

# South Belt-Ellington Leader

## 41 years of covering South Belt

Voice of Community-Minded People since 1976

Thursday, August 3, 2017

Email: [mynews@southbeltleader.com](mailto:mynews@southbeltleader.com)

[www.southbeltleader.com](http://www.southbeltleader.com)

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### Health fair, free supplies set

Alameda Mall will host a Back-to-school fair sponsored by Texas Children's Health Plan Saturday Aug. 5 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free backpacks and school supplies along with health screenings available. Child must be present. While supplies last.

### Suspicious man reported

There have been multiple posts on local social media sites this past week about a suspicious man frequenting El Franco Lee Park, who has reportedly been approaching children. Authorities said the man has committed no known crimes. Harris County officials are aware of the situation and are looking into the matter.

### Vacation photos sought

The *Leader* is seeking readers' 2017 vacation photos for publication. A first-, second- and third-place prize of Schlitterbahn Galveston tickets will be awarded monthly to the best submissions. Email to [mynews@southbeltleader.com](mailto:mynews@southbeltleader.com).

### South Belt registration set

South Belt Elementary will hold pre-registration for Pre-K students Tuesday, Aug. 8, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Pre-K families with Fast Pass tickets must register from 8 to 9 a.m. Registration for grade levels kindergarten through fourth grade will be Wednesday, Aug. 9, and Friday, Aug. 11, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Thursday, Aug. 10, from noon to 7 p.m. For more information, call 713-740-5276.

### SVFD offers free screenings

The Southeast Volunteer Fire Department will offer free glucose readings and blood pressure screenings Friday, Aug. 4, from 7 to 9 p.m. at Walgreens, 10850 Scarsdale. For information, visit *People of Sagemont* Facebook or *Southeast Volunteer Fire Department* Facebook.

### Gulf Freeway closures set

According to the Texas Department of Transportation, at least one inside lane on the northbound and southbound frontage roads of the Gulf Freeway from NASA Road 1 to State Highway 96 in League City will be closed nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Sept. 30. At least one alternate lane on the northbound and southbound main lanes of I-45 from NASA Road 1 to State Highway 96 in League City will be closed nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Sunday, Dec. 31. Alternate entrance and exit ramps on the Gulf Freeway from NASA Road 1 to State Highway 96 in League City will be closed from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Sunday, Dec. 31. At least one alternate lane on northbound and southbound main lanes and frontage roads of I-45 from FM-528/NASA Parkway to Fuqua will be closed daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Saturday, Aug. 5, and nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Friday, Aug. 4.

### Seahawks begin sign-ups

The Blackhawk Seahawks football and cheer for boys and girls ages 5-12 is holding sign-up and information sessions at Dobie Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 6 to 7:30 p.m. through Friday, Aug. 18. For information, call Matthew Perez, 832-692-0535.

### JFD 20-Year reunion set

Calling all 1997 Longhorns. The 20-year reunion is Saturday, Sept. 16, from 6 to 10 p.m. at St. Arnold Brewery. Tickets are \$70 and include food, open taps, a commemorative pint glass, 90s music and entrance to the private Friday night mixer at the Cottonwood, 3422 N. Shepherd. Buy tickets at [paypal.me/97reuniontickets](http://paypal.me/97reuniontickets) or email Stephen Landin at [stevlandin@hotmail.com](mailto:stevlandin@hotmail.com).

### SBHLL elections Aug. 9

Board elections for the Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League will be Wednesday, Aug. 9, at 7 p.m. at Harris County Justice of the Peace Jo Ann Delgado's courtroom, 10851 Scarsdale. Anyone interested in being a part of the 2017 off-season and 2018 spring season is invited to attend as a candidate or voter.

### Ellington e-recycling set

The city's monthly electronic recycling event is Saturday, Aug. 12, at the Ellington Recycling Center from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. 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, phones and more, PDAs, cameras. For information, visit [www.houstonolidwaste.org](http://www.houstonolidwaste.org) or call 3-1-1.

### CrossRoads hosts program

CrossRoads UMC, 10030 Scarsdale, will implement a new program, Mercy Hearts, to minister to families with incarcerated members beginning Monday, Aug. 14, and meeting the second and fourth Mondays monthly from 6 to 8 p.m. The program will provide a complimentary meal, group Bible study and discussion. Child care will be provided. This is a confidential ministry and information will be treated accordingly.

## State "campus carry" law takes effect

The "campus carry" law allowing students to carry concealed weapons went into effect for all community colleges in Texas, including San Jacinto College, on Tuesday, Aug. 1.

Passed during the 84th Legislative Session in 2015 as Senate Bill 11, the law required community colleges to adopt a policy that does not generally prohibit licensed-to-carry holders from carrying a concealed weapon on campus but does allow for certain areas or activities of the college to be exclusion zones. Such a policy was adopted

by the San Jacinto College Board of Trustees on June 5 to comply with the state law.

Areas designated as exclusion zones at San Jacinto College's four campuses will be clearly marked with signage. It is the responsibility of license holders to carry their handguns on or about their persons at all times and to ensure they are complying with the law and college policy as it pertains to exclusion zones on campus. San Jacinto College will not provide storage for handguns.

The open carrying of any weapon on any Texas college or university campus, including San Jacinto College, is strictly prohibited. If one sees an individual openly carrying or displaying a firearm on any San Jacinto College campus or property, they should immediately contact the San Jacinto College Police Department at extension 5555 from a campus phone or by calling 281-476-9128.

"We understand that individuals may have different opinions, views and questions about the

law," said San Jacinto College Chief of Police Bruce L. Caldwell. "You are encouraged to visit our website to find a link to the college policy, as well as more information about the law. Should you have questions that the website does not answer, please contact the San Jacinto College Police Department."

SB 11 went into effect at four-year public universities in August 2016, and private universities, such as Rice University and the University of St. Thomas, may opt out of the new law.

### Graham greets Bagwell



South Belt resident and *Leader* staff member Rosa Graham (left) recently traveled to Cooperstown, New York to attend former Houston Astro Jeff Bagwell's (right) induction into the National Baseball Hall of Fame. Graham, who previously worked in guest services for the Astros, was featured prominently on local news media during her trip, appearing on channels 2, 11 and 13. Also pictured is an employee of MAB Celebrity Services, which organized the meet and greet. See related photo on Page 6A.

Photo by Don Graham

### CCISD names Hall of Honor inductees

The Clear Creek Independent School District and the Athletic Hall of Honor Board of Directors have announced the second class of inductees for the district's Athletic Hall of Honor.

Due to the volume of alumni worthy of such an honor, when nominations are sought annually, each year they encompass a specific era, folding in CCISD high schools as they were created. For the current 2017 nomination season, nominations were only considered for candidates active or enrolled from 1948 to 1972 and whose athletic career was linked to the former Webster High School or Clear Creek High School.

In all, 12 individuals were inducted, including 12 student athletes and one coach.

The 2017 CCISD Athletic Hall of Honor Inductees include the following:

#### Student athletes

- Kathleen Trcka Taylor, Clear Creek High School, 1960 (tennis and basketball)
- Bill Doty, Clear Creek High School, 1962 (basketball)
- Dwayne "Curley" Lenox, Clear Creek High School, 1963 (basketball)
- Rosemay Fleener Durham, Clear Creek High School, 1964 (basketball and volleyball)
- Paul Hackett, Clear Creek High School, 1966 (basketball, baseball and football)
- Terry Mathis, Clear Creek High School, 1967 (baseball and basketball)
- Steve Stewart, Clear Creek High School, 1967 (football)
- Larry Kelly, Clear Creek High School, 1967 (football, basketball and track)
- Mike McClendon, Clear Creek High School, 1968 (cross country and track)
- Richard Huhn, Clear Creek High School, 1968 (basketball)

### Dobie's Morris raises guide dogs

By Jay Do

Local resident and J. Frank Dobie High School teacher Schuyler Morris recently attended the formal graduation ceremony of her guide dog, Newsie, at the Guide Dogs for the Blind campus, located in Boring, Oregon.

Founded in 1942, Guide Dogs for the Blind is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization aimed at empowering lives by creating exceptional partnerships between people, dogs and their communities. The organization envisions a world with greater inclusion, opportunity and independence for visually impaired individuals, and works toward this mission by providing these individuals with guide dogs.

Guide Dogs for the Blind prides itself on serving its clients at no charge, including personalized training and extensive post-graduation support, in addition to any needed financial assistance for veterinary care. This is made possible through the generous support of donors and volunteers, as the organization receives no gov-

- Jody Medford, Clear Creek High School, 1971 (football)

#### Coach

- Coach Max Blansit, Clear Creek High School, 1960-1989 (track and football) (posthumously)

CCISD established the Athletic Hall of Honor in 2016 to recognize the efforts and contributions of former student athletes, coaches and teams who have brought distinction, honor and excellence to themselves and the Clear Creek Independent School District.

"We are delighted to welcome this group of outstanding athletes and individuals to the CCISD Athletic Hall of Honor," said Hall of Honor President Dr. Lynn Davis. "It's so important that these champions know they left an indelible mark on their school, district and community, one that is still remembered and honored today."

The athletes will be officially inducted on Friday, October 6, at a special ceremony and reception as well as during a ceremony before kick-off of the Clear Creek Wildcats and Clear Brook Wolverines game at 7 p.m. that same evening at CCISD Challenger Columbia Stadium.

The CCISD Athletic Hall of Honor, which operates as a 501(c)(3) and under an independent Board of Directors, gratefully acknowledges founding sponsors, Lewis Jewelers and the Luis Garcia family for their generous support of the formation of the Athletic Hall of Honor and tribute walls on display in Challenger Columbia Stadium. The Athletic Hall of Honor welcomes the 2017 Gold Medal Sponsors: Hometown Bank, Oral Surgery Associates, Joe and Jennifer McKinney and Gulf Coast Educators Federal Credit Union.

ernment funding.

Guide Dogs for the Blind employs the following breeds: yellow and black Labrador retrievers, golden retrievers and lab and golden crosses. The puppies are bred and born at the organization's headquarters in San Rafael, California, before being placed in the homes of volunteer puppy raisers when they reach two months of age.

Morris is one such volunteer.

"I enjoy animals," said Morris. "The thought to be able to teach and help someone at the same time is the reason why I chose to be a part of Guide Dogs for the Blind."

Morris is also the leader of the local Guide Dogs for the Blind Puppy Raising Club, Lone Star Guide.

Puppy raiser volunteers are responsible for teaching their designated puppies good manners and basic obedience, while introducing them to new experiences and real-world stimuli.

"Newsie was a very fun dog," said Morris.

Continued on Page 3A

### METRO officials hold open house

METRO officials held a meeting Wednesday, July 26, at the Sagemont Park Community Center, as part of its summer community open house series.

Staff in attendance discussed the transit company's history, as well as its current activities and plans for the future.

Approved by Houston voters in 1978, METRO opened for business in January 1979, replacing the bus service owned by the City of Houston known as HouTran, which was plagued by outdated equipment and not structured to accommodate Houston's rapid population growth.

METRO was originally funded by a one-cent city sales tax. Officials said every \$1 invested in public transit generates approximately \$4 in economic return.

The company's service area encompasses 1,285 square miles and also serves portions of an eight-county region with its vanpool service. The transit authority currently employs approximately 4,000 people.

Today, the company is one of the largest and most efficient transit businesses in the country, providing roughly 8 million commuter bus trips each year. METRO is one of four urban transit

agencies in the country to gain bus ridership in 2016.

While METRO's high-occupancy vehicle, or HOV, lanes, had been in place since 1979 for cars with two or more passengers to utilize, the company introduced its high occupancy toll, or HOT, lanes in 2012. HOT lanes allow commuters with only one person in a vehicle to pay a toll to utilize the express lanes. Around 116 million trips per year now take place on the HOV/HOT lanes.

Looking to the future, METRO officials said Houston is expected to soon surpass Chicago as the nation's third largest city, with approximately 10 million people expected to live in the region by 2040.

A new METRO Park & Ride facility near El Dorado and the Gulf Freeway is scheduled to open in late August. The new lot is expected to alleviate overcrowding at the nearby Bay Area Park & Ride.

The El Dorado location will be the fifth in the general area, with others being located on Sabo (Fuqua Park & Ride), Kurland (South Point Park & Ride) and Monroe (Monroe Park & Ride).

### MUD check theft remains unsolved

The recent theft of a check for more than \$95,000 taken from the Clear Brook City Municipal Utility District remained unsolved at press time. The check for \$95,533.13 was originally made out to the City of Houston as payment for sewer service but never reached its destination. The theft was discovered by Clear Brook City MUD Office Manager Amber McBee, who placed a "stop payment" on it and re-issued a

second check to the city.

McBee also discovered four additional checks totaling \$3,731.50 that had been fraudulently presented and paid out. Unlike the larger check, however, McBee determined the four smaller ones did not even originate from the MUD but had been completely falsified.

At press time, the second incident also remained unsolved.

### Cause of Alexander death still pending

More than four months after the death of Christopher Alexander, the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences has yet to determine what killed the man.

Alexander was found unresponsive at an apartment complex located at 1400 Redford near Edgebrook and the Gulf Freeway on Tuesday, March 21.

Patrol officers and paramedics responded to the call around 10:45 p.m. after receiving reports of the man collapsing after having an altercation

with a female. Alexander was transported to Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital, where he was later pronounced dead.

According to witnesses, Alexander appeared to be impaired by an unknown substance prior to and during the altercation.

The female was detained at the scene but was questioned and released.

At press time, a spokesman for the Houston Police Department said the case was still an open homicide investigation.

### July photo contest winners announced

The July winners of the *Leader's* 2017 vacation photo contest have been announced, with the Kelley family taking home the top prize of eight tickets to Schlitterbahn Galveston for pictures of their recent Florida vacation that ran in the July 13 edition.

The second-place prize of six Schlitterbahn tickets went to the Greg Brewer for photos from his trip to Puerto Rico that were published in the

July 20 issue, and the third-place prize of four Schlitterbahn tickets was presented to the Si-fuentes and Herrera brothers for photos from their trip to Dallas to visit Legoland that were published in the July 27 edition.

There is still time to enter the *Leader's* August photo contest. For more information, see sidebar on this page. See this week's vacation photos on Page 6A.



### Morris trains Newsie

South Belt resident and Dobie High School teacher Schuyler Morris recently returned from a trip to Oregon, where she attended the graduation ceremony for Newsie, a dog she trained to serve as a guide for the blind. The training was sponsored by the nonprofit group Guide Dogs for the Blind. Morris serves as the head of the organization's local puppy-raising club Lone Star Guide. Morris and Newsie are shown above taking in the downtown Super Bowl activities this past February as part of the dog's training. See related photo on Page 3A.

Photo submitted

# In My Opinion

## Joneses thank couple who warned of fire

Thursday, July 27, a young couple came to the door telling us the back of our house was on fire.

