

South Belt-Ellington Leader

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Voice of Community-Minded People since 1976

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Email: mynews@southbeltleader.com

www.southbeltleader.com

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Olson to visit chamber

U.S. Rep. Pete Olson will visit the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce Thursday, May 5, from 2 to 3 p.m. for an *Iced Tea and Lemonade Social* to discuss current legislative issues.

CBCMUD voting underway

Early voting for the May 7 Clear Brook City Municipal Utility District board election is currently underway and will continue through Tuesday, May 3. Incumbent Kelly Buckman (who is serving the remainder of her late husband Steve Buckman's term) will face challengers Chris McDonald and Lionel Butler in the race.

Early voting is from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Clear Brook City MUD building at 11911 Blackhawk. No elections will be held in the Kirkmont and Sagemeadow MUDs, as all incumbents are running unopposed.

Recycling, pill take-back set

Precinct 2 in partnership with AARP, Councilmember Gloria Gallegos, DEA and Raul Yzaguirre School for Success, will host a free shredding and pill take-back Saturday, April 30, from 9 a.m. to noon, at the Raul Yzaguirre School for Success, 2950 Broadway in Houston. Volunteers are needed to help pass out information, etc. AARP will furnish breakfast, snacks, lunch and drinks for all volunteers. Bring old documents, unused medication and broken electronics to be disposed of and recycled safely. For additional information or to volunteer, call Precinct 2 Sgt. Cindy Vara-Leija at 713-274-6172.

Dolphins continue sign-ups

The Southbelt Dolphins will accept registration for cheer/drill/mascot members (age 4 through 13 as of Aug. 1, 2016) on May 26 at Armadillo Lanes from 6:30 to 8 p.m. For information, direct email to Tiffany Scimmoms at SBDDrill@yahoo.com.

Lariaettes set Spring Show

The J. Frank Dobie Lariaettes and Dance Department will hold its annual Spring Show, *When I Grow Up...* April 28, 29 and 30 at 7 p.m. in the auditorium at Dobie. Admission is \$10, and tickets can be purchased presale from any Lariaette, or at the door while supplies last. Come and support the Lariaettes and dance students as they perform for the last time during the 2015-2016 school year.

PISD informational meeting

Informational meetings will be held by the Pasadena Independent School District on April 28, at 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. in the Special Programs Office at the PISD Ad Building, 1515 Cherrybrook. The meeting is to seek public comment on needs and uses of Title I, II, III and IDEA B Federal funds. The purpose is to discuss how the district uses these funds to provide supplemental support in the district's Special Programs. For information, contact the district office at 713-740-0225.

Dobie Band hosts car show

The Dobie Longhorn Band will host its sixth Annual Car Show, sponsored by O'Reilly Auto Parts, on Saturday, April 30, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Beverly Hills Intermediate School, 11111 Beamer Road. Registration will be from 8 to 11:30 a.m. Car/motorcycle entry fee is \$25. The first 50 entrants will receive a goodie bag and T-shirt. Trophies will be awarded. A vendor and craft show will also be held at the event. Vendor slots are \$25 each.

Dance concert at San Jac

San Jacinto College's spring dance concert, *Kaleidoscope*, will feature performances created and performed by faculty, guest artists, and student dancers and choreographers. A variety of styles will be showcased, including modern dance, jazz, break dancing and dance theatre. The multimedia show will be performed at San Jac South Friday, April 29, and Saturday, April 30, at 7:30 p.m. each night at the Marie Spence Flickinger Fine Arts Center, 13735 Beamer. General admission is \$10 per person, and \$5 for San Jac students and employees. For information, visit sanjac.edu/career/dance.

Genealogy group meets

The Parker Williams Genealogy Group will meet May 2 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the library at Scarsdale and Beamer. This group meets the first and third Mondays to discuss genealogy research. Meetings are free and open to anyone interested in tracing family history.

LSA offers summer camps

Registration is open for summer camps at Lutheran South Academy. Camps include art, baseball, basketball, cheer, football, Camp Invention, martial arts, sewing, shooting, soccer, softball and volleyball. For students interested in weights, strength and agility, Pride Camps are available for students entering grades 6-8 and 9-12 in the fall. The Pioneer Power Camp is for students entering grades 9-12 and is geared for students in football, boys soccer, basketball, baseball and volleyball. Visit www.lutheran-south.org for more details and registration.

Female cyclists assaulted on bike trail

Local police are searching for a suspect wanted for assaulting multiple female bicyclists along the Blackhawk hike-and-bike trail in recent weeks.

The assaults came to public light this past week after one of the victims published an account of her attack on several local social media sites.

The incident, an attempted sexual assault, reportedly occurred on the trail around 8:10 p.m. near the entrance on Romero Drive. The victim said she had seen the suspect on his bike earlier in the evening but didn't pay too much attention.

When she passed him again later, however, the suspect rode beside her and attempted to speak to her in Spanish, before pushing her off her bike and attacking her and trying to remove her pants.

"I fought him off the best I could," said the victim, who wished to remain nameless. "I want people to know they're out there. I want women to know to be aware."

The victim was transported to Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital to be treated for wounds suffered to her face during the struggle.

While in the hospital, she was notified of a second attack that took place on the trail later that night.

In that incident, the female victim was badly injured when the suspect struck her in the face several times with a large wooden stick or log. The suspect again fled the scene in that incident after being fought off by the victim.

While there have been conflicting reports as to whether the suspect is a white or Hispanic male,

police believe the same suspect was responsible for both attacks. The suspect is described as being a thin male, between 20 and 25 years old, standing between 5 feet 5 inches and 5 feet 7 inches tall, with black curly hair. He was reportedly wearing dark shorts (possible black cargo shorts) and a baseball cap. He was riding a small black bike at the time of the crimes.

The *Leader* has heard reports of additional attacks taking place at the same location on Friday, April 15, and Thursday, April 21.

Both the Harris County Sheriff's Office and the Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's office have stepped up patrols in the area in response to the attacks, with multiple deputies patrolling the trail and adjacent parks on bicycle.

"I'd advise women to travel in groups, if possible," said Precinct 2 Sgt. Robert Sanchez.

Anyone with any information on this case is urged to contact the Harris County Sheriff's Office at 713-921-8891 or the Precinct 2 Constable's office at 281-481-9189.

Cook-off celebrates 20th anniversary

Dozens of cooking teams are eager to show off their culinary skills at this year's annual South Belt Spectacular Cook-off, set to take place Friday, April 29, and Saturday, April 30, at El Franco Lee Park, located at 9400 Hall Road.

Teams will be competing for prizes in a number of different categories, including best brisket, chicken, ribs, beans, chili, chef's choice and margaritas.

Now in its 20th year, the yearly event is the sole fundraiser for the annual South Belt Fourth of July fireworks display, also held at the area park. In recent years, the cook-off has also provided funds for local scholarships and various youth organizations.

The event has grown in size every year since its inception, with this year being the largest to date – featuring more than 80 registered cooking teams, occupying 160 reserved spots. By comparison, the inaugural cook-off held in 1996 included only 11 competing teams.

While evenings at the event are geared more for adults, Saturday afternoon is intended for families,

with children 12 and under being admitted for free with the purchase of an adult ticket.

Free children's activities include moonwalks, rock climbing, pony rides, a petting zoo, a train, a coin-in-a-haystack game, an obstacle course, face painting, hair braiding, a police helicopter and cruiser, a fire engine and ambulance display and photos with a live Watusi bull named Oliver.

While no outside alcohol will be allowed to be brought in by patrons, beer will be for sale on the cook-off grounds, along with barbecue sandwiches, sausage on a stick, turkey legs, nachos, cotton candy and snow cones.

Additional parking and shuttle service will be available at Dobie High School. Dobie students, as well as others, should be aware that no parking will be allowed along Hall Road for the duration of the event.

Admission will be \$10 on Friday and \$5 on Saturday before 4 p.m. and \$10 after.

See related ads on Page 2A, 5A and 6A. See related photos on Page 6A.

Police arrest burglary suspect

Police have arrested a suspect wanted for multiple local home burglaries.

Leonard Smith, 42, was apprehended around 5 p.m. Friday, April 22, by the Pasadena Police Department, with the assistance of the Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's office, at a motel room at the Sun Suites on the Gulf Freeway at Fuqua.

He was charged with four counts of burglary of a habitation and one count of credit card fraud. He is suspected of additional home burglaries in the area.

The investigation is ongoing.

Surveillance footage of Smith, taken from a March 29 burglary in the Meadows of Clear Creek subdivision, ran in the April 7 edition of the *Leader* and was published on several local

social media sites. The unusually clear photos, however, yielded few results, presumably because Smith recently moved here from Indiana and was unknown to local residents.

Pasadena police caught a break in the case last week, however, when a witness spotted Smith leaving a burglary driving a Toyota Corolla, and a partial license plate was tracked through Precinct 2's database to the motel room.

A credit card found in the motel room was determined to have been taken during one of the South Belt burglaries. Additional stolen items were found in the motel, and at press time Wednesday, police were attempting to return them to their rightful owners.

Smith's unidentified girlfriend was also taken into custody.

FEMA disaster relief available

South Belt residents who sustained damage or losses from the storms and flooding that occurred between April 17 and April 24 can now register for disaster assistance with the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

The presidential disaster declaration of April 25 makes federal assistance available to eligible individuals and households in four Texas counties: Fayette, Grimes, Harris and Parker.

Residents can apply online at DisasterAssistance.gov or by phone at 800-621-3362 or (TTY) 800-462-7585. Applicants who use 711 or Video Relay Service may call 800-621-3362. Multilingual operators are available. The toll-free numbers are open from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., seven days a week.

Applicants will be asked for the following information:

- Social Security number;

- Address of the damaged primary residence;
- Description of the damage;
- Information about insurance coverage;
- A current contact telephone number;
- An address where they can receive mail; and
- A bank account and routing numbers for direct deposit of funds.

Before starting repairs or rebuilding a home or business, it is important to contact a local building code official or floodplain manager.

Visit www.fema.gov/texas-disaster-mitigation for free publications and reference material on rebuilding and repairing safer and stronger.

For more information on Texas recovery, visit the disaster web page at www.fema.gov/disaster/4269, Twitter at www.twitter.com/femaregion6 and the Texas Division of Emergency Management website at www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem.

Clark bids farewell as manager



Clear Brook City MUD General Manager Chris Clark (left) is shown above at his retirement party on Friday, April 22. Clark is pictured with, left to right, his granddaughter, Abigail Frances Clark Hernandez; daughter, Stacie Goff; and the baby's parents, Raul Hernandez and Kristin, Clark's youngest daughter. Photo by Marie Flickinger

Clark retires from Clear Brook MUD

By James Bolen

Chris Clark is retiring from his position as general manager of the Clear Brook City Municipal Utility District, after serving in the position for 16 years.

Before joining the MUD in a paid capacity, Clark was an elected official on the district's board from 1982 to 2000, serving 16 of those years as the organization's president.

Clark said he made the transition to general manager in an effort to save the district money. "He has literally saved the district millions of dollars," said *Leader* publisher Marie Flickinger, whose husband David is also a board member of the Clear Brook City MUD.

Clark began his professional career as the owner of a commercial battery business, selling the company in 1997.

"I was in the battery business since I was 24," Clark said. "That was my first life. Serving as general manager was my second life, and retirement will be Life No. 3. There's always a time to move on. You can't do the same thing forever."

The retiree said he will find plenty of things to

do to occupy his newfound free time.

"I'm not one to get bored. I have plenty of things to do to stay busy," Clark said, adding he plans to take cooking classes and work on his home, making repairs and landscaping improvements.

A retirement party was held for Clark on Friday, April 22, in which Harris County Judge Jo Ann Delgado presented him an emancipation proclamation.

"Let it be known to all men that on this day April 22, 2016, Chris Clark is a free man. He owes nothing to anyone and his debt is paid in full," the proclamation stated.

Delgado additionally presented Clark a six-pack of Corona beer as a parting gift.

Clark is also stepping down from his role as chair of the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce. A founding member of the organization, Clark has served four terms as chamber president.

Clark will continue to serve as a consultant for the MUD for the remainder of the year and will continue to serve on the chamber board.

Chamber honors top-10 graduates

By James Bolen

Community leaders and elected officials gathered Wednesday, April 20, at a luncheon hosted by the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce to honor the top-10 2016 graduates from Dobie High School, Lutheran South Academy and Clear Horizons High School.

Dr. Victor Van Phan, an orthopedic surgeon from Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital, served as the featured speaker at the event.

A 1988 Dobie graduate, Phan shared his inspirational story with the esteemed graduates.

"I was born with wooden chopsticks, not a silver spoon," Phan said, noting the importance of a strong work ethic. "I'm used to hard work. I never had less than two or three jobs during college."

Phan stressed to the students that life will not be without its challenges.

"Life isn't fair. It will throw you curve balls. You've got to try and not get hit," Phan said. "Life is going to hit you hard. It's not how fast you fall, it's how you get back up that's important."

Phan also emphasized the importance of finding the right career path. "Find your passion. I know it sounds cliché but find something you love to do," Phan said. "Twenty years from now, I want to see you up here making a speech."

Phan concluded his presentation by promising to donate \$10,000 annually in scholarship funds

to be divided among the three local schools.

Harris County Judge Jo Ann Delgado also donated \$500 in scholarship funds in honor of late Harris County Commissioner El Franco Lee.

"He was always about service," Delgado said. "And one student exemplified what El Franco Lee stood for."

That student was Lutheran South Academy graduate Ben LeBlanc.

"I thought that's just what people do," LeBlanc joked. "I liked to volunteer at school and church because it just seemed better than studying."

Another \$1,000 scholarship was given to Dobie student Christian Ascencio.

The top-10 Dobie graduates are (in alphabetical order) Ascencio, Angelica DeJesus, Michelle Hoang, Albert Luu, Tin Nguyen, Ashley Perez, Vy Phan, Yamelli Puente, Jonah Smith and Vinh Tran.

The top-10 Lutheran South Academy graduates are Kayla Brown, Patrick Grisby, Josh Johnson, Kaylee King, Rachel Krause, LeBlanc, Harrison Little, Lea Luke, Samantha Trapani and Jeff Walheim.

The top-10 Clear Horizons graduates are Meghan Bhakta, Joseph Gutheinz, Hannah Jones, Cassidy Matlock, Brianna McKenzie, Daniel Mina, Sarah Momin, Brittney Nelson, Ella Robertson and Jonah Smith.

See related photos in the *Leader's* 2016 graduation issue on June 2.

