



# South Belt-Ellington Leader

## 46 years of covering South Belt

The Voice of Community-Minded People since 1976

Thursday, June 23, 2022

Email: mynews@southbeltleader.com

www.southbeltleader.com

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### Body found Wednesday

The body of a male was found floating in the Beamer Road ditch near Scarsdale and Beamer. The incident was reported to Constable Jerry Garcia's office Wednesday morning at press-time. More details in next week's paper.

### Heat affects trash collection

Due to the extreme heat that Texas is experiencing, Texas Pride Disposal will start their trash collection time at 6 a.m. for all collection days in the South Belt area. Workers are suffering from heat exhaustion, heat cramps and heat stroke. Residents served by Texas Pride Disposal in the area livien Clear Brook City MUD, Kirkmont MUD and the Sagemeadow Utility District. All trash should be placed curbside the night before or by 6 a.m. on collection day.

### Movie at Sagemeadow Park

Commissioner Adrian Garcia will host Precinct 2's "Movie in the Park" presenting Disney's "Encanto" Friday, June 24, at Sagemeadow Park at sunset. Garcia's team will be serving popcorn and snow cones! This is a free event for the entire family. For any questions, call 713-274-2222.

### Active COVID cases increase

The number of active COVID-19 cases in the South Belt community continues to grow, with increases being reported in all three local ZIP codes for a third consecutive week. As of Tuesday, June 21, there had been 13,075 confirmed cases in 77089. Of those, 336 remain active, up 56 from the previous week. To date, 132 from the ZIP code have died from the disease. (Harris County reported 134 deaths the previous week.) In ZIP code 77075, there had been 10,158 confirmed cases. Of those, 183 remain active, down 502 from the previous week. To date, there have been 80 deaths in the ZIP code, up three from the previous week. In 77034 (total population: 40,532), there had been 8,887 confirmed cases. Of those, 162 remained active, up 27 from the previous week. To date, 91 residents from ZIP code 77034 have died from the disease, up one from the previous week. According to Harris County officials, the vast majority of the fatalities suffered from pre-existing health issues. Statistics are updated daily and include numbers from within the Houston city limits and throughout Harris County. To view an interactive map, visit covid-harriscounty.hub.arcgis.com/pages/cumulative-data.

### JFD cheerleaders wash cars

Dobie Cheer will hold a car wash Saturday, June 25, from 9 a.m. to noon at Snowie's Shaved Ice, 10902 Scarsdale at Beamer in the Food Town parking lot. Cost is \$5.

### New Covenant sets food drive

New Covenant Christian Church, 10603 Blackhawk at Kirkfair, will have a food distribution event the fourth Saturday of each month from noon to 2 p.m. This month's event will take place Saturday, June 25. For additional information, contact the church at 281-484-4230.

### Island Breeze reopens

Island Breeze Car Wash Scarsdale, 11210 Scarsdale, will reopen Friday, June 24, after being temporarily closed 10 days for renovations.

### Gulf Freeway closures set

At least one southbound frontage road lane and at least one northbound frontage road lane will be closed on the Gulf Freeway from FM 518 to FM 517 in League City daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Friday, Sept. 30. At least one southbound main lane and frontage road lane and at least one northbound main lane and frontage road lane will be closed on the Gulf Freeway from NASA Bypass/NASA Road 1 to SH 96 in League City daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Saturday, Dec. 31. Both the northbound entrance and southbound entrance ramps from FM 518 in League City will be completely closed until further notice. Motorists should use the entrance ramps from SH 96. The northbound exit ramp to FM 517 in Dickinson will be completely closed until further notice. Motorists should use the northbound exit ramp to Holland/Hughes. Two outside southbound lanes on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from Texas City Railroad to SH 6/SH 146 in La Marque nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Saturday, Jan. 8. The northbound entrance ramps from both FM 519/Main Street and FM 1765/Texas Avenue in La Marque will be completely closed until further notice. Motorists should use the next available northbound entrance ramp.

### Properly destroy flags

Residents wishing to properly destroy a flag may take them to RE/MAX 5 Star Realty, 4802 E. Sam Houston Parkway S, Suite 150; the Leader office, 11555 Beamer; and The Gardens, 12001 Beamer. All collected flags will be destroyed during a private American Legion ceremony. For more information, to register as a collection site or to request a flag be picked up, contact Kay Barbour at 713-419-3545 or KBarbour@KBarbourRealtor.com.

### Kirkwood to meet June 30

The Kirkwood Civic Club's monthly meeting will take place 6:30 p.m. Thursday, June 30, at the Sagemont Community Center, 11507 Hughes Road. Meetings are typically scheduled for the last Thursday of the month. For more information, call Kirkwood Civic Club President Ericka McCutcheon at 281-989-9990.

### CCISD holds retiree job fair

Clear Creek ISD will hold a pair of retiree job fairs Thursday, June 16, at the Education Support Center, located at 2425 E. Main St. in League City, with meetings taking place from 9 to 10 a.m. and 2 to 3 p.m. For additional information, visit www.ccisid.net.

### Register for PISD pre-K

Registration is now open for Pasadena ISD's pre-K program. All participating students must live within the Pasadena ISD boundaries and be 4 years old by Sept. 1, 2022. For more information, or to see if students meet additional eligibility requirements, visit www1.pasadenaisd.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=80772&pageId=37542593.

# Area overwhelmed by gun violence

## At least 10 shootings in past week - 4 fatal, 7 from Edgebrook

The South Belt community saw a surge in gun violence this past week, with at least 10 shootings taking place - four of which were fatal.

Incidents include seven shootings in the Edgebrook area and a pair of shootings that killed a father and son.

Ironically, the surge in shootings occurred during Harris County's Gun Violence Awareness Month. (See related story in last week's Leader.)

### Edgebrook

There were at least seven victims of gun violence this past week near the intersection of Edgebrook and the Gulf Freeway - at least two of whom were innocent bystanders and three of whom were juveniles.

The area has had a high concentration of violent crime in recent months with at least 10 fatal shootings taking place. While the shootings are normally contained to the nearby apartment complexes, they spilled out into the streets this past week, with three shootings taking place on Edgebrook itself.

The first incident took place around 9:05 p.m. Friday, June 10, at an apartment complex in the

9200 block of Nathaniel.

According to police, witnesses said a group of armed men were walking around the complex looking for a specific target for approximately 30 minutes, before finding him. The men, many of whom were wearing masks, were all carrying pistols, except one who was carrying a rifle.

Once the target was located, an argument ensued and another man attempted to intervene and de-escalate the situation. According to other residents, the unnamed 23-year-old male, told the suspects to put down their guns and fight.

This advice, however, wasn't heeded, and the armed men opened fire, shooting several rounds at the intended target. The target's life was, however, spared, as the innocent man took the brunt of the gunfire and was pronounced dead at the scene by paramedics from the Houston Fire Department.

A KTRK Channel 13 news report stated the suspects were also wanted for a second shooting earlier in the night, but this was not confirmed by Houston police.

At press time, it was unclear what took police so

long to respond to the incident.

The Cabo San Lucas Apartments on Nathaniel has been a common spot for shootings, with at least six taking place in late 2021, including two fatal shootings in two days in October.

The second incident took place around 11 p.m. Sunday, June 12, in the 1000 block of Edgebrook.

Three people were shot during an altercation, including at least one innocent bystander.

According to Houston Police Department officials, a white vehicle was parked in a church parking lot when a blue Chevrolet Malibu pulled up and there was an exchange of gunfire.

Police said two women were shot at the scene, one of whom was an innocent worker at a nearby taco truck. It wasn't immediately clear if the second woman was involved in the incident or not, according to police.

A few blocks from the shootings in the 1400 block of Redford, patrol deputies with Harris County Precinct 8 Constable Phil Sandlin's office spotted the Malibu driving with multiple bullet holes and initiated a felony traffic stop.

Deputies discovered that one of the vehicle's three occupants had been shot in the back and rendered emergency first aid until paramedics arrived and transported the man to an area hospital.

Further investigation determined the Malibu had been involved in the Edgebrook shootout.

Deputies detained the Malibu's remaining two occupants and handed them and the case over to the Houston Police Department, which took the lead in the investigation.

Police said the taco truck employee is expected to survive. The condition of the other two whom were struck remained unknown, at press time.

Continued on Page 4

## Fireworks regulations confuse many

The Fourth of July is around the corner, and many South Belt residents are understandably confused as to the current regulations involving the sale and possession of personal fireworks.

Before purchasing fireworks this year, however, residents should know that there is a nationwide shortage of the products, due to issues associated with the ongoing COVID pandemic.

The sale of the products is still allowed just down Beamer, however, where the laws are a little less murky. Once again this year, fireworks will be available for sale in unincorporated parts of Harris County along Beamer Road, near Dixie Farm Road and FM 2351.

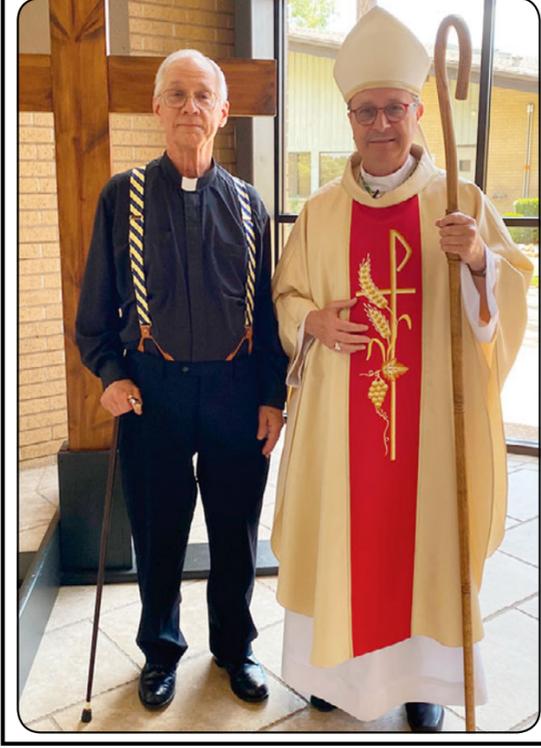
While the stretch of road was once a hot spot

for such booths, the practice was prohibited in July 2009 by the City of Friendswood Fire Marshal's Office, citing extrajurisdictional jurisdiction.

ETJ is the legal ability of a governing body to exercise authority beyond its normal boundaries, given that an agreement has been reached with the adjoining municipality.

In this instance, the City of Friendswood worked jointly with the City of Houston, the City of Pearland and Harris County. At that time, state law dictated that a governing body may exercise ETJ up to 5,000 feet outside their established jurisdiction. The fireworks booths in question were located 1,800 feet outside the Friendswood city

Continued on Page 3



## Bishop visits St. Luke's

Bishop Italo Dell'Oro (right) is shown with the Rev. Douglas J. Guthrie, pastor of St. Luke's the Evangelist Catholic Church Sunday where Dell'Oro celebrated Mass Sunday, June 19. Dell'Oro was named auxiliary bishop for the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston on May 18, 2021. Auxiliary bishops are given to an archbishop, especially if the archdiocese is extensive and very populous, either to assist him in his entire ministry, in some particular pastoral duties, or in caring for a part of the archdiocese.

Photo by Marie Flickinger

## Officer shot twice in legs at apartments

A Houston police officer was shot during a shootout with a suspect who barricaded himself inside his apartment early Saturday, June 18, in the 12800 block of Roydon near Fuqua and the Gulf Freeway.

