

South Belt-Ellington Leader

Celebrating our 40th year of covering the South Belt community

Voice of Community-Minded People since 1976

August 27, 2015

Email: mynews@southbeltleader.com

www.southbeltleader.com

Vol. 40, No. 30

Chamber luncheon set

The South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce will host a membership luncheon Thursday, Sept. 17, at Golfcrest Country Club, 2509 Country Club Drive in Pearland, beginning at 11:30 a.m. Featured speakers include state Sen. Larry Taylor, state Rep. Dennis Paul and San Jacinto College Chancellor Brenda Hellyer. Individual reservations are \$25 each. Table sponsorship is \$300. Attendees should RSVP by Monday, Sept. 14. For more information, to RSVP or to purchase tickets, contact South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Sherry Trainer at 281-481-5516.

Tax-Aide volunteers sought

Each year from Feb. 1 through April 15, Houston-area AARP Tax-Aide volunteers help about 50,000 low-income and over age 60 taxpayers. For the 2016 tax season, volunteers are needed now for two weekly four-hour shifts as a Tax-Aide tax counselor, greeter, technology coordinator or administrator. Training will be provided in January at local Clear Lake-area churches. Speakers of Spanish and English are especially needed. Learn more and sign up at www.aarp.org/tavolunteer8 (English only).

LegalLine Sept. 2

LegalLine will be available Wednesday, Sept. 2, from 5 to 9 p.m. LegalLine is a public service of the Houston Bar Association where attorneys offer free legal advice over the telephone. Call the HBA office at 713-759-1133.

Kirkmont I meets Sept. 9

Kirkmont I Homeowners Association will meet Wednesday, Sept. 9, at 7:30 p.m. at 10102 Blackhawk. Homeowners and all residents are welcome to attend.

Citizen's Police Academy set

Constable Chris Diaz invites all citizens to attend his upcoming third annual Citizen's Police Academy. Classes will be held for 10 consecutive Tuesdays beginning on Tuesday, Sept. 15, and ending with a graduation ceremony on Nov. 17. All classes will be held at the John Phelps Courthouse located at 101 S. Richey in Pasadena. Citizens will hear from experts in the fields of counter-terrorism, domestic abuse, human trafficking, ethics and law enforcement, and many other topics that will help one to better understand what officers face today. Tips on how to keep family and community safe will also be discussed. There is no fee for participants. For more information or to sign up for the academy, contact Sgt. Cindy Vara-Leija at 713-477-2766 or via email at Cindy.Leija@cn2.hctx.net.

Legion hosts Backyard Bash

American Legion Post 490, 11702 Galveston Road, will host a Backyard Bash Saturday, Sept. 12, from 4 to 10 p.m. Entertainment will include a disc jockey from 4 to 6 p.m. and a live band from 6 to 10 p.m. Presale tickets are \$20 each, and \$25 at the door. For more information, call 281-481-1179.

Martin sets town hall

Houston District E City Council Member Dave Martin will host a town hall meeting Tuesday, Sept. 22, at Space Center Houston, 1601 NASA Road 1, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Representatives from the City of Houston Public Works and Engineering Department, the Houston Parks and Recreation Department and the Houston Police Department are expected to take part in the event. Additionally, Martin has invited representatives from Trendmaker Homes and Fidelis Realty to provide an update on their respective developments at the corner of Clear Lake City Boulevard and El Dorado Boulevard. An invitation has also been extended to General Growth Partners, which is coordinating the expansion of Baybrook Mall. Earlier that day, Martin will host a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the completion of the South Shaver reconstruction project. For more information, contact Martin's office at 832-393-3008.

HCSO sets Sept. 26 shredding

The Harris County Sheriff's Office will host a document shredding event Saturday, Sept. 26, at the Harris County Courthouse Annex, 10851 Scarsdale at Beamer, from 9 a.m. to noon. Identity theft has become one of the costliest crimes in the nation. In addition to helping prevent thieves from physically getting their hands on the discarded personal and confidential information of others, the event will also help by heightening general public awareness on how to avoid becoming a victim of identity theft. Residents may bring up to five banker boxes or grocery bags full of documents. For information, call 713-759-9454.

Kirkwood to meet Aug. 27

The Kirkwood Civic Association will hold its monthly meeting Thursday, Aug. 27, at the Sagemon Community Center, 11507 Hughes Road, at 6:30 p.m. Meetings are held the last Thursday of the month. For more information, call Ericka McCrutchon at 281-989-9990.

South Belt students return to school

From pink and purple hair bows to polo shirts and pastel-colored sneakers, more than 56,000 Pasadena Independent School District students donned their best back-to-school ensembles Tuesday, Aug. 25, as they returned to class.

This school year, PISD is celebrating many firsts: more than 600 new students, the addition of 700 new district teachers and the opening of two new schools – Marshall Kendrick and Fred Roberts middle schools. (See related story on Page 2A.) A third new school, named for PISD board member Nelda Sullivan is scheduled to open in January.

PISD Superintendent of Schools Kirk Lewis said traffic around these new campuses posed the biggest problem for school officials on opening day this year.

"The first few days at any school are going to be a little worse than usual until you get into a routine," Lewis said. "But when there's something new or there's some construction, it's always going to be worse."

Some of that said construction involves the ongoing project to replace pavement on Hughes Road in front of Frazier Elementary. Since construction on the westbound lanes in front of Fra-

zier wasn't completed before school started, the campus was forced to utilize its side entrance on Sagemeadow. Confounding matters is that the intersection of Hughes and Sagemeadow is closed, causing extensive traffic in the area. (See related photo and story on this page.)

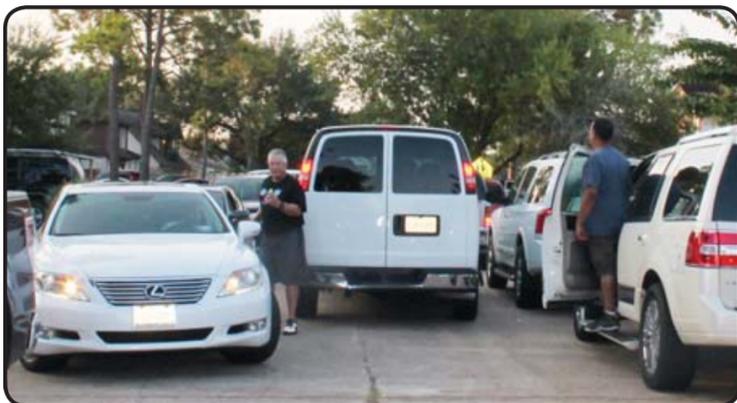
Also of concern to South Belters is overcrowding at Dobie, as enrollment at the campus is expected to top 4,000. An exact figure was not available at press time.

Reflecting on rising enrollment, the district

adopted a new vision for the school year as a way to recognize major accomplishments, boost student achievement, set districtwide goals and create a positive environment for students and staff. The theme for this year is *Keep on Climbing*.

Lewis charged district administration to "keep on climbing, offer daily encouragement, maintain high expectations, inspire students' best work and keep moving upward, forever upward as you prepare students for success in whatever life has in store."

Construction causes Frazier delays



Frazier parents encountered extra traffic Tuesday, Aug. 25, when dropping their children off at Frazier Elementary for their first day of class. School officials were forced to use the campus's side entrance on Sagemeadow after city construction crews were unable to complete work on Hughes Road in time for class. Adding to the frustration was a city cement truck driving on Sagemeadow during drop-off time, limiting traffic to only one lane. Frazier Principal Wendy Wiseburn said traffic ran more smoothly on Wednesday. Frazier staff member Kevin McDonald is shown above Tuesday directing traffic on Sagemeadow.

Photo by Marie Flickinger

U.S. postal problems persist

By Jay Do

Following the *Leader's* investigative report into the United States Postal Service detailing many of the issues experienced by local South Belt residents and business owners, the *Leader* has been contacted by a plethora of individuals throughout the community who also voiced their concerns regarding the Postal Service's standard service of late.

Through the joint efforts of the *Leader* and active community members, officials of the United States Postal Service have been made fully aware of the issues that have plagued the Houston area.

Promptly following the publication of the report, the *Leader* was contacted by numerous representatives of the Postal Service.

While multiple anonymous sources who currently serve in varying positions in different United States Postal Service stations have stated that the trucks are to arrive at local stations by 6:30 a.m. at the latest, Kelvin Dansby, marketing manager for the United States Postal Service, firmly disagrees.

"The trucks leave from the main processing center to go to the post offices around 8:30 in the morning," said Dansby. "It takes about half an

hour to get the mail from our processing center to the local post offices. From there, the mail is sorted and our couriers start delivering them on their routes."

Dansby has taken it upon himself to investigate the Postal Service's subpar service by inspecting the operations of the Windmill Lakes substation.

It should be noted that the Postal Service's service at the *Leader's* office building improved marginally since the publication of the initial report. The *Leader* went from having almost no mail service at all to having mail service most of the time.

Corporate Communications Specialist McKinney Boyd recently confirmed the *Leader's* conclusion of the Postal Service's second-rate service being a direct consequence of the United States Postal Service's shutdown of the Barbara Jordan Post Office last May.

"The United States Postal Service is just like any other industry," said Boyd. "Anytime you have two large businesses merging into one, there are going to be some hiccups along the way. The situation right now is no different. In our case, we're merging from two mail processes."

Continued on Page 3A

City closes Dobie swimming pool

Dobie High School's swimming pool, located at the school's former location on Beamer that now houses Beverly Hills Intermediate, was recently closed by City of Houston officials after the facility failed to pass inspection.

According to Pasadena Independent School District Superintendent Kirk Lewis, problems

included a water pump leak, sand in the pool, a broken chlorine pump and defective electrical plugs. Lewis said all issues should be resolved by midweek next week.

In the meantime, Dobie students are utilizing the district's new Shippey Aquatic Center in Pasadena.

Ellington e-recycling put on hold

Houston District E City Council Member Dave Martin would like to remind residents that the Solid Waste Management Department's (SWMD) monthly electronic recycling event at the Neighborhood Recycling Center at Ellington Airport has been put on hold as the city negotiates the contractual structure of the program.

SWMD placed a sign at the electronic recycling drop-off site earlier this month to notify the public of this service change.

The District E office will keep residents updated on the contract re-evaluation process and will inform the public when electronic recycling service is expected to be restored.

In the meantime, a variety of alternative methods exist for the recycling of electronic goods.

Best Buy accepts many types of electronics, including TVs, at no cost and offers pickup programs for items too large to easily transport. More information on Best Buy's electronic recycling services can be found at www.bestbuy.com.

Goodwill Houston additionally accepts scrap electronic equipment including TVs, computers, DVRs, etc. in any condition. Information on Goodwill Houston's electronic recycling program can be found on its FAQ webpage at www.goodwillhouston.org/about-us/faqs.

Residents may find additional information on ways to recycle electronics at www.texasrecycling.com/texasrecycles/hard-to-recycle/e-waste-recycling/#TW.

South Belt pools close for season

Summer is coming to an end, and several local swimming pools are closing for the season.

The Sagemon and Beverly Hills swimming pools will close for the season after Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 7.

The pools will each be open from 1 to 6 p.m. on the holiday.

The Ashley Pointe, Riverstone Ranch and Highland Meadow pools will also close after Labor Day.

Holiday hours will remain unchanged for Ashley Pointe and Riverstone Ranch, while

Highland Meadow will be open from only 3 to 5 p.m.

The Clear Brook Meadows pool will remain open two weekends past Labor Day, closing Sunday, Sept. 20. Pool hours are 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The Sageglen pool will remain open through the month of September, closing for the season Sunday, Sept. 27.

Pool hours are 5 to 9 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, noon to 9 p.m. on Saturdays and 1 to 9 p.m. on Sundays.

Meeting held on Hughes project

By James Bolen

City of Houston officials held a public meeting Thursday, Aug. 20, to update the community on the ongoing project to replace Hughes Road.

In the works for more than a decade, the \$11.7 million endeavor involves the complete reconstruction of approximately 1.3 miles of the existing four-lane roadway from Beltway 8 to the city boundary line at Sagecanyon.

Project improvements include curbs, sidewalks, street lighting, necessary underground utilities and a new underground drainage system. The traffic lights at Beamer Road will also be replaced.

"You're getting everything we offer," said Joe Myers, senior assistant director for the Public Works and Engineering Department's Construc-

tion Branch.

Of particular concern to residents is the stretch of Hughes in front of Frazier Elementary.

Officials were hoping to have repairs on the westbound lanes complete by the time school started Tuesday, Aug. 25, but were unsuccessful.

A contingency plan has now been put in place that utilizes the school's side entrance on Sagemeadow. All day-care riders and pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students, along with their siblings, will be dropped off and picked up at this entrance. The only exception is the morning pre-k classes that dismiss at 10:45 a.m. These students will be picked up at the school's main entrance on Hughes.

All vehicles will be required to enter and exit via Sagemeadow, as the intersection at Hughes will be closed.

All first- through fourth-grade students, without siblings in pre-kindergarten or kindergarten, will be dropped off and picked up at the school's main entrance on Hughes. Vehicles that normally wait in line along Hughes will be redirected to Sagewind and Sagewillow and made to enter the campus in groups.

Officials plan to replace the eastbound lanes in front of Frazier and the stretch of Hughes in front of Stuchbery next summer to avoid any extra traffic congestion during the school year.

