

Local COVID increases

As of Wednesday, June 17, ZIP code 77089 had 129 confirmed cases of COVID, according to Harris County Public Health officials. That is 17 higher than the 112 reported on Wednesday, June 10. In ZIP code 77075, county officials are now reporting 117 known cases. This number is 14 higher than the 103 cases reported the previous week. County officials report 118 cases in 77034, up 21 cases from last week. In all, there are currently 17,707 known cases in Harris County, an increase of 2,469 from last week. Of those, 10,313 remain active, up 1,167 from last week. A total of 7,105 have recovered from the virus in the county, an increase of 1,275 from the previous week. To date, 289 have died from COVID-19, up 27 from last week. 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/Resources/2019-Nov-el-Coronavirus.

HOA election June 20

The Sagemeadow HOA will hold an election for three seats on its architectural control committee June 20. The committee is responsible for approving changes to property in the Sagemeadow subdivision. Nominations were accepted through June 17. For more information visit www.sagemeadow.org.

Chamber hosts blood drive

The South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce, 10500 Scarsdale, will host a blood drive Friday, June 26, from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center will serve as the donor coach. All donors will receive a free T-shirt. Appointments are required. To donate, visit www.commitforlife.org and use Sponsor Code P128. For more information, call 281-481-5516.

Knights host blood drive

Knights of Columbus is hosting a blood drive in the social hall at St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church, 11011 Hall, Wednesday, June 24, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Make appointment online at commitforlife.org (sponsor code 1185) or call Val Comeaux, 713-582-5358. Enter through the church's west parking lot on Hall and Saget-rail and follow the signs.

Beltway closures planned

There will be a total closure of the Fairmont Parkway exit ramp on Beltway 8 through 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 to 3:30 p.m. through 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 associated with the project to widen Beltway 8 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 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 in Texas City will be closed until further notice. The southbound entrance ramp at FM 517 in Texas City will also 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 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.

Kirkwood to meet June 25

Kirkwood residents are invited to a Zoom meeting June 25 at 7 p.m. Participants need to pre-register at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9187812345>. Registering participants will receive an email with information about joining the meeting.

Investigation ongoing in Constable Diaz's evictions, arrests

Both Harris County officials and Precinct 2 Constable Chris Diaz have requested Precinct 1 Constable Al Rosen perform an investigation on actions for at least three of Diaz's employees who were suspended in connected with a South Houston case that occurred Jan. 29 of this year. The three employees were suspended Wednesday, June 10, a week after Harris County Attorney representatives acted upon a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request from the *Leader*, dated March 13, 2020.

The county attorney's office had opened up an investigation of its own due to an anonymous tip received by the county. Concerns of the Jan. 29 issue involve violation of policy, state and federal law on the part of Constable Diaz' deputies.

The Precinct 2 arrests were conducted in coordination with the South Houston Police Department and came under scrutiny. The arrests in question took place Wednesday, Jan. 29, in the 600 block of Mississippi Street in South Houston. According to a Facebook post that day from the South Houston Police Department, the incident stemmed from an attempt to remove

"squatters" and "trespassers" from a property at the owner's request. The eviction led to several arrests, including two felony warrants and the recovery of two stolen vehicles. The arrests were made and the residents were evicted and their possessions searched more than a week before the court would legally

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San Jac wins national award for 4th time in a row

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 four 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. In 2017, San Jacinto College earned the Aspen Rising Star Award; and in 2019, the Aspen

Institute named San Jacinto College as one of the top 10 community colleges in the country. "It is again an honor to be recognized by the Aspen Institute for the incredible work being done at San Jacinto College to help our students reach their educational goals," said San Jacinto College Chancellor Dr. Brenda Hellyer. "This recognition is due to the dedication of our board of trustees, administration, faculty and staff to ensure that all of our students have the resources they need and well-planned educational pathways to complete their certificates or degrees. On behalf of everyone at San

Jacinto College, I thank the Aspen Institute for this amazing honor." **Focus on completion** The college's laser focus on student completion has resulted in a 168.7 percent increase in certificates and degrees from 2009 to 2019. The result is attributed to the comprehensive work of employees throughout San Jacinto College to advise and track students from admissions to completion. The institution has developed an intentional, integrated advising program to help students succeed. This program was designed to make the student experience more relational and less transactional and more intrusive and intentional, with career information and exploration strategically placed throughout the process. College Outreach Advisors monitor students' progress

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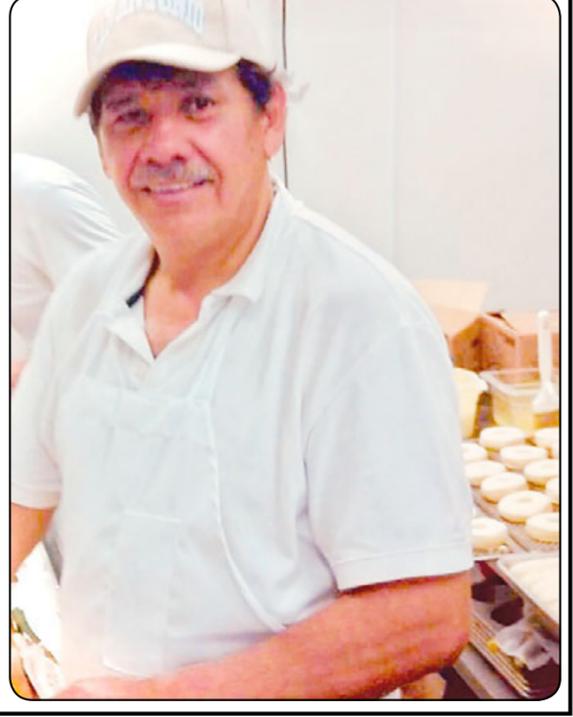
City, county adjust after Floyd's death

In the wake of George Floyd's death and subsequent worldwide protests, local city and county officials are pushing police reform measures. **City of Houston** Surrounded by City Council Members, Houston Police Chief Art Acevedo and Houston Police Officers Union representative Ray Hunt, Mayor Sylvester Turner on Wednesday, June 10, signed Executive Order 1-67 on Policing Reform: Use of Force, which applies to all police officers in the Houston Police Department. The EO covers the police department's response to resistance, de-escalation, use of deadly force, prohibited techniques and no-knock warrants. For the first time, it codifies prohibited techniques, such as neck restraints or choke-

holds, which cannot be used unless objectively necessary to prevent imminent serious bodily injury or death to the officer or others. "Officers shall not place their knee, foot or body weight on the neck of a suspect to control or contain the suspect's movement," Turner said. "We believe that taking all these things in collaboration can help restore and maintain the confidence of the general public. We want the public to know that we are responding and listening to their concerns and taking some immediate steps, which we believe will create a much better system for everyone." This message was reinforced by Vice Mayor Pro-Tem Martha Castex-Tatum.

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Longtime area cook dies with COVID



A longtime local cook recently lost his battle with the coronavirus. Sylvester Hernandez most recently worked at Donut Haven on Hughes Road and Beamer. Prior to that, he worked at both the Shipley Donuts on Fuqua and Peña's Donut Heaven. At press time, Donut Haven remained closed as a precaution. It had been closed since May 27, when Hernandez was diagnosed with the disease.

Longtime local dies with COVID

A longtime member of the Sagemont community recently died from complications associated with the coronavirus. Sylvester Hernandez was a familiar face to many in the South Belt area, as he was a local cook for more than three decades, working at the Shipley Do-Nuts on Fuqua, Peña's Donut Heaven and Donut Haven. "Sad to announce a past employee who had worked for the Peña family for over 30 years has passed away," a June 11 post on Peña's Donut Heaven & Grill's Facebook page stated. "He was more than an employee, he was like a family member. Please pray for his family. Sylvester, you will be greatly missed."

member Josephine Peña. "He has been a solid staple in the Sagemont community for many years," Peña said in a Facebook post. "Sylvester started working for our mom back in the '80s at Shipley Do-Nuts on Fuqua. He was the man that got up every morning at 2 a.m. to make the donuts. Sylvester was the original donut king. Rolling the dough all those many years in the Sagemont community." A sign posted May 27 at the Donut Haven on Hughes Road and Beamer, the last place for Hernandez to work, said the business would be closed for two weeks as a precautionary measure. It, however, remained closed at press time Wednesday, June 17. It is unclear when the shop will reopen.

No charges in conflict, helicopter search

On Wednesday June 10, at approximately noon, deputies from Harris County Precinct 2 were dispatched to a residence on Graywood Drive, where a male suspect had allegedly pointed a gun at the female caller.

Members of the Harris County K9 unit and Sgt. Robert Sanchez called off the search at approximately 2 p.m. The district attorney would not accept charges calling it a mutual conflict.

Upon their arrival, deputies learned that a black male suspect had fled the scene, jumping a fence and taking off on foot, possibly still armed with a handgun. Additional deputies were called to assist, and a manhunt ensued. A perimeter was established, and Precinct 2 deputies were assisted by a Harris County Sheriff K9 division and DPS air support. Deputies searched the area around Graywood Drive, Sageglen Drive and surrounding streets in an attempt to locate the suspect but were unsuccessful.

Crossroads UMC reopens Crossroads UMC onsite worship services have resumed. The schedule is as follows: Traditional 9 a.m., Contemporary, 11 a.m. and Español, 2 p.m. Attendees are being asked to wear a mask upon entering, exiting and walking throughout the building. Once seated in the sanctuary, in the socially-distanced chairs, the mask may be removed.