According to Houston Police Department officials, an officer responded to a call around 2:10 a.m. where a resident had reportedly discharged a firearm, but before he could locate which apartment the shots were coming from, a suspect fired upon him, striking him twice in the legs.

The officer called for backup but fellow officers also had difficulties locating the suspect's

unit.

By the time additional responding officers pinpointed the individual's apartment, the suspect had barricaded himself inside, blocking his windows with mattresses, and began firing on officers. A SWAT unit was called in for reinforcement.

At approximately 8:40 a.m., officers heard a gunshot from inside the apartment. When the firing of guns subsided, officers entered the suspect's apartment and found him dead from a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

Continued on Page 2

## HPD arrest 2nd suspect in 2018 murder

Houston police have arrested a second suspect for his role in a 2018 fatal shooting that took place outside the H-E-B in the 9800 block of Blackhawk at Beltway 8.

The suspect, Johtiz Robertson, 23, is charged with capital murder in the 263rd District Court.

Another suspect, Reginald Hawkins, 22, was charged with capital murder back in 2018 for his role in the killing.

Robertson and Hawkins are charged for their roles in the death of That Huu Le, 75.

According to police, patrol officers responded to a shooting call in the store parking lot at the above address.

An investigation revealed two suspects had followed Le to the parking lot where one suspect approached Le as he was exiting his vehicle. A short altercation took place and Le was shot mul-

tiplle times.

Both suspects then fled in a gold-colored sedan. Paramedics transported Le to an area hospital where he was pronounced dead.

Further investigation identified Hawkins and Robertson as suspects in this case. Hawkins, who was already in custody on an unrelated charge and case, was subsequently charged on June 1, 2018.

Officers arrested Robertson on Friday, June 17, 2022, and he was subsequently charged. The investigation is ongoing with additional suspects being sought.

Anyone with information on the other suspects in this case is urged to contact the HPD Homicide Division at 713-308-3600 or Crime Stoppers at 713-222-TIPS (8477).

## Gonzalez publishes children's book

### By Cervantis Pounds II

Local South Belt resident Carlos Gonzalez is ambitious, determined and a go-getter.

These traits have helped him not only improve as a writer but publish the children's book, "Josh the Frog and the Missing Lily Pads."

The young up-and-coming author published the book Feb. 24. Gonzalez's book is a children's bedtime rhyme book about a frog who discovers new friendships as he searches for his missing lily pads with the help of his new friends.

"I wanted readers to be inspired by the main characters and break any barriers they can," said Gonzalez.

Gonzalez began his journey as an author at Chavez High School, as he found a growing love for reading and writing. Influenced by his eighth-grade instructor Kelly Seibert and 10th-grade instructor Elizabeth Micci, Gonzalez continued to develop his writing skills with their support.

"They strengthened my writing skills and creative thinking, and gave unconditional support encouraging me to write and strive for success," said Gonzalez of the two instructors who motivated him.

Gonzalez went on to Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi to continue perfecting his writing skills, juggling both classes and a job.

Continued on Page 2

## Youth dies in fatal shooting at 12900 Nyack

Houston police are investigating the fatal shooting of a young man at 12900 Nyack Drive about 9:55 p.m. on Wednesday, June 15. The 18-year-old victim was identified as, Jorge (James) Isaac Moreno.

The identity of the victim, 37, is pending verification by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences. According to Houston Police Department officials, patrol officers responded to a shooting at the above address. They found the victim suffering from multiple gunshot wounds inside the residence.

Houston Fire Department paramedics pronounced him dead at the scene.

and the cancellation of J-1 exchange work visas

According to City of Houston officials, the 2022 Summer Aquatics Center modified operational plan will provide an opportunity for a minimum of one pool in each Council District based on 24 available lifeguards. To accommodate the most possible users, pool openings were prioritized based on historical attendance and geographic distribution.

Investigators learned an unknown number of suspects forced entry into the victim's home and shot him before taking items from inside the residence. Investigators believe the suspect(s) also stole two vehicles from the home. The vehicles are described as a black Jaguar F-Pace and a dark blue Mitsubishi Outlander.

At this time, there is no known suspect(s) or motive in the shooting.

Anyone with information in this case is urged to contact the HPD Homicide Division at 713-308-3600 or Crime Stoppers at 713-222-TIPS (8477).

## Suspect shot during gunfight



The South Belt community saw a surge in gun violence this past week, with at least 10 shootings taking place - four of which were fatal. Seven occurred near Edgebrook. The vehicle shown above was riddled with bullets during a shootout that wounded an innocent taco truck employee. A suspect in the above vehicle was also shot during the incident.

# PISD chess crowns BHI, Frazier winners

## Beverly Hills Intermediate winners announced



Shown above are the Beverly Hills Intermediate winners of the May 2022 Pasadena ISD chess competition. Left to right, are (front row) Dr. Kar-en Hickman (PISD deputy superintendent), Stephanie Gonzalez, Andrew Posey, Carlos Albarran, Richard Lopez, Javion Galindo, Joshua Jamaica, Ilana Luna, (back row) Dr. Grant Pector, Arnold Agrella, Hussai Arias, Xavier Martinez, Richard Le and George Nguyen.

## Frazier Elementary winners named



Shown above are, left to right, Abraham Bowman, Xavier Brown, Isaiah Rodriguez, Tyler Nguyen, Kobee Rodriguez, Zylah Vargas, Presley Shelton, Suri Nguyen and Chris Baldauf (aide).

## Local library events set

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

### Bracewell Branch Library

Bracewell Library is at 9002 Kingsport. Customers are encouraged to visit the building to browse, check out and return materials, use the computers and Wi-Fi, and check out holds. For information, visit <https://houstonlibrary.org/>. For online learning, visit <https://houstonlibrary.org/online-learning-7556> or call 832-393-2580. Hours are: Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Wednesdays, noon - 8 p.m.; Fridays, 1 - 5 p.m.; and Saturdays, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Bracewell is closed Sundays.

Tuesdays, 10:30 - 11 a.m. Outdoors (weather permitting) storytime for all ages. Visit <https://houstonlibrary.org/learn-explore/library-events> for more library events.

### Book drop

The book drop is open. Library materials can be returned. The library continues to provide online resources to enjoy the library virtually. Large items such as FLIP kits or laptops should not be placed in the book drop, but taken inside.

### Additional resources

The Houston Public Library has electronic resources, books, audiobooks, databases for research, tutoring, language learning, education and parent information for Texas residents with a library card. To get a card, visit the home page at [www.houstonlibrary.org](http://www.houstonlibrary.org) under Here's What's Happening. Click on Free Resources for All to access digital resources and access a link for a temporary card. Also, under Here's What's Happening, the card titled Online Resources for Kids accesses a Virtual Storytime provided on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 11 a.m. The archived storytimes are found on Facebook under Houston Public Library Virtual Storytimes. Another virtual program is Craft.

Houston Public Library's many free online resources and digital services are available 24/7 with a MY Link Library Card at [www.houstonlibrary.org](http://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 collection of free e-books and audio books. Visit the catalog for previously requested hold selection may be in a digital format. Instructions on downloading the e-book or audio book are on the site.

- Thursday, June 23, 4 p.m. Family Night Unplugged.
- Tuesday, June 28, 10:30 a.m. Family Storytime.
- Tuesday, June 28, 3:30 p.m. Kids Craft.
- Wednesday, June 29, 6 p.m. English Class Food and Grocery.

### Parker Williams Library

Parker Williams Library is open. Visit <https://www.hcpl.net/reopening> information or the main website at <https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library>. The library will follow state and county guidelines for mask and social distancing.

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

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

- After receiving notification that holds are ready for pickup, call 832-927-7870.
- Have a library card number and PIN handy.
- A pickup time and instructions will be given.
- Upon arriving, park in one of the two parking spots reserved for curbside holds.
- Be prepared to show a library card or other form of ID for verification.

Hours are: Monday, 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Friday, 1 - 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Visit <https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library> for details.

### Online services

- Use HCPL Wi-Fi service with HCPL's drive-up Wi-Fi.
- Download e-books and audiobooks, stream movies, research and learn at [www.hcpl.net](http://www.hcpl.net).
- Attend an HCPL program or story time online through Facebook or YouTube.
- Check an account to renew loans or request books, e-books, comics or graphic novels.
- 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.

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

Thursday, June 23, 11:30 a.m. Sudoku. Meets every second and fourth Thursday of the month for sudoku. Sudoku is an easy to learn logic-based number placement puzzle. Players of any experience are welcome to play in Parker Williams Classroom 2.

Thursday, June 23, 2 p.m. Microsoft Word Computer Class. An introduction to Microsoft Word. Space is limited. One must sign up with one's email address for a place in the class.

Saturday, June 25, 10 a.m. Vietnamese Classes for Beginners. Learn how to speak and read Vietnamese. For adults and kids aged 8 years and older. To register and receive more information about classes, call 832-927-7870 or visit the Parker Williams website.

Saturday, June 25, 10:30 a.m. Chess Club. Join the library chess club and learn to play or become a better chess player while having the chance to meet new people. This club is available to players of any level ranging from beginners to advanced.

Saturday, June 25, 1 p.m. The History and Songs of Mardi Gras Indians. Introduces students to the history of the Mardi Gras Indian tribes of New Orleans in the Community Room. Musician Joseph Dixon leads sing-alongs, such as "Indian Red" and "Iko Iko," and chants. Features the duties of Big Chief, Flag Boy and Spy Boy.

Monday, June 27, 6 p.m. Blue Planet. Watch an amazing documentary series about the wonders of the deep. Learn more about the ocean and all of its creatures in the Library Community Room.

Tuesday, June 28, 11 a.m. Vietnamese Basic Computer Classes. Vietnamese speakers learn how to use a computer, use a laptop for daily life, create word documents, pay bills online, zoom, use social media and search information on the internet. To register and receive more information about classes, call 832-927-7870 or visit the Parker Williams website.

Wednesday, June 29, 3:30 p.m. Dungeons and Dragons Online. Adventure awaits with Dungeons and Dragons online. Join Tanner Adams over Discord for swords, sorcery, and high adventure. This program is available to patrons 16 and older. Contact [tanner.adams@hcpl.net](mailto:tanner.adams@hcpl.net) for more information.

# South Belt-Ellington Leader

— The Voice of Community-Minded People —

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Davy & Marie Flickinger, owners

# Business Review

## Island Breeze reopens

Island Breeze Car Wash Scarsdale, 11210 Scarsdale, will reopen Friday, June 24, after being temporarily closed 10 days for renovations. The business was purchased in 2018 by the aunt-nephew team Karlene Rivers and Tristan D. Williams, with the intent of creating a family brand and establishing a legacy for years to come. A longtime member of the Sagemont community, Rivers graduated from Sterling High School and earned a bachelor's degree in accounting from the University of Houston. A CPA with more than 20 years experience in the oil and gas industry, Rivers and is a proud mother of two adorable kids, keeping busy with competitive soccer and gymnastics. A graduate of Dobie High School, Williams earned a bachelor's degree in finance from the University of Texas at Arlington. This past year, Williams also completed his bachelor's in energy finance from Texas Southern University. Williams has more than 15 years of accounting and finance experience across various industries, such as real estate, construction, oil field equipment and oil and gas. Williams has held numerous corporate positions in global Fortune 500/1000 companies from individual contributor, special projects, subject matter expert and supervisory/managerial roles. He currently resides in Pearland with his wife and three kids.

## City adjusts pool usage

Continued from Page 1

As more lifeguards are processed and come on board, the city will add additional days and pools accordingly.

