social media played a critical role in providing safety and comfort to affected citizens. In addition to informing residents of various shelters in the area, websites such as Facebook and Twitter helped connect missing friends and family members, as well as identify those in need of rescue, as 911 and other help lines were often overwhelmed due to the storm.
 While many local schools suffered water damage from the storm, none were more affected than Thompson Intermediate, which was forced to close for approximately five months for repairs. In the interim, students were required to temporarily share a campus with their local rival, Beverly Hills Intermediate.
 Four years after the storm, and several local homeowners are just now beginning the long rebuilding process. Frustrated from multiple flood events, others have opted to apply for a home buyout.
 An unprecedented amount of relief funding has flowed into the state since Harvey and continues to do so. Elected officials have worked closely together to ensure the money is spent properly to both help victims return to normalcy and to prevent similar incidents from happening in the future.

Same-day, next-day COVID vaccines offered

Community Health Network is offering COVID-19 Infusion Therapy (monoclonal antibody infusion) or IV treatments for high-risk COVID-19 positive patients at no cost to the patient. This treatment will lessen the impact of symptoms on patients and aid in a faster recovery. The treatments will be offered at the Scarsdale Family Health Center: 10851 Scarsdale Blvd., Suite 160, Houston, TX 77089.
 -For assistance and answers to frequently asked questions, go to www.mychn.org and visit the COVID-19 Infusion Therapy page. CHN has a dedicated call line staffed with team members to assist community members with calls or questions requesting IV treatment. The call center is available Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 281-954-4850.
 "Community Health Network can provide monoclonal antibody infusion treatment for persons who receive a positive result for COVID-19 and are more likely to get sick. The treatment reduces severe illness if given early in the course of the disease," said Dr. Yvette Poindexter, Community Health Network's chief medical officer.
 CHN is a system of federally qualified health clinics in Brazoria, Galveston, and Harris counties that provide primary care, pediatrics, women's health, men's health, senior health, oral health care, psychiatry and therapy. CHN is dedicated to developing systems of care that are of high value to the people they serve.
 CHN accepts Medicaid, CHIP, Medicare, private insurance, and self-payments.

Individuals and families that are uninsured may be eligible for care at a discounted price. Patients ineligible for discount pricing will find substantial savings for office visits, lab costs and pharmacy pricing.
 CHN offers access to virtual and in-office appointments for pediatric, counseling, therapeutic services, gynecology, prenatal care and adult medicine. For additional information, visit www.mychn.org or call 281-824-1480.

FBI warns public of fraud

The FBI warns of criminal actors' alleged use of couriers to collect money in a grandparent fraud scheme.
 Criminal actors target elderly citizens in a fraud scheme in which they arrange for couriers to pick up bail money in person at the victim's residence. Criminals telephonically contact their victims and pose as a grandchild, or another family member, in distress who has been arrested and needs bail money. They may also pose as a representative of the detained relative, such as an attorney or a bail-bondsman. Criminal actors then send couriers to collect the money in person from the victim's residence. In some instances, rideshare drivers are used to pick up the money.
 According to the FBI Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3), confidence fraud schemes accounted for the highest losses reported by the elderly in 2020 with more than \$280 million in complaints. From January 2020 to June 2021, the FBI IC3 received over 650 reports of potential grandparent scams, resulting in losses of more than

\$13 million. During that timeframe, over 90 victims reported money was picked up from their home, resulting in losses of more than \$3.6 million.
Tips on protection
 - Be careful what one posts online. Scammers can use details shared on social media platforms and dating sites for targeting purposes.
 - Be suspicious of telephone calls that require one to immediately take action and request bail money for a family member in distress. Contact the family member directly for confirmation.
 - Be careful with caller IDs that look familiar. Scammers may use technology to disguise the actual number they are calling from ("spoof") and make it appear as a trusted number.
 - Never give personal identifiable information or money to anyone that was communicated through telephone or online.
 If one believes to have been a victim of a grandparent fraud scheme, report the fraud to the local FBI field office. The FBI also encourages victims to report fraudulent or suspicious activities to the FBI IC3 at www.ic3.gov.
 This is the link to the IC3 Public Service Announcement: <https://www.ic3.gov/Media/Y2021/PSA210729> and their Twitter @FBIHouston <https://twitter.com/FBIHouston/status/1422950390404980745>.



South Houston High School's Shining Star Eric Garza (below, right) is shown with distinguished educator Brieanna Stewart who teaches 10th-grade English II.
 Commenting on his teacher, Garza said, "Despite being on a STEM path, I wasn't passionate about that field of work. Mrs. Stewart helped me discover my true passion for writing. In her class, I was constantly motivated to write the best of the best papers because I knew she would enjoy my writing. I could rely on her to critique my work thoroughly and show me how to improve. Mrs. Stewart helped me develop my love for writing and allowed me to express my creativity. From mock debates about lobsters to helping edit essays, thank you Mrs. Stewart for showing me the enjoyment of English II."
 Garza has shown leadership as ECHS Student Council vice president. Extracurricular activities for Garza included

Stewart helps Garza find his passion

orchestra and OHMYGOT Club (Game of Thrones Club).
 Community service activities for Garza included ECHS, volunteer and student tutor, Key Club (2017-2018), National Honor Society, Color Guard road crew (2019) and ECHS Garden Club.
 "After high school, I plan on attending the University of Texas at Austin and get my degree in International Relations," Garza 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 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.



Erickson leads Lopez to success

J. Frank Dobie High School's Shining Star Nathan Lopez (below, right) is shown with distinguished educator Kevin Erickson who teaches 9th- through 12th-grade band.
 Commenting on his teacher, Lopez said, "Mr. Erickson has been a part of my entire phase of high school. Not only was I given the chance to attend multiple contests across the region because of his band, but through our performances, I was given the opportunity to travel to the National Music for All Festival in Indianapolis. As a band teacher, he taught the importance of detail-oriented hard work, working as a team, and commitment to excellence in not only band, but with anything my life throws at me."
 Lopez has shown leadership as lead tenor saxophone player (2019-2021), Marching Band Section Leader (2019-2020) and Marching Band Woodwind Lieutenant (2020-2021). Extracurricular activities for Lopez include marching band, jazz band, HOSA, Key Club and ECHS.
 Community service activities for Lopez included guitar and keyboard player at El Shaddai Community Church and media productions manager at El Shaddai Community Church.
 "After high school, I plan on studying biology at the University of Texas and medical school to eventually become a family practice physician," Lopez 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 J. Frank Dobie High School students.
 The information and photos were submitted by Pasadena Independent School District. The Leader is also running the *Shining Stars* from South Houston, Dr. Kirk Lewis Career & Technical and Pasadena Memorial high schools.



