



South Belt-Ellington Leader

45 years of covering South Belt

The Voice of Community-Minded People since 1976

Thursday, April 29, 2021

Email: mynews@southbeltleader.com

www.southbeltleader.com

Vol. 46, No. 13

Vaccinations here May 8

The City of Houston will administer COVID vaccinations May 8 at the Sagemont Church annex, corner of Beltway 8 and Hughes Road, across from the City of Houston (Sagemont) recreation center. The event will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. See next week's *Leader* for more information.

Motel murder investigated

A man was found dead inside a motel room the afternoon of Tuesday, April 27, in the 12700 block of North Featherwood near Fuqua and the Gulf Freeway.

Houston police responded to a call at the Studio 6 Motel around 4:55 p.m. to find a male unresponsive. At press time, the man's name had not been released and the cause of death remained unknown, the incident was being investigated as a possible homicide.

COVID numbers continue

As of April 28, there were 152 confirmed South Belt deaths due to COVID-19, up nine from the previous week.

Reporting of deaths related to COVID-19, however, may be delayed by local officials. Of the 5,522 confirmed cases in 77089 (total population: 53,866), 117 remain active. To date, 59 from the ZIP code have died from the disease, up one from the previous week.

In 77075 (total population: 43,933), 101 of the 3,998 confirmed cases remain active. A total of 49 from the ZIP code have died, up four from last week. Of the 4,065 confirmed cases in 77034 (total population: 40,532), 82 remain active. To date, 44 residents from ZIP code 77034 have died from the disease, up four from the previous week. According to Harris County Public Health officials, the vast majority of the fatalities suffered from pre-existing health issues.

Countywide, there have been 391,005 total confirmed cases. Of those, 376,719 have recovered from the disease, while 10,154 cases remain active. A total of 4,113 deaths have been reported in Harris County. Statistics are updated daily and include numbers from within the Houston city limits and throughout Harris County. To view an interactive map, visit publichealth.harriscountytexas.gov/Resources/2019-Novel-Coronavirus.

Old Galveston closure set

At least one northbound and southbound Old Galveston Road lane will be closed from Clear Lake City Blvd. to NASA Rd. 1 daily (except Sundays) from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. until May 31.

Gulf Freeway closures set

Two alternate northbound and southbound main lanes and frontage road lanes on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from NASA Bypass/NASA Road 1 to SH 96 daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and nightly from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Friday, Dec. 31.

The northbound exit ramp from the Gulf Freeway to NASA Bypass/NASA Road 1 will be completely closed through Friday, Dec. 31. Motorists wishing to access these intersections may exit using the exit to FM 518 and proceed on the northbound frontage road to the intersections or exit using the Bay Area Boulevard exit ramp, then make a U-turn and travel south to the NASA Bypass or FM 528.

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

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

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

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

The closures are associated with an ongoing construction project to widen the freeway from three to five lanes in each direction and the frontage roads from two to three lanes in.

Blood drive at Cabrini

MD Anderson is conducting a blood drive at St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church parking lot, 10727 Hartsook, Sunday, May 2, from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. to support the recovery of Denis Ermis, a retired HPD police officer, frequent blood donor and longtime South Belt resident. COVID-19 procedures will be followed. Appointments are preferred; walk-ins will be assigned next available appointment.

Sign up online at <https://tinyurl.com/sfcc0521>. For information, call Jamie Perales at 713-505-9515 or Val Comeaux at 713-582-5358.

Heavy trash pickup set

City residents south of Fuqua will have heavy trash pickup Thursday, May 13 (second Thursday of the month). City residents north of Fuqua and west of the Gulf Freeway will have heavy trash pickup Friday, May 14, (second Friday of the month).

May is for tree waste which will also be accepted. Due to a larger amount of debris being discarded during the COVID-19 pandemic, pickups may be delayed. For information, visit www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste or call 311.

Kirkwood Civic call set

The Kirkwood Civic Association meets on a conference call Thursday, April 29, at 7 p.m. Civic club meeting conference dial-in is 605-475-6006 with Access Code: 4382419. Visit the Kirkwood Civic Club Facebook page or call Ericka McCutcheon at 281-989-9990 for details.

Government replacement contrary to community standards



Sagemont home today

Controversy still surrounds the proposed construction of new houses in the South Belt community to replace those destroyed during Hurricane Harvey in 2017. (See related editorial on Page 2.)

Opponents of the construction say legal loopholes are allowing developers to bypass local HOA deed restrictions and build houses that do not match the surrounding homes. According to local civic leaders, the replacement houses are smaller in size, have little to no brick and do not include garages.

Further, all of the new homes must be built at an elevation if they are located in a flood plain. Similar houses that have been reconstructed in the Scarsdale area have far more brick than the newly proposed homes.

"The builder has submitted us with plans and pictures of the proposed homes that are to be constructed in our area, and those homes look nothing like any of the surrounding properties," said Sagemont Civic Club President Kay Barbour. "They would not be within the appearance and harmony of the community."

Reconstruction efforts are being overseen by the Texas General Land Office, and according to

area HOA officials, the adherence to HOA guidelines regarding new construction is guided by the current level of enforcement of existing regulations.

Area civic leaders said city officials have been less than helpful in enforcing existing deed restrictions. "They laughed at us when we said we wanted our deed restrictions enforced to stop the build," said Sagemont Civic Club Vice President Jeff Turnipseed.

Opponents of the proposed construction, however, have found an ally in Houston City Council Member and Mayor Pro Tem Dave Martin, who recently wrote a letter on the community's behalf to Texas Land Commissioner George P. Bush, who heads the GLO. (See related letter on Page 2.)

"I strongly urge you to do the right thing by amending the design plan for the Sagemont community to include a two-car garage and a brick facade," Martin wrote. "These staples are necessary to maintain property values, without them the community will suffer more than inconsistencies in aesthetic."

"They will be impacted for years by loss of home value followed by loss of property value and



New home to be built by government

degradation of the community as a whole." According to GLO officials, at least 120 South Belt residents applied for such assistance. Turnipseed said only one resident has expressed dissatisfaction to him about the civic club's efforts to maintain uniformity, saying she's just ready to move into any house.

A similar story was shared by Seth Webb, Sagemeadow Maintenance Committee chairman.

"We've had residents who've spoken with us, and they're ready to just be done with this," said Webb. "But, they also sympathize with the leaders. It's our job to maintain property values in the area, and they understand that. Most I've spoken with realize this is not what they agreed on. I sympathize with them."

This point was reinforced by Barbour. "Our goal as civic club members as stated in our mission statement is 'to promote the maintenance, beautification and welfare of our neighborhood,'" said Barbour. "That being said, we are making efforts to ensure that our residents do not have any subpar structures being built in our subdivision. We value our properties here, and we would like to see them retain their value."

Webb stressed that community leaders are new to this and studying the issue closely as they move forward.

"We're volunteers, we're not professionals," Webb said. "We're still fact-finding and researching our ability to make changes, and even who all's affected." Webb further said that GLO officials seem to be unwavering in their demands.

"They're basically saying the reconstructions will be done their way or it won't be done at all," Webb said. "And I think that's unfair."

Barbour said she has also had issues dealing with the GLO. "We want to have a discussion with the GLO, but all our requests to contact someone who is able to answer specific questions and make decisions have gone unanswered," Barbour said.

Community leaders are reaching out to local elected officials for assistance in the matter. At press time, a meeting was being arranged that included state Sen. Carol Alvarado, state Rep. Dennis Paul and Houston City Council Member and Mayor Pro Tem Dave Martin.

See future editions of the *Leader* for additional information.

May 1 last day to vote in PISD, CCISD school board elections

Local school board elections are set to take place Saturday, May 1.

To be decided are four spots on the Pasadena ISD board and three positions on the Clear Creek ISD board. San Jacinto College will not hold an election this year, as all three incumbents are running unopposed.

Up for grabs in Pasadena ISD are the Position 1 seat, currently held by Fred Roberts; the Position 2 seat, currently held by Mariselle Quijano; the Position 3 seat, currently held by Nelda Sullivan; and

the Position 4 seat, currently held by Jack Bailey.

Quijano and Sullivan are the only incumbents seeking re-election.

In the Position 2 race, Quijano is being challenged by Crystal Davila, and in Position 3 contest, Sullivan is being challenged by Yen Huynh Rabe.

Paola Gonzalez Fusilier and Noble J. Alix Jr. are seeking to fill the Position 1 seat being vacated by Roberts, while Al Bledsoe and Casey Phelan are competing for the Position 4 seat being vacated by Bailey.

This election cycle has proven unique in that two distinct camps of candidates have emerged – one including incumbents and one of only challengers.

In one camp, incumbents Quijano and Sullivan have sided with new Position 1 candidate Noble J. Alix Jr. and Position 4 candidate Casey Phelan.

In the opposing camp, Rabe, Davila and Bledsoe are all campaigning together to unseat what they consider to be the establishment candidates.

Terms are four years.

CCISD

To be decided in the Clear Creek ISD are the District 4 seat currently held by Page Rander, the District 5 spot currently held by Jay Cunningham and the At-Large Position A seat currently held by Jennifer Brodole.

In the District 4 race, Rander is being challenged.

Continued on Page 3

HPD investigates fatal crash

Houston police are investigating a fatal crash that took place around 12:25 p.m. Saturday, April 24, in the 13600 block of the Gulf Freeway near Beltway 8. The identity of the male victim, 48, is pending verification by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences. According to police, the victim was operating a black Harley-Davidson motorcycle when he failed to control his speed while entering the southbound freeway on-ramp and crashed into a wall at the above address.

Area home has \$120,000 fire damage

A house caught fire around 11:20 p.m. Wednesday, April 14, in the 10000 block of Tolman near Edgebrook and the Gulf Freeway.

Firefighters arrived on scene within seven minutes to find heavy fire coming from a residence. They made an attack and conducted a primary search.

The fire was brought under control, and the utilities were secured. Houston Fire Department

torcycle when he failed to control his speed while entering the southbound freeway on-ramp and crashed into a wall at the above address.

Paramedics transported the victim to HCA Houston Healthcare Clear Lake, where he was pronounced dead. The investigation was ongoing at press time.

Arson investigators were requested to determine the cause and origin of the fire.

At press time, the cause was still under investigation. Damage was estimated at \$120,000. Firefighters were able to save approximately \$80,000 in property.

No injuries were reported. Firefighters from stations 26, 70, 36, 52, 61, 29 and 24 responded to this incident.

Munshi wins gold medal for artwork

Dobie High School senior Nabila Munshi has earned the prestigious National Gold Medal award in the Scholastic Art and Writing Contest for her artwork titled *Ornate Origins*.

Inspired by artist Yulia Brodskaya, the 18-inch by 24-inch art piece was created using a technique called paper quilling, the coiling and shaping of narrow paper strips to create a design. The art of paper quilling is a tedious and detail-oriented medium and took Munshi roughly four months to complete.

The art piece has close ties to her native home. In 2017, Munshi moved from Bangladesh to the U.S. with her family and began working with paper. Paper quilling allowed her to highlight the ornate patterns and designs found on rugs used by her family for daily prayer in Bangladesh.

More than 80,000 students submitted 230,000 art and writing entries this year. But the judging committee, comprised of some of the most notable leaders in the visual and literary arts, only chose 803 students to receive the National Gold Medal award. *Ornate Origins* was selected for "excellence in originality, technical skill and the emergence of a personal vision."

"I was surprised to find out that my artwork was given such a prestigious award. It's hard to explain exactly how I feel, it's a bit overwhelming, because we don't get this kind of appreciation in my home country of Bangladesh," said Munshi.

She is now part of a legacy established in 1923 of national medal winners, including Andy Warhol, Kay WalkingStick, Truman Capote and Robert Redford, all of whom won Scholastic Awards in their teens. Only one percent of submissions since then have received the National Gold Medal award. Winning is nothing new for Munshi as she has

racked up some impressive awards and recognitions over the past four years.

