

Leader correction on story

The *Leader* story about the upcoming July 14 primary runoff elections contained an error. The article stated in the race to gain the Republican nomination for U.S. House District 22, Kathleen Wall would face Greg Hill. This was inaccurate, as Wall will face Troy Nehls. The *Leader* apologizes for any confusion.

ZIP COVID numbers reported

As of Wednesday, June 10, ZIP code 77089 had 112 confirmed cases of COVID-19, according to Harris County Public Health officials. That figure is 13 higher than the 99 count reported on Wednesday, June 3.

In ZIP code 77075, county officials are now reporting 103 known cases. This number is seven higher than the 96 cases reported the previous week.

County officials are now reporting 97 cases in ZIP code 77034, up 12 cases from last week.

In all, there are currently 15,238 known cases in Harris County, an increase of 2,211 from last week. Of those cases, 9,146 remain active, up 1,433 from last week. A total of 5,830 have recovered from the virus in the county, an increase of 752 from the previous week. To date, 262 have died from COVID-19, up 26 from last week.

Statistics are updated daily and include numbers from within both the Houston city limits and throughout Harris County. To view an interactive map, visit publichealth.harriscountytx.gov/Resources/2019-Novel-Coronavirus.

SPCIA cancels meeting

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Sagemont Park Community Improvement Association (SPCIA) board of directors has canceled the June 18, scheduled homeowners meeting.

The board will continue to monitor the COVID-19 statistics in the area to determine the feasibility of holding the annual homeowners meeting in July. Notifications will be sent to the homeowners once a new date for the annual meeting has been determined.

HOA seeks nominations

The Sagemeadow HOA will hold an election for three seats on its architectural control committee June 20. This committee is responsible for reviewing and approving changes to property within the Sagemeadow subdivision. Nominations for each seat will be accepted through June 17. All candidates must be Sagemeadow subdivision property owners. For more information, visit www.sagemeadow.org.

Beltway closures planned

There will be a total closure of the Fairmont Parkway exit ramp on Beltway 8 through 10 p.m. Monday, June 22.

At least one northbound and one southbound Beltway 8 frontage road lane will be closed from Vista to SH 225 daily from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. through Friday, June 26.

At least one southbound Beltway 8 frontage road lane will be closed from Fairmont Parkway to Genoa Red Bluff daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Monday, June 22. The closures are due to the ongoing project to widen Beltway 8 from two to four lanes in each direction.

Gulf Freeway closures set

The northbound exit ramp on the Gulf Freeway at NASA Bypass/ NASA Road 1 will be closed continuously through 5 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 31. At least one lane of the northbound and southbound entrance ramp from NASA Bypass/ NASA Road 1 to SH 96 and exit ramp from NASA Bypass/ NASA Road 1 to SH 96 will be closed nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Thursday, Dec. 31.

Two alternate lanes on the Gulf Freeway frontage road will be closed from NASA Bypass/ NASA Road 1 to SH 96/League City Parkway daily from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. through Thursday, Dec. 31. The southbound entrance ramp on the Gulf Freeway will be closed at FM 518 until further notice. At least one northbound and one southbound 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. and nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Tuesday, June 30. This work will require alternate entrance and exit ramp closures. At least one southbound frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway from FM 517 to Hughes Road in the Texas City will be closed until further notice. The southbound entrance ramp at FM 517 in Texas City will be closed until further notice.

There will be a total closure at the southbound IH 610 connector ramp at the Gulf Freeway through 5 a.m. Monday, Sept. 28.

The northbound connector ramp from the Gulf Freeway to the IH 610 South Loop, along with one inside lane, will be closed nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Thursday, Dec. 31.

At least two alternate main lanes and frontage road lanes on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from IH 610 South Loop to Broad Street nightly from 7 p.m. to 6 a.m. through Thursday, Dec. 31.

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

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

Most unique school year comes to an end

By James Bolen
The 2019-2020 school year has come to a close, in what was the most unique in the area's history, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

"We have definitely not finished this school year like we thought we would when we started," Pasadena ISD Superintendent Dr. DeeAnn Powell said in a video posted to the school district's website. "It's been almost 11 weeks since we have gotten to be together, and that has been really tough. However, again, I'm reminded of how proud I am of our students, their parents and families, our teachers and our staff. Everyone

has worked so hard to keep instruction moving forward and perform the daily operations of our district. We are blessed to be part of Pasadena ISD."

The novel coronavirus scare had forced local schools to complete the spring semester via on-line distance learning, requiring parents to often assist with teaching.

Several local schools found creative ways to celebrate the closure of the school year since social-distancing guidelines prohibited in-person gatherings.

Atkinson Elementary recently hosted a drive-thru awards ceremony, in which students

were presented a variety of accolades for their achievements, as they picked up their final report card and remaining school supplies.

Dobie High School held a drive-thru senior parade for graduates as they picked up their caps and gowns. Students were greeted with signs congratulating them for their efforts. Students often decorated their vehicles and held signs as well, thanking their teachers.

Powell said while she misses many of the traditional in-person ceremonies associated with the end of the school year, the district intends to

maintain its normal graduation events.

"This is usually a very busy time of year when I would personally attend as many award ceremonies, end-of-the-year banquets and fun celebrations that I possibly could fit into my calendar," Powell said. "I miss our students and our staff, and no matter how busy I stay, I find myself thinking about the laughs, the hugs and the recognitions of achievement that we are all missing. One thing I refuse to give up is our plan to celebrate our Class of 2020. Please know we are

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Late Bulletin:

Chris Diaz suspends top officer, 2 others

Three top employees in Harris County Constable Precinct 2 Chris Diaz's office were suspended from duty Wednesday, June 10, for alleged misconduct.

The incident in question took place on Jan. 29, where residents/tenants at 600 Mississippi Street in South Houston were potentially ordered by Precinct 2 officers to vacate a premise without due process. The investigation into the matter stemmed from a Freedom of Information Act request from the *Leader*, seeking body camera footage and documents associated with the eviction, which allegedly did not follow standard protocol. While the official time to comply with a FOIA request is 10 days, this took more than four months. While the FOIA request was made in early February, no footage or records were produced until early June when an officer

from Harris County Attorney Vince Ryan's office visited Diaz's office and demanded them.

The *Leader* has learned that two Precinct 2 employees at the scene of the eviction were instructed by a superior to change their reports, but refused. A third employee at the scene – one of the three now on suspension – reportedly supplemented his official report of the incident to counter the other two.

In all, the chief deputy, a lieutenant and a corporal were suspended. The incident is currently under investigation by Ryan's office, and Diaz's office has also launched an independent investigation.

The *Leader* has learned policy, state and federal laws were broken with actions involved in this case. See next week's *Leader* for the complete story.

Senator Cruz addresses BAHEP

U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz addressed members of the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership during a virtual general membership meeting held on May 28. Approximately 150 BAHEP attendees listened as the senator spoke of the coronavirus pandemic, the SpaceX launch, the Payroll Protection Program, the U.S. Space Command, China and education and workforce legislation.

South Belt resident and BAHEP President Bob Mitchell made welcoming remarks and served as moderator of the meeting. Following introductory comments from Cruz, Mitchell proceeded to ask questions of concern to BAHEP and its members.

U.S. regains human launch capability

Mitchell asked the senator to comment on the significance of the U.S. regaining human launch capability and the potential of commercial space activity as a driver for the U.S. economy. Cruz answered, "It is enormously important. I have for a number of years chaired the Aviation & Space Subcommittee in the Senate and have focused on driving space policy forward in a way that we see a real, productive cooperation between NASA and commercial space to restore America's unquestioned preeminent leadership in space."

"This is an important threshold. It's an im-

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CCISD creates reopening committee

The Clear Creek Independent School District has created a committee to help establish guidelines for reopening for the fall semester in a safe manner.

The coronavirus outbreak has disrupted the lives of millions across the world. In response to the pandemic, educational institutions locally and abroad have ceased in-person instruction. For Clear Creek ISD, schools and facilities have

been closed since March 6, and distance learning was utilized for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year.

The Safely Reopen CCISD Committee has been formed to develop a set of recommendations that reflect the best, sound medical advice; practicable changes to normal district operations in order to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 spread

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Houston zoo one more open place

South Belt residents looking for a cure for cabin fever may now visit the Houston Zoo, as the facility reopened to guests Wednesday, June 3.

"We have been eagerly awaiting the time when we can reopen with the support of our local and state government," Houston Zoo President and CEO Lee Ehmkke said prior to the reopening. "During this time, we have been es-

tablishing new protocols to ensure we welcome Houstonians to the zoo in the safest way possible."

New guidelines include the following:
- Online ticket sales only (guests without online reservations will be turned away at the gate).
- Timed ticketing for all entries.
- A one-way path.

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Houston Parks announces program

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department has announced its plan for the Summer Enrichment Program. The program will operate out of 19 City of Houston Community Centers which provide enough space for physical distancing to ensure the safety of youth participation and staff.

The decision was made following consultation with health experts focused on safety concerns related to COVID-19. Registration for the

Summer Enrichment Program is available online at www.houstonparks.org. Note that the 19 community centers will only be open for Summer Enrichment Program youth and staff -- all other programming and facility use will remain closed.

The only local program is at the Sagemont Center at 11507 Hughes Road.

The Summer Enrichment Program will op-

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County names 2 new testing sites

County Judge Lina Hidalgo and the Harris County Department of Public Health recently announced the county's two largest COVID-19 test sites will be moved to new locations.

The testing sites have been moved to Pasadena and Cy-Fair from Baytown and Katy and began services June 1.

May 29, was the last day the Baytown and Katy sites were open and residents in those areas who need to be tested are encouraged to take action to schedule an appointment as soon as possible.

Smaller mobile sites will continue to visit the Baytown and Katy area periodically.

Harris County Public Health encourages any residents who believe they have COVID-19 or have been exposed to someone with the virus.

To receive free testing, residents should register and use the self-assessment tool available at readyharris.org.

Residents may call 832-927-7575. During the screening process residents can select a

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Police seek info on shooting

Houston police are investigating the shooting of a man that took place around 11:10 p.m. Wednesday, June 3, at an apartment complex in the 10900 block of Tanner Park Court near Almeda Mall.

The victim, Jacobly Madison, 29, was transported to an area hospital in stable condition.

According to police, patrol officers responded to a shooting at the Almeda Park Apartments and found Madison lying next to his vehicle with a

gunshot wound to the chest area.

Houston Fire Department paramedics transported him to the hospital. Evidence from the scene indicated an unknown suspect shot Madison and then fled the scene on foot.

Anyone with information in this case is urged to contact the HPD Major Assaults and Family Violence Division at 713-308-8800 or Crime Stoppers of Houston at 713-222-TIPS (8477).

Jury trials suspended through Aug. 3

In an effort to continue to encourage the health and safety of the public and court staff members from the spread of the COVID-19, the City of Houston Municipal Courts Department has extended the suspension of all jury trials through Aug. 3, in conjunction with the order of the Texas Supreme Court. The court remains open for all other proceedings.

Members of the public should contact a health care provider and not come to court if they are experiencing symptoms similar to COVID-19. Once cleared by a physician, individuals may visit any City of Houston court location to speak with an Annex Judge to reset a case. Masks/facial coverings must be worn at all times within

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Free summer meals still available

Multiple operations will remain in place this summer to provide free meals to area youth during this ongoing health crisis.

Pasadena ISD

The Pasadena Independent School District is continuing its grab-and-go free breakfast and lunch program through at least July 3.

Parents should note, however, that times and locations have changed from that of the school year.

