

Leader requests assistance

Residents are reminded to not take bulk copies of the *Leader* from local dispensers at area stores, as the physical copies of the newspaper are intended to be read by residents and not for any other uses. When some residents take mass copies of the newspapers from area machines, loyal readers cannot find copies.

Precinct 2 deputies are aware of the situation and have intervened in one instance. A white box truck has subsequently been spotted taking large amounts of the papers. Anyone who witnesses such bulk removal of the newspapers from local machines is urged to not make contact with the individual(s) but rather contact the *Leader* office at 281-481-5656. If possible, witnesses are urged to get vehicle make/model and license plate number.

COVID cases on the rise

The number of active COVID-19 cases in the South Belt community in on the rise again, with increases being reported in all three local ZIP codes. As of Tuesday, Aug. 9, there had been 13,901 confirmed cases in 77089. Of those, 489 remain active, up 56 from the previous week. To date, 134 from the ZIP code have died from the disease, up two from the previous week.

In ZIP code 77075, there had been 10,756 confirmed cases. Of those, 357 remain active, up 38 from the previous week. To date, there have been 79 deaths in the ZIP code, up one from the previous week.

In 77034 (total population: 40,532), there had been 9,437 confirmed cases. Of those, 339 remained active, up 22 from the previous week. To date, 91 residents from ZIP code 77034 have died from the disease, no increase from the previous week.

Statistics are updated daily and include numbers from within the Houston city limits and throughout Harris County. To view an interactive map, visit covid-harriscounty.hub.arcgis.com/pages/cumulative-data.

Heavy trash pickup planned

City residents south of Fuqua will have heavy trash pickup Thursday, Aug. 11 (second Thursday of the month). City residents north of Fuqua and west of the Gulf Freeway will have heavy trash pickup Friday, Aug. 12 (second Friday of the month). August is for junk waste, but tree waste will also be accepted. Due to a larger amount of debris being discarded during the COVID-19 pandemic, pickups may be delayed. For information, visit www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste or call 311.

Ellington e-recycling set

The City of Houston Solid Waste Management Department's monthly electronic recycling event will take place Saturday, Aug. 13, at the Neighborhood Recycling Center at Ellington Airport from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Recycling electronics keeps potentially harmful materials, such as mercury, cadmium, lead and cathode ray tubes out of the waste stream and the environment.

Items accepted are PCs, servers, keyboards, mice, laptops, game consoles, monitors, small kitchen appliances, memory chips, hubs and routers, printers, copiers, scanners, fax machines, projectors, rechargeable batteries, cable boxes, car batteries, telephones, cell-phones, cables and cameras. The collection events take place the second Saturday of each month. For additional information, visit www.houston.solidwaste.org or call 311.

Church seeks bus drivers

St. Luke the Evangelist, 11011 Hall Road, needs a pool of bus drivers who can be contacted when events arise requiring transportation using the church bus. Some examples of events when drivers would be needed include retreats, ministry outings, church campus-to-campus transportation, etc. For more information, visit stlukescatholic.com/news/bus-drivers-needed.

Gulf Freeway closures set

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

At least one southbound main lane and frontage road lane and at least one northbound main lane and frontage road lane will be closed on the Gulf Freeway from NASA Bypass/NASA Road 1 to SH 96 in League City daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Saturday, Dec. 31.

Both the northbound entrance and southbound entrance ramps from FM 518 in League City will be completely closed until further notice. Motorists should use the entrance ramps from SH 96. The northbound exit ramp to FM 517 in Dickinson will be completely closed until further notice. Motorists should use the northbound exit ramp to Holland/Hughes.

Beltway closures planned

Two northbound Beltway 8 frontage road lanes will be closed at Fairmont Parkway daily from 4 a.m. to 4 p.m. through Friday, Sept. 30. Significant delays are expected.

At least one eastbound Beltway 8 frontage road lane will be closed at SH 288 daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Saturday, July 30.

2 teens accused of 3 murders in 12 hours

Suspects charged in Pearland, Houston killings; bail set at \$3 million each

Two teens are accused of three local murders in a 12-hour killing spree that began the afternoon of Sunday, July 31.

Evan Scott Redmond, 18, and Camren Keith Johnson, 19, were each charged in the murders. Both were arrested shortly after the spree.

The first homicide took place around 3 p.m. Sunday on Blakely Grove Lane off Pearland Parkway. The victim was identified as Nathaniel Alaniz, 19.

Pearland police initially responded to reports of gunshots coming from the area of Blakely Grove Lane and Laurel Leaf Lane. After speaking to witnesses and checking the area, a male was located inside a residence in the 1400 Block of Blakely Grove Lane and was confirmed dead.



Evan Redmond

Due to the collaborative work of neighboring law enforcement agencies and assistance from concerned citizens, Pearland police were able to quickly identify Redmond and Johnson as the suspects in the case and bring it to a close, charging them each with murder. Their bonds have been set at \$3 million each.

The investigation has revealed there are no other known suspects in this case.

This is an active investigation, however, and the Pearland Police Department is asking anyone with information about this case to contact the Pearland Crime Tip Line at 281-997-4211 or email crimetips@pearlandtx.gov.

Based on the investigation, there is no known threat to the surrounding community, Pearland po-



Camren Johnson

lice said. Neighbors said the gated community is typically quiet.

Less than 12 hours later in Houston, the pair of suspects allegedly murdered two more people near Fuqua and Monroe.

According to Houston police, the other two killings took place about 1:35 a.m. Monday, Aug. 1, in the 10600 block of Monroe.

The identities of the male victims, 20 and 22, were pending notifications to family members by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences at press time.

According to Houston Police Department officials, patrol officers responded to a shooting call at a convenience store at the above address and located a male victim inside the business. He had suffered multiple gunshot wounds. Houston Fire Department paramedics transported the man to an area hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

Detectives learned the victims were inside a white Mercedes Benz in the parking lot. The suspect, Redmond, exited the front passenger seat of a black Nissan Altima and entered the Mercedes.

Surveillance video evidence indicated at least one shot was fired. One victim exited the driver's seat of the Mercedes and ran into the

business. The Nissan fled the scene, followed by the Mercedes, stolen and being driven by Redmond.

Officers located the second victim on the roadway in the 1000 block of Pearland Parkway. It appeared he was thrown from the Mercedes. He had suffered multiple gunshot wounds. Pearland Fire Department paramedics pronounced the man dead at the scene.

Patrol officers later observed the stolen Mercedes and attempted a traffic stop. The driver failed to comply and a pursuit ensued. It ended when the Mercedes rolled over and crashed in the 2200 block of Dixie Farm Road.

Redmond was in the driver's seat of the stolen vehicle. Paramedics transported him to an area hospital with minor injuries. Redmond admitted to his role in the shooting and subsequent incidents.

HPD officers later located the Nissan Altima at a residence in Pearland. Officers took Johnson into custody without incident. He later admitted to being the driver of the Nissan.

The Harris County District Attorney's Office was consulted, and both suspects were charged for their roles in the incident. Each of the suspects was charged with capital murder in the 208th State District Court.

PISD welcomes new teachers



Congratulations to new Dobie English teacher Monica Velez (center) who won a gift basket filled with classroom supplies at the recent Pasadena ISD New Teacher Welcome event. Classes begin Tuesday, Aug. 16, for most area students. Some students in transition grades will begin the previous day on Monday, Aug. 15.

Person of interest sought in stabbing

Fatality the latest in string of violent crimes at Edgebrook complex

Houston police are searching for an individual wanted for questioning in the fatal stabbing of a man that took place about 10:50 p.m. on Thursday, July 28, in the 1200 block of Redford near Edgebrook and the Gulf Freeway.

The person of interest, Jeanette Staton, 43, was not charged in the incident at press time. A prior booking photo of Staton is shown here. The identity of the male victim, 41, was pending verification by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences at press time.

According to Houston Police Department officials, patrol officers responded to a stabbing at an apartment complex at the above address and found the victim being loaded into an ambulance by Houston Fire Department paramedics.

The victim was transported to HCA Houston Healthcare Clear Lake, where he was pro-



Jeanette Staton

nounced deceased.

A preliminary investigation and witness statements determined the victim and a female got into an argument. Police want to speak to Staton about any information she might have regarding the argument.

Anyone with information on the whereabouts of Jeanette Staton or in this case is urged to contact the HPD Homicide Division at 713-308-3600 or speak anonymously to Crime Stoppers of Houston at 713-222-TIPS (8477).

HPD: complex a "hot spot" for crime

Houston police have deemed The Redford Apartments, located at 1221 Redford, a "hot spot" for violent crime, with at least 13 shootings taking place this past year – five of which were fatal.

Past incidents include the following:

– March 16: Rufus Banks fatally shot inside apartment.

– Feb. 8: Alexis Cantu, 21, fatally shot at the complex. (Parys Burks-Henderson, 18, was charged with murder in the crime.)