Because of lifeguard staffing issues, the Parks and Recreation Department is operating under a phased opening of swimming pools to equitably distribute the workforce. All pools will be closed on Mondays for regular maintenance. Residents should note that as more lifeguards are processed and come on board, additional swim days will be added to the schedule.

For more information, visit [www.houstontx.gov/parks/swimming.html](http://www.houstontx.gov/parks/swimming.html).

## Parish bus drivers needed

St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church (11011 Hall Road), needs a pool of bus drivers that can be contacted when events arise requiring transportation using the church bus. Some examples of events would be retreats, ministry outings, church campus to campus etc. For more information, visit <https://stlukes-catholic.com/news/bus-drivers-needed>.

# Deaths

## Robert Anthony Cox Sr.



Robert, lovingly known as Bob, was a dedicated member of the Pasadena Music Club. One of his favorite pastimes was listening to the band. He loved joking with his friends and listening to his favorite song, "Great Balls of Fire," by Jerry Lee Lewis while dancing the night away with his beautiful wife, Barbara. He is survived by his devoted wife, his children, Karen Smith and husband, Howard Smith and Bobbie Hinski step sons, Chris Erwin; and David Erwin and wife, Elizabeth; grandchildren, Jeffery Barnett and wife, Kristen, Ricky Barnett, Jennifer Floria, Robert Campbell, Tanner Smith, Derek Hinski, Jeremy Hinski; and great-grandchildren Jameson, Brynn and Adelaide Barnett; Skylar Houston; Aaliyah and Trinity Floria; and Harper Hinski. He is preceded in death by his son Robert Anthony Cox Jr., daughter, Cynthia Ann Tucker, mother, and step-father Huron Paul Scalan.

## Leader obituary policy

Obituaries submitted to the Leader are published free of charge.

There must be a South Belt connection.

Obituaries are edited to the Leader style.

## HPD officer shot in leg

Continued from Page 1

The police officer was transported to a nearby hospital, where he was treated and released.

Family members of the suspect said they had recently reached out to police, saying they were concerned for his safety, as he suffers from mental illness and possessed several guns, including an AR-15.

Police, however, told the family their hands were tied, as the suspect did not have a felony criminal record.

# "Shrek JR." by Kids' Backporch Productions set for this summer

Nasty will be nice and Pearlend will be ogre-the-moon when Kids' Backporch Productions students present their production of "Shrek The Musical JR." beginning JUNE 24-26, it was announced today by Freddie Gershon, CEO of Music Theatre International (MTI). The family-friendly musical comedy follows the adventures of an ogre named Shrek who sets off on a quest to save a princess from a dragon. However, it turns out that in order to ultimately succeed, Shrek must battle an even bigger obstacle: learning how to believe in himself and open his heart to others. "Shrek's unique story of discovery encourages each of us to examine our prejudices, review what we believe to be our limitations and work to better understand ourselves and others. The actors and crew in this production have embarked on a similar journey, as students and teachers with many different interests have learned more about themselves and each other while collaborating towards the common goal of presenting this musical," says Gershon. "Shrek The Musical JR." follows an ogre named Shrek who has learned the hard way that "people hate the things they cannot understand." For many years he has protected himself from the hurtful actions of those who are scared of him by living as a recluse in a cozy cesspit. One day, his peaceful swamp is disturbed by new tenants: fairytale misfits — including Pinocchio, the Ugly Duckling, the Wicked Witch, Peter Pan, the Three Pigs and the Big Bad Wolf — have been banished there by the villainous Lord Farquaad. In order to gain back his land, Shrek makes a deal with Farquaad to rescue the feisty princess Fiona from a tower guarded by a fierce dragon. Setting off with his faithful companion, Donkey, Shrek begins the journey of a lifetime filled with adventure, romance and hilarity. With music by Jeanine Tesori, book and lyrics by David Lindsay-Abaire, "Shrek The Musical JR." is based on the Oscar-winning Dream-

Works Animation film and the book "Shrek" by William Steig. The original Broadway production, starring Brian d'Arcy James as Shrek and Sutton Foster as Fiona, ran for twelve months and received a total of twelve Drama Desk Awards and eight Tony Award nominations, including Best Musical. The musical was adapted to be performed by students by educational musical theatre consultancy firm iTheatrics under the supervision of Timothy Allen McDonald. Kids' Backporch Productions in Pearland will present "Shrek The Musical JR." June 25-26 at 7 p.m. and June 16-27 at 3 p.m. at San Jac's South Campus inside the Marie Flickinger Fine Arts Center 13735 Beamer Rd, Houston TX 77089. Tickets are \$15

adults, \$12 seniors (65+), \$9 children (18 and under) and \$5 for students. Tickets can be purchased at <http://kidsbackporch.ticketleap.com> or can also be purchased at the door 30 min prior to the show. For more information, please email [kidsbackporch.office@gmail.com](mailto:kidsbackporch.office@gmail.com). "Shrek The Musical JR." is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTL 421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019 Phone: 212-541-4684 Fax: 212-397-4684 [www.MTIShows.com](http://www.MTIShows.com). Music Theatre International (MTI) is one of the world's leading theatrical licensing agencies, granting schools as well as amateur and professional theaters from around the world the rights to per-

form the largest selection of great musicals from Broadway and beyond. MTI works directly with the composers, lyricists and book writers of these shows to provide official scripts, musical materials and dynamic theatrical resources to over 60,000 theatrical organizations in the US and in over 60 countries worldwide. MTI is particularly dedicated to the idea of theater as education and has created special collections for younger performers. The MTI Broadway Junior Collection™ includes JR. titles, 60-minute musicals for performance by middle school children; and KIDS titles, 30-minute musicals for performance by elementary school children resulting in over 80,000 productions consisting of more than 300,000 performances.

## Local author publishes book



Local author Carlos Gonzalez presented his first publication to parents and children in Waco at an event at Barnes & Noble as he read to the audience and handed out snacks to the children.

## Carlos Gonzalez publishes children's book

Continued from Page 1

In his free time, the rising author would practice his writing skills every second he could, even staying up late after a long shift at work.

As he continued his writing, he found himself creating the character Josh the Frog, followed by a story and an illustration.

As a result, his first book was created and ready to be published after going through the publication steps.

"No matter who you are or where you are from, you

can do anything you put your mind to," said Gonzalez. "You have to want it and you have to go for it no matter what."

He is currently writing his second children's book and looks to follow up his success with his first publication.

Gonzalez's next book will be titled, "Suzanne and the Sloth Feed the Rainforest." The book will focus on love from friends and family.

"I want to have a female protagonist for this next

book to emphasize equality amongst others," said Gonzalez. "I want equality in regard to race, gender and people with disabilities."

In each publication, Gonzalez looks to work with different illustrators to give each equal opportunity to show their work.

The young author wants to give illustrators a chance to put themselves out there, so they can grow and continue to improve their



Getting ready for the production of "Shrek JR." at Kids' Backporch Productions are, left to right, Deven Lawrence as Shrek; Catelyn Stensgaard as Gingy and Emmerie Ricketts as Pinocchio.

## CCISD wins financial award

The Association of School Business Officials International has awarded the Clear Creek Independent School District with the Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting Award for the Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.

CCISD's 2021 financial report was submitted for review by a team of financial professionals who provide feedback to improve future documents. This award recognizes districts that have met the program's high standards for financial reporting and commitment to transparency. For almost 50 years, the COE has honored school dis-

tricts committed to transparent stewardship of public funds. A district's participation in the COE program can also facilitate bond rating and continuing bond disclosure processes. The COE is sponsored by ASBO International Strategic Partner American Fidelity. For more information, visit [www.asbointl.org](http://www.asbointl.org).

## LEGAL NOTICE

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Private Club Exemption Certificate Permit by Edward H. White II, Post No. 521, dba, Edward H. White II, Post No. 521, The American Legion Department, to be located at 2221 Preston Avenue, Pasadena, Harris, Texas, 77503. Officers of said corporation are Danny King, Adjutant and Finance Officer.

## Leader checks out social media

By Natalie Abarca  
A member of People of Sagemont Facebook group posted photos of an individual that was caught on camera stealing from the member's parents' home June 17, near Scarsdale Boulevard and Sageglenn Drive. The member states that the suspect stole a few things including their sons dirt bike and some expensive night vision binoculars in a soft case and ransacked

every area he touched. Another member of same Facebook group shared that nonprofit Infinite Hands Initiative is having a School Supply and Mini Health Care Drive Saturday, July 9, at the Sagemont Community Center located at 11507 Hughes Road, from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. for students that attend Burnett, Frazier, Moore and Stuchbery elementary schools.

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Sunday	8 a.m. and 10 a.m.*
Sunday	1 p.m. Misa en Español*

\*Also Available on Facebook Live

Monday, Wednesday & Friday	9 a.m.
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# South Belt Chamber of Commerce announces student of the month



Shown presenting the award to Heidi Padron (center), left to right, are Angela Stallings, Cynthia Hawk, Kenny Fernandez, Kelly Jurek, Jennifer Saucedo, Jaqueline Carmona, Diane Wheeler.

The South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce recently awarded Melillo student Heidi Padron (shown at left) with an Outstanding Student of the Month award. A member of the Chamber of Commerce comments, "We would like to congratulate you for your work as an outstanding student." Below are comments from the Melillo school explaining why she rightfully earned the award.

"Heidi is an incredible student for others to follow! She appreciates the past and looks forward to the future; her favorite subject is history! Relaxing by the ocean in Florida with family was an awesome vacation memory. Heidi has four siblings, which makes for lots of exciting times at home. This summer, Heidi and her family plan to go to Disney and Universal Studios to make more memories! Her favorite school moment was watching the admins get slimed!"



Shown above, left to right, are (front row), Kenny Koncaba, Kristi Koncaba, Chris Clark, Barry Burleigh, Ebony yta Harrell, Steve Felming, (middle row), Kenny Fernandez, Denise Burleigh, Daniel Hoppie, Toni Lopez, Cynthia Hawk, (back row) Noble Alix and Bobby McCain.

## San Jac College offers activities for all ages

San Jacinto College has many activities which can help entertain and educate during the summer months. Many of the activities are available for younger-than-college-age children.

This calendar brief is a summary of upcoming timely events and calendar items from San Jacinto College

### San Jacinto College Camp Locations:

North Campus: 5800 Uvalde Road, Houston, Texas 77049

Central Campus: 8060 Spencer Highway, Pasadena, Texas 77505

South Campus: 13735 Beamer Road, Houston, Texas 77089

Generation Park Campus: 13455 Lockwood Road, Building 2, Houston, Texas 77044

Maritime Campus: 3700 Old Highway 146, La Porte, Texas 77571

### Calendar of events

July 4 - Independence Day Holiday - On Monday, July 4, the college campuses and business operations will be closed in observance of Independence Day.

San Jacinto College is excited to return with summer camps for the 2022 sea-

son. There will be fun and engaging camps for ages 6-18 at each of the campuses. There is something for everyone from athletics and career exploration, to music, STEM and everything in between. To learn more, visit [www.sanjac.edu/summer-camps](http://www.sanjac.edu/summer-camps).

- Pathways to Careers: Information Technology - San Jac is offering an intensive, four-week in-person course July 5-29 designed to help students explore careers in health care. Attend career-specific field trips, hear from current industry professionals, learn professional skills and how to prepare for college and postgraduate school admissions. Campers must be ages 16 to 23 and enrollment for free. To request a registration packet, send an email to [april.felanbutler@sjcd.edu](mailto:april.felanbutler@sjcd.edu) with name, age, current education level, and mention interest in the Pathways - IT workshop.

