



# South Belt-Ellington Leader

## 45 years of covering South Belt

The Voice of Community-Minded People since 1976

Thursday, June 17, 2021

Email: mynews@southbeltleader.com

www.southbeltleader.com

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### K of C BBQ sale June 19

Knights of Columbus Council 9201 will host its BBQ sandwich sale at St. Luke the Evangelist, 11011 Hall, Saturday, June 19, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. or until food runs out. Meals are \$10 and include a chopped beef sandwich with trimmings (onions and pickles), chips and a soft drink or sausage on a stick for \$5. Proceeds benefit KC charities. For more information, call Richard Valdez at 713-542-1760.

### St. Luke resale June 25

A mega resale shop hosted by St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church is Friday, June 25, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, June 26, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, June 27, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Length of sale depends on availability of items. The sale will be held at the Cenacle Learning Center (across from South Belt Elementary) at 1750 Riverstone Ranch, Pearland. All proceeds will support St. Luke's.

### Cowboys cheer camp set

The Sagemont Cowboys are hosting a cheer camp Saturday, June 19 from 1 to 5 p.m. Participants will learn cheer basics such as cheers, chants, jumps and stunts. Camper will receive a T-shirt, bow and snack. There will be a parent show at 4:30 p.m. Masks optional. Hand sanitizing required and will be provided. Cost is \$28 per person and can be paid via PayPal, Venmo or cash. Text 832-309-7133 or email SagemontCowgirls@gmail.com for details. Follow the Cowboys on Facebook.

### July 4 events canceled

Multiple July 4th events have been canceled due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The annual South Belt July 4th parade will return next year. The yearly South Belt fireworks show at El Franco Lee Park has also been canceled due to the pandemic. Organizers of both events said they will return next year bigger and better than ever.

### Active COVID cases down

As of Wednesday, June 16, there were 173 confirmed South Belt deaths due to COVID-19, up two from the previous week. Reporting of deaths related to COVID-19, however, may be delayed by local officials.

Of the 5,662 confirmed cases in 77089 (total population: 53,866), 62 remain active. To date, 66 from the ZIP code have died from the disease, up one from the previous week.

In 77075 (total population: 43,933), 30 of the 4,085 confirmed cases remain active. A total of 55 from the ZIP code have died, no increase from the previous week.

Of the 4,139 confirmed cases in 77034 (total population: 40,532), 27 remain active. To date, 52 residents from ZIP code 77034 have died from the disease, up one from the previous week.

According to Harris County Public Health officials, the vast majority of the fatalities suffered from pre-existing health issues.

Countywide, there have been 403,496 total confirmed cases. Of those, 394,932 have recovered from the disease, while 3,783 cases remain active. A total of 4,757 deaths have been reported in Harris County.

Statistics are updated daily and include numbers from within the Houston city limits and throughout Harris County. To view an interactive map, visit [publichealth.harriscountytx.gov/Reports/2019-Novel-Coronavirus](http://publichealth.harriscountytx.gov/Reports/2019-Novel-Coronavirus).

### Highway 3 closure set

At least one northbound lane and one southbound lane on SH 3/Old Galveston Road will be closed from FM 2351/Clear Lake City Boulevard to NASA Road 1 daily (excluding Sundays) from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. through Wednesday, June 30.

### Beltway closures planned

At least one eastbound Beltway 8 frontage road lane will be closed at SH 288 nightly from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Sunday, June 27.

At least one eastbound Beltway 8 frontage road lane will be closed from SH 288 to Kirby Drive nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Sunday, June 27. 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. and nightly from 8:30 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Sunday, July 4. The closures are associated with the ongoing project to widen Beltway 8 from two to four lanes in each direction.

### Gulf Freeway closures set

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

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

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

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

Two alternate northbound and southbound main lanes and frontage road lanes on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from IH 610 South Loop to Broad Street nightly from 7 p.m. to 6 a.m. through Friday, Dec. 31. Both the northbound and southbound entrance and exit ramps between IH 610 South Loop and Broad Street will be closed nightly from 9 p.m. to 3 a.m. through Friday, Dec. 31.

### Graduation issues available

Copies of the South Belt-Ellington Leader's 2021 graduation issue, originally published in the May 27 edition of the newspaper, are available at the Leader office, 11555 Beamer at Beltway 8.

# Two major crashes occur within 3 hours

Two major traffic accidents took place on South Belt area thoroughfares within three hours of each other Tuesday, June 8, killing one and leaving one on life support.

The fatal incident took place around 6:30 p.m. in the 9900 block of Hughes Road near Blackhawk.

According to the Harris County Sheriff's Office, the driver, Steven Chitty, was operating a white 2016 Toyota Camry, traveling west in the

left lane at the above address, when he failed to maintain in a single lane, entered a grassy median and struck a tree head-on.

Chitty was transported by ambulance to Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital, where he was pronounced dead shortly after.

According to investigators, Chitty was not wearing a seatbelt at the time of the crash. No other injuries were reported.

The accident remained under investigation at

press time.

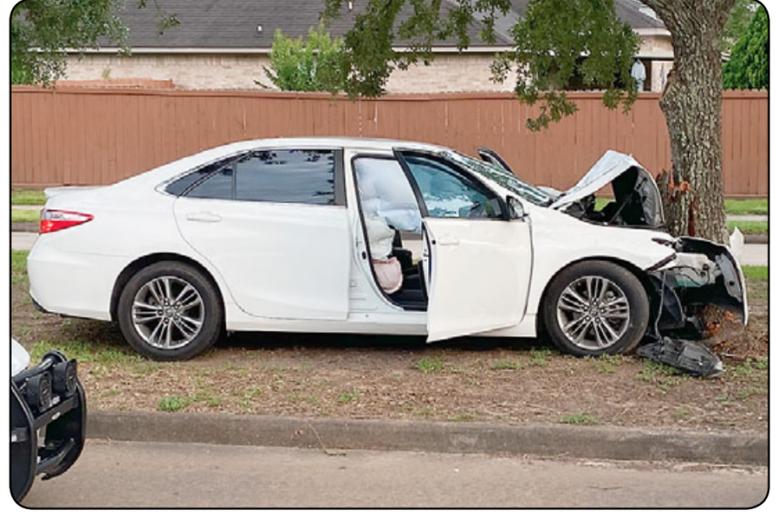
Approximately 1.5 hours earlier, a separate crash took place around 5 p.m. near the intersection of Beamer and Astoria, seriously injuring a Friendswood teenage girl.

According to officials from Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia's office, the incident involved three vehicles. Witnesses reported that the female teen driver ran a red light, causing the initial crash. The accident, however,

is still under investigation by the Harris County Sheriff's Office.

While multiple injuries were reported in the three-car pileup, the most critical of which involved the teen who, on Tuesday, June 15, was coming out of a coma. The crashes occurred so closely to each other, it confused many social media users who got the two incidents confused. Additionally, there were some online reports that falsely said the teenage girl had died from her injuries.

## Man dies in Hughes crash



A fatal crash took place around 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 8, in the 9900 block of Hughes Road near Blackhawk. According to investigators, Steven Chitty was traveling west on the area thoroughfare when he failed to maintain a lane and hit a tree head-on. He was transported by ambulance to Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital, where he was later pronounced dead. Chitty was not wearing a seatbelt at the time of the crash.

## Beamer crash ends in coma



A three-car crash took place around 5 p.m. Tuesday, June 8, on Beamer near Astoria, critically injuring a teenage female driver, who was transported by ambulance to Clear Lake Regional Medical Center, where she was placed on life support. While witnesses reported the girl had run a red light, the crash remains under investigation. Despite online reports that said the teen died in the accident, she was still in a coma at press time.

# San Jacinto College receives \$30 million donation

Philanthropist and author MacKenzie Scott and her husband Dan Jewett have donated \$30 million to San Jacinto College, the largest private gift in the college's history. Scott is the former wife of Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos.

"The San Jacinto College Board of Trustees, the San Jacinto College Foundation Board of Directors, as well as our employees and students, both current and future, are deeply grateful for this very generous gift," said Chancellor Dr. Brenda Hellyer. "We weren't expecting it, and it came at just the right time so we could put programs like 21Forward in place to help the students in East Harris County who made it through

their senior year. These students were impacted by COVID, yet they persisted and graduated. We are honored to be able to use a portion of this gift to help students stay on their higher education pathway. We look forward to announcing plans for the remainder of the funding in the future. For now, we are stunned by this unbelievable gift and excited about the opportunities it provides for us to serve our community in new ways."