Settlow retires after 31 years at Moore

Moore Elementary teacher Ann Settlow recently retired after serving 43 years in education. The daughter of a teacher, Settlow said she was born into the role. "I guess that part of it is genetic, as my mom was also a teacher," Settlow said. "There was also a commitment to the feeling that an educated society benefits all of us. Teachers touch every profession and trade. We are the ones who contribute the most, and in recent years, have taken the brunt of blame from people who could not do what we do. You have to love it to stick with it, as you certainly do not become rich from compensation, but it is rewarding to see your children learn and grow and become successful."

Originally from Massachusetts, Settlow attended Emmanuel College in Boston, where she earned a bachelor's degree in English, providing her with the background necessary to become certified in K-12 education. Settlow became certified to teach English as a Second Language. The longtime educator began her professional career teaching an adult education GED class in her hometown of Fall River, Mass. She went on to teach English at the local high school, before tax cuts left many teachers without jobs. Settlow then relocated to Houston, where she took a job at Attucks Middle School in Houston ISD. She taught there for eight years before

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Civic club to host virtual debate

A virtual debate for the two Democratic candidates running for the position of Harris County Precinct 2 constable will take place Tuesday, June 23, at 7 p.m. (The June 11 edition of the *Leader* incorrectly listed the event on July 23.) Hosted by the Sagemont Civic Club, and multiple other area civic groups and HOAs, the event will be held via the video-conferencing app Zoom. Both incumbent Chris Diaz and challenger Jerry Garcia have agreed to participate in the debate. Organizers have agreed to share potential questions with the candidates in advance to ensure fairness. Residents may submit possible inquiries. All

potential questions will be reviewed and selected by a special committee. To submit a question, email sagemonttcc@gmail.com. The primary runoff election is scheduled for Tuesday, July 14, with early voting taking place June 29 through July 10. The winner of the Democratic runoff will face Republican Daniel Vela in the November general election. For more information about the election, visit harrisvotes.org. To join the June 23 debate go to Zoom.us click on join a meeting. The meeting id is 87927811572. For more information, call Kay Barbour at 713-419-3545 or Jeff Tumipseed at 713-628-0010.

Former South Belter promoted

Former South Belt resident Daryn Edwards was recently promoted to assistant chief in the Houston Police Department. A 1984 Dobie graduate, Edwards now serves as assistant chief of HPD's Organizational Development Command. The assistant chiefs are responsible for the oversight and supervision of five divisions, each led by a commander. The five Asst. Chief Edwards divisions under Edwards' command are responsible for the recruiting, hiring and training of officers and civilian employees. The commander is also responsible for personnel activities, such as record keeping, promotional exams and actions, personnel transfers and wellness and provides psychological services to employees and their immediate family members.



There are only eight assistant chiefs in the entire department. Edwards has also been one of the commanders in charge of HPD security for the Astros organization, and in 2019, he and a fellow officer were honored by Major League Baseball for saving the life of California Angels broadcaster Mark Langston during an Astros-Angels game on Sept. 20. In 2016, Edwards was selected by HPD to attend the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Va. The academy is a professional course of study for U.S. and international law enforcement managers nominated by their agency heads because of demonstrated leadership qualities. The 10-week program - which provides coursework in intelligence theory, terrorism and terrorist mindsets, management science, law, behavioral science, law enforcement communication and forensic science - serves to improve the administration of justice in police departments and agencies at home and abroad and to raise law enforcement standards, knowledge and cooperation worldwide. Edwards assumed his new position May 2.

Settlow retiring after 43 years in education



Longtime Moore Elementary teacher Ann Settlow (holding dog) recently retired after serving more than four decades in education, 31 of which were at Moore. Settlow is shown in this past photo honoring kindergartener Julian Vo (holding sign), who was selected Outstanding Student of the Month. Pictured with Settlow are, left to right, Denise Burleigh; Toni Lopez, Pasadena ISD associate superintendent; DeeDee Pitts, assistant principal; Jill Lacamu, principal; Barry Burleigh; and Lt. Jerry Garcia, current candidate for the position of Precinct 2 constable.

In My Opinion

Weld thankful for info on newspapers

Thanks so much for the repeat info on the LaVoz paper. I called previously and they stopped for a couple of weeks, then began again. I called to get it stopped once more, and the Chronicle tried to put it off on their distributor. I told them they paid for it, and was their responsibility to notify them.

The girl took my phone number and said they would take care of it. I had to ask "Don't you think you should take my address so you can tell them where not to throw?" I told her next time I would go to one of the TV stations and see if they could find out why they can't comply with a simple request. **David Weld Publisher's note:** We have been working on this, but it isn't easy. I urge everyone to call them regularly. It would help if the HOAs also joined the fight. The phone number is by calling the Houston Chronicle Customer Service line at 713-362-7211 and entering option 6.

Marie Flickinger

Riverstone Ranch vs Gateway Academy

Good morning, I am reaching out because I am at my wit's end. I have made several attempts to call the school itself, spoke with the "security guard," emailed the permitting department, left a message with Pct 1 Commissioner office. The grass has grown so high you cannot see oncoming traffic, in which I have almost been hit by a car, you can also no longer see the building materials.

Thursday June, 4 2020 I walked to the jobsite and spoke with the security guard and asked if he could get someone to come out and cut the grass. He expressed he had no point of contact, a new contractor was coming Monday June 8 2020 "if it didn't rain". I asked who was permit-

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 information.

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.

Bracewell Summer Reading Program

The Summer Reading Program began runs through Aug. 15. Visit www.houstonlibrary.org to register and log one's reading. Check out the Beanstack Tracker app on iOS and Android to make logging easy. See the HPL website for storytimes, crafts, STEM and special events. 2020 Environmental Education Summer Programs are being offered through Harris County Precinct 1. Fun and engaging virtual programs with live animals every Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Mondays, 1 p.m. Nature Detectives (grades 1 - 4)

Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. Polliwog Club (ages 3 - 5)

Fridays, 1 p.m. Conservation Conversations (grades 5-8)

The programs will use WebEx, a video conferencing program which is free to use and works on a smart phone, tablet or computer. For those unfamiliar with the program, check out the website at <https://www.google.com/search?client=firefox-b-1-d&q=WebEx+instructions> for a step-by-step tutorial and tips to help one get started.

For questions or concerns or for a childcare agency interested in having a personalized lesson outside of the above schedule, email Christina.hartman@cp1.hctx.net.

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 drop. 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. 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.

HPL appreciates book donations, but is 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 any items outside the library or drop box."

Parker Williams "No-Contact Curbside Holds Pick-Up" is up and running!

The curbside holds pick-up service began June 15.

- After receiving notification that holds are ready for pick-up, call 832-927-7870.

- Have your library card number and PIN handy.

- A pick-up time and instructions will be given.

- Upon arriving at the library, follow the instructions given.

- Be prepared to show a library card or other form of ID for verification

Curbside hours are:

Monday - Thursday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Friday, 1 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Visit <https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library> for more information.

Online services

Harris County Public Library will continue to offer a wide array of online services:

- Use HCPL Wi-Fi service with HCPL's Drive-up Wi-Fi.

- Download books 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.

For those who do not have an HCPL library card, instant access can be obtained 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. For additional information, visit <https://www.hcpl.net> or call 832-927-7870.

said he was in charge of the property and we had to go through him.

I have reached out to the permitting department, where they informed me to contact Pollution Control and if I didn't see any permits to contact their office.

Our HOA Van Mor Properties chooses to sit by and do nothing. This is a complete disgrace to our neighborhood and I am appalled at everyone for allowing this horrific project that was approved. I was told last year that Spring Break of last year construction was starting again, which it was a month later and only 4 people a day came out to work on it. Enough is enough we need answers, we need completion, this has been a problem since day one. This was solely for the love of money and everyone has been burned.

I hope that you can help us residents get answers and at the very least get them to just take care of the property.

Kind regards

Christina Davis
Concerned Resident

Roderman writes on COVID issues

Hello,

I am a longtime SB resident and fan of The Leader. I was sad to see the statistics on the front page showing the recent increase on COVID-19 cases in our area. But, I was shocked to see all the photos inside the paper showing no one wearing masks and not practicing social distancing. Maybe in addition to the current statistics in the front page, you can also include the case studies and updates from the CDC and other medical authorities (maybe include a Houston area expert) showing the impact of wearing masks and staying 6 ft. away helps stop the spread of the virus. There are a few other simple practices to mitigate risk and help keep our families, friends, and community healthy and thriving. God Bless and Stay Well!

Janis Roderman

O'Brien's thoughts on amendments

Dear Editor,

I hear people arguing about the 2nd Amendment right, left, and sideways, but my favorite amendments are the 15th, 19th, 24th, and 26th. They deal with rights to vote.

As the primary run-off nears and with a lively election coming in November, I want to take this opportunity to caution folks who have family members in nursing homes to help them exercise their right to vote. Sadly, in many cases, their right to vote by mail can be used as an opportunity to steal their vote instead. Here are a couple of ways it's done:

1. Someone who wants to secure votes for their candidate will offer to help an elderly person fill out their ballot. But instead of filling it out requested, they mark the ballot however they want and mail it in. If the elderly person is hard of seeing, they may be none the wiser; or
2. Someone working in a nursing home, but also getting paid under the table by unscrupulous candidates, hijacks the ballots as they arrive by mail at the nursing home, and turns the ballots over to the candidate in exchange for money. These candidates literally steal the ballots from the elderly and fill them out as they wish, thereby, stuffing the ballot box; and
3. Sadly, we have lost a lot of our el-

derly during the COVID-19 pandemic. If they requested a ballot by mail before succumbing to coronavirus, they are still on the rolls and those ballots are loose in the wind. Please secure them.