SJC maritime eligible for benefits

The San Jacinto College Maritime Technology & Training Center's noncredit U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) approved courses are now eligible for GI Bill education benefit certification through the Texas Veterans Commission.
 "Every veteran has earned these benefits through sacrifice. It is truly an honor to provide workforce training to our veterans and have this training approved for GI Bill educational benefit certification," said John Stauffer, associate vice chancellor, Maritime Technology & Training Center.
 Historically, GI Bill benefits are approved only for programs that lead to a two- or four-year degree, not for industry-recognized certifications like those offered at the Maritime Center.
 With 28 of the center's 70 USCG and Standards of Training Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers courses approved, veterans like Edward Shert can up-skill in the maritime field.
 "I can't begin to tell you how greatly this approval has impacted my career," said Shert, U.S. Army veteran. "The certificates I'm earning will help me earn more income for my family. Attending the San Jacinto College maritime campus has been a dream of mine, and thanks to the approval, I can fulfill that dream."
 The approval comes from a partnership between the center and San Jac's veteran services. With locations at the central, north, and south campuses, veteran services offers many resources to veterans and their dependents.
 Interested individuals can schedule an appointment with a school certifying official by choosing "Veterans" at www.whos-next.com/sanjac/appointments.
 "Collaboration with the Maritime Campus and veteran services has opened new opportunities for veterans seeking to enter the maritime workforce quickly," said Holly Morrison, manager, veteran services. "In the future, we hope to see other continuing education partners submit workforce entry-level certifications to veteran services for approval by the state-approving authority and Veterans Administration."
 To learn more about the San Jac college Maritime Technology & Training Center, visit www.sanjac.edu/maritime.
 For general questions about veteran services, contact veterans@sjcd.edu or visit www.sanjac.edu/veterans.

Cruz appreciates Campbell's motivation

Dr. Kirk Lewis Career & Technical High School's Shining Star John Cruz (below, right) is shown with distinguished educator Justin Campbell who teaches 11th-grade AP U.S. history.
 Commenting on his teacher, Cruz said, "I chose Mr. Campbell as my distinguished teacher because he demonstrated that his responsibility as a teacher is to not only teach, but to also guide his students beyond schoolworks. When students are troubled over something, he listens and works out solutions for them. This is an important quality as a teacher because student-life is not always a smooth road. There will be special considerations sometimes when the road becomes rocky."
 Cruz has shown leadership as HOSA member and National Honor Society member. Extracurricular activities for Cruz include HOSA and National Honor Society.
 Community service activities for Cruz included Matthy's Elementary carnival volunteer, Christmas parade, Criminal Justice spectator and decorating the Christmas tree in CTHS.
 "After high school, I plan to pursue nursing in the University of Houston," Cruz 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 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.



Carmelites meet Sept. 1

The Carmelites, a nondenominational senior citizen social group, will meet at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 1, at St. Bernadette Church, 15500 El Camino Real. Meetings are held the first and third Wednesday of each month and are filled with fun, fellowship, lending library with books and puzzles, coffee and bingo. Day and extended trips are available. Call Marilyn at 713-444-6744 for more information.

Attractions
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County offers vaccine incentive

Continued from Page 1
ings will be required for individuals seeking a vaccination.
HCPH encourages additional COVID-19 prevention measures, such as social distancing, staying at home as much as possible and continuing to wash hands regularly.
Parents must accompany children, ages 12-17, to be vaccinated, or children must bring a consent form signed by their parent or guardian.
Consent forms can be found at www.vacstrac.hctx.net. Children ages 12 to 17 are eligible for the Pfizer vaccine. Adults over the age of 17 can choose from 3 vaccines: the one-dose Johnson & Johnson and the multi-dose Pfizer or Moderna vaccines.
Fully vaccinated people have the greatest protection against the Delta variant.
So far, 63 percent of

Harris County residents have had one vaccine dose. However, the current positivity rate for HCPH is more than 20 percent, and hospitals across Harris County are overwhelmed with COVID-19 cases.
County officials said the vaccine is the best tool available in mitigating both the spread and impact of COVID-19, and all residents are encouraged to do their part by getting vaccinated and encouraging others to do the same.
Residents in need of their second dose of the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine can also receive one at an HCPH vaccination site.
Proof of their first dose to verify the type of vaccine will be required.
Residents who feel they need to be tested for COVID-19 are encouraged to sign up for a test by calling 832-927-7575.

MSI gifts Frazier school supplies



For the past several years Marking Services Installation employees in Baytown has held a school supply drive and donated the collected supplies to Frazier Elementary. They came through again this school year in a big way. The members delivered all the supplies pictured so that Frazier can help some of their

SJC reskill grant aids students

When returning San Jacinto College student, Tori Thomas, learned she was eligible to receive the Finish Line Grant, she felt a weight lift off her shoulders.
"I wasn't sure what kind of grants or scholarships I would qualify for, so I was very grateful knowing that I could start the LVN program without having to pay so much out of pocket," Thomas said.
The Finish Line Grant at San Jacinto College - also known as the Texas Reskilling Support Fund Grant Program - is funded by the College's allocation from The Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) and the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund.
The program provides financial support covering tuition costs for up to three semesters - with a \$2,500 max distribution per student.
"We understand these are challenging times, and students may be struggling to make the financial commitment to their educational goals due to the pandemic's impact on their job, home life, or college plans," says Dr. Sarah Janes, San Jac associate vice chancellor of Continuing & Professional Development.
"This program allows the College to provide tangible, financial support to ease the burden for our students and to help them cross the finish line toward earning their degree or certificate."
This fund targets students who have previously

stopped out of any undergraduate institution, as well as displaced Texas workers who are looking to reskill and re-enter the workforce.
Thomas previously earned her associate degree at San Jacinto College and though she works full time, wanted to reskill for better career opportunities.
"I want to show other young women that through discipline, prayer, and a routine you can accomplish your goals," Thomas said.
After putting educational plans on hold, Thomas was ready for a change.
"I've always wanted to work in the medical field, but I needed somewhere I could grow professionally and financially," Thomas said.
"I found the (Finish Line) flyer on the San Jacinto College website, so I con-

tacted the program for more information and to see if I was eligible."
Thanks to the Finish Line Grant, Thomas will attend the San Jac LVN program in fall 2021.
The Finish Line Grant includes several credit programs in the areas of health sciences, business, education, technology, industrial technology; and two non-credit programs - phlebotomy and truck driving.
"I want other students to know that grants like this are not too good to be true," Thomas said.
"It's worth sending that email or making that phone call to find out if you qualify. Don't be intimidated to try."
To learn more about the grant, visit sanjac.edu/finish-line or call 281-991-2680.

