

Holiday closings set

The South Belt-Ellington Leader office will be closed Monday, Sept. 6, for Labor Day. Normal business hours resume Tuesday, Sept. 7, at 9 a.m.

Clear Brook City MUD

Clear Brook City MUD will close Monday, Sept. 6, Labor Day and reopen Tuesday, Sept. 7, at 8 a.m. For customer convenience, check or money order payments may be left in the drop box on the drive-thru. No cash will be accepted in the drop box. Clear Brook City MUD residents with trash pickup on Monday/Thursday will have service Labor Day, Sept. 6. All trash should be at curbside no later than 6 a.m. Monday. Residents missing this trash pickup date will be serviced Thursday, Sept. 9. Residents with Tuesday/Friday service will not be affected.

Post 490 events set

Collection for Louisiana residents

American Legion Post 490, 11702 Old Galveston Road, will be accepting donations until Sept. 11 from noon to 8 p.m. to aid hurricane victims in Louisiana. Items needed include cleaning supplies, toilet paper, paper plates, plastic cups, plastic silverware, large yard trash bags, hand sanitizer, gloves, disposable masks, bug spray, nonperishable food, bottled water, Gatorade, Powerade, diapers/wipes, baby powder, toiletries, toothpaste, toothbrushes, pony tail holders, hair brushes, feminine products, band aids and antibiotic ointment, brooms, hammers, nails, blue tarps. For information, call Diana Aguilar, 832-338-6255.

Championship BBQ cookoff

American Legion Post 490 and International BBQ Cookers Association will host the 12th Championship BBQ Cook-off Sept. 10-11 at Post 490. Judging is for brisket, ribs and chicken. Entry fee is \$150. A Bloody Mary contest will be held. Entry fee is \$10. Prizes are 100% of entry fee. The event features barbecue, burgers, breakfast, drawings, refreshments, and raffles. Entry deadline is 9 a.m. Sept. 10. For information, email officemanager@legion490.com, call 281-481-1179 or text 832-657-3518.

Group collects signatures

The newly formed South Belt Coalition will host a drive-thru event Saturday, Sept. 4, at The Gardens, located at 12001 Beamer, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. to gain signatures on a petition to increase the budget of Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia. See story in next week's Leader.

COVID-19 cases continue

As of Wednesday, Sept. 1, there were 195 reported South Belt deaths due to COVID-19, up four from the previous week. Reporting of deaths related to COVID-19, however, may be delayed by local officials. Of the 6,921 confirmed cases in 77089 (total population: 53,866), 679 remain active, down eight from the previous week. To date, 76 from the ZIP code have died from the disease, up two from the previous week.

In 77075 (total population: 43,933), 628 of the 5,178 confirmed cases remain active, up 84 from the previous week. A total of 59 from the ZIP code have died, no increase from the previous week.

Of the 5,265 confirmed cases in 77034 (total population: 40,532), 615 remain active, up 37 from the previous week. To date, 60 residents from ZIP code 77034 have died from the disease, up two from the previous week (one less than the county initially reported). According to Harris County Public Health officials, the vast majority of the fatalities suffered from pre-existing health issues.

Countywide, there have been 497,077 total confirmed cases. Of those, 440,671 have recovered from the disease, while 51,069 cases remain active, up 544 from the previous week. A total of 5,305 deaths have been reported in Harris County.

Statistics are updated daily and include numbers from within the Houston city limits and throughout Harris County. To view an interactive map, visit publichealth.harriscountytexas.gov/Resources/2019-Novel-Coronavirus.

Beltway closures planned

At least one westbound Beltway 8 frontage road lane will be closed from Kirby to Bellfort daily from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. through Friday, Sept. 17.

At least one northbound and one southbound Beltway 8 frontage road lane will be closed from Vista to SH 225 daily from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and nightly from 8:30 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Monday, Sept. 6.

Gulf Freeway closures set

Two alternate northbound and southbound main lanes and frontage road lanes on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from NASA Bypass/NASA Road 1 to SH 96 daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and nightly from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Friday, Dec. 31. The northbound exit ramp from the Gulf Freeway to NASA Bypass/NASA Road 1 will be completely closed through Friday, Dec. 31. Motorists wishing to access these intersections may exit using the exit to FM 518 and proceed on the northbound frontage road to the intersections or exit using the Bay Area Blvd. ramp, then make a U-turn and travel south to the NASA Bypass or FM 528.

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

Two alternate northbound and southbound main lanes and frontage road lanes on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from IH 610 South Loop to Broad Street nightly from 7 p.m. to 6 a.m. through Friday, Dec. 31.

Both the northbound and southbound entrance and exit ramps between IH 610 South Loop and Broad Street will be closed nightly from 9 p.m. to 3 a.m. through Friday, Dec. 31.

HOA goes to Zoom

Due to the increase of COVID, Kirkmont 1 HOA meetings will continue on Zoom. The next meeting is Wednesday, Sept. 8, at 7 p.m. Kirkmont 1 HOA community members are welcome to join. Contact Goodlife HOA Management to register for Zoom meeting invite code. For more information, email merlene@goodlifehoa.com or call 281-994-7842.

New Texas laws set to take effect Sept. 1

The 87th Texas Legislature passed a number of new laws that take effect on Sept. 1.

Below is a listing and brief description of some of those laws:

- HB 1927: Constitutional Carry

This law eliminates the requirement for Texans to obtain a license to carry handguns, as long as they are not prohibited from possessing a gun

by State of Federal law.

- SB 8: Fetal Heartbeat Bill

This law prohibits abortions in Texas after a fetal heartbeat has been detected, which can be as early as six weeks. An exception for medical emergencies is allowed.

- HB 1280: Roe v. Wade Trigger Law

This law would outlaw abortions in Texas

in 30 days, if the U.S. Supreme Court reverses "Roe v. Wade," the 1973 legal case that legalized abortion.

- SB 4: Star-Spangled Banner Protection Act

This law requires any professional sports team with contracts with the Texas state government to play the National Anthem before the start of every game. SB 4 was written by Sen. Dawn Buckingham, who represents Brown and other counties in Central Texas.

- HB 1239: Ban on Church Closures

This law bans State agencies or officials from issuing orders that "close or have the effect of closing places of worship in the state." This bill was inspired by public orders to close churches and other places of worship during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- HB 3979: Critical Race Theory

This law bans the teaching of Critical Race

Theory, and prescribes how Texas teachers can talk about current events and America's history of racism. "Critical Race Theory" asserts that race and racism are an integral part of American history and society. The bill includes a list of historical documents that students must be taught. It also requires that students be taught "the history of white supremacy, including but not limited to the institution of slavery, the eugenics movement, and the Ku Klux Klan, and the ways in which it is morally wrong."

- HB 5: Broadband Internet Access

This bill creates a "State Broadband Development Office" which will award grants, low-interest loans, and other incentives to build broadband access in Texas, especially in rural areas. It is estimated that nine million Texans (out of 28 million total Texans) do not have broadband in-

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Sagemont levels first building



At Sagemont Church, it's out with the old and in with the new. On Monday, Aug. 30, demolition crews leveled the building that served as the church's first chapel. Originally known as Sagemont Baptist Church, the facility opened in 1966 as a mission of First Baptist Church in Pasadena. As one building came down, however, crews were simultaneously trucking in material to begin new construction at the site (see inset photo). See related photo on Page 2.

Photo by Marie Flickinger

City offers \$150 to get vaccinated

Houston City Council on Wednesday, Aug. 25, approved a plan to incentivize more residents to get vaccinated against COVID-19 by paying them up to \$150.

On Thursday, Aug. 26, the Houston Health Department began providing \$100 gift cards with first doses and \$50 gift cards with second doses of Moderna or Pfizer vaccine administered at its health centers and multi-service centers.

People who get the one-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine will receive \$100.

"With the more contagious Delta variant rapidly spreading and cases surging, it is critical-

ly urgent that we vaccinate more people in our community," said Mayor Sylvester Turner. "It is in everyone's best interest that all eligible Houstonians get vaccinated to save lives. If an incentive will motivate those who are not yet vaccinated to get their shots, it's an investment that benefits everyone."

The new incentive program is funded by \$3.125 million from the American Rescue Plan Act and will provide \$150 worth of Mastercard gift cards to 20,000 people who get fully vaccinated.

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County begins all 2018 bond projects

The Harris County Flood Control District recently updated Commissioners Court on the progress of the 2018 voter-approved bond program.

That update included a huge milestone with the announcement that every project included in the bond program has been initiated.

In the three years since \$2.5 billion in bonds to finance flood damage reduction projects were approved, the following work has been done in the county:

- 181 of 181 bond projects have been initiated.

- \$251 million in contracts have been awarded to engineering companies.

- \$552 million in contracts have been awarded for construction of capital improvements and repairs.

- 27 projects have been completed, removing 11,000 homes from 100-year floodplains.

- Another 660 buyouts have been completed with another 662 in process.

"The Harris County Flood Control District has been working steadily to plan, design, and build these projects to reduce flooding for Harris County residents. Three years into a 10-year bond program, we are making tremendous progress."

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Pct. 2 deputies respond to forgery call

A forgery call on Saturday, Aug. 21, may have led to multiple felony charges for Precinct 2 deputies.

The incident began around 5 p.m. when deputies responded to a forgery call in the 8700 block of the Gulf Freeway near College Avenue.

While investigating this call, deputies were able to locate the suspect, who was still on the property. Deputies detained the suspect and found that he had an open felony warrant for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon through the Harris County Sheriff's Office.



Louis Garcia

Deputies confirmed this warrant and began to conduct a search of the suspect, at which time they located several grams of what was believed to be marijuana and methamphetamine.

The district attorney's office was contacted but requested that the narcotics located be lab tested and confirmed prior to filing additional charges.

At this time, 38-year-old Louis Garcia was arrested for the open felony warrant.

While placing Garcia in the back of the deputy's patrol car, he became combative and began to spit at deputies, kick the windows of the patrol car and scream profanities.

Deputies were able to secure Garcia, and he was transported to the Harris County Jail.

This investigation is ongoing, and Garcia faces possible additional felony charges.

Reyes organizes local bicycle ride

By James Bolen

Many South Belt residents have undoubtedly noticed a large caravan of bicyclists riding through the neighborhood each Monday evening.

The spectacle they were observing is known as The Mont Social Ride.

Organized by 1988 Dobie graduate Bobby Reyes, The Mont Social Ride is a weekly bike ride that takes participants trekking all through the South Belt community. Many of the participants have added decorative lighting and elaborate sound systems to their bicycles. Some even carry small dogs.

Every Monday, riders meet at The Gardens, before pedaling 12 to 15 miles, with a lengthy midpoint allowing cyclists to catch their breath. To date, the longest ride has been about 18 miles.

The midpoint is different each week, with destinations ranging from taco trucks on Fuqua to pizza restaurants in Pearland.