The back patio fence was burning. The young man got our water hose and extinguished the fire. We do not know the couple but we want to thank them from the bottom of our hearts. Our thanks to Southeast Volunteer Fire Department who also arrived and made sure all was safe. Thanks to the wonderful neighbors who came and offered their help.

May God richly bless all of you!

Ray and Dora Jones

## ED Jackson: One more distraction

Now "The Wall" is going to be solar? This comment -like so many others- doesn't appear to be well thought out for several reasons. Since Mexico is no longer going to pay for it we would probably need to buy most of the pieces Made In China as they, and not us, are the leading supplier of solar panels and thus less expensive. Plus all this new surplus clean electricity to be generated will likely cause the loss of even more jobs in the coal industry. However, those lost jobs may be offset by new ones created for cleaners to continually remove all the spray paint damage from 'tagging' done by local gang members.

And just how is this solar wall supposed to gather light if it is vertical in order to prevent being scaled by "murderers and rapist"... and maybe even some actual good people too? And, if constructed at the proper angle(s) to catch the necessary sunlight to be efficient, would it then be used as a ramp to launch over trucks laden with illegal drugs and other undesirable?

Could this be just another in a long list of distractions from falling sound bite promises: "Lock her up", "Move the embassy", "Repeal and replace", "Not gonna happen"? Right, "believe me", not gonna happen.

And just yesterday (July 20) another distraction. The man who won't release his tax returns asked why the 20 states which have refused to release their voters registration confidential information; "Could it be they have something to hide?"

We don't need more distractions. We need real solutions to real problems.

Ed Jackson

## King lauds Chronicle on storm surge stand

Kudos to my former colleagues at the Chronicle editorial board for calling on Governor Abbott to add action on a storm surge protection system to the special session.

Many of us had hoped the Legislature would make some progress on a storm surge protection system for our region this session. But little was accomplished. Nothing is as critical to our state than protecting our coastal region from the catastrophic storm that will inevitably show up one day. And certainly nothing on the Governor's call even comes close to the gravity of this issue.

So please contact the Governors' office and ask him to get this project moving.

If we start today, it would probably take a decade or more to have a functioning system. Every year we go without taking action we are adding a bullet to the revolver with which we are playing Russian roulette.

For additional background on the effects of a major hurricane making landfall just to the west of Galveston (referred to by researchers as the "Scenario 7 storm").

Bill King

# Elected officials share their words

## Sanctions increase pressure

By Rep. Pete Olson

On July 25, Rep. Pete Olson acted to increase pressure on Russia, Iran and North Korea by voting in support of additional sanctions against these countries with passage of H.R. 3364, the Russia, Iran, and North Korea Sanctions Act. This legislation increases economic and political pressure on the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Russian Federation and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The bill passed the House by a vote of 419-3. A similar bill passed the Senate by a vote of 98-1 earlier this year. "The hostile behavior displayed by these nations is a dangerous threat to our national security," Rep. Olson said. "We must act to hold these rogue nations accountable and use every tool at our disposal to deter them from continuing their acts of aggression against America and our allies. I'm pleased that the House and Senate have both acted in a bipartisan manner to address the growing threats from Russia, Iran and North Korea and look forward to sending a unified bill to President Trump for his signature."

## Special session newsletter

By Rep. Dennis Paul

The Texas House is using this 30-day special session to evaluate and consider dozens of bills on a variety of topics. These topics include property tax relief, public school funding, and today's overwhelming support to pass the Governor's highest priority - The Sunset Bill.

House Bill 1 - The Sunset Bill which protects Texans medical and therapy care at the first opportunity was passed in the House 147-0.

In addition, the Texas House will evaluate the misuse of state funds by certain state agencies and investigate potential impact to Texas from the anticipated federal repeal of Obamacare.

As many are aware, the House and Senate can move at different speeds because of the differences in size and their respective rules. House rules require Texans to be given notice of committee hearings to allow them to make their views known.

House rules also require longer notice periods for certain bills to be considered for final passage to allow Texans to read the bills that are going to affect them and to allow voters to express their views to House Members.

Both the House and Senate have to agree on the exact text of any of the special session items. Because of differences in the size of chambers and their rules, House deliberation sometimes can take longer than Senate actions.

## Community meets Rep. Paul

Recently Rep. Dennis Paul and District Director Dawn McDonald met some very successful and influential community members. Paul and Jeanne Lynch, Chief of the Flight Dynamics Division at Johnson

Space Center, recently spoke about Lynch's daughter Emma Paul, who was nominated by Paul for the Texas Armed Services Scholarship Program.

Emma graduated from Clear Brook High and is now in the Army ROTC program and the Corps of Cadets at Texas A&M University. Paul was excited to learn Emma is planning to start nursing school and will commission as an Army nurse when she graduates in 2020.

McDonald attended the Aerospace Scholars summer graduation where the community was well represented by graduate Daniel Abreo.

The guest speaker was NASA Flight Operations Director Brian Kelly. High School Aerospace Scholars is an interactive online learning experience highlighted by a weeklong internship.

Selected students are encouraged to study mathematics, science, engineering and computer science by interacting with engineers at NASA's Johnson Space Center.

The project includes preliminary interactive Web-based activities, distance learning and a JSC residential experience.

Texas students are selected to participate by their state legislator through a competitive process. Selected students are Texas residents and U.S. citizens currently in their junior year of high school (rising seniors) with an interest and aptitude for mathematics, science, engineering or computer science.

## Israeli Folk Dancing dates set

And the dancing continues. What was meant to last only for four to five months is now in its eighth year, as the participants do not want to stop dancing.

The sessions are not built on one another. Dances are held at Congregation Shaar Hashalom Mondays, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. August session dates are 7, 14, 21 and 28. September session dates are 11, 18 and 25. There will be no session on Labor Day, Sept. 4.

The cost for CSH members is \$4 per session or \$35 for 10 sessions. The cost for non-members is \$5 per session or \$45 for 10 sessions.

Dancing is an excellent cardiovascular exercise while having fun, and everyone is welcome to join the group.

The entire community is invited to attend.

For more information contact the Synagogue office at 281-488-5861 or at csh@shaarhashalom.org.

# Deaths

## Bill Bailey



Constable with Harris County Precinct 8.

After winning a run-off election, Bailey made a real impact by implementing innovative programs focused on improving the community- the eight communities in his precinct. His presence and support of the Johnson Space Center and the astronauts and their families was vital to the Clear Lake community.

Precinct 8 is the only police agency in the nation with a NASA-designed patch "Astronaut Support" for deputies and vehicles. He received the NASA Medal for Outstanding Public Service, NASA's highest civilian award. The NASA Precinct 8 association continues today. Bailey's support from the public kept him in the Constable's position from 1982 until his seventh term in 2011.

After retirement, Bill Bailey stayed active in a multitude of activities, including his involvement as communications director for Rosewood Funeral Home. Bailey, incidentally, had long roots in the funeral business, having been an ambulance driver for the Howard family's funeral home when he was in his twenties. At that time, he considered it a great job.

"I got to drive fast and blow the sirens." Perhaps that experience helped shape Bailey into the man of great compassion. He compared the funeral business to a ministry—providing comfort to families working through difficult times, and he, himself, took comfort in that role.

Bailey also continued his service on the board of directors and a member of the senior loan committee for Pasadena-based Texas Citizens Bank where his business sense and sharp assessment was highly valued. And he also provided troubleshooting assistance and security advice to Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Jack Morman.

Bailey was an impact participant and served as President of both the Texas Constables & Justice of the Peace Association of Texas and the Texas Association of Counties. Again his determination to improve the organizations made lasting changes and improved the departments in County government.

His statewide and local affiliations are too numerous to list. There was not an organization that Bailey did not touch. His commitment to local groups like the area chambers of commerce, Pasadena Rotary, the Salvation Army, the YMCA, the Pasadena Livestock Show and Rodeo, local school district education foundations, and the San Jacinto College foundation are just but a few.

His energy and enthusiasm for doing good is unrivaled in our times. Everywhere you look, there is a piece of Bailey. He didn't just join—he participated with energy and devotion. He gave with his heart, and he had a big Texas size heart.

He was a faithful member of South Main Baptist Church in Pasadena where he served as a adult Sunday School teacher and on the Sunday morning offering team. He was a 32nd degree Mason with memberships in the Jaques DeMolay Lodge No. 1390, Pasadena Lodge No 1155, Scottish Rite 32 degree & K.C.C.H., York Rite, Arabia Temple Shrine, and DeMolay L.O.H.

He was the kind of man who was just as comfortable in his backyard with his dogs, horses, mules and chickens as he was in million dollar fund raisers with icons and country stars and politicians. He did not back away from what he thought was right, and he defended his beliefs in a conscientious and powerful way. He cared deeply about his friends, his country, his beloved Texas and his family. He made each of us a better person.

He was preceded in death by parents Verna and Floyd Stanley; brother Bobby; and beloved son Milton.

He is survived by wife and soul mate of almost 41 years Janis Bailey. Bill is also survived by daughter Rae Sinor and husband Keith; daughter Sharon Escareno and husband Jaime; daughter Linda Taylor; and daughter-in-law Amber Stanley.

Bailey is further survived by grandchildren Amy Sanders, Lauren Bennett and husband Ken, Michael and John Sinor, Taylor and Michael Stanley, Jamie and Jessica Escareno and Eric Taylor; and great-grandchildren Katelyn McKenzie, Kelsey Sanders, and Trey and Noah Bennett. Left also to grieve are sister Annette Parker; sister-in-law Doris Stanley; sister-in-law Adrienne Armstrong and husband Warren; many nieces and nephews; and so many dear friends and family too numerous to count.

Visitation was Tuesday, Aug. 1 at South Main Baptist Church, 4300 East Sam Houston Parkway South. A private family graveside service was Wednesday, Aug. 2, at Forest Park Lawndale. The Celebration of Life Service was at First Baptist Church of Pasadena.

Jaime Escareno, Jess Fields, Ben Meador, John H. Moon, Sr. Ken Parker, Constable Phil Sandlin, Keith Sinor and Alan Stanley served as pallbearers. Honorary Pallbearers were the members of the Harris County Precinct 8 Honor Guard.

In lieu of usual remembrances, the family asked donations be made to the charities so close to their hearts that honor Milton: MSJ Outdoors, 501-c(3) which is operated by Rae and Keith and provides a unique life experience for inner city kids and our country's veterans and their families; and to the San Jacinto College Milton Stanley Endowment Scholarship which allows dozens of students each year to get that extra help they need.

## Sherry Munn

Longtime South Belt resident Sherry Munn died Tuesday, Aug. 1, after a prolonged battle with illness. Munn is survived by her husband, Phillip "Butch" Munn. A memorial service will be announced at a later date.

## Dr. Jean Wren



Dr. Jean Wren, 78, of Friendswood, Texas, died surrounded by family and friends July 25, 2017.

She was born in Amory, Mississippi on January 30, 1939 to Roland and Sara Pennington.

Jean devoted her life to education, and had an impressive career in the Friendswood Independent School District.

Beginning as a teacher, Jean soon became a school assistant principal and then a principal.

She later assumed the responsibilities of Community Education Coordinator, Vocational Administrator, Director of Instructional Programs and Director of Special Education for the district.

In 1977, she was named Assistant Superintendent for Instruction of FISD, becoming one of the very first females to assume such a role in Texas education. She retired from Friendswood ISD in 1994.

Wren went on to serve as an educational consultant and adjunct professor at the University of St. Thomas, University of Houston-Clear Lake, University of Houston-University Park and Texas A&M University.

Jean held a long standing leadership role in helping advance the seven county Region 4 Education Center, where she wrote and organized the Title I reading program.

She has published many articles on educational topics, and received many awards and grants, including Who's Who of American Women, and a certificate of appreciation for civic work from the City of Friendswood.

Jean served on the board of directors of the First Educators Credit Union (later Smart Financial) for many years.

She also served as a long-time board member of the Regency Estates Home Owners Association.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Roland and Sara Pennington.

She is survived by son Patrick Robert Wren and wife, Amy; son Kiley John Wren and wife Melissa; grandchildren Sophia, Noah, and Savannah; brother Roland "Randy" Randolph Pennington Jr. of Sageglenn and wife Paula; sister Ann Manning; nephew Darrell Pennington and wife Kathleen, and their children Kendall and Madison; and loving partner Ed Cousins, and his children, Daniel Cousins, Sandra Stanford and husband Chad, and their children Chase, Clayton and Connor.

A funeral service was held at 10 a.m. on Friday, July 28, 2017 in the Chapel of Forest Park East Funeral Home, 21620 Gulf Freeway, Webster. Jean was laid to rest in the Forest Park Westheimer Cemetery, 12800 Westheimer Rd.

## Weiser reminisces on O'Connell's class

Maryellen Weiser (right), one of the Pasadena Memorial High School's Shining Stars, is shown with distinguished educator Michael O'Connell, a U.S. history teacher at Bondy Intermediate.

Weiser has volunteered for several organizations including the Houston Food Bank, BOUNCE disaster relief, the Girl Scouts, Helping Hands and several others.



Weiser plans to attend Texas Tech University to receive a bachelor's degree in business through the Honors College. She hopes to pursue a career as a pharmaceutical sales representative.

Weiser commented about O'Connell, "When I stepped into Mr. O'Connell's classroom in the beginning of eighth grade, I knew I was in for a treat. He was unlike any teacher I'd ever had before. He made us think and laugh while learning valuable lessons about our nation's past through his incredible stories. He always found innovative ways to help us remember everything."

"History was something I had always viewed as old news, but after his class I saw history as lessons taught through time. I'm so thankful for the year I spent in Mr. O'Connell's classroom, and the impact he made on me."

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

The 10 Shining Stars represent the Top 10 Pasadena Memorial High School students. The information and photos were submitted by Pasadena Independent School District.

The Leader is also running the Top 10 Shining Stars from Dobie and South Houston high schools.

# Harris County tests Points of Distribution

The Harris County Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management hosted a county-wide exercise at NRG Center on Tuesday, July 25, to test and train on Point of Distribution operations.

This full-scale exercise focused on the recovery phase following the landfall of a Category 4 hurricane. The exercise helped assess coordination and communication between local partners, operational areas and the Harris County Emergency Operations Center.

"The exercise was developed for staff and partners to learn about the POD plan in

place following a disaster," said Harris County Judge Ed Emmett. "Drills and exercises help work out any kinks, so that during an actual event operations run more smoothly."

PODs are established post-incident for distributing life-sustaining commodities. The need for a POD is based on lack of infrastructure to support normal distribution of food, water and other supplies.

HCOHSEM, in coordination with cities, determine the need for a POD, the location, and the commodities to be distributed there. When recovery has reached a point where the

local community can sustain itself, the POD closes.

"This POD exercise provides an excellent opportunity for participants to become familiar with their roles and responsibilities," added Emmett. "Lessons learned from the exercise will help improve our plans to better serve the residents of Harris County."

Training and exercises are integral parts of community readiness and preparedness. Last year, HCOHSEM hosted 69 training opportunities and participated in more than 25 partner exercises throughout the region.