Phan addresses top area grads



Dr. Victor Van Phan (right) is shown above Wednesday, April 20, at the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce's annual luncheon to honor top local high school graduates. A 1988 Dobie graduate, Phan was the featured speaker at the event. He is shown with his wife Anh Nguyen, DDS, whom he described as his soul mate. The couple met in sixth grade while attending Beverly Hills Intermediate. Phan reminisced about pulling her hair during class. The pair are pictured with Emory Gadd, who served as master of ceremonies at the event. Photo by Marie Flickinger

In My Opinion

Sullivan educates on taxes, flooding

The recent flooding in Harris County has been tragic for many residents and our hearts go out to those who have been impacted.

As homeowners go about recovering, the last thing any property owner wants to worry about is property taxes. But taking some simple steps now, and taking time to understand how the system works, might save money, time and frustration. Here's some basic information.

Property taxes are calculated from the appraised value and tax rates from the property's taxing jurisdictions. The Harris County Appraisal District values your home on January 1, 2016, and taxing jurisdictions adopt tax rates around October.

Residents have already begun receiving property appraisals for 2016. This year's appraisals won't take into account any damage you sustained by the recent floods. The only way homeowners can get a "reappraisal" now is for their taxing jurisdiction to request and pay for a "special disaster reappraisal."

There are things you can do, both for this year and for next, to minimize the impact of your property taxes. Protest your 2016 property tax appraisal. Keep repair receipts, insurance claims, cost estimates and photographs of damage. Once tax bills are mailed, you can apply for a disaster payment plan to break up your payment in 4 equal installments.

In addition, HCAD and the Tax Assessor-Collector's Office are hosting a series of workshops to discuss property tax calculations and protesting. Find a full schedule at www.hctax.net.

Mike Sullivan
Tax Assessor-Collector
Sands L. Stiefer, Chief Appraiser

Muecke: Berry Bayou and tributaries

The Harris county and surrounding counties have experienced a tremendous loss in 8 lives and millions of dollars in damage to property and vehicles. Then there is the heartache that so many will have to live with for years to come. We know this, we have experienced this for years. This time we were lucky, I received 5.2" on Monday morning and since have received about another 2"/3" in small rain falls. But we all have to remember our area survived Allison in 2001 and then like in 2008 and several more severe rainfalls over the years. So no one is ever out of the woods, ever. Flooding will still occur but we hope to a lesser extent with all the work that is now happening.

A number of people had been involved over the years but in 2005 we took direct action with the powers to be. We made it clear we were tired of the flooding of homes and vehicles many times. We did not like being on Channel 11 news each time it rained and flooded.

In the eleven (11) years since we started, Berry Bayou north from Gilpin street and C-106-08 along side Hwy. 3 were concrete lined over the last eleven years. Several ditches also have had the bottoms cleaned and damaged areas have been repaired for better water flow.

I have just received the following update from HCFCD, which is timely. Let's start with detention ponds. When we started we were told we needed 50 acres for a detention pond. Where do you find this acreage in a built up area. So a number of locations were investigated. Detention ponds are necessary due to how flat this area is. The acreage shown is the total land, the ponds are some what less acreage.

1. The Richey Basin location off Hwy. 3 and Richey street in the Pasadena area. The tract of land is 28.5 acres and this area is now 90% complete. Needs final grading along with concrete Pilot channels. May/June the WEIR structure will be installed and this basin will be complete.

2. Crenshaw Basin located across Shaver Road and HL&P plant at Hwy. 3. The track of land is 36 acres and the basin is complete. Storm water quality planting of wetland plants has not yet taken place. The channel area of C-106-08, to drain this water, along the side of Hwy. 3 and HL&P plant from Shaver road north is now complete.

3. Shaver Basin which is across Hwy. 3 from the HL&P plant, behind the Citgo station and next to Shaver road is under development. The track of land is 95 acres, less than half is built out. No completion date at this time.

Concreting of the final ditch, C-106-03, Phase 2 and 3 that has been the main problem with flooding of not only Edgebrook but the many homes/vehicles for the last 40 years. One problem was the number of active and in active pipelines in this area that had to be resolved.

Phase 2 starts at Dakota street in South Houston and extends south to the city of Houston and South Houston city limits. Work was to begin in March 2015 but several issues came up with neighboring pipelines. This delayed work and then additional problems came up in the built up area. Work is now on going. The original concrete boxed ditch at College Street near the bingo parlor had to be removed and

Dobie cheerleader car wash May 14

Dobie 2016-17 cheerleaders will hold a car wash on Saturday, May 14, at Snowie's in the Food Town parking lot at the corner of Beamer and Scarsdale. The car wash will be from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. A \$5 donation is asked.

Free tutoring at St. Luke's

St. Luke's Catholic church, 11011 Hall Road, offers free tutoring on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Education Building, Room 2, for grades K-12 and college. For more information, contact Joe Pavlicek at 281-484-1397.

Local library events set

Parker Williams Library

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

Thursday, April 28, at 2 p.m. – Book Discussion on *Lila* by Marilynne Robinson. Friday, April 29, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. – Teen SRP Decoration Work.

Wednesday, May 4, at 3:30 p.m. – Movie Madness. Feature presentation is *Star Wars: The Force Awakens*, rated PG 13.

Wednesdays – Preschool Story Time, 10:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.; Thursdays – Toddler Story Time, 10:30 a.m.; Saturdays – Vietnamese Storytime. Classes are at 10 a.m., 11:15 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. For more information on Vietnamese programs, speak with Loc Bui.

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

Bracewell Branch Library

The following events are scheduled for April-May at the Bracewell Branch Library, 9002 Kingspoint.

Tuesdays – Pre-K Storytime (ages 3-5 years and their parents/caregivers) from 10:30 to 11 a.m.; Storytime Craft from 11 to 11:30 a.m.

Wednesdays – Baby/Toddler Storytime (ages 6-36 months and their parents/caregivers) from 10:30 to 11 a.m.; Baby/Toddler Playgroup (ages 6 months to 3 years and their parents/caregivers) from 11 to 11:30 a.m.; Computer Basics at 2 p.m.; Internet Basics at 3:15 p.m.; and Power Point at 4:30 p.m.

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 on programs at the Bracewell Branch Library, call 832-393-2580.

new twin large concrete boxes installed. Connections to both ends is now in the completion stages. A sewage line presented a problem but that has been resolved. Work on concrete lining this ditch is now 35% complete and the contractor has 152 days to complete this segment.

Phase 3 that runs from the city limits across Edgebrook to I-45 is now about 80% designed but additional properties and ROW negotiations are on going. Planned bidding date is 08-09-16. Completion expected early 2017.

You can see by the above why it has taken so long to complete all this. Many of your tax dollars are involved. But it has been on going and the end is in sight. We are still pursuing one other location and that is the boxed ditch C-106-09 that runs between the City of Houston and South Houston where it drains into Berry Bayou along side Hwy. 3 at a 90 degree. This causes back up and some flooding in the Arvana/Marleen area. Hopefully, we can get HCFCD to resolve this issue.

Then the best news. Once all this is completed there is the possibility that this area will be re-evaluated as to flooding and there is a possibility that flood insurance will be reduced. Let's throw a party when all this work is completed and thank our County Commissioner and HCFCD for all their efforts to get this completed.

James E. Muecke
Project Coordinator

Weeke: Who monitors road work progress?

I travel Hughes Road every day and after several months of construction we have half a new street for half a mile, from the beltway to Sagecreek.

Who monitors the progress, or lack thereof for the ongoing road work? Does anyone know when this project was started or more important...when it will be completed?

On many days there is no one working, this project appears to be moving very slowly and I would like to know why.

Maybe your paper can shed some light on this matter. **Sam Weeke**
Publisher's note: Frankly, my current biggest concern is the large number of accidents which take place every week. But we will look into this for next week's issue.

Marie Flickinger

McDonald: I ask for your MUD vote

The election for the Clear Brook City MUD Board has begun and I ask for your vote which may be cast now at the MUD Building. As a lifelong South Belt resident, I am familiar with the needs of the area. My goals include: partnering with Harris County Precinct One to build a local dog park for all of the community, partnering with neighborhoods for safe sidewalks, strengthening public safety through alliance with Harris County Constable Precinct 2 & Southeast Volunteer Fire Department, developing infrastructure for growth and providing exceptional water service. I am active in our community as a Director of the Sageglen Community Association for over ten years, a scholarship sponsor of the Dobie ROTC Leadership Camp, member of The South Belt Chamber of Commerce, and member of Sagemont Church. I would like to share my 25 years experience as a municipal employee and police supervisor to serve you on the Clear Brook City Board. Early voting continues daily 11am-7pm through Tuesday, May 3. Election Day is Saturday, May 7. Your vote matters! Of over 10,000 eligible voters, about 300 decide who represents YOU on the Board of Directors. I am available to work on your concerns within the district and can be reached at 281-704-4567.

Thanks,
Chris McDonald

Terrell supports Buckman for MUD

There is a very important election coming up in Clear Brook City on May 7th.

This election is very simple: elect ONE member to the board of directors of Clearbrook City. CBC encompasses the subdivisions of Wood Meadows, Highland Meadows, Sageglen, Meadows of Clear Creek, Blackhawk, Clearbrook Meadows, Ashley Point, and Riverstone Ranch. Every person that is a registered voter in Harris County that lives in these subdivisions can vote in this election. The person elected will have a say in setting our water and sewer rates, setting our MUD taxes, and directing the great work that the MUD does in so many areas that affects our lives. This is no minor position and it is very important to have a person that is knowledgeable in district affairs, a long time member of our community, and takes a very high interest in seeing that we have the lowest taxes and rates as well as a great quality of life. Kelly Buckman is VERY well suited for this job and I urge every registered voter to vote this week in the early election at the Clearbrook City Mud building on Blackhawk Blvd for Kelly. Vote for Kelly this

week or on Election Day which is May 7th. She will represent us well, keep our taxes low and add a great deal of knowledge on the Board of Directors. Please take the time to vote...this election will have a very important impact on all of us. VOTE for KELLY BUCKMAN, keep her on the board working FOR us!

Sincerely,
Jerry Terrell

Buckman seeks re-election to MUD

Dear residents of Clear Brook City MUD, I am humbly requesting your vote as the current Board Member up for re-election. I requested and assumed my position last year after the death of my husband, Steve Buckman. Steve was an active Clear Brook City MUD board member for approximately 12 years. As such, I worked extensively with him each month as he shared information and educated me on the district's operations and finances.

I am a longtime resident of the Sageglen community; I hold two college degrees; I am a longtime active member of St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church; and I am very active in the South Belt community with the Chamber of Commerce and other organizations.

The current board, of which I am a part, has managed to maintain the same property tax rates. The tax rate has not increased for approximately 15 years. This was done while updating and maintaining the district's infrastructure. As a current board member, I have made sure that the water is clean and safe, ensured that the District had stand-by generators well before it was required by law for power outages so that sewage does not back up into area homes and I have help maintain an excellent garbage service with rates lower than residents paid in 2010.

As an active member of this board, I will continue to make every stride to promote community safety by continuing to work closely with the constable's office and his officers and by supporting our local Southeast Volunteer Fire Department so that homeowner's insurance ratings remain the best they can be.

This election is extremely important for this community. If you would like to see Clear Brook City MUD's board continue to make this community safe while maintaining low property tax rates, please vote for me. Early voting started on April 25 and runs thru May 3, 2016. Residents will vote at our local office at 11911 Blackhawk Blvd. from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Election Day will be on Saturday, May 7, 2016 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Thank you for your support.
Kelly Buckman

Chicas: MUD elections hardly draw 1%

I find it interesting that there is historically little interest in Municipal Utility District elections in our area.

From what I have been reading in your paper over the many years I have lived in the district, these elections hardly draw 1% of the eligible voters, many times much less than that. Yet these elections can have more impact on our immediate lives and pocketbooks than most other city, state and national elections. In the upcoming Clear Brook City MUD elections, we need to return Mrs. Kelly Buckman to the board of directors. It is imperative we have good people on this board as they set the rates we pay for water and sewer, set our MUD tax rate, fund our Fire Department and provide all the neighborhood services that keep our subdivisions looking good and property values up. I urge all registered voters of Clearbrook City MUD to vote this week in the early voting elections (the simplest and quickest way to vote) on or election day, May 7th for Kelly Buckman. My family has lived in CBC MUD for 15 years and enjoy it very much and I strongly feel Kelly will be the best candidate of this position. Please vote...every vote is critically important since most will not vote!

Thank you for listening to me.
David Chicas

O'Brien responds on construction area

This is a response to The letter from Bishop Hines of April 21, 2016 concerning construction site.

I felt like having a group hug and singing "Kum-bay-yah" after reading the comments by Bishop Hines of the New Covenant Christian Church about the construction site at the corner of Kirkfair and Blackhawk. He said some nice things and some PC things but did not address the problem of living next to this fiasco of noise and bad smells.....Details make the difference.

I should have spoken up sooner. You see, I live behind the fence where the excavators are located, at the corner of Kirkfair and Blackhawk. I am sure they put the excavators against the fence for security and to heck with the neighbors. I get to listen to them crank up almost every morning. There are two of them. They rattle and shake the ground and stink up the air around our house. I guess BISHOP Hines did not know that since he may not get to work at that hour. It is true that the workers load up every morning about 7:00 AM and leave, but not right away.

Here is where we differ in the details of what really happens, almost every morning, weather permitting. They drop the dirt on the ground and let it dry out. Then the excavator puts the dried out dirt into some trucks to be hauled off. The noise that these excavators make is kind of like living in a metal building or a dumpster. Every morning and four or five times during the day the same thing goes on. They come back and move the dirt around and make a lot of noise. Back to the dumpster analogy: It is like someone takes a large hammer to the side of the metal building/dumpster and bangs on it for somewhere from twenty minutes to as much as two constant hours at a time. I guess the Bishop would not pick up on that, given his office hours. They make all of this noise unloading and shaking the dirt out of the very large scoop to put into the waiting dump trucks...broken up concrete is also being temporarily stored and eventually removed by the same process as the dirt. We were initially told this would be a pipe storage yard only, not a construction site.

This is no small operation. There are as many as 9 pieces of very large equipment, counting 2 large excavators, 2-3 backhoes, 2-3 very large dumpsters and the trucks to move the dumpsters plus the dump trucks. Then there is the pipe. That also has to be moved and banged around. Various trucks are in and out about every 90 minutes counting picking up the dirt and concrete, as well as removing the dumpsters with trash and whatever else is in them.