HPD's PIP meetings return to virtual

Continued from Page 1
tion on a crime prevention topic, they would send one of their officers to the group and advise them as to what they could do to keep from becoming crime victims again. This is proactive policing. In 1982, out of the patrol division came the idea that citizens also need to know more about their police department before a crime occurred in their neighborhood. From this idea came the concept of the Positive Interaction Program, or PIP.
A police agency can be very confusing to most citizens. The Positive Interaction Program holds monthly PIP meetings featuring speakers from different divisions (burglary and theft, homicide, K-9, helicopters, etc.) explaining how their division operates.
This is done so citizens will know what to expect, should they ever need the po-

lice. The department was not sure how citizens would react to coming to a police station once a month for a presentation on a different division. So, the Positive Interaction Program was started as a pilot project in only one police station to begin with. The Clear Lake Division, which encompasses the South Belt community, holds its meetings the third Tuesday of the month.
To see a complete list of PIP meetings, visit www.houstontx.gov/police/pip/divisional.htm.
Chief's Citywide PIP
There is also a monthly Chief's Citywide PIP meeting held downtown at 1602 State Street the second Tuesday of each month.
The meetings will feature a presentation from a different police division or law enforcement agency each month. One may hear what a judge, district attorney, state

prison warden or a county boot camp director has to say about what they are doing to fight crime.
Residents will get a chance to meet the officers who patrol their neighborhood and get to know them on a first name basis. One can even hear from the captain of their substation.
Each month a different person is chosen to ride with a police officer on an actual tour of duty. At the next month's meeting, attendees will get to hear from the "citizen-rookie" about his or her experience.
Crime statistics are given out at the end of each monthly meeting. There are several categories of crimes listed, each including the date, time, block address and type of location where the crime occurred. The crime statistics are also available on the Internet.
After each formal meet-

ing, a second, informal meeting is held (usually with refreshments). PIP attendees will have an opportunity to talk to other citizens who attended the meeting and may find they have a lot in common and even exchange ideas on how to help solve one's neighborhood problems.
Lots of other things happen at PIP meetings: citizens give crime tips, members may collect food for the hungry in their community or raise money for scholarships, the PIP group may honor an officer for outstanding work in the area, and being invited to a meeting with the chief is not uncommon. One must be a member of a division PIP group to be eligible to attend the citywide PIP meeting.
Interpreter, captioning provided
The Chief's Citywide PIP meeting is streamed live with sign language interpretation on HPD's YouTube channel:

www.youtube.com/houstonpolice. Real-time captions are available at www.streamtext.net/player?event=CitywidePIP.
For more information, contact Officer James Sobota, citywide PIP coordinator, at 713-308-9079 or email James.Sobota@houstonpolice.org.
PIP growth
Since the pilot program of PIP in 1983 at one substation, it has grown considerably.
The program has proven to be an overwhelming success, with 30 PIP groups now holding monthly meetings. Not all are civic association PIPs. There are now apartment, business, school and even deaf and hard of hearing PIP groups.
Some PIP groups meet during lunch, some at night, and one even has a breakfast meeting. All have the same purpose: to learn more about their police department.

Statement of purpose
The education of the citizens of Houston on how their police department functions is essential to the PIP program. Once a citizen understands how the police department does its job, that citizen can better relay to the police department their neighborhood needs.
The free flow of information and ideas gives police both a better understanding of each other's needs and expectations.
This fosters trust and friendship between citizens and the police department that serves them. Cooperation between the Houston Police Department and the citizens is imperative in the reduction of crime and enhancing the overall quality of life in their neighborhoods.
For additional information on HPD's Positive Interaction Program, visit www.houstontx.gov/police/pip.

Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital returns to no-visitor policy

Continued from Page 1
need assistance communicating with staff will be evaluated for potential visitor exceptions on a case-by-case basis.
For TIRR Memorial Hermann and Memorial Hermann Rehabilitation Hospital-Katy:
- One adult visitor (18 and older) per patient per day. This same visitor may stay overnight.
Limited outpatient exceptions
For the following outpa-

tient facilities, including Outpatient Imaging departments, Sports Medicine & Rehabilitation clinics, Convenient Care centers, MNA clinics and the Davis Clinic:
- One parent/guardian visitor for pediatric patients.
- One primary caregiver, such as a guardian/adult caregiver of a dependent patient or individual accompanying patient with special needs, for adult patients.
For TIRR Memorial Her-

mann Outpatient Rehabilitation Centers and Memorial Hermann Rehabilitation Hospital-Katy Outpatient Rehabilitation Center:
- No visitors for adult patients.
- One parent/guardian visitor for pediatric patients.
For TIRR Memorial Hermann Outpatient Medical Clinic:
- One adult visitor.
For MHMG Clinics:
- Visitors are permitted in

certain circumstances:
- Adult patients: No visitors will be allowed except one primary caregiver, such as a guardian/adult caregiver of a dependent patient or individual accompanying patient with special needs.
- OB patients: One accompanying adult will be allowed for OB ultrasound visits.
- Pediatric patients: One parent/guardian will be allowed for any pediatric patient visits. One parent/guardian

will be allowed for pediatric patients under 18 months old and for patients needing discussion about developmental concerns.
- Reasonable accommodations will be made for pediatric visits, provided any sibling visitors are in good health.
University Place continues to adhere to the state's guidelines for nursing center visitation.
They understand the roles loved ones play in the healing

process for patients.
Patients are encouraged to have virtual visits with loved ones using their personal smart devices. They will have devices available for patients who may not have access to their own.
For more information and details on the updated visitor policy, visit www.memorialhermann.org/services/conditions/coronavirus/important-announcements#visitorspolicy.

Ballroom dancing fully opens
The Humpday Dance at Hometown Heroes Park has resumed fully open and the time has changed from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. every Wednesday.
Everyone is welcome to attend this casual ballroom dance.
This Humpday Dance is a free activity of the city of League City park system and anyone with a park activity card can attend. For questions about the activity card, contact the Hometown Heroes Park office by calling 281-554-1180.
Neva and Bill Schroder coordinate this activity for ballroom dancers.
Couples and singles with limited dance experience are welcome along with advanced dancers. This dance is not a lesson.
Dance lessons are a separate activity at Hometown Heroes Park scheduled on Mondays from 1:30 to 3 p.m. taught by volunteers, Jerry and Edith Sanford.
They will teach Foxtrot the month of August and focus on one dance each month.