Some of these accomplishments include advancing to the state-level Visual Arts Scholastic Event (V.A.S.E.) for the past three consecutive years. Munshi was also selected as an Honorary H-E-B and TAEA Art Ambassador, which resulted in one of her entries being put on permanent display at a Houston H-E-B store. In addition, two of her state qualifying entries received a Gold Seal which is only awarded to the top one percent of entries throughout the state of Texas.

Munshi's teacher, Stephanie Albert said she is proud she had the opportunity to guide Munshi through her artistic endeavors.

"Winning the National Gold Medal is the perfect way to end her high school career," said Albert. "Nabila is nothing short of amazing both as a person and artistically. She is gifted in a way that is not seen very often in students her age and she has a strong sense of composition in all her work as she thoroughly thinks through each intricate detail."

Munshi not only excels in the arts, but she is also fluent in four languages and will be graduating in the top of her class.

Munshi and Albert would normally be traveling to New York City to be honored at Carnegie Hall during the annual Scholastic Writing and Art awards ceremony, but it was canceled due to COVID.

In lieu of the awards ceremony, her work will now be published in the Scholastic Online Galleries at www.artandwriting.org in June. Her name will also be listed in "Yearbook 2021," a companion publication to "The Best Teen Art" anthologies that feature a selection of work by National Medalists.

"As much as I'm excited to see what the future holds for her, I'm truly sad to see her go. She is a student that has forever impacted my career as an educator. I couldn't be more proud," said Albert.

Munshi was accepted to the University of Houston-Clear Lake where she plans to major in business management.

Continued on Page 4

Dobie's 9th Hall of Honor inducted



Dobie High School hosted its annual Hall of Honor induction ceremony Saturday, April 24. Now in its ninth year, the event recognizes former students and staff who have made an impact in the community and beyond. Five alumni and one faculty member were inducted at the year's event. Student inductees shown above are, left to right, track star Gawain Guy, Class of 1981; Debra Daughtry; YouTube star T Nguyen, Class of 2007; education activist Erica Davis Rouse, Class of 1991; and U.S. Marine Corps Col. William Smith, Class of 1970. Daughtry accepted the honor for her brother, former Dobie English teacher Barry Harris, now deceased. See story and additional photos in next week's *Leader*. Photo by Reesha Brown

COVID sites don't require appointments

The Houston Health Department is now accepting walk-ins at all its COVID-19 vaccination sites. Hours have also been extended at some sites.

Appointments remain available and preferred, but walk-ins are welcome.

"Getting vaccinated against COVID-19 should be easy and convenient for everyone, including people who may not be able to get to a vaccination site during typical business hours,"

said Mayor Sylvester Turner. "Expanding the existing walk-in policy to all Houston Health Department sites and extending hours of operation will help ensure people have access to the life-saving vaccines."

Getting vaccinated is key to helping our lives get back to normal."

The department currently offers the Moderna vaccine, approved for people age 18 and older.

In My Opinion

Rabe pushes votes for PISD election

Election Day is finally here. For us it could not come soon enough.

You have the power to make deep structural change for the district.

We need knowledgeable and caring educators on the board. Time to put students, teachers and support staff first.

We can end the mismanagement, the misplaced priorities, the tolerance of bullies and the culture of fear of this board that has lost its ways. End the extravagant \$27M admin building, the cronyism, the favoritism and the arrogance.

We can fix the schools academically and structurally, raise teachers and support workers' salaries and realize the full potential that can make this an awesome school district that we can be proud of again.

It is time for change. We humbly ask for your vote to make it happen.

Vote Crystal Dávila, Yen Huynh Rabe and Albert J Bledsoe.

Yen Huynh Rabe

Nguyen supports PISD election

Having taught in K to 12 and higher education for 13 years, I know as well as any educator the importance of students' physical, mental, and social well-being to their effective learning. When they sit in buildings that are not properly cooled in a state with some of the highest temperatures in the country, they are too uncomfortable to learn. When they sit in buildings with mold growing, they are too distressed to learn. When they sit in classrooms either hungry or sustained only with low-quality food of little nutritional value, they are too distracted to learn. As long as schools continue to fail students this way, the students will falter in the short and long term, and the blame will be unequivocally on district-level administrators who refuse to resolve these issues. Instead of doing their job, PISD's leadership mirrors the actions of larger governing structures, characterized by empty promises and not nearly enough meaningful investment.

This is exemplified in the audacious push to allocate \$27 million in taxpayer money to a new and unnecessary administrative building rather than to the students to whom it rightly belongs. The funds should be used to address the aforementioned problems with facilities, services, and systems within currently dilapidated school buildings, and more nutritious meals to properly fuel learning and growing bodies and minds. They should also be used for college readiness and vocational programs that help young people succeed in life. Resources needed include books, up-to-date software and technology, test prep materials, and personnel to support students in their academic growth. Investing in a state-of-the-art administrative building is not going to help students; only investing in students will help students.

To garner support for and initiate these changes, there is no one better than educators themselves. They are in the best position to assess educational contexts, a district's needs, and the needs of young people. Because they are seasoned in daily team meetings to make sound curriculum and pedagogical decisions, teachers are natural consensus builders. More importantly, they realize that a district's true needs are the needs of its students, not those of administrators far removed from the classroom.

Teachers spend hours upon hours with

students day in and day out, keenly aware of the ongoing social, behavioral, and learning complexities of each student they teach. Regardless of, at times, superficial appearances of animosity, students tend to trust and put great faith in their teachers. They respect and appreciate the adults who show up every day to educate them. At bottom, it is their teachers with whom they bond and to whom they feel close. This goes both ways, and is just one of many reasons why a school board with more teachers means a school board with increased care for children.

Since teachers play a crucial role in empowering students, it is paramount that they be likewise empowered through support for teachers unions, not just from the community but the school board as well. Effective change and improvements can happen only with an "all hands on deck" mentality and a shared obligation to build a solid future for children.

Indeed, we need leaders who truly understand 21st century problems for families and young people, who can help facilitate stability and functionality and who understand that uplifting young people goes only so far unless we are also uplifting families and communities. We need energetic, can-do board members with a keen grasp of complex issues related to health, finances, transportation, identity, belonging, culture, vocation, academics, social services, the law, and much more.

Crystal Dávila, Yen Rabe, and Al Bledsoe are the right candidates for PISD school board. It is they who will bring the kind of social savvy and genuine caring needed to passionately advocate for teachers, students, and families, as well as under-acknowledged support staff in our schools, such as custodians and teacher aides. The latter deserve wages that match their invaluable contribution to student learning and success. We all deserve more as a community that wants to see children learn, grow, and prosper.

Jane Nguyen

Wake up, South Belt, or suffer the results!

Currently, there is a school board race going on and the South Belt Voters are falling behind...way behind. There are basically two groups running against each other: the Party I support and the Opposition Party which includes three current or former teachers. They are saying our schools are falling down around the kids, HVAC doesn't work most of the time, and--the best-- is that the current school board is wasting the tax payers money. Give me a Break! In January 1993, when School Board Trustee Nelda Sullivan and I were elected to the Board, the school district had \$83,000 of undesignated funds in the Fund Balance, under the direction of the previous administration. Today there is over \$150M in the fund balance--and this is after Hurricane Harvey, Hurricane Ike, floods, freeze, and lets not forget Covid that turned our world upside down. Now do you understand why I say GIVE ME A BREAK? Your successful school finances happened because the last 3 superintendents (all retired from Pasadena except for current supt) and their administrations, had support and direction from experienced business-minded School Board Trustees. Your PISD school district is in excellent financial shape even considering all the issues that were faced the last few years in our homes and our school district.

The ridiculous comments that our schools are falling down around the shoulders of our students and employees is so out of line and a direct insult to our second-to-none maintenance, construction department and building

support personnel that the people spewing this nonsense should apologize for the comments that have been made--SHAME SHAME SHAME.

The comment (Opposition Party) that the school board needs to include educators is not a bad statement. Teachers do come with a different view than tax payers/voters and, by the way, I have served on the PISD school board with educators. Who can forget the wisdom of Past Education Administrators Frank Braden (great man) or Jerry Speers (another great man), both past Dobie High School Principals. I believe either one of these individuals would tell you that elected School Board Trustees need to be Good Open Minded Decision Makers with Understanding, not just educators. Here's an interesting thought--6 of the 9 school board trustees in the Houston ISD are educators.....think about that?

Now my last concern is that South Belt voters are not coming to the polls for some reason and the results could be devastating to the South Belt Community. I remember the days when South Belt was considered the OTHER area of the Pasadena School District. People--do not let this happen again! GO VOTE and ask your neighbors, ask your friends, ask your fellow church members, give somebody a ride to the polls, take a group picture with your family at the polls, put your picture in the Leader. If you care for your South Belt community and all of the Pasadena Independent School District, exercise your right to Vote--and take somebody with you.

The Sagemont Community has the finest churches, schools, businesses, hospital, newspaper and, last but not least, people! Don't let us down. Go vote your neighborhood community!

My suggestion for the right candidates that will always keep the South Belt Community in the mix is:

1. Noble Alix (South Belt resident, African-American, running for my position)

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Death

Robert Thomas (Tommy) Butcher



Robert Thomas (Tommy) Butcher, 76, died April 15, 2021, of heart disease. He was born April 3, 1945, in Houston to Robert Lester Butcher and Frances Merle Butcher.

He is survived by his wife of 47 years Cherita Butcher; daughters Debra Marley and Sheri Herrin; sons Bill Butcher and JT Butcher; brother Lester Butcher; brother Mike Butcher and wife Pam; grandchildren Kevin Clay and grand-daughter, Zach Butcher and husband Michael, Sami Butcher, Justin Butcher and Baylee Butcher; great-grandchildren Ava Merritt and Elijah Clay; and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews and friends. He was preceded in death by his father and mother; brother Davis Carroll Butcher; sister Marjorie Frances Henderson; and father-in-law and mother-in-law JT and Shirley Howell.

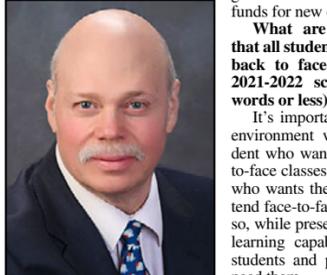
Tommy will be missed by all who knew and loved him.

The family extends an invitation to a Celebration of Life for Tommy Sunday, May 2, 2021, from noon to 3 p.m., at Topwater Grill in San Leon, Texas.

CCISD candidates answer Leader election questionnaire

The following are responses to the Leader's CCISD candidate questionnaire. Answers are strictly the candidates' and have not been edited in any way. Candidates are listed in the order they appear on the ballot.

District 4 Jeff Larson



Age: 60
Occupation: Consultant
Education: Master of Electrical Engineering, University of Houston; Bachelor of Engineering, Youngstown State University
Marital Status/Children: Married, 1 adult daughter (CCISD graduate)

What makes you best qualified to serve the residents of Clear Creek ISD? (back-ground and reason for interest)? (75 words or less)

I am best qualified to serve residents of CCISD because I have over 30 years in the community, and my values best reflect those of the voters in my district.

I am a fiscal conservative, and I wish for CCISD to maintain its educational excellence while turning out new citizens who are a credit to their community, wherever they choose to live.

How many CCISD Board meetings have you attended? (75 words or less)

With COVID, I have restricted myself to watching board meetings online I found this was more convenient than attending in person, and have continued the practice even though I am able to attend meetings in person now. I haven't been to an in-person meeting in over a year.

What are your future plans for CCISD under the new Superintendent? (75 words or less)

I am hopeful that Mr. Williams will be a responsive leader who fits in well with our community. Together, we should ensure that bond money is spent only on projects approved by the voters, and that the annual budget balances, all while maintaining CCISD's top rate performance in academics with all levels of students.