Family members, if you have a loved one in a nursing home, please make sure that they complete their ballot as they wish. Help them exercise their right to vote and prevent unscrupulous politicians from stealing the election. In smaller local elections (e.g., school board or constable elections), these ballots can make a difference in the outcome.

I am a firm believer in the right of people over 65 to vote by mail. I did it for the July 14 run-off, and I intend to do it again in November, but I guard my application and ballot like a mother hen, and I encourage you to help your elderly friends and family do the same.

Catherine O'Brien

Williams: oversight for Juneteenth

I am addressing this issue about 40yrs too late. I have lived in Sagemont for over 40yrs and have seen the American flags displayed along the median coming into Sagemont along Hughes Rd from the beltway to Blackhawk for holidays which recognize the brave soldiers who have served this country such as Memorial Day & July 4th...but never for Juneteenth which commemorates June 19, 1865 as freedom day for all enslaved blacks. Over 200,000 black soldiers served in the Union Army and accounted for over 40,000 deaths. If this is just a huge oversight which has never been addressed I feel it's time that amends be made. After all ALM - All Life Matters

Diana Williams

Valentine thankful for wheelchair ramp

In February, I posted on the Nextdoor website about the poor condition of my corner sidewalks. There were no wheelchair ramps and there was considerable subsidence. My wife and I retired to this one story corner property after cancer treatments rendered me a quadriplegic.

My post on the Nextdoor website was noticed by Mr. Seth Webb, Chairman of the Sagemeadow Homeowners Association. Mr. Webb came by my home and agreed that the sidewalks should have wheelchair ramps on the corner. He then reached out to the Harris County Precinct One Commissioner Rodney Ellis' Department of Constituent Services.

It took a little while, but eventually, a crew came out, tore out the old concrete, and replaced about 40 feet of sidewalk. They constructed very nice wheelchair ramps on all four corners. This is very important to me in terms of mobility, curb appeal, and safety.

We want to express our appreciation to Mr. Webb and commissioner Ellis' office for making all this happen in the midst of a global pandemic. It is good to know that we live in a community where we are blessed with a responsive and smart HOA. I'm also very grateful for the Nextdoor website. It's a great place to start if you're looking for answers.

In closing, thank you. Please remember to be your self. The future of every community rest in the hands of free people and the synergy they achieve together. (See photo below.)

John "Happy" Valentine
Sagemeadow Resident



New sidewalk constructed by County Commissioner Rodney Ellis' office

Elected officials share their words

Mayor Pro Tem Martin on hurricanes

Mayor Pro Tem Martin urges residents to prepare for the 2020 Atlantic Hurricane Season, which began Monday, June 1 and runs through Monday, Nov. 30, 2020. Planning for hurricane season and other potential disasters can be stressful and, because the 2020 hurricane season comes during the COVID-19 pandemic, it may be especially so. The Houston Emergency Center has created a website with advice to help safely prepare, evacuate and shelter for severe storms while protecting one's self and others from COVID-19.

Here are some tips to help residents and family members stay safe during hurricane season this year.

Allow more time than usual to prepare emergency food, water, and medicine supplies. Home delivery is the safest choice for buying disaster supplies; however, that may not be an option for everyone.

If in-person shopping is the only choice, take steps to protect one's health when running essential errands.

Pay attention to local guidance about updated plans for evacuations and shelters, including potential shelters for pets.

If there is a need to evacuate, prepare a "go kit" with personal items necessary during an emergency. Include items that can help protect one from COVID-19, such as hand sanitizer, or bar or liquid soap if not available, and two cloth face coverings for each person.

When checking on neighbors and

friends, be sure to follow social-distancing recommendations (staying at least six feet, about two arms' length, from others) and other CDC recommendations to protect one's self and others.

In addition to following guidance for staying safe and healthy after a hurricane, note that:

One should continue to use preventive actions like washing hands and wearing a face covering during clean up or when returning home.

For those who are injured or ill, contact a medical provider for treatment recommendations. Keep wounds clean to prevent infection. Remember, accessing medical care may be more difficult than usual during the pandemic.

Dealing with disasters can cause stress and strong emotions, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is natural to feel anxiety, grief, and worry. Coping with these feelings and getting help when needed will help with the recovery process for family members and the community.

Register for Alert-Houston, the city's official emergency alert system, to receive real-time weather alerts and post-storm recovery information. More information about how to prepared for this year's hurricane season is available. Visit www.houstonemergency.org/covid19 for more information about the city's COVID-19 response. Recovery information is available at www.houstonrecovers.org.

City, county adjust after Floyd's death

Continued from Page 1

"Our collective voices have led to collective action by our city," Castex-Tatum said. "We are committed to doing the work that leads to meaningful and actionable reform. We started this work before the unfortunate death of George Floyd. We are committed to reform, and we will not stop until we make Houston a place we are proud to call home."

Acevedo, who has made national headlines in the weeks following Floyd's death, hopes the measure will help build trust between police officers and the community.

"I want to say thank you on behalf of 5,300 police officers," said Acevedo. "This is a huge day because you are building trust and building legitimacy and breaking down even the perception of bad policing. When we have these good policies, we build trust, and when we have trust, we build better communities."

The executive order was issued a week after a group of five African-American City Council members wrote a letter to Turner and Acevedo urging them to address the matter. The new measure includes aspects of the #8cantwait social media campaign.

Work on strengthening the bond between police and the public will continue through the Mayor's Task Force on Police Reform, which will be a citizen-driven process that includes additional input from city council members.

Harris County constables

Harris County constables are also addressing the issue, and on Wednesday, June 10, met to discuss the matter and issued a press release.

"Immediately after the death of George Floyd Jr., all eight Harris County constables began informal conversations about use of force and a deputy's duty to intervene," the release stated. "We intentionally waited until Mr. Floyd was properly laid to rest before meeting today to discuss these matters of utmost importance. This was done out of the deepest respect for Floyd's family."

"Each constable's office currently has its own policies. Each is similar in nature. We and Commissioners Court realized the need to create a singular, uniform policy which is consistent among law enforcement countywide."

"Today, your constables met to form a working group focused on creating possible proactive adjustments to policy. We hope to work closely with

law enforcement leaders, community stakeholders and institutions across Harris County to create thoughtful, meaningful change that preserves the civil rights of all while ensuring public safety."

Commissioners Court

Harris County Commissioners Court on Tuesday, June 9, approved eight measures Commissioner Rodney Ellis proposed to reform the oppressive criminal justice system that leads to mass incarceration and police brutality against people of color and the poor.

The agenda items include studies that could lead to re-locating of the county's criminal justice budget, implementing an independent oversight board to investigate excessive police force and expanding the Public Defender Office - all to end mass incarceration of communities of color as well as stop the criminalization of poverty, mental illness and substance abuse. "Reforming law enforcement practices and holding police accountable for these killings are important," Ellis said in a press release. "But the killings of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor and other victims are not simply due to rogue police violence. The destruction of these lives is a symptom of the much larger and widespread disease of systematic over criminalization, mass incarceration, racism and oppression in our American system that needlessly and continuously destroys countless black and brown lives."

According to Ellis, the United States has the highest incarceration rate in the world. Texas has the sixth highest incarceration rate in the nation. There are twice as many people at the Harris County Jail as jails in New York or Cook County. However, research shows there is no link between higher incarceration and a reduction in violent crime. Measures approved June 9, which may call for budget reallocations, include effective alternatives to using the criminal justice system to address public health challenges, creating a county emergency responder program to allow professionals to better handle certain situations instead of the police and creating a county agency to administer violence interruption programs.

Additionally, Commissioners Court approved a study for the creation of an independent oversight body that shapes and publicizes policies, and has the power to subpoena documents and witnesses. It will provide greater transparency after incidents of force and improve use-of-force policies and data keeping to address excessive police violence. Ellis said such a body is needed to improve accountability and transparency in use-of-force incidents by law enforcement.

"An independent board with subpoena power provides the public with assurances that the decisions being made are just," Ellis said. "The county will study whether we can establish an independent board that can investigate, has teeth, independent funds and can make recommendations that have weight." Harris County devotes more than \$776 million, 45 percent, of its general fund departmental budget to law enforcement. That amount is more than 10 times the county's general fund spending for public health and the Harris Center for Mental Health and IDD.

"We are calling for a comprehensive examination of our budget priorities, and what we can do to most effectively use the people's resources to uplift our communities and make them safer while eliminating and divesting from structures that criminalize people based on their class, race or health," Ellis said. "By redistributing funds toward community resources, we can begin to build a better quality of life for communities of color and find better solutions than a punitive criminal justice system."

"Other approved items seek to give Harris County a clear picture of the racial and ethnic disparities around incarceration, fees and fines and the root cause for these inequities within the criminal justice system. Harris County sends our black residents to prison at a rate five times our white residents. According to Ellis, a black Texan is 16 times as likely to go to prison for cocaine possession even though use is the same across racial and ethnic groups. "Putting people in jail doesn't make us safer," Ellis said. "Research shows there is no link between higher incarceration and reduction in violent crime. When Texas reduced its incarceration rate, the crime rate also went down. When we lock people up, we hurt people of color the most. Black people make up 12 percent of our state population but 33 percent of our prison inmates."