Scott made the announcement Tuesday, June 15, in a blog post, donating more than \$2.7 billion to 286 organizations throughout the country. In her post she says, "Higher education is a proven pathway to opportunity, so we looked for two-

and four-year institutions successfully educating students who come from communities that have been chronically underserved."

San Jacinto College announced the creation of the 21 Forward scholarship earlier this month after it learned of the generous donation. The college is currently developing plans for the use of the additional funds from the Scott gift.

### Scott's blog

The following is an excerpt from Scott's June 15 blog entry:

"Sitting down to write this post, I felt stuck. I want to de-emphasize privileged voices and cede focus to others, yet I know some media stories will focus on wealth. The headline I would wish for this post is 286 Teams Empowering Voices the World Needs to Hear."

"People struggling against inequities deserve center stage in stories about change they are creating. This is equally — perhaps especially — true when their work is funded by wealth. Any wealth is a product of a collective effort that included them. The social structures that inflate wealth present obstacles to them. And despite those obstacles, they are providing solutions that benefit us all."

"Putting large donors at the center of stories on social progress is a distortion of their role. Me, Dan, a constellation of researchers and ad-

ministrators and advisors — we are all attempting to give away a fortune that was enabled by systems in need of change. In this effort, we are governed by a humbling belief that it would be better if disproportionate wealth were not concentrated in a small number of hands, and that the solutions are best designed and implemented by others. Though we still have a lot to learn about how to act on these beliefs without contradicting and subverting them, we can begin by acknowledging that people working to build power from within communities are the agents of change. Their service supports and empowers people who go on to support and empower others."

"Because community-centered service is such a powerful catalyst and multiplier, we spent the first quarter of 2021 identifying and evaluating equity-oriented nonprofit teams working in areas that have been neglected. The result was \$2,739,000,000 in gifts to 286 high-impact organizations in categories and communities that have been historically underfunded and overlooked."

"Higher education is a proven pathway to opportunity, so we looked for two- and four-year institutions successfully educating students who come from communities that have been chron-

Continued on Page 4

## Alert tip leads to local Pct. 8 arrest

A call about a suspicious person in the 15300 block of FM 1959/Dixie Farm Road near the Gulf Freeway led to multiple felony charges the morning of Monday, June 7.



Jordan Edwards

Deputies from Harris County Precinct 8 Constable Phil Sandlin's office responded to the call at approximately 10:45 a.m. Upon their arrival, deputies located the individual in question and identified him as 24-year-old Jordan Delano Edwards.

A check of Edwards' information revealed

he had outstanding warrants filed by the Harris County Sheriff's Office. Edwards emptied out his pockets and was found to have several keys that he stated belonged to a storage unit.

As deputies attempted to detain Edwards, he began to flee on foot. A citizen driving by witnessed the foot pursuit and blocked Edwards' path, causing him to stop.

Deputies were able to apprehend Edwards and place him in custody. Deputies then proceeded to conduct a search of Edwards' backpack and located 7.2 grams of methamphetamine.

The Harris County District Attorney's Office was contacted and accepted felony charges for possession of a controlled substance and evading arrest/detention. His bonds were set at \$25,000 for the narcotics charge and \$3,000 for evading.

## Suspect arrested in bank fraud case

Pasadena police on Friday, June 4, arrested a suspect accused of a bank fraud incident this past January at a Bank of America branch in the 1120 block of Edgebrook near the Gulf Freeway.

According to investigators, the unnamed suspect was arrested on an unrelated traffic stop conducted by the Pasadena Police Department Proactive Police Unit at approximately 1:50 p.m.

At the time of his arrest, the suspect was found to be in possession of several forms of fraudulent

identification.

Specific charges were pending at press time.

According to police, the initial crime took place around 3:45 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 17. Investigators said the suspect allegedly used a fraudulent identification card containing the victim's information to cash a check belonging to them. The suspect then reportedly left the scene in a gray Toyota Highlander.

The case remained under investigation at press time.

## Traffic stop leads to multiple charges

A traffic stop in the 11500 block of Sageglen led to multiple felony charges on Thursday, June 3.

Deputies with the Harris County Constable Precinct 2 Special Operations Division were conducting traffic enforcement near the above address when they observed a black passenger car make numerous traffic violations at the intersection of Olivewood at Sageglen.

A traffic stop was conducted, and deputies detected a strong smell of marijuana emitting from the inside of the vehicle. All occupants were removed for officer safety, and a consensual search

of the driver was conducted. During this search, the driver was found to have 0.65 grams of cocaine and 1.4 grams of methamphetamine concealed on his person.

A probable cause search was later conducted on the vehicle, in which deputies located a loaded handgun within arm's reach of the driver, 45 grams of marijuana, two digital scales and three glass pipes used for smoking narcotics.

The driver, identified as 35-year-old Reynaldo Rivas, was charged with felony possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver and unlawful carrying of a weapon.

## Pct. 2 makes drug, gun bust



Deputies from Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia's office continue to battle the scourge of drugs in the South Belt community. On Thursday, June 3, a traffic stop near the intersection of Sageglen and Olivewood led to multiple felony charges after a search yielded cocaine, methamphetamine, marijuana and a loaded handgun. Reynaldo Rivas, 35, was arrested and taken into custody. See related Precinct 2 items on Page 2.

## Local library events set

In case of storms or adverse weather, refer to library website for details.

### Bracewell Branch Library

Bracewell Library is located at 9002 Kingspoint. For information, visit <https://houstonlibrary.org/>. For online learning, visit <https://houstonlibrary.org/online-learning-7556> or call 832-393-2580.

### Bracewell HPL To Go curbside service is in operation

Contactless curbside services, known as HPL To Go, are available by appointment Mondays, noon to 7 p.m.; Tuesdays and Thursdays, noon to 4 p.m.; Wednesdays and Fridays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Customers walking or riding a bike may also pick up reserved materials. For questions, call circulation at 832-393-2222. The instructions to use HPL To Go include:

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

HPL is not accepting book donations at this time. For more information, visit [www.houstonlibrary.org](http://www.houstonlibrary.org) to chat with a librarian 24/7, or to send questions through HPL's email reference.

### Parker Williams Library

Parker Williams Library has now officially reopened its doors, subject to limited capacity. See the website at <https://www.hcpl.net/reopening> for information. The library will follow state and county guidelines for mask and social distancing.

The book drop is open. Social media links are Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary and Instagram.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary.

### Parker Williams "No-Contact Curbside Holds Pick-Up"

Curbside hours are: Monday - Thursday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Friday, 1 - 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Visit <https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library> for details.

Don't have an HCPL library card? Instant access can be obtained to all HCPL's digital materials and research tools with an iKnow Digital Access Card. Apply at <https://www.hcpl.net/services/iknow-card> for a HCPL card. For details, visit <https://www.hcpl.net>.

Thursday, June 17, 10:30 a.m. Virtual Toddler Time. Take time to have some fun and interaction with the little ones. Join Mr. John (John Harbough) and Mr. Jason (Jason Cruz) for a virtual Toddler Time through Microsoft Teams. Parents are encouraged to participate to facilitate interaction. While this program is designed for 18 months to 4-year-olds, all children and families are welcome to join virtually. Sign up once with a valid email address online at <https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library> to get a weekly invitation.

#toddlertime #storytime #story #childrensbooks #reading #books #harriscountyp1 #HCPL

Thursday, June 17, 1 p.m. Tell Your Tale. Don't fall down the summer slump! Join library staff member Alicia as she gives a writing prompt to write about one's pet listen to what the staff wrote about their own pets. This video will be featured on Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary and Instagram.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary.

#pets #petsofinstagram #cat #cats #dog #dogs #harriscountyp1 #HCPL

Friday, June 18, 1 p.m. Draw With Me. Join Ms. Ariel (Ariel Perez) as we try something a little more difficult, but still fun and easy to follow. Have pens and markers ready and watch the video on Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary and Instagram.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary.

