

South Belt Leader

Ellington

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Jan. 8, 2009

Voice of Community-Minded People

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Leader says thanks

The South Belt-Ellington Leader would like to thank all of the members of the community who made its 26th annual Christmas program a huge success.

Schools participating in this year's event include Frazier, Moore and Stuchbery elementary schools, Melillo Middle School and Thompson and Beverly Hills intermediate schools. Representing Dobie High School were students from geometry teacher Bradley Nguyen's class and the school's Future Farmers of America program.

Additional help came from Gordon and Pat Berg of Action Ministries, Girl Scout Troop 1063, Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Gary L. Freeman's office, Rene Guerrero from the Toys for Tots Foundation and numerous individual donors.

A special thanks goes to Sandy Robb and daughter Stacey Waugh who selflessly donated hours of their time.

Chamber to host mayor

Mayor Bill White will be the guest of honor at the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce's 25th anniversary dinner to be held Friday, Feb. 20, at The Gardens, 12001 Beamer. For ticket information, call the chamber office at 281-481-5516.

Orchestra parents to meet

The Dobie orchestra boosters will meet Jan. 8 at 7:15 p.m. in the orchestra room. All orchestra parents are encouraged to attend.

Dobie band parents meet

The Dobie Band Parent Organization will meet Monday, Jan. 12, at 7 p.m. in the band hall. All band parents are urged to attend.

Sagamont CC to meet

The Sagamont Civic Club will meet in one of the Parker Williams Library meeting rooms on Monday, Jan. 12, at 7 pm. Block walkers for the new deed restrictions are still needed, and a vote will be held for merging with Sagamont Maintenance.

Library events scheduled

The following events are scheduled for the Parker Williams Library, 10851 Scarsdale:

Movie Madness is Thursday, Jan. 8, at 4 p.m. Call 281-484-2036 for feature title.

The Friends of the Parker Williams Library will meet Tuesday, Jan. 13, at 7 p.m. to discuss ways to support the library.

A children's winter craft is set for Thursday, Jan. 15, at 4 p.m. Free tickets are required.

Storytime for preschoolers is held every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. Toddler time is every Thursday at 10 and 11:15 a.m.

AARP meets Jan. 9

The South Belt AARP will meet Friday, Jan. 9, at 10 a.m. at Kirkwood South Christian Church, 10811 Kirkfair. The guest speaker will be Jeanette Lazarofsky, Project Coordinator for Care for Elders. She will present information on two initiatives - Get Ready for Life and 211/Elder Care Experts. All seniors are invited to attend.

Dobie Football Banquet set

The Dobie Football Banquet will be held Sunday, Jan. 11, at 6 p.m. in the school cafeteria. The booster club will sell tickets Friday, Jan. 9, during lunch. Varsity players attend free but must pick up tickets during lunch. Subvarsity players are \$6 each, and all guests are \$12. Tickets are required to enter. No tickets will be sold at the door. For information, call Beth McDonald at 281-922-1391.

Benefit for Mata Jan. 18

Outta' Control Cookers and the Nutty Bar will hold a benefit on Jan 18 at 10943 Scarsdale Blvd. to raise money to help pay for treatment for longtime South Belt resident Willie Mata. Mata was recently diagnosed with stomach cancer. Children may attend.

Barbecue plates will be sold, and raffles and poker tournaments will be held. For information, call Jilena Mata at 713-498-8755.

Softball registration set

The Southbelt Girls Softball Association will hold registration for spring ball at El Franco Lee Park as follows: Jan. 13, 15, 20 and 22 from 6 to 8 p.m., and Jan. 17 and 24 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Check the Web site for updated information at <http://www.eteamz.com/southbeltgirls>.

Registration will be \$70 per player with \$5 discounts per sibling only (no cousins, etc.). The girls should be 4 through 14 years old as of Jan 1, 2009. Bring a copy of the player's birth certificate when registering. For information, call Ruben Garcia at 281-485-0287, or Kimberly Villarreal at 713-582-2439.

Soccer registration begins

Spring registration for the South Belt Youth Soccer Club will take place Saturday, Jan. 10, at the Sagemeadow Municipal Utility District building, 10755 Hall Road, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (For information, see ad on Page 4A.)

Leader remembers highlights of 2008

Another year has passed, and while Hurricane Ike was undoubtedly the largest news story of 2008, the year was filled with several other events directly affecting the South Belt community. The Leader staff would like to take this opportunity to reflect on some of the more significant stories of 2008. Due to space limitations, the year in review will be continued in next week's edition. Section B includes the sports year in review.

Jan. 10

Wednesday, Jan. 2, marked the last day for potential candidates to file the necessary paperwork in order to meet the state deadline to appear on the March 4 Democratic and Republican primary election ballots. South Belt residents could be found on nearly every ballot from the smallest local races to national senatorial positions. Among these were Sageglen resident and former Clear Brook student Kevyn Bazy who ran for the Republican nomination in the race for the 22nd Congressional District, Raymond Stewart and Sandra Woodard who ran for the Democratic nomination in the race for Harris County Precinct 2, Place 1 Justice of the Peace and long-time Kirkwood resident Ruben Guerrero who ran for the Democratic nomination in the race for the position of judge in the 174th Criminal District.

The South Belt AARP chapter installed John Heckler as its new president for 2008. Heckler replaced outgoing president Charlene Knox. 2008 marked the 20th anniversary of the group.

Former longtime Kirkwood South resident Neil West was presented the 2007 Planning Commissioner of the Year Award at a state conference in Addison, north of Dallas. The annual honor is bestowed by the Texas chapter of the American Planning Association. Now a resident of Green Tee, West was a member of the City of Pearland Planning and Zoning Commission since being appointed in 2003. During his tenure, West was instrumental in a number of city projects. Prior to his work in Pearland, West was also active in the immediate South Belt community. He was the founder of the South Belt Security Alliance and served as president of the Kirkwood South Homeowners Association. Additionally, West was treasurer of the San Jacinto College Foundation board and has been a longtime organizer of the annual South Belt Fourth of July parade. Following the APA conference, West was awarded the City of Pearland Certificate of Recognition at its city council meeting.

A loose pit bull once again terrorized members of the South Belt community, bringing at-

tention to the policies of Harris County Animal Control. When deputies from the Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's Office arrived at the scene in the 10900 block of Kirkbrush and were also threatened by the canine, they phoned the animal control office. The lone officer on duty said she could lose her job if she responded to a call where no one had actually been bitten by the animal. After dealing with the dog for roughly an hour, the deputies finally coaxed it back into its owner's yard. Following the incident, Detective Rick Holloman took the necessary steps to have the dog declared dangerous.

Jan. 17

The owner of the pit bull that threatened residents and deputies was served papers on Friday, Jan. 12, to appear in court should he choose to contest the status of his dog being declared dangerous.

St. Luke's pastor, Stephen R. Horn, was accused of sexual abuse of a minor. The incident reportedly occurred at Christ the King, where Horn served from 1981 to 1994. The relationship allegedly occurred between the years of 1989 and 1993. According to an informed source, the relationship was consensual and evolved, continuing as a friendship for several years. In the state of Texas, the statute of limitations for sexual abuse of a minor is 10 years from the time the victim turns 18. The statute had run out, since the victim was then 29. According to Cardinal Daniel DiNardo, the victim said he was not interested in criminal prosecution or litigation against the church or Horn. The pastor had served at St. Luke's since 1994.

Deputies Jason Curry and Robert Sanchez from the Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's office stopped a vehicle on Friday, Jan. 11, that was parked at a closed business in the 12500 block of Scarsdale. The car's passenger, Edward Delafuente, was found to be in possession of a small amount of marijuana, and the car's driver, Quentia Castilow, was found to have \$4,000 on his person. The deputies called officers from

the Houston Police Department, who responded with a K-9 unit. The dog alerted that the money had been used in a drug transaction and it was subsequently seized and the men were arrested.

Jan. 24

The loose pit bull that threatened residents and deputies on Kirkbrush earlier in the month was euthanized on Jan. 22. The owner of the dog turned it in to Harris County Animal Control within the allotted five days of being served papers, avoiding a court hearing. According to Detective Rick Holloman of the Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's Office, the individual responsible for filing the necessary paperwork to have the dog declared dangerous, the canine's owner was unable to comply with the strict county regulations associated with keeping the animal.

The first phase to construct a new station for the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department was approved at the Clear Brook City Municipal Utility District meeting on Thursday, Jan. 10. To be located on Scarsdale adjacent to the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce, the station will replace the unmanned two-bay building currently found on the San Jacinto College grounds. The station will be the third remaining in the area for the department, along with two located on Hughes Road (one manned and one unmanned). Funded by a Clear Brook City MUD bond that voters approved the previous March, the station was expected to cost roughly \$1.5 million. The land on which the station was to be erected was purchased from Ayrshire Corporation. The building would occupy around 30,000 square feet and would be the department's main station as well as its first large-scale disaster headquarters.

James Burkart was named the new pastor of St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church. Most recently, Burkart served as pastor at St. Katherine Drexel in Hempstead, where he had been since 2001 when the church was erected. Prior to this, he had worked as a janitor at both St. Luke's

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First South Belt baby of 2009

Brandon Nguyen was the first baby born in 2009 at Children's Memorial Hermann Southeast, a service of Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital. Nguyen is the son of South Belt residents Chan Quach and Jim Nguyen. The baby was delivered at 1:01 a.m., weighed in at 6 pounds and 3 ounces and was 19.5 inches in length.

Submitted photo

Armed robbery suspect sought

Crime in the South Belt area was relatively low over the Christmas holidays, according to local authorities.

The Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's office, however, is searching for a suspect wanted for an armed robbery that took place Friday, Dec. 19. Deputy Aaron Baldwin responded to a call in the 11500 block of Sagevale at roughly 10:30 p.m. where a woman said she had been robbed at gunpoint.

The victim told the deputy she had just returned from dinner and shopping and was about to enter her back door when a man wearing a dark green hooded sweatshirt and a skeleton

mask approached her.

The male brandished a handgun and with a disguised voice demanded the woman hand over her purse.

Thinking it was a joke, the female initially resisted. After the male yanked on the bag, however, the victim quickly relinquished it.

The suspect is described merely as a black male between 18 and 22 years old, standing between 5 feet 6 inches and 5 feet 8 inches tall and weighing between 150 and 180 pounds.

Anyone with information on this case is urged to call 713-477-2766.

Census Bureau to begin testing

The U.S. Census Bureau will begin testing potential employees Thursday, Jan. 8, at the Parker Williams Library meeting rooms, located in the Harris County Clerk's Office at Scarsdale and Beamer.

Testing will take place every Thursday in January at 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Roughly 4,000 employees are being sought to canvass areas in

Galveston and Harris counties prior to the official 2010 counting.

To avoid overcrowding, persons wishing to apply must call 713-267-8060 Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. and ask to be scheduled to take the pre-employment test.

For more information, call 1-866-2010 or visit www.census.gov.

Hurricane Ike revisited



The South Belt area was hit hard by Hurricane Ike early morning Saturday, Sept. 13. Nearly four months later, residents are still recovering from the damage caused by the storm. Shown above is the Shell station at Scarsdale and Interstate 45, which suffered extreme damage when a power line fell on it, crushing its carports.

Photo by Marie Flickinger

Residents photograph New Year's Day car fire on Scarsdale



Two separate South Belt residents alerted the Leader of an automobile fire that took place the morning of New Year's Day near the intersection of Scarsdale and Bogey Way. Firefighters from the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department were quick to respond to the blaze and were



able to extinguish it using water and foam. Fortunately, the driver was able to get out of the car and was uninjured. The left photograph was taken by Duncan Williams. The right photograph was taken by Jeanine Watrous.

Readers' Opinions

Deaths

Stolen decoration: true meaning

On Friday morning, I found that a newly purchased yard ornament that I put out two weeks ago was stolen from my front yard during the night. Ironically, this particular decoration was the word LOVE in bright red glitter letters to match the Hope, Peace and Joy signs that I have in my yard. I have had the Joy sign for a couple of years and bought the other three when they became available at a place in Pearland a month or so ago. I hesitated buying the smaller Hope and Love signs because of the expense, but I love Christmas and wanted to share my feelings with everyone about what it means to me. I work very hard for my money and it is very discouraging to have some selfish, lazy creep think that I should pay for something they feel they have a right to come onto my property and steal for their own use. I am assuming some thoughtless person saw it and decided they would give it to someone they "love" and that I was solely responsible for providing this gesture of "love" to them. I hope that whoever you are, you someday learn the true meaning of the word and feel ashamed every time you hear, say or read the word. Does a person have to tie a vicious animal in their yard to protect their own belongings anymore? I hope not, but how is senseless,

selfish behavior such as this stopped? If you took my property and are reading this, are you proud of yourself? If you received this as a gift, does it mean anything to you to know that the giver is a thief? If your son, daughter, neighbor, etc. has this sign, can you trust them knowing they are a thief? What caliber of person goes through a neighborhood and steals Christmas decorations on Christmas day? Not anyone I care to know or have residing in my neighborhood. This is the first time I've been violated in this manner since moving into Sageglen, a lovely area, in over six years and it is truly a sad and disappointing occurrence. Sincerely disgusted and saddened,
LaCinda Chase

Thank you sent to Ferrugia Family

Christen Edens, a Senior at J. Frank Dobie High School competed this Fall with her steer, Reveille, at the Pasadena Livestock Show and Rodeo. Christen's steer won First in his Class and 6th in Show. Christen went on to be selected by the Steer judge, Mr. Chris Skaggs to compete in the Showmanship Competition. While not the overall winner, Christen was a fierce competitor. A big "Thank you", goes out to the Ferrugia family for purchasing Reveille at the live auction and supporting the Future Farmers of America program. Christen also com-

peted last month with her final FFA Steer project. Her Limousine cross Steer, "Voo-Doo," placed 6th in his class at the debut show of the Harris County Youth Expo Show and she placed second in Showmanship. Christen ended the show with two 1st Place Ribbons in Home Economics and two 2nd Place Ribbons in Visual Arts. Overall, Christen has competed the last four years at Pasadena Livestock Show and Rodeo, three years at Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, one year at the Harris County Fair and the debut show of the Harris County Youth Expo. Christen has auctioned her projects five times. She has raised as many as three steers at one time while balancing academics as an Honor Roll student. Christen plans on attending Texas A&M, Oklahoma State University or Louisiana State University in the fall of 2009. Her goal is to be accepted into Veterinary Medicine School. We would like her to know we are proud of all her accomplishments, especially how she continues to help others during the toughest of times! Hang in there. We love you!
John & Lee Robinson Grandparents

Something missing: Tolling of bells

There is something missing in the Sageglen community, i.e. the tolling of bells at the local churches. At a time

when we are experiencing many issues including a weak economy, wars, unemployment, lack of confidence in our leadership and other issues, many are turning back to their religion to help them re-focus on the importance of the root of our Country that being religious freedom! Church bells which traditionally announce the beginning of services, special events such as weddings and acknowledgment of a funeral, help remind us of the importance of religion in our lives. At one time the Lutheran Church on Scarsdale Blvd. had beautiful bell sounds which suddenly ceased.

Was it because of complaints from non believers? Maybe, due to their chiming every hour and occasionally playing a melody it may have been annoying to some, but to the majority of us with religious conviction they added peace and security to our everyday lives. I strongly believe the bells of all churches of all religions should be allowed to announce their presence. How do we get them reinstated? Do we need a petition signed by the majority of the residents or can we just do the right thing under religious freedom and authorize the churches to begin sending their comforting message via the bells reminding us of our heritage and reminding everyone that we are in America where freedom of the many trumps annoyance of the few? Comments anyone? Sageglen Resident
Roger Fiehn

Willard "Cliff" Britt



Willard "Cliff" Britt, 67, died Dec. 23, 2008. He was born Jan. 23, 1941, in Kilgore, Texas, to Willard and Thelma Britt, who preceded him in death.

Surviving is Britt's wife of 45 years, Linda; son Wade and wife Stacey; daughter Andrea and husband Kevin Cross; grandchildren Nathan, Lauren, Colin, Caleb and Ryan; and the many cousins, nieces and friends. Britt attended Sam Houston State University on a basketball scholarship and was a member of the Sigma Chi Fraternity. Afterward, he joined the U. S. Marine Corps attaining the rank of captain while serving his country with honor in Vietnam. He worked 25 years with Tenco and five years with Shell Oil. His two great passions were family and fishing.

Emiliano "Eloy" Fletcher



Schuble is survived by his wife, Betsy Schuble; daughter Kim Schuble Stephens of McCoey, Texas; son Kevin John Schuble and fiancée Stacey Schwanck of San Antonio; son Henry G. Schuble IV and wife Lisa Schuble of Lake Jackson, Texas; four grandsons, Chance and Sterling Stephens and Henry and Billy Dee Schuble; and sister-in-law Diana Jane Franklin and husband Marc Franklin of Los Angeles.

The celebration of Schuble's life was held Dec. 27, at Cowboy Fellowship Church in Jourdanton, Texas. Memorial donations may be made to the Cowboy Fellowship Covered Facility Fund in memory of Judge Schuble, P.O. Box 68, Pleasanton, TX 78064.

Sharon "Renee" Lee

Sharon "Renee" Lee, 50, died Dec. 2, 2008. She was born May 27, 1958, in Houston. Lee was a 38-year Kirkwood subdivision resident and was involved in the South Belt Girls Softball Association. She supported the South Belt Dolphins for many years.

Survivors include Lee's daughter, Darlene Renee Riddle; sister Patricia Middleton; brothers E.J. Lee, Ernest Lee and J.E. Lee; many nieces, nephews, great-nieces and nephews and friends. A memorial service to celebrate Lee's life was held Jan. 3, 2009, at Carnes Funeral Home in Texas City.

R. Marie Starnes



R. Marie Starnes, 70, died Dec. 31, 2008. She was born in Galveston Oct. 30, 1938. Starnes moved to Houston at the age of 2. She grew up on the east side, attending Bonner Elementary, Deady Junior High and Milby High School.

Starnes was active in the business world, working 10 years as office manager for Cron Chemical and later 25 years as a legal secretary for the law firm of Fulbright & Jaworski, from which she retired on Jan. 1, 1999. She was active in bowling in the 1960s and 1970s, competing in several leagues where she worked as a junior coach with her husband. She loved dog shows and supported her daughter who bred and showed greater Swiss mountain dogs.

Starnes is survived by her husband, Ervin Starnes Sr.; daughter Susan Starnes of Deer Park; son Ervin "Sonny" Starnes Jr. of Houston; brothers Charles Washmon of Point Blank, Texas, Thomas Eugene Washmon of Sterling, Kan., and James Washmon of Houston; and a number of nieces and nephews. Funeral services were held Jan. 3, 2009, in the Chapel of Forest Park East Funeral Home in Webster.

