

Leader offers correction

A photo that ran on Page 5A of the May 3 edition of the *Leader* featured an erroneous headline. The headline *Moore places third in "Name That Book"* should have read *Morris places third in "Name That Book,"* as it was Morris Middle School, rather than Moore Elementary that placed at the event. The *Leader* staff apologizes for any confusion.

Letter carriers collect food

The National Association of Letter Carriers will celebrate the 26th anniversary of its Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive on Saturday, May 12. Childhood hunger is a growing problem, particularly during summer when children are out of school. Place nonperishable items next to the mailbox or place of business and the letter carrier will pick up the donation. Monetary donations can be made by visiting houstonfoodbank.org, then clicking under the NALC tab. Kwik Kar Wash invites customers to bring nonperishable food items to the 11210 Scarsdale location and receive \$2 off select services – excluding state inspections.

South Belt pre-K to sign up

South Belt Elementary, 1801 Riverstone Ranch Road, will host its kindergarten and pre-K roundup Tuesday, May 22, at 6 p.m. For additional information, call 713-740-5276.

Gulf Freeway closures set

At least one northbound and one southbound main lane and frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway from FM-518 to FM-517 in League City will be closed daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Saturday, May 12. Alternate entrance and exit ramps will be closed.

At least one northbound and one southbound main lane and frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway from NASA Bypass/NASA Road 1 to SH 96/League City Parkway daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Monday, Dec. 31. Alternate entrance and exit ramps will be closed.

The northbound frontage road of the I-45 Freeway from FM 518 to NASA Bypass/NASA Road 1 will be continuously closed through 5 a.m. Friday, Aug. 31. Traffic traveling north on the frontage road will take I-45 north main lanes from the FM 518 entrance to the NASA Road 1 exit.

Dynamic Women to meet

The Dynamic Women group will hold its luncheon and networking Thursday, May 10, at Golfcrest Country Club from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Area women are invited to enjoy a lunch, make new friends, shop with local vendors and enjoy guest speaker Sherry Woodruff.

A music teacher and concert pianist, Woodruff will share her *Melody of Life* story. At 10 a.m. guests will shop and network. Lunch is at 11:30 a.m. The cost is \$16, which includes lunch. Guests can register for door prizes. For more information or to make reservations, email sandeellis@comcast.com.

Ellington e-recycling set

The City of Houston's monthly electronic recycling will take place Saturday, May 12, at Ellington Airport from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For additional information or to see a list of accepted items, visit www.houstonolidwaste.org.

Skyscraper to meet May 14

The Houston Skyscraper Shadows Civic Club will meet Thursday, May 17, at Faith United Methodist Church, 7900 Fuqua, at 7 p.m. For details, contact Cathy@houstonksky scrapershadows.org or call 713-332-6294.

PIP slated for May 15

The Houston Police Department's Positive Interaction Program will meet Tuesday, May 15, at 7 p.m. at Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital, 11800 Astoria, in the staff meeting room on the first floor. PIP consists of police and citizens working together for safer neighborhoods. For additional information, call HPD Officer Richard Buitron at 832-395-1776.

Heavy trash pickup planned

City residents south of Fuqua will have their heavy trash picked up Thursday, May 10 (the second Thursday of the month). City residents north of Fuqua and west of I-45 will have heavy trash picked up on Friday, May 11 (the second Friday of the month). The month of May is for tree/yard waste. For more information, visit <http://www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste>.

Sagemont Civic meets May 14

The Sagemont Civic Club will hold its monthly meeting Monday, May 14, at the Sagemont Park Community Center, 11507 Hughes at Beltway 8, at 7 p.m.

Sageglen holds yard sales

The Sageglen Community Association will hold its annual yard sales Friday, May 11, and Saturday, May 12, beginning around 7 a.m. All homeowners may participate in their own driveways.

Dobie, Sagemont help Harvey victims

By Jade Wise, Pasadena ISD
Seniors from Dobie's Class of 2018 spent Friday, May 4, repairing and repainting the exterior of six homes in the South Belt area as part of the Longhorns' annual senior community project, sponsored by Sagemont Church's Helping Hands.

For Ktrena Ealy, a former teacher at Burnett Elementary, Dobie High School's Seniors Helping Seniors program could not have come at a better time for her and her family.

Eight months after Hurricane Harvey forced her to swim to safety, she is finally back home. While she is glad to be back, she says that her home still needs a lot of work.

"When they first came and told me the students were coming, I began to cry," said Ealy. "I was trying to figure out how I was selected, and my daughter told me, 'Mom, you've taught most of the kids who are graduating this year at Dobie, so there are so many people who could have put your name in.'"

Jim Sawyer, one of the coordinators and a retired vocational teacher at Dobie, said that this year's project has an extra layer of importance due to Harvey.

"At most of the houses we are at today, the homeowners are just now getting back into their homes and are still working to get the inside of

Continued on Page 2A

Seniors Helping Seniors



Dobie students shown above participating in the school's annual Seniors Helping Seniors program are, left to right, (front row) Tyra Adams, Priyal Patel, Emily Pena, Amber Terrell, (center row, in white Dobie shirt) Marissa Rodgers, (back row) Kennedy Southall, Jazlyn Henderson, Alex Osos, Ktrena Ealy, Johari Weaver, Morgan Smith, Lenny Capio and Mark Brent. Photo submitted

Longtime resident B.J. Garner dies at 78

Longtime community member and optometrist Dr. B. J. Garner died unexpectedly Thursday, May 3, at the age of 78.



Garner

Originally from Bryan, Garner moved to the South Belt area during its infancy and in 1976, opened Garner Vision Center on Hughes Road near what would later become Beltway 8.

Garner's involvement in the community, however, went far beyond his medical practice. He was a lifetime charter member of the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce, where

he served in many leadership roles on its board of directors; he served six years on the Pasadena Independent School District Board of Trustees, partly presiding as its president; he was a longtime member of Sagemont Church, where he taught Sunday School and was a member of the orchestra; he was a member of the U.S. Air Force Reserve, where he served as a lieutenant colonel; and he served as a local Republican precinct judge and chairman.

Garner and his wife of 56 years, Laura Nell Sanders Garner, had two daughters, Julie Ann and Jennifer Kay.

A memorial service for Garner was held Tuesday, May 8, at Sagemont Church. See related obituary on Page 2A.

Pearland police capture suspects



Two juvenile suspects were arrested Friday, April 27, following a police chase that stemmed from an armed robbery in the parking lot of the H-E-B located in the 2700 block of Pearland Parkway. Multiple units from the Pearland Police Department are shown above in the Sagemeadow subdivision, where the pursuit came to an end. Photo by Marie Flickinger

Pearland chase ends in Sagemeadow

Two juvenile suspects were arrested on multiple counts Friday, April 27, following a police chase that began in Pearland.

According to investigators, the incident began around 3:20 p.m. when officers from the Pearland Police Department responded to a reported robbery in the parking lot of the H-E-B located in the 2700 block of Pearland Parkway. Witnesses reported seeing a young male and female robbing a customer at gunpoint before fleeing in a Toyota Corolla. Contrary to reports in the *Houston Chronicle/Pearland Journal*, it was the male who allegedly pulled the weapon, police said.

After the robbery, the female victim reportedly jumped in a fellow customer's truck and attempted to follow the suspects. While the two civilians soon lost contact with the Corolla, police were able to track down the suspects on Beltway 8 heading east toward Blackhawk, where the driver exited and entered into the Sagemeadow subdivision. The car chase came to a close in the 9800 block of Sage Lee Drive, where the suspects ditched the vehicle, which now had a flat tire, in front of resident Doug Sawyer's house. Sur-

Continued on Page 2A

Clear Creek ISD election results tallied

The results from the May 5 Clear Creek Independent School District Board of Trustees election have been calculated, with two of three incumbents maintaining their positions.

In the District 4 race, incumbent Page Rander handily defeated challenger Jeff Larson. Rander received 61.9 percent of the vote (234 total votes) to Larsen's 38.1 percent of the vote (144 votes).

District 5 incumbent Jay Cunningham edged out challengers Michelle Moore and Yvonne Ti-

bai. Cunningham received 43.86 percent of the vote (325 total votes), while Moore received 24.29 percent (180 votes), and Tibai received 31.85 percent (236 votes).

In the contest for the At-Large Position A seat, incumbent Charles Pond was defeated by challenger Jennifer Broddle. Broddle received 53.21 percent (1,618 total votes) to Pond's 30.85 percent (938 votes).

At-Large Position A challenger Jake Berry received 15.95 percent of the vote (485 votes).

DPS opens South Belt Mega Center

The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) recently opened a new Driver License Mega Center at 10810 Galveston Road/Highway 3 near Beltway 8, just north of Ellington Airport.

The new Houston Southeast (SE) Mega Center is approximately 21,000 square feet and includes upgraded equipment and technology, the capacity for up to 42 customer workstations, designated lanes located on the property specifically for commercial driver license skills testing and

office space for other DPS divisions.

The office will also feature advanced technology that allows customers to get in line before they arrive at the office using a cell phone, land line or by going online. DPS encourages customers to take advantage of this convenient option by visiting http://www.dps.texas.gov/administration/driver_licensing_control/rolodex/getinli neonline.htm.

The Houston SE Mega Center is permanently

Continued on Page 5A

Brook drumline clinches world title

The Clear Brook High School indoor percussion group earned the title of 2018 Scholastic Open Class Gold Medalists at the Winter Guard International (WGI) World Championships in Dayton, Ohio. This is the highest honor achievable for the drumline of 34 students and Director Dusty Norris.

Their performance, titled *Set in Stone* and set to an original composition by Bryan Harmsen, took the audience on a journey to an ancient cathedral in Europe where gargoyles try to free themselves of their cursed life and fight for their freedom to go inside the castle they protect.

They earned a final score of 96.538, which se-

cured their No. 1 spot against 14 other drumlines from around the world.

"The students worked hard for this all season, and it is a dream come true for them," said Norris. "The experiences they have gained from competing at the WGI Championships will last a lifetime."

Norris added that the group rehearsed about 11 hours per week on average and participated in four local contests in Houston. They also defended their winning 2017 title at the Texas Color Guard Circuit State Championships in College Station on April 14, which qualified them for the World Championships.



The Clear Brook High School drumline competed in Dayton, Ohio at the 2018 Scholastic Open Class Winter Guard International on April 19 - 21 and won first place. Shown are, left to right, (front row) Josh Williams, Sarah Bertram, David Pugh, Thomas Ku, Cormac Cupples, Andrew Medina, (second row) Alan Nguyen, Redding Vasquetelles, Justin Perez, Elijah Salarzon, Dinithi Jayasinghe, Andrew Ku, Davis Wadle, Carson Breaux, Jared Shamburger, Sean

Hill, (third row) Phattarapol Lertchaisirikul, Allen Mathew, Ryan Johnson, Abbey Fossati, Gabe Landestoy, Megan Nguyen, Chase Collum, Sarah Pugh, Kaden Gauntt, Josh Stafford, Alex Arrieta (not visible), (fourth row) Joseph Otto, Maya Townsend, Claire Romero, Alyssa Cisneros, Megan Ellis, Kameron Sharp, Ethan Treadway, (fifth row) Keoni Cunningham, Brad Hughes, Dusty Norris, Bryan Harmsen, Don Click, Erik Yates and Mark Fennell.

TSU honors Ellis



Harris County Commissioner Rodney Ellis (left) was recently honored by Texas Southern University for being a top alumnus. Ellis, along with three other distinguished alumni, were recognized at the university's annual Maroon & Gray Affair, a gala that raised approximately \$1 million. Pictured above with Ellis at the event is TSU President Austin A. Lane. Photo submitted

CBCMUD letter draws contention

A letter related to local school start times that was recently mailed out to residents in the Clear Brook City Municipal Utility District along with their most recent water bills has become a source of contention for many.

The letter, written by a Pasadena Independent School District teacher who also heads the local chapter of the nonprofit group Start School Later, supports a later start time. The educator, who also resides in the MUD, listed a variety of reasons backing her position, including health risks associated with sleep deprivation and the amount of unsupervised time high schoolers currently have after school with the existing start time.

Under the mistaken impression that the teacher was speaking on behalf of PISD, Clear Brook City MUD President Jim Bishop used his discretion to include the letter with the monthly utility bills. The measure was not voted on by the MUD board.

PISD officials, however, have studied the issue extensively and come to a different conclusion. During the 2016-2017 academic year, the school district created a committee to weigh the pros and cons of a later start time, but the disadvantages of doing so outnumbered the ben-

Continued on Page 2A

In My Opinion

Malone shares important message

With graduation season around the corner, it's time to talk with our teenagers about making smart choices, including how to deal with peer pressure to drink underage. We can have a big impact on our children's decisions about drinking — in fact, studies show parents are still the number one influence on their teenagers' decisions about alcohol. It all starts with conversations and building relationships of trust.

To help start — or continue — these important conversations, Silver Eagle Distributors would like to remind parents about the Family Talk About Drinking program, a free parent guide designed to encourage open and honest communication between parents and their children. Programs like this one, paired with education and effective law enforcement, are essential to preventing underage drinking.

Below is a list of all the Family Talk About Drinking online resources you can find on your channel of choice:

- www.FamilyTalkAboutDrinking.com
- https://www.facebook.com/ABFamilyTalk/
- https://twitter.com/ABFamilyTalk
- https://www.pinterest.com/abfamilytalk/

Remember, it's our collective responsibility to help prevent underage drinking and parents have one of the most important roles of all.

Tyronne Malone
Silver Eagle Distributors, L.P.

Edgebrook area issue discussed

Publisher's Note: The following is a letter from Jordan McGinty, south sector manager for the Office of Council Member Dave Martin, in response to James Muecke's letter about area re-development. Good morning Mr. Muecke,

Thank you for reaching out. I understand your frustration, and the need for community interest in this particular area, especially as this area was so severely impacted during Hurricane Harvey. I spoke with Maria this morning to discuss ways we can increase community interest in this Freeway Manor, Sun Valley, and Gulfway Terrace neighborhoods. We will continue these discussions as our office, in partnership with the Department of Neighborhoods, hopes to hold a community outreach event at the end of June 2018. The goal of the event is to educate residents of the area, that there is a civic club for the area, as well as update resi-

Free self-defense classes

The American Society of Karate offers free one-hour self-defense and martial arts classes for ages 13-80 at the Sagement Community Center, 11507 Hughes, on Fridays at 7:30 p.m. through May 25. For details, email Michael.Alonzo@ASKKarate.com or call 281-788-5930.

Library friends seek items

The Friends of Parker Williams Branch Library is seeking donations of current, gently used fiction and nonfiction books, especially adult softbacks, pocket books and children's books for the library located at 10851 Scarsdale. CDs and DVDs will also be accepted. The items will be sold to fund summer programs and pay for other expenses.

Bay Area Singles Club announces dance

The Bay Area Singles Club monthly dance will be held on May 19 from 7 to 10 p.m. at the VFW Lodge, 5204 Highway 3, Dickinson, Post 6378. Guests are asked to bring party snacks to share. The cost is \$7 for members and \$9 for nonmembers. For more information, call 832-483-3257 or 832-477-6778.