Saturday, June 19, 11 a.m. Make Your Own Chocolate Chip Cookie Bars. Join Mr. Tanner (Tanner Adams) and Ms. Kathy (Kathy Pham) as they show participants how to make chocolate chip cookie bars. This video can be found on Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary

Monday, June 21, 1 p.m. Mythical Mondays. Join Ms. Jasmine (Jasmine Washington) as she guides through facts, lingo and survival tips for mythological creatures. Learn and be one step closer to becoming a mythological creature master. This program can be found at Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary.

Tuesday, June 22, 10:30 a.m. Virtual Story Time Join Mr. John and Mrs. Celeste (Celeste Plew) This program will be on Facebook Live at Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary.

#storytime #story #childrensbooks #reading #books #harriscountyp1 #HCPL

Wednesday, June 23, 11 a.m. Bilingual Vietnamese Storytime. Enjoy Story Time in English and Vietnamese with Ms. Kathy. Join in the fun singing, reading, and learning in both languages. This video will be available on Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary. The library staff is appreciative to @compendiumliveinspired for allowing us to share this wonderful book. #Vietnamese #Storytime #Bilingual #reading #literacy #counting #picturebooks #harriscountyp1 #HCPL

Tuesday June 22, noon. Drawing with Ms. Ariel for virtual fun and easy cartoon drawings of various doodles, numbers and letters. The video will be featured on Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary and Instagram.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary.

Wednesday, June 23, 1 p.m. Spanish Storytime: Libros en Espanol con Sr. Jason. Plan to participate in Spanish with Mr. Jason on Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary.

Tuesday June 22, 1 p.m. Baking Dog Treats. Make some tasty treats for pups with Mr. John. Learn a recipe to roll out and cut these basic bones that'll make one's dog go bow-wow! Get a 3D-printed dog bone cookie cutter through Curbside Pick-Up while supplies last. This video will be featured on Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary and Instagram.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary.

#pets #petsofinstagram #dog #dogs #dogsofinstagram #harriscountyp1 #HCPL

Tuesday, June 22, 1:30 p.m. Texas Workforce Solutions: Job Search Skills. Join the Harris County Southeast branches for a job search seminar hosted by Texas Workforce Solutions. In this seminar, learn to use the employer's perspective to determine proper interview attire, and prepare answers to common interview questions. This event will be over Microsoft Teams. Call the branch at 832-927-7870 to register or register online at <https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library>. Go to the events page of the library.

Wednesday, June 23, 3 p.m. Pets of PW: Little Boy, Thor and Odin. Since June is Adopt-A-Cat Month, get to know the beloved pets of those that work at Parker Williams Branch. This video will be featured on Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary and Instagram.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary.

#catsofinstagram #petsofinstagram #cat #cats #harriscountyp1 #HCPL

Wednesday, June 23, 3:30 p.m., ages 16 and older. Dungeons & Dragons Online. Join Tanner Adams online. No prior experience is required. Email [tanner.adams@hcpl.net](mailto:tanner.adams@hcpl.net) for additional information.

# Thompson Intermediate names sixth six-weeks honor roll

Thompson Intermediate officials announced the honor roll for the sixth six-weeks.

### Seventh grade

Julian Acevedo, Sureal Al-corta, Henry Armenta Alonso, Shawn Armstrong, Celeste Arriaga, Sean Arroyo, Kendall Ashworth, Makayla

Ballard St Romain and Alexander Baumgartner.

Megan Bui, Ashley Cantarero, Kimberly Castillo, Ethan Cavazos, Elena Charles, Kevin Chau, Ryan Chau, Jaslynn Chavez and David Contreras.

Brunna Davis, Khayden

Davis, Dinah Dean, Daphney Deleon, Kevin Do, Kenneth Dominguez Gonzalez, Hadi Elghawi, Cooper Estes and Cheyenne Evans.

Calvin Flowers, Helio Frausto, Julieta Garcia, Cedric Gillespie, Emily Golenko, Frank Gonzales-Adame, Ava

Gonzalez, Miranda Gonzalez and Abel Gutierrez. Abigail Gutierrez, Lance Heath, Morgan Hill, Edsel Juarez, Isabella Labra, Rayne Larson, Alex Le, Danton Le and Breanna Lott.

Kenia Machuca Cedillo, Ava Macias, Sarah Massey, Addison McAfee, Dulce Mejia Hernandez, Mehreen Mir, Ayden Munoz, Jawad Naser and Quoc-Bao Ngo.

Gia Nguyen, Haley Nguyen, Minh Nguyen, Tiffany Nguyen, Victory Nwosu,

Thalia Oddo, Jonathan Orelana Sarmiento, Tanya Palomino and Natalie Rangel.

Leila Reyes, Luis Rocha, Dario Rodriguez, Carlos Salgado, Alison Soriano Gonzalez, Mia Sudario Garza, Addison Taylor, Emily Taylor and Lillian Thomas.

Alex Torres, Alexandra Trevino, Fernando Vargas, Marissa Vasquez, Juan Vega, Aidan Veitia, Leon Vu and Olivia Wheeler.

**Eighth grade**  
Lorena Adams, Juliana

Aguirre, Rigoberto Alanis, Jonathan Alexander, Emma Arizmendi, Oscar Barajas, Owen Barr, Joselyn Benitez and Loriana Betancourt Mejia.

David Bonilla, McKenzie Bonner, Maurice Bryant, Kaylie Bui, Stephanie Bui, Emily Cano, Chloe Carrizal, Paris Cervantes and Arianna Chapa. Danielle Chenier, Asia Davis, Miranda De La Rosa, Valeria De Ochoa, Alejandro Del Villar Rodriguez, Kristin Do, Vyvy Do, Abril Dosal

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## Deaths

June 17, 2021, at 7 p.m. at the same venue.

A funeral service will held Friday, June 18, from 11 a.m. to noon, also at Forest Park Lawndale Funeral Home.

### Mary Elizabeth Scanlin Davila



Mary Elizabeth Scanlin Davila was born Jan. 14, 1963, in Houston. She died June 3, 2021.

She was preceded in death by her parents Anthony and Sandra Scanlin;

her brothers Chris and Joe Scanlin; and her grandmother Grace Lefley.

Mary was a 1981 graduate of J. Frank Dobie High School and a South Belt resident for more than 50 years.

She is survived by her husband of 38 years Fernando Davila; sons Nicholas, Joshua, Christopher and Joseph; daughter Grace; and granddaughter Olivia. She is also survived by her brothers and sisters, Camille York, Anthony Scanlin, Robin Kristoff, Sandy (Mike) Powell, John (Lisa) Scanlin and Dino Scanlin; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Being a devoted Catholic, Mary was a member of St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church.

She was the most loving mother and grandmother and a very cherished sister, aunt and friend.

Her family members have expressed their undying love for her.

A private memorial service will be scheduled for a later date.

### Hortense F. Richardson



Hortense F. Richardson, 77, of Pearland passed away Friday, June 11, 2021. She was born Oct. 10, 1943.

She had been active in St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church and a member of Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court #2292.

A visitation for her will be held Thursday, June 17, 2021, from 5 to 9 p.m. at Forest Park Lawndale Funeral Home, 6900 Lawndale Street. The recitation of the rosary will be held Thursday,

## Deputies respond to unique events

Deputies from Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia's office responded to some unique calls this past week, ranging from missing persons to mental health issues.

On one recent call, Deputy Branch responded to an incident in the 11500 block of Brook Meadow Drive, where a resident reported that her husband was hallucinating from a lack of sleep and that he had a shotgun. The man also had surgery recently and was on medication, his wife said.

Upon the deputy's arrival, he spotted the husband in his underwear with the gun in the middle of the street. After taking cover, Branch command-

ed the man to put down the gun, to which he complied. The man was then detained without incident and transported to Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital for evaluation.

On Sunday, June 13, Cpl. Villanueva responded to a medical emergency call in the 10600 block of Beltway 8 near the Gulf Freeway, where a male driver was passed out behind the wheel on the service road. Villanueva tapped on the window to wake the driver, but after being awoken, the driver began driving down the beltway.

A slow pursuit ensued west down to Monroe, then north toward Fuqua, where the driver was stopped with the help

of additional deputies. Kendreon Marquise Richardson was arrested and charged with DWI and evading in a vehicle.

Precinct 2 Deputy Hall recently responded to a missing person call in the 10400 block of Sagecanyon, where a female Alzheimer patient had left her home to walk her two dogs and never returned.

