

Graduation next week

The *Leader's* high school special edition will be published June 2. It will feature graduation information for Dobie, Clear Brook, South Houston high schools and Lutheran South Academy. To honor a candidate with a personalized ad, call the *Leader* at 281-481-5656 or e-mail mynews@southbeltleader.com. The deadline is 3 p.m. Thursday, May 26.

Memorial Day observances

South Belt-Ellington Leader
The *Leader* office will be closed Monday, May 30, in observance of Memorial Day.

Clear Brook City MUD
The offices of Clear Brook City MUD will be closed Monday, May 30, in observance of Memorial Day, and will reopen Tuesday, May 31, at 8 a.m. For convenience, payments may be left in the drop box located on the drive-through window side of the building.

Parker Williams Library
The Parker Williams library will be closed May 30 in observance of Memorial Day.

Bracewell Library
The Bracewell library branch will be closed Sunday, May 29, through Monday, May 30, in observance of Memorial Day, and will return to its regular hours on Tuesday, May 31.

Leader hours change

The *South Belt-Ellington Leader* will begin closing at noon on Fridays as of June 3, 2011. New hours of operation are Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Friday from 9 a.m. to noon.

CBC MUD holiday trash

Residents living in the Clear Brook City MUD District will have regular trash service pickup on Memorial Day, Monday, May 30.

Tree waste pickup set

Tree waste only will be picked up Thursday, May 26, for city of Houston residents living south of Beltway 8. For information, call 3-1-1.

Legion hosts BBQ benefit

American Legion Post 490 will sponsor its third annual barbecue championship cookoff June 9-11, 11702 Galveston Road, (across from Ellington Field). Entries include brisket, ribs and chicken. Entry fee for all three is \$150 with cash prizes and trophies given in each category. Beans entry is optional with a \$10 fee – winner takes 90 percent of entries. The last date to enter is June 1. For information, call 713-515-8267 or 281-481-1179.

Library events set

The following events are set for the week of May 26 through June 1 at Parker Williams Library, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd.:

On Saturday, May 28, Vietnamese storytime will include Reading Club at 9 a.m., followed by intermediate storytime at 11 a.m. and beginner storytime at 1 p.m.

Preschool storytime is at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, and toddler storytime is at 10:30 a.m. Thursday.

The Friends of the Parker Williams Book Sale has been cancelled for May. The next sale will be held Saturday, June 25.

Dobie sets class reunions

10-year class reunion
Dobie Class of 2001 will hold its 10-year reunion on July 9, 2011, from 7:30 p.m. to midnight at Golfcrest Country Club in Pearland. The cost through June 1 is \$50; June 2 through July 2, \$60 (this is the last day to pre-order tickets); and on July 9, \$75 (cash only at the door). For more information, contact <http://www.dobie2001.webs.com/>.

20-year class reunion
The Dobie High School Class of 1991 will hold its 20-year reunion Saturday, Oct. 8, 2011, from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Trevisio Restaurant & Ballroom, 6550 Bertner Ave. in Houston. For information and/or tickets sales, visit <http://www.jfdobie91reunion.com/> or on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/?ref=home#!/dobieclassof91reunion>.

35-year class reunion
Dobie Class of 1976 will hold its 35-year reunion on June 11, 2011, from 6 p.m. to midnight in the Marina Ballroom at South Shore Harbour Resort in League City. The cost through May 31 is \$85 (last day to preorder tickets); and June 11, \$85 (cash only at the door). For more information, contact Milly Valez McHale at sillymilly_40@yahoo.com or facebook.com/millyrosales or John Pfister at pfisterlevel@att.net or facebook.com/pfisterlevel. There is also a link on the Dobie website.

Fourth of July parade set

The *Leader* would like to remind readers of the annual South Belt Independence Day Parade, set to take place Monday, July 4. Now in its 24th year, the event will wind from Beverly Hills Intermediate to San Jacinto College South. Participants are encouraged to decorate their vehicles and floats, as prizes will be awarded in various categories. All community and nonprofit groups may sign up for the parade at no charge, unless they wish to be eligible for a prize. A \$50 fee is charged for commercial entries. Noncommercial entries may enter for \$25.

New state redistricting maps unveiled

By James Bolen

The Texas House and Senate approved new district maps on Saturday, May 21, that essentially divide the South Belt community's existing legislative boundaries.

Under the new Senate map, much of the area that is currently in Sen. Mike Jackson's District 11 will be transferred to District 6, which is presently served by Sen. Mario V. Gallegos, Jr.

District 11 will retain the areas south of Beltway 8 that are west of Beamer and east of the Gulf Freeway.

District 6 will absorb the areas south of the beltway that are located between Beamer and

and the Gulf Freeway, as well as almost all of the South Belt area that is located north of Beltway 8.

While the new districts split through many area subdivisions, they are drawn primarily along precinct lines, according to Jackson aide Donna Coleman.

Similar changes will take place with the new House districts.

All areas of the South Belt west of the Gulf Freeway that are currently located in District 144, represented by Ken Legler, will be divided up between Rep. Garnet F. Coleman's District 147 and Rep. John Davis' District 129, with

Coleman's district taking the lion's share.

The maps must now go to Gov. Rick Perry for approval.

Lawmakers are required to redraw the voting maps every 10 years after the release of the U.S. Census data.

Unlike the House and Senate maps, however, the state's new congressional districts will likely not be approved before session ends on May 30.

Failure to do so would either require Perry to call for a special session or allow a panel of federal judges to draw the new maps.

Texas' rapid growth over the last decade resulted in the addition of four new congressional seats. The jump in population, fueled primarily by Hispanics, has state lawmakers sparring as to where to add the new districts.

While Republicans have a large partisan advantage in the state (19 to 12 in the Senate and

101 to 49 in the House), Texas Hispanics tend to vote Democrat.

Any final maps must be in compliance with the Voting Rights Act, which assures minorities are properly represented.

City Council
Houston City Council voted on Wednesday, May 18, to approve new city district maps that also divide the South Belt community.

The new maps transfer the area west of the Gulf Freeway that is currently located in District E, represented by Councilmember Mike Sullivan, to District D, which is served by Councilmember Wanda Adams.

The city charter mandated the addition of two new districts, Districts J and K, once Houston's population hit 2.1 million. Again, the representation of the Hispanic community was heavily debated.

TAKS scores earn Lee a trim



Students and staff at South Belt Elementary recently celebrated their TAKS results by carrying on a tradition of shaving Assistant Principal Jai Lee's head. Pictured above with Lee are Coach Jon Kidwell and fourth-grade student Chase Erskin.

Photo submitted

CCISD to hold budget meeting

The Clear Creek Independent School District will hold a pair of public meetings Monday, June 6, and Tuesday, June 7, to hear community input regarding recommendations proposed by the district's Citizens Finance Advisory Committee.

Monday's meeting will take place at Clear Lake High School, 2929 Bay Area Blvd., while Tuesday's function will be held at Clear Springs High School, located at 501 Palomino Street in League City. Both meetings will begin at 6 p.m.

The Citizens Finance Advisory Committee was formed last December to come up with ways the school district could cut costs, as it is facing a deficit of between \$21 million and \$41 million based on proposed state legislation.

The committee has recommended closing

Clear Horizons Early College High School, eliminating the 5 percent homestead exemption, allowing out-of-district students to attend CCISD schools for a tuition, reducing teacher and non-teacher contract pay by up to five days, eliminating or charging a fee for all nonmandatory transportation, charging fees for extracurricular activities and charging a transportation fee of \$20 per student, per year for athletics and fine arts.

The cuts would save the district \$16.2 million.

The CCISD Board of Trustees is expected to take action on the recommendations during its June 27 general board meeting.

For more information, call 281-284-0020.

Proposed city budget released

South Belt area spared major cuts

By James Bolen

Houston Mayor Annise Parker on Thursday, May 19, unveiled her proposed spending plan for the next fiscal year, sparing the South Belt any major cuts.

The plan would preserve all police and fire department jobs but would cut back on other city services, such as swimming pools and youth sports.

The \$1.9 billion budget calls for the layoffs of 747 employees and the closure of eight swimming pools, as well as seven community centers. None of the affected facilities, however, are located in the immediate area.

Library hours would be cut overall, but Saturday hours would be restored at 24 of the city's 41 branches. At press time, it was unclear if the Bracewell branch was among these. A list of the branches will be released on June 7, according to library spokeswoman Sandra Fernandez.

Parker said crafting the budget was a difficult process.

"The long-term forecast is for better economic times ahead, but we are not there yet," Parker said. "As a result, we have had to say farewell to 747 of our dedicated city employees. It hurts to have to lay off employees. It's tough to have to close swimming pools or reduce hours at libraries."

ies. These are gut-wrenching decisions for city department directors and me because we know the impacts they will have."

All youth sports leagues would be cut except for baseball, which is funded by the Astros.

Additionally, the city's seven public health centers would be consolidated into four. The remaining three would be turned over to private companies.

While the city's current financial situation may appear bleak, Parker is optimistic about the future.

"We are in the middle of the toughest times Houston has experienced since the oil bust of the mid-1980s," Parker said. "Indeed, we are challenged, but our future is brighter. The signs of economic improvement we are seeing today provide assurance that the better times we yearn for are ahead. We will emerge from this downturn stronger and more financially secure. In the meantime, we will continue fighting crime, improving neighborhoods, growing our economy, creating jobs, planning for the future and saving money. We will continue reforming, streamlining, modernizing and transforming the way we do business."

Any final budget must be approved by City Council by June 30.

Area swimming pools to open

Summer is around the corner, and with it comes the opening of several area pools to help South Belters beat the heat.

The Sagemont pool will be open from Saturday, May 28, to Monday, May 30, from 1 to 8 p.m. It will open again on Saturday, June 4, and Sunday, June 5, from 1 to 8 p.m. and remain open Tuesday through Sunday from 1 to 8 p.m. beginning Tuesday, June 7, for the duration of the summer.

The Beverly Hills pool will be open Tuesday through Sunday from 1 to 8 p.m. beginning Tuesday, June 7.

The Sageglen, Clear Brook Meadows, Riverstone Ranch, Ashley Pointe and Highland Meadow pools will all be open from Saturday, May 28,

to Monday, May 30. Each of the pools will then reopen Friday, June 3, and remain open Tuesday through Sunday throughout the summer.

Hours of operation for the Sageglen pool are noon to 9 p.m. The Clear Brook Meadows pool will be open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Riverstone Ranch hours will be 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., except on Sunday when it will be open from noon to 8 p.m. Hours at the Ashley Pointe pool will be 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. And the Highland Meadow pool will be open from 3 to 8 p.m.

The Kirkmont Water Park is open Tuesday through Sunday from 1 to 7 p.m.

All pools are closed for maintenance on Mondays with the exception of July 4. They will, however, be closed on Tuesday, July 5.

Sullivan hosts hurricane meeting

Houston Councilmember Mike Sullivan will host District E's 2011 hurricane preparedness town hall meeting, Wednesday, June 8. The meeting will be held in the Garden Room of the Bayou Building at the University of Houston-Clear Lake, 2700 Bay Area Blvd., from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

As the hurricane season approaches, Sullivan would like to ensure that essential hurricane preparedness information is available to his constituency. He has gained firsthand knowledge of the behind-the-scenes efforts of emergency management during his tenure and wants to bring that insight to the residents of District E.

"Every year we learn and make improvements to our operations," Sullivan said. "It is extremely important to me that my constituents be armed with the tools they need to prepare for the hurricane season."

The City of Houston's Public Works and Engineering Department, Solid Waste Management Department, Harris County's Office of Emergency Management, the City of Houston's Office of Emergency Management, the Houston Fire Department, the Houston Police Department, the Texas Department of Public Transportation and Transtar will give brief presentations on their 2011 contingency plans for the City of Houston. A representative from the United Way of Greater Houston will also be present to offer information on assistance and resources.

A question-and-answer session will follow the presentations.

For more information, contact Sullivan's office at 832-393-3008 or at districte@houstontx.gov.

Pct. 2 deputies nab check forger

Deputies from the Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's office arrested a suspect Monday, May 16, on felony forgery charges.

The incident began around 12:30 p.m. when Deputy Parnell Jones and Sgt. Zerick Guinn responded to a burglary of a motor vehicle call in the Blackhawk subdivision, where a man had his checkbook taken.

While the officers were taking the report, the victim received a call from Chase Bank telling him that someone was trying to cash his stolen checks, and the Houston Police Department had been contacted.

Guinn rushed to the bank in the 11200 block of

Beltway 8 and told personnel he was responding to a forgery call. Bank staff told the sergeant he had just walked past the suspect as he was entering. Guinn then ran out of the bank and stopped the suspect as he was getting into his vehicle.

Once the suspect, Andrew Ybarra, was positively identified as the one trying to pass the forged checks, Jones arrived and took custody.

