

#### Photo winners announced

The July winners of the *Leader's* 2015 vacation photo contest have been announced, with two area families tying for first-place honors.

The winning entries were the Mata family for their photos of their recent trip to Mexico that ran in the July 23 edition (specifically the photo of 4-year-old Gianna Mata posing with a baby tiger) and the Martinez family for their photos that have not yet been published of their trip to Canada to see the FIFA Women's World Cup (specifically the photo of sisters Diveanne and Deanna Martinez with their faces painted patriotically like the U.S. flag).

Each of the families received eight tickets to Schlitterbahn for the submissions.

Photos are still being accepted for the month of August.

A first- and second-place prize of Schlitterbahn tickets will be awarded to the best submissions. The month's first-place winner will be awarded eight tickets, while the month's second-place winner will be awarded six tickets.

All submissions should include where and when the photo was taken, as well as identify each person in the picture and tell the story about the trip. All photos must be high resolution. Email photos to [mynews@southbeltleader.com](mailto:mynews@southbeltleader.com). Do not compress photos when emailing.

The deadline for entry is Tuesday, Aug. 18.

#### Donate school supplies

St. Luke the Evangelist, 11011 Hall Road, is continuing to collect school donations for Operation Back Pack. Bring backpacks and school supplies to the church or church office during August in order to help local school children in grades K-12 begin the school year.

#### Sageglen sets summer hours

Sageglen Community Association summer office hours are: Closed Monday, and open Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

#### Lariaettes host dance clinic

The J. Frank Dobie Lariaettes will hold their Summer Dance Explosion July 30 and July 31 at Dobie. The clinic is open to both boys and girls in Pre-K through eighth grade. Clinic hours are from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day, with special awards and a show-off for parents beginning at 3 p.m. on July 31.

The clinic includes a souvenir and certificate. Lunch and snacks will be served both days. Participants will experience two days of dance, technique, crafts and games. The cost of the clinic is \$40 in advance, which can be paid to any current Lariaette line member or \$50 at the door.

#### Child care center reunion set

The San Jacinto College South child care center will host a preschool reunion on Friday, July 31, in the student center banquet room (Building 11) from 6 to 8 p.m. Former families and employees are invited to attend to reunite and share memories of the center before it closes later this summer. After serving the community for decades, the center will permanently shutter its doors Aug. 31 due to its aging facilities and related infrastructure. Refreshments will be served.

#### Stuchbery sets registration

Stuchbery Elementary will hold Pre-K registration Tuesday, Aug. 11, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. To enroll in Pre-K, students must be 4 years old on or before Sept. 1 and must qualify for the program. Early registration for kindergarten through fourth grade will be held Wednesday, Aug. 12, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Thursday, Aug. 13, from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. For Pre-K requirements or any additional information, call Stuchbery's office at 713-740-0752 or visit the PISD website at [www.pasadenaisd.org](http://www.pasadenaisd.org).

#### Kirkwood to meet July 30

The Kirkwood Civic Association will hold its monthly meeting Thursday, July 30, at the Sageglen Community Center, 11507 Hughes Road, at 6:30 p.m. For information, call Ericka McCutcheon at 281-989-9990.

#### Genealogy group meets

The Parker Williams Genealogy Group will meet Aug. 3, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the library at Scarsdale and Beamer. This group meets the first and third Mondays to discuss genealogy research. Meetings are free and open to anyone interested in tracing family history.

#### Senior Information Fair set

St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church will host a senior 55+ information fair on Saturday, Aug. 8, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at its Cenacle Learning Center, 1750 Riverstone Ranch Road in Houston.

There will be speakers on senior issues, vendor booths on Medicare, community, city and county services, senior vacation resources, demonstrations from senior dancers including Zumba, along with door prizes and refreshments. The 55+ members of the South Belt community are invited to attend this informative fair.

## Local charter school moves forward

By Lori Rodriguez

Houston Gateway Academy Charter School Inc. (HGA) is currently working to finalize a contract with a general contractor in order to begin construction on a new school in the Riverstone Ranch subdivision that has been in the works since HGA purchased the tracts of land in March 2011.

Elite College Prep Academy - Riverstone will be built on two facing lots, totaling about nine acres, on Riverstone Boulevard and Kirksage. It will include a three-story facility with such amenities as a band hall, natatorium, basketball gym, soccer field, full kitchen and cafeteria. The facility will have the capacity to hold 1,600 students.

Richard Garza, CEO, superintendent of Houston Gateway Academy, stated that HGA is aiming to open its new campus in time for the 2016-2017 school year.

"We have all our permits completed and everything has been issued already," Garza stated.

"The only thing we need to do is pay for the construction permit which we will do once we finalize our contract with the general contractor."

HGA received their traffic permit after an independent traffic study, conducted by Traffic Engineers Inc., was approved by the Harris County traffic department.

"An independent traffic study was done," Garza stated, "that dictates how to construct the school and the parking."

Garza stated HGA had to add new lanes in the property design in order to comply with the county's cueing guidelines which state they must have traffic lanes within the property to accommodate up to 173 vehicles.

The school will include Pre-K through 12th grade; however, for the first year only Pre-K through ninth grade will be available.

Garza stated that the objective is to have 20 students per class and three classes per grade level. Additional grades and classes will be opened in the following years as classes reach the 20 student quota.

"Once we have 20 students for that specific class," Garza stated, "if it's third grade, fifth grade, eighth grade, all the way to ninth grade, then we'll officially open that class up. So even though we're equipped to open Pre-K through ninth we're actually going to fill it based on the need of the population there. We anticipate the first year to be at a minimum of 500 students."

The school will initially operate on a first come, first served basis. Applications to enroll in the Riverstone location will be available online (<http://www.hgaschools.org/>), or families can pick up an application at any of the other HGA

sites.

"We're accepting applications," Garza stated, "and technically anybody could currently apply right now. We would just hold the application and process it when we're ready, but the sooner that the Riverstone subdivision residents are aware that they can apply then they would have first choice." Garza also noted that some families have made the decision to go ahead and enroll their children in other HGA campuses in order to facilitate a transfer to the Riverstone campus once it opens.

However, Garza stated that in order to be accepted students and parents have to agree to comply with HGA standards. This includes providing disciplinary and academic reports from their previous school.

Garza stated that HGA does not interfere in the disciplinary actions of other districts or charter schools. For instance HGA will not accept

Continued on Page 3A

## Abandoned house irks neighbors



The abandoned house shown above at 11027 Sagevale (inset photo) has upset many residents who see it as a hazard for Frazier Elementary students, as it is located roughly 100 feet away from the area school. The residence was reportedly abandoned after Hurricane Ike in 2008 and is wide open to entry. The larger photo shows that the gutted house has been used by some as a place to hang out.

Photo by Marie Flickinger

## Vacant Sagemont home draws ire

An abandoned house in the 11000 block of Sagevale has drawn the ire of several residents who view the property as an eyesore and a possible danger.

While there are other vacant houses in the community, residents are more concerned about this particular one due to its close proximity to Frazier Elementary, which is roughly 100 feet away from the property.

"The house is wide open for any kid to walk in," said Sagemont Civic Club Vice President Sandy Robb.

Neighbors report seeing suspected drug deals taking place out of the residence, and trash inside the house suggests people use it as a hangout.

The house was reportedly abandoned after Hurricane Ike in September 2008. The inside of

the residence has since been gutted, and the garage roof is collapsing. City crews mowed the yard in the fall of 2014 but haven't since.

Taxes on the house have not been paid since 2010, and Harris County records show that nearly \$11,000 of back payments are due. An additional \$8,800 in back taxes are owed to the Pasadena Independent School District.

Ironically, county records indicate the appraisal value on the 2,240-square-foot home inexplicably jumped from \$132,643 in 2014 to \$149,105 in 2015, making it the highest appraised house on the block. The next highest appraised house on the cul-de-sac is nearly \$21,000 less at \$128,242. One larger house on the street with 2,316 square feet is appraised at only

Continued on Page 4A

## Multiple back-to-school fairs set

The 2015-16 school year is fast approaching, and the Pasadena Independent School District encourages families to take advantage of the multiple back-to-school fairs planned for the area.

Families will have the opportunity to receive free immunizations, health screenings, school supplies, haircuts and other helpful information.

Parents may be required to have the student's immunization records.

For additional information, visit [www1.pasadenaisd.org/parents\\_students/back\\_to\\_school/back-to-school\\_fairs](http://www1.pasadenaisd.org/parents_students/back_to_school/back-to-school_fairs).

#### Alameda Mall

Texas Children's Health Plan will host its 11th annual back-to-school fair at Alameda Mall on Aug. 1 and Aug. 8 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Children will receive a complimentary starter backpack filled with supplies to begin the new school year (child must be present to receive backpack and while supplies last). In addition, children can also receive vaccines at no charge (must provide vaccination record) and dental

screenings by the City of Houston Bureau of Oral Health.

Other health screenings, including glucose, BMI and blood pressure will be available to all back-to-school fair attendees.

Various organizations and nonprofits will also be on hand to inform parents and children about programs and services available in the community. See related ad on Page 6A.

#### CT Church

CT Church - Houston, 9701 Alameda Genoa, will host its back-to-school fair Saturday, Aug. 1, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The event will feature free immunizations, groceries, school supplies, dental/eye exams, haircuts, hot dogs and snow cones.

Transportation will be available if needed.

#### PISD

PISD and Harris County Public Health and Environmental Services will host the Pasadena ISD Community Service Fair on Saturday, Aug. 15, at Pasadena Town Square mall.

## PISD lunch prices set to increase

Federal law mandates that all school districts, including the Pasadena Independent School District, that participate in the national school lunch program must raise meal prices according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's paid lunch equity requirements.

Based on guidelines, the lunch price will increase by 10 cents for the 2015-16 school year. All other meal prices will remain the same. The federally funded school breakfast program remains free to students.

The increase is the first change to meal prices since 2012.

PISD meal prices for 2015-16:

• Breakfast - free

- Reduced lunch remains - \$.40
- Elementary and middle school lunch - \$.25
- Intermediate and high school lunch - \$.25
- Milk - \$.60
- Adult breakfast - \$.15
- Adult lunch - \$.25

Items can be purchased a la carte. For more information about school meals, visit [www.pasadenaisd.org](http://www.pasadenaisd.org).

#### CCISD

For the Clear Creek Independent School District, the change will bring a 5-cent increase to only elementary school lunches, as both intermediate and high schools are no longer part of the national school lunch program.

## Man killed in strip club shooting

A man died early Friday, July 24, after being shot inside a local strip club.

The incident happened at the Lounge Plaza Men's Club in the 12300 block of the Gulf Freeway near Fuqua around 3:05 a.m.

Witnesses reported that the victim and the suspect had an altercation earlier in the evening.

The suspect later returned with a pistol and shot the victim multiple times in the chest and leg.

The victim was transported to a nearby hospital, where he later died.

The identity of the victim had not been released at press time.

The suspect is described as a black male with an Afro hairstyle wearing an orange shirt. The shooter fled the scene in a yellow Can-Am three-wheeled motorcycle.

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

## PISD to open community center

At its July 14 meeting, the Pasadena Independent School District Board of Trustees voted in favor of a plan to renovate and convert a building at 2220 Pasadena Blvd. into a parent/community center.

The purpose of the new center is to break the cycle of poverty by promoting PISD's Path to College program and providing employment training to parents.

Agencies and institutions of higher learning have partnered with PISD to provide these services at no cost to the parents.

Business partners are providing \$229,445 in financial support to renovate the interior of the building.

Business partners include Houston Gulf Coast Building and Construction Trades Council (\$95,135), ABC Dental (\$91,515), Community Health Choice (\$20,000), Shared Resources Credit Union (\$4,000), Houston Food Bank (\$13,630) and FAMSAs (\$5,165).

At press time, it was unclear when construction would begin or when the center might open.

## Tax holiday scheduled for Aug. 7-9

Texas shoppers get a break from state and local sales taxes on Aug. 7, 8 and 9 - the state's annual tax holiday.

"As the father of three young children, I know back-to-school expenses can really put a strain on family budgets this time of year," said Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar. "This is an opportunity for families to save some money and prepare for the start of the school year."

The law exempts most clothing, footwear, school supplies and backpacks priced under \$100 from sales tax, which could save shoppers about \$8 on every \$100 they spend during the weekend.

A backpack is defined as a pack with straps one wears on the back. The exemption during the sales tax holiday includes backpacks with wheels, provided they can also be worn on the back like a traditional backpack, and messenger bags.

The exemption does not include items that are reasonably defined as luggage, briefcases, athletic/duffle/gym bags, computer bags, purses or framed backpacks.

This year, shoppers will save an estimated \$87 million in state and local sales taxes during the sales tax holiday.

No exemption certificate is required - with one exception.

If the purchaser is buying the supplies under a business account, the retailer must obtain an

exemption certificate from the purchaser certifying that the items are purchased for use by an elementary or secondary school student.

The tax holiday weekend has been an annual event since 1999 and was expanded in 2009 to include more items.