Leader checks out social media

By Natalie Abarca

Members of People of Sagemont 2 Facebook group shared photos of a man on a bike riding around neighborhoods videotaping the outside of homes and also looking into vehicles. Another member posted a surveillance video of the man on the bike that stole a package that was left on the front porch of their home. He has been seen on Astoria and Blackhawk and Hughes Road. On the same Facebook group a member posted that a friend's house was broken into over the weekend while the friend was out of town. The incident happened near Frazier Elementary. The member states that all their T.V.s, computers, systems, and even all their son's electronics were taken. The post states that the family are good people who have been members of the Sagemont community for years. The member is asking to be contacted through Facebook if anyone has a T.V. or a game system that is not being used and could be donated to replace the stolen items. On the same Facebook group a member posted that

one of the cooks Sylvester Hernandez from Donut Haven has passed away who had COVID-19. (See related story on page 1.)

A member of Ashley Pointe Subdivision Facebook group posted a photo of a man who allegedly was getting into cars in the neighborhood. The incident happened Friday, June 12, at 3:30 a.m., on Ridge Sunset Court and Blue Ridge Grace Way. The member states that their neighbor found a garage door opener that was dropped in their vehicle.

A member on Next-door neighbor posted they have been having problems with packages being delivered to a different address. The incident is in the Clear Creek Landing subdivision. The member stated that when they go to that address to collect their things the person does not answer the door or they lie and say the package is not there, even when the member has proof that the package has been delivered to that address. The member asks that if anyone receives a package by mistake to say something or simply take it to the correct address that is listed.

Church Directory

Attend the church of your choice

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

New Covenant Christian Church

10603 Blackhawk
281-484-4230

Bill & Cheryl Hines, Pastors

We've Enlarged Our Day Care Facilities
Register Now! 281-481-2003

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

CTHS holds Shining Stars parade

Moore celebrates end of the year

The Pasadena Independent School District Shining Stars will be presented in a series of students being honored along with their favorite mentor (to be in future issues). These Shining Stars represent the top 10 CTHS school students. The information and photos

were submitted by Pasadena Independent School District. The *Leader* is also running the Shining Stars from Pasadena Memorial, South Houston and Dobie high schools. Continue to check issues for photos of top 10 seniors.



Ending the year with a goodbye wave are LaKennia Cole (left), fourth-grade teacher and Jill Lacamu, Moore Elementary School principal.



Pre-K student Jaziel Vasquez goes through the roof to enjoy the parade.



Enjoying the parade are fourth-grader Leah Moreno, second-grader Joshua Hernandez and Jaclyn Moreno, mother.



Holding a brightly colored creative sign of congratulations is Lourdes Guenard (left), librarian, with speech pathologist Rosie Brown waving in the background.



Greeting students for the last time this year at the school are Marie Alanis, technology teacher; and Guadalupe Hudson, art teacher.



Shelly Blair (left) and Ana Herrera, both second-grade teachers, hold signs with well wishes for students.



Shining Stars award recipient Heaven De Leon was also valedictorian for Dr. Kirk Lewis Career & Technical High School. She plans to major in mechanical engineering at Columbia University in the city of New York. She hopes to stay there to earn her master's degree in mechanical engineering and transfer to a more technical university to earn her doctorate. In the summer she also intends on continuing her internship with NASA.



Diya Patel smiles as she receives her Shining Stars awards. She plans to major in biochemistry at the University of Texas at Austin as a pre-med student. She then hopes to attend medical school and plans to become a doctor. Patel's ultimate goal is to open a hospital one day to provide as many services as she can.



Joe-Patrick Perlera's future plans after high school are to become a dental assistant in order to raise funds for independent research that he will conduct with STEM cells.



Daniel Guel a Shining Stars award recipient plans to attend The University of Texas at Austin to become an environmental engineer.



Shining Star Lee Roy Chavez Jr. has plans to open an engineering firm, start his own business, and become an entrepreneur. "I am driven by the problems that the world is currently dealing with, such as climate change and drug addiction. These problems in society pose great challenges to our world and I wish to join the fight against them for a better future for my family and humankind," Chavez said.



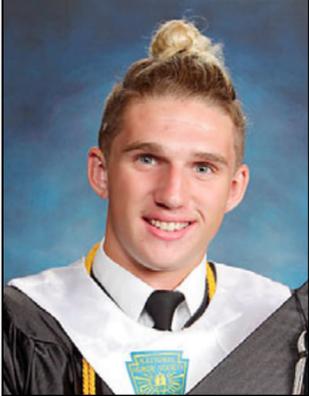
Legrand Dudley, a Shining Stars award recipient, plans to attend Rice University after graduation with the Questbridge scholarship and to study social psychology (perhaps double majoring in mathematics as well) with a slight possibility of becoming an FBI agent.



Shining Stars awards recipient Tan Nguyen plans to major in biochemistry and advance to medical school to become a physician.



Karla Chapa plans to attend San Jacinto College to complete her basics and transfer to the University of Houston to receive a bachelor's degree in biology to become a successful cardiopulmonary perfusionist.



Elijah Donaho will be attending Colorado Christian University where he will play soccer and study exercise science. He also plans to attend graduate school to pursue his goal of becoming a physical therapist after completing his bachelor's degree.



Andrew Jaso, a Shining Stars award recipient, plans to major in computer science at the University of Texas. He was robotics captain and was part of Robotics, NHS, Key Club and the Environmental Club.



Diya Patel was a member of the Key Club. She volunteers in her local community with the Pasadena Fire Department, the Houston Food Bank and the Armand Bayou Nature Center. Key Club has allowed her to volunteer with other members and represent CTHS as a team.



Shown is Heaven De Leon (passenger in car) arriving at the parade with her mother Veronica De Leon. Holding the award sign is Jessica McCoy (far right), 12th-grade assistant principal, with Steven Fleming, CTHS principal.



Hanging on to encouraging signs as students ride through the parade are left to right, Kelly Potter and Kim Voight, both counselors at CTHS.

Rangel wins Good Citizen

The Jane Long Chapter of DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) which has members from all over the southeast part of Harris County and which meets in Pasadena presented the annual scholarship for the Good Citizen Essay Contest to Carla Rangel.

Rangel is the daughter of Barbara and Magdaleno Rangel and is valedictorian from Sam Rayburn High School who will be attending Yale University in the fall.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the chapter was not able to present the check to Carla at her senior awards assembly or at the Jane Long Awards meeting in May or June so co-chair Sharon Boeger, a longtime resident of Sageglen, and her co-chair Susan Hazelwood, decided to surprise the recipient with a big check.

The DAR presents a Good Citizen Award to one senior from every high school in the nation.

It is awarded to a student who exemplifies the following qualities: dependability, service, leadership and patriotism.

The following Pasadena ISD students were awarded the 2019-2020 Good Citizen certificate and pin, Charlyze Tamayo, J. Frank Dobie High School; Vanessa Alvarez, Lewis Career and Technical High School; Fernanda Lara, Pasadena High School; Ashley Flores, Pasadena Memorial High School; and Ricky Alaranga, South Houston High School.



Shown are, left to right, lifelong resident of Sageglen Sharon Boeger, Jane Long Chapter of DAR co-chair; Sarah (Simmons) Carnes, College Now Counselor at Rayburn High School and daughter of longtime resident of Sageglen Mark Simmons and the late Linda Simmons; Carla Rangel; and Susan Hazelwood, Jane Long Chapter of DAR co-chair.

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Meador celebrates end of the year

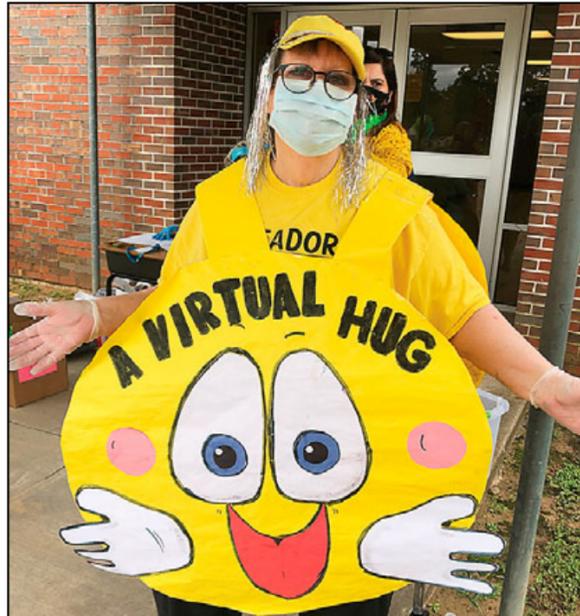
Meador Elementary School staff recently held a drive-thru parade for students and their families to say goodbye to a not-so-interesting year. Due to COVID-19 the school year ended with virtual distant learning. Having the opportunity to see students was a treat for all while still following social distancing guidelines.



Posing in front of the school under a summer fun banner are Beverly Bolton (left), Meador principal; and Tara Merida, Meador counselor.



Maria Gonzalez (left), a third-grade teacher, enjoys a photo op with student Gabriela Torres who holds a well-designed thank-you poster.



Cecilia Stewart, paraprofessional, is ready for virtual hugs with students participating in the parade.