– Feb. 6: unnamed male, 21, shot outside the

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South Belt students return to school

Classes begin Aug. 16 for most students in a year of many firsts

Summer is coming to a close, and that means it's time for South Belt students to return to school.

With the exception of incoming freshmen, students in the Pasadena Independent School District will return to class Tuesday, Aug. 16. To familiarize ninth-grade students with high school campuses before halls become crowded, they will begin class the previous day on Monday, Aug. 15.

Clear Creek ISD will start the 2022-2023 school year on Monday, Aug. 15, with transition grades only, i.e. prekindergarten (including special education prekindergarten), kindergarten, sixth grade and ninth grade. This day is designed to allow time for students to get to know their new school. The remaining grades will return on Tuesday, Aug. 16.

In Pasadena ISD, elementary students will attend school from 7:45 a.m. to 3:05 p.m.; middle school students will attend school from 8:40 a.m. to 4 p.m.; intermediate students will attend school from 8:10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.; and high school students will attend school from 7:15 a.m. to 2:35 p.m. Students are tardy if they are not in class by the official start time. To prevent tardiness or disruption to the classrooms, students

should arrive 15-30 minutes earlier than the start time. During that time they may eat breakfast, visit with friends and arrive at the classroom on time to put away supplies and prepare for the school day.

Vickie Morgan will serve as Pasadena ISD board president for the academic year after being selected at the school district's last monthly meeting.

Morgan is a homemaker and the mother of three children, who graduated from Pasadena ISD schools.

She has been honored with two Texas Life Memberships (1982, 1988), a National Life Membership (1989), and an Extended Life Membership (1991) from the PTA; was named Leader of the Year by the Girl Scouts of America (1984); and Outstanding Young Woman of America (1983).

Morgan currently serves as secretary to a city-appointed board of directors for the Pasadena Second Century Corporation, which is a nonprofit industrial development corporation. Morgan is involved in the Girl Scouts of America, the Parent Teacher Association, and is an active member of South Main Baptist Church, where she serves as Sunday School and Vacation Bible School director and greeter.

Traffic stop leads to felony charges

On Tuesday, July 26, 2022 at approximately 1:20 a.m., Deputy Mitchell with Harris County Precinct 8 Constable Phil Sandlin's office was conducting narcotic interdiction in the area of Theta and Edgebrook when he observed a vehicle with a temporary permit traveling at a high rate of speed.

Mitchell proceeded to follow the vehicle and initiated a traffic stop in the 800 block of Edgebrook.

The driver was identified as 31-year-old Jeremy Dabrael Travis and the two passengers as 31-year-old Roberto Martinez Jr. and Ashley

Dodson, age unknown.

Upon further investigation, the female passenger was found to have provided false identifying information. Mitchell positively identified the female as 24-year-old Ashley Nicole Brown. A check of Brown's information revealed an open warrant through Harris County Sheriff's Office, and she was placed in custody.

Mitchell retrieved Brown's property from the vehicle incident to arrest and observed a baggie of marijuana in plain view inside the

Continued on Page 4

Pct. 8 stop yields drugs, gun



A traffic stop in an area known for high narcotics activity led to multiple felony charges for Harris County Precinct 8 deputies Tuesday, July 26, in the 800 block of Edgebrook near Theta. After observing a bag of marijuana in plain view, deputies conducted a search of a vehicle, discovering methamphetamine, cocaine, alprazolam and a handgun. Driver Jeremy Dabrael Travis, 31, and passengers, Ashley Nicole Brown, 24, and Roberto Martinez Jr., 31, were all arrested and charged with a variety of drug and gun charges. Brown also reportedly provided a false name to deputies.

Dobie High military officers named



J. Frank Dobie High School recently selected its Lariaette dance officers for the 2022-2023 school year. Military officers shown above after being sworn in are, left to right, Sr. Lt. Evbu Edigin, Col. Justice Johnson, Sr. Lt. Erin Perez and Jr. Lt. Frida Monreal.

Dobie names social committee



J. Frank Dobie High School recently selected its Lariaette dance officers for the 2022-2023 school year. Social committee members shown above after being sworn in are, left to right, Executive Leyla Torres, Head Executive Natalia Garza and Executive Heaven Vargas.

Photos submitted

Chamber holds monthly meeting



The South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce recently held its monthly governmental affairs meeting. Shown above, left to right, are Chris Clark of Clear Brook City MUD, Houston City Council Member Sallie Delgado, Houston City Council Member Carolyn Evans-Shabazz, Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia and Justice of the Peace Precinct 2, Place 1 Jo Ann Delgado who posed for a photo at the luncheon. Photo by Marie Flickinger

Donna Rizzo retires after prosperous career

Former South Belt Chamber of Commerce Chairman of the Board Donna Rizzo (center) recently retired from HomeTown Bank of Pearland as vice president and loan officer. She is shown with her husband, Charlie Rizzo (left) and Sean Murphy, branch manager of HomeTown Bank of Pearland.

Rizzo began her banking career in 1980, and joined the grand opening of the Pearland location of HomeTown Bank in December 2012. Currently, she serves on the board of the Pearland ISD Education Foundation, serving as president and treasurer in the past. She has also been very active in non-profit organizations, such as Women Leading Success.

Speaking of her retirement, Rizzo says, "I'm so thankful to so many people who have impacted my life and career. In retirement, I'm looking forward to traveling and embracing my new role as 'Memaw,' all while still being active in the community that I love!"



County helps families obtain birth certificates

The Harris County Clerk's Office (HCCO) served dozens of families and issued 200 birth certificates during its second annual Back-to-School Birth Certificate Saturday events.

This program is dedicated to help families obtain the necessary records to enroll their children in school. So far, HCCO has issued almost 1,200 birth certificates this summer.

"I am a working parent and totally understand that this time of year can be stressful when you are rushing to get everything you need for back-to-school," said Harris County Clerk Tennesha Hudspeth. "That is why we opened our offices on two consecutive Saturdays to help families who do not have the time to visit us during regular business hours."

This year, HCCO partnered with Judge Eric William Carter, Harris County Justice of the Peace for Precinct 1 and the Alpha Eta Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. in partnership with Alpha Merit Group Educational Foundation, Inc. who donated funds to cover the cost of 50 birth certificates and backpacks for customers at the North Shepherd Annex during the Saturday, August 6th Back-to-School Birth Certificate event. Harris County Pct. 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia's office and Harris County Constable Pct. 2 Jerry Garcia provided support at the event held at the Pasadena Annex on Saturday, July 30.

"We are grateful for their partnership and hope to continue working with them and other community service organizations in the future," concluded Hudspeth.

HCCO's Back to School Birth Certificate Program was recently recognized by the International Association of Government Officials (iGO) and by the National Association of Counties (NACo) for providing innovative and effective government programs that strengthen services for residents.

This year, HCCO added an online ordering system that allows people to securely purchase birth certificates.

The online service is helpful for customers who do not live in Harris County or simply do not have time to visit one of HCCO's 11 locations.

Visit the link to order birth certificates online: https://vitalchek.com/order_main.asp?eventtype=BIRTH. For a list of other available online services, visit www.cclerk.hctx.net. For HCCO news and updates, follow @HarrisCoTX Clerk on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

See Page 4 for this week's obituary

Leader checks out social media

By Natalie Abarca

A member of *People of Sagemont* Facebook page posted at approximately 3-3:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 8 her 13-year-old son was jumped at Beverly Hills Park. The member states that it was a Hispanic female and male that jumped him for his iPhone. There was a third person in getaway car. The suspects were in a green SUV with plastic as a back window. There was a police report and the post was shared on other social media pages.

Another member from the same Facebook page shared photos of a truck and two individuals who were seen walking and attempting to break into cars on Sageriver Drive, Sageleaf Lane and other streets in the area. The member states the incident took place Sunday night, Aug. 7 and the guys live in that area and hang out in Clear Creek Landing apartments on Beamer Road. The member was told the guys walking are approximately 14 years old and are in the area stealing from neighbors. The member advises the community to lock one's vehicles and not to leave guns in one's cars. If one sees anything, call constables at 713-477-4070. The truck is described as an older model Ford with yellow cab marker lights on the roof at the windshield and body damage on the driver's side.

A member of *Southbelt/Sagemont Crime Alert* Facebook group posted pictures of a man stealing mail from the mailboxes on Sagepark Lane. The incident occurred Thursday, Aug. 4, during the day.

Martinez vacations in Greece



Soon-to-be freshman Marc Martinez enjoyed a summer vacation in Athens this past June. In the above photo, he is alongside the coast of Santorini, while at right he is stood outside the Acropolis in Athens. Previously a student at St. Augustine Catholic School, this school year he will attend St. Thomas High School. Martinez loves to travel, and enjoys geography, history and track.



Local library events set

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

Bracewell Branch Library

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

Thursday, Aug. 11, 4 - 5 p.m. Family Storytime. Join for a socially distanced, indoor storytime featuring books and activities for everyone in the family. Encourage family's love of reading through this cross generational literacy experience. Registration is required.