Project Manager Parmjit Kang said every effort has been made to alleviate traffic.

"The logical plan would be to just go from one end to the other, but we're jumping around to minimize problems," Kang said.

Construction will affect numerous houses located on cross streets along Hughes. Affected residents should receive door hangers notifying them of the work.

To ease resident concerns about possible property damage, Kang said the contractor, Main Lane Industries, will take before photos of all residences, and that final payment will not be made until the city is satisfied with all work.

Construction began earlier this month and is expected to take 500 days.

Residents who need emergency assistance are asked to contact Main Lane Superintendent Brian Weth at 281-414-3634. Nonemergency problems may be addressed by calling the city's help line at 311.

Myers was apologetic but assured attendees steps were being taken to ensure the construction process runs as smoothly as possible.

"Construction is messy, and it can be confusing," Myers said. "But we plan to do the best we can to make sure everything is OK."

City releases Hughes project map, time frames



City of Houston officials have released their tentative time frames for the ongoing project to replace pavement on Hughes Road. The project began earlier this month with the westbound lanes in front of Frazier Elementary. It was hoped that stretch would be complete before school resumed. The eastbound lanes in front of Frazier, along with the stretch in front of Stuchbery Elementary, are scheduled to be done next summer to reduce traffic congestion.

School visited by its namesake



Fred Roberts Middle School opened its doors Tuesday, Aug. 25. Named in honor of Pasadena Independent School District board member Fred Roberts (third from right), the new campus is located on Conklin between Beltway 8 and Highway 3. Pictured above at a meet and greet held at the school Tuesday are, left to right, PISD Superintendent Kirk Lewis, Sagemont Church Associate Pastor Emory Gadd, Roberts' wife Vickie, Roberts, Principal Jorly Thomas and PISD Associate Superintendent of Campus Development Al'tya Harrell. Photo submitted

Roberts Middle School opens

Before the first bell rang at Fred Roberts Middle School, the school's principal hosted a meet and greet for the faculty and staff and the school's namesake, Pasadena Independent School District board member Fred Roberts. Roberts joined the crowd of teachers and staff members with his wife Vickie and longtime friend and associate pastor at Sagemont Church, Emory Gadd. "My family is very important to me, and I hope

now I can consider you part of that family," Roberts told the crowd. Located on Conklin between Beltway 8 and Highway 3, Roberts Middle School will house more than 650 fifth- and sixth-grade students.

Leal family travels to Dubai

This summer, the Leal family visited Dubai, United Arab Emirates. They stayed in the Atlantis hotel.



At right, Elda Leal, Raul Leal, Naylie and Naizeth Leal jump for a photo in the Desert Safari. Afterward, they watched the sunset before continuing their adventure to the reserved camp on July 24.



On July 24, the Leal family visited a desert reservation camp in Dubai, where they tried on an abaya, the traditional clothing worn in Dubai.



Raul, Elda, Naizeth and Naylie spend time in the only indoor ski resort and penguin encounter in the world on July 27. The resort is located in the Mall of Emirates.



Raul Leal and his daughters, Naylie and Naizeth, in the airport of Dubai on July 21, the day they arrived.



Sisters Naylie and Naizeth spending the day in the water park of Atlantis on July 22.

Dobie French I students earn medals

Last semester, 25 French I students from J. Frank Dobie High School represented the Pasadena Independent School District in the National French Contest for the fifth time. Among 23,863 partic-

ipants, three students received a silver medal for ranking top 10 in the nation. Those students are Kimberly Izaguirre (seventh place) Klarissa Garza (ninth) and Michelle Pozo

(10th). Four students awarded bronze medals are Andrea DelVillar (11th), Rachel Mondragon (11th), Francisco Moreno (13th) and Vy Nguyen (14th). Eleven Honorable Men-

tions are Hillary Basaldua, Kathy Cantu, Leilani Vargas, Sarah Lewis, Hugo Martinez, Jackelyn Rendon, Meshel Acosta, Adela-Marie Alanis, Rebekah Jagdeo, German Reyes and Moroni Velez.



Dobie French I students earning honors are, left to right, (kneeling) Kathy Cantu, Sarah Lewis, Meshel Acosta, Adela-Marie Alanis, Rebekah Jagdeo, (standing) Francisco Moreno, Moroni Velez, Kimberly Izaguirre, Hillary Basaldua, Vy Nguyen, Klarissa Garza, Andrea DelVillar, Leilani Vargas, Rachel Mandragon, Hugo Martinez and German Reyes. Not pictured are Michelle Pozo and Jackelyn Rendon. Photo submitted

PLT presents Man of La Mancha

Pasadena Little Theatre will present *Man of La Mancha*, a play written by Dale Wasserman based on the character of Don Quixote, created by Miguel de Cervantes, Aug. 28 through Sept. 13.

The play tells the story of Quixote, as a play within a play, performed by Cervantes and his fellow prisoners as he awaits a hearing with the Spanish Inquisition. Songs include *The Impossible Dream*, *Little Bird*, *Dulcinea*, and *Man of La Mancha (I, Don Quixote)*.

Friday and Saturday matinees are at 3 p.m. There is a Thursday show Sept. 10 at 8 p.m. This is PLT's special Two-Can-Attend for \$15 night. Regular prices are \$15 for adults and \$12 for students and seniors. For reservations, call 713-941-1758 or visit www.pasadenalittletheatre.org. Fle



Left to right are Amelia Reyna (Antonia Quijana), Jeremiah Maddix (Padre), and South Belt resident Katie Reed (housekeeper). Photo submitted

New administration at BHI



New administrative staff at Beverly Hills Intermediate are, left to right, Assistant Principal Travis Regner, Principal Stacey Barber, Assistant Principal Christina Serna-Grice and Assistant Principal Colina Poullard. Photo submitted

Houston City Council Member donates backpacks to PISD



Lauren Doak, (left) director of special projects at Houston City Council Member Dave Martin's office, made a visit to the Pasadena Independent School District Administration Building on Monday, Aug. 17, to drop off a donation of 40 backpacks filled with school supplies for students in need. The donation comes courtesy of Houston City Council Member Dave Martin, District E. Accepting the donation is Renea Ivy, associate superintendent of communications and community relations with Pasadena ISD. Photo submitted

Local library events set

Parker Williams Branch
The following events are scheduled this week at the Parker Williams Branch Library, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd. Thursday, Aug. 27, at 4:30 - Level Up Video Gaming PS2-Madden10. Ring in the new football season by playing Madden 10 on the library's community TV. Wednesdays - Preschool storytime is at 10:30 a.m. Thursdays - Toddler storytime is at 10:30 a.m. Saturdays - Vietnamese Storytime: Level 2 begins at 10 a.m., Level 1 begins at 11:15 a.m., and Level 3 begins at 2:30 p.m. For more information, speak with Loc Bui. For more information on these programs, call the Parker Williams Library at 281-484-2036.

Bracewell Branch Library
The following events are scheduled for August at the Bracewell Branch Library, 9002 Kingspoint Road. Every Wednesday: 10:30 a.m. - Toddler storytime, followed by Toddler Playtime at 11 a.m.; 2 p.m. - Computer Basics; 3:15 p.m. - Internet Basics; 4:30 p.m. - Intro to MS PowerPoint. Bracewell hours are Sunday and Monday - Closed; Tuesday and Wednesday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Thursday noon to 8 p.m.; Friday 1 to 5 p.m., and Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call the Bracewell Branch Library at 832-393-2580.

Dobie sets 40-year reunion

The J. Frank Dobie Class of 1975 will hold its 40-year reunion Sept. 25-26 at South Shore Harbour Resort and Conference Center, 2500 S. Shore Blvd. in League City. Tickets are \$100 per person. This includes dinner and entertainment for Saturday night. A block of rooms at a special rate will be available. For more information about the reunion, call Susie Holmes Holt at 281-222-4140, Pam West Saxton at 832-330-8368, or Debbie Green Harrell at 832-818-5028.

Bay Area Quilt Guild to meet

The Bay Area Quilt Guild meets the first Tuesday of each month at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church at 10310 Scarsdale Blvd. Fellowship begins at 6:30 p.m. and the general meeting and program begins at 7 p.m. The Sept. 1 speaker is Linda Greuter with her program, *Generations of Quilting*. Guests are welcome. For more information, call Debby Benson at 713-248-8757.

Deaths

Mason Joseph Craft



A celebration of life for Mason Joseph Craft will be held on Sunday, Sept. 6, 2015, at Scotty's Pub located at 10943 Scarsdale Blvd. in Houston. There will be a silent auction from open to close and The Band Hennessy will play in the evening. For questions or to donate auction items, call 281-755-9938 or drop off at Scotty's Pub.

by two different governors of the state of Texas.

The funeral service was held Saturday, Aug. 22, 2015, at First Baptist Church in Pasadena. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations be made to Texas Chiropractic College or First Baptist Church of Pasadena Building Fund.

Geraldine A. "Gerry" Harvey



Geraldine Anna Hoover Harvey, 86, of Texas City, Texas, died Monday, Aug. 24, 2015, surrounded by her family after a valiant battle with cancer. She was born in Altoona, Pa., on Nov. 16, 1928, to Catherine Achatz Hoover and Charles Leo Hoover, the third of seven children.

Harvey enjoyed a rich and full life. After graduating from Altoona High School, where she played basketball and swam, she completed her vocational nursing training in Cresson, Pa. She served in the Women's Army Corps during the Korean conflict. She spent her career in the medical profession.

At the time of her retirement, Harvey was office manager of an orthopedic clinic in Texas City. She obtained a real estate license and worked as a travel agent. She was a world traveler having been all over Europe, Asia, Thailand, Singapore, Central and South America, and many other places. She excelled at ballroom dancing and had learned multiple foreign languages.

Post retirement, Harvey supported the community with her volunteer work at The Grand Opera in Galveston, Goodwill, and as a member of The Friendship Club and the Altar Society at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church.

Harvey was preceded in death by her parents; sister Genevieve Schroth; brothers Charles Hoover, James Hoover and Patrick Hoover; and great-granddaughter Kenzie Hopkins. She is survived by her sister, Helen Heller of New York; and brother Raymond Hoover of Florida; daughters: longtime South Belt resident Catherine and husband Jeffery O'Brien, Cyndi and husband Paul Hopkins Jr. of Dickinson, Susan and husband James Graham of Galveston, Elizabeth Harvey of Austin, and Anastasia and husband Steve Mahelona of Dallas; grandchildren Scott Graham and wife Blakely of Boulder, Colo., Randi Hop-

kins Miller and husband Craig of Santa Fe, Texas, Catherine O'Brien of Waterloo, Iowa, Paul Hopkins III and wife Victoria of Dickinson, and Mary O'Brien of Broadlands, Va.; great-grandchildren Paul Hopkins IV, Aspen Miller, Elden and Tallulah Graham, and Brooklyn and Kourtlyn Hopkins.

Visitation will begin at 5 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 27, 2015, in the chapel of Hayes Funeral Home, 10412 Highway 6, with a vigil service and Rosary at 7 p.m.

A Mass of the Resurrection will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Friday, Aug. 28, at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, with the Rev. John Kappe, celebrant.

Interment will follow the service at Mt. Olivet Catholic Cemetery under the direction of Hayes Funeral Home.

Pallbearers will be Scott Graham, Susan Graham, Elizabeth Harvey, Cyndi Hopkins, Paul Hopkins III, Anastasia Mahelona, Randi Miller and Catherine O'Brien.

Memorial donations may be made in Harvey's name to the American Heart Association, 10060 Buffalo Speedway, Houston, TX 77054 or the American Cancer Society at P.O. Box 22478, Oklahoma City, OK 73123.

Evelyn Ann Mauro



Evelyn Ann Mauro, 74, died peacefully on Sunday, Aug. 23, 2015, surrounded by her family. She was born Dec. 3, 1940.

Mauro is preceded in death by her parents, Paul and Evelyn Welch, brother Alton Welch, and son Dominick John Mauro.

She is survived by her husband of 57 years, Donald L. Mauro; sons Donald P. Mauro (Irma) of South Belt, Joseph Mauro (Katina) and Michael Mauro; daughters-in-law Teresa Flores and Sandy Mauro; grandchildren: Paul Mauro (Devon), Amber Mauro (Matt) and Lisa Gaytan (Danny) of South Belt, Marc Mauro (Dianna), Christina Mauro, Laura Oliver (Brandon), Steven Mauro, Christina DiLauro (Justin), Raymond Gamboa and Clint Collins; great-grandchildren: Challen, Colin, Emily, Jenna, Evelyn, Liam, Ayden, Aaliyah Xavier and Jesse.

A celebration of life will be held Thursday, Aug. 27, 2015, at Forest Lawn Funeral Home, 8706 Almeda Genoa in Houston. Visitation will be from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., with the service to follow.

New staff at Moore



New staff this school year at Moore Elementary School are, left to right, Sara Saxon, second-grade teacher; Guadalupe Hudson, art teacher; and Shelly Blair, second-grade teacher. Photo submitted

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Fox takes temporary leave from Coast Guard, pursues law degree

By Jay Do
United States Coast Guard Lt. Ryan Fox was recently recognized for his service to his country at a change of command ceremony aboard the United States Coast Guard Cutter Halibut in Marina del Rey, Calif.