## Local library events set

Parker Williams Library

The following events are scheduled for the Parker Williams Library, 10851 Scarceland Blvd. this week:

Thursday, Aug. 3, 3 p.m. Teen Thursday: Summer assignment study session is available for ages 13 and older.

Thursday, Aug. 3, 3 p.m. Meet in the library community room to get the ball rolling and deal with procrastinating on that summer assignment. The room will be open to study groups or individuals. John Harbaugh will be there to answer any reference questions and to help find appropriate resources to get answers.

Monday - Friday, Aug. 7 to Aug. 11, 2-3:30 p.m. STEAM Camp, STEAM Explorers for ages 8-12. Stop the summer slide and get kids' brains invigorated for learning. Kids will learn about robotics, physics, electric circuits and more. Preregistration is required. Registration forms are available at the reference desk.

Monday, Aug. 7, 7 p.m. Teens and adults bring a favorite board or tabletop game and meet in the library community room for board game night.

Tuesday, Aug. 8, 4 p.m. The presentation *Microsoft Publisher for fliers, postcards or brochures* for adults gives information for making fliers, brochures, invitations, postcards, newsletters, or other kinds of publications for a small business, church group or other organization. Advance registration is required.

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2:30. Computer class: Internet Security. Tips and tricks are shown using and finding software to help improve a PC's internet security. Call or visit the library to sign up for this session.

The events occurring every week are:

Wednesdays - Preschool storytime, 10:30 a.m., for children ages 3 to 5 years, featuring stories, songs, fingerplays and a craft.

Thursdays - Toddler storytime, 10:30 a.m., for toddlers from birth to 3 years, featuring stories, songs, fingerplays and bubbles.

Saturdays - Vietnamese learning time. 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 details on Vietnamese learning, speak with Loc Bui.

For more information on library events, phone the library at 281-484-2036. Library hours this week are: Monday, 1-9 p.m., Tuesday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Friday, 1 - 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; and Sunday, closed.

Bracewell Branch Library

The following events are scheduled for the Bracewell Branch Library, 9002 Kingspoint: Saturday, Aug. 5, 10:15 a.m. Spanish computer class

Wednesday, Aug. 9, Computer courses: 2 p.m. Computer Basics; 3:15 p.m. Internet Basics; 4:30 p.m. Basic Powerpoint

For more information on these programs, call the library at 832-393-2580. All events are free and open to the public.

Bracewell hours are: Sunday, closed; Monday, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m., Tuesday and Wednesday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Thursday, noon - 8 p.m., Friday, 1 - 5 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

## CNA, certification grants set



Certified Nurse Aide is one of the courses Texas Public Education Grant scholarship recipients may take for entry into the workforce. Shown, left to right, Christina Berry, San Jacinto College student, demonstrates how to properly assist a patient with the instruction of certified nurse aide instructor Judith Yonley.

Photo by Jeannie Peng Mansyur

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## Etienne encourages Pham, students

Vy Pham (left), one of the Dobie High School's Shining Stars, is shown with distinguished physics instructor Thomas Etienne.

Pham has done volunteer work for the Parker Williams Library, the Houston Food Bank, school festivals, Houston Family Dental, NHS, HOSA and Key Club events.

She plans to attend Rice University to pursue a major in the humanities field and a minor in business. She also plans to enter dental school to become an orthodontist.

Pham commented about Etienne, "With his sarcasm and wit, Mr. E. manages to get students engaged in even the most exasperating of sciences: physics. His dedication to teaching empowers students to take on new perspectives and encourages them to dig deeper into the subject on their own. Furthermore, Mr. E has motivated me to pursue my career path of being an orthodontist with his unwavering support for brushing and flossing twice a day.

The South Belt Shining Stars will be presented in a series of 10 students being

honored along with their favorite mentor. The 10 Shining Stars represent the Top 10 Dobie High School students.

The information and photos were supplied by Pasadena Independent School District.

The Leader is also running the Top 10 Shining Stars from Pasadena Memorial and South Houston high schools.



# Cortes defies all odds, overcomes obstacles, graduates high school

By Jay Do

In spite of a lifetime's worth of obstacles, Maria Cortes has recently defied all odds and graduated from Pasadena Independent School District.

Not the average high school student, Cortes is the daughter of a migrant worker, and as such, has traveled throughout the country in search of agricultural career opportunities.

Following her mother, Cortes' travels would take her to destinations throughout the Southwest and Northwest coast of the country, including Arizona, Washington and California, and eventually force her to drop out of school in order to tend to her siblings while her mother was working.

"I've been moving

around pretty much my entire life," said Cortes. "We traveled a lot mainly because we were looking for agricultural jobs. My mom would go anywhere that work was available to be able to support us. During those transitions it was hard to keep up with schoolwork and taking care of my siblings and there was a time where I quit school because it didn't seem like I was going to be able to graduate with all of these responsibilities that I had. My mom would go anywhere that work was available to be able to support us. During those transitions it was hard to keep up with schoolwork and taking care of my siblings and there was a time where I quit school because it didn't seem like I was gonna be able to graduate with all of these responsibilities that I had."

Shortly after arriving in Texas, Cortes made the difficult decision to enroll in school and graduated from high school, a decision that was made easier by the Pasadena Independent School District's Migrant Education Program.

Established in 1966, the Federal Title I, Part C Migrant Education Program (MEP) is a national endeavor to address the special educational needs of students who have traveled with their families in pursuit of agriculture or fishing-related career opportunities.

The program ensures that all students who move among the states are not penalized in any matter by disparities among states in curriculum, graduation requirements or state academic content and student academic achievement standards.

Pasadena ISD works closely with a special project of the Texas Education Agency, the Texas Migrant Interstate Program (TMIP), in facilitating intra- and interstate coordination in order to help fulfill the educational needs of migrant children from Texas who migrate out of state. The culmination of these efforts aims to provide all migrant students with the opportunity to achieve challenging academic standards and graduate with a high school diploma in order to prepare them for responsible citizenship, further learning and productive employment.

Cortes is one such student who was able to graduate through the combined efforts of MEP and TMIP.

Prior to being involved with the programs, Cortes faced considerable difficulty in tending to her family, while simultaneously keeping up with her academic pursuits.

"It was pretty hard," said Cortes. "I had to take care of my siblings at home while my mom worked and I had to balance that with any schoolwork that I had. When I moved here from Washington, I lost half of my credits, so I had to take freshman year twice."

MEP and TMIP efforts were able to quickly provide Cortes with all the necessary assistance and set her on the course to graduation.

"They helped me with tutoring a lot," said Cortes. "The tutors would be there the whole day, from Monday to Friday, to help me with any schoolwork that I needed help with. I had to do ingenuity courses to catch up on my missing credits, and the tutors would be available after school and on Saturdays to help me with that."

Recent events regarding the new administration of President Donald Trump has resulted in mixed feelings regarding students like Cortes, the implications of which have been resoundingly felt by Cortes and others like her.

"The current administration has made it more difficult for me and for others like me," said Cortes. "It has been difficult because there is a lot of bad preconceived ideas of people like us and the current administration has shed a light on this and it's reflected on a lot of people who share these ideals that try to make simple things like getting an education so hard for us."

In situations such as



Maria Cortes (right) is shown with her mother, Enedi Narellano. Overcoming a lifetime's worth of challenges, Cortes recently graduated through the Pasadena Independent School District's Migrant Education Program from Sam Rayburn High School, and will be attending San Jacinto College in the fall. Photo by Jay Do

these, Pasadena ISD prides itself on offering both educational and emotional support for migrant students. Each school is equipped with migrant counselors who serve students in their pursuit for an education and happiness.

"They made me feel welcome, and they made me feel like family," said Cortes. "They did a really good job of making me feel accepted and cared for."

However difficult her path may have been, Cortes feels that graduating earlier this summer was not only worth the arduous journey, but also serves as a testament to the sheer strength of willpower and determination.

"The most rewarding thing to come out of all of this was finally being able to graduate," said Cortes. "I was able to do something that a lot of people aren't able to do because of their conditions. I'm also really grateful to be able to give all of my siblings or any other students the example that anything is possible despite where you come from and that people are willing to give you a hand as long as you make the effort."

Cortes' mother, Enedi Narellano, shares similar sentiments.

"I am exceptionally proud of Maria for all that she has accomplished," said Narellano. "I divorced her father eight years ago, and Maria had to put her education on hold to stay home and take care of her siblings while I worked. She essentially became a second mother to them."

"She also had to move around a lot to look for work. With the help of the Migrant Education Program, Maria chose to go back to school and graduate. As a mother, you always want what's best for your children. I wanted Maria to get a proper education so that she could make something of herself and not be in the situation that I am in. Seeing her graduate, despite all that she had to do to take care of the family, I could not be anymore proud."

Having completed the first step in her journey, Cortes now plans to attend San Jacinto College in the fall to study nursing, followed by the University of Houston.

Having experienced firsthand the challenges that migrant students must endure, Cortes now offers advice to others like her.

"I cannot emphasize enough how important it is to never give up," said Cortes. "If you really want to accomplish something, you can, if you just try hard enough."

Cortes credits her success to the Pasadena ISD MEP, and remains eternally grateful for the members who dedicated their time and committed their resources into seeing her graduate.

"I can't thank the members of the Migrant Education Program enough for all that they have done for me," said Cortes. "Thank you for helping me, thank you for never giving up on me."

Parents of students who have moved with the past three years for agricultural or fishing-related work are urged to contact the Pasadena ISD MEP at 713-740-0050 or 713-740-0210.

## SJC offers business certification



The bank teller course is one of several San Jacinto College business certification courses available to those who qualify for Texas Public Education Grant scholarships. The course, held at United Way, concludes with a graduation to recognize participants as certified bank tellers. Shown, left to right, are Olivia Awolope, United Way program manager; bank teller course students Donna Williams, Mahatsi Sarraf, Nancy Lowery, Fengling Chen, Michelle Deacon, Lori Habalou, Heloes Jager, Candice Lopez, Jordan Murray; and Laura Martinez, coordinator of skills training with San Jacinto College Continuing and Professional Development. Photo by Jeannie Peng Mansyur

## Guide dog graduates, calls Canada new home

Continued from Page 1A  
"Some of the challenges I encountered with her was the difference between a lab-

rador retriever and a golden retriever in their training. Golden retrievers are a bit more stubborn and slower

to learn, but very smart once they grasp the understanding of what they are supposed to do. If anything, I learned

to be patient in my training, having trained Newsie."

Once the pups are acclimated to life surrounded by humans, they are returned to Guide Dogs for the Blind for formal guide work training when they reach 15 to 17 months of age.

For Morris, this was a challenge in itself.

"It was very difficult to part ways with Newsie, but you know that going into training a guide dog," said Morris. "It is not my dog. I am training this dog for Guide Dogs for the Blind to help change a life."

Following the completion of training, the dogs are matched with an individual who is blind or visually impaired.

The pair then completes an intensive two-week course, culminating with a graduation ceremony, at which the volunteer puppy raiser formally presents the dog to its new handler.

Newsie was Lone Star Guide's first dog to complete the program, and has set an impressive precedence for

others to follow.

"It has been a big impact on our club and the state of Texas in the number of successful dogs that go through the program," said Morris.

"To know that the time and dedication you put into this animal will in fact change someone's life is pleasing and humbling."

"This is our club's first training dog to graduate the program. We also had a dog in our program that graduated and became a breeder, of which we now have the puppy in our club."

For Morris, the experience of raising a guide dog has been nothing but rewarding.

"I am at peace knowing that Newsie is confident and can guide someone who depends on her so much," said Morris. "She will live a happy life in Canada with her partner, and will be loved and cared for, knowing that now her visually impaired partner can be mobile and experience things he may not have before."

## NASA Aglow sets meeting

"The Great American Eclipse" is Rev. Mary Bostrom's topic as she speaks to NASA Aglow on Thursday, Aug. 10 at 9:30 a.m. NASA Space Center is on high alert regarding "The Great American Eclipse" that will be over the nation from the coast of Oregon to the coast of South Carolina Aug. 21. But, according to Bostrom, they may not be aware that this is a huge sign on God's prophetic calendar.

Bostrom contends that God intended that "lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night; and be for signs and seasons" (Genesis 1:14). Bostrom believes that God does not change; his word does not change and he is still giving us signs in the heavens.

The first question in the New Testament was from the Magi from the east, "Where is He that is born the King of the Jews? We saw His star and have come to worship Him." They knew what to look for on God's incredible heavenly billboard.

Bostrom will be coming to NASA Aglow to share how this incredible solar eclipse over the United States is a

message from God for the nation. She will also be sharing regarding the Revelation 12 sign in the heaven on Sept. 23. NASA Aglow invites the public to come and hear what one will not hear on the national news and "keep looking up" for his second coming (Luke 21:28).

Bostrom has been married to Ken since 1970 and they have two married daughters and six grandchildren. She is a Bible teacher who loves to connect the Old and New Testaments, using the Jewish roots. Members of World Ministry Fellowship (WMF) since 1994, Mary and Ken's mission is to reach the lost, teach the found and preach the Bible to become united in his purpose.

All ladies are invited to NASA Aglow the second Thursday of every month at Praise Chapel at 9:30 a.m.; afterward the group goes to a nearby restaurant. Praise Chapel is located at 18615 state Highway 3, in Webster. From I-45 go east on NASA Road 1 and turn left on state Highway 3. The church is on the left, about one block. For more information, call Sheila at 281-910-1970.



Having graduated from formal training, Newsie is now ready to serve her visually impaired partner. Shown above with Newsie are her new partner, David Garth, and her former trainer, Schuyler Morris. Photo submitted

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## Blake makes history



The University of Houston-Clear Lake welcomes Ira K. Blake as the university's fifth president. Photo submitted

## UHCL welcomes Blake as president

On Tuesday, Aug. 1, University of Houston-Clear Lake made history when it welcomed Ira K. Blake as the university's fifth president - the first female and first African-American to serve in the role.

Blake's early action items are meeting university faculty, staff and community friends, as well as expanding educational opportunities for the Houston area.

"My first priority is to continue UHCL's evolution into a comprehensive four-year university, mission-focused on the delivery of high-quality educational experiences by outstanding faculty as we prepare all students for meaningful roles and satisfying careers in the Houston-Galveston metropolitan region, state, nation and beyond," said Blake.

Blake joins the university after having served as provost and senior vice president for Academic Affairs at Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania since 2009. Prior to serving at Bloomsburg, Blake was associate vice chancellor for academic and student affairs for Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education at Dixon University Center as well as assistant to the president for public engagement at Kutztown University.

She holds a doctorate and master's degree in developmental psychology from Columbia University and a second master's degree in educational psychology from San Francisco State University. Blake received her bachelor's degree in psychology from George Washington University.

"UHCL is a university on the rise and Dr. Blake has the necessary vision to build on our success," said University of Houston System Chancellor Renu Khator shortly after announcing Blake as the sole finalist for the role of UHCL president.