For a comprehensive list of tax-exempt items, visit [www.texastaxholiday.org](http://www.texastaxholiday.org).

## New construction underway in area

By Lori Rodriguez

Hawk Square, Fresenius Medical Care - Beamer Dialysis and the Sageglen Center are some of the construction projects currently taking place in the South Belt area.

Hawk Square, a new shopping center on Blackhawk Boulevard, is expected to be completed between November and December 2015. Building owner, Dr. Sean Lam, who currently practices at Hawk Eye Center across from the H-E-B on Blackhawk will be moving his practice to the new 10,000 square foot shopping center.

Lam stated that his new office will still provide the same services as his previous location which includes full eye services including the

Continued on Page 3A

## Pct. 2 gets rescue vehicle



The Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's office recently picked up its new Hummer H1. The vehicle will be used for high water rescue, as well as special events. The department is planning to have it painted and decal at San Jacinto College South campus. The vehicle was given out through a military grant, meaning it was picked up at no cost to the department or Precinct 2 residents. The department is scheduled to pick up a second vehicle at a later date. Precinct 2 Constable Chris Diaz is shown above taking the vehicle for a test drive.

Photo by Mike Kritzer

# Publisher's Editorial

## Past time to take control of community problems

It is so much easier to live in a community and not get riled up about things that frustrate us in the community.



Gate to Frazier Elementary with subject house in the background. Below front of house with Frazier in background.



The only problem is, if we don't take action on some of these items, the problems just get worse. So is the case of the abandoned homes. (See story Page 1A.)

As those to whom I have talked recently on the home featured on Page 1A of this week's issue know, I am quite concerned about this house and do not understand what is going on. This house, in deplorable condition, is located less than 120 feet from Frazier Elementary.

It is a two-story house, totally open. It is obvious that there have been people eating and drinking in the open house.

What a danger this place can be to little unsuspecting elementary students walking back and forth to school.

Harris County officials believe this is the highest valued home on the block! In fact, they increased the appraisal \$17,000 this year. How is that justified? I am looking for community members who will help correct these problems.

I am confident the chamber will be a part of this, as will the Sagemont Civic Club that has been working so hard to better our community. But we need others. Their job may simply be making phone calls.

Email me at mynews@southbeltleader.com if you will help.

Marie Flickinger  
Publisher

# Loss of leg doesn't keep Linton from keeping beautiful yard

By Jay Do

Local South Belt resident Sonny Linton has recently been highly praised and recognized by both his neighbors and the Sagemont Civic Club for refusing to let his disability keep him from doing his part to keep his neighborhood beautiful.

A Sagemont resident since 1994, Linton worked as a cargo driver for a commercial business until a poor blood circulation condition in his left leg resulted in his loss of the leg and forced his early retirement in 2011. Even so, Linton continues to make the valiant effort of keeping his lawn in a pristine condition.

"It's definitely a little rough," said Linton. "I've still got a job to do just like everyone else, so I'm going to do it."

Despite having to tend to

his lawn completely by himself with only one leg, neighboring residents have noted that Linton has never let his disability be an excuse for having his lawn be anything less than immaculate.

"His yard is always well groomed, mowed, edged and hedge trimmed," said neighbor and Sagemont Civic Club member Sandy Robb. "He does all this himself and he has only one leg."

"I have never seen him with an artificial leg. I have seen him standing and leaning on his wheelchair trimming his hedges, and I have seen him sitting in the yard trimming things."

In spite of the fact that the laborious task of mowing, edging and cleaning up afterward takes Linton over two hours to complete, he refuses to let anyone else do it

for him. "It gives me something to do," said Linton. "I don't have to depend on other people for certain things else at this point, and I don't want to get to the point where I have to. I continue to do my lawn work by myself, because it gives me a chance to stay active."

While Linton certainly proves that no excuses should be made from anyone in terms of maintaining their lawn, he does not think of himself as doing anything special.

"I tend to think some folks are elderly and other folks just have too much going on and don't have time to take care of their lawns," said Linton. "I just do what I can to keep my lawn clean and let other folks go about with their own lives."



Shown above is Sonny Linton in front of his yard that he cuts by himself in spite of the disability of having only one leg.

Photo by Lori Rodriguez

# Deaths

Steve Kolar



Former South Belt area resident Steve Kolar, 50, died Tuesday, July 14, 2015. He was living in Grapevine at the time of his death.

Kolar was preceded in death by his father, Joseph Kolar. He is survived by his three daughters, Katherine, Elizabeth and Megan, and their mother, Kim Kolar; his mother, Patricia Kolar; his grandmother, Shirley Newhard; and his sisters, Shirley Hoyer and Julie Voss and their families.

Many who knew Kolar remember him for his sense of humor, witty and charming personality, his sense of style, and his intelligence. He loved to hunt and golf.

Kolar grew up in the South Belt area attending Stuchbery Elementary, Thompson Intermediate and J. Frank Dobie High School. He attended Southwest Texas State University where he was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity.

The funeral Mass was held at 11 a.m. Monday, July 20, 2015, at St. Frances Catholic Church in Grapevine, officiated by the Rev. Sean Horrigan who attended Dobie High School with Kolar.

In lieu of flowers, donations are requested for Catholic Charities of Fort Worth.

Jeremy Edward Mikes



Jeremy Edward Mikes, 22, died on Saturday, July 18, 2015, in Friendswood. He was born on March 13, 1993, in Houston. His grandparents are Sageglen residents and his aunts and uncles live in Riverstone Ranch.

He is survived by his parents, Eddie and Debbie Mikes; grandparents Calvin and Seraphine Kolar and Edward and Dorothy Mikes; aunts, uncles, cousins, his Taco Dog, and extended family and friends.

Mikes was known to be happiest when he was fishing, hunting, playing pool, skateboarding, playing football, skiing, snowboarding and working on his truck. He had a gift for writing and expressing his feelings on paper. He was a speaker and loved to share his story.

A funeral Mass was held at 10 a.m. on Friday, July 24, 2015, at Mary Queen Catholic Church. Interment followed at Forest Park Lawn-dale Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Mary Queen Catholic Church, 606 Cedarwood Dr., Friendswood, TX 77546, or Into Action Recovery Center, 16808 El Camino Real, Houston, TX 77058.

Evertha Texas Whitlock Reed



Evertha "Tex" Texas Whitlock Reed, 94, died Tuesday, July 14, 2015, peacefully in her sleep at home in Brookdale Pearland ending a short battle with leukemia. She was born on Nov. 21, 1920, in Noddle, Texas, to Henson Cole and Martha (Baker) Whitlock. She grew up the 10th of 13 children in a family of cotton farmers.

Reminiscent of *The Grapes of Wrath*, in October 1933 the family loaded up in two Model T cars and moved to Florence, Ariz. It was here she met the love of her life, Marlin Reed, who was in the service. They married in 1943. During their 43 years of marriage they had four children, and lived in Arizona, California, Kansas, New York, Oklahoma, Texas, Iran, and finally settled in Burkburnett, Texas, in 1978 when he finally retired.

Besides being a devoted homemaker, Reed sold Avon door-to-door for 19 years, from which she received a collection of 'Top Sales' awards.

Reed is preceded in death by her husband, Marlin; sons Arthur and Ronnie; her parents; 12 siblings; many nieces and nephews; and numerous friends.

She is survived by daughters Sharon Boeger (John) of Sageglen, Donna Jacoby (Joe) of Gardnerville, Nev., daughter-in-law Pat of Wichita Falls; eight grandchildren including Gretchen Smith (Mike) of Katy, Texas, and Reed Boeger (Catherine) of Erie, Colo.; 10 great-grandchildren including Austin and Mackenzie Smith and Emma Boeger; and five great-great-grandchildren; more than 50 nieces and nephews; two cousins; and the extended Boeger family.

Reed moved to Brookdale in 2012 and was proud to be an "ambassador" welcoming new residents. She greeted everyone with a smile and a hug.

Funeral services will be held on Friday, July 31, 2015, at First United Methodist Church of Burkburnett.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to First UMC of Burkburnett or to a charity of choice.

# In My Opinion

## LaCount thanks Jay for Leader story

Jay, I just want to say, thank you so much for the beautiful article.

Although, I talked too fast but you were able to catch everything and you comprehended me correctly.

Thank you so much! I hope and pray to make a difference to this world God intended me to do.

I am so touched Jay. I will never forget your kindness and *South Belt Leader* with my success! I wish you all the best. Have a blessed life.

Truly,  
Annette LaCount

## Baier speaks out to red light runners

People are constantly running red lights at the Beltway/Beamer and Beltway/Blackhawk intersections. As I sit in my car watching my red light change to green, I can practically guarantee that a vehicle will come FLYING through the intersection, running their now red light. The inevitable is going to happen sooner than later...the car whose light turns green pulls out into the intersection and is t-boned by the vehicle running the red light. The result of this will be serious injury or death. PLEASE STOP RUNNING RED LIGHTS! Yvonne Baier

## Local library events set

Parker Williams Branch

The following events are scheduled this week at the Parker Williams Branch Library, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd.

Guitar Hero 3 is scheduled for Thursday, July 30, at 4 p.m.  
On Monday, Aug. 3, a *Frozen Sing-A-Long* is scheduled at 2:30 p.m. at the library.  
Movie Madness will feature *Night at the Museum*, rated PG, on Wednesday, Aug. 5, at 2 p.m.  
Wednesdays - Preschool storytime is at 10:30 a.m.  
Thursdays - Toddler storytime is at 10:30 a.m.  
Saturdays - Vietnamese Storytime: Level 2 begins at 10 a.m., Level 1 begins at 11:15 a.m., and Level 3 begins at 2:30 p.m. For more information, speak with Loc Bui.

For information on programs, call the Parker Williams Library at 281-484-2036.

Bracewell Branch Library

The following events are scheduled for August at the Bracewell Branch Library, 9002 Kingspoint Road.

Every Wednesday: 10:30 a.m. - Toddler storytime, followed by Toddler Playtime at 11 a.m.; 2 p.m. - Computer Basics; 3:15 p.m. - Internet Basics; 4:30 p.m. - Intro to MS PowerPoint.  
Saturday, Aug. 1, from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. - Manga/Anime Club; Tuesday, Aug. 4, at 2 p.m. - Lego Robotics; Tuesday, Aug. 11, at 2 p.m. - HPL's Improv Puppet Theatre; Thursday, Aug. 13 at 6 p.m. - Not Your Mama's Book Club - A discussion on *Orphan Train* by Christine Baker Kline. Bracewell hours are Sunday and Monday - Closed; Tuesday and Wednesday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursday noon to 8 p.m., Friday 1 to 5 p.m., and Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call the Bracewell Branch at 832-393-2580.

## Clear Brook cheerleaders host clinic

The Clear Brook High School cheerleaders will hold Summer Cheer Clinic 2015 July 29-31 from 8 a.m. to noon at Weber Elementary, 11955 Blackhawk Blvd. A fee of \$75 includes 12 hours of instruction, a T-shirt, snack and drinks, and crafts for the little ones.

Participants will be instructed in jumps, cheers/motions, dance, basic stunts and tumbling, and will be divided into groups: Cubs - ages 4-5, Wolf Den - ages 6-8; Lone Wolves - ages 9-12; and Wolverines - ages 13-17.

Download the registration form at cheer.clearbrookathletics.com and email the form to [tward@ccisd.net](mailto:tward@ccisd.net). For more information, call 979-235-9012. Registration is also allowed at the door, but shirt size will not be guaranteed. Participants should be dressed in shorts, T-shirts and tennis shoes, with hair up.

# Dobie valedictorian to be honored at Vietnamese-American Youth Excellence Luncheon Aug. 2



Elissa Nguyen

Dobie High School 2015 valedictorian Elissa Nguyen will be honored for her outstanding academic achievements at the regional Vietnamese-American Youth Excellence Recognition Luncheon Aug. 2 at the Kim Son Restaurant in Bellaire.

The event, sponsored by the Vietnamese Culture and Science Association (VCSA) for 19 years, recognizes Vietnamese-American high school students who graduated as either valedictorian or salutatorian of their respective high schools in the Greater Houston area.

The program also serves to encourage younger generations of Vietnamese-Americans to strive for academic excellence and instill a strong sense of civic responsibility among all Vietnamese-Americans in the Greater Houston area.

Nguyen established herself as a well-rounded student during her years at Dobie, graduating with a grade point

average above 5.5. While that is impressive enough, she also earned top rank as a violist. Nguyen received All-State and All-Area recognition in 2014 and 2015.

She participated in the National Honor Society; UIL spelling and UIL writing; and she has served as president of Key Club, Latin Club, and captain of Roman Life Study. Nguyen donated numerous hours of community service work at Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital, various events at the Vietnamese Martyrs Church, McDonald's Houston Children's Festival, the Houston Food Bank and more. She also organized several animal rescue/animal

rights events.

Nguyen will represent Pasadena Independent School District at the luncheon among 28 other high school students selected by the VCSA.