Anne E. Turner

Anne Elizabeth Turner, 79, died in Webster on Jan. 6, 2009. She was born on Aug. 8, 1929, to Walter and Edith Werner in New Castle, Ind. She was a South Belt resident for more than 10 years.

Turner was preceded in death by her sisters, Joan Werner and Dorothy Sunderland. She is survived by her former husband, William Turner; daughters, Myrna Turner, Dr. Elizabeth Jones and Dr. Jane Ragland; sons, William Turner, Karl Turner and James Turner; 9 grandchildren; 6 great-grandchildren and numerous friends. A visitation will be held Thursday, Jan. 8, from 6 to 9 p.m. at Crowder Funeral Home in Webster.

The funeral service will be held Friday, Jan. 9, at 1 p.m., in the Crowder Funeral Home Chapel, followed by the interment at Mt. Olivet Catholic Cemetery in Dickinson.

DeLoris Solum Ahart

DeLoris "Dee" Solum Ahart died Jan. 5, 2009. She was born in Grand Forks, N.D., April 16, 1920. Her parents were Ole August Solum and Clara Stennum Solum. She married Frank Lyle Ahart on June 15, 1940, and had two sons, Jan Frederick and Danny Jay.

Ahart is survived by her son, Danny, five grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. Visitation will be held Friday, Jan. 9, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Niday Funeral Home. A graveside service will be held at 2 p.m. at South Park Cemetery, also on Friday. In lieu of flowers, donations are requested to be made to Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital located at 11800 Astoria Blvd.

Morris Middle School shares New Year's resolutions

1) I would like all the year to improve my grades. 2) I want to be a good student, I want to do really really good on my tests and I want to accomplish to be a good student. 3) I want to be a example for all the kids that don't listen.
Jaqueline I would like to get commended on my Taks test. I want to be a better soccer player.
Steven I would like to have good grades on the rest of the year. Pass to 6th grade and not go to summer school. I would like to get commended in my test.
Samuel The first thing I like to accomplish this year is passing all three of my Taks test. The second thing is AR points. I want to make like about 100,00 points this year. The third thing is project that I need to work on. I need to read more about people and places.
Tracy My New Year's resolution is to pick up my grades for the new year.
Jocelyn G. I want to get a new attitude and stop getting in to trouble and jog every day.
Destiny W. I want to study for the TAKS Test and get commendable.
Jorge R. I want to pass 5th grade, and work harder to raise my grades.
Irene H. My New Year's resolution is to listen more carefully.
Tommy L. I will make some money to buy new shoes.
Michael T. Next year I want to save money so I can get a cell phone, and become a better person by reading and doing greater things.
Destiny W. My New Year's resolution is to save enough money to redecorate my niece's room and my room.
Jennifer Next year I will study more and save money so I can go to college.
Keanu Next year I want to save money to go to Puerto Rico with my family, and to visit my other family.
Derek I want to save money for college, work harder in school, and become an independent young lady and leader.
Jaylan I want to go back to a kid size 16, do more chores, and spend less time on the internet playing games.
Catherine I want to do chores for people

to raise money and give to people who need it, and become a greater person.
Sara My New Year's resolution is to get better grades and study a lot more, and become a better person.
Juan To stay healthy like I am now and save money to go to college.
Alan I want to save money to get a trampoline to play outside and on a basketball team.
Danielle My New Year's resolution is to be promoted to 6th grade and play football for the dolphins.
Roy To help my mom clean the house.
Zach I will slow down and concentrate on my assignments in school.
John To be better in reading and continue to listen to my teacher's instructions.
Ingrid My New Year's resolution is to be more respectful.
Alan To make straight A's, read a lot, and have more friends.
Victoria To get better grades and play outside.
Marquis I will stop going to the office and do my classroom assignments and homework.
Herman I plan to help clean the house and clean my room.
Christian I plan to save money for college.
Xavier My New Year's resolution is to make some money by doing chores.
Selena Next year I will earn some money for college and improve my writing skills.
Franz Next year I will make better grades and run track on a track team.
Jorcoery I'm going to start saving money for college.
Gabrielle I will start saving money for college and become a smarter person.
Joshua Is to save a lot of money, run faster, and improve my drawing skills.
Isabella Next year I will improve my academics, my behavior, and start saving money for college.
Cecilia I'm going to play football and save money for college.
Jordan I'm going to read more books in 2009.
D'Vaughn Is to get a medal in band.
Henry Learn, study, and work more so that I can one day go to college and become a Marine Officer.

as fabulous and good as I could. But as possible as I could I would love to ask Mrs. Hagan (My cool teacher) if we could get a class pr so we could learn our responsibility that we know we have. And last but not least resolution I have is to make to the "Slect Choir" in my Choir Class.
Julianna My goals for 2009 is to get people to stop smoking. So we can have a better world so little kids smoke when they are bigger. Ween little kids smoke that is not good for little kids to smoke if the smoke they could die. And we would be sad. For the little kids and the mom and dad will go to jail. And we don't like kids die of smoke.
Steven My goal for 2009 is to exercise more and eat healthy. I want to change my habit about taking and saying "No I don't want to do what you tell me and that is a wrong thing to do." I've been really bad about telling my friends's. So I want to change that habit. I have also been bad at telling parents what's wrong with me. That I also want to change. There is a lot I would like to change in 2009.
Jasmine When 2009 comes my resolution is to work harder at school. Eat more and gain about 10 pounds. Exercise and Riding my bike so my legs can get stronger. Eat less junk food. Clean up my room and make it stay neat. I can also help my mom cook food and she can teach me. I can also learn to stay home by myself and take care of my little sister and me so my parents can take a little vacation once in a while. I can try to do better in math so my dad can stop screaming at me.
Michelle My year's resolution is: to lose 50 pounds. Why- Because I weigh 135 pounds and that's to much. How- By someone helping me.
Keyantta My new year resolution is to help people and animals. Why because I don't what people die or get heart or bad sickntss. How is I'm going to go to college and finish school just to help and be doctor or vet.
Kristo My New Year's Resolution is to be helpful with my mom and everybody else. I want to help everybody because my mom says I am lazy, so I want to be helpful. I would help around the house and in school. Pick stuff up and do chores at home and in school too! If I keep on being helpful, I bet I can change my attitude.
Anna My New Year's Resolution is to make A's on my task test and trying my best on everything in school. And do that then my parents will be so proud of me. And to do it I will study try best and put the effort in it. I know I can do it.
Amy My New Year's resolution is to make better grades. Study harder.
Donovan My New Year's Resolution is to get A+ on all my classes. Because I know that is going to help me get my grades up.
Stephanye My New Year's Resolution is to start focusing more in school a little more. Because my grades right now are not the best I can have.
Sarah My resolution is to get good grades. Because I want to go to a good High School and a good college. I would have to study, study, and study a lot to get good grades.
Isaiah My New Year's Resolution to do better in school, because I know I've been strugglin. So I'm going to study more and listen to my teacher.
Marina My New Year's Resolution is making learning more fun. I will give teachers more suggestions in fun learning.
Ashley My New Year's Resolution is to get good grades and getting A+ in class. Do homework and study by reading and listing in class.
Noah My New Year's Resolution is to become the best baseball player I can possibly be. I need to improve in with my hand to throw. I want to improve. **Cesar** My new years resolution is study more because my mom she is always proud at him he like the smartest kid that's why my mom is proud so I could get smarter. I will study go to college be a doctor and be proud of my self with what I can accomplish.
Sydney My New Year's resolution is to improve my grades in every

subject because I won't have good money when I grow up. I want to go to a good job so I can get what I need. If I focus on my resolution, I will do good.
Jazmin My New Year's resolution is 1) wash tv 2) play vedo games. Why- Wins this have battils in it. How- I can make up my own.
Colin My new years resolution is to lose weight and study more. I want to lose weight because I have gaind a lot of weight this year. And I also want to study more because, I really need to improve my grades.
Eden My New Year's Resolution is to gain more pounds. I want to because I can turn fat in to muscles and I want to be strong.
Noah O. My New Year's resolution is to gain more speed. So I can be a line backer for a little league football team.
Howard My New Year's Resolution is to gain 100 dollars. It is to open a gaming club for other people who do not have enough money to buy any games and systems.
Ryan My new years resolution is I will shoot fireworks. Why- because it is new years. **Alexis** My New Years revolutions is to be in the NFL. Why because so I can make a lot of money and by my mom a house. How-pass all my grades. Stay in school. Also stay out of trouble. No't acting up and study so I can do even better in life.
Randy What I would like to change is me doing more chores, like washing dishes, and sweeping the floors. Another is that I want to be nice to my brother. Also I would want to be more involved in activities.
Matte What I would like to accomplish is to do good on my report crad. I also want to do good on my progre report. Especially I would want to do good on my Taks test.
Eduardo For now I will collect more tickets. I will collect more ticket to bring a Cd. As for me I will lift more weights to get more muscles. And I will clean my room.
Kevin My New Year's resolution is to spend more time with my family and friends cause they mean a lot to me! Also spending more time with them makes me happy!
Priscilla I want to lose weight. I want to run 8 miles. I want to do more sports.
Janel My new year's resolution is to stop being bad. I hope I can do it, but I know I can, so you won't see me in the office anymore.
Oscar My resolution is to take more responsibility and to take care of my sister and my last resolution is I will be more helpful to others.
Brianna My New Years Resolution is to try new foods because I am a very picky eater. Also I will clean my room twice a week. I will also do the dishes every other week.
Katrina I will chart the times I play my piano. I will play outside more. I will clean my room every Saturday.
Ashley H. My New Year's Resolution is I'm gonna eat less candy. I won't ask my mom buy me some candy.
Alex I want to change is to help my mom by cleaning my room. I also want to help her by cooking. The last thing I want to change is spending time with my friends and family.
Yecica I will try to be at school every wek day. I want to try to be nicer to my sisters. I will also clean my room at least once a week from now on.
Rebecca I want to be good for ever. I want to buy a house, and a BB gun. Go to the store and find the right word.
Steven I want to help my mom clean the house. I would help my little sisters do homework for a year. I will help my mom cook. I will change over the New Years break.
Alexis N. My New Year's resolution is to get stronger. I want to lose weight. I want to get more money.
Jack I will exercise each two days. I will go outside everyday. I will help my dad work.
Cristiah I will stop being mean to my little brother. I will not drink coke for a whole day. I will do my best at school and at home every day.
Daniel I want to stop playing video games. I want to clean my room. I want to make all A's in conduct.
Kalvin

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Leader looks back on top stories for 2008

Continued from Page 1A
and St. Frances Cabrini. Burkart replaced Stephen R. Horn, who was removed from the church following allegations of sexual misconduct.

Greg Smith officially took over the helm as superintendent of the Clear Creek Independent School District. Most recently, he served as superintendent of the Alvin Independent School District, where he had been for six years. Smith replaced outgoing superintendent Sandra Mossman.

Former Sugar Land mayor and 22nd Congressional District hopeful Dean Hrbacek was found to have mailed out campaign brochures that included a doctored photo of himself, making the candidate appear thinner than he truly was. In the photo, Hrbacek's head was placed on someone else's suited body. The Patriot Group, Hrbacek's campaign consultants out of Austin, claimed responsibility for the gaffe. Hrbacek's campaign manager, Scott Broschart, said the candidate has been so busy meeting voters in the district that he had no time to take a genuine photo for the political mailing.

Jan. 31

The public was invited to attend a meeting at Clear Creek High School on Jan. 31, to discuss the proposed boundary changes for the 2009-2010 Clear Creek Independent School District academic year. Since September, a group of parent volunteers called the School Boundary Advisory Committee had been meeting to adjust attendance boundaries to accommodate the construction of two new elementary schools

in the League City area and the conversion of the Clear Creek Ninth-Grade Center to an intermediate school. Of concern to South Belt residents, particularly those who reside in the Ashley Pointe subdivision, was the overcrowding of Weber Elementary. The committee proposed that students who resided in Ashley Pointe attend Wedgewood in Friendswood rather than Weber come fall 2009. This troubled some residents due to the school's proximity, many of the children live within walking distance of Weber, whereas Wedgewood is located approximately seven miles south.

Several Houston Police Department units patrolled the area around the intersection of Sagewillow and Sage-orchard on Monday, Jan. 28, looking for a suspect who was evading arrest for an open warrant related to a violated protective order that required him to stay 200 feet away from a previous girlfriend. The fugitive, an unnamed 23-year-old male, was also a suspect in a string of burglaries in the area. Police caught the man with the assistance of a K-9 unit. He was subsequently arrested and charged with felony burglary in addition to evading arrest and the warrant.

Feb. 7

Construction worker Ricardo Vence, 24, fell 20 feet down into a well in the College Place subdivision on Monday, Feb. 4. Vence, a Robertson Well employee, was reportedly reaching down for a ladder in the hole when he fell. Apparently, he was not wearing a safety harness that was required. Vence re-

mained in the hole for nearly two hours before being rescued by city of Houston emergency personnel. The injured worker was transported by Life Flight to the medical center, where he was treated for a fractured femur and multiple bruises.

Houston police released the name of Anthony Wayne Motley, 23, was the suspect in the Jan. 28 incident that occurred in the 11000 block of Sagewillow.

Newly named St. Luke's pastor James Burkart was presented the Clergy of the Year award by Daniel Cardinal DiNardo at the Knights of Columbus' 24th Annual Clergy Appreciation Night on Friday, Jan. 25. The event was attended by more than 1,300 people from throughout the Galveston-Houston Archdiocese, including all of the organization's bishops. Burkart was also given a monetary stipend for his contributions.

The Texas Department of Agriculture asked the Pasadena Independent School District to put meat that it considered questionable on hold. The meat in question was shipped to PISD from 21st Century Foods, which received it from Westland Meat Company. However, this meat had not been prepared or served to PISD students. According to published and broadcast reports, it is alleged that Westland butchered weak or ill cattle.

The San Jacinto College Board of Trustees voted Monday, Feb. 4, to call a bond referendum in an effort to raise \$295 million to update the school's facilities. Impact on taxpayers within the district was expected to

be minimal. Homeowners whose home was appraised at \$100,000 and who claim a homestead exemption would see a tax increase of approximately \$3.16 monthly, or \$38 per year, while homeowners with an appraised home value of \$150,000 who claim a homestead exemption would pay \$4.83 more per month or approximately \$58 annually. The bond referendum was scheduled to appear on the May 10 ballot.

Sarah Elizabeth Coronado, 14, went missing on Tuesday, Feb. 5, after leaving Dobie High School with two Hispanic males in a white Dodge pickup. Authorities said she may have gone to Baytown, Spring or Hayward, Calif.

Feb. 14

The Bank of America in the 9800 block of Blackhawk was robbed on Tuesday, Feb. 12. Two men wearing masks entered the bank brandishing semiautomatic pistols and forced the customers to the ground. They proceeded to jump over the counter and demand the tellers open the cash drawers. After stuffing the money into a bag, the men ran outside where an older-model white Chevrolet Suburban was waiting for them. There were no immediate suspects. This was reportedly the fourth time the bank had been robbed since opening.

A storm drainage system near the intersection of Kirkwain and Newton was repaired by city contractors, thanks to the work of longtime Kirkwood resident Wade Hudson. Hudson had battled local officials for more than a decade to get the necessary repair work done.

Several apartments at The

Pointe Windmill Lakes caught fire on Friday, Feb. 8. The blaze, caused by an electrical malfunction, was ruled accidental. Two apartment units lost their roofs, and a total of 10 units were damaged by fire, smoke and/or water. The apartment manager reported the blaze after a maintenance worker spotted smoke.

Longtime South Belt resident John Hoover was recognized as a Distinguished Alumnus from his alma mater, Denison High School in northern Texas. A 1956 graduate, Hoover has had a sterling career post high school, serving in the Federal Aviation Administration and NASA. While at NASA, Hoover worked as an engineer on the Gemini, Apollo, Skylab and International Space Station projects.

The Clear Creek Independent School District pulled Westland Meat products after the United States Department of Agriculture issued an administrative hold on a series of lot numbers. None of the affected lot numbers made it to the cafeteria lines or was consumed by students or staff of CCISD.

Feb. 21

A man was killed in an automobile accident on Friday, Feb. 15, when his car struck the back of another vehicle while westbound on Beltway 8. Navid Seynafirpour, 42, was near the entrance ramp to the beltway just west of Beamer at roughly 10:50 a.m. when he rear-ended a trailer attached to another vehicle. His car then rolled over before coming to a stop. Seynafirpour was pronounced dead at the scene.

The Clear Creek Independent School District's School Boundary Advisory Committee (SBAC) announced it had revised its recommendations regarding the transfer of Weber Elementary students. The group had initially suggested students who resided in the Ashley Pointe and College Place subdivisions switch to Wedgewood Elementary. SBAC's original recommendations, however, were based on faulty statistics. In 2007, CCISD commissioned Magellan Consulting to project future enrollments within the district. When predicting enrollment rates for Weber, the consulting firm incorrectly assumed the growing BellaVita subdivision would have potential students. The subdivision is, however, a 55+ community and does not allow children. As a result, overcrowding at Weber was not as bad as originally projected. Armed with this new data, along with input gathered from community members at meetings held in January, SBAC members reconvened on Feb. 12 and altered their recommendations. Revised plans called for students who reside in Ashley Pointe to remain at Weber, while students who reside in College Place were to attend North Pointe Elementary.

Early voting for the March 4 primary elections began in Harris County, and voters showed up in record numbers. On Tuesday, Feb. 19, the first day to cast an early vote, 9,233 people voted in the Democratic primary, while 2,914 people voted in the Republican primary. By comparison, in the previous presidential primary election in 2004, 849 Democrats cast their vote on the first day of early voting, while 678 Republicans cast their votes.

Feb. 28

The South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce held its 24th annual banquet on Friday, Feb. 22. The event was attended by area business leaders, along with several local elected officials. The banquet's theme was, "A Salute to the 147th Fighter Wing" and was also attended by several members of the Texas Air National Guard. Outgoing chamber president George Valtarasos presented the Citizen of the Year award to Dr. Dixie Melillo, the founder of the nonprofit organization The Rose. Begun in 1986, The Rose makes mammography available to any woman regardless of her ability to pay.

Judge George Risner swore in the 2008 chamber of commerce officers and board of directors. Officers included Marie Flickinger, president; Chris Clark, first vice president; Brian Wasson, second vice president; Jacquelyn Wiess, third vice president; Maureen Murphy, secretary; and the Rev. Gordon Berg, treasurer. The 2008 board of directors were Mary Campbell-Fox, Terry Felton, B.J. Garner, Roseanne Kerr, Janice Laird, Eli Tanksley, Sandra Yandell, Jerry Dubose, the Rev. Emory Gadd, George Gaston, Elaine Munoz, Sheryn Nguyen and George Valtarasos.