When the woman failed to return home after around 20 minutes, her husband and daughter began to look for her. After approximately two hours, the woman was found near Blackhawk and Scarsdale by a citizen, who took her back home. Once home, the missing woman refused medical help, Precinct 2 officials said.

Attractions
Hotel
Golf

# SUMMER ROAD TRIP

**PLAN YOUR ISLAND GETAWAY!**  
[MoodyGardens.org](http://MoodyGardens.org)

# AVAILABLE NOW:

## Houston Methodist Virtual Urgent Care



### Our providers are available 24/7 following your COVID-19 diagnosis.

Whether you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms or want to avoid spreading or catching germs, you can connect with a board-certified provider via video visit wherever you are — no appointment needed. The provider will be able to advise you about your diagnosis and can guide you on appropriate treatments to help you in your journey to recovery.

*Virtual Urgent Care is available through the MyMethodist app. Download it today.*

*If you are unable to cover the \$20 cost of your visit, please contact 281.524.4687 for financial assistance.*

[houstonmethodist.org/virtual-care](http://houstonmethodist.org/virtual-care)





# San Jacinto College receives \$30M donation

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ically underserved.

"Discrimination against ethnic and religious minorities has been deepening, so we assessed organizations bridging divides through interfaith support and collaboration."

"Arts and cultural institutions can strengthen communities by transforming spaces, fostering empathy, reflecting community identity, advancing economic mobility, improving academic outcomes, lowering crime rates, and improving mental health, so we evaluated smaller arts organizations creating these benefits with artists and audiences from culturally rich regions and identity groups that donors often overlook."

"Over 700 million people globally still live in extreme poverty. To find solutions, we all benefit from on-the-ground insights and diverse engagement, so we prioritized organizations with local

teams, leaders of color, and a specific focus on empowering women and girls.

"We also assessed organizations focused on supporting community engagement itself. The 1.6 million non-profits in America employ 10 percent of our country's workforce, and 63 million volunteers. While political pendulums swing back and forth, redistributing and re-concentrating wealth, we can choose to fund organizations with the potential to increase the impact of every dollar and hour donated by others. Social sector infrastructure organizations empower community leaders, support grassroots organizing and innovation, measure and evaluate what works, and disseminate information so that community leaders, elected officials, volunteers, employees, and donors at every level of income can make informed decisions about how to partner and invest.

These organizations, which are themselves historically underfunded, also promote and facilitate service, which in turn inspires more people to serve.

"We chose to make relatively large gifts to the organizations named below, both to enable their work, and as a signal of trust and encouragement, to them and to others. Would they still benefit from more (more advocates, more money, more volunteers)? Yes. Like those we shared in July and December of 2020, these 286 teams were selected through a rigorous process of research and analysis. These are people who have spent years successfully advancing humanitarian aims, often without knowing whether there will be any money in their bank accounts in two months. What do we think they might do with more cash on hand than they expected? Buy needed supplies. Find new creative ways to help.

Hire a few extra team members they know they can pay for the next five years. Buy chairs for them. Stop having to work every weekend. Get some sleep.

"Because we believe that teams with experience on the front lines of challenges will know best how to put the money to good use, we encouraged them to spend it however they choose. Many reported that this trust significantly increased the impact of the gift. There is nothing new about amplifying gifts by yielding control. People have been doing it in living rooms and classrooms and workplaces for thousands of years. It empowers receivers by making them feel valued and by unlocking their best solutions. Generosity is generative. Sharing makes more."

To see a list of recipient schools, visit [mckenzie-scott.medium.com/seeing-by-ceding-ea6de642bf](http://mckenzie-scott.medium.com/seeing-by-ceding-ea6de642bf).

# Roberts receives grant from PISD



Roberts Middle School was granted a \$3,000 check from the Pasadena ISD Education Fund that was fully funded for wellness. Shown above are, left to right, Dr. DeeAnn Powell, superintendent; DeRonda Pres-ton, counselor; Dr. Barry and Denise Burleigh, Burleigh Chiropractic; Judy Harrison, PISD Education Fund board president; Emily Ontiveros, counselor; and Steve Sipes, PISD Education Fund director.

# Ellis' caring personality sticks to Pham

Pasadena Memorial High School's Shining Star Vi Pham (below, left) is shown with distinguished educator Victoria Ellis who teaches 10th grade AP world history, History through Films and Women's Studies.

Commenting on her teacher, Pham said, "Mrs. Ellis is the most passionate and compassionate teacher I've ever had the privilege of learning from. Her dedication and care for her students is unmatched. Regardless of the circumstances, she always teaches passionately and truly exudes a character of integrity and hard work. Mrs. Ellis always made sure that students like me were able to succeed and the environment of safety and education she cultivated allowed us to truly achieve our true potential. I've never met a teacher as passionate to teaching as Mrs. Ellis, and I will always be grateful to have been taught by such a hardworking teacher."

Pham has shown leadership as Class of 2021 vice

president and Interact Rotary liaison.

Extracurricular activities for Pham include Interact, student council, National Honor Society and class officer. Community service activities for Pham included Interact Club's Cards for Senior Citizens Drive, NewGen Peacebuilders service project, Rotary Books for the World and motivational message videos for frontline workers.

"After high school, I plan on attending University of Houston with full-tuition scholarship with a career in dentistry or optometry," Pham said.

The South Belt Shining Stars will be presented in a series of students being honored along with their favorite mentor. The Shining Stars represent the top Pasadena Memorial High School students. The information and photos were submitted by Pasadena Independent School District. The Leader is also running the Shining Stars from Dobie, Lewis Career & Technical and South Houston high schools.



# Lococo leaves impression on Elsayed

Dr. Lewis Career & Technical High School's Shining Star Asaad Elsayed (below, left) is shown with distinguished educator Peter Lococo who teaches 11th grade engineering design.

Regarding his teacher, Elsayed said, "I have had Mr. Lococo as my instructor for my sophomore and junior year, and in both years, I had been able to learn more skills that had helped with my success. Apart from his entertaining lectures, he was also a relatable teacher. Working with Mr. Lococo felt like I was working with a friend who had more experience and knowledge to share. He would teach us so many different things while humoring us with jokes. His kindness had been unforgettable to me and had made it easier for me to reach out to him for support."

Elsayed has shown leadership as science club

president. Extracurricular activities for Elsayed include science club, esports and robotics.

Community service activities for Elsayed included National Honor Society volunteering, VEX and First Field setup.

"After high school, I plan on working as an apprentice to gain experience to be an engineer as I attend college," Elsayed said.

The South Belt Shining Stars will be presented in a series of students being honored along with their favorite mentor. The Shining Stars represent the top Lewis Career & Technical High School students. The information and photos were submitted by Pasadena Independent School District. The Leader is also running the Shining Stars from Dobie, Pasadena Memorial and South Houston high schools.



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# Parker Williams Genealogy resumes June 18

The Parker Williams Genealogy Group resumes meeting Friday, June 18, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. inside the Parker Williams Library, located at Scarsdale Boulevard and Beamer Road. This is the first meeting of the group since the library closed last year due to the pandemic.

Anyone interested in researching their family history is invited to attend. This is a temporary day and time. For more information, email Liz Hicks at [erootrot@usa.net](mailto:erootrot@usa.net).

# New Directions Singles meets June 21

The New Directions Singles group for those age 50 and older meets the first and third Mondays of the month at 6 p.m. for a potluck dinner. Games and activities and/or guest speakers are scheduled for the gatherings at Webster Presbyterian Church, located at 201 W. NASA Parkway. The next scheduled meeting is June 21. Plan to attend for an evening of enjoyment. For information, call Margarita at 832-715-9658.

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# Remember When

## 45 years ago (1976)

Attempts were made to close off the "road which isn't a road" between the subdivision of Sagemeadow and Green Tee Terrace.

The Southeast Volunteer Fire Department placed an order to purchase a \$56,000 1976 Pierce fire truck with the capacity of pumping 1,000 gallons of water per minute and a 750-gallon water storage tank.

## 40 years ago (1981)

The median age of South Belt area residents was 37, and the median annual salary was \$35,000, according to a marketing survey by Texas Commerce Bank-South Belt.

The director of the Harris County Flood Control District told a large crowd at the Sagemont Civic Club meeting that he felt \$25 million would be needed to make the improvements necessary to alleviate the South Belt area flooding problems.