Correction for Morris Middle School

In last week's issue on page 5A, the headline should read "Morris places third in 'Name that Book'" instead of Moore. Morris Middle School competed in the eighth annual Pasadena Independent School District "Name That Book" competition that was held on Saturday, April 21, and placed third in the district. The students worked hard to prepare for the competition by reading the 20 books that were picked for the competition. The students that competed and shown in the photo are, left to right, Cuidad, Arianna Rivera, Neveah Ben-Smith, Anthony Garza, Emir Espinoza, Kristi Nguyen and Anthony Dinh.

HCMG names May dates

The Harris County Master Gardeners has announced the May event dates. On Thursday, May 10, The Harris County Master Gardeners lecture series will feature *Bats In Our Area And How They Are Beneficial* by Suzanne Jurek from the Houston Zoo from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at Genoa Friendship Gardens Educational Center Building, 1202 Genoa Red Bluff Road. This event is free. For more information, call 713-274-0950 or visit hcmga.tamu.edu. On Thursday, May 17, the Harris County Master Gardeners Green thumb series presentation will be *Insects In The Garden* from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Freeman Branch Library, 16616 Diana Lane. This event is also free. For more information, call 713-274-0950 or visit hcmga.tamu.edu.

Local library events set

The following events are scheduled for the Bracewell Branch Library, 9002 Kingspoint:

- Saturday, May 12, 10:30 a.m. Spanish computer class
- Saturday, May 12, 2 p.m. Citizenship class
- Tuesday, May 15, 10:30 a.m. Family storytime and playtime
- Wednesday, May 16, 10:30 a.m. Toddler storytime
- Wednesday, May 16, Computer courses: 2 p.m. Computer Basics; 3:15 p.m. Internet Basics; 4:30 p.m. Basic Powerpoint

For information on events at Bracewell Library, call 832-393-2580. Bracewell hours this week are: Thursday, noon – 8 p.m.; Friday, 10 – 5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.; Sunday, closed; Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Parker Williams Library

The following events are scheduled for the Parker Williams Library, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd.: Friday, May 11, 5 p.m. Anime Club: *Space Battleship Yamato 2199* (TV-PG), for ages 10 and older. Meet in the library community room for episodes of this modernized Star Blazers series to keep in the spirit of the Star Wars universe. Saturday, May 12, 10:30 a.m. Summer volunteer orientation and training is scheduled for ages 12 and older. Teens and tweens needing volunteer hours during the summer can meet at the Parker Williams Branch in classroom 3 to get a summer volunteer application packet. Volunteers will learn the different duties and responsibilities required of volunteers, tour the library and receive training for the various tasks during the summer. Saturday, May 12, 10:30 a.m. *How to Execute a Marketing Campaign in Four Easy Steps*. Jenna Garcia will provide an introduction to developing a marketing campaign for small businesses. Registration is requested. Saturday, May 12, 2 – 4 p.m. Magic: The Gathering Gameplay, for ages 8 and older. For those who would like to learn how to play, a staff member will be present for instruction. A special thank you is given to Strike Zone for the generous donation of Magic: The Gathering cards. For more information, visit <http://www.hcpl.net/sites/default/files/feb-mtg-1.jpg>. Monday, May 14, 5 – 6 p.m. Drone Flying Club, ages 8 to adult. Meet the second and fourth Monday to learn how to fly a quadcopter with the flying club. Registration is requested. A grant from the Parker Williams and Harris County Friends of the Library has enabled the purchase of equipment for the drone flying club. Tuesday, May 15, 10:30 a.m. Computer basics. Improve skills on the internet, email, Facebook and social media. Registration is requested. Wednesday, May 16, 5 p.m. Science Explorers – The Water Cycle, for ages 5 and older. April showers bring May flowers, but where did all that water come from? Meet in the library community room to participate in fun, interactive activities and learn about the three forms of water – liquid, solid, and gas. Below are the programs that occur every week: Wednesdays, Preschool storytime, 10:30 a.m. For children, ages 3 to 5 years, storytime features stories, songs, fingerplays and a craft. Thursdays, Toddler storytime, 10:30 a.m. For toddlers from birth to 3 years, storytime features stories, songs, fingerplays and bubbles. Saturdays, Vietnamese Learning Time. Classes begin at 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11:15 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. For more information on these programs, speak with Loc Bui. For more information on events, call the library at 281-484-2036. Library hours are: Thursday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Friday, 11 – 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.; Sunday, closed; Monday, 1 – 9 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; and Wednesday, 10 a.m. – 9 p.m.

dents on city services available to them.

We will share details with the community as they are available.

I do plan on attending the meeting on Thursday evening, see you then.

Jordan McGinty

Publisher's Note: The following is a letter from James Muecke to Jordan McGinty, south sector manager for the Office of Council Member Dave Martin. Jordan,

Thanks. As I said this is a great area and I sure do not want it to deteriorate as so many areas have.

Having a meeting, especially trying to get some Hispanic leadership involved, would help. By the way the new trees on Edgebrook are looking really good. A positive for the community.

Jim Muecke

Laredo encourages school prayer walk

This is just a reminder for the upcoming one hour prayer walk for Frazier Elementary School, at 10503 Hughes Rd.

We would be very pleased to have anyone in our community join us, and especially any parents with children at Frazier who are concerned for the peace and protection of our students and staff. Our desire at School Prayer Walks USA is to pray for each of our schools, beginning with the South Belt community.

The prayer walk will start at 9 a.m. on Saturday, May 12.

Visit our Facebook page, School Prayer Walks USA, for more information. Thank you,

Patricia Laredo

Weeke wants info on buyout of lots

Good morning, What will happen with all the lots to be purchased by the Harris County Flood Control District?

Will they remain vacant? And if so, who will maintain the property?

Sam Weeke

Publisher's Note: The properties are to remain vacant and the county currently pays for eight mowings a year. The chamber is currently looking at working on a program with flood control on some of the properties to add value to the community. We started this before Harvey, and have been delayed because of Harvey. A lot has to be done before coming buyouts happen. Watch for stories in upcoming issues of the *Leader*.

—Marie Flickinger

Dr. B.J. Garner



Dr. B.J. Garner, 78, died from a heart attack in his sleep on Thursday, May 3, 2018, at his home in Green Tee.

He was born in Bryan, Texas, as the oldest of four sons to Jack and Virginia Beall Garner. While his father served in the U.S. Navy during World War II, he began his childhood in Rusk, Texas, on his maternal grandmother's farm. After the war, his family returned to his father's hometown of Crockett, Texas, as he entered the second grade.

Garner committed his life to the Lord Jesus when he was nine years old and had the distinction of being the last surviving charter member of Central Baptist Church in Crockett. He lived the Christian life as a man of integrity, moral fortitude and perseverance with a sustaining faith in God.

His trademark qualities of energy, enthusiasm and achievement were displayed during his school years when he lettered in football, basketball, baseball and tennis. He also excelled in the school band as a trumpet player while serving on the student council, was president of the National Honor Society, and a member of the yearbook staff, student newsletter and the F.F.A. He graduated with honors from Crockett High School in 1958.

Garner attended the University of Texas in Austin, where he was a Longhorn band officer and played the trumpet as he marched in the Presidential Inaugural Parade of John F. Kennedy in 1961. He graduated from U.T. in 1964 with a bachelor's degree in pharmacy. Garner became a research

specialist as a grant recipient in drug research projects for the FDA.

In 1962, Garner married his high school sweetheart, Laura Nell Sanders, and enjoyed 56 years of marriage together along with the addition of two daughters, Julie Ann and Jennifer Kay. He was a dedicated husband and selflessly giving father to his family.

Garner began a second career when he graduated from the University of Houston College of Optometry with both a Bachelor of Science in optometry and a Doctor of Optometry degree.

He opened his optometric private practice in 1976 in the growing community of Sagement. He became certified to be an Optometric Glaucoma Specialist from the University of Texas Medical School Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Science in Houston.

Garner also was an adjunct faculty member and guest lecturer at the University of Houston College of Optometry from 1975-1981. He was a co-researcher and developer of the Pilot Childhood Vision Screening Program with the Texas Department of Public Health.

Garner was an active member in his professional optometric associations, including being the treasurer of the Harris County Optometric Society, and a 41-year member in the Texas Optometric Association and the American Optometric Association.

Garner was appointed by Gov. George W. Bush to serve on the Texas Optometry Board as one of seven members for the entire state of Texas from 1997-2003.

He became a foundational rock in the community as he loved participating in the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce as a lifetime charter member and held several leadership positions on the board of directors. He was a charter member and president of the South Belt Optimist Club.

Garner supported the educational community by serving on the Pasadena I.S.D. school board for six years and was selected to preside as president after holding all of the offices on the board. His passion for education was also reflected

as he invested his time serving on the Optimist Scholarship Foundation of Southeast Texas Board of Directors, including the role of president.

Garner was active politically as a delegate to Republican conventions, serving as chairman of Republican Precinct #417, and was elected as Republican precinct judge for numerous years.

Garner was a lifelong patriot who always desired to serve his country. At the age of 51 years, he began a military career when he enlisted as an optometry officer in the U.S. Air Force Reserve and rose quickly to the rank of lieutenant colonel.

He earned several Air Force achievement medals for meritorious service, as well as the respected Top Eye Designation as the chief of optometry in Barksdale Air Force Base, La., and as the chief of optometry in the Texas Air National Guard 147th Fighter Wing at Ellington Field. Younger military colleagues nicknamed him "PopEye," since he was close to the age of their parents as he helped to mentor and develop their personal character growth.

Garner enjoyed playing his trumpet throughout his life and was involved in the Sagement Church Orchestra, the University of Texas Longhorn Alumni Band and the University of Houston Alumni Band.

One of his heartfelt passions was his involvement as a dedicated member of the Gideons International organization, which distributes the Word of God in the form of Bibles around the world. He treasured regularly serving in Sagement Church as a Sunday school teacher and an orchestra member.

In all areas of his life, his standard of excellence, determination, dedication, and Christian values blessed multiple lives in his community, church and family. Survivors include his loving wife of 56 years; daughters Julie Ann and husband Dr. Donald Martin of Rome, Ga., and Dr. Jennifer Kay and husband Craig Johnson of Denton, Texas; granddaughters Allison Joy Williams and husband Nick of Lilburn, Ga., Ana Raquel

Deaths

Martin of Atlanta, Ga., and Olivia Jordan Martin of Rome, Ga.; great-grandchildren Elena Kate Williams, Harper Joy Williams and Bennett Dowless Williams.

Garner is also survived by his brothers James Beall Garner, R.Ph., and wife DeLois of Denton, Texas, Dr. John Vernon Garner and wife Debbie of Crockett, Texas, and Rev. Jerold David Garner and wife Andrea of Denton, Texas; brother-in-law and sister-in-law Roger and Lynette Sanders of Nacogdoches, Texas; and a host of nieces, nephews and cousins.

Memorial services were held Tuesday, May 8, 2018, at 6 p.m. in the Sagement Church in Houston, with the Rev. Chuck Schneider officiating.

Following an escort by the Patriot Guard Riders from the Central Baptist Church to the Evergreen Memorial Park Cemetery in Crockett, Texas, a graveside service with full military honors was conducted at 12:30 p.m. on May 9.

Pallbearers in Houston were Dr. J. Leber Beall, Dr. Harlan Wichelhaus, Joel Garner, David Carroll, Rick Kennedy and Abe Daly. Pallbearers in Crockett were Dr. Donald Martin, Craig Johnson, Joel Garner, Jeffrey Garner, Jeff Hale, Roger Sanders, David Thornton and Kent Blanchard.

In lieu of usual remembrances, the family requests memorial contributions be made to The Gideons International, P.O. Box 97251, Washington, DC 20090-7251, in Dr. B.J. Garner's name.

David Roy Huston



David Roy "Captain Dave" Huston was born on Dec. 26, 1940, in Galveston. Huston was a longtime South Belt resident. He died May 5, 2018, after a lengthy illness.

He was preceded in death by his son David Roy Huston II; mother Jewell Gordy Huston; father Harry Leroy Huston; and brother Donald James Huston. David is survived by his son Daniel James Huston; grandchildren Chelsy Danielle Huston and Merrick Daniel Huston; brother Jerry Lee Huston; sister Susan Darlene Huston; best friends John and Kathy Valenti and Barbara Huston; and many friends.

A memorial Mass will be celebrated at St. Luke the Evangelist Church, 11011 Hall Road at 11 a.m. Tuesday, May 15, with a reception following in the church social hall.

Norma C. Marsella



Norma C. Marsella, 86, of Mamaroneck, N.Y., died on April 29, 2018, in her Houston home of 42 years. She was a longtime South Belt resident.

She was born on Jan. 10, 1932, on Washington Street in the Village of Mamaroneck, and was the daughter of Anthony and Theresa (Ursini) Castagna.

Norma was the beloved wife of the late Col. Gaetano F. Marsella. Norma "Nana" was the cherished mother of Jane Marsella Schumer and husband Mark, Guy Frank Marsella, and David Marsella, Steve Foster.

She was the loving and devoted grandmother of Jessica,

Matthew, Vincent, and Madison and the sister of the late Herman Castagna and wife Lorraine and Ann Costa and husband Frank.

Norma was a Mamaroneck High School graduate and a former parishioner of St. Vitto's Church. She was a work-at-home mother, a teacher's aide, a saleswoman at the local stores in Houston and a dedicated volunteer at Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital. Most of all spending time with her friends and family gave her great joy.

"Nana" will always be remembered for her unconditional love, kind heart and her selfless support for everyone around her. Loved ones eagerly gathered around her table, especially to enjoy her baked macaroni, Sunday gravy, holiday cookies and cakes. Her most precious gifts will live on in all who were lucky enough to love her.

Friends and family gathered on Friday, May 4, to honor Norma's life at Cox and Graziano Funeral Home, 767 E. Boston Post Road, Mamaroneck. The memorial service was held at Cox and Graziano on Saturday, May 5, followed by interment at St. Mary's Cemetery in Ryer Brook, N.Y.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Kemper Memorial Park Preservation Fund, 3 Highland Road, Larchmont, NY, 10538. For details or to place an online condolence, visit www.coxandgraziano.com.

Leona "Lea" Mae Wills



Leona "Lea" Mae Wills, 85, was born on June 4, 1932, in Delcambre, La. She died May 3, 2018.

She spent her early years in New Iberia, La. As a teen, Leona moved to Nederland, Texas, where she met her future husband, Jess Wills. After marriage, they moved to the South Belt area in Houston where they raised their three children.

Leona is preceded in death by her parents Desas and Regina (Bourke) Segura; her husband of 50 years; siblings Elva and husband Warren Hawkins and Peewee and wife Irene Segura; and numerous aunts and uncles from New Iberia.