Second point: This has been going on since June, 2015. I called the Bishop myself in October, 2015 and asked how long this would last. He, the Bishop, told me it would be done by the first week in February, 2016. Maybe not?

We went to the Home Owners Association meeting on March 31, 2016 to complain about this situation. There are seven houses surrounding this lot in question. Three of the seven houses were represented at the meeting. The other two families said that they had called and were told it would be done in April, 2016. I guess my complaint, if I am allowed one is this: How could the Bishop not know that he had an agreement that lasted until April and he would tell me it would be finished in the first week of February? By the way, the two other parties and Mrs. Fernandez said that the BISHOP told them that his church is being paid \$1,000 per month to utilize the field.

Here is the ringer. I called the MUD district and was told that the contract would be up at the end of April but with "Rain Delay" days it may run into June. Watch this! This is only the end of Phase One and there are a minimum of three more phases to come....(details).....

I should mention that the four houses that are on the long side of the field, where the many large machines are located, are occupied by seven people, six of whom are 65 years or older. Most of us are home most of the day and we get to listen to the noise of loading and unloading the dirt or concrete into the trucks at least four to five times a day, not to mention the smell of the equipment. This has gone well into the night, many times until 8:00 PM on way more than one instance.

I apologize to all of my neighbors for not speaking up sooner but when I read the comments in today's *South Belt Leader* I felt it was time to say something. I have heard over the years that "The Devil is in the details." This has gone on for almost 11 months now. I have been told by my pastor that I am here to Love God and serve my neighbor. Thanks, neighbor!

Finally, thank you for taking almost exactly 90 days to respond/react to the comments of Mrs. Fernandez. That is pretty much of a good neighbor policy.....Please do not put yourself up for the "State Farm" award.....Details, make the difference.

Sincerely,
Jerry O'Brien

Neighbor-up-against-the-fence..... 14 feet from the excavator. We have had no activity since it started raining last week, Monday, April 18, 2016.

I guess it is true: "What is a ski trip to one is a snowstorm to another."

PW Library seeks book donations

The Friends of Parker Williams Branch Library, located at 10851 Scarsdale Blvd., is seeking donations of nice condition adult fiction pocket paperbacks and children's books. Items may be dropped off at the front desk of the library.

Tri-County Republican Women meet May 10

The Tri-County Republican Women will meet on Tuesday, May 10, at Golfcrest Country Club, 2509 Country Club Drive in Pearland. Social/networking starts at 10:30 a.m., the business meeting at 11 a.m., and lunch at noon. Lunch is \$15 and is optional.

This month's speaker is Josh Blackman, Associate Professor of Law at the South Texas College of Law. Blackman specializes in constitutional law, the U.S. Supreme Court, and the intersection of law and technology.

Catholic Daughters sponsor Sock & Wipe Drive

For the last several years, Court Mother of Unity 2292 has sponsored a sock and wipe drive for the military and are asking for the donations once again.

Socks must be tube socks so they don't slip down into the boot, and they may be either black or white. Wipes must be individually wrapped so they may be tucked in a shirt pocket or backpack.

Donations may be dropped off at the *South Belt Leader* office at 11555 Beamer Road, St. Luke's Church at 11011 Hall Road in the church Narthex, or call 281-484-4170 for pick up. Also, a check may be made out to CDA Court #2292, with Military Drive in the subject line, and sent to Catholic Daughters, 11010 Hall Road, Houston, TX 77089. The drive will run through Mother's Day, May 8.

San Jacinto College to host 'Be The Match' donor registry drive

Every three minutes, someone is diagnosed with blood cancer. That adds up to 480 people a day and 20 people each hour. These statistics are exactly what Be The Match, the global leader in bone marrow transplantation, is working to stop.

In support of their efforts to increase donors on the Be The Match donor registry, the San Jacinto College medical laboratory technology program will host a Be The Match bone marrow donor registry drive on Thursday, April 28, at the Central campus.

Anyone between the ages

of 18 and 44, the donor age group requested by doctors 95 percent of the time, who meets the health guidelines can join the Be The Match donor registry at the San Jacinto College donor registry event. Anyone ages 45 to 60 who wish to be on the donor registry must register online at bethematch.org.

Those who meet the health guidelines and are within the 18 to 44 age range will be asked to give a swab of cheek cells to be tissue-typed.

Participants will need to bring personal identification, contact information of two family members or friends,

and a brown bag lunch for a Be The Match lunch-and-learn about becoming a registry member. Snacks will be provided courtesy of the Gulf Coast Blood Center.

The San Jacinto College Be The Match bone marrow donor registry event will take place on Thursday, April 28, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., in the San Jacinto College Central student center (Building 14), located at 8060 Spencer Highway in Pasadena.

For more information on Be The Match health guidelines and how to make a monetary donation, visit bethematch.org.

Death

Craig William Karp



Craig William Karp, 46, of Dallas, former longtime South Belt resident, died on Monday, April 18, 2016. He was born Aug. 26, 1969, in Houston, to William and Mary Karp. He was a J. Frank Dobie High School graduate.

After high school, Karp attended Flight School at San Jacinto College where he received his Private Pilot Li-

cense. He then continued his education at the University of Houston where he obtained a bachelor's degree in Occupational Technology IS with a minor in Training and Development.

After graduation, Karp went to work for Southwest Airlines and then into the information technology field in the oil and gas industry. The past year-and-a-half he lived and worked in North Carolina and Virginia, but was ready to return home to Texas.

In March 2016, Karp returned to work for Southwest Airlines as a Technology Senior Analyst ITSM Service Catalog. He had a passion for learning and was recently accepted into the Master of Business Administration program at Louisiana State University.

Karp enjoyed spending time with his daughters, paddle boarding, grilling, eating Mexican food, and watching University of Houston football. His most recent pleasure

was traveling. Over the years he visited Thailand, Japan, Dubai, Prague and Honduras. He loved making new friends and was known to have a witty sense of humor that could make anyone laugh, in addition to his contagious giggle.

Karp was preceded in death by his grandparents and brother, Clay Karp.

He is survived by his daughters, Emma and Tessa Karp; parents William and Mary Karp; sister Kimberly Karp; uncle and aunt Jerry and Sharon Craig; cousins: Lisa Diehl, Lara Nichols and Leslie Waibel and their spouses; and numerous friends.

A Celebration of Life for Karp was held Monday, April 25, 2016, at 3 p.m. in the Chapel of Forest Park East Funeral Home. Interment immediately followed at Forest Park East Cemetery. A reception followed at interment from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Hospitality Room of Forest Park East Funeral Home.

San Jac's tennis courts renovated



San Jacinto College recently renovated the tennis courts at the Central Campus. The courts are open to the public as well as for student use seven days a week during daylight hours. The courts are also available for tournaments. San Jacinto College students shown playing on the updated courts are Jessica Sandefer and Ventura Ortiz. To reserve the courts for tournaments, please call 281-476-1878, or send an email to erin.wood@sjcd.edu. Photo by Rob Vanya

Boardwalk, future additions coming to area Hike & Bike Trail

By Crystal Saucedo

Recently a 70-foot boardwalk has been added to the two-mile trail that surrounds the 100-acre wetland at El Franco Lee Park.

The trail and the boardwalk provide the opportunity to view the ecosystems that surround the wetland and Clear Creek. The wetland, which was once a rice farm, is home to a variety of plants and animal life.

The wetland is protected from future development under an agreement with the city of Houston and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Department. The agreement was made as a mitigation for a runway at Bush Intercontinental Airport.

In order to give different viewing opportunities of the wetland, an observation tow-

er will soon be built on the eastern side of the wetland. The observation tower is not the only addition the wetland will soon be receiving.

In the following months an informal butterfly garden will be planted and the Dobie High School's Environmental Science class will be adopting several of the flower beds. The class is also helping out by maintaining an information kiosk about the wetland environment.

Along with the Dobie High School faculty, members of the Houston Ornithological Society were also involved in the planning stages of the trail and butterfly garden. The project is made possible by the Coastal Impact Assistance Program, funded by revenues from Outer Continental Shelf energy-related

activities in the Gulf of Mexico and managed by the wildlife department.

Harris County Commissioner Gene L. Locke believes the trail is an addition that all people can use and appreciate.

"The trail around the wetland, especially the boardwalk portion, provides an added park amenity that is well utilized by birdwatchers, nature lovers and exercisers," Commissioner Gene L. Locke said.

"I plan to continue the late Commissioner El Franco Lee's excellent vision to make this a first-class park for South Belt-area residents. Also, I want to thank our partners for making this project possible, including Dobie High School and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service."

Free Kids Fun Zone at the South Belt Cookoff Saturday April 30th 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission for ages 12 & under

Free Games & Rides for Kids include... Petting Zoo, Pony Rides, Rock Climbing, Obstacle Course, Moonwalks, Face painting, Hair-braiding, Enchanted Encounters' Snow Queen & Sleeping Beauty, Giant Trampoline, Inflatable Adrenaline Rush Jr., Train Rides, HPD Helicopter, Police, Fire & Ambulance Displays, Photo Opportunity with Oliver the Watusi Bull & More. Food & refreshments will be available for purchase.

20th Annual South Belt Cookoff at El Franco Lee Park Friday, April 29 & Sat., April 30 Sponsored by Southeast Volunteer Fire Department Admission \$10 - Free admission for ages 12 & under Saturday Admission \$5 before 4 p.m.; \$10 After 4 p.m. Proceeds fund South Belt July 4th Fireworks, area scholarships & community youth programs

At Ellington Field, the 75th Training Command holds a change-of-responsibility ceremony

By Master Sgt. Robert R. Ramon
75th Training Command Public Affairs Office
 Pledging to continue the successful accomplishment of the 75th Training Command mission, Command Sgt. Maj. Richard T. Schoenberger assumed responsibility of the 75th's command sergeant major position during a ceremony at the Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base on Feb. 28, 2016.

The change-of-responsibility occurred with the traditional passing of the unit colors from Command Sgt. Maj. Ronnie Farmer, who served as the 75th command sergeant major since November 2012, to Schoenberger.

"When I look back at my time at the 75th, I realize it's one of the best teams I've ever been on," said Farmer. "This has really been an amazing experience for me."

The commander of the 75th Training Command, Maj. Gen. James "Boe" Young Jr., said the ceremony was bittersweet as he praised Farmer for a job well done.

"Command Sgt. Maj. Farmer has led our formations for more than three years and there has been a marked improvement in not only the unit, but in the Soldiers of the unit," said Young. "He has been an inspiration for me and just about every Soldier in this command."

The 75th Training Command prepares Army units for missions by conducting training exercises, while mentoring and training the senior leaders of those units in mission command and decision-making.

As the 75th command sergeant major, Schoenberger will advise the commander about enlisted and non-commissioned officer matters

and will be responsible for the morale, welfare, standards and training of all military personnel in the unit.

Young said that although he's losing an excellent senior enlisted advisor in Farmer, he has no doubt Schoenberger will be up to the task.

"When I interviewed Command Sgt. Maj. Schoenberger, I was left with one distinct impression; this NCO knows how to soldier and knows how to lead soldiers," said Young. "I am fired up to have him join the team."

Schoenberger said he is eager to serve alongside the Soldiers of the 75th Training Command as their senior enlisted advisor.

"We will continue to provide training and expertise to all the commands throughout the U.S. Army and I look forward to serving all of you in the 75th," Schoenberger

said to the soldiers of the command.

Prior to arriving at the 75th, Schoenberger served with the 350th Civil Affairs Command in Pensacola, Fla. He entered the active U.S. Army in July 1985, and after one enlistment, he joined the Army Reserve in 1989.

Schoenberger has held leadership positions at all levels throughout his career. He is a graduate of the Airborne, Ranger, Drill Sergeant Schools, the Small Group Instructor Course, the Observer Controller Trainer Course, the Battle Staff NCO Course, the prestigious U.S. Army Sergeant's Major Academy, the Brigade Battalion Pre-Command Course, and the Senior Leader Orientation Course.

Continued on Page 5A

Photos by Master Sgt. Robert R. Ramon, 75th Training Command Public Affairs Office



Command Sgt. Maj. Ronnie Farmer (center) passes the 75th Training Command colors to Maj. Gen. James "Boe" Young Jr. (right), commander of the 75th, during a change of responsibility ceremony at Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base, Texas. During the ceremony, Farmer relinquished responsibility as the command sergeant major of the 75th Training Command to Command Sgt. Maj. Richard T. Schoenberger (left).



Maj. Gen. James "Boe" Young Jr. (right), commander of the 75th Training Command, passes the unit colors to Command Sgt. Maj. Richard T. Schoenberger during the ceremony.

BARC for BARC Pet Walk at Rice University April 30

BARC Animal Shelter and Adoptions and the Houston BARC Foundation invite all Houston area pet owners and pet lovers to the inaugural BARC for BARC pet walk at Rice University on Saturday, April 30, to help raise awareness and support for BARC's mission to give Houston's homeless pets a second chance at finding a home.

"Having had the opportunity to foster and rescue animals in my home as well as volunteer at an early age, it is natural for me to aspire to raise awareness and funds for animals in need," said Schuyler Adrogué Gustafson.

"Through our inaugural BARC for BARC Pet Walk, we hope to inspire others to support BARC's mission

and help our furry friends of the City of Houston to have a safe haven and to help find them a home."

The Houston BARC Foundation Event Honorary Chair Sofia Adrogué and Honorary Co-Chairs Y. Ping Sun, Caroline Baker Hurley and Shawn Stephens, Chair Schuyler Adrogué Gustafson, and Co-Chairs Mei Leebron, Grace Elizabeth Hurley and Shelby Jordan have worked with BARC and Rice University to put together a fun, family and pet friendly event and invite all animal lovers with or without pets to attend.

Significant sponsorship has been provided by the following: Smitten Kitten - Louisa Stude Sarofim; Pet Palooza - Finding Rover Inc.; Dog-

topia of Houston; Carol and Randy Limbacher; and Man's Best Friend - Sofia Adrogué, Schuyler Adrogué Gustafson and Sten Gustafson/Gray Reed and McGraw P.C.; Cheryl Ballard; Nijad and Zenia Fares; Marci and Carlos Hamilton; Grace Hurley, Caroline Baker Hurley and Bruce Hurley; King and Spalding; Mei Leebron and Y. Ping Sun; Sarah Martin and Family; Sara Morgan; Susan D. Sarofim; as well as Shawn Stephens, and Jim and Shelby Jordan.