Meals will be distributed at all Pasadena ISD

high schools except Memorial. These include Dobie, South Houston, Sam Rayburn, Pasadena and the Dr. Kirk Lewis Career & Technical High School. Hours are from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Parents may drive by participating campuses to pick up a meal for each child who is present in the vehicle. No meals will be available for parents or students walking up to the campus. Meals

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Lawsuit filed over too much pay

At least one Pasadena ISD staff member has filed a lawsuit after the school district asked them to return overpay associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. As of press time, the district had not been served.

In March, the Pasadena ISD board approved a measure that would give hourly employees performing tasks deemed essential a 1.5 pay increase. A clerical error, however, inadvertently

gave these staff members a 2.5 raise, and district officials have since asked the employees to return the money.

The incorrect increase was distributed on three separate paychecks. For the employee who filed the lawsuit, this equaled approximately \$2,000 in extra pay.

According to Dr. DeeAnn Powell, the super-

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Local libraries use unique approaches

With the COVID-19 pandemic still a concern in the area, local libraries have taken unique approaches to maintain services for area residents.

City of Houston

While all Houston libraries remain closed, 10 branches – including the Bracwell Branch Library at 9002 Kingspoint – will now have curbside pickup, known as HPL TO GO.

Begun June 1, HPL TO GO is like a food take-out service but for library materials that will be delivered directly to a patron's vehicle. To utilize the service, the public can reserve books, music or movies online or by phone and pick up the items at any one of the neighborhood libraries open for curbside service. Library employees will prepare and deliver the items directly to customers' vehicles.

Customers can place their materials on hold at www.houstonlibrary.org or by calling 832-393-1313. They will then receive notification by mail or by phone when materials are ready. Once

customers arrive at a library, they simply call inside and HPL staff will deliver the materials and place items directly in the trunk of the car or

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Sagemont club hosts virtual debate

The Sagemont Civic Club, along with multiple other area civic groups and HOAs, will host a virtual debate for the two Democratic candidates running for the position of Harris County Precinct 2 constable.

Incumbent Chris Diaz and challenger Jerry Garcia have both accepted the invitation to participate. The debate will be held via Zoom Tuesday, July 23, at 7 p.m.

Organizers are seeking potential questions for the debate. Each candidate will have the oppor-

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Once again Beltway area cleaned up



Deputies from Harris County Precinct 8 Constable Phil Sandlin's office Monday evacuated the lone resident from a homeless encampment near the intersection of Beltway 8 and Sabo. This marked the second time in just a few weeks that the site was cleared by Sandlin's department. Members of the Tollroad Authority cleaned up the massive pile of trash left by the single recent occupant. It is believed the occupant collected items from various donation bins located throughout the community. City of Houston crews also recently cleaned a similar site under the overpass at Edgebrook and the Gulf Freeway. (See related story Page 2.) Photo by Marie Flickinger

BBQ sale at St. Luke's Church

Knights of Columbus Council is sponsoring a barbecue sale Saturday, June 13, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday, June 14, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (or until food runs out) in the St. Luke Catholic Church

rear parking lot, 11011 Hall. The event features a chopped beef sandwich with onions and pickles, chips or Fritos and a soft drink. The cost is \$8. Proceeds benefit Knights of Columbus charities.

In My Opinion

Image could not be further from the truth

As I drive around in my community, I see the shameful defacement of a Jerry Garcia campaign sign at the corner of Beamer and the Beltway. I am outraged that a great man, husband, and father is being so viciously depicted and compared to Satan.

This image could not be further from the truth about Jerry Garcia.

A man who is a pillar in our community for almost two decades has been a guiding beacon for the youth in our community.

A man who in a great time of need through the COVID-19 pandemic created a program to bring awareness of caring for our vulnerable seniors. Jerry Garcia has not even been elected YET and I am amazed of how much he has accomplished.

I can only imagine with great admiration how much more he will accomplish once he is elected.

This law enforcement election for Constable of precinct 2 is especially important right now in this time, given the current environment. We all in our community must be sure to elect a man of great integrity to lead our law enforcement officers. To have the best officers on the ground, we need to vote for the person with the highest integrity to lead them.

We need someone who's actions speak louder than words. We need someone who has campaigned with honesty, compassion, and true leadership.

That action alone speaks volumes of the type of character that we currently have leading our law enforcement officers.

We demand that our elected officials be held accountable not just by their actions, but also by the LACK of their actions and silence.

Sincerely,
Maria-Luisa Trevino

Civic club excited for candidate debate

Good afternoon, Sagemont Civic Club is very excited that both candidates have agreed to participate in the June 23 candidate debate.

Jeff Turnipseed, Sagemont CC Vice President, and I have been working on putting together the event.

The Civic Club's goal for this debate is to reach as many voters in Precinct 2 as possible so that voters can make an informed decision when they go to the polls to decide which candidate will be on the November ballot. Sagemont CC has a decent reach in South Belt-Ellington, but not throughout the rest of the precinct.

Two representatives from Jerry Garcia's campaign, Herbert Sanchez and Diana Gonzales have volunteered to help recruit organizations to help spread the word about the debate and to help with getting questions from the voters.

Knowing that they will focus on Garcia supporters and the general public, we are hoping 2 people from the Diaz campaign will join us on this committee to focus on his supporters and the general public.

Both campaigns and the public are welcome to submit questions for the debate.

Our next meeting is Wednesday, June 10 at 7 pm via zoom. Please let me know if someone will be joining us from the Diaz campaign with their email address so I can include them on the invite.

I have attached a copy of the current flyer. As new groups join, the flyer will be updated and placed on the Sagemont Civic Club group Facebook page. Sharing the event from the CC page will update the flyer to wherever the original post was shared. When possible, the groups will be linked to their sites.

We are looking forward to the event.
K Barbour

Local library events set

Bracewell Branch Library

Bracewell Branch Library is located at 9002 Kingspoint. The phones are open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, noon to 7 p.m., at 832-393-2580 for reference details and any other information. See related story on Page 1.

Bracewell HPL To Go curbside service is in operation

Curbside services, known as HPL To Go, is now available Mondays, noon to 7 p.m.; Wednesdays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Fridays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The staff will also be available for reference questions, information, resources and account information on those days as well. Although curbside services will not be available on Tuesdays and Thursdays, the staff will be waiting to answer customer calls from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call Bracewell Neighborhood Library at 832-393-2580. Note that all overdue fines/fees will be waived through Jan. 1, 2021. The outside book drop is open 24 hours a day.

Book drop

The book drop is now open and all materials can be returned with no overdue fees. The library will continue to provide online resources so the public can enjoy the library at home. Large items such as FLIP kits or laptops should not be placed in the book drops. HPL is asking customers keep those items until further notice.

Additional resources

Currently, the Houston Public Library is focusing on providing electronic resources, books, audiobooks, databases for research, tutoring, language learning, education and parent information for any resident of Texas with a temporary library card. The way an interested resident can get a library card is to visit the website at www.houstonlibrary.org, scroll down onto the Home Page, and find the heading Here's What's Happening. Under that heading, there will be three cards. The middle one is Free Resources for All. Click on the card which will go to the page that lists the digital resources available and a link to obtain a temporary card.

Also, under the heading Here's What's Happening, look for the first card on the left, click on the heading titled Online Resources for Kids. One of the programs listed is Virtual Storytime. This is provided every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 11 a.m. The archived storytimes can be found on Facebook by searching Houston Public Library Virtual Storytimes. Another virtual program is Craft. Soon there will be STEM programs.

The HPL updated app is much more user-friendly than before. On the very first page, there is a link to Tumblebooks, which has many picture books that are animated read-alongs for children.

Houston Public Library's many free online resources and digital services remain available 24/7 with a MY Link Library Card at www.houstonlibrary.org, including e-books and e-audiobooks, streaming TV, movie and music services, online classes and tutoring and databases. Until further notice, only electronic items (i.e. e-books, e-audio books, etc.) are eligible for holds and check-out. HPL has a robust collection of free e-books and audio books. Visit the catalog to determine if a previously requested hold selection may be in a digital format. Instructions on downloading the e-book or audio book are also on the site.

All due dates for existing borrowed materials will be extended through the closure period. Until further notice, no new late fees and fines will be assessed during the closure period, retroactive to March 14, 2020. While the Bracewell Branch Library remains closed, it's Wi-Fi service is still available for residents to utilize. If a customer has a device, such as a phone, laptop or tablet but no Wi-Fi, they can come to the library and gain access by standing/sitting within 6 feet of the building. There is no need for a password. All one needs to do is go to Settings, then Network and Internet, Wi-Fi, and then connect to HPL - Public.

Even though HPL appreciates book donations, it's not accepting them at this time. The library staff requests that donations do not get placed outside library buildings, or at the book drops. Visit www.houstonlibrary.org to find virtual programs, and digital resources including e-books, e-audiobooks, streaming music and videos, online learning, online tutoring, and much more. For more information visit www.houstonlibrary.org to find out how to chat with a librarian 24/7, or how to send questions through HPL's email reference.

Parker Williams Library

The information for Parker Williams reads:

"All Harris County Public Library locations will remain closed to the public at this time. Public safety is our top priority. We will provide service updates as they are developed. The book drop at Parker Williams Library is open. No late fees have been nor will be charged during the library closures. You may return library materials to the exterior book drops at most HCPL locations, but, we urge you to continue to maintain social distancing and other public health guidelines. You will not be charged late fees. Do not leave items outside the library.

Harris County Public Library will continue to offer a wide array of online services:
- Use HCPL Wi-Fi service while maintaining social distancing with HCPL's Drive-up Wi-Fi.

- Download ebooks and audiobooks, stream movies, research and learn at www.hcpl.net.
- Attend an HCPL program or story time online through Facebook or YouTube.
- Check your account to renew loans or request books.
- eBooks, comics or graphic novels through OverDrive.
- Stream classic films, indie cinema, and award-winning documentaries on Kanopy.
- Listen to audiobooks through RBDigital or OverDrive.
- Read along and play with picture books on TumbleBooks.
- Ask us a question via chat on Ask a Librarian.

If you do not have an HCPL library card, you can get instant access to all HCPL's digital materials including ebooks, streaming movies and research tools with an iKnow Digital Access Card. Apply at https://www.hcpl.net/services/iknow-card for a HCPL card."

Virtual activities

With the onset of summer, Parker Williams Library has planned online activities. The link to access the activities is provided for each event.

For more information, visit https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library.

Parker Williams curbside holds pick-up postponed

The library's interior will remain closed to the public as will our meeting rooms. The curbside service is scheduled to roll out at a future date that will be announced.

Complete instructions as to the curbside pick-up process will be detailed when the announcement is made for the event to begin. This is planned to be a no-contact curbside.

However, the library staff will not be able to take your returns when curbside pick-up begins, so customers are asked to put them in the book drop.

Events in the near future may be announced in future issues and additional information is available on a timely basis on the library website. For more information, visit https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library."

South Belt-Ellington Leader

— The Voice of Community-Minded People —

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Davy & Marie Flickinger, owners

Elected officials share their words

Sen. Bettencourt: County clerk's mailing

376K BBM applications waste of money
Will file bill to save taxpayers money in reaction to County clerk announcement last week.

- Newly sworn in Harris County Clerk Chris Hollin's mailing to every registered voter over the age of 65 in Harris County in super low turnout primary runoff elections is a complete waste of hundreds of thousands of taxpayer dollars.

- To Senator Bettencourt's knowledge no other county has done this before. Does a big county, aka Harris County,

doing this while small counties do not potentially effect election results?