What do you see as the biggest challenges facing CCISD? (75 words or less)

Page Rander



Age: 55
Occupation: Human Resources supervisor
Education: BS- Syracuse University, MS-Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism
Marital Status/Children: Divorced, one son (Clear Brook HS grad)

What makes you best qualified to serve the residents of Clear Creek ISD? (back-ground and reason for interest)? (75 words or less)

Experience! As the incumbent candidate, I have the ability to lead with knowledge of what has sustained CCISD in the past and what we can do differently. I am very involved in the community and believe our students deserve our full support for the best education possible. With what the district faces in the near future, including a supporting a new superintendent, an experienced trustee is the better option.

How many CCISD Board meetings have you attended? (75 words or less)

That is hard for me to quantify, but in the 10 1/2 years that I've served, I have only missed one meeting and a significant amount of another. The former was a workshop and it was due to a death in the family; the latter was because of a flight delay coming back from an out-of-town school board training.

What are your future plans for CCISD under the new Superintendent? (75 words or less)

To work collaboratively with the superintendent our current board unanimously chose. Dr. Williams knows he is working for a high performing district with a high performing board. He knows that we, as his bosses, will not settle for anything less than stellar student performance. Already, Dr. Williams has presented a STEM-based elementary program that will open new opportunities for our students. I look forward to this and holding him accountable to the CCISD strategic plan.

What do you see as the biggest challenges facing CCISD? (75 words or less)

Funding and bouncing back from the pandemic. We need to hold state legislators accountable for funding promised in the 86th Legislative session, needed to attain HB 3 expectations. Additionally, CCISD has spent more for pandemic response. And we are not done. Students will require a great deal of attention as we move back to "normal" and that will come at an expense that needs to be funded through federal funds currently held up in Austin.

What are your thoughts that all students should return back to face-to-face for the 2021-2022 school year? (75 words or less)

All students who are not medically at-risk or have at-risk family in their home should return to in-person learning. We have learned that some students thrive in an on-line environment, but for the majority of students, we need the day-to-day connection to ensure the best learning opportunities. Also, many students rely on the "safety net" of the schoolhouse whether that is for meals or interaction with the one person who cares about their well-being.

If elected, what specific issues would you address in the district? (75 words or less)

Again, I believe bouncing back from the pandemic will be a huge focus for school districts. We have to help students: get back to the regular learning environment, stand up a virtual learning academy, regain the learning losses and rebound from any emotional challenges. This will most likely be an extensive process with an "all hands on deck" approach. I'm ready to roll up my sleeves and get to work.

2. Mariselle Quijano (Friend of South Belt and proven long time supporter)

3. Nelda Sullivan (Friend of South Belt and proven long time supporter)

4. Casey Phelan (Friend of South Belt and married to educator/supporter)

Finally, after my last letter a couple of weeks ago to the South Belt Leader, someone pointed out to me that a certain Sagemont candidate of the Opposition Party mentioned in a Facebook post that my comments in the Leader were self-serving and sanctimonious. Please note that I was only trying to explain what I believe makes a great school board trustee. I apologize for offending anyone. I was only giving my opinion, gained after many years of serving on the school board. Those trustees I served with are the Real Deal. I was only a real good observer.

South Belt! Please GO VOTE for Your Community!

Fred Roberts

Support for child-focused candidate

CCISD is one of Texas' best. Let's keep it that way. Please vote for Jonathan Cottrel for school board on May 1.

Jonathan has spent the past ten years preparing for this role.

Jonathan is the ONLY candidate to have walked the halls of every school in the district.

I have volunteered with Jonathan in many activities in CCISD over the past six years. I can honestly tell you that his heart is for the children and families of CCISD.

Experience and dedication should be the determining factor in a non partisan election when it comes to the future of the children.

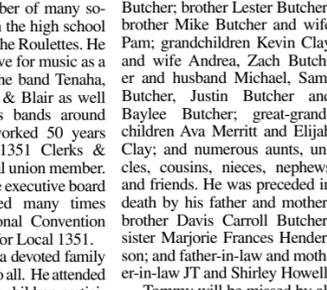
Anyone in CCISD can vote for the At Large candidate.

Please take time on Saturday to vote for the ONLY candidate that is solely focused on the children of the district.

Rebecca Lilley

Death

Robert Thomas (Tommy) Butcher



Robert Thomas (Tommy) Butcher, 76, died April 15, 2021, of heart disease. He was born April 3, 1945, in Houston to Robert Lester Butcher and Frances Merle Butcher.

He is survived by his wife of 47 years Cherita Butcher; daughters Debra Marley and Sheri Herrin; sons Bill Butcher and JT Butcher; brother Lester Butcher; brother Mike Butcher and wife Pam; grandchildren Kevin Clay and grand-daughter, Zach Butcher and husband Michael, Sami Butcher, Justin Butcher and Baylee Butcher; great-grandchildren Ava Merritt and Elijah Clay; and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews and friends. He was preceded in death by his father and mother; brother Davis Carroll Butcher; sister Marjorie Frances Henderson; and father-in-law and mother-in-law JT and Shirley Howell.

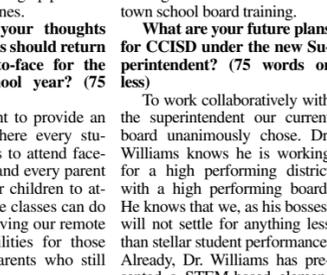
Tommy will be missed by all who knew and loved him.

The family extends an invitation to a Celebration of Life for Tommy Sunday, May 2, 2021, from noon to 3 p.m., at Topwater Grill in San Leon, Texas.

CCISD candidates answer Leader election questionnaire

The following are responses to the Leader's CCISD candidate questionnaire. Answers are strictly the candidates' and have not been edited in any way. Candidates are listed in the order they appear on the ballot.

District 5 Christine Parizo



Age: 42
Occupation: B2B Technology Content Marketing Specialist
Education: Bachelor of Science, Journalism and Public Information
Marital Status/Children: Married, 2 children

What makes you best qualified to serve the residents of Clear Creek ISD? (back-ground and reason for interest)? (75 words or less)

In a word: empathy. I've been that parent asking for help, only to be brushed aside. Our board must listen better. I'm a communicator by nature and by trade as a journalist and marketing professional, and am able to view and understand both sides of an issue. As a business owner, I am used to scrutinizing a budget and prioritizing expenses. My background in enterprise technology can help improve district transparency and learning systems.

How many CCISD Board meetings have you attended? (75 words or less)

Pre-COVID, I attended numerous regular meetings in-person, as well as one Board workshop. Since the meetings have been broadcast live, I've watched almost every one, barring family commitments.

What are your future plans for CCISD under the new Superintendent? (75 words or less)

I would like to see more of a partnership with our community leaders, and I'm impressed that Dr. Williams has already taken the time to meet with many of them to understand what they can do to help the District. Additionally, I aim to create a long-term infrastructure strategy to address maintaining and upgrading our campuses, and foster better planning for new facilities prior to asking for more taxpayer-supported bonds.

What do you see as the biggest challenges facing CCISD? (75 words or less)

Funding uncertainty is a challenge; we are unsure what tax revenues and state funding will look like during this recession. We must budget appropri-

Publisher's Opinion

Critical issue facing South Belt

We have all heard people laugh when they hear the expression, "We're from the government and we're here to help you."

Well, that is what we are being told about the federal GLO program which the state took over from the city.

Unfortunately, while some people may get some help, it looks like the overall entire South Belt community will be hurt by the "government help." If you have not done so yet, please read the main story on Page 1.

This program, while designed to aid Hurricane Harvey victims who had serious home losses during Harvey, will very negative for surrounding neighbors. We are told that more than 120 homes are planned for this community. How many for sure, we can't find out yet!

The home replacement is way below what it is replacing. I want all of you to consider what will happen to your home value if the home next door is replaced with the government "gift."

I am concerned that while GLO is refusing to use brick on Sagemont homes, or garages, they have done so in other, lower priced communities such as Edgewood and Scarsdale. To date we have been unable to find out what is their criteria. Why garages and brick on some homes? Why a 2-bedroom replacement in

a subdivision which was built with no less than 3-bedroom homes 55 years ago!

We are asking questions of GLO, but so far have no answers.

This is just starting. We will fight for the entire community, including those who want their home completed. But we will not roll over and allow the entire community to suffer from devalued property because the government is not considering the consequences of their actions.

We have hope because there are elected officials willing to help. Leading that group is Mayor Pro Tem Dave Martin.

I want to thank Dave for his support and the great letter he sent to George P. Bush who heads GLO. (See his letter immediately following this editorial.) We will also need help from the community. We need to hear from members of area HOAs.

Please send your letters of support questions, etc., to mynews@southbeltleader.com. Your help is needed. Stay tuned to the Leader for more information on this project. Get involved, we need you!

Marie Flickinger,
Publisher

Elected officials share their words

Mayor Pro-Tem Martin supports Community

Dear Commissioner Bush,

The District E Office has been notified by the members of the Sagemont Civic Club located in Southeast Houston, regarding inconsistencies with Harvey Housing Recovery program and the community's existing community standards. The residents are taxpayers and have been living in uncertainty for more than 3 years.

These residents are asking for their homes to be rebuilt after they were ravaged by a natural disaster, which is more than reasonable. They have been through a rigorous application process and these residents should have what was lost, replaced without caveat. Their residences should not stand out among those already in the community, due to efforts to cut costs. Homes that had garages and were 80% brick should be replaced with the same.

The Sagemont Community has been in existence since the 1960s and has a well-established community aesthetic which is not currently being honored in the design of the homes being planned by the GLO's builder.

Traditionally, homes in this area have a two-car garage and a brick façade. The proposed design plans from the GLO's builder do not include either of these. Two-car garages and brick are not a preference in this community, they are a historical precedent.

The rebuild of this community without such features is unimaginable and inconsistent with expectations. Residents are being denied the ability to find solace in their home. These are more than structures; the future homes will be filled with lives and priceless treasures.

These bricks are security for those that have lost so much. These garages are the safety of a young mother arriving home after work, unpacking her groceries and pulling her children out of the car seat.

This program should be more than materials and numbers. This program should restore faith and hope for families, by returning to them a peace of mind behind their bricks and garages.

I strongly urge you to do the right thing by amending the design plan for the Sagemont Community to include a two-car garage and brick facade. These staples are necessary to maintain property values, without them the community will suffer more than inconsistencies in aesthetic.

They will be impacted for years through loss of home value followed by loss of property value and degradation of the community as a whole. I am asking you to be better, do better, and strive for more than status quo.

Sincerely,
Dave Martin
Mayor Pro Tem the City of Houston

Leader checks out social media

By Natalie Abarca

A Neighbor's app member posted photos of a man caught on camera taking the member's package from the front door on April 22, near the Fuqua Street and Kingspoint Road area. The member says the camera captured the license plates and the information was passed along to local law enforcements.

A member of People of Sagemont 2 posted someone hacked into their AT&T account and ordered multiple iPhone 12s which were delivered to the member's address that is on the account. The members

knew it was in transit and the person or people would most likely show up to get the package, but someone was home to receive them. The incident happened April 22. The member posted surveillance videos of the people and the vehicle they were in. The member is asking that if the community recognizes the car or the woman, let local authorities know any information.

A member of Love your Sagemont Neighbor posted on April 23, that as she was making a deposit at Bank of America, she noticed a man

watching her from a few yards back. The member said she kept her eye on him. Once she was done with her transaction he started walking fast toward her. She stated she freaked out and jumped into the car, locked all the car doors, and pulled out her phone. The member's grandmother was driving and once the man saw the phone, he took off walking away quickly. The member saw a police officer close by and approached the officer to relay what happened. The member cautioned other members to be vigilant of their surroundings.

