

South Belt-Ellington Leader

41 years of covering South Belt

Voice of Community-Minded People since 1976

Thursday, July 6, 2017

Email: mynews@southbeltleader.com

www.southbeltleader.com

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Graduation issues available

Extra copies of the *Leader's* high school graduation issue, published on June 1, are available at the newspaper office, 11555 Beamer. The special edition includes graduation information for Dobie, Clear Brook, South Houston and Clear Horizons Early College high schools and Lutheran South Academy.

Vacation photos sought

The *Leader* is seeking readers' 2017 vacation photos for possible publication. A first-, second- and third-place prize of Schlitterbahn Galveston tickets will be awarded monthly during June, July and August to the best submissions. First place will be awarded eight tickets; second place will be awarded six; and third place will be awarded four.

All submissions should include when and where the photo was taken, identify each person in the picture and describe the trip. All photos must be high resolution. Email photos to mynews@southbeltleader.com. Do not compress photos when emailing.

Beltway 8 closures set

The Blackhawk exit and Monroe entrance on Beltway 8 will be closed through Saturday, July 8. The closures are associated with the widening of Beltway 8 from Beamer to Highway 288.

New Directions to meet

The New Directions Singles group meets the first and third Mondays for a potluck dinner at 6 p.m. at Webster Presbyterian Church, 201 W. NASA Parkway. The next meeting is on Monday, July 17. The group has activities and/or guest speakers at the dinner. For additional information, call Margarita at 832-715-9658.

Black Belts teach self defense

The American Society of Karate is offering free one-hour self-defense and martial arts courses for teens and adults (ages 13-80) at the Sagemont Park Community Center, 11507 Hughes, on Fridays from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. The courses are taught by experienced martial arts instructors. For more information, email Michael.Alonzo@ASKKarate.com or call 281-788-5930.

Mt. Olive holds vendor market

Mount Olive Lutheran Church, located at 10310 Scarsdale, will host a summer craft and vendor market Saturday, July 15, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Barbecue and other refreshments will also be available for purchase.

CrossRoads holds VBS

CrossRoads United Methodist Church, located at 10030 Scarsdale, will hold its Maker Fun Factory vacation Bible school from Monday, July 17, to Friday, July 21. The program is free and open to children from 3 years old through fifth grade. Classes will take place from 6 to 8:30 p.m. To preregister, visit <https://vbspro.events/p/aebc65>. For additional information, call 281-484-9243.

Sagemont Park yard parking

The Sagemont Park Community Improvement Association recently submitted an application to the City of Houston to prohibit yard parking in the area subdivision, which is located south of Fuqua, east of Kirkglan Drive, west of Sabo Road and north of Beltway 8.

The move comes after the nearby subdivisions of Sagemont and Kirkwood have passed similar measures in recent years. If approved by the city, violators will be issued a misdemeanor offense and receive a fine not to exceed \$150 a day. Those wishing to protest the action may appeal to the city in writing within 20 days of the filing. For additional information, contact the applicant at 281-481-5518 or the City of Houston Planning Development Department at 832-393-6600. See related ad on Page 2A.

Gulf Freeway closures set

According to the Texas Department of Transportation, at least one inside lane on the northbound and southbound frontage roads of the Gulf Freeway from NASA Road 1 to State Highway 96 in League City will be closed nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Saturday, Sept. 30.

At least one alternate lane on the northbound and southbound main lanes of the Gulf Freeway from NASA Road 1 to State Highway 96 in League City will be closed nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Sunday, Dec. 31.

Alternate entrance and exit ramps on the Gulf Freeway from NASA Road 1 to State Highway 96 in League City will be closed nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Sunday, Dec. 31.

At least one alternate lane on the northbound and southbound main lanes and frontage roads of the Gulf Freeway from FM-528/NASA Parkway to Fuqua will be closed daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Saturday, Aug. 5. At least two alternate lanes on the northbound and southbound main lanes and frontage roads of the Gulf Freeway from FM-528/NASA Parkway to Fuqua will be closed nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Friday, Aug. 4.

Annual parade, fireworks show a success

Hundreds of area residents braved the heat Tuesday, July 4, to participate in the 30th annual South Belt Independence Day parade.

A salute to all first responders, the event in-

cluded personnel from the Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's office, the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department, the Houston Police Department and the Houston Fire Department.

Precinct 2 Constable Chris Diaz once again participated in the parade, as did Precinct 2, Place 1 Justice of the Peace Jo Ann Delgado. Other participants included Scotty's Pub, Dobie JROTC, C & D Burger Shop, the H-Town Texas Cookers, the Sagemont Cowgirls, Dobie FFA, the Sagemont Church Choir, the Dobie Lariatettes, Bombers Sports Bar, Bayway Auto Group, San Jacinto College, Dobie football and several classic car collectors.

Winners included Bombers for most patriotic commercial entry; Bayway for most original commercial entry; Rudy Alafa for most patriot-

ic noncommercial entry; and the Dobie FFA and Lariatettes tying for most original noncommercial entry.

The annual Fourth of July Fireworks display also went off without a hitch, with El Franco Lee Park being filled to its capacity. Funded by the annual South Belt Spectacular Cook-off, the event was one of the largest to date, organizers said.

This year's show was the first in the event's 29-year history to include a singing of the national anthem, performed by Allison Potter, and a performance of *taps* by Precinct 2 Deputy Clint Brown. See related photos on Page 6B.

Boykins, Sanchez help clean up



A large pile of garbage appeared unexpectedly in front of the *Leader* office on Beamer near Beltway 8 early Friday, June 30. It is believed the debris was spilled from a commercial waste vehicle. At press time, it remained unclear who was responsible for spilling the garbage. Houston City Council Member Dwight Boykins (right), who was responsible for getting the mess cleaned up, is shown above holding a strip of game tickets from Chuck E. Cheese that was found among the refuse. Pictured with Boykins is Precinct 2 Sgt. Robert Sanchez, who also assisted in the cleanup effort.

Photos by Marie Flickinger

Garbage spilled in front of Leader

A giant pile of trash was spilled in front of the *Leader* office, located in the 11500 block of Beamer Road near Beltway 8, on the morning of Friday, June 30.

It is believed the debris was accidentally spilled from a garbage truck as it turned north on Beamer from Kirkfair. At press time Wednesday, it remained unclear who was responsible for dumping the trash.

Contents of the spilled garbage indicate the trash fell from a commercial truck, rather than a municipal vehicle, as the pile had items from several local businesses, such as Dunkin' Donuts, TGI Friday's and Chuck E. Cheese, including thousands of used and unused game tickets. Other discarded items included used oil, boxes of windshield wipers and large amounts of pro-

duce, including watermelons and lettuce.

Because the debris was deemed commercial, city officials initially refused to clean it up, saying it was the responsibility of whomever spilled it. A call from the *Leader* to Houston District D City Council Member Dwight Boykins changed matters, however, and waste management crews were eventually dispatched to clean the mess.

Within 45 minutes of being contacted by the *Leader*, Boykins arrived at the scene to personally assist in the cleaning. Sgt. Robert Sanchez of the Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's office also personally helped with the cleanup effort.

It is estimated the trash, which witnesses said was highly pungent, remained in the street for more than seven hours, causing extensive traffic delays.

Dobie HOSA Bowl goes international



J. Frank Dobie High School's HOSA Bowl recently placed second out of more than 150 teams in the HOSA International Conference, held June 21-24 in Orlando, Florida. Pictured above, left to right, are team members Thanh Huynh, Kevin Phan, Leanna Ta and Esther Kim. See related story on page 5A.

Photo by Cheryl Sanders

Pct. 2 deputies battle area crime

Deputies from the Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's office recently arrested a suspect for allegedly using a credit card that was stolen from a local resident's vehicle.

The initial theft took place Wednesday, June 28, in the 10400 block of Sagecanyon. The following day, the victim reported to police that the stolen credit card was being used at the Macy's at Almeda Mall.

Deputies then made contact with Macy's loss

prevention team, which used store surveillance footage to track the buyer using the stolen credit card to a vehicle in the store's parking lot. Investigators were then able to trace the vehicle's registration and identify the suspect as Daleon Fontennet of the 4300 block of Ebbtide near West Orem and Highway 288.

Fontennet, 21, was arrested at his residence on Tuesday, July 4, and charged with two counts of credit card abuse.

New artwork comes to South Belt

Many South Belt residents have undoubtedly noticed the new art mural that recently popped up on the back wall of the TNT Liquor store, located in the 10800 block of Kirkfair near Beamer, which displays Al Pacino's character Tony Montana from the movie *Scarface*.

The artwork is clearly visible to those traveling east on Beltway 8.

While many on social media sites believed the mural to be the work of a vandal, a store employee told the *Leader* the artwork was actually a commissioned art piece by the graffiti artist Lee-TheOneLee that the store paid for in an effort to drum up business.

The mural has been seen as controversial by many, as the character depicted in the piece was

a major drug trafficker.

The artwork has been met with mixed reviews by those on social media, with some residents in support of it, while others are against it.

"That's cool," said Facebook user Kevin Lumpkin.

This sentiment was echoed by Facebook user Paola Trainor.

"Love it!! My favorite movie," Trainor said. Not all members were quite as receptive, however.

"Ewwwwww," said Facebook user Donna Gilson. "Not very inviting."

Such professional murals have become more commonplace throughout the community in re-

Continued on Page 2A

Mural sparks controversy



A controversial piece of artwork recently went up on the back wall of a liquor store in the 10800 block of Kirkfair near Beamer. Viewable from the eastbound lanes of Beltway 8, the mural has drawn the ire of several residents because the character depicted, Tony Montana from the movie *Scarface*, was a notorious cocaine trafficker. Other residents, however, have expressed appreciation, saying the professional artwork adds a splash of culture to the South Belt community. Other area murals have actually been promoted by the City of Houston. See related story on this page.

Photo by James Bolen

2 local SWAT standoffs in 9 days

For the second time in less than 10 days, a SWAT standoff has taken place at a local apartment complex.

The latest incident took place Tuesday, June 27, in the 9400 block of Grannis near the Gulf Freeway and Edgebrook. It involved a father allegedly holding his child hostage from his mother.

The event reportedly stemmed from a domestic violence episode the previous night. That incident bled over into the following morning, when the male suspect allegedly tried to run over the child's mother as she was kissing the infant goodbye.

The suspect then threatened to harm the child, as he fled the scene in a vehicle. The mother subsequently reported the incident to police.

Around 6 p.m., the father was witnessed returning to the apartment, and neighbors again notified police. According to police, the suspect then barricaded himself in the apartment with the child and refused to exit the unit.

When initial efforts to make contact with the suspect failed, responding Houston police officers called the department's SWAT and hostage negotiation teams for assistance.

Negotiators were able to determine the man was also holding his uncle hostage in the apart-

ment. The suspect was also discovered to have three open felony warrants.

After several hours of negotiations proved fruitless, SWAT team members forced entry into the apartment around 10 p.m., and the suspect surrendered without fight. On-site doctors determined the infant was not harmed. The adult hostage was also uninjured.

"In fear for the child and the safety of the other adult, we forced entry into the apartment, where we were able to take him into custody and rescue the baby and the other adult, and they were completely unharmed," said HPD Capt. Larry Baimbridge.

The suspect, Daniel Perez, 32, was arrested and charged with assault of a family member.

The incident came just nine days after a similar incident took place at the Clear Creek Landing apartment complex in the 11700 block of Beamer at Hall Road on Sunday, June 18.

In that incident, two brothers allegedly held one of the two siblings' girlfriend hostage for approximately four hours. SWAT team members eventually apprehended the suspects after gaining entry into the apartment by detonating a small explosive device.

Like the latest incident, the ordeal reportedly stemmed from a domestic violence dispute.

PROHIBITED YARD PARKING ORDINANCE NOTICE OF PROHIBITED PARKING REQUIREMENT AREA APPLICATION

Sagmont Park Community Improvement Association has submitted an application for the establishment of a Prohibited Yard Parking Requirement Area (Section 103-001 of the Cove or Ordinance) for Sagmont Park Subdivision as located south of Fuqua, east of Kirkglan Dr, west of Sabo and north on S Sam Houston Parkway (Our reference is the HCAD FACET Maps 5751D 6,7,10 &11).

Once established, violating the prohibited Yard Parking Requirement Area will be a misdemeanor and violators will receive a fine not to exceed \$150 a day.

Protest to the establishment of the Prohibited Yard Parking Requirement Area can be filed with the City of Houston. A written protest must be received by the City of Houston, Planning and Development Department, Neighborhood Services Division within twenty (20) days of (date of the City of Houston Notification Letter)

For information, contact the applicant at 281-481-5518 or the Houston Planning Development Department at 832-393-6600.

Murals popping up in South Belt

Continued from Page 1A

cent months, as the City of Houston now has a program that promotes the painting of such art pieces on area electrical boxes.

The Traffic Signal Control Cabinet Art Program is an initiative to bring public art to parts of the city not traditionally known for having it, primarily sites outside the loop. It is also designed to curb illegal graffiti.

The project uses traffic signal control cabinets (also referred to as electrical or utility boxes) as blank canvases on which to paint "mini murals." Many of the artists involved in the program are former graffiti artists now hired to do legal pieces.

Participating artists include Alex "Zu" Arzu, 2:12, Ana Maria, Anat Ronen, Dual, Gabriel Prusmack, GONZO247, Tra' Slaughter, Jessica Guerra, Lee Washington, Sebastian "Mr. D" Boileau, Pilot FX, Shelbi-Nicole, w3r3on3 and Wiley.