Jacqueline Ann Cheramie died Thursday, Feb. 21. Cheramie was a longtime employee at both the Clear Creek and Pasadena independent school districts. Her most recent position was secretary to Dobie principal Steve Jamail. "The faculty and students at Dobie High School loved her as much as she loved them. Jackie spent many extra hours to see that things went right at Dobie," said Jamail.

The South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce hosted a meet and greet on Thursday, Feb. 28, to give residents a chance to familiarize themselves with candidates who appeared on the March 4 primary ballots. All contestants running for local congressional and legislative seats, as well as for justice of the peace and constable, were invited to participate.

March 6

Record crowds showed up to cast their votes in the Democratic and Republican primary elections on Tuesday, March 4. Many area polling locations were reported to be overcrowded and disorderly. At Frazier Elementary, the site for the Precinct 654 Democratic primary, more than 500 still stood in line to vote at 7 p.m. Law enforcement had to be called to maintain order.

On Thursday, Feb. 28, Houston Mayor Bill White visited San Jacinto College South where he spoke on energy issues. The mayor noted that Houston is the center of the energy industry, and that while other major cities were currently going through a recession, Houston continued to prosper and grow. White added that 250,000 new jobs have been created since he took office in 2004. Many of the new jobs in the energy industry he said require more education than in previous generations, citing technological advances. White also said the field is now open to females, comparing it to city police and fire work that was essentially shut off to women just a few years ago.

March 13

Pasadena Independent School District superintendent Kirk Lewis received a doctorate in education leadership from Lamar University. For two and a half years, Lewis traveled to Beaumont every other weekend to attend the school, where he would have classes on Friday nights and all day Saturdays.

He was hopeful his actions would inspire district students to pursue higher education. Cardinal Daniel Dinardo delivered Mass on Sunday, March 9, at St. Frances Cabrini Church. The service also featured an altar to St. Joseph and church youth dressed as saints.

The Pasadena Independent School District received a \$543,349 federal Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools grant. The school district used the funds to purchase emergency buckets for teachers to take with them during all building evacuations, including fire drills. The buckets would contain water, first aid kits, toilet paper, hand sanitizer, a flashlight and a copy of student class rolls.

The Clear Creek Independent School District's School Boundary Advisory Committee (SBAC) formally announced its proposed boundary changes to the CCISD Board of Trustees at a workshop on Monday, March 10. The group recommended to the board that students who then lived in Ashley Pointe remain at Weber Elementary rather than transfer to Wedgewood Elementary as earlier proposed. SBAC, however, suggested that students who lived in College Place transfer to North Pointe Elementary rather than remain at Weber. Final decisions regarding boundary changes, however, were to be made by the CCISD Board of Trustees at its March 24 meeting.

March 20
A high-speed chase on Monday, March 17, led to a suspect being arrested and charged with two felony counts, thanks in part to the efforts of a local resident. Deputy Jason Curry of the Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's Office was patrolling the area around Beamer and Hughes at 10 p.m. when he attempted to stop Charles Medlin for driving with an expired inspection sticker. Upon seeing the deputy, the driver took off down Beamer at a high rate of speed. Med-

Continued on Page 4A

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Melillo donates for Christmas



Dixie Melillo Middle School participated in the South Belt Leader's Food and Toy Drive. Mark Priest's home-room class was the class with the most donations. The students won a challenge from Diane Wheeler, the principal, to have the most donations in the school. Students include left to right, (front row) Servando Ortiz, Elizabeth Herrera, Victor Reyes, Oscar Juarez, Anthony Quiroz, Melissa Cruz, Christopher Lopez, (second row) Estefany Alfaro, Fatima Rueda, Diana Tufiño, SanJuana

Romero, Lizette Garza, Giselle Oviedo, Stephen Medel, Omar Rocha, (third row) Ivan Alfaro, Priest, Aleida Jimenez, Emily Umanzor, Raul Covarrubias, Lesli Pantoja, Ana Martinez, Gustavo Barragan and Jennifer Lopez. Priest's class collected 261 items, and the school as a whole collected more than 2,300 items. This was Melillo's first year in operation as well as its first year to participate in the South Belt Leader's community food and toy drive.

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CCART to hold January meeting

The Clear Creek Association of Retired Teachers (CCART) will hold its meeting Tuesday, Jan. 13, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Following a short business meeting, the featured program will be John James, the primary advocate for the Patient's Bill of Rights. James' son died in a hospital, so he has personal knowledge of this issue. Jones has addressed the U.S. Congress and will share his experiences.

All Texas retired school employees from the area are invited. Annual dues are \$35.

All meetings throughout the year will be held on the second Tuesday of the month, September through May.

The meetings are held at the Bay Area Community Center, 5002 NASA Parkway in Seabrook.

Over The Back Fence by Jan

BIRTHDAY WISHES FOR CARL
On Tuesday, Jan. 13, Carl Valigura celebrates his birthday. His wife, Frances, and his children, grandchildren and friends at the South Belt-Ellington Leader wish him well on his special day. Carl is well known to the merchants in the area where he delivers the Leader every week.

NINE CANDLES FOR KRISTEN
Kristen Giles celebrates her 9th birthday Tuesday, Jan. 13. Her parents, Tracy and Jim Giles of Kirkwood South, grandparents Bobby and Ken Griffin and brothers Aaron and Cody, extend their best wishes for a great day. Kristen is a third-grade student at Sparks Elementary.

SCHOOL DAZE
The following personnel and staff members of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays Jan. 8 through Jan. 14.

Atkinson Elementary
On Jan. 11, a birthday wish is sent to Tara Merida. Marking a birthday Jan. 12 is Martha Garcia.

Burnett Elementary
Celebrating a birthday Jan. 13 is Shelly Allen.

Bush Elementary
A birthday wish is sent to Tiffany Nelson Jan. 10.

Frazier Elementary
Blow out the birthday candles for Amy Campos Jan. 10. On Jan. 14, Leticia Espinoza enjoys a birthday.

Jessup Elementary
Gerardette Martin has a birthday Jan. 9. Celebrating a birthday Jan. 14 is Colleen Baldwin.

Meador Elementary
Jan. 10 is the day for a birthday cake for Yecenia Mercado.

Stuchbery Elementary
Tina Jo Flotten is sent birthday greetings Jan. 12.

Melillo Middle School
Blow out the birthday candles for Vicki Sheppard Jan. 9.

Morris Middle School
Having a birthday Jan. 11 is Victoria Hagan. Ariel Pena is wished a happy birthday Jan. 12.

Thompson Intermediate
Wishes for a wonderful birthday are sent to Ashley Chaddock Jan. 9.

Dobie High
Birthday greetings are sent to Nancy Guerra Jan. 10. Three cheers for a happy birthday for Barbara Keogh, Stacy Thomas and Minnie Wilks on Jan. 11. Margarita Batres and Judith Glasco share a birthday Jan. 12. The day for a birthday cake for Joe Benns, Lakeitha Kirven and Helen Vizina is Jan. 13. Birthday wishes are sent to Chrystal Carrizal Jan. 14.

A look back at stories from 2008

Continued from Page 3A
lin turned into an apartment complex in the 11700 block of Beamer, where he continued speeding through the parking lot.

With Curry still in pursuit, Medlin, 28, jumped out of his moving vehicle, which was still in gear, and began running on foot with a drawn pistol. A resident of the complex who had witnessed the chase waited behind a fence for the suspect to run past. As he passed, the resident kicked the suspect, causing him to fall down and knocking the firearm out of his hand. Medlin got back up and continued running without the gun. Curry, who had by this time called for back-up, was joined in pursuit by Deputy Dwayne Pacifico. Shortly after, the deputies were able to catch up to and detain the suspect. Medlin was arrested and charged with felony evasion with a motor vehicle and for being a felon in possession of a firearm.

March 27
The Houston Police Department's Clear Lake Tactical Unit made two drug-related arrests Monday, March 24, in the 11700 block of Kirkwood following an investigation which began earlier in the month. James Thomas Butcher, 41, was arrested and charged with felony possession of a controlled substance. Nicolee Lee Killian, 33, was discovered in the garage at the residence with a crack pipe and charged with a Class C misdemeanor. Pearl-land resident Tyrone Tamong Mathis, 27, was also charged with resisting arrest. Police say the house was under surveillance because neighbors had reported suspected drug activity was taking place in the home's garage.

After six months of meetings, five public hearings and countless hours of work by members of the School Boundary Advisory Committee, the Clear Creek Independent School District Board of Trustees approved the district's new school boundary zones. As a result, College Place students attending Weber Elementary will, beginning the 2009-2010 school year, be attending North Pointe Elementary. Ashley Pointe students remain at Weber Elementary.

April 10
A study that ranked high schools in the Greater Houston area prompted concern from area residents and officials at the Pasadena Independent School District, due to low showings from schools in the district. Conducted by the nonprofit group Children at Risk, the study was originally

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Melillo students make New Year's resolutions

My New Years resolution for 2009 is to be a better swimmer. I don't know how to swim that much. Some people sometimes make fun of me because I don't know how to swim a lot; only under water. But I still want to swim on top of water. Giselle I wish I could play football better because, I do not play football well in gym. We go outside and play. When we start, I go out for a pass. When the Quarterback thros me the ball sometimes I catch it, sometimes I don't. My team would not be able to make a touchdown and that's why I want to play football better so I can make my team proud. Tony My New Year's resolution for 2009 is to be a better baseball player. Even though I am good, there is still room for improvement. To get better, I would like to throw faster, hit harder, run faster, and be more athletic. I would also like to get better at my trumpet and get a whole bunch of first chairs. Also I would like to play football for a team and get skinnier for baseball and football. Jesse My resolution is to really pass the Taks test. I need to pass taks so I don't have to go to summer school and I can't play with my friends for the summer. If I don't I might have to go to summer school. Danny My New Year's resolution is to make commended again like last year and make a 100 on my Tax test. Also my resolution is to not fight that much with my little brother and be a better girl sister and to get better at volleyball because I like volleyball ball the most. But, I just don't know how to play real good. Another resolution is to help my mom with the new baby she is going to have. Giselle L. My resolution is getting all A's on my following report cards. Maybe doing my chores at home, helping more. Rasing money to buy a puppy or a bird. At school, I wish I wasn't as shy so I could make more friends. In Girl Scouts, I could try to earn more badges. I would like to get first chair in band. I could try to be a role model for my little sisters because they look up to me. I can try to keep my conduct grade up in school. Zoe My resolution is to practice my piano and violin more and to get better grades. I want to practice my instruments more because I don't think I play that good and I want to get better. Also another New Year's resolution is to watch less tv and go on the computer less too. I think I can actually do my resolutions. So 2009 is going to be great. Michelle My life as a skater is pretty cool but not all the time. Sometimes I have problems with being in trouble and I want to change that. I try my best, but I still get in trouble. For now oh, I will try my best because getting in trouble isn't going to make my life better. Moises My New Year's resolution for 2009 is to get better grades, impress my teachers, and pass the TAKS tests so I can go to sixth grade. I don't want to go to summer school. I can learn the secrets for Math, Reading, Writing, Social Studies, and Science. Joshua I want to do better in school. I want to try to get A's and B's. I want to try not to get in trouble for talking. I want to try to do all my homework and to write better. I would also like to learn how to roller skate. Laura I want to try my best and put all me effort and pass to 6th grade so I could know I'm smart and be a 5th grade teacher. Odaly's I want to better then this year then last year. Please help me. I want to do and get good grades. Dayessi I will like to do more activities before Christmas happens. Christian I would like to obey my parents in what they tell me what to do. I would like to also archete what I get from my mom and dad. Vondaria I want to be better in school A Lot better. Cameron My New Years Resolution is to do better in school and be better in my home. Marquis I would try me best on every one of my TAKS test since I'm bad at reading I will try twice as hard next year! And I will believe in my self this year on my TAKS test! hope I get a medal. Bobby Le I want to pass and eat chocolate ice cream pie again. Blake For new years I want to start recycling and sorting out stuff to help save the world and help all the shelters and stray animals. Hannah B. I want to do better then this year I went to be homework to school and I dont went to be bad and i went to be good. Alex I would love to help homeless boys' and girls' find a home and food! Give jobs to homeless people! Lizzy I want to improve on my football skills. Darium I want to be better with the stuff and help little kids what they need to do. David I want to do better in my classes so I can pass every class. Luis I want to do better in math and science. Travis I will try to be better at all my chores, school work, and try to make better food. Macalyn Next year I will listen. And I will learn to spell. Jose My New years resulation will be to make better choices, grades, be more nice to people try to save my money not spend it foolishly pay more attincine. Try to spread my talent to everyone. Jordan I will never be rude or bad. Cindy Keep my room clean. Jordan I would like to do better in every single thing like school work, homework, and get along with my brothers. I would also want to be extra good this year helping my mother with dishes, feeding her sandwiches, (cause that's the only thing I know how to make) make her and my bed, etc. I will try not to get mad at my brothers and sister too. Nathan To do my best in school and help around the world if I can and help the big green. Jada My resalution in the future is to win the Heisman and make the Hall of Fame. Tyler At home I want to be nicer to my brothers casue I am really mean to them. Andrew Next year I want to be able to learn alot about band class and be able to learn alot of songs for band class. Next year I will be advance and I would like my sister what she knows next year I will have alot of concerts so I will ask my sister to help me and I will do good. Patience I want to be better in math I know I try and get better better everyday...because this school is teaching so much that I did not learn before! Thank you Mrs. Chapman. Arielleae I would be nocer to my brothers. Alex To be nice. Not cut myself alot. Move on to high school. Sergio To stop talking , and not get another dentio to stop hitting my brother. Timesha To be good in class plul my grades up. Luis I would want to be better at ELAR. Jacklyn I wanna be good in school, and try not to do things i'm not supposed to be doing in school or wherever. I'm going to try to respect my mom and not talk back or give her attitude. I also would like to make new friends. Brooke I need to improve in my position defensive end and I am glad to have Coach Lee as my coach. Jason Be nocer to people. Deja Be nicer to people this year. Verek My New Years Resolution is to be a good boy and not have conduct marks and no detention. Kevin I woute to do better in conduct and bring up my reading grade. Jared To do better in school and bring up my reading grade. Anthony I want to do better in school and be a better sister to my brother and sisters. I hope I can play with my puppy a whole lot more. I wish to have a happy new year and behave better. Destiny My New Years resolution is to bring up my grades. Ryan I want to bring up my reading grade. Adrianna I could do better next year, on school and gymnastics. Megan I want to be a better sister and be good and make good grades and be nice. Deshunte Get better grades in school. Madeline My new years resolution is to listen to my parents more and not get in trouble. Chase Be a good boy and dont get conduct marks. Wesley My new years resolution is that I can do better on the TAKS. Williom To do better in in math class. Mario I will not be mean to other people. To do better in math. Jimmy

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Remember When

30 years ago (1978)
Modified restrooms and open concept schools; specialized coaching for sports other than football, the trimester system and curriculum structure were all topics brought up at a school board candidate meeting.

Sageglen and Green Tee Terrace residents voted 3 to 1 against the annexation proposed by San Jac College.

25 years ago (1983)
Bobby Fisher was in critical condition after he was injured in a collision with a car while riding a motorcycle. While the youth was wearing a helmet at the time of the accident, it apparently wasn't fastened and fell off on impact.

The Dobie girls' basketball team beat Deer Park, 48-47, to stay undefeated in district play.

20 years ago (1988)
The Sycamore Valley Civic Club was trying to have the subdivision included in the Dobie High School attendance area.

The local Internal Revenue Service office relocated from 9809 Rowlett to 8876 Gulf Freeway.

15 years ago (1993)
The Pasadena school board election generated a lot of interest in the area. Twelve candidates ran for three positions.

Rain delayed the opening of the South Belt from the Gulf Freeway to Beamer.

10 years ago (1998)
Approximately 260 students in grades 6-12 started classes at the new 35,000-square-foot Lutheran South Academy.

The Environmental Protection Agency announced the Brio Community Assistance Group was awarded a \$50,000 grant for expert assistance for plans and design for remedy.

5 years ago (2003)
The Arlyne and Alan Weber replacement elementary school opened.

Dr. John Wilson stepped down as superintendent of Clear Creek Independent School District. Dr. Sandra Mossman, former deputy superintendent of CCISD, replaced Wilson as superintendent.

Gaylynn Naiser was named the executive director of the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce.

1 year ago (2007)
Wednesday, Jan. 2, marked the last day for potential candidates to file the necessary paperwork in order to meet the state deadline to appear on the March 4 Democratic and Republican primary election ballots. South Belt residents could be found on nearly every ballot from the smallest local races to national senatorial positions. Among these were Sageglen resident and former Clear Brook student Kevyn Bazy who ran for the Republican nomination in the race for the 22nd Congressional District, Raymond Stewart and Sandra Woodard who ran for the Democratic nomination in the race for Harris County Precinct 2, Place 1 Justice of the Peace and longtime Kirkmont resident Ruben Guerrero who ran for the Democratic nomination in the race for the position of judge in the 174th Criminal District.

The South Belt AARP chapter installed John Heckler as its new president for 2008. Heckler replaced outgoing president Charlene Knox. 2008 marked the 20th anniversary of the group.

Former longtime Kirkwood South resident Neil West was presented the 2007 Planning Commissioner of the Year Award at a state conference in Addison, north of Dallas. The annual honor is bestowed by the Texas chapter of the American Planning Association. Now a resident of Green Tee, West had been a member of the City of Pearland Planning and Zoning Commission since being appointed in 2003. During his tenure, West had been instrumental in a number of city projects. Prior to his work in Pearland, West was also active in the immediate South Belt community. He was the founder of the South Belt Security Alliance and served as president of the Kirkwood South Homeowners Association. Additionally, West was treasurer of the San Jacinto College Foundation board and had been a longtime organizer of the annual South Belt Fourth of July parade. Following the APA conference, West was awarded the City of Pearland Certificate of Recognition at its city council meeting.

A loose pit bull once again terrorized members of the South Belt community, bringing attention to the policies of Harris County Animal Control. When deputies from Harris County Pct. 2 Constable's office arrived at the 10900 block of Kirkbrush and were also threatened by the canine, they phoned the animal control office. The lone officer on duty said she would lose her job if she responded to a call where no one had actually been bitten by the animal. After dealing with the dog for roughly an hour, the deputies finally coaxed it back into its owner's yard. Following the incident, Detective Rick Holloman took the necessary steps to have the dog declared dangerous.

