

#### Leader retraction

The article titled *PISD to open community center* that ran in the July 30 edition of the *Leader* was incorrect. While the issue was on the agenda at the last PISD board meeting and was discussed at length, it was not approved, despite having dedicated funds in place. The *Leader* staff apologizes for any confusion.

#### Vacation photo deadline set

The *South Belt-Ellington Leader* is seeking readers' 2015 vacation photos for possible publication. The deadline for entry is Tuesday, Aug. 18. A first- and second-place prize of Schlitterbahn tickets will be awarded to the best submissions.

The first-place winner will be awarded eight tickets, while the second-place winner will be awarded six tickets. All submissions should include where and when the photo was taken, as well as identify each person in the picture and tell the story about the trip. All photos must be high resolution. Email photos to [mynews@southbeltleader.com](mailto:mynews@southbeltleader.com). Do not compress photos when emailing.

#### SJC host back-to-school

The San Jacinto College South Campus will host the back-to-school Kutz4Kidz event this Saturday, Aug. 9 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., in the Jones Technical Building (Building 13). Cosmetology students will provide free haircuts for kids, pharmacy and nursing students will give hand washing and health demonstrations, and a number of workshops will be available for parents.

#### Donate school supplies

St. Luke the Evangelist is continuing to collect school donations for Operation Back Pack. Bring backpacks and school supplies to the church or church office during August in order to help local school children in grades K-12 begin the school year.

#### Stuchbery sets registration

Stuchbery Elementary will hold Pre-K registration Tuesday, Aug. 11, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. To enroll in Pre-K, students must be 4 years old on or before Sept. 1 and must qualify for the program. Early registration for kindergarten through fourth grade will be held Wednesday, Aug. 12, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Thursday, Aug. 13, from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. For Pre-K requirements or any additional information, call Stuchbery's office at 713-740-0752 or visit the PISD website at [www.pasadenaisd.org](http://www.pasadenaisd.org).

#### Senior Information Fair set

St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church will host a senior 55+ information fair on Saturday, Aug. 8, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at its Cenacle Learning Center, 1750 Riverstone Ranch Road in Houston.

There will be speakers on senior issues, vendor booths on Medicare, community, city and county services, senior vacation resources, demonstrations from senior dancers including Zumba, along with door prizes and refreshments. The 55+ members of the South Belt community are invited to attend.

#### Sagemont to meet Aug. 10

The Sagemont Civic Club will hold its meeting on Monday, Aug. 10, at the Sagemont Community Center from 6:30 until 8 p.m. The guest speaker will be Houston Police Department Officer Richard Buitron. He will speak on crime prevention in the area and the no parking on the grass ordinance.

#### Helton benefit set for Aug. 15

A benefit will be held for Ruth Helton to help pay for expenses as she fights cancer. The benefit will be held Aug. 15, from noon until 6 p.m. at Beamers Place, 12057 Beamer. Fajita plates, which include beans, rice, tortillas, a soft drink and sides are \$10 each. There will be a live auction and raffles. Donations in the form of gift cards or merchandise are being accepted for the auction or raffle. Call Silvia Luna at 832-512-8367 for more information. Donations can be dropped off at Beamers Place any time after 4 p.m. daily.

#### Atkinson registration set

Atkinson Elementary will hold early registration for the 2015-2016 school year on Aug. 12 and 13. Registration will be in the school cafeteria from 8 a.m. to noon and 1 to 2:30 p.m. To enroll a child, the following items need to be taken to the school: birth certificate, record of immunizations, Social Security card, proof of residence (mortgage and a current utility bill), and parent's driver's license. For more information, call 713-740-0520.

#### St. Luke's offers child care

St. Luke the Evangelist Early Childhood Center, 1750 Riverstone Ranch Drive, will host fall, spring and summer programs for children ages 3 months to 5 years. The center will also offer after-school care for South Belt Elementary students. A parent information meeting will be held Wednesday, Aug. 12, at 6 p.m. A meet-the-teacher event will be at the center Thursday, Aug. 13, at 10 a.m. See related ad on Page 6A.

## City takes action on abandoned house

By James Bolen

City of Houston officials took quick action to secure an abandoned house last week, following a report in the July 30 edition of the *Leader*.

The residence in question, located in the 11000 block of Sagevale, was boarded up by city crews Saturday, Aug. 1, just three days after the story ran. Workers also mowed the property, which had been unkempt for nearly a year.

Houston District D City Council Member Dwight Boykins, along with the city's Department of Neighborhoods, is credited with getting

the necessary work done.

"I'm committed to the well-being of the community," Boykins said. "The last thing I want is a slumlord endangering kids as they're going to school. Public safety must come first."

Reportedly abandoned after Hurricane Ike in September 2008, the vacant house was particularly worrisome to neighbors due to its close proximity to Frazier Elementary, located roughly 100 feet away from the property. The gutted house had been left unlocked with exposed wiring and structural instabilities.

### South Belter named new Melillo AP



South Belt resident Adriana Saavedra-Palomares (right) was recently promoted to serve as assistant principal at Melillo Middle School. Saavedra-Palomares formerly served as a Spanish/dual language teacher at Pasadena Memorial High School. She is shown above with her husband, Fabien Palomares. The couple have two daughters, Olivia and Viviana Palomares. See related story on Page 5A.

Photo submitted

### Concert of Life scheduled for Aug. 13

On Thursday, Aug. 13, the third annual Concert of Life will be performed at Sagemont Church, at 7:30 p.m.

The concert is sponsored by and will benefit Crisis Pregnancy Centers all around Houston and features original music by seminarian David Michael Moses.

Michael writes music about life and faith across a variety of popular music styles. Martha Richardson, a nursing student from UTMB shared this, "David Michael's music embodies everything I believe. The tunes are catchy, the

lyrics are honest, and watching him perform gives me hope for the future."

His first two Concerts for Life were able to raise nearly \$100,000 collectively. When asked about her experience with those first two concerts, Sylvia Johnson, CEO of Houston Pregnancy Help Center, had this to say, "David Michael Moses is a brilliant musician and a pro-life hero. His generosity in using his gift to help women to become empowered to continue their pregnancy is indeed, extraordinary."

Continued on Page 5A

### USPS confuses, frustrates residents

By Jay Do

An overwhelmingly large number of residents and businesses of the South Belt community have recently been feeling the effects of the United States Postal Service's substandard service of late.

"People aren't getting their mail," said local Ace Hardware owner Sandra Williams. "Mail isn't getting out to people, and mail isn't getting picked up. We had mail out here two days last week. I've called them, but so far, we really haven't seen any changes or improvements."

The disruption of the service is thought to be a direct consequence of the recent shutdown of the downtown Houston's Barbara Jordan Post Office last May.

Fifty-three years after its debut, the 16-acre property that was once envisioned to establish the criterion for others to follow was forced to cease operation as the United States Postal Service struggled with the deadly combination of rising debt and a sharp decline in business as clients turned to the Internet and private mail couriers.

"The main post office of the greater Houston area has been shut down," said Williams. "Since then, they have moved all the processing to the north Houston substation. I've been over to that north location, and it's big enough to handle the processing, but the transitioning process is where they're having trouble."

Continued on Page 3A

### Boykins golf tournament aids seniors

Houston District D City Council Member Dwight Boykins will host his second annual Swingin' for Seniors golf tournament Monday, Aug. 17, at Hermann Park Golf Course, 2155 N. MacGregor Way, beginning at 8 a.m.

Proceeds from the tournament will benefit Boykins' Senior Assistance Fund that helps District D senior citizens make needed home repairs.

Last year, the program helped repair nearly 80 homes in the district. Repairs included plumbing issues, collapsed ceilings, new doors and lighting/electrical problems.

The purpose of the program is to ensure minor repairs are addressed before they become major issues.

Applicants in the senior assistance program

must be 65 or older and reside in District D. Qualifying residents may apply for repairs up to \$500.

The requested work must be a necessary repair, rather than merely an upgrade.

An eight-member volunteer board meets monthly to verify requests before contacting a prescreened contractor to complete the work.

No tax dollars are used for the repairs. Instead, Boykins relies on donations and funds raised through the annual charity golf tournament.

For more information on the Senior Assistance Fund or participating in the Swingin' for the Seniors Golf Tournament, contact Chelbi Mims at 832-393-3001 or [chelbi.mims@houston.gov](mailto:chelbi.mims@houston.gov).

### Sagemont Civic Club salutes Murphy

By Jay Do

Members of the Sagemont Civic Club recently recognized the efforts of local South Belt resident Ellen Murphy for her commitment to her community. Her efforts have led to her becoming nothing short of an inspiration in the eyes of the members of her community.

A South Belt resident for more than 35 years, Murphy attended both Thompson Intermediate and J. Frank Dobie High School. Murphy has dedicated countless hours of her own time to see to the well-being of her neighbors and community by taking on the laborious tasks of maintaining lots and yards of abandoned residences. "I mostly do things that involve some volun-

teer community cleaning, whether it be picking up trash or mowing a lawn," said Murphy. "There's a corner lot that was on the Fourth of July route that was abandoned and the owners hadn't been back since Hurricane Ike. I cleared that out so it would help the view from the street. Last summer, a group of volunteers got together to work on a corner lot off Sagedowne, near a Pasadena Independent School District bus stop. There's also another vacant home that I work on at Kirkholm. I'm very familiar with these places that need some work done on them because I travel by them frequently. Some places like area sidewalks just need the grass mowed

Continued on Page 3A

With roughly \$20,000 owed in back taxes, the residence is currently the subject of pending litigation from the Pasadena Independent School District. PISD officials said it took four attempts to serve legal papers to the homeowners, as they kept changing their mailing address. A hearing on the case is set for mid-October.

The problematic house had originally been

reported to city officials by the Sagemont Civic Club, but the group had limited success in getting the issues addressed.

Civic club Vice President Sandy Robb is pleased with the recent work.

"It looks really nice," Robb said. "It was absolutely terrible. I'd like to thank the guys who did the work. They did a great job."

### 2-year-old boy drowns in home pool

A 2-year-old boy drowned in a swimming pool Monday, Aug. 3, in the 11200 block of Sagehill near Hughes Road.

Emergency crews responded to the scene around 10:45 a.m. to find someone attempting to perform CPR on the child.

Their efforts to revive him were unsuccessful, however, and Mason Craft was pronounced dead at the scene.



Mason Craft

The incident marked the sixth time this year a child has drowned in Harris County.

At press time, police had not released any details of the event, and the investigation was ongoing.

A GoFundMe page has been established to help the family with memorial expenses. Donations may be made at [www.gofundme.com/3b3b9sbew5d](http://www.gofundme.com/3b3b9sbew5d).

Funeral arrangements had not been released at press time. Check the *Leader's* Facebook page for information.

### SJC's Hellyer receives national honor

The Association of Community College Trustees named San Jacinto College Chancellor Dr. Brenda Hellyer its Western Region CEO award.

"Since she was appointed chancellor six years ago, Dr. Hellyer has transformed our college and focused employees on the mission of improving student success," said SJC board chairman Dan Mims.

"As we move students successfully through the education process, and they walk across that stage as college graduates, the community as a whole

benefits. Much of that success is due to the transformational leader we have in Dr. Brenda Hellyer."

Hellyer began her affiliation with San Jacinto College as a community volunteer. She served on the inaugural board of directors of the San Jacinto College Foundation.



Brenda Hellyer

Continued on Page 4A

### Bebee softball fundraiser planned

By Jay Do

The Robert Bebee Foundation is currently beginning preparations for its next benefit project, the I Got This softball tournament.

Named after Bebee's iconic catch phrase, the I Got This softball tournament's goal is to continue his love of pets and animals by donating all funds raised to local animal shelters.



Robert Bebee

The I Got This tournament will be hosted by Houston

Sportsplex, powered by DBSports. The benefit tournament will take place on Aug. 15 starting at 8 a.m. The entry fee for the tournament is currently set at \$200 per team; however, teams are able to receive a \$20 discount in return for donating gently used to new pet items. Anyone interested in donating or volunteering to help at the tournament is encouraged to call 832-250-9794 for more information.

"We're currently trying to work with one of the shelters that Robert used to work with and the Houston SPCA," said Vasquez. "For the tournament, whenever a team registers and donates a pet item, we're going to match that donation and distribute the items to the pet shelters."

South Belt residents can no doubt still recall the tragic afternoon in May 2013 that has gone down as the deadliest day in the 120-year history of the Houston Fire Department.

Continued on Page 3A

### Dobie students earn scholarships

At the Pasadena Independent School District's July board meeting on Tuesday, July 28, the PISD Police Officers Association presented \$1,000 scholarship awards to seven high school graduates, including four from Dobie.

The 2015 PISD Police Officers Association scholarship recipients are Ana Ortiz, Dobie; Quentin Sessor, Dobie; Juan Pedraza, Dobie; Glenda Rivera, Dobie; Sadie Burt, Memorial; Dakota Fontenot, South Houston; and Dominique Nsibu, Memorial.

The scholarship program is made possible through proceeds from the organization's 2015 car show. The association expressed gratitude to all who supported the initiative including this year's top sponsor, Anthony Loya, general sales manager of the A.C. Collins Ford dealership.

Now in its second year, the car show attracts droves of district families, board members, area businesses and organizations, and car enthusiasts. Attendees enjoy live entertainment, food and a vast array of hot rods, custom vehicles and classic cars. The event has proved to be successful, raising an increase of \$3,000 this year.

"We enjoy giving back to students in the community," PISD Police Capt. David Garza said. "This event helps us to provide the resources students need to be successful and reach their goals."

Scholarship recipients were required to submit applications to the police association. A panel of judges reviewed each application and made selections based on academic achievements and disciplinary standing.

### PISD police give scholarships



The Pasadena Independent School District Police Officers Association recently presented \$1,000 scholarships to seven high school graduates, including four from Dobie. Shown above are, left to right, (front row) scholarship recipients Ana Ortiz, Dobie; Quentin Sessor, Dobie; Sadie Burt, Memorial; Glenda Rivera, Dobie; Dakota Fontenot, South Houston; Juan Pedraza, Dobie; and Dominique Nsibu, Memorial; (back row) PISD Police Capts. David Garza and Bill McMahon; Officers Jason Grice and Trae Morris; A.C. Collins Ford general sales manager and top scholarship sponsor Anthony Loya; Officers Mark Mills, Michael Spray, Amber Murphy, Keri Smith and Kyle Wilson.