"I always call the day before, or day of, in advance to the local places we think we will be going," said Reyes. "All the business have been super accepting. They love when we pull up."

The routes also change each week.

"I am usually the one that determines which

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Man arrested on drug, gun charges

A traffic stop in the 10700 block of Kingpoint near Sabo led to multiple criminal charges Thursday, Aug. 19.

According to Constable Jerry Garcia's office, deputies with Precinct 2's Special Operations Unit were conducting proactive patrols near the above address when they observed a vehicle commit numerous traffic violations, prompting a traffic stop to be conducted.

During this stop, deputies found that the driver was exhibiting suspicious behavior and acting extremely nervous.

This behavior was believed to be due to the

strong odor of marijuana coming from this inside of the vehicle that deputies detected.

Upon further investigation, the driver admitted to deputies to having a small amount of marijuana inside the vehicle, as well as firearm.

A probable cause search was done, and dep-

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William Reynolds



Seized gun, money and drugs

BAHEP event features NASA's Wyche

The Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership hosted NASA Johnson Space Center Director Vanessa E. Wyche during a luncheon held Aug. 18 at the Hilton Houston NASA Clear Lake.

When NASA Administrator Bill Nelson named Wyche as the new JSC director she said, "As the home to America's astronaut corps, International Space Station mission operations, the Orion and Gateway programs, and a host of future space developments, Johnson is a world leader in human space exploration and is playing a key role in the next giant leaps in American excellence in space. I look forward to working with everyone as we push forward to the Moon and inspire a new generation of explorers to reach for the stars."

NASA JSC's FY 2020 budget is \$5.56B with \$2.23B of that spent in Texas on contracts and federal salaries. The total JSC workforce of 11,892 includes 2,950 federal employees and 8,942 contractors. Wyche's "Giant Leaps Start Here" presentation to the BAHEP members highlighted the numerous programs and

initiatives in which the NASA JSC workforce participates. These include the International Space Station, Commercial Low-Earth Orbit, Private Astronaut Missions, Orion, Commercial Lunar Payload Services, Gateway and Moon to Mars.

With the growth of commercial space companies and programs, community partnerships will be vital for the future of human space exploration. "We are part of an ecosystem is how I see it, and working together is how we will be able to bring more commercial opportunities to this area. I'm looking forward to us working and identifying ways that we can help as NASA to bring more companies to the area," Wyche said. "We can help you with our critical expertise and that gives us a mutual benefit of sharing our workforce. Great things are happening at the spaceport and we will continue to work together."

The development of the Houston Spaceport is attracting many commercial space companies to Bay Area Houston. BAHEP members

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Cyclists trek South Belt streets



The Mont Social Ride is a weekly bicycle ride that travels 12-15 miles through the South Belt area each Monday evening. Organized by 1988 Dobie graduate Bobby Reyes, the casual-paced ride attracts riders of all ages, races and skill levels. Each week, around 125 people participate in the ride, which meets at The Gardens at 6:30 p.m., before departing at 7 p.m.

Photo by James Bolen

BAHEP hosts NASA's Wyche



The Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership hosted NASA Johnson Space Center Director Vanessa E. Wyche during a luncheon held Aug. 18, 2021, at the Hilton Houston NASA Clear Lake. Shown, left to right, are Bob Mitchell, president, BAHEP; Texas Sen. Larry Taylor; Wyche; Kelly Page, president, Barrios Technology; and Charlie Stegemoeller, chair, BAHEP board of directors and senior director of Business Development, SAIC. See related story on Page 1.

Sylvester Turner shares his words regarding Aug. 25, 2017

Four years ago, today, Hurricane Harvey landed on the shores of Texas, dumping over 52 inches of rain upon our city and region. Hurricane Harvey was a defining moment for Houston.

We are building forward in the right way for a stronger and more resilient city that is prepared to withstand the challenges of the future. To do it right takes precision. To do it right takes partnership. To do it right takes thoughtfulness. And as we navigate the challenges that our region continues to face, from hurricanes to winter storms to health crises, we have not stood still.

Despite complicated and bureaucratic processes involving extensive reviews, procurement rules, acquisition delays, and environmental regulations, the City continues to move forward with our partners and own resources.

Are we safer today than we were four years ago? Yes. COMPLETED PROJECTS

In four years, we have invested \$780 Million in infrastructure repairs from local funding for fully completed projects:

- 42 Capital Improvement Projects and an additional nine that are in construction, totaling \$501 Million in total investment in drainage.
- 124 Local Drainage Projects totaling over \$21 Million, by the end of the Fiscal Year, an additional 40 projects will be completed. These are projects are less than \$3 Million in costs and are usually delivered at a faster pace.
- 124 SWAT projects have been constructed totaling \$34.7 Million; An additional 18 are in construction or in design to be completed by the end of this Fiscal Year, bringing the total number of projects to over 142.
- Six large-scale TIRZ inter-agency projects have been completed, exceeding \$33 Million, and three more are in construction, adding over \$76 Million in investments for drainage infrastructure.
- Ten properties have been acquired for detention at the cost of \$70.5M and resulting in 357.6 acres of added detention.
- \$120M combination funding of Federal and State funds resulted in the dredging of 3 million cubic yards of sand/sediment from the West Fork of the San Jacinto River and Lake Houston.

HOME ELEVATION

The City is also protecting housing investments through individual home mitigation strategies utilizing the FEMA Flood Mitigation Assistance program:

- \$66.1M to elevate over 260 homes since Harvey and many more homes are in the planning stages for future funding.

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

And we continue to invest in our nature-based infrastructure for a holistic and integrated drainage system.

- Thirty green storm water infrastructure projects were implemented in 2020.
- With the launch of 3 out of the four incentives for green development, we expect this number to increase

every year as we combat flooding at every scale.

REGULATIONS
To continue to be protected, we must ensure we develop policies that prepare us for the future. Since Hurricane Harvey, these policies include:

- Updating Chapter 19 regulations to build higher.
- Adopting new rainfall data and new detention rates as a result of NOAA Atlas 14 increased precipitation estimates.
- Strengthening and establishing our international relationships to collaborate on water-related challenges.

CURRENT PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

Knowing that City coffers cannot fund all the needed projects, we continue to seek and have received funding for:

- \$57M indirect allocation for local infrastructure projects from CDBG-Mitigation grant funds.
- \$300M from FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant funds for regional detention and flood damage reduction projects. (Inwood, Lake Houston Dam, North Canal, TIRZ 17).
- \$50M in State grant funds for additional dredging of Lake Houston.
- \$32M in State subsidized loans and grants for two flood-damaged reduction projects.
- \$23M in CDBG-DR funds for infrastructure planning recovery and resilience projects.

The Recovery Office will present a 4th anniversary report to City Council in the coming week, including a comprehensive overview of recovery, hazard mitigation, and housing.

In four years, we have made investments in our infrastructure. We have strengthened partnerships. We have released Resilient Houston and the Climate Action Plan to prepare better and mitigate, focusing on equity and in our Complete Communities, to ensure that the most vulnerable are at the center.

I recognize the importance of infrastructure and the valuable role engineering plays in climate adaptation. I am in support of the ASCE and Stimson Center's declaration for Climate Resilient and Sustainable Infrastructure. It calls for making climate resilience a priority; avoiding climate-related disasters that harm the lives of the most vulnerable, like Harvey; advancing innovation in infrastructure projects, and achieving our climate goals. Houston is not alone in its vulnerability to climate disasters.

As Chair of the Resilient Cities Network, Climate Mayors, and African American Mayors Association, I know that Mayors have a special responsibility to prepare our communities better and enable them to build back better when disasters strike. We need to set a much higher bar for our infrastructure.

Houston is a City of action. We are a City of doers. We move forward. We build forward. We continue to do so as we wait for federal funds to trickle down. Recognizing we still need much assistance to meet our goals, I want to let our State, Federal, and Global partners know, Houston is ready to play its part.

Local library events set

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

Bracewell Branch Library

Bracewell Library, 9002 Kingspoint, is open. Customers are encouraged to come into the building to browse the collection, check out and return materials, use the library's computers and Wi-Fi, and check out their own holds. In addition, customers may continue to schedule appointments and have curbside delivery of their items. For information, visit <https://houstonlibrary.org/>. For online learning, visit <https://houstonlibrary.org/online-learning-7556> or call 832-393-2580. Hours are: Mondays, noon-7 p.m.; Tuesdays, noon-5 p.m.; Wednesdays, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Thursdays, noon-5 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Bracewell HPL To Go curbside service is available by appointment
Contactless curbside services, known as HPL To Go, are available by appointment. For questions, call circulation at 832-393-2222. To use HPL To Go:

1. Place a hold through the online catalog or by phone.
2. Receive email or phone call of notification prior to scheduling a time for pickup.
3. Upon arrival, park and stay in the vehicle and call to notify staff of arrival.
4. Have MY Link card number and PIN ready.

Book drop

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

Additional resources

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

Houston Public Library's many free online resources and digital services are available 24/7 with a MY Link Library Card at www.houstonlibrary.org, including e-books and e-audiobooks, streaming TV, movie and music services, online classes and tutoring and databases. Until further notice, only electronic items (i.e. e-books, e-audio books, etc.) are eligible for holds and check out. HPL has a collection of free e-books and audio books.

Visit the catalog for previously requested hold selection may be in a digital format. Instructions on downloading the e-book or audio book are on the site. All overdue fines/fees will be waived through Dec. 31, 2021.

Parker Williams Library

Parker Williams Library has now officially reopened its doors, subject to limited capacity. See the website at <https://www.hcpl.net/reopening> for information. The library follows state and county guidelines for mask and social distancing. The book drop is open.

Social media links are Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary and Instagram.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary.

Eloise West



Eloise West, 89, passed away Saturday, Aug. 21, 2021. She is preceded in death by her parents Nash Whitted and Selma Whitted Lowe; Neil West, loving husband of 69 years; and brothers Ben Whitted and Jim Whitted.

Left to cherish Eloise's memory are her daughters Diane Lister and husband Bobby and Pam Saxton and husband Gene; grandchildren Zach Roberts, Keely Wilson Rex, Kristin Wilson Teeters, Sara Roberts Tompkins, Cole Wilson, Scott Saxton, Chris Saxton; great-grandchildren Brody Rex, Brooks Rex, JP Teeters and Beckett Saxton; and a host of other dear family and friends.

Eloise was born Nov. 9, 1931, in Tar Hill, N.C. She married the love of her life Neil West Aug. 11, 1950, in Brunswick, Ga. They had 69 wonderfully blessed years together before Neil passed away in 2019.

She was a loving and devoted wife, mother and grandmother. She absolutely adored her children, grandchildren and her great-grandchildren throughout their lives from the time they were born until the day she left her earthly body. Eloise and Neil took interest, supported and were involved in all their children's and grandchildren's activities.