"It's a great way to give back to the community, while also beautifying the landscape of the city," said Slaughter, who painted a mini mural at the intersection of Alameda Genoa and Rowlett.

The program is overseen by the City of Houston Department of Public Works and Engineering and the Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs. The city collaborates on the project with multiple local art groups, including UP Art Studio, Fresh Arts and the Houston Art Alliance.

All art pieces are funded through various sponsors, including Houston City Council member offices, management districts, nonprofit organizations and local businesses.

The pilot phase of the mini mural program was launched in June 2015 in Houston City Council District K and consisted of 31 electrical boxes. District K City Council Member Larry Green's district service fund was used to pay for

the initial art pieces.

The program has now expanded to include 10 electrical boxes citywide. Local utility boxes can be seen at the intersections of Sabo and Fuqua, Clearwood and Alameda Genoa, Rowlett and Alameda Genoa, Easthaven and Alameda Genoa and Monroe and Alameda Genoa.

For more information on the program or to see photos of the boxes, visit www.minimurals.org or www.houstontx.gov/culturalaffairs/tscartprogram.html.

Artists sought
The City of Houston is gearing up to add another 38 artworks to street-side traffic signal control cabinets throughout Houston and is encouraging artists to submit qualifications for the opportunity to create a mural.

Known as mini murals, Houston now has more than 170 new original artworks in neighborhoods throughout the city that have been funded by Mayor Sylvester Turner and City Council, as well as private sponsors.

"This program is a tremendous success on every level," Turner said. "Community murals enrich our neighborhoods, represent the diversity of our community and employ the talents of Houston artists. People love them, and we have had a lot of positive response, so we want more artists to join the roster."

Mini murals will soon be popping up in many of Houston's neighborhoods, including Acres Homes, Central Southwest, East End, Gulfton, Heights, Near Northside, Second Ward and Third Ward.

The City of Houston has contracted with UP Art Studio for program management and is partnering with the minority-owned business to expand the artist roster.

"We are excited that the City of Houston continues to be supportive of this project and sees the value in emphasizing public art through this

and other public art projects," said Noah Quiles, managing partner at UP Art Studio. "We work hard to leverage what the city does with other sponsorships, and a lot of groups see a mini mural as a great way to give back to the community."

"The cost to sponsor a Mini Mural is \$2,500, and we have had management districts, neighborhood associations, corporate partners, individuals and others sponsor murals."

Artists interested in participating in the program can view the open call guidelines at <https://fresharts.submittable.com/submit/a007587a-ec10-4b7c-8b2d-1b027e93ee44/traffic-signal-control-cabinet-mini-murals-pre-qualified-artist-registry-applic>. Artists will need to submit their qualifications, including work samples, a letter of intent and previous work experience. The deadline to submit applications will be no later than Aug. 11, and all artists will be notified of results by Aug. 31.

UP Art Studio will convene a panel of art experts, community stakeholders, artists and city representatives to review all submissions and select artists for the registry. The panelists include:

- Radu Barbuceanu – City of Houston, Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs
- Marcus Gurske – UP Art Studio Advisory Board, Public Relations
- Lovie Olivia – Artist
- Noah Quiles – Managing Partner of UP Art Studio
- Alanna Reed – City of Houston, Department of Public Works and Engineering
- Terry Suprean – Artist
- Lisa Volpe – Curator of Photography, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston

For more information about the city's cultural programs, visit www.houstontx.gov/culturalaffairs/ or follow the Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs on Facebook @HoustonMOCA.

Growing trees threaten flooding



These large trees growing in the ditch located on Kirkholm Dr. were blocking water passageways and contributed to flooding concerns of area residents. The photo was submitted by concerned officers from the Sagmont Community Improvement Committee, led by President Wayne Hanks and Treasurer Karen Sanchez. The photo, below, was taken at the same site, after ditch was promptly cleared by Harris County officials, under the leadership of Curtis Lampley. (See related community involvement Page 3A.)

Photos submitted by Karen Sanchez



Digital Dive: South Belt Archive

Former South Belt resident and former Dobie graduate Tori Mask has created a digital archive of South Belt history and wants to garner interest to have an area "Memory Drive" where the community people bring their albums and shoe boxes full of photos to have them digitized and preserved in the archive.

The Digital South Belt Archive was started by Mask in September 2013 after she visited the *Leader* and scanned the first round of old photo-

graphs from filing cabinets. She was on the hunt for a photograph of the Foley's Children Shoe Department pirate ship that was inside Alameda Mall.

The *Leader* did not have that particular photo, but it did allow her access to an inconceivable number of photos.

Three years later and a trip to both Austin and the Briscoe Center, she was able to find the elusive photo. Now, Mask is looking to broaden her reach and encourages mem-

bers of the community to share their own memories and photos from their past to add to the collection.

The *Leader* will be featuring a Digital Dive corner in which some of the old South Belt spots will be featured. The *Leader* will also encourage members of the community to send in their photos and memories to add to the collection.

The Digital South Belt Archive can be viewed at www.southbelthouston.blogspot.com.

Master Gardener events set for July

The following Master Gardener events have been scheduled for July. *Tomato Culture* will be presented by retired Liberty and Harris County Master Gardener Lawrence Gibson on Thursday, July 13, from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the new location at Genoa Friendship Garden Education Building, 1202 Genoa Red Bluff Road. For more information visit <https://hcmga.tamu.edu>.

The Harris County Master Gardener Precinct 2 Open Garden Day will be on Monday, July 17, from 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Genoa Friendship Garden, located at 1202 Genoa Red Bluff Road. There will be Master Gardeners available at the event to answer gardening questions. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, visit <https://hcmga.tamu.edu>.

The *Raised Beds, Low Volume Drip Irrigation and Rain Barrels* lecture will be on Thursday, July 20, at 6:30 p.m., at Freeman Branch Library, located at 16616 Diana Lane in Houston. This is a free Harris County Master Gardener event. For more information, call 713-274-0950 or visit <http://hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/docs/2017-green-thumb.pdf>.

Kids' Quest hosts Vacation Bible School

Kids' Quest, the Child Development Center at Gulf Meadows Church, will hold Vacation Bible School. The theme for this year is "Finding Jesus."

The community is invited to experience adventures of a lifetime: Walk on Water, cross the Red Sea and draw closer to God while discovering the power of Jesus.

Cost for the bible school is \$45 and lunch will be provided. For more information, call 713-987-9503.

Leader checks out social media

By Mary Doan
The Southeast Volunteer Fire Department will be offering free glucose readings and blood pressure screenings on Friday, Aug. 4 from 7 to 9 p.m. at Walgreens located at 10850 Scarsdale Blvd. For additional information, visit the *People of Sagmont* Facebook page or the *Southeast Volunteer Fire Department* Facebook page.

A member of the *Pets of Southbelt* Facebook page has reminded residents that there may be lost pets due to the July 4 fireworks. If in a situation of finding a lost pet, take the pet to a local shelter to check if it is micro-chipped as well as upload a photograph of the pet onto the *Pets of Southbelt* Facebook page stating where the pet was found. For additional information or to find a lost pet, visit the *Pets of South*

belt Facebook page. The date for the Family Fun Run Benefiting Homes for our troops has been announced on the *Sagmont Civic Club* Facebook page. The run will be on Saturday, Oct. 14, at Clear Brook City Park, 911 Blackhawk Blvd. For more information, visit the *Sagmont Civic Club* Facebook page or facebook.com/hfto2017funrun.

The *Sagmont Civic Club* Facebook page has created a poll on whether or not residents want the City of Houston to enforce city ordinances as they relate to cleaning up Sagmont. All residents of Sagmont are encouraged to vote by joining the *Sagmont Civic Club* Facebook page. For additional information, visit the *Sagmont Civic Club* Facebook page.

The sponsors of the

Dawn Whitely Armstrong Scholarship Fund seeks Dobie graduates of the class of 2017 who played a sport and have not yet received an athletic scholarship.

The scholarship will award one former male and one former female student athlete based on yearly participation in sports at Dobie, admittance into a college or university and the completion of an essay that explains how the student will use education to make the world a better place. The scholarship will go toward paying for books and tuition for this upcoming fall semester. The deadline to apply for the scholarship is Tuesday, Aug. 1.

For more information about the scholarship or requirements to apply, visit *The Dawn Whitely Armstrong Scholarship Fund* Facebook page.

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Deaths

Anna Sue Button Justice



Anna Sue Button Justice, 80, of Houston died Tuesday, June 27, 2017. She was a Sagmont Park resident.

She was born on Oct. 25, 1936, in Nimrod, Arkansas, to Joseph R. and Bertha Button.

She was married to Vallery Eugene Justice for 58 years and enjoyed life as a homemaker.

She was a member of Genoa Baptist Church. Anna Sue's passion in life was her family.

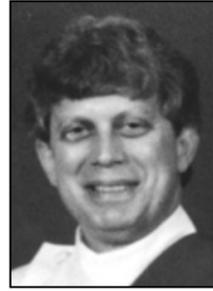
She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers James, Leroy, Arthur, George, William and Marvin Button; and sisters, Nell Winham, Bonnie Coats, Doris Jones, Katherine Cobb and Lula Dreyer.

She is survived by her husband Gene; son Mike and wife Debbie Justice of Devers, Texas; son Tim Justice of Houston; grandsons Layne Justice of Devers and Thomas Brantley and wife Eva of Cypress, Texas; and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family received friends Sunday, July 2, at Forest Park East Funeral Home, 21620 Gulf Freeway, in Webster.

Funeral services were held Monday, July 3, 2017, at Forest Park East Funeral Home. Interment immediately followed at Forest Park East Cemetery.

Charles Frederick Roessler Jr.



Charles Frederick Roessler Jr., 73, died June 17, 2017, surrounded by his wife and children in his home of 44 years in Deer Park. He was the only child born to Catherine and Charles F. Roessler Sr. on July 19, 1943, in Indianapolis.

He had a long successful career in telecommunications working for several companies and corporations developing and managing the communication internally and externally both domestic and international. After receiving Christ in his thirties, he developed a relationship with the Lord that eventually led him to be called to serve the Lord in the Catholic Church as a permanent deacon. He was ordained to ministry on May 9, 1987.

His ministry of 30 years called him to serve the communities of St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Community, Sacred Heart of Crosby Catholic Community, St. Ignatius Loyola Catholic Community (Spring) and St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Community. Eventually, he had the honor of being called as servant of the church to serve on the Deacon Community Board for the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston. During

his service as deacon, he was drawn to learn and teach about the rich biblical traditions of Catholicism through teaching classes to both new and life-long members drawn to develop their Christian faith. Through this ministry as a servant to his Lord, he baptized many children including 10 of his 12 grandchildren and his great-granddaughter. He educated and welcomed adults and children into the sacraments of the church. He prepared, witnessed, and supported couples in the sacrament of marriage. Lastly, he helped families through the transition of their loved ones from life to eternal life.

His legacy with his wife of 50 years, Betty Gene Born Roessler includes four children and their spouses: Carolyn and Mark Smith, Sherry and Joe Guerrero Jr., Rhonda and Ernie Garza, Jr. and Kathy and Eugene Roessler. They were blessed with 12 grandchildren and a 3-year-old great-granddaughter, Aubree. They had a multitude of relationships with many special people and families from the parishes and archdiocese he served. He treasured his relationships with his brother deacons, priests and other religious members.

In lieu of flowers, one may make a memorial donation to the Alzheimer's Association (alz.org/donate.asp) to raise the awareness and research to end this disease. Memorial donations may also be made to St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church Building Fund, 10727 Hartsook, Houston, TX, to help spread the gospel.

Leader obituary policy

Obituaries submitted to the *Leader* are published free of charge. They are edited to conform to the *Leader* style.

Local library events set

Parker Williams Library

The following events are scheduled for the Parker Williams Library, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd.

Thursday July 6, 2 p.m., eMedia class: *How to download books and audio online*. Learn how to use the HCLPL digital media catalog on a smartphone or tablet. (All ages)

Thursday July 6, 3 p.m. Teen Thursday: Intro to Creative Writing class will be held in the library community room. Beyond boring essays and math equations there is a whole world of writing. (Ages 13 and older)

Monday, July 10, 3 p.m. Teen DIY and a movie. Continuing with the iconic action movies of the '80s is the showing of Indiana Jones' first movie, *Raiders of the Lost Ark*. Come to the library community room, watch the movie and work on some classic Indiana Jones gear.

Tuesday July 11, 2 p.m. Movie and markers. Come for the showing of *Charlotte's Web* (rated G, 96 minutes) and color during the movie in the library community room. (Ages 3 and older)

Wednesday July 12, 2:30 p.m. Computer class: Internet Security. Tips and tricks are shown using and finding software to help improve a PC's internet security. Call or visit the library to sign up for this session.

Register in advance as space is limited to eight.

Wednesday July 12, 2:30 p.m. In the library community room, the Baytown Wetlands Wagon presents details of the wetland ecosystem, courtesy of the naturalists from the Eddie V. Gray Wetlands Center. Meet some animals that live there. (Ages 5 and older)

The events occurring every week are:

Wednesdays, Preschool storytime, 10:30 a.m., for children ages 3 to 5 years, featuring stories, songs, fingerplays and a craft.

Thursdays, Toddler storytime, 10:30 a.m., for toddlers from birth to 3 years, featuring stories, songs, fingerplays and bubbles.

Saturdays, Vietnamese learning time. 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 library events, phone the library at 281-484-2036. Library hours this week are: Monday, 1-9 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Friday, 1 - 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; and Sunday, closed.