A native of the South Belt area, he grew up on the bordering city limits of Houston and Pearland. Fox graduated from J. Frank Dobie High School in the class of 2006 before enrolling in the United States Coast Guard Academy to serve his country much like his father and grandfather.

"My dad served in the Army when I was real young," said Fox. "My grandfather also spent some time serving in the military. Growing up in Houston, we were close to the water, and we would take a boat out of Galveston every once in a while. From a young age, I had

a feel for what it was like to be out on the water. The Coast Guard Academy recruited me for their football team right out of Dobie, and I joined not only to serve my country with military service, but also to have the opportunity to play collegiate athletics."

Fox made the decision to join the Coast Guard as opposed to any other branch of the armed services as a means to serve his country while at the same time staying close to the water, an integral part of his childhood.

"I thought the Coast Guard was really unique in that while other uniform services are often preparing for defensive warfare that they may rarely see, we are more accustomed to saving lives, interdicting drugs and enforcing laws," said Fox. "We're not always just practicing for something, we're constantly executing our missions and doing some real-

ly unique things. Keeping drugs away from the U.S. border is a very challenging task but when you have helicopters and fast response vessels honing in on a target in the dark of night, everything gets very exciting. Overall, it appealed to me more than being out in the Middle Eastern deserts."

Fox graduated from the United States Coast Guard Academy in May of 2010 with a Bachelor of Science in business management. As a cadet, he participated in football and track.

Upon graduating from the academy as an ensign, Fox reported aboard the United States Coast Guard Cutter Dallas in Charleston, S.C., where he served as a Combat Information Center officer and as a gunnery officer. While aboard, Fox successfully obtained qualifications as a deck watch officer, boarding officer and landing signal officer in sup-

port of Coast Guard Cutter Dallas' primary mission of drug interdiction.

After completing his tour aboard Dallas, Fox was assigned to the Patrol Forces Southwest Asia Relief Crew as the executive officer and later the executive officer of the United States Coast Guard Cutter Aquidneck out of Manama, Bahrain, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. During the one-year assignment, Fox was responsible for management of the United States Coast Guard Forward Operating Base in Camp Patriot, Kuwait, and, as a deck watch officer, the safe navigation and passage of United States flagged vessels through the Strait of Hormuz and intelligence collection throughout the Arabian Gulf.

The most recent, among a long list of Fox's accomplishments, is leading the Coast Guard Cutter Halibut on a successful res-

cue mission of a stranded kayaker from waters approximately 10 miles off the coast of Gaviota State Beach, near Santa Barbara, Calif.

"We were patrolling off of Malibu when we got a call that there was a missing kayaker that did not return to shore off of Gaviota Beach," said Fox. "It was probably about 80 to 100 miles from where we were. We got the call at around 11:30 p.m., and at that point, the kayaker had already been out there for more than 12 hours. He left around 11 that morning, and when he didn't return home, his wife went looking for him. She found his truck in the parking lot around 7 that afternoon and she notified the authorities that her husband was missing. The local authorities did their initial search around the beach and went through their protocol to verify that there really was a missing individual. When everything checked out, they notified the Coast Guard at around 10 p.m."

The Coast Guard then assigned the search and rescue mission to a Coast Guard helicopter, a Coast Guard small boat and Fox's vessel, as they were the closest assets to the projected location of the stranded kayaker.

"We got the message from our command center in Los Angeles to divert from our position and head towards the search loca-

tion," said Fox. "It took us about four hours to get there from where we were. There were approximately five- to six-foot seas that night, which makes finding a small stranded kayaker extremely difficult. It's pretty hard to see something that small on a calm night and the weather made it nearly impossible. I remember thinking there is a very small chance we find anything before sunrise. The search pattern was developed and given to us by our command center. They have it all charted out with their highly sophisticated system that calculates the best probability of where a given object may be, taking into account the seas, the winds and what the object is. I remember the search pattern given to us that night had us on a very uncomfortable course, and we were getting tossed back and forth. When the winds and waves are coming from the side of a vessel and not coming straight off the bow or the stern then the ship can be violently rocked back and forth. We were about five minutes into the search pattern, and I decided that we were going to finish out our first leg out of 10, and then we would call the command center to have them switch the direction of the search pattern, because we were just miserable."

Suddenly, perhaps even miraculously, Fox's luck changed for the better.

"We had two high school students who were part of the Naval Sea Cadets program, that came underway with us for training," said Fox. "I had one of the cadets manning our infrared camera and one of the permanent crew members, Machinery Technician Second Class Ryan Horsley, teaching him how to operate it. Horsley noticed something off the port side of our ship, so I immediately put the engines in reverse. As we were coming to a stop, I remember everything not secured on the bridge falling to the ground; all the charts and binders we had on the tables went flying everywhere. This was about 3 in the morning, so most of the crew was still asleep and I'm sure a few of them flew out of their racks. You can imagine, in five- to six-foot waves, it's almost impossible to see something as small as a kayak, because one minute you see it and the next minute it's gone."

"As we started to move in on the object, it became clear that it was the kayak and sure enough, when we began to shine our spot light on him, the guy started waving his paddle at us. At this point, after so many hours had elapsed since he set out and he was more than 9 miles out from the beach, we were just surprised he was still alive."

"The waters of the Pacific Ocean off the coast of California are not like Galveston, Texas. The water temperature was about 64 degrees, so you're not going to last as long, and that guy was in a T-shirt and thin pants. We sent a small boat and a crew out to get him, and he was still tied to his kayak. Thankfully the man knew to tie himself to his kayak, and he had his life vest on when we rescued him, both of which probably saved his life."

"We brought him aboard the Halibut, wrapped him in a bunch of space blankets, gave him hot chocolate and tried to warm him up for a while. We had our EMT, Food Specialist Second Class Kevin Ingram, check his vitals every few minutes and passed that information back to the emergency personnel who were on shore. By the time we got back to Santa Barbara, about an hour later, he was so warmed up that he didn't even want help from the professional paramedics that were standing by."

Fox firmly believes that the superb job done by his colleagues ashore is to thank for the Coast Guard's success that night. "We were able to locate



Lt. Ryan Fox (center) is shown with his parents, Dr. Mary Campbell-Fox and Patrick Fox, at a change of command ceremony aboard the United States Coast Guard Cutter Halibut in Marina del Rey, Calif.

Dobie JROTC Summer Camp 2015

Dobie's Air Force JROTC recently had a four-day summer day camp for students who were new to the program along with returning cadets.

Activities held each day were basic drill and physical training.

On one of the days, a long march on the newly redesigned Spider Trail was completed to help build camaraderie and physical endurance.

On the last day, a field day was held in which four flights competed in the fol-

lowing events: A-frame race, skids race, tug-o-war, litter carry race, and egg toss.

The four team flights were the Aztecs, Bulldogs, Spartans, and Trojans. The Trojans were the overall winners with the Bulldogs a

close second place.

The successful four-day camp ended with an awards presentation and pizza party.

Dobie's Air Force JROTC is ready to start the new school year with motivated and dedicated Longhorn Cadets.



The Aztecs won the tug-o-war competition and are pictured, left to right, Joshua Dolmos, Guadalupe Carmona, Jennifer Gutierrez, Zachary Carter, Christian Guevara, Jacob Kuhn, Devon Bustamante and Oscar Rodela III.



The drill picture is of Cadet Jennifer Gutierrez leading the group in the 30-step drill sequence, pictured in the front row (left to right) are: Jacob De La Garza, Thomas Hawkins, Hunter Gilmore, Monique Durham, Bailey Rodriguez, Jonathan Harris, Sebastian Guevara, and Alexis Garza.



The Trojan team champs on skids pictured are, left to right, Oscar Puente, Angel Castillo, Coby Riley, Brandon Harder, Perla Zuniga, Jonathan Harris and Rafael Cores.



The litter carry race winners were the Bulldogs. Pictured are, left to right, (front row) Alexis Garza, Desiree Quijas, Bailey Rodriguez, (second row) Hunter Gilmore, Luis Cores, (back row) John Wang, Adam Gonzales, Thomas Hawkins and Joel Chiccas.



On the Spider Trail march are students, left to right, Oscar Rodela III, Rafael Cores, Jacob De La Garza, Luis Cores, Jonathan Harris (sunglasses on) and Bailey Rodriguez.



Pictured practicing on skids are the Spartans, left to right, Zachery Gonzalez, Sebastian Guevara, Adam Gil, Myranda Garcia, Kevin Valladares, Thomas Tores and Jacob De La Garza.

Postal Service issues affect South Belt

Continued from Page 1A
ing facilities into one larger facility, and we're experiencing some hiccups as we're transitioning."

Boyd is convinced that the slight issues during the transitioning process as the Postal Service relocates a large part of its Houston workforce to the North Houston Center will result in better service from the Postal Service in the long run.

"The beauty of it is that we are working to improve and get better every single day," said Boyd. "Once we get situated and get everything worked out, we can expect to start providing the same level and quality of service as before, if not better. We ask that our patrons, customers and residents be patient with us and give us a little more time as we iron out the little bumps in the road."

Residents and business owners feeling the effects of the United States Postal Service's inadequate service are asked to bear with the Postal Service as it finishes its transitioning process for upward of one to two more months.

"I can almost guarantee you that all the issues that you're experiencing right now will be resolved within the next 30 to 60 days," said Boyd. "I look forward to having this conversation in about two months' time, because everything will have been taken care of at that point and it's going to be a beautiful conversation."

MHSH welcomes new emergency room doctors



Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital recently welcomed new physicians to its emergency center. The emergency center at the hospital is one of the busiest in the Memorial Hermann System. Memorial Hermann Southeast operates a Level III Trauma Center as well as an emergency STEMI team and emergency stroke team. In addition, Memorial Hermann Southeast and the Memorial Hermann Convenient Care Center in Pearland have the ability

to transfer and receive patients through Life Flight. From left are Alex Garbino, M.D., Ph.D.; Oscar Martinez, M.D.; Sofia Farooqi, D.O.; Dianna Bryan, M.D.; Nadim Islam, M.D., medical director, MHSH; Abdulla Kudrath, M.D.; Dien Bui, M.D.; Paul Sheehan, M.D., medical director, Memorial Hermann Convenient Care Center in Pearland; and Samar Yusuf, DO, assistant medical director, MHSH. Photo submitted

service after their initial commitment. It wasn't fun at the time and we often said that we hated it, but looking back now, I can't think of a more rewarding way to spend the first years of my adulthood."

Fox's appreciation for his nation has only grown during the time that he's spent serving it.

"All of those patriotic country songs get to me that much more now," said Fox with a laugh. "A lot of it hit home for me when I was assigned in the Middle East and worked closely with several Army, Navy and Marine units. Watching them return from Iraq and Afghanistan and hearing their stories firsthand while still in theater was eye-opening. The gravity of being part of the front line of our maritime defense in the Gulf weighed heavily on many of us, and furthered our appreciation for what this country does to promote freedom throughout the world. I am very fortunate to be a part of this organization, and I am extremely proud to be a member of the United States Armed Forces."

DeGar speaks at NASA Aglow meeting Sept. 10

Prophetic Intercessor Deborah DeGar, founder and director of International House of Prayer in Houston, will speak at the NASA Aglow Lighthouse meeting on Thursday, Sept. 10, at 9:30 a.m. at Praise Chapel in Webster.

DeGar is widely known. She has served in the USA, Seoul Korea, Argentina, Israel and Africa. She held the position of prayer partner recruiter and trainer at Houston CET/TBN Television Net-

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The Insurance Council of Texas advises coastal residents to be prepared for every hurricane.
This message comes from the Insurance Council of Texas which represents approximately 500 property and casualty companies licensed to do business in the state of Texas.

Regner assistant principal at BHI

Beverly Hills Intermediate recently welcomed Travis Regner as assistant principal.

Regner attended Beverly Hills and graduated from South Houston High School. He is a graduate of Texas A&M University.

Regner says, "I have always admired and respected Beverly Hills and thought of it as one of the top intermediates in the district. I look forward to being a part of the amazing things that are happening here."



Travis Regner with his family, wife Ashley, son Noah and daughter Morgan. (See related photo Page 2A.) Photo submitted

Romance writers host workshops

New York Times and USA Today bestselling historical romance author Sarah MacLean will present writing workshops on Saturday, Sept. 19, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Starfish Writers Conference, hosted by the Houston Bay Area Romance Writers of America.

The conference, at South Shore Harbour Resort, includes a light breakfast, full lunch, door prizes and raffle baskets. New York Times bestseller Sophie Jordan will also attend and co-teach a session. Pre-registration is required. For more information or to register online, visit hbarwa.com.

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Over The Back Fence by Alexis

HAPPY BIRTHDAY CODY!

Cody Giles of Kirkwood South will be 17 on Aug. 27. His parents, Jim and Tracy, grandparents Ken and Bobby Griffin, brother Aaron and sister Kristen wish him a wonderful birthday!

BIRTHDAY WISHES FOR GORDON

Special birthday wishes are sent to Gordon Berg on Aug. 31 from his wife, Pat, and friends at the Leader and the South Belt Chamber.