Blake says that one of her

overriding objectives is to be inclusive, to listen to all voices and to engage members of the UHCL community.

As a first-generation college student in a family of nine children, Blake says she understands the importance of a college education for all. She credits her sharecropper father and domestic homemaker mother with instilling the confidence in her as well as her siblings that they could do anything they desired.

"My parents always told us to 'own where you come from' and to know that it doesn't prevent you from ending up anywhere you want to be," said Blake.

She noted that having the desire is key, but having the financial support to realize the dream is often difficult.

"We need to look for additional ways to fund education to assure that students can attend the university and can receive a high-quality educational experience," she said when discussing affordability as one of the challenges in higher education.

Blake and her late husband raised three children who now live throughout the U.S. She now embraces her role as grandmother to six.

The University of Houston-Clear Lake began welcoming students in 1974 as an upper-level university and has evolved into a four-year university offering more than 80 undergraduate and graduate degree programs as well as three doctoral programs.

During the spring, the university broke ground on three buildings including the STEM and Classroom Building and the Recreation and Wellness Center at the University of Houston-Clear Lake, and the Health Sciences and Classroom Building at UHCL Pearland campus.

Find out more about UHCL by visiting <https://www.uhcl.edu>.

## Over The Back Fence by Alexis

**SCHOOL DAZE**  
The following personnel and staff members of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays Aug. 3 through Aug. 9.

**Atkinson Elementary**  
Sing a happy birthday song to **Dee Davis** Aug. 9.

**Burnett Elementary**  
Send a birthday greeting Aug. 5 to **Isabel Amaya**.

**Bush Elementary**  
Enjoy a slice of birthday cake with **Alicia Garcia** on Aug. 3.

**Frazier Elementary**  
Light the birthday candles for **Luisa Lewis** Aug. 5.

**Meador Elementary**  
The day for a party for **Karen Barton** is Aug. 3.

**Moore Elementary**  
Aug. 7 is the day for a birthday cake for **Gisela VillaGarcia**.

**South Belt Elementary**  
**Kathy Hinski** celebrates a birthday Aug. 4. **Jacquelyn Anderson** is wished a happy birthday Aug. 5.

**Stuchbery Elementary**

Blow out the birthday candles Aug. 5 for **Rosa Alencastro**. **Elida Delafuente** enjoys a birthday Aug. 7. **Jessica Reed** is wished a happy birthday Aug. 8. Send a happy birthday greeting Aug. 9 to **Valeria Villarreal**.

**Beverly Hills Intermediate**  
Share a slice of a double-layer birthday cake Aug. 3 with **Arnold Agrella** and **Lidia Rodriguez Blanco**.

**Thompson Intermediate**  
Sing a happy birthday song Aug. 3 to **Stefanie Tang**.

**Dobie High**  
The day for a double-layer cake for **Lidia Castaneda Rivera** and **Sherrie Kent** is Aug. 3. **George Crevantes** enjoys a birthday Aug. 5. **Anthony Ponce** marks a birthday Aug. 6. Aug. 8 is the day for a cake for **La Nguyen**.

**FACEBOOK FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS**  
The *Leader* sends happy birthday wishes to its Facebook friends who celebrate a birthday this week:  
Thursday, Aug. 3: **Angela James-Farrar**, **Joaquin Jimenez**, **Jennifer Pena-Zuniga** and **Gina Valdez**; Friday, Aug. 4: **Beth Fawcett**, **Monica Salazar**, **Donna Taylor**, **Kristen Sorenson**, **Diana Polus**, **Kevin Baker**, **Michele Cutrer** and **Robin Wach**; Saturday, Aug. 5: **Stephanie McAtee**, **Douglas Woodson**, **Edna Peña**, **Wendy Phillips**, **Karen Owen**, **Lillie Alvarez**, **Deanna Goodlet** and **Shaun Stanton**; Sunday, Aug. 6: **David Perry**, **Kenneth Brown** and **Jeff Weber**; Monday, Aug. 7: **Curtis Bradley**, **Sean Gilbert**, **Challen Averre**, **Claudia Castillo**, **Aubree Swanson**, **Eric Jackson**, **Doug Mills** and **Vu Tuong**; Tuesday, Aug. 8: **Kathy Jones**, **Brad Fuller**, **Jesse Lopez**, **Toshana Kitchen**, **Christopher Herrera**, **James Xavier Garcia**, **Shawn Arguello**, **David Elliot**, **Heather DeRousse**, **Jarod Hunt**, **Rebekah Peterson**, **Jami Cadena** and **Verda Carr**; and Wednesday, Aug. 9: **Sam Farias**, **Trae Buchanan**, **Jennifer Weise**, **Dennis Spencer**, **Josie Mendez**, **Unatrice Jackson**, **Robert Coy**, **Patti Racicot** and **Jill Kasselmann**.

**LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS**  
Email, birthday, congratulations or anniversary information to [mynews@southbeltleader.com](mailto:mynews@southbeltleader.com) with OTBF in the subject line. Items must be submitted by Friday noon for the next week's publication.

## ACCT Western Region Faculty Award recipient named

Can a nationally recognized, award-winning math professor who didn't finish high school change students' lives? Yes. And that's exactly what San Jacinto College math professor **Matt Lewis** is doing.

In recognizing his accomplishments, the Association of Community College Trustees has named Lewis its 2017 Western Region Faculty Award recipient. ACCT's Regional Awards recognize the tremendous contributions made by community colleges and their leaders to meet the needs of their communities. The ACCT annually recognizes community college leaders from each region with its Trustee Leadership Award, Equity Award, Faculty Member Award, Chief Executive Officer Award and Professional Board Staff Member Award.

One outstanding award recipient in each category will be announced during the annual ACCT awards gala in September.

"This award underscores the quality of the hard work of many collaborators and leaders who make San Jacinto College such a special place to be," said Lewis. "I am incredibly honored to receive it on our behalf."

Lewis has taken an active leadership role in ensuring that San Jacinto College continues to keep student success at the forefront. He served on the faculty committee that de-

veloped the college's nationally recognized Acceleration in Mathematics program, a largely successful co-requisite math remediation program where students have seen a 70 percent success rate since its implementation across the district in 2014.

More recently, Lewis has helped design the college's SmartStart program as part of the college's implementation of the national American Association of Community Colleges Pathways Project. The program features a student cohort model that consists of contextualized instruction with integrated student support, student and faculty learning communities and guided career pathway evaluation and selection.

"Our faculty consistently raise the bar for community college education at the state and national levels, and Matt Lewis is no exception," said Dr. Brenda Hellyer, San Jacinto College Chancellor. "Matt has made a tremendous impact on student success at San Jacinto College. As the college moves forward with the implementation of the AACCT Pathways work, Matt continues to provide extraordinary faculty leadership and innovative approaches to developmental education, instructional redesign, assessment and collaboration. We are thrilled that he has been named the 2017 ACCT Western Region Faculty Award recipient."

Lewis' love for learning led him to college at an early age. Little did he know that it would also lead him to one of the things he enjoys most: teaching.

"Since I was 15, I wanted to be in college," said Lewis. "I had some college friends, and during spring break of my sophomore year of high

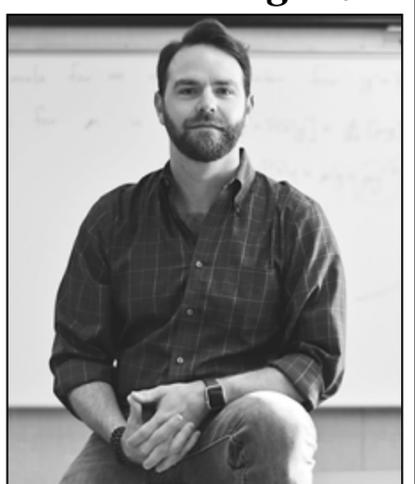
school, I went to school with them and was amazed. The following year I convinced my parents to let me take the GED. I passed with no problems, and instead of returning to high school after Christmas break, I started college. Since then, teaching has allowed me to stay where I always wanted to be."

He adds that creating small, tangible victories early on in a student's educational journey is what ignites that motivational spark, giving them the confidence and determination to conquer their individual obstacles and provide support for their peers. It's a concept that many of the college's faculty are implementing in their classrooms.

"Students' optimism is an incredible resource. If you can get a student to feel optimistic, you can use that to help them. They become resilient because of it. What works at San Jacinto College is our culture. This isn't a place where you can easily be complacent because there's always passionate people around you trying to innovate and do better for our students; without that climate I don't think any one of us would be accomplishing what's happening here. There's no better place to be in community college education right now."

"Community colleges are one-of-a-kind institutions committed to open-access, high-quality higher education for all Americans," said ACCT Chair and Hudson County Community College Vice Chair **Bakari G. Lee, Esq.** "This year's regional ACCT awardees represent the most outstanding people and programs from throughout the country, and we are pleased to be able to bring attention to them."

## Lewis is recognized



The Association of Community College Trustees has named San Jacinto College math professor **Matt Lewis** as its 2017 Western Region Faculty Award recipient. Photo by *Andrea Vasquez*.

## Remember When

### 40 years ago (1977)

The United States Government Printing office expanded to Houston. Opening a retail sales outlet at College and the Gulf Freeway.

The Southeast Volunteer Fire Department received a Survive-Air pack from Eco-Resources for all the area work the department has done.

### 35 years ago (1982)

Four service stations at the Gulf Freeway and what is now South Belt would be vacated at the state's insistence to make room for the coming South Belt.

The Beverly Hills Intermediate School orchestra took top state honors by being selected Texas Junior High School Honor Orchestra at the Texas Orchestra Director's Convention in San Antonio.

### 30 years ago (1987)

Elizabeth Pelzl, 18, crashed through the home of Ray and Christi Garcia, 11202 Sage-

wood. A police officer said she was apparently traveling at a high rate of speed when she hit the home.

Jason Brantly was transported by Life Flight from Trinity Pines Camp in Livingston where he was attending church camp. He suffered a neck injury after diving into shallow water.

### 25 years ago (1992)

The H-E-B grocery store chain purchased five acres of land on Beamer Road at Kirkfair for a proposed H-E-B pantry grocery store. Harold E. Butt was the successful bidder at \$353,489 for the land.

Dobie High principal Jerry Speer welcomed Bob Ingram to the school. Ingram, who came from Sam Rayburn High School, replaced Merlin Mohr as Dobie's assistant principal.

### 20 years ago (1997)

Dr. B.J. Garner was named one of three private practitioners to the nine-member

### Texas Optometry Board.

Pasadena ISD had 14 of its elementary campuses earn a "Recognized" rating by the Texas Education Agency.

Three Dobie athletes, Shaun Stanton, Nathan Mitchell and Zach Roberts, helped the Texas Heat win the AAU 17-and-under baseball national championship.

### 15 years ago (2002)

Fourteen South Belt schools received either recognized or exemplary ratings from the TEA as Pasadena and Clear Creek independent school districts were named "Recognized" for a fifth and six consecutive year respectively.

More than 400 people were in attendance at the funeral service held for Dr. George "Robbie" Baylis at Sagemont Church.

There were two separate suicides in the Woodmeadow subdivision. A 28-year-

old female hanged herself in the backyard of her home on Grapewood. A 66-year-old male fatally shot himself at his home on Sageglen Drive.

### 10 years ago (2007)

Under pressure from the *Leader*, city officials acknowledged that nearly half of the tickets that were written for illegal possession of fireworks during the July 4th holidays were issued in error. The tickets in question were given on Beamer between Astoria and Dixie Farm Road. The northbound lanes are within the city limits and affected by the fireworks ban, but the southbound lanes are not. Those who received tickets faced fines of up to \$2,000 and had their fireworks confiscated.

Clear Creek ISD Superintendent Sandra Mossman announced plans to retire Jan. 2, 2008. Mossman served at this post since January 2003 and was the first female superintendent in the district's history.

Three new Thompson Intermediate staff members were confirmed at a district board meeting on Tuesday, July 24. These included principal Angela Stallings, assistant principal Dan Hoppie and counselor Erin Richardson.

### 5 years ago (2012)

After all votes were counted in the controversial runoff for the Democratic nomination of Harris County Precinct 2 constable, candidate Chris Diaz expanded his lead over Zerick Guinn from three to 16. The announcement came one week after the Harris County Clerk's Office marred the July 31 results, which originally showed Guinn to have a significant lead with nearly all precincts reporting, prompting party leaders and others to call for an inquiry.

Longtime South Belt resident Cynthia Hendricks died along with her mother, Dorothy Kissinger, in a house fire July 30, in Weston, Texas. Hendricks was in Weston visiting her mother at the time of the fire, which investigators believe was caused by an overloaded electrical circuit. A Girl Scouts volunteer for 28 years, Hendricks also devoted much of her spare time to helping the volleyball and soccer programs at Clear Brook.

## Scholarships can fund ASFTCP

Need-based scholarships are available for courses in accounting, payroll and bank teller job training at San Jacinto College, thanks to the Texas Public Education Grant. These scholarships fund the Accounting Specialist Fast Track Certificate program, the payroll specialist course and the bank teller course for eligible participants.

The Accounting Specialist Fast Track Certificate program, valued at \$525, starts Sept. 26 and ends Nov. 16, meeting on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6 to 9:30 p.m., on the San Jac Central campus.

The program provides fundamentals of bookkeeping, the accounting cycle and an introduction to payroll processing.

After completing this course, participants may consider training for the Fundamental Payroll Certification exam preparation.

The payroll specialist course, valued at \$790, starts on Oct. 21 and ends Dec. 16, meeting on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., on the San Jac Central campus.

Participants must meet the prerequisite of having completed the Accounting Specialist Certificate program or have college credit hours in accounting. Fundamental Payroll Certification exam preparation is included.

The bank teller course, valued at \$350, starts Oct. 3 and ends on Nov. 17, meeting on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6 to 8:30 p.m., at United Way Bay Area Service Center.

This fast-track course prepares students to gain employment at a bank or credit union. Training is based on American Bankers Association's Today's Teller curriculum.

Basic eligibility for TPEG scholarships includes a demonstrated financial need. In addition, the applicant must be at least 18 years of age and have no student loans defaults or prior balance due to San Jac.

Scholarships are limited in number and awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. Applicants must complete the 2017-2018 Texas Application for State Financial Aid.

Some courses may require specific prerequisites such as a high school diploma, GED, negative TB screening and a background check.

TPEG-funded courses are offered through San Jacinto College's Continuing and Professional Development division.

The United Way Bay Area Service Center is located at 1300-A Bay Area Blvd. To apply for TPEG scholarships, call 281-478-3636 or email [CommunityEducation@sjcd.edu](mailto:CommunityEducation@sjcd.edu).

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## SJC SkillsUSA team attends national competition

The San Jac College SkillsUSA team recently attended and competed in the 53rd annual SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference in Louisville, Kentucky.

Students from San Jac's North, Central and South campuses competed. Participants from the South campus included Lizna Lalani, medical math; Kelci McClary-Davis,

customer service; and Lorian Landrum, cosmetology.