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I-45 South & Beltway 8

IMAX THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL: THE IMAX EXPERIENCE (PG13)
(11:45 @ \$8), 2:20, 5:00, 7:35, 10:05, 12:40

DIGITAL PRESENTATION

BEDTIME STORIES (PG) (10:35 @ \$5), 1:10, 3:50, 6:15, 8:35, 10:55

AFTER DARK HORRORFEST: DYING BREED (R) / 6:10, 12:30

AFTER DARK HORRORFEST: FROM WITHIN (R) / 2:00, 8:20

BRIDE WARS (PG) / (10:10, 11:25 @ \$5), 12:25, 1:35, 2:45, 3:55, 5:05, 6:10, 7:30, 8:30, 9:50, 10:50, 11:55, 12:55

NOT EASILY BROKEN (PG13) / (10:00, 11:15 @ \$5), 12:30, 1:45, 3:00, 4:15, 5:30, 7:00, 8:00, 9:25, 10:25, 11:50, 12:50

THE UNBORN (PG13) / (10:05, 11:10 @ \$5), 12:20, 1:25, 2:35, 3:40, 4:50, 5:55, 7:15, 8:15, 9:25, 10:35, 11:55, 12:55

BEDTIME STORIES (PG) (12:05, 2:25, 4:45, 7:20, 9:40, 12:05)

THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON (PG13) (11:00 @ \$5), 2:50, 7:10, 10:40

THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON (PG13) (11:00 @ \$5), 4:30, 8:10, 11:35

MARLEY & ME (PG) (10:30 @ \$5), 12:10, 1:20, 2:55, 4:25, 5:40, 7:20, 8:20, 9:55, 10:55, 12:35

THE SPIRIT (PG13) 8:55, 11:25

WALKYRIE (PG13) 9:25, 11:10

WALKYRIE (PG13) (10:45 @ \$5), 1:30, 4:20, 7:05, 9:45, 12:25

SEVEN POUNDS (PG13) (10:40 @ \$5), 1:40, 4:35, 6:05, 7:25, 8:50, 10:10, 11:40, 12:55

AFTER DARK HORRORFEST: FROM WITHIN (R) 1:15, 3:45, 6:05

YES MAN (PG13) (10:05, 11:20 @ \$5), 12:35, 1:40, 3:05, 4:25, 5:35, 7:00, 8:05, 9:30, 10:30, 11:50, 12:50

THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL (PG13) (10:25 @ \$5), 1:05, 3:35, 6:20, 8:45, 11:15

AUSTRALIA (PG13) (10:15 @ \$5), 1:40, 5:25

FOUR CHRISTMASSES (PG13) (10:00 @ \$5), 1:15, 3:25

THE READER (R) (11:20 @ \$5), 2:05, 4:45, 7:45, 10:20

BOLT (PG) (10:55 @ \$5), 1:05, 4:05, 6:30

TWILIGHT (PG13) (11:20 @ \$5), 1:15, 5:10, 7:55, 10:45

QUANTUM OF SOLACE (PG13) (10:00 @ \$5), 12:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00, 11:00

MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA (PG) (11:55 @ \$5), 2:10, 4:30, 6:45

THE AFTER DARK HORRORFEST: BUTTERFLY EFFECT 3: REVELATIONS (NR-NOT RATED) / 4:10, 10:20

AMC SELECT

GRAB TORINO (R) / (11:05 @ \$5), 1:55, 4:40, 7:40, 10:15, 12:45

THE READER (R) (11:20 @ \$5), 2:05, 4:45, 7:45, 10:20

DOUBT (PG13) 12:15, 2:40, 5:20, 7:50, 10:15, 12:40

SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R) (10:00 @ \$5), 12:50, 3:30, 6:25, 9:10, 11:45

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South Belt Youth Soccer Club

It's time for SPRING Soccer Registration!

Registration for Boys and Girls ages 4 to 18 years old is being held on:

Saturday, Jan. 10th at the Sagemeadow MUD Bldg. from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

New players registering must bring original and copy of birth certificate at time of registration.

For additional information and online registration, go to www.southbeltsoccer.org

SBYSC is a non-profit, all volunteer organization run by parents for the kids.

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Registration fees are as follows:

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U5-U8 (4,5,6,7)	\$80	\$60
U9 & UP Returning	\$85	\$65
U9 & UP New	\$90	\$70

late fee of \$10 will be assessed after Feb. 1st, 2009.

THE SAGEMEADOW MUD BUILDING IS LOCATED AT: 10755 HALL RD.

Leader takes a look back on major events of 2008

Continued from Page 4A

published in the Houston Chronicle. Pasadena High School was the highest ranking PISD school on the list at 94. Dobie High School was ranked 96, South Houston High School was ranked 126, and Sam Rayburn High School was ranked 127. Pasadena Memorial High School was excluded from the list due to its newness. All four PISD high schools on the list dropped in position from their rankings the previous year. Pasadena dropped two positions, Dobie dropped 25 positions, South Houston dropped 34 positions, and Sam Rayburn dropped 59 positions.

The group used several criteria to judge the schools, including Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) scores, graduation rates, class size, number of SAT test-takers and SAT scores. The indicator that carried the most percentage weight was a school's graduation rate in 2006. It is this criterion to which PISD Superintendent Kirk Lewis attributes the low scores. When calculating graduation rates, the organization failed to take into account the opening of Pasadena Memorial High

School and the effect this had on the size of graduating classes from the other high schools in the district.

Lewis said he is confident that future graduation rates will increase due to the school district's Expectation Graduation program. Implemented in the 2006-2007 school year, Expectation Graduation aims to improve student retention by focusing instruction around individual student interest and learning style. The initiative particularly targets freshmen and allows more flexibility in class choices than in previous years. The 2006 graduating class studied by Children at Risk, however, did not participate in the program.

The primary runoff elections were held on Tuesday, April 8. In the Republican race for the 22nd Congressional District nomination, Pete Olson easily defeated Shelley Sekula Gibbs. Olson received 68.5 percent of the vote to Gibbs' 31.5 percent. This is in stark contrast to the primary's first round where Gibbs received 30 percent of the vote to Olson's 21 percent. In the heated Republican race for the state District 144 nomination, Ken Legler narrowly defeated Fred Roberts, beat-

ing him by 100 votes. Legler received 51.6 percent of the vote to Roberts' 48.4 percent. In the Republican race for the position of Harris County District Attorney formerly held by Chuck Rosenthal, Pat Lykos narrowly defeated Kelly Siegler. Lykos received 52.6 percent of the vote to Siegler's 47.4 percent. Rosenthal had originally intended to campaign to maintain his position but abandoned the idea in January amid a series of scandals.

April 17

An early morning shooting on Thursday, April 10, in the 11900 block of Kirkway led to an Immigration and Customs Enforcement raid on a house the following evening. Numerous residents on the street called 9-1-1 around 4:30 a.m. Thursday after hearing several gunshots. One Houston police officer responded to find a man shot in the leg. The victim, who had fled to a neighboring home after being shot, said he was one of about 20 illegal immigrants who had just arrived from Mexico at a house on the block when multiple cars drove by and opened fire. Witnesses say three to five cars were involved in the incident. The house where

the victim had been dropped off, registered to a Juan A. Ortiz, is referred to as a "drop house" by immigration officials. Neighbors say they had complained to police about similar drops in the past, but that officers had failed to act. Shattered glass and multiple spent shell casings were found along the street. Ortiz's home had gunshots going both in and out of the garage door. The lone responding officer knocked on the door to the house to no avail.

The following evening, roughly 12 undercover ICE vehicles lined the street when two adults and four children arrived at the home. The officers converged on the house and searched its contents, along with two cars at the residence. No arrests were made, but immigration officials told *Leader* one of the adults had a prior criminal record for similar activity. Neighbors say only one of the four children looked familiar and that the child hadn't been seen on the property for roughly a year. While no arrests were made, ICE officers said immigrant smuggling operations generally shut down or move following an incident.

An elderly Kirkmont resident narrowly escaped injury on Tuesday, April 15, when he lost control of his vehicle while going westbound on the Beltway 8 feeder road at Beamer. The man's truck leveled a Shell gasoline price sign, nearly struck a gas pump and clipped another truck before slamming into an unoccupied, parked car. While the driver was found to have an open container of alcohol in the vehicle, a sobriety test conducted by the Houston Police Department determined the man was not intoxicated.

April 24

Longtime Sagameadow resident Don Stapon presented a petition signed by 282 people to the Harris County Commissioner's Court aimed at reducing speeding on Blackhawk. A 27-year resident of the subdivision, Stapon said speeding on the area street, which has a posted speed limit of 30 mph, has gotten progressively worse over the years, particularly during heavy drive times. Further, Stapon said the problem has increased significantly with the recent extensions of Blackhawk to Dixie Farm Road and Scarsdale to Yost. According to Stapon, drivers from Friendswood and Pearland now utilize Blackhawk as a shortcut to the beltway. Stapon said the commissioners, along with County Judge Ed Emmett, were very receptive and would look into the issue.

A man jumped to his death from the Interstate 45 exit at Beltway 8 on Wednesday, April 16, at roughly 10 p.m. Gregory Kinchloe, 48, was last seen alive as he parked near the northbound exit, walked around his vehicle and dived headfirst onto the southbound service roads below. Police estimate the fall to be 100 feet. Two separate drivers called 9-1-1 to report the incident. It was too late, however, as paramedics from the Houston Fire Department pronounced him dead at the scene. Kinchloe, a Dobie graduate, had recently lost his mother. A similar incident occurred the previous May at the same location.

Mike Stephens was named athletic director of the Pasadena Independent School District. Stephens was the former head football coach at Dobie High School. He replaced Dick Nance, who retired.

A man died in a single-car accident on Monday, April 21, at the intersection of Beltway 8 and Blackhawk.

Heriberto Leizondo, 23, was

westbound on the tollway around 1 a.m. when he lost control of his pickup truck and ran into a guard rail. Leizondo, who was not wearing a seat belt, was thrown from his vehicle, which then rolled over on him. Leizondo died on the way to the hospital. The westbound beltway lanes were closed for several hours following the accident.

May 1

Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's deputies made two arrests in one day in which they recovered merchandise and possessions that had been stolen. Deputy Dwayne Pacifico was patrolling the 10800 block of Sagegreen at 1:30 a.m. on Wednesday, April 23, when he spotted a vehicle being driven with its lights off. When the deputy attempted to stop the driver, he sped off. Pacifico chased the driver for roughly 20 minutes, reaching speeds of 80 mph. The driver, Long Nguyen, wrecked the vehicle on Meadowhawk and then took off on foot. Pacifico caught the suspect as he tried to jump a fence. The car Nguyen was driving turned out to be stolen. It also contained several hundreds of dollars worth of hair and nail products.

Shortly after the incident, the constable's office received phone calls notifying them that both a hair salon and a nail salon on Scarsdale had been burglarized. The owners of the stores later positively identified the stolen merchandise. Nguyen, 36, was arrested and charged with evading in a stolen vehicle, possession of stolen goods and unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.

Later that morning, the constable's office received reports of two burglaries of motor vehicles within a block of each other. One vehicle, a Ford Expedition in the 8900 block of Kirkmont, had electronics taken from it. The second vehicle, a Comcast Cable van in the 9900 block of Kirkwren, had tools taken from it. Deputies Zerick Guinn and Phillip Askeew were dispatched to the scene at roughly 8 a.m. A neighbor notified the deputies that a possible suspect might be at a house on Kirkwren. The deputies went to the home and found Joshua Marshall in the back yard highly intoxicated. Marshall, 21, admitted to stealing the tools, but denied taking the electronics. He then told deputies where the stolen items had been stashed. When the deputies retrieved the tools, however, they also found the stolen electronics. The items were valued at roughly \$6,000. The suspect was arrested and charged with felony theft.

Sagemont Church announced its plan to invest roughly \$25 million in a renovation and beautification project. Designs call for a new sanctuary, an educational space, extensive landscaping and a 170-foot cross that is to be erected on the church grounds. In all, the renovations will provide 115,000 square feet of new building space.

The Washington Mutual bank in the 10900 block of Scarsdale was robbed on Friday, April 18. A man entered the bank at roughly 10:30 a.m. and handed the female teller on duty a note saying he knew the bank's procedures, to give him money and not to set off any silent alarms. He subsequently showed the teller a handgun. The female handed the man a bag with an undisclosed amount of money. The man then fled in a plum-colored, four-door sedan that was waiting for him in front of the bank. No immediate arrests were made.

May 8

A story in the May 1 *Leader* regarding the en-

forcement of speed zones on the Sagameadow portion of Blackhawk prompted action by local authorities, with both the constable's office and the sheriff's department beefing up patrols along the area street. While this came as good news to residents on the street who had petitioned for the extra enforcement, others were not as pleased, according to Sgt. Zerick Guinn of the constable's office.

According to Guinn, a common complaint is that the street should have a higher speed limit than 30 mph now that it has become a major thoroughfare. Guinn said most violators were traveling at speeds lower than 40 mph. Of the 589 vehicles on Blackhawk that deputies tracked on radar between April 24 and April 30, 494 (79 percent) were traveling between 30 mph and 35 mph, 94 (16 percent) were traveling between 36 mph and 39 mph and only 31 (5 percent) were traveling at speeds higher than 40 mph. The average vehicle speed on the street was 32.26 mph. Another common complaint, Guinn said, is the allowance of vehicles to park on Blackhawk, thus impeding the flow of traffic.

The Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston announced its intention to close Mount Carmel High School at the end of the 2007-2008 school year. School personnel were to be considered for assignment to other locations within the archdiocesan school system. School officials expressed the desire that the 140 enrolled underclass students continue their education at other Catholic high schools. To that end, the archdiocese plans made arrangements with other Catholic high schools in the archdiocese to reduce the financial consequences of Mount Carmel's closure for families who elected to continue their children's education in the Catholic school system. The Mount Carmel physical plant, opened in 1956, was designed to accommodate 700 students. The enrollment in recent years, however, averaged 190 and had been declining.

A driver was killed in a single-vehicle accident on Friday, May 2, at the intersection of I-45 and Beltway 8. Gregorio DeJesus, 38, was traveling at a high rate of speed on the northbound service road at roughly 2:45 a.m. when he lost control of his vehicle and struck a bridge support. DeJesus' car, a brand new Corvette, subsequently landed on its roof and caught fire, trapping the driver inside. Witnesses tried to come to the driver's aid, but heat from the flames kept them at bay. DeJesus, a Friendswood resident, was pronounced dead at the scene.

Two men were arrested on Tuesday, May 6, by deputies from the Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's Office, following a string of incidents that occurred on Scarsdale. The constable's office received a call around 1 a.m. from a woman who said two men had banged on her vehicle and tried to enter it in the 12000 block of Scarsdale. Deputies Francisco Espinosa and Jason Curry responded to the incident and spotted two males at the Shell station at Scarsdale and I-45 that fit the woman's description. While questioning the men, a second complainant approached the deputies and said that the suspects had attempted to rob him earlier in the evening and had punched him multiple times in the face. The first complainant also positively identified one of the men. Eddie Olivera, 18, was arrested and charged with robbery. Rico Cadrial, 17, was arrested for having an outstanding

warrant.

May 15

Results from the local May 10 elections were counted, with the number of votes cast surprising some. The \$295 million San Jacinto College bond proposal passed with overwhelming support. Nearly 71 percent of the 1,836 people who cast their vote in the election were in favor of providing the additional funds that will go toward new facilities at all three campuses in the district. Almost three times as many people voted in this bond election than the last one held in 1999. In fact, more people voted early in this bond referendum than in the last one altogether.

In the Pasadena Independent School District election, Vickie Morgan held on to her Position 7 seat on the board of trustees, easily defeating challenger South Belt resident Randy Clay Smith. Morgan received 1,029 votes to Smith's 322.

This was the first time that more people voted in a San Jac election than in a concurrent, contested PISD board election. Additionally, more people voted in this election at the San Jac College South campus than at the Central campus - another first.

In its first year of operation, Clear Creek Independent School District's Clear Horizons Early College High School earned an Exemplary rating from the Texas Education Agency. Located at the San Jacinto College's South campus, the school allowed eligible CCISD students to take high school and college courses simultaneously.

Houston police arrested one suspect and released the identity of a second in connection with the killing of Andrae Prentice Shelton, who was fatally shot on Aug. 7 outside the Sage Hollow apartment complex. Joe Everett Foster Jr., 28, was arrested and charged with aggravated robbery with a deadly weapon. A second suspect, Freddie Douglas, 20, remained at large and was wanted on the same charge. According to police, Douglas, a former Dobie student, was the individual responsible for the shooting.

In the Clear Brook City Municipal Utility District election, Chuck Tylka easily defeated incumbent Bill Jones for the Position 1 seat on the board of directors. Tylka received 78 votes to Jones' 35. In the race for a position on the Sagameadow Municipal Utility District Board of Directors, challenger Dean Baier was unsuccessful in his attempt to unseat incumbents David Dittmar and Glenn Williams. Baier received 59 votes, while Dittmar received 120 and Williams received 110. These numbers were also somewhat surprising, given that the Clear Brook City MUD is significantly larger than the Sagameadow MUD. The Clear Brook City MUD includes 12 subdivisions and roughly 5,500 households, whereas the Sagameadow MUD includes only two subdivisions and roughly 2,100 households.

A retirement party was held for three longtime employees at Burnett Elementary. Dee Wright, Ada Carr and Carol Carmichael had a combined 100 years of experience working in the Pasadena Independent School District. Wright, the school's nurse, had been with the district 33 years, 28 of which were spent at Burnett. Carmichael had been a kindergarten teacher at the school for 30 years. She is the only Burnett instructor who worked under all five principals at the school. Carr, assistant principal at the school, spent a total of 37 years working in PISD, with the last 15 being spent at Bur-

nett.

Dobie principal Steve Jamail was named PISD's 2008 Region IV Secondary Principal of the Year. Jamail was selected for his ability to build a positive school culture and climate aimed at excellence for all, according to Vicki Thomas, PISD deputy superintendent.

A 6-year-old boy drowned on Saturday, May 10, at a pool party in the 9900 block of Windmill Lakes Boulevard. Christian Mackey was attending a house-warming party with family members around 9 p.m. when several adults took their children to the community swimming pool. Although the children were under adult supervision, Mackey got into the pool undetected and was eventually spotted at the bottom of the pool by family members. CPR was immediately administered once the child was noticed. The boy was then taken to Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital, where he was later pronounced dead. No charges were immediately filed.

May 29

In a unanimous vote longtime South Belt resident Stuart Stromeyer was named president of the Clear Creek Independent School District Board of Trustees. The South Belt area resident joined the CCISD board in May 2006 as the representative of District 4. Stromeyer is employed at Cunningham Lindsey International, where he serves as executive vice president and board director. Stromeyer has worked in the marine and energy insurance industry for more than 30 years. The new board president lives with his wife, Stefanie, and has four children, Becky, Christopher, William and Nicholas. All of the children have attended Clear Creek ISD schools. Over the years, Stromeyer has been active in campus instructional improvement councils, parent teacher associations and various booster clubs at all levels of his children's education.

Also at the board meeting, members voted to approve District 5 representative Dee Scott as vice president and District 3 representative Ken Baliker as secretary. In addition, business, Win Weber was sworn in as the new District 2 member of the board, replacing retiring board member and former president Paula Tomasi.