Tuesday, Aug. 16, 4 - 5 p.m. Kids Craft. Geared for kids ages 5-10. Visit <https://houstonlibrary.libcal.com/calendar/events> for more library events.

Book drop

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

Additional resources

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

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

Parker Williams Library

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

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

The following events are scheduled for Parker Williams Library, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd.: Monday, Aug. 15, 5 - 7 p.m. Building Job Search Skills with Workforce Solutions. Registration required for entire series. Each week will cover a different topic related to finding jobs, getting ready for interviews, and networking, among other topics.

Tuesday, Aug. 16, 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. Dungeons & Dragons: Candlekeep Mysteries.

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

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

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

Online services

- Use HCPL Wi-Fi service with HCPL's drive-up Wi-Fi.
- Download e-books and audiobooks, stream movies, research and learn at www.hcpl.net.
- Attend an HCPL program or story time online through Facebook or YouTube.
- Check an account to renew loans or request books, e-books, comics or graphic novels.
- Stream classic films, indie cinema and award-winning documentaries on Kanopy.
- Listen to audiobooks through RBDigital or OverDrive.
- Read along and play with picture books on TumbleBooks.

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

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Saturday Vigil	5:30 p.m.
Sunday	8 a.m. and 10 a.m.*
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*Also Available on Facebook Live

Monday, Wednesday & Friday	9 a.m.
Tuesday & Thursday	7 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions)
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PISD administrative council hosts annual meeting prior to start of school year



Photo by Bruce Stone

Recently, in preparation for the start of school, the administrative council of Pasadena ISD and its individual campuses met together to discuss this past school year and "things coming down the pipeline," for the upcoming year, says Reesha Brown, communications coordinator of Pasadena ISD. The theme of the breakfast which was held at the Lone Star Flight Museum at Ellington Field, was "Taking Flight," as school officials hope to soar to new heights in the fast-approaching school year.

Shown at left, Dr. DeAnn Powell speaks to the administrative staff.

Shown at right, left to right, are PISD associate superintendents Alytal Harrell, Kevin Fornof, Dr. Rhonda Parmer, Toni Lopez; Deputy Superintendent Dr. Karen Hickman; Superintendent Dr. DeeAnn Powell; associate superintendents Dr. Angela Stallings, Dr. Troy McCarley, Dr. Melissa McCalla, Gloria Gallegos; Ben Pape, chief financial officer; Dr. Darla Massey-Jones; and Joe Saavedra.

Photo by Gustavo Trevino



Some of those attending the Pasadena ISD administrative council were, left to right, Thompson Intermediate officials Prudencio Reyna, counselor; Jill Butler, counselor; Travis Tiechelman, AP; Tanis Griffin, principal; Christine Veltman, AP; and Wayne Sanders, AP.

Photo by Gustavo Trevino

Thompson construction makes headway



While progress is being made on the future Thompson Intermediate campus, area students will have to wait another year before they can attend class there. The \$39.5 million campus project is part of a voter-approved 2017 school bond. Located in the 8700 block of Hughes Road near Melillo Middle School, the 178,000-square-foot replacement school will be able to accommodate 1,200 students, roughly 200 more than Thompson's current enrollment. The school's existing campus suffered extensive flood damage during Hurricane Harvey in 2017. Crews broke ground on the new campus in October 2021. It is expected to open in August 2023.

Merrill wins Waynesburg Christian Life Scholarship

Noah Merrill, right, son of Leah Merrill and Bob Merrill, of Houston, has been named as a recipient of the Waynesburg University Christian Life Scholarship.

Merrill will attend Waynesburg in the fall and intends to major in psychology with a minor in biblical and ministry studies. He also plans to play soccer on the Yellow Jackets men's soccer team.

"I am very thankful that I was selected as a Christian Life scholar," said Merrill. "The scholarship gives me an opportunity to experience the Christian ministry at WU in a unique way, which was one of the main reasons I chose to attend Waynesburg."

In addition to the Christian ministry opportunities presented by the scholarship, the financial support is also a difference maker for Merrill and his family.

"It also makes my college experience more affordable, allowing me to pursue the opportunities Waynesburg has to offer while being an out-of-state student," he shared.

Merrill attended Lutheran South Academy where he recently graduated summa cum laude. During his high school years, he was named to the honor roll all four years and was a member of National Honor Society, a National Student Leadership Conference nominee and an AP Scholar awardee.

He also played on the academy's varsity soccer team, serving as team captain and earning recognition for Academic All-State and All-District second team.



Turning Point Women's Shelter, Interfaith Caring Ministries and Kids Meals Houston. "I am excited to attend WU for many reasons, but mainly to have the experience to play college soccer [and] experience WU's community and academic opportunities," shared Merrill.

The Waynesburg Christian Life Scholarship recognizes students who have a growing relationship with Jesus Christ and are involved in the life of a local church as they grow in faith. The scholarship is available to first-year freshmen and provides \$4,000 over four years. Scholarship recipients are also provided with activities, conversations and mentorship through the office of the University Chaplain and the Center for Campus Ministry.

Each recipient is assigned a Christian mentor from their anticipated field, discipline or major so that they can grow in their Christian faith while also developing leadership qualities at Waynesburg University.

To learn more about first-

year freshman scholarships, visit waynesburg.edu/scholarships.

Consistently ranked a best value school, Waynesburg University's Strategy for the 21st Century affirms its commitment to developing an entrepreneurial mindset and ethical leadership skills for all students.

Rooted in its mission of faith, learning and service, the private, Christian university is located on a traditional campus in the hills of southwestern Pennsylvania, with an additional site for graduate and professional programs in Southpointe.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Pasadena Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 7:00 PM, August 23, 2022 in 1515 Cherrybrook Pasadena Texas 77502. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax	\$0.995300/\$100 (proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax	\$0.340000/\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)
Approved by Local Voters	

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories.

Maintenance and operations	0.22 % increase
Debt Service	-1.97 % decrease
Total Expenditures	0.02 % increase

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Section 26.04, Tax Code)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$21,106,259,276	\$23,402,942,024
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$174,640,209	\$250,953,269
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$17,249,527,889	\$19,126,539,471
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$142,728,331	\$205,096,761

*Appraised value is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(B), Tax Code.

** "New property" is defined by Section 26.012(17), Tax Code.

*** "Taxable value" is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$675,140,000

*Outstanding principal.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$1.071200	\$0.310000	\$1.381200	\$4,857	\$6,428
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$0.941710	\$0.276550	\$1.218260	\$5,054	\$6,279
Proposed Rate	\$0.995300	\$0.340000	\$1.335300	\$5,049	\$6,400

*The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both.

The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$165,410	\$201,330
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$128,731	\$149,684
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$1.381200	\$1.335300
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$1,778.03	\$1,998.73
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$220.70

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is \$1.335300. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of \$1.335300.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment.

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$155,450,825
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$32,967,000

A school district may not increase the district's maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district's debt service.

Visit Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

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South Belt students return to school next week

Continued from Page 1
accused the superintendent of indoctrinating students with "critical race theory" at his previous position in Virginia.

While critical race theory is not in Clear Creek ISD's curriculum, several parents took issue with the district's Character Strong initiative, which is designed to teach children social and emotional learning.

The Clear Creek ISD board unanimously accepted Williams' resignation, set to take effect Jan. 31, 2023.

Williams began a leave of absence Tuesday, July 12. He is to eventually return and help locate and train his replacement.

Clear Creek ISD is introducing a new off-campus learning opportunity for high school students for the 2022-2023 school year.

Flexible scheduling is now being offered for a variety of courses at each grade level. Students can choose to sign up for these computer-based courses for either their first period or seventh period of the school day. Students who participate will need to have transportation to or from school if they choose this option.

"We understand our students and families have a variety of needs, so we are trying to meet the individualized learning requests of our students," said Dava West, director of counseling and student services.

"Students can choose to focus on what they need during that period, whether it is other schoolwork or even choosing to wake up a little later if that works for their schedule."

The flexible courses be-

ing offered include world geography, personal financial literacy, English 4, psychology, government and economics. All classes will be taught by a certified district teacher through CCISD curriculum and count toward a student's GPA.

"There will have to be a certain number of students who sign up for the flexible scheduling class on their campus for it to be offered next year," said West. "We encourage students to give it a try to see if they would be successful through this option. They will also have the option to transfer back to the on-campus class if they find the flex scheduling is not working for them."

Online learning is not new in CCISD. Prior to virtual learning during COVID-19, the district offered opportunities through Clear Access for students to get ahead or recover credits, and also through the Dual Credit courses with Clear Creek ISD's local community colleges.

School districts will no longer be providing free meals to all students. Free and reduced meals will be distributed to eligible students only.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Congress authorized spending that allowed schools to serve free meals for all students.

Those funds are not authorized for the current school year.

As a result, Beta Academy must return to charging for school meals and offering free and reduced-price meals based on student eligibility.

Starting now Beta Academy will begin distributing

letters and applications to households of children in the district about eligibility benefits.