Ybarra, a 20-year-old from Pasadena, was charged with forged instrument felony. While four more checks were found in his vehicle, the Harris County District Attorney's office would not accept a burglary charge, citing lack of evidence.

Unkempt lawn irks neighbors



The above house and its unkempt lawn located at 9923 Sageroyal has drawn the ire of several Sagemeadow residents. According to neighbors, the house has been abandoned for at least two years. Although uninhabited, the house, owned by Jeffrey and Arlene Rittmer of Baytown, is current on all of its taxes. The matter has been turned over to Harris County officials.

Photo by Marie Flickinger

Readers' Opinions

Morgan shares info on Project Joy & Hope

Project Joy and Hope is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, the mission of which is to provide support and assistance to children in life ending circumstances.

On Sunday, May 22, 2011 I had the privilege of giving the invocation and participating in Project Joy and Hope's 2011 Scholarship Reception during which the organization presented nearly \$50,000 in scholarships to over 30 seniors from high schools throughout Southeast Texas, including Dobie, Clear Brook, Friendswood, Pearland, Pasadena Memorial, Galveston Ball and numerous others.

Each of the recipients had experienced the loss of a parent or sibling and, in spite of this loss each managed to become outstanding young people.

With the nightly news dwelling on young people involved with drugs, gangs and crime, it is uplifting to know and meet young people who, in spite of hardships and losses they have suffered, demonstrate the character and commitment to persevere and carry on.

May God Bless America and us all.
Sincerely,
Bill Morgan
William L. H. Morgan, Jr.

Pet owner responds to Horst on dead cat

Memo to Janna Horst:
I'm sorry about your cat, but why was she outside in the first place? Perhaps you are unaware that our leash laws are not for dogs only.

I don't like stray dogs either, but we have a couple of cats roaming our neighborhood that I would like to see disappear.

They seem to like to dig in the flower beds and although my dog stays inside, he likes to sit by the window and see outside.

Needless to say, he gets pretty excited when these cats prance by. I'm afraid he may break a window to get out. He has done so before.

Don't know where you live, but it seems you had 4 cats. You state that you had three, now two, but have another

family cat. Our HOA deed restrictions limit pets to no more than two.

Try not to be so self-righteous. After all, chasing cats is what dogs do.

And I am very sorry for your loss. I had to put a family pet to sleep on Christmas Eve. I know they are like kids and family members. You just have to do your part to protect them and accept a little responsibility yourself.

David Weld

Surprise, surprise on \$5 flooding fee

This past week we were notified by the city, telling us what our drainage fee would be. Surprise Surprise. Was it the \$5 that was repeatedly quoted at the town hall meetings for an average size house? No, it was either double or more. Two misleading facts, the wording of Proposition 1 was not correctly worded so it misled the voting public, and then the \$5.00 fee.

No one understands flooding more than I do, I have worked hard for a number of years to resolve flooding in our area. When I saw the drainage proposal I was elated. I then looked at the proposal and it was clear that I should vote against it, which I did. We do need to address flooding, but it has to be done in a fair and balanced way.

The city is in a financial bind, that is clear. But to take advantage of the taxpayer, well that is uncalled for. How do we resolve this. We have an opportunity this fall to do something "unique", vote each sitting city representative out of office, every last one. Replace them with people who will represent our best interests. Lets have a house cleaning. Remember, you the taxpayer, is still in charge.

James E. Muecke

Volper: Gorman doesnt get it

Mr. Gorman, have you forgotten Presidential Executive Orders and how czars are used to abrogate our beloved sacred Constitution? You started your message with the message of oligarchy. Websters defines oligarchy as

- : Government by the few
- : a government in which a small

group excersies control especially for corrupt and selfish purposes; also

: a group exercising such control
Other terms associated with oligarchy when used in describing oligarchy based governments are federalism, popular sovereignty and socialism.

I imagine that we could throw in the words New World Order as well.

My response to you was I would rather live under an oligarchy of tea partiers than a socialist or marxist oligarchy. The Tea Party was not founded on ideas that are opposite as to what the founders wanted for this country. Its fundamental purposes have worked for over 200 years. Enough of history.That you deny.

Your opinion and your original statements seem to imply you dont like the system as it was founded and it is today. You seem to support a change that is leftist of what the Bill of Rights and the Constitution say.You make reference to what it takes to amend and or halt how congress can or can not change things. You are correct but no matter who controls the congress the president holds the trump card. Its called an executive order. Congress cannot override it. Only a president who succeeds the president who issued the EO has the authority to do so.By then its too late the damage has been done. I believe that its going to take decades to correct the wrongs of Obama and of those to come. How long ago was Jimmah Carter in the WH? We are still trying to correct his policies almost 40 years later.

You made reference to Bush who you think was ready to abolish the 22nd amendment. Where and when did you hear that? I never heard Bush make reference to such a thing. I never saw any legislation drawn up as a bill that would abolish it from any repug. What I have seen is liberals who have since Obama came to power have done just that,In fact I belive that Obama has made reference to the amendment several times by mentioning (hinting) to what a EO can do legally. The atmosphere being presented is "that if I dont get my way, I have and hold the trump card but I dont want to play it if Idont have to." This relates to Obama telling McCain,"but John I WON.

Mr. Gorman staying along the lines of executive orders that give the president executive privilege (see oilgarchy).Take the time and read the following ones signed into law by Obama.

EO 12425 and EO 13528 are the precursors to Martial Law. With 12425 remember that the immunity follows the information as given in Obama's own words. He and it totally bypasses the Constitution and 7 of the first 10 Amendments. EO 13528 blows The Tenth Amendment out of the water. It also is against The Posse Comitatus Act. The US Military cannot, under ANY circumstances operate inside The United States Of America, yet this "Council of Governor" is acting as a liason to allow it. Wake up Mr. Gorman: If you would take the time to read those EO's signed into law by Obama you will learn that this action is giving him the tools to implement martial law. One other thing The Posse Comitatus Act is what would not allow Bush to send troops to New Orleans during Katrina. Without the request from the governor asking for federal assistance, his hands were tied by the same government and laws that he swore to protect and inforce. Bill Clinton and Janet Reno violated those same laws and mandates. It was called Waco.

Both of these EO's are a violation of his oath of office. They are treasonable offenses.

China owns us, and this was made possible by their having a marxist type democracy that is predicated on some forms of capitalism. Capitalsim is only for a chosen few in China.This is exactly where Obama is attempting to take this country.The difference is, in China they dont spread the wealth around and they control what one can make.This is exactly what Yao Ming experienced when he signed his multi million dollar contract. The Chinese government did not control or interfere with his negotiations with the Rockets regarding what he could make. They litterally told him what he could live on (chosen few) or what was his and what they wanted. Remember Obama asked the question "how much is enough?"

Mr. Gorman says I broadsided him? Does that mean that he rejects my beliefs which are contrary to his? In other words since I dont believe in his vision and opinon of hope and change that I still cant invision a country founded on what we have been taught? I will take our present form of government as an oligarchy based on the ideas of the founders that gave birth to this republic before I will ever accept what Obama and other liberals think they know whats best for me and the country as I know it, learned about and served, then I did broad-

side Mr. Gorman with fact and truth. Something that many liberals have problem accepting.

Before someone can play the race card which I expect because it's what liberals do best when one doesnt agree with the policies of Barack Hussein Obama, they make it about skin color. As an independent voter, the last time I looked, Clinton, Reed, Pelosi, Durban, Kerry, EX President Carter and any Kennedy dead or alive are all white. Come to think of it so were Stalin Lenin, Mussolini and Hitler. Is that comment racist? Some will think so, when it's not when you are judging dictators and socialist and marxist policies.Its truth that socialism and communism are found in African nations and in the Far East. Thus the color of ones skin is null and void in the racist argument of governing or lack of.

A.C. Volper

Reward that leads to arrest for keying

On Wednesday night, May 11, 2011, I was at a meeting at the Parker Williams Library located at the corner of Scarsdale and Beamer. I parked my 10 DAY old white Honda Pilot in the middle of the parking lot between the library and the day care - adjacent to a median with a small bush and sand pile - to keep it from being scratched or damaged. The passenger side of the car was next to the median side.

However, there was at least 3 feet between my vehicle and the bush. As you can imagine, I was excited about the car since it had been almost 10 years since I was able to buy one.

On Saturday, May 14, 2011 after taking my elderly mother for an errand, I noticed someone had intentionally keyed my new vehicle down the passenger side.

I believe this incident occurred at the library on that Wednesday night. I know that I was targeted and that this was a deliberate act of hatred! I never had any problems with the "old" vehicle. I arrived at the library at approximately 6:45 p.m. and left the library at approximately 8 p.m.

I am offering a \$100 cash reward for information that will lead to the arrest and conviction of the person who did this. It is a shame that this person is so pathetic that they feel they must destroy the property of others. I must say that while they may think that this act may have brought me sadness, it has only brought pity for the person that perpetrated this crime. Please remember, this vehicle had only been in my possession for 10 DAYS and it still has the paper tags on it. You could be the next victim! Please call me if you have any information. Thank you!

Cecelia Ganje

Keener writes on letter in Leader

For the first time in a while, there were six meaningful, well-written Readers' Opinions letters in the May 19 edition of the *Leader*. Thanks to Carolyn Friend for her reminder to "keep those U.S. flags flying high," especially for Memorial Day and July 4th. Then, there was the tragic and sad letter from Janna Horst about losing her precious cat, Mona, to vicious dogs because of their irresponsible owners...shameful and unacceptable situation. Anyone who owns dogs that are a danger to people and other animals, should be forced by law to build better fences, and be held more accountable if they don't...and shame on anyone who just looks the other way.

We need more dedicated community residents like Cecil Callahan; they are a gift to us all. I also want to say "thank you" to Hardie Matthews, not just for his service in the Korean War, but for the kind and generous attention he is giving to the Wounded Warrior Project. My dad, W. S. Boyd, is a WWII Navy veteran who bravely served in the Pacific Theatre. God Bless all veterans, past and present; it is your dedication and sacrifice that has kept America free! I also appreciate the letters from James Gorman and Pete Johansen; it is imperative that we continue to look at all perspectives, rather than continuously seeing lengthy and repetitious Readers' Opinions that are heavily weighted to one side of the political spectrum.

I also agreed with Secretary of Defense Robert Gates, when he said that President Obama's decision to send Special forces to Pakistan to get Bin Laden was one of the most courageous calls that he has ever seen a president make. The current administration has its problems, and it makes mistakes like all of the administrations that went before, but this wasn't one of them. Job well done, Special Forces and Mr. President!

Brenda S. Keener

Death

Mary Green

Mary Green, 96, of South Belt, died Monday, May 16, 2011.

She was born on Feb. 14, 1915, to Charles Henry and Victoria Garrett in Ansley, La.

Green is preceded in death by four brothers, Railey, Ce-

cil, Bill and Jewel Garrett, and her sister, Dorothy Frey.

She is survived by her Houston nieces/caregivers, Vicki McConnell and Gloria and Dennis Forster, as well as many other nieces, nephews and friends throughout Texas and Louisiana.

Green was a member of Cokesbury United Methodist

Church and enjoyed attending "Friendly Folks" activities, especially participating in a game of 42 with her friends.

A service to celebrate Green's life and scatter her ashes will be held on a date to be determined at the church in Ansley, La., which held fond memories of her childhood.

Leader obituary policy

Obituaries submitted to the *Leader* are published free of charge. There must be a South Belt connection. Obituaries are edited to conform to the *Leader* style.

SJC choir heads to Carnegie Hall for May 29 performance

The final rehearsals and performances have been completed, and the San Jacinto College South community choir heads to New York City this week to perform at Carnegie Hall on May 29.

The group has been preparing for this performance since last fall, and is ready to take the stage at the legendary venue. Recently, the choir presented two final performances for the local community that included their entire Carnegie Hall performance.

Visual and performing arts department chair and choir director, Cindy Stevens, already has some history with Carnegie Hall herself. She first had the chance to sing there at the age of 15 and has since taken five other college choirs to perform at the hall. However, this is the first time she will ever conduct her

choir as a featured solo performance.

In an interview with the Houston Chronicle, Stevens said, "It will be a personal dream come true. I've wanted to do this as soon as I had the choir members that are gifted enough and ready to go for it."

The choir will perform a 30-minute program consisting of pieces from three Houston composers: Kinley Lange, David Ashley White, and Brady Lanier. Lanier's piece, *I Choose You*, was commissioned specifically for the Carnegie Hall performance and made possible through a student success initiative grant sponsored by the San Jacinto College Foundation.

The choir will also feature Fauré's Requiem, which will be presented with the New England Symphonic Ensemble

under the direction of Dr. Matthew Harden from the University of Nebraska.