- In a low turnout political party primary runoff election, the Democratic and Republican parties should be doing this themselves rather than the government. I will file a bill to stop this governmental waste.

- The moral of the story is just because government can do something doesn't mean elected officials shouldn't have the common sense not to do it!

A message from Sheriff Ed Gonzalez

The Harris County Sheriff's Office hosted a promotions ceremony for 25 of our teammates - one new major, two captains, three lieutenants, sixteen sergeants, one detention sergeant, and two registered nurses. These leaders have served our agency and communities well and displayed qualities that are in keeping with our five core values. I look forward to what they will bring to our agency as new leaders. I congratulate them on their hard-earned achievements and wish them all the best in their new chapters in life.

Every Harris County Sheriff's Office deputy swore an oath to protect our residents. Our agency reflects the community we serve. That's why we stand with those seeking justice and equality. We share the grief in the killing of George Floyd.

We have seen this scenario play out too often across our nation. People want to see real reform. Let's work towards that end. The current state of affairs is a moment for us to pause, and reflect to see how we can do better and make sure our dialogue is constant and genuine. We all need healing and unity during these dark hours.

Serving and protecting
Our Homeless Outreach Team (HOT) collaborates with public and private entities focusing on outreach programs to locate, engage, and assist homeless persons with housing, health care, and nutrition needs.

We have a team assigned to each of our five patrol districts. In 2019 the HOT team found housing for 125 individuals and provided 1,051 aid items - blankets, coats, food, water, and sanitary items. Visit http://www.harriscountycity.org/3975-2/ to learn more about the HOT team and for more statistics.

In an effort to make our roads safer we created a new unit called the District Traffic Enforcement Unit. District 3, located in east Harris County, is the first out of our five patrol districts to get the unit up and running.

The goal is to curtail traffic violations. The unit will focus on traffic complaints

A statement from Mayor Pro Tem Dave Martin

To the people of the City of Houston and District E,

The tragic events which have transpired over the last several weeks have weighed heavily on my heart.

As a native of New Orleans, resident of Houston for over 30 years, and a 60-year-old white man I will never know the pain of my black or brown brothers and sisters. I watched in total disbelief, the video of the Minneapolis Police Department Officer who murdered a man, while other officers watched and did absolutely nothing to help George Floyd.

My wife, Julie, and I have three children, a daughter and two sons. I never had to prepare them for what could go wrong during a traffic stop, jogging down the street, or how people would perceive them while they are out in public. I never consider that without cause, my children could automatically be deemed a threat just for the color of their skin.

As a man who grew up in a racially mixed community in Algiers, Louisiana, I stand with the black community as well as communities of color against intolerance, discrimination, and racism. Houston is the most diverse City in the nation. We as a City are proud of that, we promote and celebrate our diversity, but how can we be proud of that diversity when we are not treating, black lives, brown lives, all communities of color with the dignity they deserve?

Zoo one more open kid activity

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- Limited food-service options.

- Focused disinfecting of high-touch areas (including the carousel and water play).

- Touchless transactions (no cash will be accepted).

- Staff required to wear masks.

- Guests are also strongly encouraged to wear masks.

- Free hand sanitizer will be available along the path, as well as near restrooms and food vendors.

- Inside animal attractions will be off limits.

"We are suspending all indoor buildings, as well as giraffe feedings and our carousel rides due to the high-

Leader checks out social media

By Natalie Abarca
A member of *The Official South Belt & Sagemont Area Crime Alert* Facebook group posted a video and a photo of a man ringing the member's doorbell and banging on the door. The incident happened Sunday, May 7, at 11:22 p.m. on Sagedowne between Sagecreek and Sageglen. The member stated that the man said he was looking for an Airbnb. The member repeatedly told him that the home was not an Airbnb. The man kept knocking until he heard the member's husband yelling at him that he needed to step away from his door and leave his house.

The member states that the man jumped the neighbor's fence and tried to break into the back door. The man also went down the street, came back and knocked at someone else's house. The cops came out, but the suspects came

back after the cops patrolled the area. The member states that she does not know what the man was up to, but wanted to alert others to be careful. The suspect was in a black Audi, with a girl and the car had no front license plates.

On the same Facebook group, a member shared a video surveillance of a landscape company whose equipment was stolen from their work truck while they were working. The theft happened June 5 on Sageglen, during the day.

A member of *People of Sagemont 2* Facebook group shared a photo of a person that was trying to get into the member's garage. The incident happened Thursday, June 4, at 4:45 a.m., by Sagehaven and Sagedowne lane. The member states that the alleged suspect walked inside the member's backyard and appeared to be jumping fences to enter other residences.

Deaths

Nancy Fell Koetter



Nancy Fell Koetter, 84, died June 8, 2020, from complications due to a heart attack. Preceding her in death were her husband Karl Koetter and her daughter Linda Koetter Bates.

She is survived by her brother Jerry and his wife Lee Fell; son David and his wife Deborah Koetter; and her daughter Cathy and husband Doug Sawyer.

She was a loving grandmother to Samantha and her husband Matt Parrish; Brian Sawyer; Daniel and his wife Liz Sawyer; Amanda Bates; and Josh Koetter. She treasured her great-grandchildren Rowan, Ella and Campbell Parrish.

Born in Atlantic City, N.J., she married the boy next door. She earned her nursing degree and eventually settled in to call Houston home.

Nana, as she was called by those closest to her, loved nothing more than being with her family. She was always ready to whip up a meal or sweet treat for a loved one at a moment's notice.

The funeral will be held on Saturday, June 13, 2020 at Forest Park Lawndale Chapel of the Angels. Visitation will begin at 1 p.m. with the service to follow.

Dena Louise Cunningham Brown



Dena Louise Cunningham Brown, 71, was born Dec. 6, 1948, in Teague, Texas, located in Freestone County. She was one of nine children born to Deriah Samuel Cunningham and Ervie Imogene Cunningham (Bryant). Dena accepted Christ at an early age and was baptized in obedience to her confession of faith in Jesus Christ.

During her early school years, Dena attended Trahin Elementary School and from grades eight through 11, she attended Booker T. Washington High School in Teague. Dena attended Prairie View A&M University where she became an active member of Zeta Phi Beta sorority.

She married Homer Ray Brown Oct. 16, 1967. To this

union were born Derek Brown and Natalie Kay Brown McGensy. Prior to his death, Homer and Dena happily celebrated 50 years of marriage.

Dena's professional career included employment with several major companies, including Northrop Grumman Corporation, GB Tech, Inc. and Palais Royal. She received numerous awards and commendable recognition for her excellent and meticulous work ethic.

After Homer's passing, Dena moved to Lancaster, Texas, with her loving and devoted daughter Natalie, her supportive son-in-law Bobby Mon and her delightful granddaughter Karington.

Dena made her transition into the presence of the Lord May 29, 2020.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her loving husband; her son Derek; her brothers Hendricks, Horace and Garvis; and her sister Doris.

Those left to cherish her memory are her daughter, Natalie Kay McGensy and husband Bobby of Lancaster; granddaughter Karington Elise; sister Julia Dixon and husband George of Waco; brothers Leondas Cunningham of Oakwood, Texas; Harold Cunningham and wife Doris of San Antonio; the Rev. Derrick Cunningham and wife Robin of Dickinson; a host of nieces and nephews; and other relatives and friends.

The viewing, visitation and vigil service were held Friday, June 5, at Moore's Angelic Funeral Home Chapel. The graveside service was held Saturday, June 6, at Avant Cemetery in Teague, Texas.

Elected officials share their words

Cornyn speaks with Floyd family, calls for bipartisan reforms

Today on the floor, U.S. Senator John Cornyn (R-TX) discussed his phone call this morning with the family of George Floyd and his bipartisan legislation to create a National Criminal Justice Commission to review the criminal justice system and propose reforms. Excerpts of Sen. Cornyn's floor remarks are below, and video can be found https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XI4IWEWOCn0&feature=youtu.be.

"The first step in justice for George Floyd, and now that all four officers involved in his death have been arrested and charged, is for the criminal justice system to work. But these four arrests do not arrest the larger problems that exist in our society: the lack of trust, the sense that justice is not equal. In fact, they've only shined a brighter light on the systemic problems that we need to do our best to try to address. Making lasting changes will not be quick or easy."

"Earlier today I was able to speak to George Floyd's family and do just that: listen. They have gone through unimaginable pain over these last two weeks, and I told them I'm committed to making sure that George Floyd receives justice. I said, in my experience during times like this, the best comfort you can offer to someone who's lost a loved one is that their death will not be in vain, that something good will come out of it."

"We know some of the most important reforms that need to be made are in our criminal justice system. There are important conversations taking place in Texas and across the country about how we can effectively promote and improve police practices and begin to repair the damaged relationship between our minority communities and our police."

"And to strengthen that work, there are steps we can take here in Washington, D.C., and I know many of us are engaged

in active discussions about what's the best way to create real change, and I know it's a priority for members on both sides of the aisle."

"One proposal I mentioned is a bipartisan bill that I introduced with Senator Gary Peters of Michigan and Chairman Lindsey Graham last year.

"This bill actually had 20 bipartisan cosponsors. It was endorsed not only by the Urban League and the NAACP, but the major police organizations in this country as well, and it passed unanimously in the Senate. Unfortunately, we ran out of time in the House, so it did not actually become law. Not yet."

"This legislation creates a National Criminal Justice Commission, much like the 9/11 Commission, that would review our criminal justice system writ large from top to bottom - something that has not happened since 1965."

"In 18 months, the Commission would report back to us and make recommendations for changes that could be considered and passed by the Congress. This would allow us to systematically look at what is working and what isn't, at what needs to be done to modernize our criminal justice system, including repairing the broken relationship between law enforcement and some of our minority communities."

"As I mentioned, the bill, that passed the Senate unanimously, had 20 bipartisan cosponsors and was supported by the National Association of Police Organizations, Major City Chiefs' Associations, the National Urban League.

"I believe this type of legislation would give us the basic framework for the lasting changes that we are all after."

"I'm committed to being part of the solution, and I'm eager to roll up my sleeves with all of our colleagues and get to work."

John Cornyn
United States Senator - Texas

Dave Martin thanks HPD for cleanup at Edgebrook, Gulf Freeway

Thank you to the Houston Police Department Clear Lake Division for assisting with a cleanup on Friday, May 22, at the intersection of Edgebrook and the Gulf Freeway.

The District E office has been working with HPD over the past several months to complete cleanups along the Gulf Freeway and in various parts of the district.

We will continue working with HPD to address health and safety concerns in these areas while also providing information on available resources to these individ-

uals that will help them transition to shelters and permanent supportive housing.

Dave Martin
City of Houston - Mayor Pro Tem Council Member - District E

Publisher's note: And, the *South Belt Leader* staff, and we know many people in the community want to thank you, Dave Martin, for helping clean up the Gulf Freeway. Additionally, we would like to thank constable Phil Sandlin and the Tollroad Authority for helping keep our Beltway 8 cleaned up.

Marie Flickinger

Church Directory

The Catholic Community of ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST
Rev. Douglas J. Guthrie, Pastor
Fr. Jhon Gallo-Florez, Parochial Vicar
11011 Hall Rd.
(between Beamer & Blackhawk)
www.stlukesatholic.com

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday	Vigil	5:30 p.m.
Sunday	7:30, 9:15, 11:15 a.m.	
Sunday	1 p.m. Misa en Español	
Monday, Wednesday, Friday		9 a.m.
Tuesday & Thursday		7 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated
Thursday 7:45 to 8:30 p.m. Saturday 4 to 5 p.m.