"It is an honor for me to co-chair the inaugural pet walk with my friends," said Mei Leebron. "I volunteered at the BARC Puppy Nursery and know how crucial it is to get funding for BARC. Please join us for the walk to

support BARC, so that more puppies will find a home."

Funds raised through the walk will help complete construction on BARC's new adoption campus and will help support BARC initiatives such as onsite and community adoptions, pet fostering, pet transfer and rescue, and free and low cost spay and neuter options.

"Being a lifelong animal lover, volunteer, and owner of a rescue pet, I wanted to support BARC because of the programs they provide in the community that help save animals' lives and find them loving homes," said Grace Elizabeth Hurley.

"I love being a part of something that can help provide animals with the special

care and resources they need, and BARC can do just that," said Shelby Jordan.

For additional information and to register for the BARC for BARC pet walk, visit www.HoustonBARCFoundation.org.

BARC's New Adoption Campus

The new campus incorporates American Kennel Club (AKC) standards including abundant natural light, indoor and outdoor runs for dogs and AKC-certified kennel sizes. In 2015, BARC opened Phase I of the campus, which includes the adoptions administration building, a courtyard, two dog kennels, three outdoor dog runs and a parking lot. With support from the community, BARC

LSA at TAPPS State Academic Competition

On April 4-5, 11 students represented Lutheran South Academy in 13 different academic and speaking events at the TAPPS State Academic Competition in Waco.

Students spent two days testing in many different academic areas comprising the core academic areas of math, science, social studies, and English writing essay, interpreting and presenting both prose and poetry. Points toward the overall team competition are awarded to the top

8 finishers in each testing and speaking category. This year, LSA students earned points in several areas.

Senior Patrick Grigsby led the scoring earning a State Champ title in social studies and a third-place finish in current events. Seniors Andrew Sterling and Kaylee King placed fourth in current events and sixth in literary criticism, respectively.

Sophomore Andrew Leimkuehler rounded out the science of the team placing sev-

enth in mathematics.

Overall, LSA placed eighth out of 30 schools competing in Division 4A.

The 2016 LSA Academic Team Members are:

Andrew Sterling, senior - current events and issues; Benjamin LeBlanc, senior - science, advanced math, social studies; Berenice Medrano, senior - Spanish; Kaylee King, senior - ready writing, literary criticism; Nathan Laughman, senior - science, number sense, advanced

math; Patrick Grigsby, senior - current events and issues, social studies; Samantha Trapani, senior - ready writing, prose interpretation, literary criticism, poetry interpretation; Elaine Soliman, junior - spelling, calculator, poetry interpretation; Grace Psencik, junior - prose interpretation; Andrew Leimkuehler, sophomore - spelling, number sense, mathematics; and Mark Gugliano, sophomore - calculator, Spanish, mathematics.



Students who represented Lutheran South Academy at the TAPPS State Academic Competition in Waco are, left to right, (front row) Elaine Soliman, Grace Psencik, Mark Gugliano, Kaylee King, Berenice Medrano, Samantha Trapani, Andrew Leimkuehler, (back row) Patrick Grigsby, Ben LeBlanc, Andrew Sterling and Nathan Laughman. Photo submitted

Mayor solves \$160M city budget shortfall

Utilizing a shared sacrifice approach, Mayor Sylvester Turner recently unveiled a proposed Fiscal Year 2017 General Fund budget that eliminates a projected \$160 million shortfall that was the result of cost increases, voter imposed revenue limitations, a broken appraisal system and the economic downturn. The budget totals \$2.3 billion, which is about \$82 million less in spending than the current FY2016 appropriation. The decrease was accomplished while still meeting \$60 million of contractual and mandated cost increases the city is forced to cover in FY2017.

The mayor is unveiling his preliminary budget plan more than a month ahead of the normal schedule and has requested accelerated City Council approval in an effort to send a positive message regarding city budget management.

"This was the largest fiscal challenge the city has faced since before the Great Recession," said Mayor Turner. "By bringing all parties to the table to engage in shared sacrifice, we have closed the budget gap and started addressing the long-standing structural imbalance between available revenues and spending. Each city department, the employee unions, the Tax Increment Reinvestment Zones, City Council and various other parties have worked together to identify cost savings and efficiencies while preserving a healthy fund balance, minimizing employee layoffs and maintaining the city services our residents rely on and deserve."

Due to an arrangement negotiated by the mayor, the city's tax increment investment zones will send \$19.6 million back to the city to help cover increased operating costs citywide. The rest of the budget gap was closed utilizing a combination of savings from debt restructuring, spending

reductions, revenue from anticipated land sales and a small contribution from the city's fund balance. Even with this fund balance contribution, the city's savings account will remain well above the threshold necessary to satisfy the credit rating agencies.

The budget includes the elimination of 54 vacant positions and 30 to 40 layoffs, most of which the mayor hopes to accomplish through attrition. There are no significant reductions to park and library operations, which have been hit hard in the past and there will be no layoffs of police officers or fire fighters. There is funding included for an additional police cadet class, for a total of five classes and the mayor continues to look for ways to streamline operations to get more officers back on the street.

The budget was balanced using both recurring and non-recurring initiatives. If non-recurring items had been taken off the table, there would have been drastic cuts in city services and another 1,235 city employees would have lost their jobs.

The recurring initiatives mark the start of institutionalizing a new way of running

city government. The elimination of redundancies and increased efficiency in operations has generated \$36.2 million in recurring annual savings. In addition, the TIRZs will continue to contribute at least \$19.6 million in subsequent years. Yet to come is a new approach for the city's pension liabilities. Productive discussions are underway with stakeholders and I am committed to having an agreement ready to take to the legislature by the end of this year.

"I strongly urge City Council to resist the urge to tinker with this budget," said Turner. "Even one small change will upset the delicate balance we've achieved as a result of shared sacrifice and put the city at risk for a credit rating downgrade. This plan prepares us for the additional fiscal challenges anticipated in FY18 while also improving public safety, increasing employment opportunities and meeting the critical needs of the less fortunate in our city."

City Council is scheduled to vote on the budget May 25, 2016, nearly a month ahead of last year. The new fiscal year begins July 1, 2016.

Dobie cheerleaders named for 2016-2017

J. Frank Dobie High School recently held its annual cheerleader tryouts for the 2016-2017 school year.



2016-2017 Varsity Cheerleaders

Dobie Varsity Cheer Squad members for 2016-2017 are, left to right, (front row) Alize Murillo, Briana Loreda, Jeimmy Garcia, Sara Otwell, Aliza Alfaro, Victoria Ayala, (back row) Jazmine Howard, Brittany Puente, Laura Ochoa, Katrina Dukes and Reagan Razo.



2016-2017 Junior Varsity Cheerleaders

Dobie Junior Varsity Cheer Squad members for 2016-2017 are, left to right, (front row) Alysia Loosa, Aaliyah Luna, Michelle Kelly, Juliana Moreno, Olga Cisneros, Samantha Carter, Bianca Espinoza, (back row) Andrew Salas, Leah Medlock, Bailee Dang, Chloe Ray, Genesis Juarez, Shelby Couchman, Maya Scott, Victoria Nunez, Laila Hernandez and Andres Melchor.

RESIDENT OF THE DISTRICT FOR OVER 28 YEARS

YEARS OF EXPERIENCE AS FOLLOWS:

- MILITARY EXPERIENCE: Vietnam Veteran
- CORPORATE PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE: Exxon Mobil, Conoco Phillips
- QUASI GOVERNMENT EXPERIENCE: METRO
- COMMUNITY SERVICE: Past: Sugarland Community Association (SGCA) Board Member and President

Present: SGCA Member of Architectural Control Committee

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Congratulations to **Stephanie** Class of 2016

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SAMPLE

We are so proud of all your accomplishments.

Remember to keep God in your heart and he will guide you in the right direction. God Bless you.

We Love you - Dad and Mom

San Jac events set

San Jacinto College recently released its upcoming Calendar of Events.

The San Jacinto College South campus is located at 13735 Beamer Road in Houston; the Central campus is at 8060 Spencer Highway in Pasadena; and the North campus is at 5800 Uvalde Road in Houston.

Registration for summer classes
Registration for classes beginning May 16 and June 6 is open. Visit sanjac.edu/apply-register/overview/registration for more information on steps for registration.

NJCAA Region XIV Softball Tournament

San Jacinto College will serve as host for the 2016 National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Region XIV Softball Tournament from Thursday, April 28, to Sunday, May 1. All games will be played at the South campus softball field. For more information and updates on game times, visit sanjacsports.com.

Evening of song
Choral students will present an evening of song on Friday, April 29, at 7 p.m., in the Dr. Monte Blue Music Building, C-5, on the Central campus. Singers in the concert are students of professors Zachary Bruton, Paul Buselberg, Anne Heath-Welch, Kisa Parker, and Rebecca Pypier. The singers will be accompanied on piano by music professor Sarah Spencer. This concert is free and open to the public.

Dance concert
San Jacinto College's spring dance concert, *Kaleidoscope*, will feature 13 performances created and performed by faculty, guest artists, and student dancers and choreographers. The show will be performed on Friday, April 29, and Saturday, April 30, at 7:30 p.m., on both nights at the Marie Spence Flickinger Fine Arts Center, S-15, on the South campus. General admission is \$10 per person, and \$5 for San Jacinto College students and employees.

Carbon tax debate
Top speakers from San Jacinto College public speaking courses will debate about whether or not the federal government should adopt a carbon tax. The event is free and open to the public and will be held on Friday, April 29, at 1 p.m., in the Dr. Charles Grant Fine Arts Center, N-1, on the North campus.

Spotlight Saturday
The community is invited to San Jacinto College North on Saturday, April 30, from 9 a.m. to noon, for Spotlight Saturday. This free event will take place in the Science and Allied Health Building, N-17, lobby. Attendees will receive

application and financial aid assistance, information about programs and scholarships, and campus tours.

Baseball games
On Saturday, April 30, the San Jacinto College baseball team will host Alvin Community College in a double header, with the first game starting at 3 p.m.

On Thursday, May 5, San Jac will host Blinn College in a double-header, with the first game starting at 4 p.m.

All games are free, open to the public, and are played at the North campus' John Ray Harrison Field at Andy Pettitte Park. For more information, visit sanjacsports.com.

Piano recital
San Jacinto College will present a piano recital on Monday, May 2, at 7 p.m. on the Central campus. This event will take place in the Dr. Monte Blue Music Building, C-5, and is free and open to the public.

Omnibus
The San Jacinto College wind ensemble will present the world premiere of *Omnibus* on Tuesday, May 3, at 7 p.m. in the Central campus' Slocumb Auditorium, C-13. *Omnibus* is a three-movement work by Dallas-based composer Micah Bell, which will be performed by well-known Houston chamber group Omni Brass. This concert is free and open to the public.

Choral concert showcase
San Jacinto College will present a choral concert to showcase selections by the chorale and chamber singers on Wednesday, May 4, at 7:30 p.m. in the North campus' Dr. Charles Grant Fine Arts Center, N-1. The concert repertoire will include *Domine ad aduandum me* by Martini, *Sing to the Lord* by Tye, *Ave Maria* by Victoria, *Medley from Brigadoon* by Lerner and Loewe, four Slovak folk songs by Bartok, and selected madrigals. This concert is free and open to the public.

Combined choir concert
San Jacinto College will present a choral concert with combined choirs on Thursday, May 5, at 7 p.m. This concert will take place at the Central campus in the Dr. Monte Blue Music Building, C-5, and is free and open to the public.

Summer camps
San Jacinto College will host a variety of fun and enriching summer camps for kids of all ages at each of its campuses. There will be something for every interest from athletics and career exploration, to music and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math), and everything in between. To find out more and to register, visit sanjac.edu/summer-camps.

Over The Back Fence by Alexis

HAPPY 89TH BIRTHDAY, WALTER!
Wishes for a wonderful 89th birthday Saturday, April 30, are sent to **Walter Trojanowsky** from his wife **Sue**, friends and the staff at the *South Belt-Ellington Leader*.

SCHOOL DAZE
The following personnel and staff members of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays April 28 through May 4.

Atkinson Elementary
Special birthday wishes are sent April 28 to **Mary Baker-Porter**.

Burnett Elementary
Blow out the candles for **Daren Dibble** who celebrates a birthday May 4.

Bush Elementary
Sing a happy birthday song to **Ana Reyes** on May 1. Send a birthday greeting to **Nicole Holguin** on May 3. **Mindy Cook** celebrates a birthday May 4.

Frazier Elementary
Melba Donatto and **Meredith Rives** enjoy a double birthday April 29.

Meador Elementary
Best wishes for a happy birthday are sent to **Cathy Taylor** April 30. Light the birthday candles May 4 for **Paulina**

Rivas-Lopez.
Moore Elementary
Aracely Buentillo enjoys a birthday May 1. May 3 is the day for a celebration for **Wendy Murphy**.

Stuchbery Elementary
The day for a birthday present is May 3 for **Cheryl Fox**. Best wishes for a happy birthday May 4 to **Maria Orozco**.

Melillo Middle School
Send a birthday greeting April 30 to **Adriana Saavedra**.

Beverly Hills Intermediate
Blow out the birthday candles April 29 for **Matrice Henry**.

Thompson Intermediate
Light the candles April 29 for a double celebration for **Nicole Horne-Sherman** and **Melissa Taylor**. Send a birthday greeting May 3 to **Maria Lopez**.

Dobie High
Blow out the birthday candles April 29 for **Nora Ben-Achour**. The day for a double-layer birthday cake is April 30 for **Erica Moreno** and **Mathew Ortiz**. Send a birthday card May 2 for **Marcia Griffin**. The day for a birthday present for **Tanya Morales** is May 3.

FACEBOOK FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS

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

Thursday, April 28: **Ralph Jackson, Kelly Schwell, Jason Stonestreet, Monica Rasmussen and Carrie Ramirez**; Friday, April 29: **Kevin James, Jonathan Ellis, Ben Bryant and Melissa Rahman**; Saturday, April 30: **Norma Partida, Cindy Munoz, Diana Guzman, Scott Koplin and Mathew Ortiz**; Sunday, May 1: **Kenneth Zermeno, Ladonna Alvarez, John Anderson, Elizabeth Lastovica, Vareck Herrera, David Payne, Shanna Mounce, Clint Simmons and Stephanie Sirt**; Monday, May 2: **Chris Weatherford, Douglas Redhun, Troy Goffney, David Thomas, Jeanette Nickell and Leslee Outland**; Tuesday, May 3: **Craig Pittman, Lora Burns-Palmero, Keith Richardson, Tanya Morales and Brandie Ash**; and Wednesday, May 4: **Stacy Waugh, Scott Siscoe and Tamara Fisher**.