SJC music student and choir member Jeff Guice of Pearland is more than excited about the upcoming performance. "It's a mixture of emotions. There is a lot of passion going into this performance, and it is definitely infectious. It is much bigger than ourselves; we are representing San Jacinto College and our fellow students. I am very honored to be a part of this."

"I think that we are ready for our Carnegie Hall debut," said Stevens. "The choir is prepared and excited, and I am very proud of their efforts this year."

For more information about San Jacinto College fine arts, call 281-484-1900 or visit the website at www.arts.sanjac.edu.

SJCS gets new seating area

Students, faculty, and visitors at the San Jacinto College South campus have been watching the area between the J.D. Bruce Student Center and the Parker Williams Library undergo a mini transformation.

Beginning in March, the campus' facilities and construction team began working on a new walkway between the buildings, including landscaping and benches. Since this walkway and surrounding lawns are some of the most heavily trafficked areas on campus, the need for a neater, friendlier space was

definitely seen. In an ongoing effort to help enhance the campus' appearance and function, the team began working on the project, using only a picture for layout and design reference.

"It's great to have facilities and construction be a part of this type of project," said Bryan Jones, associate vice chancellor of facilities and construction. "With benches provided by student development, we were able to complete the project, providing a shady place for people to visit, have lunch, or just reflect on their day."

The new area now has six new benches under the improved landscaped area of trees that shade the walkway between the student center and library. The improvements have been a welcome addition on campus.

"We've received a lot of great compliments on the improvements we made to this space," said Ron Andell, South campus facilities and operations manager. "This team really did a great job, and we appreciate all the hard work they put into this project helping to create a more welcoming area for this spot."



San Jacinto College South facilities and construction team members installed new benches and landscaping for one of the campus' main areas. Pictured are, left to right, Rene Amaro, Terry Ballard, Ron Andell, Jeff Tschappatt, Troy Freeman and Jose Montoyo.

Photo by Andrea Vasquez

San Jac students honored



San Jacinto College South recently held its annual student awards night. Each department in both academic and technical areas chose outstanding students who represented their department in the most positive and influential ways. Some students were even recognized for placing in local and national competitions throughout the year. Among the top award winners were Kaylyn Weillbacher, receiving a scholarship from the cosmetology department; Jordan Bell, receiving the award for South campus student employee of the year; and Pauline Eklund and Oscar Peña, both receiving South campus outstanding student of the year. Pictured are, left to right, (front) South Belt resident Oscar Peña; Dr. Maureen Murphy, South campus president; (back) Pauline Eklund and Dr. Toni Pendergrass, South campus vice president for learning.

Photo by Andrea Vasquez

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Bears of the Month for March



Students from Beverly Hills Intermediate strive to achieve positive characteristics to guide them throughout their lives. For March, the characteristics were loyalty and dependability. The following students were selected by their academic teams as best representing these characteristics. Students were congratulated by Principal Alyta Harrell and given a special bear paw print pin to wear proudly.

They were also treated to a special lunch. Bears of the Month for March are, left to right, (front row) Theresa Tran, Nhu Nguyen, Alexis Jimenez, Angelica de Jesus, (back row) Van Vu, John De La Rosa, Gabriela Benavides, Hernan Campa, Albert Luu, Derek Rivera and Leslie Licea. Not pictured is Jesse Gonzales.

Photo submitted

San Jac math department announces 1st faculty-awarded scholarship recipients

The San Jacinto College mathematics department recently held a reception to announce scholarship recipients and recognize 19 students for achieving academic excellence.

This is the department's first year to award \$250 math scholarships, which are partially funded by math faculty donations. For one recipient, Christy Duzan, it is an honor to be awarded the gift by those who help shape her education and career path.

"I feel really honored to be one of the first to receive this scholarship," said Duzan, a math major who also attends University of Houston-Clear Lake while completing part of her curriculum at SJC. "It helps in paying for school."

Other recipients included Kyle Crawford, Martha Guerra, and Rebecca Hatfield. James Sells, math department chair, said SJC faculty members were eager to pitch in for a scholarship that would assist students with both their textbooks and tuition. Besides the scholarship, recipients also were awarded a Pearson textbook of their choice.

"We have excellent students, and we also know that everything is getting more expensive," said Sells. "We

wanted to find a way to help them out through this scholarship and encourage them to stay in their studies."

Along with scholarship

recipients, the following students also received a Certificate of Excellence for earning a 4.0 math grade point average:

Juan Andrade, Patrick Braddock, Terri Copeland, Stephanie Gomez, Paige Gonzales, Martha Guerra, Rebecca Hatfield, Elizabeth Hower, Trent Mac Arthur, Jordan Matlock, Blake Minor, Jeffrey Salas, Niky Sanchez, Lucero Urquieta and Ashley Velazquez.



San Jacinto College students recently honored are, left to right, (front row) math scholarship recipient Christy Duzan; Certificate of Excellence students Trent Mac Arthur, Terri Copeland, Patrick Braddock, Jordan Matlock, (back row) San Jacinto

College math faculty Steven David, Sherry Eska, Terri Seiver, Kelly Anderson, Leighann Martinets, Ryan Martinets, James Buddy Smith, Sharon Sledge, Reza Khadem, James Sells and Teresa Rivas.

Photo by Jeannie Peng-Armao

Summer camps offered at San Jacinto College

San Jacinto College offers plenty of camps this summer to keep the children busy with educational activities.

From robots to theater to music, campers of all ages will learn a wealth of information from SJC faculty on a variety of disciplines during each camp week.

The North campus is located at 5800 Uvalde Road in Houston. The South campus is located at 13735 Beamer Road in Houston. The Central campus is located at 8060 Spencer Highway in Pasadena.

The following camps are being offered:

- EnergyVenture camps at all SJC campus locations – 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 8 a.m. to noon on Friday.

- Central campus – June 13-17 and June 20-24; South campus – June 13-17, June 20-24 and June 27-July 1; North campus – June 27-July

1 and July 11-15.

Cost: Gold Level Sponsor Shell and other corporate sponsors are providing scholarships to students who qualify. Space is limited.

Description: EnergyVenture, a summer weeklong day camp for 14- to 18-year-old students is focused on the energy industry and the career opportunities in the field.

The camp blends fun and education to introduce students to the region's ever-changing energy industry. Participants perform lab experiments, win prizes for team efforts, take a tour of an energy-related facility, and gain first-hand accounts from guest speakers who work in the field. For more information, call 281-478-2772 or visit www.energyventurecamp.org.

- Camp College at the SJC South campus Children's Center – 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. June 6 through Aug. 19. The

cost is \$140 weekly, paid monthly.

Children are invited to this summer-long camp that features weekly themes like Fitness Fun, Around the World, Bug Walk Critter Talk, Crazy Construction and Kooky Science. For information, call 281-922-3414.

- Gaming camp at SJC South – 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The first session is game design camp July 18-22; second session is level design camp July 25-29. Gaming Camp will be held in the administration building, room 2141, at San Jacinto College South campus. The cost is \$50.

Students will learn the principle of game design and develop a board game during the first session, and learn the principle of level design using the Unreal Tournament Engine UDK during the second session.

For more information, contact Pamela Betts at

Pamela.Betts@sjcd.edu or Jim Meeks at Jim.Meeks@sjcd.edu.

- Math Ready pre-semester summer camp – 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Aug. 8-12 at San Jacinto College South campus. The cost is \$100, and includes lunch.

Texas Tech University and NASA-Johnson Space Center will partner with San Jacinto College to present a unique math experience designed to get high school students ready for the upcoming school year. This one-week event will include hands-on math activities, special tours, and math and science career guest speakers.

For more information, contact Alison Hennessey at Alison.hennessey@sjcd.edu.

- Kidspot Summer Youth Theatre camp, sponsored by SJC Central campus department of theatre and film – 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The first session is June 13-17; second session is June 20-24; at San Jacinto College Central campus. The cost is \$150 per session, and extended care is available for an additional fee.

Children ages 5 and older will develop acting skills while participating in workshops that cover movement, voice, theater games, improvisations, stage acting, film acting, character development and production. Daily rehearsals will culminate in a stage production at the end of the week.

Fees include a camp T-shirt, script, complimentary ticket to the performance and a rehearsal CD.

For an application, e-mail Jerry Ivins at jerry.ivins@sjcd.edu.

- Basketball camp at SJC Central – 2 to 5 p.m. The first session is July 18-22; second session is July 25-29; in Anders Gymnasium at San Jacinto College Central campus. The cost is \$90 per session.

This camp is open to boys and girls ages 7-18. Participants will learn basketball techniques from area high school and college basketball coaches.

For registration information, visit <http://www.sanjacsports.com/basketball-camp>.

- Summer dance camp at SJC Central – 10 a.m. to noon, June 13-16 and July 11-14. The cost is \$80.

This camp will teach participants, ages 12 and older, basic belly dance moves to modern music, dance clubs and school dances. No prior experience required. Students should dress in comfortable clothing. For more information, call 281-476-1838.

- Robot Extravaganza at SJC Central – Morning camp session: 8:30 a.m. to noon, afternoon camp session: 1 to 4:30 p.m. Morning and afternoon camp sessions will be held July 11-15, July 18-22, and July 25-29. The camps will be held in the Interactive Learning Center. The cost is \$75 per session, two camps discounted to \$125. Extended care is available.

Each camp week will feature two different themes.

We Do Robots (July 11-15 morning session for fourth-through sixth-graders) will introduce campers to LEGO robots.

Defy Gravity (July 11-15 afternoon session for fourth-through sixth-graders) will

explore gravity using rockets, hovercrafts and slinkies.

- RoboDogs (July 18-22 morning session for seventh-through ninth-graders) will have campers build and program their own robotics dogs.

Rolling Racers (July 18-22 afternoon session for seventh-through ninth-graders) will have campers building their own race cars and roller coasters.

Tetrix Training (July 25-29 morning session for ninth-through 12th-graders) will teach campers how to program Tetrix robots and add metal for a real-life robotics experience.

Float Your Boat (July 25-29 afternoon session for ninth-through 12th-graders) will challenge campers to use cardboard and duct tape to create their own boat to carry in a swimming pool.

For registration information, contact Sharon Sledge at 281-476-1501, ext. 1684, or email Sharon.sledge@sjcd.edu.

- Summer School-age Program at the SJC North campus Ogden Child Care Center – 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., with the exception of the Friday sessions, which may end at noon. Dates are June 6 through Aug. 19.

There are two-day, three-day, four-day, and five-day sessions offered in the program.

The cost for the Monday through Friday session is \$125. The cost for the Monday, Wednesday, and Friday session is \$75. The cost for the Tuesday and Thursday session is \$50.

Each session also requires a \$25 registration fee, and a \$25 supply fee.

The summer program is open to 5-11-year-old children and will include science, art, cooking, and music activities. There will also be designated times for children to work on studies to keep them in the routine of schoolwork.

On-campus field trips will include a visit to the North campus post office, art gallery, and nature walks. The program also includes guest speakers, such as police officers and firefighters.

All staff members supervising the program are well-trained and certified early childhood professionals. Each session includes breakfast, lunch and an afternoon snack. For more information, call 281-459-7109.

- Jazz camp at SJC North – 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., June 6-10 at the Dr. Charles Grant Fine Arts Center. The cost is \$95.

Jazz camp offers Houston-area students, ages 10 and older, a chance to learn about this great American fine art from some of the best jazz artists in this part of the country. Students will learn about jazz history, improvisation theory, and they will rehearse in combos together to prepare for a concert on Friday, June 10, at noon. For more information, call 281-459-7119.

- Band camp at SJC North – 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., June 13-17, at the Dr. Charles Grant Fine Arts Center. The cost is \$95.

Band camp offers middle and high school band members opportunities to further hone their skills and perform band literature. Activities will focus on fundamentals and

rehearsing together in preparation for a culminating concert on Friday, June 17, at noon. For more information, call 281-459-7119.

- Piano camp at SJC North – 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., June 20-24, at the Dr. Charles Grant Fine Arts Center.

Piano camp, offered at two levels during the week, provides middle and high school students with the opportunity to learn beginning piano techniques or for intermediate-level students to further their musicianship and piano skills. The camp culminates in a final recital on Friday, June 24, at noon. For more information, call 281-459-7119.

- Guitar camp at SJC North – 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., June 27 through July 1, at the Dr. Charles Grant Fine Arts Center. The cost is \$95.

Guitar camp provides students, ages 12-19, a great chance to learn and improve their guitar-playing abilities in any style. The students will perform a final concert

Paredes graduates



Cynthia Paredes graduated from the University of Houston on May 13, 2011. She graduated magna cum laude as she received her Bachelor of Science in mechanical engineering. She has accepted an offer of professional employment with Chevron Energy Technology Company, a division of Chevron USA Inc., as a facilities engineer. She is a 2007 Dobie High School graduate.