## 35 years ago (1986)

Steve "Ace" Cummings, a 1982 Dobie graduate, was drafted in the second round of the summer draft by the Toronto Blue Jays.

Toxic waste cleanup of the Southeast Water Purification Plant site added \$1 million to \$2 million to the projected plant project cost of \$72 million.

## 30 years ago (1991)

Two burglary suspects backed a truck into a garage in an attempt to load it with stolen household goods. An alert neighbor called Precinct 2 Constable Gary Freeman's office to report the suspicious activity. Deputies captured the two men after a brief struggle in the garage.

Emmy nominee Scott Fults, a former Sagemeadow resident, came to Houston and starred as Eugene Morris Jerome in the semi-autobiographical play at Chris Wilson's Actors Theatre of Houston.

## 25 years ago (1996)

San Jacinto College set up information booths at Baybrook and Pasadena Town Square malls.

Beamer Towers, the skele-

ton structure located near the Brio Toxic Superfund Site, was tentatively scheduled for demolition.

## 20 years ago (2001)

The city of Houston and Harris County, with assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, began spraying the mosquitoes which inundated the South Belt area after Tropical Storm Allison hit the region.

The Southeast Volunteer Fire Department responded to a mutual aid house fire call in Green Tee.

Firemen fought the fire standing in waist-deep water using jet skis to transport hoses, tools and personnel.

## 15 years ago (2006)

Nationally recognized hurricane expert Bill King was the guest speaker at the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce luncheon.

What appeared to have been a language misunderstanding resulted in the homicide of Erik Garcia, 16, behind his Beverly Hills home. Four suspects were being sought by police.

## 10 years ago (2011)

Construction began on the Harris County portion of the Hughes Road/Barry Rose expansion into Pearland. The work was expected to take six months and cost \$1,704,505. Plans called for an elevated

## 5 years ago (2016)

A Pearland police officer was killed June 12 when he was involved in a head-on

## bridge just west of Black-

hawk to go above the existing hike-and-bike trail. Plans also called for the installation of stop signs at the Sageorchard intersection as well as a cautionary traffic light in front of the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department station.

The U.S. Coast Guard's Air Station Houston had a change-of-command ceremony at Ellington Field. Incoming Cmdr. Eric Gleason replaced outgoing Cmdr. Christopher Moss as commanding officer.

## 1 year ago (2020)

Former South Belt resident Daryn Edwards was promoted in the Houston Police Department. A 1984 Dobie graduate, Edwards became

## the assistant chief of HPD's

Organizational Development Command. At this position, Edwards is responsible for overseeing the recruitment, hiring and training of officers and civilian employees.

San Jacinto College was named as one of 10 finalists for the 2021 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence, the nation's signature recognition of high achievement and performance among community colleges. Awarded every two years since 2011, the Aspen Prize recognizes institutions that achieve strong student outcomes across key areas: teaching and learning; degree completion and successful transfer to four-year institutions; success in the workforce; and equitable outcomes for diverse student groups. This marked the third time the area college had earned the honor.

## areas at Sagemont Church, from friends and the Leader staff. He is also active in community organizations, sports and various events.

## NATALIE CELEBRATES A BIRTHDAY

Wishes for a happy birthday are sent June 21 to Natalie Abarca from husband Jose Abarca; children Kelvin Lopez, Noah, Eliana and Isabella Abarca; her mother Ellie and husband David Flickinger; grandparents Marie and David Flickinger; and friends at the Leader.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY, CONSTABLE GARCIA

Special birthday wishes are sent from friends in the South Belt community and the Leader staff to Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia who celebrates his birthday June 22.

## SCHOOL DAZE

The following staff of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays June 17 through June 23.

## Genoa Elementary

Join in the double-fun birthday celebrations June 20 for Angel Perez and Clarissa Garcia.

## Moore Elementary

Send a happy birthday greeting June 17 to Amairani Sigala.

## South Belt Elementary

Susi McDaniel enjoys a special birthday June 23.

## Stuchbery Elementary

Remember to wish Lauren Nalepa a happy birthday June 22. Best wishes for a wonderful birthday June 23 to Dana Sylvester.

## Roberts Middle School

June 21 is the day for a birthday party for Elizabeth Arrambide.

## Dobie High

Send birthday greetings June 17 to John Kneisler. On June 18, light the candles for a birthday cake for Lachee Payne.

## FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS

Thursday, June 17: Patrick Thomas, Steven Bryant, Rick Bailey, Christine Thomas, Michelle Miller and Stephanie Hartman; Friday, June 18: Stephanie Southerland-Martinez; Sunday, June 20: Tyron Adams, Lawrence Henry, Craig Branstetter, Scarlett Benzkofe, Courtney Patel, Paul Sharpless, Aperture Prod and Laura Longoria-Ortiz; Monday, June 21: Julie Banhart, Becky Benner, Monica Webster, Lynee Fehler, Kyle McMullen, Natalie Garza, Laura De Los Santos, Priscilla Villa and Celina Clark; Tuesday, June 22: Cassy Gutierrez, Brian Goodwin, Erin Ortiz, Rob Kemp, Sherri Huffman, Bonnie Lamb, Anna Jeffries and Jennifer Nestle; and Wednesday, June 23: Darryl Reed II, Sylvia Alcalá, Jamal Khan and Christa Guthrie.

## LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS

Send an email with details on events to [mynews@southbeltleader.com](mailto:mynews@southbeltleader.com) with OTBF in the subject line by Friday noon for the next week's issue. For birthdays, type "OTBF: Friends Celebrate Birthdays" in the subject line.



# Over The Back Fence by Alexis

## 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.

## MARC CELEBRATES A BIRTHDAY

Birthday wishes are sent to former South Belt resident and former Pct. 2 Deputy Constable Cpl. Marc Lozano who celebrates a birthday June 18. Family and friends send him best wishes for a happy birthday.

## SANDY ENJOYS 82ND BIRTHDAY

Longtime South Belt resident Sandy Robb, who is active with her daughter Stacy Waugh in the Leader Christmas program and many community events, celebrates her 82nd birthday June 18. Birthday wishes are sent to Sandy from her daughter who says, "You are forever young!"

## ISABELLA ENJOYS SWEET 16TH!

Best wishes for a happy 16th birthday Sunday, June 20, are sent to Isabella Abarca from her dad Jose Abarca and Natalie Abarca; siblings Kelvin Lopez, Noah and Eliana Abarca; grandpa David Flickinger (Leader Christmas) and Mimo Ellie Flickinger; grandpa Donnie Mock and Ana Christina Mock; and great-grandparents David and Marie Flickinger.

## BIRTHDAY WISHES SENT TO EMORY

Best wishes are sent Monday, June 21, to the Rev. Emory Gadd, associate pastor and longtime youth counselor who is active in many

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# SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

## Southbelt Little League all-star teams set as Texas District 15 play arrives

The Southbelt Little League was set to begin its long standing rivalry with the Pearland Little League and others as Texas District 15 All-Star Tournament play got started. The 10-under double-elimination event is set to begin June 18 at the Pearland Little League as Southbelt's Blue squad takes on Pearland East at 6 p.m., with South Belt's Red all-star team then ready to take on the win-

ner June 19, also at 6 p.m. The 10-under bracket also includes OFA and Pearland West and will run through June 24.

The Southbelt Little League's 10-under Blue All-Star squad includes Andrew Alvarado (Blue Jays), Adrian Arrendondo (Dodgers), Gabriel Castillo (Astros), Christopher Forero (Dodgers), Jaythan Guzman (Astros), Antonio Hernandez II (Astros), Josh Hernandez (Astros), Erik Ibarra (Astros), Nolan Liscano (Braves), Jacob John Melendrez (Blue Jays) and Isaac Reyna

(Astros). As for SLL's 10-under Red All-Star squad, there's Ruben Castillo (Marlins), Emilio Delagarza (Blue Jays), Arias Garcia (Marlins), Blake Gonzalez (Blue Jays), Jayden Hinojosa (Braves), Evan Ortiz (Marlins), Isaac Perla (Braves), Daniel Ramirez (Dodgers), Landen Royal (Braves), Julian Salazar (Marlins), Hancel Sanchez (Marlins), Noah St. Ange (Yankees) and Andrew Strong (Blue Jays).