Joseph Rodriguez (right), student, goes through the roof to thank Miriam Reyna, fourth-grade teacher.

San Jac wins national award for fourth time

Continued from Page 1
and provide help, guidance, and encouragement if needed.

"We know that our students are more successful when they have a connection to the college from the moment they come to campus to the moment they walk across the stage at graduation," said Dr. Laurel Williamson San Jacinto College deputy chancellor and college president. "That's why we have been intentional about removing barriers and putting support systems in place so that our students can get the help they need wherever they are in their certificate or degree programs."

In addition to the increased attention to helping students where they are, the college has also changed many processes to remove barriers and put support services in place where they are needed. From iConnect centers on each campus, to First Generation Clubs, mentors, employer "Meet-Ups," College Knowledge fairs and workshops, these increased connections are preparing students to transfer or enter the workforce.

Since joining the Guided Pathways initiative four years ago, San Jacinto College has been working to ensure students have a clear pathway to transfer. Student pathways are put into place during entry advising and college faculty map a pathway for each program every year so that students have a detailed plan of the courses and sequence they need to take in order to complete on time.

The college has transfer maps through bachelor's degrees in place for University of Houston's three campuses, Texas A&M University and Sam Houston State University. Pathways incorporate Texas high school endorsements, San Jacinto College meta-majors, and career and transfer tracks.

"San Jacinto College has developed more than 100 program maps to help our students complete and transfer," said Williamson. "I commend the faculty and staff for their work on these pathways because we have been able to decrease the average number of semester credit hours to degree completion from 103 in 2012 to 84 in 2018, saving our students time and money."

Partnering with the community

In selecting the top 10 community colleges eligible for the Aspen Prize, the Aspen Institute also considered each institution's labor market outcomes.

The college works closely with a number of local and statewide economic development organizations to understand the needs of the region's workforce. Students are provided several tools to evaluate career interests and readiness, and admissions advisors initiate a career conversation with students to determine that the selected pathway meets students' goals, interests and salary aspirations.

San Jacinto College is a partner with local industries. Through advisory committees of industry subject-matter experts, the college is able to provide discipline-specific curriculum and guidance on equipment and program changes to meet the ever-changing and growing needs of the region's industries. Industry experts work alongside college faculty in programs such as maritime, petrochemical, automotive

technology, and health care to ensure that the college is providing students with the skills they need to immediately enter the workforce upon graduation. Many programs have a job placement rate above 90 percent.

"San Jacinto College is always improving," said Josh Wyner, executive director of the College Excellence Program. "The college has comprehensively restructured its systems to align everything to students' success, from before they enroll until they complete a degree. The college is also especially effective in building relationships with employers to deliver what the community needs to thrive and ensuring that graduates succeed in the workforce."

The 10 Aspen Prize finalists were selected from the nation's 1,000 community colleges in a process that included qualitative and quantitative data analysis and engaged more than 30 experts in the field.

The finalists all effectively identify, develop, and scale strategies to propel all students to not just complete college but also succeed after graduation.

For the rest of 2020, the Aspen Institute will work with a team of national experts to complete a rigorous review process to determine the eventual winner of the prize. This encompasses a comprehensive examination of outcomes data as well as multiday virtual site visits to each of the 10 finalist institutions.

In early 2021, a distinguished jury will convene to select the prize winner, finalists with distinction, and a rising star and allocate a \$1 million award among

them. The winner will be announced at a May 2021 event in Washington, D.C.

2021 Aspen Prize finalists

- The 2021 finalists of the Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence are:
- Amarillo College, Amarillo, Texas.
- Borough of Manhattan Community College, N.Y.
- Broward College, Fort Lauderdale, Fla.
- Odessa College, Odessa, Texas.
- Pasadena City College, Pasadena, Calif.
- Pierce College, Pierce County, Wash.
- San Antonio College, San Antonio, Texas.
- San Jacinto College, Pasadena, Texas.
- Tallahassee Community College, Tallahassee, Fla.
- West Kentucky Community and Technical College, Paducah, Ky.

Previous winners of the Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence include: Miami Dade College (Fla.) and Indian River State College (Fla.), 2019; Lake Area Technical College (S.D.), 2017; Santa Fe College (Fla.), 2015; Santa Barbara City College (Calif.) and Walla Walla Community College (Wash.), 2013; and Valencia College (Fla.), 2011.

The Aspen Prize is generously funded by Ascendium Education Group, Joyce Foundation and Siemens Foundation.

The Aspen Institute College Excellence Program aims to advance higher education practices, policies, and leadership that significantly improve student outcomes, especially for the growing population of low-income students and students of color on American campuses.

Remember When

40 years ago (1980)

The superintendent of Pasadena Independent School District expressed delight with the performance of the district's students on the Texas Assessment of Basic Skills test which was administered to all fifth- and ninth-graders in the state.

Beverly Hills Intermediate planned to undergo major construction involving the expansion and updating of its facilities, but work was not expected to be completed until November.

PISD board of trustees named Thomas D. Bacaro assistant principal of Beverly Hills.

35 years ago (1985)

Response to a questionnaire sent to the 2,200 homes in MUD 13 was not great enough to warrant another election. MUD 13 directors decided not to pursue a planned election calling for the annexation of the proposed new MUD 192.

Dr. Lon Luty, former superintendent of schools at Alamogordo, N.M., was expected to be named the new superintendent of schools for the Pasadena Independent School District.

Work began to remove 160,000 square feet of asbestos at South Houston High

School - one of 19 PISD schools found to have traces of asbestos.

30 years ago (1990)

Within the previous six months, three outside independent agencies had called for further investigation of Brio toxic waste dump including the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

Members of the U.S. Geological Survey said the Brio Task Force's 250-foot impermeable clay buffer between aquifers did not exist.

Clear Creek Independent School District board members had to pick and choose as they began to whittle down a proposed \$99.6 million budget for the 1990-1991 school year.

25 years ago (1995)

Sageglen resident Eunice Acott, mother of Houston Rocket Clyde Drexler, was announced the grand marshal of the annual Fourth of July South Belt parade.

Construction began on eight blocks of Scarsdale west of Beamer which would create a four-laned, esplanaded roadway from Beamer to 300 feet west of Sageking. Future plans were to extend Scarsdale into Pearlland as funds would become available.

San Jacinto College regents raised tuition for the first

time since 1991 to offset decreasing state appropriation.

20 years ago (2000)

The Clear Creek Independent School District board of trustees selected Chuck Schneider, 46, as the board member to replace Allison Cambre.

Construction on the new \$227 million expansion for Hobby Airport was officially underway.

The South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce building committee approved the plans for the construction of the chamber's proposed building to be constructed on Scarsdale just west of Beamer Road.

15 years ago (2005)

Another motor vehicle accident, although not a fatality, occurred at the intersection of Beamer and Beltway 8. Texas Department of Transportation officials decided to adjust the timing of the lights due to the high number of accidents there.

Police were investigating burglaries at local car dealerships in which customers' vehicles had been broken into and possessions stolen.

With the Fourth of July holiday coming, investigators from the fire marshal's office began patrolling the South Belt area educating residents

that possession of fireworks was illegal within city limits. Representatives said the marshals patrolled 10 days prior to July 4 and New Year's Eve to remind people of the laws and answer questions.

10 years ago (2010)

The man charged with kidnapping and murdering former South Belt resident Susana De Jesus was sentenced to life in prison with no chance of parole.

Construction on the new board of trustee member Stuart J. Stromeyer resigned from the Clear Creek Independent School District. A member of the CCISD board for four years, Stromeyer left his post because he moved out of the district.

5 years ago (2015)

Dr. Kirk Lewis, Pasadena Independent School District superintendent, announced he was retiring as superintendent, after serving nine years in the position. The retirement will take effect Jan. 15, 2016. Originally from Ropesville, near Lubbock, Lewis received his bachelor's in advertising/public relations from Texas Tech in 1976. Following this, he attended the University of Houston-Clear Lake, where he received a master's in education futures in 1983. Lewis

went on to earn a doctorate in education leadership from Lamar University in March 2008. Lewis began at PISD in 1986 as administrative assistant to the superintendent, responsible for communications and policy development. He was promoted to executive director for communications and community relations in 1995 and to deputy superintendent for administration, public relations and governmental affairs in 2001, before being promoted to superintendent in April 2006. Under his leadership, PISD saw an increase in graduation rates, a dramatic reduction in dropout rates, a significant increase in number of students taking and passing AP exams and dual credit courses and the creation of Early College High School concept and the Career & Technical High School that now bears his name. He also oversaw the successful passage of six bond programs valued at more than \$1.3 billion. The funds were used to construct six new elementary schools, nine middle schools, two intermediate schools and two high schools (Memorial/CTHS). Replacement campuses constructed include 11 elementary schools, two middle schools, six intermediate schools and one high school.

Numerous new wings and renovations were also added with the secured funds. Lewis has resided in Pasadena for 39 years. He and his wife Robin have been married 34 years and have two sons, Adam, a teacher at Sam Rayburn High School, and Andrew, an electrical engineer for Dashiell Corporation in Houston. In addition to his work at PISD, Lewis also teaches Sunday school at South Main Baptist Church, where he also serves as a deacon.