SPECIAL BIRTHDAY WISHES TO MARIE

Birthday greetings are sent to Marie Flickinger, South Belt-Ellington Leader owner, on Tuesday, Sept. 1, from husband David; sons Fred and wife Leslie Flickinger and David and wife Ellie Flickinger; granddaughters Kimberly Flickinger and Courtney Durham and husband Chris and great-granddaughter Abigail; granddaughter Natalie and husband Jose Abarca and great-grandchildren Kelvin Lopez and Isabella Abarca; sister Alexis Lochner; and her friends and staff at the South Belt-Ellington Leader.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, RON!

Ron Williams of Ace Hardware is wished a very happy birthday Tuesday, Sept. 1, from his family and friends.

SCHOOL DAZE

The following personnel and staff members of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays Aug. 27 through Sept. 2.

Atkinson Elementary

Aug. 28 is the day for a birthday cake for Mauricio Meza. Birthday greetings are sent to Jennifer Chrysler Sept. 1.

Burnett Elementary

Sing a happy birthday song to Adelina Cruz Aug. 27. Lisa Orr is wished a happy

birthday Aug. 28.

Bush Elementary

Sing a happy birthday song to Alecia Walters Aug. 31. Blow out the candles on a double-layer cake for Elizabeth Aleman and Carina Henriquez Sept. 1.

Frazier Elementary

Light the candles Aug. 27 on a double-layer cake for Amanda Brewton and Veronica Huitron. Kalpana Mobley celebrates a birthday Aug. 29. Blow out the birthday candles Sept. 2 for Debra Hawkins.

Meador Elementary

The day for a party for Sabina Torres is August 29.

Moore Elementary

Light the birthday candles on Aug. 30 for Lakenia Cole. Blow out the birthday candles for Veronica Rangel Sept. 2.

South Belt Elementary

Courtney Moran is sent a birthday greeting Aug. 31.

Stuchbery Elementary

Aug. 27 is the day for a cake for Maria Granados. John Jordan is wished a happy birthday Aug. 30.

Melillo Middle School

Celebrating a birthday Aug. 30 is Christina Maldonado.

Beverly Hills Intermediate

Wishes for a wonderful birthday are sent to Mackwell Hickerson Aug. 28. Crissy Higham, Leigh Lidrbach and Elizabeth Rawls celebrate a birthday Aug. 29. Blow out the birthday candles for Wes Hardy Sept. 1. The day for a party for Sandra Gomez and Dawn Nguyen is Sept. 2.

Thompson Intermediate

On Aug. 28, Shanda Karow is wished a happy birthday.

Dobie High

Christopher Swinnen is sent birthday greetings Aug. 29. A birthday greeting is sent to Trent Morgan Aug. 30. The day for a party for Maria Freyre is Sept. 1. Sept. 2 is the day for a cake for Caleb Hernandez and Christopher Puente.

FACEBOOK FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS

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

Thursday, Aug. 27: Jesse Garcia, Sara Scott, Dwaine Wyman, Cody Giles, Kevin Martinez, Barbara Boike and Jeff Jones; Friday, Aug. 28: Tanya Keller, Michele Bryant, Rosalind Battle, Adra Stafford, Stephanie Hamilton and Yvonne Ramirez; Saturday, Aug. 29: Connie Guerrero, Brenda Marshall, Claudia Herrera and Aimee Bennett; Sunday, Aug. 30: James Leonard, Jason Hunt, Tracy Schwerdtfeger, Melinda Funni, Amber McGown, Bobby Burton, Ryssa Bebee, Debrah Tullous and Rebecca Noris-Peak; Monday, Aug. 31: Nyd Salgado, Suzie Ortiz, Tajana Stewart, John Terana, Mia Bella, Paula Miller, Judie Elizalde, Kathy Cole, Michael O'Daniell, Veronica Lyons, Annalea Young, Carol Rodriguez, Scott Gish, Ashley Hall and Angie Davis; Tuesday, Sept. 1: Tiffany Gay, Maribel Manriquez, Jasmine Manning, Karen Jenkins and Steve Landin; and Wednesday, Sept. 2: Fil Cantu, Stacy Aguirre, Suzanne Hernandez, Karen Young and Mary Hernandez.

LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS

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

Moore holds Meet-the-Teacher Night



Above: Left to right, second-grader Dominic Moya, mother Amy Moya, fourth-grade teacher Jennifer Christen, fourth-grader John Moya and father John Moya.

Students and parents came to meet the teachers at Moore Elementary School recently.

At right: Third-grader Genille Yarbrough with her third-grade teacher, Dora Flowers.

Photos submitted



At right: Third-grade teacher Maury Klann (center) with new third-grade students, left to right, Kristin Do, Tripp Harris, Teagan Staton and Kayla Lam.

Remember When

35 years ago (1980)
Members of the Dobie High School Lariatettes drill team would be seen both locally and nationally on the Jerry Lewis Muscular Dystrophy Telethon. Lariatette Dina Jackson was set to travel to Las Vegas with sponsor Peggy Moree to present Lewis a check for approximately \$75,000, the amount earned by the Houston area's drill team kick-a-thon for the Muscular Dystrophy Association held in the Astroarena.

Trustees of the Pasadena Independent School District approved a 20 percent hike in employee health insurance premiums and completion of Moore Elementary at their regular meeting.

Approximately 200 residents of the Scarsdale subdivision evacuated their homes early one morning when a new Exxon natural gas line located in the Alcott field on Choate Road developed a leak.

Houston area investigators reported that a short circuit in the aluminum wiring was the cause of a fire that destroyed a home in the 11100 block of Sagecrest. The owners of the home were on vacation at the time the fire occurred.

30 years ago (1985)
Pasadena Independent School District employees honored new school superintendent Dr. Lon Luty with a standing ovation during his first appearance before the district employees as a whole in the Phillips Field House.

Figures released by San Jacinto College South after regular registration showed an increase in enrollment of 163 students over the previous year. Enrollment stood at 3,588, but that number was expected to increase after late registration.

Area sports organizers were disappointed that plans for a youth sports complex on Dixie Farm Road had been squelched, but a county official said plans were only delayed.

Tommy Baccaro, a 20-year veteran of Pasadena ISD, was named the new principal of Beverly Hills Intermediate.

25 years ago (1990)
Plans to build a South Belt area adult probation office for Harris County never got off the table because of anticipated resident opposition to the proposal.

Clear Brook High School would begin the school year with its first senior class.

Pasadena ISD board of trustees eliminated all smoking within any district-owned building. The ban prohibited staff, teachers and visitors from smoking inside buildings and district-owned vehicles.

In recognition of their winning the World Series, the South Belt Palomino baseball team, their parents, friends and fans were invited to a Houston City Council meeting.

With one year completed on his three-year contract, Pasadena ISD superintendent Dr. Larry Vaughn received a one-year extension. He also received a 5 percent pay increase to his \$92,000 salary.

20 years ago (1995)
The 11th annual South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce Banquet was set to be held at the Hobby Holiday Inn on the Gulf Freeway.

Deputies from Precinct 2 conducted a warrant sweep in the South Belt area. Four arrests were made, two of those for felony warrants.

15 years ago (2000)
Pasadena Independent School District learned from the Texas Education Agency that the district would not receive the hoped-for state funding for the year for facilities approved in February's \$199.05 million bond election.

Natasha Butler went into labor in the registration line at San Jacinto College.

Sageglenn resident Sandra Kaye Hayes, 42, died from choking on a watermelon seed.

Anthony "Tony" Chapin died as a result of a hit-and-run car incident.

10 years ago (2005)
Ruth Young, a 9-year-old Frazier Elementary student, was killed as a PISD school bus ran over her. Young was walking her bicycle across Hughes Road at Sageburrow when the bus pulled out. The driver said he never saw her or her bike.

A controversy regarding the hiring of the bus driver ensued after an official in the district office changed the driver's official records from not eligible for hire (due to criminal history) to eligible. The case went to the grand jury, and the driver was charged with involuntary manslaughter.

Community leaders were anxious to hear results from the Base Realignment and Closure committee. Ellington Field appeared on BRAC's list of bases to be affected.

The library at Bondy Intermediate was renamed to honor its former principal, Tommy Baccaro. The new name would be the Thomas D. Baccaro Learning Resource Center.

5 years ago (2010)
A former Dobie student was found dead by his father in the 9900 block of Southport Drive

near Keese Drive at about 10 a.m. Patrick Carver, 18, had reportedly been shot multiple times. According to police, items were missing from the home, but they had not determined a motive at press time.

Dobie High School was temporarily placed under lockdown. According to Pasadena Independent School District's communications department, the incident stemmed from a domestic dispute, with a wife showing up at Dobie with concerns about her husband. Neighboring Moore Elementary was also being watched by PISD police. The lockdown was lifted about 6:15 p.m. when police deemed the campus safe.

A South Belt resident was arrested after allegedly exposing himself to a female employee at a local fast food restaurant. According to officials, a male customer ordered a soft drink while parked at the establishment. When a female carhop attempted to serve the customer, he was reportedly exposed and gratifying himself.

The Wells Fargo bank on Beltway 8 near the Gulf Freeway was robbed. According to FBI officials, a lone suspect entered the bank with a silver revolver and announced his intention of robbing the establishment. Before leaving the bank, the suspect fired a single warning shot, but no one was struck.

1 year ago (2014)
An armed robbery suspect was rushed to the hospital after being shot by a convenience store clerk in the 9400 block of Alameda Genoa at Rowlett. The incident took place when the suspect entered the Alameda Discount Food Store with his pistol drawn, demanding money. Fearing for his life, store clerk Kiran Giri, who had a concealed-handgun license, pulled his own weapon and shot the suspect in the neck. The unidentified suspect was taken to Ben Taub Hospital in serious condition. Police said a second man was waiting in a vehicle around the corner from the store, but he took off when the shot was fired.

The Pasadena Independent School District held a dedication celebration for the new

Dennis L. Shippey Aquatic Center. Approved by voters in a 2011 bond election, the aquatic center, which would be utilized by the entire district, was named after Dobie High School's former swim coach. Shippey served as swimming and diving coach at Dobie from 1976 until his retirement in 2004. From 1988 until his retirement, he also served as aquatics coordinator for PISD. Shippey died in August 2011 at the age of 65.

Congregation celebrates the High Holy Days

"In the beginning..." At sundown of Sunday, Sept. 13, 2015, the Jewish year 5775 will end and 5776 will commence with the High Holy Days. Why sundown? The Jewish day begins at sunset of the previous day, based on the recording of the first days, Genesis Chapter 1: "And there was evening, and there was morning one day..." etc., for each of the days.

The Jewish tradition places the first day of Creation in the first day of the Hebrew month Tishrei. Even though prior to the exile to Babylonia Tishrei was the seventh month of the Hebrew calendar (the first being Nissan, the month in which Passover is celebrated), the years were always counted from the first of Tishrei.

The year will begin with Rosh Hashana, "head of the year," that is celebrated for two days, on Sept. 14 and 15 this year. According to tradition, the destiny of each and every person is written in the book of life on Rosh Hashana, and after a reprieve period of 10 days, on Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement), the book is closed and sealed. These 10 days are called "Yamim Nora'eem;" Days of Awe, and are devoted to meditation, repent and asking forgiveness of people and God (in that order). Yom Kippur will commence on sundown of Tuesday, Sept. 22, 2015, and will end on the evening of Wednesday, Sept. 23 with the blowing of the shofar (ram's horn). Jews worldwide will spend Yom Kippur in prayer and fasting.

Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur are the only purely religious holidays, having neither association with any historical event nor agricultural significance. However, the next holiday, Sukkot, celebrated only five days after Yom Kippur, is closely tied to both a historical event, and the land and the season.

It marks the 40-year journey of the Israelites through the Sinai Desert on their way from Egypt to Israel, and the fall harvest. Sukkot will commence on the evening of Sunday, Sept. 27, and will be celebrated by dining and spending time in temporary structures, made of wood, cloth and the like and topped with palm branches, called Sukkot (plural of Sukkah) and with special services.

Sukkot will conclude eight days later with Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah. Shemini Atzeret is an "additional day" to Sukkot and Simchat Torah is the holiday of the Torah, the five books of Moses. In Israel these two holidays are celebrated on the same day, but outside Israel, where extra days are added to the holidays, Simchat Torah (Oct. 6 this year) is celebrated one day after Shemini Atzeret (Oct. 5).

Simchat Torah, which concludes the holiday season, marks both the end and the beginning of reading the Torah scroll (it takes one full year to read the scroll from beginning to end). The Torah scrolls are carried around the synagogue, in an exhilarating parade, accompanied by singing and dancing, and symbolizing the continuous cycle of life and celebration.

Congregation Shaar Hashalom is the Conservative synagogue in the Clear Lake Bay area and is located at 16020 El Camino Real in Houston. The congregation will celebrate these spiritually elevating days with a full program of services and festivities for adults and children, led by Rabbi Stuart Federow and Cantor Jennifer Rolnik.

Below is a list of events and times. Call the synagogue office at 281-488-5861 or email csh@shaarhashalom.org to arrange for seating.