- The Girls Rise Up: STEM From Dance summer camp June 28 to July 21 brings creativity, diversity, confidence, leadership

and innovation to girls ages 12-18 through STEM and dance education. Enrollment is free for all campers and is held at the San Jacinto College North Campus. To learn more, visit [stemfromdance.org/girls-rise-up](http://stemfromdance.org/girls-rise-up).

- Exploring Industry: Petrochemical/Energy - This camp is for students ages 15-19 and the cost is \$5 per camper. Join San Jac July 8 to experience an exciting tour of the new LyondellBasell Center for Petrochemical, Energy, & Technology. Learn about careers in process technology, instrumentation technology and environmental health and safety technology, with age-appropriate hands-on training and safety sessions. To register, visit [bit.ly/3b5rRgx](http://bit.ly/3b5rRgx).

- Maritime Career Days - San Jacinto College is hosting Maritime Career Days July 6 and July 20. Each day presents a fun and exciting opportunity for 16-18-year-olds to learn about the maritime industry. The cost is \$5 per camper.

Campers will have the opportunity to explore exciting careers available in the area's thriving maritime industry. The day includes an entertaining and educational maritime adventure that will be held at the brand new Maritime Campus. The days events include tour of ship simulator, fire field, water survival tank, lifeboat davit, and many more hands on training aid. For more information, email [jessica.garcia@sjcd.edu](mailto:jessica.garcia@sjcd.edu).

- Roboteers Start Here - Kick-start children's future with Roboteers Start Here July 18-21. The camp features sessions in Ozobots, Sphero, LEGO Spike Prime, 3D printing, machine learning and more. Whether one is brand new to tech, plan to major in engineering, or dream of working in an IT world, this camp will get one started. Integrating small groups and one-on-one, San Jac has everyone covered. Everyone leaves with a robot. Apply soon - camps fill early. The camp is

STEMPACT 2.0 - Learn about the exciting career and educational opportunities in engineering through this free camp!

STEMPACT focuses on mathematics and science related to engineering and STEM careers. San Jac offers three camp sessions, July 11-15, July 18-22, and July 25-29 for students ages 14-18. Curriculum will include hands-on experiments and experiential activities, small and large group work with a virtual or in-person presentation for camper guardians. An SAT Math prep will be facilitated, as it has been demonstrated that students who prepare, perform better on standardized tests. To find out more information, contact community.engage@sjcd.edu.

- Softball Camp - San Jac Softball camp, July 29, is a technique clinic to help one become a better softball player and is open to ages 6-13. The clinic is designed to teach progressions, offer constructive criticism, and to give assistance in improving techniques and training. The clinic will bring some new and exciting drills. Instructors will work on offense and defense. The cost is \$40 per player. To register, visit [bit.ly/3MR4ULe](http://bit.ly/3MR4ULe).

open to children ages 10 and 11 or in grades 5 and 6. The cost per camper is \$200. To register, visit [bit.ly/3zKTDcm](http://bit.ly/3zKTDcm).

- High School Woodwind and Brass Camp - The High School Woodwind and Brass camp July 18-22 is open to high school-level woodwind players and brass players. The cost is \$30 per camper. The groups will be divided into a woodwind group and a brass group. Daily musical activities will include large rehearsals, comprehensive masterclasses, and sectionals all led by some of the finest woodwind and brass musicians in Houston. To register, visit [bit.ly/3aYXect](http://bit.ly/3aYXect).

- Fireworks regulations jump ...

### Melillo Middle School



Shown above are the Melillo top finishers from the PISD chess competition, left to right, Nathaniel Gansit, Robert Pheister, Jakob Tellez, Sherry Gates, Alayna Rodriguez (center), Alexander Buntaer and Simon Nguyen.

### Fireworks regulations jump ...

Continued from Page 1

ignation from the Sageglen Civic Club.

In the end, the bench sided with the church, and sales are expected to resume on the property this Independence Day.

Transporting fireworks - even in municipalities where their sale is prohibited - is also now easier, thanks to a bill authored in 2013 by Lucio's son, Eddie Lucio III, who serves as a state representative in Brownsville. House Bill 1813 states it is now lawful in the state to transport the items, provided they

are kept in a nonpassenger area of the vehicle, such as a trunk or hatchback.

Should one still get charged with possession of fireworks within the city limits, fines can range anywhere from \$500 to \$2,000 for each individual item.

In 2007, the state raised the minimum age to purchase fireworks from 12 to 16.

Parents of offending minors can also be fined, even if they are unaware their children are breaking the law.

Local subdivisions located within the city of Houston include Sagemont, Sagemont Park, Kirkwood, Genoa, Bev-

erly Hills, Rainbow Valley, Eastridge Terrace, Sycamore Valley, Scarsdale and King's Place.

Subdivisions not within Houston city limits and under Harris County's control include Clear Brook Meadows, College Place, Riverstone Ranch, Woodmeadow I and II, Highland Meadow, Ashley Pointe, Blackhawk, Meadows of Clear Creek, Sagemeadow, Estates of Green Tee, Sageglen, Kirkmont and Kirkwood South.

The Bella Vita, Villa D'Este and Villa Verde subdivisions are located within the City of Pearland.

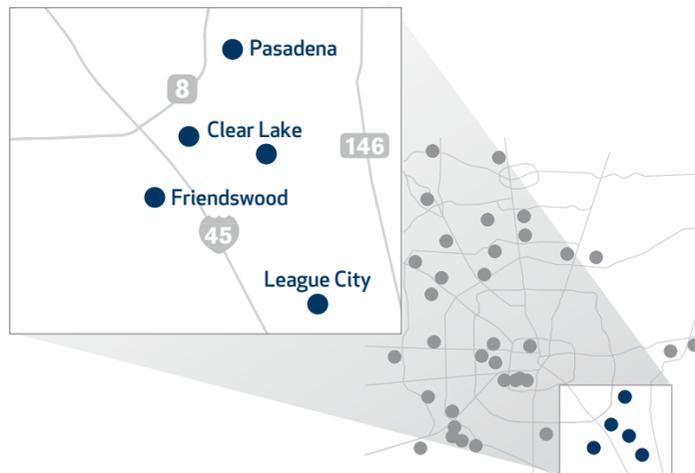
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# Pasadena ISD chess competition winners named



Shown left are intermediate top chess finishers, left to right, Benjamin Pruski, Coram Deo Academy; Richard Le, Beverly Hills; Lizardo Lara Raga, Miller; Carlos Albarran, Beverly Hills; John Tran, Bondy; John Davy, Coram Deo Academy; Brandon Lozano, Raul Yzaguirre; and Hussai Arias, Beverly Hills.



Shown right are high school top chess finishers, left to right, Tam Nguyen, CTHS; Fynnlan Ridge, CTHS; Jesus Hervet, Tegeler; Brendan Rehbein, Deer Park HS; Taylor Cox, First Baptist Academy; Danny Alvarado, Raul Yzaguirre; Dylan Campos, Dobie and; Jimmy Bui, Dobie 9.

## Overwhelming amount of gun violence in area

**Continued from Page 1**  
 time.  
 Three additional people were shot around 2:15 a.m. Tuesday, June 14, at an apartment complex in the 1200 block of Redford – all of whom were juveniles.  
 According to police, the victims – one 14-year-old and two 16-year-olds – were all transported to area hospitals and are expected to survive.  
 Police said the three males were walking on the sidewalk at the above address when an unknown male suspect began shooting at the males, striking all three of them.  
 The 14-year-old suffered a gunshot wound to the leg and chest, and one 16-year-old suffered a gunshot wound to the leg. They are both in critical, but stable, conditions.  
 The other 16-year-old suffered a gunshot wound to the stomach and is in stable condition.  
 While there was no known suspect description at press time, it was believed to be targeted incident, police said.  
 Shootings have become commonplace at The Redford Apartments in recent months, with Houston police declaring the complex a hot spot for violent crime.  
 Past incidents include the following:  
 – March 16: Rufus Banks fatally shot inside apartment.  
 – Feb. 8: Alexis Cantu, 21, fatally shot at the complex. (Parys Burks-Henderson, 18, was charged with murder in

the crime.)  
 – Feb. 6: unnamed male, 21, shot outside the complex but survived. (Parys Burks-Henderson was charged with attempted capital murder in this crime.)  
 – Jan. 28: Lee Mayfield fatally shot inside an apartment. (Eddrel Antonio Brown, 28, was charged with murder.)  
 – Jan. 8, victims, James Sipes, 41, and Kelvin Menefee, 57, shot inside an apartment but survived.  
 – Jan. 5: Marilyn Lee Lambert, 70, and Marcus Ray Hawkins, 51, shot inside an apartment but survived.  
 – Last September 2021, three victims – two males and one female – were all shot in the same night at the complex. All were transported to the hospital in stable condition.  
 Anyone with information on any of these cases is urged to contact the HPD Homicide Division at 713-308-3600 or Crime Stoppers of Houston at 713-222-TIPS (8477).  
 Another homicide took place the night of Monday, June 13, near Alameda Genoa and Monroe. See related story on Page 1.  
**Alameda Genoa**  
 Houston police are investigating the fatal shooting of a father and son in a pair of murders that took two days apart near Alameda Genoa and Monroe.  
 The first incident took place around 11:40 p.m. Monday, June 13, in the 8200 block of Swiss Lane.

The identity of the victim, 37, is pending verification by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences.  
 According to Houston Police Department officials, patrol officers responded to a shooting at the above address. They found the victim suffering from multiple gunshot wounds inside the residence.  
 Houston Fire Department paramedics pronounced him dead at the scene.  
 Investigators learned an unknown number of suspects forced entry into the victim's home and shot him before taking items from inside the residence.  
 Investigators believe the suspect(s) also stole two vehicles from the home. The vehicles are described as a black Jaguar F-Pace and a dark blue Mitsubishi Outlander.  
 Two days later on Wednesday, June 15, the father of the victim from Monday was found shot to death at the same home.  
 The identity of the victim, 59, was pending verification by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences, at press time.  
 According to police, officers were dispatched to a shooting call outside the residence at the above address and found the victim unresponsive in the street.  
 The man had suffered multiple gunshot wounds. Paramedics transported the victim to HCA Houston Healthcare Clear Lake, where he was pronounced dead.

The unknown suspect(s) fled the scene before officers arrived.  
 A preliminary investigation indicates the motive in both shootings appears to be robbery and narcotics-related. The investigation is ongoing.  
 Anyone with additional information in either or both incidents is urged to contact the HPD Homicide Division at 713-308-3600 or Crime Stoppers at 713-222-TIPS (8477).  
**Nyack**  
 Houston police are investigating the fatal shooting of a man that took place around 9:55 p.m. Wednesday, June 15, in the 12900 block of Nyack Drive near Algonquin.  
 The identity of the victim, 18, is pending notification to family members by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences.  
 According to police, patrol officers responded to a shooting call in a parking lot at the above address.

They were advised the victim and a friend were meeting with two males. While they were talking, another male approached and all three males pulled guns on the victim and his friend, attempting to rob them.  
 The victim was shot when he tried to drive away. The victim returned fire and struck one of the suspects.  
 Houston Fire Department paramedics transported the victim to HCA Houston Healthcare Clear Lake, where he was pronounced dead.  
 The suspect was driven by private vehicle to HCA Houston Healthcare Pearlman, where he was then transported to Memorial Hermann - Texas Medical Center.  
 At this time, no charges have been filed, and the investigation is ongoing.  
 Anyone with information in this case is urged to contact the HPD Homicide Division at 713-308-3600 or Crime Stoppers at 713-222-TIPS (8477).