Families should complete and submit the Application for Free and Reduced-Price School Meals online at www.schoolcafe.com/betaacademy (registration required).

Paper applications are available at both campuses' front offices or to print at www.betaacademy.org/print-documents.html.

Completed paper applications may be returned to Beta Academy's front office at 9701 Alameda Genoa Road or emailed to cnp@betaacademy.org.

Children are eligible for free or reduced-price meals if their household income is less than or equal to the Income Eligibility Guidelines. The guidelines are effective through June 30, 2023.

The following criteria will be used to determine a child's eligibility for free or reduced-price meal benefits:

- Income: Household income that is at or below the income eligibility levels.
- Categorical or automatic eligibility: Household receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families; or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations Program Participant.
- Child's status as a foster child, homeless, runaway, migrant, or displaced by a declared disaster.
- Child's enrollment in Head Start or Even Start.

For the 2022-2023 school year, students at Dobie High School and the Dobie Ninth Grade campus must use

clear or mesh backpacks.

Students can carry a non-clear pouch no larger than 5 1/2 inches by 8 1/2 inches to hold personal items, such as cellphones, money and hygiene products.

According to campus administrators, this change is part of a comprehensive safety plan that addresses campus security in several ways.

"The complexity of keeping our students safe is one of our most significant challenges as school leaders," said Jorly Thomas, principal.

"It is crucial to remember that no decision we make about school safety will be a guaranteed fix to the problem, but we will always err on the side of safety with every decision we make."

As a school, Dobie is committed to putting school safety at the top of our priority list, which will mean adjusting along the way. I want to invite our community to help support our efforts in keeping our students safe by being our eyes and ears, but more importantly, by partnering with us as we take small steps to be at least taking the right direction."

The Pasadena ISD bond 2022, which passed in May, included funding for improved video surveillance equipment, parking lot lighting upgrades, and enhanced intrusion alarm systems.

Additionally, Pasadena ISD will continue to post two police officers at every high school, including Dobie.

"The safety of our students and staff is our top priority, and our district is working hard to give us the resources to maintain safe schools," said George Cervantes, Dobie9 Principal.

Moving to clear or mesh backpacks at Dobie follows similar decisions by other school districts around Texas, including Dallas ISD, the second largest district in the state.

Thomas said, "this is a common sense step being taken by schools and at public events around the country." Seguin ISD; Southside ISD in San Antonio; Harper ISD, about 90 miles northwest of San Antonio; and Ingleside ISD near Corpus Christi all made similar decisions in recent weeks.

Clear Creek ISD officials are also taking security seriously this year.

"CCISD believes each person deserves to be physically and emotionally safe," a message on the school district's webpage states.

To this extent, the district has developed a comprehen-

sive school safety program. This program includes the following:

- A robust team of School Liaison Officers (SLOs) from the Galveston County Sheriff Department and school security personnel.
- Counseling, youth

mental health support, and drug and alcohol prevention education.

- A full-time staff who monitor surveillance cameras and work with area law enforcement officers on matters of safety.
- An anonymous two-way encrypted tip reporting

system that allows students and staff to report concerns including bullying, school threats, drug activity, etc.

- Training of staff and students on the Clear Creek ISD Standard Response Protocol in the event of a school emergency.
- A state-of-the-art mass

communication system to provide families, staff, and the community timely and frequent information in the event of an emergency.

Pasadena ISD has also established an anonymous tip line to report suspicious behavior.

To report suspicious ac-

tivity, students and parents may visit report.anonymousalerts.com/pasadenaisd.

Tipsters will receive a confirmation once their information has been submitted to the school district.

False reporting will be punished to the fullest extent of the law.

Fatality latest violent crime at Edgebrook area complex

Continued from Page 1
complex but survived.

(Parys Burks-Henderson was charged with attempted capital murder in this crime.)

- Jan. 28: Lee Mayfield fatally shot inside an apartment. (Eddrel Antonio Brown, 28, was charged with murder.)

- Jan. 8, victims, James Sipes, 41, and Kelvin Menefee, 57, shot inside an apartment but survived.

- Jan. 5: Marilyn Lee Lambert, 70, and Marcus Ray Hawkins, 51, shot inside an apartment but survived.

- Last September 2021, three victims - two males and one female - were all shot in the same night at the complex. All were transported to the hospital in stable condition.

- Feb. 8: Alexis Cantu, 21, fatally shot at the complex. (Parys Burks-Hender-

son, 18, was charged with murder in the crime.)

- Feb. 6: unnamed male, 21, shot outside the complex but survived. (Parys Burks-Henderson was charged with attempted capital murder in this crime.)

- Jan. 28: Lee Mayfield fatally shot inside an apartment. (Eddrel Antonio Brown, 28, was charged with murder.)

- Jan. 8, victims, James Sipes, 41, and Kelvin Mene-

fee, 57, shot inside an apartment but survived.

- Jan. 5: Marilyn Lee Lambert, 70, and Marcus Ray Hawkins, 51, shot inside an apartment but survived.

- Last September 2021, three victims - two males and one female - were all shot in the same night at the complex. All were transported to the hospital in stable condition.

The Cabo San Lucas

Apartments, located on the opposite side of the Gulf Freeway at Edgebrook, has also become a hot spot for shootings, with at least six taking place in late 2021, including two fatal shootings in two days in October.

Anyone with information on these cases is urged to contact Houston Police Department's Homicide Division at 713-308-3600 or Crime Stoppers of Houston at 713-222-TIPS (8477).

Traffic stop leads to multiple felony charges

Continued from Page 1
vehicle.

The two other occupants of the vehicle were directed to step out and were detained for further investigation.

Mitchell, along with

Precinct 8 Deputy Campbell, proceeded to conduct a probable cause based search and recovered the following contraband:

- 34.3 grams of methamphetamine.

- 3.7 grams of cocaine.
- 3.5 grams of alprazolam.
- 0.380 caliber handgun.

The Harris County District Attorney's Office was contacted and accepted

charges of possession with intent to deliver and felon in possession of a weapon on Martinez.

Travis and Brown were charged with possession of a controlled substance. All

three subjects were taken into custody and transported to the Harris County Joint Processing Center for booking.

Their bonds have been set at \$5,000 for each charge.

Death

Kathy Fay Jones



Kathy Fay Jones was born on Aug. 8, 1950 in Houston, and was called home on Aug. 5, 2022.

She graduated in 1968 from Stephen F. Austin High School in Houston.

This is where she met her lifelong friends and her future husband Gary Jones.

They married and moved to the Philippines and South Carolina while he was enlisted in the Air Force.

They returned to South Belt area in Houston to raise their two daughters.

She worked in the IT department at Texaco for 30 years.

Kathy and Gary moved to Montgomery, Texas after retiring.

Kathy loved her family and enjoyed planning and hosting gatherings at their home.

She was a beautiful and kind Mom, Granny, and Great-Granny that will truly be missed.

Kathy was preceded in death by her husband; her brothers Milbirm Gerald and Alan Benner; and her parents,

Milbirm and Virginia Benner.

She is survived by her daughters, Kim Brisbin and Kristi Gordon and husband Britt; grandchildren Megan Erb and husband Bryan, Bradley Brisbin and wife Mikaela, Kayne, Callum, and Connor Gordon; great-grandchildren Kamdon and Kadya Erb and Grayson Brisbin; sisters Anita McMullen (Pat) and Connie Zvolensky (Ken); and many nieces and nephews.

A special thank you to all the sweet caregivers who showed great love to Kathy Fay.

Visitation will be at Veterans Funeral Services Monday, Aug. 15, from 5 to 7 p.m.

Funeral services will be held Tuesday, Aug. 16, at 9:30 a.m.

Graveside services will follow at Houston National Cemetery at 11 a.m.

Pearland completes new section of Hughes



The City of Pearland completed another portion of Hughes Road located next to the new Thompson Intermediate which is under construction. This still leaves two sections of the road between Pearland Parkway and Blackhawk yet to be constructed. One section adjoins

Pearland Parkway and the other is located just east of the Thompson site. Plans for construction of the remaining two sections is not known yet. The new Thompson is expected to be complete in 2023. Photo by Marie Flickinger

Remember When

45 years ago (1977)
Joe Paulson, of Pupil Personnel for the Pasadena Independent School District estimated an approximate 700-student increase for local schools.

The Dobie baseball team, sponsored by South Houston American Legion Post 490, sponsored represented Division II in the State finals of American Legion ball.

40 years ago (1982)
Law enforcement officials had their hands full in the South Belt area with Houston Police investigating a fight at the Jack in the Box, Harris County Deputies investigating the circumstances of a kidnapping and a 19-year-old burglar caught selling stolen goods.

The South Belt area had a new softball field which when completed, could rival any park in the city. John Niday of Niday Funeral Home hoped to build what he described as a "softball country club" on Hall Road if the response was positive for it.

A faulty hot water heater was believed to have caused a fire in the second story of a residence on Sagecrest.