Pct. 2's Sujo recovers

Continued from Page 1
A field sobriety test determined Villegas was intoxicated, and he was subsequently detained. The Harris County District Attorney's Office was contacted and accepted charges for driving while intoxicated and felony failure to stop and render aid.
According to court records, Judge Franklin Bynum of the Harris County Criminal Court At Law No. 8 set bail at no charge for

the Driving While Intoxicated charge and \$1,000 for the failure to stop and render aid charge.
Villegas was released that same day after posting a \$100 bond. He was released the same morning he was arrested and was home before Sujo was released from the hospital. Villegas' bond was reportedly lower than his bar tab that night, according to sources familiar with the case.
A GoFundMe was created to help Sujo's family offset medical costs.
To donate, visit gofund.me/c94697c4.
Sujo is expected to make a full recovery.

HPD hosts youth program
The Houston Police Department Southeast Division Post 8300 is offering its Explorers program every Tuesday at 5 p.m. at the HPD Southeast Patrol Station, located at 8300 Mykawa, to area youth considering a career in law enforcement.
The Explorers program provides educational training programs for young adults on the purposes, mission and objectives of law enforcement.
The program provides career orientation experiences, leadership opportunities and community service activities.
The primary goals of the program are to help young adults choose a career path within law enforcement and to challenge them to become responsible citizens.
For additional information, call HPD Officer L.E. Anderson at 346-397-1363 or email lloyd.anderson@houstonpolice.org.

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J. Frank Dobie High School
Class of 1991 30-Year Reunion
Date: Saturday, Oct. 9, 2021 at
The Black Swan @ The Omni Hotel
4 Riverway, Houston, TX. 77056
8 pm - 2 am For tickets: www.ticketstripe.com/jfdobieclassof1991reunion
Social Media: www.facebook.com/groups/dobiehsclassof91
For more information contact: Noel Aleman
noel.aleman1@gmail.com

45 years ago (1976)
Residents of Kirkwood South won control of their maintenance fund, which had been previously controlled by Depa Land Co. through Mortgage and Trust.
Rocky Smith of Sage-meadow won two 1976 Gremlins in a KRBE radio contest.
40 years ago (1981)
Small gains in local revenues, increased state funding and modest increases in expenditures marked Pasadena Independent School District's \$68 million budget adopted by trustees.
Congressional redistricting resulted in the South Belt area losing Rep. Ron Paul and gaining Democrat Jack Brooks of Beaumont.
35 years ago (1986)
Dobie associate principal Peggy Walters served as interim principal for Dobie while the Pasadena School District continued to receive applications.
30 years ago (1991)
Harris County District Judge Carol Garcia refused acceptance of the Brio settlement saying problems with miscommunication and misconceptions still existed among the 210 clients.
In order to combat student tardies, Dobie High School began two new programs including a Friday/Saturday detention center in the high school and a tardy room in the Dobie Media Center.
25 years ago (1996)
South Belt resident Arturo De La Garza, a 50-year-old who billed himself as a doctor of holistic health, was charged with sexual assault at his clinic in the 13600 block of Beamer.
The Johnson Space Center and the Clear Creek Independent School District teamed up with private industry and the state to develop a first-of-its-kind facility for furthering agricultural education at the high school level.

20 years ago (2001)
The tidal wave of growth was continuing in the Pasadena Independent School District with 850 new students enrolling for classes which was 400 students more than projected by district officials.
Bill Jones, Bernard Maristany, Darryl Smith and Addie Wiseman all declared their candidacy for Rob Todd's term-limited city council member position.
15 years ago (2006)
Due largely to tips from the community, charges were filed against a suspect arrested in the fatal shooting of Erik Garcia.
The Clear Brook City Municipal Utility District board approved the hiring of two additional deputies on the condition the two neighboring utility districts would participate in the hiring.
Republican Party precinct chairs selected Houston Councilmember Shelley Sekula-Gibbs as the write-in candidate for the congressional seat vacated by Tom DeLay. The selection was the result of a closed-door session held in Pearland. Sekula-Gibbs went on to win the unexpired term in the general election but was defeated by Democrat Nick Lampson for the full two-year term.
Precinct 2 deputy constables reported arrests for criminal mischief, DWI and deadly conduct.
10 years ago (2011)
The Pasadena Independent School District Board of Trustees approved a bond election seeking \$270.1 million in funding for several projects, including a new career and technical high school, three new middle schools and five replacement campuses for existing schools.
Mike Jackson, state senator from the 11th District, officially filed paperwork with the Federal Election Commission to establish a committee to support his candidacy for the Republican nomination in the newly

created 36th Congressional District. The district includes all or part of the following counties: Chambers, Hardin, Harris, Jasper, Liberty, Newton, Orange, Polk and Tyler. The 11th Senatorial District, which Jackson has represented since 1999, covers significant population centers in the 36th Congressional District, including the cities of Deer Park, Pasadena, Seabrook, La Porte and the Clear Lake area.
5 years ago (2016)
A 22-year-old South Belt woman was killed and three injured, including two children, following a three-car collision Wednesday, Aug. 17, in the 13700 block of Scarsdale near the Gulf Freeway. According to police, Scarsdale resident Angelly Heidi Caballero was driving east in a black Kia Forte at a high rate of speed when she struck the rear of a gray Honda. The Kia then veered into oncoming traffic, where it slammed head-on into a white Ford F-150 pickup. Caballero was rushed to a hospital, where she was pronounced dead.
1 year ago (2020)
A fatal crash took place early Wednesday, Aug. 26, in the 7000 block of Beltway 8 near Highway 3/0ld Galveston Road. According to investigators, the driver of a silver Dodge Durango was ejected from his vehicle which flipped multiple times, killing him at the scene.