She is survived by her children Sharon and husband Gary Cofran of Houston; John and wife Kelly Wills of McKinney, Texas, and Joanie and husband Mike Tindall of Grapeland, Texas; grandchildren Justin and wife Jordan Wills of Houston, Jordan and husband Michael Ashby of Houston, Benjamin and wife Shelly Tindall of Tumwater, Wash., Alex and wife Katie Tindall of Boston and

and the 15-year-old girl, who was reportedly pregnant, were both charged with aggravated robbery and evading arrest.

The male suspect also is charged with unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, as the car had been reported stolen the previous week. Police said the suspects were both from outside the South Belt/Pearland area.

Pearland police chase ends in Sagemeadow

Continued from Page 1A surveillance footage shows the male suspect easily hopping over a barrier fence and continuing to flee on foot, while the female suspect was unable to make the leap and was quickly apprehended. With the aid of a helicopter and a K-9 unit, the male suspect was later located a few blocks away on Sageroyal.

Seniors help seniors

Continued from Page 1A their houses completed," said Sawyer. "By us coming and helping with the outside, it's just one less thing they have to worry about."

For students, Sawyer says that the project creates some great teaching moments about general home repair and about the value of giving back to the community.

"One day, these students might be living down the street from a neighbor who needs assistance, and we hope that the lessons they learn today will carry over

Nathan and wife Nicole Tindall of Denver, Colo.; and great-grandchildren Adlie, Emerson and Ed Ashby, and Caleb, Ethan and Shiloh Tindall, Bryce Shanklin, and Bella and Ava Cofran. She is also survived by her sisters-in-law; by many nieces, nephews; and many friends whom she loved greatly.

Lea loved to help people. She volunteered for many years at Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital and at Sagement Church as a greeter. When she wasn't able to do that anymore she did other volunteer work at Brookdale Senior Living.

Visitation will be Friday, May 11, 2018, at 10:30 a.m. at Sagement Church, and the funeral will begin at 11:30 a.m. Burial will be at Forest Park East.

Matthew Kent Hennigan



Matthew Kent "Matt" Hennigan, 56, died unexpectedly on Friday, May 4, 2018, at his home in Houston. He was born Sept. 26, 1961, in Beaumont to the late Ross and Frances Hennigan. He was the sixth of seven children.

Matt graduated from French High School in Beaumont in 1980. Upon graduating, he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force where he earned the rank of senior airman. While stationed at McChord Field in Pierce County, Wash., he met Michelle Wilfong and the two were married Nov. 28, 1983. After completing his military service, Matt lived and worked in Washington and Texas as a truck driver before eventually settling in Houston.

Matt worked for the U.S. Postal Service where he planned to retire. He loved fishing, football, baseball, country music and westerns. Matt was a dedicated husband and father. He was hard working and sacrificed himself to put his family first. He had an amazing sense of humor and an infectious laugh. There are so many things about him that will be deeply missed.

Matt was preceded in death by his brother Stanley Hennigan; father Ross and mother Frances Hennigan; niece Blossom Hennigan; brother-in-law Larry Cooley and sister-in-law Susan Hennigan.

He is survived by his wife of 34 years; daughter Tanya Owens and husband Patrick; son Joshua and wife Kayla; and grandson Eli Owens. A memorial service to honor his life will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 12, at Niday Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Legion

Elected officials share their words

To Harris County Commissioners Court:

I am writing in response to your May 1, 2018, letter requesting an emergency special election to be called in Harris County on August 25, 2018, for bonds that would fund Hurricane Harvey-related flood control projects in Harris County.

As you know, I consider responding to matters concerning Hurricane Harvey to qualify as an emergency. To the extent your emergency special election relates to Hurricane Harvey, it is granted.

As this request for an emergency special election was duly passed by a unanimous vote of the Harris County Commissioners Court, I hereby grant approval as governor of Texas for this emergency special election to be called for bonds to fund flood-related mitigation projects that respond to Hurricane Harvey.

Your letter requesting the emergency special election correctly states: "Congress has appropriated and the various federal agencies are beginning to make available to us significant funds." As detailed below, billions of federal dollars either are currently available to Harris County or will be available to the county before it has the ability to issue the bonds requested in your letter.

You also correctly note that "significant federal funds" are available from "FEMA, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the United States Army Corps of Engineers." Federal funding sources now available to Harris County include funds for buyouts and elevations of flood prone properties; drainage and reservoir projects that reduce future flooding; other projects that lessen the frequency or severity of flooding flood risk reduction projects such as dams, retention basins, levees, floodwalls, seawalls, jetties, sand dunes, and large-scale channeling of waterways; and countless other projects.

Harris County and the City of Houston are eligible for FEMA Public Assistance funding to rebuild public facilities and infrastructure damaged by Hurricane Harvey. As of now, Harris County has submitted approximately \$240 million in claims for that funding.

The local match for those funds is 10 percent. As a result, the Harris County local match for FEMA Public Assistance projects will be less than \$25 million.

Additionally, Congress directly funded billions of dollars of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (USACE) projects. An initial allocation for high-priority projects announced last week includes repairs to Buffalo Bayou and dredging of the Houston Ship Channel.

It is also my understanding that USACE is responsible (and has already begun work) to repair Barker and Addicks Dams and Reservoirs. It is my expectation that USACE will allocate billions more to Texas in the next few months to undertake already approved flood mitigation construction projects — many of which are in Harris County. To my knowledge, these projects require no local share or will permit local jurisdictions to repay that local share over 30 years.

Finally, Harris County was required to pay a local match for debris removal. As you know, the State of Texas made available \$90 million in November 2017 to fully cover the local match associated with debris removal for all local jurisdictions affected by Hurricane Harvey, including Harris County. I thank Lt. Gov. Patrick and Speaker Straus for helping to make that funding available.

Thank you for all you are doing to help your community recover from Hurricane Harvey and to help safeguard Harris County from potential future flooding. I remain committed to working with Harris County to achieve its goals in the most efficient way possible.

Sincerely, Greg Abbott
Governor

and issues that tried to divide us. It brings me hope and gratitude that everywhere I look in Texas, I see people placing their focus instead on what unites us.

When Hurricane Harvey hit Texas' Gulf Coast, there was one big Texas family that met it, united in the goal of protecting each of its members. First responders put their lives on the line to help neighbors they had never met. Places of worship opened up their doors to families seeking refuge. And Tex-

ans drove hours across the state towards flooded areas, trailing their boats, to help their fellow man. We witnessed the work of God time and time again through these meaningful acts of love and humanity.

Now, months after the storm has subsided, Texans are still recovering and rebuilding, and stories of unity still prevail: high school students gathering on the weekends to rebuild their school gyms, veterans giving their blood, sweat, and tears as

Cornyn releases letter on Prayer

U.S. Sen. John Cornyn released the following open letter to Texans on May 3, the National Day of Prayer.

Just one prayer has the power to effect change, but our strength today lies in the numerous voices united in one prayer. Fittingly, the focus of this year's reflection is unity, based upon Ephesians 4:3: "Making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace." This past year, there were many events

they rebuild families' homes, and folks across the state donating time and treasure to help out. In the wake of Hurricane Harvey, Texans have joined as one. As we reflect on the National Day of Prayer's theme of unity, join me in thanking God for bringing us together during the dark days. Let us thank God for guiding us towards each other and using us to spread His word, and let us pray for the continued strength and peace of unity in the days to come.

cerns include additional bus expenses; rush hour traffic congestion; impact on after-school jobs; increased cost of after-school care for younger students; and the lack of night lighting for several athletic events.

School hours debated

Continued from Page 1A While the committee acknowledged that sleep deprivation related to an earlier start time is a legitimate issue, a later dismissal time would have a more negative impact on students. Con-

LSA band wins third state championship

The Lutheran South Academy Band has won its third consecutive state championship. Until 2016, never before in its history had the LSA Band program won a state music championship. In 2017, the band became back-to-back state champions. Now, in 2018, the

members of the band continue the new tradition of excellence. Led by a robust and talented senior class, the band started off the day by the LSA Jazz Ensemble receiving a "1-Superior" rating on its groovy set of *Fly Me to the Moon* and *It Don't Mean a Thing*. This student-led group of eight set the tone for the day that the rest of the band would follow. The full band performed a concert set of *Prelude & Fugue in Bb Major*, by Bach; *Marche Diabolique*, by Balmages; and *Encanto*, by R.W. Smith while

receiving straight "1s" from the three judges as well as the comment of "best band today by far" from one of them. The band went to the sight-reading room and learned an entire piece in 10 minutes and played it with a maturity and level of understanding that was "simply excellent" as described by the judge. The band received a "1" on sight-reading to earn the coveted sweepstakes award and the third straight state championship. The band is directed by Jeremy Louden, assisted by Steve Bretzke.

standing that was "simply excellent" as described by the judge. The band received a "1" on sight-reading to earn the coveted sweepstakes award and the third straight state championship. The band is directed by Jeremy Louden, assisted by Steve Bretzke.



Lutheran South Academy band won the state championship for the third year in a row. Shown are, left to right, (front row) Caleb Barnett; Ashley Witso; Amy Zeller; Kennedy Colvin; Sarah Bolinger; Makenzie Rutledge; Hannah Sleeper; Sophie Gonzales; Charlie Miles; Gracie Marietta; Will Spencer; AJ Okwonna; Marty Sherman; (second row) Kenalynn Jennings; Ron Varghese; Zach Giugliano; Kyla Wendt; Martina Kahlouni; Allison May; Brooke Livingston; Charles Mariele; Dorian Hennigan; Braden

Leimkuehler; Andreas Beek; (third row) Jacob Goins; Paul LeBlanc; Annabelle Clark; Helen Plante; Mark Giugliano; Morgan Bates; Jacob Freeborn; Gabriel Moreno; (fourth row) Steve Bretzke, associate director; Logan Webb; Jeff Marcum; Joseph Spencer; JD Leaverton; Adam Zimmermann; Ian Schaidler; Andrew Leimkuehler; Bryan Edwards; Benjamin Verswijver; Kyle Kerr; Sean Kerr; Will Pfeiffer; Daniel Warren; and Jeremy Louden, director of bands. Photo submitted

Melillo names winners of "Name That Book"



Melillo Middle School Library announced that this year's "Name That Book" team placed second of 11 middle schools. Students competed against middle school principals and teachers as well this year. The Pasadena Independent School District districtwide "Name That Book" competition was held on Saturday,

April 21, at Park View Intermediate. Shown are, left to right, (front row) Angel Padilla (alternate); Kaylie Bui; Joshua Lopez; Eric Huynh; Shalani Johnson; Yazmine Gonzalez; (back row) Debra Yocum, librarian; Chelsea Akinloye; Jacqueline Oba; and Dawn Tomlinson, coach. Photo by Hong-Lan Bui

Dobie cheerleaders receive awards at cheer banquet

The J. Frank Dobie cheerleaders celebrated the end of the year with the Cheer Banquet on March 24. Cheer squad members voted on awards that were presented at the banquet. Shown, right, are the varsity cheer award recipients, left to right, Alize Murillo, most congenial; Reagan Razo, Longhorn leader; and Sara Otwell, most dedicated and most versatile.



Shown below, left, is Javier Martinez who was voted best cheer escort. Shown below, right, are the junior varsity cheer award recipients, left to right, Alayna Murillo, most versatile; Olga Cisneros, most dedicated; and Juliana Moreno, most congenial. Photos by Claudia Ayala



CCISD honors outstanding educators at annual teacher of the year luncheon

The Rotary Clubs of Space Center, Seabrook and League City will honor Clear Creek Independent School District's 44 campus teachers of the year at a luncheon at South Shore Harbour Resort and Conference Center on Monday, May 21. During the luncheon, the 2018 CCISD elementary and secondary teachers of the year will be announced from a field of six finalists.

Beyond educating students, the following teachers have also been identified as a leader on their campus, working collaboratively with co-workers to improve the school culture. CCISD congratulates the 2018 campus teachers of the year:

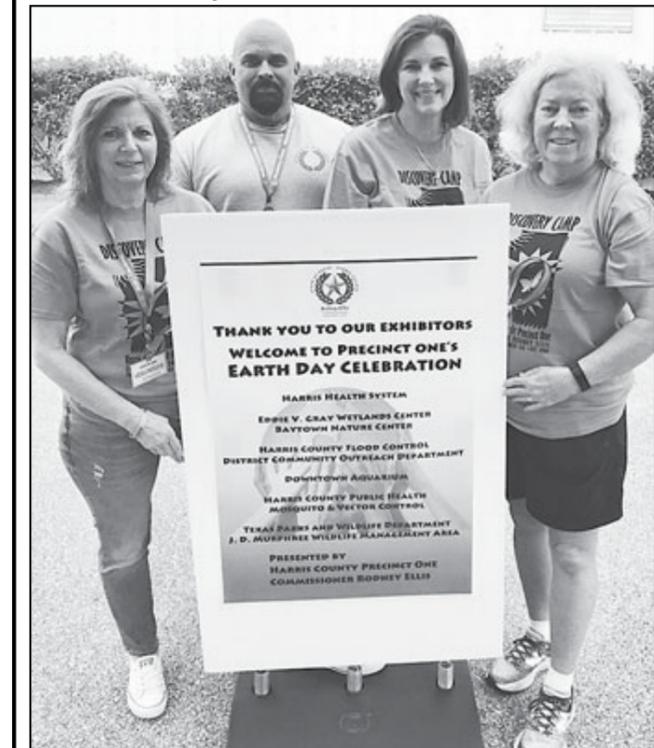
Elementary

- Armand Bayou Elementary - Alexia Scott.
- Bauerschlag Elementary - Danielle Derouen.
- Bay Elementary - Jordan Barber.
- Brookwood Elementary - Kirsten Clason.
- Clear Lake City Elementary - Valerie Strickland.
- Falcon Pass Elementary - Ashley Bedell.
- Ferguson Elementary - Laura Pearson.
- Gilmore Elementary - Katharine Wright.
- Gorforth Elementary - Samantha Smith.
- Greene Elementary - Christin Anderson.
- Hall Elementary - Archon Auzenne.
- Hyde Elementary - Amy Etzel.
- Landolt Elementary - Lili-ana Martinez.
- League City Elementary - Sara Jones.
- McWhirter Elementary - Leena Elmore.
- Mossman Elementary - Crystal Starke.
- North Pointe Elementary - Shara Mills.
- Parr Elementary - Anna Lowery.
- Robinson Elementary - Julie Mills.
- Ross Elementary - Heather Sandoval.
- Stewart Elementary - Sarah Vining.
- Ward Elementary - Melissa Roe.
- Weber Elementary - Kelly Nerada.
- Wedgewood Elementary - Alyssa Markowski.
- Whitcomb Elementary - Melinda Bujnoch.
- White Elementary - Brenda Magee.

Secondary

- Bayside Intermediate - Lauren Douglas.
- Brookside Intermediate - Shelley Koehler.
- Clear Creek Intermediate - Janet Hawes.
- Clear Lake Intermediate - Anastacia Cooper.
- Creekside Intermediate - Amanda Ripple.
- League City Intermediate - Paige Hassmann.
- Seabrook Intermediate - Erin Lusk.
- Space Center Intermediate - Kelly Francis.
- Victory Lakes Intermediate - Kathleen Bucher.
- Westbrook Intermediate - Anita Lewis.
- Clear Brook High School - Ann Daley.
- Clear Creek High School - Kylie Kuneffe.
- Clear Falls High School - Debbie Bacon.
- Clear Horizons High School - Valerie Foskit.
- Clear Lake High School - Jodieth Seeger.
- Clear Path High School - Marcia Gschwind.
- Clear Springs High School - Kristin Pena.
- Clear View High School - Kimberly Hart.