The participant from Central campus was Cesar Hernandez, automotive service technology. Participants from

North campus included Paula Avila, medical terminology; Sydney Olsen, aesthetics; Ashley Nixon, model in aesthetics.

Several students brought home awards in multiple categories. Lalani placed sixth in medical math, McClary-Davis placed ninth in customer service, Landrum placed ninth in cosmetology, Hernandez placed 18th in automotive service technology and won a Snap on Skills Challenge and Mustang Cat Challenge. Avila placed fifth in medical terminology; Olsen placed eighth in aesthetics. Avila and Olsen received Skill-Point awards for achieving a score of 80 percent or higher at the national level.

## SJC SkillsUSA team competes in Kentucky



The San Jacinto College SkillsUSA team recently attended and competed in the 53rd annual SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference. Shown, left to right, are Debra Acuff, San Jacinto College department chair for business and professional services, chapter advisor; Diana Johnson, San Jacinto College medical assistant program director, advisor for medical terminology; Paula Avila, student; Simone Paisley, cosmetology instructor, advisor for aesthetics; Sydney Olsen, student; and Ashley Nixon, student. Photo submitted

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## Easthaven Boulevard repairs underway

On Monday, July 31, the City of Houston's Public Works & Engineering Department began performing an asphalt overlay along Easthaven Boulevard, from College Avenue to Canniff Street.

Due to varying conditions of the roadway, the project will be split into two separate sections: College Avenue to Tallyho Road and Tallyho Road to Canniff Street. Work on these two sections will be completed in phases, with the project beginning at College

Avenue. Construction is anticipated to be complete by the end of November 2017.

PWE will be removing portions of the existing asphalt surface, repairing the deteriorated bases, and laying a new asphalt surface. Intermittent lane closures are to be expected throughout the project. There will be a total road closure from Tallyho Road to Canniff Street for the duration of the project, diverting traffic to Mosely Road.

PWE is scheduled to start repairs in the southbound

lane of Easthaven Boulevard, from College Avenue to Canniff Street. Although, construction activities behind closed areas may occur from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., construction equipment movement in the driving lanes will be limited between the hours of 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in an effort to reduce as much traffic buildup as possible.

During the project, reduced speed in the construction area should be expected. However, there will be access to businesses at all times. Additionally, there will be limited street parking throughout the project.

To ensure driver and worker safety, flaggers and Houston Police Department Officers will be on site during construction hours to direct traffic and assist with any emergencies.

For more information on the upcoming repairs on Easthaven Boulevard, contact Council Member Dave Martin's office at 832-393-3008 or via email at dtrite@houstontx.gov.

## House of Representatives passed National Defense Authorization Act

The U.S. House of Representatives passed the National Defense Authorization Act that authorizes \$696 billion in defense spending in fiscal year 2018. This includes the Domestic Maritime Centers of Excellence Act, H.R. 2286, sponsored by Reps. Gene Green (D-TX) and Rob Wittman (R-VA) to provide assistance and designate San Jacinto College and other selected community and technical colleges and workforce training centers as "Centers of Excellence."

The provision, introduced in May as an amendment to the NDAA, will advance the capabilities of two-year community and technical colleges to assist the federal government and industry in securing the talent pipeline for domestic maritime industry jobs. Green said this furthers the efforts in training and providing people with the skills it takes to fill the gap in the maritime workforce.

"In our district, we have a surplus of maritime jobs and not enough people with the skills and training to fill them," Green said in a prepared statement. "The industry is continuing to invest and grow along the Port of Houston, and we want to make sure that our constituents have the opportunity to take these high skilled jobs. This bipartisan legislation will help bridge the gap. It's good for our local community, it's good for our businesses, and it's good for the American economy."

Unless action is taken to expand the availability of domestic maritime workforce technical training, the continued lack of federal government focus on training, a large percentage of the workforce nearing retirement, technological advancements and the expansion of the Panama Canal are all factors that will compound the domestic maritime workforce shortage in the years ahead.

As Centers of Excellence, two-year colleges will be able to expand their capacity to train domestic maritime workers by admitting more students, training faculty, expanding facilities, creating new maritime career pathways from associate degree to baccalaureate degree programs, and awarding credit for prior learning experience, including military service. Over the years, the federal government has designated and funded numerous Centers of Excellence at four-year universities — primarily to advance federal research and development goals. Historically, Centers of Excellence programs have not benefited two-year colleges. The Domestic Maritime Centers of Excellence Act is unique and precedent-setting in that it is limited to community and technical colleges.

"The Domestic Maritime Center of Excellence Act will be a catalyst for enabling access to surplus federal equipment and assets to be used in training our maritime workforce," said Chief John Stauffer, associate vice chancellor and superintendent of maritime at San Jac. Stauffer recently attended the community college leadership Washington "Fly-In" conference for a day focused on maritime with the United States Maritime Administration.

"This will ensure that mariners in training are equipped with the skills to meet the needs of the marketplace. It will also enhance the training held at San Jacinto College's newly built Maritime Technology and Training Center."

Since 2010, the San Jac College maritime program has awarded more than 5,500 U.S. Coast Guard-approved course completion certificates. The college also introduced the state's first associate degree program in maritime transportation to train those new to the maritime industry.

Last year marked the opening of the San Jacinto College Maritime Technology and Training Center on the Maritime campus in La Porte, to offer more training opportunities for new and incumbent mariners.

The San Jacinto College Maritime Technology and Training Center on the Maritime campus offers a full calendar of USCG-approved maritime courses.

For more information and to register, visit <http://www.sanjac.edu/continuing-professional-development/corporate-and-workforce/maritime>.

## Aguilars celebrate 65th wedding anniversary



Longtime Sagemont community residents, retired U.S. Coast Guard Lt. Cmdr. Gilbert Aguilar and wife Helen Aguilar celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on July 19, 2017. Natives of San Antonio they met as students at Fox Tech High School in San Antonio. In 1949 Gilbert enlisted in the Coast Guard at age 17 and left for boot camp while Helen continued her education. Helen graduated in 1952. After a long letter-writing romance and with Gil anticipating overseas deployment because of the Korean conflict, they decided to marry right away. On July 19, 1952, they married and two months later Gilbert was deployed for a two-year tour in the Far East while Helen stayed behind in San Antonio. Gilbert and Helen had two sons, Joe Gilbert and Robert. After many changes of duty stations in the U.S. and later in Hawaii in 1966, the family stayed together while Gilbert was assigned to ship duty and deployed to Vietnam. In 1968, Gilbert was assigned to Coast Guard Captain of the Port of Houston. It was here that they bought their first home, in Sagemont, which is where they currently reside. In 1971, Gil received orders for Vietnam on a one-year tour, while the family stayed in Sagemont. Robert attended school at Stuchbery and Beverly Hills and Joe attended Dobie High School the first year it opened. Later, both graduated from Dobie. Upon returning to the U.S., Gil was assigned to Base Galveston, and the family moved to Fort Crockett in Galveston. In 1976, Gilbert was assigned to Coast Guard Vessel Traffic Service Houston and the family moved back to Sagemont. After approximate-

ly 28 years of military service Gilbert decided to retire in Houston. Joe married Mary Davies and they had three sons, Dustin, Daniel and Nathan. Dustin married Tina Martin, and they have daughter Abigail and live in Denton. Daniel married Stacy Edwards, have daughter Jane and live in Fort Worth. Nathan married Brandy Martinez, and they have daughter Ember and son Mason and live in Nacogdoches. Robert married Teresa Lund and had son Ryan. Ryan later had daughter Ruby. In later years, Robert married Lucia Romo and they live in Clear Lake. Robert is presently working at NASA, while Joe recently retired and lives in Nacogdoches. Helen spent many years working at two local churches in their MDO programs and volunteering in local Pasadena ISD schools. Gilbert started volunteering in 1993 at Beverly Hills and then at Dobie in the ESL department and after-school programs. He was also involved in many community functions such as the annual South Belt Cook-off at El Franco Lee Park, the children's Easter Egg Hunt, Dobie's Seniors Helping Seniors program, and mentoring immigrant students and families in the area. The program he liked the most was the ROTC program at Dobie in which he was involved since its inception, mentoring cadets and assisting in molding the future military men and women. After 24 years of volunteer work with PISD, Gilbert has decided to return to his loving wife and work on another 65 years of blessed marriage in the beautiful community of Sagemont.

## Lopez family considers Garney a blessing

Erik Lopez (right), one of the South Houston High School's Shining Stars, is shown with distinguished educator Justin Garney (left), head baseball coach.

Lopez has volunteered for Catechist for St. Francis Cabrini Catholic Church as well as done volunteer work through the National Honor Society. He was also a mentor at Jessup Elementary through the SHHS baseball team.

Lopez plans to attend the University of Houston to achieve a master's degree in civil engineering.

Lopez commented about Garney, "I have had the blessing and privilege of being coached by Coach Garney during my 4 years in high school. He always invested a lot of time in motivating the baseball team to accomplish the impossible, and has guided me in becoming successful in every aspect of my life. Coach Garney has been a true blessing to the Lopez family, as he has also coached my older brother and two of my cousins. I have always admired the strong will and dedication Coach Garney has put forth in teaching the team the essentials of hard work, dedication, and respect."

The South Belt Shining Stars will be presented in a

series of 10 students being honored along with their favorite mentor.

The 10 Shining Stars represent the Top 10 South Houston High School students. The information and photos were supplied by Pasadena Independent School District.

The Leader is also running the Top 10 Shining Stars from Dobie and Pasadena Memorial high schools.



## Cornyn, Weber introduced Relief for Recovering Communities Act

U.S. Sen. John Cornyn and U.S. Rep. Randy Weber introduced the Relief for Recovering Communities Act on July 27, legislation to protect federal transit funding for communities plagued by population decline following

natural disasters. Currently, the Federal Transit Administration apportions federal transit assistance to urbanized areas based on population, so when residents leave an area following a natural disaster,

that population decline may trigger a loss in federal transit formula dollars.

The Relief for Recovering Communities Act would protect urbanized areas from being penalized due to a population drop directly tied to a presidentially-declared natural disaster retroactive to 2000.

It also ensures no interruption in federal transit funding assistance for urbanized areas until the execution of the next decennial census.

"When natural disasters strike, we must do everything we can to help Texans get back on their feet," said Cornyn. "This bill will en-

sure that the folks who need to rebuild along the coast can be eligible for the full federal aid they're entitled to without being unfairly penalized."

"Natural disasters are devastating and unpredictable. Current law fails to take into account the impact of these emergencies on federal census numbers. As such, com-

munities are falling through the cracks," said Weber.

"With skewed census population numbers, communities are prevented from even applying for transit resources that lead to overall growth. Our legislation provides a simple fix by allowing for the use of the most updated population estimates when applying for grants."

## Acoustic Shabbat

The traditional Jewish Shabbat service is rich in songs and melodies. Adding instruments enhances the enjoyment of the service. Congregation Shaar Hashalom will experience a musical "Acoustic Shabbat" service, featuring Joe Buchanan, on Friday, Aug. 18, at 7:30 p.m.

The musical will take place at Congregation Shaar Hashalom, 16020 El Camino Real, the conservative synagogue in the Bay Area. The entire community is invited to attend. For more information, call 281-488-5861, email [cs@shaarhashalom.org](mailto:cs@shaarhashalom.org) or visit [www.shaarhashalom.org](http://www.shaarhashalom.org).

## UHCL student exhibit open

Immerse yourself in 3-D sculptural artwork by UH-Clear Lake's graduate students in the latest exhibit in the UHCL Art Gallery. Curated by Clay Leonard, assistant professor of art, the exhibit features work that highlights

the research interests of seven graduate students in sculpture and ceramics studio courses.

The exhibit will be on display through Aug. 10, Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Friday from 9 a.m. to noon at the

Bayou Building, Art Gallery. Free parking is available in the visitor lot or student lot D.

For more information, contact Jeff Bowen, coordinator of audience development, at 281-283-3376 or visit [www.uhcl.edu/art-gallery](http://www.uhcl.edu/art-gallery).

## Hot Havana Casino Night date set

The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo; Houston Metro Go Texan Committee; and NASA, Clear Lake and Friendswood Subcommittee present the Hot Havana Casino Night on Saturday, Aug. 5 from 6 to 10 p.m. at the Gilruth Center, located at 2101 E. NASA Parkway. Cuban attire is welcomed while one gambles and dances the hot night away.

Tickets include food, music, casino chips and games. There will also be a live auction and a silent auction. Tickets are \$50 and can be purchased at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/34755436446>.

Proceeds will benefit the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. For more information, contact Darice Whatley at [darice\\_whatley@yahoo.com](mailto:darice_whatley@yahoo.com) or 281-398-1312.

## San Jac, SFASU make agreement

San Jacinto College and Stephen F. Austin State University recently approved an articulation agreement for Honors students.

The purpose of this agreement is to ensure that San Jacinto College and Stephen F. Austin State University work together to further opportunities and access to Honors education for qualified students.

San Jac Honors students will be able to transfer Honors courses to SFASU, and San Jac students who enter SFASU's School of Honors will be eligible for transfer student scholarships.

"Articulation agreements are a way of publicly recognizing partnerships between community colleges and universities," said Dr. Catherine

O'Brien, San Jacinto College associate vice chancellor for learning and assessment.

"More students begin their educations at community colleges than at universities. It is important that we make that transition from one institution to the next as seamless as possible."

The articulation agreement between the two insti-

tutions was approved by the San Jacinto College Board of Trustees on July 10 at the monthly board meeting, and was signed by San Jacinto College Chancellor Dr. Brenda Hellyer on July 11.

Stephen F. Austin State University is one of the top 10 institutions to where San Jacinto College graduates transfer.

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# 2017 South Belt Schlitterbahn vacation contest photos shared

## Coleman family visits Florida



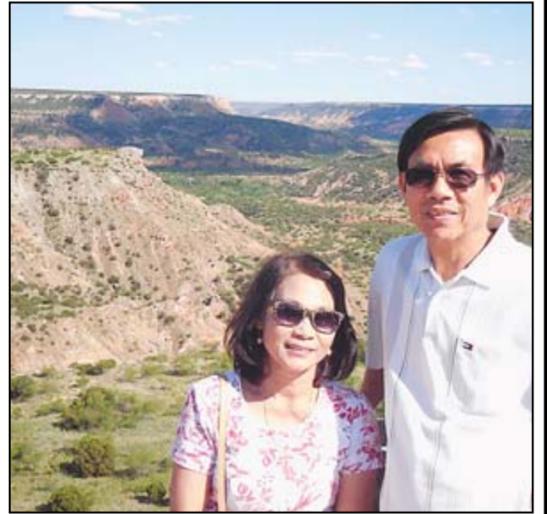
Tim Coleman, his wife Destiny and their sons visited Destin, Florida. Shown above, left to right, Kai Coleman and Trace Coleman are ready to eat at the Margaritaville restaurant on the Destin boardwalk. Below left, is a view of Destin beach from the water. The family visited Florida while Tropical Storm Cindy came through catching the backside of the storm, making it a washout, odd vacation. Below right, shows what the wrath of the waves and wind were like. The family was stuck in the resort room for four days. *Photos submitted*



## Phams attend niece's graduation, visit Amarillo



Xuan Pham and her husband Dai Pham visited Amarillo to attend Thao Pham's (Dai's niece) graduation from Texas Tech. Shown above, left to right, are Xoan Nguyen (Thao's mom), Xuan, Thao, and Dai after the commencement at the First Bank Center. After the commencement, they visited the Palo Duro Canyon State Park. The canyon was about a 15-minute drive from the center where the commencement was held. It is said that Palo Duro is the second largest canyon in the country. Above, Dai and Xuan at the Coronado Lodge Visitor Center.