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.

Judaism and Religion in General: Free monthly open discussions

Congregation Shaar Hashalom's Rabbi Stuart Federow will host free, open to the public, weekly discussions. Sessions are held the second Thursday of every month at Victor's, 1425 NASA Pkwy. in Houston (next to McDonald's), at 7 p.m.

Anyone can join the discussion and bring questions, thoughts and opinions to share with everyone present.

Congregation Shaar Hashalom is located at 16020 El Camino Real in Houston, and is the Conservative synagogue in the Bay Area.

The entire community is invited to attend.

For more information, contact the Synagogue office at 281-488-5861 or at csh@shaarhashalom.org.

Israeli Folk Dancing in May

Israeli folk dances will be held at Congregation Shaar Hashalom on Mondays from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. May 2, 9, 16 and 23. There will be no session on Memorial Day, May 30.

The cost, \$4 per session or \$35 for 10 sessions for CSH members; \$5 per session or \$45 for 10 sessions for nonmembers, will cover expenses. Everyone is welcome to join the group - even with no previous attendance.

Congregation Shaar Hashalom is located at 16020 El Camino Real in Houston. The entire community is invited to attend.

For more information, contact the synagogue office at 281-488-5861 or at csh@shaarhashalom.org.

HCMGA offers training classes

Harris County Master Gardener training classes will be held on Wednesdays, June 1 to Aug. 17, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Clear Lake Park meeting room on the water side at 5001 NASA Parkway in Seabrook. Registration fee is \$225.

After classroom time is completed, 60 hours of volunteer time are required to complete the training.

Space is limited, so interested persons should call Kimberly Figgs at 713-274-0956 to preregister.

CCART meets May 10

The Clear Creek Association of Retired Teachers will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, May 10. Meetings are held at the Bay Area Community Center, 5002 NASA Parkway in Seabrook. The program will feature Dr. Greg Smith, superintendent of Clear Creek Independent School District. The annual book sale benefiting the Children's Book Fund will also be held.

The meeting will start at 9:30 a.m. with a social gathering. The business meeting will begin at 10 a.m. The end-of-year BBQ Luncheon will follow. Attendees are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share. All Texas retired school employees from the area are invited. Annual dues are \$45.

Meador Elementary recognizes Safety Patrol



Meador Elementary School has a safety patrol that assists the faculty in keeping students safe before school, and puts up and takes down the American flag every day. Pictured are, left to right, (front row) Counselor Tara Merida, Angie Fernandez, Giselle Enriquez, Genesis Guajardo, Guadalupe Galva, Andrea Merdano, Luna Pacheco, Principal Beverly Bolton, (middle row) Brianna Pedraza, Arianna Borrego, Kassandra Romero-Reyes, Alex Escobar, Jewel Gould, (back row) Bilingual Aide Janet Armenta, Yulissa Oliva, Christopher DeLaRosa, Amely Fuentes, Dylan Jackson, Itzel Torres, Trynity Garza and Assistant Principal Amy Clowers.

Photo submitted

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Remember When

40 years ago (1976)
Harris County Precinct 1 Commissioner Tom Bass and his assistant, Mike Nobilet, were guest speakers at the Southeast Civic Association. They gave an update on work being done in the Edgebrook area to alleviate flooding.

35 years ago (1981)
The pilot of an Eagle Airlines craft carrying eight passengers landed the airplane safely near the Gulf Freeway at Edgebrook after both engines failed.

30 years ago (1986)
Dobie French student Sebastian Rivers won top honors at the Texas French Symposium where he competed against 950 students statewide, winning one second- and three first-place awards. For his efforts, the sophomore got to spend a month in France, sponsored by the French Alliance and Nacel, a nonprofit student exchange group.

20 years ago (1996)
The Pasadena Independent School District Board of Trustees replaced the 12-grade administrative personnel pay system with what was felt to be a more flexible six-grade system.

15 years ago (2001)
Thompson Intermediate School's National Academic League team claimed its third national championship in eight years by defeating Wichita, Kan., during the NAL National Finals held at the Houston Exxon Building.

1 year ago (2015)
Meador Elementary Assistant Principal Kathy Connolly was named the new principal of Morales Elementary beginning with the 2001-2002 school year.

25 years ago (1991)
On a tip from a Sagemont resident, South Belt area constable's deputies arrested two white male juveniles, ages 14 and 16, in a house in the 11200 block of Sage-meadow. More than \$3,000 in stolen property was recovered, including items stolen earlier in the day that were returned before the victim had a chance to report the burglary.

10 years ago (2006)
For the third year in a row, the Blues Brothers team was the all-around champion at the South Belt Annual Cook-off Spectacular.

5 years ago (2011)
A traffic stop for a broken tail light resulted in the arrest of a suspect for felony possession of a weapon and the recovery of a vehicle allegedly highjacked from a Highland Meadow resident.

1 year ago (2015)
District E City Councilmember Mike Sullivan held a groundbreaking ceremony April 26 for the new Sagemont Community Center, to be located at the corner of Hughes Road and Beltway 8. Scheduled to be completed the spring of 2012, the new facility will be 11,526 square feet and cost roughly \$2.4 million to construct (funded in part by a \$1 million grant from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department). Included in the plans are a full-sized gymnasium, lobby, office space, storage and two classrooms.

1 year ago (2015)
South Belt attorney John Eddie Williams Jr. was named the Pasadena Independent School District's 2015 Distinguished Alumnus. A 1972 Pasadena High School graduate, Williams is a managing partner at the Williams Kherkher Law Firm on the Gulf Freeway. He, along with his wife Sheridan, supports many organizations, including MD Anderson and Memorial Hermann hospitals, as well as the PISD Education Foundation.

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Muffins with Mom at Roberts Middle School

On Thursday, April 21, Fred Roberts Middle School hosted Muffins with Mom. Mothers were invited to enjoy breakfast with their children before sending them off for the school day. *Photos submitted*



Loreanna Alvarez and Larinna Alvarez



Madeleine Lopez and Maricela Lopez



Veronica Mendoza and Eliud Mendoza



Amanda Frank and Kaylee Frank



Micaela Paz, baby Kayla and Giovanni Paz



Calvin Robertson, Coco Wilson and Aysia Wilson

Bible Bowl Team takes first place



The fifth- and sixth-grade Bible Bowl Team at Lutheran South Academy took first place at the tournament on April 16. There were eight teams answering questions that covered major Bible characters, Bible events, the life of Christ, and influential Bible verses. In their first match, they won 180 to 125 over Memorial Lutheran. In the second match, the team won 215 to 85 over Epiphany Lutheran. In the championship round, the match was close the whole time with a win of 210 to 190 over Trinity Lutheran Downtown. Team members pictured are, left to right, (front row) Chace Willis, Luke Anderson, Sophia Furtado, (back row) Matthew Pettit, Caroline Schepmann and Jonathan Scheer. *Photo submitted*

Change-of-responsibility ceremony at Ellington Field

Continued from Page 3A
Command Sgt. Maj. Ronnie Farmer

Command Sergeant Major Ronnie Farmer began his career with the U.S. Army Reserve in August 1988. He completed Basic and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Dix, N.J.

Throughout his military career, Farmer has served in every leadership position in the Army Reserve from squad leader, platoon sergeant, first sergeant, and operations sergeant major to command sergeant major. His assignments include, the 319th Transportation Company, Augusta, Georgia; Lanes-Meister, 2d Battalion 347th Regiment Fort Gordon, Georgia; Transportation NCOIC, 2d Battalion, 345th Regiment Fort Jackson, South Carolina; Operations Sergeant Major, 2d Battalion, 345th Regiment, Fort Jackson, South Carolina; Brigade Sergeant Major, 1189th Transportation Terminal Brigade, Charleston, South Carolina; Group Sergeant Major 595th (Active Component), Transportation Terminal Group, Port of Ash-Squiba Kuwait, with an AOR in Bagram, Afghanistan; Ballad, Iraq, and Bahrain; Group Sergeant Major (Rear), 597th Transportation Terminal Group, (Active Component), Fort Eustis, Virginia.

Farmer is currently assigned as the Command

Sergeant Major of the 75th Training Command, Houston, Texas.

Farmer's military and civilian education include Primary Leadership Development Course, Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course, Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Course, First Sergeant Course, Battle Staff Noncommissioned Officer Course, Pre-Command Course, Small Group Leaders Course, STAMP Course, USAR Retention Course, Mob Planner's Course, Senior Enlisted Joint Professional Military Education Course, Sergeant Majors Force Management Course and the Executive Leader Course - United States Army War College.

Farmer is a graduate of the prestigious United States Army Sergeants Major Academy, Class 55. He holds an associate degree from Georgia Military College, a Bachelor of Science degree from Excelsior College, and a Master of Arts degree from Webster University, all with honors.

His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal (w/3 OLC), Army Commendation Medal, (w/4 OLC) Army Achievement Medal (w/4 OLC), Army Good Conduct Medal, Reserve Components Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Southwest

Asia Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, NCO Professional Development Ribbon (Numeral 4), Army Service Ribbon, Army Reserve Component Overseas Training Ribbon, Kuwait Liberation Medal-Saudi Arabia and the Kuwait Liberation Medal-Kuwait.

Command Sgt. Maj. Richard T. Schoenberger

Command Sergeant Major Richard T. Schoenberger was born in Spokane, Washington. He entered active duty on July 15, 1985. He attended Basic and Infantry One Station Unit Training (OSUT) at Fort Benning, Georgia. Upon completion of training, he was assigned to the 1st Ranger Battalion 75th Infantry Regiment (I.R.), Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia. In 1989, he entered the Army Reserves and was assigned to the 3rd Battalion 413th Regt. 2nd Brigade 104th Div. (TNG), Camp Bullis, Texas. In 1994, he relocated to San Antonio, Texas, and was reassigned to the 4164th USAR School. In 1998, he was reassigned to the 1st Battalion 355th Regt. 95th Div. (TNG), Camp Bullis, Texas.

In 2000, he was reassigned to the 2nd Brigade 75th Div. (TS) Fort Sam Houston, Texas. In 2004, he was reassigned to US Army South, Fort Sam Houston, Texas. In 2006, he was appointed to the rank of Command Sergeant Major (CSM) and selected as CSM of the 228th Combat Support Hospital, 807th MCD, Fort Sam Houston, Texas. In 2010, he was selected as CSM of the 321st Civil Affairs Brigade, USACAPOC(A), San Antonio, Texas. In 2015, he was selected as CSM of the 350th Civil Affairs Command, USACAPOC(A), Pensacola, Florida.

He is a graduate of the Airborne, Ranger, Drill Sergeant

Schools, the Small Group Instructor Course, the Observer Controller Trainer Course, the Battle Staff NCO Course, the prestigious US Army Sergeant's Major Academy Class 30 NRC in 2004, the Brigade Battalion Pre-Command Course and the Senior Leader Orientation Course. He has held five MOSs: 11B, 11C, 13B, 92Y and 00Z and has held leadership positions at all levels throughout his career.

His awards and decorations include the Expert Infantryman's Badge, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal and Armed Forces Reserve Medal with M Device.

He holds an A.A.S. degree in the Administration of Justice, an A.A. degree in

Liberal Arts from Spokane Community College, and a B.S.O.E degree in Criminal Justice from Wayland Baptist University. He has been a police officer for 21 years and is currently a detective investigator with the San Antonio Police Department. CSM Schoenberger is married to Concha Barrios Schoenberger and has one son and four daughters. He resides in Mico, Texas.



Command Sgt. Maj. Ronnie Farmer (right) speaks to the soldiers of the 75th Training Command during the ceremony at Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base.



Command Sgt. Maj. Richard T. Schoenberger (right) provides remarks during the ceremony, with, left to right, Maj. Gen. James "Boe" Young Jr., commander of the 75th Training Command, and Command Sgt. Maj. Ronnie Farmer.

Financial literacy resources help students manage, minimize debt

Paying for education remains one of the biggest causes of debt facing students and young professionals. According to MarketWatch, 70 percent of bachelor degree recipients graduate with debt, with the national student loan debt average reaching \$1.2 trillion and growing. As Financial Literacy Awareness Month comes to a close, San Jacinto College wants to remind its students that they have access to free resources to help manage and minimize educational debt.

The college facilitates financial literacy workshops through its Program for Financial Education (PFE). The program was developed to help students utilize the necessary information, tools, resources, contacts, and services to become more successful in their educational and career pursuits.

Workshops are free and available at all three San Jacinto College campuses and open to all students.

San Jacinto College has also partnered with USA Funds to provide students with the online Life Skills Program. This online workshop program offers students advice for managing their time and money wisely while on campus and after graduation.

Some students may also qualify to take advantage of the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program (PSLF). Created by Congress in 2007 to encourage individuals to enter and continue to work in full-time public service jobs, the PSLF program provides qualified borrowers forgiveness of the remaining balance due on their eligible federal student loans after they have made 120 payments on those

loans under certain repayment plans while employed full-time by certain public service employers.

"Unfortunately, not many of our students take advantage of this program even though it's going on its ninth year," said Elena Olivier, San Jacinto College default prevention loan coordinator. "This is a great resource for our students. Students currently working in or who are pursuing degrees in law enforcement, fire protection technology, healthcare, education, criminal justice, and library services may qualify for this program as long as they are employed by a public service organization."

For more information on financial literacy resources offered to San Jacinto College students, visit sanjac.edu/financial-aid or contact Elena Olivier at 281-991-2645.

Wedding, engagement policies

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

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

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

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Sunday		7:30, 9:15, 11:15 a.m.
Sunday	1:00 p.m.	Misa en Español
Monday, Wednesday, Friday		9:00 a.m.
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REPLACEMENT & STORM WINDOWS

20th Annual South Belt Cookoff
El Franco Lee Park
Friday, April 29 & Sat., April 30

Sponsored by Southeast Volunteer Fire Department

Admission \$10 - Free admission for ages 12 & under
Saturday Admission \$5 before 4 p.m.; \$10 After 4 p.m.

Proceeds fund South Belt July 4th Fireworks,
area scholarships & community youth programs

Kids Fun Zone Saturday 10 to 4
Free Games & Rides for Kids include...

Petting Zoo, Pony Rides, Rock Climbing, Obstacle Course,
Moonwalks, Face painting, Hair-braiding, Enchanted
Encounters' Snow Queen & Sleeping Beauty, Giant Trampoline,
Inflatable Adrenaline Rush Jr., Train Rides, HPD Helicopter,
Police, Fire & Ambulance Displays, Photo Opportunity with Oliver the Watusi Bull & Much More.