Earth Day celebration a success



The Harris County Precinct One Earth Day Celebration was held on Sunday, April 22, at Alfred Deussen Park. At the celebration there were children's interactive activities, designed to teach kids about the earth in which they live. Shown are, left to right, Kay Barbour, South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce; David Matthews, Harris County Precinct One; Rebecca Lilley, Memorial Hermann; and Judy Harrison, community member.

Scientists to explain Pluto mission story

Scientists and authors Dr. Alan Stern and David Grinspoon will be featured as part of the next installment of Space Center Houston's Thought Leader series.

A book signing to follow on May 12 at 7 p.m. at Space Center Houston, 1604 NASA Parkway.

The New Horizons spacecraft made interplanetary-travel history in 2015 by taking the first up-close photos of Pluto.

Stern was the principal investigator for this exciting mission, writing a book with Grinspoon about its successes.

"Chasing New Horizons - Inside the Epic First Mission to Pluto" is the up-close, inside story of something amazing that happened on July 14, 2015.

More than 3 billion miles from earth, the small NASA New Horizons spacecraft whizzed past Pluto at more than 32,000 miles per hour, focusing its instruments on the long mysterious icy worlds of the Pluto system.

Then, just as quickly, it continued on its journey into the beyond.

This raw exploration of new worlds was unparalleled since NASA's Voyager missions to Uranus and Neptune — and nothing quite like it is planned to happen again in the near future.

The event is free, but seating is limited. Tickets must be presented at the door for entry.

Free tickets are available at <https://spacecenter.org/> or by calling 281-244-2100.

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Logos for Galveston Historical Foundation, Moody National Bank, Randalls, Houston Chronicle, The Trube Foundation, The Daily News, Galveston Island, and house+home.

Missionary builds relationships with homeless families

By Matt Walker
 For a young missionary who never lived outside his neighborhood until last year, South Belt resident Buddy Walker had his eyes opened to the harsh environment outside America in a very stark way. He is currently working for Youth With a Mission (YWAM), an evangelical interdenominational, non-profit Christian missionary organization, in the Southeast Asia area of the Bay of Bengal.

YWAM includes people from more than 181 countries and a large number of Christian denominations, with more than half the organization's staff from non-Western countries. YWAM has more than 15,000 full-time volunteers in more than 1,100 ministry locations in more than 180 countries. They train upwards of 25,000 short-term mission volunteers annually, Buddy among them.

"We spend five days a week at the shelter and three days a week going to the street," he said during a long-distance call. "We go to the street Monday, Wednesday, and Friday for three hours after the shelter closes. It's during this time that we get to meet and build relationships with the children's parents. We also get to show the kids that we really care here for them."

"The poverty and brokenness that I witnessed on the street was a lot worse than I thought it was going to be."

Along with helping fund kids going to school, the group feeds and provides a

place for street kids during the day. They also wash their clothes and bathe them. In addition to building relationships with homeless families, the organization provides first aid to anyone who needs it. The families usually always have cuts or infections. Head lice is common.

"The same joyful kids who come to the shelter every day, the same kids we feed and dress, the same kids who we walk to school and help with their homework... these are the same kids that are homeless on the street," said Walker. "These are the same families that live in trash heaps, the same kids who play on the sidewalks of extremely busy intersections. It is truly heartbreaking."

The staff from the shelter has been building relationships with some of these families in this region for 17 years. The routine requires patience and hard work.

"It was hard to actually believe that we were making a difference at first," he said. "I kept thinking, 'what can I actually do for these children?' I get to come home in a month and these children will spend the rest of their childhoods sleeping on mats on a sidewalk. Yet, I realized that we must be making a difference because the children are always so happy to see us."

"These children are proof that joy does not come from circumstances."

Persons interested in providing monetary support can contact Walker at P.O. Box 2787, Wylie, TX 75098.

Over The Back Fence by Alexis

GRAYS WELCOME BABY ELLA JUHREE!
 Congratulations are in order for proud new parents **Breana J. Glenn and Esteban C. Gray** who welcome to Texas and to their family **Ella Juhree Gray**, born on April 19, 2018, 10:47 a.m., at Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital. At birth, Ella weighed 7 pounds, 2 ounces, and measured 19 inches long. Prouder grandparents are longtime South Belt residents **Brian and Cindy Glenn and Charles and Vicky Gray** of Henderson, Nevada.

FRED AND LESLIE MARK 24 YEARS
 Congratulations to **Fred and Leslie Flickinger** who celebrated 24 years of marriage on May 7. Best wishes are sent from daughters **Kimberly Flickinger and Courtney** and husband **Chris Durham** and children **Abigail and Jackson**; Leslie's mother **Olive Falkowski**; Fred's mom and dad **Marie and David Flickinger**; and brother **Davy** (Leader president) and wife **Ellie Flickinger**.

WISHES FOR A FAST RECOVERY, DOTTIE
 Wishes for a speedy recovery are sent to **Dottie Cantalamessa** after her second knee surgery from her friends in the community and the Leader staff.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, OLIVE!
 Special birthday wishes are sent Thursday, May 10, for a wonderful birthday to **Olive Falkowski** from her daughter **Leslie Flickinger** and husband **Fred**; granddaughters **Kimberly Flickinger and Courtney Durham** and husband **Chris**; great-grandchildren **Abigail and Jackson Durham**; **Marie** and husband **David Flickinger**; and

David (Leader president) and his wife **Ellie Flickinger**.

BIRTHDAY WISHES FOR JOHN
 Wishes for a home-run birthday are sent to **South Belt Leader** sports editor **John Bechtie** on Thursday, May 11, from his family, friends and co-workers at the Leader.

SCHOOL DAZE
 The following personnel of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays May 10 through May 16.

Atkinson Elementary
 Light the candles May 13 for **Kimberly Grzesiek**. Special birthday wishes are sent May 15 to **Kelly Reader**.

Burnett Elementary
 Blow out the candles for **Yagaira Alaniz** who enjoys a birthday May 13. The day for a birthday gift for **Sheri Rodgers** is May 16.

Bush Elementary
Andrew Duron enjoys a birthday May 12.

Frazier Elementary
 Blow out the birthday candles May 13 for **Amanda Hooper**.

Moore Elementary
 The day for a birthday party for **Gail Bailey** is May 13.

Melillo Middle School
 Light the candles for **Kathleen Ingersoll** on May 12.

Roberts Middle School
Dora Flowers enjoys a birthday May 10.

Beverly Hills Intermediate
 Sing a chorus of a birthday song May 15 to **Jamika Lasker**. Celebrating a birthday May 16 is **Anne Berry**.

Dobie High
 Marking a birthday May 10 is **Kelsey Davis**. Send a humorous birthday card May 11 to **Steven Mayo**. Celebrate a five-star birthday May 12 with **Patrick Davis, Jose Esparza, Sokratis Kostikoglou, Abby Morris and James Reed**. The day for a gift for **William Malpass** is May 13. May 15 is the day for a party for **Cathy Barnett and Melissa Rios-Gutierrez**. On May 16, light the candles on a double-layer cake for **Leisha Lewis and Maria Romero**.

FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS
 The Leader sends happy birthday wishes to friends who celebrate a birthday this week:

Thursday, May 10: **Melissa West, Becky Lopez, Kathy Vingoe and Angela Ojeda**; Friday, May 11: **Alex Carpenter, Heather Reed, Tyson Dillard, Leslie Fair and George King**; Saturday, May 12: **Jennifer Main, Jazalyne Ily, Raymond Massey, Kirk Belch, Sonia Ramos, Jennifer Ashe and Sophie Harrison**; Sunday, May 13: **Lori Salinas, Norma Torres, Karen Kerr, Lori Reynolds, Douglas Mikel and Faith Roberts**; Monday, May 14: **Chris Escalera, and Bianca Perez**; Tuesday, May 15: **Meissa Rios-Gutierrez, Wayne Lominac Sr. and Roland Lejeune**; and Wednesday, May 16: **Anthony Swilley, Alan Adams, Keith Walker, Kenny Napper and Allyson McMillen**.

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

Morris sixth-grade bands compete, win

The Morris sixth-grade bands competed at the Gator Music Festival at McAdams Junior High in Dickinson on Saturday, April 28.

The concert band received division one ratings from all three judges and the trumpet section received an outstanding section award.

The symphonic band also received division one ratings from all three judges. The clarinet, trombone, euphonium and tuba sections received an outstanding section award.

Both bands were awarded superior performance trophies for their ratings. This marks the fourth straight year Morris has gone home with multiple superior performance trophies at this contest. The trophies will be on display in the front office later this week.

Bay Area Singles dance set

The Bay Area Singles Club monthly dance will be held on May 19 from 7 to 10 p.m. at the VFW Lodge, 5204 Highway 3, Dickinson, Post 6378. Guests are asked to bring party snacks to share. The cost will be \$7 for members and \$9 for nonmembers. For more information, call 832-483-3257 or 832-477-6778.

Israeli folk dancing events set

What meant to last only for four to five months is now in its ninth year. The sessions are not built on one another, so missing a few sessions or just starting, one can catch up quickly.

Dances are held at Congregation Shaar Hashalom on Mondays, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. May dates are 14 and 21. There will be no dancing on Memorial Day, May 28. June dates are 4, 11, 18 and 25. Cost is \$4 per session or \$35 for 10 sessions for CSH members, and \$5 per session or \$45 for 10 sessions for nonmembers. Dancing is an enjoyable way to get excellent cardiovascular exercise. Everyone is welcome. Congregation Shaar Hashalom is located at 16020 El Camino Real and is the conservative synagogue for the Bay Area. The community is invited to attend the sessions. For details, contact the office at 281-488-5861 or at csh@shaarhashalom.org.

Stuchbery girls enjoy Girls on the Run 5K



Some Stuchbery Elementary third- and fourth-grade girls participated in the Girls on the Run 5K on Saturday, April 28, at the University of Houston. Girls on the Run is a nonprofit program that encourages preteen girls to develop self-respect and healthy lifestyles through dynamic, interactive lessons and running games. Shown are, left to right, (front row) Keyli Guerrero; Jazalyne Randall; Marissa Vasquez; Elyssa Postel; Alexis Guerrero; (back row) Celajoy Williams, coach; Susan Brady, coach; Shannon Garris, coach; Sydney Hile; Elena Charles, coach; and Dana Sylvester. Photo by Susan Brady

Island-themed dance to be held June 2

An island-themed ballroom dance, will be held at Hometown Heroes Park, Saturday, June 2, from 7 to 10 p.m.

John Ruhberg will play all rhythms and keep those beautiful floating hardwood floors moving all evening.

The public is welcome, including couples, singles, students and seniors, regardless of dance ability. The door fee is \$8 per person.

The event is in compliance with the city policy that requires no smoking, no alcohol or floor wax.

The dance is sponsored by Let's Dance, coordinated by Neva and Bill Schroder.

For more information, call 417-838-2204.

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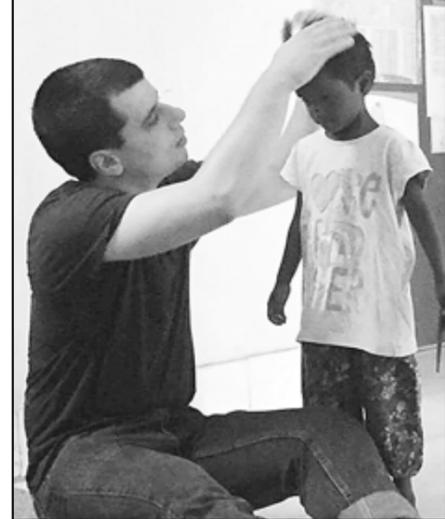
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Walker is shown with two of the numerous homeless children. Above Som Sarkar is being given a health checkup.



AARP Chapter sets meeting

AARP Webster Area Chapter 199 welcomes all to join them at 10 a.m. on Friday, May 18, at the Bay Area Community Center, 5002 E. NASA Parkway, Seabrook.

The chapter meets in the large building with the blue roof inside Clear Lake Park on the north side of NASA Parkway.

Everyone is invited to come to the meetings and to enjoy coffee, cookies and fellowship at 9:30 a.m. before the meeting starts at 10 a.m.

Each month there is entertainment or a speaker on various topics of interest to seniors. There is also a potluck lunch at select meetings, at which members and visitors are encouraged to bring a dish to share after the meeting ends.

On Friday, May 18, representatives from three local senior living facilities will briefly explain specific levels of care available. The discussions will focus on home care, independent living, assisted living, memory care, skilled nursing care and continuing care retirement communities.

A question-and-answer session will follow the presentations. The speakers will begin at 10:30 a.m. after the chapter business meeting and they will be invited to join the members during the potluck lunch immediately following the meeting.

The AARP Chapter also organizes day trips for AARP Chapter 199 members by bus to local area points of interest at minimal cost.

The next day trip is Tuesday, June 12, to tour Fernland Historical Park in Montgomery and the N. H. Davis Pioneer Complex and Museum. Lunch will be at Phil's Roadhouse and Grill.

There will also be a day trip on Thursday, July 26, to College of the Mainland Theater to see a live evening performance of the musical *Cry-Baby*. Dinner will be at Gus' Restaurant.

Annual dues for a membership in a local AARP chapter are \$6 per year per person. However, one must be a member of national AARP to join any local chapter. AARP Chapters are separately incorporated affiliates of AARP.

For more information, contact Earl Mallett at 281-484-2589 or earlmallett@sbcglobal.net.

Remember When

40 years ago (1978)
 A two-day open house at Ellington Air Force Base, designated the "Star Spangled Weekend" was sponsored by the Houston Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee and the 147th Fighter Interceptor Group, Texas Air National Guard in observance of Memorial Day.

Kirkwood South installed an entrance sign to the subdivision located on the island at Kirkfair and Beamer.

35 years ago (1983)
 Cathy Cagle, Mike Barkley and Tresa Philpott were chosen as the speakers for Dobie's graduation.

Pasadena Independent School District announced that districtwide enrollment was down by 1,527 students.

30 years ago (1988)
 Dr. Charles Thacker was named superintendent of schools for the Clear Creek Independent School District at an annual salary of \$80,000.

Dobie students DeAnn O'Leary and Alicia Mills competed in the state track meet, while Anthony Farmer competed in the state swim meet. The girls competed in the high jump, and Farmer competed in the 100-meter event.

25 years ago (1993)
 The Thompson Intermediate School's academic team came from behind to beat Benion Junior High 36-34 to win the national championship.

Police searched for the killer of South Belt resident Luis Morales. The 18-year-old male was shot after he and his friends had a verbal confrontation with a group of Hispanic males.

The Dobie baseball team sent shockwaves through the 5A baseball playoffs as it defeated Deer Park, the ninth ranked team in the state, in the area round of the playoffs.