The couple loved attending performances, games, graduations, and any other celebratory events. They were always there. Everyone who knew Eloise knows that she would have done anything for anybody if it was within her power to do so. She had her own opinions about everything, but she was never a judgmental person; she accepted people just as they were. Eloise was extremely trusting, generous and kind. Anyone was welcome in her home, at any time of the day or night, until the day she died.

Eloise loved her friends, and she was blessed with many. They were always laughing and enjoying life. There were some fun times at her house, at the club, and at parties. Eloise was always the first on the dance floor, and if there was no dance floor, she would dance at the table with her head bobbing and hands and arms flying, for as long as she was able. Even when she could not get around very well, she was a major contributor to the fun aspect of any occasion.

Loving the holidays, especially Christmas and Thanksgiving, she was able to help families in need. She enjoyed seeing people's faces light up

and, thanks to her, many did and still do when remembering her selfless nature and disposition. Anniversary parties became essential after Eloise and Neil celebrated their 50th. Every five years thereafter there was a celebration. Eloise's hobbies included helping others, cooking and traveling.

There were many four-week road trips throughout the United States with their children when they were young. Later in life Eloise and Neil enjoyed cruises and traveled often with friends. She will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Services for Eloise will be held Thursday, Sept. 2, 2021, at First United Methodist Church, in Pearland. A visitation with the family will be held from noon to 1 p.m. A memorial service will follow with the Rev. Reggie Clemons officiating. Online condolences may be left for the family at www.claytonfuneralhomes.com.

Norma Jean Carmona



If there is nothing more beautiful than a life lived for others, then Norma Jean Carmona lived an exceedingly beautiful life.

She was born March 16, 1958, in Houston. She saw the face of her King Aug. 23, 2021. We are confident that her welcome on that day included the words, "Well done good and faithful servant...Enter into the joy of your Master."

Norma is survived by her husband Gilbert Carmona. They were married June 23, 1974. During the years, through their commitment to Christ, they exemplified the meaning of "the two shall become one." Norma was Gilbert's one and only as they truly had become "one."

Her memory will also be cherished and kept alive through her daughter Kathy and husband Chance Milford and by her son Cory Carmona and wife Kathleen; along with her beloved grandchildren, Taylor Carmona, Cayden Carmona and Elliciana Milford who will never forget their amazing Yaya. Other surviving family members are her mother Elvira Martinez; brothers Eddie Martinez, Bobby Martinez and Ronnie Martinez; and sister Gloria Martinez. She will also be missed by many nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts and uncles. Norma was preceded in death by father, Edward Martinez and brother Larry Martinez.

Norma, who was also known as Momma C, will always be remembered by hundreds of spiritual sons and daughters she loved and nurtured while serving on staff at Sagemont Church. For more than twenty years she encouraged, laughed and cried with countless young people that came through the doors of her office, as well as her home.

She is perfectly described as "a faith-filled woman of God, a true mix of grace and grit." Those that were fortunate enough to know her will never forget the range of emotions she could show with just one look, from "Get over here and give me a hug," to "No, I don't think so!" Her students and her friends knew that they were loved unconditionally.

This love was oftentimes demonstrated as her eyes would brim over with tears that rolled down her sweet face. Other times she showed her love through hard-to-hear, but needful words of discernment and wisdom. She was greatly loved and respected by all that love truth, authenticity and honesty.

Norma also served at Southwestern Baptist Theo-

Deaths

logical Seminary as secretary for eight years. Everything she did was done wholeheartedly, faithfully and excellently. She was highly creative as expressed in her photography and art.

Her creativity was also expressed in the way she was willing to meet needs, from filling a hungry belly with her delicious food to photographing the weddings of young couples for free.

Norma understood the meaning of, "The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many." Norma believed the gospel and was ransomed from her former way of life on Feb. 15, 1986. She learned what was meant when Christ said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Since there is nothing more beautiful than a life lived for others, as demonstrated by her Savior, Norma Jean Carmona lived an exceedingly beautiful life that glorified God.

The memorial service for Norma will be held Saturday, Sept. 4, at 11 a.m. at Sagemont Church. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations designated to the new student building at Sagemont Church in Norma's honor at [https://sagemontchurch.org/onlinegiving.org/donate/customform/57#//](https://sagemontchurch.org/onlinegiving.org/donate/customform/57#/).

Douglas Darrell Williamson



Douglas Darrell Williamson, 68, went to be with the Lord Aug. 26, 2021. He was born in Houston May 22, 1953.

He graduated from Milby High School in 1971 after being transferred from Ross Sterling High School following his junior year due to school zoning. He was a Sterling Raider at heart.

He attended San Jacinto College where he received his Associate of Arts degree in 1973. He also attended the University of Houston where he would go on to achieve his bachelor's degree in business administration in 1976.

He was a proud Southbelt/Ellington area resident since 1979. At his passing he was a deacon at South Main Baptist Church where he became a member in 1992.

Darrell was an avid Astros fan, a season ticket holder for many years, and he also attended the very first National League game in Houston (Colt 45's) with his father Charles Douglas Williamson and brothers in 1962. His love for his Astros would most definitely continue throughout his life. He would later go on to coach youth baseball for Sagemont Beverly Hills Little League, as well as coach youth basketball for Upward Sports, which he loved doing dearly.

Darrell joined the Boy Scouts of America in the mid 1980s as a leader and mentor for many children, to which he dedicated nearly 25 years.

He loved books, as well as Texas history, Civil war history, U.S. history and maritime history. Although he loved these things dearly nothing surpassed the love he had for his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Darrell was preceded in death by his mother and father, Louise G. and Charles Douglas Williamson and infant sister.

He is survived by brothers Wendell Williamson and wife Stephanie and Darwin Williamson; nephews Noah Williamson and Nathan Williamson; nieces Annalea Williamson and Faith Williamson; as well as numerous

cousins. His surviving blended family members are Richard Holt, Nancy Holt, Debra Holt, Richard Jr. Holt and Edward Holt, Sandra Gomez, Ricky Gomez, Rose Gomez, Dave Gomez, Stacy Gomez, Abby Gomez, Savannah Gomez, Leah Gomez, Maddie Gomez, Grant Gomez, Thor Gomez, Ireland Gomez, Keegan Gomez, Tyler Gomez, Connor Gomez, Luke Gomez, Rosa Gomez and Richard Gomez.

A funeral service will be held Wednesday Sept. 8, 2021, at 11 a.m. in the sanctuary at South Main Baptist Church in Pasadena.

Samuel Lee Davis



Samuel Lee Davis went to be with his Lord Aug. 28, 2021, following a lengthy illness. He was born to Lee and Ola Davis Jan. 8, 1935, in Shreveport, La. In his younger years he lived in Oil City, La., then moved to Shreveport after the death of his father.

Around 1959, he met the love of his life Julia Ann White at church and they married March 11, 1960. He and Ann moved to Lake Charles soon after, moved back to

Shreveport and eventually settled in Houston in 1962.

Sam was a faithful and loyal servant to his God and longtime member of Sagemont Church, where he served as an usher, deacon, Sunday school teacher, sound technician, prop builder and "Helping Hands" member. Sam was a longtime member of the Sheet Metal Workers' International Association and worked on a number of iconic buildings throughout Houston.

Sam was a loving husband, father and grandfather. He coached baseball, chaperoned Boy Scout campouts, attended football games, built tool boxes and assisted with building video machines and anything else his grandkids asked him to build. He enjoyed camping, fishing, hunting and, most of all, working in his shop. He loved big band and classic country music and proudly told everyone when they asked his birthday, "Me and Elvis were born on the same day."

Sam was preceded in death by his parents; brothers John, Bob, Willie, Leon and Ernest Davis; and sisters Maxine Stoeling, Helen Smith, Emma Joe Davis and Virginia Davis (his twin sister). Surviving Sam are Ann, his wife of 62 years; son Doug Davis and wife Gay; grandchildren Chris Laski, Stuart Davis, Drew Coxie and Mitch Coxie; along with numerous nieces, nephews and a host of friends.

The service honoring Sam's life will be at 10 a.m. Friday, Sept. 3, at Peevey Funeral Home, with visitation one hour prior. A graveside service will be held at 11 a.m., Saturday, Sept. 4, 2021 at Fellowship Baptist Cemetery in Dubach, La.

Morgan watches church demolition



John Morgan, founder and former senior pastor at Sagemont Church, is shown above watching as the area church's original building was demolished Monday, Aug. 30. Opened in 1966 as a mission of First Baptist Church in Pasadena, Sagemont Church has transformed from the once-small ministry into one of the largest and most influential faith institutions in the state. Plans call for constructing a new student ministry at the site.

Leader checks out social media

By Natalie Abarca

A member of the Neighbor's app posted a video of a suspect that is seen walking away with a stolen package. The suspect was wearing a black with gray hoodie. The incident took place Friday, Aug. 27, near North Broadway and South Shaver Street.

A member of the People of South Belt Facebook page shared that there is a free NASA STEM program available for Texas high school juniors. The member stated that students may receive science elective credit, participate in an amazing curriculum, and work with NASA scientists and engineers; and that participation

in this program will look great on a college application. Applications are being accepted now through Oct. 21. Visit https://www.nasa.gov/centers/johnson/stem/High_School_Aerospace_Scholars.html for more information. This post has been shared on other social media pages.

A member of the Southbelt/Sagemont Crime Alert Facebook page posted a picture of a man that was caught on camera Monday, Aug. 30, looking into the member's garage and walking onto the backyard. The member states that the man did not take anything. The post was shared on other social media pages.

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(Modified during COVID-19)

Saturday Vigil	5:30 p.m.
Sunday	8 a.m. and 10 a.m.*
Sunday	1 p.m. Misa en Español*

*Also Available on Facebook Live

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

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Texas laws take effect Sept. 1

Continued from Page 1
 ternet service.
 - **SB 2 and SB 3: ERCOT Reform**
 These bills aim to prevent another statewide power failure, like Texas experienced in the extreme freeze in February. SB 2 reorganizes the Board of Directors of ERCOT (Electric Reliability Council of Texas), the organization that manages the Texas power grid. In the re-structured Board, the State would appoint a majority of the Board members. SB 3 requires electric power generators to update equipment to be resistant to extreme temperatures.
 - **SB 968: Vaccine Passport Bill**
 This law bans any business in Texas from requiring "vaccine passports" or any vaccine information.
 - **HB 1024: Alcohol-To-Go**
 This bill makes permanent the permission for restaurants to sell alcohol on a "To-Go" basis, as long as it is ordered with food. (Restaurants had been given temporary permission for this during the COVID-19 pandemic.) Pick-up and delivery are both allowed.
 - **HB 1518: Sunday Alcohol Sales**
 This bill allows Texans to buy beer and wine at 10 a.m. on Sunday, rather than the previous noon time.
 - **HB 1540: Paying for Sex a Felony**
 This law elevates the penalty for paying for sex from a misdemeanor to a felony. The authors of the bill contend that prostitution is the prime driving force behind human trafficking, and hope that felony penalties will reduce the demand for paid sex, and thus reduce the incentive for human trafficking.
 - **HB 1535: Medical Marijuana**
 This law makes medical marijuana available to patients of cancer and post-traumatic stress, if prescribed by a doctor.
 - **HB 1802: Psychedelic Research**
 This bill allows researchers in the state to study the medical risks and benefits of psilocybin, MDMA and ketamine for military veterans.
 - **SB 45: Protection for Employees Filing Sex Harassment Claims**
 Currently only employers of 15 or more employees can be sued for sexual harassment in Texas.
 This new law makes all employers or persons in a management position subject to sexual harassment claims. It also extends to 300 days, from 180, the number of days a claimant has to file.
 - **HB 1900 and SB 23: Defunding the Police**
 HB 1900 financially penalizes large cities that cut funding from their police departments. SB 23 requires local governments to hold an election before reducing law enforcement budgets.