The recognition ceremony will feature Vietnamese cuisine, scholarship award presentations, cultural performances, and a keynote address by Charlie Quy Ton, CEO of Alfalfa Nails Supply and Regal Nails. Six hundred guests are expected to attend, including school district administrators; elected officials, such as city council members, county officials, and congressional representatives; and local business representatives.

# MHSH raises record amount during annual food drive

Employees, physicians and volunteers at Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital raised a record \$20,574 and collected 25 pounds of food during its annual food drive for Southeast Area Ministries (SeAM).

"As concerned members of this community, our employees, physicians, and volunteers are dedicated to making a difference in people's lives," says Kyle Price, senior vice president, CEO, Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital. "As health care providers, we know not having enough of the right kinds of food can have serious implications for a child's phys-

ical and mental health." According to the Houston Food Bank, 22.4 percent of children in Brazoria County and 25.5 percent in Harris County aren't getting enough food to eat on a consistent basis.

"There are so many kids in our area who get hungry during the summer when they do not have access to school meals," says Daer Platt, director of operations for Southeast Area Ministries. "This is why we are so grateful to our Memorial Hermann Southeast friends for their generous contribution and their support every year." SeAM, working in close

partnership with the Houston Food Bank, can turn each \$1 donation into three meals because of the organization's bulk and discounted food buying power. The charity provides food, clothing, household and financial assistance for those in need in the southeast portion of Houston and southwest Pasadena.

Caring for families in the Bay Area of Houston since 1986, Memorial Hermann Southeast Chaplaincy Services and Partners in Caring raised awareness and donations for its annual food drive through a raffle, bake sales, and other unit and department fundraisers.



Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital Chaplain Eddie Simmons (second from left), along with Food Drive Champions Selma Atatural, office assistant, intensive care unit (far right), and Linda Torres, trauma registrar, emergency department/trauma (far left), deliver donations to Daer Platt, director of operations, Southeast Area Ministries (SeAM).

Photo submitted

# Swingin' for Seniors Golf Tournament set

Council Member Dwight Boykins is committed to his pledge to assist senior citizens who live throughout the district with minor home repairs.

The District D Council Office and the Seniors Assistance Fund Board of Directors will host the second annual Swingin' for Seniors Golf Tournament on Monday, Aug. 17. Proceeds from the golf tournament will benefit the Senior Assistance Fund, which assists District D senior citizens with minor home repairs at no cost to them or taxpayers.

Last year, contractors re-

paired more than 77 homes through the program. Repairs included screen door repair, home lighting repair, bathroom faucet replacement, gutter replacement, back door panel replacement, and much more.

The purpose of the program is to ensure that minor repairs are addressed before they become major issues.

Those who are interested in participating as a team or volunteer for this year's Swingin' for Seniors Golf Tournament, contact Chelbi Mims at 832-393-3001 or email [chelbi.mims@houston.tx.gov](mailto:chelbi.mims@houston.tx.gov).

## G.A.P. Academy Kindergarten Round-Up Registration for 2015-2016 School Year

Families will be provided the opportunity to meet the teachers and experience what our school has to offer your child, such as curriculum and parent organization.

We also provide before and after school care and more. Join us for this special event on Tuesday, Aug. 4, 2015, at 7 p.m. This will be a wonderful opportunity for you and your child to also meet our administration and tour the campus.

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## Nguyen motivated by Parlangei to succeed

Giaan Nguyen, one of J. Frank Dobie High School's Shining Stars, is shown with distinguished educator Jeanne Parlangei, physics instructor.

Nguyen and Parlangei were honored at the annual Pasadena Independent School District Shining Stars Gala, which recognizes the top students from each high school and their favorite teachers.

Nguyen has been involved in the National Honor Society, Key Club, and in training prospective students in music theory. Extracurricular activities include orchestra, National Honor Society, Key Club, UIL number sense and UIL spelling and vocabulary. Nguyen served in the leadership positions of coordinator of UIL spelling and vocabulary, concertmaster and acting conductor of the varsity orchestra.

Concerning the future, Nguyen plans to pursue a major in biomedical engineering and conduct research in advancing medical technology. Her goal is to become a professor, specializing in either physics or biomedical engineering.

Nguyen said, "Physics had been a frightening anonymity in the past, yet Mrs. P has managed to transform the topic into a wonderful passion of mine. Her commitment and dedication to her students just demonstrates how much she cares for them."

"As a teacher, she truly has motivated me to become a diligent student and work hard to succeed. As a physicist, she truly has opened my eyes to the wonders of the universe and expanded my horizons. As a hero, she truly has helped me connect with physics and inspired me to want to help others and become an educator. Mrs. P truly is a wonder, and for that, I am honored to have been one of her students."

The *South Belt Shining Stars* will be presented in a series of 10 students being honored along with their favorite mentor.

This is the seventh in the series of 10. The 10 Shining Stars represent the Top 10 Dobie High School students. The information and photos were supplied by the Pasadena Independent School District.

The Leader is also running the Top 10 Shining Stars from Memorial and South Houston high schools. (See Pages 3A and 5A.)

# Houston Gateway Academy to build

**Continued from Page 1A**  
 students who have been referred to a disciplinary school (i.e. the Guidance Center) or a Discipline Alternative Educational Program (DAEP) until after they have completed the district mandated disciplinary term or program.  
 "If they're at their home school and they want to enroll with us after they've finished the program, that's different," Garza stated.  
 "We will accept them because they've already gone through the consequences within their district. We're not going to allow them to bypass whatever consequences they are supposed to receive within the district."  
 Another part of the application process is a mandatory drug test - UA (urinalysis) and hair test - for all new sixth-12th grade students, with the hair test able to detect drugs from 90 days back.  
 "We're the only charter school or school district that will drug test sixth grade and up," Garza stated. "Every new student that comes in is given the opportunity to say what they have done so we know what we need to do. If they lie and we give them the drug test

and it comes out positive and they didn't disclose it then we don't accept them."  
 Garza stated that if the drug test, administered by National Screening Centers (Quest Diagnostics Lab), confirms what the student admitted to them, then the student will be accepted but will be closely supervised.  
 "My thinking is that some of these kids are going to make mistakes, and it's OK, if they make a mistake," Garza stated, "as long as they humble themselves, acknowledge they made a mistake and acknowledge they're not going to do it again. Then that tells me they want to make a change, they want to make a difference. OK, we're the answer. But if you come into my office, to our school and you lie about it, you're not going to make it in."  
 The HGA drug testing policy also requires a consent form to be signed by the parent and the student so that drug testing can be administered anytime thereafter.  
 "It's not based on random testing," Garza stated. "It says that they know that at any given time that we decide to test them, we can test

them. We're the only ones that do that."  
 This drug testing policy is not just for the student body but for the entire HGA staff as well.  
 "We're also the only ones that test all of the staff," Garza stated. "All new staff has a UA and a hair test also. Then after that then we have the option to test them at any given time also."  
 As a charter school, HGA has to comply with state standards, but as Garza stated that does not mean that the bar can't be raised higher.  
 "The state says so long as you meet our standards; doesn't mean that you cannot have stricter standards or tougher standards," Garza stated. "Our standards are tougher."  
 HGA standards differ from district schools and other charter schools in its retention and promotion standards especially in regards to summer school.  
 "If students don't pass, they don't get promoted. They are retained," Garza stated. "The summer school that we provide is for those students that barely pass, and we provide summer school

for them to be ready for the next grade level. So it's not for promotion/retention."  
 Another difference between HGA and other school districts or charter schools is its hours. Breakfast is at 7:15 a.m. and school hours are 7:45 a.m. - 3:15 p.m. Monday thru Thursday, with a required after school program following until 5 p.m. Every Friday is early dismissal at 2:30 p.m.  
 "It's a mandatory after-school program," Garza stated, "and what we do, we give them a benchmark. And based on that benchmark either they go into tutorials or they go into enrichment activities. So that gives them the incentive to do good in order to receive enrichment instead of tutorials, attend band, soccer, volleyball and so forth."  
 Garza stated that for the volleyball and soccer programs, HGA students compete against other charter schools, but as a college prep school their main focus is on academics. "As far as the academic ratings we have," Garza stated, "and we ranked in our area that we're currently serving right now, all three cam-

pus were in the top four."  
 Garza stated that these academic results are a result of the standards set at HGA.  
 "What it is, is raising the expectations of the staff and teachers and then by doing that we raise the expectations of the students," Garza stated. "And as long as you continue to raise the standards you're always going to receive more than what you expect to receive. You're always going to receive more than the minimum standard."  
 Garza stated that currently transportation is not provided, but they will look at it again as the opening draws near and determine if there is a need for it.  
 A petition against the building of the HGA Riverstone campus was sent last year to the Clear Brook City Municipal Utility District (MUD). Per its website the Clear Brook City MUD "supplies water, sewer, garbage, parks, police, EMS and fire protection" to the district's subdivisions which include Riverstone Ranch.  
 A letter to the *Leader* by Riverstone Ranch resident Sylvia Rodriguez against the new campus was covered in the Sept. 18, 2014, issue.  
 Houston Gateway Academy currently has three other campuses in the southeast Houston area including Evergreen, Coral, and Elite College Prep Academy - Bowie.

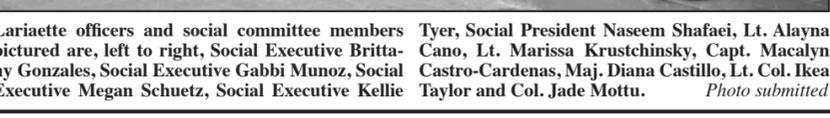
# Lariaettes name 2015-16 leadership

The J. Frank Dobie Lariaette officers and social committee have been working hard all summer to prepare for the upcoming school year. From officer camp to car washes, squad days to technique classes, the team has put in a lot of

time and hard work to guarantee a successful year.  
 The team recently took a day trip to Galveston to bond and celebrate their awards from Crowdpleasers officer camp, where both the military and social officers were selected by the

camp staff and named Best Supporting Officer Lines for leading 360 degrees on the very first night of camp.  
 The social committee also received the outstanding achievement award, and was named the Most Spirited Social Officer Line.

The dance officers received blue ribbons on all of their evaluations, and were also named the most Spirited Officer Group, and received a Crowdpleaser's Award on their home routine for such a high energy performance.



Lariaette officers and social committee members pictured are, left to right, Social Executive Brittiany Gonzales, Social Executive Gabbi Munoz, Social Executive Megan Schuetz, Social Executive Kellie Tyer, Social President Naseem Shafai, Lt. Alayna Cano, Lt. Marissa Krustchinsky, Capt. Macalyn Castro-Cardenas, Maj. Diana Castillo, Lt. Col. Ikea Taylor and Col. Jade Mottu. Photo submitted



An artist's rendering of Houston Gateway Academy's new campus, Elite College Prep Academy - Riverstone, to be constructed on Riverstone Boulevard and Kirksage. The new three-story facility will be 170,000 square feet and will ultimately cover Pre-K-12th grade.

# ESL classes offered at Houston Public Library

The Houston Public Library is helping non-English speaking Houston residents integrate into the American culture so they can fulfill their American dream. HPL is providing free English as a Second Language classes at various neighborhood libraries and at community facilities throughout the city.

These classes are being made possible through the American Dream Starts @ your Library literacy initiative grant. T

The American Dream Starts @ your Library® program is in direct support of the Houston Public Library's mission, vision, goals and service priorities that include life skills and literacy learning.

HPL offers ESL classes at Bracewell Neighborhood Library located at 9002 Kingspoint Dr., 832-393-2580.

HPL Mobile Express is HPL's "computer classroom on wheels," and can deliver library services into high-need neighborhoods.