Students get SAT high school prep

University of Houston-Clear Lake's Kids' U SAT courses can jumpstart student's SAT preparation for grades 9-12. Two sessions will be offered including June 13-16, with a second session June 27-30, Monday through Thursday, from noon to 3 p.m., in the university's Student Services and Classroom Building, Room 3302, 2700 Bay Area Blvd.

Sign up now for courses that will use interactive games as a fun way to build vocabulary for the reading and strategies that will boost general test-taking skills for the PSAT or SAT.

Session fees are \$149. To find out more about these courses or other Kids' U offerings, call 281-283-3530, e-mail youngj@uhcl.edu or visit the Kids' U website at <http://kidsu.uhcl.edu>.

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Frazier holds career day

Frazier Elementary held its annual career fair on Thursday, May 12. More than 19 different careers were represented as parents and community members volunteered their time and talents to help build career awareness in Frazier's students.



First-graders Kiana Bowman (left) and Josh Carter enjoy time with firefighter Kyle Clark (middle, a former Frazier Owl) during career day.



Left to right, Judge Jo Ann Delgado stands beside fourth-grader Samantha Gilbreath who is wearing the judge's robe and holding her gavel.

Once Upon a Mattress auditions set at PLT

Pasadena Little Theatre, 4318 Allen-Genoa Road in Pasadena, will hold auditions in the rehearsal hall for *Once Upon a Mattress*, a musical based on the *Princess and the Pea* by Rogers, Barer, Thompson and Fuller. Lead auditions are Monday, May 30, and Tuesday, May 31, from 7 to 10 p.m.

Lead auditions consist of a two-minute comedic monologue and a song from a musical. Bring a CD or sheet music. Resumes are required, and head shots are appreciated but not required.

Lead roles required are six males age 18 to 50+ years and three females 17 to 50+ years.

Chorus and extra lead auditions including lords and ladies (all ages and voice types) are Sunday, June 5, and Monday, June 6, from 7 to 10 p.m.

The show dates are four weekends, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday matinees and (at least) one Thursday, Aug. 26 to Sept. 18.

Contact the director, Geoff Geiger, at ggeiger2040@gmail.com, with questions or visit the website at www.pasadenalittletheatre.org for more details and character descriptions.

Weight loss seminar set

Losing weight can be a life-changing process with the potential to improve health and decrease risk for serious conditions like stroke and heart disease.

If weight loss surgery is indicated, learn about taking the first step in making a well-informed decision.

Dr. Kenneth Hollis, a bariatric surgeon affiliated with Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital, will guide attendees through an easy-to-follow seminar and explain surgical options, recovery time, and what makes a good candidate. The event is scheduled for Tuesday, June 28, at 5:30 p.m. at the La Quinta Inn & Suites, 880 South Loop 35 in Alvin. To register, call 713-448-7827.

HOME RUN CORNER

The Leader staff reminds parents to submit congratulations for their student's achievements for publication in *Over The Back Fence*. E-mail mynews@southbeltleader.com with OTBF in the subject line. Items must be submitted by Friday noon for the next week's publication.

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Lt. Harry Zamora

For Harris County Constable Pct. 2

Since the beginning of policing in America, constables evolved from night watchmen, who were unpaid volunteers that protected people and property when the sun went down. Later, the need to serve civil papers and carry out duties assigned by magistrates led to the creation of constables. Constables are responsible for serving civil process and providing basic police services.

What leadership traits must the Constable have?

As the chief executive that manages personnel, equipment, and a multi-million dollar budget, it is mandatory that the Constable have the appropriate experience, a broad depth of knowledge and maturity to use all available resources to continue with the American tradition of public safety and civil process. Most importantly, the Constable must have a record of success in prior management and leadership positions.

Who can meet these high standards?

As a 31 year Houston Police lieutenant with experience managing large budgets, hundreds of men and women, and meeting the high expectations of diverse communities, Harry Zamora is the best qualified and most experienced candidate to lead the men and women of Precinct 2.

Who am I?

I am Harry Zamora, and I want the opportunity to represent you and make sure you are safe in our community. If you want to have a voice in local government, better services and more visibility, I can make it happen. I have plans to bring much needed programs to our community and to accomplish this, I need your vote. Together we can improve our quality of life and make Precinct 2 a safer and more prosperous community.

Youtube.com search "Harry Zamora"

Harry Zamora Campaign Christina Morales - Treasurer
111 N. Ennis Houston, TX 77003 832-264-5517

www.voteforzamora.com

Over The Back Fence by Jan

GRADUATION CONGRATS TO ALYSSA
Congratulations are sent to **Alyssa Carol Rollins** after graduating on Sunday, May 15, 2011, from the University of Houston-Clear Lake, where she earned a B.S. degree in education. Best wishes are sent from her parents, **Hugh and Lisa Lazenberry**, grandparents **Carolyn and Skip Stevens** and **Carol and Dan Lazenberry**, husband **Casey** and daughter **Ella**.

FIRST VASQUEZ GRANDSON ARRIVES!
Proud grandparents **Al and Barbara Vasquez** of South Belt announce the birth of their first Vasquez grandson. **Alec Innocente Vasquez** arrived at Women's Hospital at 4:26 p.m. on Monday, May 16, 2011, weighing 8 lbs., 10 oz. and stretching 20-1/2 inches long. Proud parents are **Arnold and Stephanie Vasquez**. Welcoming him home are his sisters, **Alexa and Victoria Vasquez**. Other grandparents are **David Horton** of Houston, **Veronica Horton** of New York, and **Linda Horton** of Canyon Lake. Great-grandparents are **Jack and La Rue Anderson** and **Glen and Lildred Horton**. Aunts and uncles are **Liza and Carlos Ybarra**, **Albert Vasquez**, and **John and Ashley Horton**. Cousins are **Dominique Marie Vasquez**, **Kristy Lynn Ybarra**, **Joseph Isael Ybarra** and **Krystal Lauren Ybarra**.

CONGRATS SENT TO ANDRE!
Congratulations are sent to **Andre Dominguez** for receiving his Bachelor of Science Degree magna cum laude in biology from Gardner-Webb University in North Carolina. His parents are **Richard** (1984 Dobie graduate) and **Renn Dominguez**. Family and friends wish Andre the best for his future graduate studies in marine biology. Present at his graduation on May 16 were his parents, brothers and sister, and both sets of grandparents, **Joe and Yolanda Dominguez** of South Belt, and **Bill and Sybill Ruff**.

MELISSA TURNS 21!
Happy birthday wishes and love are sent to **Melissa Goins** who turns 21 on Monday, May 30, from her family. Melissa lives in the Beverly Hills subdivision and attends San Jacinto College.

WELCOME BABY KRYSIAK
Proud parents, **Robert and Rita Boudra Krysiak**, announce the birth of their baby boy, **Lukas Edwin Krysiak**, in Johannesburg, South Africa. He weighed 9.5 lbs. and stretched 20.5 inches at birth on May 3, 2011. The proud grandparents are **Ron and Trish Boudra** of Beverly Hills and **Jerry and Mary Krysiak** of Erie, Pa. The family now resides in Lilongwe, Malawi.

BIRTHDAY WISHES FOR LUIS
Wishes for a happy birthday are sent to **Luis Escobar** on Saturday, May 28, from his family and his co-workers at the *Leader*.

SCHOOL DAZE
The following personnel and staff members of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays May 26 through June 1.

Atkinson Elementary
Happy birthday wishes are sent to **Shaundelynn Bright** May 29.

Burnett Elementary
Blow out the birthday candles for **Eric Snell** June 1.

Bush Elementary
May 26 is the day for a birthday surprise for **Audra Smith**. On May 28, birthday greetings are sent to **Debbie Barrett** and **Taralee Bowlin**. **Stephanie Miller** is wished a happy birthday on May 30.

Frazier Elementary
Wishes for a happy birthday are sent to **Emma Cruz** May 30. The day for a cake for **Eve Murdock** is May 31.

Meador Elementary
On May 31, **Jennifer Manuel** celebrates a birthday.

Moore Elementary
Blow out the birthday candles for **Mary Jane Leathers** on May 26. On May 28, **Brenda Duff** has a birthday.

South Belt Elementary
May 28 is the day for a party for **Jonathan Kidwell**. On May 29, **Viridiana Barron** enjoys a birthday. **Maria Flores** is sent a birthday greeting on June 1.

Stuchbery Elementary
Birthday wishes are sent to **Jessica Casas** May 29. The day for a party for **Kathy Garcia** is May 31.

Melillo Middle School
Blow out the birthday candles for **Judith Tamez** on May 30.

Morris Middle School
On May 27, **Kamshia Childs** is wished a happy birthday. Enjoying a birthday June 1 is **Shannon Hendrix**.

Beverly Hills Intermediate
May 28 is the day for a birthday party for **Edilia Zamora**. Sharing a birthday May 29 are **Lawrence Moscarelli** and **Indira Patel**.

Thompson Intermediate
Wishes for a happy birthday are sent to **Nury Flores** May 26. On May 29, greetings for a wonderful birthday are sent to **Holly Bailey**.

Dobie High
Deborah Vanderhoef and **Mary Walker** are wished a happy birthday May 26. The day for a birthday surprise for **Johanna Abedinzadeh** is May 29. **Kathy Eads** and **Teresa Hand** are sent birthday greetings on May 30. On May 31, blow out the birthday candles for **David Cameron**.

LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS
E-mail birthday, anniversary, vacation, congratulations, etc., to mynews@southbeltleader.com with OTBF in the subject line. Items must be submitted by Friday noon for the next week's publication.

O'Brien elected president of TACTE

Dr. Catherine O'Brien, associate vice chancellor for learning at San Jacinto College, was recently elected president of the Texas Association of College Technical Educators.

TACTE is an organization of professionals in all work force education areas in community and technical college instruction whose members include college vice presidents, deans, department chairs, and program directors. TACTE facilitates the communication between state agencies and college administrators responsible for the development and implementation of education and training for career and technical education, staying up to date on industry standards as well as educational and certification requirements.

In 2004, O'Brien joined TACTE through the persuasion of her colleague and former San Jacinto College Central vice president of instruction, Dr. Joseph Kirkland. He encouraged her to join the organization after seeing her passion to show students, faculty and administrators the importance of technical education alongside academics.



Dr. Catherine O'Brien

Later in 2009, O'Brien became a board member of TACTE, working on the conference committee for the annual TACTE conference in Austin.

This year, fellow TACTE board member and nominating committee chair, Don Perry of Dallas Community College, notified her that the committee wanted to submit her name for president. On April 8, 2011, the official announcement of her presidency was made at the conference. Given the rough economic situation the Texas education industry is now facing, her new role would not come

without its difficulties.

"Dr. O'Brien assumes the leadership role of president of TACTE during a period of time in Texas when community and technical colleges are experiencing historical growth in enrollments, while simultaneously receiving less financial support from the state," said Perry. "However, it is still juxtaposed with increased accountability and the need to equip our unemployed and under employed citizens with 21st century workforce skill sets. Her experience and background in program development, evaluation, and assessment, coupled with her knowledge and understanding of career and technical education (CTE) makes her an outstanding choice as president."

When asked about her reaction to being the newly elected TACTE president, O'Brien said she felt "humbled that I am qualified to serve them." As a former teacher, she has always found herself in an educator's role. Whether it's through teaching students or enlightening administrators, she sees this as an opportunity to further educate state agencies, community leaders, and college

and university administrators on the importance and value of technical education.

"The current budget situation will certainly have a long-term impact on education," said O'Brien. "I look at my presidency as an opportunity to prepare the groundwork for what we will have to face from here on. How do you retain quality faculty? How do you keep state enrollment numbers growing in technical programs that may not be receiving the funding they're used to? It's a challenge, but I'm an incurable optimist. We will find a way."

Technical degrees and certifications from community colleges have often been perceived as "secondary" to academic degrees. Now with the ever-changing national economy, more and more students who already have academic degrees are enrolling in technical programs in order to switch jobs as quickly as possible to better their financial situations.

While O'Brien has always been an advocate for technical education, as president of TACTE she hopes to emphasize her philosophy on post-secondary education as a

whole, academic or technical. According to an economic impact report commissioned by the Texas Gulf Coast Consortium of Community Colleges, the regional average income in the career midpoint of a student with an associate degree is \$58,000 more per year, 36 percent more than a student with only a high school diploma. Community college students also contribute substantial savings to the state by avoiding social costs amounting to \$44.9 million per year, including savings associated with improved health, reduced crime rates, reduced welfare, and unemployment.

"Every student who graduates from high school needs a post-secondary education. There's no other way around it. We need to stress this to our students even more so right now. Whether it's through academic, technical, or military training, every single graduate needs post-secondary education in their future," said O'Brien.