CBC gazebo graffiti investigated



Shown above is a freshly painted gazebo vandalized with graffiti, at Clear Brook City Park. The gazebo was recently refurbished at a cost of over \$60,000. The paint is two weeks old. Trash can lids which were also vandalized will cost hundreds of dollars to replace. The vandals also hit the port-a-potties where graffiti has been carved into the concrete. People are having parties at the gazebos and dumping trash all over the place, leaving streamers of ribbon hanging off the gazebo, etc. An investigation will take place on this situation and the CBC MUD plans to press charges on all who were involved.
 Photo by Cecelia Ganje

SJC sets events

San Jacinto College announced its upcoming timely events and calendar items for the month of September.
Share one's San Jac story
 The year 1961 marks the opening of San Jacinto College in east Harris County. The college is kicking off the 60th anniversary this fall with staff and alumni sharing favorite San Jac photos and alumni stories at www.sanjac.edu/60th-anniversary.
Labor Day, college closed
 In observance of Labor Day, San Jacinto College will be closed Monday, Sept. 6, and will reopen for normal business hours Tuesday, Sept. 7.
Take2 classes begin
 Tuesday, Sept. 7, marks the beginning of Take2 13-week classes.
Spanish workshop
 Join continuing and professional development community engagement workshop, Entrepreneurship 101: Financial Essentials with BBVA, Wednesday, Sept. 29 from noon to 1 p.m. To register for this free event, contact community.engagement@sjcd.edu or call 281-476-1893.
Medicare 101
 Join the continuing and professional development community engagement workshop, Medicare 101, Thursday, Sept. 30, from noon to 1 p.m. To register for this free event, contact community.engagement@sjcd.edu or call 281-476-1893.
IPP due
 The fall 2021 fall installment payment plan is due before 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 20.
Softball home game
 Join the San Jac college softball team Saturday, Sept. 25, at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. to see them take on the Hotshots.
 All San Jac college softball home games are played at the south campus softball fields and are free and open to the public.
Special event planning
 Join the continuing and professional development community engagement workshop, Special Event Planning: The 3 C's for a successful event, Monday, Sept. 27, from noon to 1 p.m. To register for this free event, contact community.engagement@sjcd.edu or call 281-476-1893.
Entrepreneurship 101
 Join the continuing and professional development community engagement workshop, Entrepreneurship 101: Financial Essentials with BBVA, Wednesday, Sept. 29 from noon to 1 p.m. To register for this free event, contact community.engagement@sjcd.edu or call 281-476-1893.

Sagemont Church distributes backpacks to students

On Tuesday, Aug. 10, Sagemont Church held its second annual School Supply Drive-Thru for families living in the 77089 ZIP code. In the two-hour event, 1,500 backpacks filled with supplies were given away to elementary and middle/intermediate school students. Then, on Aug. 15, the church devoted time in morning worship services to pray for educators in the area. The church hosted the school supply event simply as a way to express its love and appreciation to those who live in the South Belt community. In its 55-year history, the church has enjoyed a great relationship with families, schools and businesses in the surrounding area. Approximately 100 volunteers served to distribute the supplies and pray for families on an evening that had a 108-degree heat index. In addition, church members donated supplies and funds for supplies for weeks preceding the event. More than \$13,000 was contributed to purchase supplies. As church volunteers shopped in area stores, business managers were particularly helpful and gracious in the process. Several area Target managers assisted church shoppers and even gave additional discounts. Sagemont Church staff and members are noted for their love of the schools and families in the community and are proud to stand with educators in support of the children in their area.



Shown above is Cindy Jones with church volunteers manning the drive-thru.
 Photos by Candace Rogers



Shown above are members working together to distribute 1,500 backpacks to South Belt area students in preparation for the new school year.

Genoa welcomes students to a new school year

Genoa Elementary staff and students welcome a fresh start to a new school year. It was another unusual start to the school year for Genoa Elementary. Due to health and safety concerns, parents were only allowed to drop off their children on the first day. The school created a staggered start time to help alleviate traffic concerns and all staff members helped to direct students and keep them safe inside the school building. Pictured below are a few photos taken on the first day of school.



Shown above, left to right, are siblings Samara Shears (second-grader), Sofia Shears (third-grader) and Martin Shears (fourth-grader).



Shown above, left to right, are (front row) Payton Mitchell, second-grader; Ayden Mitchell, kindergartener; Catarin Merrill, mother; Hayden Mitchell; and (back row) Kimberly Mitchell, grandmother.



Shown above, left to right, fourth-grade students Valeria Gonzalez, Melissa Martinez and Jennifer Reyes wait patiently as other fourth-grade students arrive to school.



Shown right are, first-grader Melanie Sandoval (left) and prekindergartener Amy Castillo excited about their first day.

Luque honors Smith's sincerity

South Houston High School's Shining Star Omar Luque (left) is shown with distinguished educator Jacquelyn Smith who teaches 10th- and 12th-grade AP world history and AP psychology.
 Commenting on his teacher, Luque said, "I met Ms. Smith in AP world history class in my sophomore year of high school, and now I am attending her AP psychology class. Ever since my 10th grade, she has shown genuine care and concern for the education of every one of her students, including me. Through her honest efforts, she created a classroom where she not only provides quality learning experiences through her discussions, but also brings comfort through her sincerity. I truly believe that Ms. Smith is a wonderful teacher, and I have no doubt in my mind that she deserves this recognition and more."
 Luque has shown leadership as Key Club secretary and a tutor. Extracurricular activities for Luque include National Honor Society and Key Club.
 Community service activities for Luque included volunteering at elementary school events, volunteering at Armond Bayou Nature Center and volunteering for Kiwanis Apple Festival.
 "After high school, I plan on pursuing a bachelor's in physics," Luque said.
 The Shining Stars represent the top South Houston High School students.



City offers \$150 to get vaccine

Continued from Page 1
 People participating in the department's previous incentive program that provides \$25 with their second dose will receive \$50 with their second dose under the new program. The CDC funding used for the previous program capped incentives at \$25 when the program launched.
 "It's vital that people get both doses of a two-dose series for the best protection," said Dr. David Perse, chief medical officer for the City of Houston. "Full vaccination is extremely effective at preventing people from getting seriously ill or dying from COVID-19."
 Participants must sign a sworn declaration affirming they were not previously vaccinated for COVID-19 and verification will occur using the Texas immunization database.
 Eligible clinic locations and hours of operation:
 - **Acres Home Multi-Service Center**, 6719 W. Montgomery Road.
 Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
 - **Hiram Clarke Multi-Service Center**, 3810 W. Fuqua St.
 Tuesdays: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
 - **La Nueva Casa de Amigos Health Center**, 1809 North Main St.
 Mondays/Thursdays: 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
 Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
 - **Magnolia Multi-Service Center**, 7037 Capitol St.
 Thursdays: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
 Saturdays: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
 - **Northside Health Center**, 8504 Schuller Road.
 Mondays/Thursdays: 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
 Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
 - **Sharpstown Health Services**, 6201 Bonhomme Road.
 Mondays/Thursdays: 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
 Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
 - **Southwest Multi-Service Center**, 6400 High Star Drive.
 Saturdays: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
 - **Sunnyside Health Center**, 4605 Wilmington St.
 Mondays/Thursdays: 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
 Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
 The Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines are currently authorized for people age 18 and older and Pfizer is approved for people age 12 and older. Vaccination of minors requires parental consent forms, available at the vaccination sites.
 Getting vaccinated is free and does not require ID, proof of residency, citizenship or insurance.
 Houston Health Department-affiliated COVID-19 vaccination sites are available with or without appointments. Locations are available at HoustonEmergency.org or by calling 832-393-4220.

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Wings Over Houston Airshow returns

The Wings Over Houston Airshow, one of Houston's largest annual events, will return to Ellington Airport Oct. 9-10. Kicking off its 37th consecutive year, the outdoor event will include performances by two headliners, U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds and the Canadian Forces (CF) Snowbirds. Tickets are available now at www.wingsoverhouston.com.

"We are thrilled to return this year, not only with our traditional-style show, but with two jet teams — the Thunderbirds and Snowbirds," said Bill Roach, Executive Director of Wings Over Houston. "Between the hours of aerial performances, displays of vintage aviation, a classic car show featuring up to 100 vehicles, interactive areas for children and adults, live music, and opportunities for guests to give back to the community, we have no doubt this year's event will be

filled with fun and entertainment for families and guests of all ages."

"We were able to spend the time gained back from last year's canceled airshows on enhancing our aerial demonstration and ground show performances," said Col. John Caldwell, Commander/Leader of the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds. "One of our main goals was to enhance the show sequence with the crowd experience in mind, and we're very excited to debut these changes at the Wings Over Houston event."

The Thunderbirds' new show sequence now follows seven distinct themes focused on evoking crowd emotion as well as gradually showcasing the complexity of the maneuvers. Fans can also expect to see a new maneuver, Rapid Recovery, along with other modified maneuvers showcasing precision flying and

combat capabilities of the F-16 Fighting Falcon.

Joining the show from Canada, the CF Snowbirds are comprised of Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) members and National Defense Public Service employees that work as a team to bring thrilling performances to the Canadian public.