20 years ago (1998)
 Farmers Insurance Group won the Southeast Economic Development's annual business of the year award.

The Dobie Latin Club won first place at the state Latin competition by only 15 points over Clear Brook High School.

15 years ago (2003)
 J. Frank Dobie employees and members of the communi-

ty gathered to visit with seven retirees from the high school. Those being honored were Ron Adams, Mike McKinney, Butch Thiele, Donna Langdon, Joyce Pell, Bea Wyman and Paul Vernon.

The South Belt Sluggers, a 13-year-old select baseball team, won the United States Specialty Sports Association's Lake Charles, La., tournament. The win qualified the team for the USSSA World Series in Broken Arrow, Okla.

10 years ago (2008)
 Results from the local elections were counted, with the number of votes cast surprising some. The \$295 million San Jacinto College bond proposal passed with overwhelming support. Almost three times as many people voted in the bond election than in the previous one held in 1999.

In the Pasadena Independent School District election, Vickie Morgan retained her Position 7 seat on the board of trustees, easily defeating challenger Randy Clay Smith. This was the first time that more people voted in a San Jac election than in a concurrent, contested PISD board election.

In the Clear Brook City Municipal Utility District election, Chuck Tylka easily defeated incumbent Bill Jones for the Position 1 seat on the board of directors. In the race for a position on the Sagameadow Municipal Utility District board of directors, challenger Dean Baier was unsuccessful in his attempt to unseat incumbents David Dittmar and Glenn Williams.

A retirement party was held for three longtime employees at Burnett Elementary. Dee Wright, Ada Carr and Carol Carmichael had a combined 100 years of experience working in the Pasadena Independent School District.

Dobie principal Steve Jamail was named PISD's 2008 Region IV Secondary Principal of the Year. Jamail was selected for his ability to build a positive school culture and climate aimed at excellence for all, according to Vicki Thomas, PISD deputy superintendent.

A 6-year-old boy drowned at a pool party in the 9900 block of Windmill Lakes Boulevard.

5 years ago (2013)
 Voters overwhelmingly cast ballots in favor of all bond proposals in the municipal utility district and school elections. In the Sagameadow Municipal Utility District, residents voted in support of a \$15 million referendum to address the MUD's aging water and sewer lines that were damaged by recent droughts. A similar \$10 million bond proposal passed in the Kirkmont Municipal Utility District. Voters in the Clear Creek Independent School District approved the CCISD bond referendum to rebuild and replace aging facilities.

The winner of the race to fill the CCISD District 1 seat formerly held by Robert Davee was Laura DuPont. Davee was not seeking re-election. Incumbent Ann Hammond retained her At-Large B position, defeating challenger Nick Long.

After teaching in the same second-grade classroom for 43 years, longtime South Belt resident Sharon Brantly retired from Stuchbery Elementary.

A South Belt resident was struck by lightning on a job site in northwest Houston. Jeremy Garcia, a 1996 Dobie graduate, was working for the City of Houston Public Works Department at the Metro North Office Park in the 1700 block of Seamist when he was struck around 10 a.m. during heavy thunderstorms. He was within 500 feet of a fire station and received immediate medical care, including defibrillator treatment. After reviving him, emergency crews transported Garcia to Memorial Hermann Hospital - Texas Medical Center in critical condition. After several months of rehabilitation, Garcia returned to work.

Longtime South Belt resident Susie Van Gilder Ortiz was selected by her colleagues as Teacher of the Year at Weber Elementary. Ortiz attended Stuchbery, Thompson and Dobie before going to San Jacinto College and the University of Houston-Clear Lake. She began her career at Weber in 2005 as a physical education instructor.

1 year ago (2017)
 The results from the local

Phelps named PISD 2018 distinguished alumnus

Sam Rayburn High School graduate and real estate developer, Steve Phelps, has been named the 2018 Pasadena Independent School District Distinguished Alumnus of the Year.

The award annually celebrates standout alumni for their lifelong achievements, contributions to PISD and for bringing honor and pride to the school district.

A ceremony honoring Phelps has been set for 5:30

p.m. on May 17 at the district's Carmen Orozco Professional Development Complex, 1832 E. Sam Houston Parkway South in Pasadena.

Phelps' Pasadena ties run deep. He attended Mae Smythe Elementary and Southmore Intermediate before graduating from Rayburn High in 1976.

After high school, Phelps attended the University of Houston Clear Lake, where he earned a bachelor's de-

gree in business administration while interning for Commissioner Jim Fonteno, who groomed him for a career in public service.

Inspired by his late father, who built the John Phelps Insurance Agency in Pasadena from the ground up, Phelps decided to take his first swing as a public official after being appointed Harris County Justice of the Peace for Precinct 8 – a position he continued to serve for three consecutive

terms. During this time, he earned a doctorate of jurisprudence from South Texas College of Law in 1993 and was appointed commissioner for the Port of Houston Authority in 1997. He decided to join the family business while also serving as commissioner until 2013.

Service to the community is the epitome of the Phelps family name.

His father, John, was the first of the Phelps bloodline to set the bar in public service, earning him such accolades as the Paul Harris Rotary Award, the Optimist Citizen of the Year, the Visionary Award of the Economic Alliance Houston-Port Region and the Pasadena Independent School District Distinguished Citizen award recipient.

Perhaps, the apple does not fall far from the tree. Steve Phelps and his brother Ken have continued this tradition through various volunteer and philanthropic efforts throughout the Pasadena area.

Steve volunteers as an auctioneer for many charitable events helping to raise more than \$2.5 million for worthy projects in the community.

While serving as commissioner of the Port of Houston Authority, he worked with a local group to get a maritime education program off the ground in Pasadena ISD and other neighboring school districts, while also helping to kick off an internship program for recent PISD graduates.

Phelps annually sponsors Pasadena ISD's Education Foundation, while supporting booster clubs, drill teams, athletic programs and PTOs throughout the school district.

Phelps has also backed various school bond measures, including serving on the original Team of Ten – a committee that was instrumental in supporting Pasadena Memorial High School's

building project.

Phelps has served on the board of directors for many civic organizations and companies in the area, including: the Moody National Bank Board, the Pasadena Economic Development Corp. and Pct2gether, a Harris County Precinct 2 nonprofit organization that provides veterans, senior citizens and youth with access to services to help improve their well-being.

Phelps will now share a spot with his father on the Pasadena ISD Distinguished Citizen and Alumni wall outside the Administration Building and inside the Phelps family business when he is honored mid-May.

"It's not an award for me," said Phelps, "but for the family."

Past recipients of the Distinguished Alumnus Award are:

- 2017 – Chris Bezdek, Sam Rayburn High School – Class of 1998; 2016 – Wayne Adams, South Houston High School – Class of 1967; 2015 – John Eddie Williams, Jr., Pasadena High School – Class of 1972; 2014 – Calvin Powitzky, Pasadena High School – Class of 1964; 2013 – Dr. John Morgan, Pasadena High School – Class of 1959; 2012 – Dr. Frank Young, Pasadena High School – Class of 1958; 2011 – Dr. Mike McKinney, Sam Rayburn High School – Class of 1969; 2010 – Rick Schriever, Sam Rayburn High School – Class of 1973; 2009 – Dr. Byron Tapley, Pasadena High School – Class of 1951; 2008 – James R. Smith, South Houston High School – Class of 1960; 2007 – Dr. Carlton Horbelt, Pasadena High School – Class of 1973; 2006 – Dr. Mary Campbell-Fox, Dobie High School – Class of 1976; 2005 – J. Michael Solar, Sam Rayburn High School – Class of 1971; and 2004 – Dr. Paul Zanowiak, South Houston High School – Class of 1965.

New DPS Mega Center opens



Shown above is the new Driver License Mega Center that the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) recently opened at 10810 Galveston Road/Highway 3 near Beltway 8, just north of Ellington Airport. The 21,000-square-foot facility features state-of-the-art

equipment and will allow customers to get in line before they arrive. The center will replace the previous Webster-Clear Lake location, along with two other nearby branches.

Photo by Marie Flickinger

PISD honors Phelps



Sam Rayburn High School graduate and real estate developer Steve Phelps has been named the 2018 Pasadena ISD Distinguished Alumnus of the Year.

Photo by Reesha Brown

State opens new driver license center

Continued from Page 1A replacing three nearby driver license (DL) offices – Houston Winkler, Pasadena and Webster-Clear Lake – which are all within eight miles of the new Mega Center.

All personnel and equipment from these three offices will be relocated to the new Mega Center.

The new Houston SE Mega Center is expected to be now fully functional.

Additionally, the Houston Gessner DL Center, at 12220 S. Gessner, will be temporarily closed for major renovations.

The office closed on Thursday, April 26, and will remain closed until the completion of the renovations.

All Houston Gessner staff will temporarily transfer to either the Houston

SE Mega Center or to the nearby offices of Rosenberg (28000 Southwest Freeway) and Houston-North (8418 Veterans Memorial Drive), which will increase capacity at those offices until Houston Gessner reopens.

As a reminder to driver license customers, many Texans are eligible to skip the trip to a driver license office altogether by instead taking advantage of online services for driver license/ID card renewals, duplicates or address changes at Texas.gov.

Customers can also renew by phone at 1-866-DL-RENEW (1-866-357-3639).

The eligibility requirements for phone renewal and online renewal are the same.

The fee is the same for online, in-person and tele-

phone renewals.

Customers may renew their Texas driver license/ID card up to two years prior to their current card's expiration date, which allows them to choose a convenient time that fits their schedule if an office visit is required.

The original expiration date will remain the same, even if the license is renewed early.

USPS gives warning of flyers in mailboxes

A member of the community brought it to the *Leader's* attention about flyers being placed in mailboxes.

The *Leader* reached out to the U.S. Post Service and was informed that it is illegal to place flyers that do not come from the post office in other people's mailboxes.

Anyone found doing this, will be warned by the local post office.

If the warning is not heeded, a fine will be issued for every flyer that was distributed illegally.

If anyone would like to report flyers being distributed illegally in mailboxes, visit one's local post office and ask to speak with a manager.

Make sure to take copies of the flyers for the manager to see and use for contact information.

South Belt Elementary announces VIPs for May



South Belt Elementary recently announced its VIPs for the month of May. Students shown were chosen by their teachers, based on their ability to display the character trait of the month: *honesty*. Shown are, left to right, (front row) Anna Wilkerson, Sofia Charles, Hussein Zamzam, Alessandra Cervantes, Adan Palmorales, Luke Daniel Sanchez, Korvin Ton, (second row) Kallie Troxlar, Kate Dao, Bradley Jones, Elijah

Hernandez, Abby Palma, Lola Carrizal, (third row) Ava Morin, Paul Salinas, Devin Aguilera, Lisa Ngo, Paula Medrano, Rya Hurd, Aren McCalla, (fourth row) Adlin Mena, Marissa Tavera, Aubree Rodriguez, Jadya Vallado Cantu, Angelina Vu, Allyssa Laurila, (back row) Audrina Hernandez, Mia Mata, Micheal Granger, Mario Martinez, Ayden Munoz and Ava Castillo.

Photo by Lakitha Green, Counselor

Atkinson participates in "Name That Book"



Atkinson Elementary's "Name That Book" challenge team placed third of 36 teams in the Pasadena Independent School District held recently. Peggy Rader Craft stepped in and coached the team for Dana DiMarco, Atkinson librarian. Shown are, left to right, (front row) fourth-grader Emiliano Rivera (Tracey Nguyen's class),

third-grader Huy Le (Erica Salazar's class), third-grader Jocelyn Nguyen (Salazar's class), fourth-grader Miranda Medel (Nguyen's class), (back row) fourth-grader Jacob Sanchez (Nguyen's class), fourth-grader Gwendolyn Jones (Nancy Vazquez' class) and fourth-grader Waleska Palacios (Tulu Sarkar's class). Photo by Dana DiMarco

CC foundation funds more than \$130K for educational grants; introduces new Science Fair Innovative Grant for students

The Clear Creek Education Foundation (CCEF) visited 50 outstanding CCISD teachers on 21 campuses during the annual Sur-Prize Patrol on May 1st. Teachers were surprised by the CCEF board members and community partners with Teacher Innovative Grants totaling more than \$129,016 that will impact more than 41,000 CCISD students. The Clear Creek Education Foundation awards teachers with grant money through the Teacher Innovative Grant Program, giving teachers the opportunity to take education to the next level and providing unique, hands-on learning experiences in the classroom. Since the foundation's inception in 1992, more than two and a half million dollars in Teacher Innovative Grants have been disbursed districtwide.

mobile career lab, drumming up fun through Drums Alive programs at six elementary campuses, and so many more, impacting all subjects from literacy to STEM education, this year's Teacher Innovative Grants were more innovative than ever and will impact over 41,000 students either directly or indirectly for the 2018-2019 school year.

Funding from the Clear Creek Education Foundation is made possible thanks to the many friends of the foundation, individuals and businesses, who have partnered together to Support Educational Excellence in CCISD through the Teacher Innovative Grant Program. The foundation feels the Teacher Innovative Grant Program is a vital and necessary strategy in assisting teachers in maintaining the high level of achievement in CCISD. For a full list of grants awarded and sponsors, visit CCEF's website.

CCEF is proud to have a Give-A-Grant program in which once the grants are selected, individual grants can be sold directly to businesses, individuals and organizations that may be passionate about a subject area or campus they would like to impact. This year's Give-A-Grant program was extremely successful thanks to the additional sponsorships from the following: Assistance League of the Bay Area (7 grants), Joe Barlow, Joyce Abbey, Ron Carter Clear Lake (Cadillac Hyundai Genesis) employees, LyndellBasell, Carol and Jim Saxe, employees of IBI Architects, and the CCISD cabinet.

In addition, CCEF was excited to open the opportunity for high school science fair students to apply this year through the Science Fair Innovative Grant program sponsored by the Arepalli – Karumuri Family Grant. Four students were awarded up to \$500 to help enhance their science fair project for the 2018 – 2019 school year. "Based on the impact of the CCISD science fair program for Swaraj and Sivaram Arepalli's children, CCEF was excited for the opportunity to uphold their vision to inspire and help science fair students take their projects to the next level through this grant opportunity," said Deborah Davis, CCEF Programs Chair. "We were very excited about the results and look to fund many more talented students in the future."

Other opportunities for funding through CCEF's educational grant program for Special Innovative Grants, Student-Teacher Innovative Grants and Mini Grants are also available to CCISD teachers and students throughout the remainder of the year. Information on these funding opportunities can be found at www.ClearCreekEducationFoundation.org.

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

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WEEKLY SERVICE TIMES

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Early Service • 7:45 a.m.	Prayer Meeting • 7:00 p.m.
Sunday School • 9:30 a.m.	Mid-Week Service • 7:45 p.m.
Worship Service • 10:45 a.m.	