35 years ago (1987)
The first two nongovernmental entities to lease Ellington Field made their presence known. Houston City Council approved a 40-year lease agreement with Grumman Corporation. United Parcel Service signed a letter of agreement with the city's Aviation Department to move into the hangar the U.S. Coast Guard vacated.

The local Pony All-Stars and Palominos competed for their respective world championships in an eight-team field, featuring teams from Puerto Rico, Asia-Pacific and the United States.

30 years ago (1992)
The Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League 12 year-old all-stars won the state championship with a 1-0 win

over Oakridge Woodlands. The team advanced to the sectional tournament in Florida.

Houston Police Chief Sam Nuchia presented the chief's Public Service Award to Sagemont Baptist Church student minister Emory Gadd, who foiled a robbery of the Texas Commerce Bank-South Belt.

25 years ago (1997)
The board of directors of the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce voted to relinquish sponsorship of the annual July 4 activities.

Dianna Benavides directed the July 4 Silver Spectacular and beauty contest for the 10th straight year.

Councilmember Rob Todd

announced the City Council passed an ordinance authorizing the construction of a new fire station in the South Belt area at 911 FM 1959.

20 years ago (2002)
The dropout rate of students in Pasadena Independent School District and at J. Frank Dobie High School reached an all-time low. State records showed a dropout rate of 0.9 percent among PISD students in grades seven through 12. Only 0.8 percent of Dobie students dropped out of school, compared to 2.2 percent the year before.

Retired Dobie teacher Jon C. Rascoe was awarded the Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association of Tex-

as 30-year Tenure Award at the VATAT conference held in Corpus Christi.

15 years ago (2007)
National Night Out was celebrated. The annual event is aimed at preventing crime by encouraging neighbors to communicate with each other and local law enforcement groups.

Frazier Elementary was one of only two Pasadena Independent School District schools by the Texas Education Agency. To earn exemplary status, all student groups in a school must have 90 percent or more of its students pass each portion of the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills test.

Two arrests were made in connection with the killing of Gary Wayne Johnson. The suspects, Israel Antonio Torres and Servando Romero Morales, were charged with capital murder.

More than \$20,000 was raised for the Ray Joseph Hutchison scholarship to benefit Clear Creek Independent School District students. Hutchison, a 2001 Clear Creek graduate, was killed in action on Dec. 7, 2003.

10 years ago (2012)
Local Precinct 2 Sgt. Zerick Guinn filed for a recount in the controversial primary runoff that saw his opponent, Chris Diaz, winning the Democratic constable nomination by 16 votes,

despite earlier reports that showed Guinn to have a substantial lead.

5 years ago (2017)
The Pasadena Independent School District began accepting enrollment applications for students who reside outside the boundaries of the school district on a tuition-free basis through the district's first-ever Limited Open Enrollment program.

Charges were filed in a fatal motorcycle accident that took place early Friday, Aug. 4, at the intersection of Beltway 8 and Beamer. According to Chief Deputy Jason Finnen from Harris County Precinct 8 Constable Phil Sandlin's office, the incident occurred on the westbound side around

1:30 a.m. Upon their arrival, deputies observed a yellow 2002 Harley Davidson motorcycle on its side lying near damaged crash barrels. Both the male driver and his wife had been ejected from the motorcycle during the accident and were transported to Clear Lake Regional Hospital by ambulance. The male, identified as Joe Guerrero Jr., 38, of Friendswood, suffered significant injuries as a result of the crash. The female passenger, identified as Kimberly Guerrero, 39, was listed in critical condition upon arrival but died shortly after 7 a.m. as a result of her injuries. Investigators determined Joe Guerrero was intoxicated at the time of the accident. He was subsequently arrested and charged with intoxication manslaughter after being released from the hospital on Monday, Aug. 7.

1 year ago (2021)
South Belt community members scored a rare win against state bureaucracy when officials from the Texas General Land Office announced at a meeting Tuesday, Aug. 10, they had reversed course in constructing Hurricane Harvey replacement homes deemed substandard by many in the area.

The proposed construction of new houses in the South Belt area to replace those destroyed during Harvey in 2017 has been an ongoing controversy, as the GLO's initial plans called for rebuilding houses that bore little resemblance to their neighbors' existing homes. Such a move threatened the property value of the surrounding homes, civic leaders argued. New cessions by General Land Office included adding two-car garages and masonry to the current bare-bone home designs, provided a rudimentary survey of the neighboring community produces such things.



Over The Back Fence by Natalie

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, REBECCA!
Birthday wishes are sent to **Rebecca Lilley**, director of physician resources at Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital, South Belt Chamber board member and active community member, who celebrates a birthday Aug. 11, from friends and the *Leader* staff.

JANNIE CELEBRATES A BIRTHDAY
Happy birthday wishes are sent to former *Leader* staffer **Jannie Scarberry** who celebrates a birthday Aug. 13 from her family, friends and the *Leader* staff. She and her husband, **Robert**, are former longtime South Belt residents. The *Leader* staff is appreciative of the many years she devoted to the *Leader*.

SCHOOL DAZE
The following staff of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays Aug. 11 through Aug. 17.

Atkinson Elementary
Lini Abraham celebrates a birthday Aug. 11. Send a birthday greeting to **Martha Reed** Aug. 12. Aug. 15 is the day to celebrate a birthday with **Rebecca Garcia**.

Burnett Elementary
Share in the birthday fun Aug. 17 with **Jennie Graham**.

Bush Elementary
Light the birthday candles for **Laura Ramsahai** Aug. 17.

Genoa Elementary
Give a birthday shoutout Aug. 16 to **Jackie Moreno**.

Meador Elementary
Celebrating a birthday Aug. 17 is **Tracie Nair**.

Moore Elementary
Send a happy birthday greeting Aug. 11 to **Letty Garcia**. **Nancy Revils** celebrates a birthday Aug. 12. **Jill Lacamu**, Moore principal, is wished a happy birthday Aug. 13.

Melillo Middle School
Aug. 13 is the day for a double-layer cake for **Patricia Concha** and **Debra Yocum**.

Thompson Intermediate
On Aug. 11, enjoy a slice of birthday cake with **Travis Teichelman**. On Aug. 13, Light the birthday candles for **Cliff Neal**. Happy birthday wishes are sent Aug. 15 to **Daniel Sawyer**. Give a birthday shout-out Aug. 17 to **James MacGregor**.

Dobie High
Aug. 12 is the day for a cake for **Chantel Dolson**. **Bryan Due** celebrates a birthday Aug. 14.

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

Thursday, Aug. 11: **Martin Zuber, Felicia Minjares, Jill Hansen, Shannon Burke and Sonja Terry**. Friday, Aug. 12: **Leslie Rojas, Maricela Lopez and Mike Millikin**; Saturday, Aug. 13: **Nicole Foster, Carlos Gomez, Shawna Merchant, Anthony Dittrich, Erica Sadler, Dinah Palmer and Bill Weatherford**; Sunday, Aug. 14: **Roger Woest, Connie Alberti, Richard Golenko and Pete Ortiz**; Monday, Aug. 15: **Janna Hipps and Hector Pombo**; Tuesday, Aug. 16: **Nicole Love, Brandon Gray, Larry Bozka, Cynthia Weaver, Brandon Gray, Yvonne Molina and Irl Ellis**; and Wednesday, Aug. 17: **Denise Motezuma, Linda Rodriguez, Michelle Procyo and Paulo Espinoza**.

LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS
Email anniversary, vacation, congratulations, etc., to mynews@southbeltleader.com with OTBF in the subject line by Friday noon for the next week's publication.

FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS

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SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

Sanchez to oversee Dobie girls' soccer



Xanthe Sanchez is the new varsity girls' soccer head coach at Dobie High School as she was hired this summer to lead the Longhorns into the future. A 2014 Sam Rayburn graduate, Sanchez played collegiately at both St. Thomas University and LeTourneau University and has also coached at the college level. "I think it's always been a goal of mine to come back home to Pasadena ISD," Sanchez said. "I'm excited to be at Dobie and hopefully lead these young ladies to great things. It'll be nice to meet everyone and then get started in the offseason program."

Dobie, Brook VB open 2022 season

The 2022 high school volleyball season began Aug. 9 after press time, with Dobie visiting Baytown Sterling and Clear Brook at Strake Jesuit. Entering the start of play, both programs were hopeful that past experience could carry them a long way. Clear Brook, with just three district wins over the previous two seasons, had 10 varsity returnees listed on its roster for 2022, while Dobie counted nine returnees from a team that went 25-12 overall a season ago. The Wolverines are set to play in the prestigious Pearland Invitational Aug. 11-13 at the Absolute Volleyball Academy and will then play its home opener Aug. 16 against Kingwood. Dobie hosts Goose Creek Memorial in its home opener Aug. 12, and will battle Crosby Aug. 16 at Phillips Field House in Pasadena. The Dobie and Clear Brook varsity programs are also ready to play in the Dickinson Invitational Aug. 18 and Aug. 20. Clear Brook will also play at Friendswood Aug. 19. Both programs will use nondistrict play to prepare for the most important portion of the schedule — league play. Dobie hosts Deer Park Sept. 9, with Brook playing at Brazoswood Sept. 13.