The CCISD Board of Trustees also unanimously approved a salary plan for the 2008-2009 school year which included a minimum increase of \$1,500 per teacher with more senior teachers receiving from \$1,750 to \$2,750 depending on their years of service. Additionally, new teachers would be guaranteed a starting salary of \$43,500. The total cost of the salary increases was estimated to be \$4.45 million more than the previous school year's. The salary options presented to the board were developed in partnership with teacher associations, parents and community members and call for additional increases if the district receives more than the anticipated funding from the state.

The 2008 year in review will be continued in next week's issue.

Escamilla, Moreno to wed



Erica Escamilla and Mario Moreno announce their engagement and upcoming marriage. The bride-to-be is the daughter of Raul and Linda Escamilla and has lived in the South Belt area for more than 10 years. She graduated in 2004 from Dobie High School and in 2007 from the University of Houston Clear Lake. She is currently employed as a second-grade bilingual teacher at Frazier Elementary. The prospective groom is the son of Mario and Olga Moreno and resides in Pasadena. He graduated from Pasadena High School in 2003 and from the University of Houston in 2008. He is currently employed by MEI as a mechanical structural design engineer under the Boeing/NASA contract. The wedding is planned for early August 2009.

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LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday	Vigil 5:30 p.m.
Sunday	7:30, 9:15, 11:15 a.m.
Sunday	1:00 p.m. Misa en Espanol
Monday, Wednesday, Friday	9:00 a.m.
Tuesday & Thursday	7:00 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated
Thursday 6:30 p.m. Saturday 4:15 p.m.

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WEEKLY SERVICE TIMES

Sunday	Wednesday
Early Service • 7:45 a.m.	Prayer Meeting • 7:00 p.m.
Sunday School • 9:30 a.m.	Mid-Week Service • 7:45 p.m.
Worship Service • 10:45 a.m.	Nursery Available at all Services

Melillo Middle School students make New Year's resolutions for 2009

Continued from 4A
 Next year in 6th grade I'm going to try my best in class or classes.
Johnathon To try to get straight A's for my report card because I'm a B student.
Luis Try to follow dress code.
Thinh I want to improve my grades. I also want to improved my cello playing.
Bailey My resolution is do better in all of my classes I'm doing good a conduct 90's and up on my report card but i want to have all 95's and up if i get a 90 i'm fine but 100 is my goal.
Stephanie To get a girlfriend.
Evan Be a better person and make my whole generation proud of me!
Malaina Is trying to talk less.
Alexis Next year I would want to pass and be a better person to stay on task that what i would want to do.
Alexis W. I would buy lots and lots of food and drinks and go to africa to feed all the starving people. Then give toys and medicine so they may be happy and healthy.
Iris To find my missing cat.
Sarina My New Years Resolution is to help my mom around the house more because she works so hard at everything. I would do anything for her.
Nicole My resolution is to help my friends improve in math by tutoring every night. I will also look on newspapers to find my dad a very perfect job. I will Ace the TAKS test by paying attention in class studying every day.
Alfredo This year for my new years resolution I will lose 10 pounds, get in less fights with my brothers and get better on my reading grades. I will try my best to do these things the best.
Dre I will try to stop using my money on stuff I don't need. I will help my parents around the house more, and I will stop yelling at my little brother. I will help my neighbors out more.
Jacqueline My new years goal is to volunteer more because I always feel bad for the people that don't have enough food or lost their house during a hurricane so I am going to ask my mom to take me to volunteer at shelters.
Maya My new years resolution is stop doddleing when i'm supposed to do something else. I'm an artist or at least that's what my BFF's say. I also want to give presents to my friends instead of them giving it to me! Every Christmas My best friend Alyssa Cumpian, Gives me something, and it makes me happy, but soon I feel sad. I'm going to give my friend my favorite bear this time, so now I know giving makes you

happy.
Annale I will prevent kidney stones by drinking more water and eating less meat. I will learn vietnamese to communicate with my grampa. I will get better lab grades by talking less during lab.
Martin My goals are to help around my house and obey my parents by doing what they ask me to do if I were a parent I would've appreciated it. With my friends I will try not to get in fights, to respect each other and be there for each other. In school I want to stay focused and make better grades I need to read the question slowly and understand it.
Marisa I would like to be on a soccer team and learn to play as a team member rather than myself. That would teach me not to be bossy. I want to be nice to my sisters by playing with them more they probably won't call me names. One more thing is clean my guinea pigs cage more and give him fresh food.
Alyssa I'm going to be more responsible, stop arguing with my siblings and listen in school. I'm going to stop irritating my siblings and control my anger with them. To be more responsible I will double check my things and put my stuff where it's supposed to go. With School I try not to talk so I can listen better.
Jaylon I would like to learn tolike the way I am because if I dont I would not be confident. Not talk back to my parents because they are my elders, I need to respect them and I want to get good grades.
Crystal By planning ahead and staying on task I can keep my room clean and all my chores done. By being patient I know I can listen to my siblings without ignoring them. If I pay attention in class even more I can get good grades on papers and remain getting all A's on my report card through school.
Raven I will hang out with my friends more because I like them and don't want them to think I hate hanging out with them. I will accomplish this by calling more talking to them more and going to special events with them more.
Brady A goal I would like to reach for myself is to try to save money. That way I could buy something for my family. I would try to be more responsible. Also try to listen to my mom when she tells me to pick up something and dont make her say it twice. The goal I would like to reach is to make higher grades. Also to pass 5th grade, and dont go to summer school.
Julissa To take more responsibility in things, to get along with my broth-

er and sister more, and to work harder in school and get better grades.
Samantha I want to stop eating alot of candy because then I have cavaties, I want to lose about 5 pounds, I'm going to do it by jogging and running ! I'm going to stop eating candy by well, not buying it!
Aliana A. I will not watch a lot of tv. I will read more instead watch my favorite show. I will not argue with my mom and dad with chores. I will help my brother with his homework I will try to make better grades in school by studying more.
Ashley My personal goal is to drink alot of milk to grow tall! My family goal is to help my family whenever they need me to the most, my school goal is to achieve anything I do and always by doing my best. My outside goal is to bring back by dog and my cousin's Max And Lucky, by going around the neighborhood to find them.
Mandy To get better grades in reading and paying attention and not just sit there. I also would like to clean my house more often because sometimes my mom gets really tired and so I would want to help around I will mop and sweep ,clean my room and try to get an allowance also, I would want to stop eating less junk food or else I'd never grow at least more than my mom because my life would be miserably being short. I will stop being mean to my brother because sometimes he wishes I wasn't there and it hurts my feelings.
Mariana I will try not to watch too much t.v. Instead I will try to go outside and play more sports. I will not make fun of my brother so much I can just try to ignore him when he insults me. I will try to make better grades in school by studying and paying attention more.
Vanessa To make better grades and I would do this by studying harder and taking my time I really never get to see my great grandma She's 86 and lives all the way on the other side of town. I don't know what I'd do without her. I guess I could call her more. I really need to pay more. My father's a police officer and I really never felt scared until I saw the world went crazy I also don't know what I would do without him sometimes I really need to pray for him.
Sarah I have ten goals in my life, but i'm here to tell three number 1. My personal goal - make it to Juilliard the college for free. #2 family and friends goal - give my brothers space by leaving them alone. Also, stop arguing with my friends, by making the right friends. #3 school and my outside world goal - get bet-

ter grades by paying attention. Also to get a scholarship.
Braelyn To live with my curly hair. I always get mad cause I can't brush it and end up straightening it. I will stop getting so mad at someone that I don't like them anymore. I never have and never will do that , but I don't like it! I also want to get straight A's. My report card is very important to me! One or two B's don't disappoint me too much, but I'd much rather get A's!
Laura I want to learn how to water ski I would ask my mom and dad to pay for lessons. I would also save up all my money and buy a turtle. I might also try not to eat sweet stuff and candy for 3 weeks.
Carlos I want to swim faster. I will do this by practice every day. Second, I want to make more friends. I will do this by talking to more people. Third, I want to make it to my bus stop on time, by turning my alarm on.
Tin I will lose 5 pounds by exercising more, watch less tv, and eat healthy. I will be more help full to my family by cleaning my room , help with the grocery bags, and any other chorel get. And I will pay more attention to the teacher because almost everytime I finish my work early I read or sometimes daydream and the teacher goes to another subject. I will stop that by supposedly forgetting my book and keep myself busy.
Cristian To not play as much video games. I just play too many video games. I think that I should play as much video games as I help out in my house.
CJ I want to get into gymnastics it'll help me get more fit and it's fun. I want to meet someone new because it would be an adventure and I want to spend more time with my family.
Megan My personal improvement is to stop drinking coke. Whenever I want coke I will just drink water and pretend it's coke. I won't even be able to tell the difference I am going to help my parents take care of my baby sister. I will make her a bottle and feed her when she is hungry. I will do this for my parents so they can get other stuff done like clean the house. Everytime we have a fundraiser I want to try to raise the most money on our classroom so that my school can raise the most money.
Kara I'm going to try not to watch t.v. for 2 weeks by spending more time outside. I'm going to keep my room clean. I'll try not to fight with my friend, we'll just talk it out. I'm going to start recycling to help the world. I am in the process of bring up my math grade.
Rebecca

To spend more time with my dog Kip. I'll accomplish this by playing fetch with him after school. My next one is to do my daily chores myself. My last one is to study for my tests more often. I can do tis by setting aside time to study.
Camilla To read alot of books and read more. Help my parents feed our animals, clean, and clean the floors. I lso want to improve my reading science and math in school.
Kellie To be more energy efficient. I'll start by using less energy. Ride my bike instead of using a car. I'll try to pick up trash. I'll use more energy efficient light bulbs and always turn them off whenever we leave the house. When my mom drives her car I'll tell her to car-pool. I'll turn off the water when washing dishes and brushing my teeth.
Daniel My goal is to get good grades and keep them up. Because if i get good grades I get good things like my dad said I could have my ears pierced when schools out this summer. By paying attention in every class I'll be able to pass the TAKS test to keep my grades up and I'll go to sixth grade.
Saphire I'm not going to mess with my brother. Because I keep getting bruises and scratches. By staying away from him.
Denise My goal is to help the homeless get shelter and food then a job and make sure they stay well. this is my goal because I feel awful for them. I will reach this goal by trying to pay as much money for them as I can.
Manuel My goal is to take out money from my bank and trade money from Mexico because I want to buy firecrackers and I will travel from Houston to Mexico to find a store.
Fernando To teach my sister how to read and spell. I want to help my sister to read and spell because I want her to learn before she goes to school. How I will get my goal by reaching more time with my sister after school to help her read and spell. Then I want to see my sister read and spell by listening.
Greydina Do better in cheerleading cause I need to get my jumps higher I will do this by stretching more and practice harder.
Sidney I am gonna improve in playing football and losing weight.
Julio To have a good time with my family, this is my goal because last time I scent New Year's in a hotel. totell my mom and dad If we can spend New Years at home.
Trent My goal nis to work on being nice to my sister and brother because I am mean to them. They get me in trouble when it's not my fault. I'll reach this goal by ignoring what they do and don't hit them no more.
Kayla My goal is to earn more \$50. So I can buy my family gifts. I will do this by doing chores around the house and mowing the lawn.
Joshua To do good on some of my grades. To make my mom proud of me By listening to the teacher and dont play around with my friends.
Tristin To get my four wheeler because I worked hard for tit and i'll get it by making good grades and mowing lawns.
Lauren My goal is to make sure that children that are homeless, maybe I might be able to help them I want to make sure they're not homeless It's sad that they area and I wanna help. BY giving them toys and clothes and shoes and make sure they have a home.
Amber To study when I need to. This is my goal because I don't study now. I will study to get good grades so I won't get in trouble.
Morgan To get along with my sister. This is my goal because I want to be able to get along with her in the future. I will try to reach this goal by respecting and being nicer to her. That is my new years resolution.
Keyshana To do good in school because I want to be succesful by doing my best in 5th grade.
Jonathan To pass the TAKS test. Why because I want to go to 6th grade. I will reach my goal by studying more.
Daniela C. To be with my family and friends, because I love my family and my friends are fun to play with. I will do this by believing in my heart and family.
Jose To join a basketbal team because I love playing basketbal. I will believe in myself and others will believe in me too.
Zachary To do better in all my subjects because I'm doing bad I will pay attention.
Mark To clean my room every week. This is my goal because My room is always messy. I will reach that goal by believing that I can do it.
Elizabeth To have peace for the world because some people don't have homes. I will do this by doing my best.
Elsisha To pay more attention in class what I'm gonna stop doing is playing around and tasling with my amigas and amigos. I chose this goal to make my grades higher.
Lorena To stop talking and not getting in trouble. I would stop talking to my friends so my grades wont go down. I chose this goal becuse I care about my grades.
Anahi My resolution is to pay attention more. I will try to reach my goal by not talking and listening more. I chose my goal because I do not want my grades to go down.
Cassandra To pay attention more I would try to stop talking and pay attention I chose this because I think my grades are going down. To play better at volleyball. I will try harder. I chose this goal because I love volleyball's fun and I love playing basketbal.
Emily My New Year's Resolution is to do better in school because I feel like my grades are going down. The way I will apprvise is by paying attention and study more. I picked this because i don't want to stsy in 5th grade.
Cassidy To help my parents around the house more and take better care of my little brother and sister. I should take more responsibility since i'm the oldest and I should learn to help my family.
Latroya I'm going out of the state, my grandparents are going to come and get me, I chose to go out of the state because I see Texas every day I wanna go somewhere different look at new things.
Alyah To do good in school and make good grades to get a education in college. To pay attention to the

teacher and don't play around with others and focus. I chose to be good in school because I get in trouble alot and I don't want to get my mom anymore sick.
Alyssa To do better in school then i'm doing now Because I might fail the 5th grade. I will do better and listen to my teacher more often and stop talking. So that I can go to the next grade and make my mom happy all the time.
Samone To get well in social studies because I'm making bad grades. I chose it because I want to pass 5th and go to 6th grade.
Ettis I promise to practice the tuba more I want to practice the tuba more so I can be a professional at the tuba.
Timothy To play better in soccer, basketbal, and football. I want to lose weight before 6th grade and be better in reading , social studies and science. Start listening and working in the gym for I don't get fun of my size and failing grades, and being stronger.
Daniel To practice football harder. I will practice passing and running the ball. My passing a little off and need to run faster.
Brandon To go to boxing. I will do everything my mom and dad tell me to do. I never got to box ever in my life it looks entertaining.
Gabriel To focus more on school work I will concentrate 45% more on my school work which is great right now.
Jordan Is to beg my mom for more fireworks because we need something to do after new years day, beg more.
Cody To be better at skateboarding. I still trying to do kickflies but I can land with one foot but if I keep practicing I will get better.
Kevin To get faster at running because I think i'm a little slow.
Daniel To get better at surfing. I'm going to start going to the beach more. I chose surfing because it is fun and gives you leg muscle.
Micah Is to pass all the TAKS. Pay attention and learn. I chose this because I passed them all last year.
Brandon To get all Honor Roll and Perfect Attendance til whenever I finish my education. I will study hard, take time in tests, and attend school everyday. Why I chose this was because I want to be a Merit Student and have excellent grades.
Tiffany To be nicer to my 16 year old sister and stop making fun of her futrer boy friend.
Tristan Finish lgo star wars, keep my grades up and get a go cart.
Angelo To listen to my parents because my mom and dad are 52 and they are old for me to put stress on them so if they ask me to do something I'll just say yes mama and yes sir.
Arron Be nicer to my brothers cause sometimes we fight and I will try not to hit them when they bother me.
Delana To get good grades in school I chose this because my parents told me to get perfect grades. I will pay attention to the teacher.
Matthew To get into an art class because I love to draw. I will sign up for an art class next year.
Anfernee I will improve in school because I want to have a BIG Birthday bash!!
Olivia To get better at band because i'm super bad at it.
Miguel Spend more time with my family because Ilove them. I will watch t.v with them and go to the park with them and spend more time with them.
David I will try to get a better grades in school I chose this because my parents told me to get perfect grades. I will pay attention to the teacher.
Matthew To get into an art class because I love to draw. I will sign up for an art class next year.
Anfernee I will improve in school because I want to have a BIG Birthday bash!!
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upset with me I will stop talking and pay attention in school.
Jailene My goal is to make a touchdown on my football team because I always get close to the touchdown. I will just try harder.
Nicholas I will keep my room clean because my parents want it clean. Every time I take something out I will put it back when I'm done.
Rudy D.

off a building.
Alyssa Start doing my homework so I won't get in trouble and I'll do it at home.
Nancy I want to cheer and do hip hop with Tamia and go to championships and be on real television. I love to cheer and dance and I will od this by being more responsible and cleaning my room.
Tranese I will bring my grades up because my mom is getting
Tamia I will stop yelling and ignoring him.
Nohelani I will stop using alot of money Because then I won't have any more money .
Daniel I want to see my dad's family for christmas because I have not seen them in a very long time. I want to fly to Montgomery, Alabama and have my dad drive me to see all of them.
Cidney I will mess with my brother just for fun.
Adrian I will be nice to my brothers cause I'm mean to them and I will try hard to be nice
Rackwon To get a psj because my lil brother already has one.
Chris Keep my room clean because it's filthy. I won't leave my stuff on the floor.
Davius I will train myself to be better in football. I've always been a linemen and I want to be a wide receiver. I will train with my uncle and brother and eat better.
Joshua My goal is to try to get good grades. I want to get good grades so my mom won't get mad at me. I have to pay attention.
Sarah I want to go to Georgia so I can see my cousins and my aunts. I would do anything to get there except jump