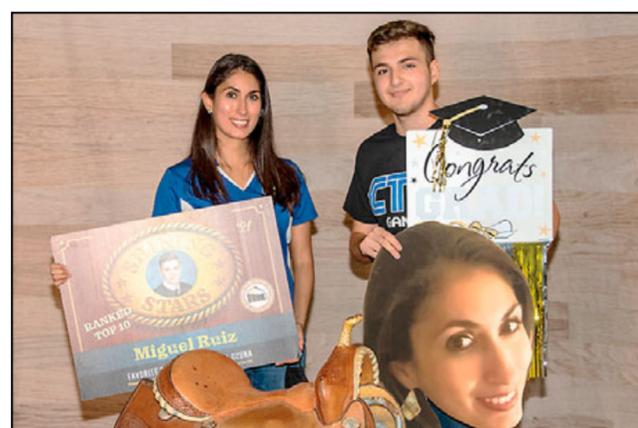
Under the command of Lt. Col. Denis Bandet, the show team will be flying 11 CT-114 Tutors. Known for its maneuverability, the CT-114 Tutor jet is ideally suited to formation and aerobatic flying. Its relatively slow speed coupled with its maneuverability allows the Snowbirds to keep their formations continually flying in front of spectators.

In addition to the USAF Thunderbirds' and CF Snowbirds' demonstrations, the event will also include performances by the F-22 Raptor Demo Team, C-17 Globemaster III, U.S. Air Force Heritage Flight-P51, A10, F16, & F22 Houston's U.S. Coast Guard Air Station, 138th Fighter Wing — Tulsa Air National Guard, TORA! TORA! TORA!, Commemorative Air Force, Debby Rihn-Harvey, RE/MAX Skydive Team and Lone Star Squadron.

Other special elements of this year's airshow include Guitars N' Cars, a classic car show including a classic guitar auction hosted and sponsored by Fuller's Guitars to benefit U.S.VETS-Houston, as well as a Saturday night live musical performance by the Texas Eagles, an Eagles tribute band, to close the first day.

For more information about ticket options, display aircraft, additional event attractions, travel accommodations, sponsorship or volunteer opportunities, visit www.wingsoverhouston.com.

Ruiz thankful for Ozuna's motivation



Dr. Kirk Lewis Career & Technical High School's Shining Star Miguel Ruiz (right) is shown with distinguished educator Mayra Ozuna who teaches kindergarten math and English.

Commenting on his teacher, Ruiz said, "I choose Mrs. Ozuna because she always put a lot of effort into every lesson that she taught. She inspired me to try my best every day and work hard for the goals that I set for myself. She was the inspiration for my work ethic and I truly don't see myself reaching this point without having her as an example. She was an amazing teacher and an even better person."

Ruiz has shown leadership as leader on different projects throughout high school. Extracurricular activities for Ruiz include serving in school court and National Honor Society.

Community service activities for Ruiz included serving in school court. "After high school, I plan on going to college and majoring in civil engineering," Ruiz said.

The Shining Stars represent the top Dr. Kirk Lewis Career & Technical High School students.

Texas Memorial Illumination at San Jacinto

The inaugural Texas Memorial Illumination at San Jacinto will take place Nov. 13, on the grounds of the San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site. Volunteers will be placing 21,500 luminaries on the battlefield and steps of the San Jacinto Memorial Monument. The luminaries represent Texans who have given their lives in armed conflict from the Texas Revolution through Afghanistan. Each luminary tells the story that freedom is not free.

The Houston area is proud to be the home of this significant battleground where the results of a battle in 1836 changed the course of a nation. It is only fitting that such a unique remembrance be held on its grounds. No other battleground in Texas holds such an evening of inspiration. More than 900 volunteers from around the Houston region and beyond will come to honor those who served by serving themselves.

On Oct. 30, they will gather and build the 21,500 luminary bags for safekeeping until the sunrise of Nov. 13. At that time teams of volunteers will place them on the battleground ready to be lit just prior to sunset. A sunset ceremony for the volunteers will take place shortly thereafter.

Promptly at 6 p.m., the gates will open to the public.

Cars will drive the clearly defined paths through the luminary lit battleground. One will have the opportunity to drive among some of the most hallowed ground in Texas. The path will take them through the woods of the battleground. As they round the corner from their wooded drive they suddenly see the towering 567-foot San Jacinto monument — the tallest war memorial in the world. Proceeding nearer the monument they notice the terraces filled with luminaries. Circling and being led past the reflection pool, luminaries now surround them filling the meadow with light. The luminaries then lead them to the fields where the Texan Army camped the night before the battle on April 21, 1836.

Congressman Brian Babin and former Congressman Gene Green will represent the Texas region as co-chairs of the event acknowledging the sacrifice others have made and congratulating the volunteers for remembering

them in such a significant and visually inspiring way.

Denton Florian, a key visionary for the event, history enthusiast, and filmmaker commented, "This illumination will be a sobering and visually inspiring event. Tens of thousands of Texans have paid the ultimate price for our liberty and we have a duty to honor and remember them. The price of freedom is high, and on November 13, 2021, by the tangible act of lighting luminaries to honor those who paid the ultimate price, we can teach our citizens and future generations what has been done by others on their behalf."

Call for volunteers
More than 1,500 volunteers are needed to accomplish the mission of placing and lighting 21,500 luminaries. Individuals and groups of 20 are encouraged to sign-up.

All event information and sign-up forms for volunteers can be found at www.texasmemorialilluminationatсанjacinto.com.

The San Jacinto Museum of History and Battlefield Association and Texas Historical Commission are the organizers of the event.

Other participating partners include Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, The Economic Alliance Houston Port Region, Spirit of Texas Bank, City of Deer Park, City of La Porte, City of Pasadena, Sons of the Republic Deaf Smith Chapter, Rotary Club of Pasadena, Rotary Club of North Shore, Rotary Club of Deer Park, Blue Star Moms, Travis Manion Foundation, Honor Café, VoteActively, Cane Island Reenactors, Humana, Wreaths Across America, TNT Networking Group, ABC13, Pasadena Independent School District, Vietnam Veterans of America Baytown, Rotary Club of Veterans-Houston Chapter, Precinct 2, Tolunay Wong Engineers, Rotary Club of Galveston Island, MCM Systems, Savannah Cafe and Bakery, Bellaire Lodge #1336 and Anheuser-Busch.

Bay Area Quilt Guild meets Sept. 7

The Quilt Guild monthly meeting will be held Tuesday, Sept. 7, at Mount Olive Lutheran Church, 10310 Scarsdale Blvd. Fellowship begins at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting starts at 7 p.m.

This month's speaker will be Cynthia England who will be leading a workshop. Plan to attend for an evening of learning and fun. Visitors may attend two free meetings. Annual dues are \$25.

The annual Christmas party is scheduled for Dec. 7. For more information on any event, contact Debby Benson at 713-248-8757 or visit <https://bay-area-quilt-guild.org>.

Scully leaves impact on Calles' education

South Houston High School's Shining Star William Calles (below, left) is shown with distinguished educator Keri Scully who teaches ninth- through 11th-grade algebra 2, geometry and AVID.

Commenting on his teacher, Calles said, "Mrs. Scully has been very influential to me and many others in the SHHS ECHS (Early College High School) program. She made class fun and easy to understand. She would help anyone and everyone who needed help with anything it didn't have to be math related. Her class would often be the highlight of my day because of the way she conducted the classroom. Her skills as an educator are outstanding and I believe

that she is the single most important and influential teacher I have ever had. Her vast knowledge on the subjects she teaches and her kind and helpful personality resulted in positive experiences for me and the many other students who had the pleasure and of being taught by her."

Extracurricular activities for Calles include varsity football and ECHS.

Community service activities for Calles included ECHS clean up work at Strawberry Park.

"After high school, I plan to go to college," Calles said.

The Shining Stars represent the top South Houston High School students.



Remember When

45 years ago (1976)

Dr. C. Lee Meyer, superintendent of the Pasadena Independent School District, announced that Heidi, the drug-sniffing dog, along with trainer Billy Smith would be used in surprise visits throughout the district's intermediate and high schools.

The Murphy family achieved highest honors in karate. Sharon joined husband Bill as a black belt holder. Their children, Debbie and Ricky, were awarded purple belts, the highest color awarded in the junior karate division.

Houston Fire Chief Joe Perino told the South Belt Press that Sagemont would not lose its fire station. In fact, three different sites in the South Belt area were being considered for a new station, one of those located at Beamer and Beltway 8. The station on Sagemont being used as No. 70 was previously under the jurisdiction of the Southeast (formerly Sagemont) Volunteer Fire Department. The city took possession of it upon annexation of the Sagemont area.

Road crews from Harris County Precinct 1 finished blacktopping a 170-foot roadway extension of Blackhawk between Sagemont and Green Tee Terrace subdivisions. Precinct 1 officials were also investigating the possibility of completing the four-lane section of Beamer between Kirkwood and Sagemont.

40 years ago (1981)

PISD enrollment figures showed a growth of 234 students compared to the first week of school the previous year.

Figures released by Clear Creek Independent School District showed a districtwide enrollment of 18,806 students in the 19 district schools.

35 years ago (1986)

Construction on the Kirkmont MUD building began.

The PISD board of trustees met to issue an order implementing single-member districts.

Sharon Oakes became principal of Frazier Elementary.

25 years ago (1996)

School enrollment in PISD schools grew by more than 1,100 students including a small population growth in South Belt area schools.

25 years ago (1996)

Original Sagemont resident Emma Norris was seen as General Burns in the movie E.L.M. (Entry Level Male).

An exit incentive program for San Jacinto College employees aged 55 and older with 15 years of district employment was approved by regents. Under the plan, those choosing to accept the incentive could get one year of contracted salary.

20 years ago (2001)

The PISD board of trustees approved the administration's proposed \$235.5 million budget.

The Leader asked Mayor Lee Brown's assistance in having the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers present a program to South Belt residents regarding the studies which have been conducted on Clear Creek. City officials immediately responded and agreed to make the official request.

15 years ago (2006)

South Belt area residents, notably Patricia Ochoa, Bill Corcoran, and LeRoy Underwood, became more active in safeguarding and improving their communities.

On Tuesday, Aug. 29, Gov. Rick Perry ordered special elections to be held concurrently with the Nov. 7 general election for the congressional seat vacated by former Rep. Tom DeLay, who resigned and removed his name from the ballot.

Two weeks after the start of school in PISD, traffic on Blackhawk near the J. Frank Dobie entrance was still a major problem for motorists.

10 years ago (2011)

Galveston's Lone Star Flight Museum announced it will be moving to Ellington International Airport. Houston City Council recently approved a 40-year contract with the museum for use of 14 acres just on the inside of airport property at Aerospace Avenue and Hillard. The contract will require the museum to make at least \$7.5 million in improvements. The flight museum had been at its current home at the Scholes International Airport in Galveston for 23 years. The decision to move the facility was prompted by heavy damage caused by Hurricane Ike.

Sagemont resident Kevin Stevens and his 9-year-old son Hunter landed a 7-foot-long blacktip shark while fishing off the coast of Galveston in a 12-foot kayak. The incident, captured on video by Hunter Stevens, catapulted the pair into instant

global fame, with the two appearing on national and international news programs, such as "Good Morning America" and "Fox and Friends."