Food & Refreshments Will Be Available For Purchase.

Sponsorship opportunities include Banners, Golf Carts & Kids Activities.
For information call 281-481-5656 or email mynews@southbeltleader.com

South Belt set for cook-off April 29, 30



An aerial photo of El Franco Lee Park shows the 2015 South Belt Spectacular Cook-off, which drew record crowds of both cooking participants and spectators alike. This year's event, set for April 29-30, is shaping up to be even more successful.



Disney characters greet Worden

Payton Worden (center) is shown to the left with Elsa and Anna from Disney's *Frozen*. Worden is the granddaughter of Dean Baier of the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department. Baier is the chief organizer of the annual South Belt Spectacular Cook-off, which is set to take place Friday, April 29, and Saturday, April 30, at El Franco Lee Park, located at 9400 Hall Road. See related story on Page 1A.

Photo submitted

More photos from Family Fun Event



Sagelen residents Anthony and Piper Saiez are shown above with their daughter Parker, 2, at the inaugural Family Fun Event at Clear Brook City Park on Saturday, April 9. Piper is the daughter of Sagemeadow residents Linda and Ted Heinrich. See additional photos in last week's *Leader*.



Left to right are Karen Duston, Catherine O'Brien and Kelly Biddle. Duston and Biddle are biology professors at San Jacinto College South. They brought live native reptiles for people to see. They were a big hit as they talked about animals with the kids. Both professors had a lot of fun and have committed to bringing their display again next year.

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For more information about our program or to schedule a tour, please call the ECC office or visit us on the web.



Presents the 20th Annual South Belt Cookoff

El Franco Lee Park

Friday & Sat., April 29 & 30

Admission \$10

Free admission for ages 12 & under

Saturday Admission \$5 before 4 p.m.; \$10 After 4 p.m.

Proceeds fund South Belt July 4th Fireworks, area scholarships & community youth programs

Kids Fun Zone Saturday 10 to 4

Free Games & Rides for Kids include...
Petting Zoo, Pony Rides, Rock Climbing, Obstacle Course, Moonwalks, Face painting, Hair-braiding, Enchanted Encounters' Elsa & Olaf, Giant Trampoline, Inflatable Adrenaline Rush Jr., Train Rides, HPD Helicopter, Police, Fire & Ambulance Displays, Photo Opportunity with Oliver the Watusi Bull & Much More.

Food & Refreshments

Barbecue Sandwiches, Turkey Legs, Hot Dogs, Sausage On A Stick, Cotton Candy, Nachos, Snow Cones & Drinks Will Be Available For Purchase.

Sponsorship opportunities include Banners, Golf Carts & Kids Activities. For information call 281-481-5656 or email mynews@southbeltleader.com

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SECTION B SPORTS & CLASSIFIED

Lady Horns play "win or go home" playoff game

In a one-game, win or go home scenario, anything can happen, and that's no doubt what the Dobie varsity softball team is banking on as the Class 6A, Region III playoffs begin.

Right out of the gate, Dobie has drawn No. 1 state-ranked Deer Park, one of the favorites to advance to the state tournament this season.

Deer Park, which went 30-2 this season, has developed one of the state's top programs over the past half dozen seasons or so.

And beginning with the 2016-2017 season, Deer Park will be paired with Dobie, La Porte, Beaumont West Brook and

the other Pasadena ISD schools to form District 22-6A.

For now, Dobie, which went 11-5 in 22-6A play for fourth place this season, is focused on winning this one.

A tough challenge it is indeed. The Lady Deer will host the game on their own field, and the hosts will enter play knowing they handed Dobie an 11-0 loss back in tourna-

ment play in February. But, it's all come down to this. The Lady Longhorns struggled offensively against the likes of Pearland, Alvin and Dawson in 22-6A play, but this is also an offense that can explode at any time.

Dobie finished its season with a 6-1 win over Memorial April 22, at the Pasadena ISD complex.

A three-run third inning did the trick, and Michelle

Kristoff went the distance in the circle for the win. Alexa Munoz drove in two runs for Dobie, and Alyssa Corpus had a pair of hits and an RBI.

The big key for Dobie against Deer Park will be limiting the hosts' offense, which has been one of the state's best all season.

Deer Park finished its

Bidistrict softball playoffs

Dobie at Deer Park

Thursday, April 28, 7 p.m.

at Lady Deer Field, Deer Park

Stenline vigil April 28

Darobie Stenline III, Stenline rushed for 950 yards and scored nine touchdowns during the 2013 season as a senior with the Longhorns.

During the recruiting process, Stenline signed a letter of intent with Texas A&M University-Commerce and was on the

A transfer student from Alief Elsik High School, where he played through his junior season, Stenline rushed for 950 yards and scored nine touchdowns during the 2013 season as a senior with the Longhorns.

Continued on Page 3B

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JFD tracksters land regional berths

Justice Henderson and Camille Singleton are the big headliners among a group of Dobie varsity track and field athletes who are headed to the Region III Championships Friday and Saturday, April 29-30, at Challenger Columbia Stadium in Webster.

Henderson, who has signed to compete in the long jump at the University of Houston beginning this fall, placed second in the event at the District 21/22-6A Area Championships April 21, at Pearland.

Competing during an often drizzle and certainly soggy afternoon and evening, Henderson also won the 100-meter dash and helped Dobie reach regionals in the 4x200-meter relay.

Singleton, meanwhile, continues to impress in the 200-meter dash, where she scored an area meet victory en route to a regional berth.

As for the Dobie boys, junior Jeremy Davis will ride solo, representing the Longhorns in both the 110-meter hurdles and the discus.

Continued on Page 2B

At right, Dobie's Justice Henderson will compete in three different events at the Region III Championships, set for April 29-30 at Challenger Columbia Stadium in Webster. At the area meet, Henderson won the 100-meter dash and helped the Lady Longhorns win the 4x200-meter relay.



SJC softball to host Region XIV tourney

Arguably one of the most competitive tournaments in the nation will play out April 28 through May 2, at San Jacinto College's South campus as the Region XIV tournament is contested.

Host San Jacinto is seeded No. 3 in the South Zone and will take on No. 2 East seed Angelina in a first-round game April 28,

at 12:30 p.m. Other first-round games include Navarro against Blinn, Tyler against Lamar State College-Port Arthur and Paris against Galveston.

Winners of six straight

games to close the regular season at 32-23 overall and 14-10 in conference play, San Jacinto and the rest of the Region XIV entrants will nonetheless face an uphill battle in the

double-elimination tournament.

The Tyler Apaches enter the fray ranked No. 1 in the nation, having gone 53-2 overall this season. Clearly, Tyler gets it done offensively, but the Apaches are also led by the dou-

Continued on Page 6B



At left, J.J. Cerda and the San Jacinto College softball team will host the Region XIV postseason tournament April 28-May 2, on the South campus. Seeded No. 3 in the South Zone, San Jacinto opens the tournament April 28, at 12:30 p.m. against Angelina, ranked 12th nationally.

Photo by Andrea Vasquez

CB boys area track champs; state meet chances coming up

Putting it all together at the right time, the Clear Brook varsity boys' track and field team stole the show at the District 23/24-6A Area Championships April 22, at Crump Stadium in Alief.

Sprint star Brandon Taylor won the 100- and 200-meter dashes, Luke Barksdale landed three regional berths and the Wolverines advanced to regionals in all three relays.

It all added up for Brook, which was crowned as Team Champion at the meet with 100 points.

Next up, the Wolverines will take aim at state as one of the host schools of the Region III Championships, set for Friday

and Saturday, April 29-30, at Challenger Columbia Stadium in Webster.

Much has been made of Taylor's season to date.

But injuries and a little bit of tinkering with the relay combinations played a role in the Wolverines not really having

Region III Championships
Fri. & Sat., April 29-30
Challenger Columbia Stadium
hosted by Clear Creek ISD

The University of Miami sprint signee is undefeated in the 100-meter dash as he looks to eventually better his bronze-medal showing at state from 2015.

Barksdale, a field event star in his own right, also has had a brilliant season for the Wolverines.

put things together elsewhere on the track.

With a second-place time in the 4x100-meter relay and a pair of thirds in the others, Brook scored 40 points in the relays alone, paving the way for the 23/24-6A

Continued on Page 2B

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Dobie tracksters move on to Region IIIs

Continued from Page 1B

Davis will compete in the discus event Friday, April 29, at 11 a.m. The boys' 110-meter hurdles will run April 30 as part of the afternoon/evening session.

The Dobie girls had high hopes in the 4x100-meter relay but came away disappoint-

ed after not finishing the event. Things came together quite nicely for the Lady Longhorns, however, in the 4x200-meter relay. There, Dobie scored the win at 1 minute, 40.47 seconds as Rayiona Green, Henderson, Jade Giron and Singleton made up the foursome.

Henderson sprinted to the finish line first in the 100-meter dash in a time of 12.10 seconds, no doubt taking out her frustrations after the long jump competition earlier in the day.

At 17 feet, 8 inches, Henderson was second in her signature long jump event, but was not as pleased as she would have liked after entering the day ranked as high as No.

4 in the state this season. Singleton was great for the second straight week in the 200-meter dash, coming in at 25.08 for the gold medal.

Elsewhere, LaDayijah Cook will represent Dobie at the Region III meet in the high jump after she cleared 5'4" to advance.

And pole vaulter Camryn Ridge also advanced, going over the 7'6" mark

for fourth place at the 21/22-6A meet.

Dobie was also aiming at moving on to regionals in the 4x400-meter relay, but it wasn't to be. At 4:10.85, the group of Green, Daisa Morris, Cook and Giron wound up seventh.

Victoria Onozie threw the discus 99'9 1/2" on her best throw for sixth in the event.

Boys' close out year

The Longhorn boys had a contingent of six athletes at the 21/22-6A meet, with Jeremy Davis the lone advancee.

At 152'11 1/4", Davis grabbed a bronze medal for third place in the discus. Teammate Dedrick Simpson's top throw was 131'7" for sixth place.

A time of 15.07 landed Jeremy Davis fourth place in the 110-meter hurdles.

In the shot put, Jeremy Davis was sixth (46'3 3/4"), with Simpson eighth (43'10 1/2").

Jacoby Davis finished sixth in the high jump after clearing 6'0".

Dobie placed eighth in the 4x400-meter relay in a time of 3:30.45. That group included Jeremy Hernandez, Jacoby Davis, Mason Douglas and Daniel Williams.



At left, Dobie senior Dedrick Simpson ended his high school career at the District 21/22-6A Area Championships, finishing sixth in the discus and eighth in the shot put April 21, at Pearland High School. Simpson, a three-year starter on the football field, will continue his gridiron career at the University of Texas-El Paso this fall.



Dobie junior Jeremy Davis will compete in two events at the Region III Track and Field Championships Friday and Saturday, April 29-30, after placing third at the District 21/22-6A area meet in the discus and fourth in the 110-meter hurdles. Photos by John Bechtle

Region III Championships Challenger Columbia Stadium

Scheduled Start Times

Jeremy Davis, Dobie – Discus (April 29, 11 a.m., finals); 110-hurdles (April 29, 4:30 p.m., heats).

Justice Henderson, Dobie – 100-meters (April 29, 4:50 p.m., heats); long jump (April 30, 9 a.m., finals).

Camille Singleton, Dobie – 200-meters (April 29, 6:10 p.m., heats).

La'Dayijah Cook, Dobie – high jump (April 29, 11 a.m., finals).

Camryn Ridge, Dobie – pole vault (April 29, 11 a.m., finals).

Dobie girls' 4x200-meter relay – April 29, 5:10 p.m., heats.)

Kalia Hendrix, Clear Brook – 200-meters (April 29, 6:10 p.m., heats); 400-meters (April 29, 5:30 p.m., heats).

Brook boasts area boys' track championship

Continued from Page 1B

area championship. A time of 41.38 seconds in the 4x100-meter relay was enough to reestablish the school record in the event despite a second-place finish.

The group, capped by Taylor, also included Jarrett Smith, Cuatarus Quarles and Mark Milton. Clear Brook was third in both the 4x200- and 4x400-meter events. In the 4x200, Kenneth Pree, Jared Ackerman, Braelon Hill and Milton combined to post a time of 1 minute, 28.84 seconds.

At 3:23.36, the Wolverines were third in the 4x400-meter relay, a unit that included Hill, Ackerman, Pree and Quarles.

Individually, Barksdale simply delivered the goods in a big way for the Wolverines.

His three second-place finishes in his field spe-

cialties netted the Wolverines 24 key points.

Barksdale was second in the high jump with a leap of 6 feet, 2 inches, and he went 21'0" in the long jump for second place. At 43'9", Barksdale was also second in the triple jump.

Just as they did at the District 24-6A Championships, Taylor and Milton went head-to-head in the 200-meter dash, with a scintillating finish resulting. Taylor scored the win at 21.28, with Milton, a sophomore, next at 21.35.

The win in the 200 was the second of the meet for Taylor, who remained unbeaten at the 100-meter dash distance.

In that one, Taylor's win came courtesy of a time of 10.26.

Other scorers for the Wolverines included Quarles, who was fourth in the 400-meter dash at 50.05, and Stephen Rowe,

who at 48'2 1/2" placed fourth in the shot put.

John'te Horace scored a point for sixth place in the triple jump (42'10 1/2"), as did Brieson Moore for his sixth-place finish (15.47) in the 110-meter hurdles.

Caleb Nettles' time of 15.60 in the 110-meter hurdles was seventh, and Ackerman's time of 2:02.59 placed him seventh in the 800-meter dash.

"I thought that we did a great job overall," said a pleased Clear Brook boys' track and field coach Aaron Troyer.

"Our guys were focused and did not waiver when faced with adversity. We broke the school record in the 4X100 relay by running a 41.38 and did enough to advance in the other relays.

"Overall, I am very pleased with our perfor-

mances across the board. Our kids stepped up when they needed to."

Hendrix advances
Like Dobie's Jeremy Davis in boys' competition, Clear Brook's Kalia Hendrix will be the lone Lady Wolverine at the Region III meet.

Hendrix, a senior, advanced to the next round

in both the 400-meter run and the 200-meter dash.

At 57.67, Hendrix was third in the 400-meter event, and she placed fourth in a time of 24.78 in the 200-meter dash.

Hendrix also took part in the 100-meter dash at the 23/24-6A Championships, placing sixth in a time of 12.22.