Bracewell Branch Library

The following events are scheduled for the Bracewell Branch Library, 9002 King-point:

Children and teen events:

Thursday, July 6, 3 p.m. Teen craft: Hula Hoop weaving (teens and tweens)

Tuesday, July 11, 10:30 a.m. Texas snakes and more

Wednesday, July 12, Computer courses: 2 p.m. Computer Basics; 3:15 p.m. Internet Basics; 4:30 p.m. Basic Powerpoint

To register children/teens for the Houston Public Library Summer Reading program and learn about reading levels and prizes, visit <http://houstonlibrary.org/summer>.

Adult events:

To register for the Adult Summer Reading program, visit <http://houstonlibrary.org/learn-explore/library-events/summer-reading-grown-ups>. Call Bracewell Library for more information.

Camp STREAM is a free two-day summer program that allows students the opportunity to participate in activities relating to each aspect of STREAM (science, technology, reading, engineering, arts and math).

For more information and to register, visit <http://houstonlibrary.org/camp-stream>.

For more information on these programs, call the library at 832-393-2580. All events are free and open to the public.

Bracewell hours are: Sunday, closed; Monday, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Thursday, noon - 8 p.m.; Friday, 1 - 5 p.m.; and Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

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Dobie debate competes in NSDA tournament



The Dobie Debate Team competed at the National Speech and Debate Association (NSDA) National Tournament in Birmingham. Shown, left to right, are Rebecca Robertson, Legacy Jefferson, Keishon Groves, Lillian Spigner, Ariana Okhuozagbon, Jazmyn Bolden,

Caitlyn Woitena, Beatriz Rivera and Terrilyn Davis. Bolden was a quarter-finalist in prose and Okhuozagbon placed fourth in the nation of more than 500 students in original oratory about historical negativism.

Photo by Andrew Barrett

State board of education honors CCISD elementary student Keen

He may only be in third grade, but Dylan Keen is a walking role model of Clear Creek Independent School District's Core Values which is why the youngster was presented with the prestigious Student Hero Award by the State Board of Education (SBOE).

The Whitcomb Elementary student provided academic, social and physical support to a classmate with special needs throughout the school year, and did so without prompting from an adult.

"He saw a classmate in need and chose to be the most kind, loving friend he could be," said Diana Kattner, school principal. "Dylan took his friend to

lunch, recess, and physical education or to special events. After lunch, he escorted her to the nurse's office for her check-up. He made sure she was included in conversations and games and helped her with her schoolwork."

Only 15 students across Texas are honored with the Student Hero Award.

The Texas State Board of Education created the award to celebrate and highlight students who voluntarily perform acts of kindness that benefit their classmates, school and the community.

"One person can make a difference and 15 student heroes prove it. Their work is inspirational and uplift-

ing" Barbara Cargill stated. Cargill, the District 8 Texas State Board of Education

representative, surprised Keen with the award on the last day of school.

Bayou Theater announces expanded season

University of Houston-Clear Lake Bayou Theater will present 10 performances for its 2017-2018 season, a mix of classical, blues, bluegrass, South Asian and distinctly Texas music. Season passes went on sale July 1. Single ticket sales begin Aug. 1.

Mercury: The Orchestra Redefined, a popular draw at Bayou Theater, kicks off the season Aug. 31, with a fusion of Johann Sebastian Bach's fugues and Astor Piazzolla's Argentinian tango – the first of four performances. Other evenings in the Mercury series will feature Brahms and Mendelssohn in October, the Italian Baroque masters in April and Vivaldi's Four Seasons in May for a Mother's Day matinee.

For fans of Appalachian folk, New Orleans blues, ragtime horns, stand-up bass and steel slide guitar, the Bumper

Jacksons will visit in January to kick off the theater's Blues and Bluegrass series. The multi-Grammy-nominated duo of Jamie Dailey and Darrin Vincent will bring one of the nation's best bluegrass bands to Bayou Theater in February. And two-time Grammy-winning Brave Combo will mix polka, blues, zydeco and Colombian-folk cumbia on April's stage.

The Texas Artist Spotlight series shows just how diverse Texas music is. The series opens Oct. 21 with the Texas New Music Ensemble in a performance of contemporary art music created by Texas composers.

In November, Houston-based group Riyaz Qawwali will bring its lively rhythmic cycles, gripping melodies and improvisational poetry to introduce the audience to its modernized version of a South Asian mu-

UHCL students provide STAAR tipsto 4th-graders

When University of Houston-Clear Lake College of Education students provided fourth-grade students at Bonner Elementary School in the Houston Independent School District with personal feedback and writing tips before their STAAR testing, both groups emerged winners.

The literacy project was the brainchild of Roberta Raymond, UH-Clear Lake assistant professor of reading and language arts. She was assisting Bonner Elementary in the development of a school-wide writing plan. Special emphasis was placed on assisting fourth-grade students who were to take the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness test, with its focus on composition. Raymond saw an opportunity for future teachers to get involved. "A lot of our students haven't worked with children's writing yet. This project would give them a chance to gain valuable, first-hand experience working with authentic, elementary school writing," Raymond said.

The Bonner team loved the idea but there were challenges, notably the need to quickly assist 140 fourth-graders. The UH spring semester didn't begin until late January and the fourth-graders were to take the STAAR test in March. Ev-

eryone agreed the young writers needed the input at least a month or more ahead of the testing to give them an opportunity to work with the input.

With a three-week turnaround, Raymond collected the fourth-graders' compositions. She recruited reading and language arts Professor Lillian McEnery and visiting reading and language arts lecturer Rose Toman – along with their literacy students – to work on the project.

The students were on pins and needles by the time the compositions were picked up. Principal Sharon Carpenter said, "The kids were asking, 'Did you get anything. Is it in yet?'" Carpenter said. Meanwhile, the UHCL students were working in pairs; each pair had three young writers to critique. But before they could begin, the students themselves needed instructions.

"Our students wanted to look at the fourth-graders' grammar and spelling," Raymond said. "I think this is just how people's brains are. That's not the most important part. We need to look at the content and see how we can build their content up. That part is revision. Spelling? That's editing, that's the easy part," she added.

Raymond, McEnery and Toman developed lessons for

the UHCL students on how to give effective feedback, illustrating what it looks like, sounds like, and the process to follow. The three worked

closely with the students as they began to evaluate the fourth-graders' writings.

The students not only critiqued the compositions, they

also wrote individual letters to each fourth-grader, detailing first what they loved about the student's composition.

Continued on Page 5A

Community improves together



For more than two months, construction equipment and trash have been collecting at Kirkwood South Park. The above image was taken by a concerned resident and sent to the Leader and has since been addressed by the Harris County Parks and Recreation Department. A work order was promptly opened and the site was cleaned within days following the initial complaint. The photo below shows the site after it was cleaned. It is evident by the patches of dead grass that the area had remained trashed for a considerable amount of time. This site serves as an example of concerned residents being able to improve their community by being proactive and working collaboratively. (See related photos Page 2A.)

Photos by Tim Hinkle



NASA Aglow sets July meeting

NASA Aglow will present "Secrets of Intercession" through a Billye Brim teaching video from the 1980s.

The Bible said those who seek will find. NASA Aglow is comprised of those seeking all that God has. The invitation is open to come to the meeting.

Aglow meets the second Thursday of each month. Don't miss the powerful words on Thursday, July 13, from

9:30 a.m. until noon. Coffee and fellowship await those who want to come at 9 a.m.

NASA Aglow meets at 18516 Hwy 3 (Praise Chapel) in Webster. From I-45 south, take NASA Road 1 east to Highway 3 and turn left. The church is located on the left about one block.

For more information or to give notification of bringing children for the children's ministry, text 281-910-1971.

Roy thanks Milliken for the joy of music

Sonya Roy (right), one of the Pasadena Memorial High School's Shining Stars, is shown with distinguished educator Linda Milliken, an orchestra instructor at Carter Lomax Middle School.

Roy has done a number of hours of volunteer work, including volunteering at the Pasadena Public Library, volunteering at a nursing home and at Memorial Hermann Hospital. She is also a private cello teacher.

Roy plans to pursue a career in biochemistry and then

plans to attend medical school to one day become a neurologist.

Roy commented about Milliken, "Today, I could never imagine how different my life would be if I never experienced the joy of playing my cello and creating beautiful music, and for that I must thank Mrs. Milliken. Countless students cherish their instruments as their form of expression, comfort, and passion, and Mrs. Milliken was the woman who instilled and nurtured those talents that I treasure so deeply today. Because of her palpable dedication to music education, so many students are gifted with the opportunity to learn and love an instrument that will be a source of happiness for a lifetime."

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

The 10 Shining Stars represent the Top 10 Pasadena Memorial High School students. The information and photos were submitted by Pasadena Independent School District.

The Leader is also running the Top 10 Shining Stars from Dobbie and South Houston high schools.



Moore awards seniors with scholarships



Moore Elementary awarded four Dobbie High School seniors with scholarships. The students with their certificates are, left to right, Camryn Ridge, awarded the Cliff Swearingen Scholarship; Nadia Garcia, awarded

the Gerald Davis Scholarship; Marissa Krustchinsky, awarded the Thomas Durr Scholarship; and Steven Ly, awarded the Student Council Scholarship.

Photo by Deedee Pitts

"Notice of Public Meeting to Discuss Budget"

San Jacinto College District will hold a public budget hearing meeting on Monday, July 10, 2017, 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 2017-2018 budget will be considered.

The proposed budget will be available for inspection beginning on July 7, 2017, at the District Business Office, 4620 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, Texas.

SJC recognized for Aspen Prize

San Jacinto College continues to receive recognition from local and state elected officials and leaders for being named an Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence Rising Star recipient.

State leaders Sen. Sylvia Garcia (TX-6), Rep. Greg Bonnen, MD (TX-24), and Rep. Mary Ann Perez (TX-144) each congratulated the college with resolutions and recognitions from the state.

City of Houston Council members Dwight Boykins (District D) and Dave Martin (District E) presented the college with a proclamation which declared May 16, 2017, as San Jacinto College Day in Houston.

"On behalf of our board of trustees, faculty and staff, and our students, I want to thank our elected officials and the City of Houston for these recognitions," said Dr. Brenda Hellyer, San Jacinto College chancellor.

"This award is not something we sought, but rather a result of the hard work and dedication of everyone at San Jacinto College to ensure that our students finish what they came here to start."

As a 2017 Aspen Prize finalist, San Jacinto College is recognized as one of the top five – of more than 1,100 – community colleges in the nation. To read more about the College's Aspen Prize honor, visit sanjac.edu/aspen-prize.

Israeli folk dancing in July

What was meant to last for four to five months only is now entering its seventh year, as the participants do not want to stop dancing.

The sessions are not built on one another, so missing a few sessions or just starting doesn't matter. Catching up is quick and everybody enjoys excellent cardio work while having fun.

The dances are held at Congregation Shaar Hashalom on Mondays, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. July sessions will take place on July 10, 17 and 24 (no session on July 31 for Fast of Tish'ah B'Av).

To cover expenses, sessions are \$4 a session or \$35 for 10 sessions for CSH members and \$5 a session or \$45 for 10 sessions for non-members.

Everyone is welcome to join the group. Congregation Shaar Hashalom is located at 16020 El Camino Real and is the conservative synagogue in the Bay Area.

For more information, call the synagogue office at 281-488-5861 or send an email to csh.houston@gmail.com.

Lunch prices, meal guidelines announced

Families can expect to see a 10-cent increase for elementary school meals in the 2017-2018 school year due to a federal mandate under the National School Lunch Program. Effective August 22, paid lunch meals for elementary schools will be \$2.35 versus \$2.25 from the previous year. This federal mandate does not affect prices for intermediate and high schools or persons receiving meals under the national free and reduced meal program.

2017-2018 Meal Prices
Elementary Schools
 Breakfast: \$1.25
 Lunch: \$2.35
 Free and Reduced: \$0.30
Intermediate and High Schools
 Breakfast: \$2
 Lunch: \$3.50
 Free and Reduced: \$0.40

The school district is also reminding families that they need to file a new application to participate in the Free and Reduced Price Meal Program within 30 days of the start of school.

If a new application has not been received and processed within the 30 days, the student will return to full paying status.

Applications are available online at <https://mealbenefits.ccsid.net>. Paper applications can be obtained in the Child Nutrition Services office located at 2145 West NASA Blvd. in Webster.

Applications may be submitted anytime during the school year.

For more information about the program, please visit the child nutrition department at www.ccsid.net.

Over The Back Fence by Alexis

CONGRATS TO LINDA AND TED
 Best wishes are sent to Linda and Ted Heinrich of Sagemeadow who will celebrate their 52nd wedding anniversary on Monday, July 10, from their children and grandchildren: son Carl Heinrich and his wife Martha and their children Carl IV, Drayton, Meadaux and Easton; and daughter Piper Sais and her husband Anthony and their daughter Parker.

BIRTHDAY CHEERS FOR CHERYL
 Local author Cheryl Bolen of Green Tee, formerly of Sagemont, is wished a happy birthday July 8. Sending best wishes are her husband John; son and Leader staff member Bo; son John; and family and friends in the South Belt area.

ROBERT ENJOYS A BIRTHDAY
 Robert Griffin of Utah will celebrate a birthday Saturday, July 8. Robert is wished a great day by his grandparents, Leader co-founder Bobby and her husband Kenneth Griffin, other family members in South Belt area and the Leader staff.