A South Belt man was charged with murder in the death of his girlfriend's 4-year-old son on Father's Day in the 11800 block of Algonquin near Scarsdale and the Gulf Freeway. The suspect, Usbaldo Franco, 27, is charged for his role in the death of Jordan Aragon of the above address. He was reportedly babysitting the child for his girlfriend at the time of the incident. The child, who was found unresponsive, was rushed to Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital with multiple injuries to his chest and stomach. He was pronounced dead a short time later. Franco was arrested on June 22 without incident.

1 year ago (2019)

Houston District D City Council Member Dwight Boykins launched his mayoral campaign. Boykins attempted to separate himself from incumbent Sylvester Turner by touting his support from local firefighters, as he had secured the endorsement of the Houston Professional Fire Fighters Association. Boykins, however, was ultimately unsuccessful in his bid, losing to Turner in the election.

Longtime area physician Dr. Robert Prangle retired after serving the South Belt community for nearly 50 years. Born and raised in England, Prangle moved to the United States in 1959. After attending college in Toledo, Ohio, he advanced to further his education at the Kansas City College of Osteopathy and Surgery (now Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences). Prangle moved to Houston in 1972 and took a job as an emergency room physician at Gulfway General Hospital. In January 1973, he opened the Kirkwood Clinic on Fuqua, where he'd remain until 1986. That year, he moved into an office on Beamer, near the then newly opened Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital. Four years ago, Prangle joined the Memorial Hermann Medical Group and in February 2018, he moved his office to Pearlland. Prangle and his wife Tami continued to reside in the community after his retirement and their plans included visiting their children out of state.

Over The Back Fence by Alexis

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MARCUS!

Happy birthday wishes go to Marcus Anderson from friends at the Leader who enjoyed a birthday June 15. He is a former Precinct 2 officer who served the South Belt area.

MARC CELEBRATES A BIRTHDAY

Special birthday wishes are sent to former Kirkwood South resident and current Pct. 2 Deputy Constable Corporal Marc Lozano who celebrates a milestone birthday June 18. Marc's father Marcelino, his sister Marissa, cousin Izaiyah and friends Bill and Elaine Edwards send him best wishes for a happy birthday.

SANDY ENJOYS 81ST BIRTHDAY

Longtime South Belt resident Sandy Robb, who is active with her daughter Stacy Vaughn in the Leader Christmas program and many community events, celebrates her 81st birthday June 18. Birthday wishes are sent to Sandy from her daughter who says, "You are forever young!"

ISABELLA ENJOYS A BIRTHDAY!

Best wishes for a happy 14th birthday Thursday, 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 president) and Mimo Ellie Flickinger; Grandpa Donnie Mock and Ana Christina Mock; and great-grandparents Marie and David Flickinger.

BIRTHDAY WISHES SENT TO EMORY

Best wishes are sent June 21 to the Rev. Emory Gadd, associate pastor and longtime youth counselor who is active in many areas at Sagemont Church, from friends and the Leader staff. He is also active in many community organizations and 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.

SCHOOL DAZE

The following staff members of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays June 18 through June 24, 2020.

Bush Elementary

The day for a party for Jennifer Howard is June 19.

Genoa Elementary

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

Meador Elementary

Send a happy birthday greeting June 20 to Maribel Najera.

South Belt Elementary

Susi McDaniel enjoys a birthday June 23.

Stuchbery Elementary

Light the birthday candles June 22 for Bonnie Faris and Lauren Nalepa. Best wishes for a wonderful birthday June 23 to Dana Sylvester. Kristin Wallis marks a birthday June 24.

Roberts Middle School

June 21 is the day for a birthday party for Elizabeth Arrambide. Sing a happy birthday song June 24 to Shannon O'Connor.

Beverly Hills Intermediate

Raquel Alamos marks a birthday June 19.

Thompson Intermediate

Send a warm birthday greeting June 20 to Silvia Saucedo. Gami Campos is wished a happy birthday June 23.

Dobie High

On June 18, light the candles for a double-layer cake for Rhonda Battle Pike and Lachee Payne. Michael Mora and Monica Trevino enjoy a birthday June 19. Join in on a birthday chorus June 20 to Dina Alvarenga. Send a special birthday greeting June 23 to Tomasa Espinosa.

FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS

The Leader sends birthday wishes to friends. For those wanting a birthday in this section, email mynews@southbelt-leader.com with "OTBF: Friends Celebrate Birthdays" in the subject line by Friday noon for the next week's publication.

Friday, June 20: Tyrone Adams, Lawrence Henry, Craig Branstetter, Scarlett Benzkofer, Courtney Patel, Paul Sharpless, Aperture Prod and Laura Longoria-Ortiz; Saturday, June 21: Julie Banhart, Becky Benner, Monica Webster, Lynee Fehler, Kyle McMullen, Natalie Garza, Laura De Los Santos, Priscilla Villa and Celina Clark; Sunday, June 22: Cassy Gutierrez, Brian Goodwin, Erin Ortiz, Rob Kemp, Sherri Huffman, Bonnie Lamb, Anna Jeffries and Jennifer Nestle; Monday, June 23: Darryl Reed II, Sylvia Alcalá, Jamal Khan and Christa Guthrie; Tuesday, June 24: Barbara Stevens, Stephanie Guzman and Lisa Yarzy; and Wednesday, June 25: Caryn Cybulski, Vicki Cox, Keith Lawler, Rebecca Parchmont and Michelle Pewthers.

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.

Hernandez graduates game warden academy



Antonio Elvis Hernandez, a graduate of South Houston High School, has received a commission from Texas Parks and Wildlife Department 63rd Game Warden Training Academy. He is now a State Park Police Officer. His parents Lee and Christi Hernandez are residents of South Houston. Hernandez is wished well by his family and friends.

Largest selection of wigs in Texas!

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SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

Current, former San Jac baseball standouts get drafted

Five current and former San Jacinto College players were selected in the 2020 Major League Baseball (MLB) First-Year Player Draft June 11.

Coming off a season interrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic, San Jac was 21-6 (.778) overall and 12-0 (1.000) in conference play as of March 16, when the National Junior College Athletic Association suspended all remaining athletic activity for the season due to the pandemic.

"The 2020 MLB Draft has proven to be another example of San Jacinto College's commitment to consistently producing high-profile players into professional baseball," said San Jac baseball head coach Tom Arrington.

"It's a reflection of our dominance in junior college baseball in player development."

"I am extremely proud and would like to congratulate our draftees. I wish them the best of luck and continued success in their professional baseball careers."

Sophomore pitcher Luke Little (Matthews, N.C.) was selected with pick 117 in the fourth round by the Chicago Cubs.

The 6'8" left-handed pitcher had social media

buzzing earlier this year as a viral video showed him hitting 105 miles per hour in a bullpen session.

Little had three saves on the shortened season with a 2.00 earned run average.

Should Little not reach a contractual agreement with the Cubs, he will attend the University of South Carolina.

The reigning world champion Washington Nationals drafted sophomore pitcher Mitchell Parker with the 82nd pick.

With pick 127 of the fourth round, the Oakland Athletics selected RHP Dane Acker (University of Oklahoma), who pitched for San Jac in 2019.

Earlier this season, Acker no-hit LSU at Minute Maid Park.

Also garnering interest during the MLB Draft, San

Jac RHP Brandon Birdsell declined several opportunities to be drafted, instead deciding to attend Texas Tech University as a draft-eligible sophomore in 2021 due to COVID-19 eligibility legislation.

Pro organizations have until Aug. 1, 2020 to sign their respective draft choices.

Playing in Region XIV, San Jacinto College has a tradition of producing top-notch collegiate baseball players who move on to play at four-year institutions, in addition to those who continue their careers at the pro level.

In the last six years, 25 San Jacinto College baseball players have been selected in the Major League Baseball (MLB) First-Year Player Draft.

In addition to their on-field success, the San Jac baseball team is committed to giving back to the community.

Each year, as the team participates in a number of events on and off the field from supporting breast cancer awareness with the annual Play Pink game to volunteering their time to local special needs leagues, giving back at the Houston Food Bank and visiting children in the hospital, San Jacinto College baseball student-athletes understand the impact they have on their community.

With San Jacinto in 2018, Atascocita High School graduate Alerick Soularie helped the Gators reach the JUCO World Series and then played two seasons at

the University of Tennessee.

Drafted twice previously without signing, the gifted outfielder is expected to ink with the Twins after being chosen in the second round.

After going unbeaten on the mound with San Jac in 2019, Dane Acker threw a no-hitter for Oklahoma against LSU at the Collegiate Classic at Minute Maid Park. He was chosen by the Oakland Athletics in the fourth round of the MLB draft.

A fifth-round selection by Washington, San Jacinto College's Mitchell Parker has reportedly already come to an agreement with the Nats and is set to play professionally.

He led the JUCO ranks in strikeouts in 2020.

The Chicago Cubs selected San Jacinto College left-hander Luke Little, who was one of the hardest-throwing pitchers available in the draft.

He projects as a likely relief pitcher in professional baseball.

Former Gator Adysin Coffey was a third-round pick of the Chicago White Sox out of Wabash Valley College and is expected to sign professionally before the Aug. 1, 2020 deadline.

pick 153 in the fifth round, just a year after drafting San Jac teammate Jackson Rutledge in the first round of 2019.

The lefty from Albuquerque, N.M. finished the truncated season with a 1.19 ERA and 64 strikeouts in 30 innings pitched, which led the nation in that category.

He has signed to attend the University of Kentucky if he elects not to sign with the Nats.

Former San Jac Gator

with the 82nd pick.