Photo submitted

# In My Opinion

## Sen. Taylor + 15 upset over TWIA increase

I am extremely disappointed in the 5 to 4 decision made by the TWIA Board to increase rates on policyholders once again. Today, sixteen of my coastal colleagues in the Texas Legislature joined me in urging the TWIA Board to postpone any rate increase at this time. Homeowners have endured rate increases for nine of the past ten years - 2 of which included double digit increases after Hurricane Ike in 2008.

Galveston County residents alone pay nearly \$1,700 on average in windstorm coverage premiums annually.

People and companies have struggled to keep up with the ever increasing rates and some have even had to go without the coverage. TWIA is on solid footing and these folks deserve a break. Please read attached letter below:

Sen. Larry Taylor  
Dear TWIA Board Members:

We respectfully urge you to postpone consideration of any rate increase at this time. Many factors have contributed to the Association's improved financial condition and must be weighed heavily before members of the board take steps to increase rates again for TWIA policyholders.

We applaud the tremendous effort the board has made to meet actuarial insurance standards during the 2015 storm season. The board has taken action to secure enough funding to pay losses for an event occurring once in every 100 years (\$4.9 Billion), also known as the "Probable Maximum Loss (PML)." Recognizing Hurricane Ike's total estimated loss as \$2.61 billion, the board should be commended for this outstanding financial stride to protect policyholders.

In addition to the improved financial standing of TWIA for the current storm season, major legislative reform passed during the 84th Legislature reinforces actuarial standards for subsequent storm seasons beginning in 2016. Senate Bill 900 PML every storm season and establishes a balance between public securities, member company assessments, reinsurance and alternative financing that ultimately provides the board flexibility and stability to pay future claims. These changes reflect needed improvements the board should view as a positive step forward.

Historically, residential TWIA policyholders have experienced a rate increase for nine of the last ten years, while commercial TWIA policyholders have experienced a rate increase for 16 of the last 17 years. After Hurricane Ike made landfall, TWIA residential and commercial rates in 2008 and 2009 equaled a combined increase of 20.5% and 21%, respectively. Since 2011 the board has approved a 5 percent annual rate increase for 5 consecutive years. The result of the board's long-term strategy as outlined in a TWIA memo dated July 17th, 2015 states, "the cumulative effect of these increases is approximately 28% for both residential and commercial policies. For an average TWIA policy with a premium of \$1,200, this would represent an increase of approximately \$330." Furthermore, the current Catastrophe Reserve Trust Fund holds approxi-

mately \$483 million, with nearly \$120 million projected to be deposited into the fund in 2016. Such funding will provide an estimated \$600 million in reserves to pay future losses.

Given the aforementioned reasons, we believe an arbitrary rate increase on local businesses and homeowners is unnecessary at this time. As coastal legislators, we have worked tirelessly to ensure accessibility, affordability and availability of windstorm coverage for our constituents.

We wholeheartedly believe a strong coast makes a strong Texas. Sincerely,  
**Brandon Creighton**, Texas Senate District 4; **Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa**, Texas Senate District 20; **Wayne Faircloth**, Texas House of Representatives District 23; **Ed Thompson**, Texas House of Representatives District 29; **Larry Taylor**, Texas Senate District 11; **Eddie Lucio, Jr.**, Texas Senate District 27; **Greg Bonnen**, Texas House of Representatives District 24; **Geanie Morrison**, Texas House of Representatives District 30; **Lois Kolkhorst**, Texas Senate District 18; **Dade Phelan**, Texas House of Representatives District 21; **Dennis Bonnen**, Texas House of Representatives District 25; **Ryan Guillen**, Texas House of Representatives District 31; **Todd Hunter**, Texas House of Representatives District 32; **Eddie Lucio III**, Texas House of Representatives District 38; **Abel Herrero**, Texas House of Representatives District 34; **Wayne Smith**, Texas House of Representatives District 128; **Rene Oliveira**, Texas House of Representatives District 37; and **Gilbert Pena**, Texas House of Representatives District 144.

## Volper sends letter of appreciation

My name is Cindi Volper and I am writing this because I am sad; that Dr. Avinash N. Bapat, is retiring. However, I am also extremely happy that he has been my husband's cardiologist.

Dr. Bapat saved AC's life, many years ago, but is too modest to take any credit.

Of course, Dr. David Ott, another phenomenon, took over and performed the surgery that was needed, but it was Dr. Bapat that caught it, and made the necessary happen. AC has a team of doctors that we are grateful that they chose medicine as their profession, such as Dr. Amir Ghebranian. AC is my heart, and as we head towards our 37th anniversary, we know we have the best helping us to continue on our journey.

Dr. Bapat, prayers to you and yours, and may you enjoy and accomplish all that your heart desires.  
**AC and Cindi Volper**

## Thanks from Sandy for job well done

A big thanks to all for helping us get the property on Sagevale cleaned up. The crew did a great job. They need a big personal thank you but don't know how to do that.

Also, grateful that the other mess got cleaned up down the street that had all the furniture dumped on it.

It is cleaned up along with the garbage cans in the front yard.  
**Sandy Robb**

## Local library events set

### Parker Williams Branch

The following events are scheduled this week at the Parker Williams Branch Library, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd.

On Thursday, Aug. 6, at 4 p.m., Movie Madness will feature *Legend of the Guardians: The Owls of Ga'Hoole*, rated PG.

Movie Time for Adults will present *The Philadelphia Story* on Friday, Aug. 7, at 2 p.m.

On Monday, Aug. 10, at 2:30 p.m., the library will hold Create a Hero: Super Villains. Come join in the creation of a super hero's arch rival and nemesis.

Movie Madness will be held Wednesday, Aug. 12, at 2 p.m. The feature presentation will be *The Golden Compass*, rated PG-13.

Wednesdays - Preschool storytime is at 10:30 a.m.

Thursdays - Toddler storytime is at 10:30 a.m.

Saturdays - Vietnamese Storytime: Level 2 begins at 10 a.m., Level 1 begins at 11:15 a.m., and Level 3 begins at 2:30 p.m. For more information, speak with Loc Bui.

For more information on these programs, call the Parker Williams Library at 281-484-2036.

### Bracewell Branch Library

The following events are scheduled for August at the Bracewell Branch Library, 9002 Kingspoint Road.

Every Wednesday: 10:30 a.m. - Toddler storytime, followed by Toddler Playtime at 11 a.m.; 2 p.m. - Computer Basics; 3:15 p.m. - Internet Basics; 4:30 p.m. - Intro to MS PowerPoint.

Tuesday, Aug. 11, at 2 p.m. - HPL's Improv Puppet Theatre; Thursday, Aug. 13 at 6 p.m. - Not Your Mama's Book Club - A discussion on *Orphan Train* by Christine Baker Kline.

Bracewell hours are Sunday and Monday - Closed; Tuesday and Wednesday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursday noon to 8 p.m., Friday 1 to 5 p.m., and Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call the Bracewell Branch at 832-393-2580.

# Publisher's editorial

## Hats off to speedy elimination of danger to kids

One of the more important jobs of community leaders today is to help keep up the neighborhood. With major problems like the recession, Hurricane Ike, etc, there are homes in the community that need vast attention - some may need to be torn down. This is the case with the house near Frazier Elementary which we reported on last week.

It was through the efforts of Sandy Robb and Kay Barbour of the Sagemont Civic Club that I was made aware of the house that definitely posed a danger to school children. Full details are in last week's *Leader*.

## Elected officials share their words

### Sullivan: Homestead exemption increase

This November, Texans will be making a very important decision regarding their property taxes. Earlier this year, lawmakers worked on a tax relief bill to increase the homestead exemption from \$15,000 to \$25,000 on property taxes for school districts. This bill was signed by Governor Greg Abbott on June 16, 2015. Now, it will go to the voters for approval on November 3, 2015, and if passed, will provide an estimated \$3.8 billion in tax relief to Texans.

As a longtime advocate for the taxpayer and Harris County Tax Assessor-Collector, my office has been working to ensure YOU, the taxpayer understands your rights and

I am thrilled to report that city of Houston officials were very fast to correct the threat.

A big thank you goes out to our city councilman, Dwight Boykins; his aide, Chelbi Mims; and Mayra Hypolite, executive staff analyst for the City of Houston Department of Neighborhoods; as well as the city workers who did the boarding up and mowing of the property last Saturday. Hopefully now the house will be sold so the property can be fixed or replaced on the tax rolls.

Great job, thanks to all!  
**Marie Flickinger**,  
Publisher

how you can effectively lower your tax bill. The constitutional amendment you will be voting on in this upcoming election is incredibly important. In Harris County, it will affect all homestead residential property accounts, which is around 800,000 property owners. If passed, a homestead residential taxpayer could see a \$120-\$167 reduction in their tax burden, depending on the school district approved tax rate.

Every year, I remind taxpayers to check to see if they are receiving the exemptions they are entitled to receive, as these are significant discounts to their tax bill. If passed, the increased exemption will offer an additional discount. Please visit my website at [www.hctax.net](http://www.hctax.net) or call 713-274-8000 to learn more about property tax exemptions and ways you can lower your bill.  
**Mike Sullivan**

## Register now for fall semester at San Jac; Classes begin Aug. 24

Registration is open for the fall 2015 semester at San Jacinto College.

Traditional fall classes begin Monday, Aug. 24, 2015, while Weekend College courses begin on Friday, Sept. 11. The registration payment deadline is Thursday, Aug. 13. Registration remains open for the fall 2015 semester after the payment deadline, but all financial obligations incurred after the payment deadline not covered by financial aid, installment payment plan, third party agreement, or scholarship, must be paid on the day of registration. Students may register and pay in full up to the start of class.

"We encourage students, if they have not already, to begin the financial aid process by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)," said Robert Merino, dean of financial aid services. "It is free to apply, and if students need assistance, they should contact a San Jacinto College financial aid advisor."

Financial aid information is available online at [sanjac.edu/financial-aid](http://sanjac.edu/financial-aid). The San Jacinto College FAFSA Code is 003609.

San Jacinto College also offers assistance with choosing a career path; deciding on an area of study; and the application, enrollment and registration processes.

Educational planners are available on all San Jacinto College campuses to help students select courses that will easily transfer to a four-year college or university, or get them the skills they need to enter the workforce upon graduation.

"Our educational planners and advisors are here to help," noted Joanna Zimmermann, interim vice president of student services. "We know that not everyone who walks through our doors knows what path they want to take. Our staff has the tools and resources available to help students find their passion. With more

than 45 programs and 186 certificate and degree options, there is something for everyone at San Jacinto College."

Students who are looking for an alternative to attending classes during the work week should consider Weekend College or online courses. San Jacinto College offers a wide variety of weekend classes that are taught Friday through Sunday in various academic and technical programs. These courses provide another option for students who work during the week or cannot take classes in the traditional Monday through Friday format. Students who take weekend courses can complete an Associate of Arts and transfer to the university of their choice within two years. Online classes are available for some of the basic courses, offering full credit and transferability. For more information, visit the San Jacinto College online learning website.

To apply to San Jacinto College, visit [sanjac.edu/](http://sanjac.edu/) apply.

For more information about San Jacinto College, call 281-998-6150, visit [sanjac.edu/](http://sanjac.edu/) or follow on Facebook and Twitter.

## Daniel says jury service scam victimized woman out of \$2,500

Harris County District Clerk Chris Daniel warned residents that a jury scam in which criminals pose as police officers seeking fines for missed jury service has resurfaced in Harris County and the surrounding region.

A Houston woman recently was duped out of nearly \$2,500 by a man who identified himself as a police lieutenant trying to collect fines for missed jury service.

Daniel said, "The District Clerk's Office never contacts people by phone to say that they have not appeared for jury service, never asks people to pay fines and never asks people to give debit account information, personal identification information or other sensitive information on the phone. If you receive such calls, do not give these men any money or debit card information."

Jury scams are run periodically, and they have victimized people across the U.S.

The Houston woman said she returned home July 7 to find a message from a man saying he was Lt. Mike Tyrell of the Harris County Sheriff's Office. He said he was calling about a court matter, and he left his number, which she called. In an email sent to the district clerk's office, the west Houston woman said, "The scammer stated that I had not answered a jury summons, and that the judges were now issuing Class C misdemeanor citations as well as a contempt

of court for failure to appear."

The woman grew more nervous when he continued to make the case why she needed to address the matter immediately. "He stated he could get me on the court docket for Friday to get it all taken care of, but that I had to post bond so the warrant that was out against me could be lifted," she wrote. I have no experience with criminal procedures, so what did I know. I asked how I was to do all that by Friday, and he said, 'Oh no, ma'am. You have to do it tonight.' I got very anxious."

He kept her on the phone. She followed his instructions and put \$2,496 on a Reloadit card at a Randall's.

"Please make people aware of this scam, and try to catch them," she wrote. "If I absent-mindedly walked out of a store carrying \$10 worth of merchandise I'd be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. These jokers can scam millions, and since it's not a matter of federal security, it's

not worth the law enforcement budget to go after them."

When a similar scam was run in Harris County last year, Perrye K. Turner, special agent in charge of the FBI's Houston office, said one of the best ways to curb the scam is to inform the public not to fall prey to it.

"We've seen variations of this scam hit unsuspecting residents across the country," Turner said. "These scammers are using fear and intimidation to pressure victims into paying them money, and they often move from state to state very quickly to avoid detection. Educating yourself on the latest scams is the best defense, and remember - law enforcement authorities will never demand you pay a fine by phone."

People should report scammers' calls to the district clerk's jury service operation at 713-755-6392 and to local police or the FBI. Tips to the FBI also may be submitted online at [tips.fbi.gov](http://tips.fbi.gov). All tipsters may remain anonymous.

## Highland Meadow meets Aug. 12

The monthly meeting of Highland Meadow HOA is Wednesday, Aug. 12, at 7 p.m. at the Parker Williams Library, 10851 Scarsdale. Homeowners are urged to attend. Questions prior to the meeting may be given to Deniece Reyes with C.I.A. Services at 713-981-9000 or at customer care@ciservices.com.

## Lariaettes hold car wash Aug. 8

The Dobie Lariaettes will hold a car wash Saturday, Aug. 8, at the Taco Bell on Fuqua from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tickets are \$5 and are available in advance from any Lariaette line member or at the event. Donations are gladly accepted.

Our Family Has Grown




Now with two locations to better serve our community

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Niday - Fairmont Funeral Home</b> 6777 Fairmont Pkwy. • Pasadena 281.991.0575</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Niday Funeral Home</b> 12440 Beamer • Houston 281.464.7200</p>
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Still family owned and operated, our exceptional service and affordability set us apart from other funeral homes. The moment you sit down with us, you will feel and see the difference. Niday Funeral Home services all cemeteries and offers a range of funeral and cremation options.