At right, Dobie junior Alexa Gonzalez (11) is one of nine returnees that help make up the majority of the 2022 roster as the Longhorns aim for another solid run in District 22-6A play. Photo by Donna Alsdorf



Volleyball first Intermediate sports making early plans

The Pasadena ISD intermediate athletics season will commence with the start of school Aug. 16, and football and volleyball staffs at Beverly Hills and Thompson are in the midst of trying to stay ahead of the game. The Beverly Hills Intermediate coaching staff has scheduled girls' volleyball tryouts for the 2022 squads as the regular season will begin Aug. 31. As for the Bears' tryouts, incoming eighth-grade students will try out from 3:30 to 5:15 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 16, while the tryouts for incoming seventh-grade students will be held from 3:30 to 5:15 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 17. Team practices for seventh- and eighth-grade teams will begin Aug. 18-19 from 3:30 to 5 p.m. both days. The coaching staff will then set future practice times from that point forward. The intermediate volleyball season opens Aug. 31 with Beverly Hills playing at Jackson and Thompson hosting Park View. Matches begin at 5 p.m. Beverly Hills first-year head football coach Joseph Peterson has equipment pickup days set for Aug. 11-12 from 3 to 4:30 p.m., with players required to attend one of the days. At Thompson, the Lions' staff has a remaining football equipment pickup session Aug. 12, from 1 to 3 p.m. for those students who missed the first opening. 2022 preseason football practices begin Aug. 16, which is the first official day of classes. Football players will practice in pads for the first time Aug. 20, and the season begins Aug. 27. Prior to the start of the regular season, the Bears and Lions will go against one another in scrimmage action. The district has established Aug. 31 for seventh-grade scrimmages and Sept. 1 for eighth-grade scrimmages.

Football drills ongoing, scrimmages arrive Aug. 18

The quest to reclaim the District 22-6A championship began months ago in the weight room at the Dobie field house, and now the varsity football squad is on the field in its first season under head coach Demond Stafford and staff. Likewise, the Clear Brook Wolverines began preseason work late last year, watched a head coaching change take place this summer, and now are working toward the start of the regular season. Stafford leads Dobie, with Patrick Sanders now in charge of things at Clear Brook. Both head coaches watched freshman practices start Aug. 1 followed by all other levels Aug. 8. Players at the upper levels are eligible to don pads beginning Aug. 11. Things ramp up Aug. 18 as Clear Brook scrimmages at Alvin, while Dobie does the same at Clear Springs. Scores won't matter, but all of the programs involved will use the day to simulate the start of the regular season as much as possible. Prior to the start of preseason workouts, Sanders told the Leader it would boil down to first things first. "Understanding expectations and getting used to the pace of play, the speed at which we want to go about things, is first and foremost. "From there, you want to encourage competition and getting better each day both individually and as a program," Sanders said. Looking ahead to the regular season opening week, the freshman teams will play at Dobie, while the junior varsity squads will be at Clear Brook Aug. 25. The varsity game Aug. 26 will put the wraps on the first Brook/Dobie matchup in 15 years. The results of opening week won't make or break a season, but will go a long way toward setting a tone. Dobie is riding a four-year

Scrimmages Upcoming

Thursday, Aug. 18
Dobie at Clear Springs
 FR: 4:30 p.m.; JV: 5:30 p.m.; VAR: 7 p.m.
Clear Brook at Alvin
 FR: 4:30 p.m.; JV: 5:30 p.m.; VAR: 7 p.m.

postseason streak and is looking to keep things rolling through the change in leadership. At Brook, the Wolverines are ready to get a string of postseason appearances started, and the first one could come in November. Continued on Page 8



The Dobie Longhorns have several key playmakers returning on the defensive side of things this season, including Anforney Lee (45), who came up big time and time again as a junior. Lee and his teammates began preseason on-field workouts Aug. 8 as the regular season comes into focus. Dobie will scrimmage Aug. 18 at Clear Springs and then prepare for the regular season opener Aug. 26 at Pasadena ISD's Veterans Stadium. Dobie and Clear Brook, despite neighboring one another in the South Belt area, have not played head-to-head since 2007. Both programs have first-year head coaches, with Demond Stafford at Dobie and Patrick Sanders at Brook. Photo by Gloria Wallace

Bay Area Football League kicks off

Alvin Raiders. Angleton Wildcats. Barbers Hill Eagles. Bayou City Buccaneers. Brazosport Longhorns. East End Eagles. Hitchcock Red Raiders. La Porte Texans. League City 49ers. Magnolia Park Sharks. Manvel Texans. North Shore Mustangs. Pasadena Panthers. Pearland Patriots. Pearland Texans. Sagamore Cowboys. Santa Fe Braves. Southeast Houston Wildcats. Southbelt Dolphins. These 19 programs are part of the Bay Area Football League's 2022 youth season that kicks off Saturday, Aug. 13 as the journey to reach Rice Stadium begins. Locally, the Sagamore Cowboys will travel to Houston on the Southeast Houston Wildcats at Fairmont Junior High, while the Southbelt Dolphins will be at Gragg Park in Houston to face off against the East End Eagles. BAFL Saturdays will begin with Pee Wee play at 8 a.m., with senior action to follow at 9 a.m., and then junior play at 11 a.m. The sophomore games begin at 1 p.m., with freshman play at 3 p.m. The regular season will run 11 straight Saturdays, with each program enjoying a bye week in the schedule. The season concludes with the Super Bowl round at Rice Stadium. At the moment, 19 programs feel they can advance.

USA KARATE
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Dolphins at East End
 Sat., Aug. 13
 Gragg Park, Houston

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Cross-country teams begin preseason prep

Two-time District 22-6A girls' cross-country champion Dobie is among the programs across the state that have begun early-morning training runs in preparation for the start of the regular season later this month.

The Dobie boys, loaded with plenty of varsity experience on the heels of a roster reload in 2021, are also back out on the ground in the hopes of making a big jump at the varsity level this season.

And at Clear Brook, junior Joseph Trevino is back to lead the Wolverines following a 10th place overall finish at the 24-6A championships, which resulted in a regional qualification.

Dobie coach Mo Hickman has seen her girls' program graduate some

top talent over the last couple of seasons, with senior Isela Munoz, seventh at the 24-6A championship meet 5K distance.

Sophomore Lauren Garza, who highlighted a strong debut season with a 10th place finish at district, returns along with junior Kayla Lobo.

The Longhorn boys, who ran with five sophomores and a freshman at the league championships, now have Angel Limachi, Chris Lopez, Damian Rosas, Carlos Salazar, Simon Sepulveda and Antwoine Wilson all eligible to make a return run of things.

Along with Trevino at Clear Brook, the Wolverine boys will lean on Tristan Ecord, while the Brook girls figure to be led by senior Aliyah Pree and Tariah Martinez.

Joseph Trevino turned in a terrific sophomore season both on cross-country courses and on the track in the spring for the Wolverines, and he returns to lead the Clear Brook boys' cross-country team as regular-season meets return.



Local sports news, notes, briefs

Gurnell places at JOs in discus

Pasadena Memorial High School student Swazi Gurnell was 23rd in the boys' 17-18 discus at the Amateur Athletic Union's Junior Olympic Games at the University of North Carolina A&T State in Greensboro, N.C., as he came away with an effort of 141 feet, 10 inches while representing the All-American Throwers.

Dobie netters continue early action

The Dobie varsity team tennis squad closes out a busy opening week by hosting Katy Aug. 11 at 2 p.m. and then hosting Clear Creek Aug. 12 at 9 a.m. The locals will then host George Ranch Aug. 18 at 2 p.m. as the Longhorns continue to aim toward 22-6A play in September.

Dobie graduates lead Celts' programs



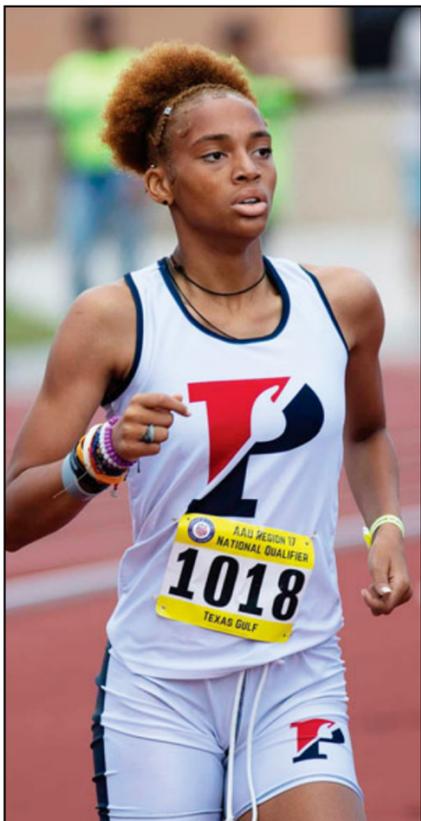
Dobie Class of 2021 graduates Jhancarlos Carpio (left) and Jojo Olivares (right) were named Most Valuable Performers of the University of St. Thomas distance running program in May after standout efforts during both the cross-country and track and field seasons. For the 2022-2023 school year, the Celts have added Dobie Class of 2022 graduate Tori Ramirez.