Nursery Available at all Services

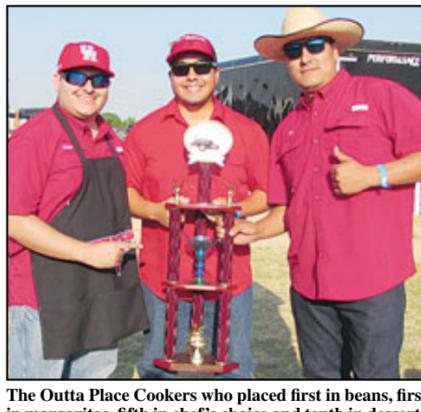
South Belt Spectacular Cook-off names 2018 winners



The Pyromaniacs team who placed first in ribs is from left to right, Randy McKay and Luke Mauro.



The Fork Em Up team, who won first place in chili and sixth and seventh in chicken, includes Rick Pena (left) and Charlie Kings.



The Outta Place Cookers who placed first in beans, first in margaritas, fifth in chef's choice and tenth in desserts are from left to right, Andrew Medina, Jorge Martinez and Jessie Murillo.



The What's Their Name Kookers who placed first in chef's choice, are from left to right, Alejandro Guerrero Jr., Andrew Vargas, Jeremy Holman, Patricia Ochoa, Ricardo Peña, Brenda Gonzalez and Cesar Juarez.



The Here 4 Da Beer team members who won the showmanship award are from left to right, Patsy Garay, Blue Chavez, Pat Flores, Mando Flores and Rene Pena. The two children are Cinco and Ryan Jimenez. Not pictured are Will and Licha Garay, founders.



The Second 2 None Cookers team placed first in chicken, second in chef's choice, fourth in ribs, fourth in margaritas, fifth and tenth in beans, tenth in brisket and was the overall winner. Displaying their trophies are, left to right, Mike Garza, Annette Aguirre, Anthony Arredondo, Herman Hernandez, Danny Bravo and Beto Trevino.

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The Smoking Irish team won first place in brisket, first place in desserts and second place in ribs. Shown at left are left to right, Cheryl Arnesen, Rhonda Thomas, Roger Thomas, Michael McCormack, Katy McCormack, and Danny McCormack. Not pictured are Denny Wranich and Lane Lowrey.

All photos by Sherri Golightly

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SJC baseball team top-seed at XIVs

Can the San Jacinto College baseball team finally crack through and win a national title after two near misses? Gator fans are about to find out as the locals prepare to compete in the Region XIV Postseason Tournament May 12-16 at Roadrunner Field on the campus of Angelina College in Lufkin.

San Jacinto, which has been ranked No. 1 in the National Junior College Athletic Association's Division I poll on multiple occasions, will be the top seed from the South division at the Region XIV event.

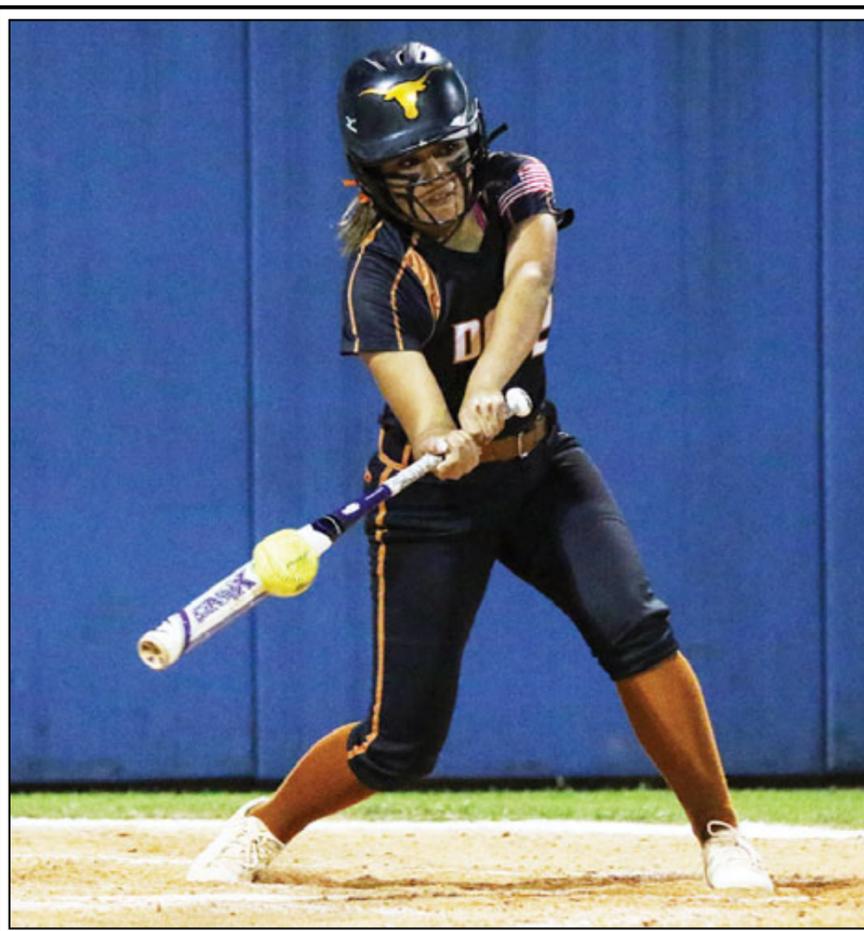
The Gators finished the regular season at 44-12 overall after winning their final three games against

Alvin. The locals wound up 28-7 in the region. Alvin won the series opener May 4 by a 5-2 count before the Gators finished strong. In the second game of the May 4 twin bill, the Gators won 11-1 as Luke Matheny went five innings for the win on the mound.

Matt Goodheart tripled and doubled and drove in three runs. Peter Zimmerman, who also drove in three runs, had two hits, as did Tyriese Silas and Sergio Macias. Jacob Matheny also doubled.

Alerick Soularie had three hits and drove in four as SJC defeated Alvin 12-1 May 5. Silas and Herbert Iser also had two hits each.

Continued on Page 3B



Playing in what ultimately would be her final high school game, Dobie's Jacqueline Garcia delivered a two-run single in the top of the fifth inning to give her Lady Longhorns a 3-0 lead over Clear Falls May 4 in a Region III area round elimination game. Clear Falls rallied for four runs in the bottom of the sixth inning and went on to advance with a 4-3 win. Dobie saw its season end at 23-9 overall. Meanwhile, Clear Falls will now face Kingwood.

Photo by Jade Wise



San Jacinto College freshman catcher and Class of 2017 Dobie High School graduate signals to the infielders during the Region XIV Postseason Tournament at Lone Star College Port Arthur. The locals went 1-2 at the event as the season ended at 24-31.

Photo courtesy LSCPA

SJC softball falls at Region XIVs

Striking for five runs in the sixth inning, Blinn ended San Jacinto College's softball season at the Region XIV Postseason Tournament May 6 in Port Arthur.

San Jacinto finished the season at 24-31 overall after losing to Bossier Parish 4-3 and defeating Angelina 6-1 before the elimination game setback against the Bucs.

In the end, South division No. 1 seed Galveston and North division No. 1 seed Tyler advanced to the National Junior College Athletic Association's Division I World Series later this month in St. George, Utah.

As for San Jacinto, the program had hopes of making it back-to-back trips to nationals, but it wasn't to be. For much of the season, the team's

defense struggled with errors, and overall pitching depth rarely emerged. Lacey Gabaldon had three hits in the regional tournament opener against Bossier, but four errors helped sink the locals. Bossier Parish's Elisa Favela pitched a complete game for the win, and she also homered.

Freshman pitcher Michael continued on Page 6B

Region XIV Baseball
San Jacinto (44-12) vs. Angelina (27-24)
Saturday, May 12, 5 p.m.
Angelina College, Lufkin
Tourney runs through May 16
www.tsrnports.com

Clear Falls' rally stuns JFD

As few as four outs stood between the Dobie team and an appearance in Class 6A Region III quarterfinal round. Dobie junior starting pitcher Alana Ortega was working on a scoreless string of 10 innings in the postseason when she stepped into the circle for the top of the sixth inning.

The Lady Longhorns, who got a solo homer in the top of the first inning from Taylor Pleasants to go with a two-run single from Jacqueline Garcia in the fifth, seemed in control with its then 3-0 advantage.

But the Lady Knights got things started in the sixth with a lead-off walk from Katie Hoke.

Ortega came back to strike out Erica Riley for the first out, but Baylee Freudenberg followed with an RBI double, getting Falls on the scoreboard. Juli Niedermaier then smacked an RBI single as Falls got within 3-2.

A fielder's choice helped Dobie register the second out, and Ortega took Garcia to 0-2 in the count before it went full at 3-2.

Garcia then sent the go-ahead, two-run double to left, sending the Lady Knights' faithful

Continued on Page 6B

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Pioneers' Miller takes state track gold

Junior distance runner Noa Miller is the person of the week at Lutheran South Academy after winning a gold medal at the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools 5A Track and Field Championships May 4-5 in Waco.

In a time of 1 minute, 59.55 seconds, Miller was the first to the finish line in the 800-meter run at Waco Midway High School.

He was the lone gold medalist for the Pioneers, who also delivered numerous solid performances at state. The boys' team finished sixth in the final totals, and the girls were 10th.

LSA's Carson Noack

Continued on Page 2B

Atascocita sweeps past Dobie baseball

Two runs in the bottom of the first and two more in their half of the second gave the Eagles an early 4-0 lead en route to the 7-0 victory May 3, at Atascocita High School.

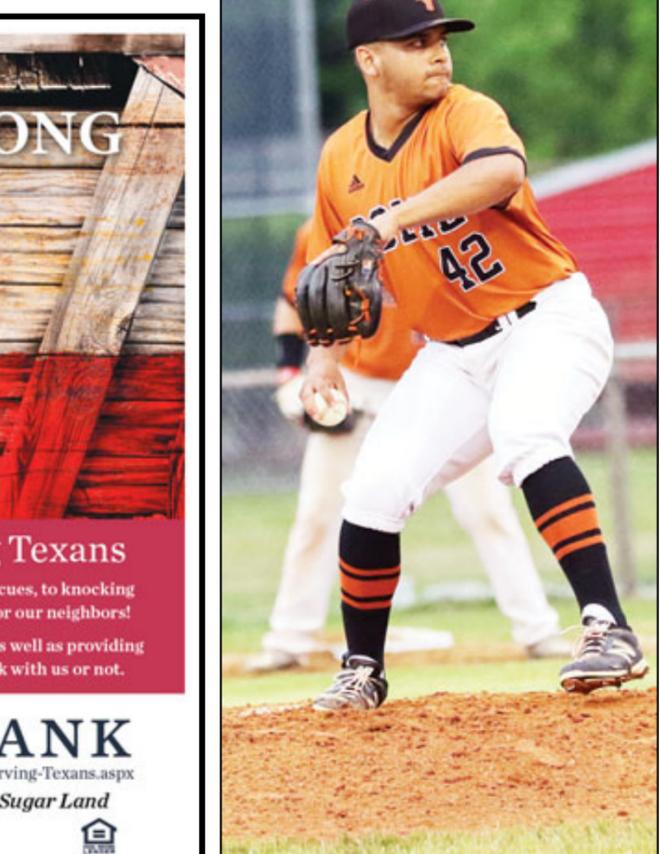
Dobie sophomore Daniel Garza pitched well in his four-inning stint, but walks, which were a problem in both games, helped the Eagles.

Atascocita led the second game 5-1 before the Longhorns got to within 5-4. However, the Eagles' eight-run fourth inning provided the difference.

So Dobie's 2018 season has ended, while Atascocita, the No. 2 seed out of District 21-6A, advances to take on Clear Falls in the area playoffs.

It's also time for the Longhorns to bid adieu to several key seniors. Isaiah Vasquez, who had a pair

Continued on Page 6B



At left, Dobie right-hander Alan Lopez (42) fires a pitch during the early going of his team's eventual 13-6 bidistrict playoff loss to Atascocita May 4 at Maguire Field.

Photo by Jade Wise

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Dobie boys' basketball program assists Houston Food Bank

Sophomore and junior class members of the Dobie boys' basketball program took time out from busy off-season workouts to give back

to the community through the Houston Food Bank. Dobie varsity boys' basketball head coach Kevin Cross and his staff accompanied 21 players to

the Houston Food Bank, where the players spent four hours packing 1,950 dinner packages for those across the city and surrounding areas in need.

"This was a great way to give back to the community and do something good for others," Cross said. "I'll tell you one thing, they put you to

work. We basically formed an assembly line, and it was hard work. We had a 15-minute break, but other than that, the kids worked really hard. They really all

enjoyed, and a lot of them said that we should make it an annual event for our program. I'm sure we are going to do it. It helps the kids understand the need

to assist others, and what the value of hard work and effort can make. I was really proud of the way our kids worked and got a lot done."

At right, junior and sophomore class members of the Dobie boys' basketball program took time out for a family photo after assisting the Houston Food Bank on a recent visit. While there, the students put together nearly 2,000 dinner packages for those in need across the Houston area. Those from Dobie lending a helping hand included, left to right, (front row) Daveante Lopez, Michael Oke, John Hoang, Tyler Guzman, Tomas Garcia, Larry Etienne, Shannon Hayes, Sirron Ward, Adrian Young, De'marcus Carathers, (back row) David Chicas, Patrick Collins, Kaleb Monroe, Adrius Anderson, Terence Davis, Colin Murphy, Nicholas Welcome, Darius Davis, De'aurion Taulton and C.J. Conant.



Submitted photo

Pioneer track excels at state

Continued from Page 1B

Elsewhere in the state event, junior Daniel Hutchins cleared 6-0 for fourth place in the high jump, just missing a medal.

LSA sophomore Layia Palmer completed the 100-meter dash in a time of 12.57 for fifth place.

Two other LSA state boys' competitors, Peyton Soderstrom and Aaron Casas, also challenged for medals.

Soderstrom, a junior, cleared 6-0 in the high jump for fifth place.

Casas reached state in both the shot put and discus events. In the shot, Casas' top throw of 45-3 placed him fifth.

In the discus event, Casas wound up eighth after a throw of 116-6.

Miller was hoping to medal in the 1,600-meter run but came across the finish line sixth overall in a time of 4:41.61.

LSA senior shot putter Taylor Johnson ended her prep career sixth in the event with a throw of 31-1 3/4, and Gabby Scotto was seventh in the 300-meter hurdles with a time of 50.74.

The Lady Pioneers' Francesca Scotto, mean-

while, was seventh in the discus after her best throw traveled 84-11.

In the girls' high jump, LSA's Bethany Adress was eighth to close out her junior year as she made her way over the 4-8 mark.

A time of 52.64 landed the Pioneers' Ian Schaidler eighth place in the 400-meter run as he ended his high school career.

The LSA 4x100-meter relay girls' team of Mary Catherine Adams, Adress, Laura Demchak and Palmer combined for fifth in the event with a time of 51.54.

In the 4x200-meter relay, it was Adams, Adress, Palmer and Brooke DeHoyos teaming for fourth place and a clocking of 1:48.84.

The Pioneer boys took part in the 4x200-meter relay, with Jacob Justice, Curtis Teichman, Lewis Palmer III and Hutchins coming in at 1:34.76 for fifth place.