Planning in advance can be one of the most thoughtful decisions you make for your family. Our plans are transferable should you move, and we also accept most existing policies from other funeral homes.



**Niday Funeral Home**  
12440 Beamer Road  
281.464.7200  
[www.nidayfunerals.com](http://www.nidayfunerals.com)

## Nguyen cites Flippin as good example of dedication

Elissa Huong Nguyen, one of J. Frank Dobie High School's Shining Stars, is shown with distinguished educator Sam Flippin, who teaches orchestra. They were honored at the annual Pasadena Independent School District Shining Stars Gala, which recognizes the top students from each high school and their favorite teachers.

Nguyen volunteered in the Intensive Care Unit at Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital, as pit performer for the *Into the Woods* musical production, with various events at the Vietnamese Martyrs Church, in choir, organized Puppy Love Date Night benefitting local animal shelters and with aniMeals on Wheels.

Nguyen taught violas at Beverly Hills Intermediate and volunteered with middle school Region Orchestra, Wreaths Across America, McDonald's Houston Children's festival, Houston food bank, Random Acts of Christmas, Armand Bayou cleanup and various elementary school fall festivals. Nguyen also organized Key Club's first and second annual South Belt Trick-or-Treat Trail benefitting UNICEF.

Extracurricular activities include TMEA (Texas Music Educators Association) all-state violist, all-area violist, all-region violist, Pasadena Philharmonic violist, Chamber I violist, National Honor Society member, UIL spelling, UIL ready writing, TSJCL competition and American Festival for the Arts. Nguyen demonstrated leadership skills in Key Club as treasurer and president, Latin Club as co-president, orchestra as section leader and Roman life study captain.

Concerning the future, Nguyen said, "I plan to pursue a career that requires mathematics and the sciences while still keeping music in my life." She plans to audition with an orchestra, to study biochemistry or biomedicine and apply to medical school to earn a doctorate and become a physician.

Nguyen said, "I owe the bulk of my achievements and knowledge to numerous talented educators I have had the honor of being taught by throughout the years.

"During my four years with Mr. Flippin as my orchestra teacher, I have learned lessons in music that I could easily apply to my studies and my life. From teaching music theory mini-lessons, to staying after school for hours on end and setting a good example of dedication, to fervently encouraging and supporting my passion for creating music, he has taught me to always try to reach for things that I care about."

The South Belt Shining Stars will be presented in a series of 10 students being honored along with their favorite mentor.

This is the eighth in the series of 10. The 10 Shining Stars represent the Top 10 Dobie High School students.

The information and photos were supplied by the Pasadena Independent School District. The Leader is also running the Top 10 Shining Stars from Memorial and South Houston high schools. (See Pages 3A and 5A.)



## "Notice of Public Meeting to Discuss Budget"

San Jacinto College District will hold a public budget hearing meeting on Monday, August 17, 2015, at 7 p.m. in the Board Room, Suite A1.104, of the Thomas S. Sewell District Administration Building, located at 4624 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, Texas.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the college district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted.

Public participation in the discussion is invited.

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held immediately after at which time adoption of the 2015-2016 budget will be considered.

The proposed budget will be available for inspection beginning on August 10, 2015, at the District Business Office, 4620 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, Texas.

# Murphy works to better South Belt community

Continued from Page 1A  
back to help the pedestrian traffic or cyclists."

Murphy initially began her efforts to maintain abandoned and vacant residences after answering a call for help by the community.

"There was a request in the Leader last summer to clean up the lot on Sagedowne," said Murphy. "There was a need for volunteers to get together and have a community clean-up day, so we all met at the Sagemont Community Center. That's when we started working on the house, and since last summer, I've been over there around a dozen times to keep it clean and keep it from getting out of hand again."

Seemingly committing her life to the service of others, Murphy now serves as a special education aide for Beverly Hills Intermediate.

While her students and colleagues are enjoying the summer break, often sheltered from the sweltering Texas heat, Murphy is out seeing to it that the homes that she has worked on stay in the same immaculate condition.

"During the summer, I have more time to work on these homes," said Murphy. "If I stay on top of it, these vacant homes only need about half an hour to an hour every time I go out there to mow them, as opposed to letting it grow out and having to hire a crew and spend three to five hours out there on a hot summer day like we had to the first time we came out. It's minimal, it's not like I'm out there all the time. I just spend a few hours every other week at those two lots."

Murphy works relentlessly on the two vacant homes for no reason other than the fact that it helps the community. Her dedication to the service of others is a result of her parents instilling the values of selflessness into her childhood.

"I continue to do this because it helps the community," said Murphy. On those two lots, the owners are not there, and no one has any idea where they are or when they'll be back.

"Cleaning up the lots helps to combat the eyesore throughout the neighborhoods. I also think it'll help with vandalism and the like, because I don't like the idea of people being able to easily get into the back doors and doing whatever they want to do. I don't think that should be a part of the community. Working out here is also a great way to meet some really nice neighbors. The people who live around the homes that we work on are always thankful and appreciative, and it really does mean a lot that we're able to do something to help them out, regardless of how small it may be. I was taught growing up about the idea of being responsible, helpful and thankful. My parents were always looking for ways to help our family and friends. I'm glad I am blessed to be able to have the ability to give back to my community."

Murphy believes that the fact that people are able to make a positive difference in their community should appeal to others to be more proactive and take part in the improvement of their neighborhoods.

"Seeing the before and after pictures and seeing all the positivity that comes out of

restoring an abandoned home is the most appealing factor to attracting others to participate in an effort like this," said Murphy. "People should see the difference that we're making in the neighborhoods, in terms of safety and aesthetics. That's what I think should get people involved, not because they're helping themselves, but because they're helping their friends and neighbors in their community. Doing things like this teaches kids from the next generation that this is what they need to be doing. They need to learn to go out and be active in their community and to selflessly help others without the need for anything in return." While Murphy is not compensated financially, she believes that she is compensated in such a manner that is worth far more.

"The best reward that I reap out of doing this is the inner health and peace," said Murphy.

"It builds my self-esteem to know that I'm out there doing some good and helping to make a positive impact on other people's lives. It's not like I get paid to do this, but that inner sense of self-fulfillment, that sense of knowing that you're doing the right thing, that's worth a lot more than money." The fact that there are still people with good intentions who are willing to help better their community motivates Murphy to continue her efforts.

"Some of the people that I've met found it refreshing and surprising that there are still people out there that are willing to use their own time and money and energy to help others," said Murphy. "To me, that encourages me to do more for my community, because it shows me that I'm not the last of a dying breed. It shows me that there are a lot of good people out

there that still want to help others, even if it's just a little. I plan to live a life of service,

because that was the example I saw growing up. Regardless of how long you live, this

life is short and will soon be passed. Only what is done for others will last."

## Scholarships for nursing students

Just as San Jacinto College nursing students have made their decision to care for others, so has the John S. Dunn Foundation in caring for the program that trains them.

The board members and officers of the Dunn Foundation recently visited the college's nursing program to meet faculty members, tour the health sciences facility and meet with two nursing students who each received \$1,000 scholarships from the Dunn Foundation's June 2014 grant of \$25,000.

"There are so many worthy causes which make our selection for grants very difficult," said Dagmar Dunn Pickens Gipe, vice president of the John S. Dunn Founda-

tion and daughter of the late John S. Dunn. "We have loved everything we've seen here at the San Jacinto College nursing program. The students are very impressive, and it was wonderful to hear their stories and let us know about their experiences."

The Dunn Foundation has given a total of \$110,000 in grants since 1997 to San Jacinto College for nursing scholarships. Scholarship recipient, Gilbert Austin, considers his scholarship as a sign to persevere in his studies toward becoming a nurse.

"This is God's way of whispering in my ear to keep going," said Austin. "When I learned that I received this scholarship, I immediately

wanted to know more about Mr. Dunn and to thank the Dunn Foundation for this gift."

John S. Dunn formed the John S. Dunn Foundation in 1977. The foundation's current focus is to support nursing programs, health care clinics for the underserved, mental health programs, and medical research and education within the Greater Houston area.

To be eligible for a John S. Dunn Foundation Nursing Scholarship, a student must be admitted to the San Jacinto College associate degree nursing program, have a minimum GPA of 2.5, and be enrolled in a minimum of eight credit hours. To learn more, visit the San Jacinto College Foundation Web page.

## Boykins thanks Wilson for service



District D Council Member Dwight Boykins recently hosted a reception to thank the retiring Rosario Wilson for her services to the community. Wilson has served as the South Belt-Ellington Satellite Community Liaison, working at the Sagemont Community Center to assist residents with concerns they had. The position is now vacant and open to senior citizens. Interested residents are asked to contact Boykins' office. Photo by Marie Flickinger

## Bebee Foundation hosts benefit tournament

Continued from Page 1A

In a single five-alarm motel fire near the South-west Freeway at Hillcroft, the lives of four Houston firefighters were lost. The fire that took more than 150 firefighters roughly three hours to bring under control also injured 14 others and forever altered the lives of countless Houstonians.

Among those killed in the deadly blaze was a long-time South Belt resident.

A 1990 Dobie graduate, Bebee dedicated his life to public service, first working as a deputy for the Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's office before making the switch to become a Houston Fire Department firefighter in August of 2001.

Bebee began his firefighting career as a firefighter/EMT and quickly rose through the ranks to become an engineer operator EMT in December of 2007. At the time of his death, Bebee was studying to become a captain.

In the wake of Bebee's early death came the Robert Bebee Foundation, an organization dedicated to honoring the memory of the firefighter and carrying out his legacy by continuing his tradition of giving back to his community.

"Our mission is to do exactly what Robert did," said Robert Bebee Foundation executive board member Ann Marie Vasquez. "He would go out on calls and see stuff around the community that needed to be fixed. After work, he would go shopping for all the tools and materials that were needed, paid for them with his own money and do the repairs for people himself at no charge. That's what we're trying to continue. We're trying to continue doing what he did for everyone and for his community. The firefighters from Station 51 where Bebee used to work will go out on calls and find homes that need work done on them. They report that to us and we go investigate the homes to see how we can help them with what we can. We repair things like air conditioners, roofs, ceilings, floors and ramps.

We've replaced things like bathtubs and toilets. We don't do major plumbing or electrical work, but we try to help with everything else."

The Robert Bebee Foundation now collaborates with local agencies to provide aid and support homeless people in their hour of need. Helping the homeless is critical to the foundation, as Bebee would have had it no other way.

"We go out and purchase food and drinks to deliver

to the homeless community in the downtown area," said Vasquez. "We also have a program called Cover Houston, in which people donate blankets and socks to those homeless people. We have a chili team called the Bebee Q's and all the money raised from that organization goes back into the foundation to be redistributed to the community."

The success of the first I Got This Softball Tournament is imperative, as parties from both the Rob-

ert Bebee Foundation and DBSports personally grew up with Bebee and hope to see his legacy carried on for years to come.

"Robert was a very giving person," said Vasquez. "He always went the extra mile for everybody. His saying was always 'I got this.' No matter what it was or who it was for, he always made sure that he got it done for them if they needed his help, and that's what we're trying to continue doing with this foundation.

## Leader investigates Postal Service frustrations

Continued from Page 1A

While the shutdown was only one of 82 post offices that was forced to be closed as a result of the United States Postal Service's \$20 billion budget cut, the removal of one of Houston's primary mail processing center has crippled the Postal Service and left countless local residents in a state of confusion and frustration.

"Mail is getting to the suburban stations four to five hours late and the carriers have to spend another two hours setting up their routes and getting the mail out.

"Some businesses aren't getting mail at all, and even some of the homeowners aren't getting their mail delivered until 7 to 8 p.m., and that's on the days that mail's actually getting delivered," said Williams.

The Leader also found itself facing the senseless operations of the Postal Service. With around 10 tenants renting offices in the Leader's building, all get their mail delivered through one mail carrier, with the exception of Bill Winning of Winning Ways.

Winning seems to have been issued his own private courier by the Postal Service, despite his not having requested any service of the like.

Deciding to conduct an experiment to see firsthand

the extent of the deterioration of the Postal Service, Winning mailed a check to the Leader as opposed to delivering it by hand. The check, which was mailed from about 50 feet from the Leader's office took more than three weeks to arrive.

Mail being sent out of the Leader's office addressed to other local businesses nearby would often go for two weeks before being delivered right back to its origin. Mail sent to addresses nowhere near remotely similar to that of the Leader's would be delivered to the office several times per week.

Both concerned and intrigued by the community's outcry and after being forced to go a total of 18 days without having its mail picked up, the Leader launched its own investigation into what seemingly appeared to be a deteriorating Postal Service with no indication of improvement.

The Leader began its investigative efforts by filing a complaint through the United States Postal Service's national customer service hotline. The complaint took more than an hour to be filed; granted, the majority of the time was spent on hold for a customer representative.

Nevertheless, the complaint was filed with the

high hopes of hearing back from an official from the Postal Service and seeing rapid improvement. That was certainly to be expected, after seeing "Our goal is to resolve your concern within three business days" listed on the United States Postal Service's online website.

Yet despite what the Postal Service may say, the Leader's claim, which was filed on July 14, has not been addressed as of the time of press. Numerous phone calls from the Leader office to both the customer service hotline and to the Postal Service's consumer affairs department have proved to be futile, in spite of each phone call taking well over an hour.

While the United States Postal Service failed to respond to the Leader's complaint according to its established guidelines, its service has improved marginally since the complaint was filed, delivering mail to the office for upward of three business days per week. It is unknown whether this is a result of the complaint or simply progress in the transitioning process.

Although it was made known to the Leader by a mail carrier of the Windmill Post Office that a complaint had been acknowledged by her superiors, representatives from

the Postal Service's consumer affairs have made it clear that such an exchange does not constitute an official response by the United States Postal Service.

The Leader has also undergone numerous attempts to reach out to the United States Postal Service's media relations specialist for the Houston area for an official word and explanation as to what has been the cause of the dis-

ruption and what steps, if any, are in place to remediate the situation. As of press time, there has been no response.

Residents experiencing similar disruptive and unreliable Postal Service are urged to voice their concerns and frustrations to the national customer hotline at 1-800-275-8777, although a wait time of upward of 90 minutes is to be expected.