## Matthys Elementary



Shown above are the Matthys Elementary placeholders. Left to right, are Melinda Deleon (chess coach), Ana Salazar, Jeffery Martinez and Daniel Garcia. These students together placed third in the third grade division.

## Sharma, age 17, graduates, named valedictorian, has 4.0 average

Pratishtha (Eva) Sharma graduated as valedictorian of Clear Horizons Early College High School (CHECHS) of Clear Creek Independent School District and also received her associate degree from San Jacinto College South Campus.  
 She graduated from college at 17 and was one of San Jacinto Community

College's few students to graduate with a perfect 4.0 GPA.  
 At Clear Horizons, Eva served as the Class of 2022's Student Council class president for three years, National Honor Society president, Business Professionals of America president, and Executive Student Council president.

To fuel her outside interests, Eva pursued Bollywood dancing with the Indian Community of Clear Lake and stayed involved in theater arts by performing in musicals, dramas and kiratans at the ISKCON Hare Krishna Dham Temple in Houston.  
 In addition to pursuing two years of college and

four years of high school simultaneously, Eva also graduated from John Casablancas School for Modeling and Acting in 2019 and signed with the Model Talent Management Agency of Houston.  
 For her ability to balance school and her passions, Eva received the Academic Miss Texas Junior Teen award

from the National American Miss organization in 2019.  
 In the fall, Eva plans to attend The University of Texas at Austin as McCombs' Canfield Business Honors student, where she hopes to make fashion more than just sequins and fabrics.  
 For her 13th Science and Engineering Fair project, she decided to uncover the effect of types of fabric on the spread of infectious diseases by growing bacterial colonies on various types of clothing fabric.  
 Her inspiration for the project rooted from a project she kick-started before the pandemic, Project R.E.A.C.H. (Reach and Extend Apprehension to Coun-

tries about Health).  
 Eva has been a Girl Scout for nearly 12 years and earned bronze, silver and gold awards from San Jacinto Council of USA. As a Girl Scout, for her Gold Award, Eva traveled to rural schools in northern India and taught students about health and hygiene through Project R.E.A.C.H.  
 After seeing the impact of the project during the pandemic, Eva is currently continuing Project R.E.A.C.H. by raising funds for rural schools in Botswana.  
 Eva was born in Pittsburgh, Pa.  
 She currently resides with her parents Dr. Naval Sharma and Pooja Sharma.

## Remember When

**45 years ago (1977)**  
 Jill Miller, 14, and Angela Shiflett, 18, both won in their division at the State Imperial Miss contest held in Galveston.  
 Eight members of the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department were certified by the State of Texas as firemen. The men had to train more than 152 hours to achieve this honor.  
**40 years ago (1982)**  
 The city of Houston banned fireworks altogether and planned to deal with the possession of fireworks as a major offense.  
 Pasadena Independent School District students' averages were to be lowered by two points for each unexcused absence. This policy was to be the counter-balance for the bonus point policy, which awards students extra points at the end of the semester for good attendance.  
 Two bounty hunters staked out a residence in the 11600 block of Sageglen looking for a suspect who jumped bail on two pending cases.  
**35 years ago (1987)**  
 Soil samples taken at the boundary where the Southbend subdivision butted up against the abandoned Brio Refining property confirmed that the site's waste pits did not extend into the subdivision.  
 Moore fifth-grade teacher Cliff Swearingen was named assistant principal at that school, replacing Mark Priest, who became principal at McMasters Elementary. Frazier first-grade teacher Mable Pratt was named assistance principal at Young Elementary.  
**30 years ago (1992)**  
 Southbend developers, as well as chemical companies which dumped toxins at the abandoned Brio refinery site adjacent to Southbend, agreed to a \$207.5 million out-of-court settlement.  
 The Pasadena school district lost \$2.5 million in state funding as part of the state's \$231 million proration shortfall.  
**25 years ago (1997)**  
 Edwin Navarrete, 19, was arrested in connection with the murder of Damon Smith, 21, at his Scarsdale home.  
 Ruben Perez, 21, and his

brother Robert were killed after a horse ran in front of Ruben's 1993 Geo on Interstate 10.  
 Dr. Caryl Robinson, who was principal at La Marque High since 1993, was named to replace Sandra Mossman as principal of Clear Brook High School. The Clear Creek High assistant principal was named as new principal at Clear Creek.  
**20 years ago (2002)**  
 An 8-foot concrete wall was proposed to replace wooden fences along parts of Scarsdale, Beamer and Blackhawk.  
 Site redesign of the new Dobie because of the wetlands caused the Pasadena Independent School District board of trustees to approve a \$10,000 cost for accelerated construction on the Dobie agricultural facility. Due to the wetlands, the Dobie tennis courts were relocated to the area of the original Dobie agricultural facility.  
**15 years ago (2007)**  
 Flooding occurred along Sabo following a downpour. Many in the area blamed the recent construction of apartment complexes in the area for the worsening conditions.  
 Lt. Jonathan Carter of the U.S. Coast Guard returned from a 13-month tour of duty in the Persian Gulf. He was welcomed home by several fellow members of the 1994 Dobie football team.  
 San Jacinto College Chancellor Bill Lindemann announced that he would retire in May 2009. At a special meeting, the board of regents unanimously designated Brenda Hellyer the sole finalist for his replacement. Hellyer had been with the college for seven years, serving as both the executive vice president of the San Jacinto College Foundation and vice chancellor of fiscal affairs.  
 Thompson Intermediate seventh-grader Alayna McDonald received the Daughters of the Republic of Texas award, and eighth-grader Roberto Reyes received the Daughters of the American Revolution award at the annual awards ceremony held at Sagemont Church.  
**10 years ago (2012)**  
 Greg Smith, superintendent of schools for the Clear

Creek Independent School District, was named the Superintendent of the Year for Region 4, which represents 53 school districts. Smith had been the district's superintendent since 2008.  
 Genoa Elementary pre-kindergarten teacher Cheryl Helaire won the 13th annual Marian and Speros Martel Early Childhood Educator Award, presented by the Children's Museum of Houston. A 1982 Dobie graduate, Helaire was recognized for her dedication to early childhood development. For her efforts, she received a \$1,000 honorarium and a one-year membership to the museum.  
**5 years ago (2017)**  
 An F-16 Fighting Falcon jet from a detachment of the 138th Fighter Wing, stationed at the Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base, crashed on takeoff the morning of Wednesday, June 21. The pilot safely ejected and was evaluated at a local medical facility. The aircraft, under the direction of the North American Aerospace Defense Command, was conducting a training flight. Several local

streets, including Beltway 8, were temporarily closed following the incident, causing extensive traffic delays.  
**1 year ago (2021)**  
 A woman was fatally shot early Thursday, June 17, outside a gym in the 10500 block of Fuqua near Beamer. Elsa Mikeska, 62, was pronounced dead at the scene. Houston police responded to the incident at the Life Fit Gym shortly before 5 a.m. According to police, the woman was arriving at the gym for her morning workout when a white SUV pulled into the parking lot next to her. When the victim got out of her car to walk into the gym, two male suspects exited the SUV and approached her. Police said words were exchanged before the woman ran toward the gym. At this time, a suspect fired a shot to the woman's back. The victim attempted to make it inside the gym but collapsed. Other gym members attempted to revive the woman, but it was too late. She was pronounced dead at the scene. The suspects got back into the SUV and exited

the parking lot. Police said the suspects may have been trying to carjack the woman after a similar incident was reported just earlier about two miles away in the 10100 block of Freehill Street near the intersection of Fuqua and SH 3/Old Galveston Road. Police said the description of the suspects and their vehicle was the same in both crimes. Police believed there were three total suspects, traveling in a 2000 to 2007 year model white Chevrolet Suburban. No immediate arrests are made, despite heavy citywide media coverage.  
 A body was found around 1:30 p.m. Saturday, June 19, in the 11800 block Teaneck Drive, which has been confirmed to be that of missing tattoo artist Julian Isaac. While police first said they were "pretty certain" it was Isaac based on his clothing, at press time Tuesday, they officially confirmed his ID. According to police, detectives originally responded to a possible kidnapping call in the 11700 block of Teaneck Drive on June 15. During their investigation, they can-

vassed the area for three days and were able to recover video surveillance of a male – reported as missing – walking in the area by himself. After careful review of the case, no suspicion of a murder or a kidnapping was evident. The case was transferred to the Missing Persons Unit for a follow-up investigation that began Friday, June 18. On Saturday afternoon, the body of an individual was found in the backyard of a residence at the above address. HPD Missing Persons investigators were in the neighborhood when the discovery was made. Volunteers from Texas EquuSearch also assisted in the search for Isaac, with staging taking place at Burnett Elementary. Police said there was no immediate signs of foul play, such as bullet casings or blood. Prior to his death, Isaac, 29, reportedly called his mother and told her he was being chased and that someone was going to kill him. Isaac worked as a tattoo artist at Red Eye Gallery Tattoo Studio near downtown, and his disappearance had been widely covered by local media. An autopsy was to be conducted to confirm the person's identity and cause of death.  
 A man was arrested Friday, June 11, for allegedly killing his 15-year-old sister at an apartment complex in the 12600 block of South Green Drive. Jaylen George, 20, is charged with capital murder. According to police, officers were dispatched to a shooting call at the above address around 12:40 a.m. and located the victim outside an apartment unit. Paramedics pronounced her dead at the scene due to a gunshot wound. The victim was reportedly a habitual runaway, and her brother had tracked her down at the apartment complex and was attempting to bring her home when the shooting took place. The female had allegedly been missing for several days. Further investigation led police to George's whereabouts, and he was arrested later that Friday without incident. At the time of his arrest, George was found to have three open felony warrants. He was held without bond.



Pratishtha (Eva) Sharma



## Over The Back Fence by Kenna

**SEN. LARRY TAYLOR CELEBRATES**  
 Special birthday wishes are sent from family and friends to Texas Sen. Larry Taylor who celebrates a birthday June 24. Taylor is a lifelong Texan and Baylor University grad who has served the community as a businessman and as a state senator.  
**HARDYS CELEBRATE 63 YEARS**  
 Congratulations are sent to Rose and James Hardy, who celebrate their 63rd wedding anniversary June 30, from friends in the South Belt area.  
**SCHOOL DAZE**  
 The following staff of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays June 23 through June 29.  
**Atkinson Elementary**  
 Marking a memorable birthday June 27 is Tulu Sarkar. Birthday greetings are sent to Maria Zamora June 28.  
**Meador Elementary**  
 Send a happy birthday greeting June 24 to Esmeralda Araujo. Remember to wish Victoria Pantoja a happy birthday June 26.  
**South Belt Elementary**  
 Susi McDaniel enjoys a special birthday

June 23. Join in the birthday celebration June 26 with Kathy Savelle.  
**Stuchbery Elementary**  
 Best wishes for a wonderful birthday June 23 to Dana Sylvestre.  
**Melillo Middle School**  
 Enjoying a birthday June 25 is Leticia Guevara. Break out the balloons and party favors for Penny Havard June 26. The day for cake and ice cream for Kristin Konzelman is June 28.  
**Roberts Middle School**  
 Break out the cake and ice cream June 24 for Shannon O'Connor.  
**Beverly Hills Intermediate**  
 The day for a birthday celebration for Joseph Peterson is June 29.  
**Thompson Intermediate**  
 Break out the cake and ice cream for Stefanie Cantin June 27.  
**Dobie High**  
 Join in the birthday fun June 26 with Ana Valencia.  
**FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS**  
 For those wanting a birthday mentioned in this section, email mynews@southbelt-

leader.com with "OTBF: Friends Celebrate Birthdays" in the subject line by Friday noon for the next week's publication.  
 Thursday, June 23: Sylvia Alcala, Jamal Khan and Christa Guthrie; Friday, June 24: Barbara Stevens, Stephanie Guzman and Lisa Yarzy; Saturday, June 25: Keith Lawler, Michelle Penthers, Caryn Cibulski, Vicki Cox, Keith Lawler, Rebecca Parchmont and Michelle Penthers; Sunday, June 26: Phil Sandlin, Telena Benice, Suzy Matthews, Maricela Juarez and Laura Arnold; Monday, June 27: Lorie Medina, Zel Bell, Ruth Clay, Ynot Guillory, Danielle LeBlanc Judge and Robyn Bryant; Tuesday, June 28: Jan Edwards Barker, Daren Williams, Kim York Hillis and Carla Pronio; Wednesday, June 29: Kristi Rogers, Terri Nicholson, Cheryl Raymond and Judy Lannou Thiele.  
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 Send and email with anniversary, vacation and information on other events to mynews@southbeltleader.com with OTBF in the subject line by Friday noon for the next week's issue.