Mallard Smith medals



Ayana Mallard Smith, a Lutheran South Academy Class of 2022 graduate and Sam Houston State University track and field signee, was part of the H-Town Hurricanes' 17-18 year-old division 4x400-meter relay squad that finished and eventually took seventh place in the event in a time of 3 minutes, 56.90 seconds at the Amateur Athletic Union's Junior Olympic Games Aug. 6 on the campus of North Carolina A&T State in Greensboro, N.C. A sprinter and long jump competitor at LSA, Mallard Smith ran the third leg in a split of 58.72 in her first-ever 4x4 event of her high school career. She is the two-time TAPPS 5A state champion in the 100 and also was the state long jump champion in 2021.

Dobie's Harris scores at AAU Junior Olympics



Dobie sophomore-to-be Stacie Harris brought her summer track and field season to a successful conclusion at the Amateur Athletic Union's Junior Olympic Games at the University of North Carolina A&T State in Greensboro, N.C. Harris, who enjoyed a standout freshman season for Dobie at the varsity level this spring, competed in the girls'



15-16 division and was 14th overall in the pentathlon with 3,800 points. Her pentathlon results included sixth in the 200 (25.93 seconds), 16th in the 800 (2 minutes, 38.93 seconds), 23rd in the 100 hurdles (17.00), tied 24th in the high jump (4 feet, 7 inches), tied 11th in the long jump (16-5 3/4), 21st in the javelin (78-9) and 25th in the shot 20-0 1/2. Individually, Harris, competing for the Pearland Track Xpress, went 1:09.37 in the 400 hurdles for 34th overall and was 43rd in the long jump with a distance of 16-1 3/4.

Thompson Intermediate Volleyball

Wednesday, Aug. 31

Lions 7B host Park View, 4:30 p.m.
Lions 7A host Park View, 5:45 p.m.
Lions 8B host Park View, 4:30 p.m.
Lions 8A host Park View, 5:45 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 7

Lions 7B at San Jacinto, 4:30 p.m.
Lions 7A at San Jacinto, 5:45 p.m.
Lions 8B at San Jacinto, 4:30 p.m.
Lions 8A at San Jacinto, 5:45 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 14

Lions 7B host Miller, 4:30 p.m.
Lions 7A host Miller, 5:45 p.m.
Lions 8B host Miller, 4:30 p.m.
Lions 8A host Miller, 5:45 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 21

Lions 7B vs. Bev. Hills at Dobie, 4:30 p.m.
Lions 7A vs. Bev. Hills at Dobie, 5:45 p.m.
Lions 8B vs. Bev. Hills at Dobie, 4:30 p.m.
Lions 8A vs. Bev. Hills at Dobie, 5:45 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 28

Lions 7B host Southmore, 4:30 p.m.
Lions 7A host Southmore, 5:45 p.m.
Lions 8B host Southmore, 4:30 p.m.
Lions 8A host Southmore, 5:45 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 5

Lions 7B at Bondy, 4:30 p.m.
Lions 7A at Bondy, 5:45 p.m.
Lions 8B at Bondy, 4:30 p.m.
Lions 8A at Bondy, 5:45 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 12

Lions 7B host South Houston, 4:30 p.m.
Lions 7A host South Houston, 5:45 p.m.
Lions 8B host South Houston, 4:30 p.m.
Lions 8A host South Houston, 5:45 p.m.

BHI Intermediate Football

Tuesday, Sept. 6

Bears 7A host South Houston, 5 p.m.
Bears 7B at South Houston, 5 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 7

Bears 8A host South Houston, 5 p.m.
Bears 8B at South Houston, 5 p.m.

Monday, Sept. 12

Bears 7A host Jackson, 5 p.m.
Bears 7B at Jackson, 5 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 13

Bears 8A host Jackson, 5 p.m.
Bears 8B at Jackson, 5 p.m.

Monday, Sept. 19

Bears 7A host Miller, 5 p.m.
Bears 7B at Miller, 5 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 20

Bears 8A host Miller, 5 p.m.
Bears 8B at Miller, 5 p.m.

Monday, Sept. 26

Bears 7A host Thompson, 5 p.m.
Bears 7B at Thompson, 5 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 27

Bears 8A host Thompson, 5 p.m.
Bears 8B at Thompson, 5 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 3

Bears 7A at Bondy, 5 p.m.
Bears 7B host Bondy, 5 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 4

Bears 8A at Bondy, 5 p.m.
Bears 8B host Bondy, 5 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 10

Bears 7A at Southmore, 5 p.m.
Bears 7B host Southmore, 5 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 11

Bears 8A at Southmore, 5 p.m.
Bears 8B host Southmore, 5 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 17

Bears 7A host San Jacinto, 5 p.m.
Bears 7B at San Jacinto, 5 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 18

Bears 8A host San Jacinto, 5 p.m.
Bears 8B at San Jacinto, 5 p.m.

BHI Intermediate Volleyball

Wednesday, Aug. 31

Bears 7B at Jackson, 4:30 p.m.
Bears 7A at Jackson, 5:45 p.m.
Bears 8B at Jackson, 4:30 p.m.
Bears 8A at Jackson, 5:45 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 7

Bears 7B host South Houston, 4:30 p.m.
Bears 7A host South Houston, 5:45 p.m.
Bears 8B host South Houston, 4:30 p.m.
Bears 8A host South Houston, 5:45 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 14

Bears 7B at Bondy, 4:30 p.m.
Bears 7A at Bondy, 5:45 p.m.
Bears 8B at Bondy, 4:30 p.m.
Bears 8A at Bondy, 5:45 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 21

Bears 7B vs. Thompson at Dobie, 4:30 p.m.
Bears 7A vs. Thompson at Dobie, 5:45 p.m.
Bears 8B vs. Thompson at Dobie, 4:30 p.m.
Bears 8A vs. Thompson at Dobie, 5:45 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 28

Bears 7B at Miller, 4:30 p.m.
Bears 7A at Miller, 5:45 p.m.
Bears 8B at Miller, 4:30 p.m.
Bears 8A at Miller, 5:45 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 5

Bears 7B host San Jacinto, 4:30 p.m.
Bears 7A host San Jacinto, 5:45 p.m.
Bears 8B host San Jacinto, 4:30 p.m.
Bears 8A host San Jacinto, 5:45 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 12

Bears 7B host Southmore, 4:30 p.m.
Bears 7A host Southmore, 5:45 p.m.
Bears 8B host Southmore, 4:30 p.m.
Bears 8A host Southmore, 5:45 p.m.

Thompson Intermediate Football

Tuesday, Sept. 6

Lions 7A at San Jacinto, 5 p.m.
Lions 7B host San Jacinto, 5 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 7

Lions 8A at San Jacinto, 5 p.m.
Lions 8B host San Jacinto, 5 p.m.

Monday, Sept. 12

Lions 7A at Park View, 5 p.m.
Lions 7B host Park View, 5 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 13

Lions 8A at Park View, 5 p.m.
Lions 8B host Park View, 5 p.m.

Monday, Sept. 19

Lions 7A host Southmore, 5 p.m.
Lions 7B at Southmore, 5 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 20

Lions 8A host Southmore, 5 p.m.
Lions 8B at Southmore, 5 p.m.

Monday, Sept. 26

Lions 7A at Beverly Hills, 5 p.m.
Lions 7B host Beverly Hills, 5 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 27

Lions 8A at Beverly Hills, 5 p.m.
Lions 8B host Beverly Hills, 5 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 3

Lions 7A at Miller, 5 p.m.
Lions 7B at Miller, 5 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 4

Lions 8A at Miller, 5 p.m.
Lions 8B host Miller, 5 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 10

Lions 7A host South Houston, 5 p.m.
Lions 7B at South Houston, 5 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 11

Lions 8A hosts South Houston, 5 p.m.
Lions 8B at South Houston, 5 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 17

Lions 7A host Bondy, 5 p.m.
Lions 7B at Bondy, 5 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 18

Lions 8A host Bondy, 5 p.m.
Lions 8B at Bondy, 5 p.m.