Parish Office 281-481-6816
Faith Formation 281-481-4251
Youth Ministry 281-481-4735

St. Luke's offers ministries for ALL-families, men, women, youth, children, young adults, single, divorced, separated, widowed.

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WEEKLY SERVICE TIMES

Sunday	Wednesday
Sunday School • 8:00 a.m.	Prayer Meeting • 7:00 p.m.
Worship Service • 9:00 a.m.	Mid-Week Service • 7:45 p.m.

Nursery Available at all Services

Atkinson celebrates end of the year



Presenting the sign, "You are loved and the best" are, left to right, Jennifer Grundberg, music teacher; Diana Salazar, paraprofessional; Richard Whittaker, math educational coach; Stephanie Tanner, president of South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce; and Marisol Chapa, paraprofessional.



Shown are, left to right, Ludivina Perez, kindergarten teacher; Araceli Verdin, mom; and Sofia Gutierrez, student.



Donna Koonce, pre-kindergarten teacher, takes a photo of her students as they drive through the line.



Wearing a graduation cap, Saralee Diaz, a student in Ludivina Perez's kindergarten class, smiles and waves.



Joining in the festivities are, left to right, Donna Koonce, pre-kindergarten teacher; Benjamin Garcia, pre-K student; and Eliana Garcia, first-grader.

Summer weekday program set for kids

Continued from Page 1
erate through Aug. 7, 2020, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for ages 6-13. Online registration is currently available at www.houstonparks.org and the cost is \$30 per child per week with waivers available for qualified persons.

Programs and activities offered during the department's Summer Enrichment Program have been developed based on Centers for Disease Control, National Recreation and Parks Association, the State of Texas Minimum Standard Health Protocols for Day Youth Operators and Staff and the City of Houston Administrative Procedure 3-39. Access to City Buildings or Facilities During a Medical Epidemic or Pandemic guidelines.

"We know how important our Summer Enrichment Program is to our families. So, we're happy to be able to offer it again this year, albeit in a somewhat streamlined form," said Steve Wright, director of the Houston Parks and Recreation Department. "But these are difficult times we're all facing during the COVID-19 pandemic."

"It's forced everyone, including the parks department, to change the way we do things. That's why we have to use precaution in our gradual move back to normalcy," said Steve Wright.

For a list of all Summer Enrichment Program sites, as well as the location of Curbside Meal Program sites, visit www.houstonparks.org.

Fred Roberts MS hosts end-of-year block party



Excited to line up at the curb to greet students are Fred Roberts Middle School teachers, left to right, Carey Thibodeaux, Susie Nguyen, Joe Mendoza, Marissa Resendez, Shannon O'Connor, Julie Mathew, Katie Gallardo and Gladys Segura.

Below, Jorly Thomas (left), Fred Roberts principal, joined the festivities as Hailey Cubos (center), Roberts sixth-grader and her mother Claudia Cubos drive by.



Above are Fred Roberts staff members, left to right, Emily Ontiveros, counselor and parent coordinator; Crystal Lilly, physical education teacher; Joe Pena, physical education teacher; Tiffini Livingston, paraprofessional; and Chris Martin, physical education teacher.



Above, giving a strong show of support for students are, left to right, Melissa Jimenez, math teacher; Allie Johnson, science teacher; Dalila Monserrate, science teacher; Angie Rodriguez, ELAR teacher; Jessica Rios, reading campus coach; Hector Del Rio, intervention teacher; and Stefani Purucker, reading and social studies teacher.



Above, supporting students with colorful signs are, left to right, Maribel Delafuente, Alma Morales, Denise Gourley, Mekali Ball, Narcie Reyes and Joy Floyd.



Showing support as students drive by are, left to right, Citlali Guerrero, Fred Roberts assistant principal, and Rebecca Dietz, Fred Roberts assistant principal, greeting students as they drive through the block party parade.

Local libraries improvise to accommodate summer readers

Continued from Page 1
through a passenger window.

To maintain social distancing and to enhance safety, HPL staff will wear protective masks and gloves at all times. Also, all returned items will be quarantined for 72 hours before being made available for additional checkout.

A car is not required. Customers that have been notified and are walking or riding a bike can also pick up reserved materials. They can simply call the library upon arrival and an employee will deliver the requested materials.

Bracewell's curbside hours are Mondays, noon - 7 p.m.; Wednesdays, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Fridays, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.; and Saturdays, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. The staff will also be available for reference questions, information, resources and account information on those days.

Although curbside services will not be available on Tuesdays and Thursdays, the staff will be waiting to answer calls from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

To contact Bracewell Library directly, call 832-393-2580. The branch's book drop is open 24 hours a day. All overdue fines/fees will be waived through Jan. 1, 2021.

For additional information, visit houstonlibrary.org.

Harris County
In the face of ongoing concerns about coronavirus and the prospect of limited public access to its 26 branch locations, Harris County Public Library has announced that its popular annual Summer Reading Program will go virtual this year.

HCPCL will present its usual wide variety of fun, educational entertainment for all ages entirely online. Programs will be a mix of live and prerecorded content, presented on the library's Facebook page and website through Aug. 8.

"Of course, we always love seeing all the smiling faces at events and we will miss that terribly," said Jennifer Schwartz, HCPCL's Programming Services manager. "But online programming has some advantages even beyond public health concerns. Going virtual this summer means that every one of our 26 branches is as close as a smart phone or computer. All Summer Reading events will be accessible no matter where you live across Harris County."

Each week this summer, Harris County Public Library staff will present a kickoff video highlighting the focus of upcoming programs, offering reading recommendations and motivating participants to reach their

reading goals. In addition to online programming, every week during summer, Harris County residents can stop by their local HCPCL branch and pick up a free Take & Make activity kit. Activity kits will give customers of all ages a chance to build their own stories as they explore weekly themes like music, games, magic, adventure, health and fitness, STEM, art and storytelling. Activity kits will be available for no-contact curbside pickup. They will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis while supplies last.

Harris County Public Library is partnering again this summer with Houston Food Bank to offer families free nutritious meals. Meals will be distributed through no-contact, curbside pickup Monday through Friday, noon - 2 p.m., through Aug. 8 at all HCPCL branches except LSC - CyFair Branch Library and LSC-Tomball.

Interruption of school year makes summer reading even more important than usual, according to library officials. HCPCL's Summer Reading program is designed to stop the "summer slide," which is the tendency of many students to lose some reading skills over the long summer break. The interruption of the school year caused by the coronavirus pandemic makes

the need to combat the summer slide more urgent than ever.

"With its mix of high quality programming, hands-on activities and incentives to read for pleasure, HCPCL's Summer Reading program keeps kids, teens and even grownups engaged and motivated to learn," said Schwartz.

This year's Summer Reading program theme is

"Imagine Your Story." Programs will encourage readers to explore the worlds of myth, fairytales and fantasy and emphasize the crucial role of imagination creating own life stories.

"Taking the Summer Reading program online is a new adventure, a new chapter for the library," said Schwartz. "And the enthusiasm and can-do attitude of many longtime community partners like En-

semble Theater, Da Camera, Apollo Chamber Players, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Books Alive and too many others to name has been truly gratifying."

To register for the Summer Reading program, visit hpl.beanstack.org/reader365.

For additional information on the Harris County Public Library, visit www.hcpcl.net or follow @HarrisCountyPL on social media.

Lawsuit filed over too much pay

Continued from Page 1
intendent of Pasadena ISD, PISD values each of its employees and strives to recognize the remarkable contributions each employee makes to the district's overall success during both normal and difficult times, including during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Despite Pasadena ISD employees being considered essential employees under all federal, state, and local orders related to COVID-19, the district's board of trustees, via board resolution, graciously authorized certain employees to be compensated at their regular rate of pay for time spent at home and at a premium rate for all hours employees worked on-site at a PISD facility, during

the initial period of the Harris County Stay Home, Work Safe Order.

Employees were notified of the manner in which their compensation would be calculated during the Stay Home, Work Safe Order in late March.

Unfortunately, an accidental clerical error occurred when processing the payroll for hourly employees which granted around fifteen percent of PISD employees more pay than they were authorized to receive by the board resolution.

In particular, the affected hourly employees received two and a half times their normal rate of pay for time worked onsite during the Order, versus the Board authorized premium pay

of one and a half times the employee's hourly rate for time worked onsite during this time period. Following identification of the accidental error, Pasadena ISD administrators took swift action to communicate the issue to all affected district employees and the payroll department began working with the affected employees to reconcile the overpaid funds, on a case-by-case basis, using a variety of voluntary repayment options over extended periods of time. While PISD truly regrets the unintended consequences of this accident, overpayments such as these are considered gifts of public funds under the Texas Constitution. Accordingly, the district is obligated to seek repayment of the unauthorized payments.

As a public school district entrusted with taxpayer funds, the district recognizes both the personal and public implications of this unintentional accident and is grateful for the commitment and understanding of each affected employee as we work to resolve this matter.

The district is saddened to learn that one of its employees contacted an attorney and filed suit before reaching out to share and/or attempt to resolve their concerns with the superintendent or the district's board of trustees.

To date, Pasadena ISD has not been served with the lawsuit in question. Following service of the suit, the district will respond appropriately.

Sagemont Civic Club hosts virtual debate

Continued from Page 1
tunity to view the questions in advance but will not know which of those will be asked during the event.

Questions may be submitted to sagemontcc@gmail.com. A committee will review all questions and possibly revise them to be as concise as possible.

In the March primary election, neither of the two candidates received the necessary 50 percent of the vote to avoid a runoff, in a field of four.

Diaz received 34.77 percent of the vote (5,081 total votes) to Garcia's 39.15 percent (5,721 votes).

The race had proven to be controversial, as a second candidate also named Jerry Garcia - the cousin of Diaz's wife, Jacinto City Mayor Ana Diaz - also appeared on the ballot, causing confusion among voters.

Despite withdrawing from the race, the second Garcia still received 9.22

percent of the vote (1,347 votes), roughly on par with legitimate challenger George Coffey Jr. (9.38 percent, 1,371 votes) and ahead of Alberto "Bert" Rivera (7.47 percent, 1,092 votes).

Even if the scores of both Garcias were combined, however, it would have still been just shy of the 50-percent threshold needed to circumvent a runoff.

The winner of the May Democratic runoff election will face Republican Daniel Vela in the November general election.

The primary runoff election is scheduled for Tuesday, July 14, with early voting taking place June 29 through July 10.

For more information about the election, visit harrisvotes.org. For more information about the virtual debate, call Kay Barbour at 713-419-3545 or Jeff Turnipseed at 713-628-0010.

Self-defense, karate classes go virtual

The American Society of Karate has virtual self-defense/white belt classes for teens/adults (ages 13-80) Fridays at 7:30 p.m. No previous self-defense experience is necessary.

There is also an opportunity to take other karate classes for a minimal fee. Visit <https://ringcentral/2XpnHWj> to register. Email Michael.Alonzo@AskKarate.com or call 281-788-5930 for details.

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2019-2020 COVID year ends for PISD students

Continued from Page 1
moving forward with our plan to celebrate our seniors in July in whatever safe and permissible format that is allowed at that time. Pasadena ISD Class of 2020, we are so proud of you for staying focused and staying strong throughout this pandemic."

Pasadena ISD has tentatively scheduled its graduation ceremonies to take place at NRG Stadium Thursday, July 30, and Friday, July 31.

Dobie High School is set to hold its commencement ceremony Thursday, July 30, at 7 p.m.

Also scheduled for Thursday, July 30, are Pasadena High School and Lewis Career & Technical High School, which will hold their graduation ceremonies at 1 p.m. and 2 p.m., respectively.