Former longtime Dobie High School swim coach Dennis Shippey died Wednesday, Aug. 31, at the age of 65. Shippey, who enjoyed more than 30 years as the Longhorns' head swimming coach, was also one of the nation's top competitive swimmers for much of his life before retiring from the sport in 2008. He was diagnosed with Alzheimer's in 2001 and retired from coaching shortly thereafter. However, the illness could not keep Shippey out of the pool. In June, Shippey was inducted into the Texas Senior Games Hall of Fame.

5 years ago (2016)

The body of a dead man was found floating in a lake at an apartment complex located in the 10200 block of

Windmill Lakes Thursday, Sept. 1. Gordon Scott Blocker, 42, was pronounced dead at the scene. According to police, Blocker's body was discovered by a jogger, who then notified authorities. Blocker's death was ruled an accidental drowning.

1 year ago (2020)

The South Belt community was spared the brunt of Hurricane Laura Thursday, Aug. 27, as the storm took a turn east toward Louisiana. The Category 4 storm made landfall near Cameron, La., just after midnight, bringing 150-mile-an-hour winds and a major storm surge. The hurricane was one of the strongest on record in the state.

On Aug. 31, Harris County Precinct 2 deputies responded to a call in the 11500 block of Sagemont, where a drive-by shooting had taken place. According to deputies, multiple rounds

had been fired into the residence, but no injuries were reported. No immediate arrests were made.

Two people were shot Friday, Aug. 28, in a road rage incident on Fuqua near the Gulf Freeway — one of whom was an 8-year-old boy. According to police, the incident began when a family was pulling out of the Taco Bell in the 11100 block of Fuqua and almost struck another vehicle that was reportedly driving with its lights off. After the two cars almost collided, the drivers had a verbal altercation, before speeding to the east on Fuqua. As the family approached North Featherwood Drive, the driver of the second vehicle opened fire, striking two of the passengers.

A woman sitting in the passenger seat was shot in the shoulder, while the child was shot in the shoulder and thumb. The two were transported to the hospital for treatment.

Over The Back Fence by Alexis

KAREN ENJOYS A BIRTHDAY

Birthday greetings are sent to Karen Taylor Sept. 3 from friends and the staff at the Leader.

ELLIE CELEBRATES A BIRTHDAY

Best wishes are sent Sunday, Sept. 5, for a very special birthday to Ellie (Garza) Flickinger from her husband David (Leader president); mother Kina Reyes; daughter Natalie and her husband Jose Abarca; mother-in-law Marie and David Flickinger; her family and friends; and staff at the South Belt Leader.

SCHOOL DAZE

The following staff of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays Sept. 2 through Sept. 8.

Atkinson Elementary

Blow out the birthday candles Sept. 3 for Belva Alaniz.

Burnett Elementary

Esmeralda Paredes is sent a birthday greeting Sept. 5. Break out the balloons and birthday cake Sept. 8 for Kelly Douglas.

South Belt Elementary

The day for a double-fun birthday for Lily Campos and Anh Ton is Sept. 5.

Melillo Middle School

Remember to wish Evelyn Lopez a happy birthday Sept. 7.

Roberts Middle School

Celebrating a birthday Sept. 4 is Jose Mendoza.

Beverly Hills Intermediate

A day of fun is planned Sept. 2 for Dawn Nguyen. Break out the balloons and the birthday cake Sept. 3 for Jose Sento. Blow out the birthday candles for Tahirah Briscoe Sept. 8.

Thompson Intermediate

Moore Elementary

Send a birthday greeting Sept. 2 to Veronica Rangell.

South Belt Elementary

The day for a double-fun birthday for Lily Campos and Anh Ton is Sept. 5.

Melillo Middle School

Remember to wish Evelyn Lopez a happy birthday Sept. 7.

Roberts Middle School

Celebrating a birthday Sept. 4 is Jose Mendoza.

Beverly Hills Intermediate

FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS

Thursday, Sept. 2: Stacy Aguirre, Suzanne Hernandez, Karen Young and Mary Hernandez; Friday, Sept. 3: Steve Boney, Josie Parker, Veronica Hernandez, Keith Nelson, Ruth Fuller, Donald Musquiz, Tomas Shorts Jr. and Leslie Montemayor; Saturday, Sept. 4: Ashlie Files, Lashanda Scott, John Laird, Nikki Spriggs, Angie Reynolds, Jerry O'Brien, Betty Thomas, Darin Peltier, Tommy Walko, Joe Scanlin and Denise Turnage; Sunday, Sept. 5: London Shelton, Stacy McNaughton and Cathy Tate; Monday, Sept. 6: Coleen Terrell, Jennifer Navarro, Titus Purdy, Robert Evans, Jill Lambert, Debbie Bennett, Christina Gordon, Candi Beasley and John Evans; Tuesday, Sept. 7: Gerard Dougherty, Shaun Stevenson, Shelly Robinson, Perla Gonzales, Leann Stokes, Edna Salinas, Angie Hernandez and Tuesday, Yvette Rodriguez; and Wednesday, Sept. 8: Scott Carpenter, Donna Fress, Blades Barber, Joy Witt, Susan Jackson, Deondre Corbin, Rick Coates, Mike Kickirillo and Carl Heinrich.

LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS

Email announcements to mynews@southbeltleader.com with OTBF in the subject line by Friday noon for the next week's publication. For those wanting a birthday mentioned in this section, type "OTBF: Friends Celebrate Birthdays" in the subject line.

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SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

Davis scores four times, defense dominates as Longhorns roll past Elsik

By John Bechtle Sports Editor
 Three touchdown runs for Trajan Davis, and a 32-yard touchdown reception for Joshua Rodriguez on the first offensive possession.

A highlight reel 78-yard interception return and touchdown for line-backer Nigel Hill, who also forced a fumble that turned into an 82-yard touchdown return for Ryan Saxton.

Cory'on Mathews, another guy stepping into a starting role in the defensive backfield, also had a pickoff.
 The next wave of standouts took the stage to open the 2021 regular season as the Dobie varsity football program won its 13th straight regular season game dating back to 2019, shutting out Alief Elsik 55-0 Aug. 27 at Crump Stadium.

The outcome was never in doubt after Rodriguez, aiming to become a top target of senior quarterback Cameron Gray this season, reeled in a 32-yard touchdown reception with just over two minutes gone in the game for a 7-0 Dobie lead.
 Davis, who like Rodriguez has designs on playing a bigger role in 2021, had scoring runs of 40 and 2 yards in the first quarter and then found the end zone from 15 yards out in the second quarter as the Longhorns had their way with the Rams to the tune of a 49-0 halftime lead.
 Gray, who as a junior was the District 22-6A Offensive Player of the Year, was efficient in limited passing chances, going 8 for 11 for 135 yards as the

Longhorns' running game was the featured attraction in this one.
 Jalen Baldwin rushed for 96 yards and caught three passes for 41 yards for an impressive showing of his own. The Longhorns also debuted first-year kicker Daniel Campero, who made good on five of



Dobie running back Trajan Davis (22) and tight end Kyrie Sherman (40) celebrate in the end zone after Davis scored a first-quarter touchdown, one of four in the game for the senior, during the Longhorns' 55-0 win over Alief Elsik Aug. 27 at Crump Stadium. Photo by Gloria Wallace

Dobie hosts Bellaire
Fri., Sept. 3
PISD Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.
Dobie (1-0): The Longhorns cruised to an easy win on opening night, shutting out Alief Elsik for their 13th consecutive regular season win.
Bellaire (1-0): The Cardinals got past Elkins 23-20 to get off to a strong start and will be looking to beat the Longhorns after losses in 2018 and 2019.

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Pasadena ISD sets ticket sales

While the University Interscholastic League currently plans to allow full-capacity attendance at high school athletic events, Pasadena ISD will continue online-only sales of football tickets at Veterans Memorial Stadium.
 Visit www.pasadenaisd.org and select the Box Office Tickets option to begin the purchasing process as there are no paper tickets or at-the-gate options available.
 Fans who cannot attend Pasadena ISD varsity football games at Veterans Stadium this season will again have the convenient option of viewing the events via livestream. To access the event feed, visit www.pasadenaisd.org and select the Live Stream Games tab.

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Brook rallies, falls to TC in final minute

By John Bechtle Sports Editor
 Trini Garcia's 1-yard

touchdown plunge with 47 ticks remaining provided the game-winner as visiting Texas City rallied to defeat Clear Brook 35-32 in the 2021 varsity

football season opener for the two teams Aug. 26 at Challenger Columbia Stadium.
 It was truly a seesaw of a game, and the Wolverines will certainly take several lessons into week two against Friendswood.
 The positives will include that quarterback



Clear Brook defensive back Sam Perry (5) breaks up a pass intended for Texas City receiver Damond Cole-McCray (5) during the second half of the Wolverines' 35-32 opening night loss to the Stingarees Aug. 27 at Challenger Stadium in Webster. Once down by three scores, Clear Brook fought back to lead 32-27 before the Sringarees secured the game winner with under a minute to play. Photo by Andy Tolbert

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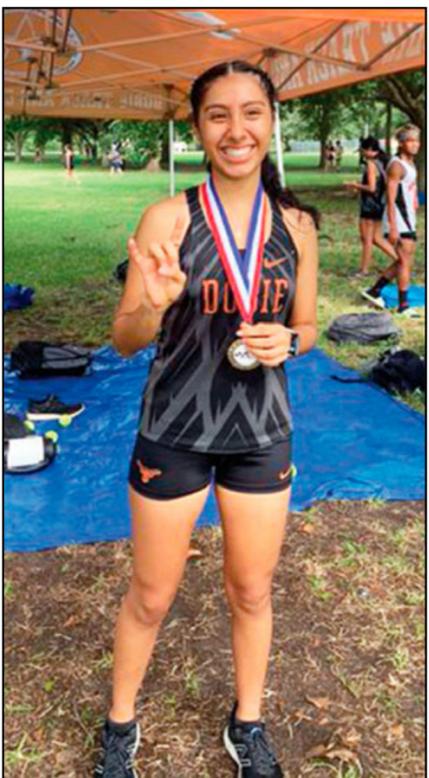
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No. 100 for Sexton
 Varsity volleyball head coach Dawn Sexton picked up her 100th win at Dobie as the Lady Longhorns defeated Randle Aug. 17 at the Battle of the Brazos tournament at George Ranch High School. Overall, the Lady Longhorns improved to 10-6 this season with a solid showing at the event.

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Martinez leads Dobie girls at Dawson

At right, Dobie senior Karen Martinez showed off her medal for a ninth-place overall finish at 20 minutes, 08.60 seconds at the 5,000-meter distance at the Will Sirmion Invitational at Dawson High School as she guided the Lady Longhorns' varsity squad to a second-place finish as a team. Victoria Ramirez (20:20.10) was 12th for the Dobie contingent, with Kyla Lobo (20:22.80) 13th, Izzy Padilla (20:31.30) 16th, Isela Munoz (20:39.00) 18th and Ashlee Garcia (21:52.70) 27th. At 14:40.50, Dobie's Lauren Garza was the leader in the 2-mile junior varsity girls' race for eighth place. Chris Lopez was third overall at 18:15.60 for third place in the 5,000-meter junior varsity boys' race. In the same race, Carlos Salazar placed ninth in a time of 19:08.50, with Damian Rosas 10th at 19:09.90.