CODY CELEBRATES 20TH BIRTHDAY
Cody Giles of Kirkwood South celebrates a birthday Aug. 27. His parents, Jim and Tracy Giles, brother Aaron and wife Ashley Giles and sons Jaxson and Jace, sister Kristen Giles and grandmother Bobby Griffin, wish him a wonderful birthday.
JAXSON TURNS 3!
Special birthday wishes for Jaxson Giles who turns three years old Aug. 30 from his parents Aaron and Ashley Giles, grandparents Jim and Tracy Giles, great-grandmother Bobby Griffin and aunt Kristen Giles.
RON CELEBRATES A BIRTHDAY
Ron Williams, former owner of Ace Hardware, is wished a happy birthday Sept. 1 from his family, friends and the Leader staff.
ROSA CELEBRATES A BIRTHDAY
Special birthday wishes are sent to South Belt Leader staffer Rosa Graham who celebrates a birthday Sept. 1 from family, friends and the Leader staff.
HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MARIE!
Birthday greetings are sent to Marie Flickinger, South Belt Leader publisher, who celebrates a birthday Wednesday, Sept. 1, from husband David; sons Fred and wife Leslie Flickinger and David (Leader owner) and wife Ellie Flickinger; granddaughters Kimberly and husband Matthew Lipina and Courtney Durham and husband Chris and great-grandchildren Abigail, Jackson and Penelope Durham; granddaughter Natalie and husband Jose Abarca and great-grandchildren Kelvin Lopez, and Noah, Eliana and Isabella Abarca; sister Alexis Lochner; her friends and staff at the South Belt-

Ellington Leader.
SCHOOL DAZE
The following staff of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays Aug. 26 through Sept. 1.
Atkinson Elementary
Break out the balloons and party favors Aug. 27 for a special birthday for Deyanira Quintero.
Burnett Elementary
Lisa Orr is wished a happy birthday Aug. 28.
Frazier Elementary
A double-layer birthday cake is in order Aug. 27 for Amanda Brewton and Veronica Huitron. Send a birthday greeting Aug. 29 to Kalpana Mobley.
Meador Elementary
The day for a party for Sabina Torres is Aug. 29.
Moore Elementary
Remember to wish Lakennia Cole a happy birthday Aug. 30.
South Belt Elementary
Break out the party favors and cake and ice cream for Jason Watson Aug. 28. The day for birthday fun for Courtney Moran is Aug. 31.
Stuchbery Elementary
Blow out the candles on a birthday cake Aug. 30 for Dylan Richter.
Roberts Middle School
Celebrating a birthday Aug. 27 is Fred Leggin.
Beverly Hills Intermediate
Light the candles on a birthday cake Aug. 28 for Mackwell Hickerson. Break out the birthday balloons and party favors Sept. 1 for Wesley Hardy.

Thompson Intermediate
Break out the balloons and the birthday cake Aug. 28 for Melinda Mathis.
Dobie High
Aug. 25 is the day for cake and ice cream for Diane Bledsoe. Christopher Swinnen celebrates a birthday Aug. 29. Break out the birthday balloons and party favors Aug. 30 for Chelsea Henning and Trent Morgan. Remember to wish Rosa Qarini a happy birthday Sept. 1.
FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS
Thursday, Aug. 26: Arlette Jarmon, Marci Chiovaro, Fred Manly, Stephanie Mayo and Rick LaMantina; Friday, Aug. 27: Jesse Garcia, and Jeff Jones; Saturday, Aug. 28: Tanya Keller and Yvonne Ramirez; Sunday, Aug. 29: Connie Guerrero, Brenda Marshall, Claudia Herrera and Aimee Bennett; Monday, Aug. 30: James Leonard, Jason Hunt, Tracy Schwerdtfeger, Melinda Funni, Amber McGown, Bobby Burton, Ryssa Bebee, Debrah Tullous and Rebecca Norris-Peak; Tuesday, Aug. 31: Nyd Salgado, Suzie Ortiz, Tajuana Stewart, John Terana, Mia Bella, Paula Miller, Judie Elizalde, Kathy Cole, Michael O'Daniell, Veronica Lyons, Annalea Young, Carol Rodriguez, Scott Gish, Ashley Hall and Angie Davis; and Wednesday, Sept. 1: Tiffany Gay, Maribel Manriquez, Jasmine Manning, Karen Jenkins and Steve Landin.
LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS
Email birthday, anniversary, congratulations, etc., to mynews@southbeltleader.com with OTBF in the subject line by Friday noon for the next week's publication. For birthdays, type "OTBF: Friends Celebrate Birthdays" in the subject line.

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Dobie aims at opening win as Rams eye upset

By **John Bechtle**
 Sports Editor

Dobie will ride a 12-game regular winning streak into action against Alief Elsik as the two varsity football programs meet to open the 2021 regular season Friday, Aug. 27 at Alief ISD's Crump Stadium. Kickoff is set for

fensive Player of the Year, has established himself as one of the program's best-ever dual-threats at his position and is poised for a terrific final season.

And while the Longhorns know 2020 league Most Valuable Player Johnathan Baldwin is now at UNLV, the backfield now has Baldwin's brother, Jalen Baldwin, and Trajan Davis to lead the way into this season.

The Longhorns should also benefit from a veteran offensive front that includes Richard Gary, Edward Lara, Dakarey Ramsey, Mohamed Elghawi and Valente Morales.

With just four starters back on the defensive side

of things, the Longhorns will rely on several players who will be getting their biggest look at the varsity level. The Rams will continue its growth in 2021 as

quarterback Erick Dadzie led the team to a 1-7 overall mark as a freshman and now heads into his second season.

Continued on Page 6

Dobie at Alief Elsik
 Fri., Aug. 27
 Crump, 7 p.m.

7 p.m. as Houston area No. 17-ranked Dobie looks for a quick start.

The Longhorns, who have gone 7-0 in nondistrict games during head coach Kevin Bemeathy's three seasons, will take aim at their fourth straight opening night win after beating Santa Fe in 2018 and 2019 and then Jersey Village a season ago.

On paper, this should be a relatively easy win for Dobie, which went 9-0 overall in 2020 to win the District 22-6A championship.

Meanwhile, the Rams are coming off a one-win season and are continuing to build the type of overall skill and depth needed to win consistently in the 23-6A ranks.

The Longhorns in 2021 will have the advantage of a third-year starter at the key spot on the offensive side of the ball.

Dobie quarterback Cameron Gray, who as a junior was the 22-6A Of-



Dobie senior quarterback Cameron Gray, shown rolling out of the pocket during the Longhorns' scrimmage Aug. 20 against Clear Springs, will play a big role this season as the Longhorns eventually

chase a second straight District 22-6A championship. A third-year starter, Gray was the league's Offensive Most Valuable Player in 2020.

Photo by Gloria Wallace

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See website or e-mail FDonaghe@aol.com

Onozie eclipses 1,000 assists Lady Horns win six of nine



LSA opens at HC
 Pioneers earn notice

Losses to Barbers Hill and Needville to wrap up the Dickinson ISD Gator Classic stung a bit, but the Dobie varsity volleyball program still celebrated senior Natalie Onozie's 1000th career assist as well as a 6-3 start to the 2021 campaign.