SCHOOL DAZE

The following personnel and staff members of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays July 6 through July 12.

Atkinson Elementary

The day for a party for Olga Soto is July 6.

Bush Elementary

Send a happy birthday greeting to

Joleah Pierce on July 10.
Frazier Elementary
 The day for a birthday cake for Patricia Perez is July 7.

Meador Elementary
 Celebrating a birthday July 8 is Sanjuanita Nuncio. On July 10, send special birthday wishes to Detra Colbert. Blow out the birthday candles July 12 for Laura Moreno.

Moore Elementary
 Stacy Huntley celebrates a birthday July 9. Light the birthday candles July 10 for Anna Avergonzado.

South Belt Elementary
 Send a birthday greeting July 11 to Vanessa Lewis. Jodie Finch enjoys a birthday July 12.

Stuchbery Elementary
 Send a birthday greeting July 6 to Cristel Olier. Sing a happy birthday song to Johnny Tsikis on July 7. Denise Palos celebrates a birthday July 8.

Melillo Middle School
 Marking a birthday July 6 is Sherry Gates. Celebrating a birthday July 10 is Melissa Miller.

Beverly Hills Intermediate
 Light the birthday candles for Christina Chambers July 7.

Dobie High
 The day for a double birthday celebration for Sharice Gilbert and Daniel Perez is July 9. Sergio Garza marks a birthday July 10. Birthday greetings are sent to

Carol McDonald July 12.
FACEBOOK FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS

The Leader sends happy birthday wishes to its Facebook friends who celebrate a birthday this week:

Thursday, July 6: Teri Perkins, Cristel Anne, Lisa Shepherd, Bonnie Miller, Wally Barbier and Cristel Lasater; Friday, July 7: Christopher Poole, Beth Pope, Petrea Phenix, Sarah Wingo, Shawn Shockley, Gloria Martinez, Julie Valenti and Larry Bowden; Saturday, July 8: Sammy Shimmfessel, James Cook, Denise Patterson, Margie Remely, Zul-Tan Jackson, Erik Valdez, and Shannon Lawrence; Sunday, July 9: Patsy Jimenez, Raquel Rodriguez, Traci Feil, Carolyn Garza and Shevlyn Spafford; Monday, July 10: Tannia Leal, Sharon Blackston, Juanjose Armenta-Aguirre and Jimbo Shimmfessel; Tuesday, July 11: Andy Cross, Anne Allen, Kollen Bingham and Jasmine Mendez; and Wednesday, July 12: Sharron Moore, Mary Renfro Heldman, Emma Rodriguez and Pam McEntire Ellis.

LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS
 Email birthday, anniversary, 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.

UMC sets July 17 VBS

Maker Fun Factory VBS will be held July 17 through 21 at CrossRoads United Methodist Church, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Area children, ages three to fifth grade,

will experience a creative adventure daily from 6 to 8:30 p.m. For preregistration, visit <https://vbspro.events/p/aebc65>. For more information, call 281-484-9243.

Current state, future for higher education

It took 140 days to decide how much funding and flexibility two-and-four-year educational institutions would receive.

Higher education had a chilly reception at the beginning of the 85th Legislative Session when three bills were proposed that would have frozen all tuition and fees until 2022, repealed the tuition set-aside program and required schools to reach certain targets in 11 benchmark categories before being able to raise tuition and fees.

Senate Bill 1 and House Bill 1, in the beginning, also didn't fall too favorably in the direction of higher education. "The Legislative Session was a tough one for higher education, although the end result was not as severe as the first formulations of both the Senate and House budget," said Texas Higher Education Commissioner Raymund A. Paredes.

"Even before the Legislative Session began our member colleges, certainly here in this office, heard loud and clear from legislators that this was going to be a very tight fiscal year in the session and so we kind of just braced ourselves for a very tough funding session," said Texas Association of Community Colleges President and CEO Jacob Fraire.

According to Fraire, the initial appropriations bill would have reduced formula funding for community colleges across the board so that was a very positive outcome for the 85th session," said Fraire.

"I think that community colleges did pretty well and I think it was significant that the legislature really paid attention to the important role of community colleges and

Texas state technical colleges in higher education so that was very gratifying," said Paredes.

The commissioner also shared the significance of the current biennium's TEXAS (Toward Excellence, Access and Success) Grant. The Texas Legislature established the program in 1999 to provide funds to academically prepared high school graduates with a financial need to pursue a higher education.

"That is huge," said Paredes. "We will be able to fund about 92 percent of admission eligible students each year in the coming biennium. "We also get a small increase of funding for the Texas Educational Opportunity Grant (TEOG) which is for community college students and that is good news."

The TEOG was created in 2001 to provide grant aid for tuition and required fees to financially needy students who enroll in Texas public two-year colleges.

There was a significant drop in funding for emerging research universities called the Texas Research Incentive Program (TRIP) which provides matching funds to universities including the University of Texas (UT) at Dallas, Texas Tech, University of Houston and UT San Antonio. There was a significant drop in funding from \$138 million to \$35 million.

"That is going to significantly slow down the building of these institutions to become Tier I research universities," said Paredes. "That is something we are going to have to address during the interim."

The downfall of transfer credits was another disappointing loss for higher education, according to Texas Association of Community Colleges Director of Government Relations Dustin Meador. Sen. Royce West had two bills on transfer credits but neither one made it to the governor's desk.

When community college students transfer to a four-year college they earned

credits don't always apply toward their chosen degree.

"The credits might transfer but they don't apply to a degree," said Meador. "So they become excess and they have to repeat the course. This has been an ongoing issue for many sessions. We thought we were going to get closer this year and unfortunately received the same results."

"We did not begin the session actively seeking this policy, but there was a very strong sentiment among legislators that wanted to see transfer policy enacted."

A bill that TACC proactively pushed was House Bill 2994, authored by Rep. Trent Ashby. The bill relates to workforce continuing education offered by public junior colleges, but the credit hours don't necessarily lead to a degree.

The bill ensures that colleges can receive state reimbursement for continuing education courses taught to high school students or with the tuition waived for adults.

In some urban areas, these classes are offered to high school students as a dropout prevention technique. Community colleges might partner with a government or industry to offer workforce training courses.

Meador and Fraire say that TACC is going to look at overhauling the way dual credit is handled throughout Texas.

There are approximately 150,000 high school students in the 2017-2018 academic year who are taking college courses while they are in high school.

Of those students, 93 percent of them (ten percent of high school students) are tak-

ing their college courses at a community college.

"This will be an interim project where we have multiple studies and task forces going on and our goal next session is to go in with recommendations to the Senate and the House to update the dual credit model," said Meador.

The student might take the dual credit class at their high school by a teacher who is an accredited professor or they will travel to the college for the class. There are several different models out there.

The way by which the college courses are paid vary widely across the state. More wealthy districts will offer the dual-credit for free while colleges that can't afford to provide this incentive will charge the high school students tuition.

Some may even provide the credit for free to students on the free and reduced lunch meal plan.

"There are a variety of different payment methods," said Meador. "The college and the school district decide who pays for what. It's kind of a wild west and that creates some tension."

"For instance, an ISD might border two community college districts and they have to compete for that ISD'S business. There are a lot of different ways it is funded and delivered across the state so we don't know what an overhaul would look like, but it does put stresses on the service areas and the finances for smaller colleges. Some kind of uniformity needs to be put into place for the next session."

Whether they are in wealthy or poor areas, community colleges are funded

through three pots of money from the state.

Beginning two sessions ago, every college got a flat million dollar core operation funding over the biennium.

This session, that actually increased by approximately \$300,000 for each college. That funding is for the core operations which keeps the lights on. The largest pot of money is based on the contact hour.

"This is unlike public education where the schools tell the state 'we have this many students' and they come up with a formula," said Meador. "We kind of work backwards where the state says 'we have this much money that we can spend on community colleges' and then our contact hours determine how they distribute that across the 50 college districts."

The smallest piece of funding is performance based on success points. Roughly 89 percent is contact hours and the remaining 11 percent is success driven and that is where each college scores points on a series of metrics that includes graduating students or completing a math class.

There are identified milestones that students reach to achieve points and they are weighted so the colleges then get funded based on a three-year rolling average of those success points.

A success point should be given to enrollment at four-year universities since they have been steadily increasing, according to Paredes.

"One of the things that troubled me about what happened during the session is I don't think there was a significant recognition of the fact that Texas is one of the few states in the country whose

college-age population is growing," said Paredes. "Several states are experiencing dramatic decreases in their college-age population. We are going to have this growing population of young people and what we really need to do is nurture them and make sure they have educational and career opportunities that will make the state more economically competitive and will raise the quality of life. It is very hard to do that if we don't fund enrollment growth."

Right now Texas is funding at higher levels but not relative to the growth in enrollment. The funding of a full-time student has been steadily going down for at least ten years and Paredes says that's a bad trend.

If enrollment increases by 2,000 or 3,000 students per year, there needs to be added classroom space and hiring of more faculty. Texas A&M which has gone from an enrollment of about 50,000 ten years ago to about 60,000 now will need more of everything to meet those needs.

"They are going to have to do more with less and if they can do it without raising tuition fees, I think we have done a pretty good job in Texas of maintaining the affordability of higher education," said Paredes. "Despite all of the clamoring of increasing tuition fees, Texas is still in the middle of the pack in terms of the overall cost of going to a university and we are among the three least expensive in the country in terms of community colleges."

A big plus for community colleges this session was Senate Bill 2118, through which two-year universities

that meet the criteria can offer bachelor's degrees in the fields of applied sciences, applied technology and nursing. But this will not happen overnight because colleges will need to go through the Texas Higher Education Board for approval, get accreditation approval and hire faculty to get the program rolling. Three community colleges in the state that already offer four-year degree programs are Midland College, South Texas College and Brazosport College. They have been offering baccalaureate degree programs since 2003 and their success is what helped propel this bill to the governor's desk.

"I think if the coordinating board does it well, if we offer high standards for offering these degrees, and if we make sure that we are not necessarily replicating programs, this could be another pathway for students," said Paredes, who thought that this was a very significant bill for higher education along with the increase in funding for the TEXAS grant.

How institutions are funded is something at which Paredes would like to take a closer look.

"The formulas that we use have been in place for about 20 years and it is time to take another look at them and make sure they are as up-to-date as they should be. We need to look at the funding because some of these special items have been funded for 40 or 50 years and when does a special item just become part of the overall cost of offering an education for that particular institution. I think we probably need to figure out a way to fund special items as simply part of operating expenses of a given institution. We are going to have to take a look at the TRIP program and the state that it is in and we are going to have to ask very hard questions about how many top research universities we need and how many are we willing to fund."

UHCL announces upcoming events

The University of Houston-Clear Lake has released its most current briefs.

Friday Morning Continuing Education

Keep the mind out of the summer slump with UH-Clear Lake's Friday Morning Continuing Education summer series on July 7, from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at the Patio Café in the Bayou Building. Courses for the day include "America in Revolution: A City on the Hill" and "Tracking Your Ancestors: Genealogy 101." Participants are asked to bring a laptop or tablet for the genealogy course.

The cost to attend includes a \$12 membership fee and an \$18 course fee for each individual class, which includes course materials, borrowing privileges from UHCL's Alfred R. Neumann Library, discounts from the UHCL bookstore and more.

To learn more or to register for the class, call 281-283-3033 or visit www.uhcl.edu/academics/extended/friday-morning/.

UHCL Pearland Open House

Learn more about course offerings and resources at UH-Clear Lake Pearland campus at an open house for prospective students and their families on July 8, from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at University of Houston-Clear Lake Pearland campus, located at 1200 Pearland Parkway, in Pearland.

Students who attend can apply for free, meet faculty, visit enrollment counselors and financial aid advisers and more.

On-the-spot admissions decisions will be available

for select programs, and applicants wanting to participate should bring transcripts and test scores.

The event also will feature an information session about the RN to BSN Program for registered nurses seeking a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

For more information or to register, visit www.uhcl.edu/admissions/events/pearland-open-house.

Fall semester application deadline for new students
 New college students planning to attend University of Houston-Clear Lake in fall 2017 must apply by Aug. 1, the final application deadline.

Class schedules are available online at www.uhcl.edu/academics/. To apply, visit Apply Texas.org. For more details on deadlines, visit UH-Clear Lake's Office of Admissions at www.uhcl.edu/admissions, call 281-283-2500 or email admissions@uhcl.edu.

Habitat Work Days

Help maintain the beauty of the UH-Clear Lake campus by volunteering on Habitat Work Days with the Environmental Institute of Houston each remaining Tuesday morning in July. Volunteers are asked to aid in upkeep, including clearing paths, cleaning the pond and other conservation tasks. Volunteers will meet July 11, 18 and 25, at 9 a.m., at the North Office Annex at UHCL.

For more information, call UHCL Environmental Institute of Houston at 281-283-3950 or email cih@uhcl.edu. For more information about the institute, visit www.uhcl.edu/environmental-institute/education/school-habitats/work-day.

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UHCL sets fall 2017 application deadline

The final application deadline for new college students planning to enter UH-Clear Lake in the fall 2017 semester is Aug. 1.

For more details on deadlines, visit the UH-Clear

Lake Office of Admissions at www.uhcl.edu/admissions. To apply, visit ApplyTexas.org.

For more information, call 281-283-2500, or email admissions@uhcl.edu.

Lost in Paris film comes to UHCL

Well received by critics and audiences throughout Europe, the 2016 comedy *Lost in Paris*, will be presented in July as part of University of Houston-Clear Lake's Film and Speaker Series. The series provides entertainment and facilitated discussions around each movie's relevant topics.