Joyce Williams, TACTE board member and district director of work force education and development at Dallas Community College, is also positive about O'Brien's term. "Her knowledge and persistence for service to students, businesses, and community agencies is just a small list of the items that will make her a great incoming leader of this group. Perhaps the greatest gifts she will bring as president of TACTE are her wit, passion, and strong work ethics."

O'Brien looks forward to being the voice for TACTE and the community of technical educators the organization represents. "It will be interesting speaking to legislators and helping them to understand that rural community colleges have different issues than those of a metropolis. Most of all I look forward to serving with this board of great people, encompassing the whole Texas region."

O'Brien and her husband, Jeff, are longtime South Belt area residents.

Remember When

35 years ago (1976)
The Scarsdale One Lighting Association was organized for collecting and maintaining funds to pay Houston Lighting and Power for the approximate \$2,000 annual street lighting bill.

Harris County road funds were allocated for long-range improvements that would extend Blackhawk Boulevard to Bay Area Boulevard.

30 years ago (1981)
For the first time in its history, Dobie High School had a state track championship. Gawain Guy had a 15-yard lead to take first place in the 1,600-meter championship with a 4:11.6 time.

A Texas House bill calling for voters in the Clear Creek

area to create a Clear Creek Watershed Drainage District passed through a subcommittee and headed to a committee vote before going to a full House vote.

25 years ago (1986)
A state attorney general's opinion allowing school districts to hire crossing guards posed questions for Pasadena Independent School District trustees who said they weren't totally in favor of the ruling.

Steps were taken toward generating revenue for both a hike and bike trail for the South Belt area and a walking park at the proposed Hall Road (later renamed El Franco Lee) Park.

The South Belt Civic Coalition vowed to be more aggressive in seeing that lawns of foreclosed and abandoned houses were maintained.

All 106 fourth-graders at Weber Elementary were designated the 3rd Company of Texas volunteers of Houston. The class sent letters to dignitaries in the United States and Mexico for the return of a Texas flag that had been flying over the Alamo when it fell. The flag was in a museum in Mexico City. Although the flag had not yet been returned, the students continued their efforts.

Road improvements totaling more than \$2 million along Blackhawk and Hall Road were under way.

20 years ago (1991)
Sagmont Church celebrated its silver anniversary. The Rev. John Morgan started the church in June 1966 with 16 people. The church had more than 14,000 members on its 25th anniversary.

The South Belt area was preparing for Casino Night, the annual fundraiser hosted by the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce, to pay for the July 4th fireworks

display.

A monetary tug-of-war in Southbend left some homeowners without trash pickup. The Southbend Homeowners' Association voted to go to direct billing through Best Waste Company. Homeowners said they paid for trash collection through their annual fees.

State redistricting affected the South Belt when one house seat was eliminated and the lines were redrawn. Rep. Randy Pennington charged Democrats with trying to stack the house in order to pass a state income tax.

Central Ace Hardware was recognized as the South Belt area Business of the Year at the annual Southeast Economic Development Council dinner.

15 years ago (1996)
South Belt area's miracle boy, Justin Coronado, a seventh-grade Thompson Intermediate student who suffered a serious bicycle accident from which he was not expected to recover, appeared on the Children's Miracle Network on KHOU-TV Channel 11.

Dobie Business Professionals of America students went to national competition in Phoenix. Jeff Dorough placed first in the nation in extemporaneous verbal communications. Arthur Ward was third place in computer assistant.

10 years ago (2001)
Lindsay Simpson, 10, a Frazier Elementary student, was the center of attention at a benefit carnival held to help pay for a heart transplant.

After reviewing bid proposals from three other firms, the PISD board of trustees approved J.T. Vaughn Construction Company as the contractor for the new Dobie High School. The bid was for

\$45,998 million.

South Houston High School dedicated its new wing in memory of Elaine Reinarts, a former assistant principal of the school. Reinarts, a Dobie graduate, died in a traffic accident in May 1997.

5 years ago (2006)
A South Belt resident, Heidi Ruiz, a Houston Police Department juvenile investigator, was chosen to receive the 2005 Law Enforcement Achievement Award.

U.S. Rep. Tom DeLay informed Speaker of the House Dennis Hastert, that as of June 9, he would formally resign as representative of the 22nd Congressional District.

The Harris County Justices of the Peace introduced a new website service that enabled citizens cited for moving traffic violations to apply for a driver safety course and to pay associated court costs online at www.jp.hctx.net.

1 year ago (2010)
Charges were filed against a suspect arrested in a fatal traffic accident in the 300 block of Genoa Red Bluff. The suspect, Reyes Reyna, 55, was charged with intoxication manslaughter.

A second-grade Stuchbery student returned to school after being struck by a car while leaving the campus. The 7-year-old student was crossing the street with his parent after school at a non-designated crosswalk when he was hit by the automobile on Hughes Road in front of Sagmont Church.

Police arrested two suspects in connection with a fatal drive-by shooting in the 11000 block of Sagevalley. Former Dobie student Favian Ramirez, 20, was shot in the neck during the incident. He was taken to Ben Taub General Hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

SJC to host Maritime Youth Career Camp

Students 14 and older interested in the maritime industry may register for the Maritime Youth Career Camp this summer at San Jacinto College.

The three-day camps will be held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., July 20-22 at the Central campus; July 27-29 at the North campus; and Aug. 3-5 at the South campus.

Cost for the camp is \$20, and lunch and camp T-shirts will be provided. Space is limited to 20 participants per campus.

Campers will learn about the various careers within the maritime industry, experience cargo handling and simulations, visit tour the Texas A&M ship and Houston Ship Channel, and participate in navigation exercises. They'll also meet captains, mates, tankermen, pilots, able seamen and other mariners.

San Jacinto College Central campus is located at 8060 Spencer Highway in Pasadena; South campus is located at 13735 Beamer Road; and North campus is located at 5800 Uvalde Road.

For a Maritime Youth Career Camp application, call 281-974-2200 or e-mail sanjacinto.maritime@sacd.edu.

For more information about the various summer camps offered at San Jacinto College, visit <http://www.sanjac.edu/node/5684>.

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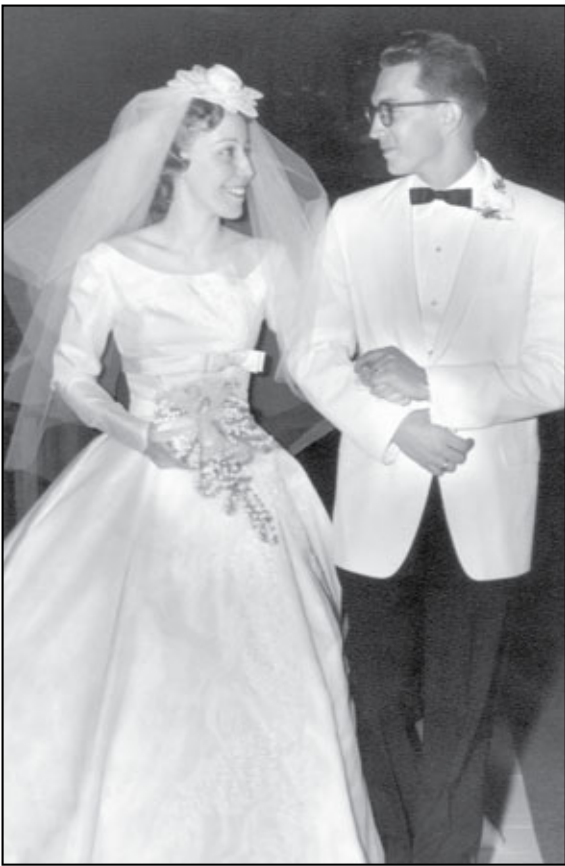
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Speers celebrate golden anniversary



Jerry Ross Speer and Mary Carl Hubbuch Speer will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary May 27, 2011. They were married May 27, 1961, at St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Louisville, Ky. They met while Jerry was serving in the U.S. Army at Fort Knox and Mary Carl was a registered nurse in Louisville. The couple have four daughters: Judith Ann McKenna, Rebecca Jean Schaulin, Ruth Marie Speer and Mary Therese Neskora; nine grandchildren: Sarah McKenna, Kathryn Alvarado, Brice Schaulin, Preston Schaulin, Zane West, Garrett West, Ross Neskora, Daneille Neskora, Pierce Neskora; and a great-granddaughter, Gwendalynn Alvarado. Jerry was the principal of Dobie High School from 1986 to 2000.



He served as an assistant principal at Dobie from 1982 to 1986, and taught math and science and coached at Beverly Hills Intermediate and Pasadena and Mt. Carmel high schools. Upon retirement in 2000, he was elected to the Pasadena School Board where he now serves as president. Mary Carl Speer worked as a registered nurse in the emergency room at Memorial Southeast Hospital before becoming the school nurse at Gardens Elementary in the Pasadena Independent School District in 1977 and continued until 2000. They are both active members of St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church where a mass will be said in their honor at 8 a.m. on May 29, 2011.

HCMGA sets events for June

The Harris County Master Gardeners Association recently released its schedule for June, as follows:

Green Thumb Gardening Series

Louis Mickler, Harris County Master Gardener, will speak on *Growing Plants from Seeds and Cuttings*. These lectures are free and open to the public and will be held Tuesday, June 14, from 6:30 to 9 p.m. in the meeting room at Clear Lake Park (on the lake side), 5001 NASA Parkway in Seabrook. For more information visit the website at <http://harris-tx.tamu.edu/hort/greenthumb.htm>.

Master Gardener Lecture Series

Glenn Olsen, past president of the Native Plant Society of Texas and past vice president of education for the Houston Audubon Society, will speak on *Gardening with Native Plants to Attract Birds and Butterflies*. This lecture is free and open to the public and will be held Wednesday, June 15, at 10 a.m. in the meeting room at Clear Lake Park (on the lakeside), 5001 NASA Parkway in Seabrook. For more information, visit the website at <http://harris-tx.tamu.edu/hort>.

Open Garden Day

The public is invited to tour the working and demonstration gardens maintained by the Harris County Master Gardeners at Precinct 2.

Master gardeners will be on hand to answer gardening questions during this free event. Children are welcome but must be accompanied by an adult at all times. The tour is free and open to the public and will be held on Monday, June 20, from 9 to 10:30 a.m. at Genoa Friendship Garden, 1202 Genoa Red Bluff in Houston. For more information, visit the website at <http://harris-tx.tamu.edu/hort>.

Frazier, Prasinos to marry



Loye and Betty Frazier of Sagameadow and Anthony and Constance Prasinos of North Reading, Mass., announce the engagement of their children, Wendy Frazier and Darren Prasinos of Charlestown, Mass. The bride-to-be is a former teacher at J. Frank Dobie High School and is currently an associate professor at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va. She received her bachelor's degree from Rice University and her doctorate from Columbia University in New York. The prospective groom has completed two tours of duty in Iraq and is employed with the Department of Defense. He received his bachelor's degree from Bryant University in Rhode Island, and master's degree in business administration from the University of Massachusetts and is a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves. A wedding is planned for 2012.

Stewart honored



Clerical aide Cecelia Stewart (left) recently received the Together We Can Award in the Create Magic category for her continual dedication to the development of art skills in Meador Elementary students. She was presented the award at a luncheon at the Pasadena Independent School District Administration Building by the school board and Dr. Kirk Lewis. Stewart has worked at Meador for the past 20 years and has lived in the South Belt area since 1983. Both of her children graduated from Dobie High School. She promotes a love for art throughout the school by encouraging student participation in local contests and also serves as an art mentor. Shown with Stewart is Meador Assistant Principal Beverly Bolton. Photo submitted

Public invited to free Gotta Dance! Houston Symphony performance

This summer's San Jacinto College Sounds of Symphony concert is sure to get audience members up on their feet with the Houston Symphony on Tuesday, June 7, at Slocomb Auditorium at the Central campus. The performance will begin at 10:30 a.m., and is part of the Houston Symphony's free *Sounds Like Fun!* summer concert series. The summer series is designed to provide families with a dynamic musical experience with this year's theme, *Gotta Dance!* Audiences will enjoy dance numbers from such productions as *Carmen*, *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*, *West Side Story*, and *Rodeo*. Houston Symphony associate conductor Robert Franz will lead the hour-long performance. "This program will get your blood pumping and your heart racing," said Franz. "The concert focuses on the inner pulse that we all feel. Featuring all music with a dance beat, this program will make you want to jump and shake everything you've got!"

The San Jacinto College has partnered with the Houston Symphony for the past two years to bring performances to all three SJC campuses. Students, employees, donors, and friends gathered at

Hobby Lions Club to meet

Houston Hobby Airport Lions Club will meet Wednesday, June 1, at 11:30 a.m. at the Golden Corral at Fuqua and I-45. For more information, call Monica Montoya at 281-794-5531.