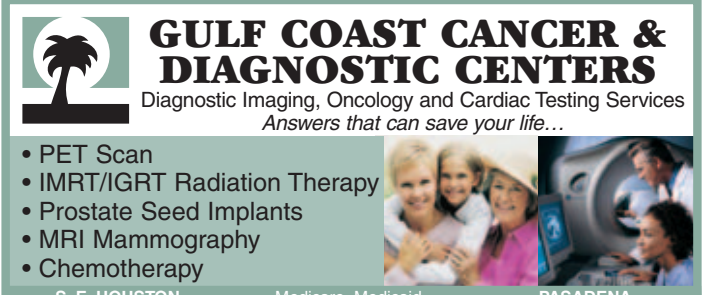


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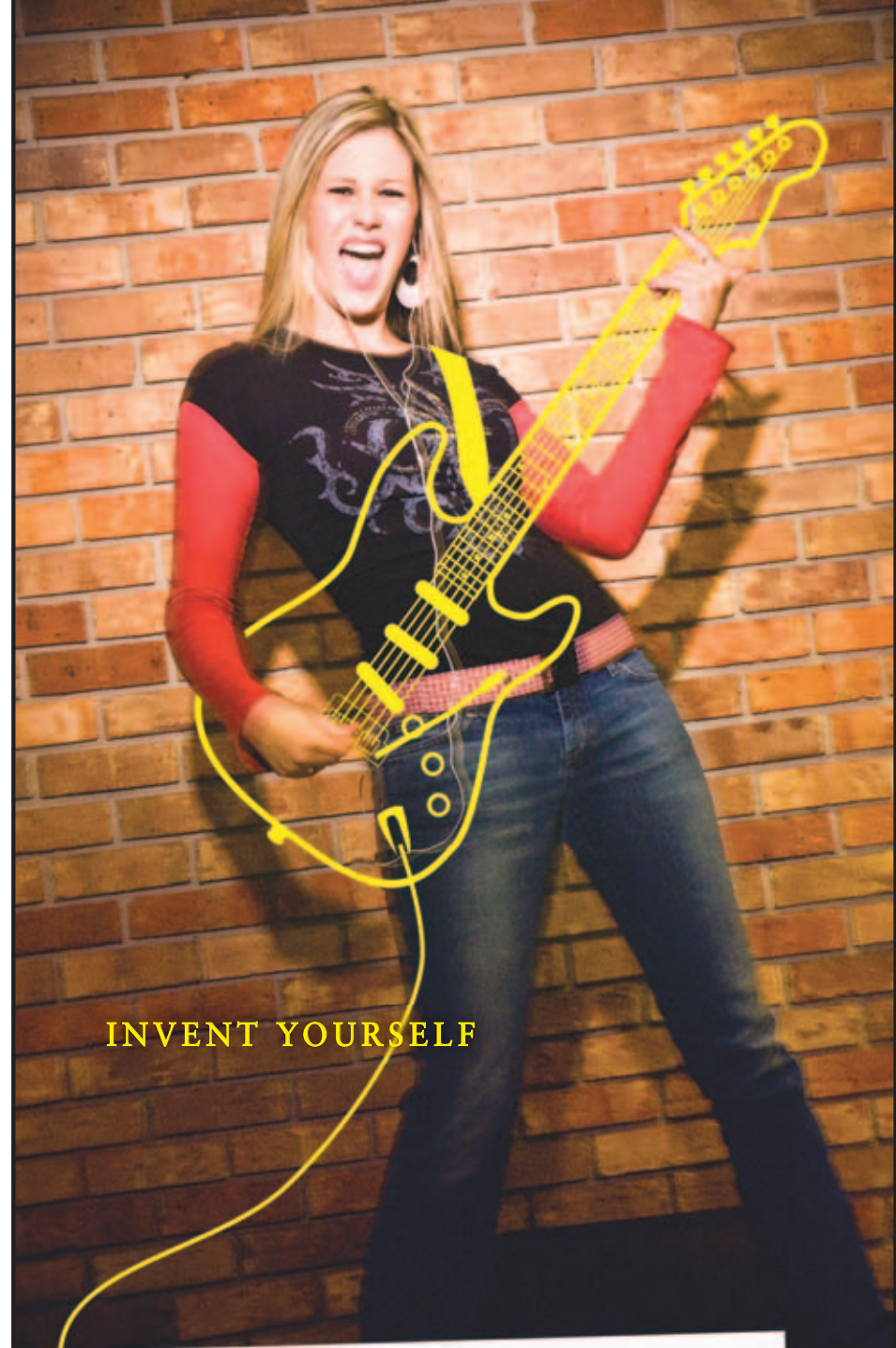
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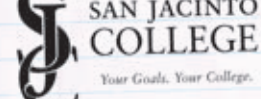
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SECTION B SPORTS & CLASSIFIED

Sports news, notes

SBHLL sets registration

Sagamont-Beverly Hills Little League officials have set the league's registration dates for Jan. 10, Jan. 15 and Jan. 17, 2009. All three sign-ups will take place at the league facility at El Franco Lee Park. Hours Jan. 10 and Jan. 17 are from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3 p.m. Hours on Jan. 15 are 5 to 8 p.m. Children must turn age 5 on or prior to April 30, 2009, to be eligible to compete.

SBHLL helping out - Officials in the Sagamont-Beverly Hills Little League are seeking donations of gently-used baseball equipment to help those players affected by Hurricane Ike in the West Isle (Galveston) Little League. Items to be considered for acceptance include hats, belts, cleats, gloves, pants, helmets, etc. The league lost everything during the hurricane but is still planning to compete this spring. Donations may be dropped off during any registration session at El Franco Lee Park.

League meet locale changed - Beginning Jan. 14, the monthly league meeting will move to the community center at El Franco Lee Park. The public is invited to attend the meetings. The Jan. 14 meeting will begin at 7 p.m.

SBYSC to sign up players

The South Belt Youth Soccer Club will host spring 2009 registration Saturday, Jan. 10. The registration will be held at the Sagameadow MUD building, located at 10755 Hall Road at the corner of Blackhawk, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Children age 4 to 18 as of July 31, 2008, are eligible to compete. Registration fees are \$80 (5 to 8-under), \$85 (U9-10) and \$90 (U11-older) if completed in person. Online registration costs are \$60 (5 to 8-under), \$65 (U9-10) and \$70 (U11-older). Online registration may be completed at www.southbeltsoccer.org. All registering players via the online method must fax a copy of their birth certificate to 713-559-6200. The league registration fee includes uniform (shirt, shorts and socks). Parents must provide shin guards, soccer cleats and soccer ball. Practices starting in February will be held twice per week in the early evenings. Games begin in March and will be played on Sunday afternoons for eight weeks at El Franco Lee Park. For more details, visit the league Web site at www.southbeltsoccer.org.

SBGSA details registration

The South Belt Girls Softball Association has set six registration dates for the upcoming spring season. Officials will be on hand to sign up players Jan. 13, Jan. 15, Jan. 20 and Jan. 22 from 6 to 8 p.m. at El Franco Lee Park. On Jan. 17 and Jan. 24, league officials will accept registration from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at El Franco Lee Park. Registration fee is \$70 per player. There is a \$5 discount per siblings only. Girls must be age 4 through 14 as of Jan. 1, 2009. Families should bring a copy of the player's birth certificate when registering for officials to keep on file. For information call player agent Ruben Garcia at 281-485-0287 or secretary Kimberly Villarreal at 713-582-2439. Visit the league Web site at www.eteamz.com/southbeltgirls for more details and updates about the season.

Clear Brook, Dobie soccer teams face early tests

The New Year's Resolution for area soccer coaches is as refreshing as it is defying.

Right out of the gate, the boys' and girls' varsity soccer teams must sink or

part of a talent-rich field at The Lady Highlanders Kilt Cup Classic Jan. 8-10 at The Woodlands High School.

The tournament features 24 teams, including several highly ranked squads ac-

ording to the Texas Association of Soccer Coaches.

Clear Brook opens the season Jan. 8 at 1 p.m. against Cinco Ranch, which is rated No. 2 in Region III by TASCO.

Other top-notch teams ready to compete include Region III No. 1 Clear Lake, No. 3 Deer Park, No. 4 Katy and the top three teams in Region II, including The Woodlands (No. 1), Klein (No. 2) and Cypress Woods (No. 3).

So just one week into the regular season, the Lady Wolverines should have a good feel for just how they stack up in the area.

The same goes for Dobie, which will compete in the Brazoswood Invitational Jan. 8-10. The Lady Longhorns, bumped out of the playoffs last season by Brazoswood, will get an early look at the Lady Bucs.

Dobie faces Brazoswood Jan. 9 at 11 a.m., and will also see Fort Bend Travis and Hightower in pool play. The two local teams took part in a scrimmage Jan. 2 as Dobie knocked off Clear Brook 4-1.

But now the games count in the standings, and both teams have high hopes for 2009.

Dobie will take on Foster, Galena Park and Brazoswood during pool play at Pearland. Meanwhile, the Wolverines are also set to play in pool play.

JFD girls primed
The Lady Longhorns' 2008 season was truly memorable, especially when one considers Mullan missed much of the season and the playoffs while on maternity leave.

No team in District 22-5A could do much to slow down champion Deer Park, but Dobie was consistent throughout the season en route to second place.

In the playoffs, Dobie downed Beaumont Westbrook 3-0 and then lost a 2-0 battle against Brazoswood as Mullan watched from the bleachers.

The rematch is right around the corner. "We will definitely be tested this weekend at Brazoswood," Mullan said.

"I am confident we are up to the challenge and I am especially looking forward to the rematch with Brazoswood since I was out on maternity leave when we

Continued on Page 6B

Jan. 8 games

Dobie girls vs.

Travis

Dobie boys vs.

Foster

Brook girls vs.

The Woodlands

See tournament

slates, Page 6B

Jan. 9 games

Brook boys at

Memorial,

5 p.m., Newcomb

swim against stiff competition, courtesy of the schedules prepared by their respective coaches.

There are few "let's feel good about ourselves" easy wins to be had. Instead, these programs are about to find out where they stand in short order.

Clear Brook varsity girls' head coach Rhonda Berry-Gomez and Dobie's Kersten Mullan have been particularly brazen in their approach to 2009.

Having seen their respective teams reach the area playoff round a season ago, Berry-Gomez and Mullan are pushing the envelope a bit further now.

The Lady Wolverines are



Chelsea Deleon (above) and her Dobie varsity girls soccer teammates are getting an early chance to avenge last season's playoff loss to Brazoswood.

New year, district basketball hand in hand

Just in time for the new year, high school basketball district races are heating up.

The District 22-5A and District 24-5A boys' teams began competing against one another Jan. 6 as Dobie opened with a win against Memorial and Clear Brook fell at Galveston Ball.

In the girls' division, both Clear Brook and Dobie won games Jan. 6 that could eventually swing the playoff standings in their favor down the road.

Clear Brook, coming off back-to-back losses in 24-5A play, evened its record at 2-2 after crushing Galveston Ball 65-45.

Dobie, quickly shaking off a last-second loss to Pearland Jan. 3, improved to 3-1 after downing the Lady Mavericks 53-47 in a key matchup as Memorial fell to 1-3.

Brook girls rebound
Clear Brook opened the 24-5A battle well enough with a win over Dickinson but then fell on hard times.

Head coach Sherman Chew's team lost back-to-back games to Brazoswood and Clear Lake, slipping to 1-2. A win over Galveston Ball was needed.

The Lady Wolverines took care of things early, outscoring the Lady Tors 25-7 in the first quarter en route to an easy win.

Next up for Clear Brook is a tough Jan. 9 road game against Clear Springs, a team that is led by former Lady

Wolverines head coach Pam Crawford. Springs, playing in the Class 5A ranks for the first time this season, enters the game with a 3-1 record. Johnson leads JFD girls

No style points were gained, but Dobie's varsity girls' team picked up plenty of steam after outlasting Memorial 53-47 at Dobie Jan. 6.

Ashley Johnson came through with one of her finest games of the season, scoring a game-high 17 points. In the final 2 minutes, 8 seconds of play, Johnson scored five points and had a big offensive rebound.

The win was big in that it helped Dobie improve to 3-1 in the 22-5A standings. Memorial, which has now lost three district games by a total of nine points, is 3-1.

The game was far from pretty. Both teams played out of control at times and the turnovers kept piling up on both sides.

Yet in the end, Dobie scored seven of the game's final nine points to take the win.

At 3-1, Dobie is keeping pace with La Porte and Deer Park, the two 22-5A leaders at 4-0. Pearland, which beat Dobie 46-44 Jan. 3 on a late three-pointer, is also 3-1.

"The bottom line is 3-1 is a lot better than 2-2," Dobie head coach Shane Brown said. "We've had some close losses so far, and hopefully this is one of those wins that

will turn it around for us." Before the game, Brown lamented the fact that Dobie's poor free-throw shooting was to blame for many of the team's 13 overall losses.

Against Memorial, the

Lady Longhorns went 15 of 24 from the line. Memorial also missed nine tries, going 10 for 19.

The difference for Dobie was Johnson, the team's primary inside presence.

Continued on Page 6B



The Clear Brook Lady Wolverines, including Hannah Herring-Black (above) are now 2-2 in 24-5A varsity girls' basketball action with a big game coming Jan. 9.

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Dobie girls 53, Memorial 47
Upcoming games: Jan. 9 - JFD at South Houston, 7 p.m.; Jan. 13 - JFD hosts Deer Park, 7 p.m.

Dobie boys 51, Memorial 43
Upcoming games: Jan. 9 - JFD hosts South Houston, 7:30 p.m.; Jan. 13 - JFD at Deer Park, 7:30 p.m.

Brook girls 65, Ball 45
Upcoming games: Jan. 9 - Brook at Clear Springs, 7 p.m.; Jan. 13 - Brook hosts Alvin, 7 p.m.

Ball 95, Brook boys 83
Upcoming games: Jan. 9 - Brook hosts Clear Springs, 7 p.m.; Jan. 13 - Brook at Alvin, 7 p.m.

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Sports Calendar

2008 South Belt sports scene delivers special moments

BASKETBALL

Friday, Jan. 9

Dobie varsity boys host South Houston, 7:30
 Dobie varsity girls at South Houston, 7:30
 Clear Brook varsity girls at Clear Springs, 7:00
 Clear Brook varsity boys host Clear Springs, 7:00
 Dobie JV boys host South Houston, 6:00
 Dobie JV girls at South Houston, 6:00
 Clear Brook JV girls at Clear Springs, 5:30
 Clear Brook JV boys host Clear Springs, 5:30
 Clear Brook sophomore boys host Clear Springs, 5:30
 Dobie sophomore boys host South Houston, 4:30
 Clear Brook freshman A boys host Clear Springs, 4:00
 Dobie freshman A girls at South Houston, 4:30
 Dobie freshman A boys host South Houston, 6:00
 Clear Brook freshman B boys host Clear Springs, 4:00
 Dobie freshman B boys host South Houston, 4:30
 Dobie freshman B girls at South Houston, 6:00
 Clear Brook freshman A girls at Clear Springs, 4:00

Monday, Jan. 12

Beverly Hills 8th Dark boys at San Jacinto, 5:00
 Beverly Hills 8th Light boys at San Jacinto, 6:15
 Beverly Hills 7th Dark boys at San Jacinto, 5:00
 Beverly Hills 7th Light boys at San Jacinto, 6:15
 Thompson 8th Dark boys host Southmore, 5:00
 Thompson 8th Light boys host Southmore, 6:15
 Thompson 7th Dark boys host Southmore, 5:00
 Thompson 7th Light boys host Southmore, 6:15

Tuesday, Jan. 13

Dobie varsity boys at Deer Park (South), 7:30
 Dobie varsity girls host Deer Park, 7:30
 Clear Brook varsity girls host Alvin, 7:00
 Clear Brook varsity boys at Alvin, 7:00
 Clear Brook JV boys at Alvin, 5:30
 Clear Brook JV girls host Alvin, 5:30
 Dobie JV girls host Deer Park, 6:00
 Dobie JV boys at Deer Park (South), 6:00
 Clear Brook sophomore boys at Alvin, 5:30
 Dobie sophomore boys at Deer Park (South), 4:30
 Clear Brook freshman A girls host Alvin, 4:00
 Clear Brook freshman A boys at Alvin, 4:00
 Dobie freshman A girls host Deer Park, 4:30
 Dobie freshman A boys at Deer Park (South), 6:00
 Clear Brook freshman B boys at Alvin, 4:00
 Dobie freshman B boys at Deer Park (South), 4:30
 Dobie freshman B girls host Deer Park, 6:00

Wednesday, Jan. 14

Beverly Hills boys at 7th Dark tourn., Queens, TBA
 Beverly Hills boys at 8th Dark tourn., Southmore, TBA
 Thompson boys at 7th Dark tourn., Queens, TBA
 Thompson boys at 8th Dark tourn., Southmore, TBA
 Beverly Hills 8th Dark girls host San Jacinto, 4:30
 Beverly Hills 8th Light girls host San Jacinto, 5:45
 Beverly Hills 7th Dark girls host San Jacinto, 4:30
 Beverly Hills 7th Light girls host San Jacinto, 5:45
 Thompson 8th Dark girls host Southmore, 4:30
 Thompson 8th Light girls host Southmore, 5:45
 Thompson 7th Dark girls host Southmore, 4:30
 Thompson 7th Light girls host Southmore, 5:45

Thursday, Jan. 15

Beverly Hills boys at 7th Dark tourn., Queens, TBA
 Beverly Hills boys at 8th Dark tourn., Southmore, TBA
 Thompson boys at 7th Dark tourn., Queens, TBA
 Thompson boys at 8th Dark tourn., Southmore, TBA

Friday, Jan. 16

Dobie varsity girls host La Porte, 7:30
 Dobie varsity boys at La Porte, 7:30
 Clear Brook varsity girls host Alvin, 7:00
 Clear Brook varsity boys host Clear Creek, 7:00
 Clear Brook JV girls host Alvin, 5:30
 Clear Brook JV boys at Galveston Ball, 5:30
 Dobie JV girls host La Porte, 6:00
 Dobie JV boys at La Porte, 6:00
 Dobie sophomore boys at La Porte, 4:30
 Clear Brook sophomore boys host Clear Creek, 5:30
 Clear Brook freshman A girls host Alvin, 4:00
 Clear Brook freshman A boys host Clear Creek, 4:00
 Dobie freshman A boys at La Porte, 6:00
 Dobie freshman A girls host La Porte, 4:30
 Dobie freshman B boys at La Porte, 4:30
 Dobie freshman B girls host La Porte, 6:00
 Clear Brook freshman B boys host Clear Creek, 4:00

SOCCER

Thursday, Jan. 8

Dobie varsity girls at Brazoswood tourn. vs. Travis, 5:30
 Dobie varsity boys at Pearland tourn. vs. Foster, 5:30
 Clear Brook varsity girls at Woodlands tourn., TBA

Friday, Jan. 9

Dobie varsity girls at Brazoswood tourn. vs. Brazoswood, 11 a.m.
 Dobie varsity girls at Brazoswood tourn. vs. Hightower, 5 p.m.
 Dobie varsity boys at Pearland tourn. vs. Galena Park, 7:30 p.m.
 Clear Brook varsity boys at Memorial, Newcomb, 5:00
 Clear Brook varsity girls at Woodlands tourn., TBA
 Clear Brook JV boys at Clear Creek tourn., TBA
 Clear Brook sophomore boys at Clear Creek tourn., TBA

Saturday, Jan. 10

Dobie varsity girls at Brazoswood tourn., TBA
 Dobie varsity boys at Pearland tourn. vs. Brazoswood, 9 a.m.
 Clear Brook JV boys at Clear Creek tourn., TBA
 Clear Brook sophomore boys at Clear Creek tourn., TBA

Tuesday, Jan. 13

Clear Brook varsity boys host La Porte, 7:00
 Clear Brook varsity girls at Pearland, 7:00
 Dobie varsity girls at Santa Fe, 7:00
 Dobie JV girls at Santa Fe, 5:30
 Clear Brook JV boys host La Porte, 5:00
 Clear Brook JV girls at Pearland, 5:30

Wednesday, Jan. 14

Dobie JV B girls host Sam Rayburn, Dobie, 3:30

Thursday, Jan. 15

Dobie varsity girls at Westside, 4:00
 Clear Brook varsity girls at I-10 Shootout, TBA
 Clear Brook sophomore boys at Clear Springs, 5:30
 Dobie JV girls at Westside, 4:00

Friday, Jan. 16

Clear Brook varsity girls at I-10 Shootout, TBA

Saturday, Jan. 17

Clear Brook varsity girls at I-10 Shootout, TBA
 Dobie varsity boys vs. Westside, HISD tourn., 10 a.m.
 Dobie varsity boys vs. Manvel, HISD tourn., noon
 Clear Brook sophomore boys at Manvel, 10 a.m.