Onozie, who got her feet wet briefly at the varsity level and has since been a three-year do-it-all starter, registered that

Continued on Page 6

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CCISD to go online

Count Clear Creek ISD as another one of the state's school districts offering online ticket sales to its football and volleyball games during the fall portion of the schedule.

The district, like many of its counterparts, will also livestream its football

games played at Challenger Columbia Stadium in Webster.

To purchase online tickets, go to www.ccisd.net and select athletics from the departments menu.

Once on the district's athletics page, users should select 2021 Varsity

Football Season Information for both ticket sales details as well as individual game livestreaming options.

Adult tickets for Clear Creek ISD games at Challenger Stadium will be \$6 each, while student tickets will sell for \$4 each.

Pasadena ISD sets ticket sales

While the University Interscholastic League currently plans to allow full capacity attendance at high school athletic events, Pasadena ISD will continue online-only sales of football tickets at Veterans Memorial Stadium.

Visit www.pasadenaisd.org and select the Box Office Tickets option to begin the purchasing process as there are no paper tickets or at-the-gate options available.

Fans who cannot attend Pasadena ISD varsity

football games at Veterans Stadium this season will again have the convenient option of viewing the events via livestream.

To access the event feed, visit www.pasadenaisd.org and select the Live Stream Games tab.

JFD volleyball starts strong

Continued from Page 5 noteworthy assist as the Lady Longhorns went 3-2 overall in two days.

Dobie, which entered the Dickinson tournament at 3-0, defeated Houston Lamar 25-20, 23-25, 25-11 and then edged Clear Lake 25-20, 22-25, 25-20 to get to 5-0 to open the season before a 25-22, 25-21 loss to Santa Fe ended play Aug. 19.

Playing Terry Aug. 20 at home in a nondistrict matchup, the Lady Longhorns cruised to a 25-11, 25-22, 25-14 sweep to get to 6-1 overall, then had an

early start Aug. 21 back at the Dickinson tournament.

Barbers Hill, which eventually made the championship final before a loss to Manvel, defeated Dobie 25-20, 25-11 and has started the season at 17-1. The Lady Longhorns then fell 25-22, 25-17 to close tournament play.

Through nine matches, the Lady Longhorns' mode of attack has taken shape as Onozie has 116 assists and 62 kills, and also leads the team in aces. Haley Dehoyos, meanwhile, has 17 total blocks up front.

Sophomore Alexa Gonzalez is the team leader in kills with 72, and senior Maya Scott has turned in 48 more. Another sophomore, second-year varsity player Ariana Garza, has delivered 29 kills.

The Lady Longhorns won their third straight match to open the regular season Aug. 17 after press time as they rolled past Spring Dekaney 25-7, 25-4, 25-8.

Gonzalez had a match-high 13 kills and Onozie dealt 15 assists to go with five kills. Garza and Scott both had five kills.



Sophomore outside hitter Alexa Gonzalez (11) logged a team-high 72 kills through nine matches as the Lady Longhorns' offensive attack took shape over the first two weeks of the season to the tune of six wins in nine matches.

Photo by Donna Alsdorf

Dobie girls excel at LPHS x-country



The Dobie varsity girls' cross-country team was solid again in week two at La Porte during the Bulldog Relays as, from left, Isabella Padilla and Kyla Lobo were fifth as a duo; juniors Ashlee Garcia and Isela Munoz were 10th; and seniors Victoria Ramirez and Karen Martinez were third.

South Belt football predictions	Troy Leland	John Bechtle	Toni Muse	Emory Gadd	Debbie Vaughn
Dobie at Alief Elsik	Dobie	Dobie	Dobie	Dobie	Dobie
Clear Brook hosts Texas City	Clear Brook	Clear Brook	Clear Brook	Clear Brook	Texas City
Dickinson hosts Manvel	Manvel	Manvel	Manvel	Dickinson	Manvel
Clear Creek at Oak Ridge	Oak Ridge	Oak Ridge	Clear Creek	Clear Creek	Oak Ridge
Clear Springs at Katy	Katy	Katy	Katy	Katy	Katy
Shadow Creek hosts North Shore	North Shore	North Shore	North Shore	North Shore	North Shore
Deer Park hosts La Porte	Deer Park	La Porte	La Porte	Deer Park	Deer Park
Atascocita hosts Klein Collins	Atascocita	Atascocita	Atascocita	Atascocita	Atascocita
Clear Falls hosts Dawson	Dawson	Dawson	Dawson	Dawson	Dawson
Friendswood hosts Summer Creek	Summer Creek	Summer Creek	Friendswood	Friendswood	Summer Creek
This week's record	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0
Season record	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0

Harris fund 5K set; Nov. 6 is the big day

The South Belt 5K run, benefiting the Barry E. Harris Memorial Scholarship Fund, will return to El Franco Lee Park Saturday, Nov. 6 as event organizers have a morning of family-fun activities planned in the community.

The event is in honor of Harris, the former long-time Dobie High School educator and Pasadena ISD athletics support staff member who died after a cancer battle in 2018.

Race committee chairperson Shane Brown said the Bayway Auto

Group will return as the title sponsor of the event, which will also feature a 1K run and family-oriented 1K walk.

Registration as well as other race details will be available in the coming weeks on the Barry E. Harris Memorial Scholarship Fund Facebook page. More information about the fund is there, also.

To donate to the fund or for additional fun run facts, contact Brown at 713-740-0370. The funds has thus far helped Dobie seniors for three years.

Bay Area Football League Week 2 Results

	Srs.	Jrs.	Sophs.	Fr.	PWs
Raiders	6	28	30	46	14
Cowboys	35	0	6	0	12
Dolphins	6	0	32	0	forfeit
Bengals	14	56	20	46	win

Week 3 Games – Saturday, Aug. 28

Cowboys host Pearland Patriots, El Franco Lee Park
Dolphins host East End Eagles, Blackhawk Park

Longhorns head to Crump; 2021 regular season opens

Continued from Page 5

The Longhorns went up against perennial area power Clear Springs in a scrimmage matchup Aug. 20, and Berneathy came away feeling as though his Longhorns are ready to tackle 2021 head on.

"I would say we performed about as well in a scrimmage since at any time since I've been here," Berneathy said.

"The defense was solid, particularly along the defensive front. And I thought we ran the ball very well and threw it fairly well. Overall, we came out of the scrimmage feeling pretty good about the way we performed."

And now it's on to Alief Elsik, a one-win team in

2020. Regardless of the final score, there are objectives in every outing.

The Dobie program as a whole has a general goal of getting better every day, so that's a focus against the Rams.