Jones Hall in February to celebrate the partnership's second year while also raising funds for the Promise For Their Future Scholarship Initiative that provides scholarships to students interested in the arts and sciences. "Having the Houston Symphony perform at our Central campus will provide students and community members with the chance to hear world-class musicians right in their backyard," said Eric Late, chair of the Central campus music department. "We look forward to this

San Jac South fine arts shows off performances at open house

The San Jacinto College South fine arts department held its annual open house on April 30 in the Marie Spence Flickinger Fine Arts Building. Department faculty and students were on hand to answer questions and provide more information on scholarships, available classes, degree and certification programs, and upcoming performances.



Members of the San Jac Dance Performing Arts Center perform selected pieces from this year's spring concert, *Crossroads*, held on May 5 and 6. Pictured are, left to right, Sheila Cox, Clarissa Hooper, Erica Rosell, Alyssa Vinson, Cassidy Richards, Danielle Elsner and Brittany Frederick. Photo submitted

Art students travel to Czech Republic

Six University of Houston-Clear Lake art students will get a chance of a lifetime when they travel to Plzen, Czech Republic, in July to attend ArtCamp at the University of West Bohemia as part of the university's International Art Consortium. While the students will be going to learn, UHCL Associate Vice President of University Advancement Dion McNinis and UHCL art instructor Miguel Herrera will be going to share their skills as instructors in photography and sculpture respectively. UHCL graduate and undergraduate art students attending are Emma Marks, John Collins, Lakita Costner, William Jones, Sherrie Schaeffer and Jason Shaw. They will join students from the Czech Republic, Ukraine, Germany, Slovakia and Russia at ArtCamp. They will work on art projects in various media including photography, book-binding, jewelry and painting. "I am really looking forward to the Czech trip this summer," said Jones, one of the six attending ArtCamp. "As an artist, it will help me gain a sense of a European aesthetic and a look at the art history of that area. "As a secondary art teacher, it will help me understand and relate to the exchange students from Europe, while

increasing my own world view in regard to visual art." Graduate student Schaeffer agrees that the trip provides a wonderful opportunity. "ArtCamp affords me the opportunity to enhance my painting skills and explore new ideas by enrolling in two consecutive weeks of classes," she said. "Each new experience broadens my concept of the world. I look forward to sharing my expression of that through each piece of art created." University of West Bohemia's ArtCamp holds classes that range from one to three weeks, and is just one of several programs offered through the International Consortium. The consortium, which was

created in 2003 and originally included UHCL, University of Hawaii in Hilo, Hawaii Universidad de Veracruzana in Xalapa, Mexico, and the University of West Bohemia in Plzen, Czech Republic, has grown to also include the University of Arts in Belgrade Serbia and the Academy of Fine Arts and Design in Bratislava, Slovakia. Two other universities will be joining the consortium including Savannah College of Art and Design in Atlanta, Ga., and University of Dallas in Irving, Texas. For information about art at UHCL, call 281-283-3378, e-mail hu@uhcl.edu or visit <http://hsh.uhcl.edu/Art>.



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South Belt cookoff winners receive trophies, ribbons

The 15th annual South Belt Spectacular cookoff, held in El Franco Lee Park, raised more than \$20,000 for this year's Fourth of July fireworks show. This year, the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department was responsible for organiz-

ing the event with much success. Photos below show the first-, second-, and third-place winners of this year's cookoff. Categories include overall winner, ribs, chicken, beans, chili, chef choice and showmanship.



Team Henek walked away with five trophies at the 2011 cookoff: overall winner trophy, second place for brisket and ribs, and first and third place for chili. Team Henek winners listed from right to left, (front row) Nick Kamke, Alfonso Mejia, Brian Kamke, Lindy Timme, Heather Kamke, Terri Kamke, Hannah

Redus, (middle row) Ab Garcia, Derek Kamke, Brianna Kamke, Shelby Robinson, Betty Lopez, (back row) Casey Smith, Tony Miller, Chuck Timme, Jacobo Lopez and being held in the air is the team's mascot, Log Hog.



First-place winners for best chicken were the R&R GNC Pit Crew. Pictured are, left to right, Pops Alvarez, County Commissioner El Franco Lee, Rick Alvarez and Ronnie Perez.



The Smoke Dawg team won second place in beans and Chef Choice. Pictured are, left to right, Jennifer Flores, Raymond Flores, County Commissioner El Franco Lee and Cesar Galvan.



First-place winners for Chef Choice is the Hang 'Em High team. Shown, left to right, are Timothy Sasser, Susan Shannon, County Commissioner El Franco Lee, Jimmy Sasser, Andrew Yospur and Kevin Robertson.



Third-place winner for showmanship is the Saloon Dog. Pictured are, left to right, Tommy Morgan, County Commissioner El Franco Lee, Allen Dawson, and Susie Dawson.



Young Blood wins first place for beans and second place for chili. The Young Blood winners are, left to right, with County Commissioner El Franco Lee, Laura Garcia, Juan Cortez and Steve Gil.



First place for Showmanship were the Pit Vipers. Shown, from left to right, Aurelio Pina, Tracy Pratt, County Commissioner El Franco Lee, Juan Avila, Brenda Criado, Cecelia Pina, Loletha Jones, Yvette Giron, Gary Gonzales, Rita Zermeno, Matt Ortiz and Sal Rodriguez.



First place for both ribs and brisket were the Pyromaniacs. Shown in the photo, left to right, are County Commissioner El Franco Lee, Luke Mauro and his teammate; Randy McKay.



Walking away with third place in the beans category was Kristie Mireles with the Smoking Aces. Pictured with her is County Commissioner El Franco Lee.

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South Belt Ellington Leader sends a special thanks to the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department for all their hard work and dedication into making this year's South Belt cookoff a success. Thanks for a job well done in raising money for the upcoming Fourth of July fireworks show.

Leader needs assistance

Some team members who won either first-, second-, or third-place trophies have not responded with identifying names in the Leader's photos. If a team is not included, e-mail mynews@southbeltleader.com. Many more photos of the event can be viewed online at southbeltleader.com/2011/index.html

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This was the first year the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department was responsible for the organization of the cookoff. Shown above is SVFD volunteer and event organizer, John Layton.



Linda Arnone received an award from County Commissioner El Franco Lee in appreciation of her support of the South Belt cookoff for 10 years.

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SECTION B SPORTS & CLASSIFIED

Lady Longhorn softball marches onto Region III finals

Two of the state's biggest names in varsity girls' softball history are about to go head-to-head for the Region III championship and a berth in the 2011 state tournament.

Dobie defeated 2009 Region III finalist Katy Taylor 7-3 May 19 at the Aldine ISD sports complex to secure its first regional finals berth since 1997.

Pearland, the defend-

ing Class 5A state champion, downed Bellaire 6-5 and 4-3 May 19-20 at the University of Houston and will be looking for a third straight state trip.

"I am just thrilled for my kids to see them in this position," Dobie head coach Robin Rackley said.

"They have worked so hard, and battled out there on the field for some huge wins. To have the chance to go to state is big. It's what you play for."

Dobie (three) and Pearland have combined to win five state titles, and Rackley was the Lady Longhorns' starting catcher in 1993 when the program won the state's first-ever championship.

But while all of the history is there, Rackley prefers to train her team's focus on now.

The best of three series will be held May 26-28 at Manvel High School. Each game is slated to begin at 7 p.m. The first team to win two games will book a trip to Austin for the state tournament June 3-4.

"It's also a great thing that two schools so close (in proximity) are playing for the chance to go to state," Rackley said.

"And we are playing close enough so that all of

our respective fans will be able to come out and watch us."

Both teams have come back from near elimination to reach the Region III championship series.

Pearland lost the first game of its best-of-three series in the bidistrict and area rounds but has since won four straight games.

Dobie, meanwhile, lost to Brazoswood in the first

game of a best-of-three regional quarterfinal series but then rebounded to win.

"We have to go out and have fun and play softball," Rackley said. "I think it's important to treat it like a

softball game and nothing more. Worrying about what is at stake or tightening up because it's the finals is not going to help us.

"We've done a good job of playing Dobie softball and just playing catch on defense, making big pitches and getting key hits. We just have to continue to do that."

The experience advantage obviously belongs to the Lady Oilers. State finalists in 2009, Pearland came through with a win over Austin Bowie for the Class 5A state crown in 2010.

Interestingly enough, Dobie was the last team to

beat Pearland during the 2010 season as the Lady Oilers went unbeaten in the playoffs after losing 3-2 to

Dobie in the District 22-5A finale.

Pearland is likely to go

Continued on Page 2B

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Dobie players, from left, Jenna Medina, Shannon O'Connor, Chezni Critchfield (1) and Alyssa Lerma know it will take just one more series win to send the Lady Longhorns to the Class 5A state softball tournament in Austin.

Dobie, Pearland big names in softball history

History will play no role in the eventual outcome of the Region III varsity girls' softball series pitting Dobie against Pearland, but the success of both programs is detailed quite well in the University Interscholastic League archives.

Since the UIL, the state's official governing body for extracurricular activities, allowed softball to become a high school sport beginning in the 1992-93 school year, Dobie and Pearland have been two of the state's most recognizable players.

There are five state titles between the two schools.

Dobie won the first-ever state title in 1993, a 1-0 victory over Tomball as future Olympian Christa Williams pitched the Lady Longhorns to three wins in the state quarterfinals, state semifinals and then against Tomball in the final.

It should also be noted that current Dobie High School head coach Robin Rackley was the Lady Longhorns' starting catcher that year.

In 1995, Dobie again won three games at state to clinch its second title, this time an 11-0 pounding of Plano East.

The following year, Pearland got in on the action, winning a state crown as current Clear Brook varsity girls' softball head coach Ashley (Oswald) Pillow was a member of that team.

It was the first year for regional tournaments, and Pearland won two games at state after winning Region III, downing San Marcos 2-1 in the state championship game.

A year later, Dobie added to its haul, bagging a third state championship with a 5-3 win over Keller.

Current Dobie junior varsity head coach and

varsity assistant coach Carmela (Ortiz) Swinnen was a member of that team.

Fast forward to 2009, when Pearland advanced to the state championship game before losing 1-0 to Smithson Valley.

Last year, Pearland won its second-ever state title with a win over Austin Bowie.

Rackley knows plenty about the success of the two programs and some of the recent battles the two programs have had both in district play and the playoffs, but she's not a history buff.

Continued on Page 2B

Brook, JFD spring football games May 26

Three-plus weeks of spring football workouts will culminate Thursday, May 26, as the Clear Brook Wolverines and Dobie Longhorns host their annual spring games.

For the Wolverines, the preparation and subsequent game action will feel much like the real thing.

Head coach Paul Lanier, who will enter his fifth season this fall, will have his players bused to Veteran's Memorial Stadium in League City.

Once there, the underclassmen will compete at 4:30 p.m. in a scrimmage, with the upperclassmen to follow at 6 p.m.

Dobie head coach Jim Phillips is admittedly taking a casual approach to the spring game.

During the offseason that followed the varsity team's loss to Beaumont West Brook in the playoffs and through the spring, the coaching staff was able to identify many of the 2011 starters.

With that in mind, Phillips wants to keep the No. 1s healthy while giving players who will likely add depth in 2012 a big stage to show their wares.

Dobie will host one scrimmage game on campus May 26 at 5 p.m. The current freshmen will open the action, and then many of the players who stand out in the session will advance

to another brief upperclassmen session.

"For us, we want to build

some depth heading into the preseason workouts (in July)," Phillips said. "We

know what the starters can do. There is no reason to risk an injury."