South Houston High School, Sam Rayburn High School and Pasadena Memorial High School will all hold their graduation ceremonies the following day on Friday, July 31. South Houston and Sam Rayburn will share a 4 p.m. time slot, while Memorial's event will be held at 7 p.m.

All plans are flexible, however, and the school district will adhere to all social-distancing practices established by Gov. Greg Abbott.

Not all students have passed, however, and some will be required to take summer school courses or repeat a grade.

According to Pasadena ISD officials, summer school will be also virtual this year, and information will be provided by each campus. Kindergarten through fourth grade will focus on small groups of children who have gaps in their reading and math skills. Students enrolled in Personalized Learning in grades four-12 will complete focus areas and projects, while grades five-12 will continue current course work and recovering failing grades from

the first semester. Initial credit will also be offered for high school students. Registration information will be provided by individual schools.

At press time, it remains unclear how instruction will take place in the fall semester and if in-person classes will resume or if schools will continue distance learning, or a combination of the two.

"We are working on a variety of scenarios for returning to school next year. Once we have more direction from the state and local health authorities, we will communicate our plans on how to keep our students and staff safe in the fall semester," Powell said.

"The district is monitoring all guidance from the CDC and local health department regarding the safe return to school. It is always our preference to have our students with us on campus, so we are planning for face-to-face instruction with safety protocols in place to protect students and staff.

"Once we have all our safety practices outlined, we will survey our parents related to their intentions of sending their children back to school."

Parents should receive these surveys sometime in July and are encouraged by Pasadena ISD officials to respond.

Guidelines for returning library books, devices and other items will be addressed on a campus-by-campus basis.

Powell is grateful for the efforts of both students and staff during these trying times.

"Thank you all for the strangest school year I have ever experienced in my 28 years here at Pasadena ISD," Powell said. "However, most of all, I say 'thank you' for all the successes and the accomplishments that were achieved by our students and our staff this school year. We have so much to be proud of and thankful for. So enjoy your summer and stay safe. We are Pasadena ISD strong."

Atkinson observes Read Across America



Atkinson Elementary participated in Read Across America March 2. Students were encouraged to wear their favorite book character costumes to match their favorite book. Students read books and were visited by guest readers throughout the day. Jana Childs' kindergarten class invited guest reader Nan Presley former Atkinson Elementary kindergarten teacher. Shown are, left to right (front row) Jacklyn Herrera, Sofia Rueben, Emily Betancourt, Jaycob Guzman, Samantha Moya (middle row) Dillon Hood, Joshua Hinojosa, Isabella Urias, Scarlett Cruz, Matthew Gonzalez, Harmony Galloway, Sebastian Nguyen (back row) Annabell Cuevas, Ivan Velasquez and Presley.

Harris County opens COVID-19 testing sites

Continued from Page 1
date and time to get tested. Residents must have an authorization code to get tested and walk-ups will be turned away.

Residents from other counties can also be tested at any of these sites. (Residents wishing to get tested the following day should call or register online after 6:30 p.m.)

Testing is a key component of Harris County's COVID-19 containment strategy, which includes contact tracing and treatment. Testing enables health officials to identify new cases of COVID-19 so contact tracers can determine the sources of infection and help prevent further spread of the virus.

Harris County operates a total of six testing sites throughout the county with

the capacity to test up to 1,700 residents each day. The two new sites which opened this month will be able to conduct 750 tests per day each, up from 500. To date, Harris County has offered testing at 29 locations across the county. The new testing sites will be located at the following locations (appointment required, no walk-ups):

Cy-Fair
Pridgeon Stadium, 11355 Falcon Road A, Houston, TX 77065.

Pasadena
San Jacinto College Central campus, 8060 Spencer Hwy, Pasadena, TX 77505.

To protect the privacy of patients, individuals and media are asked to refrain from taking, airing or publishing video or still pictures of residents.

COVID-19 can be prevented by practicing social distancing, wearing face coverings in public and washing

Newly built direct connector to I-45, I-610 now complete

Construction of the I-610 South Loop eastbound to I-45 Gulf Freeway northbound direct connector is now complete.

Motorists can now enjoy the latest newly built direct connector to the I-45 Gulf Freeway and I-610 South Loop interchange.

The direct connector stretches from Telephone Road to Griggs Road. The \$665 million dollar project included the

reducing congestion and improving safety along this heavily traveled corridor.

The reconstruction of the bridge will improve connectivity between the I-45 mainlanes and SH 35.

The project is scheduled for completion the second quarter of 2021.

For more information, contact Deidrea George at 713-802-5072.

Follow the project on Twitter @TxDOTHouston.

your hands frequently. Harris County health authorities urge residents who are sick to stay home. Visit readyharris.org for the latest COVID-19 updates, resources and recommendations for staying safe.

Construction of two direct connectors. This includes the I-610 eastbound to I-45 northbound direct connector and the I-45 southbound to I-610 westbound direct connector, as well as the reconstruction of the SH 35 bridge over the I-610 frontage roads.

The addition of the connectors will eliminate the current street level traffic route and improve connectivity for motorists while

Suspensions extended

Continued from Page 1
the courthouse facility. Temperatures will be taken before entry. Visit the website for the municipal court at www.houstontx.gov/courts for continued updates on all court locations and hours of operation.

For those whose jury trial was scheduled from June 1 to July 31, 2020, resets will be given in person at all City of Houston court locations beginning Wednesday, July 1, 2020, through Friday, Sept. 4, 2020, until 5 p.m. Visit the municipal courts' website at www.houstontx.gov/courts for information on all court locations and hours of operation. It is important to note that if an individual fails to reset their case(s) when municipal court resumes operations, an arrest warrant may be issued.

Through Aug. 3, 2020, there will be:

No jury trials. If one is a defendant scheduled for jury trial during this period, they do not have to appear. They must reschedule their setting in per-

son no later than Friday, Sept. 4, 2020, until 5 p.m., to receive a new court date. All jury trials will resume on Monday, Aug. 3, 2020, unless further notification is provided. It is important to note if an individual fails to reset their case(s) during the reset period by Sept. 4, an arrest warrant may be issued.

No jury duty. If one has been scheduled for jury duty at the City of Houston Municipal Courts during the period from June 1, 2020, to June 19, 2020, at the central location at 1400 Lubbock or the Westside location at 3202 South Dairy Ashford, one does not have to appear or have to reschedule the jury service. Jury duty will resume Monday, Aug. 3, 2020 unless further notification is provided.

For additional announcements and information, call the City of Houston helpline at 311, or 713-837-0311 if outside the City of Houston, or visit the website for the municipal court at www.houstontx.gov/courts.

Miranda HBU graduate



Elizabeth Miranda, aka Lizzy, graduated with her bachelor's degree in Business Management from Houston Baptist University, Class of 2020. Elizabeth grew up in the South Belt area. She attended Moore Elementary, Beverly Hills Intermediate and Dobie High School. Miranda's parents, family and friends are very proud of her accomplishment.

PLT presents "Our Lady of the Tortilla"

After three months of complete shutdown, Pasadena Little Theatre is proud to announce the beginning of its 66th season with a fun and uplifting story by Luis Santeiro called "Our Lady of the Tortilla."

The Cruz family is volatile even in the best of times. Nelson, the youngest, is returning home this weekend to introduce his gringo girlfriend to the family.

Dahlia, his mother, is distracted by her husband from his new girlfriend; Eddie, the eldest, shows up unannounced with his girlfriend and all the while Tia Dolores is in the kitchen completing an order for 1,000 tortillas.

The real pandemonia starts when she sees the face of the Holy Virgin in one of the tortillas she's made. The miracle causes chaos including strangers and reporters wanting to see the tortilla. What will happen next?

"I couldn't be prouder of this show's cast and crew," said Crystal E. Mata, director. "It took an actual miracle to make this show happen."

cleaned excessively and wore masks."

PLT has been closed since the beginning of the Pandemic. "It hasn't been an easy journey but we made it and I can't wait to share the end result," she said. "This show is for everyone. Every culture is represented: Latino, Black, White and Asian. But it's



Cast members for "Our Lady of the Tortilla" are, left to right, Amanda Rawlings, Adriana Rodriguez, Claire Orellana and Joan Alvarenga. Not shown is Christian Blackshear.

really about family and being there for each other even when it feels like the world is ending. "Our Lady of the Tortilla" is brought to you by the same team of the Black Box Show Real Women Have Curves: Crystal E. Mata, Rose Mata, Ruben Freeman and Zack Varela.

This production opens

(with limited seating) on the main stage June 12 and continues weekends through June 28. Friday and Saturday showtimes are 8 p.m. and Sunday matinees are at 2:30 p.m. To purchase tickets, call the box office at 713-941-1758, or visit www.pasadenalittletheatre.org.

Remember When

40 years ago (1980)
Heritage Finance Corporation, developer of the Southpoint complex on I-45 and Fuqua, was asked to explain and justify plans for construction of a 600,000-gallon-per-day sewage treatment plant to service the new facility. The Metropolitan Organization Flood Action Committee concerned with inadequate drainage and frequent flooding in the Berry Bayou watershed, raised objections to the plant since plans had called for the treated sewage to be emptied into Berry Bayou.

Bond money had not yet been allocated for the completion of Blackhawk, which would run in front of Richard Moore Elementary to Fuqua. Construction was expected to last another two months.

35 years ago (1985)
The official ribbon-cutting for the South Belt Leader office building took place with the cutting of a paper chain made from newspaper.

Doris Barnes, associate principal of Pasadena High School, claimed she was denied due process of law when the PISD board refused to tell her why she was not given a job she considered a promotion.

25 years ago (1995)
An 11th-hour permit allowed the annual South Belt July 4th parade to happen. The original permit was declined because another parade was also scheduled for the same day.

A 3-year-old girl died after being struck by a car on Sacecanyon Drive.

The South Belt Ellington Rotary Club installed its new officers at a dinner at Steak and Ale.

Southbelters were advised of a tax refund scam that was being carried out by companies calling themselves Property Tax Assessor Records Corporation and Asset Resolution Corporation. Neither company was affiliated with any government agency.

20 years ago (2000)
Steve Jamail was named principal of Dobie, and Merlin Mohr was named principal of Rayburn.

Beverly Hills principal Stephanie Wright was honored as the Texas Association of Secondary School Principals Outstanding Middle School Principal of the Year for Region IV.

15 years ago (2005)
South Belt Justice of the Peace Jo Ann Delgado was threatened by a defendant as he left her courtroom. Second degree felony charges of retaliation were filed on the 18-year-old South Belt man.

Paul Reynolds, administrator for Park Manor of South Belt, returned after spending nine days in Aruba helping in the search for his missing niece, Natalee Holloway, who had made worldwide headlines.

Houston police investigated the death of a man dropped off at Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital. The man had been shot in the back and later died.

imately six educators were planned with Pasadena Independent School District members in upcoming weeks for the vacated superintendent of schools position.

To help alleviate traffic backups on the eastbound side of the Scarsdale bridge over I-45, Houston traffic officials considered adding a second left turn lane.

The South Belt Area Sports Association, a non-profit organization representing six youth sports leagues, planned to build a community sports complex because the South Belt area youth sports leagues were forced to vacate their property.

At a U.S. Senate committee hearing, the Environmental Protection Agency was told it should stop letting polluters conduct health and risk assessments at superfund sites.

5 years ago (2015)
Tropical Storm Bill's bark was worse than his bite, sparing the South Belt community any major flooding. While some media reports had predicted as much as 18 inches of rain, the actual rainfall recorded at Beamer and Hughes was 1.48 inches during the peak 24 hours of the storm. Despite the relative weakness of the storm, the community was still heavily impacted, with several local schools and businesses closed as a precaution.