# New unique course combines algebra, composition at San Jacinto College

San Jacinto College will launch a collaborative course in the fall 2015 semester that incorporates algebra and English composition.  
 The new course will link college algebra and introductory composition, both gateway core courses for all students who plan to either earn associate degrees or transfer to universities.  
 "This is a novel concept at San Jacinto College," commented Mark Johnson, North campus language arts department chair. "The course will explore the power of narrative in math and English. Give a person some facts and part of the brain lights up. Tell a person a story and the whole brain lights up. The goal is to help students think differently about algebra and composition, two courses that can hold back students from completing degrees."  
 Johnson says research indicates there are strong correlations between success in language arts and success in math. He cites, for example, an essay by Dr. Gene Fite, Kansas City Public Schools curriculum coordinator, that states: "The cognitive ability

that drives symbol processing is the connection between language and math. The symbol processing ability is the basis for both language proficiency and math achievement. ... Reading and math share common elements. They both involve abstract, symbolic cognitive processes, and they both require a working knowledge of the interaction of numerous discrete skills."  
 Research also indicates that a key reason many students struggle in algebra is that they struggle reading and understanding the language that surrounds math. "In essence, they have difficulty understanding what is being asked of them," commented Johnson. "They can't do the algebra, often, but fail at interpreting the verbal language around the math."  
 San Jacinto College's new linked math-English course will help students to better interpret the narrative component that is integral to algebra.  
 In the linked math-English course, students will work in a "cohort" model, staying together for both subjects,

which are taught in tandem by an English professor, and a math professor. Students who complete the linked course will satisfy the math portion, as well as one of the two communication components of basic college core requirements.  
 The course will be taught in a "learning community" environment that includes mentoring and tutoring. "Students will have peer support in and out of the classroom," remarked Johnson. "They also will receive specialized instructor support in and out of the classroom."  
 English professor Dr. Karen Hattaway, who will teach the composition component, says the algebra and English are actually two separate courses that will be taught in a learning community, not one course that combines algebra and English.  
 "Students will earn six hours of credit, working together in algebra on Mondays and Wednesdays, and then again in English on Tuesdays and Thursdays," she said. "The emphasis is on creating a community of learners. Studies show that

learning communities support uncertain students more than stand-alone courses because the students have a recognized circle of classmates who become colleagues in learning."  
 Hattaway says the goal is to foster and improve critical thinking so that students can succeed in upper-division courses and in the business community. "Our industry partners say that some graduates cannot write clear reports, engage in business learning or apply their learning or industry experience to new situations," she commented. "There is a recent trend to split STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) from hu-

manities with the result that STEM majors often struggle to express their ideas well enough to function in an information-heavy business environment."  
 "For students to succeed in a science and information age, they must be able to explain what they know and how this knowledge contributes to industry decisions. After all, even rocket science has to be explained to government budget developers."  
 The new algebra-English course will be available at the North campus, and will be offered exclusively in a traditional classroom environment, not in an online or hybrid format.

# Olson acts to protect religious liberty

On July 21, 2015, Rep. Pete Olson, R-Texas, acted to protect constitutionally protected religious liberty by co-sponsoring H.R. 2802, the First Amendment Defense Act. The bill would prevent any federal agency from denying a tax exemption, grant, contract, license, or certification to an individual, association, or business based on their belief that marriage is a union between a man and a woman.  
 In the wake of the Supreme Court decision granting a federal right to same-sex marriage, concerns have been raised about constitutional protections for religious entities. Businesses taking a religious stand against practices that violate their personal faith are already being sued. In Oregon, a judge recently ruled against owners of

a bakery who declined to bake a wedding cake for a same-sex marriage ceremony in violation of their religious beliefs. The judge ordered the bakery to pay \$135,000 in damages.  
 "Religious freedom is enshrined in the First Amendment of the Bill of Rights," Olson said. "Americans should be able to agree to disagree about social issues, but we cannot bow down and hand over our constitutional rights in the name of political correctness. Churches should not live in fear of losing tax exempt status because their deeply held religious convictions are not trending on Twitter. It's disheartening that a bill protecting the First Amendment is necessary, but religious freedom is too important to risk losing through activist judges."

These programs are free and open to the public. For more information, call 832-393-1533.  
 HPL offers ESL classes at Bracewell Neighborhood Library located at 9002 Kingspoint Dr., 832-393-2580.  
**Library ESL Classes Provided at Facilities**  
 In addition to the HPL site listed above, the library's Community Engagement Division can take free ESL classes and more into a community using one of their innovative service vehicles.  
 The HPL Mobile Express is HPL's "computer classroom on wheels," and can deliver library services into high-need neighborhoods.  
 Community organizations, churches, schools or other groups can request the Mobile Express units free at their location, or an instructor with resources.  
 The HPL Community Engagement team will set up in the facility's designated space and provide all of the required resources and instructor.  
 Besides providing ESL classes, the Community Engagement team also offers literacy programs, workforce development training, computer training, access to technology, homework help, enrichment programs, after school programs, and MY Link library card registration. These programs are free and open to the public.  
 For more requirement information, visit [www.houstonlibrary.org/get-involved/ourpartners/community-engage](http://www.houstonlibrary.org/get-involved/ourpartners/community-engage) ment or call 832-393-1533.  
**About the American Dream**  
 The Houston Public Library was selected as one of 22 libraries in 15 states by the American Library Association to receive funding for the American Dream Starts @ your library® literacy initiative grant. The program is generously supported by the Dollar General Literacy Foundation.  
 The grant is helping HPL expand its ESL class resources by securing iPads loaded with English-learning software to make classroom activities interactive, enriching

and beneficial to class participants.  
**About ALA**  
 The American Library Association is the oldest and largest library association in the world, with 58,000 members. Its mission is to promote the highest quality library and information services and public access to information.  
**About the foundation**  
 The Dollar General Literacy Foundation was established in 1993 in honor of Dollar General's co-founder, J.L. Turner, who was functionally illiterate with only a third-grade education. He was a farmer's son who dropped out of school when his father was killed in an accident. With determination and hard work, he began what has now become a successful company.  
 To learn more about the Dollar General Literacy Foundation, visit [www.dgliteracy.org](http://www.dgliteracy.org).

# Torres is role model, coach, friend to Ngo

Pasadena Memorial High School's Shining Star Michelle Taylor Ngo is shown with distinguished educator Oscar Torres, tennis coach. Both were honored at the annual Pasadena Independent School District Shining Stars Gala, which recognizes the top students from each high school and their favorite teachers.  
 Ngo volunteered in National Honor Society activities, bingo at a nursing home every month, Pasadena Rotary fish fry, Rugged Race student council activities, creating and donating blankets to UTMB Orchestra events, TMEA UIL auditions, Christmas performances, musical various school events, baccalaureate, senior awards night, teal and black gala community activities, tutoring fifth-graders at local Vietnamese community, singing competitions, Moon Festival, Strawberry Festival, Walk for Autism, JDRF

walk, Breast Cancer Awareness walk, and local elementary and intermediate school events.  
 Ngo's extracurricular activities include student council, National Honor Society, tennis and orchestra. She served in leadership positions as president of student council and National Honor Society president.  
 Concerning future plans, Ngo said, "After graduating from high school, I plan on attending the University of Texas at Austin with a major in biochemistry and a minor in music. From there, I hope to attend a medical school where I can pursue my career goals as a general surgeon."  
 Regarding her teacher, Ngo said, "Throughout high school, Coach Torres has always been supportive of any decision I would make. I am honored to have Coach Torres as a role model, coach and friend. I have spent long days at the tennis courts where I would learn and practice alongside my peers.  
 "Not a day was wasted as I received words of encouragement and wisdom. Coach Torres would reassure me with his infamous motivational index cards when I didn't have the endurance to stay positive and driven. He taught me that there was something called confidence; a necessity for anyone who wishes to become successful."  
 The The South Belt Shining Stars will be presented in a series of 10 students being honored along with their favorite mentor.  
 This is the seventh in the series of 10. The 10 Shining Stars represent the Top 10 Pasadena Memorial High School's students.  
 The information and photos were supplied by the Pasadena Independent School District. The Leader is also running the Top 10 Shining Stars from Dobie and South Houston high schools. (See Pages 2A and 5A.)

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## Reyes family travels over 5,700 miles

The Reyes family of South Belt decided to take a road trip for their summer vacation. All agreed that this was the greatest vacation they've ever taken, and the best part was being together to see all the amazing places. They visited seven states in a three-week period and drove more than 5,700 miles. (See additional photos Page 6A.)



At Madame Tussaud's Wax Museum in Hollywood are Michelle, Lucy, Sylvia and "E.T."



John (center) and daughters Michelle (left) and Lucy in front of the Big Foot Museum in Northern California.



At the bottom of Lombard Street (the crookedest street in the world) in San Francisco are Michelle, Sylvia and Lucy.



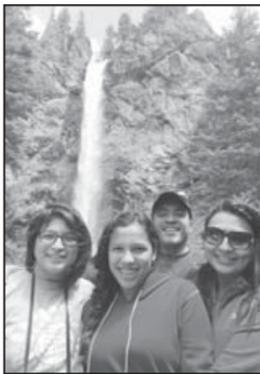
With the famous Hollywood sign in the background are Michelle (front), John and Lucy.



In the snow at Pike's Peak in Colorado are Sylvia, Lucy, Michelle and John.



Sylvia, Lucy, Michelle and John stretch across a tree in the Redwood Forest (this particular tree is the third largest in the Avenue of the Giants, and some of the trees are taller than the Statue of Liberty).



Lucy, Michelle, John and Sylvia at Pagosa Springs in Colorado.



Michelle, John, Lucy and Sylvia at the Grand Canyon.

## Phams enjoy two-week trip, visit family, several sites

Dai and Xuan Pham of South Belt and their children, Khoa, Khanh and Linh Pham, and Xuan's sisters' families recently went on a two-week trip to New York, Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., and Canada. (See additional photos on Page 6A.)



In Washington, D.C., the Phams, left to right, Khoa, Xuan, Linh, Khanh and Dai, pose for a photo with the Washington Monument in the background.



Xuan Pham at Niagara Falls on the United States side.



Xuan at the dock before riding a boat to see the Thousand Islands area.



On the boat ride, Dai enjoyed seeing the houses on the islands in the background.



Minh, Xuan, Niet and Lily on a boat tour. There were several islands in the background.



Xuan watches the sun set on the St. Lawrence river in the Thousand Island area.



Khoa, Linh, Khanh, Xuan and Dai Pham at the Washington Monument in Philadelphia.



Dai with a Native American statue at the base of the Washington Monument.



Linh, Khanh, and Khoa on a three-person bike at the LOVE park in Philadelphia.



Xuan stands in front of the Freedom Wall at the World War II Monument. The plaque reads that the wall holds 4,048 gold stars which represent 405,399 American service personnel who died or went missing in the war.



Xuan in front of a large picture of the back of the White House in the White House Visitor Center.



Xuan in the Library of Congress. The building is beautiful outside and inside as well.

## Perez sees Stewart as coach, friend, mentor

South Houston High School's Shining Star Karen Perez is shown with distinguished educator Christopher Stewart, instructor of AP Physics C. Perez and Stewart were honored at the annual Pasadena Independent School District Shining Stars Gala which recognizes the top students from each high school and their favorite teachers.

Perez has volunteered for Cleveland-Ripley Community Center, alumni pre-homecoming game ceremony, Courtyard Nursing Home, Heritage Nursing Home, Mathys Elementary Festival, Parade of Lights, Trunk-or-Treat, beach cleanup, student council's food drive and Shoes for Kids, St. Michael's Orphanage.

Perez's extracurricular activities include student council, orchestra, Academic Decathlon, Model United Nations, WorldQuest, World Scholar's Cup, National Hispanic Honor Society, National Honor Society, Lambda Alpha Sigma Jr. Sorority, Math Club, tennis, Ecology Club, Mu Alpha Theta and NASA Experiment Team.

Leadership positions include class president, class treasurer, orchestra secretary and vice-president, Academic Decathlon captain, Lambda Alpha Sigma Jr. Sorority president, Math Club president, Superintendent's Student Advisory Committee, and peer mentor.

Future plans include a bachelor's degree in astrophysics and revolutionary discoveries at Cornell University. Longterm, Perez hopes to obtain a Ph.D. and become a researcher. Perez said, "As a teacher, a coach, a friend, and a mentor, Mr. Stewart has been there every step of the way. From academic competitions to energy equations and jokes in the classroom, I have found that it is possible to balance the many aspects of high school while having a bit of fun."

"Being taught by Mr. Stewart and having after-school talks about the universe, while sharing our own theories, has assured me that I am choosing the correct major. Since my freshman year, Stewart has always believed in me and seen my potential, and this has contributed greatly to my goals, efforts, and successes."



"Stewart is the funniest, most genius teacher out there, and I am grateful for being guided and encouraged throughout my entire high school career by him."

The South Belt Shining Stars will be presented in a series of 10 students being honored along with their favorite mentor. This is the seventh in the series of 10. The 10 Shining Stars represent the Top 10 South Houston High School students.

The information and photos were supplied by the Pasadena Independent School District. The Leader is also running the Top 10 Shining Stars from Dobie and Pasadena Memorial high schools. (See Pages 2A and 3A.)

## Tour of Lions Eye Bank reveals process of eye tissue donation

A recent trip to the Lions Eye Bank of Texas revealed to a group of San Jacinto College students how donors' memories are passed on through the gift of eyesight.

The visit included a tour of the eye bank facility, the viewing of eye tissue samples, and a presentation on the broad impact of eye tissue donation. It was an opportunity that gave eye care technology students like Priscilla Reyna the inspiration to continue their educational and career paths toward transforming lives.

"I definitely know that I want to work more in the surgical side of eye care," said Reyna. "This trip helped me to narrow down where I want to work and to see the in-depth process of donating eye tissue and what happens during the cornea implant process."

Gulf Coast and Baylor College of Medicine founded the Lions Eye Bank of Texas in 1953.

The eye bank procures nearly 2,000 donations each year to provide ocular tissues to surgeons across the Texas Gulf Coast and the United States and throughout North and South America.

During the tour, Lions Eye Bank representatives encouraged students to send in their resumes upon completion of their program. "Not only is this educational outreach, but the students learn of the Lions' mission about helping people and the complete aspect of the donation process," said Darlene Warren, community project coordinator for the Lions Eye Bank.