Local library events set

Bracewell Branch Library
Visit <http://hpl.lib.tx.us/location/bracewell-neighborhood-library> for library information.
Bracewell HPL To Go curbside service is on operation
Contactless Curbside services, known as HPL To Go, is available by appointment Mondays, noon to 7 p.m.; Wednesdays and Fridays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Customers walking or riding a bike may also pick up reserved materials. For questions, call circulation at 832-393-2222. All overdue fines/fees will be waived through Jan. 1, 2021. To use HPL To Go:

1. Place a hold through the online catalog or by phone.
2. Receive email or phone call of notification prior to scheduling a time for pickup.
3. Upon arrival, park and stay in the vehicle and call to notify staff of arrival.
4. Have MY Link card number and PIN ready.

Parker Williams Library
Parker Williams Library is located at 10851 Scarsdale Blvd. Visit the website at <https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library> or call 832-927-7870 for more information.
The book drop is open. No late fees will be charged during the library closure. Social media links are Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary and Instagram.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary.

Parker Williams "No-Contact Curbside Holds Pick-Up"
- After receiving notification that holds are ready for pickup, call 832-927-7870.
- Have a library card number and PIN handy.
- A pickup time and instructions will be given.
- Upon arriving at the library, follow the instructions given.
- Be prepared to show a library card or other form of ID for verification.
Curbside hours are: Monday - Thursday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Friday, 1 - 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Visit <https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library> for details.
Thursday, April 29, 10:30 a.m. Virtual Toddler Time. Take a moment to have some fun and interaction with the little one or little ones. Join John Harbough and Jason Cruz for a virtual Toddler Time through Microsoft Teams. Parents are encouraged to participate to facilitate interaction. While this program is designed for 18 months to 4-year-olds, all children and families are welcome to join virtually. Sign up once with a valid email address online at <https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library> to get a weekly invitation.
#toddertime #storytime #story #childrensbooks #reading #books #harriscountyp1 #HCPL.
Thursday, April 29, 2 p.m. Parker Williams Book Club representative will read "Harry's Trees" by Jon Cohen. Contact the branch to reserve a copy today. Meetings are the last Thursday of the month over Microsoft Teams. Contact Tanner Adams at tanner.adams@hcpl.net for more information and an invite.
Friday, April 30, 3 p.m. Virtual Story Time Join John and Celeste Plew for a story in both English and Spanish. Families with children of all ages are welcome. This program will be on Facebook and can be found at Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary.
#storytime #story #childrensbooks #reading #books #harriscountyp1 #HCPL.
Saturday May 1, 11 a.m. AAPI Heritage History features "Why was the month of May selected to celebrate Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage?" Learn about AAPI's history and why it is celebrated. This program can be found at Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary. #AAPI #AsianAmericanPacificIslanderMonth #May2021 #HeritageMonth #harriscountyp1 #HCPL.
Tuesday, May 4, 10:30 a.m. Virtual Story Time. Join John Harbough for stories and songs. Families with children of all ages are welcome to see on Facebook Live at Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary. #storytime #story #childrensbooks #reading #books #harriscountyp1 #HCPL
Tuesday May 4, noon. Drawing with Ariel Perez for virtual fun and easy cartoon drawings featuring various doodles, numbers and letters. This video will be featured on Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary and Instagram.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary.
Tuesday, May 4, 3 p.m. Badly Drawn: Star Wars Edition. The Star Wars universe is beloved by millions and has inspired futuristic and fantastic art. In honor of May 4, the library staff will have 60 seconds to make either impressive copies or horrible abominations of Star Wars characters. This program will be on Facebook Live and can be found at Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary. #maythefourth #maythefourth #starwars #harriscountyp1 #HCPL.
Wednesday, May 5, 3:30 p.m., ages 16 and older. Dungeons & Dragons online adventure awaits with Tanner Adams. No prior experience is required. Email tanner.adams@hcpl.net for details.

Age: 60
Occupation: Consultant
Education: Master of Electrical Engineering, University of Houston; Bachelor of Engineering, Youngstown State University
Marital Status/Children: Married, 1 adult daughter (CCISD graduate)

What makes you best qualified to serve the residents of Clear Creek ISD? (back-ground and reason for interest)? (75 words or less)

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What do you see as the biggest challenges facing CCISD? (75 words or less)

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If elected, what specific issues would you address in the district? (75 words or less)

Again, I believe bouncing back from the pandemic will be a huge focus for school districts. We have to help students: get back to the regular learning environment, stand up a virtual learning academy, regain the learning losses and rebound from any emotional challenges. This will most likely be an extensive process with an "all hands on deck" approach. I'm ready to roll up my sleeves and get to work.

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New Covenant Christian Church
Day Care Christian Based Child Care



New Covenant Christian Church provides Christian based child care for the local community. Director Nedra Jackson and her staff are here to take perfect care of your children while you work.

281.481.2003
www.newcovenantchristianchurchhouston.com
10603 Blackhawk Blvd. Houston, Tx 77089
Blackhawk @ Kirkfair

May 1 last day to vote . . .

Continued from Page 1
lenged by Jeffrey Allan Larson; in the District 5 contest, Cunningham is being challenged by Christine Parizo and Keith Thomas Esthay; and in the At-Large Position A race, Broddle is being challenged by Jonathan Cottrell, Michael John Creedon, Marlene Montesinos and Keven Oditt.
South Belt residents may vote only in the District 4 and At-Large Position A contests.
Terms are three years.
Polling locations

Harris County residents may now vote at any county polling location, regardless of precinct number.
Local polling sites include the following:
South Belt locations:
- Frazier, South Belt, Bush, Genoa and Schneider elementaries.
- Community of the Servant Savior Presbyterian Church, 11303 Hughes.
- San Jacinto College South Fine Arts Center Building 15, 13735 Beamer Road.
- Beverly Hills Community Center, 10201 Kingspoint Road.
- Lone Star Flight Museum, 11551 Aerospace Ave., Ellington Field
- South Belt Elementary School, 1801 Riverstone Ranch Road.
- El Franco Lee Community Center, 9500 Hall Road.
- Laura Welch Bush Elementary School, 9100 Blackhawk Blvd.
For additional information or to see a complete list of polling locations, visit www.harrisvotes.org.

Bush wins 2nd place

Laura Welch Bush Elementary participated in the district Name That Book competition and won second place. School officials congratulated the students on their participation and awards. Shown, left to right, proudly displaying their certificates are Austin Knight, Enid Chapman, Granger Lumpkin, Ai-Vy Dinh, Jaden Oyervidez and Joaquin Trejo.
Photo by Monica Rincon

Sagemont hosts water sale
Sagemont Church is partnering with Hope Springs Water in helping to provide clean water in areas around the world where water resources are limited.
The church will be hosting a communitywide water sales event Sunday, May 2, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Sagemont Annex.
Cases of bottled water (24 bottles) are \$5 each, with all proceeds going to Hope Springs. Cash and credit cards will be accepted.



Mariselle Quijano



Noble J. Alix, Jr.



Nelda Sullivan



Casey D. Phelan

Saturday, May 1st Last Day to Vote
Supported by Community Leaders & Educators
Your vote will ensure the continuation of Pasadena ISD's outstanding schools!
Re-Elect
Mariselle Quijano • Nelda Sullivan
Elect
Noble J. Alix, Jr. • Casey D. Phelan

We're proud to be supported by 100s of PISD educators & taxpayers.

Below are just a few who urge you to vote for our slate to keep great education in PISD.

- | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|--|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Fred Roberts | Kevin Beasley | Ray Garivey | Jessica Le | Mason Powell | Jeff Turnipseed | Joy Brown Johnson* | Paulette Fawcett* | Susan King Locklear* | Marla Nickelson* | Kathleen Smith Marr Larson* |
| Vicki Roberts | Andy Belmarez | Bob Gebhard | Julie Le | David Pullin | Marco Vela | Sandra Buckner* | Elizabeth Ferguson* | Rocio Nuncio* | Rocio Nuncio* | Olivia Smith-Daugherty* |
| Emory Gadd | Theresa Berry | Dianne Gebhard | Tony Le | Winnie Pullin | Paully Vela | Jean Cain* | Linda Flores* | Debbie Krampen* | Nick Ononen* | Mary Carl Speer* |
| Susan Gadd | Chris Bezdek | Barbara Gillies | David Leal | Joe Purvis | Elaine Walbrick | Stefanie Cantin* | Jay Forrest* | Jerry Krampen* | Jamie Otto* | Angela Stallings* |
| Wayne Hanks | Kim Brock | Leo Gillies | Maria Leija | Kelly Quiring | Kevin Walker | Jennifer Capra* | Candace Franco* | Karel Kujawa* | Keith Palmer* | Cynthia Stanaland* |
| Sue Hanks | Tim Brock | Veronica Gonzalez | Alexander Lerma | Tanner Quiring | Kiersten Walker | Tyler Carmona* | Nicholas Furman* | Jill Lacamu* | Susan Palmer* | Cherie Steadman* |
| Richard Burlitz | Karen Brotherton | Paula Goodhart | Sabrina Lerma | Richard Ray | Mike Ward | Lorena Carrasco* | Catherine Gaither* | Krishaelle Lagman* | Erica Pecina* | Harold Stephens* |
| Sharon Burlitz | Terry Brotherton | Sharon Goodman | Dr. Kirk Lewis - Superintendent (Retired)* | Richard Rhodoe | Jeff Warner | Steele Casteel* | Gabe Garcia* | Alise Lamoreaux Neff* | Lidia Peña* | Karen Stephens* |
| LaNell Oehlert | Ken Brown | Tracy Goodman | Josie Lightfoot | Genia Ripley | Paula Warner | Jasmin Castilleja* | Norma Garcia* | Jane Landree* | Marie Pequeno* | Kristin Still* |
| Peggy Waters | Sandy Brown | Annelie Graham | Claudia Lively | Justin Rodriguez | Tom Watson | Valiza Castro* | Saul Garcia* | Samantha Lapointe* | Stephanie Peterson* | Robert Stock* |
| Marilyn Roberts | Jamie Brownfield | Scott Graham | Robert Llorenta | Dennis Salbilla | Loyd Wells | Robin Cate* | Judy Garren* | Catherine Leach* | Kristopher Petree* | Mary Sullivan* |
| Janie Kopycynski | Dan Cain | Seth Green | Brenda Lyles | Ron Salsberry | Becky West | Haley Cernosek* | Angela Garza* | Zinnia Lerma* | Diane Phelan* | Mary Sullivan* |
| Jeff Wagner | Daniel Campos | Tommy Green | Pat Malinak | Wendy Salsberry | Darius West | Patricia Chavez* | Courtney Garza* | Jason Lesniewski* | Johnny Phelps* | Wendy Sullivan* |
| Ginny Wagner | Gloria Candelaria | Zerick Guin | Maurice Malinik | Ida Scamilla | Laura West | Elsa Chichio* | Joseph Garza* | Lindsey Lesniewski* | Kimberly Phelps* | Tom Swan* |
| Patti Drake Bodkins | Paul Candelaria | Cynthia Gutierrez | Daniel Martinez | Wendy Salsberry | Michael West | Martha Clorio* | Melissa Ann Garza* | Robin Lewis* | Chad Phillips* | Jaclyn Sweet* |
| Mary Beth Braisington | Michael Capra | Julio Gutierrez | Amber Harbuck | Melanie Martinez | Dan Williams | Amy E Clowers* | Vickey Goertz* | Deborah Lewis Purdy* | Jennifer Plunkett* | Jessica Swenson* |
| Dr. John Brasington | Alba Carretino | Amber Harbuck | Alyta Harrell* | Darrell Mayfield | Herman Williams | Kathi Conaway Berridge* | Laura Gomez* | Janet Liscano* | Scott Pollack* | Stephanie Talley* |
| Nelly Quijano | Bobby Carro | Alyta Harrell* | Jan Harrison | Tonya Mayfield | Judy Williams | Selena Contreras* | Monica Gomez* | Edgar Lopez* | Joan W. Propp* | Jan Teague* |
| Marisol Quijano Buckley | Ben Carroll | Jan Harrison | Martha Carroll | Kourtneia McBride | Willie Williams | Kelly Cook-Costley* | Sherry Green* | Toni Lopez* | Jeremy Purvis* | Dennis Teichelman* |
| Al Campo* | Eddie Carter | Kourtneia McBride | Eddie Carter | Chris McGrath | Paul Windsor | Chase Coppedge* | Christine Coppedge* | Tracy Griffin Giles* | Andrea Lynn* | Jennifer Teichelman* |
| Amy Dougherty* | Marvin Clark | Chris McGrath | Victor Facundo, Jr. | Kimberly McGrath | Donna Wright | Kimberly Crandall | Kimberly Crandall | Katy Grose* | Ryan Marsalis* | Nancy Teichelman* |
| Victor Facundo, Jr. | Sue Clark | Joseph Senn | Dr. Richard Helmle | Doyle McManus | Jerry Wright | Richard Crandall* | Ernie Zardeneta | Jennifer Guerrero* | Steve Martin* | Travis Teichelman* |
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| J. R. Moon | Don Cote | James Skripka | J. R. Moon | Linda Skripka | Richard Alba* | Darlene Daniels* | Katherine Alba* | Mikolajchak* | Erin McBride* | Lissa Twitty* |
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| Alex Sanchez* | Mike Credeur | Kevin Snooks | Alex Sanchez* | Gayle Smith | Peggy Arnold* | Jessica Delacruz* | Scott Harrell* | Scott Harrell* | Lauren J. McElhannon* | Lisa Vavricka* |
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* Education Professionals

Harris County registered voters are able to vote at any Harris County polling location.

- | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|
| Local Voting Locations | Frazier Elementary School
10503 Hughes Road
Houston, TX 77089 | Laura Welch Bush Elementary
9100 Blackhawk Boulevard
Houston, TX 77075 | SJC South Campus Fine Arts Center
13735 Beamer Road
Houston, TX 77089 |
| Beverly Hills Community Center
10201 Kingspoint Road
Houston, TX 77075 | Garfield Elementary School
10301 Hartsok Street
Houston, TX 77034 | Multi Cultural Center
951 Tristar Drive
Webster 77598 | South Belt Elementary School
1801 Riverstone Ranch Road
Houston, TX 77089 |
| El Franco Lee Community Center
9500 Hall Road
Houston 77089 | Genoa Elementary
12900 Alameda Genoa Road
Houston, TX 77034 | Rick Schneider Middle School
8420 Easthaven Boulevard
Houston, TX 77075 | For additional polling locations visit
www.harrisvotes.com . |

Reyna awarded new teacher



Thompson Intermediate officials recognized Manuel Reyna as their New Teacher of the Year. They described him as an amazing dedicated educator who shows Lion pride each day. Thompson staff members congratulated Reyna with a bouquet of chocolate candies as well as a certificate.

Pct. 8 makes drug arrest

A traffic stop for erratic driving led to multiple charges Tuesday, April 20, in the 4000 block of Beltway 8 near Fairmont. At 10:23 p.m., Precinct 8 Deputy A. Gomez observed a black Acura sedan swerve to avoid striking the outside wall on the beltway. Gomez proceeded to follow the vehicle and observed it failing to maintain a single marked lane. Gomez initiated a traffic stop on the vehicle and made contact with the male driver who was identified as 35-year-old Emmanuel R. Contreras. While speaking with Contreras, Gomez detected an odor of alcohol and observed signs of intoxication and a white powdery substance around Contreras' nostril. Gomez proceeded to administer the field sobriety test and determined Contreras was unable to safely operate a motor vehicle. Upon conducting an inventory of the vehicle, Gomez located 1.2 grams of cocaine, 9.5 grams of Xanax and 30 grams of methamphetamine. The Harris County District Attorney's Office accepted a charge of driving while intoxicated and multiple felony charges for possession of controlled substance. Contreras was transported to the Harris County Joint Processing Center for booking. His bonds were set at \$5,100 total.

Home Grown lecture May 6

The Home Grown Gardening free virtual lecture "Benefits of Bats" presented by a Harris County Master Gardeners program coordinator will be at 10 a.m. Thursday, May 6. Registration is required. Visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/home-grown-lecture-series-tickets-143797162183> to register.

Gulf Coast Herb Fair May 5

The Gulf Coast Annual Herb Fair is Wednesday, May 5, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. A luncheon in the Moody Gardens Grand Ballroom featured speaker will be Chef Mary Bass. Cost is \$40 per person. Mail checks to Ellen Perry, 2903 Dominique Dr., Galveston, TX 77551. A garden glass workshop will be held May 4, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. The cost is \$45 per person. Mail checks to Judy Anderson, 726 Beachcomber, Houston, TX 77062. For questions, email Fran Card at pelicanway88@att.net.

Thompson honors students of the month

Each month Thompson Intermediate officials ask teachers to nominate students who show Lion PRIDE (Positive, Respectful, Individual Determined for Excellence). One boy and one girl from each grade level is selected. Students are treated to a special lunch and receive a trophy, plaque and balloon. The celebration is virtual this year so each teacher made a short video about their student and created a slide show on the school website for parents to see. The Thompson staff congratulates these students who were nominated.



Natalie DeHoyos, seventh grade



Dario Rodriguez, seventh grade



Abriana Neco, eighth grade



Teboris Henry, eighth grade

South Belt congratulates student VIPs



South Belt Elementary School officials congratulated the VIPs for the month of April. Teachers chose students based on their ability to display the character trait of the month, responsibility. Shown above, left to right, are (first row) Kailyn Ramos, Mahmoud Harmouche, Sebastian Rodriguez, Aliyah Bhakta, Charlotte Huynh, Reddie Cavillo, Devyn Nguyen, (second row) Corbin Ellis, Liam Tamez, Calvin Huynh, Christopher Melchor, Gabriel Gonzales, Camila Aguirre, Kaptain Scott, (third row) Londyn Moses, Nevaeh

Thomas, Mariah Mendez, Luke D. Sanchez, Arielle Maldonado, Matthew Martinez (fourth row) Amado Gamino, Evelyn Spears, Jacqueline Vo, Sofia Charles, Karrington Brown, Ayden Martinez, Elijah Thomas, (fifth row) Ghazal Zamzam, Samantha DeLuna, Cielo Wright, Emilio De La Garza and Max Villela. Not pictured are Gael Diaz, Jasper Le-Houng, Lynnce Srun, Nicholas Torres and Alessandra Vasquez.

Photo by Lakitha Thomas, counselor

Thompson honors school librarian



In honor of school librarian day, Thompson Intermediate staff recognized Marybeth Nicol, describing her as a fabulous technology wiz, textbook guru, small



group instructor, pentathlon coach, teacher and student-supporting rockstar. The staff is thankful to have her on campus.

Bay Area Chorus hosts online auction May 3

The Bay Area Chorus of Greater Houston will host its first online auction and gala "The Song Goes On." Plan to enjoy the daily Broadway tunes, which are interspersed within the auction, from

"Wicked," "Les Miserables," "Secret Garden," "Anastasia," "Phantom of the Opera," "Paint Your Wagon" and "She Loves Me." Hear these delightful melodies from BAC members and Jesus Garcia,

special guest and internationally renowned tenor.

While enjoying Broadway numbers, one can pursue auction experiences and items. Anyone 18 years and older is eligible to enter with the exception of the wine pull which is 21 and older. Auction highlights include a five-day getaway in Crystal Beach, First Class Sporting Clay Shooting, Ultimate Golfers' Dream package, Wine pull (available to those in the Greater Houston Area due to shipping laws) and more.

The auction will begin May 3 at 10 a.m. and remain open until 9 p.m. May 7. A

"fire sale" will be held May 8 with any remaining items.

As one of the oldest non-profit Houston choral groups, Bay Area Chorus has brought performances to Houston and the Texas Gulf Coast since 1965. The mission is the same now as it was then: to enrich lives through choral music. Community's support allows them to continue that mission.

For additional information on the auction and gala, visit <http://www.bayareachorus.org/the-song-goes-on-2021-online-auction-gala/>. For more information, email info@bayareachorus.org.

Remember When

45 years ago (1976)

Harris County Precinct 1 Commissioner Tom Bass and his assistant, Mike Nobile, were guest speakers at the Southeast Civic Association. They gave an update on work being done in the Edgemoor area to alleviate flooding.

30 years ago (1991)

Dorothy Wells, fourth-grade teacher and team leader from Frazier Elementary, was named Educator of the Year by the Pasadena Knights of Columbus Council 3700.

40 years ago (1981)

The pilot of an Eagle Airlines craft carrying eight passengers landed the airplane safely near the Gulf Freeway at Edgemoor after both engines failed.

35 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.

The Pasadena Independent School District board of trustees replaced the 12-grade administrative personnel pay system with a more flexible six-grade system.

Officials at PISD warned trustees that maintaining level spending and transferring reserve money into the maintenance fund would probably not be enough to thwart a tax increase.

A decision was expected to determine whether the Green Tree subdivision would be allowed to break away from the Clear Creek Independent School District. Residents were seeking to join the Pearland ISD for "social, economical and educational" reasons.

On a tip from a Sagemont resident, South Belt area constable deputies arrested two white male juveniles, ages 14 and 16, in a house in the 11200 block of Sagemeadow. 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.

An undercover police officer was shot on Nyack Street in Scarsdale, while attempting to buy 1,000 units

of LSD. The officer was listed in good condition after being shot in the leg with rat shot pellets. Two suspects faced charges of attempted capital murder.

25 years ago (1996)

The U.S. assistant surgeon general presented the South Belt Brio Community Assistance panel its 1995 Auxiliary Mission Support Award.

Voters in Clear Creek Independent School District overwhelmingly approved a \$63 million bond referendum.

20 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 Build-

ing.

Kathy Connolly, Meador Elementary assistant principal, was named the new principal of Morales Elementary beginning with the 2001-2002 school year.

Houston police arrested two Pasadena males in connection with random shootings at homes in the 12000 block of Flushing Meadows.

The Blues Brothers Cook-off team won first place in the fifth annual South Belt Spectacular Cook-off.

15 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.

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 hijacked from a Highland Meadow resident.

The Bank of America on Blackhawk at Beltway 8 was robbed for the third time in less than a year.

10 years ago (2011)

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.

5 years ago (2016)

Multiple assaults were reported as taking place along the Blackhawk hike-and-bike trail, sending two female victims to the hospital on the same day. Despite increased police patrols at the trail, no arrests were made.

Chris Clark retired from the 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 also stepped down from his role as chair of the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce. A founding member of the organization, Clark had served four terms

as chamber president.

1 year ago (2020)

A 20-year-old man was taken into custody early Saturday, April 25, after allegedly shooting his mother to death at her home in the 10100 block of Sagedale, Deputies from the Harris County Sheriff's Office and Precinct 2 Constable Chris Diaz's office responded to the incident at approximately 12:20 a.m. According to investigators, the son and his 37-year-old mother were in a verbal argument when, at one point, the male went outside to retrieve a gun from a car, came back inside the house and shot his mother multiple times. Theresa Winters was pronounced dead at the scene. Winters' son, Jacob McMurrugh, was apprehended and later charged with murder and booked into the Harris County Jail. Investigators said elderly relatives, ages 91 and 96, were also inside the residence at the time of the incident. Winters was a longtime South Belt resident, attending both Thompson Intermediate and Dobie High School.

The Harris County Flood Control District began construction on two new stormwater detention basins in the Clear Creek watershed. Funded by the 2018 bond program, the new basins will provide safe storage for more than 566 million gallons of excess stormwater. Construction started in mid-April on the final phase of the South Belt Stormwater Detention Basin, located near the Beamer Ditch at Beamer Road and South Fork Boulevard. Construction also began on the Dagg Stormwater Detention Basin on Clear Creek at Dagg Road near Christia V. Adair Park. Both basins were part of a \$16.9 million construction contract awarded by Harris County Commissioners Court Jan. 28, 2020.