The LSA boys' team was sixth in the final Class 5A standings with 44 points. Cedar Hill Trinity Christian won the boys' crown.

The girls' team title went to Tyler Grace. LSA was 10th (30.50 points).

LSA's McDonald picks St. Mary's



Lutheran South Academy varsity baseball standout Ethan McDonald (seated center) will continue his education and playing career at St. Mary's University in San Antonio after inking a letter of intent with the Rattlers. Those with McDonald at the signing included, left to right, (seated) Mike McDonald (father), Ellie McDonald (mother), (standing) Aaron Schneider (LSA varsity baseball head coach) and Caleb Taylor (LSA varsity baseball assistant coach). Ethan McDonald also played varsity football at LSA and is currently hitting better than .330 while having won five of eight decisions on the mound. McDonald helped the Pioneers sweep past Corpus Christi In-carnate Word 12-2, 13-2, in the opening round of the postseason to improve to 27-5 this season. The Pioneers went against Second Baptist in the second round of the playoffs May 9, after press time.

Lajaunie Memorial tennis fund awards players

The 7th annual Darren Lajaunie Tennis Memorial Scholarship Fund's three-day spectacular kicked off April 27 with a scholarship awards dinner and wound down April 28-29 with two days of exciting tennis.

It all played out at the Harry Taylor Tennis Center in Pasadena.

2018 marked the second year the DLTSF has awarded scholarships at the HTTC in Pasadena as more than 200 participants enjoyed a fajita dinner, catered by Casa Olé, with beverages donated by Rudy's Barbecue.

The ACE Camp Scholarship is a merit and need-based scholarship awarded to a deserving junior tennis player.

This year's recipient, Zafirah Cabrera, is no stranger to the Darren Lajaunie Tennis Scholarship Fund.

Cabrera was the ladies' recipient of the ACE scholarship in 2017.

For 2018, Cabrera will receive two summer camp sessions.

Safirah is near completion of her second-grade year at Pearl Hall Elementary School.

She is aiming to help out her parents by finding a way to pay for camp and alleviate the financial burden of the cost for camp after the family was hit hard by the affects of Hurricane Harvey.

Cabrera told DLMTF officials she feels her strong academics and training schedule will lead the way for her to be a great tennis player into the future.

She is focused on and off the courts and is in the process of perfecting her serve and plans to utilize this scholarship to help her develop as a player because, as she says, she will "not miss any lessons."

The professional tennis player who inspires her the most is her coach, because he respects her and makes tennis fun for her.

Further, Cabrera feels she is a natural for tennis and would like to continue her tennis career through college and eventually become a professional tennis player.

The Center Court Scholarship is a camp scholarship set up for junior tennis players from ages 11 to 18. Abigail Everett is the 2018 recipient, also for two summer camp sessions.

Everett is an eighth-grade student at First Baptist Christian Academy and has been playing tennis for three years.

She played last year in The Darren Lajaunie Memorial Tournament, placing second in her division.

Everett concedes that she is relatively new to the sport and feels this scholarship will springboard her to greatly improving her tennis skills.

She would like to make the varsity tennis team next year in high school.

Everett is a member of the USTA, which allows her to play in both sanctioned and non-sanctioned tournaments in Houston and around the country.

The eighth-grader has logged 23 hours of community service by volunteering for Harvey Relief, Operation Christmas Child and at vacation bible school at her church.

She enjoys taking time out of her schedule to help those in need and taking care of younger children during VBS.

Everett said the tennis player who has inspired her the most is her coach, John Thomas, because he has taught her to be competitive and raised her level of play.

Off the court, Everett makes school her first priority, as demonstrated by her placement on the honor roll at school.

She is also a member of the Student Council and does her best to balance her academic schedule with her tennis schedule.

Everett further said she loves the competition on the courts and enjoys playing both singles and doubles. She feels tennis has enriched her life because

it has taught her perseverance and determination.

The Grand Slam Scholarship is the college scholarship for high school seniors.

For 2018, Klarissa Bueno, a senior at First Baptist Christian Academy in Pasadena, will receive a \$1,500 scholarship.

Bueno has been accepted to both the University of Houston and San Jacinto College, and plans to study business and accounting.

She has been playing tennis since she was eight and has also played basketball and volleyball the last four years.

Bueno has registered more than 25 hours of volunteer work at VBS, school events in Galveston, the Guadalupe Center Food Bank and at her church in Pasadena.

In the classroom, Bueno is ranked fourth in her graduating class and will soon decide between UH and SJC.

Her high school coach, Michael Claunch, praised Bueno's passion for tennis while showing leadership and good sportsmanship.

Bueno said the tennis player who has inspired her the most is Serena Williams because, as Bueno said, Williams displays a strong tennis work ethic and is always determined to win.

Bueno hopes to play tennis the rest of her life in her free time, she said.

The soon-to-be high school graduate has ad-

vanced to the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools state tournament twice in her

high school career, as a sophomore with her sister and again this year as a senior with another partner.

She was the first player from her high school to make it to the TAPPS State finals.



Three deserving young tennis players were recipients of various scholarship awards during the 2018 Darren Lajaunie Memorial Scholarship Fund Tennis Tournament at the Harry Taylor Tennis Center in Pasadena. Those winners included, left to right, Clarissa Bueno (Center Court College Scholarship), Zafirah Cabrera (Ace Camp Scholarship) and Abigail Everett (Center Camp Scholarship). Submitted photo

SBASA scholarship deadline approaches; local Class of 2018 seniors being sought

The South Belt Area Sports Association is once again set to offer deserving Class of 2018 seniors the chance to earn scholarship funds.

Each year, the association presents \$1,000 scholarships to be applied toward collegiate academic costs to one deserving boy and girl student from Dobie or Clear Brook.

Eligibility requirements for the South Belt Area Sports Association include:

The student must have completed a minimum of three seasons in any of the six youth sports leagues supported by the SBASA, including the Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League, South Belt Girls' Softball Association, Sagemont Cowboys, South Belt Senior League Baseball (Pony/Colt), the South Belt Youth Soccer Club, or Southbelt Dolphins.

Eligible candidates must be satisfactory in both attendance and academic standing and should also exhibit good citizen-

ship, character and community involvement.

The scholarship may be used to defer expenses in the approved areas, including tuition, fees, books or miscellaneous expenses.

The selection will be made by the SBASA committee. Financial need will be considered in the selection process.

The applications must be completed and returned to the counseling office by May 18, 2018.

Scholarship stipulations include that the recipient must enroll in a minimum of 12 class

hours at an accredited institution, including a four year college or technical/vocational school.

The funds will be distributed to the chosen candidates once registration and other appropriate receipts are provided to the committee for approval.

Applicants should also submit a copy of their transcript and a senior portrait with the application.

For more information about the scholarship opportunity, including qualifications, direct email to SBASA president Joe Bennett at joebob10227@yahoo.com.

Dobie baseball program sets Mantle league tryouts

Dobie varsity baseball head coach Miguel Torres and his staff will host Mickey Mantle summer league baseball tryouts Monday, May 21, beginning at 4:15 p.m. at the Longhorns' field.

The tryout is open to incoming Dobie High School freshmen as of the 2018-2019 school year. Participants must bring their own bat, glove, cleats, etc. The Dobie Mickey Mantle squad will compete in games beginning in June at Dobie and other surrounding schools.

SBGSA's Texan Divas 10U wins at Deepwater

At right, the South Belt Girls Softball Association's Texan Divas took the championship at the Deepwater Girls Softball Association tournament April 27-29. Members of the team are, left to right, (front row) Vanessa De La Fuente, Samantha Trevino, Natalie Chavez, (middle row) Aaryn Brown, Leila Reyes, Khloe Coronado, Persephone Soria, Chloe Nunez, Lauren Liscano, (back row) assistant coaches Marshall Thornton, Fernando Nunez and Freddy De La Fuente and head coach Nolan Liscano.



Submitted photo

San Jacinto College baseball rolls into regional

Continued from Page 1B
The Gators were able to close Alvin out in five innings in this one.

Supported by the homers from Stephenson and Soularie, Rylan Kaufman had little trouble on the mound.

Kaufman went five innings, scattering six hits over

the five innings and allowing just the one earned run. He improved to 6-1 this season, all as a starter.

In the final game of the regular season, the Gators won a pitcher's duel against the Dolphins.

Five different pitchers went to the mound for the

Gators, and Nick Neville's eighth-inning RBI single provided the final margin of victory.

Trey Dillard struck out two in the eighth and was credited with the win. Aaron George struck out the side in the ninth inning for an impressive save.

Having finished the 2016 and 2017 seasons by playing for the national championship, the Gators are clearly intent on getting back to Colorado.

The 2018 NJCAA Division I JUCO World Series is set for May 26 through June 2 at Sam Suplizio Stadium in

Grand Junction. To get there, San Jacinto College, the top-seeded team in Region XIV's South division, first has to get past the field at regionals.

At 44-12 overall and 28-7 in conference play, SJC has been ranked No. 1 in the nation on more than one occa-

sion this season. San Jacinto College head coach Tom Arrington will be part of the NJCAA's Class of 2018 Hall of Fame during a ceremony at the JUCO World Series. He obviously plans to have his team on hand with him to share in the experience.

JFD's Blogg, Garza make Team Texas



Dobie sophomore right-hander Daniel Garza (above) and teammate Justin Blogg have been selected to play in the 24th annual Sophomore Sun Belt Tournament June 1-3, in Oklahoma City. Team Texas will go against squads from Canada, Oklahoma and Nebraska at Dolese Park. Garza and Blogg were two of 46 players chosen for Team Texas from a pool of more than 100 candidates. The teams will include players from Class A through Class 6A from each of the state's four regions.

Photo by John Bechtle

Dobie boys' soccer players land TASCOC accolades

The Texas Association of Soccer Coaches has recognized a select group of players from the Dobie varsity boys' program. A season after winning the Region III title, the Longhorns once again stood out in 2018, going 20-4-3 this season. Dobie won its fourth consecutive District 22-6A championship with a 13-1 record and then went on to defeat Goose Creek Memorial and Friendswood before a regional quarterfinal loss to North Shore. At season's end, TASCOC honored District 22-6A Most Valuable Player Sebastian Leal, 22-6A Goalkeeper of the Year and 22-6A first team forward Kevin Hernandez as All-Region III first team selections. Oscar Trevino, also a 22-6A first team selection, was a TASCOC Honorable Mention pick. Clear Brook senior Gareth Cupples was a TASCOC first team choice, and senior teammate Jordan Greenshield was a TASCOC Honorable Mention choice. Photos by John Bechtle



Sebastian Leal (10), TASCOC First Team Midfielder – Oscar Trevino (8), TASCOC First Team Midfielder



Kevin Hernandez (14), TASCOC First Team Forward



Sebastian Leal (10), TASCOC First Team Midfielder



Ramon Cahue (1), TASCOC First Team Goalkeeper

Local sports news, notes

Dobie football to host May 19 dodgeball tourney

The Dobie High School football program will host a fun-filled dodgeball tournament Saturday, May 19, at the Dobie 9 campus. All Dobie students who provide their campus identification card are eligible to compete. The fee is \$10 per player, and teams will consist of five girls and five boys. Those interested may contact Dobie football booster club member Gloria Wallace via email at gloria.wallace73@gmail.com.

Rising Stars registering

The Rising Stars Track Club, the South Belt area's longstanding youth program, is currently accepting registration and is conducting preseason workouts at the Dobie High School track. Team coaches are hosting workouts each Wednesday and Friday, from 4:45 p.m. to dark, Saturdays from noon to 2 p.m. and Sundays from 3 to 5 p.m. Both returning and first-year team members may register at any of the workout sessions.

Seahawks FB signing up

The Blackhawk Seahawks youth football program, complete with drill team and cheerleading squads, is currently registering boys and girls ages 5 to 12 years old, for the 2018 fall season. The cost is \$200 each for football players and \$350 each for drill team and cheerleader members. The Blackhawk Seahawks are members of the Texas Intercity Football Inc. (TIFI) and play their home games at Dobie High School. To register youths, visit the team website at www.leaguelineup.com/blackhawkseahawks. For additional information, call team president Lisa Sanchez at 832-969-8542.

SBYSC, Copa Alianza offer soccer tourneys

In conjunction with the South Belt Youth Soccer Club, Copa Alianza is bringing a youth clinic and soccer tournament series to El Franco Lee Park May 11 through May 13.

The three-day event begins with a coaching clinic Friday, May 11, from 5 to 8 p.m. Then comes a two-day series of age-group tournaments at El Franco Lee Park. There is soccer action planned for all age groups, including odd-year age-group teams 2001, 2003, 2005, 2007, 2009 and 2011, while the even-year age group squads will compete in 5-on-5-tournaments.

There are also options for male players looking to see what the pro ranks entail, as well as information for those looking to play collegiately. Copa Alianza will also have a host of options available to female players in a variety of age groups.

Registration options are available at www.southbeltssoccer.org and www.launidadssoccer.com. For more information, call Javier Cuellar at 713-829-0157.

Dobie athletics physicals are May 16

Dobie High School student-athletes will have a great opportunity to get their required annual athletic physical completed Wednesday, May 16, in the school gymnasium as Dr. John Kirkwood and his staff will be on campus providing the examinations at \$25 each beginning at 1 p.m. Any student-athlete planning to compete in any sport at Dobie during the 2018-2019 school year must have a completed athletic physical on file on campus prior to being allowed to take part in practices, workouts, games, etc. There are no exceptions.

CALENDAR

THURSDAY, MAY 10

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

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

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

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

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

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

Pearland Area Republican's Club – meets monthly on the second Thursday (except December, June and July) at the Pearland Church of Christ Annex, 2217 N. Grand Blvd., Pearland. For details, call Gary at 281-993-8335.

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

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

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

FRIDAY, MAY 11

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

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

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

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

Serenity Now Al-Anon Group – meets at CrossRoads UMC Fridays, 8 to 9 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Family members and friends of problem drinkers/

addicts share, learn Al-Anon principles, that they are not alone, and discover choices available. For details, call 281-484-9243.

SATURDAY, MAY 12

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

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

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

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

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

SUNDAY, MAY 13

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

Grief Support Group – For adults who have lost a loved one. Meets Sundays, except Mother's Day, Easter and Christmas, 2 to 3:15 p.m., First United Methodist Church 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena. For details, call

281-487-8787. **Scleroderma Support Group** – Do you know someone with scleroderma? Join a support group on the second Sunday, 2 to 4 p.m., at Memorial Hermann Northeast Hospital in Humble. Bring a friend. Call Jacob Davila at 281-706-6232, or email jdavila@scleroderma.org.

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

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

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

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

MONDAY, MAY 14

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

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

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



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Continued on Page 4B

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CALENDAR

Continued from Page 3B

MONDAY, MAY 14

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611. 3:15 p.m.
Houston Area Parkinson Society - Free exercise and speech therapy for adults with Parkinson's, 3:15 to 4:45 p.m., Clear Lake Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster. Visit www.hapsonline.org for details. 6-8 p.m.
CrossRoads UMC - Mercy Hearts meets on the second and fourth Mondays, 6 to 8 p.m., at CrossRoads UMC located at 10030 Scarsdale. The focus of the new Mercy Hearts is support for families of inmates and ex-offenders. The program will provide a complimentary meal, group Bible study and discussion. Child care is provided. This is a confidential ministry and information will be treated accordingly. For details, contact C. Talbot at 281-245-7072 or Chucktal@msn.com. 6 p.m.