CONGREGATION SHAAH HASHALOM HIGH HOLY DAYS 5776 (2015) SERVICES				
SELICHOT				
Service	Sat	Sept 5	10:30 PM	
ROSH HASHANAH- First Day				
Erev (Evening)	Sun	Sept 13	8:00 PM	
Morning	Mon	Sept 14	9:00 AM	
Tashlich (Nassau Bay Park)	Mon	Sept 14	4:00 PM	
ROSH HASHANAH- Second Day				
Erev (Evening)	Mon	Sept 14	8:00 PM	
Morning	Tues	Sept 15	9:00 AM	
YOM KIPPUR				
Kol Nidre	Tues	Sept 22	7:00 PM	
Morning	Tues	Sept 23	9:00 AM	
Yizkor	Wed	Sept 23	11:30 PM	
Mincha	Wed	Sept 23	6:00 PM	
SUKKOT				
Family Service	Fri	Oct 2	7:00 PM	
Sukkah Walk (tentative)	Sun	Oct 4	Afternoon	
Shemini Atzeret (Yizkor)	Mon	Oct 5	8:00 AM	
SIMCHAT TORAH				
Evening Service	Mon	Oct 5	7:00 PM	
Children's Service & Baby Sitting (1st Day Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur)				
Children Service for Rosh Hashanah - after Torah Processional (about 10:30)				
Children Service for Yom Kippur - after Torah Processional (about 10:30)				
For Baby Sitting on Yom Kippur, please RSVP to Synagogue Office (\$5/per child)				

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PISD's Waters represents district in JASON

By Jay Do
A local eighth-grade science teacher of Thompson Intermediate School has recently taken it upon herself to spearhead the vanguard of intuitive teaching by representing her school and the Pasadena Independent School District as the first in both to partake in JASON Learning.

A longtime resident of the South Belt area, Carol Waters graduated from Clear Brook High School before earning a Bachelor of Science from the University of Houston-Clear Lake and a Master of Science Teaching from Rice University. Waters is now working toward a doctorate of education in curriculum and instruction at the University of Houston-Clear Lake.

Waters' commitment to seeing the success and fruition of her students has become evident throughout her years of service at Thompson Intermediate School. Her efforts to become a part of the JASON project only stand to reinforce her dedication to her students and her community.

"As an educator, I am constantly adapting my teaching style to fit the needs of my students," said Waters. "In today's world, I need to prepare my students not only to be successful here in the United States but successful in a global market and economy.

With technology advancing so quickly, many of the future jobs have not even been created yet! My goal is to inspire my students, preferably in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) and to have them begin to explore and discover on their own. JASON Learning has the same mission. Their scientists are young and vibrant, so my students really can picture themselves in a few years working in the field."

Since its establishment in 1989 by Dr. Robert D. Ballard, the JASON Learning has been committed to the education and inspiration of students across the nation by providing hands-on experience of science through exploration.

"After Dr. Robert Ballard's discovery of the Titanic wreckage, kids around the world began sending him letters because they were intrigued by his exploration," said Waters. "He created the JASON project, now JASON Learning, in 1989 to help inspire and educate kids everywhere through real science and exploration. JASON Learning focuses on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics curricula that brings real world exploration to students' finger tips in the classroom."

Similar ideals between the JASON project and Waters'



Thompson Intermediate's Carol Waters is shown observing dolphins as one of the activities offered by the JASON Learning Project.

own teaching strategies compelled her to apply to be a JASON Argonaut.

"The JASON project was introduced to the teachers in Pasadena two years ago during our back-to-school professional development," said Waters. "I began using the curricula Terminal Velocity and Monster Storms. I noticed how intrigued my students became so I began asking my students who would like to be a JASON student Argonaut for 2014. The response was overwhelming! I had several students interested in traveling abroad and working with

JASON scientists. Three of my top students applied to represent PISD as a JASON Argonaut. Unfortunately, they were not selected, but they still had the experience of completing their essays, receiving referrals, and the excitement of reaching their dream. Knowing the JASON Learning has impacted my students in such a short period of time, I decided to apply to represent PISD as a teacher Argonaut for 2015. I wanted to be able to bring my experience and excitement about STEM education to my students to help motivate and inspire them."

Fueled by her steadfast commitment to helping her students fulfill their ambitions, Waters underwent the difficult process of applying to be a teacher Argonaut for the JASON project. Her efforts soon proved successful, as she was accepted to represent her campus and district in the JASON project.

"To become a JASON teacher Argonaut, the application process is pretty rigorous," said Waters. "You must write two essays, create a video and post it online, obtain recommendations, provide your curricula vita, and obtain your doctor's approval for strenuous activities and travel. Once accepted, you then have to get the proper shots to travel to specific locations. We only had to get hepatitis A and typhoid to travel to Cape Eleuthera, Bahamas. Pasadena is one of 10 school districts that has partnered with Chevron and JASON Learning. Chevron works with our school dis-

trict to ensure one teacher and one student for each of these 10 districts will become a JASON Argonaut. Without this partnership, becoming an Argonaut would be more difficult."

The week-long trip spent with JASON scientists was filled with activities, many of them revolving around the theme of planetary sustainability.

"The experience of being at CEI for a week was not only adventurous but was filled with new knowledge about sustainability," said Waters. "We learned about aquaponics and how the tilapia they farm helps produce some of their vegetables and herbs. The used fish water is pumped to the vegetables and used in place of soil. Once the plants clean the water, it is then pumped back to the tilapia. This is an excellent way to grow crops without the use of soil; which in the Bahamas is very important because there is very little soil and most of the island is limestone. They use solar panels and windmills to produce all the energy for CEI and the Island School and currently are producing a surplus that goes back on the grid."

Being a part of the JASON project has provided Waters with an opportunity to gain a different perspective on sustainability and recycling.

"Participating as a JASON Teacher Argonaut has changed my perspective in many ways about sustainability and recycling," said Waters. "They reuse everything, including human waste. They have a 'poo garden' where human waste is used in place of cow manure and grow bananas and other fruits. We were only allowed to take a one minute shower to conserve water. Every day everyone participated in cleaning and maintaining the community, whether we were on dish crew or cleaning the dorms. In a way, I sometimes feel a sense of community and helping others has been lost in our society. It was great to see how everyone worked together to help each other. The knowledge I've gained from CEI's core values of sustainability and how to manage our resources effectively through conservation and research to not just our schools and school districts but also instill them in our family and friends."

Waters now plans on implementing her newfound knowledge to her teaching curriculum to enrich and enhance the learning experience of her students.

"My adventure as a 2015 JASON Teacher Argonaut has increased my depth and knowledge of the JASON curricula," said Waters. "I have used JASON Learning in my class for two years because it provides new avenues to teach my students about physics, plate tectonics, and weather. The young, vibrant scientists attract students and educators, and we want to be part of the JASON team. Tectonic fury, terminal

velocity, and monster storms engage my students and they love the digital labs and videos. The inspiration and hands-on approach JASON Learning provides motivates me not only to use JASON in my classroom but also to continue to participate as a JASON educator. I'm excited to share my experience with my students because I know that will motivate and encourage them to not only dream but to go after their dreams."

After a successful first experience with the JASON project, Waters now plans on continuing to work with JASON in the future.

"I definitely plan to begin using JASON Live where my students can connect with STEM role models and talk with them via their live webcast series," said Waters. "This is a great way to ask questions to see what career pathways these scientists took to get where they are. I want to continue to promote Argonaut programs not only at Thompson but across PISD. This is a great opportunity for students to participate and work side by side with scientists. My goal is to increase the number of student and teacher applicants we have for Pasadena in the following years so others can experience an adventure of a lifetime."

Waters hopes to make an impact in the STEM workforce by serving as an example of success through hard work, relentless diligence and resolute perseverance.

"Being a 2015 JASON Teacher Argonaut will help me to be a better role model for STEM education," said Waters. "Females are under-represented in STEM careers, especially in physics and engineering. I believe if I can help break the gender gap, I will help my students and our country's scientific future by adding more females to the STEM career workforce."

Dittrich, George engaged



Tony and Fayellen Russell of Sageglen and Ken and Maggie Dittrich of Friendswood announce the engagement and upcoming marriage of their daughter, Ellen Marie Dittrich, to Garnett Wayne George, son of Kenneth and Sherri George of Bedford, Texas. The bride-to-be grew up in Sageglen and attended Wedgewood Elementary, Brookside Intermediate and Clear Brook High School. She graduated from Clear Brook High School in 2009 and received a Bachelor of Science in merchandising with a minor in business from the University of North Texas in 2013. She currently works for Ansira Engagement Marketing and in the event industry with Team Enterprises. The prospective groom graduated in 2005 from Bishop Dunne Catholic School in Dallas, and received a Bachelor of Arts in Film & Digital Media from Baylor University in 2010. He is employed by The Electric Light & Power Company as a film set technician, grip and electrician. He has worked on a Beyonce music video and worked on and off screen for the 2015 cult film *The Walking Deceased*. The couple is planning an early December wedding at the Chapel at Ana Villa in The Colony, Texas.



Daniel Leon is shown above holding a seaturtle as part of the JASON Learning Project's turtle expedition. Leon would later describe the JASON Project as "the most amazing experience" of his life.

Pasadena rodeo fast approaching

Friday, Sept. 11, kicks off the 2015 rodeo season for the Pasadena Livestock Show & Rodeo.

In addition to nightly rodeo action and the ever-popular cook-off, this year's show will feature top-notch entertainment including Kevin Fowler, Cody Johnson, Roger Creager, Aaron Watson, Jason Cassidy and Jake Worthington.

In other exciting news, radio station 100.3, *The Bull*, will host its "Bull Bash" on Thursday, Sept. 17. This year's party will host the singing talents of Easton Corbin, Eric Paslay, Frankie Ballard and Chase Rice.

The Silver Spur Club inside Campbell Hall will also have live music nightly after the concerts.

This year's parade will be held on Saturday, Sept. 12, beginning at 10 a.m. at the corner of South Shaver and Spencer Highway. And in recognition of fallen heroes, Pasadena Fire Department Chief Lanny Armstrong and Pasadena Police Chief Mike Thaler will be the parade's grand marshals.

Another fan favorite, the annual tradition of Family Night and Pink Night, in honor of breast cancer awareness, will be held on Monday, Sept. 14. The rodeo will also feature Sam Rayburn High School that night. On Tuesday, Sept. 15, the rodeo will feature Pasadena High School.

Closing out this year's rodeo on Friday, Sept. 18, and Saturday, Sept. 19, will be fan favorite bull riding and bull fighting events. Military Appreciation night will also be Saturday, Sept. 19.

Other notable events include the livestock auction which will be held on Thursday, Sept. 17, along with the 33rd annual barbecue cook-

off which will be held Sept. 24-26. For the young chefs in the family, the junior chili cook-off will be held on Saturday, Sept. 26.

For ticket information, go to www.pasadenarodeo.com or visit any local H-E-B or call the rodeo office at 281-487-0240.

BHI new teachers for 2015-16



New teachers for the 2015-2016 school year at Beverly Hills Intermediate are, left to right, (front row) Danielle Pitre, seventh-grade ELAR; Tiffany Wright, eighth-grade math; Summer Thompson, seventh-grade science; Krystal Smith, eighth-grade math; Rachel Trader, eighth-grade U.S. History; Rosalind Hubbard, Math Intervention; Cindy Burton, Reading Intervention; Shasta Williams, seventh-grade English; (back row) Danielle Bezik, eighth-grade ELAR; Richard Edwards, seventh/eighth-grade math, athletics; LaMona Lemarr, seventh-grade science; Caleb Pickrell, eighth-grade U.S. History; Kyle DeVries, eighth-grade ELAR; Stephen Boyken, eighth-grade U.S. History; Amanda Rachuig, eighth-grade ELAR; Brandy Knust, seventh/eighth-grade science; and Delaney Smith, seventh-grade art.

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Left to right, Sandra with Ethan, Brittany and Demi walking around the ship on July 15.

Family takes Tiger Cruise

Sandra Simon, her daughters, Demi and Darla Esparza, and her nephew, Ethan Thomas, took a road trip through seven states to visit her daughter, Brittany Esparza who is currently in the U.S. Navy on the USS New York. Brittany Esparza was set to return home from deployment on July 14. The group decided to welcome her and her crewmates home. Once there, they went on a Tiger Cruise on the USS New York, named in honor of 9-11, where they ate and slept the same as the Navy does. Sandra and her large family have lived in the South Belt area for more than 35 years. They live all over the area and most attended South Belt schools, from elementary to Dobie High School. Sandra has four children, all Dobie graduates. She worked in the medical field for more than 20 years.



Ethan Thomas sits on the captain's chair on Friday, July 17.



Just meeting up with Brittany in South Carolina on July 15 about to board the USS New York.



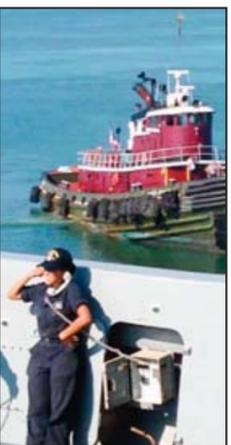
A memorial to the Twin Towers on the back deck of USS New York.



Twins Demi and Darla Esparza received flowers from big sister Brittany after docking in Florida July 19.



Ethan Thomas is allowed to lower the flag once they enter dock in Florida on Sunday July 19. It was an honor.



Leaving South Carolina as the tugboats get ready to pull the ship out. Brittany is getting orders from the chiefs above.



Relaxing on movie night on the back deck of the ship while the sun sets in the background on July 17.



Darla Esparza takes a snooze in the berthings, aka bedrooms, of the ship.

Martinez family enjoys Costa Rica, Aruba

The Martinez family enjoyed a vacation in Costa Rica and Aruba this summer.