### TD15 All-Star Tournaments

- SLL 10s at Pearland L.L. through June 24
- SLL 12s at Pearland L.L. through June 23
- SLL juniors at El Franco Lee through June 18
- SLL seniors at El Franco Lee through June 19

### Brook graduate Pree reps TSU at nationals

Texas Southern University sophomore long jumper Kenneth Pree wrapped up his first career appearance at the 2021 NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships June 9 in Eugene, Oregon. Pree finished 19th overall and received honorable mention All-America honors as his mark of 24 feet, ¾ inches was achieved on his first attempt. Pree recorded a jump of 23-6 ¾ on his second attempt as that would be his final recorded score

### Brook's Devault Bayou Bowl's Def. MVP

At right, Kam'rin Devault starred one last time for his Clear Brook football program, garnering Defensive Most Valuable Player honors at the Greater Houston Football Coaches Association's 2021 Bayou Bowl June 12 at Stallworth Stadium in Baytown. The Class of 2021 Clear Brook High School graduate had two first-half sacks to help keep his East squad in control, and the East went on to defeat the West 13-11 in the defensive battle. A two-time all-district pick along the defensive line, Devault has signed to continue his education and playing career at Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls, Texas.



also at 6 p.m. The best-of-three senior series got underway June 15 before press time, with the second game coming June 17 at 6 p.m. A third game, if needed, is set for June 19, also at 6 p.m.

The Southbelt Little League will also host the 12-under major division All-Star tournament, with Southbelt meeting Pearland East June 18 at 6 p.m.

Pearland West and OFA will also vie for the title in the double-elimination event that will run through June 23.

The Southbelt Little League selected Jael Arrendondo (Yankees), Kobe Arrendondo (Yankees), Ramon Arrendondo (Yankees), Luis Gomez (Dodgers), Julian Gutierrez (Yankees), Isaac Ibarra (Dodgers), Manuel Olivas (Dodgers), Adrian Ortega (Yankees), Joseph Oviedo (Astros), Sebastian Ramirez (Dodgers), Harley Stewart (Yankees), Cristian Tamayo (Cubs) and Fernando Torres (Astros) as its 12-under major division All-Stars.

The Texas District 15 All-Star junior and senior division tournaments were hosted by the Southbelt Little League at El Franco Park and featured essentially best-of-three series between Southbelt and Pearland.

The first game of the junior series was held June 16 after press time, with the second game coming June 18 at 6 p.m.

A third game, if necessary, will go off June 20,

Julian Salinas (Astros), George Sandoval (Marlins) and Jared Villarreal (Astros).

As for senior division, the Southbelt Little League group includes Jorge Luis Arrendondo (Yankees), River Carroll (Rockies), Adrian Caserez (Yankees), Aidan Gonzalez (Yankees), Rogelio Gonzalez (Marlins), Mason Harris (Marlins), Cristobal Martinez (Rockies), Steven Oviedo (Rockies), Nathaniel Pina (Astros), Juan Salinas (Astros), Ian Thomas (Marlins) and Joaquin Vasquez (Marlins).

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### Lajaunie tennis aids JFD tennis grads

The 2021 Darren Lajaunie Memorial Tennis Tournament celebrated its 10th annual event June 4-6 at the Harry Taylor Tennis Center in Pasadena. For 2021, the Darren Lajaunie Tennis Scholarship Fund awarded collegiate academic scholarships to two Double High School tennis team and Class of 2021 seniors. Julia Bui (left) received a \$500 college scholarship through the Lajaunie fund to attend the University of Houston-Clear Lake to pursue a career in biochemistry. The Grand Slam Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 went to Jennifer Ho, and she plans to study nursing at the University of Houston. For more tournament information and photos, see Page 6.



Photo by Camille Lajaunie

### San Jacinto College stars earn All-American nods

Following trips to the national championships in both sports, baseball and softball players from San Jacinto College received National Junior College Athletic Association All-American team accolades after the completion of the 2021 season.

San Jacinto College softball players, sophomore pitcher Cat Cavazos and infielder Alexis Uresti, were named to the NJCAA All-America second team, respectively, after guiding the Coyotes to a third-place finish at the Division I national championships in Yuma, Ariz. It was San Jac's best-ever finish as a team.

Cavazos, who previously starred at North Shore High School, went 7-1 as a freshman at San Jacinto College in 2020, the corona pandemic-shortened season. Returning for 2021, Cavazos won twice at nationals and wound up 20-2 overall with a save. She tossed 14 complete games

and had an earned run average of 1.91 over 135 2/3 innings to go with 142 strikeouts. As for Uresti, she is now the Coyotes' single-season batting average leader at .510, and is also tops all-time in single-season stolen bases with 38. Uresti had 77 hits, 12 doubles, seven home runs and 53 runs batted in as part of a terrific sophomore season.

Days earlier, San Jacinto College freshmen baseball players Mason Auer and Thomas Burbank were named NJCAA third-team All-Americans. Burbank, a left-handed pitcher headed to Rice University to play for newly named head coach Jose Cruz Jr., was 12-0 this season with a 1.88 earned run average, with 79 strikeouts over 71 2/3 frames.

Auer, who has signed to play at the University of Oregon beginning in 2022, led the Gators in several offensive categories, including batting average

(.373), runs (60), hits (76), home runs (11), runs batted in (56) and stolen bases (34).

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# 10th annual Lajaunie scholarship tennis event a hit at HTTC

The 10th annual Darren Lajaunie Memorial Tennis Tournament, with nearly \$60,000 in youth academic scholarships and 36 tennis camp scholarships awarded since 2012, made a successful return to Pasadena's Harry Taylor Tennis Center June 4-6.

Roughly 40 players turned out to compete in a round-robin format to support the Lajaunie fund, named in honor of the Dobie graduate.

It was a nice bounce-back effort after coronavirus concerns prevented the 2020 event from taking place.

"I was excited to see everyone out here playing tennis and watching the matches," HTTC staff member Christian Lejeune said. "I look forward to seeing this tournament every year."

Brian Nguyen, who will be a senior with the Longhorns in 2021-2022, said his experience at the Lajaunie event was as memorable as ever.

"This is my third time playing in this tournament and I like how we gain experience."

"This is the first time the Lajaunie Tournament used UTR rating system and it really helps Dobie tennis players with rankings," he said.

For 2021, the Harry Taylor Tennis Center scholarships were awarded during the event.

The girls' top recipient for the 2021 Center Court Camp Scholarship was Binh Dang, who will be a senior at First Baptist Christian Academy in Pasadena and has been playing tennis for the last two years.

She is an international student from Vietnam and was also a Center Court Tennis Camp Scholarship recipient in 2019 and 2020.

Off the court, Dang is a member of the National

Honor Society and is secretary of the select group. She is also a member of Mu Alpha Theta at school.

She is a member of the United States Tennis Association and has for two years and counting been a member of the First Baptist varsity tennis squad.

Dang told the Lajaunie selection committee she is inspired by professional tennis player Coco Gauff because of Gauff's hard work while training for tennis matches and aims to be an inspiration to young ladies on the court.

The other selected recipient for the Center Court girls' division was Josephine Krueger, who is also a senior-to-be at First Baptist Christian Academy in Pasadena.

Krueger will receive a half Summer Camp Scholarship to the HTTC and has been playing tennis for four years.

She has demonstrated her hard work on the courts by being organized and dedicated to practicing the game of tennis several hours a day, several days a week.

Krueger added that the professional tennis player that she admires the most is Rafael Nadal from Spain as she admires his power and strength in each game he plays, which sparks her motivation to play harder on the courts.

Off the courts, Krueger is a member of the National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta and was during 2020-2021 the junior class representative for the Student Council.

The boys' recipient for the 2021 Center Court Camp Scholarship was Jaden Lartigue, who this month completed his seventh-grade year at First Baptist Christian Academy in Pasadena and has been playing tennis for a year.

An honor roll regular at First Baptist, Lartigue

works hard practicing with his teammates and family as often as he can.

He aims to balance his homework and tennis schedule by utilizing his spare time to study and squeeze in practices at a local court.

This year, the Lajaunie fund awarded college academic scholarships to two

Dobie High School tennis team seniors and Class of 2021 graduates.

Taking top honors for the Lady Longhorns' Grand Slam College Scholarship was Jennifer Ho as she received a \$1,000 scholarship and plans to attend the University of Houston, studying nursing.