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# SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

## Loydrake to lead surging Clear Brook girls' basketball program

**By John Bechtle  
Sports Editor**

Mileka Loydrake is now in charge of the fast-rising girls' basketball program at Clear Brook, and she believes continuity is just what the Lady Wolverines need as they look to continue their Region III success.

Loydrake, the top varsity assistant last season at Brook, slides over a chair after Warren Brooks departed this spring for the varsity girls' head coaching gig at Deer Park.

A 2012 graduate and standout player at Clear Springs High School, Loydrake played collegiately at two stops and was first a coach at Brook feeder school Westbrook Intermediate for three years before joining Brooks for the 2021-2022 season.

Brooks certainly deserved the credit he received — named the District 24-6A Coach of the Year after leading the Lady Wolverines to their first-ever undefeated 24-6A run while ending Clear Springs' 11-year run as league champion.

The Lady Wolverines wound up delivering arguably the best season in program history, winning 30 overall games and advancing to the area playoff round.

Brooks wasn't particularly looking when the Deer Park job appeared on his radar, but in the end it was the right move for him and his family.

In the days leading up to his departure, Brooks had already begun to set

up Loydrake for an interim role, with Loydrake handling the offseason program and such.

Clear Brook principal Sharon Lopez and her trusted advisers could very well have cast a wide search net. Then again, Loydrake was surely the choice all along.

A Clear Creek ISD lifer, Loydrake played for the recently retired Pam Crawford at Clear Springs High School.

In her three seasons at West Brook Intermediate, Loydrake was able to help guide many of the same young players she's coaching now.

While it's true Loydrake lacks the typical previous varsity head coaching experience seen at many Class 6A stops, perhaps the timing is right to give a young coach a shot.

"I do lack the previous varsity experience, but I think I have a pretty good understanding of District 24-6A basketball, of what the Region III ranks offer and what it takes to be successful.

"I have a previous history with a lot of these ladies from my time at WBI, and we have already established the expectations, responsibilities and work ethic required within the program.

"None of that changes, so I have seen and will continue to expect us to have a smooth transition. I'm both grateful and excited for this opportunity.

"Clear Brook girls' basketball has a rich tra-

dition. Coach Crawford built a legacy here before she moved over to Clear Springs.

"They had some tough times (four straight losing seasons) before last year, but we put it all together last season."

As for the Lady Wolverines' program heading into 2022-2023, seniors Ja'Delle Major, Nalani Smith and Kailyn Hitch return, as does sophomore Rezia Castillo, the reigning Most Valuable Player of District 24-6A after averaging more than 12 points, six rebounds and 5.2 assists per game as a freshman.

Another Lady Wolverine sophomore-to-be, Chardel Terrell, averaged nearly 10 points a game over 16 varsity games. Kamryn McLaurin played

seven varsity games as a freshman and figures to get more and more playing time moving forward.

"We will be young overall, but I think we will be able to be explosive and score points in bunches at times," Loydrake said.

"I expect us to get up and down the floor, commit to the defensive end and play for your teammates.

"Overall, it's about more than basketball. I feel a responsibility to help guide and lead these kids so they have the tools and know-how to be well-rounded student-athletes not only now but in the future. I'm excited to be the person chosen to lead this program. It feels great to be in this position to lead these ladies."



At right, Mileka Loydrake is the Clear Brook High School varsity girls' basketball head coach after being promoted this summer. Loydrake starred at Clear Springs High School, where she graduated in 2012 before playing collegiately at two stops. She was the Lady Wolverines' top varsity assistant in 2021-2022 as the program won 30 overall games and went 12-0 in District 24-6A to win Brook's first Class 6A league title. Prior to coming to Clear Brook, Loydrake spent three seasons at Brook feeder school Westbrook Intermediate.



Above, Nalani Smith (left) and Rezia Castillo (right) are just two of several key returnees for 2022-2023 as Mileka Loydrake takes over as the Lady Wolverines' varsity girls' basketball head coach. The team won the 24-6A crown last season.

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## SJC Gator baseball standouts choose future collegiate homes

Many players within the San Jacinto College baseball program are anxiously awaiting the 2022 MLB First-Year Player Draft July 17-19 in Los Angeles.

For some Gators, the chance to sign professionally will come, while others have already secured their collegiate futures for the 2023 season and beyond.

San Jacinto College, which advanced to the JUCO World Series yet again in 2022 after winning the Region 14 post-season tournament, has announced the collegiate four-year signings of more than a dozen players.

Chris Stuart, named an NJCAA All-American honorable mention

selection following the 2022 season, will join the University of Texas, as will SJC's D.J. Burke.

The Arkansas Razorbacks of the Southeastern Conference, also a World Series qualifier along with Texas, has gained commitments from the Gators' left-handed pitcher Hunter Hollan and infielder Harold Coll.

Texas A&M, a second member of the SEC to land in the College World Series, has landed San Jacinto players Evan Godwin and Dillon Janak, while Alan Shibley and Callin Knight are headed to Washington State.

The Florida State Seminoles gained the services of Jordan Williams prior to the firing of Mike Martin Jr., and the Gators'

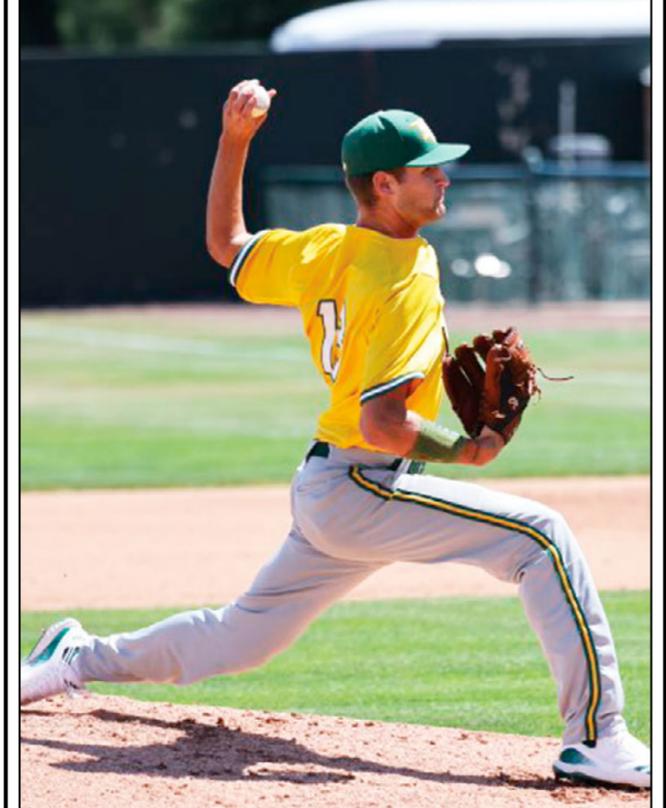
Andrew Petrowski will play at Baylor beginning in 2022-2023.

Armani Sanchez of San Jac will play at Houston next season, while J.J. Sanchez has chosen Arizona State. Ben Greer of the Gators has committed to Abilene Christian, with both Mason Lytle and slugger Sabin Ceballos to Oregon.

Sam Houston State has secured the services of San Jac's Miles Heliums, while Luke Pectol decided to attend the University of Southern California.

Jared Rhodes of the Gators is off to Incarnate Word, and teammate Matt Tieding chose Western Kentucky.

Continued on Page 6



Over two seasons, San Jacinto College left-hander Hunter Hollan won 19 games and struck out 200 batters in 153 1/3 innings pitched as he helped guide the Gators to two JUCO World Series berths. He's now headed to the University of Arkansas after signing with the Razorbacks.

## Calhoun's Sooners unbeaten at CWS

Clear Brook High School graduate Aaron Calhoun and his teammates are having a joyous time at the NCAA baseball College World Series.

At press time, the Sooners were firmly in the winners' bracket round, one victory away from reaching the tournament's best-of-three championship series.

At 44-22, the Sooners have won 11 of 13 overall games this postseason, including series wins over

Texas A&M by a 13-8 count before taking out Notre Dame 6-2 to earn two days off.

Oklahoma came off a losing record in 2021 but delivered the Big 12 Championship victory in the postseason tournament, earning a regional berth.

Playing in the Gainesville Regional, the Sooners defeated Liberty and wound up beating host Florida twice in three rounds to reach the Super

Regional.

There, the Sooners downed host Virginia Tech in a best-of-three series to advance to Omaha.

Oklahoma first bested the Hokies 5-4 but then dropped the middle game in a 14-8 offensive shootout.

In the deciding game, the Sooners punched their ticket for Omaha with an 11-2 victory.

Calhoun, the District 24-6A Most Valuable Player as a right-handed pitcher in 2021, has logged 12 total appearances for the Sooners during his freshman season, covering 12 innings in total.

Now, he could be in line for a World Series championship.

The news was not as good for former Lutheran South Academy left-hander Luke Harrison, who watched as his University of Texas squad lost games to Notre Dame and Texas A&M, eliminating the Longhorns from title contention.

Harrison finished his freshman season with the Longhorns having logged 32 appearances, all but one in relief as he fashioned a 3.06 earned run average.

Over 35 1/3 innings of work, Harrison fanned 32 hitters and could be in line to shift to a starters' role as

**College World Series**  
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**Game 1: June 25, 7 p.m.**  
**Game 2: June 26, 3 p.m.**  
**Game 3: June 27, 7 p.m. (if needed)**

**SJC softball's Garcia picks A&M-Corpus**

San Jacinto College's Julz Garcia, who played a big role in consecutive trips to nationals for the Coyote softball program, will continue her education and playing career at Texas A&M-Corpus Christi after signing with the Islanders. In 2022, Garcia led the SJC program in hits (78) and runs scored (62) while swiping 25 bases to go with a .433 batting average.

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• Tire Shine (By Hand)  
• Hand Drying
- \$35 Monthly**  
• Clear Coat Protectant
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# San Jac baseballers set to move forward

Continued from Page 5

Coll played in 64 of the team's 65 games, collecting 16 doubles, six triples and 10 homers among his 84 hits while driving in 65 runs and scoring another 64 runs. He hit .357 and slugged .604 for the season.

While Coll will man the middle infield for the Razorbacks, Arkansas saw Hollan, a left-handed pitcher, head to Fayetteville after switching from TCU.

Hollan was one of the top JUCO pitchers in the nation over his two seasons with the Gators, going 9-3 this season with a 3.59 earned run average. He punched out 96 hitters over 80 1/3 frames.