The presentation is at 7 p.m. Saturday, July 22, in the Student Services and Classroom Building lecture hall, 2700 Bay Area Blvd. Christine Paul, the foreign language and continuing education programs director, will provide a "petite French les-

son" before the film.

Focusing on a young woman who visits Paris for the first time, the movie explores the young woman who encounters catastrophes involving a homeless man. Unrated, the movie stars and is co-directed by Fiona Gordon and Dominique Abel, of whom Variety's chief film critic Peter Debruge says channels the comedy of Charlie Chaplain and Buster Keaton.

Tickets are \$4 or free with a UHCL student ID. For more information, visit www.uhcl.edu/campus-life/arts/film-speaker-series.

Remember When

40 years ago (1977)

A Lone Star Beer company truck dropped 30 cases of beer on Alameda-Genoa Road. The truck was rounding the curve off Alameda-Genoa when a side door came open, and the beer fell out.

A liberal policy allowing students from Frazier Elementary to transfer to Stuchbery Elementary was adopted by Pasadena Independent School District officials.

35 years ago (1982)

Physical construction on three bridges across Beamer began at Hughes Road, Sageorchard Lane and Scarsdale Boulevard.

San Jacinto College regents scheduled hearings to discuss raising the district tax by 3 percent.

Tom Knecht and Cathy Carlson were elected directors of the Sageglen Community Association.

30 years ago (1987)

Sageglen Community Association held an election to determine whether the five-member board of trustees would retain incumbent Joe Fauth or welcome new face Wayne Burns.

Harris County Commissioners Court approved the bond election including \$250 million for flood control, \$255 million for state and county roads, \$30 million for county parks, buildings and other capital and \$100 million for the Port of Houston.

25 years ago (1992)

Even though most of the 1,700 plaintiffs in the Brio

court case were planning on accepting their portion of the record out-of-court settlement, some Southbelt residents and former residents considered turning down the offers for a chance to square off in court.

PISD was to raise its tax rates by 24 percent without voter approval because of state-allowed manipulations in calculating the effective tax rate.

20 years ago (1997)

A San Jacinto College program which allowed students to earn high school and college credit for courses was made available to almost every major feeder high school in the college district.

Dr. Cary Robinson was named the new principal at Clear Brook High School.

Alisha Broussard, a 1996 Dobie graduate, was to represent the United States at the Pan American Games in Havana, Cuba. As three-time state high school champ in the triple jump, Broussard earned the second spot in the nation's triple jump.

15 years ago (2002)

Eleven Sagemont subdivision homes were being purchased under the state's Office of Emergency Management flood buyout.

Representatives of the 147th Fighter Wing of the Texas Air National Guard served as parade marshals for the Fourth of July parade.

The Coast Guard provided a special flyby with one of its helicopters and had planes

flying over the South Belt area for the day.

10 years ago (2007)

The First Convenience Bank, located inside the Kroger at Sabo and Beltway 8, was the target of two robberies in just three days. In neither case were the suspects immediately apprehended.

Longtime South Belt resident Lucy Peterson got the City of Houston to correct sewage and plumbing issues after an eight-month battle. The work was finally done, in part, with help from the *South Belt-Ellington Leader*, which intervened for her.

The Dobie Lariette officers brought home top marks at the Crowd Pleasers Officer Camp. The military officer squad received a superior rating in the Gold Division. The six-member unit ranked high, garnering the Home Routine Award as well as the Top Ten Home Routine award out of 44 teams. The social officers received the outstanding achievement, most spirited and Spunky Monkey awards.

Pedestrian Brenton Miller was killed in the 14000 block of the Gulf Freeway when an 18-wheeler, a motorcycle and at least two other vehicles struck him while he was sitting or crouching in the northbound lanes.

The motorcycleist, who was thrown from his vehicle, was transported to Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital in stable condition. He sustained abrasions and other minor injuries. It is unknown

why Miller was on the freeway.

5 years ago (2012)

Houston City Council member Mike Sullivan officially resigned his position to focus on his campaign for Harris County Tax Assessor-Collector. Unanimously approved by the council, Sullivan's resignation took effect Jan. 2, 2013. Sullivan went on to face Democratic challenger Ann Harris Bennett in the November general election, at which time voters also decided who would replace him on the council.

1 year ago (2016)

Recent Dobie graduate Cedric Washington made nationwide headlines after saving an elderly man from a house fire in the 4700 block of Teton Monday, June 27. Washington, 19, spotted the blaze while driving to visit his grandmother. The 75-year-old man's wife did not survive the fire. Washington was transported to the hospital to be treated for smoke inhalation.

Longtime Sagemont resident Kay Barbour was selected to serve as the new executive director for the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce. Barbour replaced outgoing executive director Sherry Trainer, who stepped down from the position to care for her sick daughter. Former chamber executive director Sally Mitchell had been filling in for Trainer in recent months as an interim director.

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Dobie HOSA Bowl strikes internationals

By Jay Do
The J. Frank Dobie High School Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) Bowl Team recently finished their final season of competition with a phenomenal performance, placing second of more than 150 teams in the HOSA International Conference, held June 21-24 at Disney's Coronado Springs in Orlando, Florida (see related photo on page 1A).

Recently celebrating its 40th anniversary, HOSA is an international student organization committed to promote career opportunities in the health care industry and to enhance the delivery of quality health care to all people. HOSA continually encourages the growth and development of future health care professionals, by fostering intellectual curiosity and hosting nationwide competitive events.

HOSA Bowl is one of more than 50 such events, aimed at stimulating and motivating HOSA members to work collaboratively.

"HOSA Bowl is a Jeopardy-style competitive event, comprised of three to four team members," said Dobie HOSA Bowl team captain Thanh Huynh. "The teams learn and memorize materials related to anatomy, physiology, and the history of the HOSA organization itself. Basically, everything we learn is in some way related to the medical field, in addition to the history of the HOSA organization."

In addition to Huynh, seniors Esther Kim, Kevin Phan and Leanna Ta have comprised Dobie's HOSA Bowl team for the last three years.

The team's growth over the years is evident, advancing to the area competition in 2015, competing in the state competition in 2016 and making an appearance in the international competition in 2017.

The team, however, was very nearly unable to compete in the 2017 international competition, as a result of

competition technicalities, the result of which remains highly controversial throughout HOSA's Texas branch.

Held last April in Corpus Christi, the HOSA Texas State Conference served as a preliminary competition to the International Conference, and proved to be a devastating one for the Dobie team.

After losing the first and second place titles, the team found itself in a fight for third place, and with it, its final shot for a chance to compete at the International Conference. After three rounds of tiebreakers with the opposing team, the Dobie team appeared to meet its end.

"What happened at State was very frustrating and disappointing for us," said Huynh. "The first three rounds of tiebreakers were already unnerving. On the fourth round, the opposing team buzzed in before us, and listed five answers that the judges declared to be incorrect, because two of their answers were incorrect. At that point, we had our shot at the question, to which we gave three correct answers, deemed to be correct by the judges."

"The opposing team then challenged the result, claiming that the three answers that we gave were also included in the five that they gave. The judges threw out that question and moved on to a fifth tiebreaker round, at which point we were already flustered and could not pay attention, leading us to lose that round and place fourth at the state competition and lose our ticket to the international competition."

As fate would have it though, all was not lost for the team.

"For whatever reason, that particular team decided to drop out of the competition and not compete in the International competition," said Huynh. "Maybe they felt they could not perform well with a guilty conscience and knowing that they did not deserve to be

there. When we found out that they had dropped out and that we would be advancing to internationals, we were extremely happy that we got what we deserved and we immediately began preparing to compete again."

Throughout the course of the 2016-2017 academic year, the team prepared rigorously for the competition. The arrival of summer did little to faze their momentum and their drive.

"For the area and state competitions, I had prepared practice written and oral exams for my teammates to study," said Huynh. "We studied the general materials as a team, before splitting up and specializing in topics that we performed particularly well in. For internationals, although it was held during the summer, a number of us continued to study long hours, in order to prepare for the competition and finally put Dobie on the map."

This was just, as the team knew they would face considerable opposition from more well prepared competitors at the International Conference.

"We came into the competition as a very, very small fish and an extraordinarily large pond," said Huynh. "Schools that we went against were primarily magnet schools, similar to DeBakey High School, which exist to serve students aimed at becoming future health professionals. As a team from a public school, I feel we did very well, because we swept the competition at state and continued to do well at internationals. Despite having to fight an uphill battle against these magnet schools, we were able to come out on top, through all the hard work that we put in."

All of their hard work became immediately worth it, when the results were announced. It was a feeling that left Huynh in utter awe and one that he knows he will never forget.

"When we got to the fi-

nal round, I was stupefied," said Huynh. "The 10 minutes that we had between each round felt like they were a couple of minutes each, and the adrenaline started to kick in. When we got back to the holding room and found out that we had placed second, I was just speechless. I was really taken aback, but I was also extremely happy that we were able to do this for the people who have supported us for so long, like the school, our advisors and our families."

Having worked with the team for a number of years, the resounding results of the competition were of no surprise to coach Cheryl Sanders, who feels the team truly distinguished itself from the competition.

"Their dedication and their drive to succeed set them apart from the other teams," said Sanders. "They knew that this was their last year, so they really gave it their all. They wanted to go out with a bang. They are just so amazing. Their ability to take in everything and remember it is just mind-boggling. They would come in my room and stay for hours to just study and go over stuff. To do all of that

and still be able to maintain their grades in school is just incredible. They're amazing kids. It was my pleasure to be able to support them and work with them this year. Their dedication is truly amazing."

Huynh's advice for incoming HOSA students reveal the simple secrets to his success.

"The advice that I have for future HOSA students would be to really look into what HOSA has to offer," said Huynh. "Don't join simply because all of your friends are joining. Join because you like it and appreciate what you're learning. I joined HOSA because it's a broad competition that could teach me a lot about my future career plans. I competed, because it's a challenging event, and it pushed me as an individual to become a better student. It's all up to you. If you don't study, if you don't prepare, you will have no one to blame but yourself. Don't underestimate the competition. Always think that you are at a disadvantage to motivate you to do better. Our HOSA bowl team competed three years in a row and progressively got better each year, because we were able to

learn from our mistakes and do better the next year."

With the competition now behind him, Huynh can now officially begin his summer, before attending Rice University in the fall in pursuit of a degree in biomedical engineering. For Huynh, the distinction of earning a second place title in an international competition pales in comparison to the experiences and lessons that his time on the HOSA Bowl team has given him.

"HOSA, as an organization, really made me feel like I was where I belonged," said Huynh. "My teammates made me feel like this was the place for me to be, to be with like-minded peers who loved the competitive nature of the competition and loved to challenge themselves. We had very little funding, and aside from our advisors, very little support. Despite this, we were able to place at one of the most difficult and challenging competitions in the country, through all of the hard work that we put in. For me, personally, HOSA taught me how to study more efficiently and trust in myself and my abilities. Ultimately, HOSA reaffirmed that the medical field is one that I want to dedicate my life to."

Tanksleys hit 46 years



Eli and Sheila Tanksley recently celebrated their 46th anniversary. The couple married on July 10, 1971, in Miami, Florida. They have two daughters, Crystal and Rothberg Tanksley, in addition to son Ryan, all of whom attended Clear Brook High School. The couple has resided in the Blackhawk subdivision for 15 years, and are members of the Sagemont Church. Eli is a real estate agent, and Sheila is a retired schoolteacher.

Pompas celebrate 43 years



Roger and Nancy Pompa recently celebrated their 43rd anniversary. The couple married on June 30, 1974 in Bryan. They have two daughters, Melissa Ann Deleon and Michelle Marie, who both attended J. Frank Dobie High School. They have resided in the Sagemont subdivision for 35 years, and are attendees of St. Luke The Evangelist Catholic Church. Roger is a professional mechanical engineer and electrical engineer, while Nancy is a beauty operator.

CCEF accepting now nominees

Nominations are being accepted for annual awards for Distinguished Clear Creek Independent School District Alumni, CCISD Superstars and the Dennis Johnson Memorial Small Business Award. Recipients are selected by the Clear Creek Education Foundation. The Distinguished Alumni award is presented to a CCISD graduate who has excelled in the nominee's chosen profession and has made a significant contribution to the community. The CCISD Superstar is an individual who has made exceptional contributions that benefited the district (may or may not be a CCISD graduate).

The Dennis Johnson Memorial Small Business Award will go to an individual who has made exceptional contributions that benefit the dis-

trict and community as a small business owner.

Nomination forms may be found on the Education Foundation website www.clearcreekeducationfoundation.org. Awards will be presented at the Education Foundation Annual Gala on Saturday, Nov. 4, at South Shore Harbour Resort.

Nominations may be mailed to the Clear Creek Ed-

ucation Foundation, P.O. Box 1631, League City, TX 77574 or emailed to Kelsey Richardson at KRichardson@clearcreekeducationfoundation.org.

UHCL aids 4th-graders

Continued from Page 3A providing specific examples and then including one or two suggestions that the young writer could use to improve the piece. The students then took the additional step of preparing a folder and personalizing it with artwork or words reflecting elements of the child's composition along with a little added bling. They included snapshots of themselves, as well.

Raymond delivered the folders to Carpenter and her leadership team, teacher specialists Angela Allen and Sharon Zallis-Youngblood.

"The feedback given was so personalized," Carpenter said. "I think that was the first thing that jumped out at us here as the administration team. When the children received it they were ecstatic. They were in awe that someone that didn't really know them had taken the time to read their composition and give them some pointers and feedback about what would make their composition better."