Ho has been playing tennis for six years and said she has been inspired by worldwide star Naomi Osaka because of Osaka's determination and growth as a tennis player.

Off the court, Ho is a member of the National Honor Society and the Health Occupation Student Association, which

has inspired her to study nursing.

She is also a member of the Asian Student Association at Dobie.

Julia Bui was also a Dobie Class of 2021 Lajaunie scholarship honoree as she received a \$500 college scholarship and plans to attend the University of Houston-Clear Lake

to pursue a career in biochemistry.

Bui has been playing tennis for six years and aims to continue to play in local tournaments while attending college.

According to Bui, the player who inspires her

the most is her brother, Dat Bui, as he introduced her to tennis when she was younger and shaped her love of tennis.

Off the court, Bui is a member of the National Honor Society and has been with the Dobie varsity tennis team for the last

three years.

Updates for scholarships, tournament and the Used Tennis Racket Drive can be found on the website at <https://dltennis.com> and on the Darren Lajaunie Tennis Scholarships Facebook page.



Jaden Lartigue (center), an eighth-grade tennis player at First Baptist Christian Academy in Pasadena, was awarded a 2021 Darren Lajaunie Scholarship Fund Center Court Camp Scholarship as the presenters included Lajaunie's wife, Camille Lajaunie (left) and Lajaunie's father, Ronald Lajaunie.



First Baptist Christian Academy's Binh Dang (center) was a 2021 Center Court Camp Scholarship awardee courtesy of the Darren Lajaunie Scholarship Fund. Dang received the honor during the tournament at the Harry Taylor Tennis Center in Pasadena earlier this month. The presenters included event founder and Lajaunie's wife, Camille Lajaunie (left) and Darren Lajaunie's father, Ronald Lajaunie.



2020-2021 Dobie varsity tennis team members, left to right, Lael Martinez, William Ho, Tristan Pedraza and Kyle Redmon were in the field of play at the Darren Lajaunie scholarship tournament in Pasadena as they collectively represented the Longhorns well.



Dobie tennis coach Manuel Moreno Jr. tested his re-gripping skills as he refreshed a player's racquet during the Lajaunie tennis tournament at the Harry Taylor Tennis Center in Pasadena. Moreno was also there in support of the better than 40 players who helped make Lajaunie's 10th annual event a big success.

## Sports camps, sign-ups

### Dobie youth volleyball camps

Dobie varsity volleyball head coach Dawn Sexton will host the Lady Longhorns' youth volleyball camps July 20-22 at the school.

Session I, open to students entering the third through sixth grades as of the 2021-2022 school year, runs from 9 to 11 a.m. each day, while Session II is open to those entering the seventh and eighth grades and runs 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. daily.

The July 26-28 morning session camp runs from 9 a.m. to noon each day and is reserved for those entering the 10th through 12th grades, while incoming freshman students will attend the afternoon session from 1 to 4 p.m.

Those who preregister online may pay \$50 cash online on the first day of the camp. For additional details, direct email to Sexton at [dsexton@pasadenaisd.org](mailto:dsexton@pasadenaisd.org).

### Lions continue summer work

The Thompson Intermediate boys' coaching staff is still offering a full summer of strength and conditioning and football skills training running through July 23 at the school.

Students entering the seventh and eighth grades as of the 2021-2022 school year are encouraged to take part in the Monday through Thursday weekly strength and conditioning sessions at \$25 cash a week per student.

The 9 to 11 a.m. daily sessions will include weight room work and strength and conditioning drills as well as agility training.

The football skills training will follow daily from 11 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$15 cash per week per student unless enrolled in the strength and conditioning sessions.

The dates for the weekly training sessions include June 14-17, June 21-24, June 28-July 1, July 12-15 and July 19-22, six weeks in all.

The Lions' annual summer youth football camp is set for July 27-29 at Dobie High School as the Longhorns' coaching staff will assist in the event. Cost of the 9 to 11 a.m. camp is \$25 cash per student.

The staff has marked football equipment pick-up dates as Aug. 6 and Aug. 13, and the Lions' first practice is Aug. 17.

### SBYSC registration

The South Belt Youth Soccer Club has begun online registration for the fall 2021 season, with registrants able to take advantage of a \$20 discount through June 30.

Families may visit the league website at [www.southbeltssoccer.org](http://www.southbeltssoccer.org) to take advantage of this opportunity. Only credit or debit cards will be accepted as forms of payment. All registered players will receive a uniform, which includes jersey, shorts and socks. Parents will be required to provide shin guards, a ball and cleats.

The discounted fees are \$100 per under-4 through under-8 players, \$120 per under-9 and under-10 players, \$140 per under-11 and under-12 players and \$160 per under-13 through under-19 players.

Those signing up online from July 1 to July 31 will see a \$20 fee increase, which jumps to a \$40 increase for those registering Aug. 1 through Oct. 31.

## Arizona baseball eliminates Myers' Ole Miss team

Fifth-ranked Arizona used a seven-run fourth inning to lift itself to an eventual 16-3 victory over Ole Miss in the decisive game of the Tucson Super Regional baseball best-of-three series June 13 at the University of Arizona.

The Wildcats, now 45-21 overall, advanced to the College World Series while Ole Miss fell one win shy of a series berth for the second consecutive postseason dating back to the 2019 campaign.

With the Rebels' loss came the end of Dobie graduate Tyler Myers' solid career as a member of the pitching staff.

Myers rebounded from Tommy John surgery on his pitching arm in 2021 and was a big contributor to the team's success in the 2021 season.

Myers was a three-year

starter at Dobie and then played two seasons at Paris Junior College, earning all-conference honors.

He then landed with Ole Miss beginning in the 2019 campaign and made 23 relief appearances during his first season with the team.

The arm surgery would have prevented Myers from pitching in 2020 as he took a redshirt season during what

became a pandemic-shortened season.

The senior right-hander was 4-2 this season with a 5.57 earned run average over 21 total appearances in 2021.

In his final outing, Myers allowed five earned runs over 3 2/3 innings in the Tucson Super Regional opener as Arizona went on to claim the opener by an 11-3 count.

## Clear Creek ISD recognizes Wolverines' athletic scholarship honorees for 2020-2021

At right, as part of end-of-school-year celebrations districtwide, the Clear Creek ISD honored its student-athletes who signed letters of intent to continue their education and athletic careers at two- or four-year collegiate institutions. Those signees from Clear Creek High School for 2020-2021 included, left to right, (front row) Aaron Calhoun, Kenedi Miller, Nia Brady, Jaylan Dal Santo, Jayson Price, Jacob Lewis, (back row) Isaiah Hunt, Mylo Sonnier, Daevien Willis, Hamza Memon, Kamrin Devault and Ma'Kalb Chaney.



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# CALENDAR

It is advisable to verify if face-to-face meetings are being held prior to attending. For Alcoholics Anonymous, visit <https://aahouston.org/meetings/>; for Narcotics Anonymous (NA) meetings, visit [www.hascona.com](http://www.hascona.com); for Al-Anon meetings, visit [www.houstonalanon.org/meetings.html](http://www.houstonalanon.org/meetings.html).