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CALENDAR

THURSDAY, AUGUST 11
7 a.m. AA - "Breakfast With Bill," Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 713-686-6300.
7:30 a.m. Rotary Club of Pearland - Meets at 6117 Broadway St., Pearland, or on Zoom. See website calendar or call 281-485-3634.
9:30 a.m. NASA Aglow Community Lighthouse - Meets at 18516 Hwy. 3. Call 281-910-1971.
10 a.m. Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum - Exhibits include dioramas, a turn-of-the-century doctor's office and an old-time kitchen. Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., 204 S. Main, Pasadena. Call 713-472-0565 for appointment.
11:30 a.m. ABWA - Southeast Express Network - Meets at 2300 Smith Ranch Rd. \$20 cash or check for lunch. Visit www.seen.abwa.org.
Noon AA - Imperfect Nooners Group, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or at https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners. Call 713-686-6300.

See Friday's notice.
11 a.m. Al-Anon Meeting (Women Only, English) - meets at Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, Cornell Conference room #111. Call 281-487-8787.
1 p.m. St. Paul's Anglican Church - offers a knitting class, Saturdays 1 p.m. Call 281-479-7285 prior to coming.
3:30 - 6:30 p.m. Bay Area Singles Club - meets at the VFW Lodge Post 6378, 5204 Hwy. 3, in Dickinson. Cost is \$8 for members and \$10 for nonmembers. Bring snacks to share. Call 281-470-2750.
SUNDAY, AUGUST 14
8 a.m./10:15 a.m. St. Paul's Anglican Church - has worship Tuesday at 11:30 a.m., Wednesday at 7 p.m. (Bible study, Book of Revelation, at 6 p.m.) and Sunday at 8 a.m. and 10:15 a.m., 11456 Space Center Blvd. Call 281-479-7285.
2 p.m. Grief Support Group - Meets Sunday at Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena. Call 281-487-8787.
5:30 p.m. Celebrate Recovery - A faith-based 12-Step program, in the Life Kids Chapel at Life Church, 9900 Almeda Genoa. Call 713-419-2635.
8 p.m. AA - Meeting. See Friday's notice.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 16
7 a.m. AA - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
10 a.m. Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum - See Thursday's notice.
11:30 a.m. St. Paul's Anglican Church - See Sunday's notice.
Noon AA - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday's notice.
2 p.m. The National Active and Retired Federal Employees - meets at 9500 Hall Rd. Call 713-734-1461.
7 p.m. NA - Vigilance Group. See Friday's notice.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 12
7 a.m. AA - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
10 a.m. Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum - See Thursday's notice.
7 p.m. Congregation Shaar Hashalom - For details on the 7 p.m. Friday night or the 9:30 a.m. Saturday service, Judaism classes, film series and lunch with the Rabbi, visit https://www.shaarhashalom.org.
7 p.m. NA - Vigilance Group of NA, open, 2930 E. Broadway, Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). Call 713-661-4200.
8 p.m. Serenity Now Al-Anon Group - meets at CrossRoads UMC Fridays, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Call 281-484-9243.
8 p.m. AA - meets at CrossRoads UMC Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Call 281-484-9243.
SATURDAY, AUGUST 13
7:30 a.m. AA - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
9:30 a.m. Congregation Shaar Hashalom -

MONDAY, AUGUST 15
110 a.m. Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum - See Thursday's notice.
Noon AA - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday's notice.
1:30 - 3 p.m. Hometown Heroes Dance - at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 E. League City Parkway, is now open. Volunteers Jerry and Edith Sanford teach lessons Mondays with a different dance rhythm each month. Park activity cardholders attend free. Call 281-554-1180 for details.
6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Toastmasters - The Young Professionals Southeast Toastmasters Club #05324194 meets virtually with the exception of the second and fourth Mondays (in person) at https://youngprofessionalsoastmasters.com. Visit the website or call 281-467-1880.
7 p.m. TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) - #0683 Friendswood chapter meets at

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17
7 a.m. AA - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
9:30 a.m. Carmelites - meets at St. Bernadette Catholic Church, 15500 El Camino Real, in Clear Lake. Meetings are open to those 55+, with no dues. Call 713-444-6744.
10 a.m. Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum - See Thursday's notice.
Noon AA - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday's notice.
12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Hometown Heroes Humpday Dance - at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 E. League City Parkway, League City, 77573, is open. Neva and Bill Schroder coordinate Wednesday sessions for casual ballroom dancing (not dance lessons). Park activity cardholders attend free. Call 281-554-1180 for details.
7 p.m. St. Paul's Anglican Church - See Sunday's notice.
7 p.m. NA - Vigilance Group. See Friday's notice.
8 p.m. AA - Meeting. See Friday's notice.

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Wolverines to take Sanders' lead

Continued from Page 5

John Towels III and his staff produced seven wins in 19 overall games over the previous two seasons with Clear Falls and Clear Creek grabbing the two available 6A Division II playoff bracket berths. Now it's Sanders' turn.

The District 24-6A alignment is top-heavy, with Clear Springs riding a streak of 13 consecutive playoff seasons, while Dickinson has been to the playoffs in each of the previous nine seasons.

Meanwhile, Clear Falls has enjoyed its finest-ever seasons in 2020 and 2021, and the Knights have designs on claiming overall supremacy in the 24-6A landscape this season.

As for the Division II playoff picture, there's little holding the Wolverines

back from competing immediately for a spot.

Clear Falls would appear to have plenty to say about one of the Division II slots, but the Wolverines should push Clear Creek, Clear Lake and

Brazoswood.

With Sanders in charge now, the Wolverines will be focused on making a good impression, and nothing would look better than getting to the Division II playoffs.

Clear Brook looks ahead to 2022 opening week

Thursday, Aug. 25
Brook JV hosts Dobie White, 4:30 p.m.
Brook JV hosts Dobie Orange, 6:30 p.m.
Dobie Freshman Orange hosts Brook, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 26
Dobie Varsity (8-3 in 2021) hosts Brook (3-6 in 2021)
PSID Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.

Newsome rejoins Southeastern La. VB

At right, Kailin Newsome, who is the Clear Brook all-time leading kills leader with more than 2,050 over four varsity seasons, has rejoined the women's volleyball program at Southeastern Louisiana University for the 2022-2023 school year. Now a junior collegiately, Newsome originally signed with the Lions out of high school and played her freshman season there before transferring to Wichita State University for her sophomore season. A sports management major at Southeastern Louisiana, Newsome has delivered 280 kills over two seasons. Southeastern Louisiana opens its season Aug. 26 against Tulane in Beaumont.



Thompson competes at AAU JOs



Clear Brook senior Kennedy Thompson was back on the volleyball court in time for the varsity team's season opener Aug. 9, having finished her summer track and field season with a trip to the Amateur Athletic Union's Junior Olympic Games in Greensboro, N.C. Representing the All-American Throwers on the campus of North Carolina A&T State, Thompson's best finish came in the discus at the JOs as she was 11th in the country at 118 feet, 7 inches. She also competed in the shot, where her top effort of 33-10 3/4 was good for 33rd place. In the javelin event (63-1 1/4) to conclude her meet in the age 17-18 division, Thompson took 56th overall. With her senior track and field season yet to come next February, Thompson has registered personal records of 128-3 in the discus, 34-2 in the shot and 93-4 in the javelin throw while delivering a 4.76 grade point average as she looks toward her collegiate future. A middle blocker with the Wolverines' volleyball program, Thompson led the squad in total blocks as a junior in 2021.

Dobie standout Ballard ready at UTEP

At right, Dobie Class of 2021 graduate Jeremiah Ballard is looking to break through in a big way this season at the University of Texas-El Paso as he has now had a full offseason within the Miners' program. Ballard played in four games early on during the 2021 season at UTEP and registered one catch for 16 yards against Bethune-Cookman. Now listed as a redshirt freshman, Ballard should play more. Ballard starred on Dobie's 2020 District 22-6A championship team as he had 39 grabs for 765 yards on his way to first-team All-District honors. UTEP opens the 2022 regular season hosting North Texas Aug. 27 in the Sun Bowl in El Paso. The Miners were 7-6 a season ago, losing 31-24 to Fresno State in the PUBG Mobile New Mexico Bowl.



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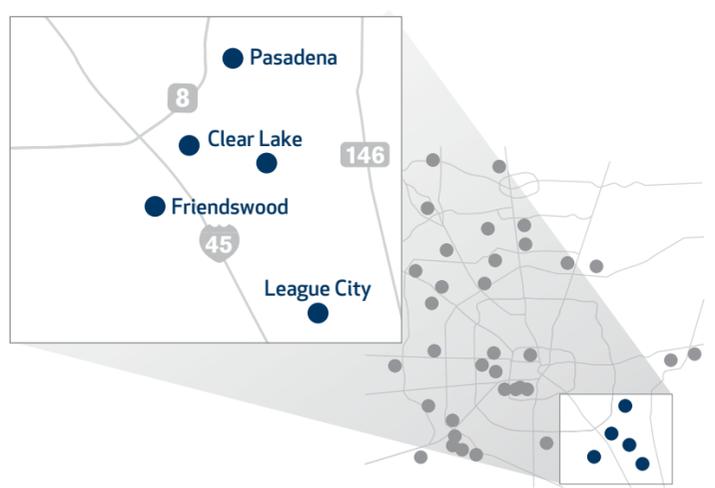
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