Over The Back Fence by Alexis

CONGRATS, ARELY AND CHRISTOPHER!

Congratulations are in order for Arely Dominguez, granddaughter of South Belt residents Joe and Yolanda Dominguez, for her marriage to Christopher Gonzalez of Oak Island, N.C., on Saturday, April 3, 2021. Best wishes are sent to the happy couple from all the Dominguez family members and friends.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, STACEY!

Happy birthday wishes are sent to long-time South Belt resident Stacey Vaughn who enjoys a birthday May 4 from her mother Sandy Robb, friends and the Leader staff. She and her mother have volunteered for the Leader Christmas program for years, giving many hours of time during the holiday. She also donates money to the program by collecting aluminum cans throughout the year.

SCHOOL DAZE

The following staff of the Pasadena ISD celebrate birthdays April 29 through May 5.

Atkinson Elementary

The day for a party for Ashley Garza is May 3.

Burnett Elementary

Erika Gonzalez enjoys a birthday May

3. May 4 is the day to send Daren Dibble a birthday greeting.

Bush Elementary

Send a happy birthday greeting to Nicole Holguin on May 3.

Meador Elementary

Best wishes for a happy birthday are sent May 4 to Paulina Rivas-Lopez.

Stuchbery Elementary

Best wishes for a great birthday May 3 are sent to Cheryl Fox.

Beverly Hills Intermediate

Lindy Pace celebrates a birthday May 5.

Thompson Intermediate

Light the candles April 29 for a special celebration for Nicole Horne-Sherman.

Dobie High

The day for a present for Laura Sharpless is April 29. A double-layer birthday cake April 30 is in order for Erica Moreno and Mathew Ortiz. The day for a party for Marcia Griffin and Robert McDonald is May 2. Tanya Morales enjoys a birthday May 3.

FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS

For those wanting a birthday mentioned in this section, email mynews@southbelt

leader.com with "OTBF: Friends Celebrate Birthdays" in the subject line by Friday noon for the next week's publication.

Thursday, April 29: Kevin James, Jonathan Ellis, Ben Bryant and Melissa Rahman; Friday, April 30: Norma Partida, Cindy Munoz, Diana Guzman, Scott Koplin and Mathew Ortiz; Saturday, May 1: Kenneth Zermeno, Ladonna Alvarez, John Anderson, Elizabeth Lastovica, Varek Herrera, David Payne, Shanna Mounce, Clint Simmons and Stephanie Sirt; Sunday, May 2: Chris Weatherford, Douglas Redhun, Troy Goffney, David Tho Monday, May 3: Craig Pittman, Keith Richardson, Tanya Morales and Brandie Ash; Tuesday, May 4: Stacy Vaughn, Scott Siscoe and Tamara Fisher; and Wednesday, May 5: Jennifer Bustamante, Tori French, Alice Jennitt, Pat Becker and Amanda Zamora.

LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS

Email announcements of anniversaries, congratulations, events etc., to mynews@southbeltleader.com with OTBF in the subject line by Friday noon for the next week's issue.

SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

San Jacinto softball nearing South title

San Jacinto College is all but locked into the No. 1 seed out of the South Region as the Region XIV race nears a close with the locals at 37-8 overall, including 14-2 in conference play.

The locals will take on Division II power LSU-Eunice April 30 at home before finishing regional play with two games May 1 against Blinn and two more May 5 against Alvin, both at home.

Heading into play against Coastal Bend, the

Coyotes continued to put together some gaudy numbers.

Sophomore pitcher Cat Cavazos has been one of the nation's leaders for much of the season with 15 wins (15-2 overall record, one save) and a 1.81 earned run average.

She had also struck out 112 batters in 100.3 innings of work.

Looking ahead to the Region XIV tournament and possibly beyond, the Coyotes also figure to call on Ronni Grofman in the

Continued on Page 6

Lady Longhorns set to battle Summer Creek

With six seniors in key roles and three others ready to contribute at any nod, Dobie varsity softball head coach Robin Rackley was counting on senior leadership to lead her team in its bidistrict series against Summer Creek.

Bidistrict Softball Dobie versus Summer Creek

Game 2: April 29, at S. Creek, 6:30 p.m.

Game 3: April 30, at S. Creek, 6:30 p.m., if necessary

Note: Best-of-three series began April 28.

Dobie won 20 overall games and wound up second in District 22-6A with a 10-2 mark, yet Rackley is fine with her team being considered the underdog. She says her Lady Longhorns will embrace it.

"We have a great overall group, and along with six seniors who have starting roles, we have some great juniors and sophomores. It's all about playing catch on defense and coming up

Continued on Page 6



Dobie's Aliyah Barajas (15) slides into third base ahead of the tag during the Lady Longhorns' easy win over Rayburn earlier this month at the Pasadena ISD Complex. The Lady Longhorns won 20 overall games during the regular season and went 10-2 in league play to grab the No. 2 playoff seed out of District 22-6A. The locals began a series against Summer Creek April 28. Photo by Donna Alsdorf

First since 1996 Wolverines wrap up 24-6A baseball title

1996. Quite obviously, no player on the 2021 Clear Brook varsity baseball roster had even been born in 1996.

The significance? The Wolverines' 25-year district championship drought has ended after the Wolverines beat the rest of the field to the finish line, going 10-2 overall to grab the top playoff seed out of District 24-6A with the postseason due to run May 6-8.

Clear Springs entered 2021 as the presumed favorite to win the title, while Dickinson and others were deemed to be in the mix.

The Wolverines, losers of seven of eight games entering league play, were not necessarily considered as contenders.

There was an ugly 11-6

loss to Clear Falls early on within 24-6A play that certainly could have derailed things, but instead the Wolverines responded with eight consecutive wins to get to 9-1.

The capper came as standout hurler Aaron Calhoun, a University of Oklahoma signee, fanned 14 in a 2-0 win over Brazoswood. Despite an 8-2 loss to Dickinson, the Wolverines clinched the championship by virtue of the other squads having four losses with just one game to play.

The Wolverines then celebrated by beating that preseason favorite Clear Springs group 14-7 to end the regular season.

Calhoun smacked a two-run homer for the Wolverines, and sopho-

Continued on Page 6

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Brook's Dickson races to state championships

Camryn Dickson of Clear Brook was among the many stars at the Region III Track and Field Championships April 23-24 at Turner Stadium in Humble, winning the 6A 100 and 200 sprints to reach the state championships for the second time in her career.

The junior made her way to Austin in 2019 as a freshman in the 100 and placed eighth, but is clearly looking for much more this time around.

The University Interscholastic League All-Classes State Track and Field Championships will be held May 7-8 at Mike A. Myers Stadium on the University of Texas at Austin campus.

In getting to Austin, Dickson simply kept what has been a dominant season for herself in both events, first qualifying as the top seed in the 100 and 200 in qualifying heats and then claiming gold when it mattered most.

She bettered her personal best in the 200, winning at 23.29 seconds for the gold medal while Katy junior Jada Campos grabbed the other state-qualifying berth at 23.99.

The 23.29 clocking for Dickson is the country's third-fastest of the 2021 season as compiled by Texas Mile Split.

Just over an hour earlier, it was Dickson first to the tape at 11.41 in the 100, with Campos also second at 11.52.

While Dickson will continue her season in Austin, a terrifically successful 2021 campaign came to a close for other Clear Brook and Dobie athletes at the Region III meet.

Dobie senior distance runner Alberto Campa, who over the past two seasons became one of the region's best in both cross-country and track and field, placed fifth in the 3,200 run April 23 and then was seventh in the

Continued on Page 6



Clear Brook junior sprinter Camryn Dickson (right) has gone unbeaten in the 100 and 200 sprints this season in reaching the UIL state championships May 8 in Austin. At left is Lady Wolverines' head coach Erica Alexander, a former multi-state title winner as a sprinter at Brook.

Longhorns to finish third

While Deer Park and Memorial each went 10-0 to set up a season-ending series for the District 22-6A baseball championship and runner-up spots, the Longhorns have secured third place and a bidistrict playoff date with a to-be-determined foe.

The Longhorns went into the 22-6A finale at South Houston April 27 after press time at 7-4, good for the third-place spot and subsequent No. 3 playoff seed.

The locals successfully bounced back from series losses to Deer Park and Memorial by downing Rayburn 6-2 April 20 and then producing an 8-2 win over the Texans April 23.

In the opener, Colton Cox doubled and drove in a pair, Jacob Perez also doubled, scored a run and knocked in another.

Christian Medina also drove in a run in support of winning pitcher Noah Torres, who struck out five and allowed just one

earned run over six innings.

On April 23, the Longhorns built an 8-0 lead in cruising to the 8-2 win as Matthew Castillo allowed three hits over six innings, striking out six for the victory.

Perez had a double among his two hits, scored a run and knocked in two, while Torres also doubled for one of his two hits, scored twice and drove in a run.

Cox also continued to swing a hot bat, going 3 for 4 with a run scored and two driven in.

The bidistrict baseball playoffs will play out May 6-8, with the Longhorns waiting on action in District 21-6A to conclude before postseason seeds are concluded, with teams like Kingwood, Summer Creek and North Shore battling it out till the end in regular season play.

In District 22-6A play heading into play April 27, Deer Park was at 11-0 for

the top spot, with Memorial a game behind at 10-1 with one to play.

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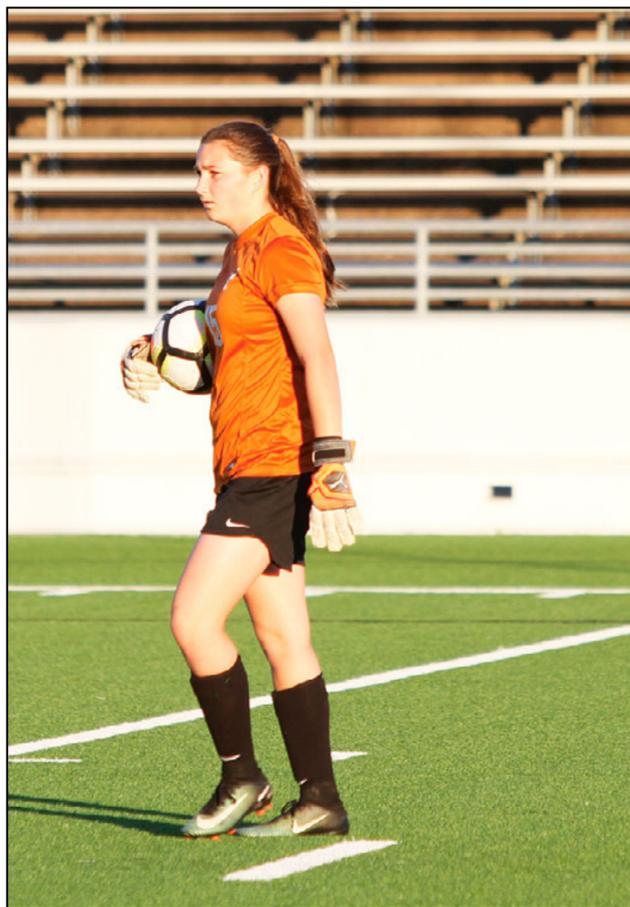
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Lady Longhorns score all-district soccer accolades

McKenzie Rankins, Sr.
22-6A Goalkeeper of the Year



Goalkeeper of the Year honors in District 22-6A varsity girls' soccer went to Dobie's McKenzie Rankins as she wrapped up a brilliant four-year career as the Lady Longhorns' last line of defense.

Photos by Donna Alsdorf

Laura Diaz
22-6A All-District First Team



Senior defender Laura Diaz (23) solidified the back end of Dobie's defense on the field as the locals secured third place in the District 22-6A standings and advanced to the postseason. For her play, Diaz was named a first team all-district performer.