There were plenty of candidates for sports story of the year in the South Belt area, making 2008 special in the community.

January
 The Dobie and North Shore varsity girls' basketball teams combined to host a fund-raiser Jan. 15 at Dobie for a member of the coaching fraternity. Dobie head coach Shane Brown, North Shore head coach Allison Campbell and players from both teams held the event during the scheduled game between the two teams for the family of former Clements High School varsity basketball coach Zach Grafte, who died Dec. 29, 2007 at the age of 32. Grafte had suffered from a form of leukemia.

Clear Brook varsity volleyball player Jourdan Ellison ended her recruiting search, electing to continue her studies and playing career at Norfolk State University in Virginia. Construction began at El Franco Lee Park on a baseball field destined to host the junior and senior divisions of the Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League.

The field was expected to be in full use by the time the spring season arrived for 2009. Over the past several years, the junior and senior league teams had played at Beverly Hills Park.

Both Clear Brook's and Dobie's varsity girls' soccer teams enjoyed five-goal outputs, getting off to a solid start in the 2008 season.

Dobie High School graduate Lionel Dotson, a senior at the University of Arizona, competed in the 83rd annual East-West Shrine Game Jan. 19 at Robertson Stadium on the University of Houston campus.

Dotson was eventually drafted in the National Football League professional draft, going to the Miami Dolphins. Following the state championship round of high school football games, area coaches were finally able to release the all-district nominations.

The Dobie Longhorns, despite struggling to a 2-8 overall finish, garnered their share of recognition among the league's finest.

In all, five Dobie players were named to the various lists.

Dobie's first-team selections both came via special teams as senior Randell Duff was the district's top punter. Junior Anthony Phillips was honored as the top kickoff return man.

Running back Alex Joseph, linebacker Josh Montette and defensive secondary performer Derrick Lawson, all seniors, made the second team for the Longhorns.

Longhorns' head coach Bobby Cotton also announced seniors Justin O'Day (first team) and Scott Pace were named to the Texas High School Coaches Association's academic all-state football team.

Opening weekend success came in local boys' high school soccer circles for Clear Brook and Dobie. Longhorns' coach Jesse Saavedra was excited after his team played the Pearland tournament final Jan. 12.

Clear Brook didn't play for the title in Temple, but head coach Rick Sickmiller did see his team rebound for a big win as part of an up-and-down 2-2 weekend.

They were first-timers, but several members of Dobie High School's first-year power lifting team proved they belonged with the big boys.

Two juniors, Cody Simmons and Anthony Phillips, won honors at the Eastside Power Lifting Classic Jan. 19 at Chavez High School.

The pair, also players on the varsity football team, started and finished strong.

Simmons easily won the 198-pound (body weight) category, and Phillips was second overall in the 181-pound category.

Longhorns' assistant football coach Demond Stafford oversaw the power lifting team at Dobie. It was the first time the Longhorns had such a program.

The San Jacinto College softball team began preparations for the 2008 season with Dobie graduate Janet Rendon and Kelsey McClain of Pasadena Memorial leading the way for the Coyotes.

The team opened the season with a fine showing at



Beatrice Soto, a junior goalkeeper for the Lady Longhorns' varsity soccer team, stood tall as the team finished second in district play and then won its first playoff game of this decade.

the Galveston tournament.

The Dobie High School aquatics program asserted its dominance in the Pasadena Independent School District ranks.

The boys won the City Championships meet Jan. 24 at Southmore Intermediate, racking up 104 points. Second-place Memorial put together just 61.

In the girls' field, Dobie waged a two-team battle against Memorial, but in the end the Lady Mavericks edged Dobie for the top spot, scoring 114 points to 110 for the locals.

Clear Brook varsity softball player Megan Yanda decided to continue her playing career and studies at Texarkana College.

February

The big announcement came Feb. 1 as the University Interscholastic League announced its realignment decisions for the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 school years.

In District 22-5A, the only change came as Pearland replaced North Shore.

District 24-5A, which was to include Clear Brook, underwent bigger changes.

The Clear Creek Independent School District's fourth high school - Clear Springs - joined 24-5A along with Dickinson, a newcomer from the Class 4A division.

High school softball teams in the area began scrimmages Feb. 9, with an eye on the season openers Feb. 12.

San Jacinto College's softball team began its season with a doubleheader sweep over Ranger.

Dobie ex Janet Rendon scored the game winner in the seventh inning of the first game, and Kelsey McClain earned her first collegiate victory in the circle in the second game, an 11-3 score.

Clear Brook High School track and field star Erica Alexander made her collegiate intentions known, signing a letter of intent with the University of Southern California.

Dobie's girls' soccer program was shaken by the news that head coach Kersten Mullan would have to leave the team while heeding strict orders to go on full-time bed rest during her pregnancy.

In Mullan's absence, former assistant coach Jeremy Richardson stepped in and played a key role in keeping the team on track during games.

Dobie varsity boys' basketball coach Scott Talton registered career victory No. 500 as the Longhorns downed South Houston Feb. 12. It would be the final win for Talton, who retired after the season.

The Lady Longhorns' varsity basketball team scored a big playoff win, downing Kingwood in overtime 40-37 as Shadae Shepherd and Kelsey Kaiser sank key free throws in overtime to help the team to the win.

Things did not go as well for Clear Brook, which lost to eventual regional finalist Dulles. Dobie played and lost to Hightower in the area round.

tournament title.

The Lady Mustangs, 24-8, advanced to the NCAA tournament as Shepherd set several team records.

Shepherd's nine steals in a single game and 98 steals in a single season prior to the NCAA tournament were new team records, and her 250 career steals placed her second all time.

The girls' varsity soccer playoffs included Clear Brook and Dobie. The Lady Wolverines, behind district offensive player of the year Beth Stratton, took on Clements and won 1-0 on a goal by Allison Golden while Dobie played Beaumont Westbrook, and won that game as well.

Clear Brook's varsity boys soccer team also made the playoffs with a 5-5-2 record, and then fell to Clements 5-0.

The respective schools' varsity baseball teams did not start well in district play. Dobie lost 13-4 to Memorial while making four errors. Clear Brook's 8-3 loss to Clear Lake was also plagued by errors.

Clear Brook's varsity softball team completed one of its finest-ever weeks, defeating area ranked teams Brazoswood and Pearland to go to 4-2 in league play.

Former Dobie High School head football coach Mike Stephens, who had been the Pasadena ISD assistant athletic director, was named athletic director.

Stephens was named to replace outgoing AD Dick Nance, who retired.

Dobie varsity softball players Brooke Spossey and Abbey Parker both announced their decisions to attend San Jacinto College, where they were set to play volleyball on scholarship.

Two Clear Brook football players, Cornell Baxter and Chad Bimage, signed letters of intent to attend Coffeyville Community College in Kansas.



Shawn Tripputi enjoyed a fine season as a Dobie varsity tennis player, particularly during the spring session. Tripputi (above) and his partner, Yen Le, advanced to regionals in mixed doubles.



Jill McGinnis, a junior pitcher at Clear Brook, put together a masterful season as she helped the Lady Wolverines to second place and an eventual berth in the area round of the playoffs.

La Porte.

The Longhorns' tennis doubles teams of Andy Peng and James Tran (boys' doubles) and Shawn Tripputi and Yen Le (mixed doubles) were beaten in the first round at regionals.

May

Clear Brook High School sprinter Erica Alexander finished off a legendary career with three gold medals at the Class 5A state track and field meet.

Alexander won a gold in the long jump by clearing 19 feet, 6 inches. Later, she won the 100-meter (11.40 seconds) and 200-meter (23.59 seconds) gold medals in a dazzling evening session performance.

Alexander, who later chose to attend the University of Southern California, finished her stellar high school career with six gold medals.

While Alexander is done at the high school level, the year saw perhaps a future star also show her stuff.

Loreal Curtis, a freshman at Lutheran South Academy, won gold medals in the 200-meter (25.77) and 400-meter (57.83) titles and also helped the school's 4x400-meter relay team place second at the Texas Association for Private and Parochial Schools Class 5A meet in Waco.

The boys' track and field teams at Beverly Hills Intermediate won the respective district titles at the seventh- and eighth-grade levels.

Dobie and Clear Brook were lauded for making the varsity girls' soccer playoffs as the coaches in 22-5A and 24-5A honored players.

Dobie's Taylor Deleon was named co-most valuable player during her senior season, and sophomore Ashlyn Leighton earned co-defensive player of the year honors.

Beatrice Soto of Dobie was co-goalkeeper of the year, and Kersten Mullan of the Lady Longhorns was coach of the year.

Dobie's first team picks included Chelsea Deleon and Lindsay Eikenburg, while second team choices were Rubi Dominguez (also sportsmanship award winner), Stephanie Juarez, Sofia Mata, Yancy Moreno, Channel Reyes and Lariza Uribe.

The Lady Wolverines of 24-5A had Rhonda Berry-Gomez named coach of the year. Players Beth Stratton (offensive most valuable player) and Randi Hafele (defensive most valuable player) were also recognized.

Other first-team picks from Clear Brook included Brittany Hankins and Emily Johnston. Lady Wolverines Christina Chen, Kailee Hyland, Allison Golden and Alex Duehren made the second team.

The San Jacinto College softball team advanced to nationals for the first time in school history.

With former Dobie graduate Janet Rendon pacing the offense and former Memorial High School graduate Kelsey McClain doing much of the pitching, San Jacinto placed fourth.

Rendon hit .550 at nationals, collecting 11 hits in 20 at bats. In helping the team reach a 41-17 mark for the season, Rendon put together terrific numbers.

At .466, Rendon posted the highest single-season batting average in school history. Her 82 runs scored placed her second in a single season.

McClain, who collected three wins and a save in the tournament, completed a fine freshman season.

Rendon, Tasha Rotramel (7 for 15 at the plate) and Alex Naschke (7 for 13) all made the all-tournament team.

A couple of high school graduates also announced their college intentions. Dobie girls' basketball player Donisha Bronnon chose Clarendon College in Clarendon, Texas.

Meanwhile, Eric Milam of Clear Brook, who helped the Wolverines to the shared 24-5A title, signed a letter of intent to attend McLennan College in Waco.

Anthony Miles, a three-year starter for the Wolverines, chose to attend Lamar University in Beaumont.

When the District 22-5A baseball all-district picks were released, several Dobie players were pleased.

Asai Adame made the first team as a catcher, and

Brad Barker was a first team outfielder. Daniel Sawyer was a member of the second team as a pitcher.

The Clear Brook and Dobie softball teams were also well thought of in all-district selection meetings.

Dobie won the District 22-5A title and then took down Kingwood in a tough three-game series before falling to eventual state champion Alvin in the area round.

Clear Brook, the second-place team from 24-5A, pounded Fort Bend Austin in a sweep in the bidistrict round but then fell 2-1 to Baytown Sterling in area play.

In 22-5A, Dobie pitched JoJo Krienitz made the first team along with catcher Chelsea D'Ambrosio, outfielder Julie Cross and utility player Christina Diaz.

Second team picks for Dobie included outfielder Kelsey Kaiser, second baseman Amanda Nguyen and third baseman Nicole Andrade.

At Clear Brook, Molly Fitchner was a first team selection at catcher in 24-5A. Third baseman Bridgette Begle also made the first team along with designated hitter Mary Aubin.

Lady Wolverines' coach Ashley Pillow was named coach of the year after guiding the team to second place.

Clear Brook's second team picks included pitcher Jill McGinnis, first baseman Valerie Quiroga, shortstop Amy Gonzalez and outfielders Erica Brody and Megan Yanda.

Former Brook baseball standout Dane Yelovich made a big difference for the Kansas State University baseball program during the Big 12 tournament.

The Wildcats, despite possessing a low seed in the tournament, pulled off a couple of upsets en route to the title game against Texas. Although the Longhorns' win eliminated Kansas State from the postseason, Yelovich's play was lauded.

On May 26, Scott Talton's great career as the varsity boys' basketball coach came to an end as he retired.

Talton, the head coach since the start of the 1981-82 season, put together a record of 500-391 in 27 seasons. Overall, Talton taught or coached in the Pasadena Independent School District for 34 years.

Dobie graduate Taylor Deleon, a four-year starter for the Lady Longhorns' varsity soccer program, signed a letter of intent to continue her studies and playing career at Tyler.

During her senior season at Dobie, Deleon was named the co-most valuable player in District 22-5A.

The Lady Apaches debuted in the National Junior College Athletic Association ranks later in the fall of 2008. The team advanced to within a win of nationals before falling to Navarro.

Former Dobie baseball standout Ryan Priest played in the NJCAA baseball world series as a member of the Alvin Community College program.

The Dolphins started strong in the series, winning their first two games before losing back-to-back games to drop out. Priest homered in one of the series games.

June

Rodney Chant, a former assistant football coach at Memorial High School, won the honor of becoming the new assistant athletic director in the Pasadena Independent School District.

Chant once coached at the intermediate school level and delivered experience at various class levels in the high school ranks.

Athletic Director Mike Stephens cited Chant's versatility as a big plus.

"Rodney is going to be a tremendous asset to this district," Stephens said. "It's a great hire for us."

San Jacinto College head soccer coach David Santesteban announced that 10 players from the 2007 team had signed letters of intent to continue their playing careers.

Maston Wallace, a freshman pole vaulter from the University of Texas and a 2007 Clear Brook High School graduate, won the NCAA Division I title.

Wallace, a former Texas state champion, cleared 17 feet, 6 1/2 inches to claim

2008 South Belt sports review: What a year it was for locals

Continued from Page 2B
 the crown on the campus of Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa.
 Wallace was the Big 12 champion and later placed fourth at regionals to qualify for nationals.
 The District 24-5A varsity baseball all-district picks were revealed. Clear Brook, struggling to a 3-11 finish, had outfielder Sean Pilola and utility player Matt Juengel named to the first team.
 Outfielder Matt Shepherd made the second team and Cheyne Mills, the team's second baseman, was an honorable mention selection.

Zion Walker. At nationals, Bruns medaled by taking eighth in the 1,500-meter racewalk in the sub-youth division.
 Smith, who entered the sub-bantam 1,500-meter racewalk, was third overall.
 The 11-year-old all-star baseball team from the Sage mont-Beverly Hills Little League won the District 15 title and moved on to sectionals.
 The squad joined the 9-year-old team as the lone teams from SBHLL to advance out of district play.
 Both the Sagemont 9s and 11s were eliminated from all-star play during sectional action.



Carnez Gant scored a touchdown, and the Ellington Rams' senior team overcame two big deficits before winning the Bay Area Football League Super Bowl.

July
 The search for Dobie's new varsity boys' basketball coach ended as school principal Steve Jamail announced varsity assistant Kevin Cross had been promoted.
 Cross, a 1990 Dobie graduate, was formerly a player under veteran head coach Scott Talton, who retired after the 2007-2008 season with exactly 500 career wins as the Longhorns' leader.

Clear Brook graduates Maston Wallace and Erica Alexander stood out at the International Association of Athletics Federations World Junior Championships in Bydgoszcz, Poland.
 The track and field meet, open to 19-under athletes, featured many of the world's future stars.
 Wallace, a 2007 Clear Brook graduate who won the National Collegiate Athletic Association's outdoor title just weeks earlier while representing the University of Texas, was 10th in Poland.

ball team completed a terrific run at the Elite Amateur World Series at Big League Dreams in League City, taking second overall.
 Brandon Taylor, a 10-year-old student at USA Karate, won a state championship and then did well at nationals. Taylor, a student at Weber Elementary, advanced to the final eight at nationals, excelling in several categories.

"Kevin has been a first assistant of Scott's (Talton) for many years, so he's learned from a man who has had a great deal of success here at Dobie," Jamail said.
 "He was a student here, an outstanding player and then Scott's top assistant coach, so I feel like he's ready to take that next step and lead this program."
 Cross moved quickly to rework his staff, promoting his brother, Stephen Cross, to the role of varsity assistant.
 Success paid off for several members of the San Jacinto College softball team, which advanced to nationals in 2008.

Alexander, a member of Team USA's 4x400-meter relay team, won a gold medal as USA easily crossed the finish line first.
 Longtime San Jacinto College instructor Judy Harrison, who led the now defunct Ravens' program to national prominence in the 1980s and 1990s, was a Team USA volunteer team manager during the trip to Poland.

Eric Salazar, a former South Belt area resident and son of Sylvia and Rudy Salazar of Kirkwood, won several top honors while taking part in the Lone Star Natural Bodybuilding and Fitness Championships.
 On Aug. 1, members of the San Jacinto College soccer team reported for workouts. The team, which sported a preseason top 10

rankings despite the arrival of as many as 20 freshman players, began its quest for a national crown that eventually ended with a national title game berth in late November.
 Two-a-day volleyball practices began around the area Aug. 4 as programs began preparation for the 2008 season.
 Practices also began Aug. 2 as the Bay Area Football League came out for season No. 32 with 16 programs ready for action.