At left, Marc A. Martinez, dad Marco A. Martinez and niece Angela Escamilla walk in the sand at Eagle Beach, Aruba.



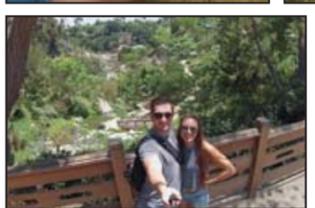
Marc A. has fun ziplining in the rainforest of Jaco, Costa Rica.

Griesels visit San Diego

The Griesel family, Jeff, Trace, Andrew, Benjamin and Karoline, 18-year South Belt residents, were able to take in some sights in San Diego while dad was attending a conference back in June.



At left and below: At La Jolla Beach, Karoline takes a seal selfie and sits down to visit with the seals.



Andrew and Karoline at Balboa Park

Paredes, friends spend time in California

Javier Paredes Jr., an avid photographer and Riverstone Ranch subdivision resident for 10 years, spent his 2015 summer vacation exploring California with fellow photographers.

At right: Javier enjoys the spectacular view at Laguna Beach.



Javier, Aremy Garcia, Breanna Garcia and Christian Joy enjoy the best skyline view of downtown San Diego while spending the day on the bay and exploring Coronado's Ferry Landing.



Aremy Garcia, Javier Paredes and Breanna Garcia recreate the infamous scene from the movie franchise, *The Fast and The Furious*, as they overlook the city of Los Angeles.



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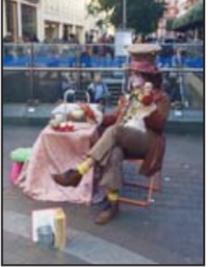
Javier poses in front of Walt Disney Concert Hall located in downtown Los Angeles. It is an internationally recognized architectural landmark and known to be one of the most acoustically sophisticated concert halls in the world. It is listed as one of the 10 buildings that changed America.

Jameses go to Europe

Bob and Mary James enjoyed a trip to Paris this summer.



The Museum of Natural History in London where the movie *Night At The Museum* was filmed.



A street performer, the Mad Hatter, sits at his table outside Harrods in London.



The Temple Bar on the streets of Dublin. The Jameses arrived just in time for a soccer game between Scotland and Ireland. The Temple Bar is famous in Dublin.

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Norman, Dobie to debut against Deer

The Mike Norman era is about to begin at Dobie High School as the first-year varsity head coach leads the Longhorns into the 2015 season opener at Deer Park Friday, Aug. 28, at Abshire Stadium in Deer Park.

Kickoff is set for 7 p.m., and what a special evening it figures to be for Norman and his family. Following 21 years as an assistant coach at Pearland High School, Norman is also making his varsity head coaching debut as he looks to lead the Longhorns to a road win.

"I told the guys that I'm so excited that I haven't been able to sleep the last few nights," Norman said.

"But I'm not excited for me, I'm excited for them. I'm excited to see what this collection of young men can do out there. Hopefully, we have put them in a great position to be successful and, ultimately, to win a football game."

"It's an honor and privilege to have been chosen to lead this program, and I think I have carried myself with that in mind from the first day on. Obviously, it would be great to get this thing started with a victory."

On the field, Dobie will be looking to avenge last season's 28-21 loss to the Deer in the 2014 opener at Pasadena ISD's Veterans

Stadium. Dobie actually led the game 21-14 late in the third quarter before the Deer used a pair of touchdown runs from Isaac Benez to steal the win.

Looking at film, it was the first instance of several Norman noticed where the Longhorns had leads but simply could not close the deal.

He's banking on that

Senior starting quarterback Tyler Giron (left) came up big for Dobie in the final scrimmage against Dickinson and is ready to go under center in the season opener. Ditto for junior running back Anthony Owens (right), who returns as the lone ball carrier with any varsity experience.

Photo by Gary Williams

being one change the new-look Longhorns make in a hurry.

"I think our conditioning is getting where it needs to be," Norman said.

"Hopefully, we can use some of our speed

and quickness advantages to tire the defense out (against Deer Park). It would be great to put the other team on the defensive and worrying about closing it out. That's a big focus - to be able to play

hard for four quarters and close out leads when we have them."

Norman's offense under first-year offensive coordinator Anthony Evans will also be heavily predica-

Continued on Page 3B



Rising Stars' tracksters net awards at nationals

Led by Christian Ross' national-championship win in the 12-year-old boys' 1,500-meter race-

walk, the Rising Stars Track Club turned in one of the top team performances at the Amateur Athletic Union's Junior Olympic Track and Field Championships in Norfolk, Va.

At 8 minutes, 44.06 seconds, Ross was the first athlete to the finish line in the racewalk event, coming through with the Rising Stars' best overall finish of the weeklong meet.

In all, the Rising Stars came up with 19 All-American efforts, recognizing top-20 finishes in a variety of events.

Luis Figueroa was another of the Rising Stars Track Club's best competitors in the 3,000-meter racewalk event.

In the boys' 15-16-year-old division, Figueroa was fourth in a time of 18:15.40 for fourth place.

Joshua Ross, taking part in the 11-year-old boys' 1,500-meter racewalk, wound up fifth overall in a time of 11:31.13.

Mark Milton, already a standout track and field star at Clear Brook High School, closed out a terrific summer with a pair of top-nine efforts.

In the javelin event, Milton's best throw of 144 feet, 10 inches was fifth in the competition, and he blazed to a finish of 22.12 seconds in the 200-meter dash for ninth place, just missing the final race by one spot.

Matthew Kovacevich, competing in four different events at nationals, highlighted his meet in the 13-year-old division by placing seventh in the 1,500-meter run.

In that event, Kovacevich came to the finish line in a time of 4:38.81 to earn one of his three All-American honors.

At 10:27.89, Kovacevich was 11th overall in

Continued on Page 3B

JFD, Brook VB fall shy

Some early season struggles continued for the Clear Brook and Dobie varsity volleyball teams with losses Aug. 25.

The Lady Wolverines, playing the Dulles Vikings, came up on the short end of a 25-19, 11-25, 29-27, 25-16 score.

Meanwhile, Dobie, playing at Dickinson, lost 25-14, 25-12, 25-21 to the Gators.

Dobie won on open-

ing night against North Shore but has since found victories hard to come by.

Clear Brook defeated Dobie twice, once in a head-to-head matchup Aug. 21 at Dobie, in straight sets. The Lady Wolverines also downed Dobie in two sets during the Dickinson High School Invitational.

Dobie has a nondistrict match coming Aug. 28, at home against Baytown Lee before opening Dis-

trict 22-6A action against state-ranked and defending 22-6A champion Pearland Sept. 1.

That opener, to be played at Pearland, will be held at 6:30 p.m.

The Lady Wolverines will play at Bellaire Sept. 1, and will also compete in the Clear Creek ISD Invitational Sept. 3 and Sept. 5, sandwiched around a home match against the Deer Park Lady Deer.

Wolverines begin new era

For all of the hoopla surrounding a fresh start at Dobie High School, the Clear Brook football program is also ready for a new beginning under first-year head coach Mike Allison.

The Wolverines were just 1-9 in 2014, with the lone win coming over Clear Falls in District 24-6A play.

Former head coach Paul Lanier retired following the season, and Allison now comes over from

Dawson High School to lead the way for the Wolverines.

The Wolverines' varsity roster will be filled with youth and inexperience in several areas, but fullback Stephen Rowe figures to get a lot of touches within the offense.

There are eight sophomores listed on the opening day roster.

The Wolverines figure to have speed at the skill positions with Brandon Taylor at receiver and

Mark Milton in the backfield mix. Defensively, Tywon Mackey, a two-year varsity letterman, is also back.

In 2014, the Wolverines lost the season opener at La Porte.

While the Wolverines look to make a comeback in 24-6A play this season, La Porte could find wins hard to come by in a tough District 21-6A field with games coming against North Shore, Port Arthur Memorial and others.

La Porte Bulldogs at Clear Brook Wolverines (0-1)
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Certainly one of the greatest contributors to South Belt area youth athletic activities for decades, Denny Wranich Sr. (center) was surprised as the Sagemont Cowboys named their game field in his honor during the Cowboys' preseason pep rally at El Franco Field. With Wranich are Kenny Fernandez (left) and Mike McCormack, both longtime area supporters in their own right.

Photo by Marie Flickinger

It's now Wranich Sr. Field

By John Bechtle Sports Editor
One of the most recognizable names and faces in South Belt youth athletics history, Denny Wranich Sr. has been given the ultimate honor.

The Sagemont Cowboys' organization dedicated its playing field at El

Franco Lee Park in honor of their current president, Wranich Sr.

Wranich was "a fan in the stands" when his son, Denny Wranich Jr., began playing for the Cowboys in 1987. By 1990, Senior was coaching his son.

He spent many seasons coaching alongside Dave

Bergeron, another big name in South Belt youth athletics before moving into Bay Area Football League administration, according to Wranich Jr.

Wranich Sr. was elected to the Bay Area Football League's Hall of Honor in 2011. Now comes this.

Continued on Page 2B

San Jacinto College opens soccer season

With several key returnees in place and a solid roster of first-year players, the San Jacinto College men's soccer team will open the 2015 regular season on the road at Western Texas.

San Jacinto, unranked to open the season, has high hopes of unseating four-time defending national champion Tyler in Region XIV action. As for Western Texas, 2014 Do-

bie High School graduate and 22-6A Most Valuable Player Sergio Quintanilla signed a letter of intent with the program in May.

SJC slipped to 9-1 a season ago but is focused on a comeback. The team's first home game is Sept. 7, against Richland.

Prince Ihenacho and the 2014 team Newcomer of the Year Roberto Diaz Fernandez will lead the way for San Jac.

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South Belt sports news, notes

Lions set football dates

The Thompson football program will practice in pads for the first time on Saturday, Aug. 29, with seventh-grade students involved from 9 to 10 a.m. and eighth-grade students involved from 10:30 to noon. The school's annual Red/White football games are Saturday, Sept. 5, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The athletic booster club will be selling a two hot dog, chips and soft drink combo for \$5 each, and there will be other fundraising activities going on throughout the morning. There will be various vendor booths on site, and there will also be a silent auction held during the action.

Beverly Hills football info

The Bears' annual Food, Fun and Football event will be held at the school Saturday, Sept. 5, from 8 a.m. to noon. On that day, each of the school's football teams will be in scrimmage action, and there will be a variety of food items available for purchase. Each of the Bears' seventh- and eighth-grade football teams will be in scrimmage action against one another throughout the morning.

SBYSC online registration/fall season

The South Belt Youth Soccer Club is accepting online registration for the 2015 fall season that begins in late September. Players age 4 through 18 as of July 31, 2015 are eligible to compete. The registration fee those in the under-5 through U8 divisions will pay is \$115, which includes a uniform (shirt, shorts and socks) and fundraising fee. The fee for those in the U9 and U10 divisions is \$130, and the U11 through U18 fee is \$170, with both including uniform and fundraising fee. There will be a \$20 late fee applied after Sept. 1, 2015. Only credit card and debit card will be accepted as forms of payment online. To register, visit www.southbeltsoccer.org.

Dobie baseball Diamond Club to meet

The Dobie Diamond Club, the official booster organization of the school's baseball program, will host its monthly meeting Wednesday, Sept. 2, at 7 p.m., in the school's athletic annex. Current and incoming players and their parents are encouraged to attend the meeting as club officials discuss a variety of offseason subjects and fundraising activities. Direct any questions via email to dobiediamond@gmail.com.

South Belt football predictions	Troy Leland	John Bechtle	Eli Tanksley	Toni Muse	Emory Gadd	Debbie Vaughn
Dobie at Deer Park	Deer Park	Dobie	Deer Park	Deer Park	Dobie	Deer Park
La Porte at Clear Brook	La Porte	La Porte	La Porte	La Porte	La Porte	La Porte
College Park at Pearland	Pearland	Pearland	Pearland	Pearland	Pearland	Pearland
Westfield at Manvel	Manvel	Manvel	Manvel	Manvel	Manvel	Westfield
Pearland Dawson at George Ranch	George Ranch	George Ranch	George Ranch	George Ranch	George Ranch	George Ranch
Clear Creek at Ridge Point	Ridge Point	Ridge Point	Clear Creek	Clear Creek	Ridge Point	Ridge Point
Channelview at Dayton	Channelview	Channelview	Channelview	Channelview	Channelview	Channelview
Texas City at Friendswood	Friendswood	Friendswood	Friendswood	Friendswood	Friendswood	Friendswood
Fort Bend Bush at Alief Taylor	Alief Taylor	Alief Taylor	Fort Bend Bush	Fort Bend Bush	Alief Taylor	Alief Taylor
North Shore at Clear Springs	North Shore	North Shore	North Shore	North Shore	North Shore	North Shore
This week's record	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0
Season record	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0

TD Club recognizes Pioneers' football players



The Touchdown Club of Houston honored three Lutheran South senior football players at its preseason banquet. Joined by LSA varsity football head coach Stephen Robbins (left), Joshua Shelmire, Kyle Hutchins and Colton Williams were all named to the preseason All Greater Houston team for the 2015 season. Hutchins holds just about every receiving record at LSA including single season receptions (82) and touchdowns

(19), which he set in 2014. Shelmire, also a receiver for the Pioneers, finished last season with more than 1,100 yards on 57 receptions and nine touchdowns. He has verbally agreed to play for Southern Methodist University in 2016. Williams is a stand out offensive lineman and has received numerous awards for his work in the trenches, including all-state and all-district honors.