Of course, the top priority is coming out of the game healthy, too. Beyond that?

"I want to see how we handle the little things like lining up correctly in all three phases of the game and then executing our roles.

"You're always excited to see what players are going to be able to do with the opportunities they are given. We do have some new players on the field, particularly on the defen-

sive side of things. So we are looking forward to seeing what these young men can do out there on the field."

The 2021 season as a whole will develop as the season progresses. And like it or not, coronavirus concerns will be prevalent in the minds of many as opening night comes, and then beyond.

But the defending 22-6A champions are ready to take to the field for what they collectively hope brings a repeat of said title.

It's been a while since the Longhorns have lost a nondistrict game, the 2017 season to be exact. It's time to get 2021 started with a win over Elsik.



Dobie defensive lineman Jordan Barrett (50) knifes his way through the Clear Springs offensive front during the Longhorns' scrimmage Aug. 20 against the Chargers at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena.

Photo by Gloria Wallace

Pearland 10, Dobie 9

Boys' doubles

- 1) Stanley Burrus/Austin LeClere (P) def. Lael Martinez/Brian Nguyen, 8-5.
- 2) Joe Flemming/Cole McClan (P) def. Dominic Ortiz/Thang Tran, 9-8 (7-0).
- 3) Chris Castle/Ben Doerer (P) def. Aaron Charles/Andrew Huynh, 8-3.

Girls' doubles

- 1) Ashley Huynh/Megan Rodriguez (D) def. Anika Phan/Alexis Weaver, 8-3.
- 2) Hailey Maldonado/Tracy Tran (D) def. Mikayla Garcia/Diana Tunstall, 8-5.
- 3) Tiffany Tran/Natalie Vo (D) def. Jessica Luu/Lisa Luu, 8-1.

Mixed doubles

- 1) Katie Dies/Ethan Garcia (P) def. Hallie Vu/Ryan Le, 8-4.

Boys' singles

- 1) Austin LeClere (P) def. Brian Nguyen, 6-4, 6-2.
- 2) Lael Martinez (D) def. Stanley Burrus, 6-1, 6-3.
- 3) Cole McClan (P) def. Dominic Ortiz, 6-2, 6-2.
- 4) Diego Guzman (P) def. Ryan Le, 6-3, 6-3.
- 5) Joe Flemming (P) def. Thang Tran, 6-2, 6-2.
- 6) Adam Thompson (P) def. Andrew Huynh, 6-2, 6-1.

Girls' singles

- 1) Ashley Huynh (D) def. Anika Phan, 7-6 (7-3), 7-5.
- 2) Megan Rodriguez (D) def. Alexis Weaver, 6-1, 6-4.
- 3) Tracy Tran (D) def. Kate Dies, 6-2, 6-2.
- 4) Mikayla Garcia (P) def. Tiffany Tran, 2-6, 6-3, 10-7.
- 5) Hailey Maldonado (D) def. Jessica Luu, 6-2, 6-2.
- 6) Natalie Vo (D) def. Lisa Luu, 6-3, 6-3.

22-6A opener next month

Dobie team tennis squad eyes consistency early on

Busy navigating the start of the in-person 2021-2022 school year and all of the newness that comes with it, members of the Dobie varsity team tennis squad have had to make some adjustments on the fly during a 2-3 overall start.

Scheduling conflicts played a role in the Longhorns being able to play just one official match during the first week of classes.

The Longhorns competed well but couldn't win enough key games or sets in an eventual 10-9 loss to Pearland, but head coach Manuel Moreno Jr. believes time on the practice court and a renewed focus over the coming weeks will do wonders for his team.

"The start of in-person classes has been a big eye-opening experience

for a lot of these kids after last year," Moreno said.

"You can see in their faces that it has been a big adjustment, and you throw playing tennis and working to be competitive on top of it, and it can be a difficult adjustment.

"Some of these kids were at Dobie9 last year and now come over to a different campus.

"Others were in online classes last year, and just came out for tennis. A full day at school can be a change."

The Longhorns went 2-2 during a trip to Dallas before classes began and have thus far had to cancel planned matches against Dawson and Clear Brook.

With the District 22-6A schedule fast-approaching, Moreno hopes things get back to as normal as possible, as much as is possible.

"We have really relied on the girls to carry the load to this point, and that's not fair in the long run as we go along," Moreno said.

"We lost eight of nine matches on the boys' side of things, with Lael Martinez playing really well to get that win.


"Ideally, we need more production on that side of the draw. That, and realizing that every match is important and carries weight in the big picture as we move forward."

Deer Park remains the favorite once the 22-6A race begins, but Moreno doesn't like to concede anything. More consistency is needed.

"We have to come together as a group and put some things together," Moreno said. "The kids are working hard, so I'm confident it will happen."

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It is advisable to verify if face-to-face meeting prior to attending. For Alcoholics Anonymous, visit <https://aahouston.org/meetings>; for Narcotics Anonymous (NA) meetings, visit www.hascona.com; for AI-Anon meetings, visit www.houstonalnanon.org.

NOTE: Clear Lake Bridge Club - now open. Activities scheduled daily. Visit <https://clearlakebridgeclub.org/> for face-to-face and virtual games. Email jpochnsr@aol.com for details.

St. Paul's Anglican Church - has worship services Tuesday at 11:30 a.m., Wednesday at 7 p.m. (Bible study, Book of Revelation, at 6 p.m.) and Sunday at 8 a.m. and 10:15 a.m., 11456 Space Center Blvd. (in back of medical/retail community). For information, call 281-479-7285 and leave a message, or stop by.

monthly, the last Friday, either online in a virtual webinar format or at University Baptist Church, 16106 Middlebrook Dr., Clear Lake. Coffee and socializing prior to 7 p.m. in-person meeting. No meeting in December. Virtual attendees need to register for each webinar session. For details, visit www.TxBayAreaGen.org.

Scrabble Club #511 - Meets Monday at IHOP, 6 p.m., 11222 Fuqua. Join in the fun and improve crossword skills. COVID-19 vaccination required. Call 281-488-2923 for details. 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 26
7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill," Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., and Saturday at 7:30 a.m. Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit <https://aahouston.org/meetings/>.

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

Toastmasters - The Young Professionals Southeast Toastmasters Club #05324194 meets at the South Belt Chamber of Commerce, 10500 Scarsdale Blvd. For more information, contact Karen Nunn at 832-722-9061 or Carolyn Carmichael at 832-372-3565. 7 p.m.

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

8 p.m.
Serenity Now AI-Anon Group - meets at CrossRoads UMC Fridays, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Family members and friends of problem drinkers/addicts share, learn AI-Anon principles and discover choices available. For additional information, call 281-484-9243.