At this time the STAAR test results have not been released. Carpenter is anxious to see if the young students acted upon the input they received.

"We do know it was a definite boost in confidence for our students, most definitely - that last boost right before we got ready to take the STAAR," she said.

For the UHCL students it was a meaningful learning experience and one that provided valuable insight for their future work.

Among the reflections about the project, Toman said one of her student's wrote: "When writing [to] the student, I learned to look at what she was saying and not how she was spelling it." And another wrote: "Instead of 'do

this,' I wanted to find my 'try this, it might help' voice."

For McEnery, the Bonner project was a winning initiative.

"Our teacher candidates came away with a much deeper knowledge of what it means to approach writing from a strengths perspective," she said. "On the other side, the Bonner writers were able to receive personalized feedback in a fun yet very effective way. It's our hope we'll be able to work on other collaborations such as these in the future."

Nguyen praises Kent's support, kindness

Derek Nguyen (right), one of the Dobie High School's Shining Stars, is shown with distinguished educator Sherrie Kent (left), an AP Art instructor.

Nguyen has volunteered at Melillo Middle School for tutoring, Seabrook Marathon, Lego Robotics for Kids, Houston Food Bank and trash pickup in Galveston, and has helped at the Parker Williams Library. He also showed leadership skills

as the parliamentarian of the Dobie National Honor Society.

Nguyen plans on seeking a higher education in the science field, such as mechanical engineering, aerospace engineering or astrophysics.

Nguyen commented about Mrs. Kent's, "Nothing under 100 words would fully describe Mrs. Kent's excellence. I have had Mrs. Kent as a teacher for 50 percent of my high school career. Art is something I have a deep appreciation and love for and Mrs. Kent has only helped foster this sentiment. I have had her as my teacher for three years now and throughout the entire time she has been nothing but a supportive and kind teacher. While we may butt heads on the direction of my art pieces at times, she has always been sincere and earnest in her attempts, for she only seeks to draw the best out of me."

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

The 10 Shining Stars represent the Top 10 Dobie High School students. The information and photos were submitted by Pasadena Independent School District.

The Leader is also running the Top 10 Shining Stars from Pasadena Memorial and South Houston high schools.

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Gutierrez plays big role in Carrillo's interest

Marlene Carrillo (left), one of the South Houston High School's Shining Stars, is shown with distinguished educator Paul Gutierrez (right), an environmental science instructor.

Carrillo's volunteer work includes having helped the National Honor Society with set up of school events, such as the induction ceremony and trunk and treat around Halloween.

Gutierrez has sparked my interest in science, particularly in environmental science. I've learned many things in his class that have caused me to take more of an interest in our environment and how we take care of it. Seeing how much knowledge Mr. G has about various areas of science has inspired me to keep learning and delve deeper into scientific study."

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She has also shown leadership skills by being president of the art club.

Carrillo plans to attend the University of Houston or the University of Texas to pursue a major in environmental science.

Carrillo commented about Gutierrez, "Mr. Gutierrez has sparked my interest in science, particularly in environmental science. I've learned many things in his class that have caused me to take more of an interest in our environment and how we take care of it. Seeing how much knowledge Mr. G has about various areas of science has inspired me to keep learning and delve deeper into scientific study."

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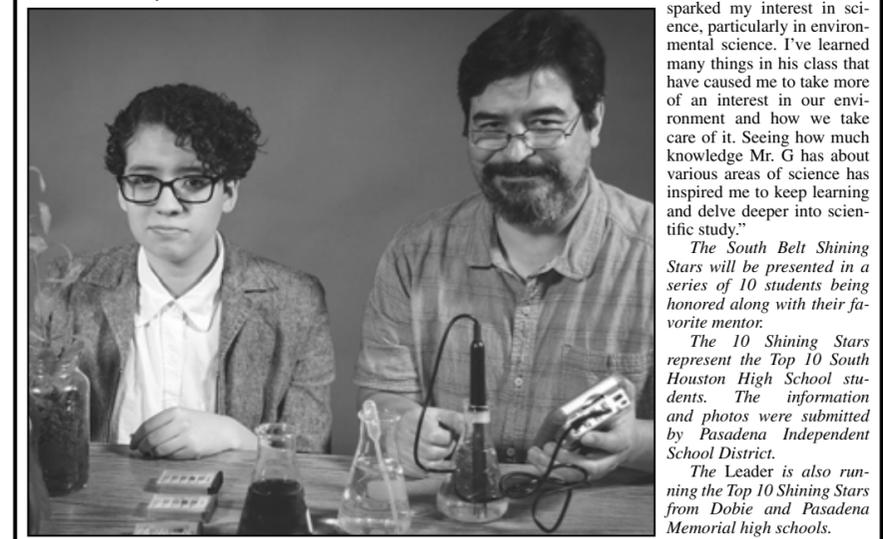
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2017 South Belt Schlitterbahn vacation contest photos shared

Leung, Ly visit California



Susan Leung planned a spontaneous trip for her mother, Amy Ly, who is a single mom that works two jobs and had not been taken on a vacation in more than 15 years. Leung finally convinced her to take time off to rest and booked the tickets the same night her mom agreed. They flew out the following week, for Mother's Day. Susan booked them a tour and they visited the Golden Gate Bridge, San Francisco China Town, San Jose and Muir Woods. Above, Leung is seen at Muir Woods taking it all in. The trip was only for a few days, but Susan hoped her mom enjoyed herself because she truly deserved it. Below, Leung looks out at Alcatraz. *Photos submitted*



Matas, Anguiano go camping at Jellystone Park



Jillena Mata (right), Gianna Mata (center) and Anthony Anguiano took a three-day weekend camping trip at Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park. They fished in the mornings and did arts and crafts later in the day. The trio also enjoyed roasted marshmallows by the camp fire. *Photos submitted*



While camping at the park, they swam, played putt-putt golf and watched a few Yogi Bear shows at the theatre stage. Gianna enjoyed having fun in the sun while swimming around. Along with lazy rivers, they enjoyed the water slides as well.

Castillo family visits Mexico

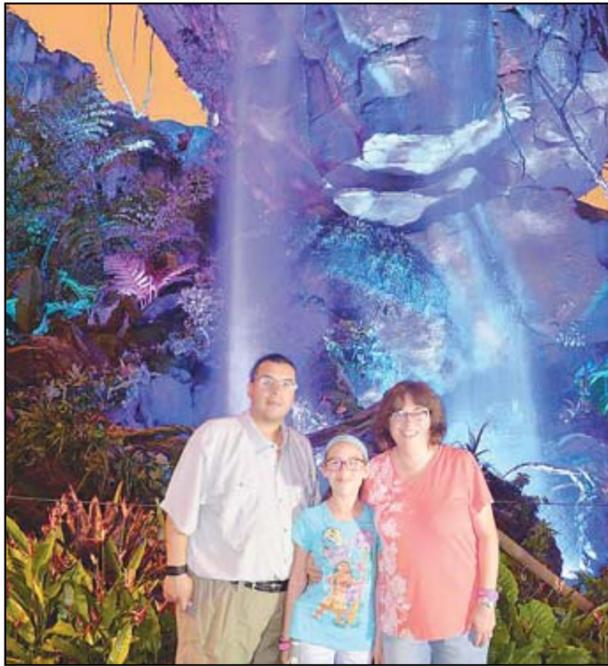


Above, Tommy, Dylan, Ella, Maria and Allyson enjoy a day of snorkeling. Below, Dylan, Tommy, Maria, Ella and Allyson enjoy Isla de Mujeres in Punta Sur. At night, one can see Cuba from there. *Photos submitted*

The Castillo family enjoyed a family vacation to Mexico. Above, Maria, Tommy, Dylan, Ella and Allyson Castillo visited Playa del Carmen. The family also visited Isla de Mujeres. Below, Ella and Dylan swim with sharks in Isla de Mujeres.



Rodriguez family visits Disney



The Rodriguez family enjoyed a vacation trip to Orlando. They visited Walt Disney World and can be seen above enjoying a nighttime visit to "Pandora" in Animal Kingdom. Left to right are Frank, Esmeralda and Sophia Rodriguez. The family also enjoyed visiting Hollywood Studios and EPCOT. *Photo submitted*

Salazar enjoys white sands



South Belt residents Mario and Sandra Salazar, along with their three children, Klarissa, Vanessa, and Christian, visited White Sands National Monument in New Mexico during a weeklong journey which also included visiting the Sequoia National Park and the Arches in Utah. Pictured is Dobie High School senior, Klarissa Salazar. *Photos submitted*

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SECTION B SPORTS & CLASSIFIED

Clear Brook reaches state 7-on-7 football championship semifinals

**By John Bechtle
Sports Editor**

Success on the 7-on-7 football summer football circuit has a strange way of translating to similar success come August when the high school season gets underway.

If the form holds true, the Clear Brook Wolverines should feel very good about their chances during the 2017 regular season after the school's 7-on-7 team turned in its best-ever performance.

Competing among 64 Division I entries at the Adidas State 7-on-7 Championships, Clear Brook advanced to the semifinals in the championship bracket before be-

ing defeated.

In pool play, the Wolverines went 2-1, losing only to eventual Division I state champion Lake Travis.

In championship bracket play, Brook opened the day with a scintillating 46-40 victory over Longview after trailing by 14 points with about four minutes to play. Brook then downed Georgetown (40-32) and All Saints (42-14) to make the Division I final four.

Although Waxahachie defeated Brook 46-26 to end the locals' run, Clear Brook varsity football head coach Mike Allison could not have been happier with what he witnessed.

"The big turning point

came in the quarterfinals against Longview," Allison said.

"Our guys had been having some issues defensively up to that point,

but they talked together as a group at halftime and came out playing much

better as one unit. "We were down by 14 in the final few minutes,

and that is a big deficit in any format. But we came up with a couple of big de-

fensive stops and wound up scoring the final 20 points to win the game by six. It was just an outstanding group effort."

It's been a brilliant two-year run for Clear Brook, a relative newcomer to 7-on-7 competition.

With many of the team's competitors slated to graduate in 2018, Clear Brook will look to reload with a largely new cast of characters for the summer 7-on-7 season just less than a year from now. That said, it would seem that Clear Brook has put itself on the Division II Region III quarterfinals on

Continued on Page 3B



Clear Brook High School's 7-on-7 squad turned in its best-ever performance in the summer sport, reaching the semifinals at the Adidas State Championships in College Station. Along the way, Clear Brook lost just two games, including eventual Division I state champion Lake Travis and state runner-up Waxahachie. Brook trailed Longview by 14 points in the closing minutes in a state quarterfinal clash but fought back with 20 straight points for the win. Members of the team are, left to right, (front row)

Jaizac Garcia, Tyler Swanagan, (second row) Isaac Guinn, Marty John, Jared Mangum, (third row) Dalton Reichardt, Jarrett Smith, Brice Cron, (back row) Caleb Chapman, Sedrick Cole, Nakia Johnson, Cameron Bell, Loroza Thompson, Gareth Cupples, Logan Farroux, Mark Milton, Avion Anderson, Thomas Hancock, Braelon Hill, Josh Green and coach James Smith. Not pictured is coach Gary Kimble.

Photo submitted by Mike Allison

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FDIC

Rising Stars' Dickson sweeps at regionals

Led by Camryn Dickson's dominating performance in the 13-year-old girls' division, the Rising Stars Track Club came up with a big effort to advance to the Amateur Athletic Union Junior Olympic Games beginning July 31 in Ypsilanti, Michigan.

To qualify for nationals, athletes from Region 17 needed to reach the top six places in the respective running events and the top five places in the field events.

Dickson won the 100- and 200-meter dash crowns as well as the triple jump regional title at the Region 17 Championships at Hall Stadium in Missouri City, has now reached nationals each

summer dating back to 2010. In the 400-meter dash in the 13-year-old division, the Rising Stars' Sydney Devereaux won with a time of 58.57, and Dickson's time of 59.00 was second. Brianna Haywood, also of the Rising Stars, was ninth with a time of 1 minute, 02.48 seconds. As for Dickson in 2017, she sprinted to the line first in the 100-meter dash at 12.88 seconds, and covered the 200-meter distance at 26.49 for the win. Dickson returned to the victors' podium as she cleared 33 feet for the regional title. Haywood also

place to reach the national meet in a second event. The Rising Stars' boys' team also produced a regional champion. Christian Ross will make a return to the Junior Olympics in the 3000-meter racewalk as the 14-year-old covered the distance in a time of 18:46.84. Elsewhere in the girls' divisions, Haywood soared to the 14'2" mark for sixth place and a national berth in the long jump. Shelby Devereaux, throwing the javelin, placed second with a top throw of 77'10". Shifting to the boys' division, Cameron Devereaux grabbed the fi-

nal qualifying spot in the 400-meter dash in his age division at 52.48. Continued on Page 3B

Nationals begin July 31

In the 400-meter dash in the 13-year-old division, the Rising Stars' Sydney Devereaux won with a time of 58.57, and Dickson's time of 59.00 was second. Brianna Haywood, also of the Rising Stars, was ninth with a time of 1 minute, 02.48 seconds. As for Dickson in 2017, she sprinted to the line first in the 100-meter dash at 12.88 seconds, and covered the 200-meter distance at 26.49 for the win. Dickson returned to the victors' podium as she cleared 33 feet for the regional title. Haywood also

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nal qualifying spot in the 400-meter dash in his age division at 52.48. Continued on Page 3B

Torrid East End stops SBHLL's run

Just when it seemed the Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League would win a long-sought-after Texas District 15 all-star baseball tournament title, a bit of an unlikely source spoiled the fun.