BAFL Week Two Scores

	Sr.	Jr.	Soph.	Fr.
Mustangs	0	0	25	13
Dolphins	13	40	13	28
Sharks	32	0	13	25
Cowboys	0	12	12	14
Rams	6	0	12	0
Hurricanes	42	42	42	36

Bay Area Football League Standings

Senior Division American				Senior Division National			
Team	W	L	T	Team	W	L	T
Bulls	2	0	0	Hurricanes	2	0	0
Sharks	2	0	0	Stingrays	2	0	0
Cougars	1	0	0	Dolphins	1	1	0
Cowboys	1	1	0	Eagles	1	1	0
Panthers	1	1	0	Saints	0	1	0
Patriots	1	1	0	Gators	0	2	0
'49ers	0	1	0	Mustangs	0	2	0
Texans	0	1	0	Rams	0	2	0

Junior Division American				Junior Division National			
Team	W	L	T	Team	W	L	T
Cowboys	2	0	0	Dolphins	2	0	0
Patriots	2	0	0	Hurricanes	2	0	0
'49ers	1	0	0	Saints	1	0	0
Bulls	1	1	0	Mustangs	1	1	0
Cougars	0	1	0	Rams	1	1	0
Texans	0	1	0	Eagles	1	1	0
Sharks	0	2	0	Gators	0	2	0
Panthers	0	2	0	Stingrays	0	2	0

Sophomore Division American				Sophomore Division National			
Team	W	L	T	Team	W	L	T
Bulls	2	0	0	Stingrays	2	0	0
Cougars	1	0	0	Rams	1	1	0
Texans	1	0	0	Hurricanes	1	1	0
Cowboys	1	1	0	Eagles	1	1	0
Panthers	1	1	0	Mustangs	1	1	0
Patriots	1	1	0	Saints	0	1	0
Sharks	1	1	0	Gators	0	2	0
'49ers	0	1	0	Dolphins	0	2	0

Freshman Division American				Freshman Division National			
Team	W	L	T	Team	W	L	T
Sharks	2	0	0	Dolphins	2	0	0
Cowboys	1	1	0	Eagles	2	0	0
Panthers	1	1	0	Hurricanes	2	0	0
Bulls	1	1	0	Saints	1	0	0
Patriots	0	1	1	Stingrays	1	0	1
'49ers	0	1	0	Gators	0	2	0
Texans	0	1	0	Mustangs	0	2	0
Cougars	0	1	0	Rams	0	2	0

Sagemont Cowboys honor Wranich Sr.

Continued from Page 1B

"It's very much appreciated, and it's humbling, but they didn't have to do it," said Wranich Sr., who for years has perfected the art of passing the credit to others. "I know I've been doing this for a long time when Dobie players will come up to me at the store and say 'Hey coach.' Sometimes it's hard to remember who they are, but it's nice, too."

Wranich Sr. was also heavily involved in the Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League. As Junior says, "He doesn't hunt or fish or any of that, so this is his hobby."

He's also for many years been the "voice of BAFL" during the organization's Super Bowl round of games.

Of all of his volunteer endeavors, though, there's little doubt where his deepest loyalty and pride resides.

It's with the Sagemont Cowboys, one of the founding organizations of the Bay Area Football League.

Certainly proud of their "Two Guns Up" motto, the Cowboys were once one of the most dominant organizations in terms of victories and Super Bowl appearances.

The Cowboys have not claimed a Super Bowl crown in recent years, but expectations for the "family" remain intact.

Wranich Sr. said. "Some of the paperwork gets a little old sometimes, but it's old hat for me."

"One of our coaches said something on Facebook the other day that is fitting I'd say. He posted our logo and said that 'it's not just a brand, it's a legacy.' And it is."

"We are proud of what we've done here, and there are a lot of people responsible for that, certainly not just myself."

One of those people is his son, Denny Jr. As stated earlier, Denny Jr. played for the Cowboys and his father, and returned as a coach in 1998.

He coaches for the organization and is also currently the BAFL athletic director.

"Dad loves baseball, but the Sagemont Cowboys are on another level entirely," Junior said.

"This is not a shot at anyone, but I think he's afraid to turn it over to anyone else. The funds are always there. The stability of the organization is unmatched."

"The Cowboys have a top-notch reputation. We set the bar. He's been a big part of that, as have others. Just been proud of him as I watch him and how he handles himself."

"There's no doubt winning is fun, but it's about more than that for us. It's about guiding these young people in a positive environment and helping them be successful on and off the field at Thompson or Beverly Hills, then at Do-

bie, and so on."

Mike McCormack, himself a longtime volunteer with the Cowboys and former SBHLL president, delivered the dedication speech on Wranich's special night, which came just one evening before opening day.

McCormack praised Wranich's work over the years, which he said has included 13 years as a Cowboys' coach, six as both the Cowboys' and BAFL's athletic director and nine as Cowboys' president.

He pointed to Wranich's efforts in helping the Cowboys' first move from Thompson Intermediate to El Franco Lee Park, and the many upgrades and improvements that have come along the way. McCormack also spoke highly of the many years Wranich's wife, Cathy, has poured her time and efforts into various youth endeavors.

"I have known Denny for 14 years," McCormack said. "I cherish our friendship and what he has taught me over the years. I would like to say, 'You are one of the best men I know and I love you.'"

"It is an honor and a privilege to be the first to welcome everyone to Denny Wranich Sr. Field!"

Indeed, what a well-deserved honor. But now 58 and understanding that his tenure will one day come to a close, the idea of a field being named in his honor forever still hasn't hit home. He's still ever the jokester.

"I told Junior I know he has a magnetic J ready to place over that S when he decides to one day," Wranich Sr. said. "There are a lot of people who have helped in the neighborhood and helped make the Cowboys' organization what it is today. I'm just one of those people."

Junior Dolphins improve to 2-0

The Southbelt Dolphins' junior division team ran its record to a quick 2-0 with a 41-0 victory over the Texas City Stingrays in the home opener for the Dolphins Aug. 22 at Blackhawk Park.

Southbelt struck in a hurry as Ryan Saxton ran 40 yards for a touchdown in the first quarter, followed by Matt Arnesen's conversion run.

Kevin Taulton had scoring runs of 12 and 60 yards as the Dolphins expanded their lead, and Arnesen found the end

zone for both extra points. Dylan Dixon later raced 45 yards for a touchdown, and Qasim Boyd and Jason Hampton had short touchdown scam-

pers. Walter Ward and DreShon Downey added conversion runs as the Dolphins got quite a few players involved offensively.

Logan Riley scooped up a fumble and ran 16 yards with the football, setting up Boyd's touchdown as the rout continued for the Dolphins.

Week 3 games Saturday, Aug. 29

Cowboys host Pearland Patriots
El Franco Lee Park

Dolphins host East End Eagles
Blackhawk Park

Rams host Texas City Stingrays
Dobie High School

Longhorns ready as Deer Park opener has come

Continued from Page 1B
ted on taking advantage of the numbers game and creating problems in space for defenses.

If defenses stack one too many players in the box while looking to slow the run game, Dobie won't be afraid to throw the ball.

In fact, the receiver position might be the team's deepest in terms of experience and talent.

When defenses spread themselves too thin on the edges, the Longhorns will run the ball. It's all about creating mismatches.

Senior Tyler Giron, who played quite a bit last season in both a backup role and as a starter, has earned the starting nod this season.

Junior Jeremy Davis, who possesses more size at 6 feet 4 inches and is also a stronger threat to run, is the backup to open the season.

"Tyler has shown me enough to see that he deserves to be the starter," Norman said.

"He's done some good, solid things out there, shown a command of the offense and the ability to get the ball where it needs to be."

"Jeremy has also done some things well, and we know what he can do to help us win."

"Really, in our offense, the quarterback has to know when to get the ball out on the edge when defenses pack it in, and also has to know when to hand it off when teams are more spread out."

"It's about ball distribution. Both players can do that, but Tyler has earned the chance to start. He has done everything we have asked of him."

At tailback, the Longhorns will go with Anthony Owens as the starter. Among the group, he is the lone returnee with any

type of varsity experience. Workhorse Rashaad Randall carried the bulk of the load last season but is now playing at William Penn University.

Aside from Owens, Dobie will also utilize first-year players Joseph Castaneda and Kris Morris, a freshman who starred for two seasons at Thompson Intermediate.

"I don't think any one guy has separated himself from the others at that spot," Norman said.

"We've seen good things from all of them, and we are still looking for someone to emerge. Owens has the most experience, but Castaneda and Morris can play, too."

Heading into the off-season, the Longhorns'

biggest job seemed to be finding starters at each of the five offensive line spots after graduation sent each of the 2014 starters across the stage at NRG Stadium.

Consider that job done. Right now, as many as six juniors and a senior have emerged up front.

Junior Elijah Pearson will be at center, with juniors Jordan Shae and Ricky Curtis on the right side.

On the left side, junior Roland Wilkins will be joined by senior Vincent Gutierrez.

Juniors Darius Gougis and Brandon Flores have also excelled and figure to play quite a bit as the Longhorns aim to keep players fresh, particularly

through the warm September evenings.

Jaylon Bolden, a big threat at receiver for Dobie, did not play in the final scrimmage against Dickinson while nursing a sore hamstring.

He will be a "game time decision," according to Norman heading into the Aug. 28 opener.

But Dobie will also look to Kaelon Woods, Jacoby Davis and sophomore Jeremiah Hernandez to make plays.

Tight ends Jesse Paredes and Jason Lester will also be used heavily in the passing game as, again, Dobie looks to create mismatches outside.

From a defensive standpoint, Dobie may be quite a bit better than the unit

is being given credit for. Three-year starters Derrick Simpson at outside

linebacker and tackle Chandler Tisby are simply two of the best 22-6A has to offer.

Norman and defensive coordinator Donald Randle have also been impressive with the work of Keith Armstead along the defensive front as well as linebacker Kehlan Williams.

Inside linebacker Kevin Simms is another player expected to see a ton of time after a solid pre-season.

The secondary will be highlighted by two-year returning starter Darius Hypolite.

There are others in the defensive backfield who

saw time in 2014 and could provide a big lift.

Special teams wise, Josue Villalta and Sabino Lozano figure to handle the bulk of the duties for the Longhorns.

As for the Deer Park Deer, starting quarterback Cameron Thompson returns, and the team's top returning receiver is Logan Berryhill, who was in on a scoring play against the Longhorns in 2014.

Deer Park's most experienced running back is Sammy Linton. But the Deer graduated 40 players after last season, including many defensive standouts.

Perhaps the Longhorns are in position to avenge the previous 2014 defeat.

"Hey, Deer Park has get size up front, and they are going to run the ball inside, and they're going to throw the ball in spots

to loosen up the defense," Norman said.

"They are Deer Park. They do what they do very well, and we just have to rise to the occasion. This is a big opportunity for us."

"I've been trying to get our guys to play with a little bit of a chip on their shoulder. The effort has been there, and we are coming along with the belief that great things can happen."

As big of a night as it might be for the debuting Norman and his loved ones, he knows it's still about Dobie football. Yes, it's his program, his baby, but the players have to do the playing. He's confident they will.

"What a great way to get it started with a win at Deer Park," Norman said. "That would just be great. The kids have

worked hard to get to this point, and it would

be a great reward for that work."



At last, Dobie varsity football head coach Mike Norman will make his debut as his team opens the 2015 season at Deer Park Aug. 28. Photo by Gary Williams

JFD netters start hot, now 5-1 early on

Team cohesion, a desire to do what's right for the entire group and all-out support of one another are obviously big keys in any sport.

Just ask Dobie tennis coach Manuel Moreno Jr., who is nothing short of thrilled about the Longhorns' 5-1 start to the team tennis season.

Prior to the start of the season, the Longhorns had only three boys' players solidified in the rotation.

The girls' ladder stood firmer, but vacations and work obligations have come into play.

Still, the Longhorns won their first four team tennis matches for the first time in Moreno's 17 years at Dobie. Despite a 15-4 loss to Friendswood, the Longhorns are at 5-1.

Two consecutive tough matches against Clear Brook Aug. 27 and Aug. 28 against Clear Creek figure to test the Longhorns' skill and depth, but

so far, so good.

"The kids are just gaining a lot of confidence, and this group as a whole is enthusiastic and gung-ho out there," Moreno said. "It's been great to see the development of some of these players."

"The goal is still to get ready for District 22-6A play, but right now this group is playing well, winning big points and games, which leads to winning some key matches."

Senior leader and captain Luis Cabreja has continued his fine start with a 6-0 record in No. 1 boys' singles.

Ricky Perez, a sophomore playing varsity tennis for the first time, has also stood out.

Dobie entered the season thinking the girls' rotation was primarily set with Hai Ho, Lada Heng, Ashley Deveza, Karen Neira and Leilani Vargas all in the mix.

Still, others such as Hellen Le, Tina Ha, Ann

Truong, Reena Benitez and Emily Nguyen have also come to play, and play well.

"We've had to juggle the lineup, particularly on the girls' side. Ha, Truong, Benitez and Nguyen are four sophomores who have played well, and Leilani has won some big matches."