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## Olson notes Caudillo cares about student success

Pasadena Memorial High School's Shining Star Caleb Olson is shown with distinguished educator Rene Caudillo, who teaches AP U.S. History. Olson and Caudillo were honored at the annual Pasadena Independent School District Shining Stars Gala, which recognizes the top students from each high school and their favorite teachers.

Extracurricular activities for Olson included UIL Computer Science and PDFLAC (Pasadena ISD Foreign Language Academic Competition).

Concerning the future, Olson plans to attend the University of Texas at Austin and major in computer science. Regarding his teacher, Olson said, "Mr. Caudillo

has made it a major point to be there for his students. He makes history enjoyable but still understandable, and his personal stories about some little known historical facts are always entertaining.

"Mr. C stays late for his students, he loses sleep for his students, and he cares very much about the success of his students, motivating them to be their best every single day."

The South Belt Shining Stars will be presented in a series of 10 students being honored along with their favorite mentor.

This is the eighth in the series of 10. The 10 Shining Stars represent the Top 10 Pasadena Memorial High School students. The information and photos were supplied by the Pasadena Independent School District.

The Leader is also running the Top 10 Shining Stars from Dobie and South Houston high schools. (See Pages 2A and 5A.)



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# Over The Back Fence by Alexis

**WELL WISHES FOR JOE DOMINGUEZ**  
Well wishes and prayers for strength and healing are sent from family, friends and the Leader staff to longtime South Belt resident Joe Dominguez as he recovers at home from a recent pacemaker implant surgery.

**SCHOOL DAZE**  
The following personnel and staff members of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays Aug. 6 through Aug. 12.

**Atkinson Elementary**  
Sing a chorus of a happy birthday song to **Martha Mercado Aug. 12.**

**Burnett Elementary**  
Blow out the birthday candles for **Kevin Schulba Aug. 10.** Send a birthday greeting Aug. 12 to **Griselda Robles.**

**Bush Elementary**  
Enjoy a slice of birthday cake with **Marissa Ramirez Aug. 8.**

**Frazier Elementary**  
Light the birthday candles for **Natasha Gittens-Edgar Aug. 6.**

**Meador Elementary**  
Birthday greetings are in order for **Colleen Robles Aug. 6.** Marking a birthday Aug. 7 is **Monti Marquez.** Blow out the birthday candles Aug. 10 for **Molly Savala.**

**Moore Elementary**  
Aug. 7 is the day for a birthday cake for **Gisela Villagarcia.**

**Stuchbery Elementary**  
**Shirleene Lipsey** is wished a happy birthday Aug. 9. Blow out the candles for **Salma Meziou Aug. 10.** Aug. 11 is the day for a birthday cake for **Maria Garcia.** The day for a party for **Leticia Gracia** and **Maria Calvillo** is Aug. 12.

**Melillo Middle School**  
Celebrating a birthday Aug. 8 is **Rebekah Peterson.** On Aug. 12, happy birthday greetings are sent to **Kayren Mingus.**

**Beverly Hills Intermediate**  
Sing a chorus of a birthday song Aug. 10 to **Kayla Joos.** On Aug. 11, happy birthday greetings are sent to **Wendy McClain** and **Travis Teichelman.**

**Dobie High**  
The day for a party for **Anthony Ponce, Anne Regier, Eileen O'Connor** and **Brianna Vorhis-Topping** is Aug. 6. The day for a cake for **La Nguyen** is Aug. 8. Sing two choruses of a birthday song Aug. 10 to **Yvette Giron** and **Donna Rinehart.**

**FACEBOOK FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS**  
The Leader sends happy birthday wishes to its Facebook friends who celebrate a birthday this week:  
Thursday, Aug. 6: **David Perry,**

**Kenneth Brown** and **Jeff Weber Friday, Aug. 7: Curtis Bradley, Sean Gilbert, Challen Averre, Claudia Castillo, Aubree Swanson, Eric Jackson, Doug Mills and Vu Tuong; Saturday, Aug. 8: Kathy Jones, Brad Fuller, Jesse Lopez, Toshana Kitchen, Christopher Herrera, James Xavier Garcia, Shawn Arguello, David Elliot, Heather DeRousse, Jarod Hunt, Rebekah Peterson, Jami Cadena and Verda Carr; Sunday, Aug. 9: Sam Farias, Trae Buchanan, Jennifer Weise, Dennis Spencer, Josie Mendez, Unatrice Jackson, Robert Coy, Patti Racicot and Jill Kasselman; Monday, Aug. 10: Alex Limon, Zerrick Guinn and Keith Black; Tuesday, Aug. 11: Ann Yenee Ly-Penn, Martin Zuber, Felicia Minjares, Jill Hansen, Daryl Shaulis, Hugo Gomez, Shannon Burke and Sonja Terry; and Wednesday, Aug. 12: Leslie Rojas, Angela Brock, Ronald Philpott, Linda Wilson, Denise Renee Gomez, Maricela Lopez and Mike Millikin.**

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

### Dobie sets class reunions

**Class of 1995 20-year Reunion**  
The J. Frank Dobie Class of 1995 will hold its 20-year reunion Friday, Aug. 7, from 7:30 p.m. to midnight at Cadillac Bar (private party room), 1802 Shepherd Drive in Houston.

To access the invitation or to pay to attend, go to <http://www.reunionscoop.com> then click on Roll Call of Reunions and follow the directions.

The reunion will be casual. Payment is to the planner, Reunions by Class Act.

For more information, call 713-780-0020. If paid at the door, tickets are \$55 each, cash only.

**Class of 1975 40-year Reunion**  
The J. Frank Dobie Class of 1975 will hold its 40-year reunion Sept. 25-26 at South Shore Harbour Resort and Conference Center, 2500 S. Shore Blvd. in League City.

Tickets at the door or after Aug. 1 will be \$100 per person. This includes dinner and entertainment for Saturday night. A block of rooms at a special rate will be available.

For more information, call Susie Holmes Holt at 281-222-4140, Pam West Saxton at 832-330-8368, or Debbie Green Harrell at 832-818-5028.

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## SJC's Hellyer named top Western Division CEO

Continued from Page 1A

tion. She went on to become chief financial officer and transitioned into the role of chancellor in May of 2009.

One of her first priorities as chancellor was to work with the board of trustees to define the mission, vision, and values of the college. Over the last six years, her leadership has moved the college to an Achieving the Dream Leader College and an institution that has been recognized twice by the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program as one of the top 150 community colleges in the nation. However, if one asks Hellyer about what she is most proud, she will talk about student success and students completing what they came to San Jacinto College to start.

"Since 2007, we have more than doubled the number of degrees and certificates awarded to our students to more than 5,000 in each of the last three years," said Hellyer. "For me, we are here to ensure our students succeed in their higher education pursuits and move on to further their education or enter the workforce to begin their dream career. I am both honored and humbled to have received this award from the Association of Community College Trustees. It is a true testament to the hard work and dedication of the faculty, staff, administration, and trustees at San Jacinto College."

Hellyer has been instrumental in building partnerships in the region. As industry expansion continues to grow along the Texas Gulf Coast, and the need to fill jobs is more demanding than at any other time in the college's history, Hellyer has built relationships that have served as a catalyst to define workforce training opportunities and curriculum to meet the workforce demand of the region. She has been influential in ensuring that the nine community colleges in the Gulf Coast region work together to meet the needs of the region's workforce. Through her efforts, more than \$20 million in federal grant funding has come to the Gulf Coast region for career training.

"Our partnership with San Jacinto College, under the leadership of Dr. Hellyer, has been vital to the success of our organization's role in supporting the regional economy and of our various workforce development initiatives over the past couple of years, including the most recent launch of Dream It. Do It. Southeast Texas," said Chad Burke, president of the Economic Alliance Houston Port Region. "As a member of our executive board, Dr. Hellyer contributes her wisdom, business acumen, and passion for the growth of our region in a way that consistently supports the mission of our organization."

Partnerships with the region's industry are not the only collaboration efforts Hellyer has championed. She has worked tirelessly with the independent school districts (ISD) within the San Jacinto College taxing and service areas to expand dual credit options, and create an early college high school program either on a San Jacinto College campus or at the ISD high school campus.

"We have seen tremendous growth in our dual credit and early college high school enrollment," said Hellyer. "This tells me how important a college credential or degree is to students and families in our district, and I am committed to making sure we are helping those students get a head start on college. I love the fact that these students who complete early college high school actually receive their college degree before they earn their high school diploma. What an amazing accomplishment that is."

"Working with Dr. Hellyer has been a tremendous honor and privilege," Dr. Kirk Lewis, Pasadena ISD superintendent of schools said. "Through her hard work and the support of San Jacinto College, the Pasadena Early College High School program gives our students a leg up when it comes to their futures. Many of the kids in the program are first generation college graduates and they accomplish this feat before gaining their high school diplomas. With community support of our 2014 bond election, we are in the process of expanding this program to all five of our high schools. I can't wait to see what's on the horizon for these young people's futures."

Another area of concentration and importance to Hellyer is around the nearly 2,000 San Jacinto College employees. In addition to implementing a performance management system for every employee, ensuring that all employees are focused on the San Jacinto College strategic plan and goals, she has made a strong commitment to organizational development. These efforts have helped develop more effective college leaders and provided employees an understanding of the changing demographics of the region.

"Dr. Hellyer has amazing energy and passion," said Mims. "She has led San Jac employees through difficult times, from a cultural change and a recession, to cuts in our budget and state funding, and an extensive reorganization. While leading through such difficulty and change, she has maintained the respect of college employees and community members. She has such a deep sense of community, and she truly cares about the people that live and work in our area, yet manages to keep a keen eye and focus on the success of our students."

Hellyer is an advocate for higher education and community colleges regionally, statewide and nationally. She is a member of the American Association of Community Colleges 21st Century

### Open Garden Day Aug. 17

Harris County Master Gardeners at Precinct 2 will host Open Garden Day on Monday, Aug. 17, from 8:30 to 11 a.m. at Genoa Friendship Garden, 1202 Genoa Red Bluff Road.

Master gardeners will be available to answer gardening questions. Plants will be for sale in the greenhouse, and educational programs for adults and children are scheduled.

For more information, visit <https://hcmga.tamu.edu>.

### Lions Club meeting set

The Houston Space City Lions Club will meet Tuesday, Aug. 11, at 7 p.m. at the Golden Corral, 12500 Gulf Freeway. For more information, call George Malone at 281-438-7243.

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## The Abarca Family Welcomes Baby Noah!



**Our little bundle of joy has arrived!**

Natalie and Jose Abarca, big brother Kelvin and big sister Isabella are ecstatic to welcome little Noah Alexander into the world! Noah was born on July 5, 2015, weighing 8 pounds, 6 ounces, and stretched 20.5 inches in length. Proud grandparents are Ellie and David Flickinger, Lawrence Garza, Ana and Donnie Mock. Proud great grandparents are Joaquina Reyes and Marie and David Flickinger.

## Remember When

**35 years ago (1980)**  
A hazardous waste disposal site was being proposed adjacent to Ellington Air Force Base by Gulf Coast Waste Disposal Authority. GCWDA officials announced they had made permit application for the 200-acre site bounded by Ellington, State Highway 3, and the proposed Beltway 8 near Genoa-Red Bluff Road. The facility was expected to cost approximately \$67 million and would incorporate the use of a rotary kiln and, at that time, a relatively new process of detoxification known as Stablex.

The four-lane divided highway from the Gulf Freeway to Beamer Road on Fuqua opened, and local merchants celebrated with a variety of sales offered in a special section of the Leader.

Local fans of Astros pitcher J.R. Richards collected signatures on a get-well card to be delivered to the star's Sageglen home after his release from the hospital.

An electrical fire left several businesses in the Kroger shopping center with little or no electricity. The fire occurred in a trough located at the rear of the building which housed a bundle of electrical wires.

**30 years ago (1985)**  
Petitions requesting flashing lights at local school zones and improvements to Hall Road from Kingspoint to Telephone were to be given to El Franco Lee, county commissioner for Precinct 1, at a meeting of the South Belt Civic Coalition. More than 2,000 signatures were secured on the petitions.

In an effort to clean up a 2.4 mile eyesore along the city-county line, Harris County Precinct 1 officials offered to make improvements and maintain a portion of Hall Road between Telephone and Kingspoint.

A \$10,000 lawsuit filed by South Belt Security Alliance against Southeast Security was dropped, according to South Belt Security Alliance spokesman Neil West.

The Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League All-Star team won two games to advance into the semifinals of the Little League State Tournament in Waco.

**25 years ago (1990)**  
First-time drug users or students in possession of narcotics would no longer face mandatory expulsion from Pasadena ISD schools. Board members voted to change that portion of the Discipline Management Plan and relevant section in the student handbook.

As a method of introducing South Belt area residents to the vast amount of local health services, the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce was making plans to host Health Fair '90 with booths set up at Alameda Mall.

South Belt area residents Melissa Atkinson and Manada Whalen, members of the West University softball team, received first-place trophies in the Spring-Klein Invitational 12-and-under Softball Tournament. Both also received Most Valuable Player awards for their efforts throughout the event.

**20 years ago (1995)**  
Dobie's Jennifer Richardson, 15, won the Glamour Girl Model Search Contest (teen division) hosted by Page Parkes Center of Modeling and Glamour Shots of Houston.

It was announced that the 1991 Clear Brook High School graduate who was serving a life sentence in Bangladesh for drug smuggling, would be released.

At a board meeting, Pasadena ISD trustees approved a tougher discipline management plan. The plan was in compliance with Senate Bill 1, which called for mandatory removal from campus of students who commit serious offenses.

Dobie High School's Devin Mitchell joined 230 outstanding high school sophomores from every state for the 1995 Hugh O'Brien Youth Foundation World Leadership Congress during the summer.

**15 years ago (2000)**  
Heather Ogilvie, a 1996 Dobie graduate and Sageglen resident, relinquished her crown after serving one year as Miss Texas. During her reign, Ogilvie represented Texas at the national level at the Miss USA Pageant, placing 12th.

During a meeting of the Clear Brook City Municipal Utility District, the board toured the new subdivision of Clear Brook Meadows, located just off Blackhawk Boulevard.

A public hearing was set for a proposed apartment complex, slated to be a 250-unit multifamily residential development, to be constructed in the Highland Meadow subdivision.

**10 years ago (2005)**  
Both PISD and CCISD had the "recognized" status reduced to "acceptable" after students took the more rigorous Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills tests.

Kristi LaMell was named principal of Clear Brook High School. LaMell replaced Michael Kreis who was principal for only one year.