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Mitchell Parker



Luke Little



Dane Acker



Alerick Soularie



Adysin Coffey

Former SJC star Zimmermann, Astros link

FREE AGENT SIGNING

PETER ZIMMERMANN 1B

Peter Zimmermann, a member of San Jacinto College's 2017 JUCO World Series team, has signed with the Houston Astros as a free agent following the 2020 MLB Draft. In 2017, Zimmermann hit .344 with 32 runs batted in before signing with the University of Missouri. There in 2018, Zimmermann hit .287 with 10 doubles and seven homers, primarily as the Tigers' designated hitter. He was off to another solid start in 2020 before the season was halted.

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.

UIL set to ease strength and conditioning safety measures

The University Interscholastic League, Texas' official governing body of extracurricular activities, appears to be pushing full steam ahead in relation to summer workouts at the high school level.

As of June 22, those schools taking part in summer strength and conditioning workouts will find the safety policies related to the coronavirus pandemic relaxed just a bit.

Indoor areas such as weight rooms, will as of June 22 be open to 50 percent capacity, and while disinfecting workout stations following each individual use will still be encouraged, it will not be mandatory.

Outdoor field workouts may be expanded to include as many as 25 students, up from 15, provided appropriate social distancing guidelines are followed.

While the UIL's newest set of parameters does not at all signal a free for all, it could very well mean that an Aug. 3 start for high school's fall sports is within reach.

For now, there's a sense that things are trending in the right direction.

Uncertainties remain, and big decisions lie ahead for state school districts in terms of returning to in-person classes, but the UIL appears to have athletics on course for now.

Lajaunie scholarship tennis event comes on 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 dltennisscholarships.com, as 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 event founder.

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

Applicable social distancing measures will also apply.

For additional information, direct email to Camille Lajaunie at cjlajaunie@gmail.com.

Lajaunie Scholarship Fund Entry Fees

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John Thomas, Tournament Director
713-941-8631
cjlajaunie@gmail.com

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★NEW! Green Tree - Gorgeous 5-3-3 starters, gated driveway, pool, island kitchen, granite, and more! #CCL

★NEW! Bellavita - Lovely 2-2-3 island kitchen, high ceilings, formal dining, crown molding in popular gated community! #MAR

★NEW! Villa Verde - Beautiful 4-1-5 corner lot! Soaring ceilings, den with fireplace, formal dining, fresh paint in and out! #ROM

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Brook's Dickson represents Texas Hurricanes Track Club

Clear Brook sprinter Camryn Dickson will return to the track June 20 representing the Texas Hurricanes Track Club after being out of action for three months due to the coronavirus pandemic having ended spring sports competition. See more about Dickson on Page 6.

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Brook's Dickson excited for Leander sprinting opportunity

Like nearly all of her peers, Camryn Dickson is itching to get back to competition after roughly three months on the sideline, and believe it or not, she's about to get that chance.



Clear Brook varsity girls' track and field coach Erica Alexander (left), a winner of six state gold medals during her career with the Lady Wolverines, has enjoyed working with junior-to-be Camryn Dickson as Dickson builds her own legacy within the program.

ago officially completed her sophomore year at Clear Brook High School, is set to take part in the Leander Spartan Invitational June 20 at Old Panther Stadium in Liberty, Texas.

It's just about the only summer track and field meet still slated to be contested this season. Dickson expects it to be her only opportunity to compete in a live setting for still many more months after, so her desire to excel is as high as ever.

"I'm like one of the most competitive people ever, so it's been hard not to be able to compete," said Dickson, who as a freshman advanced to state out of the uber-competitive Region III ranks, ultimately placing eighth in the 100-meter dash in Austin. And she was off to a great start early on in her sophomore season, posting personal bests in the 100 and 200 in anticipation of a return to state before the coronavirus pandemic ended everyone's season.

"I felt really good and was running really well," said Dickson. "I was looking forward to district and then possibly getting back to state. Then it was just all gone, like that."

With school going online and students essentially not

allowed to touch one another, Dickson and some of her classmates as well as members of the Texas Hurricanes have been training over the last few months.

The competitor she is, Dickson has been able to put together solid workouts. But it's just not the same as live competition.

As for the key portion of her sophomore season being wiped out, Dickson is obviously disappointed like everyone else who had their season prematurely ended. But she's OK with moving on.

"I still have two years left, and these are going to be the biggest seasons," said Dickson, noting that collegiate recruiting typically kicks into gear during one's junior season.

And Dickson is looking forward to getting back to work on a regular basis with Clear Brook varsity girls' head coach Erica Alexander, who during her time as a Lady Wolverine was the state's best sprinter, reaching state in three of her four seasons.

As a sophomore, Alexander claimed state gold in the 100 and then took gold as a junior in both the 200 and 400. Already signed to attend the University of Southern California, Alexander in 2008

SJC pair sign professional deals



Henry Nunez-Rios (shown) and Raymond Torres Jr. have signed free agent contracts following the MLB First-Year Player Draft. Nunez-Rios, a right-handed pitcher, signed with the Boston Red Sox, with Torres, a catcher, inking a pact with the Washington Nationals. With minor league baseball likely scrapped for 2020, both are excited to get things rolling come 2021.

Lutheran South Academy 2020 Varsity Football Schedule		
Date	Opponent	Time
Aug. 28	Houston Christian	7 p.m.
Sept. 4	John Cooper	7 p.m.
Sept. 11	at Lutheran North	7 p.m.
Sept. 18	at Concordia Lutheran	7 p.m.
Sept. 25	at Prince of Peace	7 p.m.
Oct. 9	Frassati Catholic (HC)	7 p.m.
Oct. 16	Victoria St. Joseph	7 p.m.
Oct. 23	at Second Baptist	7 p.m.
Oct. 30	at Fort Bend Christian	7 p.m.
Nov. 6	The Woodlands Christian (SN)	7 p.m.
	(HC) Homecoming	
	(SN) Senior Night	

Where will Dave Campbell's project Dobie football to be?

Dave Campbell's Texas Football magazine, the summer edition, is set to hit newsstands this month as local high school football fans will get an early look at what to expect when the 2020 regular season rolls around - assuming it's played on schedule.

Of particular interest to those in the South Belt area will be the Dobie Longhorns, who won nine games in a regular season in 2019 for the first time in 20 seasons and should be in position for another strong run in 2020.

Junior Cameron Gray, the District 22-6A Newcomer of the Year a season ago, returns at quarterback for the Longhorns and very well could be the most dynamic player in the newly revamped District 22-6A ranks.

The Longhorns will have some vacancies to address along the offensive front and on the defensive side of the football once the preseason begins, but head coach Kevin Berneathy and his staff have done well at replacing talent in both of Berneathy's seasons as an overall record of 16-6 and a pair of bidistrict playoff berths would attest.

Just where will the Longhorns fit within 22-6A now that stalwarts Atascocita and Summer Creek have moved elsewhere? That's the biggest question of the preseason in the grand scheme of things.

For several realignments before now, the Longhorns were looking up at programs that simply had more talent or simply expected to win a ton

of games. Like it or not, being bunched in with the Humble ISD schools over the previous two seasons was no fun, yet Dobie advanced to the post-season in both years.

In fact, the Longhorns are coming off their finest statistical season in quite some time after going 9-1 overall and grabbing second place.

Moving forward, the Longhorns will still be bunched in with the big boys as part of the Division I playoff bracket. As one of the top 10 largest high schools by enrollment in the state, playoff life may always include first-round battles with North Shore, Beaumont West Brook or Atascocita.

But first things must come first, and that includes the Longhorns chasing their first district championship since the 2010 season.

That was all part of head coach Jim Phillips' first season as he led the Longhorns to an 8-2 record, including a rousing victory over longtime

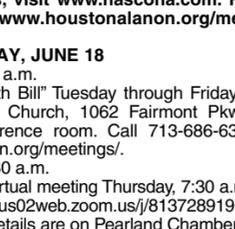
rival Deer Park to secure the crown.

Dobie would fall to West Brook on the road in the bidistrict round that season, and the winless playoff drought has extended since 2004, when the Longhorns reached the third round before losing to Katy in the Astrodome.

Should the Longhorns win the 22-6A crown this season, they would also host a playoff game for the first time since the 90s.

What will it take to win the title? Deer Park and Channelview would appear to be the teams most likely to stand in the Longhorns' way, and the locals' last win over Deer Park did come in 2010. As for Channelview, the incoming Falcons may be a mystery as to just what to expect.

2020 will be the UIL's 100th season, and what better way to celebrate the occasion than to win a league title? What does DCTF magazine think of Dobie's chances? Stay tuned.



Entering his third season, Dobie varsity football head coach Kevin Berneathy will have his team focused on claiming the school's first league championship since 2010.

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box: 8.5" X 11" paper storage, 1 - yellow electric bulb (safelight), 1 - lens cover, 4 - various size paper holders, 2 - Beseler negative carriers 35mm and 23C. \$150. Please call 281-485-5114. 6-18

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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 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. Details are on 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 details, call 713-686-6300. 6 p.m.

Texas German Society, South Belt (SE) Chapter - Due to the current public health situation, the group will not meet this month. This is a social group focused on the culture, music, heritage and language of Texas German immigrants. Email OpaGivesHugs@gmail.com for additional information.

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 19

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 (415)-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>.

the access code 471-821-285. For those who don't have a computer, services may be accessed by calling (415)-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 details, call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com.