"They support one another and do what it takes to win. Hopefully, this is just the start of something special."

Dobie is also slated to play Dickinson at home Aug. 29, making up for a pair of matches that were either rained out or delayed. A trip to Galveston Ball may come as well.



Sophomore Leilani Vargas was part of two big victories as Dobie set Baytown Sterling down 11-8 in team tennis, giving Dobie four straight wins to open the season. Now 5-1 overall, Dobie goes against Clear Brook Aug. 27 at Dobie, at 3 p.m.

Local track club stars at national meet

Continued from Page 1B
There was also the 3,000-meter run.

There was also the 800-meter run, where Kovacevich's time of 2:14.89 was 14th, giving him the three All-American designations. Shifting to the field events, Kovacevich's best leap in the triple jump was 31' 4 3/4".

Christianne Ross, in the 12-year-old girls' division, was another one of several Rising Stars Track Club members to enter the racewalk event.

In the 1,500-meter racewalk, Ross came in at 9:59.07 for ninth place as she scored her All-American designation.

Cody Turner, a 15-16-year-old boys' national qualifier, was on top of his game at the big meet as his triple jump effort of 43' 7 1/4" was ninth overall.

Turner was also entered in the long jump event, where his best effort was 19' 9 3/4" for 20th place, also an All-American effort.

Kelby Williams, 12, scored big in the javelin to earn his All-American honor. In the event, Wil-

liams came up with a terrific throw of 93' 10" for ninth place nationally.

Williams also competed on the track for the Rising Stars, completing the 800-meter run at 2:30.07.

In the girls' 8-under long jump, Nadiya Shelby made her way to the 10' 8 3/4" mark for ninth place and an All-American honor. A second AA award came for Shelby in the 1,500-meter run, where her time of 6:00.92 was 11th best.

Shelby was also entered in the 800-meter run, where she came in at 3:05.65.

Sydney Devereaux also landed a pair of All-American honors for the Rising Stars based on her performances.

She was ninth at 2:20.91 in the 800-meter run and 10th at 5:08.04 in the 1,500-meter run.

Devereaux's sister, Shelby, completed the 800-meter run at 2:26.64 and threw the javelin at 75' 3".

Caleb Devereaux, in the 17-18-year-old boys' division, delivered an All-American time in the

800-meter run at 1:58.39, good for 10th place. His time in the 1,500-meter run was 4:24.03.

Chardel Terrell was a double All-American award honoree for her work in the 9-year-old girls' division. In the 1,500-meter run, her time of 5:48.24 was 15th best in the nation.

She also completed the 800-meter run 16th-best, clocking in at 2:49.15. In a third event, Terrell cleared the long jump at 9' 10 1/2".

Mikey Ramirez, 13, was 20th in the javelin as he managed an All-American award with a throw of 92' 1".

Cameron Devereaux, 14, also did well in the javelin, throwing the stick 114' 10" for 19th place and an All-American award.

He also ran the 800-meter event at 2:09.69 and finished the 1,500-meter run in a time of 4:37.15.

Christal Dickson, in the 15-16-year-old girls' division, also came through with an All-American effort. She was 12th in the javelin at 100' 9".

A handful of Rising Stars Track Club members

did not score All-American awards or medal at nationals, but made themselves and the team proud nonetheless.

Trevor Doswell, an 8-under Rising Star, threw the turbo javelin 45' 11", and his brother, 10-year-old Jason Doswell, threw the shot put 24' 1/4".

Cameron Dickson was one of several Rising Stars to compete in three different events at nationals. The 11-year-old was in at 14.38 in the 100-meter dash, and she finished at 27.80 in the 200-meter dash. At the 400-meter distance, her time was 1:05.56.

Deon Brown, in the 15-16 boys' division, threw the shot put 36' 6 1/4" and also hurled the discus 107' 3". He also had a top throw of 116' 9" in the javelin.

Kalia Hendrix, who like Milton is already a track and field standout at Clear Brook High School, finished the 200-meter dash in a time of 25.16. Her best javelin throw traveled 82' 8". Paul Burgess, 12, was in at 5:11.72 in the 1,500-meter run.

Dobie 11, Baytown Sterling 8

Note: Dobie started the season with a 4-0 record for the first time under head coach Manuel Moreno Jr., and now stands at 5-1 overall.

Boys' doubles

- 1) Luis Cabreja/Albert Luu (D) def. Agush Agrawal/Corbin Hayes, 8-6.
- 2) Jacob Naiser/Ruchir Piplia (BS) def. David Ho/Ricky Perez, 8-4.
- 3) Justin Gee/Brandon Chung (D) def. Bourgeois/Singh, 8-4.

Girls' doubles

- 1) Hai Ho/Lada Heng (D) def. Annie Jones/Sara Postoak, 8-4.
- 2) Ashley Deveza/Karen Neira (D) def. Bryan Benoit/Sam Glaze, 8-4.
- 3) Leilani Vargas/Hellen Le (D) def. Contravas/Emily Thomas, 8-4.

Mixed doubles

- 1) Dhvani Shukla/Joel Herrera (BS) def. Tina Ha/Tommy Nguyen, 8-5.

Boys' singles

- 1) Luis Cabreja (D) def. Corbin Hayes, 6-2, 7-6 (7-2).
- 2) Ricky Perez (D) def. Agush Agrawal, 6-4, 7-6 (7-3).
- 3) Jacob Naiser (BS) def. David Ho, 6-2, 6-1.
- 4) Joel Herrera (BS) def. Albert Luu, 1-6, 7-5, 10-8.
- 5) Ruchir Piplia (BS) def. Brandon Chung, 6-0, 6-0.
- 6) Kyler Hardison (BS) def. Justin Gee, 6-1, 6-1.

Girls' singles

- 1) Annie Jones (BS) def. Hai Ho, 6-7 (7-1), 6-2, 10-2.
- 2) Hai Ho (D) def. Sara Postoak, 6-1, 6-4.
- 3) Leilani Vargas (D) def. Sam Glaze, 6-1, 6-4.
- 4) Dhvani Shukla (BS) def. Hellen Le, 6-4, 6-4.
- 5) Karen Neira (D) def. Bryan Benoit, 6-1, 6-1.
- 6) Ashley Deveza (D) def. Emily Thomas, 6-3, 4-6, 10-4.

CALENDAR

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27

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

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

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

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

Kirkwood Civic Association meets at the Sagemont Park and Recreation Center on Hughes Road. For more information call Ericka McCrutchon at 281-989-9990.

CrossRoads Support Group - Those who are the husband, wife or partner of a chronically ill/disabled person may join a new support group, Well Spouse, the last Thursday of each month from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at CrossRoads United Methodist Church, 10030 Scarsdale. Free childcare provided. For more information, contact Jennifer Miller at houstonwellspouse@gmail.com or 713-724-2360, or visit the Well Spouse Association at http://www.wellspouse.org.

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

Al-Anon (English Speaking) - Provides support for family and friends of alcoholics and addicts. Thursday, 7 p.m., First

United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, room 215. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.

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

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

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28

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

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

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - West End Group of Alcoholics Anonymous, noon, Shepherd of the Heart United Methodist Church, 12005 County Road 39, Pearland. For information, call 713-856-1611.

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

Bay Area Genealogical Society - Meets the last Friday of each month at University Baptist Church, 16106 Middlebrook Drive in Clear Lake. Coffee and socializing is at 6:30 and the meeting begins at 7 p.m. For more information, visit www.TxBayAreaGen.org.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of Narcotics

Anonymous, open meeting, 2245 N. Main St., (Hwy 35), in building next to pawn shop. For more information, call 713-856-1611.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29

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

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of Narcotics Anonymous, open meeting, 2245 N. Main St., (Hwy 35), in building next to pawn shop. For more information, call 713-856-1611.

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

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

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30

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

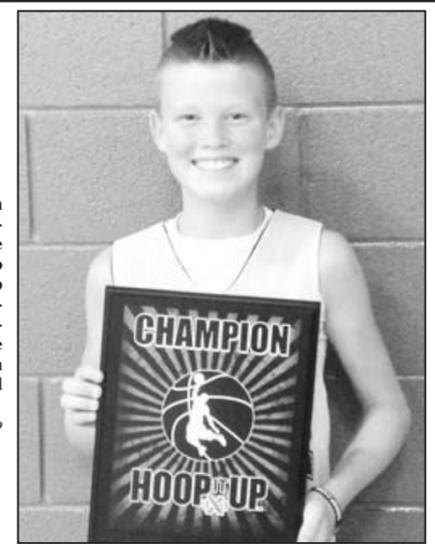
Grief Support Group - For any adult who has lost a loved one. Meets Sundays, except Mother's Day, Easter and Christmas, 2 to 3:15 p.m., First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway. For information, call 281-487-8787.

Celebrate Recovery - A faith-based 12-Step Program, Sundays, 5:30 p.m., Chapel of the Educational Building at Life

Hoopster Windsor, two teammates win 3-on-3 honor

At right, Hayden Windsor, 11, participated in the Hoop It Up 3-on-3 youth basketball competition with two teammates. Despite having just one practice session together, Windsor and his two teammates walked away with the championship in their age bracket. Windsor is the son of Pearland residents Amanda and Jason Windsor, a Dobie High School graduate who now works in the Pearland ISD. Amanda is a math instructor with Pasadena ISD. Hayden's grandparents, Susan and Paul Windsor, are longtime Sagemont residents.

Submitted photo



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CALENDAR

Continued from Page 3B

MONDAY, AUGUST 31
 3:30 p.m.
Houston Area Parkinson Society - Free exercise and speech therapy, 3:30 to 5 p.m., Clear Lake Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster. Visit www.hapsonline.org for a complete list of services offered. For adults with Parkinson's disease only.

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

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

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

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1
 7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill", Tuesday through Friday at 7 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, in the Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.

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

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

Local NARFE Meeting - The National Association of Retired Federal Employees, Chapter 1321, meets the first Tuesday of each month in the Clear Lake Community Center, 5001 NASA Parkway. A meal will be available for \$6. For more information, call Bob Mitchell at 281-333-2881.

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

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

Trailmixers - Meets the first Tuesday of the month at the Luby's Cafeteria on Fuqua. Former and current employees of J. Frank Dobie High School are welcome for lunch and conversation.

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

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

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

Bay Area Quilt Guild - Meets the first Tuesday of each month at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church located at 10310 Scarsdale Blvd., Houston. Fellowship begins at 6:30 p.m. Meeting and program begin at 7 p.m. Come for a good time and a chance to see some quilts. Guests welcome.

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

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

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2
 7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill", Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, in the Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or drop in.

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

Houston Hobby Airport Lions Club - meets on the first and third Wednesday of the month, 11:30 a.m., Golden Corral, 12500 Gulf Freeway (Fuqua and I-45). December may be an exception. For information, call Monica Montoya at 281-794-5531.

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

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

Alzheimer's Support Group - The free group meets the first Wednesday of each month in the third floor classrooms 3 and 4 of Bayshore Medical Center, 4000 Spencer Hwy. in Pasadena. For more information, call 713-944-4782 or 713-266-6400.

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

Survivors of Suicide Support Group - The Southeast Houston group meets twice each month. The group offers support and coping skills in a non-threatening environment to adult individuals who have lost a loved one to suicide. For information on registration or to obtain a physical address for a location, call 713-533-4500 or visit www.crisishotline.org.

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

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3
 7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill", Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.

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

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

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

6:30 p.m.
Diabetes Support Group - A support group for young adults with Type 1 diabetes. All subjects are open for discussion: new technologies, research advances, fears, phobias, dating and other personal matters. Meets the first Thursday of each month (or the second Thursday if that day is a holiday) at various restaurants in the area. Contact Dan Steiner, CDE, at 713-922-9677 for more information.

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

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

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

The Bay Area Writers League - Meets the first Thursday of each month, Barnes and Noble, Bay Area Blvd. and the Gulf Freeway. 7 p.m. Newcomers welcome.

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

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Tran Clan vacations in Destin

The Tran Clan recently gathered for a family vacation in Destin, Fla., to enjoy the white, sandy beaches and clear waters and to pose for a family photograph under the sunset.



Family members pictured are, left to right, (front row) Khanh Tran, Hong Tran, Tuyet Tran, Dylan Tran, Mason Tran, Vui Pham, Po Tran, Meghan Tran, Kayla Tran, Kathy Tran, Kelly Tran, Kim Tran, Hang Tran, Matthew Tran, Chi Tran, Nancy Tran, (back row) Phuong Tran, Quen Tran, Van Tran, Tuan Tran, Victoria Tran, Tom Tran, Nancy Tran, Mike Tran, Carl Tran, Tracy Tran, Chelsey Tran, Tina Pham, Ti Tran, Lan Tran, Bi Tran, Luan Tran and Don Tran.



Above, left to right, Kim Tran, Kathy Tran, Kayla Tran, Vui Pham, Kelly Tran and Don Tran, sit on a bench at the beach at Destin, Fla.

At left, sisters Kathy and Kelly Tran smile at the camera while enjoying Destin Harbor Boardwalk.

At right, Kelly Tran stands with the wind blowing in her hair, while a beautiful sunset lies in the background, as well as Destin's white sand and grand condos.



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Any Repair/Service \$75+



Mon - Fri: 7am - 6pm Sat & Sun: Closed

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