Region III Track Meet

***April 29: Most field events, 11 a.m.; running prelims begin at 4:10 p.m.**

***April 30: Remaining field events, 9 a.m.; running finals begin at 3 p.m.**

***Results will be updated at www.ccisd.net/athletics.**

***Daily tickets are \$5 for students; \$8 for adults. Two-day wristbands will be sold to adults only for \$16.**



Breaking a school record in the 4x100-meter relay along the way, the Clear Brook varsity boys' track team scored 100 points to win the Team Championship at the District 23/24-6A Championships April 22, at Crump Stadium in Alief. Senior Brandon Taylor (kneeling at right) won the 100- and 200-meter dashes and was also in on the fun in the 4x100-meter relay, which finished second at 41.38 seconds. Members of the team include, left to right,

(kneeling) Stephen Rowe, Taylor, (standing) Brieson Moore, Jamael Farooq, Jared Ackerman, John'Te Horace, Cuatarus Quarles, Mark Milton, Jaizac Garcia, Braelon Hill and Kenneth Pree. Not pictured are Jarrett Smith, Caleb Nettles and Luke Barksdale, who finished second in three different field events to advance to regionals. Brook is one of the host schools for the Region III Championships April 29-30, in Webster.

SJC's Smeltzer Player of the Week

San Jacinto College sophomore pitcher Devin Smeltzer (Voorhees, New Jersey/Bishop Eustace Preparatory School) was named the National Junior College Athletic Association Player of the Week for April 4-10 after pitching a complete game, no-hitter on April 9 in the team's 8-0 win over Wharton County Junior College.

The southpaw allowed only three base runners, all via walks, and struck out 16 batters in the nine-inning road game.

To say Smeltzer has been dominant is an understatement. For the season, he is 5-3 with a 1.36 earned run average.

His 55.2 innings pitched is the most on the team's pitching staff.

He has allowed only eight earned runs, three home runs and issued only 14 walks while striking out 71 batters. Smeltzer averages 12.14 strikeouts per game.

San Jac head coach Tom Arrington says Smeltzer sets a positive example on and off the field.

"I feel extremely blessed to have Devin represent San Jacinto College baseball," Arrington commented.

"He has all the qualities it takes to succeed in baseball and in life. He works extremely hard to achieve individual goals for himself, but also helps those around him. He is a great teammate and friend."

Arrington expects more great things from the focused pitcher. "I am proud of his no-hitter, as it is an

accomplishment that is well deserved, but knowing Devin's determination and work ethic, it won't be his last."

Smeltzer plans to transfer from San Jacinto College next year to Texas Tech University as a pitcher on the Red Raider baseball team.

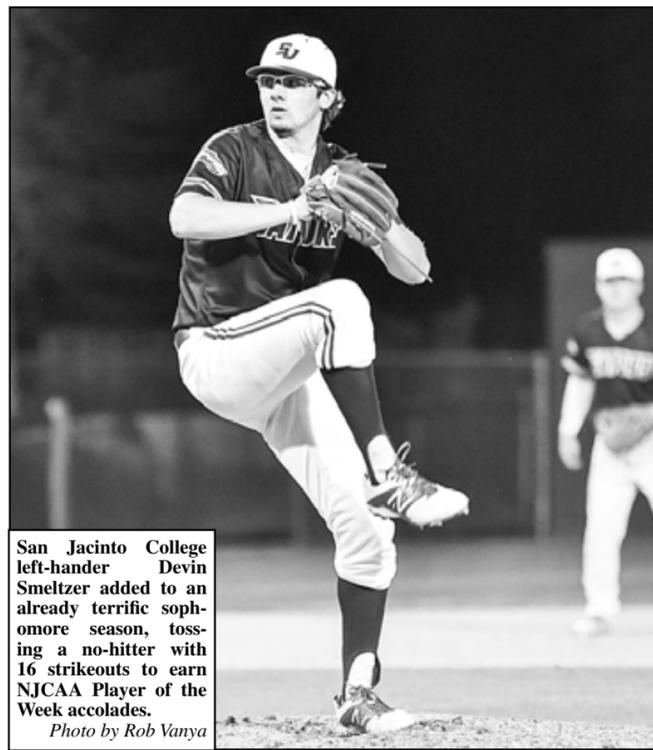
He was drafted out of high school by the San Diego Padres, but opted for college instead of professional baseball.

"I chose San Jacinto College for two main reasons," he commented. "First, because I had heard so much about San

Jac's tradition of excellence, and secondly because the coaching staff has such a reputation for working closely with players to help them develop and become better."

With three regional games remaining in the season, the NJCAA ranks San Jacinto College (34-8, 21-7 conference) number 1 in the nation.

For information about the San Jacinto College baseball team, please visit sanjacsports.com.



San Jacinto College left-hander Devin Smeltzer added to an already terrific sophomore season, tossing a no-hitter with 16 strikeouts to earn NJCAA Player of the Week accolades. Photo by Rob Vanya

San Jac baseball takes No. 1 ranking

With the regular season in full swing, the National Junior College Athletic Association weekly poll ranked San Jacinto College (37-9, 24-8 conference) as the top baseball team in the nation.

San Jac started the season ranked No. 10 by the NJCAA (No. 3 in Perfect Game USA), climbed up to No. 2 on April 13th by the NJCAA (No. 3 in Perfect Game USA), and since climbed to No. 1 on April 20 in both the NJCAA as well as Perfect Game USA polls.

The NJCAA rankings are based on overall team performance, and San Jac features a balanced, well-coached team that excels on offense and defense.

The team batting average is .325, and the team slugging percentage average is .495.

Solid performers among regular players on offense are sophomore

outfielder Max Wood, .410 batting average, .525 slugging percentage, four home runs, and 32 RBIs; sophomore infielder Brandon Montgomery, .362 batting average, .546 slugging percentage, four home runs, and 25 RBIs); and sophomore catcher/outfielder Ryan January, .350 batting average, .658 slugging percentage, six home runs, and 32 RBIs).

The San Jacinto pitching corps generally shuts down opponents, holding teams to an overall batting average of .219, and a slugging percentage of .295 for the season.

The starting rotation of sophomores Devin Smeltzer, Montana Parsons, Colten Schmidt (La Porte/La Porte High School) and freshman Zachary Kapihe have a combined record of 20-5.

Their earned run averages (in order) are 1.45, 1.51, 1.70, and 2.48, re-

spectively. The team's primary relief pitcher, sophomore Cody Nesbit, is 3-1 with a microscopic ERA of 0.36. The ERA for the entire pitching staff for the season is an extremely low 1.72.

Head Coach Tom Arrington, now in his 15th season at the helm, is pleased with the progress the team has made during the season.

"Our young men are competitors, play with grit and are determined to play for the ultimate prize, a national championship," he commented.

"We've had great teams in my time here at San Jac, and this club is comparable to any of them. There is a team-first vibe that has been awesome to manage.

"We have a long way to go yet, but I can envision great things for my players, my coaches and this program over the next month and a half."

The Region XIV Tournament will be played May 13-17 at the Constellation Field in Sugar Land, home of the Atlantic League Sugar Land Skeeters.

The winner of the regional tournament advances to the JUCO World Series, which starts May 28 in Grand Junction, Colorado.

San Jac has won five national titles, has appeared in 13 national championship games, and has qualified for the JUCO World Series 23 times, all of which are national records.

Admission to San Jacinto College baseball games is free. All San Jacinto College baseball home games are played at the North campus at 5800 Uvalde Road, in Houston. For information about the San Jacinto College baseball team, visit sanjacsports.com.

Anagbogu gives back to area

As Dobie varsity girls' basketball player Gennive Anagbogu prepares for graduation just weeks away, she's doing her best to give back to the South Belt community. Anagbogu provided a free sports camp for girls at the Sagemont Community Center during spring break. The purpose of the camp was to introduce South Belt intermediate and middle school girls to the sports that are offered at Dobie High School. Anagbogu chose to create the camp as part of the requirement for her Gold Award project. Due to short notice on her project application approval, Anagbogu was unable to do much publicity on the camp, but it was a success nonetheless. Even though some of the Dobie program representatives could not participate due to the short notice, Anagbogu was

overwhelmed by the enthusiasm of athletes who gave of part of their spring break to come and work with the camp participants. Tina Knight-Gray, the Lady Longhorns' cross-country and track and field head coach, said, "The girls really enjoyed helping the younger kids, and I think Gennive did an awesome job organizing it. "As far as my athletes,

I think they realize how it's not easy coaching and trying to get the athletes to do what you want them to do." Anagbogu will be providing her mentor, Sagemont Community Center's Recreation Specialist, Stephanie Johnson, a procedure manual for next year's spring break camp. Even though she is graduating, Anagbogu predicts that next year's camp will be an even bigger success with more Dobie teams and area girls participating. "Sports empower girls," Anagbogu said.

"By coming to the camp, the girls meet role models in (the form of) the high school athletes, they are using their time productively and they are learning about the sports available at Dobie and in our community." Knight-Gray added, "I think it was beneficial to the kids at the camp because they got to work with high school athletes and they were excited that they got to actually get to do the different drills that we do here at Dobie."

At left, Dobie High School senior Gennive Anagbogu (left) is joined by Sagemont Community Center recreation specialist Stephanie Johnson as the two prepared to host Anagbogu's free sports camp for youth girls in the South Belt area. Anagbogu was a member of the varsity girls' basketball program this season.



South Belt 12U softball group wins ASA Katy title



A collection of age 12-under South Belt area softball players competed in the 2016 Houston Amateur Softball Association's recreational tournament in Katy. The group excelled, going undefeated to win top honors. Members of the team are, left to right, (front row) coach Jaime Olivares, Kaitlyn Olivares, Alaina Hampton, Brianna Toro, Kyanna Hernandez, Mckenzie Rankin, Claire Ramirez, Taleisha Smith, (back row) coach Rob Ramirez, Eliason Lewis, Presely Pina, Christina Mejia, Melody Guerrero, Brianna Garcia, coach George Garcia and coach Adam Mejia. Not pictured is Aubrey Zambrano.

Candlelight to honor Stenline

Continued from Page 1B held Thursday, April 28, at 7 p.m., on the varsity football practice field behind the athletic field house. A viewing will then be held Friday, April 29, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Troy B. Smith Funeral Home, 9013 Scott St., Houston, 77051. A GoFundMe account to assist the family with arrangements has been established. To contribute, visit www.gofundme.com/qmzrfmzg. In Stenline's honor, a candlelight vigil will be

held Thursday, April 28, at 7 p.m., on the varsity football practice field behind the athletic field house. A viewing will then be held Friday, April 29, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Troy B. Smith Funeral Home, 9013 Scott St., Houston, 77051. A GoFundMe account to assist the family with arrangements has been established. To contribute, visit www.gofundme.com/qmzrfmzg.



Darobie Stenline III

Sports news, notes

Brook H.S. soccer camp

Clear Brook varsity boys' soccer coach Chris Stromeier and Lady Wolverines' head coach Jamie Scott will host the 2016 Clear Brook Youth Soccer Camp June 7-9, from 8 to 10 a.m., at the school. Students entering kindergarten through the ninth grade as of the 2016-2017 school year are invited to attend. Cost is \$60 cash or money order. Participants should bring their own water, cleats or tennis shoes, practice clothes and sunscreen. The Clear Creek ISD does not provide insurance coverage for these types of camps, so parents are required to provide their own medical coverage. For more information, direct email to Stromeier at estromeier@ccisd.net or to Scott at JaScott@ccisd.net.

San Jac men's hoops tryouts

The San Jacinto College men's basketball team will hold tryouts for the 2016-2017 season on Saturday, June 11. Tryouts will take place at Anders Gymnasium on the San Jacinto College Central campus from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. There is a \$25 processing fee for the tryouts, and participants will be required to sign a waiver of liability. Participants should plan to arrive no later than 10 a.m. Questions about the tryouts should be directed to Ravens' head coach Scott R. Gernander at 281-476-1849 in the men's basketball office. The San Jacinto College Central campus is located at 8060 Spencer Highway in Pasadena. For more information about San Jacinto College men's basketball or any of the other athletic programs, visit sanjacsports.com.

SJC women's hoops tryouts

The San Jacinto College women's basketball team will hold tryouts for the 2016-2017 season on Saturday, May 21, 2016. Tryouts will take place at Nichols Gymnasium on the San Jacinto College North campus, from 10 a.m. to noon. Participants will be required to sign a waiver of liability, and should plan to arrive no later than 9 a.m. Questions about the tryouts should be directed to the San Jacinto College women's basketball office at 281-459-7675. San Jac made history last season when it finished as the regional runner-up with a 22-11 overall record. The locals defeated Trinity Valley Community College, 57-52 in semifinal action of the Region XIV tournament to advance to the championship game against Blinn College under first-year head Coach Michael Madrid. The college's North campus is located at 5800 Uvalde Road, in Houston. For more information about San Jacinto College women's basketball, visit sanjacsports.com.

Lutheran South Academy netters reach TAPPS state tennis tourney



Tori Hatch (left) and Samantha Trapani (right) made their way to the TAPPS state quarterfinal round in girls' doubles, helping the Pioneers' top off a terrific season. With them is teammate Matthew Green.



Lutheran South Academy junior Michelle Ngo advanced to the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools girls' singles state semifinals in Waco.



A big career could be ahead for Pioneers' freshman Alan Ngo after he reached the state quarterfinals in varsity boys' singles.