The South Belt community welcomed the arrival of the CrossRoads United Methodist Church following the merger of Cokesbury United Methodist Church and ChristWay Community Church of Friendswood.

Four current and former members of the Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's office filed a civil lawsuit against Constable Chris Diaz, citing whistleblower complaints against the department. The lawsuit also named

Precinct 2 Chief Deputy Lee Hernandez as a defendant.

A police chase that traveled through the South Belt area the morning of Monday, June 10, yielded approximately \$1 million in narcotics. According to police, officers were conducting a narcotics investigation when they attempted to pull over the driver of a gray pickup truck for a traffic violation around 11:20 a.m. near the Gulf Freeway and Almeda

Genoa/Shaver. When the driver of the vehicle refused to stop, a 40-minute chase ensued, leading police up and down the Gulf Freeway.

When the pursuit came to a close near Broadway, police discovered nearly 13 kilos of methamphetamine and 10 grams of heroin. Jason Holmes and Laura Longoria were arrested on felony drug and evading charges. Both suspects were also wanted on warrants out of the San Antonio area.

Over The Back Fence by Alexis

- HAPPY BIRTHDAY, LESLIE!**
Leslie Flickinger celebrates a birthday Thursday, June 11. Wishes for a wonderful day are sent by her husband Fred; daughter Kimberly; daughter Courtney and husband Chris Durham, children Abigail, Jackson and Penelope; mother-in-law Marie (South Belt Leader publisher) and husband David Flickinger; and brother-in-law David (Leader president) and his wife Ellie Flickinger.
- BILL CELEBRATES A BIRTHDAY**
Local businessman Bill Winning celebrates his birthday Monday, June 15. Best wishes are sent from his wife Carol, from family and friends and the staff at the South Belt Leader.
- HAPPY BIRTHDAY, CHUCK!**
Birthday greetings are sent June 17 to longtime South Belt resident and businessman Chuck Maricle who serves as the district chief of staff for the U.S. Coast Guard's 8th Coastal Region. He is a veteran U.S. Army engineer and is active in several local chambers of commerce.
- SCHOOL DAZE**
The following personnel and staff members of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays June 11 through June 17, 2020.
- Burnett Elementary**
Jennifer Ramirez celebrates a birthday June 14. Light the birthday candles for Kimberly Bernaj June 16.
- Bush Elementary**
Carmen Rodriguez marks a birthday, June 11. Enjoy a slice of birthday cake with Maria Garcia June 12. Blow out the birthday candles June 13 for Krista Brizeno. Frazier Elementary June 14 is a special birthday for Danielle Webster. Send a greeting June 17 to Emily Siscoe.
- Genoa Elementary**
Enjoying a memorable birthday June 11 is Felicia Oliva. Cheryl Helaire celebrates a birthday June 12.
- Meador Elementary**
Break out the balloons and party favors June 12 for Margo Ramirez. The day to sing a birthday song to Genoveva Arrona is June 13. Send a happy birthday greeting June 15 to Annette Stubs. Marking a birthday June 16 is Martha Mata.
- Moore Elementary**
The day for a party for Laura Rodriguez is June 11. Light the candles on a birthday cake for Dixie Thompson and Shelly Blair June 16. Send a warm birthday greeting June 17 to Amairani Sigala.
- South Belt Elementary**
Cuc Nguyen enjoys a birthday June 12.
- Stuchbery Elementary**
Light the birthday candles June 13 for Lisette Gallegos. Best wishes for a wonderful birthday June 14 are sent to Heather Trog.
- Beverly Hills Intermediate**
Give a shoutout to Thelma Baeza and Carla Castillo for a happy birthday June 15. Raquel Alamos celebrates a birthday June 19.
- Thompson Intermediate**
Sing a happy birthday song to Rachel Heffernan June 13. MaryBeth Nicol is wished a happy birthday June 16.
- Dobie High**
Send a birthday greeting June 17 to Miguel Herrera and John Kneisler. FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS
The Leader sends birthday wishes to friends. For those wanting a birthday mentioned in this section, email mynews@southbeltleader.com with "OTBF: Friends Celebrate Birthdays" in the subject line by Friday noon for the next week's publication.
- Thursday, June 11: Greg Medina, Nicoale Zeiger-Clement and Debbie Mills; Friday, June 12: Charlie Groover, Marilyn Millet, Myla Pallorina-Mamait, Matthew Kippley and Edily Watson; Saturday, June 13: Daniel Huston, Rhonda Jones, Andrea Amaro Delatorre, Heidi Beckham and Keshia Rodriguez; Sunday, June 14: Thomas King, Sherie Taylor, Wesley Holt, Thomas Golightly, Sandra Torres, Dale Brister, Kelley Brown, Laura Keith, Karl Jasso and Sandy Gutheinz; Monday, June 15: Margarita Duron, Oscar Guevara, Amanda LeeAnn, Jen Joyce, Corrie Gallaway, Jason Evans and Derek Gray; Tuesday, June 16: Michael Amos, Sandra Waldrop, Billy Stanley, Arturo Ayala, Melissa Farr and Caitlin Caughlin; and Wednesday, June 17: Patrick Thomas, Steven Bryant, Rick Bailey, Christine Thomas, Charles Maricle, Michelle Miller and Stephanie Hartman.
- 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.

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SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

Trevino played big role in SBHLL, Dobie sports success as 3-sport star

Perhaps he wasn't an MLB second-round draft choice like former teammate Ryan Long, and perhaps he didn't score the sure-thing Division I collegiate baseball scholarship like former South Belt Palomino teammate Jay Vaught did, but there's no denying that Reynaldo Trevino earned his moments in the sun as a South Belt area sports standout.

Trevino, a former three-sport star while at Dobie (1986-1987 through 1989-1990) was 48 years old when he died May 27 from complications of cancer.

He had been diagnosed with late stage esophageal cancer in 2018 and had battled with determination and desire, the same traits he used to forge quite the youth athletics career all those years ago.

In 1984, Trevino was a member of Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League's 12-year-old all-star team that advanced to the state tournament in Waco.

Fast forward to 1988,

and Trevino was also part of SBHLL's Colt baseball all-star team that made its way to Lafayette, Louisiana for World Series play.

During his senior year at Dobie in the spring of 1990, Trevino starred as the Longhorns made their first-ever Region III championship series — one series win away from going to state — before losing to Deer Park.

Later that summer, Trevino was part of South Belt's Palomino baseball team that won a World Series title in Greensboro, N.C.

That win, incidentally, was 30 years ago this summer.

A first-team all-district punter as a junior at Dobie, Trevino also collected all-district honors at three different positions as a senior.

He was named the team's Most Valuable Senior in both football and track and field in 1990 after winning the 100-meter dash district championship.

Focused on a dream of playing baseball at Texas A&M University, Trevino

played two seasons at San Jacinto College.

Trevino finished out his playing career at the University of Houston — one season each under head coaches Bragg Stockton and Raynor Noble, and also earned

a degree in management information systems from the University of Houston.

His years as a player made

Trevino a lifelong Cougar fan and supporter, and he had traveled earlier this spring to watch his friend, UH

head baseball coach Todd Whitting, and the Cougars compete in tournament play before the coronavirus pandemic halted play.

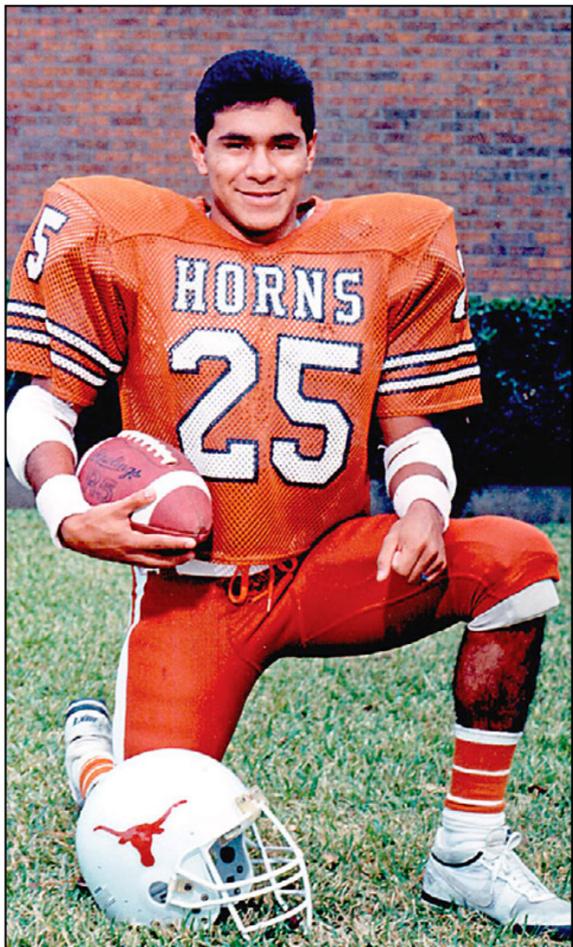
Once his playing days concluded, Trevino found a new love in the game of golf, traveling the world while taking on beautiful courses.

In the weeks prior to his death, Trevino had played

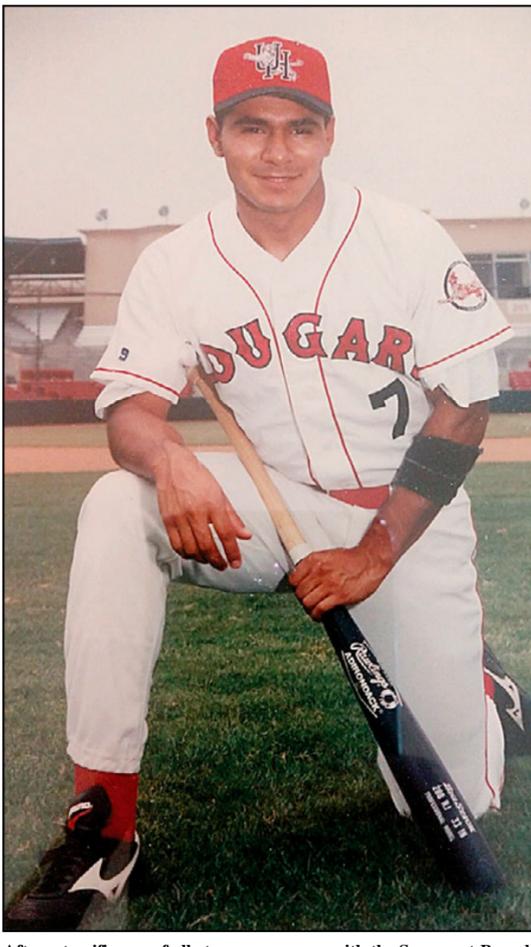
a couple of friendly rounds with his brother, Roberto Trevino.

So a former South Belt area youth sports and Dobie High School standout has passed on, but there's no taking away Reynaldo Trevino's accomplishments on the athletic fields.

He was truly one of the greats of his era.



A two-time all-district punter at Dobie, Reynaldo Trevino was the Longhorns' Most Valuable Senior nominee in 1990 after scoring all-district honors at three different positions.



After a terrific run of all-star appearances with the Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League, a Region III championship series appearance with Dobie and a Palomino World Series crown with South Belt in 1990, Reynaldo Trevino capped his playing days at the University of Houston.

Dobie volleyball set to open at Sterling

The Dobie varsity volleyball head coach Dawn Sexton has released the Lady Longhorns' 2020 schedule as the locals are set to open play on the road Tuesday, Aug. 11, at Baytown Sterling.