Debra Clarke, San Jacinto College eye care technology program director, said students regularly visit eye care facilities

to gain knowledge on the many specialties of the eye care field. The Lions Eye Bank visit followed the students' recent classroom lesson on the cornea.

"We always embed service learning opportunities and

field trips into our curriculum," said Clarke. "This really ensures that we produce the most skilled and highly trained eye care professionals for the workforce."

The San Jacinto College eye

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# South Belt shares 2015 vacation photos

## Family attends graduation, visits several cities

This summer, Dai and Xuan Pham and their children, Khoa, Khanh and Linh Pham, and Xuan's sisters' families had a two-week trip to New York, Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., and Canada. Most of the group are South Belt residents except Lu, Colleen and Nick Pham and Lieu Huynh, who all live in New York. (See additional photos Page 5A.)



At Nicholas Pham's graduation are, left to right, Linh Pham, Colleen Pham, Khanh Pham, Niet Pham (Xuan's sister), Lan Pham (Xuan's sister), Khoa Truong (Lan's son), Khoi Truong (Lan's son), Lieu Huynh (Xuan's sister), Nicholas Pham (Colleen and Lu's son), Khoa Pham, Minh Pham (Xuan's sister), Ilse Vielma (Khoa Truong's friend), Hung Pham (Minh's husband), Xuan Pham, Lu Pham (Xuan's brother), Lily Pham (Xuan's sister) and Dai Pham.



The Pham family in front of the White House, Dai, Linh, Xuan, Khanh and Khoa.



Xuan at the Washington statue inside the National Museum of American History.



Xuan and Linh on the Hornblower boat at Niagara Falls.



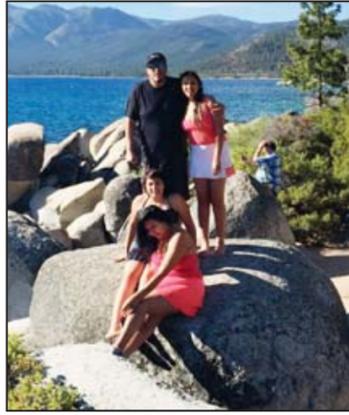
Dai, Linh and Xuan with the upside down house near to Niagara Falls.

## Reyes family takes road trip

John and Sylvia Reyes of South Belt, along with their daughters, Lucy and Michelle, ventured on a road trip through seven states in a three-week period and drove more than 5,700 miles on their vacation this summer. (See additional photos Page 5A.)



Sylvia, Lucy and Michelle with the Golden Gate Bridge in the background.



Lucy, Michelle, John and Sylvia enjoy the sun at Lake Tahoe.

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## Olson acts to restore law and order to sanctuary cities

Rep. Pete Olson, R-Texas, recently voted to restore law and order in almost 300 cities across America that have thwarted federal laws and provided safe havens for law breakers who entered the U.S. illegally. Olson voted for, H.R. 3009, the Enforce the Law for Sanctuary Cities Act, which cuts off specific federal grants for sanctuary cities that defy federal immigration law and threaten the safety of their communities. The bill passed the House by a vote of 241 to 179.

Sanctuary cities reached a tipping point after Katie Steinle, a San Francisco resident, was murdered last month by criminal alien Francisco Sanchez. He was here illegally, deported five times and identified by Immigration and Customs Enforcement as an enforcement priority, but San Francisco, an admitted sanctuary city, failed to comply with the request.

"Sanctuary city policies risk our safety," Olson said. "Thanks to a growing immigration crisis aided and abetted by a willing White House, these cities are providing a safe haven for dangerous criminal aliens, endangering the safety of law abiding citizens. These cities cannot continue to thwart federal law without consequences."

"San Francisco's failure to report Sanchez to federal immigration authorities resulted in a preventable tragedy."

"Withholding federal funds from sanctuary cities is an important first step to getting criminals off our streets and restoring law and order. I will continue to push for stronger interior enforcement measures, secure our borders and keep our communities safe."

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# SECTION B SPORTS & CLASSIFIED

## Longhorns' Norman can't wait to get started

Maybe one night soon, Mike Norman will be able to sleep a bit easier.

For now, Dobie's incoming varsity football head coach will have to take what he can get. Perhaps Aug. 3 will be the night.

Since he was officially hired as Dobie's football coach back in April, Norman has largely been a man without a football field.

Yes, he and the rest of the Dobie staff spent some time with players in the program during what was left of the 2014-2015 school year.

chance to see some of the players in action during 7-on-7 football in June. But he's been ready for Aug. 3 longer than any football coach should have to wait.

Returning Dobie football players will hit the practice field for the official start of preseason practices Aug. 3 at 1:30 p.m. It might feel like a dream for Norman.

"I'm absolutely ready to go," said Norman, who was hired away from Pearland High School last spring after more than 20 years as an Oilers' offensive assistant.

hours spent in the office within these four walls. It'll be exciting to get started. We have a great group of young men, and we're looking forward to getting started."

What should players expect? Much of the same that they've been hearing in the weight room and around the locker room.

"It's about finishing," Norman said. "Finish every rep, finish every drill. There were some games that Dobie had a chance to win last season by just finishing out. That's a key element."

And on the offensive-Continued on Page 3B

### Dobie Aug. 3 workout times

1:30 p.m. - Sophomores, juniors and seniors report; 5:30 p.m. - Incoming freshmen report.

**Youth football camp:** Dobie varsity football head coach Mike Norman and his staff will kick things off by hosting Camp Head Start, open to incoming seventh-, eighth- and ninth-grade students as of the 2015-2016 school year.

The camp will run July 30-31, from 8 to 11 a.m. both days. Members of the Dobie coaching staff will instruct players in all phases of the game, including blocking, tackling, throwing, catching, running and more. It also represents a great opportunity for future JFD players to get acclimated to the program and the expectations involved. The cost is \$40 per student.

## Dobie's team tennis outlook incomplete

Dobie varsity tennis coach Manuel Moreno Jr. is proud of the tradition he's helped build over 16 years as the Longhorns' leader.

And he also knows several other unproven players may well have to take

a big step forward to keep the tradition alive.

Heading into official preseason workouts Aug. 3, Moreno counts as few as four players on the boys' side who are destined to play in the top six for the team this fall team

tennis season.

There are six returning players who will anchor things on the girls' side, yet finding that seventh player may also take some time.

"That's one of the reasons I scheduled these

### Dates to remember

**Thursday, July 30** - Dobie varsity tennis coach Manuel Moreno will host a voluntary workout for all returning varsity players and those expected to compete for varsity spots this fall team tennis season. The workout will be held at the Longhorn courts from 6 to 8 p.m.

**Monday, Aug. 3 through Friday, Aug. 7** - The Dobie varsity tennis program will begin preparation for the fall team tennis season with an evening workout from 6 to 8 p.m. each session. Fitness runs will also be included.

**Saturday, Aug. 8** - The Dobie High School tennis program will host its annual exes matches Saturday, Aug. 8, at the Longhorn courts. Current members of the Dobie program will compete against former Longhorn players in doubles competition. The action will begin at 9 a.m. Any former JFD varsity tennis players interested in competing may direct email to Dobie tennis head coach Manuel Moreno Jr. at mmoreno@pasadenaisd.org.

voluntary workouts, and we have like 17 nondistrict matches to prepare for the most important part of the season," Moreno said. "We're going to need every one of those nondistrict matches to develop some of these young players and figure out who fits where, especially on the boys' side."

Moreno knew last spring that this day - this season - would eventually come. There's just no way around it sometimes.

"We're going to be very young, very inexperienced," Moreno said. "This is really the first year in a long time that we don't have an easy No. 1 choice on the boys' side."

Ruben Vargas was that guy for the last three seasons, and he graduated.

"It's going to be an interesting year in terms of just how things come together. But I enjoy challenges, and this just may be one."

Especially early on, the Lady Longhorns will have to win more than their fair share of matches as Dobie seeks team victories.

Senior Hai Ho is slated at No. 1 right now with her doubles partner, Lada Heng, in at No. 2. Senior Karen Neira and Ashley Deveza, also doubles partners, are set at No. 3 and No. 4, respectively, for the present.

Continued on Page 2B

At right, Anthony Evans became one of the state's all-time leading rushers before graduating from Pearland High School in 2001. But all of those memories will remain in his scrapbook as he takes over as Dobie's offensive coordinator this season. Evans played for current Dobie head coach Mike Norman when both were at Pearland, and now the two are eager to see what is possible from an offensive standpoint at Dobie. With little more than summertime off-field workouts, some 7-on-7 action and videotape to rely on, Evans is anxious to get started Aug. 3 when the Longhorns open preseason workouts.

Photo by John Bechtle



## Evans, Dobie's new OC, ready to get ball moving

Anthony Evans has been there and done that. Upon graduation from Pearland High School in 2001, Evans registered as the state's No. 2 all-time leading rusher, having gained 6,192 yards and scored 66 touchdowns over parts of four varsity seasons with the Oilers.

But those days are behind him, and today Evans' goal is to ensure the next wave of Dobie High School football talent reaches its full potential.

For Dobie varsity football head coach Mike Norman, reaching out to Evans to become the Longhorns' new offensive coordinator

had to be an easy one. You see, Norman was an assistant coach at Pearland for 21 seasons, including during the time Evans played there.

Now the two represent Dobie, and Evans couldn't be happier.

"Really, it's about the timing for me," Evans

said, "And the chance to work with Mike (Norman) is really special. We've seen some of the things Dobie has done in the past from afar."

"I have seen the Dobie tradition at work. They had two straight seasons (1999-2000) where they

Continued on Page 3B



Dobie tennis coach Manuel Moreno Jr. (left), chatting with Lady Longhorn doubles player Karen Neira during last spring's Region III championships, knows it may take some time for the 2015 fall team tennis program to develop. Photo by John Bechtle

## Defensively, Randle is JFD's man in charge

It's no secret that Dobie's defense will be expected to handle perhaps more than its share of the load early this season, and first-year defensive coordinator Donald Randle will have his unit ready to go.

Spending six years at Channelview and then last season at Summer Creek, Randle might've simply been in the right spot at the right time when this Dobie opportunity came up. He's glad it did.

While incoming Dobie head coach Mike Norman might very well have had offensive coordinator Anthony Evans at the top of his wish list once he was hired, the search for a defensive coordinator took a

bit more time. Randle said it likely boiled down to the sharing of coaching buddies.

"I think some of the (coaches) I know, he knows," Randle said.

"I know he talked to Kevin Drone at Pearland, who he had worked with while he was there."

"And I think Mike also spoke to Terry Bunn, who we both know from Channelview. I wasn't interested in a lateral move. Being a coordinator was the next step. Here we are, and I am very excited to be here at Dobie High School."

At Dobie, Randle takes over a defensive unit that should be fairly stout from the first snap forward.

Continued on Page 3B



New Dobie defensive coordinator Donald Randle wants his players to fly to the football, be aggressive at the point of attack and force turnovers.

## Volleyball sprint to openers begins Aug. 3

Just seven workout days will separate high school volleyball programs from the start of the preseason to opening night, which will make for a fast-paced preseason in particular for Dobie and

Clear Brook. Dawn Gutierrez, who will debut as the Lady Longhorns' head coach Aug. 11 during a tri match against Elkins and North Shore, has already told her players to be ready to

accomplish plenty in the short period of time.

Gutierrez spent some time on the Dobie campus last spring after being hired, and she has watched closely during open gymnasium workouts.

But seven seniors graduated after last season, and the remainder of the roster usually undergoes some tweaking for one reason or another in the offseason. Simply put, the Lady Longhorns have to be efficient during this one week of workouts plus scrimmages.

"We're going to be looking to get a lot done," Gutierrez said. "We'll do conditioning workouts in the morning and then do on courts activities in the afternoon. We just have to

put things together quickly."

It would help things if Dobie possessed a veteran roster with returnees aplenty. That's not the case, but Dobie will move on.

The program will scrimmage at Clear Brook Aug. 7 at 2 p.m., and then host a scrimmage with La Porte Aug. 8, with the action starting at 8 a.m. The same busy schedule will play out at Clear Brook, where head coach Meredith Thompson aims to get the Lady Wolverines back to the playoffs.

Whereas Dobie's roster must be reloaded at the varsity level, Clear Brook can rely heavily on setter Jaden Newsome as well as

Continued on Page 3B



Senior Alaina Sitka brings back front row experience to a Dobie varsity volleyball team that, at least from the outset of the season, will be seeking additional help at the net.

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## Sports news, notes

### Lions set more key dates

The Thompson Intermediate football coaching staff has released more key dates as the start of the school year nears. Those returning to the eighth-grade football program may pick up their practice equipment Friday, Aug. 14, from 10 a.m. to noon. Students planning to play seventh-grade football may pick up their gear from 1 to 3 p.m. There will also be a second equipment pickup date, Monday, Aug. 24, from 1 to 3 p.m. Football practice will begin on the first day of school, which is Tuesday, Aug. 25. Those wishing to participate in any practice or workout must have a completed athletics physical for the 2015-2016 school year on file at the school prior to participation. There are no exceptions. The Thompson football program will practice in pads for the first time on Saturday, Aug. 29, with seventh-grade students involved from 9 to 10 a.m. and eighth-grade students involved from 10:30 to noon. Other information will be available in the *Leader* when merited.