Above, Xoan and Xuan enjoyed the Light House trail. The human head-like rock in the top left corner is called Santana's head.



Big Cave was not as big as Xuan thought it should be, but it was fun to climb up there to see it. *Photos submitted*

## Napoles family enjoys Guadalupe River



Jose Napoles (left) and his wife Cecily Napoles enjoyed a trip to Huaco Springs situated right on the Guadalupe River on July 15. Jose and Cecily decided to take a little road trip to the Hill Country and spend some time on the river with family to beat the heat. The spot was a great location for the family to relax, grill, have some drinks and just get away from the hustle and bustle of city life. *Photo submitted*

## Grahams visit Cooperstown



South Belt residents Rosa and Don Graham recently returned from Cooperstown, New York, where they attended former Houston Astro Jeff Bagwell's induction into the National Baseball Hall of Fame. Don is shown above holding a custom shadow-box that encases Bagwell's autographed 39th home-game home run in 1994 – then a record for the Astrodome – that the resident caught. The case also includes an autographed ticket stub from the game, an authentication of the ball and news clippings of the event. See related photo on Page 1A. *Photo by Marie Flickinger*



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# SECTION B SPORTS & CLASSIFIED

## Brook, Dobie volleyball teams eye opening night

There will be plenty of returning star power for the Clear Brook and Dobie varsity volleyball programs as the 2017-2018 regular season begins Tuesday, Sept. 8.

At Clear Brook, the Lady Wolverines opened practice with the intention of preparing for what could be a huge season. The Lady Wolverines wound up fourth in the District 24-6A, losing to 23-6A champion Dawson in the first round of the playoffs, finishing 28-16 overall.

But Greater Houston Volleyball Coaches Association Preseason Fab 50 honoree Jordan Russell, a three-year starter, is back to anchor the middle for the Lady Wolverines. Russell, a middle blocker/outside hitter combo player who has committed to play at Rice University beginning this fall, also has help.

Sophomore Jailin New-some, who made her way to the varsity level as a freshman in 2016 and starred at outside hitter, made the GHVCA's Pre-season Watch List and will be counted on heavily this season.

Clear Brook head coach Meredith Thompson can also count on returnees such as Breanna August, Kennedy Crutchfield, Bella Lockwood, Samantha

McClary, Sydney Saladri-gas and Gabby Wilcox.

After playing at St. Agnes Aug. 8 to begin the regular season, Clear Brook will compete in the Adidas John Turner Invitational Aug. 10-12, hosted by Pearland ISD. See Page 3B for more information.

Dobie wants more Coming off an up-and-down 2016 season that ended with a fifth place finish in District 22-6A at

6-8 overall, the Dobie varsity team is seeking a vast improvement this season. Outside hitter Taylor Pleasants may not draw some of the fanfare of other top players across the area, but she returns for her third varsity season and should flourish.

Continued on Page 6B



At left, senior middle blocker Jakara Henry and her teammates are ready to begin the 2017 regular season Aug. 8, at Dobie, against the Fort Bend Elkins Lady Knights. Match time is 6 p.m.

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## JFD team tennis opens Aug. 5 at Dobie



Dobie High School head tennis coach Manuel Moreno Jr. (left) and senior and four-year varsity letterwinner Leilani Vargas will be front and center as the Longhorns get the team tennis portion of the schedule going. Up first is the team's annual exes matches Saturday, Aug. 5, at 9 a.m., at Dobie. The Longhorns will face the Dawson Eagles Tuesday, Aug. 8, at Dawson, at 9 a.m. Later on Aug. 8, the Longhorns will host the Willis Wildkats at Dobie at 4 p.m.

## Heated preseason football workouts near

There will be no getting around the heat as preseason high school football practices get started this month in preparation for

the opening weekend of the season, which comes Aug. 31 through Sept. 2.

The Clear Brook Wolverines, coming off a run to the third round of the playoffs in 2016, will get going Monday, Sept. 7, and there is plenty of optimism surrounding the program.

Defending District 24-6A champion Dickinson remains the team to beat in the league until further notice, but Clear Brook boasts a set of offensive skill position players

matches by few teams statewide.

Senior and three-year letterman Jaizac Garcia returns at quarterback, with running back option such as 1,000 plus-yard rusher Jarrett Smith and Sterling Stephens backfield options.

At receiver, the Wolverines welcome back Caleb Chapman, the recent Texas A&M commit who had 17 touchdown grabs as a junior in 2016. How about Mark Milton, a Baylor University com-

mit who will see time at both defensive back and as a receiving option for the Wolverines?

Preseason 24-6A Defensive Player of the Year Braelon Hill paces the defense from his secondary position, and if the rest of the Wolverine defense rounds into shape sooner than later, it could be another special season.

At Dobie, the Longhorns' varsity team is looking to bounce back from a 3-7 season as losses to Memorial and South Houston in District 22-6A play prevented the team from reaching the playoffs.

**Wolverines open Aug. 7**  
Sophs through seniors report at 6:20 a.m.  
Incoming freshmen report at 8:50 a.m.

**Longhorns open Aug. 14**  
Sophs through seniors report at 2:45 p.m.  
Incoming freshmen report at 4:30 p.m.

**Shiflett Realtors sells Dobie FB tix**  
Dobie varsity football fans can now purchase season tickets for the 2017 season locally at Roy Shiflett Realtors, 11559 Beamer. The Dobie season ticket packages include eight games for \$48 per set, which represents a \$1 savings per game night on an at-the-gate ticket. Shiflett Realtors includes business hours of 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. week-

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## 2016-2017 San Jacinto College women's volleyball program scores AVCA Team Academic Award



Following the completion of the 2016-2017 academic year, the San Jacinto College women's volleyball team was honored by the American Volleyball Coaches Association as a Team Academic Award winner based on its cumulative grade point average over the course of the school year. To be eligible for the honor, teams had to accumulate a GPA of at least 3.3 on a 4.0 scale or a 4.1 GPA on a 5.0 scale. San Jacinto was one of just 21 programs to claim the

honor in the AVCA's Two-Year College Women division. Members of the team were, left to right, Margarita Buvinic, Addie Bryant, Mir Tillman, Moaerani Maire, Madison Rhoder, Ines Bawedin, Kayden Thomas, Nakia Taylor, Juel Rayburn, Byanca Pereira, Hannah Westerlage, Savannah Sheridan, Raven Oates, Markayla Dickey, Elena Hadzhieva, (standing) assistant coach Jeff Pearce, head coach Sharon Nelson and athletic trainer Troy Rabon.

## 2016 squad one of 21 to land honor

The 2016 San Jacinto College volleyball team was awarded a Team Academic Award by the American Volleyball Coaches Association.

This award recognizes collegiate and high school volleyball teams that displayed excellence in the classroom during the school year by maintaining a cumulative team grade point average of 3.30 or above for the 2016

season. The San Jac volleyball team had a cumulative team GPA of 3.42, which also earned a National Junior College Athletic Association All-Academic team award for the third consecutive year.

This is the first time the San Jac volleyball team has been named an AVCA academic team.

This year, only 21 community colleges nationwide earned the AVCA

academic team honor and San Jac was one of two community colleges in Texas to receive the award.

"I am incredibly proud of both the academic and the athletic performances of our student athletes. The rigors of balancing the academic with the athletic at the collegiate level is no easy task.

"To perform and be recognized in both categories on the national level is a true testament to the ladies' dedication to excellence," said SJC head coach Sharon Nelson.

"Academics are always a priority for our program, not only for eligibility and for transfer status, but for life long success."

In addition to the AVCA award, 11 players earned dean's list honors, with eight earning Dean's

list honors every semester of attendance.

All six sophomores on the team have since graduated from San Jacinto College, five of them with Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society honors, and have transferred to universities to continue their volleyball careers and finish their educations.

Several of the players also received NJCAA Academic Achievement Awards. Ines Bawedin (Reunion Island, France /Louis Payen High School) and Juel Rayburn (Pearland/Pearland High School) earned Pinnacle Awards for Academic Excellence, which requires a 4.0 GPA.

Elena Hadzhieva (Razlog, Bulgaria/Ratya Petar High School) earned a Superior Academic Achieve-

ment Award, which requires a 3.80-3.99 GPA.

Margarita Buvinic (Croatia/Srednja skola Mate Balote Porec), Nakia Taylor (Humble/Atascocita High School), Kayden Thomas (Huffman/Hargrave High School) and Hannah Westerlage (Dickinson/Dickinson High School) earned an Exemplary Academic Achievement Award, which requires a 3.60-3.79 GPA.

San Jac went undefeated in conference play in 2016, and was ranked as high as 10th in the nation during the season.

The team finished with a 26-9 overall record while remaining undefeated at home.

## San Jacinto College volleyball to begin final season on court

Heading into the final season of the program, the San Jacinto College women's volleyball team is intent on getting one last shot at a national championship come November.

The journey begins Aug. 16 as the Ravens play out the first of three scrimmages. From there, the regular season will be served up Aug. 25-26 as San Jacinto plays in the annual Tyler Junior College Invitational. San Jacinto, 26-9 a year ago and undefeated in Region XIV play, fell short of reaching nationals in 2016.

But 2017 could very

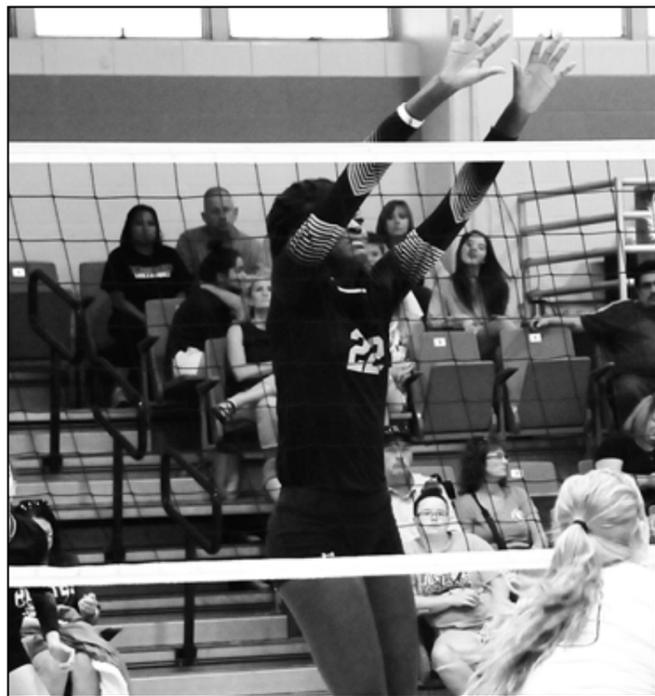
well bring a return as veteran head coach Sharon Nelson has a solid list of players eligible to return for the program's final run at things.

Middle blocker Madison Rhoder, a National Junior College Athletic Association first team All-American as a freshman, heads the list of eligible returnees. Also in line for a return is Region XIV first team selections Addie Bryant and Savannah Sheridan. Mir Tillman, another top performer in 2016, can return.

Nelson, who now has collected 430 career wins

at San Jacinto College since debuting in the 2002 season, has led the program to nationals in nine of the last 11 seasons. In 2010, the Ravens reached the national championship match before finishing as the runner-up.

Following the 2017-2018 academic year, the college will close out of the women's volleyball, men's soccer and men's and women's basketball programs. The softball program will remain on the college's South campus, and the baseball program will remain at the North campus.



As a freshman, Savannah Sheridan (22) came up with Region XIV first team honors while helping the San Jacinto College women's volleyball team to an unbeaten record in conference play.

### San Jacinto College Women's Volleyball Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Aug. 16	St. Thomas scrimmage	3 p.m.
Aug. 18	at Brookhaven scrimmage	9 a.m.
Aug. 22	Victoria scrimmage	2 p.m.
Aug. 25-26	at Tyler College tourn.	
Aug. 25	Temple College	2 p.m.
Aug. 25	Panola College	4 p.m.
Aug. 26	MSU-West Plains	9 a.m.
Aug. 26	Tyler	11 a.m.
Aug. 29	at Trinity Valley	4 p.m.
Aug. 31	San Jacinto Invitational	
Sept. 2		
Aug. 31	Ranger	3 p.m.
Aug. 31	Iowa Western	7 p.m.
Sept. 1	Hillsborough	11 a.m.
Sept. 2	Polk State	1:30 p.m.
Sept. 2	Illinois Central	5:30 p.m.
Sept. 6	at Panola	6 p.m.
Sept. 8	*at Laredo	6 p.m.
Sept. 9	*at Coastal Bend	1 p.m.
Sept. 12	*at Lee College	6 p.m.
Sept. 15-16	at Lee College Invitational	
Sept. 15	Victoria	9 a.m.
Sept. 15	Northlake	3 p.m.
Sept. 16	Midland	11 a.m.
Sept. 16	Lee College	5 p.m.
Sept. 19	*Blinn College	6 p.m.
Sept. 26	*Wharton	6 p.m.
Sept. 29-30	at Hillsborough Invitational	
Sept. 29	State College	3 p.m.
Sept. 29	Central Florida	6 p.m.
Sept. 30	Hillsborough	10 a.m.
Sept. 30	Miami-Dade	1 p.m.
Oct. 3	Temple	2 p.m.
Oct. 6	*Laredo	6 p.m.
Oct. 7	*Coastal Bend	1 p.m.
Oct. 10	*Lee College	6 p.m.
Oct. 14	Four-team round robin	9 a.m.
Oct. 17	*at Blinn	6 p.m.
Oct. 20	at Victoria	6 p.m.
Oct. 21	Alumni Day	9 a.m.
Oct. 24	*at Wharton	6 p.m.
Oct. 26	*Navarro	11 a.m.
Oct. 28	*Hill College	3 p.m.
Nov. 3-5	Region XIV tournament	TBA
Nov. 15-19	NJCAA tournament (Kan.)	TBA
Oct. 23-27	Region III championships	TBA
* - Region XIV match		

### Dobie High School

#### Freshman Orange Football Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Aug. 25	Brook scrimm. (Veterans)	4:30 p.m.
Sept. 7	Clear Springs (campus)	4:30 p.m.
Sept. 13	at Morton Ranch	6:30 p.m.
Sept. 20	Dawson (Veterans)	6:30 p.m.
Sept. 28	*at Deer Park (Abshire)	6:30 p.m.
Oct. 5	*Memorial (campus)	4:30 p.m.
Oct. 19	*at Rayburn (campus)	4:30 p.m.
Oct. 26	*South Houston (campus)	4:30 p.m.
Nov. 2	*at Pasadena (campus)	4:30 p.m.
Nov. 9	*La Porte (Auxiliary)	6:30 p.m.