Scrabble Club #511 - Meets Monday at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua. Come, improve crossword playing skills. Call 281-488-2923 for details.
Mended Hearts Cardiac Support Group - A national organization dedicated to inspiring hope in heart patients and families meets the second Monday at the Clear Lake Heart Towers auditorium, 495 Medical Center Blvd., Webster. A free meal begins at 6:30 p.m., followed by a speaker. For information, call 281-538-4648. 7 p.m.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-856-1611.
Sagemont Civic Club - Meetings are held the second Monday, 7 p.m., Sagemont Park Recreation Center, 11507 Hughes Rd. 7:30 p.m.
Congregation Shaar Hashalom - Israeli Folk Dancing on Monday, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m., 16020 El Camino Real, 77062. \$4/session or \$35/10 sessions for CSH members and \$5/session or \$45/10 sessions for nonmembers. Everyone is welcome. For information, contact 281-488-5861 or csh@shaarhashalom.org.
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Saint Luke's Group, 12 Step Recovery, open meeting Mondays, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Education Bldg., 11011 Hall Rd., 77089. For details, call Russell at 832-483-6715.

TUESDAY, MAY 15

AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in. 9:30 a.m.
Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum - Exhibits include dioramas, a turn-of-the-century doctor's office and an old-time kitchen. Tuesday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., 204 S. Main, Pasadena. For details, call 713-472-0565. 10 a.m.

Clear Lake Bridge Club - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at jpochsner@aol.com for details. Noon
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.
Rotary Club of Pearland - Meets Tuesdays, noon to 1 p.m., Golfcrest Country Club, 2509 Country Club Dr., Pearland. Lunch is \$15. Variety of interesting speakers. For details, call 281-900-7257. Email nalix@texascitizensbank.com. 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Hometown Heroes Park - has free dance "lessons" Tuesdays following the senior luncheon taught by 35-year dance area instructors Lewis and Betty Whistler at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 E. League City Pkwy. For questions regarding lessons, call 832-517-5833. League City Parks Dept requires an activity card for all participation of activities. Seniors (age 55 and older) get a free "full activity card." Nonresident seniors pay \$25 a year for this full activity card. If under age 55, there is a "special limited to ballroom activity card" for which residents pay \$25 a year, and nonresidents pay \$37.50 a year to enjoy "daytime" ballroom activities. Saturday night ballroom dances require a door fee to cover expenses. For questions about the activity card, call the park office at 281-554-1180. 1:30 p.m.

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) - #1530 meets at the Sagemont Park Community Center, 11507 Hughes Rd., For information, call Jeanette Sumrall at 713-946-3713. 2 p.m.
The National Active and Retired Federal Employees - NARFE Chapter 941 meets the third Tuesday, El Franco Lee Park Community Center, 9500 Hall Rd. Visitors welcome. For details, call Roy at 713-734-1461 or EFL Center at 281-464-9708. No meeting in Aug.
Clear Lake Bridge Club Lab Class - Tuesday, 2 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. For details/classes, contact Dr. Glandorf at dr.glandorf@sbcglobal.net or 281-488-6318. 6:30 p.m.

Breast Cancer Support Group - Meets on the third Tuesday from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the lobby of the Clear Lake Regional Breast Diagnostic Center, 200 Medical Center Blvd., Suite 106, Webster. For details, call 281-526-6840. 7 p.m.
Houston Skyscraper Shadows Civic Club - meets the third Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at 7900 Fuqua (inside Covenant of Faith United Methodist Church). There is no meeting in December. For details, contact Cathy at houstonshadows.org or call 713-332-6294.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church-youth bldg. For information, call 713-856-1611.
Positive Interaction Program - meets the third Tuesday, 7 p.m., at Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital, 11800 Astoria, first floor staff meeting room. PIP is police and citizens working together making neighborhoods safer. Bring a friend. For information, call Officer Richard

Buitron at 281-218-3900.
Alcoholics Anonymous - Alcohol problems? Meets Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7 to 8 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For details, call 713-306-4366 or 713-480-4166. 7 a.m.

AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in. 9:30 a.m.
Carmelites - a nondenominational senior citizen social group that meets at 15500 El Camino Real in Clear Lake on the first and third Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. for a time filled with fun, fellowship, lending library, coffee and bingo. The meetings are open to anyone age 50 or older and there are no dues. Day trips and extended trips are available. Plan ahead to join the trips. For details, call Marilyn at 713-947-2388. 9:30 a.m.

The Community Club - meets monthly on the third Wednesday at Golden Corral, 4021 Spencer Hwy., in Pasadena. Social time is 9:30 a.m.; meeting is at 10 a.m. The club is a charitable organization of women helping the Salvation Army feed and care for homebound elderly/disabled people, children and the homeless, providing scholarships for Bridge Over Troubled Water clients. Day trips may be scheduled, followed by a guest speaker/program with fellowship and lunch. New members and guests are invited. For details, email Jmopry@yahoo.com. 10 a.m.

Clear Lake Bridge Club - Open games Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at jpochsner@aol.com for details. 11:30 a.m.
Houston Hobby Airport Lions Club - meets monthly, first and third Wednesdays, Golden Corral, 4021 Spencer Hwy., Pasadena. December may be an exception. For information, call Monica Montoya at 281-794-5531. 1-3:30 p.m.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611. 8 p.m.
Hometown Heroes Park - has free Hump Day Dance to practice ballroom dance 1 to 3:30 p.m. Wednesdays, 1001 E. League City Pkwy. League City nonresidents must purchase activity card (see Tuesday 12:30 p.m. dance for details). Help is available to assist learning dance moves. For details, call Neva Schroder at 417-838-2204. 7 p.m.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church-youth bldg. For information, call 713-856-1611.
Bay Area Turning Point Crisis Intervention - Call 281-286-2525 (24-hour crisis hotline) for confidential domestic violence/sexual abuse support for women. Visit www.bayareaturningpoint.org for details. 8 p.m.

Alcoholics Anonymous - meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call 281-484-9243. **THURSDAY, MAY 17** 7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in. 10 a.m.

Clear Lake Bridge Club - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at jpochsner@aol.com for details. Noon
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611. 6 p.m.

Texas German Society, South Belt (SE) Chapter - A social group focused on the culture, music, heritage and language of Texas German immigrants. Meets the third Thursday, monthly, 6 p.m., Fellowship Hall of Mount Olive Lutheran Church, 10310 Scarsdale Blvd. Visitors welcome. Email OpaGivesHugs@gmail.com for details. 6:30 p.m.

Harris County Master Gardeners - presents *Insects In The Garden* on Thursday, May 17, at 6:30 p.m. in the Freeman Branch Library, 16616 Diana Lane. This is a free Harris County Master Gardener event. For details, visit <https://hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/pubGreenThumb.aspx> or call 713-274-0950. 7 p.m.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Women's Group, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-856-1611.
Alcoholics Anonymous - Alcohol problems? Meets Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7 - 8 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For details, call 713-306-4366 or 713-480-4166. 7:30 p.m.

The Bay Area Writers' League - Meets to improve writing skills, Barnes and Noble, 1029 W. Bay Area Blvd., Newcomers welcome.

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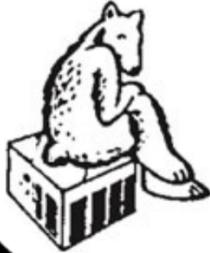
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Walks, big sixth inning lead Eagles to bidistrict win

Continued from Page 1B of hits in his final game and was a solid offensive force for three seasons, will exit.

Jonathan Acosta, like Vasquez one of the team's captains, will also move on after proving to be very valuable in both the outfield and the infield.

Dobie head coach Miguel Torres also pointed out the solid work of Daniel Ortega, who stepped into a vacancy at second

base and excelled. He also bridged the lineup for the Longhorns, frequently delivering bunts and doing the small things to advance runners.

Senior pitchers Julian Flores, Jacob Sims and Mario Rodriguez did not get many opportunities, particularly when District 22-6A play began, but Torres praised their professionalism.

"One of the big things we had this year was great

senior leadership, and all of those guys were a part of that," Torres said. "It's very easy to complain or make things tough in the dugout when you don't get the chances you think you deserve, but those guys instead were big senior leaders for us. It meant a lot."

Zach Frias, a two-year starter at third base and an all-district performer as a junior, also had a big season for the Longhorns in all phases of the game.

Looking at the Atascocita series, Torres said it was a lack of command on the mound that hampered his team. Unfortunately, that's part of the game that simply happens.

Garza and Alan Lopez, the second game starter, both struggled with the bases on balls against the Eagles.

Certainly the team's top two performing starters this season, Garza and Lopez simply hit a rough

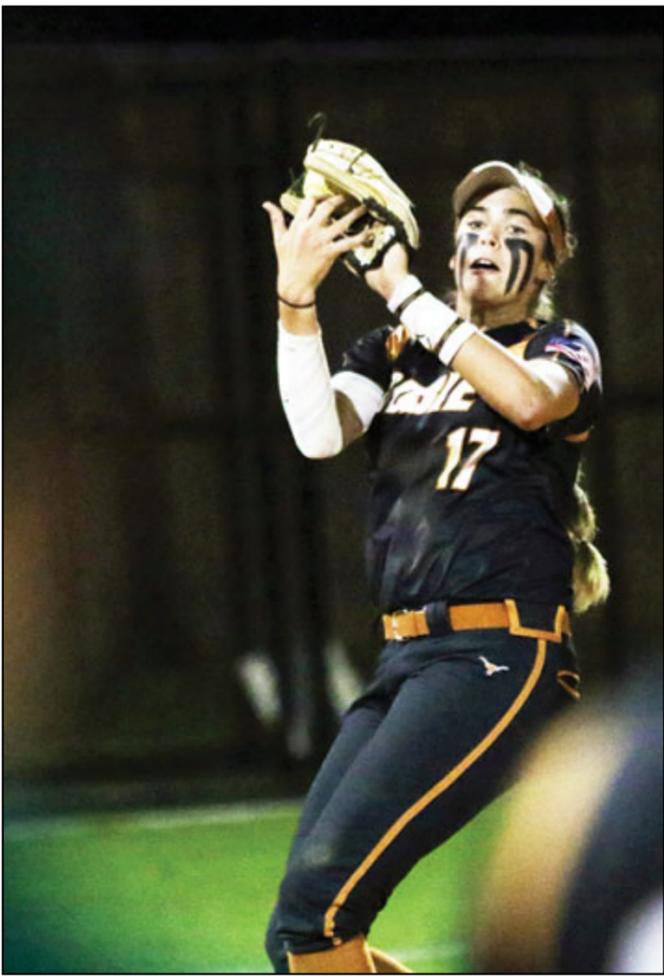
patch. Looking forward, the team will bring back those two pitchers along with Damien Lopez, who excelled on the mound as well. Torres said there are other young arms at the lower levels who could make a difference in 2019 and beyond.

Offensively, 22-6A stolen bases leader Jeffrey Mercado, already a three-year starter, will return. Justin Blogg, the team's starting catcher and cer-

tainly a big offensive option moving forward, will return. David Amaya, a starter in left field, will also return.

"It was a disappointing series loss, no doubt, but I'm still so proud of these guys," Torres said.

"We started the season strong and carried it through all the way. We had quality wins over Deer Park and La Porte and finished third. All in all, it was a great year."



Dobie junior shortstop Taylor Pleasants makes the play on Clear Falls' Juli Neidermaier's pop-up in the fourth inning of the area round playoff game between the two teams May 4 at Clear Lake High School. With a solo homer in the top of the first inning, Pleasants had a pair of home runs, a double and seven runs batted in during the Lady Longhorns' two games. While this season is complete, Pleasants, one of the best all-time players at Dobie, will return for her senior season in 2019.

Photo by Jade Wise

Knights' four-run sixth plays big

Continued from Page 1B into a frenzy and putting Dobie just three outs away from elimination.

Falls, clearly cognizant of Pleasants' power, intentionally walked the junior with two outs in the seventh. Camryn Wincher's liner back to the circle ended the game for the Lady Longhorns.

It's always disappointing to lose in the playoffs, but this one especially hurt. Dobie was looking

to make the regional quarters for the first time since 2011 and came so close to doing so.

Most importantly, the loss brought an end to the brilliant career of center fielder and lead-off hitter Yvonne Whaley, who will continue her education and playing career at Texas Tech University.

Garcia, a big contributor for three seasons with the Lady Longhorns, also saw her prep career come

to a close. She is set to continue her education at Houston Baptist University.

But Pleasants, certainly in the conversation as one of the program's best all-time, all-around players, will return for another season. And the rest of the roster is loaded with returnees as the Lady Longhorns look to build upon what was a terrific 23-9 season, including 11-3 in 22-6A play.

Blinn halts SJC's softball season

Continued from Page 1B elle Kristoff went six innings for SJC, striking out seven as part of a hard-luck loss.

Kristoff then pitched San Jac past Angelina 6-1, striking out five over seven innings.

Allison Bravo, like Kristoff a Class of 2017 Dobie graduate, had two hits in the game, as did teammates Gabaldon and Samantha Martinez.

Bidding to stay alive in

the tournament, San Jacinto College started fast against the Bucs and led 3-0 through four frames.

Then came Blinn's five-run inning, which brought an end to the season for the locals.

At a two-year institution such as San Jac, coaching staffs have to deal with the same recruiting issues each year.

Last offseason, SJC head coach Kelly Saenz knew she had to replace

sophomore pitcher Niki Gonzalez, who set a bevy of records during her two-year stay. Meanwhile, the 2018 squad was headed by several big bats, including Taylor McKenry, Kenzie Kotrla, Riley Bullen, Madison Neal and others.

Now the script has been flipped. While Kristoff and Denise Gracia should return to anchor the pitching staff in 2019, the offense will undergo a retooling of sorts.



Michelle Kristoff (20) pitched all but 1 2/3 innings during San Jacinto College's three-game run at the Region XIV tournament May 4-7 in Port Arthur. She defeated Angelina 6-1 in the middle game and finished the season with 11 wins and an earned run average of just over 2 per seven innings. SJC wound up the season with a 24-31 record.

Photo courtesy of LSCPA



Dobie junior David Amaya stepped in as an option in the outfield for the Longhorns and played well. Here, he makes a sliding grab of a sinking liner during the team's final game of the season, a 13-6 loss to Atascocita May 4 in a bidistrict playoff game at Maguire Field in Pasadena. Despite the loss, the Longhorns won 21 games this season.



Jonathan Acosta (28), a senior team captain for the Longhorns, came up big in both infield and outfield roles this season as the team won more than 20 games for the first time since the 2011 season. While Acosta will be one of the key losses on the current roster, Dobie will return as many as eight other players who were primary contributors.

Photos by Jade Wise

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