### SBHLL Back to School baseball

The Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League will host its annual Back to School tournament for 16-under teams Aug. 21-23 at the league facility at El Franco Lee Park. The team fee is \$300, and each team is guaranteed at least three games. Each team must also provide two game balls. For more information, call Chris Escalera at 832-630-4007 or direct email to chubrock30@yahoo.com.

### Sagemont-Beverly Hills fall ball

The Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League will host registration for its upcoming fall league. The registration dates include Saturday, Aug. 1 and Saturday, Aug. 8, both from noon to 2 p.m. at the league's facility at El Franco Lee Park. Players must have turned 4 years old or more by Jan. 1, 2015, to be eligible to compete. The fee is \$75 per player, which includes a team shirt and cap. There is a sibling discount for those families who register more than one player. The first games of the season will be contested Sept. 20, and each team will compete in at least six games on alternating Sundays after 1 p.m. For more information, visit the Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League page on Facebook.

### JFD youth swimming camp

Dobie High School swimming coach Bradley Nguyen will host the Longhorns' annual youth camp Aug. 3-6 at the Beverly Hills Intermediate pool, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. each day. The fee is \$60 cash or check (made out to Dobie H.S. swim booster club), and includes a camp T-shirt. Participants should wear swimming attire and bring goggles, towel, water, etc. Parents of participants are required to cover medical insurance/costs as the Pasadena ISD does not cover students' insurance for summer fitness/recreation programs. For more information, direct email to Nguyen at KTNguyen@pasadenaisd.org.

### Lady Longhorn cross-country

Dobie High School cross-country coach Tina Knight-Gray will begin preseason training for both returning at incoming freshmen Monday, Aug. 3, at 7 a.m., in front of the school's athletic field house. Those wishing to train must have a completed athletics physical for the 2015-2016 school year on file at the school. There are no exceptions.

## SBHLL news

### Arnesen back as prez; league adds board aides

Cheryl Arnesen's return as president of the Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League highlighted the league's annual board elections for the 2016 season. Along the way, many other board members from the 2015 season also returned to their previous roles or assumed new duties. The board still has several positions available, including major division director and player agent; coach/pitch/minor divisions director and player agent; assistant concession stand director, junior/senior concession stand director and T-ball field maintenance director. Anyone interested in any of the available roles may direct email to league officials at SBHLL@hotmail.com.

### SBHLL 2016 Board Members

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- VP Junior/Senior: Chris Escalera
- Treasurer: Adabel Perrett
- Secretary: TC Bennett
- Challenger Div. Dir.: Tammie Medina
- Safety Officer: Bryce Sommerfelt
- Coaching Coordinator: Greg Gonzalez
- Equipment Manager: Eusebio Reynero
- Team Mom Coord.: Kim Sommerfelt
- Information Officer: Daisy Gonzalez
- Auxiliary Chair: Brandy Harris
- Parliamentarian: Chad Sullivan
- T-Ball Director: Tessa Mohwinkel
- Jr./Sr. Director: CJ Hernandez
- Concession Director: Andrew Rodriguez
- Major Field Maintenance: Jose Torres
- Minor Field Maintenance: Joseph Lind
- Pee-wee Field Maint.: Adam Abidlatif
- Coach Pitch Field Maint.: Roberto Trevino

# Newcomers have legit shot to be part of Dobie's tennis future

**Continued from Page 1B** Lelaini Vargas, a sophomore who was in the top six for all of last season, will also be counted on to improve. Hellen Le, a junior, is currently at No. 6. For the boys, senior Luis Cabreja is at the top of his game heading into the season and is battling Albert Luu, another senior, for the top seed. From there, Ricky Perez, a sophomore who has been playing tennis for only about a year or more, is viewed as a top-of-the-ladder guy. David Ho is another option. As for the No. 5 and No. 6 seeds as well as added depth, check

back later. Moreno is also looking at options in the mixed doubles division. Ruben Vargas and Theresa Tran gave Dobie a near automatic win in 2014, but both have graduated. "I'm proud of the work Cabreja has put in during the offseason," Moreno said. "He's dedicated himself to being the best player he can be. I heard he won the Sportmanship Award at the Pasadena ZAT tournament and has played well overall."

"We just really have some big questions on the boys' side especially, but it's early. "We don't play our first district match till Sept. 15, so we'll know a lot more about what we are dealing with then." District 22-6A newcomer Dawson came away with the league championship during the fall team tennis season. With several key players slated to return to the Eagles this season, the

Longhorns may have a tough time unseating the frontrunners. But Moreno doesn't enjoy settling for second place, and the Longhorns have a history of coming up with big performances. Let the fun begin.



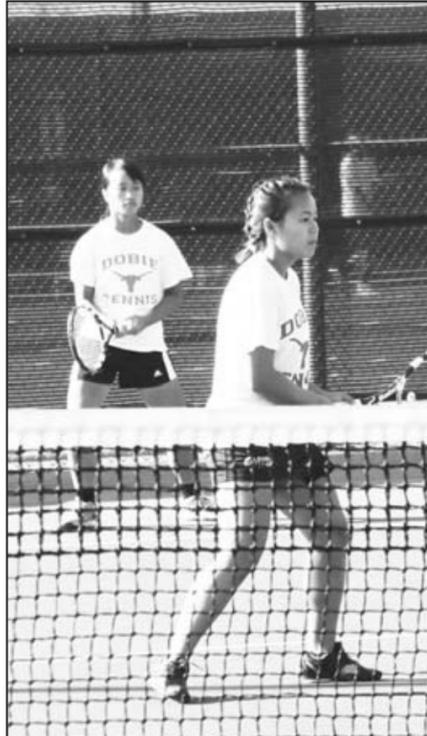
Albert Luu has paid his dues and excelled while doing so within the Dobie tennis program. Now, the senior has a great chance to represent his team as the No. 1 boys' singles player.

## Local baseballers help Baysox capture second at USSSA series



Five local players helped the Bayou City Baysox excel in the United States Specialty Sports Association's Global World Series in Gulf Shores, Ala. In the end, the Baysox finished second among the 20-team field of competition. The South Belt area

players, who have played together since their years in T-Ball, include, left to right, Sean Bonner, Jacob Perez, Marcelo Merced, Chucky Wilson and Noah Torres.



Hai Ho (left) and Lada Heng could very well battle it out all season for the No. 1 seeding in girls' singles play this fall. But perhaps more importantly, the two will combine to play No. 1 girls' doubles for the team.

## Storm Baseball 12U wins championship at Rumble on Dumble



The Texas Storm, a South Belt-based 12-under select baseball team, captured top honors at the Rumble on Dumble tournament in Baytown, defeating the Diablos, 7-4, in the championship game. Members of the team are, left to right, (front

row) Norberto Ramirez, Jr., Marcelo Merced, Colby Mooror, Mario Irachete, Xavier Lerma, (middle row) Xavier Tellez Lopez, Noah Torres, Cameron Jauregui, Aaron Longoria, Kyle Redmon, (back row) coaches Felipe Tellez and Craig Redmon.

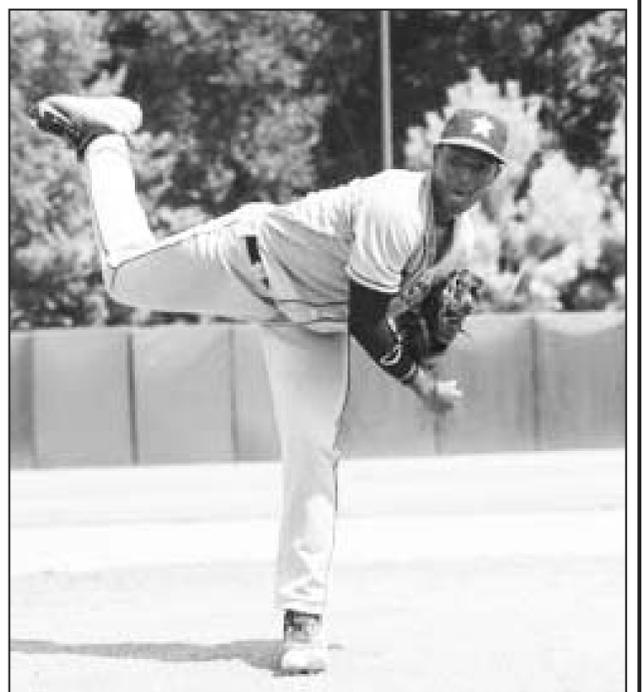
## Dobie players – past and present – do their part



Dobie sophomore baseball player Owen Castillo (left) and former Dobie player Frank Mora helped guide the Houston RBI junior division squad to the MLB RBI Urban Youth Academy World Series with a 6-1 victory over Arlington in the championship game July 26. Castillo, a subvarsity player for Dobie who joined the varsity roster for the playoffs in May, saw time at catcher and in the outfield,

and also pitched for the Houston squad during both the regular and playoff seasons. Like Dobie senior Kaelon Woods (see photo at right), Castillo and Mora will be in Arlington and Grapevine Aug. 10-15 with hopes of bringing a championship back to Houston. Mora's brother, Michael, was a senior on the 2015 varsity team at Dobie.

## Woods leads Houston RBI to series stop



Dobie senior-to-be Kaelon Woods has seen his summer baseball season extended as a member of the Houston RBI Baseball senior division squad. Woods threw a four-hit shutout in the championship game as Houston defeated Austin 5-0 in the Southwest Regional event. Going the seven-inning distance, Woods punched out seven hitters along the way. Houston RBI is now set to compete in the RBI World Series Aug. 10-15 in Grapevine and Arlington. The championship game will be played Aug. 15 at The Ballpark in Arlington, the home of the Texas Rangers.



Meredith Thompson, varsity volleyball head coach at Clear Brook, hopes her team can get back into playoff contention this season after a rough go of things in 2014.

## VB gets underway

Continued from Page 1B  
Jordan Russell, a sophomore middle blocker. Newsome, entering her third season as a starter, was named to the Greater Houston Volleyball Association's FAB 50 list. Russell, who is set to play a big role up front for Clear Brook, was listed as a Player to Watch by the GHVCA.

## SJC soccer to start

The San Jacinto College's men's soccer team, looking to unseat four-time defending national champion Tyler as the team to beat in Region XIV, will open its season Aug. 15. SJC will open conference play Sept. 11 at Parroter on campus within days. After taking the time to complete registration for school and other details, the team will begin workouts under head coach Ian Spooner.

Players on this season's roster are due to arrive

## New Sageglen tennis courts now in play



The Sageglen community is now able to enjoy the new tennis courts at the Sageglen Community Association facility. Residents may access the tennis courts by using a key, which is available in the association office. Pictured are board members Sam Weeke and Mary Maddox (center) who are flanked by employees Cathy Smith (right) and Barbara Weeke (left). Photo by Lori Rodriguez.

## Norman era officially starts Aug. 3

Continued from Page 1B  
minded coach, Norman says getting the remainder of the offense installed and getting the players acclimated to it will take center stage on his side of the ball. "We're pleased with what we've been able to get done offensively, but there's still a long way to go," Norman said. "Getting these guys together as a team and de-

veloping that camaraderie and chemistry together on the field is also big." Dobie has as few as three full-time offensive starters back in the mix. Perhaps if there is any season to integrate a new offense, it's this one. However, the transition still needs to be as seamless as possible. Once Aug. 3 hits, Dobie will have, basically, 20 or so days to prepare for the

opener at Deer Park. That comes Aug. 28. And while it may be hotter outside currently than the law should allow, the pads will go on Aug. 7. Dobie will host an intrasquad scrimmage the morning of Aug. 8. "The (University Interscholastic League) says we have to go four days without the pads," Norman said. "After that, we'll get out there. We want to see

what some of these guys can do with the pads on." "That first scrimmage, the defense may take it to us. But that may be a good thing. We expect this defense to be pretty good this season." Above all, Norman is simply ready to get started out on the football field. He's waited for this day for what seems like forever. And he needs some sleep.