### Dobie High School

#### Freshman White Football Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Aug. 25	Brook scrimm. (Veterans)	4:30 p.m.
Aug. 31	at Summer Creek	4:30 p.m.
Sept. 7	Clear Springs (campus)	4:30 p.m.
Sept. 13	at Morton Ranch	4:30 p.m.
Sept. 20	Dawson (Veterans)	4:30 p.m.
Sept. 28	*at Deer Park (Abshire)	4:30 p.m.
Oct. 5	*Memorial (campus)	4:30 p.m.
Oct. 19	*at Rayburn (campus)	4:30 p.m.
Oct. 26	*South Houston (campus)	4:30 p.m.
Nov. 2	*at Pasadena (campus)	4:30 p.m.
Nov. 9	*La Porte (Auxiliary)	4:30 p.m.

### Dobie High School

#### JV Orange Football Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Aug. 25	Brook scrimm. (Veterans)	5:30 p.m.
Aug. 31	Summer Creek (Auxiliary)	6:30 p.m.
Sept. 7	at Clear Springs	6:30 p.m.
Sept. 13	at Morton Ranch	6:30 p.m.
Sept. 20	at Dawson	6:30 p.m.
Sept. 28	*Deer Park (Veterans)	6:30 p.m.
Oct. 5	*Memorial (Auxiliary)	6:30 p.m.
Oct. 19	*Rayburn (Auxiliary)	6:30 p.m.
Oct. 26	*South Houston (Auxiliary)	6:30 p.m.
Nov. 2	*Pasadena (campus)	4:30 p.m.
Nov. 9	*at La Porte	6:30 p.m.

### Dobie High School

#### JV White Football Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Aug. 25	Brook scrimm. (Veterans)	5:30 p.m.
Aug. 31	Summer Creek (Auxiliary)	4:30 p.m.
Sept. 7	at Clear Springs	4:30 p.m.
Sept. 13	at Morton Ranch	4:30 p.m.
Sept. 20	at Dawson	4:30 p.m.
Sept. 28	*Deer Park (Veterans)	4:30 p.m.
Oct. 5	*Memorial (Auxiliary)	4:30 p.m.
Oct. 19	*Rayburn (Auxiliary)	4:30 p.m.
Oct. 26	*South Houston (Auxiliary)	4:30 p.m.
Nov. 2	TBA	
Nov. 9	*at La Porte	4:30 p.m.

### Brook High School

#### Freshman Red Football Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Aug. 18	Texas City scrimm. (CC)	TBA
Aug. 25	at Dobie scrimm. (Veterans)	4:30 p.m.
Aug. 31	Bellaire (campus)	5:30 p.m.
Sept. 7	at La Porte	6 p.m.
Sept. 14	at South Houston	4:30 p.m.
Sept. 28	*Clear Falls (campus)	6 p.m.
Oct. 5	*at Clear Creek	6 p.m.
Oct. 12	*at Friendswood	6 p.m.
Oct. 19	*Clear Lake (campus)	6 p.m.
Oct. 26	*at Clear Springs	6 p.m.
Nov. 2	*Alvin (campus)	6 p.m.
Nov. 9	*at Dickinson	6 p.m.

### Brook High School

#### Freshman Black Football Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Aug. 18	Texas City scrimm. (CC)	TBA
Aug. 25	at Dobie scrimm. (Veterans)	4:30 p.m.
Aug. 31	Bellaire	4 p.m.
Sept. 7	at La Porte	4:30 p.m.
Sept. 14	at South Houston	4:30 p.m.
Sept. 28	*Clear Falls (campus)	4:30 p.m.
Oct. 5	*at Clear Creek	4:30 p.m.
Oct. 12	*at Friendswood (campus)	4:30 p.m.
Oct. 19	*Clear Lake (campus)	4:30 p.m.
Oct. 26	*at Clear Springs	4:30 p.m.
Nov. 2	*Alvin (campus)	4:30 p.m.
Nov. 9	*at Dickinson	4:30 p.m.

### Brook High School

#### JV Red Football Schedule

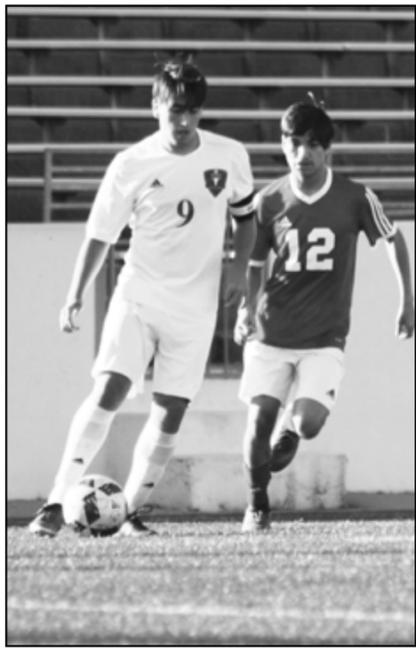
Date	Opponent	Time
Aug. 18	Texas City scrimm. (CC)	TBA
Aug. 25	at Dobie scrimm. (Veterans)	5:30 p.m.
Aug. 31	at Bellaire	4:30 p.m.
Sept. 7	La Porte (campus)	6 p.m.
Sept. 14	South Houston (campus)	6 p.m.
Sept. 28	*at Clear Falls	6 p.m.
Oct. 5	*Clear Creek (campus)	6 p.m.
Oct. 12	*Friendswood (campus)	6 p.m.
Oct. 19	*at Clear Lake	6 p.m.
Oct. 26	*Clear Springs (campus)	6 p.m.
Nov. 2	*at Alvin	6 p.m.
Nov. 9	*Dickinson (campus)	6 p.m.

### Brook High School

#### JV Black Football Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Aug. 18	Texas City scrimm. (CC)	TBA
Aug. 25	at Dobie scrimm. (Veterans)	5:30 p.m.
Aug. 31	at Bellaire	TBA
Sept. 7	La Porte (campus)	4:30 p.m.
Sept. 14	at South Houston (campus)	4:30 p.m.
Sept. 28	*at Clear Falls	4:30 p.m.
Oct. 5	*Clear Creek (campus)	4:30 p.m.
Oct. 12	*Friendswood (campus)	4:30 p.m.
Oct. 19	*at Clear Lake	4:30 p.m.
Oct. 26	*Clear Springs (campus)	4:30 p.m.
Nov. 2	*at Alvin	4:30 p.m.
Nov. 9	*Dickinson (campus)	4:30 p.m.

## TopDrawerSoccer.com recognizes Dobie pair



A pair of Class of 2017 Dobie High School graduates and varsity boys' soccer standouts were honored by TopDrawerSoccer.com this summer following the Longhorns' first-ever appearance at the state soccer tournament in Georgetown. Sabino

Lozano (9) and Alejandro Flores (4), both four-year varsity players, made the TopDrawerSoccer.com State All-Star Team in Texas. Lozano, who is set to continue his education and playing career at Iowa Western College this month, was also a TPD.com All-Region selection for teams playing during the winter season.

Photos by John Bechtle

## Dobie's Cabrales chooses Hocking basketball

At right, Class of 2017 Dobie High School graduate and varsity girls' basketball standout Shanyce Cabrales will continue her education and playing career at Hocking College in Nelsonville, Ohio, after signing a letter of intent with the Hawks this summer. Cabrales was one of District 22-6A's top three-point shooters as she helped the Lady Longhorns reach the area playoff round. Hocking is a member of the National Junior College Athletic Association as a Division III associate in Region XII.

Photos by John Bechtle



## John Turner Volleyball invite to feature 79 teams

Much like the McDonald's Texas Invitational Basketball Tournament has become in Pasadena over the years, the Adidas John Turner Invitational Volleyball Tournament has done the same for Pearland.

The 2017 event, officially named after Turner, the founder, this year features 79 elite programs from across the state.

And much like the Texas Invitational usually provides an early look at some of the early state tournament contenders, Turner's event will certainly deliver similar competition.

The event's top 10

seeds are certainly legitimate regional champion and therefore state tournament contenders.

Top-seeded Hebron is the two-time defending Class 6A state champion, and second-seeded San Antonio Reagan reached the Class 6A semifinals.

Southlake Carroll, seeded third, also reached the 6A state semis, and fourth-seeded Woodlands has been to the state tournament in previous seasons.

There's Austin Westlake at No. 5, Class 6A regional quarterfinalist Allen at No. 6, regular play-off power Rouse at No. 7,

Class 6A regional quarterfinalist Dawson at No. 8, defending state finalist Clear Creek at No. 9 and Class 5A state champion Amarillo at No. 10.

Clear Brook, seeded 43rd in the tournament, is in the same pool play bracket along with No. 3 Southlake Carroll as well as Smithson Valley and Pasadena Memorial.

The tournament opens Aug. 10 with pool play contests for each team in the field.

Trophy round play continues Aug. 11, and the various bracket champions will be decided throughout the day Aug. 12.

### Brook Aug. 10 at Turner invite

**Brook vs. Southlake Carroll**  
11:30 a.m., Pearland Ct. 3

**Brook vs. Smithson Valley**  
3:15 p.m., Pearland Ct. 3

**Brook vs. Pas. Memorial**  
4:30 p.m., Pearland Ct. 3

**Championship bracket play Aug. 12**

## BAFL regular season starts Aug. 12

Programs in the Bay Area Football League are getting excited about Opening Day, which comes Saturday, Aug. 12, across the southeast Houston area.

Locally, the Ellington Rams, Sagemont Cowboys and Southbelt Dolphins will begin the season on the road.

The Rams will play the Pearland Patriots at the Pearland Dad's Club, while the Cowboys will be in Alvin to play the Raiders at the Alvin YMCA.

The Southbelt Dolphins will travel down the Gulf Freeway a bit to play the East End Eagles at Chavez High School, 8501 Howard.

During the second week of action, the Cow-

boys will host the Rams at El Franco Lee Park, and the Dolphins will host the League City 49ers at Blackhawk Park.

Also of note, the Dolphins will host the Rams Sept. 30, at Blackhawk Park.

On the final day of the regular season, the Dolphins will host the Cowboys at Blackhawk Park.

Dolphin sophs, PWs needed  
The Dolphins still need a few sophomore and pee-wee division players to fill out the respective rosters. The sophomore division is for 9-year-old players, and the pee wee division is for 5 to 6-year-old players.

For more information or to register, call Dolphins' athletic director Raoul Garza at 281-818-7880.

### Southbelt Dolphins

#### 2017 Football Schedule

Date	Opponent
Aug. 12	at East End Eagles
Aug. 19	League City 49ers
Aug. 26	North Shore Mustangs
Sept. 2	at Alvin Raiders
Sept. 9	at Magnolia Park Sharks
Sept. 16	Bye week
Sept. 23	at Pearland Texans
Sept. 30	Ellington Rams
Oct. 7	*Gulf Coast Bulldogs
Oct. 14	at Pearland Patriots
Oct. 21	Sagemont Cowboys
Game times: Seniors - 9 a.m./Juniors - 10:45 a.m.	
Sophomores - 12:30 p.m./Freshmen - 2:15 p.m.	

## Adidas/Turner Invitational Field of Participants

<b>All-Saints</b>	<b>Episcopal</b>	<b>Manvel</b>	<b>S.A. Johnson</b>
<b>Allen</b>	<b>Flower Mound</b>	<b>Marcus</b>	<b>S.A. O'Connor</b>
<b>Amarillo</b>	<b>Foster</b>	<b>McKinney Boyd</b>	<b>S.A. Reagan</b>
<b>Barbers Hill</b>	<b>Friendswood</b>	<b>Memorial</b>	<b>Santa Fe</b>
<b>West Brook</b>	<b>George Ranch</b>	<b>Midway</b>	<b>Schertz Clemens</b>
<b>Bellaire</b>	<b>Granbury</b>	<b>N.B. Canyon</b>	<b>2nd Baptist</b>
<b>Brazoswood</b>	<b>Grapevine</b>	<b>Needville</b>	<b>Southlake Carroll</b>
<b>Brenham</b>	<b>Hays</b>	<b>New Braunsfels</b>	<b>Smithson Valley</b>
<b>Clear Brook</b>	<b>Hebron</b>	<b>Pas. Memorial</b>	<b>St. Agnes</b>
<b>Clear Creek</b>	<b>Highland Park</b>	<b>Pearce</b>	<b>St. John's</b>
<b>Clear Falls</b>	<b>Hondo</b>	<b>Pearland</b>	<b>Summer Creek</b>
<b>Clear Lake</b>	<b>Houston Christ.</b>	<b>Peaster</b>	<b>Trinity Christian</b>
<b>Clear Springs</b>	<b>Jenks</b>	<b>Plano East</b>	<b>Trinity Christ. Acad.</b>
<b>Coffeyville</b>	<b>Keller</b>	<b>Prosper</b>	<b>Woodlands</b>
<b>C. Lutheran</b>	<b>Kingwood</b>	<b>Richardson</b>	<b>Ursuline</b>
<b>Coram Deo Academy</b>	<b>Kingwood Park</b>	<b>Ridge Point</b>	<b>Vets. Memorial</b>
<b>Dawson</b>	<b>Lake Highlands</b>	<b>Rouse</b>	<b>Waller</b>
<b>Deer Park</b>	<b>Lake Travis</b>	<b>S.A. Brandeis</b>	<b>Westlake</b>
<b>Dickinson</b>	<b>La Porte</b>	<b>S.A. Brennan</b>	
<b>Dripping Springs</b>	<b>Lutheran South</b>	<b>S.A. Churchill</b>	

### Sagemont Cowboys

#### 2017 Football Schedule

Date	Opponent
Aug. 12	at Alvin Raiders
Aug. 19	Ellington Rams
Aug. 26	Magnolia Park Sharks
Sept. 2	at East End Eagles
Sept. 9	at League City 49ers
Sept. 16	Bye week
Sept. 23	Pearland Patriots
Sept. 30	at Gulf Coast Bulldogs
Oct. 7	at Beaumont Bulls
Oct. 14	Pasadena Panthers
Oct. 21	at Southbelt Dolphins
Game times: Seniors - 9 a.m./Juniors - 10:45 a.m.	
Sophomores - 12:30 p.m./Freshmen - 2:15 p.m.	

### Ellington Rams

#### 2017 Football Schedule

Date	Opponent
Aug. 12	at Pearland Patriots
Aug. 19	at Sagemont Cowboys
Aug. 26	Beaumont Bulls
Sept. 2	Pearland Hurricanes
Sept. 9	Bye week
Sept. 16	at East End Eagles
Sept. 23	Alvin Raiders
Sept. 30	at Southbelt Dolphins
Oct. 7	Pearland Texans
Oct. 14	League City 49ers
Oct. 21	at Pasadena Panthers
Game times: Seniors - 9 a.m./Juniors - 10:45 a.m.	
Sophomores - 12:30 p.m./Freshmen - 2:15 p.m.	