South Belt football predictions

					
	Troy Leland	John Bechtle	Toni Muse	Emory Gadd	Debbie Vaughn
Dobie hosts Bellaire	Dobie	Dobie	Dobie	Bellaire	Dobie
Clear Brook hosts Friendswood	Clear Brook	Clear Brook	Clear Brook	Clear Brook	Clear Brook
Pasadena Memorial hosts Clear Falls	Clear Falls	Clear Falls	Clear Falls	Clear Falls	Clear Falls
Clear Creek hosts Deer Park	Deer Park	Deer Park	Deer Park	Deer Park	Deer Park
North Shore at Klein Collins	North Shore	North Shore	North Shore	North Shore	North Shore
Dickinson at Ridge Point	Dickinson	Dickinson	Dickinson	Ridge Point	Ridge Point
Summer Creek at Dekaney	Summer Creek	Summer Creek	Summer Creek	Summer Creek	Summer Creek
Clear Springs hosts Tompkins	Tompkins	Tompkins	Clear Springs	Clear Springs	Tompkins
Pearland at Houston Memorial	Pearland	Memorial	Pearland	Pearland	Memorial
South Houston at Goose Creek Memorial	GCM	GCM	South Houston	South Houston	South Houston
This week's record	7-3	6-4	4-6	7-3	8-2
Season record	7-3	6-4	4-6	7-3	8-2

Longhorns dominate Elsie, Bellaire up next

Continued from Page 5
 seven conversion tries. Terrand Booker and Baldwin had short touchdown runs to round out the scoring.
 To be fair, Dobie was going against an Alief Elsie team that won a single game in 2020 and featured returning sophomores at quarterback and tailback. But the job is to win, and the Longhorns made things look easy.
 Dobie head coach Kevin Bernethy was clearly

impressed with the performance of the entire team. It wasn't perfect, but watching the newcomers mesh with veterans was good to see.
 "To be honest, some of it was expected because I'm around these guys and have seen what they are capable of," Bernethy said.
 "We had some penalties that hurt, including one that cost us a touchdown, but overall we were very pleased as a staff. Now, we

just keep working." Rams' quarterback Eric Dazdie was just 5 for 20 in the game, and one of his errant throws went for a touchdown.
JFD fresh Orange rolls
 Adam Perez, Mike Williams and Tariq Riley led the defensive charge as Dobie's freshman Orange squad opened the 2021 regular season with a 34-0 shutout win Aug. 26 at Dobie High School's main campus.
 Elvis Nguyen, Cam Mathews and Johnny Willis accounted for touchdowns as the Longhorns, who host Atascocita Sept. 2 at 4:30 p.m. back at Dobie, were able to move the football with ease throughout the game.

Hill, who was *Dave Campbell's Texas Football's* pick as 22-6A pre-season Defensive Player of the Year, intercepted Dazdie in the second quarter and raced 78 yards down the right sideline for a touchdown.
 Elsie taken down, the Longhorns return home to take on Bellaire Sept. 3 at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena.
 The Cardinals opened their season with a win, edging Elkins 23-20.
 Dobie owns nondistrict wins over Bellaire in both 2018 and 2019, with both turning into high-scoring affairs.

Bay Area Football League Week 3 Results

	Srs.	Jrs.	Sophs.	Fr.	PWs
Patriots	6	18	51	19	13
Cowboys	26	26	0	14	0
Dolphins	21	--	58	12	forfeit
Eagles	50	--	6	22	win

Week 4 Games – Saturday, Sept. 4

Cowboys at LPTX Elite, Baker 6th Grade Center, 9800 Spencer Hwy., 77571
Dolphins at S.E. Wildcats, Fairmont JH, 4911 Holly Bay Ct., 77505



Dobie senior receiver Joshua Rodriguez (11) celebrates scoring the Longhorns' first touchdown of the 2021 season on a 32-yard reception from quarterback Cameron Gray in the first quarter of the

Longhorns' 55-0 win over Alief Elsie Aug. 27 at Crump Stadium. It was Dobie's 13th straight regular season win. Trailing the play is Rams' defensive back Caleb Bailey (21). Photo by Gloria Wallace

Late score gets Stings past Brook 35-32

Continued from Page 5
 Cameron McCalister and his offense have the firepower to score points in bunches.
 Case in point, the senior McCalister tossed three scoring passes in the second half as the Wolverines rallied from 27-6 down in the third quarter to lead 32-27 in the late stages.
 Also, the Wolverine defense can ball hawk, as Jaylen Price and Malachi King came up with interceptions of Texas City quarterback Jacob Duran, with King's 17-yard pick-and-score with 8 minutes, 22 seconds remaining, giving Clear Brook a lift late.
 But the Wolverines will also remember falling behind by 21 points as the Stingarees' Caleb Bell had

1- and 5-yard scoring runs on his way to a 26-carry, 136-yard night.
 Lastly, Texas City's game-winning 65-yard drive was aided by a pair of 15-yard penalties on the Wolverines, which certainly didn't help the cause.
 McCalister, who passed for 174 yards and three touchdowns but was also intercepted twice, opened the scoring midway through the opening quarter. The conversion kick failed, but the Wolverines led early.
 The Wolverines' first score of the season belonged to McCalister but was set up by Price, who picked off Duran on the opening drive of the game for the Stings and nearly scored before being

bumped out of bounds just shy of the goal line.
 After McCalister's opening score, Bell's pair of scoring runs and a 52-yard punt return touchdown by the Stings' Brandon Jolly led to the visitor's 27-6 lead as it appeared Brook would go down easily.
 Not so, as McCalister found Michael Lewis with a 7-yard scoring pass to end the third quarter and then opened the scoring in the final stanza with a 10-yard touchdown throw to tight end Nathan Barnett.
 King did his thing on defense with the 17-yard interception return for a touchdown, and Barnett reeled in McCalister's third scoring pass of the night, this one from 5 yards out, as the Wolver-

Brook hosts Friendswood Fri., Sept. 3

CCISD Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.
Brook (0-1): The Wolverines rallied back from a 27-6 deficit against Texas City in week one to lead 32-27 but then fell on a late-minute Stings' touchdown.
Friendswood (0-1): The Mustangs were outclassed in their opener as Summer Creek avenged a 2020 loss with a 48-0 shutout victory. Friendswood lost to Clear Brook 31-7 in 2020.

ines led 32-27 with just over four minutes remaining to play.
 Perhaps one last defensive stand would have given the Wolverines a second straight opening-night win over the Stings, but it wasn't to be.
 Texas City's game-winner with less than a minute to play will be remembered most, but the Wolverines had chances.



The Dobie defense came together on opening night against Alief Elsie with a shutout performance Aug. 27 at Crump Stadium with big contributions from, left to right, Antonio Lopez (90), Jordan Barrett (50), Emmanuel Drain (7) and Nigel Hill, who had

a 78-yard interception return and also forced a fumble that led to defensive back Ryan Saxton's 82-yard touchdown return in the game. Dobie will host Bellaire (1-0) Sept. 3 at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena. Photo by Gloria Wallace



Wolverines' tight end Nathan Barnett (18), who had two touchdown catches against the Stingarees in the season opener Aug. 27 at Challenger Stadium in Webster, battles for extra yards

against a bevy of Texas City defenders. While the Wolverines surrendered a late touchdown in a 35-32 loss, Barnett was named Brook's Offensive Player of the Game. Photo by Andy Tolbert

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It is advisable to verify if face-to-face meeting prior to attending. For Alcoholics Anonymous, visit <https://aahouston.org/>; for Narcotics Anonymous (NA) meetings, visit www.hascona.com; for Al-Anon meetings, visit www.houstonalananon.org.

Serenity Now Al-Anon Group - meets at CrossRoads UMC Fridays, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Family members and friends of problem drinkers/addicts share, learn Al-Anon principles and discover choices available. For additional information, call 281-484-9243.

tion, call Lynette Ringrose at 832-858-4617.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Saint Luke's 12-Step Recovery, open meeting, education Bldg., room 4,11011 Hall Rd. Call Jesse at 832-725-8479 or Rita at 281-309-2801 for details.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group. See Friday's notice.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7
7 a.m.

AA - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.

Noon

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday noon notice.

7 p.m.

Bay Area Quilt Guild - Meets the first Tuesday, Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, 10310 Scarsdale Blvd. Visit www.FaceBook.com/BayAreaQuiltGuild or call Carol at 713-253-2521 for information. Visitors may attend two meetings free.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8
7 a.m.

AA - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.

Noon

AA - Imperfect Nooners Group, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, See Thursday's notice.

7 p.m.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group, open meeting. See Sept. 3 notice.

8 p.m.

Alcoholics Anonymous - meeting at CrossRoads UMC. See Sept. 3 notice.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9
7 a.m.

AA - "Breakfast With Bill." See Sept. 2 notice.

7:30 a.m.

Pearland Rotary Club - See Sept. 2 notice.

9:30 a.m.

NASA Aglow Community Lighthouse - Meets the second Thursday at Praise Chapel, 18516 Hwy. 3, in Webster. The guest minister will be Dana Shaw, who operates in a prophetic ministry and is an anointed psalmist who leads praise and worship. For details, call 281-910-1971 or visit aglownet.org.

11:30 a.m.

ABWA - Southeast Express Network - American Business Women's Association-South. Meetings are on the second Thursday at Big Horn BBQ, 2300 Smith Ranch Rd Pearland, TX 77584, Pearland. Lunch is 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. (\$20 cash or check). Includes networking with professional business women and guest speakers. Reservations appreciated. Visit www.seen-abwa.org.

NOTE: Clear Lake Bridge Club - now open. Activities scheduled daily. Visit <https://clearlakebridgeclub.org/> for face-to-face and virtual games. Email jpochsner@aol.com for details.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2
7 a.m.

AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill." Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., and Saturday at 7:30 a.m. Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit <https://aahouston.org/meetings/>.

7:30 a.m.

Rotary Club of Pearland - Meets Thursdays at 7:30 a.m. either at Pearland Chamber of Commerce, 6117 Broadway St., Pearland, or online on Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81372891968>. Meeting ID: 813 7289 1968. Additional information is on the Pearland Chamber of Commerce website under the calendar.

Noon

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, 3525 Broadway, Pearland. Call 713-686-6300 for additional information.

7 p.m.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Women's Group, open meeting, 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church. Call 713-661-4200 or visit <https://nastuff.com/>.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3
7 a.m.