Karen Hernandez.
22-6A All-District First Team



Lady Longhorns' sophomore Karen Hernandez led the team in scoring this season on her way to first team all-district status.

Francesca Reyes
22-6A All-District First Team



Dobie senior Francesca Reyes (13) wrapped up a solid senior season as she stabilized the Lady Longhorns' midfield during the teams' run to a third-place finish. She then earned first team all-district honors.

All-District 22-6A Varsity Girls' Soccer

- Most Valuable Player**
Audrey Addison, Deer Park, Sr.
- Offensive Most Valuable Player**
Camden Chance, Deer Park, Sr.
- Defensive Most Valuable Player**
Makayla Baxter, Deer Park, Sr.
- Goalkeeper of the Year**
McKenzie Rankins, Dobie, Sr.
- Newcomer of the Year**
Esmeralda Bravo, South Houston, Sr.
- Utility Player of the Year**
Audrey Addison, Deer Park, Sr.
- Senior of the Year**
Cambree Catalano, Channelview
- Coach of the Year**
Jose Diaz, Rayburn

First Team All-District Selections

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Deer Park | Memorial |
| <i>Mariana Alvarez-Garcia</i> | <i>Kaitlynn De La O</i> |
| <i>Hannah Reed</i> | <i>Leslie Robles</i> |
| <i>Kaitlyn Harvey</i> | <i>Audrey Serrato</i> |
| <i>Kylie Hyde</i> | <i>Gabreala Marshall</i> |
| <i>Abigail Wheeler</i> | |
| <i>Abigail Scott</i> | |
| Dobie | Channelview |
| <i>Laura Diaz</i> | <i>Cambree Catalano</i> |
| <i>Karen Hernandez</i> | <i>Lucia Hernandez</i> |
| <i>Francesca Reyes</i> | <i>Vanessa Martinez</i> |
| Rayburn | South Houston |
| <i>Samantha Mata</i> | <i>Esmeralda Bravo</i> |
| <i>Juliet Andrade</i> | <i>Evelyn Dana</i> |
| Pasadena | Dobie - Second Team |
| <i>Jolette Zapata</i> | <i>Naydelin Almaguer</i> |
| | <i>Kori Pounds</i> |
| | <i>Jacqueline Saucedo</i> |
| | <i>Marina Vasquez</i> |
| | Dobie - Honorable Mention |
| | <i>Julie Garcia - Aylin Reyes - Ashlyn Ross</i> |

Junior to go for gold

Dickson advances to state; Campa finishes with PR

Continued from Page 5

1,600 final April 24. At the 3,200 distance, Stratford's Emanuel Galindo took gold medalist honors at 9 minutes, 14.61 seconds, while Campa held strong to the finish line for fifth at 9:21.15.

It was a personal record for Campa at that distance.

Strake Jesuit's Anthony Gregory was the gold medalist in the 1,600 at 4 minutes, 10.86 seconds, and Campa wound up seventh in a time of 4:17.95.

In the end, Campa posted the state's 11th-fastest time in the 1,600 at the regional level.

Dobie senior Ambreon Jones capped off her stellar career as she was 10th in the high jump at 5 feet.

Meanwhile, the Longhorn boys' 4x400 relay squad of Ty Irchirl, Jeremiah Jackson, Zach Wallace and Damian Garcia finished 14th overall in the event with a time of 3:37.87.

Dobie senior sprinter Briana Haywood also competed in the 100 prelims, with her time of 12.95 placing her 15th.

Clear Brook freshman Azayla Smith certainly appears to have a bright future after she was ninth overall in the 400 prelims, narrowly missing a spot in the finals at 1:01.40.

With the 400 prelims coming in such close proximity to those of the 4x400 girls' relay, Smith opted out.

As a result, the Lady Wolverines' foursome included Amanda Benjamin, Ja'Delle Major and Dickson as well as freshman Jizzale Davis.

In that prelim, the Lady Wolverines were ninth, putting together a time of 4:17.91.

An early look at the state field of qualifiers in the Class 6A 100 and 200 events shows just eight athletes in total for 16 spots.

Plano East junior Tiriah

Kelley won the Region I 100 at 11.75, with senior Mykayla Hayes of Northwest Nelson second at 11.79.

Kelley also claimed the top spot in the 200 at 24.00, with Hayes second in a time of 24.73 as those two will represent Region I.

A similar scenario played out in Region II as DeSoto senior Ja'Era Griffin won both the 100 (11.39) and 200 (23.89), with Westfield senior Anivea Gilbert second in both, posting times of 11.42 and 23.94, respectively.

And in Region VI, it was San Antonio Reagan's Jasmine Montgomery winning the 100 at 11.27 and also championing the 200 in a time of 23.27.

Second place in Region IV in both the 100 and 200 was Schertz Clemens' Saniya Friendly at 11.58 and 23.94, respectively.

Now all that remains is the state meet.

Brook wins 24-6A baseball title

Continued from Page 5

more Landon Hunt had three hits and scored three runs.

Joseph Lamm doubled, scored three more, and Ryan Delezal and Chase Stanley also drove in two runs.

The Wolverines led 6-0 after two innings and

plated five in the fourth as Calhoun went the first four frames on the mound and then shut it down. Ben Cogdell and Carson Wagner finished up.

So while Clear Springs went against Clear Creek April 26 at Clear Brook to settle third place, the Wolverines began their postseason tune-up.

At 15-11-1 overall, the Wolverines may get overlooked in the postseason, but why? In a best-of-three series, Calhoun gives his team a chance to take the first game against anyone.

Conversely, Calhoun also figures to give the Wolverines an edge in a one-game, winner-take-all format. He's that good.

SJC softballers lead conference

Continued from Page 5

.478 with a team-high 34 steals and six home runs and 39 runs batted in. Maggie Childs, meanwhile, is at .345 with a team-best 13 doubles.

As for Tamera McKnight, she is at .356 with team leads of seven homers and 42 runs batted in for the locals.

It's Dobie versus Summer Creek in first round

Bidistrict playoffs get going

Continued from Page 5

three innings over South Houston April 23 at the Pasadena ISD Complex. Jasmin Benitez, one of the honorees, was a star of the game as she was 4 for 4 with two runs scored and four driven in.

Marisa Perla homered and drove in three runs while scoring two more, and Alijah Barajas drove in three runs as part of a 2 for 2 performance at the plate as Dobie got its 20th win.

And now it's on to the playoffs, where each team starts with a 0-0 record. Dobie is intent on a deep postseason with a 19-1 win in an abbreviated

Senior Night was celebrated as the Lady Longhorns prepped for the postseason with a 19-1 win in an abbreviated

Senior Night was celebrated as the Lady Longhorns prepped for the postseason with a 19-1 win in an abbreviated



At right, Dobie catcher Jayla Arenas frames a pitch from teammate Marisa Perla during the Lady Longhorns' easy win over Rayburn at the Pasadena ISD Complex. Dobie, seeded second in District 22-6A, is set to take on Summer Creek in the bidistrict round of the playoffs. The second game is April 29, at Summer Creek High School at 6:30 p.m.

Photo by Donna Alsdorf

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CALENDAR

It is advisable to verify if face-to-face meetings are held. For AA meetings, visit https://aahouston.org/meetings; for Narcotics Anonymous meetings, visit www.hascona.com; for Al-Anon meetings, visit https://www.houstonalananon.org/online-meetings.html.

NOTE: Clear Lake Bridge Club - Visit https://aclunit174.org/clearlak/clean-blue-working/clearlake.html or email at jpochsner@aol.com for information.

THURSDAY, APRIL 29
7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., and Saturday at 7:30 a.m. First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit https://aahouston.org/meetings/.

7:30 a.m.
Rotary Club of Pearland - Meets Thursdays at Pearland Chamber of Commerce, 6117 Broadway St., Pearland, or online on Zoom (attendee preference). See Pearland Chamber of Commerce website (calendar) or call 281-485-3634.

Noon
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or online at https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners. Call 713-686-6300 for information.

7 p.m.
Kirkwood Civic Association - meets on a conference call April 29. Call Ericka McCutcheon at 281-989-9990 for details. Civic club meeting conference dial 605-475-6006 Access Code: 4362419. Visit Kirkwood Civic Club's Facebook page for more information.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Women's Group, open meeting, 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church. Call 713-661-4200 or visit https://nastuff.com/.

FRIDAY, APRIL 30
7 a.m.
AA - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
Noon
Hometown Heroes - Ballroom dances Mondays and Wednesdays, 2 - 3:30 p.m. and Fridays, noon - 1:30 p.m. These are not dance lessons but casual dances. Call 281-554-1180 for details.

7 p.m.
Bay Area Genealogical Society - Virtual attendees must register. Michael Strauss speaks on "The Road to Independence: Researching your Revolutionary War Ancestors." Visit www.TxBayAreaGen.org.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com or visit https://nastuff.com/.

7 p.m.
Congregation Shaar Hashalom - All services will be performed online. To join the Friday night service or the 9:30 a.m. Saturday service, email President@Shaarhashalom.org to get the link.

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

Alcoholics Anonymous - meeting at CrossRoads UMC Wednesday, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Call 281-484-9243.

SATURDAY, MAY 1
7:30 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
9:30 a.m.
Congregation Shaar Hashalom - See Friday's notice.

SUNDAY, MAY 2
8 p.m.
AA - at CrossRoads UMC. See Friday's notice.

MONDAY, MAY 3
10 a.m.
Al-Anon Deer Park - Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P Street, Deer Park, back of church. Call 409-454-5720 or visit https://www.houstonalananon.org/.

Noon
AA - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday's notice.
6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Toastmasters - The Young Professionals Southeast Toastmasters Club #05324194 meets on a virtual site at https://youngprofessionalsoastmasters.com/. To be a guest, select the

"contact us" button on the home page to obtain access. Contact Karen Nunn at 832-722-9061 or Carolyn Carmichael at 832-372-3565 for details.
7 p.m.
AA - Saint Luke's 12-Step Recovery, open meeting, education Bldg., room 4, 11011 Hall Rd. Call Jesse at 832-725-8479 or Rita at 281-309-2801.
NA - Vigilance Group. See Friday's notice.
TUESDAY, MAY 4
7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
Noon
AA - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday's notice.
6:30 p.m.
Bay Area Quilt Guild - Meets at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, 10310 Scarsdale Blvd. Fellowship at 6:30 p.m.; meeting/program at 7 p.m. Call Debby Benson at 713-248-8757 or visit www.FaceBook.com/BayAreaQuiltGuild.
7 p.m.
Sagmont Civic Club - Meetings are the first Tuesday, on Zoom or at The Gardens, 12001 Beamer Rd. Call Kay Barbour at 713-419-3545 for details.
NA - Vigilance Group. See Friday's notice.
WEDNESDAY, MAY 5
7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
Noon
AA - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday's notice.
7 p.m.
NA - Vigilance Group. See Friday's notice.
Bay Area Turning Point Crisis Intervention - Call 281-286-2525 (24-hour crisis hotline) for confidential domestic violence/sexual abuse support group for women. Visit bayareaturningpoint.org.
8 p.m.
Alcoholics Anonymous - CrossRoads UMC meeting. See Friday's notice.
THURSDAY, MAY 6
7:30 a.m.
Rotary Club of Pearland - See Thursday's notice.
Noon
AA - See Thursday's notice.
7 p.m.
NA - See Thursday's notice.

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Clear Creek ISD candidates respond to *Leader* questionnaire

Continued from Page 2

At-Large Position A



Jonathan Cottrell

Age: 44
Education: Bachelor of Arts, UHCL; Clear Lake High School, class of '94
Marital status/Children: Single father of three daughters currently attending CCISD. Elementary, intermediate and high school.