The 147th Texas Air National Guard received orders to deploy to Iraq in support of the war on terror.

A fatal traffic accident occurred on the Gulf Freeway at the Scarsdale exit. The driver of a late-model Mustang took the exit at the last minute then spun out of control. A 25-year-old male passenger in the car was killed instantly.

South Belt parents were anticipating the annual tax-free shopping weekend for back-to-school clothing items.

**5 years ago (2010)**  
The Southeast Volunteer Fire Department responded to three separate blazes that officials believed were caused by a serial arsonist. The latest of the three incidents occurred at St. Luke's church, where a paper dumpster was ignited. Two days earlier, firefighters responded to a grass fire near the right-of-way lane on Beltway 8 near Blackhawk that SVFD Chief Chuck Tylka said was started with gasoline. A few days prior, a guitar was set on fire on Hall Road near El Franco Lee Park. Again, Tylka said an accelerant, such as gasoline, was used to initiate the blaze.

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# Dominguezes attend grandson's graduation



Joe and Yolanda Dominguez, long-time Sagemont residents, vacationed in the San Francisco Bay Area to attend grandson Daniel Chan's graduation from Menlo High School. Daniel is the son of Laura Dominguez Chan (1985 Dobie graduate) and Craig Chan. Daniel is the brother of Lauren and Nathan Chan. He is also the grandson of Lino and Ida Chan. He plans to attend Stanford University in California.

Daniel Chan (center) enjoys breakfast with the family. Also pictured are Daniel's parents, Craig and Laura Dominguez Chan.

At right, Yolanda and daughter Laura enjoy time at a cafe.



Left to right, Yolanda, Laura and Joe.



Yolanda spends time with grandson Daniel at his graduation.

# PISD appoints Saavedra-Palomares AP

The Pasadena Independent School District Board of Trustees recently appointed staff members Adriana Saavedra-Palomares, Kristin Still, Jana Johnson and Keith Moore to new administrative positions within the district.

Formerly a Spanish/dual language teacher at Pasadena Memorial High School, South Belt resident Saavedra-Palomares was hired as the assistant principal at Melillo Middle School.

She holds a bachelor's degree in communications from the University of Houston. Saavedra-Palomares also holds a master's in educational management from the University of Houston-Clear Lake.

"This is not only a professional investment for me, but it is also personal," said Saavedra-Palomares.

"I have been living in the South Belt area since 2001. I'm extremely excited to have the opportunity to serve as an advocate for students

and parents in the community and also my family and friends."

Saavedra-Palomares plans to bring her experience as a Spanish/dual language arts teacher to her new role as assistant principal.

"I am passionate about bringing cultural awareness into classrooms by promoting literacy and helping the bilingual community," Saavedra-Palomares said.

Still was appointed as the new principal of Rick Schneider Middle School. She has served in several positions within the district since 2000, moving from science teacher to peer facilitator then recently as assistant principal at South Houston Intermediate.

She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Houston-Clear Lake in biological science and also holds a master's degree in educational administration and supervision from the University of Houston.

"I feel like I am already a Schneider Spartan at heart and look forward to joining the family and becoming a servant leader to the students, parents, staff, and community," she said.

"I want to assure community members that while I do have big shoes to fill in Dr. Marsha Jones' absence, I am ready, capable and my door is always open."

"I want to thank the Pasadena ISD central office administration and the board of trustees for this unbelievable opportunity," she continued. "I will continue the legacy of excellence that Dr. Marsha Jones has built at Schneider Middle School."

Marsha Jones, the former principal at Schneider, was promoted to executive director of curriculum and instruction for the district.

A seventh- and eighth-grade science teacher at Park View Intermediate since 2009, Johnson was hired for the position of counselor at

De Zavala Middle School. Johnson graduated from the University of Houston-Clear Lake with a bachelor's degree in human resources, and she holds a master's in counseling from the University of St. Thomas.

A principal for eight years, Moore will bid farewell to his position at the Guidance Center to become the director of transportation for the district. Moore has been with Pasadena ISD since 1986. He served as a band director for several years prior to becoming an assistant principal. A graduate of Delta State University, Moore holds a Bachelor of Music Education.

He earned a Master of Science degree in educational management from the University of Houston-Clear Lake.

These new administrators began working with their colleagues to prepare for the 2015-16 school year, which will officially start Aug. 25. (See photo Page 1A.)

# Concert for Life at Sagemont Church Aug. 13

Continued from Page 1A

The 2015 Concert for Life is being sponsored by twelve pregnancy support and pro-life groups.

Downtown Pregnancy Help Center; 5th Ward Pregnancy Help Center, Houston Coalition for Life, Pregnancy & Parenting Support Center (Texas City); Life House Houston;

Catholic Organization of Life; Texas Right to Life; Beltway 8 South Crisis Pregnancy Center; Gulfton Satellite-Bridge to Life; Foundation for Life; Anchor Point and Hispanics of Texas for Life.

Christine Melchior, executive director for Houston Coalition for Life, said, "We are all looking forward

to celebrating with the other pro-life groups in the Houston area. It's so important for us to get together to celebrate life and have fun. I'm grateful that this concert will give us the opportunity to do that."

While this concert is free to the public (and no collection will be taken!), as of

July 31, underwriters have pledged \$50.64 to local pregnancy support centers per person attending.

For a sample of David Michael's music visit youtube.com/watch?v=WHOF-vakCx8w&feature=youtu.be or call Sylvia Johnson 713-899-1739 or Christine Melchior 832-244-8724.

# Grocery store auto registration extended

Tax Assessor-Collector

Mike Sullivan is extending the renewal period for drivers to update their expired auto registration at their local grocery store. "The state has always granted drivers a grace period to renew their registration after expiration," said Sullivan. "In Harris County, drivers had a five-day grace period to renew their registration at their local grocery store. After that time, they were required to renew at a tax assessor-collector branch office. Effective immediately, I'm extending that renewal period from five days to 30 days so drivers can get their registration sticker at grocery stores, like H-E-B, Kroger, Randalls and Fiesta."

This extension allows drivers to renew their registration 30 days after expiration at any Harris County Tax Assessor Collector registration renewal partner if they have not received a citation for expired registration. If a driver has received a citation, he or she must renew at any Harris County Tax Assessor-Collector branch office.

"Earlier this year, we launched the One Sticker program in Harris County, and I know there is still confusion regarding how the program works," said Sullivan. "That's why I want to give drivers more options and make it easier for them to get their registrations. For this reason, I've decided to extend the renewal period."

In addition to visiting their local grocery store and the tax

assessor-collector's office,

drivers can renew their registration online and by mail. Specific instructions will be noted on their registration renewal form. It is also important to note that this renewal extension does not extend the grace period allowed by law and that drivers may be given a citation if they are operating a vehicle with an expired registration.

To view a full list of auto registration renewal partners,

visit www.hctax.net. The Harris County Tax Assessor-Collector's Office Automobile Division performs more than 4.5 million automobile transactions in Harris County each year. It also works closely with the Texas Department of Motor

Vehicles to register motor vehicles, collect registration and title fees and distribute them to the proper entities.

Learn more about the Automobile Services Division by visiting www.hctax.net.

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# Shell Pipeline gives students a glimpse of pipeline business

San Jacinto College EnergyVenture students recently toured the Shell Pipeline Company LP (Shell) Colex facility in Pasadena, Texas, to learn about the pipeline business and future science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) career opportunities in the energy sector.

The tour included information about technical and professional careers in the pipeline business, a discussion about the types of equipment

used to keep the pipelines operational, and a panel engagement about careers.

"It's important to do well in school and get your education," James Lawrence, Shell Pipeline Company LP maintenance technician, told the group of EnergyVenture students. Lawrence also said that focusing on math and science is essential because both are skills used every day on the job. "What many people may not realize is that there are great opportunities for young

people in the pipeline business," he added.

During the tour, EnergyVenture students noticed a variety of factors they found appealing about working in the pipeline business.

"What I noticed about the Shell [facility] visit is that everyone looked like they really enjoyed their jobs," said Isaiah Trevino, 12, EnergyVenture student. "It's a place where I would think about working."

Michael Garcia, 12, another EnergyVenture student,

said that the program has made him realize just how important the energy industry is when it comes to the products used daily in households.

"We've learned that [a lot] of things we have are related to the energy industry," said Garcia. "Clothes, hair dyes, and cosmetics are even made from petrochemical products. This has really motivated me to work harder in school and prepare for what's next."

EnergyVenture is a youth program focused on career

awareness and job opportunities in the oil, gas, and petrochemical industries for middle and high school students. Now in its eighth year, more than 1,300 students have attended the summer camp.

"Typically, young people know about careers in education or the medical field such as a teacher or doctor," said Linda Droblich, EnergyVenture program director. "This program introduces them to good paying professions in the energy industry, such as engineering, process technology, instrumentation, and maintenance technology."

Houston offers a variety of energy-related job opportunities. Droblich noted that a young person can earn an associate or technical degree or a bachelor's degree, stay close to home, and enter into a lucrative and rewarding career.

The EnergyVenture program is offered through Shell's Workforce Development Team and San Jacinto College's Continuing and Professional Development division. For more information, visit sanjac.edu/energy-venture-camp or visit Shell's Energize Your Future website at shell.us/energizeyourfuture.

Earlier this year, we launched the One Sticker program in Harris County, and I know there is still confusion regarding how the program works," said Sullivan. "That's why I want to give drivers more options and make it easier for them to get their registrations. For this reason, I've decided to extend the renewal period."

In addition to visiting their local grocery store and the tax

# Rodriguez appreciates motivation by McNabb

South Houston High School's Shining Star Genesis Rodriguez is shown with distinguished educator Debbie McNabb, who teaches Pre-AB biology. Rodriguez and McNabb were honored at the annual Pasadena Independent School District Shining Stars Gala which recognizes the top students from each high school and their favorite teachers.

Rodriguez served as a volunteer for Houston Humane Society, beach cleanup, Mathys Elementary Fall festival, Solo and Ensemble Monitor and Shoes for Kids. Extracurricular activities include band, HOSA, Ecology Club, National Honor Society, and student council.

Leadership positions included drum major for the Mighty Trojan marching band, senior class treasurer and

National Honor Society treasurer. Rodriguez's goal is to become a nurse practitioner.

Remembering her teacher, Rodriguez said, "Mrs. McNabb is a hardworking teacher who truly cares about her students. She's always had high expectations of us and would not rest until we reached our full potential. Because of Mrs. McNabb, biology has been my favorite subject throughout high school. You could never be bored in her class; she would not allow it. She taught us with such a passion that made her class very interesting and fun."

"The amount of energy and positivity she has is truly unique. She always motivated us to do better for ourselves, and I've taken that with me through high school, and I will continue to do so through life. Mrs. McNabb you are an amazing teacher, thank you for everything."

The South Belt Shining Stars will be presented in a series of 10 students being honored along with their favorite mentor. This is the eighth in the series of 10. The 10 Shining Stars represent the Top 10 South Houston High School students.

The information and photos were supplied by the Pasadena Independent School District. The Leader is also running the Top 10 Shining Stars from Dobie and Pasadena Memorial high schools. (See Pages 2A and 3A.)



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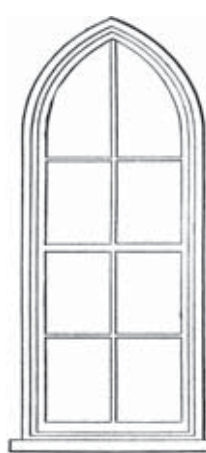
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# South Belters share vacation photos

## Family fun in Las Vegas!



Longtime South Belt residents Davin, Sylvia and David Velasquez enjoyed their time at the Cosmopolitan Hotel and Casino and exploring the Strip of Las Vegas the week of June 29.

## Fun at Pirates Bay



South Belt residents, left to right, Ostin Elmore, Belle Perridon (front), Kathleen Newell and Chris Marks, had fun at Pirates Bay Waterpark in Baytown recently. They purchased tickets online and got to the park at 9 a.m., and still waited an hour to get in. They stayed from opening until it closed and all agree they had a blast. The family includes three other children who were unable to attend with them that day. Ostin will be a freshman at Dobie High School, and plans to play football. Belle will be in the fourth grade at Frazier. She is a Student Council member and loves playing soccer.

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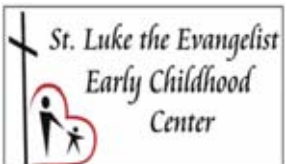
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Sylvia plays slots while Davin watches.



Sylvia (above) and Davin (below) enjoy time in Las Vegas.



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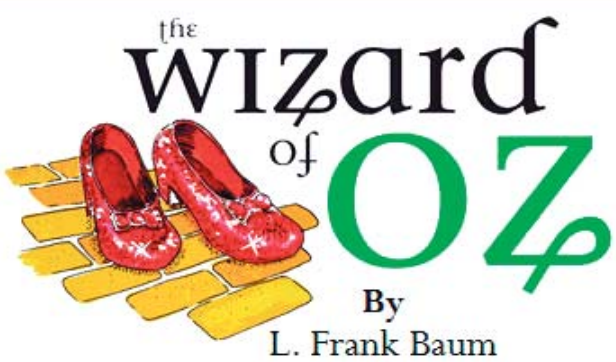
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## SBHLL officials set fall league, tourneys

The Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League will host registration for its upcoming fall league. The registration date is Saturday, Aug. 8, from noon to 2 p.m. at the league's facility at El Franco Lee Park. The team fee is \$300, and each team is guaranteed at least three games. Each team must also provide two game balls during the tournament. For more information, call Chris Escalera at 832-630-4007 or direct email to chubrock30@yahoo.com. For more information, visit the Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League page on Facebook.

## Dobie season tickets on sale at Shiflett's

The Pasadena ISD athletic department is offering discounted season ticket packages and single game student tickets now through Aug. 21 at the ticket office, 2906 Dabney in Pasadena. The contact number is 713-740-0841. South Belt area residents may also purchase the packages at Roy Shiflett Realtors, located at 11559 Beamer, next to the South Belt-Ellington Leader office. Those packages will sell Mondays through Saturdays, but prospective purchasers are asked to call ahead at 281-481-3733. The packages, featuring seven Pasadena ISD Veterans Stadium appearances

for Dobie, South Houston, Pasadena, Sam Rayburn and Memorial, are \$42 per package, a savings of \$1 per game. A big discount comes in the form of preseason student ticket sales. Those single game tickets are \$3 each. All tickets, both adult and students above first-grade, will be \$7 at the gate. Dobie fans will have an opportunity to see the Longhorns, including incoming head coach Mike Norman, take on Clear Springs in a nondistrict contest before playing District 22-6A contests at Veterans Stadium against Manvel, Alvin, South Houston, Pasadena, Sam Rayburn and Pasadena Memorial.