The Lady Longhorns will return Keasia Robinson, Victoria Thomas, Natalie Onozie, Cadie Masterson

and Alayna Gonzalez among their top contributors from a 2019 team that went 20-20 overall, falling in bidistrict playoffs to Deer Park.

For 2020, the Lady Longhorns figure to battle District 22-6A newcomer Deer Park as well as Memorial and Channelview for supremacy in the revamped rank.

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Strength and conditioning workouts get the go-ahead

Understandably the start of summer strength and conditioning workouts has included its share of hiccups along the way, but the bottom line is that students who wish to get back to action alongside their teammates either already have or will soon be allowed to do so.

The Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools made it possible for its members, including Lutheran South Academy, to get back on the field June 2, and the Pioneers did just that with strength and conditioning workouts.

LSA was also allowed to offer youth sports camps and clinics to the public as of June 8, and promptly did so.

As for public schools, the University Interscholastic League established June 8 as the first allowable date for strength and conditioning workouts, and the staffs at Clear Brook settled on a start date of June 10.

Meanwhile, Pasadena ISD has set June 15 as the first allowable date for such workouts.

Of course there will be

plenty of safety measures in place as the both students and staff safeguard against the coronavirus.

The UIL has mandated that all participating students complete a daily pre-screening survey prior to being allowed to take part in the workouts.

Masks and face coverings are not mandatory yet advised, and indoor training is restricted to 25 percent facility capacity.

Social-distancing guidelines require students operate six feet or more apart from one another, and work-

out stations must be at least 10 feet apart.

There is to be one coach allowed per 20 students, and there are other safety measures in place where it relates to water breaks and individual usage as well as restroom guidelines.

At Clear Brook, the current plan calls for workouts to run through July 31, with students paying \$70 cash or money order only to participate. Full safety guidelines can be found at www.clearbrookfootball.com.

Boys may email Brook varsity football head coach

Dobie's great Williams lands on TSHOF ballot

Dobie varsity softball legend Christa Williams has found a spot on the primary ballot for possible induction into the Texas Sports Hall of Fame for the 2021 class.

Williams landed on the ballot largely due to having won a pair of gold medals with Team USA in 1996 and 2000, but she

also enjoyed a successful collegiate career at both the University of Texas and UCLA.

Currently the varsity softball coach at Friendswood High School, Williams rose to fame in the 90s as she led Dobie to the first-ever Texas state softball championship, then guiding the team to another

crown in 1995.

Widely considered one of the pitching greats of the sport, Williams also played professionally for several seasons before focusing on coaching full time.

She is part of Dobie's 1993 state championship squad that is due to be inducted into the

Sports Briefs

Dobie staff urges physicals

All student-athletes looking to take part in sports during the 2020-2021 school year will first be required to have a current and updated physical on file in the athletic department before being eligible to compete.

The deadline for completion is Aug. 1, 2020, but the Longhorn coaching staff is urging their athletes to get it handled sooner than later. The Dobie sports medicine department has offered the Pearland Clinic as a cost affordable choice locally.

Open seven days a week, the clinic can be reached at 832-831-3974.

LSA baseballers are all-academic

Five Lutheran South Academy varsity baseball players have been recognized as Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools Academic All-State honorees for 2019-2020, including Easton Brenner, Henry Hill, Luke Harrison, Nelson Klein and Tyran Norris.

Lady Pioneers score academic accolades

Five Lutheran South Academy varsity softball players have been honored as Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools Academic All-State selections for 2019-2020, including Ashley Foret, Jacqueline Lachney, Grace Le Blanc, Maddie Lehman and Lolo Whitney.

Dobie's Pena chooses St. Mary's soccer

District 22-6A varsity boys' soccer Most Valuable Player Imanol Pena has announced via Twitter that he will continue his education and playing career at St. Mary's University this fall.

Pena helped guide Dobie to a sixth straight District 22-6A championship during his senior campaign.

Lajaunie tennis event set for June 26-28

It's a go for June 26-28 as the ninth annual Darren Lajaunie Scholarship Fund Tennis Invitational will take place at the Harry Taylor Tennis Center in Pasadena.

The official registration form is available via the tournament web site at dtennisscholarships.com.

Players will have the option of entering a variety of male and female singles or doubles categories in addition to mixed doubles.

The registration fee is \$35 per player for singles or \$22.50 per player for doubles.

To register or to gain additional information, direct email to tournament director John Thomas at jtjohnjr@gmail.com or call him at 713-941-8631.

The event honors Dobie graduate and former tennis standout Darren Lajaunie, who died of complications from cancer in 2010.

His wife, Camille Lajaunie, is the founder of the scholarship event.

Funds raised from the event go toward youth tennis camp scholarships as well as college education scholarships to deserving Dobie High School tennis players.

Current Dobie players may also compete in the 2020 Lajaunie event free of charge. To do so, call Longhorn head tennis coach Manuel Moreno Jr. at 713-417-8062.

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Texas Sports Hall of Fame Primary Ballot

- Joe Beaver - Professional Rodeo
- Leroy Burrell - Track and Field, University of Houston
- Mark Cuban - Basketball Administration, Dallas Mavericks
- Phil Dawson - football, University of Texas
- Donald Driver - football, Green Bay Packers
- Kamie Ethridge - basketball, University of Texas
- Priest Holmes - football, University of Texas
- Michael Huff - football, University of Texas
- Charlotte Jones - football administration, Dallas Cowboys
- Derrick Johnson - football, University of Texas
- Joe Lombard - girls' basketball coach
- Colt McCoy - football, University of Texas
- Roy Oswalt - baseball, Houston Astros
- Carly Patterson - Olympic gymnastics
- Stacy Sykora - volleyball, Texas A&M University
- DeMarcus Ware - football, Dallas Cowboys
- Wes Welker - football, Texas Tech
- Christa Williams - Olympic softball, University of Texas
- Sophia Young - basketball, Baylor University, San Antonio Silver Stars
- Sergei Zubov - Hockey - Dallas Stars

Texas Sports Hall of Fame 2021 Veterans Ballot

- Bob Beamon - Olympic track and field, UTEP
- Robert Brazile - football, Houston Oilers
- Cecil Cooper - baseball, Milwaukee Brewers, Houston Astros
- Jose Cruz - baseball, Houston Astros
- Johnny "Lam" Jones - track and field, football, University of Texas
- Keith Moreland - baseball, University of Texas
- Mike Renfro - football, TCU, Houston Oilers, Dallas Cowboys
- Johnny Roland - football, St. Louis Cardinals
- Tracy Saul - football, Texas Tech University
- Annette Smith-Knight - basketball, University of Texas
- Rosie Walker - basketball, Stephen F. Austin State University
- Charlie Waters - football, Dallas Cowboys

Donaho again gets TASCOS honor



Dobie class of 2020 Top 10 academic graduate and four-year varsity soccer standout Eli Donaho was selected to the Texas Association of Soccer Coaches Association Senior Showcase roster for this season after previously earning second-team all-state accolades from TASCOS at the midfield spot. Donaho was also a District 22-6A first-team pick this season.

Aug. 3 fall sports return could be getting closer to a reality

Those cautiously optimistic may now be finding Monday, Aug. 3, as a much more realistic date for a return to 2020-2021 high school football and volleyball.

While there remain many more important decisions regarding a return to in-person classes, much less athletics, the University Interscholastic League's decision to allow summer strength and conditioning activities would seem to be a step in the proper direction.

Both Clear Brook and Dobie are looking forward to the fall season for many reasons. At Clear Brook, the Wolverines are excited to begin a new era of football under the guidance of first-year head coach John Towles III.

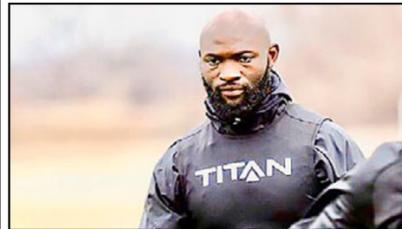
The Lady Wolverines' volleyball program is also itching to return to play one season after reaching the Region III quarterfinals.

Dobie, meanwhile, feels as though it can push for the program's first district football championship in a decade in the newly revamped District 22-6A alignment. And senior-to-be Alberto Campa is looking to return to the state cross-country championships after putting together a dazzling 2019 campaign.

Of course if Aug. 3 brings fall sports action, that will likely mean that the Bay Area Football League is close to a return.

There are things that need to happen before an Aug. 3 return becomes reality, but at least it appears within sight.

Hedrick hopeful USL begins play



Clear Brook High School graduate and USL standout Cyp Hedrick and his Tulsa teammates remain hopeful that the USL regular season will soon begin. Hedrick was once the Wolverines' all-time leading scorer but has excelled defensively professionally, where he is in the midst of his ninth campaign.

Chant to head SAISD athletics



Rodney Chant has been named the Executive Athletic Director of the San Angelo ISD, where he will begin his new role next month. Previously an assistant coach at Pasadena Memorial High School and then first the assistant AD and later AD of Pasadena ISD, Chant is currently concluding his duties as Fort Bend ISD's Director of Athletics. He is also the current president of the Texas High School Athletic Directors Association.

LSA softball camp is June 15-18

The Lutheran South Academy youth softball camp, open to those entering the second through eighth grades as of the 2020-2021 school year, will be held on campus June 15-18. Participants will receive instruction in all phases of the game during the camp, which is 9 to 11:30 a.m. each day. Cost of the camp is \$100 per participant. For more information, direct an email to LSA head coach Nicole Andrade at Nicole.Andrade@lutheransouth.org.

MLB draft concludes June 11

San Jacinto College pitchers Brandon Birdsell, Luke Little and Mitchell Parker hope to hear their names called as the 2020 MLB First-Year Amateur Player Draft concludes with rounds two through five, June 11 on ESPN2 at 4 p.m.

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CALENDAR

Due to the current public health situation, it is advisable to verify if meetings are still being held prior to attending. Since Gov. Greg Abbott has initiated Strike Force for the reopening of Texas some groups have resumed their meetings. For Alcoholics Anonymous meetings in the area, visit <https://aahouston.org/meetings>. For Narcotics Anonymous (NA) meetings, visit www.hascona.com. For Al-Anon meetings, visit www.houstonalanon.org/meetings.html.

THURSDAY, JUNE 11
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 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit <https://aahouston.org/meetings/>.
7:30 a.m.
Rotary Club of Pearland - Virtual meeting is Thursday, 7:30 a.m., online on Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81372891968>. Meeting ID: 813 7289 1968. Additional information is found on the Pearland Chamber of Commerce website under the calendar tab.
11:30 a.m.
ABWA - Southeast Express Network - American Business Women's Association-South will have a virtual meeting Thursday, June 11, All attendees must preregister. RSVP at <https://www.facebook.com/events/849023302250286> and the Zoom address is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81372891968>. After registering, a confirmation email for joining the meeting will be sent. Visit www.seen-abwa.org for additional information.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or online at <https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners>. For additional information, call 713-686-6300.
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 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com.

FRIDAY, JUNE 12
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 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit <https://aahouston.org/meetings/> for additional information.
7 p.m.
Congregation Shaar Hashalom - Due to the current health situation, all in-person synagogue events are canceled. The

synagogue is closed until further notice. All services will be performed online. Join the Friday night service at 7 p.m. or the Saturday Shabbat at 9:30 a.m. service on a computer, tablet or smartphone by using the GoToMeeting app and accessing the link <https://www.gotomeet.me/cshonline> with the access code 471-821-285. For those who don't have a computer, services may be accessed by calling (+1)-571-317-3122. For members who wish to download a copy of the prayer book for the online service, visit <https://www.shaarha-shalom.org/prayer-book-for-online-service.html>.
7 p.m.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For additional information, call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com.