In the JUCO World Series, he struck out 10 in five innings over 19 appearances and earned the tournament's sportsmanship award.

Godwin and Janak will be with Texas A&M this fall, with Godwin going 6-2 with a 3.03 earned run average for the left-handed pitcher.

Janak was 3-1 with a save over 11 total appearances.

Ceballos also played in 64 games, coming up with 74 hits and 54 runs scored. He had eight home runs to go with 14 doubles and 46 runs driven in.

The talented third baseman hit .338 and slugged .540.

Lytle had a terrific 2022

season with San Jacinto before deciding on Oregon along with Ceballos.

He had 68 total hits with 10 home runs, nine doubles and 38 runs batted in while hitting .410 over 43 games.

Shibley, an All-Tournament selection at the JUCO World Series, had 77 hits for the season and scored 73 runs.

The Washington State signee had 15 doubles, six triples and 11 homers to go with 55 runs batted in.

He also swiped 20 bases, hit .358 and slugged .657. Knight, also on his way to Washington State, made 11 appearances, fanning 28 hitters across 28 innings.

Baylor has signed Petrowski, who had 14 innings over 19 appearances as a right-handed pitcher. Abilene Christian gets Greer, who hit .339 with five homers and five doubles in 45 games.

Armani Sanchez hit .321 over 57 games, getting 10 doubles among his 58 hits and scoring 61 runs. He also stole 16 bases in keeping pressure on opposing defenses.

As for J.J. Sanchez, the left-handed pitcher had a 4.26 earned run average over 12 1/3 innings.

Williams, headed to Florida State, hit a grand slam at the JUCO World Series and wound up hitting .320 over the course

of the 2022 campaign.

The outfielder had 56 hits, scored 41 runs and had 11 doubles.

The University of Texas landed Stuart, who was 11-3 with a 3.10 earned run average with 106 strikeouts over 78 1/3 innings. He also had three complete games.

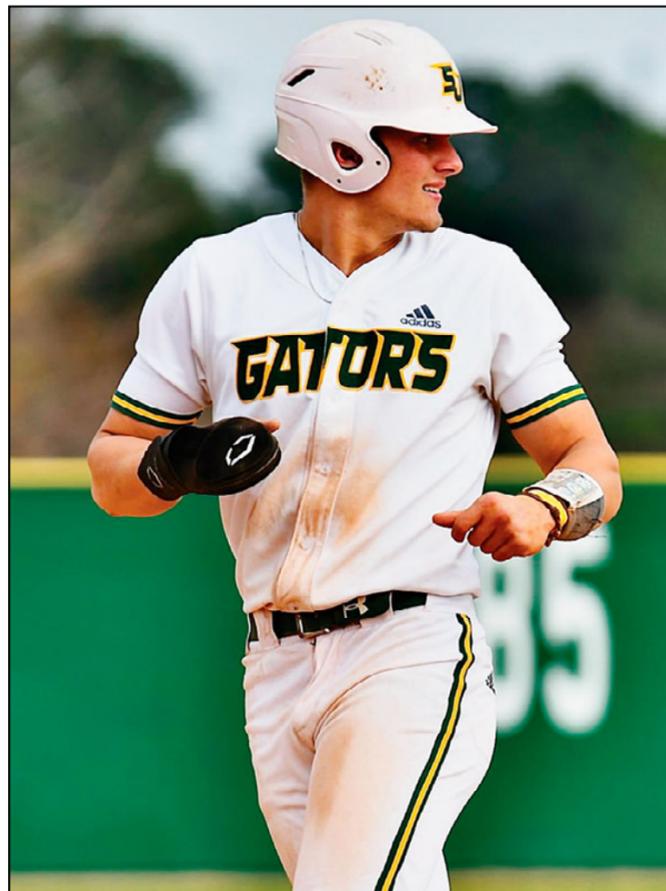
Burke is also on his

way to the University of Texas after striking out 24 hitters over 22 innings and pitching to a 2.45 earned run average.

The Gators' Miles Hellums is set to take his skill set to Sam Houston State University in Huntsville after he went 2-2 with a 3.91 earned run average in 2022.

## San Jacinto College Baseball Signees

- D.J. Burke, Texas
- Sabin Ceballos, Oregon
- Harold Coll, Arkansas
- Evan Godwin, Texas A&M
- Ben Greer, Abilene Christian
- Miles Hellums, Sam Houston
- Dillon Janak, Texas A&M
- Callin Knight, Washington State
- Mason Lytle, Oregon
- Hunter Hollan, Arkansas
- Luke Pectol, Southern California
- Andrew Petrowski, Baylor
- Jared Rhodes, Incarnate Word
- Alan Shibley, Washington State
- Armani Sanchez, Houston
- J.J. Sanchez, Arizona State
- Chris Stuart, Texas
- Matt Tieding, Western Kentucky
- Jordan Williams, Florida State



The Gators' Miles Hellums is set to take his skill set to Sam Houston State University in Huntsville after he went 2-2 with a 3.91 earned run average in 2022. He also saw limited action at the plate for the Gators but is expected to focus on pitching at Sam Houston State.

## Dobie's Hartman sets hoops camp; youths to learn skills June 27-29

Dobie varsity girls' basketball head coach Jasmine Hartman has guided her Longhorn teams to back-to-back District 22-6A championships, and now she's set to teach area youth boys and girls the skills to become a champion.

Hartman will host the Dobie youth basketball camp June 27-29, and she and her staff will allow same-day registration beginning June 27, beginning at 7 a.m. prior to the start of the first session.

The first session runs from 8 to 10 a.m. and is designed for students entering the first through fifth grades as of the 2022-2023 school year.

The second session is open to students entering the sixth through ninth grades and will run from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The cost of the camp for all students is \$45.

Teamwork and sportsmanship will be the focal points of the camp along with the teaching of the fundamentals of the game.

Individual instruction during the camp will cover shooting and ballhandling, and there will be free throw shooting, hot shot drills, 5-on-5 competition and more. Camp awards will also be presented at the conclusion of the sessions.

Hartman's camp staff will include her assistant coaches as well as former Dobie players.

Direct email to Hartman at [jhartman@pasadenaisd.org](mailto:jhartman@pasadenaisd.org) for additional details.

## First-year head coaches take over 24-6A basketball

Mileka Loydrake at Clear Brook is just one of half a dozen new voices who will usher in a new era within the current District 24-6A varsity girls' basketball ranks when the 2022-2023 school year begins.

Clear Brook put together a 31-5 overall record a season ago, cruising to the program's first district title since the 2005-2006 campaign as freshman Rezia Castillo was named the district's Most Valuable Player.

Yet with the Lady Wolverines poised for what certainly could shape up to be a special era within the program, previous head coach Warren Brooks was

tempted to take over the Deer Park girls' program.

Thus enters Loydrake, a former high school player at Clear Springs who played collegiately and now heads up the operation at Clear Brook.

And while there's a new voice at Brook, so too is there first-year leadership on five other campuses within District 24-6A.

Jessica Gaines is just the second-ever varsity girls' basketball head coach at Clear Springs, taking over for Pam Crawford, who has retired.

Over her 14 seasons, Crawford at one point led her program to 11 straight district championships as Clear Springs became a

household name within the Region power struggle.

But Crawford's final team in 2021-2022 was just 11-20. Now Gaines, who was the head coach at George Ranch last season and for three seasons at Humble before that, is tasked with returning the Chargers to prominence.

Also within the Clear Creek ISD lineup, Travis Golden has been named the head coach of the girls' basketball program at Clear Creek.

With previous head coach Kristi Odom now an assistant principal within the Klein ISD, Golden is the choice for the Wildcats.

## JFD volleyball youth camps

Dobie varsity volleyball head coach Dawn Sexton and her staff will host the 2022 Lady Longhorns' youth camp July 19-21 before welcoming incoming high school players for a preseason camp July 25-27.

The Lady Longhorn youth camp July 19-21 will include students entering the third through sixth grades as of the 2022-2023 school year. That session runs from 9 to 11 a.m. daily, while students entering the seventh and eighth grades will attend from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Students must register no later than July 1 to guarantee a camp T-shirt. Dobie's incoming high school player preseason camp July 25-27 will host incoming sophomores, juniors and seniors from 9 a.m. to noon, while incoming freshmen will attend from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. For additional information or to request registration, direct email to Sexton at [dsexton@pasadenaisd.org](mailto:dsexton@pasadenaisd.org).

The Lady Longhorns will open the 2022 regular season Aug. 9 at Baytown Sterling, taking on the Rangers at 4 p.m. (freshmen), 5 p.m. (junior varsity) and 6 p.m. (varsity).

## Southbelt L.L. summer play

The Southbelt Little League is accepting late registration through June for its summer league baseball season. The league is currently offering introductory T-ball, T-ball, coach pitch, minor and major division play, with a waiting list for the junior/senior leagues.

The late registration, which runs through June 23, is \$125 per player in addition to a \$50 raffle fundraiser fee.

Practices are underway, with games beginning the week of June 27. Weather permitting, each team in the various divisions will take part in a 10-game season, with the season slated to end Aug. 5.

Games will typically be played on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at the Southbelt Little League facility at El Franco Lee Park. Register at [southbeltll.org](http://southbeltll.org).

## Clear Brook youth VB camps

Clear Brook varsity volleyball head coach Meredith Thompson and her staff will host a series of youth camps in July in preparation for the 2022-2023 school year.

The camps are designed to both give each athlete an opportunity to refresh skills and learn new skills and meet high school coaching staff members and prospective teammates. Each participant is responsible to bring court shoes, knee pads, water bottle, a good attitude and a willingness to learn.

The camps will run July 20-22, with session I running from 8 to 10 a.m. for those students entering the third through fifth grades as of the 2022-2023 school year. Session II is for incoming sixth- and seventh-grade students as well as first-time eighth-grade players and runs from 8 to 10 a.m. as well. Sessions I and II are \$70 per student. Session III (10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.) is for all elite level eighth-grade players and incoming ninth-grade players at \$85 per student.

Visit the team website at [clearbrookvolleyball.org](http://clearbrookvolleyball.org) to scan a QR code for registration

## JFD soccer standout Bazaldua picks Jamestown

At right, Dobie's Miguel Bazaldua (4) has announced this summer that he will join the University of Jamestown men's soccer program, which competes in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics out of Jamestown, N.D. A standout defender while at Dobie, Bazaldua helped the Longhorns win their eighth consecutive District 22-6A championship during the 2022 season while earning first team All-District honors. The Jamestown Jimmies were 6-9-3 overall last season while competing within the Great Plains Athletic Conference.



## TSU baseball welcomes former Dobie standouts



Dobie graduate Jeffery Mercado has returned to the Houston area for his junior season on the baseball diamond, having announced that he is set to play at Texas Southern University for the 2022-2023 academic year. The middle infielder began his collegiate career at Crowder (MO), where he hit .450 over 44 games, collecting 67 hits and driving in 51 runs. He capped his freshman season in a big way as Crowder reached the 2021 JUCO World Series.

Mercado played at Angelina in 2022, hitting .327 over 47 games with 49 hits and 22 runs batted in. He also swiped 10 bases. At TSU, Mercado will reunite with former Longhorn teammate Domenic Martinez, who pitched the past two seasons at Paris. In 2022, the left-hander was 6-4 overall in 13 total appearances with 60 strikeouts over 43 1/3 innings. The Tigers in 2022 were 28-25 overall, including 19-11 in SWAC play.