## Longhorn aquatics to welcome freshmen

Dobie High School swimming coach Brad Nguyen will welcome any incoming freshmen as of the 2015-2016 school year for a tryout session Monday, Aug. 10, from 3 to 5 p.m., at the team's practice pool at Beverly Hills Intermediate. Those wishing to try out for the team must have a completed athletics physical for the 2015-2016 school year on file at the school prior to working out. There are no exceptions. For questions, parents may direct email to Nguyen at KTNgyuen@pasadenaisd.org.

## Aerial attack in play with Longhorns



Senior Tyler Giron and his Dobie varsity football teammates began preseason workouts Aug. 3, and work in the passing game was front and center.



Tight end Jesse Paredes, playing varsity football for the first time, could very well give the Longhorns a big target on the outside.

## Brook, Dobie ready for opening night

Yes, it's true. The start of the 2015 high school volleyball season is just about here.

After just more than a week, including two quick scrimmages, the season is set to be served up Tuesday, Aug. 11.

Clear Brook, looking to get some positive things going after a struggle-filled 2014 season, is set to take on St. Agnes Academy at St. Agnes.

Following that, the Lady Wolverines will be part of a star-studded field at the prestigious Pearland ISD Classic Aug. 13-15 in Pearland.

Dobie, meanwhile, will debut with first-year head coach Dawn Gutierrez on the bench as the Lady Longhorns take on North Shore and Elkins in a tri-match at Dobie. The varsity action begins at 4 p.m. From there, the Lady Longhorns will head to San Antonio for the Northside ISD Invitational Aug. 14-15.

Elite of elite to Pearland Clear Brook will once more be among the field at the 2015 Addidas Texas Volleyball Invitational at a variety of sites in and around the Pearland area.

Many of the state's top-ranked Class 6A, Class 5A, Class 4A and even some from Class 3A will be in the hunt for the eventful tournament championship in Pearland.

Clear Brook will engage in three pool play matches Thursday, Aug. 13, all at Pearland Junior High West.

The Lady Wolverines will face Fort Bend Austin at 11:30 a.m., then take on Pearce at 2:30 p.m. before a third match against Magnolia West at 3:30 p.m.

All pool play matches are of the best-of-three variety. Trophy matches are best-of-five.

Following pool play, teams will be divided into bronze, silver and gold brackets for trophy contention.

## 2015 Volleyball Openers

Dobie hosts North Shore  
Dobie hosts Elkins

Tuesday, Aug. 11, 4 p.m.  
Dobie High School  
Clear Brook at St. Agnes  
Tuesday, Aug. 11, 6:30 p.m.  
St. Agnes Academy

## Dobie to San Antonio

The Lady Longhorns won't face quite the same level of competition in San Antonio that will come in Pearland, but the Northside ISD Invitational will nonetheless provide plenty of challenges.

Dobie has attended this particular event for several seasons.

This season, Gutierrez no doubt wants to get plenty of players on the

floor in hopes of gaining needed playing experience and team bonding during the nondistrict portion of the schedule.

On Aug. 14, Dobie will take on San Antonio Warren at 9 a.m., before going up against Clemens at 10:15 a.m. There are 15 teams involved in the tournament mix, including Taft of Class 3A, Boerne of Class 4A and Clark of Class 6A.

## JFD tennis exes to help serve up season

There's nothing like remembering the past when preparing to usher in the present.

At least that's the way the Dobie tennis program likes to handle its business.

With the start of the team tennis season just days away, the Dobie varsity tennis team of 2015 will get things going with a series of doubles matches

against players from previous seasons. Will we see Ivette Alba, a member of Dobie's 2013 team tennis championship squad. How about Andy Peng, Andy Choe?

It's to be determined as to just who will show up for this year's matches, set for Saturday, Aug. 8, at 9 a.m. But it's sure to be a lot of fun.

Following the exes matches, the Dobie varsity tennis team will return

to the practice courts for another week of workouts before taking on Willis High School Aug. 14, at Willis.

As part of one of the most competitive nondistrict schedules around, the Longhorns will also face area powers Friendswood, Clear Brook, Clear Creek and George Ranch.

The key to the season for Dobie could very well boil down to the development of things on

the boys' side of the equation, where just two regular contributors from 2014 (Luis Cabreja, Albert Luu) reside.

As juniors, Cabreja (No. 2 boys' singles) and Luu (No. 3 boys' singles) were second team, all-district selections.

As for the girls' contributions, Dobie tennis coach Manuel Moreno Jr. expects big things from Lada Heng, Hai Ho, Karen Neira, Ashley Deveza and others. Heng and Ho will also combine to play No. 1 doubles, with Neira and Deveza teaming in the No. 2 spot.



Ivette Alba just might be one of the former Dobie varsity tennis players taking part in the school's annual exes matches Saturday, Aug. 8, as the Longhorns' team tennis season gets underway.

## As JFD football preseason opens, other team activities coincide

Dobie football players have taken to the field for the start of preseason workouts, which means it's also a busy time of the year for the program's booster club with each passing day.

**Parents meeting**  
JFD varsity football head coach Mike Norman has set a pair of mandatory parent meetings, to be held in the school's cafeteria.

On Monday, Aug. 10, parents of all sophomore, junior and senior players will meet with Norman and staff members at 7 p.m. The freshman parent meeting is Tuesday, Aug. 11, also at 7 p.m.

**Fundraisers**  
The Dobie booster club will host a hamburger plate fundraiser during the Longhorns' Friday, Aug. 14, scrimmage session against Strake Jesuit at Veterans Memorial Stadium in Pasadena.

Fans may purchase a hamburger/chips/beverage combination for \$5 each during both the 4 p.m. freshman scrimmage and the upperclassman scrimmage, set for 6 p.m.

The following day, Aug. 15, Dobie football players will host a car wash at Snowy's Snow Cones, located in the Food Town parking lot at Beamer/

Scarsdale. The car washing will begin at 8 a.m.

**Meet/Horns**  
The Dobie football program will also take part in Meet the Longhorns Night, Wednesday, Aug. 19, at Dobie. Norman

will introduce the various teams and the coaching staffs, and players and their families will enjoy a variety of food items as the push toward the start of the regular season continues. **Continued on Page 2B**

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# Preseason underway as Longhorns eye season opener three weeks away

It had only been two days as of press time, but Dobie varsity football head coach Mike Norman counted himself among those pleased at the way preseason work had gone at Dobie.

Yes, it was hot, but every high school football program across the area had been forced to deal with that. Instead, Norman was simply focused on getting better every day.

"It's still a long process, but it was great to see the improvement just from Monday to Tuesday," Norman said.

"Our expectations certainly have been met. The kids are buying into what we're doing out here, and we're looking forward to the progress as we move forward. We have to make progress every day, and I think we will do that."

By University Interscholastic League rules, players are allowed to practice in T-shirts, shorts and helmets only through Aug. 6. Dobie will don the

pads Aug. 7, and there will be an intrasquad scrimmage Saturday, Aug. 8, for the upperclassmen. The action begins at 8 a.m.

Clearly, Norman and his staff are looking to the time when the pads are introduced. More specifically, Norman will be watching Aug. 8 as the Longhorns' reloaded offensive line goes up against a defensive front that features plenty of talent and experience.

It's been said before, but there's no getting around the fact that new players will debut at each of the offensive line positions this season, and there will also be a newcomer at tight end.

That's not the best scenario for a Class 6A varsity football program, but it is what it is. Starting on opening night against Deer Park Aug. 28, the Longhorns will face four opponents consecutively who were in the Class 6A playoffs in 2014. Thus, the offensive line has to

mesh quickly. "We're not going to crush anybody or get crushed on Saturday, but we definitely want to see some of those guys up front (offensive line) and how they handle that front seven."

"When you're talking about some of the teams we're playing the first four weeks of the season, plus that Dickinson scrimmage, our guys have to continue to develop as a unit and be ready when those Friday night lights come on."

"Saturday is the first step. I'll be watching that competition for sure."

"The defense is usually ahead of the offense in most cases at this point in the preseason, especially with the level of experience we have on that side," Norman said. "Of course, we hope the offense comes together in a hurry as well."

And it's no secret the Longhorns plan to throw the ball more this season. The secret to a solid running game is to be able to

throw it. It's going to happen.

"Everybody is doing well. Tyler (Giron) and Jeremy (Davis) have looked good out there, but they haven't seen (a pass rush) yet," Norman said.

"It's all going to come together. The first week is about teaching and learning, and the second week is more about refining and mixing in some of the little things."

With that in mind, Norman said the teams will keep things simple with a scrimmage coming Friday, Aug. 14, at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena.

There's no reason to pull out all the stops in the playbook. Instead, it's about execution in all phases of the game.

"Exactly," said Norman, when asked about the scrimmage and the plan. "We want to see the guys execute the things we've been doing in practice, make sure the terminology is getting down with guys and so forth. That's all you

really need to do in that first scrimmage.

Of course, you want to have success and score some points, but there are other ways to see success in a scrimmage. You don't get any wins or losses for those anyway, but we want to see progress."

Moving ahead to the second week of workouts prior to the Strake Jesuit scrimmage, the coaching staff will continue to input more things on both sides of the ball, and special teams work will be stepped up.

Every day is big, especially leading up to the start of school Aug. 25. There's simply more time to get things done right

now without needing to worry about class schedules and after-school issues. The Longhorns plan to utilize the time wisely.

"It's only been a couple of days, but it's been a good two days," Norman said.

"We've identified the key guys at the skill spots on both sides of the ball and plan to give them chances to make plays. It'll all come together. Every program out there is doing what they need to prepare, and we are no different."

So the Mike Norman era is underway. Yes, he arrived last spring, but this is the first real chance to get a look at a Norman-led

program. So far, so good. The season has yet to come, and there is still more than three weeks before the regular season and everyone is looking ahead to the second week of the preseason. Oh, the possibilities.

But the Longhorns look good out there on the field, and everyone is looking ahead to the second week of the preseason. Oh, the possibilities.

## JFD booster club goes to work

**Continued from Page 1B**  
**Booster news**

The Dobie High School football booster club holds monthly meetings each second Monday throughout the course of the preseason and regular season.

All parents of JFD football players are encouraged to attend the 7 p.m. meetings.

For more information, call booster club president Anna Flores at 281-221-5602.

**Dobie football scrimmage vs. Strake Jesuit Crusaders**  
**Friday, Aug. 14**  
**Veterans Stadium, Pasadena**  
**4 p.m. – Freshmen**  
**6 p.m. – Upperclassmen**

## South Belt's Tamijani headed to William Penn football



Samson Tamijani (seated), a class of 2015 Sam Rayburn High School graduate and lifelong South Belt area resident, will continue his education and playing career at William Penn University in Oskaloosa, Iowa. He will join the football program as a place kicker and will be joined by former Dobie High School standout running back Rashad Randall and quarterback Joe Gonzalez as incoming freshmen for the Statesmen. Tamijani is a former student of Frazier Elementary, Morris and Melillo middle schools, and Thompson Intermediate. His father, Bijan Tamijani, retired as Sam Rayburn's varsity boys' soccer coach following the 2014 season. Those with Tamijani at the signing included, left to right, (standing) Camellia May (mother), Bijan Tamijani (father), Zak Tamijani (brother), Roaxana Tamijani (sister) and Aarash Tamijani (brother).

### Dobie football selling FR discount cards

Members of the Dobie High School football program are selling discount cards good at a variety of local restaurants as a fundraiser for the program.

Cost of the cards is \$20 each, and players currently have the cards available.

Those who purchase the discount cards will be able to use them for discounts and, in some cases, free appetizers, in the South Belt, Pearland and Webster areas.

In most cases, the offers extend for a calendar year beginning this month.

Those who wish to purchase a card or two may contact any Longhorn football player, regardless of grade level or playing team status. Cards will be on sale throughout August.



Dobie varsity football head coach Mike Norman (right) discusses a passing route with receiver Jaylon Bolden during Day 2 of the Longhorns' preseason workouts at the school. A two-year starter, Bolden is the team's top returning receiver and will be joined by Breon Simmons, Kaelon Woods, Jacoby Davis and others as passing targets.



Chandler Tisby, two years ago the District 22-5A Defensive Newcomer of the Year and a first-team all district pick a season ago, works through a defensive line drill during preseason workouts at the school. Tisby is just one of the players being counted on to lead the way as Dobie expects to be solid on defense.