SATURDAY, JUNE 20

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. 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 (415)-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>.

8 p.m.
Alcoholics Anonymous - 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/>.

SUNDAY, JUNE 21

5:30 p.m.
Celebrate Recovery - The faith-based 12-Step Program, will not be meeting until the church fully opens. Call 713-419-2635 for additional information.

8 p.m.
Alcoholics Anonymous - 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 22

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), effective 3/16/2020, 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 additional information, call Karen Nunn at 832-722-9061 or Carolyn Carmichael at 832-327-3565.

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/>.

TUESDAY, JUNE 23

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/>.

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., 22930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24

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 additional information, 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 additional information, 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 group for women. Visit www.bayareaturningpoint.org for information.

THURSDAY, JUNE 25

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.

7:30 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. 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.
Kirkwood Civic Association meets in an online Zoom meeting. Participants need to preregister at <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/joinMeeting?z=Alce6sT8vG9Ar8OwUlaLIBny8MTyU-FR> to receive a confirmation email with details for the meeting. Call Ericka McCrutchon at 281-989-9990 for information.

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.

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Investigation underway in Constable Diaz's office handling evictions, arrests

Case involves possible violation of policy, state, federal laws

Continued from Page 1
allow the evictions. The finding of the stolen property was reportedly a result of the eviction action.
At the time of the incident, there were no warrants issued.
The court papers informing the residents they were to appear in court were not given to them until they were being searched and evicted on Jan. 29.

Eight days later, on Thursday, Feb. 6, on the scheduled court date when the landlord appeared in Judge Jo Ann Delgado's court, the case was

dropped due to an improper vacate notice.
Further, it was disclosed that the suspects, who were evicted and arrested, had paid rent to the property's landlord, making them tenants, rather than squatters or trespassers as claimed by the South Houston Police Facebook post. Tenants are required, by law, to be given advance notice before such an eviction.

Legal experts told the *Leader* that since the eviction itself was unlawful and any evidence collected would be inadmissible, the subsequent

arrests regarding the stolen property would also be unlawful.
The three suspended deputies included Lee Hernandez, the chief, the highest ranking employee under Diaz and two others. One employee is believed to have submitted a written report which countered the written reports of two Precinct 2 civil deputies who were on the scene.

According to officials the two civil deputies objected to evicting the residents since they had not yet been legally served.

According to sources, Hernandez, the officer in charge, insisted that the residential trailer on the property be forced open.
Both the civil deputies submitted a written report immediately after the incident. They were both asked to change their report of what occurred and both refused.

But an officer who was on the scene for part of the event was asked to submit a report

that countered the two civil deputies' report.
His report was not written until days after the event and after the two civil refused to change their report. The two civil deputies both submitted their reports immediately after the incident which is according to policy.
Although the incident occurred more than four months ago, very little has officially been known about the incident until the Harris County Attorney's office enforced the FOIA request from the *Leader*.

The request was officially made to members of the County Attorney's office and to Diaz.
Official response time on a FOIA is 10 business days. The *Leader* recently learned that the County Attorney's office, had requested the documents in question in March of this year, but the constable's chief officer, Hernandez had refused the request in spite of his being told by

Diaz to turn the information over to the *Leader*.
Upon receiving multiple requests on an update and an amended FOIA request from the *Leader* on June 2, Harris County attorney officials went to Diaz' office and demanded the body cam recording from the Jan. 29 incident.
Diaz was reportedly not at the scene of the South Houston incident and says he did not know about the situation.
Additionally, he said he

has never looked at the video cam recordings which were recorded at the scene.
When asked by the *Leader* why Diaz, as the ultimate one in charge, had not personally looked into the situation, or even viewed the body cam, as it had been the subject of an ongoing investigation, the constable said Hernandez had told him there was no need for concern. Diaz said chief Hernandez told him there was nothing to worry about

so he was not concerned.
The *Leader* also learned that the action did not go through normal channels. No dispatch call was recorded. The action apparently was taken by Hernandez as a favor to a highly elected official in South Houston.
The *Leader* believes there

is still much more to this story. Many questions need to be answered.
Some of those questions the *Leader* is looking into include: Why the rush to evict the tenants?; Have the video cam recordings been kept intact?; and What role did South Houston Police play?

They initiated the activity on Jan. 29 and then turned it over, although the *Leader* hears they kept a close watchful eye, to another agency. Why?
Leader staff is hoping that when the FOIA material is finally received, readers can be given the full story.

Ann Settlow ends 43-year teaching career

Continued from Page 1
moving to Moore, where she'd teach for the next 31 years. Settlow began her time at Moore as an ESL teacher for the area's Vietnamese community, before becoming a kindergarten teacher and later a kindergarten team leader.

While at Moore, Settlow said she has had the unique opportunity to teach the children of former students.
"It has been so nice to be able to see some of the adults that these former students have become, and know that you had a part in their development," Settlow said. "The new little ones always love hearing about 'I remember when your mommy was little.'"
Settlow said she is grateful for the efforts of both students and parents during the tail end of her final year, which was disrupted by the

ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

"I truly want to thank my class and parents from this school year," Settlow said. "You have been the sweetest kids ever, and your parents have done a spectacular job in supporting me and you. I could not have handpicked a better group."
Settlow and her husband Stephen will celebrate their 35th wedding anniversary July 30. Former Sageglen residents, the couple now live in Pearland, where they reside with their dog Bentley and Settlow's 83-year-old aunt. Bentley served as the official school dog at Moore this past year.

While Settlow is currently dealing with an unexpected health issue, she hopes to soon spend her new free time traveling, once it's safe to do so, ideally returning to Europe for a river cruise.

CCISD launches summer camp

Since most in-person summer camps have been canceled due to COVID-19, students may be more limited in the activities they can participate in over the summer.

This week, Clear Creek ISD launches the CCISD Passport, a treasure trove of virtual experiences for students to access from the comfort of their homes. This project will take kids of all ages on virtual trips to a wide array of destinations for seven straight weeks. Some will even take place in 360° Virtual Reality so families are encouraged to purchase a VR headset for as little as \$10 or make one at home.

Incoming sixth-grade teacher Whitten Vandygriff from Westbrook Intermediate School introduces a new world each week and participants can make their way through it at their own pace. Read-alouds, book recommendations and hands-on activities enhance the experience as they explore unique topics like nature's wonders,

outer space, and the arts. Students will have access to all worlds throughout the summer so they can go back to their favorites at any time.

CCISD librarians throughout the district split into groups in order to build this collection of resources over two and a half months. One group created read-alouds from home while a second group focused on providing access to digital resources. A third group came up with Makerspace activities for students to do at home and a fourth group gathered links for virtual field trips.

Though participation is optional and students will not be graded, there will be a downloadable passport available for students who would like to keep track of their travels. Themed souvenir badges for each world will also be available for parents to download and print for their younger travelers.

The program launched at www.ccisd.net and concludes during the last week in July.

Thompson holds drive-thru awards ceremony



Tanis Griffin (left), Thompson Intermediate principal bids farewell to Darien Valdez.



Celebrating the end of intermediate school with his dog is Colton Keyes.



Giving a cheer for the grads are Yolanda Robinson (left) and Lenora Dawson.



Shown are, left to right, Daniel Sawyer, Thompson athletic coach; Doug Sawyer, Thompson athletic coach; Walter Velasquez, American Legion Winner; Jacob Arnold, special education teacher; and Bob Boyes, Thompson athletic coach.



American Legion winner Aliyah Sanchez is shown with a bouquet of flowers.



Surrounded with balloons and photo bubbles is Jamiyah Washington.



Displaying a heart-shaped hand in thanksgiving to her teachers is Kimberly Tovar.



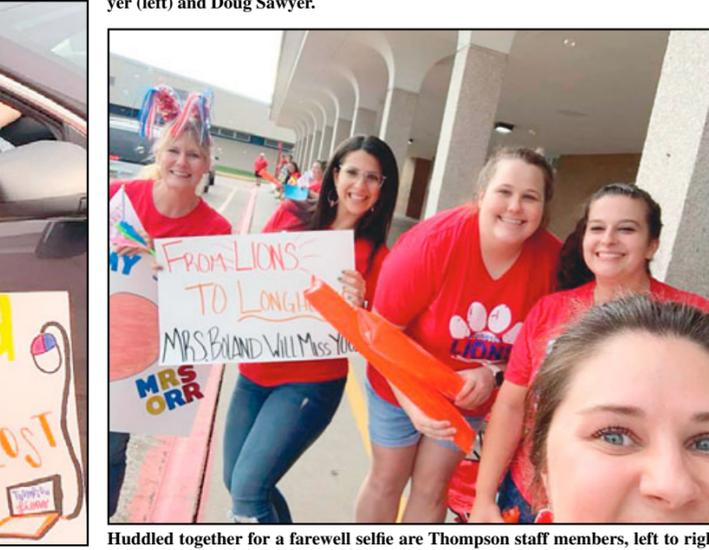
Giving a shoutout from their pickup are Thompson athletic coaches Daniel Sawyer (left) and Doug Sawyer.



Parading amidst balloons is Braulio Colon Ortiz.



Enjoying the car parade is Santos Magana.



Huddled together for a farewell selfie are Thompson staff members, left to right, Sherrie Orr, Jessica Boland, Diana Hejtmanek, Kandace McMullen and Christine Veltman.



Shown are, left to right, Brooklynn Bush, Jaresi Valdez and Cymone Potier.

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