## Evans excited to lead offense

Continued from Page 1B  
had back-to-back 12-1 seasons. Granted that was the late '90s (into 2000), but those accomplishments are still possible. "It's a team game, and I've always felt that way. One of my greatest memories at Pearland was when we made the playoffs that first time. "It's not about one player or a group of players, but it's about the team." In line with what Norman speaks of offensively, the goal at Dobie in Evans' offense is to focus on execution and being efficient. If the big plays come, the big plays come. But the Longhorns will throw the ball and run the ball with the execution of the little

things in mind. Offensively, Dobie has Tyler Giron back as the leading candidate to start under center in the Deer Park opener, but junior Jeremy Davis is also expected to see time. At running back, the Longhorns have Anthony Owens, a reserve in 2014, as the most experienced tailback. Freshman Kris Morris could very well see time at some point. The receiving group includes Jaylon Bolden, Kaelon Woods and Breon Simmons as the top returnees. Dobie's offensive line will feature five new starters, as well as a new starter at tight end. It may not be the ideal

situation for a first-year coordinator, but Evans is confident things can and will come together quicker rather than not. "We're fortunate in that we only have three new coaches, so we have been able to use the knowledge and experience of our coaches in relation to these players. "As I said, it's a team game, and we'll find ways to move the football and put points on the board," Evans added. "There's some great athletes here. We're a little bit behind because we didn't have the spring to install the offense, but we'll get there. We're focused on Game 1 against Deer Park.

## Randle to guide Dobie's 'D'

Continued from Page 1B  
Nose guard Chandler Tisby, now a senior, was the 22-5A Defensive Newcomer of the Year in 2013 in his first season as a starter. Outside linebacker Derrick Simpson might be one of the district's best at his position in a league already loaded with stand-out linebackers. There are other top returnees as well. What approach will Dobie take defensively? For Randle, the answer is simple. "We're going to fly around, be quick to the football, be aggressive and look to create turnovers," he said. "Particularly in the Houston area, teams want to spread you out defensively yet still want to feature the running game. To be able to play the passing game well, you have to stop the running game well so that you can

put yourself in favorable downs and distances." Simpson and Tisby are the big names on the defensive side of the football, and rightly so. However, Randle says the primary goal from Aug. 3 until the night of the season opener Aug. 28 at Deer Park, the focus is on the team game. "We have to identify our top 11 players and get them on the field, but then we also have to have a good, solid core of seven or eight players who can help us at any given time," Randle said. "In this day and age, teams are snapping the ball faster and trying to keep your primary guys on the field. I'm sure there are guys on this team that feel like they have earned to play every down. But in some situations, with the heat and other factors, that's just not possible. Depth is extremely impor-

tant so we can get some of these guys a breather without losing a step on the field." All of that leads to another primary focus this preseason, Randle added. "We have to get comfortable out there, be comfortable in what our respective jobs are and trust one another to be where they are supposed to be," he said. "It's my job to coach them up. You're not always going to be in a situation year after year where 60 kids walk in off the street and are ready to go. You have to coach from point A in order to get to Z. "I was excited watching some of these guys in the 7-on-7 action. I look for the competitiveness and the willingness to be there for one another. We have a good, solid group here. Aug. 3 cannot get here fast enough."

## San Jacinto College

### 2015 Men's Soccer Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Aug. 15	UTRGV	7 p.m.
Aug. 18	Houston-Tillotson	7 p.m.
Aug. 19	LSUA	5 p.m.
Aug. 22	St. Mary's	7 p.m.
Sept. 2	at Western Texas	2 p.m.
Sept. 7	Richland	5:30 p.m.
Sept. 11	*at Paris	5 p.m.
Sept. 12	*at Northeast	3 p.m.
Sept. 18	*Laredo	7 p.m.
Sept. 20	*Coastal Bend	3 p.m.
Sept. 25	*at Tyler	7 p.m.
Sept. 26	*at Jacksonville	3 p.m.
Oct. 2	at Kansas City (Dallas)	7 p.m.
Oct. 4	Richland (Dallas)	noon
Oct. 9	*Paris	1 p.m.
Oct. 11	*Northeast	3 p.m.
Oct. 14	*Jacksonville	7 p.m.
Oct. 16	*at Laredo	5 p.m.
Oct. 17	*at Coastal Bend	5 p.m.
Oct. 21	*Tyler	7 p.m.
Oct. 23	at Hill	4 p.m.
Oct. 28	Region XIV tourn.	TBA
Oct. 31	Region XIV tourn.	TBA
Nov. 6-8	District championships	TBA
Nov. 16-21	National championships	TBA



Dobie varsity football head coach Mike Norman, shown discussing a pass route with quarterback Tyler Giron (left) and receiver Jaylon Bolden in May, is ready to lead the Longhorns into preseason workouts. The Longhorns' returning players will open things Aug. 3 at 1:30 p.m., with the incoming freshmen to follow at 5:30 p.m. that first week. Dobie will also play an intrasquad scrimmage Saturday, Aug. 8. Dobie kicks off the regular season Aug. 28, at Deer Park.

## Beverly Hills Intermediate Football Camp

Aug 3 to Aug. 7 (M-F) at the school

Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 School: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Grade entering 2015-2016: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Height: \_\_\_\_\_ Weight: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Positions: Offense: \_\_\_\_\_ Defense: \_\_\_\_\_  
 I wish to enroll my child in the 2015 football camp. I understand that neither the coaches nor anyone connected with the football camp will assume any responsibility for accidents, medical, dental or other expenses incurred as a result of injuries sustained during the camp. I further acknowledge that my child is physically fit to participate.  
 Parent / Guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Emergency contact/phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Physician/phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Camp to be held at Beverly Hills Intermediate School  
 Cost is \$30 per student. Please no checks or money orders. Cash only.  
 Camp hours are 4:30 to 6 p.m. each day for incoming seventh-grade students; 6 to 7 p.m. for incoming eighth-grade students.  
 Report 15 minutes early Aug. 3. Bring tennis shoes. Cleats optional.  
 For more information, call coach Ben Portis at 713-299-0251.

# CALENDAR

**THURSDAY, JULY 30**  
 7 a.m.  
**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" each Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.  
 10 a.m.  
**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - Bridge games weekdays, 10 a.m., Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark Rd. For lessons, contact Dr. Dave Glandorf, bridge instructor, at drglandorf@sbcglobal.net or 281-488-6318. Cost is \$6 per game or \$15 per lesson. For more information, call the club at 281-486-1911.  
 Noon  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group of Alcoholics Anonymous, noon, 2245 N. Main (building next to pawn shop). For information, call 713-856-1611.  
 4 p.m.  
**Houston Area Parkinson Society** - Free water exercise for individuals with Parkinson's disease, 4 to 5 p.m., Kindred Rehabilitation Hospital Clear Lake, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster. Call 713-313-1652 or visit www.hapsonline.org for a list of all services.  
 6:30 p.m.  
**Kirkwood Civic Association** meets at the Sagemont Park and Recreation Center on Hughes Road. For more information call Ericka McCutcheon at 281-989-9990.  
 8:30 p.m.  
**CrossRoads Support Group** - Those who are the husband, wife or partner of a chronically ill/disabled person may join a new support group, Well Spouse, the last Thursday of each month from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at CrossRoads United Methodist Church, 10030 Scarsdale. Free childcare provided. For more information, contact Jennifer Miller at houstonwellspouse@gmail.com or 713-724-2360, or visit the Well Spouse Association at http://www.wellspouse.org.  
 7 p.m.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Women's Group of Narcotics Anonymous, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518) at the First Presbyterian Church in the youth building on the Westminster side. For information, call 713-856-1611.  
**Al-Anon (English Speaking)** - Provides support for family and friends of alcoholics and addicts. Thursday, 7 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, room 215. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.  
**Alateen** - Provides support for teenage children, friends and family members of alcoholics and addicts. Thursday, 7 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, room 208.

Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.  
 8:30 p.m.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** - Alcohol problems? AA meetings are held Thursdays, 8:30 to 9:30 p.m., and Sundays and Tuesdays, 8 to 9 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta Street. For information, call 713-204-2481.  
**FRIDAY, JULY 31**  
 7 a.m.  
**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" each Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.  
 10 a.m.  
**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - Bridge games weekdays, 10 a.m., Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark Rd. For lessons, contact Dr. Dave Glandorf, bridge instructor, at drglandorf@sbcglobal.net or 281-488-6318. Cost is \$6 per game or \$15 per lesson. For more information, call the club at 281-486-1911.  
 Noon  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - West End Group of Alcoholics Anonymous, noon, Shepherd of the Heart United Methodist Church, 12005 County Road 39, Pearland. For information, call 713-856-1611.  
 6 p.m.  
**Un Dia a la Vez Alanon Group (Spanish)** - Provides support for family and friends of alcoholics or addicts. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 6 p.m., room 215, First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.  
 6:30 p.m.  
**Bay Area Genealogical Society** - Meets the last Friday of each month at University Baptist Church, 16106 Middlebrook Drive in Clear Lake. Coffee and socializing is at 6:30 and the meeting begins at 7 p.m. For more information, visit www.TxBayAreaGen.org.  
 7 p.m.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of Narcotics Anonymous, open meeting, 2245 N. Main St., (Hwy 35), in building next to pawn shop. For more information, call 713-856-1611.  
**SATURDAY, AUGUST 1**  
 7:30 a.m.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** - "Breakfast with Bill", Saturdays, 7:30 a.m., First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.  
 10 a.m.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of Narcotics Anonymous, open meeting, 2245 N. Main St., (Hwy 35), in building

next to pawn shop. For more information, call 713-856-1611.  
 11 a.m.  
**Al-Anon Meeting (Women Only, English)** - For persons whose lives are affected by an addict. Saturdays, 11 a.m., First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy, Cornell Conference room #111. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.  
 1 p.m.  
**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - Bridge games weekdays, 10 a.m., Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark Rd. For lessons, contact Dr. Dave Glandorf, bridge instructor, at drglandorf@sbcglobal.net or 281-488-6318. Cost is \$6 per game or \$15 per lesson. For more information, call the club at 281-486-1911.  
**SUNDAY, AUGUST 2**  
 1 p.m.  
**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - Bridge games weekdays, 10 a.m., Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark Rd. For lessons, contact Dr. Dave Glandorf, bridge instructor, at drglandorf@sbcglobal.net or 281-488-6318. Cost is \$6 per game or \$15 per lesson. For more information, call the club at 281-486-1911.  
 2 p.m.  
**Grief Support Group** - For any adult who has lost a loved one. Meets Sundays, except Mother's Day, Easter and Christmas, 2 to 3:15 p.m., First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway. For information, call 281-487-8787.  
 5:30 p.m.  
**Celebrate Recovery** - A faith-based 12-Step Program, Sundays, 5:30 p.m., Chapel of the Educational Building at Life Church in Houston, 9900 Almeda Genoa. Call 713-419-2635 for information or to RSVP for child care.  
 6:30 p.m.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** - Candlelight Meeting, Sunday, 6:30 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.  
 7 p.m.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of Narcotics Anonymous NA meets Sundays, 7 p.m., 2245 N. Main St., Pearland (building next to pawn shop). For information, call 713-856-1611.  
 8 p.m.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** - Alcohol problems? AA meetings are held Thursdays, 8:30 to 9:30 p.m., and Sundays and Tuesdays, 8 to 9 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta Street. For information, call 713-204-2481.  
**MONDAY, AUGUST 3**  
 10 a.m.  
**Al-Anon Deer Park** - Monday, 10 to 11 a.m., Literature Study. In His

Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P. St., Deer Park. Enter through Fellowship Hall, back of church. Call 409-454-5720 for information.  
 10 a.m.  
**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - Bridge games weekdays, 10 a.m., Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark Rd. For lessons, contact Dr. Dave Glandorf, bridge instructor, at drglandorf@sbcglobal.net or 281-488-6318. Cost is \$6 per game or \$15 per lesson. For more information, call the club at 281-486-1911.  
 11:30 a.m.  
**Overeaters Anonymous Deer Park** - 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P Street, Deer Park. Enter through Fellowship Hall in back of church. Call 409-454-5720 for information, or just drop in.  
 Noon  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group of Alcoholics Anonymous meets at noon at 2245 N. Main (building next to pawn shop). For more information, call 713-856-1611.  
 2 p.m.  
**Genealogy Group** - Parker Williams Genealogy Group meets from 2 to 4 p.m. on first and third Mondays of each month at the Parker Williams Library, Beamer at Scarsdale. Public is invited. For information, email Liz Hicks at eroort@usa.net.  
 3:30 p.m.  
**Houston Area Parkinson Society** - Free exercise and speech therapy from 3:30 to 5 p.m. at Clear Lake Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster. Visit www.hapsonline.org for a complete list of services offered. For adults with Parkinson's disease only.  
 6 p.m.  
**Scrabble Club #511** - Meets Mondays at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua, 6 p.m. Come and improve crossword game playing skills. Call 281-488-2923 for more information.  
 6:30 p.m.  
**New Directions Singles** - Group for ages 55 and older meets the first and third Mondays for a potluck dinner, 6:30 p.m., at Webster Presbyterian Church, 201 W. NASA Parkway, Webster. The dinner may include guest speakers and/or group activities. For more information, call Bambi at 281-482-7143 or 281-795-4514.  
 6:30 p.m.  
**Pearland Overeaters Anonymous HOW Meeting** - meets Mondays at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 2535 E. Broadway (FM 518). Enter door closest to recycling bins. For more information, call 713-865-3668 or visit www.oahouston.org.