Photos by John Bechtle

## Clear Creek ISD releases 2015 varsity football master schedule

<b>Brook</b> <i>La Porte</i>	<b>Lake</b> <i>Port Neches Groves</i>	<b>Creek</b> <i>at Ridge Point</i>	<b>Falls</b> <i>at Atascocita</i>	<b>Springs</b> <i>North Shore</i>
<i>Thursday, Aug. 27</i> Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	<i>Saturday, Aug. 29</i> Veterans Stadium, 6 p.m.	<i>Saturday, Aug. 29</i> Hall Stadium, 6 p.m.	<i>Friday, Aug. 28</i> Turner Stadium, 7 p.m.	<i>Friday, Aug. 28</i> Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.
<i>Westfield</i> <i>Friday, Sept. 4</i> Thorne Stadium, 7 p.m.	<i>at Sam Rayburn</i> <i>Friday, Sept. 4</i> Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	<i>Alief Taylor</i> <i>Friday, Sept. 4</i> Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	<i>Kempner</i> <i>Thursday, Sept. 3</i> Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	<i>at Dobie</i> <i>Saturday, Sept. 5</i> Veterans Stadium, 6 p.m.
<i>at Baytown Sterling</i> <i>Friday, Sept. 18</i> Stallworth, 7 p.m.	<i>Nederland</i> <i>Friday, Sept. 11</i> Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	<i>Deer Park</i> <i>Thursday, Sept. 10</i> Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	<i>at Seven Lakes</i> <i>Thursday, Sept. 10</i> Tully Stadium, 6:30 p.m.	<i>La Porte</i> <i>Saturday, Sept. 12</i> Veterans Stadium, 6 p.m.
<i>Clear Creek</i> <i>Thursday, Sept. 24</i> Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	<i>Dickinson (HC)</i> <i>Friday, Sept. 25</i> Veterans Stadium, 6 p.m.	<i>Clear Brook</i> <i>Thursday, Sept. 24</i> Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	<i>Friendswood (HC)</i> <i>Saturday, Sept. 26</i> Veterans Stadium, 1 p.m.	<i>at Brazoswood</i> <i>Thursday, Sept. 24</i> Hopper Stadium, 7 p.m.
<i>at Dickinson</i> <i>Friday, Oct. 2</i> Vitanza Stadium, 7 p.m.	<i>Clear Springs</i> <i>Saturday, Oct. 3</i> Veterans Stadium, 2 p.m.	<i>Clear Falls (HC)</i> <i>Friday, Oct. 2</i> Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	<i>Clear Creek</i> <i>Friday, Oct. 2</i> Veterans, 7 p.m.	<i>Clear Lake (HC)</i> <i>Saturday, Oct. 3</i> Veterans Stadium, 2 p.m.
<i>Clear Lake (HC)</i> <i>Friday, Oct. 9</i> Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	<i>Clear Brook</i> <i>Friday, Oct. 9</i> Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	<i>at Brazoswood</i> <i>Friday, Oct. 9</i> Hopper Stadium, 7 p.m.	<i>Dickinson</i> <i>Thursday, Oct. 8</i> Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	<i>Friendswood</i> <i>Saturday, Oct. 10</i> Veterans Stadium, 6 p.m.
<i>Clear Springs</i> <i>Friday, Oct. 16</i> Veterans, 7 p.m.	<i>Clear Falls</i> <i>Thursday, Oct. 15</i> Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	<i>Friendswood</i> <i>Saturday, Oct. 17</i> Veterans Stadium, 1 p.m.	<i>Clear Lake</i> <i>Thursday, Oct. 15</i> Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	<i>Clear Brook</i> <i>Friday, Oct. 16</i> Veterans, 7 p.m.
<i>Clear Falls</i> <i>Thursday, Oct. 22</i> Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	<i>at Brazoswood</i> <i>Friday, Oct. 23</i> Hopper Stadium, 7 p.m.	<i>Clear Springs</i> <i>Friday, Oct. 23</i> Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	<i>Clear Brook</i> <i>Thursday, Oct. 22</i> Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	<i>Clear Creek</i> <i>Friday, Oct. 23</i> Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.
<i>at Sam Rayburn</i> <i>Saturday, Oct. 31</i> Veterans Stadium, 1 p.m.	<i>Friendswood</i> <i>Thursday, Oct. 29</i> Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	<i>at Dickinson</i> <i>Friday, Oct. 30</i> Vitanza Stadium, 7 p.m.	<i>Clear Springs</i> <i>Friday, Oct. 30</i> Veterans, 7 p.m.	<i>Clear Falls</i> <i>Friday, Oct. 30</i> Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.
<i>at Friendswood</i> <i>Friday, Nov. 6</i> Winston Stadium, 7 p.m. (HC) Homecoming	<i>Clear Creek</i> <i>Friday, Nov. 6</i> Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m. (HC) Homecoming	<i>Clear Lake</i> <i>Friday, Nov. 6</i> Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m. (HC) Homecoming	<i>at Brazoswood</i> <i>Friday, Nov. 6</i> Hopper Stadium, 7 p.m. (HC) Homecoming	<i>Dickinson</i> <i>Thursday, Nov. 5</i> Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m. (HC) Homecoming

# BAFL football kicks off Aug. 15; local trio to open on road trips

The real fun is about to begin for players and coaches in the Bay Area Football League as the 2015 season debuts Saturday, Aug. 15.

Conference will begin the quest to reach the postseason. Yes, it is certain to be hot, but it's officially football time in Texas.

## Thompson football lines out key dates

The Thompson Intermediate football coaching staff has released more key dates as the start of the school year nears.

Those wishing to participate in any practice or workout must have a completed athletics physical for the 2015-2016 school year on file at the school prior to participation. There are no exceptions to this stipulation.

Those returning to the eighth-grade football program may pick up their practice equipment Friday, Aug. 14, from 10 a.m. to noon.

The Thompson football program will practice in pads for the first time on Saturday, Aug. 29, with seventh-grade students involved from 9 to 10 a.m. and eighth-grade students involved from 10:30 to noon.

Students planning to play seventh-grade football may pick up their gear from 1 to 3 p.m. There will also be a second equipment pickup date, Monday, Aug. 24, from 1 to 3 p.m.

Football practice will begin on the first day of school, which is Tuesday, Aug. 25.

# San Jacinto College VB announces 2015 schedule

San Jacinto College volleyball head coach Sharon Nelson has announced the 2015 schedule, which includes seven home matches, in addition to the San Jac Military Appreciation Classic, and matchups with last year's national champion and national runner-up.

Other information will be available in the *Leader* when merited.

"This is a competitive schedule for this year's team," said Nelson, who enters her 14th year at the helm of the San Jac program.

The Thompson football program will practice in pads for the first time on Saturday, Aug. 29, with seventh-grade students involved from 9 to 10 a.m. and eighth-grade students involved from 10:30 to noon.

"We have scheduled several teams that are consistently in the top 20, along with Blinn and Miami Dade, last year's national champion and national runner-up.

Among those teams are defending national champions Blinn College and defending national runner-up Miami Dade College, as well as Western Texas College, Western Wyoming Community College, Panola College, Wharton County Junior College, Northeastern Junior College, Southwest Texas Junior College, Victoria College, Neosho Community College and Laredo Community College.

"If our team works hard together in preseason and in our practices, it will pay off on the court."

The Region XIV conference tournament will take place Nov. 5-7 in Tyler, with the National Junior College Athletic Association national championship scheduled for Nov. 19-21 in Casper, Wyo.

San Jac, which went 21-13 last year, finishing 13th in the country, opens the season Aug. 21-22 at the Tyler Junior College Invitational, before the home opener on Aug. 25 against Hill College.

San Jacinto College returns eight freshmen to this year's squad. In addition, Nelson has added eight freshmen to this year's squad.

During the home opener, Nelson and her staff will present the first ever Start Strong scholarship to a San Jacinto College Central campus female student who played a varsity sport in high school.

For more information about the San Jacinto College volleyball program, including the complete 2015 schedule, visit [sanjacsports.com](http://sanjacsports.com).

San Jac rounds out the month on the road at the Lee College Tournament

ings before the real action begins Aug. 15.

The Sagemont Cowboys will open the regular season at the Bayou City Gators, while the Southbelt Dolphins will play at the La Marque Cougars.

The Ellington Rams are ready to open the regular season at the Magnolia Park Sharks.

The Cowboys' home opener at El Franco Lee Park is Aug. 22 against the Magnolia Park Sharks. Southbelt's home opener at Blackhawk Park is Aug. 22 against the North Shore Mustangs, while Ellington opens at home Aug. 29.

## Nightmare BB seeks players

The Nightmare Baseball select organization is seeking players to compete in the 7-under through 10-under divisions.

Players must perform well in all-skills drills to be considered.

Tryout dates are Saturday, Aug. 15, and Sunday, Aug. 16. RSVP for a tryout spot to Terrance Small at 832-212-3543.

# Houston Defenders' seventh-grade team tops at Final Chapter

The Houston Defenders' seventh-grade boys' basketball team, featuring several top players from the South Belt area, capped a strong summer of success on the hardwood, winning top honors at the Final Chapter Ball Out Event in Houston in the middle school division. The Defenders, winners of several tournaments this summer, went on to defeat Team Texas by a 54-33 count in the championship game. These students will now be moving on to compete at the eighth-grade level during the 2015-2016 school year. Members of the team are, left to right, (front row) Darion Ramos (Bondy Intermediate), Trevon Washington (San Jacinto Intermediate), Shannon Hayes (Thompson Intermediate), Damian Garcia (team manager), Tomas Garcia (Beverly Hills Intermediate), Marquice Scott (Beverly Hills Intermediate), (back row) DeMarcus Carathers (Beverly Hills Intermediate), Marcus Sloan (event director), Keon Edwards (San Jacinto Intermediate) and team coach Mike Rogers.



# Pasadena ISD releases 2015 varsity football master schedule

<b>Dobie</b>	<b>Pasadena</b>	<b>Sam Rayburn</b>	<b>South Houston</b>	<b>Memorial</b>
at Deer Park Friday, Aug. 28 Abshire Stadium, 7 p.m.	at Houston Lee Thursday, Aug. 27 Butler Stadium, 7 p.m.	at Kempner Thursday, Aug. 27 Rhodes Stadium, 6 p.m.	Aliief Elsik Saturday, Aug. 29 Veterans Stadium, 6 p.m.	Summer Creek Friday, Aug. 28 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.
Clear Springs Saturday, Sept. 5 Veterans Stadium, 6 p.m.	Chavez Thursday, Sept. 3 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	Clear Lake Friday, Sept. 4 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	at Channelview Friday, Sept. 4 Channelview Stadium, 7 p.m.	at Davis Thursday, Sept. 3 Thorne Stadium, 7 p.m.
at Pearland Friday, Sept. 11 The Rig, 7 p.m.	at Memorial Friday, Sept. 11 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	South Houston Saturday, Sept. 12 Veterans Stadium, 6 p.m.	at Sam Rayburn Saturday, Sept. 12 Veterans Stadium, 6 p.m.	Pasadena Friday, Sept. 11 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.
Manvel Thursday, Sept. 17 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	Pearland Saturday, Sept. 19 Veterans Stadium, 6 p.m.	at Dawson Friday, Sept. 18 The Rig, 7 p.m.	Memorial Friday, Sept. 18 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	at South Houston Friday, Sept. 18 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.
at Pasadena Friday, Oct. 2 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	at Manvel Friday, Sept. 25 Alvin ISD Stadium, 7 p.m.	Alvin (HC) Friday, Sept. 25 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	at Pearland Friday, Sept. 25 The Rig, 7 p.m.	Dawson Saturday, Sept. 26 Veterans Stadium, 6 p.m.
South Houston (HC) Friday, Oct. 9 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	Dobie (HC) Friday, Oct. 2 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	at Memorial Thursday, Oct. 8 Veterans Stadium, 6 p.m.	Manvel Thursday, Oct. 1 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	at Alvin Friday, Oct. 2 Alvin ISD Stadium, 7 p.m.
at Dawson Friday, Oct. 16 The Rig, 7 p.m.	at South Houston Friday, Oct. 16 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	Pearland Thursday, Oct. 15 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	at Dobie Friday, Oct. 9 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	Sam Rayburn (HC) Thursday, Oct. 8 Veterans Stadium, 6 p.m.
Alvin Thursday, Oct. 22 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	Dawson Friday, Oct. 23 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	at Manvel Friday, Oct. 23 Alvin ISD Stadium, 7 p.m.	Pasadena (HC) Friday, Oct. 16 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	at Pearland Friday, Oct. 23 The Rig, 7 p.m.
at Sam Rayburn Friday, Oct. 30 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	at Alvin Friday, Oct. 30 Alvin ISD Stadium, 7 p.m.	Dobie Friday, Oct. 30 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	at Dawson Friday, Oct. 30 The Rig, 7 p.m.	Manvel Thursday, Oct. 29 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.
Memorial Friday, Nov. 6 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	Sam Rayburn Saturday, Nov. 7 Veterans Stadium, 1 p.m.	at Pasadena Saturday, Nov. 7 Veterans Stadium, 1 p.m.	Alvin Thursday, Nov. 5 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.	at Dobie Friday, Nov. 6 Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.
(HC) Homecoming	(HC) Homecoming	(HC) Homecoming	(HC) Homecoming	(HC) Homecoming

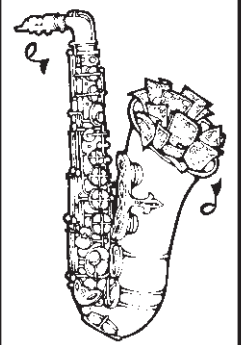
# CALENDAR

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 6**  
7 a.m.  
**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" each Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.  
10 a.m.  
**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - Bridge games weekdays, 10 a.m., Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark Rd. For lessons, contact Dr. Dave Glandorf, bridge instructor, at [dr@dlandorf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dr@dlandorf@sbcglobal.net) or 281-488-6318. Cost is \$6 per game or \$15 per lesson. For more information, call the club at 281-486-1911.  
Noon  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group of Alcoholics Anonymous, noon, 2245 N. Main (building next to pawn shop). For information, call 713-856-1611.  
4 p.m.  
**Houston Area Parkinson Society** - Free water exercise for individuals with Parkinson's disease, 4 to 5 p.m., Kindred Rehabilitation Hospital Clear Lake, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster. Call 713-313-1652 or visit [www.hapsonline.org](http://www.hapsonline.org) for a list of all services.  
6:30 p.m.  
**Diabetes Support Group** - A support group for young adults with Type 1 diabetes. All subjects are open for discussion: new technologies, research advances, fears, phobias, dating and other personal matters. Meets the first Thursday of each month (or the second Thursday if that day is a holiday) at various restaurants in the area. Contact Dan Steiner, CDE, at 713-922-9677 for more information.  
7 p.m.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Women's Group of Narcotics Anonymous, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518) at the First Presbyterian Church in the youth building on the Westminister side. For information, call 713-856-1611.  
**Al-Anon (English Speaking)** - Provides support for family and friends of alcoholics and addicts. Thursday at 7 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, Room 215. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.  
**Alateen** - Provides support for teenage children, friends and family members of alcoholics and addicts. Thursday, 7 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, room 208. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.