# CALENDAR



### THURSDAY, AUGUST 3

**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.

**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.

**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. Call 713-856-1611.

**CrossRoads UMC** - Invites everyone to the Thursday night service beginning with a light meal and fellowship at 6 p.m. followed by a praise, worship and prayer service at 7 p.m. at 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Afterward both pastors lead a Bible study in English and Spanish. Everyone is welcome.

**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Women's Group, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-856-1611.

**The Bay Area Writers League** - Meets the first Thursday monthly, Barnes and Noble, 1029 W. Bay Area Blvd., 7 p.m. Newcomers welcome.

**Alcoholics Anonymous** - Alcohol problems? Meets Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7 to 8 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For details, call 713-306-4366 or 713-480-4166.

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 4

**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.

**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - Open games Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.

Noon

**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - West End Group, noon, Shepherd of the Heart United Methodist Church, 12005 County Rd. 39, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.

**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2245 N. Main St., Pearland. Call 713-856-1611.

**Serenity Now Al-Anon Group** - meets at CrossRoads UMC Fridays, 8 to 9 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Family members and friends of problem drinkers/addicts share, learn Al-Anon principles, that they are not alone, and discover choices available. For details, call 281-484-9243.

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 5

**Alcoholics Anonymous** - "Breakfast with Bill", Saturdays, 7:30 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.

**Craft/Vendor Market** - Mount Olive Lutheran Church, 10310 Scarsdale Blvd. There is something for everyone from A to Z. Come, stop and shop. Enjoy some delicious barbecue or a cool, refreshing Hawaiian-style shaved ice, Saturday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. For crafter and artisans to participate, contact Yvonne at 713-562-0584 or yvonnebejara@gmail.com.

**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2245 N. Main St., Pearland. For information, call 713-856-1611.

**Al-Anon Meeting (Women Only, English)** - For women affected by an addict. Saturdays, 11 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, Cornell Conference room #111. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.

**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - Open games Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.

**Alcoholics Anonymous** - meeting at CrossRoads UMC

on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call 281-484-9243.

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 6

**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - Open games Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.

**Grief Support Group** - For adults who have lost a loved one. Meets Sundays, except Mother's Day, Easter and Christmas, 2 to 3:15 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena. For details, call 281-487-8787.

**Celebrate Recovery** - A faith-based 12-Step Program, Sundays, 5:30 p.m., in the Chapel at Life Church, 9900 Alameda Genoa. Call 713-419-2635 for details or to RSVP for child care.

**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of NA meets Sundays, 7 p.m., 2245 N. Main St., Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.

**Alcoholics Anonymous** - Alcohol problems? Meets Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7 to 8 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For details, call 713-306-4366 or 713-480-4166.

**Alcoholics Anonymous** - meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For information, call 281-484-9243.

### MONDAY, AUGUST 7

**Al-Anon Deer Park** - Mondays, 10 to 11 a.m. Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P Street, Deer Park. Enter through back of church. Call 409-454-5720 for details, or drop in.

**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - Open games Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.

**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 details, or drop in.

**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.

**Genealogy Group** - Parker Williams Genealogy Group meets from 2 to 4 p.m. on first and third Monday at the Parker Williams Library, Beamer at Scarsdale Blvd. Public is invited. For details, email Liz Hicks at erotrot@usa.net.

**Houston Area Parkinson Society** - Free exercise and speech therapy for adults with Parkinson's 3:15 to 4:45 p.m., Clear Lake Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster. Visit [www.hapsonline.org](http://www.hapsonline.org) for details.

**New Directions Singles** - Age 50 and older meets the first and third Mondays for a potluck dinner with activities and/or guest speakers at Webster Presbyterian Church, 201 W. NASA Pkwy. For details, call Margarita at 832-715-9658.

**Scrabble Club #511** - Meets Monday at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua. Come, improve crossword playing skills. Call 281-488-2923 for details.

**ESL at CrossRoads UMC** - Academic ESL classes meet Mondays and Wednesdays, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Free. Call Cris at 832-724-4296 to register. 10030 Scarsdale Blvd.

**Pearland Overeaters Anonymous HOW Meeting** - Monday at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 2535 E. Broadway, Pearland. Use door near recycling bins. For details, call 713-973-6633 or visit [www.oahouston.org](http://www.oahouston.org).

**Survivors of Suicide Support Group** - gives coping skills in a non-threatening environment to adults who have lost a loved one to suicide. For details email LynneAnnH@yahoo.com or visit [www.crisishotline.org](http://www.crisishotline.org).

**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-856-1611.

Continued on Page 4B

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**The Southeast VFD needs you!**

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# CALENDAR

Continued from Page 3B  
**MONDAY, AUGUST 7**  
 7:30 p.m.  
**Congregation Shaar Hashalom** - Israeli Folk Dancing Mondays, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m., 16020 El Camino Real, 77062. \$4/session or \$35/10 sessions for CSH members and \$5/session or \$45/10 session for nonmembers. Everyone is welcome. For information, contact 281-488-5861 or csh@shaarhashalom.org.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Saint Luke's Group, 12 Step Recovery, open meeting Mondays, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Education Bldg., 11011 Hall Rd., 77089. For details, call Russell at 832-483-6715.  
**TUESDAY, AUGUST 8**  
 7 a.m.  
**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.  
 9:30 a.m.  
**CCART** - The Clear Creek Association of Retired Teachers meets the second Tuesday, monthly, Sept.-May, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., Bay Area Community Center, 5002 NASA Parkway in Seabrook near Landolt Pavilion. Texas retired school employees from surrounding school districts welcome. Annual dues are \$35.  
**Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - Exhibits include dioramas, a turn-of-the-century doctor's office and an old-time kitchen. Tuesday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., 204 S. Main, Pasadena. For details, call 713-472-0565.  
**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.  
 10:30 a.m.  
**Tri-County Republican Women** - General meetings are held the second Tuesday, except June and July, Golfcrest Country Club, 2509 Country Club Dr., Pearland. Lunch available for \$15. Must have exact cash or a check. For reservations, call Laura Morgan at 281-484-8083.  
 Noon  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.  
**Rotary Club of Pearland** - Meets Tuesdays, noon to 1 p.m., Golfcrest Country Club, 2509 Country Club Dr., Pearland. Lunch is \$15. Variety of interesting speakers. For details, call 281-900-7257 or email nalix@texascitizensbank.com.  
 1:30 p.m.  
**TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)** - #1530 meets at the Sagemont Park Community Center, 11507 Hughes Rd., 1:30 p.m. For information, call Jeanette Sumrall at 713-946-3713.  
 2 p.m.  
**Clear Lake Bridge Club Lab Class** - Tuesday, 2 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. For details or classes, contact Dr. Glandorf at drglandorf@sbcglobal.net or call 281-488-6318.  
 7 p.m.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church-youth bldg. For information, call 713-856-1611.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** - Alcohol problems? Meets Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7 to 8 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For details, call 713-306-4366 or 713-480-4166.

7 p.m.  
**Bay Area Turning Point Crisis Intervention** - Call 281-286-2525 (24-hour crisis hotline) for confidential domestic violence/sexual abuse support group for women. Visit [www.bayareaturnpoint.org](http://www.bayareaturnpoint.org) for information.  
**Bay Area New Democrats** - Meet at the Clear Lake Court House at 1020 W. NASA Pkwy., Suite 204. For information, visit [www.bayareanewdemocrats.org](http://www.bayareanewdemocrats.org).  
 8 p.m.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** - meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For information, call 281-484-9243.  
**THURSDAY, AUGUST 10**  
 7 a.m.  
**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.  
 9:30 a.m.  
**NASA Aglow Community Lighthouse** - meets on Thursday, 9:30 a.m. at Praise Chapel, 18516 Hwy. 3 in Webster. The Rev. Mary Bostrom will be speaking on *The Great American Eclipse* off the coast of Oregon to off the coast of South Carolina on Aug. 21, 2017. Bostrom will speak on the significance of this event to our nation. The public is welcome and encouraged to bring others. For details, call 281-910-1971.  
 10 a.m.  
**Fun Bunch** - for senior citizens, ages 55 and older, meets the second Thursday of each month at 10 a.m. at the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce, 10500 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call Ronn Canon at 281-610-8999 or the chamber at 281-481-5516.  
 10 a.m.  
**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.  
 11:30 a.m.  
**ABWA - Southeast Express Network** - American Business Women's Association-South meets the second Thursday, Spring Creek Barbeque, 9005 Broadway (FM-518), Pearland. Lunch is 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. (\$20). Includes networking with professional business women and guest speaker. Women of all ages/occupations invited. Bring business cards. Reservations appreciated. Visit [www.seen-abwa.org](http://www.seen-abwa.org).  
 Noon  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.  
 6 - 8 p.m.  
**CrossRoads UMC** - Invites everyone to the Thursday night service beginning with a light meal and fellowship at 6 p.m. followed by a praise, worship and prayer service at 7 p.m. at 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Afterward both pastors lead a Bible study in English and Spanish. Everyone is welcome.  
 7 p.m.  
**Congregation Shaar Hashalom's** - Rabbi Stuart Federow hosts free discussions on Judaism and religion in general, open to the public, second Thursdays, at Victor's, 1425 NASA Pkwy., (next to "space" McDonald's). This is the conservative synagogue in the Bay Area. For details, contact the synagogue office at 281-488-5861 or at csh@shaarhashalom.org.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Women's Group, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM-518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-856-1611.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** - Alcohol problems? Meets Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7 to 8 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For more information, call 713-306-4366 or 713-480-4166.

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# Longhorns, Wolverines kick off preseason workouts as August heat rolls through



With his third varsity season upcoming, Dobie tailback Kris Morris hopes for a breakout season while leading the offense. As a sophomore, Morris rushed for more than 700 yards, and a 1,000-yard plus season in 2017 would certainly help pace the offense.

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The Longhorns, who had made the playoffs six straight seasons before 2016, prefer to view last season's postseason miss as a one-year slip as opposed to a trend.

Yet if the Longhorns are to get back on track as they are determined to do so, a new cast of characters may be largely responsible.

Head coach Mike Nor-

man and his staff waved goodbye to as many as 45 seniors after the 2016 finale against La Porte.

For the third time in as many seasons, there will be a first-time, full-time starter at quarterback, with senior Jacob Sulak set to take over as the starter. In 2016, Sulak saw limited duty but did perform well when called upon.

In the backfield, junior Kris Morris is back and

could be poised for the breakout season Longhorn fans have been expecting since he arrived on campus prior to the 2015 season.

Morris made the jump to the varsity team midway through his freshman season. He has delivered some highlights during his stay, but more is expected in 2017.

Behind Morris at the tailback position, again,

newcomers will be the norm.

"We do expect big things from Kris," Norman said. "He is being patient, letting things develop, seeing the hole and cutting it up in there," Norman said. It should be a big season for Kris."

Who will Sulak throw the ball to in passing situations? Jeremy Hernandez is back after missing much of his junior season to in-

jury. Ryan Pair, who also missed much of his junior season to injury, returns. Mark Brent, who came up with some big plays in 2016 as a junior, will also be a viable option.

The Longhorns also find themselves heading into 2017 with several newcomers along the offensive front. And the kicking game will feature one or more first-time starters with kicker/punter Sabino Lozano having graduated.

"Offensively, we feel like the offensive line will be a focus in terms of meshing as a group," Norman said. "We are looking for someone to step up at receiver, and hopefully we will stay healthy and some of those guys can have big years for us."

Defensively, the Longhorns need to take a huge step forward. The unit surrendered far too many big plays in 2016, and Dobie's 10 opponents combined for 255 points during the season. The revamped 2017 group must improve those trends.

Several newcomers will

compete along that defensive front. Perhaps the team's strongest position overall is at linebacker. Senior Dejuan Dixon is one of the district's top returnees at his spot, and Dreze McCoy is also set to return after contributing quite a bit in 2016.

Graduation also hit Dobie hard in the secondary and, subsequently, the return game. Sedrick Romar heads the cast of those in the secondary. But the preseason will be key in terms of the development of others.

"Receiver and defensive back are going to be the two positions where we are looking for health and depth," Norman said.

"We feel good in the run game, but you have to be able to effectively throw the football at this level. We feel like things will come together."

And if things do come together for the Longhorns as they plan, a quick return to the postseason could very well be in the offing for the 2017 season. That's certainly the goal as the preseason begins.



Entering 2017, Dobie appears to have a position of strength at linebacker from left, Dreze McCoy (40), Juan Dixon (33) eligible to return as the Longhorns look to make a vast improvement on that side of the football. Photo by Gary Williams



Dobie's Jacqueline Garcia figures to play a big role as one of the varsity team's veteran players entering the 2017 season. The Lady Longhorns open the regular season Aug. 8, at home against Fort Bend Elkins. Varsity match time is 6 p.m.

## JFD volleyball to face Elkins

**Continued from Page 1B**

Senior setter Jacqueline Garcia also returns as the primary offensive distributor, and Yvonne Whaley is back for her third season.

Jakara Henry is at middle blocker/right side, and Victoria Onozio fills a similar role as a returnee as well.

A half dozen or so newcomers round out the roster, with the nondistrict portion of the schedule serving to help the Lady Longhorns prepare for a strong run through District

22-6A play when the time comes.

**Playoff chances**  
What are the playoff chances for Clear Brook and Dobie?

Clear Brook plays in a district that includes current Class 6A state runner-up Clear Creek.

In fact, District 24-6A has provided the Region III champion in four of the past five seasons.

Expect Clear Brook to tussle with Creek as well as Clear Falls, Clear Springs, Friendswood and

Clear Lake. Dickinson and Alvin are two programs that are in line to make some waves as well.

For Dobie, it's about defeating the Deer Parks, the West Brooks and the Memorials of the 22-6A world.

Winning six of 14 in league play in 2016, the Lady Longhorns struggled against the teams in front of them in the standings.

That has to change if the locals want to return to the postseason for the first time since 2013-2014.

## Street Olympics wrap up Aug. 4

The 2017 Harris County Precinct One Street Olympics Summer Games will conclude Aug. 4, as more than 2,000 boys and girls ages 6 through 15 compete for gold medals in 12 different street games at NRG Arena.

The festivities begin with a parade of champions and will precede the competitions, which will include softball throw, kickball, football throw accuracy, basketball free throw, jacks, shuttle relay, hopscotch, a chess tournament, a jump rope marathon and hula hoop

medley. There's also a basketball dribble with obstacles, a 50-yard dash, 100-yard dash and softball throw.

Participants qualified for the Street Olympics by competing at 90 agency

sites throughout the early portion of the summer. More than 4,000 youths started the march to the final event. The 2017 season represents the 31st in all for Harris County Precinct One.

### Precinct One Summer Games

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