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) - #0683 Friendswood chapter meets at the Friendswood Methodist Church, 110 N Friendswood Dr. in the educational bldg., room 201. For information, call Lynette Ringrose at 832-858-4617. 7 p.m.

Noon
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, 3525 Broadway, Pearland. Call 281-686-6300 for additional information. 7 p.m.

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

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Saint Luke's 12-Step Recovery, open meeting, education Bldg., room 4,11011 Hall Rd. Call Jesse at 832-725-8479 or Rita at 281-309-2801 for more information.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 27
7 a.m.
AA - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 28
9:30 a.m.
Congregation Shaar Hashalom - See Friday's notice.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group. See Friday's notice.
TUESDAY, AUGUST 31
7 a.m.
AA - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.

Noon
Hometown Heroes - Ballroom dances Mondays and Wednesdays, 2 - 3:30 p.m. and Fridays, noon - 1:30 p.m. These are not dance lessons but casual dances. Call 281-554-1180 for details.

8 p.m.
AA - at CrossRoads UMC. See Friday's notice.
MONDAY, AUGUST 30
10 a.m.
AI-Anon Deer Park - Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P Street, Deer Park. Enter through back of church. Call 409-454-5720 for details.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, 3525 Broadway, Pearland. See Thursday's notice.
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2
7:30 a.m.
Rotary Club of Pearland - Meets Thursdays at 7:30 a.m. either at Pearland Chamber of Commerce, 6117 Broadway St., Pearland, or online on Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81372891968>. Meeting ID: 813 7289 1968. Additional information is on the Pearland Chamber of Commerce website under the calendar tab.

6:30 p.m.
Bay Area Genealogical Society - Meets

Noon
AA - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday's notice.
NEW DIRECTIONS SINGLES - Age 55 and older meets the first and third Mondays for a potluck dinner with activities and/or guest speakers at Webster Presbyterian Church, 201 W. NASA Pkwy. Call Margarita at 832-715-9658.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday's notice.
NA - Vigilance Group. See Friday's notice.
Alcoholics Anonymous - meeting at CrossRoads UMC. See Friday's notice.
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2
7:30 a.m.
Rotary Club of Pearland - Meets Thursdays at 7:30 a.m. either at Pearland Chamber of Commerce, 6117 Broadway St., Pearland, or online on Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81372891968>. Meeting ID: 813 7289 1968. Additional information is on the Pearland Chamber of Commerce website under the calendar tab.

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Grace Church treats Morris staff



Grace Church on I-45 brought cookies and snacks for the teachers and staff of Morris Middle School on their first day of school with students. Shown above are, left to right, Natalie Salinas, Grace Church; Allison Lewallen, Morris principal; and Haley Elsner, Grace Church.

Thompson's first day of school



Thompson Intermediate students and staff welcome a new school year. Tanis Griffin (left), principal, was captured spending time with eighth-graders during their lunch. Shown with Griffin are eighth-graders Da'Veon Spencer (center) and Jason Leahman.

Morris teachers celebrate with Coke floats

On Friday, Aug. 20, the school thanked the teachers for their hard work throughout the first week of school with a treat of Coke floats. School administrators walked around to deliver Coke, Dr. Pepper or root beer floats to the staff.



Shown is Allison Christensen, fifth-grade math teacher and Emily Tiernan, fifth-grade reading teacher. Above is Nilda Chavez, paraprofessional, and Brittany Ahl, fifth-grade reading teacher.

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Frazier students return to campus

The students and staff at Frazier Elementary had a great first day. The theme for the year is "Better Together" and the school was so excited to have all the Frazier Owls back together to start what they know is going to be an amazing year. Students were welcomed and excited for a new start to a new school year.



Shown above are Jordynne Washington (left) and Melanie Gutierrez putting their backpacks away and getting ready to start the first day. Shown above is Levi Burk, wearing a colorfully decorated hat showing that he is an O-FISH-AL first-grader.

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Aimee Shelton (right) welcomes first-grader Emanuel Vu. Christine Grazioli (left) visits with Elizabeth Umana, kindergarten, at lunch.



The second-graders gathered on the rug for a first day of school story. Shown above left to right, are (first row) Julianna Garcia, Genesis Martinez, Adriana Cortez (teacher), (second row) Ximena Mesta, Jorge Sanchez, (third row) Isaac Espinoza, Yarieli Aguilar, Yaritza Umana, (fourth row) Sofia Contreras, Mateo Montoya and Eliana Chavez.



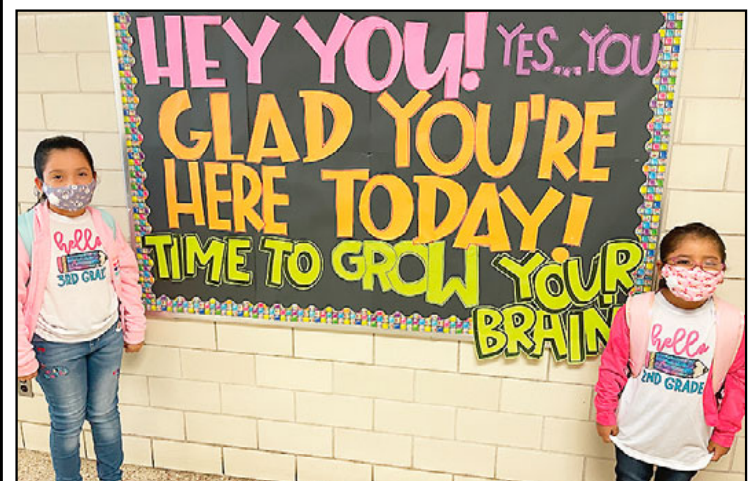
Denisse Saldivar (standing in back), pre-K teacher, watches over her students as they enjoy their first lunch in school. Shown with Saldivar, left to right, are Christopher Ruiz, Sophia Hernandez-Maldonado, Jeirromith Castillo and Abigail Hernandez.

Meador students celebrate first day back to school

Meador Elementary students were excited to be back at school. A few pictures were captured to show the excitement of the students returning for the new school year.



Sophia Salas (left), fourth-grader, gets a hug from mom Jennifer Pacheco. Shown above are sisters Azariah Rios (left) and Isabella Rios.



Shown above, are sisters Andrea Luna (left), third-grader, and Jessica Trevino, second-grader.



Shown, left to right, are sisters Gwen Bounds, second-grader; Parker Bounds, first-grader; and Logan Bounds, first-grader.



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