What makes you best qualified to serve the residents of Clear Creek ISD? (background and reason for interest)? (75 words or less)
I am the only candidate who's a product of the district (Clear Lake class of '94) and have spent the past ten years volunteering in many areas of the district: PTA President at Gilmore Elementary for two

years, and current 1st VP of Programs, CCISD Citizens Finance Advisory Committee, Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and Clear Creek Education Foundation Board member 6 years and Chairman one year.

How many CCISD Board meetings have you attended? (75 words or less)
As a parent, volunteer, and Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and Clear Creek Education Foundation Board member 6 years and Chairman one year.

How many CCISD Board meetings have you attended? (75 words or less)
As a parent, volunteer, and Board Member of the Clear Creek Education Foundation, I attended many CCISD Board of Trustees meetings over the past ten years. This number would be difficult to calculate.

What are your future plans for CCISD under the new Superintendent? (75 words or less)
Given my experience and broad knowledge of the district I can work with Dr. Williams on the strengths that make CCISD so amazing. I'd like to ensure the superintendent is meeting the goals set out in the 2020 five year Strategic Plan.

What do you see as the biggest challenges facing CCISD? (75 words or less)
Currently, I believe the biggest challenges facing CCISD

are confidence and trust. The timing of the pandemic and hiring a new superintendent is unfortunate to say the least. We must reassure the parents decisions made for students safety is paramount and the quality of education will continue to be a priority.

What are your thoughts that all students should return back to face-to-face for the 2021-2022 school year? (75 words or less)
CCISD has a very robust Safe to Return committee with over 200 members, this includes parents, teachers, community members and health care experts. This committee sets the guidelines for the safety and well-being of all students, teachers, and district employees. I would personally love to see students return face to face in the coming year.

If elected, what specific issues would you address in the district? (75 words or less)
As a team of 8, I look forward to working with my fellow trustees in the best interest of all students. Communication must be improved between teachers, parents, and students. Also, listening to the parents to address concerns of transparency is key to continuing the success in the district.

Michael Creedon

Age: 56
Occupation: Maintenance Manager for ExxonMobil
Education: Masters of Civil Engineering
Marital Status/Children: Married with 3 CCISD students

What makes you best qualified to serve the residents of Clear Creek ISD? (background and reason for interest)? (75 words or less)
Senior manager with ExxonMobil and US Army Reserves (Rank of Colonel) with advanced planning, budgeting, and leadership skills. Committed to serving our nation and now wish to serve our community. Passion for education and representing the best interests of our 42000 students.

How many CCISD Board meetings have you attended? (75 words or less)
None in person during the last year because of COVID. However, I view the recordings.

What are your future plans for CCISD under the new Superintendent? (75 words or less)
I will work with the Superintendent to create aggressive goals, sound policy, and evaluate its impact in a fiscally conservative manner to the taxpayer.

What do you see as the biggest challenges facing CCISD? (75 words or less)
Effective remote learning and fiscal pressure will challenge CCISD in its mission to educate and create citizens for our communities.

What are your thoughts that all students should return back to face-to-face for the 2021-2022 school year? (75 words or less)
I do not believe that the District should mandate all students to return to face to face. I believe that Clear Connections should continue for those that wish for that option. The District needs to embrace remote learning as a tool to prepare our students for the future. Business and Industry are embracing the virtual world and our students need to be prepared.

If elected, what specific issues would you address in the district? (75 words or less)
My priorities will be the safety/health/welfare of the students, teacher retention, special services, and remote learning while being fiscally responsible to the taxpayer.

students every opportunity to achieve their highest potential. I have the Educational know how with two doctorates that allow me to analyze, research and make intelligent decisions. I also have the practical experience in management, fiscal responsibility, conflict resolution, and teamwork, having been CEO of both a for-profit and a not-for-profit corporation.

How many CCISD Board meetings have you attended? (75 words or less)
This is the first time I am running for CCISD Board of Trustee and haven't previously attended a meeting. I look forward to doing so in the future.

What are your future plans for CCISD under the

new Superintendent? (75 words or less)
To work in conjunction with the Board of Trustees, the Superintendent, and staff, in serving the students and citizenry of CCISD. To provide guidelines and protocol to the Superintendent, that will promote the teaching to students with the skills needed to function and excel in society; and to listen and oversee the Superintendent's recommendations and execution of approved plans.

What do you see as the biggest challenges facing CCISD? (75 words or less)
Security- in its different forms, be they in Health area such as now with the Pandemic, Mental Health which has now been aggravated & we

need to early detect & prevent possible outbreaks; Drugs & Human Trafficking, is a very real situation that is taking place in our schools & outside of it, with young kids being used in exchange for drugs; Violent behavior & Bullying, where close proximity has brought out intolerance.

What are your thoughts that all students should return back to face-to-face for the 2021-2022 school year? (75 words or less)
I believe that if we go back to the Brick and Mortar system only, we should continue to take all the precautions necessary for the aftermath of this epidemic and any other epidemic or mutations. I also believe that we have learned we can and should offer alter-

natives such as Virtual learning. We need to flex and learn from the times and focus on what is best for the student - in whatever form it takes.

If elected, what specific issues would you address in the district? (75 words or less)
In addition to Security above, one of the other main issues will be to be responsive and inclusive of the diversity of our student population. We need to do a better job of integrating our Hispanic community. Both the students and the parents. We need to have Board members, teachers and staff that are representative of these groups, where they feel they too can achieve greatness. My goal is to have ZERO drop out rate.

Frazier names attendance, honor rolls

Frazier Elementary officials announced the perfect attendance and honor rolls for the third nine-weeks.

Perfect attendance
Pre-k
Josiah Adams, Ariana Barrientos, Ximena Betancourt, Trinity Burnett, Humber-to Chapa, Jeyko De Hoyos-Ponce, Emari Dunbar, Logan Erickson, Arian Garcia, Ivy Gonzalez, Hailey Guajardo, Jorge Guereca Ruiz, Susie Guillen and Jordan Jimenez.

Liam Katsikes, Thiago Maldonado, Caleb Martinez, Lexxa Martinez, Maddison Mcdonald, Meha Mobley, Blake Oliver, Leilany Orellana, Samuel Palacios, Izaiah Perez, Ka'leigha Ramirez, Ayden Reyna, Liam Romero, Azelie Tamegnon, Mavis Trevino, Layla Valle, Christopher Vargas and James Villanueva.

Kindergarten
Ashley Aguilier, A'meliya Ailsworth, Robert Arellano, Makayla Bedolla Santos, Alexander Boone, Ava Boone, Levi Burk, Andrew Chapa, Azil Chavez, Brayden Deleon, Liliana Elabdallah, Shaikh Farzam, Melanie Galaviz, Xavier Garcia, Blas Garza, Montserrat Garza, Alyssa Gomez and Esly Gonzalez.

Lucas Graham, Allison Guox Barrientos, Jacob Guzman, Allison Hernandez, Ariana Hernandez, Edgar Hernandez, Orzora Herrera, Michael Hollie, Elliott Koerner, Robyn Matthews, Elena Mejia, Adalynn Mejorado, Priscilla Melendez, Jesus Mesta, Chiara Moreno, Aiden Munoz Murcia, Javari Nelson and Natalia Oke.

Nashla Pache, Bailey Pharms, Noah Pharms, Isabella Potvin, Zlatan Puente, Cristian Ramirez, Trey Rivon, Anthony Rodriguez, Edgar Ruiz, Jayden Saldivar, Santiago Saldivar, Anoir Salem, Aliana Sanchez, Adalina Sosa, Aurora Stephens, George Stephens, Isaac Torres, Isabella Trevino, Alina Villasenor, Ariana Vizcarra, Jeremiah Vizcarra and Wyatt West.

Abdiel Hernandez and Esteban Hernandez Sifuentes.
Camille Hutchison, Isabel Irizarry, Guadalupe Lopez, Kimberly Lopez, Jayden Martinez, Nevaeh Mata-Williams, Kayden Mitchell, Arra Munoz, Simon Nguyen, Christian Orellana Sarmiento, Noah Perales, Armando Reyes, April Sample, Gabriel Sanchez, Felipe Tell-zee, Blake Turnipseed, Jancarlos Velasquez, Emily Villarreal and Levyn Walker.

Honor roll
Third grade

Ethan Alonso, Reagan Aziz, Melanie Chavez, Gabriella Griffin, Mia Martinez, Dorin Murray, Suri Nguyen, Tyler Nguyen, Natalie Penaloza, Kobbie Rodriguez, Presley Shelton and Zylah Vargas.

Fourth grade
Emily Armenta, Alexandria Arnes, Alexandra Betancourt, Nevaeh Bumgarner, Gisselle Flores-Galvan, Khloe Garcia, Carlee Guerrero, Emma Gurusqueta, Esteban Hernandez Sifuentes, Izaiah Rivas and Blake Turnipseed.

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Ages 14-18

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First grade
Ivorieana Adams, Aurora Aguinaga, Mia Amaro, Mia Amaro, Arceli Apunzo, Alonso Boone, Eliana Chavez, Kason Cook, Drayden Copeland, Cristiano De La Rosa, Aeden Escobar, Geovanny Flores, Blake Galvan, Ana Garcia, Alexander Gordon and Melanie Gutierrez.

Raul Gutierrez, Eduardo Hernandez, Jaxon Jimenez, Lazandro Leal, Chasity Lopez, Genesis Martinez, Ximena Mesta, Herlinda Munoz, Luke Nguyen, Lilina Nunez, Braylin Orega, Gabriella Rivas, Nathan Rivera, Luna Robles Pena, Evan Rodriguez and Savanna Rodriguez.

Victoria Salazar, Andrew Salinas, Jorge Sanchez, Luke Stephens, Michael Thomas, Zoraya Vargas, Isabella Villarreal and Saide West.

Second grade
Lewis Adams, Mason Aguirre, Michael Aguirre, Logan Betancourt, Natalia Betancourt, Tyler Bowers, Giuliana Brensike, Lizzy Castellanos-Ortiz, Victoria Chapa, Camila Fernandez, Audrey Gonzales, Julianna Guerra, Sophia Guerrero, Adelyn Guillen, Megan Hernandez and Carlisle Hutchison.

Kameron Mitchell, Kyle Nguyen, Magdalena Perales, Kevin Pham, Alejandro Puente, Anthony Ramirez, Kevin Richardson, Rafael Rojas Ruiz, Andre Romero, Marie Sanchez, Harmony Stephens, Julio Torres, Jayden Turcios, Dyland Velasquez, Isabelle Vovarrubias and Joel Williams.

Third grade
Miguel Armenta, Reagan Aziz, Conner Ball, Ke'omni Barnes, Jeremy Battle-Goodrum, Adam Bowman, Richard Brown, Vincent Castorena, Melanie Chavez, Jadira Duarte Ponce, Reina Duarte Ponce, Julius Enriquez, Fabian Fernandez, Anthony Ferrufino, Jaquelin Flores and Grace Flynn.

Ariana Gracia, Gabriella Griffin, Isabella Guillen, Carmelo Hernandez, Elijah Hernandez, Sasha Herrera, Jacob Kats, Camille Lilly, Victor Lopez, Marley Manriquez, Emily Martinez, Mia Martinez, Miguel Mejia, Kayleigh Mitchell and Nyla Mitchell.

Dorin Murray, Triton Nguyen, Tyler Nguyen, Natalie Penaloza, Bella Ponce, Adrian Ray, Alejandro Rodriguez, Ko-

Marlene Montesinos

Age: 68
Occupation: Conflict Resolutions Specialist
Education: Doctorate
Marital Status/Children: 3 children

What makes you best qualified to serve the residents of Clear Creek ISD? (background and reason for interest)? (75 words or less)
I am passionate about education and of providing our



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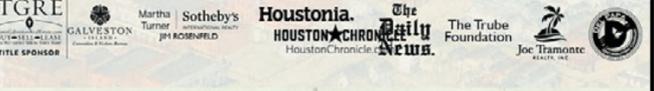
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