CALENDAR

THURSDAY, APRIL 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 - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group of Alcoholics Anonymous, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For information, call 713-856-1611.
Kirkwood Civic Association meets at the Sagemont Park and Recreation Center on Hughes Road. For more information call Ericka McCutcheon at 281-989-9990.
CrossRoads UMC - ESL classes Tuesday and Thursday, 6:30 p.m. at the church, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Course, books and child care are free. For information, call 281-484-9243 or visit www.crossroads-umc.org.
Well Spouse Support Group - meets at CrossRoads UMC, 10030 Scarsdale, the last Thursday of each month with those who are the husband, wife or partner of a chronically ill/disabled person, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Free childcare provided. No meetings in Nov. or Dec. For information, contact Jennifer Miller at houstonwellspouse@gmail.com or 713-724-2360, or visit <http://www.wellspouse.org>.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Women's Group of Narcotics Anonymous, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, at the First Presbyterian Church (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, APRIL 29
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 - Open games Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - West End Group 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 Dr., Clear Lake. Coffee and socializing at 6:30; meeting at 7 p.m. No general meeting in Nov. or Dec. For information, visit www.TxBayAreaGen.org.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of Narcotics Anonymous, open meeting, 2245 N. Main St.,

Pearland. For information, call 713-856-1611.
Alcoholics Anonymous - meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call 281-484-9243.
Al-Anon - meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Friday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call 281-484-9243.
Serenity Now Al-Anon Group - meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Friday, 8 to 9 p.m. Family members and friends of problem drinkers or addicts learn they are not alone, share, learn principles of Al-Anon and learn about choices available to them. 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call 281-484-9243.
SATURDAY, APRIL 30
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., Pearland. For information, call 713-856-1611.
Life Skills House - presents the second annual Mother/Daughter Tea & Style Show Fundraiser on April 30, at Reflection Bay Event Center, 12234 Shadow Creek Pkwy, in Pearland, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. This event is a great Mother's Day present where moms and daughters can have some bonding time. Life Skills House is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit Christian organization dedicated to helping multicultural young women including, but not limited to, human trafficking victims and pregnant and single mothers from economically challenged backgrounds. To become an event vendor or sponsor or for more information, visit www.lifeskills-house.org or email Leah Gonzales, event chair, at leah@lifeskills-house.org.
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 - Open games Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.
Alcoholics Anonymous - meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For information, call 281-484-9243.
SUNDAY, MAY 1
Clear Lake Bridge Club - Open games Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.
Clear Lake Bridge Club Lab Class - Sunday and Tuesday, 2 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. For details or additional classes, contact Dr. Glandorf at dr.glandorf@sbcglobal.net or call 281-488-6318.
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 Church in Houston, 9900 Almeda Genoa. Call 713-419-2635 for information or to RSVP for child care.
Alcoholics Anonymous - Candlelight Meeting, Sunday, 6:30 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of Narcotics Anonymous meets Sundays, 7 p.m., 2245 N. Main St., Pearland. For information, call 713-856-1611.
Continued on Page 4B

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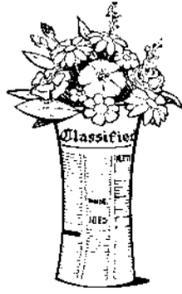
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CALENDAR

Continued from Page 3B

SUNDAY, MAY 1
8 p.m.

Alcoholics Anonymous - meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For information, call 281-484-9243.
Alcoholics Anonymous - Alcohol problems? AA meetings are held Thursdays, 8:30 to 9:30 p.m., and Sundays and Tuesdays, 8 to 9 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta Street. For information, call 713-204-2481.

MONDAY, MAY 2
10 a.m.

Al-Anon Deer Park - Monday, 10 to 11 a.m., Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P. St., Deer Park. Enter through Fellowship Hall, back of church. Call 409-454-5720 for information.
Clear Lake Bridge Club - Open games Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.

11:30 a.m.

Overeaters Anonymous Deer Park - 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P Street, Deer Park. Enter through Fellowship Hall in back of church. Call 409-454-5720 for information, or just drop in.

Noon

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

2 p.m.

Genealogy Group - Parker Williams Genealogy Group meets from 2 to 4 p.m. on first and third Mondays of each month at the Parker Williams Library, Beamer at Scarsdale. Public is invited. For information, email Liz Hicks at erootrot@usa.net.

3:15 p.m.

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

6 p.m.

Scrabble Club #511 - Meets Mondays at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua, 6 p.m. Come and improve crossword game playing skills. Call 281-488-2923 for information.

New Directions Singles - Group for ages 60 and older meets the first and third Mondays for a potluck dinner with guest speakers, 6 p.m., at Webster Presbyterian Church, 201 W. NASA Parkway. For information, call Margarita at 832-715-9658.

6:30 p.m.

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

7 p.m.

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

Friends Helping Friends Grief Support Group - meets Mondays, Kindred Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster, 7 to 8:15 p.m., in the Team Conference Room. Anyone who's lost a loved one is welcome. Free. For information, call Mrs. Barry Craven at 281-486-4241 or R. Sanchez at 281-337-4365.

7:30 p.m.

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

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - New AA meeting, Saint Luke's Group, 12 Step Recovery Program, open meeting meets every Monday, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Education Building, 11011 Hall Road, 77089. For information, call Russell Garcia at 832-483-6715.

TUESDAY, MAY 3
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.

9:30 a.m.

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

10 a.m.

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

11:30 a.m.

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

Noon

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

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

1 p.m.

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. Enjoy a variety of ballroom music, free dancing, 1 to 3 p.m., on a beautiful floating hardwood floor. Instructor available to assist. Everyone is welcome! For questions, call 281-554-1180. 1001 East League City Pkwy. 1:30 p.m.

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

2 p.m.

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

6 p.m.

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

6:30 p.m.

CrossRoads UMC - ESL classes Tuesday and Thursday, 6:30 p.m. at the church, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Course, books and child care are free. For information, call 281-484-9243 or visit www.crossroads-umc.org.
Bay Area Quilt Guild - Meets the first Tuesday of the month at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, 10310 Scarsdale Blvd. Fellowship begins at

6:30 p.m. The meeting/program begins at 7 p.m. Visit www.Facebook.com/BayAreaQuiltGuild.

7 p.m.

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

8 p.m.

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

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4
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.

10 a.m.

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

11:30 a.m.

Houston Hobby Airport Lions Club - meets on the first and third Wednesday of the month, 11:30 a.m., Bravos Mexican Restaurant, 10906 Fuqua. 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, Pearland. For information, call 713-856-1611.

1 p.m.

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

5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

CrossRoads UMC - Invites everyone to the Wednesday night service beginning with a light meal and fellowship at 5:30 p.m., followed by a praise, worship and prayer service at 6:30 p.m., then a Bible study led by both pastors (English and Spanish). Everyone is welcome!

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 information, call 713-944-4782 or 713-266-6400.

7 p.m.

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

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

8 p.m.

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

THURSDAY, MAY 5
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.

10 a.m.

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

Noon

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

6:30 p.m.

CrossRoads UMC - ESL classes Tuesday and Thursday, 6:30 p.m. at the church, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Course, books and child care are free. For information, call 281-484-9243 or visit www.crossroads-umc.org.

Diabetes Support Group - A support group for young adults with Type 1 diabetes. All subjects open for discussion: new technologies, research advances, dating, etc. Meets the first Thursday (or second if that day is a holiday) at various restaurants. Contact Dan Steiner, CDE, at 713-922-9677 for information.

7 p.m.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Women's Group of Narcotics Anonymous, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, at the First Presbyterian Church (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 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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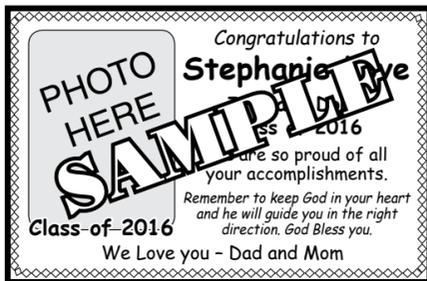
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Tyler among Region XIV bigwigs to compete at San Jacinto South

Continued from Page 1B
ble-trouble pitching of sophomore Abby Walker and Cassidy Ferrill, a freshman.

Walker has come through with a 23-2 record in the circle, including an earned run average of 1.60.

Cassidy, meanwhile, has been just as special, going 19-0 with an ERA of 1.22. Granted, softball pitchers are more than capable of pitching on consecutive days, but it's not preferred.

So with the possibility of playing four games in as many days, the Apaches should be set where pitching is concerned.

Tyler enters play as a favorite to win the event, but there's also Galveston, which at 46-10 was ranked as high as No. 7 in the latest National Junior College Athletic Association poll.

How about Blinn, which defeated Galveston twice to end the regular season and is 35-16 overall? Angelina is also solid.

Of note, Paris enters the tournament as the No. 4 seed from the East Zone.

But the Lady Dragons played well down the stretch and are led by a pair of freshmen from Dobie, including infielder Emily Wolfe and designated hitter Suzy Soza.

Wolfe, a four-year starter at Dobie, pounded eight homers this season at Paris with a team-leading 18 doubles and 41 runs driven in.

Soza, who played two seasons with the Lady Longhorns, went deep 11 times for the Dragons and drove in 37. Both players were first team all-conference selections.

Where does that leave San Jacinto? For a good portion of the season, it was hard for the locals to win without Niki Gonzalez in the circle.

The season statistics

bear that point out quite clearly, as Gonzalez is 20-8 this season with a pair of saves.

All other SJC pitchers have combined to go 11-15 with a pair of saves.

Offensively, San Jacinto is led by sophomore Gabby Gonzalez (team-leading nine homers, 44 RBIs), Kaitlin Kerl (team-leading .424 batting average among regulars), Taylor Office (.396 batting aver-

age) and Dani Damian (16 doubles, 345 batting average).

Things may have to come together perfectly for San Jacinto or any other team not named Tyler in order to win the tournament, but it's certainly possible — especially in a double-elimination tournament.

The NJCAA's College World Series is May 18-21.



San Jacinto College freshman pitcher Niki Gonzalez has gone 20-8 with a pair of saves in the circle this season as she prepares to guide the Coyotes into the Region XIV tournament. At this time last year, the Baytown Sterling High School graduate was pitching against Dobie in the bidistrict playoffs.

Despite JFD's extras victory, no playoffs



In what was likely the final start of his prep career at Dobie, senior right-hander Kaelon Woods struck out eight Sam Rayburn hitters over 5 2/3 innings of work. The Longhorns rallied for two runs in the top of the eighth inning en route to a 5-3 win April 26, at Maguire Field, but Manvel's 3-2 victory over Memorial ensured the Mavericks the fourth and final playoff seed out of District 22-6A along with post-season qualifiers Alvin, Pearland and Dawson.

The District 22-6A varsity baseball playoff seeds are set, and Dobie's name is not on the list.

The Longhorns rallied for a pair of runs in the top of the eighth inning, scoring a 5-3 victory over the Sam Rayburn Texans April 26, at Maguire Field.

The win moved the Longhorns to 7-8 in district play with a road game remaining April 29, at Memorial.

Now, both Dobie and Memorial will be looking to secure bragging rights in the regular season finale.

Just hours after Dobie's 5-3 win over the Texans, Manvel edged Memorial 3-2 at Manvel, securing a playoff seed out of District 22-6A.

With just one day of play remaining in the regular season, Alvin (14-1) needs a win over South Houston April 29 to secure sole possession of first place.

Pearland is also headed to the playoffs as no worse than the No. 2 seed, with Dawson and Manvel to follow.

Dobie did its best down the stretch to get back into the playoff mix, but ultimately, a 2-6 record in the first half of district play proved to be too much to overcome.

The Longhorns won four straight games to get back to 6-6, but then lost a tough 9-8 game to Dawson. Then on April 22, host Alvin defeated the Longhorns 2-0, mak-

ing a postseason berth still harder to achieve.

Against Sam Rayburn, Dobie's Kaelon Woods fanned eight Texans over 5 2/3 innings, and Jesse Paredes got the win in relief. Paredes also homered in his final game at Maguire Field.

Luis Salazar, Paredes and Euro Diaz drove in runs for the Longhorns. The game was tied at 2-2 after six innings, before the Longhorns scored to take a 3-2 lead. The Texans tied the game with a run in the bottom of the seventh.

Dobie's finale against Memorial will also bring a close to the careers of Paredes and shortstop/pitcher Tyler Myers, both three-year starters.

Woods was a two-year varsity performer, primarily on the mound, and senior Luis Salazar was a two-year starter.

Other senior losses will include Darius Hypolite, a starter, as well as six others.

Looking ahead to 2017, the Longhorns will welcome back Diaz, the team's starting center fielder for each of the last two seasons, as well as starters JoJo Castaneda (left field), Jeffery Mercado (second base) and Isaiah Vasquez (designated hitter).

Dobie's biggest aneed heading into 2017 will likely be on the mound after Woods, Myers and Paredes threw the bulk of the innings in 22-6A play.

Clear Brook baseball plays into postseason

Despite a 5-0 loss to Friendswood to close out the regular season, the Clear Brook varsity baseball team made the Class 6A state playoffs as the fourth seed out of District 24-6A.

Thanks to Clear Springs' 4-1 win over the Dickinson Gators, also April 26, the Wolverines reached the postseason along with league cham-

pion Clear Creek, Clear Springs and Friendswood.

Although the final playoff seeds have yet to be firmly set, the Wolverines are likely to face Fort Bend Travis when the bidistrict playoffs get underway May 7. Travis was 14-0 in District 23-6A action, with Kempner next at 12-2 with two games left.

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NJCAA Region XIV Softball Tournament at San Jacinto College's South campus

Thursday, April 28 – Game 1: Navarro vs. Blinn, 10 a.m.; Game 2: San Jacinto vs. Angelina, 12:30 p.m.; Game 3: Tyler vs. Lone Star College-Port Arthur, 3 p.m.; Game 4: Paris vs. Galveston, 5:30 p.m.

Friday, April 29 – Game 5: Loser of Game 1 vs. Loser of Game 3, 10 a.m.; Game 6: Loser of Game 2 vs. Loser of Game 4, 12:30 p.m.; Game 7: Winner of Game 1 vs. Winner of Game 3, 3 p.m.; Game 8: Winner of Game 2 vs. Winner of Game 4, 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 30 – Game 9: Loser of Game 8 vs. Winner of Game 5, 10 a.m.; Game 10: Loser of Game 7 vs. Winner of Game 6, 12:30 p.m.; Game 11: Winner of Game 7 vs. Winner of Game 8, 3 p.m.; Game 12: Winner of Game 9 vs. Winner of Game 10, 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, May 1 – Game 13: Loser of Game 11 vs. Winner of Game 12, 10 a.m.; Game 14: Winner of Game 11 vs. Winner of Game 13, 12:30 p.m.; Game 15: Winner of Game 14 vs. Loser of Game 14, 3 p.m. (if necessary).

See more coverage at www.sanjacsports.com

Dobie boys' tennis aces spring season



With three Region III tennis tournament qualifiers in all, Dobie claimed the varsity boys' team title at the District 22-6A championships April 8-9 at the Harry Taylor Tennis Center in Pasadena. Members of the team included, left to right, (kneeling) David Ho, (standing) Tommy Nguyen, Albert Luu, Justin Gee, Luis Cabreja and coach Manuel Moreno Jr. At regionals, Cabreja won the first set in his opening-round boys' singles match 6-1 before dropping the final two sets 6-2, 6-4. Ho and Luu combined in a Region III boys' doubles opener, where they fell 6-1, 6-4.

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