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Lady Longhorns trip Taylor, move to final

Continued from Page 1B
with three-year starter Jessica Bowden in the circle.
Although the senior has struggled at times this season while adjusting to the 43-foot distance between the pitching rubber and the plate, Bowden is a veteran.
Meanwhile, Dobie will turn to junior Shannon O'Connor, who has been nothing short of brilliant in the postseason.
After pitching Dobie to a marathon series victory over Brazoswood in the regional quarterfinals, O'Connor was equally as good against a very talented offensive club from Katy Taylor.
Dobie drops KT
In every way, shape and form, Dobie beat Katy Taylor at its own game in the regional quarterfinals.
Rackley preferred to play a best-of-three series but lost that chance in a coin flip as Taylor head coach Billie Powell wanted to play a single, winner-take-all contest.
Advantage Katy Taylor, or so it seemed.
Rackley was hoping to play at a neutral site such as Manvel, but Powell vetoed that. After much discussion both ways, the two coaches settled on the Aldine ISD complex. Advantage Katy Taylor, or so it seemed.
In all, Rackley lost five coin flips, including one where the brand of ball to use was decided. Advantage Katy Taylor, or so it seemed.
Once the game began, Dobie was in control essentially the entire way.
Scoring two runs with no outs in the top of the first inning, Dobie gave O'Connor enough of an early advantage to handle the rest in the locals' 7-3 victory over the Lady Mustangs.
Dobie's Kellen Gomez opened the game with an infield single that pitcher Jennifer Hooker could not field in the circle.
Gomez stole second base

before Gallant also singled on a ball hit back to Hooker. On the play, Hooker threw the ball wide of first base as Gomez scored.
Two pitches later, Gallant scored from second base after Andrea Stallard, the catcher, threw the ball away while trying to pick off Gallant.
Hooker recovered to retire the next three hitters 1-2-3, but as O'Connor jogged to the circle for the bottom of the first inning, Dobie already led 2-0.
The Lady Longhorns moved their lead to 3-0 in the top of the third inning as Gallant doubled to left field with two outs and scored on Shelby O'Brien's RBI single to center field.
Katy Taylor finally got on the scoreboard in the bottom of the fourth inning. Kaitlin Haney doubled off the fence in right field and moved to third base on an error on the relay.
Sam Alegria then sent a

long fly ball to Gallant in center field for a sacrifice fly as Katy Taylor cut the deficit to 3-1.
Dobie answered the run in the top of the fifth inning as Chezni Critchfield and Gomez opened the frame with back-to-back singles to center field.
After both runners advanced a base on Hooker's wild pitch, Gallant's single plated Critchfield for a 4-1 lead.
The Lady Longhorns essentially put the game away with a three-run seventh inning for a 7-1 lead.
Critchfield drove in one run with an infield single, and Gomez drove in another with a single to right field. Dobie's final run scored on Hooker's error.
All the while, O'Connor was coasting for Dobie. After Haney's double to start the fourth inning, O'Connor sent seven straight and 11 of 12 hitters back to the bench.

In the bottom of the seventh, O'Connor put out Stellar on a fly ball to right field and got the second out as Sam Alegria flew out to center field.
With the rain falling harder, O'Connor had control issues with the wet ball, walking a pair.
Devyn Alonzo cut the lead to 7-2 with a single to center field. But on a single to center field by Aisha Graham, Gallant came up with the defensive play of the game.
Fielding the ground ball single cleanly in center field, Gallant fired a strike to Dobie catcher Ariel Morgan, who tagged out Cassye Baker for the final out.
In all, Critchfield, Gomez and Gallant went eight for 11 at the plate for Dobie.
O'Connor, now 6-1 in these playoffs, struck out nine hitters in the game and allowed just five hits as she kept rolling her way through the postseason.



With one more series win, the Dobie Lady Longhorns will return to the state softball tournament for the first time since 1997. To do so, shortstop Chezni Critchfield (above) and her teammates must play flawless defense against Pearland.

Storied histories trail JFD, PHS

Continued from Page 1B
“We’re in the here and now, and we are focused on winning this series,” Rackley said. “All of that stuff is nice, but that’s just what it is – history. None of that matters right now. We are one of the final two teams in the running for a state berth this year, and Pearland is there with us.”
But while Rackley doesn’t bother with the details of the past, she knows what is at stake. Pearland is trying to get back to the state tournament for the third straight season, a feat shared by no other program.
Pearland is also trying to stay on track to have a chance to equal Dobie’s three state titles.
Another note of interest? Pearland head coach Laneigh Clark is a Dobie graduate.
On the other side of the field, Rackley and Swinnen want the chance to coach on the campus of the University of Texas at Red and Charline McCombs Field in Austin.
The state tournament was not held there when either were players. Prior to 2000, the event was played at the Pleasant Valley Sports Complex in Austin, which is no longer there.
“I want the chance to coach my team on that (McCombs) field, and I know Carmela would love that, too,” Rackley said.
“It would be nice to add to the history, but we have to be focused on right now and one game at a time.”

Brook boys’ soccer earns all-24-5A nods

The Clear Brook varsity boys’ soccer team picked up its share of honors as the league’s coaches released the all-24-5A selections.
Senior forward Landon Sikes made his way to the first team along with Jake Stercula, a junior midfielder.
Sikes, a three-year starter, led the Wolverines in scoring this season as the team fell just shy of making the playoffs.
Two other Clear Brook players were named to the 24-5A second team, including Drew Pilola, a junior midfielder, and sophomore defender Kieran Cupples.
First-year Clear Brook head coach Chris Stromeyer also had four of his players selected as members of the honorable mention list.
Those players included senior defenders Nick Burke and Giovanni Menendez along with senior midfielder Colt Holsomback and Drew Anderson, a junior defender.
District 24-5A champion Dickinson, which advanced to the regional quarterfinals before losing to Dobie, snared two of the league’s top honors.
Senior forward Armando Calderon, who came through with big-time defensive efforts all season from in the nets, was the Most Valuable Goalkeeper.
Dickinson’s Ilija Milovanovic was the Coach of the Year after guiding the Gators to the 24-5A crown.
Pearland forward Alan Hernandez, a senior, was the Offensive Most Valuable Player. Brazoswood’s John Williams, also a senior, was named the Defensive Most Valuable Player.



Dobie center fielder Amie Gallant (left) goes around Katy Taylor catcher Andrea Stallard to score the second of two runs for the Lady Longhorns in the top of the first inning against the Mustangs May 19 at the Aldine ISD sports complex. Dobie went on

Clear Brook softball ex Fichtner top frosh for UTSA in Southland

University of Texas-San Antonio women’s softball player Molly Fichtner was named Southland Conference Freshman of the Year in addition to picking up second-team all-conference honors.
Fichtner, a class of 2010 Clear Brook High School graduate who led UTSA in 10 offensive categories this season, is the third player in program history to earn Freshman of the Year honors.
Prior to the conference tournament, Fichtner paced the Roadrunners and was ranked in the conference’s top 10 in batting average (.358), runs (38), hits (53), doubles (11), home runs (11), RBIs (34), total bases (99), slugging percentage (.669), walks (34) and on-base percentage (.486).
Fichtner has started all



Molly Fichtner

but one game at catcher and recorded 13 multi-hit contests to go along with six multi-RBI performances during the season, including a season-best, four-hit, five-RBI performance in the season-opening win against No. 24 Illinois.
She had a season-long 13-game hitting streak from Feb. 18 to March 8 and also reached base in 19 consecutive games earlier in the season.
After hitting .500 (8-for-16) with a double, homer and six RBIs at the Gettman Classic, Fichtner was named the season’s inaugural Southland Hitter of the Week.

San Jacinto softball alumni Pettit finishes career in style at UHV

Courtney Pettit, who played her sophomore softball season at San Jacinto College, has closed out her career with a flourish at the University of Houston-Victoria.
A 2007 graduate of Deer Park High School, Pettit found her way to San Jacinto College prior to the 2009 season and stood out before moving on to UHV for two seasons.
This season, Pettit put together some terrific numbers and found herself mentioned on three different postseason honor lists.



Courtney Pettit

She was named to the Louisville Slugger National Fastpitch Coaches Association Southwest All-Regional and paced the team with four home runs. Hornback hit .372 with nine homers, 20 doubles, 58 runs batted in, a .612 slugging percentage and a team-high 73 hits.
The education major was also named a Daktronics National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Scholar Athlete for maintaining a grade point average of 3.5 or better through at least her junior season.
Pettit’s final honor included being named an Association of Independent Institutions all-conference performer.

Region 14 South champions, SJC baseball players honored

San Jacinto College, the Region XIV South Conference champion, had six players and its head coach recognized during the postseason award announcements.
Pitcher Miguel Peña, catcher Ryan Hornback and infielder Esteban Gomez were unanimous selections to the Region XIV South All-Conference team.
Joining them on the first team were pitcher Tyler Wright, outfielder Justin Byrd and utility/infielder Josh Gonzales.
Peña and Wright ranked

Gonzales hit .329, and paced the team with four home runs. Hornback hit .314 with 41 RBIs.
In addition, San Jacinto College head coach Tom Arrington was Coach of the Year for the third straight season and for the eighth time in his 11 seasons at the college.
This season, Arrington guided the Gators to a 38-16 overall record, despite a 1-2 mark at the Region XIV baseball tournament.
For his career, Arrington is 490-168 as the San Jacinto head coach.

10-under Shocks hoops place second

The Sagemont Shocks 10-under youth basketball team placed second at the 66th annual Houston Hispanic Basketball Tournament, held at Pasadena High School. It was also the first tournament in which these players competed as the Shocks. Members of

the team are, left to right, (front row) Quarino Gualardo, Aaron Perea, Seth Gutierrez, Nicholas Rodarte, (back row) R.J. Ortega, Mizzael Ruiz, David Amaya and Gavin Garcia-Machado.

Brook football’s Davis chooses Tabor College

Clear Brook High School varsity football player Donnell Davis (seated second from left), a starting cornerback during the 2010 season for the Wolverines, will continue his education and playing career at Tabor College in Hillsboro, Kan. Those with Da-

vis at the signing included, left to right, (front row) Melissa Peters (mother), Keisha Peters (sister), Keith Peters (father), (standing) Brook secondary coach Tim Thomas and Brook head coach Paul Lanier.

Clear Brook’s Lindsey to Temple College hoops



Clear Brook High School varsity girls’ basketball player Courtney Lindsey (seated third from left) will continue her education and playing career at Temple Junior College after signing a letter of intent. Those with Lindsey at the signing included, left to right, (front row) Danielle Lindsey (aunt), Chandra Lindsey (mother), Robert Jackson (mother’s boyfriend), (back

row) Noah Cardenas (strength and conditioning coach), Toya Peterson (Brook freshman girls’ basketball coach), Tricia Mize (Brook varsity girls’ basketball assistant coach), Marcette Kilgore (Brook dean of instruction) and Blair Redmon (Brook varsity girls’ basketball head coach).

Dobie graduate Nguyen finishes fine Army start

Army women’s softball outfielder Amanda Nguyen, a class of 2010 Dobie High School graduate, put the finishing touches on a fine freshman season with two more honors.

Nguyen and teammate Alex Reynolds from Cinco Ranch High School were recognized for their performance at the Patriot League Softball Championships as they were named to the all-tournament team.

At the Army post-season banquet, Nguyen also shared Rookie of the Year honors with a teammate.

It is the second time in less than a week that Nguyen and Reynolds earned league honors, having been selected for first team all-star honors prior to the tournament.

The No. 4 seeded Black Knights posted a 1-2 mark at the tournament, bowing by a run, 3-2, to top-seeded and host Colgate in the first game.

The team then rallied for a 6-4 win over No. 3 Holy Cross, before suffering a 6-0 loss to the Raiders in an elimination game in closing out the season 28-25.

Army’s 28 wins are tied for the seventh highest

mark in the Black Knights’ 33 year history as a varsity sport.

Nguyen left her mark in Army’s annals as she helped the team earn its second straight trip to the Patriot League Tournament and 18th overall.

Nguyen batted .750 at the tournament (6-for-8) posting a slugging percentage of .750 and .778 on-base percentage.

During the season, Nguyen hit safely in 30 games with 66 singles, two doubles and two triples, 41 runs scored and 14 RBIs, posting a .383 batting average, a .415 slugging percentage and an on-base percentage of .421. In addition, she made just one fielding error in 111 chances.

She established three Academy single-season marks her rookie season in registering 70 hits, 41 runs scored and 27 stolen bases.

Nguyen also broke the mark for runs set in 1991, while the records for stolen bases and hits had been on the books since 1992 and 1999, respectively.

Nguyen is just the seventh freshman to lead the team in batting at the Division I level.



Amanda Nguyen, a class of 2010 Dobie High School graduate, made a smooth transition to the collegiate game while playing at Army. She was named to the All-Patriot League first team and the league’s All-Tournament team.

South Belt area sports news, notes

Texans’ 8U select baseball

The Texans’ 8-under select baseball program is preparing to compete in United States Specialty Sports Association and Nations Baseball events beginning in June. Those wishing to join the team may call Craig Redmon at 281-236-5112.

Sagemont-Beverly Hills notes

SBHLL Senior/Big League division coaches sought – The league has openings for the senior and big league divisions that will soon start play. Those interested may call Cindy Munoz at 832-618-3649.

Beverly Hills speed camp

The Beverly Hills Intermediate coaching staff will host a 5-week speed camp beginning June 6 and running through July 8. The drills will focus on agility, muscle strength and muscle endurance. The sessions will run weekly on Mondays through Thursdays, with the exception of the final week. Hours are 10 a.m. to noon. The fee is \$60 cash, which includes a camp T-shirt. The camp is open to all boys and girls ages 11 to 15. For additional information, call coach Ben Portis at 713-740-0420, ext. 05124 or 713-299-0251.

Brook softball camp

Clear Brook High School head softball coach Ashley Pillow will host a youth camp June 14-16 at Lady Wolverine Field from 9 a.m. to noon each day. Registration prior to June 1 is \$60 and \$75 thereafter. Girls entering kindergarten through the ninth grade as of the 2011-2012 school year are eligible to attend. For more information, direct e-mail to Pillow at apilow@ccisd.net.