At right, Mileka Loydrake of Clear Brook is just one of six first-year varsity girls' basketball head coaches set to lead their respective programs into the 2022-2023 season within the District 24-6A ranks as a variety of reasons have brought change at all but one locale. Loydrake will lead defending 24-6A champion Clear Brook into action while Jessica Gaines is just the second-ever head coach at Clear Springs, taking over for Pam Crawford, who has retired. Travis Golden has been named the head coach of the girls' basketball program at Clear Creek. At Brazoswood, Steve Hale was this month named to lead the Lady Bucs moving forward as he replaces the departed Doug Watson. Meanwhile, the Dickinson girls' basketball program now has Toya Peterson in charge. Clear Lake's Kendrick Broady is the veteran of the 24-6A varsity girls' basketball coaching group, and he made his debut with the Falcons in 2021-2022.



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# CALENDAR

**THURSDAY, JUNE 23**  
7 a.m. AA - "Breakfast With Bill," Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 713-686-6300.  
7:30 a.m. Rotary Club of Pearland - Meets at 6117 Broadway St., Pearland, or on Zoom. See website calendar or call 281-485-3634.  
10 a.m. Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum - Exhibits include dioramas, a turn-of-the-century doctor's office and an old-time kitchen. Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., 204 S. Main, Pasadena. Call 713-472-0565 for appointment.  
Noon AA - Imperfect Nooners Group, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or at https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners. Call 713-686-6300.

Thursday's notice.  
9:30 a.m. Congregation Shaar Hashalom - See Friday's notice.  
11 a.m. Al-Anon Meeting (Women Only, English) - meets at Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, Cornell Conference room #111. Call 281-487-8787.  
1 p.m. St. Paul's Anglican Church - offers a knitting class, Saturdays 1 p.m. Call 281-479-7285 prior to coming.  
**SUNDAY, JUNE 26**  
8 a.m./10:15 a.m. St. Paul's Anglican Church - has worship Tuesday at 11:30 a.m., Wednesday at 7 p.m. (Bible study, Book of Revelation, at 6 p.m.) and Sunday at 8 a.m. and 10:15 a.m., 11456 Space Center Blvd. Call 281-479-7285.  
2 p.m. Grief Support Group - Meets Sunday at Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena. Call 281-487-8787.  
5:30 p.m. Celebrate Recovery - A faith-based 12-Step program, in the Life Kids Chapel at Life Church, 9900 Alameda Genoa. Call 713-419-2635.  
8 p.m. AA - Meeting. See Friday's notice.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 28**  
7 a.m. AA - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.  
10 a.m. Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum - See Thursday's notice.  
10 a.m. American Begonia Society - Houston Satellite meets on the fourth Tuesday, at Helen Hall Library, 300 W. Walker in League City. No meetings during holiday weeks. For information, call Joe at 281-481-2458.  
11:30 a.m. St. Paul's Anglican Church - See Sunday's notice.  
Noon AA - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday's notice.  
7 p.m. NA - Vigilance Group. See Friday's notice.  
**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29**  
7 a.m. AA - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.  
10 a.m. Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum - See Thursday's notice.  
Noon AA - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday's notice.  
12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Hometown Heroes Humpday Dance - at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 E. League City Parkway, League City, 77573, is open. Neva and Bill Schroder coordinate Wednesday sessions for casual ballroom dancing (not dance lessons). Park activity cardholders attend free. Call 281-554-1180 for details.  
7 p.m. St. Paul's Anglican Church - See Sunday's notice.  
7 p.m. NA - Vigilance Group. See Friday's notice.  
8 p.m. AA - Meeting. See Friday's notice.

**FRIDAY, JUNE 24**  
7 a.m. AA - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.  
10 a.m. Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum - See Thursday's notice.  
6:30 p.m. Bay Area Genealogical Society - meets either online or at University Baptist Church, 16106 Middlebrook Dr., Clear Lake. Virtual attendees need to register for each webinar session. Visit www.TxBayAreaGen.org.  
7 p.m. Congregation Shaar Hashalom - For details on the 7 p.m. Friday night or the 9:30 a.m. Saturday service, Judaism classes, film series and lunch with the Rabbi, visit https://www.shaarhashalom.org.  
7 p.m. NA - Vigilance Group of NA, open, 2930 E. Broadway, Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). Call 713-661-4200.  
8 p.m. Serenity Now Al-Anon Group - meets at CrossRoads UMC Fridays, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Call 281-484-9243.  
8 p.m. AA - meets at CrossRoads UMC Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Call 281-484-9243.  
**SATURDAY, JUNE 25**  
7:30 a.m. AA - "Breakfast With Bill." See

Thursday's notice.  
9:30 a.m. Congregation Shaar Hashalom - See Friday's notice.  
11 a.m. Al-Anon Meeting (Women Only, English) - meets at Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, Cornell Conference room #111. Call 281-487-8787.  
1 p.m. St. Paul's Anglican Church - offers a knitting class, Saturdays 1 p.m. Call 281-479-7285 prior to coming.  
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5:30 p.m. Celebrate Recovery - A faith-based 12-Step program, in the Life Kids Chapel at Life Church, 9900 Alameda Genoa. Call 713-419-2635.  
8 p.m. AA - Meeting. See Friday's notice.  
**MONDAY, JUNE 27**  
10 a.m. Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum - See Thursday's notice.  
Noon AA - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday's notice.  
1:30 - 3 p.m. Hometown Heroes Dance - at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 E. League City Parkway, is now open. Volunteers Jerry and Edith Sanford teach lessons Mondays with a different dance rhythm each month. Park activity cardholders attend free. Call 281-554-1180 for details.  
6 p.m. Scrabble Club #511 - Meets Monday at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua. COVID-19 vaccination required. Call 281-488-2923 for details.  
6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Toastmasters - The Young Professionals Southeast Toastmasters Club #05324194 meets virtually with the exception of the second and fourth Mondays (in person) at https://youngprofessionalsoastmasters.com. Visit the website or call 281-467-1880.  
7 p.m. TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensi-

bly) - #0683 Friendswood chapter meets at the Friendswood Methodist Church, 110 N. Friendswood Dr. in the educational bldg, room 201. For information, call Lynette Ringrose 832-858-4617 or Dorothy Pourteau 713-875-8820.  
7 p.m. AA - St. Luke's 12-Step Recovery in the Education Bldg. in room 4, 11011 Hall Rd. Call 832-725-8479.  
7 p.m. NA - Vigilance Group. See Friday's notice.  
**TUESDAY, JUNE 28**  
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# Dobie players among HTA scholarship winners; 18 Class of 2022 graduates awarded funding

The Houston Tennis Association for 2021-2022 distributed college scholarships totaling \$23,000 to 18 greater Houston area high school graduates.

The students received sums from \$500 to \$2,000.

In addition to HTA contributions, funds have been provided by the HTA/National Junior Tennis and Learning, the National Senior Women's Clay Court Championships, the Steve Wolford Memorial

Scholarship Fund, West Houston Ladies Tennis Association, RBC Wealth Management, Graselli Foundation-Harry Fowler Scholarship Fund, Victoria and Kendall Jaeger and the Faye Sarofim & Co. U.S. Men's Clay Court Championship.

Students who received the grants and their high schools and college destinations included Katrina Machetta (Klein Collins, University of

Pennsylvania); Lael Martinez (Dobie, Texas State University); Cadence Garcia (Heights, Texas A&M-Corpus Christi University); Isaac Harris (Lamar, Texas A&M, Houston Community College); Arthur Galvan III (MacArthur, University of Houston); Julian Galvan (Milby, University of Houston); Jonathan Lin (Katy Taylor, California Institute of Technology); Briana Valentin

(MacArthur, University of Houston); Aidan Garcia (Pearland, Yale University); Megan Rodriguez (Dobie, Texas A&M University); Vitia Chacon (Stephen F. Austin, Houston Community College); Ashley Wolf (Stratford, Trinity University); Lisika Knight (Seven Lakes, Westmont College); Diego Guzman (Pearland, University of St. Thomas); Kinari Hirano (Memorial, Purdue University); An-

drea Erkal Carnegie Vanguard (University of California-San Diego); Raina Parikh (Stephen F. Austin, Sugar Land, UT Austin); and Alison Chen, (Bridge-land, Texas A&M University).

All 18 students played either varsity tennis for their high school teams, participated in NJTL and/or in local USTA events.

Martinez and Rodriguez were co-captains at Dobie during the 2021-2022 school year and played prominent roles as the Longhorns finished second to Deer Park in the fall team tennis season.

Martinez and Rodriguez then concluded their careers at Dobie by playing mixed doubles in the spring season, just missing a regional berth.

The Houston Tennis Association has awarded more than \$385,500 in scholarship funds to deserving high school seniors since 1992.

# SBGSA 6-under all-star softball takes fourth



The 6-under age group all-stars of the South Belt Girls' Softball Association placed fourth out of 28 teams at the state tournament in Angleton, scoring big victories along the way. Members of the team are, left to right, (front row) Ava Garcia, Ava Almanza, Leah Flores, Mila Munive, Makayla Romero, (middle row) Oaklee Knikelbine, Isabella Garza, Analyse Deleon, Zoey Rojas, Dalilah Loredo, Kamryn Guillory, (back row) coaches Louie Romero, Josh DeLeon and Jean DeLeon.



Students attending the Houston Tennis Association's scholarship luncheon at Beck's Prime in Memorial Park were, from left, Isaac Harris, Alison Chen, Ashley Wolf, Jonathan Lin, Andrea Erkal, Aiden Garcia and Briana Valentin. Dobie Class of 2022 graduates Lael Martinez and Megan Rodriguez were also among the education funding recipients. Martinez plans to attend Texas State University while Rodriguez plans to study engineering at Texas A&M University in College Station.

# Balderaz earns Cowboys' Fitzmorris Memorial Scholarship



Former Sagemont Cowboys' great Jayden Balderaz (far right) is the first recipient of the Mary Beth and Tom Fitzmorris Scholarship. Balderaz began his Cowboys' career as a 5-year-old on the pee-wee team, quickly leaving his mark on the Sagemont program. He was twice selected to the Bay Area Football League Texas 25 Team, where he represented BAFL in Pennsylvania. Balderaz is a Class of 2022 graduate of Pasadena Memorial High School, where he earned all-district honors in football. He will now continue his education and playing career at Concordia University-Chicago, where he was awarded a football scholarship. Concordia-Chicago is an NCAA Division III program that competes in the Northern Athletic Collegiate Conference. With Balderaz at the presentation were, left to right, Danny Fitzmorris, a former Cowboy player, a Dobie graduate, an assistant coach at Pasadena Memorial and son of the Fitzmorrises; Cowboys' president Denny Wranich Sr.; and former Cowboys' coach Ty Seymour of Coastal Recovery, whose company matched the original monetary amount of the scholarship.

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# Garza excels with UTSA baseball



Class of 2022 Dobie High School graduate Daniel Garza wrapped up a solid 2022 season this spring with the University of Texas-San Antonio baseball program. Garza, who will play for the Seguin River Monsters of the Texas Collegiate League this summer, worked in 13 games with five starts in 2022, owning a 4.01 ERA over 42.2 innings, allowing 47 hits and 24 walks, striking out 41. The right-hander was a four-year varsity performer at Dobie and figures to earn increased mound time for the Roadrunners both in 2023 and 2024. As for 2022, Garza began the season as a middle reliever and later transitioned into a weekend starter. Garza made his season debut at Houston Baptist, where he allowed two hits over three scoreless innings, helping UTSA to a road win and picking up his second career win. Garza made his first career start at Incarnate Word and continued to work key innings for the Roadrunners. Garza is clearly expected to play a big role as a junior with UTSA as a junior.

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