SBHLL and other TD 15 entries have watched

in recent years as the Pearland Little League has dominated the double-elimination formats en route to sectionals and beyond. The same was true this 2017 all-star season, with Pearland claiming titles in five of the six age group brackets.

The one wild card? How about East End Little League in the junior division? Competing in the junior division, East End first

blowout in the finale as Sagemont-Beverly Hills was left frustrated once more. Sagemont-Beverly Hills also started well in the senior division but wound up losing two games to South Houston. In a winner's bracket game, South Houston first downed SBHLL 8-2. The locals battled back with an 11-8 win over East End, but South Houston reached the championship round with a 17-4 victory over SBHLL.

In that same senior division, Pearland went on to win the tournament championship.

For 7th-9th graders JFD's Camp Head Start to be held July 31-Aug. 3

Incoming seventh-through ninth-grade students, including those planning to attend Thompson Intermediate, Beverly Hills Intermediate or Dobie High School as of the 2017-2018 school year, are invited to attend the Longhorns' Camp Head Start for football hopefuls. Dobie varsity football head coach Mike Norman, his staff, as well as staff members from Beverly Hills and Thompson will provide instruction July 31 through Aug. 3 at Dobie High School. The sessions will run from 9 to 11 a.m. each day. Pre-registration is \$40 per student, or \$50 per student on July 31. Payment will be accepted via cash, money order or credit card. No checks will be accepted.

To register or to gather more information, direct email to Norman at MNorman@pasadenaisd.org. Families may also make online payments at https://pasadenaisd.revtrack.org. Participants will receive instruction in all phases of the game, including the fundamentals of blocking and tackling, position drills and techniques, and individual position drills. Camp Head Start will also provide a great opportunity for students to get an early understanding of how things will progress, as well as expectations at their intended school. The Pasadena ISD does not provide medical insurance coverage for events of this nature, so families will be responsible for providing such for their children.

Participants will receive instruction in all phases of the game, including the fundamentals of blocking and tackling, position drills and techniques, and individual position drills. Camp Head Start will also provide a great opportunity for students to get an early understanding of how things will progress, as well as expectations at their intended school. The Pasadena ISD does not provide medical insurance coverage for events of this nature, so families will be responsible for providing such for their children.

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Lady Longhorn softballers pick up all-22-6A accolades

District 22-6A champion Deer Park dominated the varsity softball ranks en route to reaching the Class 6A state tournament, but Dobie also earned plenty of respect following the season from the respective head coaches across the league.

Dobie junior center fielder Yvonne Whaley, certainly one of the top hitters in the Houston area from a batting average standpoint, and freshman Camryn Wincher made an impressive debut on her way to being named the first-team designated hitter.

What about Taylor Pleasants? Already a two-year starter and viewed as one of the state's top shortstops, Pleasants was named the 22-6A first-teamer at her position. Meanwhile, senior Michelle Kristoff, a three-year starter in the circle, also contributed plenty of offense as she was a 22-6A first teamer as an at-large selection.



An immediate starter at Dobie as a freshman, Camryn Wincher played some in the infield but used her bat well enough as a designated hitter to earn District 22-6A first team honors.



In just two seasons at Dobie, Taylor Pleasants has become one of the Houston area's top shortstops. The Louisiana State University verbal commit was a first team pick in District 22-6A.



Michelle Kristoff was Dobie's primary starting pitcher for three seasons and contributed heavily with her bat this season. The San Jacinto College signee was a 22-6A first team at-large player pick.

All-District 22-6A Selections

Varsity Softball

Most Valuable Player

Erin Edmondson, Deer Park

Newcomer/Year

Reagan Gallagher, Memorial

Coach/Year

Carrie Austgen and staff, Deer Park

First Team Selections

Util – Brianna Pena, La Porte

Util – Savana Mata, Memorial

DH – Camryn Wincher, Dobie

OF – Maleah Olvera, Deer Park

OF – McKayla Chamberlain, Deer Park

OF – Jessa Johnson, West Brook

OF – Yvonne Whaley, Dobie

3B – Victoria Garivey, Memorial

SS – Taylor Pleasants, Dobie

2B – Sara Vanderford, Deer Park

1B – Triniti Kendzior, La Porte

C – Ash Wade, Deer Park

P – Maddie Nelson, Deer Park

P – Hannah Garcia, Memorial

At-large – Michelle Kristoff, Dobie

At-large – Giselle Castillo, South Houston

At-large – Emilee Anderson, La Porte

At-large – Shianne Garivey, Pasadena

Second Team Selections

OF – Jenna Johnson, West Brook

OF – Deja Mason Gaines, Dobie

OF – Maricruz Martinez, Memorial

OF – Serena Hernandez, Rayburn

3B – Jacqueline Garcia, Dobie

SS – Amaya Montano, Deer Park

2B – Marie Andrade, Memorial

1B – Alyssa Hernandez, Deer Park

C – Allison Bravo, Dobie

C – Layla Soto, La Porte

P – Kirstyn Gomez, La Porte

P – Mallory Latil, West Brook

DH – Gabby Rodriguez, Memorial

Util – Jasie Roberts, Deer Park

Util – Alyssa Corpus, Dobie

Util – Xiomara Gomez, South Houston

At-large – K.K. Morado, Deer Park

At-large – Madeline Stone, West Brook

At-large – Payton Cavazos, La Porte

Honorable Mention – Dobie

Alaina Ortega, outfield

Yasmine Saenz-Myers, second base



A solid two-way player for the Lady Longhorns, Alyssa Corpus pitched in a handful of games this season but made her biggest contribution at first base, where she was a 22-6A All-District second-teamer.



Deja Mason-Gaines turned in a terrific stay in right field for Dobie. One of the team's top home run hitters as a junior, Gaines was again dangerous in 2017 en route to second team All-22-6A status.



Almost since she set foot on campus three school years ago, Yvonne Whaley has been one of the Houston area's top lead-off hitters. For 2017, she was a 22-6A first team selection.



A two-year starter at third base for the Lady Longhorns, Jacqueline Garcia's play allowed her to become a 22-6A second team pick. With already two seasons at the varsity level, Garcia is one of a select few returnees set to lead the way for Dobie in 2018.



Allison Bravo began her varsity playing career at Dobie but became the team's primary catcher during her junior and senior seasons. Bravo, who has signed to play at San Jacinto College, was a District 22-6A All District second team pick in 2017.

Photos by John Bechtle, sports editor

SBAST Sharks Honor Swimmers of the Week

The South Belt Area Swim Team Sharks, celebrating 46 years of success this spring/summer season, have named their Swimmers of the Week for the ninth and 10th weeks of the season. The coaching staff selects the honorees based on solid attendance, effort and attitude.



Katelin Seymore
9-10-year-old winner



Jaslene Cavazos
8-under winner



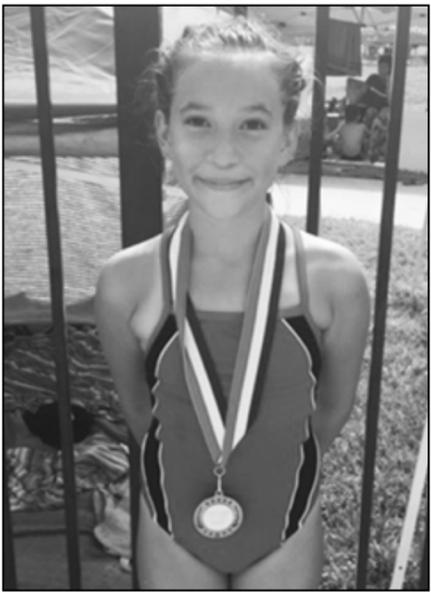
Sophie Austin and Samuel Tran
13-to 18-year-old winners



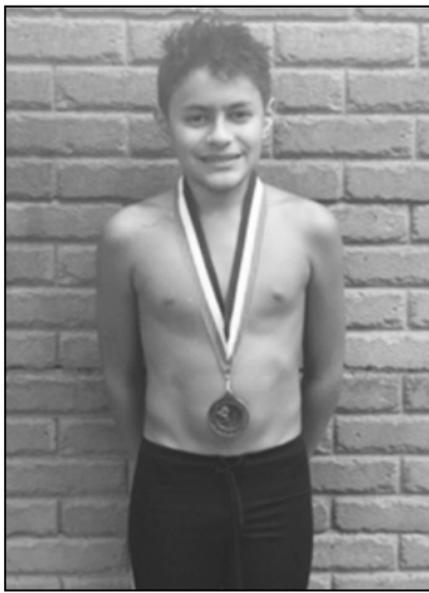
David Briggs
9-10-year-old winner



Aidan Herrera
8-under winner



Celeste Dammel
11-12-year-old winner



Jacob Aguirre
11-12-year-old winner

South Belt sports, news

Thompson Lions set athletics camps

The Thompson Intermediate coaching staff has scheduled a variety of camps and fitness activities aimed at keeping first-year and returning Lion athletes active this summer.

Parents must provide medical insurance coverage as the Pasadena ISD does not do so for these types of events.

Soccer Camp – The Lions' July 10-13 soccer camp for boys and girls will include training in all phases of the game, including offensive and defensive alignments, conditioning, goalkeeping, etc. Registration is \$25 cash only per student. Camp hours are 9 to 11 a.m.

Basketball Camp – The Lions' July 17-20 basketball camp for boys and girls will include training in all phases of the game, including offensive and defensive alignments, conditioning, passing, dribbling, rebounding, shooting, etc. Registration is \$25 cash only per student. Camp hours are 9 to 11 a.m.

Volleyball Camp – The Lady Lions' July 24-27 volleyball camp for girls will include training in all phases of the game, including offensive and defensive alignments, conditioning, passing, hitting, serving, blocking, etc. Registration is \$25 cash only per student. Camp hours are 5 to 7 p.m. For additional information, direct email to coach Jessica Fitzmorris at jfitzmorris@pasadenaisd.org.

Strength/Conditioning Camp – The Lions' July 24-27 strength and conditioning camp for boys and girls will include strength training, agility drills, tire work, stair climbing, ladder work, weight training, conditioning and more. Registration is \$25 cash only per student. Camp hours are 9 to 11 a.m.

Brook to host youth VB camp

The Clear Brook Lady Wolverine youth volleyball camp, hosted by Brook head coach Meredith Thompson and her staff, will be held July 24-27 at the school.

The camp is designed for incoming third- through ninth-grade students as of the 2017-2018 school year. Camp one is for third- through fifth- graders and will be from 8 to 9:30 a.m. Camp two is for sixth- through eighth-graders and will be from 8 to 10:30 a.m. Camp three is for advanced eighth-graders and ninth-graders and will be held from 10:45 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. Registration is \$100 for camp one and \$120 for camps two and three. More information is available from Thompson at mthomp1@ccisd.net.

Clear Brook 7-on-7 football reaches state semifinals

Continued from Page 1B
"We do have a lot of talent at the skill position," Allison said.

"It all starts with the quarterback, and Jaizac Garcia, a guy who will be in his third varsity season come August, has really developed both competitively and as a leader.

"Jarrett Smith has really improved in catching the ball out of the backfield.

"He's pretty good when you're just handing it to him, but he has also

improved his catching ability. Caleb Chapman is probably the best all-around receiver I've been around in my 20 years of coaching. Mark Milton has tons of ability.

"I could go on and on about these guys, but the key is their unselfishness. We preach family over individualism here at Clear Brook, and the guys have bought in.

"They went out there and fought as a family to get as far as they did in the state 7-on-7 tournament,

and we couldn't be happier."

Now Allison and his coaching staff will wait to see just how everything comes together come August, and then how things translate when the post-season comes around in early November.

Dickinson, the defending District 24-6A champion, is once again favored to repeat.

Clear Springs is also in play as a regular Region III power. But Allison, who will enter his third

season, and his staff have built something special at Clear Brook.

"We have a great group of coaches, and the administration from Principal Michele Staley on down is totally supportive.

"The kids have also bought into what we are selling, which is big. Hopefully we can take this 7-on-7 success and use it as a springboard come August when we get the entire group together and get the pads on. I think all of us are excited."

7-on-7: A final note

Lake Travis, which had defeated Clear Brook in pool play, came away with a 35-34 victory over Waxahachie in the Adidas State Championships Division I finale.

Waxahachie, which beat Clear Brook in the semifinals, got to within a point with a touchdown in the closing seconds.

But Lake Travis came up with a big defensive stop on Waxahachie's 2-point conversion try to win on the final play.

Rising Stars tracksters punch nationals ticket

Continued from Page 1B
Devereaux also reached nationals in three other events, including the 800-, 1,500- and javelin events.

In the 800-meter run, Devereaux's time of 2:02.39 was good enough for second place, and his clocking of 4:25.81 was fourth in the 1,500-meter run.

The Rising Stars' Devin Caballero (4:29.93) and Ayden Salcedo (6:23.40)

also qualified for nationals at the 1,500-meter distance.

As for Devereaux, with teammate Michael Ramirez Hidalgo (fifth at 132'0" for second place, 120'3") also heading to

Michigan. Caballero's time of 10:05.55 placed him second in the 1,500-meter run, and Trevor Diswell's leap of 10'3 1/2" in the long jump qualified him fifth.

At 69'6", Jason Doswell was fifth in the discus, and Doswell also reached the national competition with a throw of 31'3" in the shot put for fourth place.