SATURDAY, JUNE 13
7:30 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. For additional information, call 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit <https://aahouston.org/meetings/>.
9:30 a.m.
Congregation Shaar Hashalom - Due to the current health situation, all in-person synagogue events are canceled. The synagogue is closed until further notice. All services will be performed online. Join the Friday night service at 7 p.m. or the Saturday Shabbat at 9:30 a.m. service on a computer, tablet or smartphone by using the GoToMeeting app and accessing the link <https://www.gotomeet.me/cshonline> with the access code 471-821-285. For those who don't have a computer, services may be accessed by calling (+1)-571-317-3122. For members who wish to download a copy of the prayer book for the online service, visit <https://www.shaarha-shalom.org/prayer-book-for-online-service.html>.
11 a.m.
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 visit <http://www.houstonalanon.org/meetings.html>.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - No meeting at CrossRoads UMC at 8 p.m. only until the church reopens. For additional information, call 281-484-9243 or visit <https://aahouston.org/meetings/>.
MONDAY, JUNE 15
10 a.m.
Al-Anon Deer Park - Mondays, 10 - 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 visit <http://www.houstonalanon.org/meetings.html>.
Noon
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or online at <https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners>. For details, call 713-686-6300.
6:30 p.m.
Toastmasters - The Young Professionals Southeast Toastmasters Club #05324194 has gone virtual! Meeting is Mondays, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m., at the website <https://youngprofessionals.toastmasters.com/>. Young Professionals SE Toastmasters Club is committed to its member's safety during this National Emergency and will conduct virtual meetings every Monday (except holidays) to ensure its members continue their journey to becoming confident communicators and leaders. To be a guest at the virtual meeting, select the "contact us" button on our home page menu (www.youngprofessionals.toastmasters.com/) to obtain access to our virtual meeting platform. For information, call Karen Nunn at 832-722-9061 or Carolyn Carmichael at 832-372-3565.
7 p.m.
TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) - #0683 Friendswood chapter. When the church is open this group meets at the Friendswood Methodist Church, 110 N Friendswood Dr. For additional information, call Lynette Ringrose 832-858-4617 or Dorothy Pourteau 713-875-8820.
Survivors of Suicide Support Group - gives coping skills in a non-threatening environment to adults who have lost a loved one to suicide. For details email LynneAnnH@yahoo.com or visit www.crisishotline.org or call 832-416-1177.
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 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com.
Congregation Shaar Hashalom - Due to the current health situation, all in-person synagogue events are canceled including Israeli folk dancing. Visit <https://www.shaarha-shalom.org> for more information.
7:30 p.m.
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Saint Luke's 12 Step Recovery, open meeting Mondays, 7:30 p.m. in the Education Bldg., 11011 Hall Rd., or visit <https://aahouston.org/meetings/> for additional information.

TUESDAY, JUNE 16
7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 or drop in. Visit <https://aahouston.org/meetings/>.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or online at <https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners>. For details, call 713-686-6300.
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 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com.
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 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.
Noon
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or online at <https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners>. For details, call 713-686-6300.
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 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com.
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.

THURSDAY, JUNE 18
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 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit <https://aahouston.org/meetings/>.
7:30 a.m.
Rotary Club of Pearland - Virtual meeting Thursday, 7:30 a.m., online on Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81372891968>. Meeting ID: 813 7289 1968. Additional information for the event is on the Pearland Chamber of Commerce website under the calendar tab.
Noon
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or online at <https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners>. For additional information, call 713-686-6300.
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 additional information, call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com.

FRIDAY, JUNE 19
7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 or drop in. Visit <https://aahouston.org/meetings/>.

SATURDAY, JUNE 20
7:30 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 or drop in. Visit <https://aahouston.org/meetings/>.

SUNDAY, JUNE 21
10 a.m.
Al-Anon Deer Park - Mondays, 10 - 11 a.m. Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P Street, Deer

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South Houston's Shining Stars parade



Shown are Andrea Wenke, South Houston High School principal; and Blanca Munoz, a Shining Stars award recipient.



Melanie Almanza smiles as she received her Shining Stars award.



Erika Acosta a Shining Stars award recipient.



Shown are Wenke (left) and Diana Rosales a Shining Stars award recipient.



Above, Samantha Marquez smiles as she holds her Shining Stars award.



Nurul Hisham (left) receiving his Shining Stars award sign from Wenke.



South Houston High School administration team cheers for their top 10 Shining Stars students. Shown from left to right are Kathy Bryant; Larri Hicks; Dr. LeShunda Page; Carmela James; Victoria Cano; Michelle Malveau; Adrian Alacon; Andrea, South Houston principal; Michelle Armenta; Myrna Alaniz; Joseph Horton; Joy Brown Johnson; and Patrick McCoy. Not shown is Aaron Smith.



Shown in their senior portrait photos are the South Houston High School Shining Stars award recipients, left to right, Rizeth Moctezuma, Tiara Layode, Angelina



Perrett and Leslie Benavidez. The formal photos are displayed since these Shining Stars recipients were not in the photos of the SHHS festivities seen above.

Reopening committee set

Continued from Page 1
to students and adults; and identify resources required in the event blended learning or distance learning is required due to a continued outbreak. The final recommendations to the CCISD Board of Trustees shall reflect CCISD's Mission, Core Values and the feedback from the public.

The committee is comprised of medical professionals, county and local authorities, faith leaders, parents and CCISD staff. The Safety Reopen CCISD Committee is a derivative of the CCISD School Safety Committee, which was formed in 2018, following the Santa Fe High School shooting. Membership has evolved to account for this current crisis.

The Safety Reopen CCISD Committee's work will be guided by Gov. Greg

Abbott's Reopen Texas Plan and the Centers for Disease Control Guidelines for Schools.

Committee charges include the following:
- Develop potential school resumption options for the 2020-2021 academic year for consideration by the CCISD Board of Trustees. Each option shall consider the needs of all children.

- Consider delivery models of instruction to address the challenges associated with social distancing and the pandemic that will lead to high levels of academic achievement with an understanding that future and potential school calendar disruptions are possible.

- Address the physical and emotional health of all students and staff in all areas of operations, including transportation, child nutrition and

extracurricular programs.

- Mitigate the digital divide among students within Clear Creek ISD service area.

- Committee guidelines include the following:

- Adhere to state and federal health guidelines.

- Gather public feedback throughout the recommendation development process.

- Consider potential community impact such as day care, family work schedules and the use of CCISD facilities for non-school related activities.

- Consider CCISD's financial position and identify local, state or federal resources that may be available.

For additional information about the Safety Reopen CCISD Committee, visit www.ccisd.net/explore_ccisd_district_committees/safely_reopen_ccisd_committee.

Frazier celebrates end of the year

Frazier Elementary held an End of the Year Parade Thursday, May 28. Frazier families decorated their vehicles and drove through the parking lot to wave good-bye to their teachers and pick up their report cards. Additional photos will be in next week's issue.



Left to right, are Elizabeth Taylor, Frazier teacher; Taylor Palacios, fourth-grader; and Kalpana Mobley, Frazier teacher. Palacios dropped off gifts for her teachers, Taylor and Mobley, as she drove through.



Sending messages to their teachers are Xavier Brown (left), second-grader, and his sister Jasmine Brown.



Posing with an encouraging sign is Annalise Chavez, fourth-grader, greeting her teachers during the parade.



Shown are, left to right, Griselda Cantu, mother; Israel Cantu, fourth-grader; and Heber Cantu, father. Israel is very happy to be advancing to middle school.

Cruz speaks at BAHEP meeting

Continued from Page 1
portant piece in the broader project to return to the moon and even more critically to go to Mars. The overarching objective for NASA is to take a human astronaut to Mars, to land on the surface of the Red Planet, and that the first astronaut who sets his or her foot on the surface of Mars will be an American astronaut."

PPP omits 501(c)(6) organizations

Mitchell then asked the senator to comment on the Payroll Protection Program regarding the omission of 501(c)(6) organizations, to include economic development organizations and chambers of commerce, from the program.

Cruz replied, "I think that they should be included. The role that you all play in terms of helping small businesses, helping the community is always important. Now, it's critically important. Small businesses provide two-thirds of all the new jobs in our country. The only way we get 40 million Americans back having a job is for small businesses to be open, to be growing, to be thriving and hiring. C6s play a very important role in allowing that to happen."

"I called Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin directly. I made the case to him that Treasury should change the rules to allow C6s to participate. I've introduced legislation to allow C6s to participate."

The senator went on to say that there is a wide gulf between the House and the Senate. He's very concerned about the potentiality of mass class action lawsuits brought about by reopening of businesses. Cruz spoke about the introduction of a liability shield for businesses saying,

"It's not clear right now how that's going to resolve."

Cruz said he felt that the next bill that comes through needs to be a recovery bill commenting, "Its focus needs to be on helping us turn the economy around and getting people back to work."

Working to bring Space Command to Ellington Field

Mitchell then spoke about an unsolicited proposal that BAHEP, the City of Houston, and others have been working on for weeks to bring the headquarters of the U.S. Space Command to Ellington Field in Houston. He asked Cruz to give his thoughts on that opportunity. The senator said that he was enthusiastic about bringing the Space Command to Texas and has spoken with the president multiple times about the issue. "I unabashedly advocate for Texas, but I don't pick favorites when there are multiple possibilities within the state," Cruz stated.

Cruz addresses China threat

Mitchell then turned to international politics and asked how the United States should

be dealing with China. Cruz answered, "In my view, the most significant and long-lasting foreign policy consequence of this pandemic is going to be a fundamental reevaluation of the United States' relationship with China."

"I have long made the case that China will pose the most significant geopolitical threat to the United States for the next century. In a very real sense, the lies and cover-up of the corona virus by the Chinese government are the direct cause of over 300,000 lives that have been lost world-wide and trillions of dollars of economic value that has been destroyed. This crisis has really underscored the vulnerability America has, particularly in regard to our supply chain, to China. We have foolishly allowed an enormous amount of our supply chain to be drawn into China - in particular critical infrastructure."

"This has not been accidental. The Chinese communist government laid out a very clear strategic plan to target critical infrastructure that

America needed to survive." The senator gave an example saying that an enormous percentage of the world's personal protective equipment is made in China. He cited life-saving pharmaceuticals as another example. Cruz said that how to fix the problem will be a debate that will probably go on for years.

Education, workforce training legislation in limbo

In response to another question posed by Mitchell about education and workforce training, Cruz closed out the 30-minute meeting by speaking of major legislation that he introduced last year. The legislation would provide \$10 billion yearly, \$100 billion over 10 years, in federal tax credits.

The credits would be dollar-for-dollar federal matching tax credits for contributions to state scholarship granting organizations. He said the challenge has been significant opposition to the legislation. To view video of the meeting, visit www.youtube.com/watch?v=K32Qo7N-tNQ.

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It's a Girl

Congratulations to Kenneth and Lacie Griffin on the birth of their first child Ellie Vera Griffin, born April 21, 2020, in West Jordan, Utah. Ellie was welcomed by her family, weighing in at 6 pounds, 14 ounces and 21 inches long. Her paternal grandparents David and Angela Griffin, both Dobie graduates, live in La Vernia, Texas. Her maternal grandparents Casey and Mickie Matthews live in Taylorville, Utah. Great-grandparents are Kenneth and Bobby Griffin, formerly of Sagemeadow.