**The Bay Area Writers League** - Meets the first Thursday of each month, Barnes and Noble, Bay Area Blvd. and the Gulf Freeway, 7 p.m. Newcomers welcome.  
8:30 p.m.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** - Alcohol problems? AA meetings are held Thursdays, 8:30 to 9:30 p.m., and Sundays and Tuesdays, 8 to 9 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta Street. For information, call 713-204-2481.  
**FRIDAY, AUGUST 7**  
7 a.m.  
**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" each Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.  
10 a.m.  
**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - Bridge games weekdays, 10 a.m., Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark Rd. For lessons, contact Dr. Dave Glandorf, bridge instructor, at [dr@dlandorf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dr@dlandorf@sbcglobal.net) or 281-488-6318. Cost is \$6 per game or \$15 per lesson. For more information, call the club at 281-486-1911.  
Noon  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - West End Group of Alcoholics Anonymous, noon, Shepherd of the Heart United Methodist Church, 12005 County Road 39, Pearland. For information, call 713-856-1611.  
6 p.m.  
**Un Dia a la Vez Alanon Group (Spanish)** - Provides support for family and friends of alcoholics or addicts. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 6 p.m., room 215, First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.  
7 p.m.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of Narcotics Anonymous, open meeting, 2245 N. Main St., (Hwy 35), in building next to pawn shop. For more information, call 713-856-1611.  
**SATURDAY, AUGUST 8**  
7:30 a.m.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** - "Breakfast with Bill", Saturdays, 7:30 a.m., First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.  
10 a.m.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of Narcotics

Anonymous, open meeting, 2245 N. Main St., (Hwy 35), in building next to pawn shop. For more information, call 713-856-1611.  
11 a.m.  
**Al-Anon Meeting (Women Only, English)** - For persons whose lives are affected by an addict. Saturdays, 11 a.m., First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy, Cornell Conference room #111. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.  
1 p.m.  
**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - Bridge games weekdays, 10 a.m., Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark Rd. For lessons or for the 2 p.m. Thursday conventions class, contact Dr. Dave Glandorf, bridge instructor, at [dr@dlandorf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dr@dlandorf@sbcglobal.net) or 281-488-6318. Cost is \$6 per game or \$15 per lesson. For more information, call the club at 281-486-1911.  
**SUNDAY, AUGUST 9**  
1 p.m.  
**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - Bridge games weekdays, 10 a.m., Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark Rd. For lessons, contact Dr. Dave Glandorf, bridge instructor, at [dr@dlandorf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dr@dlandorf@sbcglobal.net) or 281-488-6318. Cost is \$6 per game or \$15 per lesson. For more information, call the club at 281-486-1911.  
2 p.m.  
**Grief Support Group** - For any adult who has lost a loved one. Meets Sundays, except Mother's Day, Easter and Christmas, 2 to 3:15 p.m., First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway. For information, call 281-487-8787.  
3 p.m.  
**Scleroderma Support Group Meeting** - Do you have scleroderma or know someone with scleroderma? This is a rare illness that is caused by overproduction of collagen. Join support group meetings the second Sunday of each month from 3 to 5 p.m. at Pasadena Bayshore Hospital, 4000 Spencer Hwy., Pasadena. Bring a friend. Contact Jacob Davila, group leader, at 281-706-6232, or email [jdvavila@scleroderma.org](mailto:jdvavila@scleroderma.org).  
5:30 p.m.  
**Celebrate Recovery** - A faith-based 12-Step Program, Sundays, 5:30 p.m., Chapel of the Educational Building at Life Church in Houston, 9900 Alameda Genoa. Call 713-419-2635 for information or to RSVP for child care.  
6:30 p.m.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** - Candlelight Meeting, Sunday, 6:30 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787, or just

drop in.  
7 p.m.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of Narcotics Anonymous NA meets Sundays, 7 p.m., 2245 N. Main St., Pearland (building next to pawn shop). For more information, call 713-856-1611.  
8 p.m.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** - Alcohol problems? AA meetings are held Thursdays, 8:30 to 9:30 p.m., and Sundays and Tuesdays, 8 to 9 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta Street. For information, call 713-204-2481.  
**MONDAY, AUGUST 10**  
10 a.m.  
**Al-Anon Deer Park** - Mondays 10 to 11 a.m. Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P Street, Deer Park. Enter through Fellowship Hall in back of church. Call 409-454-5720 for information, or just drop in.  
10 a.m.  
**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - Bridge games weekdays, 10 a.m., Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark Rd. For lessons, contact Dr. Dave Glandorf, bridge instructor, at [dr@dlandorf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dr@dlandorf@sbcglobal.net) or 281-488-6318. Cost is \$6 per game or \$15 per lesson. For more information, call the club at 281-486-1911.  
11:30 a.m.  
**Overeaters Anonymous Deer Park** - 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P Street, Deer Park. Enter through Fellowship Hall in back of church. Call 409-454-5720 for information, or just drop in.  
Noon  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group of Alcoholics Anonymous meets at noon at 2245 N. Main (building next to pawn shop). For more information, call 713-856-1611.  
3:30 p.m.  
**Houston Area Parkinson Society** - Free exercise and speech therapy from 3:30 to 5 p.m. at Clear Lake Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster. Visit [www.hapsonline.org](http://www.hapsonline.org) for a complete list of services offered. For adults with Parkinson's disease only.  
6 p.m.  
**Scrabble Club #511** - Meets Mondays at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua, 6 p.m. Come and improve crossword game playing skills. Call 281-488-2923 for more information.



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# CALENDAR

Continued from Page 3B

**MONDAY, AUGUST 10**  
 6:30 p.m.  
**Mended Hearts Cardiac Support Group** - A national organization dedicated to inspiring hope in heart disease patients and their families, meets the second Monday of each month at the Clear Lake Heart Towers auditorium, 495 Medical Center Blvd. in Webster. A free meal begins at 6:30 p.m., followed by a speaker. For more information, call 281-538-4648.

6:30 p.m.  
**Pearland Overeaters Anonymous HOW Meeting** - meets Mondays at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 2535 E. Broadway (FM 518). Enter door closest to recycling bins. For more information, call 713-865-3668 or visit www.oahouston.org.

7 p.m.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of Narcotics Anonymous, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), First Presbyterian Church in the youth building on the Westminster side. For more information, call 713-856-1611.

7 p.m.  
**Sagemont Civic Club** - Meetings are held the second Monday of every month, 7 p.m., Sagemont Park Recreation Center, 11507 Hughes Road.

**Friends Helping Friends Grief Support Group** - Group meets Mondays, Kindred Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster, 7 to 8:15 p.m., in the staff meeting room. Anyone who has lost a loved one is welcome. Free. For information, call Betty Bielat at 281-474-3430 or Diana Kawalec at 281-334-1033.

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 11**  
 7 a.m.  
**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" each Tuesday through Friday at 7 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, in the Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.

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

10 a.m.  
**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - Bridge games weekdays, 10 a.m., Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark Rd. For lessons, contact Dr. Dave Glandorf, bridge instructor, at drglandorf@sbcglobal.net or 281-488-6318. Cost is \$6 per game or \$15 per lesson. For more information, call the club at 281-486-1911.

10:30 a.m.  
**Tri-County Republican Women** - General meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month, except June and July, Golfcrest Country Club, 2509 Country Club Drive, Pearland. Lunch available for \$15. Must have exact cash or make checks payable to Golfcrest Country Club. For reservations, call Laura Morgan at 281-484-8083.

Noon  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group of Alcoholics Anonymous meets at noon, at 2245 N. Main (building next to pawn shop). For more information, call 713-856-1611.

**Rotary Club of Pearland** - Meets weekly, Tuesdays, noon to 1 p.m., Golfcrest Country Club, 2509 Country Club Drive, Pearland. Lunch is served for \$15. Variety of interesting speakers. For information, call 281-900-7257 or visit nalix@texascitizensbank.com.

1 p.m.  
**Ballroom Dance Practice** - Tuesdays, Hometown Heroes Park, League City. Come and enjoy free ballroom dancing, 1 to 3 p.m., on a beautiful 3,630 sq. ft. floating hardwood floor. Dancers practice to a large variety of ballroom music. Instructor available to assist people with new moves. Everyone is welcome! For questions, call 281-554-1180. 1001 East League City Pkwy.

1:30 p.m.  
**TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)** - TOPS #1530 meets at the Sagemont Park Community Center, 11507 Hughes Road, at 1:30 p.m. For information, call Jeanette Sumrall at 713-946-3713.

6 p.m.  
**Un Dia a la Vez Alanon Group (Spanish)** - Provides support for family and friends of alcoholics or addicts. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 6 p.m., First United Methodist Church, room 215, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.

6:30 p.m.  
**Harris County Master Gardeners** - The Harris County Master Gardeners at Precinct 2 offers free evening gardening lectures the second Tuesday of each month at the Clear Lake meeting room (lake-side) at 5001 NASA Parkway. Programs will be held at 6:30 p.m. Visit the website for a list of topics and location at https://hcmga.tamu.edu or call 281-855-5600.

7 p.m.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of Narcotics Anonymous, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518) at the First Presbyterian Church in the youth building on the Westminster side. For information, call 713-856-1611.

**Houston Space City Lions Club** - Meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, 7 p.m., Golden Corral, 12500 Gulf Freeway. For information, call George Malone at 281-438-7243.

8 p.m.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** - Alcohol problems? AA meetings are held Thursdays, 8:30 to 9:30 p.m., and Sundays and Tuesdays, 8 to 9 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta Street. For information, call 713-204-2481.

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12**  
 7 a.m.  
**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" each Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, in the Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or drop in.

9:30 a.m.  
**Young at Heart Club** - Meets the second and fourth week of each month (except November and December) at Covenant United Methodist Church, 7900 Fuqua. Lots of activities, trips, etc. Call Nellie Gainey at 713-991-3517 for more information.

10 a.m.  
**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - Bridge games weekdays, 10 a.m., Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark Rd. For lessons, contact Dr. Dave Glandorf, bridge instructor, at drglandorf@sbcglobal.net or 281-488-6318. Cost is \$6 per game or \$15 per lesson. For more information, call the club at 281-486-1911.

11:30 a.m.  
**American Business Women's Association Bay Area Vision Chapter** - Now meets at Perry's Steakhouse & Grille, 487 Bay Area Blvd., on the second Wednesday of every month. For more information or to RSVP, call Lorilyn Wynn at 281-388-5202.

Noon  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group of Alcoholics Anonymous meets at noon at 2245 N. Main (next to pawn shop). For information, call 713-856-1611.

6 p.m.  
**Un Dia a la Vez Alanon Group (Spanish)** - Provides support for family and friends of alcoholics or addicts. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 6 p.m., First United Methodist Church, room 215, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.

6 p.m.  
**Alzheimer's Support Group** - The free group meets the second Wednesday of each month at Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital. For more information, call Steven Williams at 281-929-4199 or 713-266-6400.

7 p.m.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of Narcotics Anonymous, open meeting, meets at 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518) at the First Presbyterian Church in the youth building on the Westminster side. For more information, call 713-856-1611.

**Bay Area Turning Point Crisis Intervention Center** - Confidential domestic violence support group for women, 7 p.m., 210 S. Walnut off NASA Pkwy, between I-45 South and Highway 3. Call 281-338-7600 or visit www.bayareaturningpoint.com for information. 24-hour crisis hotline is 281-286-2525.

**Bay Area New Democrats** - Meet at the Clear Lake Court House at 1020 W. NASA Pkwy., Suite 204. For more information, visit www.bayareanewdemocrats.org.

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 13**  
 7 a.m.  
**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" each Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.

9:30 a.m.  
**NASA Aglow Community Lighthouse** - Second Thursday of the month, 9:30 a.m., Praise Chapel, 18516 Highway 3 in Webster. Public welcome and encouraged to bring others. For information, call 281-910-1971.

10 a.m.  
**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - Bridge games weekdays, 10 a.m., Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark Rd. For lessons, contact Dr. Dave Glandorf, bridge instructor, at drglandorf@sbcglobal.net or 281-488-6318. Cost is \$6 per game or \$15 per lesson. For more information, call the club at 281-486-1911.

11:30 a.m.  
**ABWA - Southeast Express Network** - American Business Women's Association-South meets the second Thursday of each month, Spring Creek Barbeque, 9005 Broadway (518), Pearland. Lunch is 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cost is \$20 and includes networking with professional business women, lunch and guest speaker. Women of all ages and occupations are invited. Bring plenty of business cards. Reservations appreciated. Visit www.seen-abwa.org.

Noon  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group of Alcoholics Anonymous, noon, 2245 N. Main (building next to pawn shop). For information, call 713-856-1611.

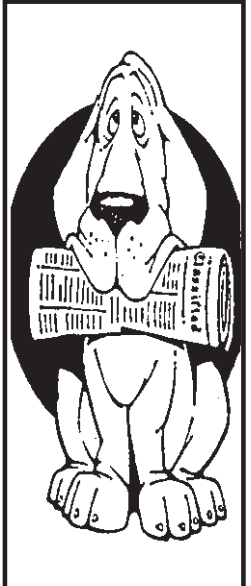
4 p.m.  
**Houston Area Parkinson Society** - Free water exercise for individuals with Parkinson's disease, 4 to 5 p.m., Kindred Rehabilitation Hospital Clear Lake, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster. Call 713-313-1652 or visit www.hapsonline.org for a list of all services.

7 p.m.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Women's Group of Narcotics Anonymous, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518) at the First Presbyterian Church in the youth building on the Westminster side. For information, call 713-856-1611.

**Al-Anon (English Speaking)** - Provides support for family and friends of alcoholics and addicts. Thursday, 7 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, Room 215. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.

**Alateen** - Provides support for teenage children, friends and family members of alcoholics and addicts. Thursday at 7 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, room 208. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.

8:30 p.m.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** - Alcohol problems? AA meetings are held Thursdays, 8:30 to 9:30 p.m., and Sundays and Tuesdays, 8 to 9 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta Street. For information, call 713-204-2481.



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# South Belters share 2015 vacation photos

## Martinezes attend FIFA World Cup



The Martinez family, 18-year South Belt area residents, recently returned from a trip to Canada. The trip was the family's first time traveling to Canada. They were there for the FIFA Women's World Cup. While there, they watched seven matches, two of which were played by the United States. They also visited The Forks National Historic Site, The Mint, spotted a black bear while in Winnipeg, and indulged in a classic Canadian staple, poutine. Daughters Diveanne and Deanna are both graduates of Dobie High School.



Diveanne (left) and Deanna posing with a "luney" outside the Winnipeg Mint. The luney can be found on Canadian coins.



The Martinez sisters pose with the founding fathers at the U.S.-Sweden game.



Deanna (left) and Diveanne Martinez at the Forks National Historic Site in Winnipeg.

At left, Deanna (left) and Diveanne Martinez showing their USA pride in front of the field at Winnipeg Stadium before the U.S. Women's National Team took the field.

## Salazar family enjoys fun in the sun in the Bahamas

Luis Carlos and Sonia Salazar, and their twin sons, Luis and Carlos, enjoyed spending time at Atlantis in the Bahamas for their summer vacation. Luis and Carlos will be in the third grade at Burnett Elementary, and Sonia works at San Jacinto College South campus. The family has lived in the Scarsdale subdivision for 21 years.



Luis Carlos, has fun burying the twins, Luis and Carlos, in the beautiful sand on July 5.



Luis Carlos, Luis, Carlos and Sonia Salazar in front of Atlantis in the Bahamas on July 8.



The twins loved snorkeling and looking for all the colorful fish on July 6.

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