Brook soccer camp

Clear Brook High School varsity boys’ soccer coach Chris Stromeyer and varsity girls’ head coach Jeff Brewer will host the Wolverines’ youth camp June 6-10 at the school. Boys and girls entering the fifth through ninth grades as of the 2011-2012 school year are eligible to attend. The camp will run from 9 to 11 a.m. each day. Fee is \$50, which includes a camp T-shirt. For more information, call Stromeyer at 832-457-5181 or Brewer at 713-822-9107.

Brook volleyball camp

Clear Brook High School varsity volleyball coach Meredith Thompson and her staff will host the 2011 Lady Wolverines’ youth camp July 25-29 at the school. Students entering the fourth through ninth grades as of the 2011-2012 school year are eligible to attend. To register, visit the volleyball website at www.clearbrookvolleyball.org.

Dolphins’ mascot openings

The Southbelt Dolphins mascot program is seeking girls 5 to 8 years old, as of Sept. 1, 2011, to fill openings for the 2011 season. Those interested may call

Cequisha Proctor at 281-875-5696 or direct e-mail to southbeltdolphins@gmail.com. The Dolphins are part of the Bay Area Football League.

Lutheran South Pride camp

The athletics staff at Lutheran South Academy will host the Pioneers’ Pride Camp June 6 through July 21 on campus. Boys and girls at the intermediate and high school levels will take part in strength and conditioning exercises each Monday through Thursday. Cost of the camp is \$125 per student.

LSA volleyball camp

The volleyball staff at Lutheran South Academy, led by head coach Geoff Stresman, will host the school’s camp June 6-9 at LSA. Students entering the fifth through eighth grades as of the 2011-2012 school year are eligible to attend. Cost is \$75 per student.

LSA baseball camp

Lutheran South Academy head baseball coach Hondo Medeloin will host the school’s camp June 6-9 on campus. Students entering the first through eighth grades as of the 2011-2012 school year are eligible to attend. Cost is \$75 per student. The camp will run from 9 to 11:30 a.m. each day.

Luth. South girls’ hoops camp

Lutheran South Academy girls’ basketball coach Trey Senney will host the Pioneers’ camp June 13-17 at the academy. Girls entering the second through ninth grades as of the 2011-2012 school year are eligible to attend. Cost is \$100, and the session will run from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. each day.

LSA boys’ basketball camp

Lutheran South Academy boys’ basketball coach Jeremy Louden will lead the Pioneers’ camp June 20-24 at the academy. Boys entering the second through eighth grades as of the 2011-2012 school year are eligible to attend. Cost is \$100, and the session will run from 8 to 11:30 a.m. each day.

Lutheran South softball camp

Lutheran South Academy softball coach Ragan Cain will host the Lady Pioneers’ camp June 20-23 at the academy. Girls entering the fifth through 12th grades as of the 2011-2012 school year are eligible to attend. Cost is \$75, and the session will run from 9 a.m. to noon each day.

LSA soccer camp

Lutheran South Academy soccer coaches Andrea Kimble and Jeremy Brumm will host the 2011 camp. Boys and girls entering the third through eighth grades as of the 2011-2012 school year are eligible to attend. Cost is \$75, and the session will run from 9 to 11 a.m. each day. For details of any of the camps, call LSA athletic director Rob Psencik at 281-617-5622.

At right, shown left to right, third baseman Candyce Carter, freshman pitcher Shannon Millman, freshman outfielder Michaela Adams, and sophomore outfielder Bethany Armstrong set records this season as members of the San Jacinto College softball team. Adams had 33 walks to set a new program high, and Millman’s 180 strikeouts were a new team single-season record. Armstrong hit in 18 straight games, breaking the old mark of 17 games, and Carter hit 23 doubles, three better than the previous record. As a team, San Jac broke the records for doubles (109), home runs (38), and strikeouts by its pitchers (350).



Jokers 10U baseball second at NWBA May Madness



The H-Town Jokers, a 10-under select baseball team based in the South Belt area, placed second at the Northwest Baseball Association’s May Madness event at Doss Park. Members of the Jokers are, left to right, Nick Gaytan, Aaron Perea, Lorenzo Mendez, Sam Velazquez, (middle row) Alex Hernandez, Jorge

Garza, Dylan Heim, Dave Amaya, Brandon Valdez, Frank Mendez, (back row) coach Oscar Perea, Bryan Cisneros, coach Mike Mendez and manager Rudy Mendez. Not pictured is coach Donny Velasquez.

CALENDAR

THURSDAY, MAY 26

7 a.m.

AA Meeting – “Breakfast With Bill” each Monday through Friday, from 7 to 8 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Room 114. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.

Noon

Houston Area Parkinson Society – Free water exercise from noon to 1 p.m. at Clear Lake Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd. in Webster. Visit www.hapsonline.org for a complete list of services offered.

Al-Anon – Meets every Thursday from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Room 111. For information, call 281-487-8787.

6:30 p.m.

St. Luke’s Catholic Church – St. Luke the Evangelist Church, 11011 Hall Road, offers free tutoring on Tuesdays from 7 to 9 p.m. and Thursdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tutoring is held in Room 2 of the Education Building. Contact Joe Pavlicek at 281-484-1397 or by e-mail at joe_pavlicek@yahoo.com.

Pasadena Gulf Coast Art Society – Monthly meetings held the last Thursday of each month in the Community Room at Pasadena Town Square Mall.

8:30 p.m.

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

FRIDAY, MAY 27

7 a.m.

AA Meeting – “Breakfast With Bill” each Monday through Friday, from 7 to 8 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Room 114. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.

Noon

Moving Forward Women’s Adult Children Anonymous – The ACA group meets Fridays at noon at the Up The Street Club in Webster, 508 Nasa Parkway, in room 4. ACA is a 12-step program of hope, healing and recovery for people who grew up in alcoholic or dysfunctional homes. For more information, call 281-286-1431.

6:30 p.m.

Bay Area Genealogical Society – Meets the last Friday of each month at University Baptist Church, 16106 Middlebrook Drive in Clear Lake. Coffee and socializing is at 6:30 and the meeting begins at 7 p.m. For more information, visit www.TxBayAreaGen.org.

SATURDAY, MAY 28

6 p.m.

Frontier Squares – Meets to square dance at the Westminster Academy at 670 E. Medical Center Blvd. in Webster. Refreshments provided. For more information, contact Gina Sherman at 281-554-5675 or visit www.frontiersquares.com.

SUNDAY, MAY 29

2 p.m.

Grief Support Group – For any adult who has lost a loved one. Meets every Sunday, except Mother’s Day, Easter and Christmas from 2 to 3:15 p.m. at First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway. For more information, call 281-487-8787.

3 p.m.

Pasadena Little Theatre – Closing performance for *Getting Sara Married* by Sam Bobick starts at 3 p.m. at Pasadena Little Theatre, 4318 Allen-Genoa Road. Vanessa Pearson and Janet Sharpley are the directors. For reservations, call 713-941-1758 or online at pasadenalittletheatre.org.

8 p.m.

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

MONDAY, MAY 30

7 a.m.

AA Meeting – “Breakfast With Bill” each Monday through Friday, from 7 to 8 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Room 114. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.

9 a.m.

Houston Area Parkinson Society – Free exercise and speech therapy from 9 to 10:30 a.m. at Clear Lake Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster. Visit www.hapsonline.org for a complete list of services offered.

6 p.m.

Scrabble Club #511 – Meets every Monday at the IHOP on Fuqua from 6 to 9 p.m. All who enjoy the game or want to learn to play are invited to join. For more information, call 281-488-2923.

6:30 p.m.

New Directions Singles Club – New Directions Singles support meetings are held each Monday at 6:30 p.m. at Webster Presbyterian Church, 201 W. NASA Parkway. For further information, call Susan at 832-494-5098 or Carolyn 281-340-2354. **Civil Air Patrol Meeting** – Weekly at Ellington Field in the Civil Air Patrol Building. Call 281-484-1352 and leave a message for more information.

7 p.m.

Grief Support Group – “Friends Helping Friends” meets every Monday from 7 to 8:15 p.m. at Clear Lake Rehab Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd. in Webster. Those who have lost a spouse or other loved one are invited to participate. For information, call Betty Flynn at 281-474-3430 or Diana Kawalec at 281-334-1033.

TUESDAY, MAY 31

7 a.m.

AA Meeting – “Breakfast With Bill” each Monday through Friday, from 7 to 8 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Room 114. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.

1 p.m.

Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum – Exhibits include dioramas, an old-time kitchen and a turn-of-the-century doctor’s office. Tuesday through Friday from 1 to 5 p.m. 204 S. Main, Pasadena. For information, call 713-472-0565.

1:30 p.m.

Houston Area Parkinson Society – Free exercise and speech therapy from 1:30 to 3 p.m. at Bayshore Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation Center, 4021 Brookhaven, Pasadena. Visit www.hapsonline.org for a complete list of services offered.

2 p.m.

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) – TOPS #1530 meets at the Beverly Hills Community Center, 10201 Kingspoint, from 2 to 4 p.m. For information, call Jeanette Sumral at 713-946-3713.

6:30 p.m.

Clear Lake Toastmasters Club – Meets at the Clear Lake Church of Christ, 938 El Dorado Blvd. Call Jerry Tate at 281-481-5417 for information.

7 p.m.

St. Luke’s Catholic Church – St. Luke the Evangelist Church, 11011 Hall Road, offers free tutoring on Tuesdays from 7 to 9 p.m. and Thursdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tutoring is held in Room 2 of the Education Building. Contact Joe Pavlicek at 281-484-1397 or by e-mail at joe_pavlicek@yahoo.com.

8 p.m.

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

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1

7 a.m.

AA Meeting – “Breakfast With Bill” each Monday through Friday, from 7 to 8 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Room 114. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.

Continued on Page 4B



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CALENDAR

Continued from Page 3B

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1
11:30 a.m.

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

Houston Area Parkinson Society – Free exercise held from 4 to 5 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Pearland, 3005 Pearland Parkway, Pearland. Visit www.hapsonline.org for a complete list of services offered.

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

Bay Area Turning Point Crisis Intervention Center – Domestic violence support group for male survivors meets each Wednesday at 210 S. Walnut off NASA Parkway. Call 281-338-7600 for information. Participants may join at any time as this is an open group.

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

Bay Area Turning Point Crisis Intervention Center – Confidential domestic violence support group for women meets every week. For information, call 281-338-7600 or visit www.bayareaturningpoint.com. BATP is located at 210 S. Walnut off NASA Parkway between Interstate 45 South and Highway 3. The 24-hour crisis hotline is 281-286-2525.

THURSDAY, JUNE 2
7 a.m.

AA Meeting – "Breakfast With Bill" each Monday through Friday, from 7 to 8 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Room 114. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.

Houston Area Parkinson Society – Free water exercise from noon to 1 p.m. at Clear Lake Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd. in Webster. Visit www.hapsonline.org for a complete list of services offered.

Al-Anon – Meets every Thursday from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Room 111. For information, call 281-487-8787.

St. Luke's Catholic Church – St. Luke the Evangelist Church, 11011 Hall Road, offers free tutoring on Tuesdays from 7 to 9 p.m. and Thursdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tutoring is held in Room 2 of the Education Building. Contact Joe Pavlicek at 281-484-1397 or by e-mail at joe_pavlicek@yahoo.com.

Diabetes Support Group – A support group for young adults with diabetes. All subjects are open for discussion: new technologies, research advances, fears, phobias, dating and other personal matters. Meets the first Thursday of each month at 1315 St. Joseph Parkway #1705, Medical Place One. Contact Dan Steiner, CDE, at 713-756-8536 for more information.

The Bay Area Writers League – Meets the first Thursday of each month at Barnes and Noble at Bay Area Boulevard and the Gulf Freeway. Newcomers are welcome.

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

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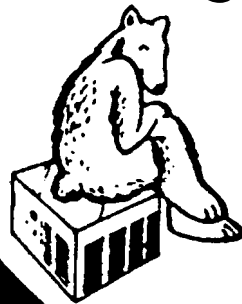
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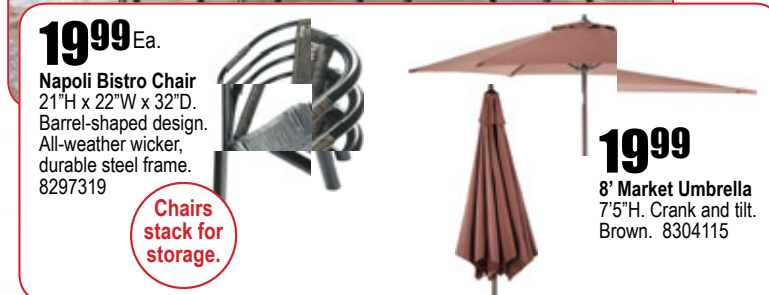
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