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**SEWING & ALTERATIONS** for men, women & home fashions. Experienced seamstress. Call Karen at 713-943-7935 TF



# CALENDAR

Continued from Page 3B

**MONDAY, AUGUST 3**  
 7 p.m.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of Narcotics Anonymous, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), First Presbyterian Church in the youth building on the Westminster side. For more information, call 713-856-1611.

**Friends Helping Friends Grief Support Group** - Group meets Mondays, Kindred Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster, 7 to 8:15 p.m., in the staff meeting room. Anyone who has lost a loved one is welcome. Free. For information, call Betty Bielat at 281-474-3430 or Diana Kawalec at 281-334-1033.

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 4**  
 7 a.m.  
**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" each Tuesday through Friday at 7 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, in the Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.

9:30 a.m.  
**Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - Exhibits include dioramas, an old-time kitchen and a turn-of-the-century doctor's office. Tuesday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., 204 S. Main, Pasadena. For information, call 713-472-0565.

10 a.m.  
**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - Bridge games weekdays, 10 a.m., Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark Rd. For lessons, contact Dr. Dave Glandorf, bridge instructor, at drglandorf@sbcglobal.net or 281-488-6318. Cost is \$6 per game or \$15 per lesson. For more information, call the club at 281-486-1911.

11:30 a.m.  
**Local NARFE Meeting** - The National Association of Retired Federal Employees, Chapter 1321, meets the first Tuesday of each month in the Clear Lake Community Center, 5001 NASA Parkway. A meal will be available for \$6. For more information, call Bob Mitchell at 281-333-2881.

Noon  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group of Alcoholics Anonymous meets at noon, at 2245 N. Main (building next to pawn shop). For more information, call 713-856-1611.

**Rotary Club of Pearland** - Meets weekly, Tuesdays, noon to 1 p.m., Golfcrest Country Club, 2509 Country Club Drive, Pearland. Lunch is served for \$15. Variety of interesting speakers. For information, call 281-900-7257 or visit nalix@texascitizensbank.com.

1 p.m.  
**Trailmixers** - Meets the first Tuesday of the month at the Luby's Cafeteria on Fuqua. Former and current employees of J. Frank Dobie High School are welcome for lunch and conversation.

**Ballroom Dance Practice** - Tuesdays, Hometown Heroes Park, League City. Come and enjoy free ballroom dancing, 1 to 3 p.m., on a beautiful 3,630 sq. ft. floating hardwood floor. Dancers practice to a large variety of ballroom music. Instructor available to assist people with new moves. Everyone is welcome! For questions, call 281-554-1180. 1001 East League City Pkwy.

1:30 p.m.  
**TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)** - TOPS #1530 meets at the Sagemont Park Community Center, 11507 Hughes Road, at 1:30 p.m. For information, call Jeanette Sumrall at 713-946-3713.

6 p.m.  
**Un Dia a la Vez Alanon Group (Spanish)** - Provides support for family and friends of alcoholics or addicts. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 6 p.m., First United Methodist Church, room 215, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.

6:30 p.m.  
**Bay Area Quilt Guild** - Meets the first Tuesday of each month at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church located at 10310 Scarsdale Blvd., Houston. Fellowship begins at 6:30 p.m. Meeting and program begin at 7 p.m. Come for a good time and a chance to see some quilts. Guests welcome.

7 p.m.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of Narcotics Anonymous, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518) at the First Presbyterian Church in the youth building on the Westminster side. For information, call 713-856-1611.

8 p.m.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** - Alcohol problems? AA meetings are held Thursdays, 8:30 to 9:30 p.m., and Sundays and Tuesdays, 8 to 9 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta Street. For information, call 713-204-2481.

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5**  
 7 a.m.  
**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" each Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, in the Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or drop in.

10 a.m.  
**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - Bridge games weekdays, 10 a.m., Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark Rd. For lessons, contact Dr. Dave Glandorf, bridge instructor, at drglandorf@sbcglobal.net or 281-488-6318. Cost is \$6 per game or \$15 per lesson. For more information, call the club at 281-486-1911.

11:30 a.m.  
**Houston Hobby Airport Lions Club** - meets on the first and third Wednesday of the month, 11:30 a.m., Golden Corral, 12500 Gulf Freeway (Fuqua and I-45). December may be an exception. For information, call Monica Montoya at 281-794-5531.

Noon  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group of Alcoholics Anonymous meets at noon at 2245 N. Main (next to pawn shop). For information, call 713-856-1611.

6 p.m.  
**Un Dia a la Vez Alanon Group (Spanish)** - Provides support for family and friends of alcoholics or addicts. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 6 p.m., First United Methodist Church, room 215, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.

**Alzheimer's Support Group** - The free group meets the first Wednesday of each month in the third floor classrooms 3 and 4 of Bayshore Medical Center, 4000 Spencer Hwy. in Pasadena. For more information, call 713-944-4782 or 713-266-6400.

7 p.m.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of Narcotics Anonymous, open meeting, meets at 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518) at the First Presbyterian Church in the youth building on the Westminster side. For more information, call 713-856-1611.

**Survivors of Suicide Support Group** - The Southeast Houston group meets twice each month. The group offers support and coping skills in a non-threatening environment to adult individuals who have lost a loved one to suicide. For information on registration or to obtain a physical address for a location, call 713-533-4500 or visit www.crisishotline.org

**Bay Area Turning Point Crisis Intervention Center** - Confidential domestic violence support group for women, 7 p.m., 210 S. Walnut off NASA Pkwy. between I-45 South and Highway 3. Call 281-338-7600 or visit www.bayareaturningpoint.com for information. 24-hour crisis hotline is 281-286-2525.

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 6**  
 7 a.m.  
**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" each Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.

10 a.m.  
**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - Bridge games weekdays, 10 a.m., Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark Rd. For lessons, contact Dr. Dave Glandorf, bridge instructor, at drglandorf@sbcglobal.net or 281-488-6318. Cost is \$6 per game or \$15 per lesson. For more information, call the club at 281-486-1911.

Noon  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group of Alcoholics Anonymous, noon, 2245 N. Main (building next to pawn shop). For information, call 713-856-1611.

4 p.m.  
**Houston Area Parkinson Society** - Free water exercise for individuals with Parkinson's disease, 4 to 5 p.m., Kindred Rehabilitation Hospital Clear Lake, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster. Call 713-313-1652 or visit www.hapsonline.org for a list of all services.

6:30 p.m.  
**Diabetes Support Group** - A support group for young adults with Type 1 diabetes. All subjects are open for discussion: new technologies, research advances, fears, phobias, dating and other personal matters. Meets the first Thursday of each month (or the second Thursday if that day is a holiday) at various restaurants in the area. Contact Dan Steiner, CDE, at 713-922-9677 for more information.

7 p.m.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Women's Group of Narcotics Anonymous, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518) at the First Presbyterian Church in the youth building on the Westminster side. For information, call 713-856-1611.

**Al-Anon (English Speaking)** - Provides support for family and friends of alcoholics and addicts. Thursday at 7 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, Room 215. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.

**Alateen** - Provides support for teenage children, friends and family members of alcoholics and addicts. Thursday, 7 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, room 208. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.

**The Bay Area Writers League** - Meets the first Thursday of each month, Barnes and Noble, Bay Area Blvd. and the Gulf Freeway. 7 p.m. Newcomers welcome.

8:30 p.m.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** - Alcohol problems? AA meetings are held Thursdays, 8:30 to 9:30 p.m., and Sundays and Tuesdays, 8 to 9 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta Street. For information, call 713-204-2481.



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# South Belt celebrates July 4 winners & vacations

## Baye attends parade as spectator



Frank Baye is shown above watching the parade from the sidelines after earning the record of most prizes won in the parade's history. Baye has won the most original prize for multiple years consecutively in years past and helped Rudy Alafa to construct his prize-winning float this year. Baye and his wife, Gwen, are longtime residents of the South Belt area and patrons of the parade.



The 28th annual South Belt Fourth of July parade was a great success, bringing smiles to hundreds of area residents. The *Leader* is pleased to share the award winners of the parade.

Photo left: Kids Backporch Productions' *Wizards of Oz* themed float in the Fourth of July parade won them one of two most original noncommercial entry awards. The Evers family is shown at left collecting their trophy. Pictured are, left to right, Deron Evers, Jillian Evers, Tiffany Evers, Avonlea Evers and Kimberly Flickinger.



The Fourth of July parade prize for most patriotic noncommercial entry went to the J. Frank Dobie High School Lariatettes. Members of the dance and drill team are shown above with the trophy. Pictured above are, left to right, (front row) Kellie Tyer, Megan Schuetz, Marissa Kruschinsky, Ikea Taylor, Brittany Gonzales, Macalyn Castro-Cardenas, Naseem Shafaei, Diana Castillo, Gabbi Munoz, Alayna Cano, (second row) Jade Mottu, Mayalen Suarez, Karina Gutierrez, Amanda Arambula, Marissa Flores, Rachel Vu, Crystal Garza, Laura Stephens, Fran-

celli Momreal, Emily Le, Raegan Saxton, Holly Gonzales, Alyssa Lopez, Charish Williams, Jazalyne Garza, (third row) Astrid Silva, Esmeralda Ibarra, Alexis Sanchez, Beatriz Hernandez, Sylar Rocha, Adela Alanis, Ni Truong, Andy Del Villar, Alexis Chicas, Xochitl Romero, Naya Cooper, Jennifer Cantarero, Alexis Woodruffe, Nicole Yanney, Natalie Balle, Katherine Maslonka, (back row) Katrina Herazo, Vi Diep, Alexis Lopez, Maria Pedroza, Jazmin Guerrero, Catherine Fuentes, Amanda Davila and Maritza Hernandez.



Rudy Alafa's extravagant float in the Fourth of July parade featuring a Texans theme won him one of two most original noncommercial entry awards. Alafa is shown above posing with his trophy.

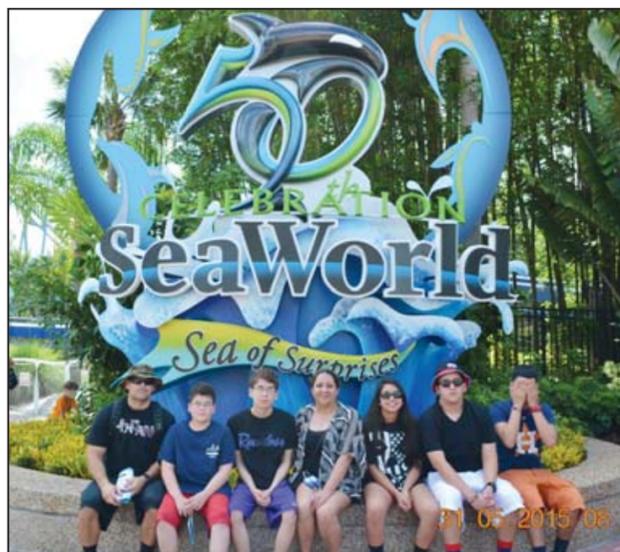
## 2015 South Belt vacation photos

### Garza family travels to Orlando

In June, the Garza family took a road trip through Mississippi and Florida where they vacationed in Orlando and visited Seaworld and Aquatica Waterpark. The family lives in South Belt. Luis is in the U.S. Navy currently stationed at Stennis Space Center Mississippi Command "NAVSCIATTS." Damian is a college student at San Jacinto College South, Caleb and Elijah attend Lee Road Middle School in Louisiana, Destiny attends Miller Intermediate. On their vacation, the family visited Seaworld, Aquatica, Wet'n Wild Waterpark and Epcot in Disney World. It was their annual vacation to celebrate everyone's good grades for the year, Luis' 20 years in the U.S. Navy, his birthday on June 16, the couple's wedding anniversary, and Caleb's graduation from middle school.



Left to right (front row) Elijah, Destiny, (back row) Damian, Zak, Caleb and Luis are ready to get wet at Aquatica Waterpark.



Left to right, Luis, Elijah, Caleb, Cristy, Destiny, Damian and Zak at Seaworld.

### Sandoval learns about marine mammals

On June 1, Destiny Sandoval and her parents, Cristy and Luis Garza, went on a vacation to the Institute for Marine Mammal Studies in Gulfport, Miss. While there, they learned about the rescue and rehabilitation efforts of marine mammals. Since Destiny wants to be a marine biologist, they thought this would be a great experience for her. The Garzas are a military family, and they recently moved back to the South Belt area from Mississippi.



The award for the most original commercial entry went to Houston Dentistry for Children. Faculty and staff members are shown above with the trophy. Pictured above are, left to right, (front row) Raquel Pina, Debbie Vasquez, Meliza Garcia, (back row) Jo-Ann Maxwell, Dr. Bret Ibarra, Claudia Lara, Lisa Rodriguez and Amy Tisnado.



Kidz Come 1st Daycare and Learning Center won the most patriotic commercial entry. Representatives of the day care are shown above receiving their trophy on behalf of the company. Pictured above are, left to right, Rosemary O'Der, Damaris O'Der, Rachel Cortez and Alexis Lochner.

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