AAU Junior Olympic Games

July 31 through Aug. 5

Eastern Michigan University

Ypsilanti, Michigan

SBYSC/TetraBrazil delivers youth soccer camp

With five World Cups to its name, Brazil stands alone as the most decorated soccer nation.

This summer, aspiring American players will have the opportunity to learn the secrets of Brazil's amazing success directly from more than a dozen Brazilian coaches who will spend 10 weeks traveling around the country and sharing their knowledge.

The South Belt Youth Soccer Club has teamed up with TetraBrazil to host the TetraBrazil Soccer Camp July 31 through August 4 at the South Belt Youth Soccer Club's facility at El Franco

Lee Park.

This camp will run Monday through Friday. Each member of the TetraBrazil coaching staff will bring an authentic taste of the flair, passion and creativity of Brazilian soccer to the camps.

In addition to learning advanced footwork, new skills and the most effective moves used by top Brazilian players, campers will warm up to samba music, learn Portuguese phrases and discover what it is like to grow up and play soccer in a country where the game is treated like a religion.

Each camper will receive

a free TetraBrazil soccer camp T-shirt and soccer ball, a Brazilian soccer poster and camp certificate.

The South Belt Youth Soccer Club is offering TetraBrazil soccer camp sessions for the following groups:

Ages 8 to 11 – Half-Day Camp (9 a.m. to noon), \$162.

Ages 12 to 16 – Half-Day Camp (9 a.m. to noon), \$162.

Teams are also welcome to attend and receive a week of focused Brazilian instruction to prepare them for the fall season.

Space is limited, and par-

ents are encouraged to register their children online in advance to avoid missing out.

Once the events begin, registration is not guaranteed.

For additional information, camp specifics and to register, visit www.challengersports.com.

For more information about TetraBrazil or the Challenger Sports program, call Mike Rees at 512-416-7706.

Those who wish, may direct email to Rees at mrees@challenger-sports.com.

TetraBrazil is a divi-

sion of Challenger Sports. Challenger Sports is a corporation registered in Kansas, which provides camps, clinics, tours, tournaments, team trainers, uniforms and equipment to soccer clubs in each state.

In addition to coaching youth players, Challenger Sportswill also run hundreds of free parent/coach soccer clinics throughout the country in partnership with the National Soccer Coaches Association of America.

Challenger Sports is the only soccer camp accredited by the American Camping Association.

CALENDAR

THURSDAY, JULY 6

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

Clear Lake Bridge Club – 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) – Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. Call 713-856-1611.

CrossRoads UMC – Invites everyone to the Thursday night service beginning with a light meal and fellowship at 6 p.m. followed by a praise, worship and prayer service at 7 p.m. at 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Both pastors then lead a Bible study in English and Spanish. Everyone is welcome.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) – Women's Group, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-856-1611.

The Bay Area Writers League – Meets the first Thursday monthly, Barnes and Noble, 1029 W. Bay Area Blvd., 7 p.m. Newcomers welcome.

Alcoholics Anonymous – Alcohol problems? Meets Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7 to 8 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For details, call 713-306-4366 or 713-480-4166.

FRIDAY, JULY 7

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

Clear Lake Bridge Club – Open games Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) – West End Group, noon,

Shepherd of the Heart United Methodist Church, 12005 County Rd. 39, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) – Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2245 N. Main St., Pearland. Call 713-856-1611.

Serenity Now AI-Anon Group – meets at CrossRoads UMC Fridays, 8 to 9 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Family members and friends of problem drinkers/addicts share, learn AI-Anon principles, that they are not alone, and discover choices available. For details, call 281-484-9243.

SATURDAY, JULY 8

Alcoholics Anonymous – "Breakfast with Bill", Saturdays, 7:30 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) – Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2245 N. Main St., Pearland. For information, call 713-856-1611.

AI-Anon Meeting (Women Only, English) – For women affected by an addict. Saturdays, 11 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, Cornell Conference room #111. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.

Clear Lake Bridge Club – Open games Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.

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

SUNDAY, JULY 9

Clear Lake Bridge Club – Open games Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.

Grief Support Group – For adults who have lost a loved

one. Meets Sundays, except Mother's Day, Easter and Christmas, 2 to 3:15 p.m., 2245 N. Main St., Pearland. For details, call 281-487-8787.

Scleroderma Support Group – Do you know someone with scleroderma? Join a support group on the second Sunday, 2 to 4 p.m., at Memorial Hermann Northeast Hospital in Humble. Bring a friend. Call Jacob Davila at 281-706-6232, or email jdavila@scleroderma.org.

Celebrate Recovery – A faith-based 12-Step Program, Sundays, 5:30 p.m., in the Chapel at Life Church, 9900 Alameda Genoa. Call 713-419-2635 for details or to RSVP for child care.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) – Vigilance Group of NA meets Sundays, 7 p.m., 2245 N. Main St., Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.

Alcoholics Anonymous – Alcohol problems? Meets Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7 to 8 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For details, call 713-306-4366 or 713-480-4166.

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

AI-Anon Deer Park – Mondays, 10 to 11 a.m. Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P Street, Deer Park. Enter through back of church. Call 409-454-5720 for details, or drop in.

Clear Lake Bridge Club – Open games Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.

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 details, or drop in.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) – Imperfect Nooners Group,

noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. Call 713-856-1611.

Houston Area Parkinson Society – Free exercise and speech therapy for adults with Parkinson's, 3:15 to 4:45 p.m., Clear Lake Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster. Visit www.hapsonline.org for details.

Scrabble Club #511 – Meets Monday at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua. Come, improve crossword playing skills. Call 281-488-2923 for details.

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

Pearland Overeaters Anonymous HOW Meeting – Monday at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 2535 E. Broadway, Pearland. Use door near recycling bins. For details, call 713-973-6633 or visit www.oahouston.org.

ESL at CrossRoads UMC – Academic ESL classes meet Mondays and Wednesdays, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Free. Call Cris at 832-724-4296 to register. 10030 Scarsdale Blvd.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) – Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For information, call 713-856-1611.

Sagamont Civic Club – Meetings are held the second Monday, 7 p.m., Sagamont Park Recreation Center, 11507 Hughes Rd.

Congregation Shaar Hashalom – Israeli Folk Dancing on Monday, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m., 16020 El Camino Real, 77062. \$4/session or \$35/10 sessions for CSH members and \$5/session or \$45/10 sessions for nonmembers. Everyone is welcome. For information, contact 281-488-5861 or csh@shaarhashalom.org.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) – Saint Luke's Group, 12 Step Recovery, open meeting Mondays, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Education Bldg., 11011 Hall Rd., 77089. For details, call Russell at 832-483-6715.

Continued on Page 4B



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CALENDAR

Continued from Page 3B

TUESDAY, JULY 11

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

CCART - The Clear Creek Association of Retired Teachers meets the second Tuesday, monthly, Sept.-May, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., Bay Area Community Center, 5002 NASA Parkway in Seabrook near Landolt Pavilion. Texas retired school employees from surrounding school districts welcome. Annual dues are \$35.

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

Clear Lake Bridge Club - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.

Tri-County Republican Women - General meetings are held the second Tuesday, except June and July, Golfcrest Country Club, 2509 Country Club Dr., Pearland. Lunch available for \$15. Must have exact cash or a check. For reservations, call Laura Morgan at 281-484-8083.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.
Rotary Club of Pearland - Meets Tuesdays, noon to 1 p.m., Golfcrest Country Club, 2509 Country Club Dr., Pearland. Lunch is \$15. Variety of interesting speakers. For details, call 281-900-7257 or email nalix@texascitizensbank.com.

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

Clear Lake Bridge Club Lab Class - Tuesday, 2 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. For details or classes, contact Dr. Glandorf at drglanford@sbcglobal.net or call 281-488-6318.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church-youth bldg. For information, call 713-856-1611.
Alcoholics Anonymous - Alcohol problems? Meets Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7 to 8 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For details, call 713-306-4366 or 713-480-4166.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12

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

Young at Heart Club - Meets the second and fourth week monthly (Nov./Dec. meet second week only) at Covenant United Methodist Church, 7900 Fuqua. Lots of activities, trips, etc. Call Doris Byerly at 713-944-4474 for details.

Clear Lake Bridge Club - Open games Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.

Hometown Heroes Park - has free Hump Day Dance to practice ballroom dance, 1 to 3:30 p.m. Wednesdays, 1001 E. League City Pkwy. League City nonresidents must purchase activity card. Help is available to assist learning dance moves. For details, call Neva Schroder at 417-838-2204.

ESL at CrossRoads UMC - Academic ESL classes meet Mondays and Wednesdays, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Free. Call Cris at 832-724-4296 to register. 10030 Scarsdale Blvd.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church-youth bldg. For information, call 713-856-1611.

Bay Area Turning Point Crisis Intervention - Call 281-286-2525 (24-hour crisis hotline) for confidential domestic violence/sexual abuse support group for women. Visit www.bayareaturningpoint.org for information.
Bay Area New Democrats - Meet at the Clear Lake Court House

at 1020 W. NASA Pkwy., Suite 204. For information, visit www.bayareanewdemocrats.org.

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

THURSDAY, JULY 13

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

NASA Aglow Community Lighthouse - Second Thursday of the month, 9:30 a.m., Praise Chapel, 18516 Hwy. 3 in Webster. The public is welcome and encouraged to bring others. For details, call 281-910-1971.

Fun Bunch - for senior citizens, ages 55 and older, meets the second Thursday of each month at 10 a.m. at the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce, 10500 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call Ronn Canon at 281-610-8999 or the chamber at 281-481-5516.

Clear Lake Bridge Club - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.

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

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.

CrossRoads UMC - Invites everyone to the Thursday night service beginning with a light meal and fellowship at 6 p.m. followed by a praise, worship and prayer service at 7 p.m. at 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Afterward both pastors lead a Bible study in English and Spanish. Everyone is welcome.

Congregation Shaar Hashalom's - Rabbi Stuart Federow hosts free discussions on Judaism and religion in general, open to the public, second Thursdays, at Victor's, 1425 NASA Pkwy., (next to "space" McDonald's). This is the conservative synagogue in the Bay Area. For details, contact the synagogue office at 281-488-5861 or at csh@shaarhashalom.org.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Women's Group, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM-518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-856-1611.

Alcoholics Anonymous - Alcohol problems? Meets Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7 to 8 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For details, call 713-306-4366 or 713-480-4166.

To submit items for the
CALENDAR
at the
South Belt-Ellington Leader
send an email to:
mynews@southbeltleader.com

South Belt community celebrates Fourth of July



Rudy Alafa's "Texans" float makes its way down the parade. Alafa's float included music, special smoke effects and J.J. Watt saluting everyone in the crowd. Alafa is a longtime resident of South Belt.
Photo by Bruce Summers, Summers Photography



Having served four years during the Vietnam War, Joe Hinojosa is a proud veteran of the United States Marine Corps. He built a replica of a Marine Corps infantryman, named G.I. Joe. Hinojosa and G. I. Joe are pictured left with Deputy Clint Brown from the Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's Office.
Dozens of participants from the South Belt took to the streets in cars, trucks, motorcycles and floats in the annual Fourth of July parade as hundreds more gathered to watch. Among those returning to the parade was the Hinojosa family, who won the most patriotic award last year. Pictured below, left to right, are Chris Hinojosa, Selena Hinojosa, Joe Hinojosa, Rosa Hinojosa, Vanessa Hinojosa, Michael Hinojosa, Valerie Hinojosa, Johnathan Hinojosa, Blanca Hinojosa, Jon Hinojosa, Angela Hinojosa, Brianna Hinojosa, Justin Hinojosa and Joe D. Hinojosa.
Photo by Kemerly Dexter



Left: Eric Swanson and Lorraine Swanson, Elijah Derixson, Sammy Derixson, Phil Smith and Meghan Smith ride on the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department fire truck. The Southeast Fire Department sponsors the South Belt Cook-Off, which raises the money for the annual fireworks held at El Franco Lee Park.



Right: The David Hobbs family of Hobbs Auto Repair took to the streets to watch the parade. Shown are, left to right, David Hobbs, Connie Hobbs, Jase Hobbs, Shane Hobbs, Austin Hobbs, Erin Hobbs and Colton Hobbs.
Photo by Marie Flickinger

Watch for more parade pictures in next week's issue. Thank you to Kemerly Dexter, San Jacinto College student, for volunteering and taking photos of the parade. A big thank you to Bruce Summers, Summers Photography, who has been a longtime photographer for various projects in the community, including the South Belt Chamber, South Belt Cook-off and South Belt Parade.



The J. Frank Dobie High School Bowling Team was excited to show off its float. Shown, left to right, Alexander Camargo, Jose Hernandez, Nicolas Guerra, Joseph Castillo, Robert Lazo, Victoria Lazo, Francisco Camargo, Cassandra Hernandez, and Nicolas Luna.



The Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League All Stars joined in on the fun at the parade. Shown, left to right, (front row) Bella Lara, Dominic Lara, Brycen Sommerfelt, Johan DeLaPaz, Abner De Anda, Owen Young, Kathy Young, Leo Thumann, (back row) Jose Lara, Liam Vasquez, Gabriel Swann, Noah Villareal, Thomas Young (standing), Adam Aguilar, Josiah Perez, Alex Hofstetter and Raul DeLaPaz.



Douglas Orrell entered his 1969 El Camino Super Sport into the parade. Orrell is the original owner of the vehicle. In the back are, Rita Lusignan and her granddaughter Katie Hasslefield waved hello to the crowd.
Photo by Bruce Summers

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