**NOTE: Clear Lake Bridge Club** - Visit <https://aclunit174.org/clearlak/clean-blue-working/clearlake.html> for games or email [ipochsner@aol.com](mailto:ipochsner@aol.com) for additional information.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 17**  
7 a.m.  
**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill," Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., and Saturday at 7:30 a.m. First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit <https://aahouston.org/meetings/>.  
7:30 a.m.  
**Rotary Club of Pearland** - Meets Thursdays at 7:30 a.m. either at Pearland Chamber of Commerce, 6117 Broadway St., Pearland, or 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.  
Noon  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or online at <https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners>. Call 713-686-6300 for more information.  
7 p.m.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Women's Group, open meeting, 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit <http://nastuff.com>.  
**FRIDAY, JUNE 18**  
7 a.m.  
**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill," Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., and Saturday at 7:30 a.m. First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit <https://aahouston.org/meetings/>.  
11 a.m.  
**Genealogy Group** - The Parker Williams Genealogy group meets from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Friday at the Parker Williams Library, Beamer at Scarsdale. The public is invited to attend. This is a temporary time/date. For more information, email Liz Hicks at [erootrot@usa.net](mailto:erootrot@usa.net).  
Noon  
**Hometown Heroes** - Ballroom dances are open Fridays, noon - 1:30 p.m., Mondays and Wednesdays, 2 - 3:30 p.m. and on the 3630 sq. ft. room equipped with floating hardwood floor. These are not dance lessons but casual dances. Call the park office at 281-554-1180.  
7 p.m.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit [www.hascona.com](http://www.hascona.com).  
**Congregation Shaar Hashalom** - Services are online for the 7 p.m. Friday or the 9:30 a.m. Saturday service at <https://www.shaarhashalom.org/shabbat-online.htm>. Email [ritu-ai@shaarhashalom.org](mailto:ritu-ai@shaarhashalom.org) for the link.  
8 p.m.  
**Serenity Now Al-Anon Group** - meets at CrossRoads UMC Fridays, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Family members and friends of problem drinkers/addicts share, learn Al-Anon principles and discover choices available. For details, call 281-484-9243.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** - meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call 281-484-9243.  
**SATURDAY, JUNE 19**  
7:30 a.m.  
**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.  
9:30 A.m.  
**Congregation Shaar Hashalom** - See Friday's notice.  
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., Call 281-487-8787 or visit <http://www.houstonalanon.org/meetings.html>.  
7 p.m.  
**Bay Area Bluegrass Association** - Check the website for information on upcoming events. Visit <http://www.bayareabluegrass.org>.  
**SUNDAY, JUNE 20**  
8 p.m.  
**AA** - meeting at CrossRoads UMC. See Friday's notice.  
**MONDAY, JUNE 21**  
10 a.m.  
**Al-Anon Deer Park** - 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>.  
11 a.m.  
**Parker Williams Genealogy Group** - meets the first and third Mondays, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Parker Williams Library, Beamer at Scarsdale. The public is invited. For additional information, email Liz Hicks at [erootrot@usa.net](mailto:erootrot@usa.net).  
Noon  
**AA** - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday's notice.  
6 p.m.  
**Scrabble Club #511** - has resumed meeting Mondays at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua. Come, improve crossword playing skills. COVID-19 vaccination required. Call 281-488-2923 for more information.  
6:30 - 7:30 p.m.  
**Toastmasters** - The Young Professionals Southeast Toastmasters Club #05324194 meets on a virtual site at <https://youngprofessionals.toastmasters.com/>. To be a guest, select "contact us" button on the home page to obtain access. For additional information, contact Karen Nunn at 832-722-9061 or Carolyn Carmichael at 832-372-3565.  
7 p.m.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - St. Luke's 12-Step Recovery, education Bldg., 11011 Hall Road. Call Jesse at 832-725-8479 for more information.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group. See Friday's notice.  
**TUESDAY, JUNE 22**  
7 a.m.  
**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.  
Noon  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday's noon notice.  
7 p.m.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group. See Friday's notice.  
**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23**  
7 a.m.  
**AA** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.  
Noon  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday's noon notice.  
7 p.m.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group. See Friday's notice.  
7 p.m.  
**Bay Area Turning Point Crisis Intervention** - Call 281-286-2525 (24-hour crisis hotline) for confidential domestic violence/sexual abuse support group for women. Visit [www.bayareaturningpoint.org](http://www.bayareaturningpoint.org) for additional information.  
8 p.m.  
**AA** - CrossRoads UMC. See Friday's notice.

# LEADER READERS

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# Thompson names sixth six-weeks honor roll

**Continued from Page 2**

Xavier Keller, Iakovos-Panagiotis Kostikoglou, Maher Kothiya, Yocelyn Lagos, Jaylon Lasker, Natalia Le Gonenaga, Nathan Le, Karyme Leal and Gabriel Lopez.

Tatiana Luna, Shyla Marciano, Jacqueline Martinez, Jorge Martinez, Paris Martinez, Priscilla Martinez, Rubi Martinez, Mark Massoud and Laura Mata.

Kiana McCombs, Lucius Monarez, Abriana Neco, Jenny Nguyen, Nhu Nguyen, Ny Nguyen, Ryan Nguyen, Trish Nguyen and Hope Ortiz.

Carina Osorio Avelar, Avery Owens, Angel Padilla, Jabez Palma, Emily Parrish, Krishi Patel, Nikolas Pelaez, Carlos Perez and Eric Perez.

Julianne Pham, Tony Phan, Madison Puente, Damian Quinonez, Lilli Ramirez, Matthew Rangel, Jayden Reimer, Domingo Reyes and Joel Reyes.

Jack Roberts, Hilda Robles, Barbara Rodriguez Salas, Carlos Salazar, Luis Salazar, Isabella Sanchez, Kettia Sanchez, Omar Serna and McKenzie Smith.

Ethan Snow, Pitou So, Hunter Stacey, Emily Stephen, Jocelyn Stringer, Tristan Sudario, Jason Ta, Amari Taylor and Evelyn Torres.

Philip Tran, Tristan Tran, Andrew Ullman, Arturo Vega, Megan Vu and Sophia Vu.

Nina Walker, Theodore Washington, Jesus Williams, Karis Williams, Stephen Wilson and Arian Zuniga.

# South Belt Chamber hosts cuisine event

The community is encouraged to save the date for the South Belt Chamber of Commerce's annual event. The Evening of Cuisine's Taste of South Belt will be held Thursday, Oct. 14, at the landmark Lone Star Flight Museum.

The chamber is honored to have Ezreal Garcia of Community Health Network chair the event and with the help of a committee. There is no cost for restaurants to enter but space is limited. Vendors are encouraged to secure one's spot as soon as possible. Sponsorships are available as well!

If one is interested in participating, visit the website southbeltchamber.com or call 281-481-5516 for information or questions.

# Truong awarded scholarship



The Bay Area Chorus of Greater Houston (BAC) recently awarded Carlin Truong its second annual Jeanette Chase Scholarship for outstanding graduate students in the field of choral music and arts leadership. Truong is a graduate student pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts in choral directing with a minor in arts leadership at the Moores School of Music, University of Houston. Truong has a Bachelor of Arts in psychology with a minor in music from the University of California, San Diego, and a Master of Arts in choral conducting from San Jose State University, Calif. Truong has directed high school and church choirs and cofounded and conducted a tenor/bass community chorus in California's Central Valley area. In Truong's scholarship application, Truong stressed his desire to train, nurture, and inspire future musicians and music educators. BAC established this scholarship in 2021 to honor the dedication and achievements of Jeanette Chase, who was a BAC member for 37 years and served as BAC president from 2012 - 2019. Applicants must be full-time graduate students pursuing a career in choral music or arts leadership, preferably with a choral interest, who have nine or more hours of credit and a minimum GPA of 3.0. At present, applications are limited to students at the Kathrine G. McGovern College of the Arts at the University of Houston.

# Nweke motivates Lukner

J. Frank Dobie High School's Shining Star Joseph Lukner (below, left) is shown with distinguished educator Maureen Nweke who teaches ninth grade biology.

Commenting on his teacher, Lukner said, "Besides providing me an excellent foundation for biology, I chose Ms. Nweke because of the fantastic relationship we had when I was her student. Her sassy and witty disposition always made for fun lectures and conversations after class, and the way she answered my countless questions left me confident in what I was learning. I owe my success in biology completely to her and I will continue to flashback to our time together for years to come."

Lukner has shown leadership as parliamentarian for student council. Extra-curricular activities for Lukner include math club, student council and National Honor Society.

Community service activities for Lukner included student council and National Honor Society.

"After high school, I plan on attending Swarthmore College," Lukner said.

*The South Belt Shining Stars will be presented in a series of students being honored along with their favorite mentor.*

*The Shining Stars represent the top J. Frank Dobie High School students.*

*The information and photos were submitted by Pasadena Independent School District. The Leader is also running the Shining Stars from Lewis Career & Technical, Pasadena Memorial and South Houston high schools.*



# Local business honored

The South Belt-Ellington Chamber announced its inaugural Business of the Quarter, Burleigh Chiropractic.

Owners Denise and Barry Burleigh volunteer their time and resources for most chamber events as well as encourage others to participate. They also dedicate their time to other community organizations such as the USO and Sagemont Church.

The Burleigh's have a long list of awards and designations and chamber officials are proud to have them be leaders in their organization.

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