AA - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday.

Noon

Hometown Heroes - Ballroom dances Mondays and Wednesdays, 2 - 3:30 p.m. and Fridays, noon - 1:30 p.m. These are not dance lessons but casual dances. Call 281-554-1180 for details.

7 p.m.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com or <https://nastuff.com/>.

Congregation Shaar Hashalom - All services are live and Zoom online. For details on the 7 p.m. Friday night or the 9:30 a.m. Saturday service, visit <https://www.shaarhashalom.org>.

8 p.m.

AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.

9:30 a.m.

Congregation Shaar Hashalom - See Friday's notice.

11 a.m.

Al-Anon Meeting (Women Only, English) - For women affected by an addict. Saturdays, 11 a.m., Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, Cornell Conference room #111. Call 281-487-8787 or visit <https://www.houstonalananon.org/> for information.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5
8 p.m.

AA - at CrossRoads UMC. See Sept. 3 notice.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6
10 a.m.

Al-Anon Deer Park - Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P Street, Deer Park. Enter through back of church. Call 409-454-5720 for details.

11 a.m.

Genealogy Group - The Parker Williams Genealogy group meets the first and third Mondays at Parker Williams Library, Beamer at Scarsdale. The public is invited. For details, email Liz Hicks at erootrot@usa.net.

Noon

AA - Imperfect Nooners. See Sept. 2 notice.

6 p.m.

Scrabble Club #511 - Meets Monday at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua. Join in the fun and improve crossword skills. COVID-19 vaccination required. Call 281-488-2923 for details.

6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Toastmasters - The Young Professionals Southeast Toastmasters Club #05324194 meets at the South Belt Chamber of Commerce, 10500 Scarsdale Blvd. For more information, contact Karen Nunn at 832-722-9061 or Carolyn Carmichael at 832-372-3565.

7 p.m.

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) - #0683 Friendswood chapter meets at the Friendswood Methodist Church, 110 N Friendswood Dr. in the educational bldg., room 201. For informa-

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8
7 a.m.

AA - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.

Noon

AA - Imperfect Nooners Group, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, See Thursday's notice.

7 p.m.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group, open meeting. See Sept. 3 notice.

8 p.m.

Alcoholics Anonymous - meeting at CrossRoads UMC. See Sept. 3 notice.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9
7 a.m.

AA - "Breakfast With Bill." See Sept. 2 notice.

7:30 a.m.

Pearland Rotary Club - See Sept. 2 notice.

9:30 a.m.

NASA Aglow Community Lighthouse - Meets the second Thursday at Praise Chapel, 18516 Hwy. 3, in Webster. The guest minister will be Dana Shaw, who operates in a prophetic ministry and is an anointed psalmist who leads praise and worship. For details, call 281-910-1971 or visit aglownet.org.

11:30 a.m.

ABWA - Southeast Express Network - American Business Women's Association-South. Meetings are on the second Thursday at Big Horn BBQ, 2300 Smith Ranch Rd Pearland, TX 77584, Pearland. Lunch is 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. (\$20 cash or check). Includes networking with professional business women and guest speakers. Reservations appreciated. Visit www.seen-abwa.org.

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Cyclists trek South Belt area streets

Continued from Page 1
 route we will take each Monday," Reyes said. "But it's usually never planned. We just kind of wing it. Being that most of us are from the area, we all know the neighborhood pretty well, which makes winging it pretty easy. I try to change it up every week, but the Sagemont area is only so big, and I like to stay off as many of the busy streets as possible, so lately, we have been going through a lot of neighborhood streets."

to the downtown group rides that skyrocketed in popularity during the early part of the pandemic.
 "Why go up there if we can do it right here?" asked Reyes.
 It started with just around five riders.
 After about five rides, work responsibilities called for Correa, prompting Reyes to take on a leadership role. The ride quickly grew from there.
 "I began to spread the word, and before you know it, we grew every week from five, 12, 22, 36, 50, 65, 70 and up," said Reyes. "We

now have over 125 riders consistently per week every week."
 Reyes got involved with the ride, in part, as a form of exercise after contracting COVID-19.
 "I had it pretty bad and nearly did not make it through after a month-and-a-half battle in the hospital with just trial drug treatment, as they were still not sure what COVID actually was yet," said Reyes. "Once the doctors saw me make a comeback, orders were to continue with exercise and activity to help improve my lungs and no longer need to use portable oxygen. It just so happened that is when the bike scene was blowing up with

people wanting to get out of the house during the quarantine days of COVID, so I jumped aboard being an avid BMXer/skateboarder back in the day of the '80s, and it has helped tremendously. I never thought I would be riding like I am now and breathing so much better."
 As the ride grew in size, Reyes recruited others to help out.
 "As we grew, more and more people I have known for years from the neighborhood started to join, and so I slowly started to recruit the more experienced and bike-knowledgeable guys I could," said Reyes. "We are a core of about six that control the ride from myself in

the lead with a walkie-talkie to a guy in the rear with one, as well as a few amongst the group we call rovers doing crowd, lane and traffic control and keeping me aware of any incidents such as accidents or wipeouts that may occur."
 The Mont Social Ride is unique in that it has a "no man left behind" policy.
 "My core group of guys always carry tools and first aid just in case, and are all very knowledgeable on bike repairs," said Reyes. "If anyone gets hurt or breaks down, I immediately stop the ride until I get an all clear that everyone is OK before taking off. We will never leave anyone alone on the route for

safety. Safety is number one in our book. Most rides will keep going, and if your lucky, a nice fellow rider will assist you ... or not."
 Core members include Jeff Cope, Eric Villalba, Rafael Colon, David "Danger" Ness, Brad Krenek and Eljer Moreira.
 "Without these guys, I couldn't pull this off," said Reyes.
 Reyes said the ride's slower pace and family atmosphere also set it apart from others in the city.
 "One of the things that make us different is our pace," said Reyes. "We go at a slow to social pace, whereas most the other rides go at a faster pace. Also, I do not tolerate any nonsense like wheelie riding into on coming traffic or riding and weaving through traffic and no blaring loud music. If it happens, I guarantee it will not happen twice."
 The ride's midpoint usually features food and drink vendors and sometimes a disc jockey. Reyes has also implemented a weekly raffle at each midpoint, in which lucky riders can win prizes, such as bike accessories, lights, locks, cup holders, air pumps and T-shirts. All prizes are donated or purchased by Reyes.



Reyes organizes local bike ride

South Belt resident Bobby Reyes (left) organizes a weekly bicycle ride called The Mont Social Ride. A group of around 125 riders meets at The Gardens on Beamer each Monday before pedaling around 12-15 miles through the South Belt area. The family-friendly ride attracts riders of all ages, races and skill levels. Many of the riders add decorative lighting and elaborate sound systems to their bicycles. Reyes, a 1988 Dobie graduate, is shown to the left presenting a raffle prize to cyclist Sam Baxley at one of the ride's recent midpoints.

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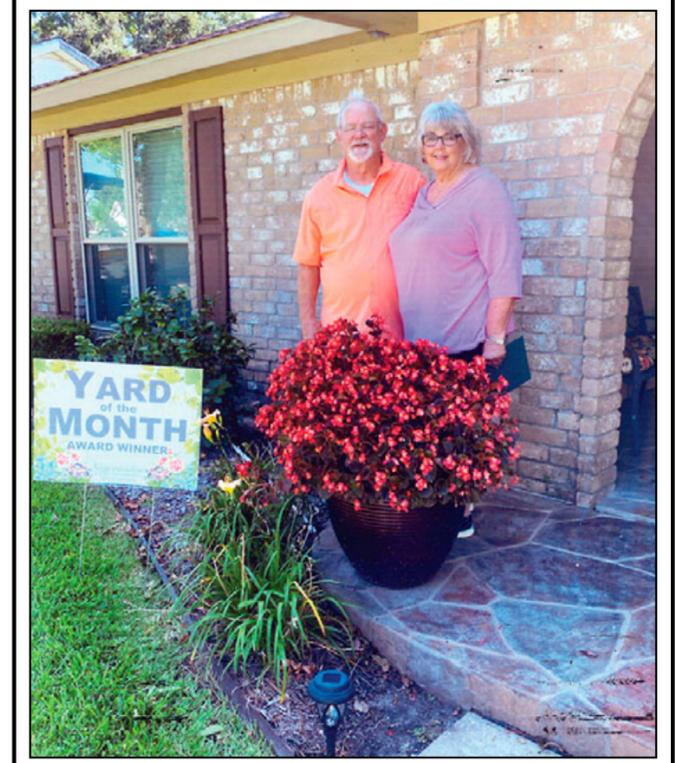
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Burns win Yard of the Month



Congratulations go to John and Sandra Burns for winning the HOA Yard of the Month for July. Taking care of the yard has always been John's pride and joy. John loves to spend his free time gardening, since "gardening is stress free and relaxing." The heat will not keep him from taking care of his plants. Two containers with bright red Begonias border the front door. The yard features camelia bushes, day-lilies, ferns, hibiscus, Knock-Out and Drift roses, crepe myrtle, a maple tree and a pecan tree. A well-manicured lawn frames the corner house. Entering the street draws one's eyes immediately to this front yard. The couple's property is located on Sagemont Drive.
 Photo by K Kaiser

Reyes said the group sometimes holds additional rides beyond its normal Monday one.
 "We do pop-up rides on occasion if we get rained out on Monday, or on special occasions, such as a holiday weekend or the demand to ride again in the same week is asked for by the riders," said Reyes.
 "Also, we have found that Sagemont Park has a food truck every Thursday that we have just added to our weekly rides."
 Events planned for the future include a one-year anniversary ride in October and a suicide-awareness ride on Sept. 4.
 The family-friendly bike rides are open to the public and attract people of all ages, races and skill levels. All types of bicycles are allowed. All genres of music may also be heard on the rides, but Reyes prohibits any containing vulgarities.
 The Mont Social Ride takes place each Monday. Riders meet at The Gardens, 12001 Beamer Road, at 6:30 p.m. and leave at 7 p.m.

Pct. 2 deputies battle area crime

Continued from Page 1
 Garcia discovered a loaded handgun, a little more than a half pound of marijuana, almost \$4,000 in cash and numerous narcotics packaging items.
 William Reynolds, 37, was charged with misdemeanor unlawfully carrying of a firearm and felony possession of marijuana. Due to deputies believing the cash located was proceeds from narcotic sells, the money was seized.

Garcia said public safety remains a very high priority for him, and he will continue to utilize his Special Operations Unit to suppress crime in Precinct 2.

At-home vaccines offered

Harris County Public Health staff will provide vaccinations in the home. This is available to Harris County residents who are bedbound or homebound due to medical reasons, regardless of age. The staff will observe clients for 15-30 minutes after vaccinations to ensure no immediate reactions occur. For additional information, contact HCPH at 832-927-8787.

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