Not to be left out, the high school football workouts began Aug. 9 for programs which had enjoyed a spring football season.
 On Aug. 23, Dobie officially started its varsity tennis season by hosting a group of ex-Longhorn players for a morning of fun.
 In the end, Dobie's 2008 team won 10-9 and everyone had a blast as former players such as Uyen Trinh, Jenny Trihn, Nancy Nguyen, Oscar Ayala, Matthew Giardina, Luis Morales, Shawn Tripputi, Huynhnh-chau Luu, Michael Portillo, Jessica Escobar, Tu Dinh, Celin Rajan, Morgan Carmona, Andy Choe, Steven Irwin, Thomas Le, Vinh Nguyen, Jimmy Nguyen and Lance Wilcox all com-

peted.
 The Bay Area Football League's regular season began Aug. 23 as the Sagemont Cowboys highlighted a local action with a sweep over Pasadena.
 In varsity football openers, Dobie defeated Channelview, and Clear Brook was beaten by Lamar.
September
 Much of the local sports scene was altered by Hurricane Ike, which hit the area Sept. 11-12.
 Damage at local schools ran the gamut from severe to minor. Several facilities at El Franco Lee Park, including those used by the Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League and the South Belt Girls Softball Association, were also hit hard.
 When things did get back to normal, or at least close enough to it, the respective teams simply did the best they could to get back in the mix.
 The Dobie Longhorns recorded a huge varsity football win Sept. 25, knocking off Memorial 24-23 in overtime.
 Both teams scored touchdowns in the overtime session, but the Longhorns' Anthony Phillips made a stop on Memorial running back Bo Snelson on a two-point conversion try, sealing Dobie's win.
 Due to the problems associated with Hurricane Ike, respective high school volleyball programs across the area had to work double time to catch up.
 In District 22-5A, the revamped schedule included seven matches in 11 days. In District 24-5A, the teams had to play six matches over 10 days.
 The San Jacinto College soccer team also had to get back into the flow of things after spending much of its hurricane-affected time in Dallas.
 The Coyotes responded by defeating Lon Morris 3-2 and then playing Tyler to a scoreless tie as Region 14 play began.
 In varsity tennis, action resumed in District 22-5A Sept. 30 as the Longhorns lost 12-7 at Deer Park. Dobie followed that by falling 10-9 at La Porte to begin district play at 0-2.
October
 Getting back to action af-

ter Hurricane Ike, the Clear Brook Wolverines dropped their 24-5A varsity football opener 28-24 to Dickinson as the Gators scored on a touchdown pass in the final two minutes.
 It was the last loss in district play for the Wolverines, who went 5-1 to secure first place in 24-5A.
 Dobie, unable to capitalize on a big win over Memorial in the first week of football district play, fell 20-7 to South Houston as the Trojans scored two defensive touchdowns in their win.
 Dobie's tennis team, already having suffered a 12-7 loss to Deer Park, fell 10-9 at La Porte to start the District 22-5A tennis race at 0-2. The team then won five straight district matches and finished second (10-9) to Memorial in the 22-5A tournament.
 On the final day of the month, Dobie's varsity tennis team achieved a milestone in the career of head coach Manuel Moreno Jr.
 The team's 10-9 win over Baytown Sterling gave the Longhorns their first regional tournament victory and sent the team to the final eight for the first time in Moreno's 10 years as the Longhorns' head coach.
 Dobie cross country runner Edward Garza received a scholarship grant in the amount of \$1,000 from Reliant Energy as part of its Scholarship for Champions program.
 Deer Park ousted Dobie in the second half of District 22-5A play, but it was a special night for both teams. Players and coaches were adorned in pink as the teams joined forces for the Gabby Game.
 Ticket proceeds and other donations went to help the family of Lady Longhorns' junior varsity volleyball player Gabby Romero, who was diagnosed with renal cell carcinoma earlier in the year.
 The Ellington Rams played well in a neighborhood series against the Sage mont Cowboys, winning all four games.
November
 Toni Muse won the annual *South Belt-Ellington Leader* football predictions contest, posting a 76-30 record to win for the second time in her career. Eli Tankless finished second in the event, and three others tied for third place.
 The McDonald's Texas Invitational basketball tournament was a thriller throughout three days of competition. San Antonio Madison outlasted No. 1 Duncanville in overtime to win the boys' Division I gold bracket, a game that was televised locally.
 The Dobie varsity boys' team fared well in the tournament, winning four of five games to start the season at 4-1.
 In the girls' division, College Park pulled off a mild upset, taking out defending state champion Cy-Fair. Clear Brook went 1-2, and the Dobie girls went 1-3.
 Clear Brook's fine foot-

ball season came to a close as La Porte won an area round playoff game 49-27 in a game played in Deer Park. Turnovers on offense proved to be too much for the Wolverines to overcome.
 La Porte junior running back Kendrick Perkins had a huge game, rushing for 215 yards and four touchdowns to lead the Bulldogs, who finished third in District 22-5A during the regular season.
 Clear Brook, which won its first-ever district title in the Class 5A division, had a fine season as senior quarterback Lane Berry (1,129) and junior fullback Brandon Ellison (1,300) both easily passed the four-digit mark in rushing.
 The Wolverines also won their first playoff game this decade, taking out Beaumont Westbrook 36-14 at The Rig in Pearland.
 Two members of Dobie's 2009 graduating class secured their futures in college athletics and education.
 Pitcher JoJo Krienitz signed a letter of intent to play at the University of Texas El Paso, and catcher Chelsea D'Ambrosio signed with the University of North Carolina-Greensboro.
 Both players have been starters on Dobie's varsity team since their freshman seasons.
 There was another college signing at Clear Brook, where elite gymnast Marissa Gutierrez signed with Southeastern Conference and national power Alabama.
 In the intermediate football playoffs, Thompson's seventh-grade A team completed an unbeaten season by downing San Jacinto.
 The Beverly Hills Bears went up against the Bondy Patriots in the eighth-grade A and eighth-grade B title games. Unfortunately, the Bears dropped both games.
 Thompson's eighth-grade Light team went unbeaten in intermediate level volleyball, winning all of its regular-season games and the district tournament.
 Dobie's varsity football season ended as the Longhorns lost 42-3 to Pearland Nov. 7 at Newcomb Field. The loss left the Long-

horns at 4-5 overall for the season, including 3-4 in District 22-5A play.
 Dane Richards, a former player of the year while playing soccer at San Jacinto College in 2004, was instrumental in knocking the Houston Dynamo out of the playoffs.
 Richards had a goal and two assists as the Red Bulls of New York stunned the Dynamo in the first round of the major league soccer playoffs.
 Channelview defeated Dobie in the bidistrict round of the high school volleyball playoffs in a three-game sweep. Travis, the champion of District 23-5A, had to go to a fifth game before eliminating Clear Brook in the same round.
 Dobie's Edward Garza made an appearance at the Region III cross country meet. Garza, in a standout season, earned his regional berth by taking fifth at the District 22-5A event.
 San Jacinto College's soccer team began its post-season push with an impressive 5-0 shutout of longtime rival Tyler in the Region 14 championship game.
 The Coyotes went on to beat Western Texas and Northern Oklahoma on the way to the national tournament.
December
 Three San Jacinto College soccer players were named all-Americans after helping guide the team to its best-ever finish.
 Sweeper Kieron Bernard and goalkeeper Gabe Rodriguez, both sophomores, landed on the first team. Mozes Gyorja, a freshman forward, garnered honorable mention status.
 Bernard and Rodriguez were also listed on the all-tournament team at the National Junior College Athletic Association's championship tournament.
 The Coyotes (18-2-2) eventually played for the national title against Yavapai, falling 1-0 in a heart-breaker.
 Freshman midfielder Edward Campbell also made the all-tournament squad after netting two goals and an assist. Campbell's goal in the final minute lifted San Jacinto to a 2-1 win over Mercer in a national semifinal game.
 Bernard, a native of Jamaica, later signed a professional contract with the Austin Aztex FC of the United Soccer Leagues.
 The Ellington Rams finished off a terrific Bay Area Football League season, beating the Southbelt Dolphins 25-24 in the senior division Super Bowl game.
 In doing so, the Rams (12-1) handed the Dolphins their first loss of the season.
 In the freshman and sophomore divisions, the Pearland Hurricanes went undefeated by beating the Rams in both Super Bowl games.
 Dobie got the best of Clear Brook in the neighborhood rivalry boys' basketball game. Trevar Mayron got hot in the first half with three 3-pointers, and Deylan White continued his hot stretch of play with 21.
 White had been one of the top performers at the Katy tournament, leading the Longhorns to a 3-2 record. White poured in a game-high 39 points as the Longhorns beat C.E. King in the event.
 After the conclusion of the state volleyball tournament, all-district selections were revealed.
 Clear Creek, which won the Region III title en route to state, dominated the 24-5A picks.
 But Clear Brook sophomore Alicia Dittrich was recognized as the newcomer of the year in the district after a fine season at middle blocker.
 Alex Cassell, a senior setter/right side hitter, also made the first team for Clear Brook. Caiti O'Connell and Trysta Dionne, both sophomores for the Lady Wolverines, were on the second team.
 In District 22-5A, Dobie's Amanda Nguyen, a junior libero, was granted a first-team berth. Second team honors went to senior Kylie Clark and juniors Shadae Shepherd and Kiara Harris.
 On another note involving Dobie, senior softball player Julie Cross signed a letter of intent to attend Oklahoma Panhandle State University.



Two-a-day workouts at the beginning of August were little or no fun for San Jacinto College freshman soccer player Erik Norgaard (above) and his teammates. But it all paid off as the Coyotes finished second at the national tournament.

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Teaching Opportunities in Pasadena ISD
 The Pasadena ISD Alternative Certification Program is offering Career Choice Seminars for anyone interested in becoming a teacher. Potential candidates must possess a bachelor's degree or above by May 2009, and must have an overall GPA of 2.5 on the 4.0 system in ALL semester hours attempted or a 2.7 GPA in the last 60 hours attempted. The application deadline for the 2009-2010 academic year is Jan. 30, 2009.
 The seminars will provide an opportunity to learn detailed information about the program and the areas of certification offered. Seminar dates and times are as follows:
 Seminar Time and Dates
 Monday, Jan. 12, 2009 at 7 p.m.
 All seminars will be conducted at the Pasadena ISD Administration Building, located at 1515 Cherrybrook Lane in Pasadena, Texas 77502.
 For more information, please call:
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 www.pasadenaisd.org/atcp

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CALENDAR
THURSDAY, JANUARY 8
 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.
 9:30 a.m.
NASA Aglow Community Lighthouse - meets the second Thursday of the month at 9:30 a.m. at the Lighthouse Fellowship of Friends, 144 Park Avenue in League City. The public is welcome and encouraged to bring others to the interdenominational meeting.

CALENDAR
FRIDAY, JANUARY 9
 Noon
AI-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 p.m.
St. Luke's Catholic Church - Free tutoring for all ages is available Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Education Building at St. Luke's Evangelist Church, 11011 Hall Road. For information, call 281-484-1397 or e-mail joe_pavlicek@yahoo.com.
 6:30 p.m.
Houston Chapter of Inmate Families Organization - Meets at the Montrose Library, 4100 Montrose. Call 713-515-3736 for more information.
 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.
 10 a.m.
Free Line Dance Class - The Friendswood Senior Citizen Program offers free line dancing classes. The class is held at the activity building, located at 416 Morningside. All area senior citizens, 55 or older, are invited. Previous experience not required. For more information, call 281-482-8441.
AAFP - The American Association of Retired Persons meets the second Friday of each month at Kirkwood South Christian Church, 10811 Kirkfair.
 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.
SATURDAY, JANUARY 10
 6 p.m.
Frontier Squares - Meets to square dance at the NASA Gilruth Center on Space Center. Refreshments provided. For more information, contact Gina Sherman at 281-554-5675 or George Wieland at 281-286-5682, or visit www.frontiersquares.com.
SUNDAY, JANUARY 11
 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.
MONDAY, JANUARY 12
 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.

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Contractors completed work of the revamped press box at Veteran's Memorial Stadium in Pasadena just in time for the start of the 2008-2009 athletic schedule. Improvements included an elevator and more space for working personnel. Additional seating was also placed for both press box and special visitor usage.

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HUD HOME: 8814 Tierra Park, 1.5 Story, 3-2.5-2, Spacious Kitchen, All bedrooms Upstairs. Built In 2001, 1,769 Sq. Ft. Per Appraisal. \$94,400.

HUD HOME: Webster-3018 Early Turn- 3-2-2, Large Den, brick Fireplace, 1,475 Sq. Ft. Per Appraisal. \$81,600.

HUD HOME: 12022 Christopher Walk- Corner 3-2-2 Built 2003, 1,817 Sq. Ft. Per Appraisal. \$122,000.

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CALENDAR

Continued from Page 3B

Free Walking Classes - for plus size women are held Mondays and Wednesdays at 10 a.m. at the Sagemont Community Center, 11507 Hughes Road. Let's move together. Registration required. For more information, call Beatrice at 281-922-2343.

Free Exercise Class - Basic low impact aerobic classes on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at noon at the Sagemont Community Center, 11507 Hughes Road. Registration is required. For more information, call Beatrice at 281-922-2343.

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.

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.

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.

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.

CCART - The Clear Creek Association of Retired Teachers meets the second Tuesday of each month, September through May. They are held from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Bay Area Community Center, 5002 Nasa Parkway in Seabrook near the Landolt Pavilion. All Texas retired school employees from all surrounding school districts are welcome to attend and join this organization. Annual dues are \$35.

American Begonia Society - Meets the second Tuesday of each month at the Pasadena Town Square Community Room. For more information, call 713-946-4237 or 713-941-7158.

Tri-County Republican Women - Meets at Golfcrest Country Club. A luncheon is available for \$15 with advance reservations by the Friday before the meeting. To make reservations, call Laura Morgan at 281-484-8083.

Free Exercise Class - Basic low impact aerobic classes on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at noon at the Sagemont Community Center, 11507 Hughes Road. Registration is required. For more information, call Beatrice at 281-922-2343.

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.

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.

Houston Area Parkinson Society - Free water therapy from 5 to 6 p.m. and 6 to 7 p.m. at Clear Lake Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster. Visit www.hapsonline.org for a complete list of services offered.

St. Luke's Catholic Church - Free tutoring for all ages is available Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Education Building at St. Luke the Evangelist Church, 11011 Hall Road. For information, call 281-484-1397 or e-mail joe_pavlicek@yahoo.com.

Green Thumb Series - The Harris County Master Gardeners at Precinct 2 offers free evening gardening seminars the second Tuesday of each month in the Clear Lake area. Programs will be

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CALENDAR

held from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Visit the Web site for a list of topics and location at http://hcmgap2.tamu.edu or call 281-991-8437.

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.

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) - Meets at Sagemont Recreation Center, 11507 Hughes. For information, call Erma Coskey at 713-946-6049.

Friends of Parker Williams Library - Meets the second Tuesday of each month. All community residents are welcome. For information, call 281-484-2036.

Survivors of Suicide Support Group - Meets the second and fourth Tuesday 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 more information, contact Brenda Fitch at 713-533-4508 or visit www.crisishotline.org.

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.

Young at Heart Club - Meets the second and fourth week of each month at Covenant United Methodist Church, 7900 Fuqua. Lots of activities, trips, etc. Call Nellie Galney at 713-991-3517 for more information.

Free Walking Classes - for plus size women are held Mondays and Wednesdays at 10 a.m. at the Sagemont Community Center, 11507 Hughes Road. Let's move together. Registration required. For more information, call Beatrice at 281-922-2343.

American Business Women's Association Bay Area Vision Chapter - Now meets at Sudie's Restaurant, I-45 South/League City on the second Wednesday of the month. For more information, call Sheila Hardy at 281-337-9407 or Carolyn Wagner at 281-337-9410.

Free Exercise Class - Basic low impact aerobic classes on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at noon at the Sagemont Community Center, 11507 Hughes Road. Registration is required. For more information, call Beatrice at 281-922-2343.

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 second week of each month at Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital. For more information, call Steven Williams at 281-929-4199.

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.

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.bayareaturn.org. 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.

Bay Area New Democrats - Meet at the Clear Lake Court House on Buccaneer Drive, across from the new Clear Lake Library. For more information, contact John Cobarruvias at john.cobarru.vias@bayareanewdemocrats.org or visit www.bayareanewdemocrats.org.

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.

Texas Southeast Christian Women's Club - Texas Southeast Christian Women's Club, in affiliation with Stonework Ministries, hosts monthly luncheons at Golfcrest Country Club from 11:15 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the third Thursday of every month. The luncheon includes a buffet, an informative program and an inspirational speaker. Cost is \$16 all inclusive. All ladies are welcome, but reservations are necessary. A complimentary nursery is provided. For information, call 281-992-1675 or 281-482-9727.

ABWA - Southeast Express Network - American Business Women's Association-South meets on the third Thursday of each month at Makenzie's Grill, 9330 Broadway in Pearland. Lunch is from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cost is \$20 and includes networking with professional business women, lunch and guest speaker. Women of all ages and occupations are invited. Bring plenty of business cards. Reservations are appreciated. Contact Monica Perez at mlynnperez2002@yahoo.com for reservations, or visit the Web site at www.seen-abwa.org.

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REAL ESTATE

LEGAL NOTICE

REQUEST FOR COMPETITIVE SEALED PROPOSALS

Bid # 09-19 Project ID: # 1812

Proposals will be received in duplicate by the San Jacinto College District from qualified contractors for work in accordance with the Procurement Documents and addenda as may be issued prior to receipt of proposals for the San Jacinto College Child Care Lab School at the Central Campus, 8060 Spencer Highway, Pasadena, TX 77505. All proposals will be received in the office of Construction at the Thomas S. Sewell District Administration Building, 4624 Fairmont Parkway, Suite 207, Pasadena, Texas 77504 until 2:00 PM on Thursday, January 15, 2009. Proposal security in the amount of ten (10) percent of the total Proposal amount for the Base Proposal and Alternates must accompany each proposal in accordance with the Instructions to Offerors.

Documents will be available on Monday, December 8, 2008. The Procurement Documents will be distributed by Ridgway's Inc. 2900 Smith Street, Houston, TX 77006 Tel (713) 782-8580 through the "Plan Well" system.

Under the provisions of Texas Education Code, The San Jacinto College District will select a contractor to provide construction services that in the opinion of the evaluators will offer the best value for the District. A mandatory pre-proposal meeting is scheduled for all interested general contractors at 10:00 AM. on Tuesday, January 6, 2009, to be held at the Thomas S. Sewell District Administration Building, 4624 Fairmont Parkway, Suite 104, Pasadena, Texas 77504. The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and/or to waive any informalities in the process.

REQUEST FOR COMPETITIVE SEALED PROPOSALS

Bid # 09-20 Project ID: # 2806

Proposals will be received in duplicate by the San Jacinto College District from qualified contractors for work in accordance with the Procurement Documents and addenda as may be issued prior to receipt of proposals for the San Jacinto College Child Care Lab School at the North Campus, 5800 Uvalde, Houston, TX 77049. All proposals will be received in the office of Construction at the Thomas S. Sewell District Administration Building, 4624 Fairmont Parkway, Suite 207, Pasadena, Texas 77504 until 10:00 AM on Thursday, January 15, 2009. Proposal security in the amount of ten (10) percent of the total Proposal amount for the Base Proposal and Alternates must accompany each proposal in accordance with the Instructions to Offerors.

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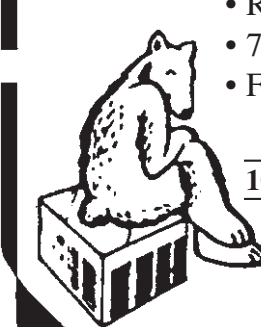
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Important district hoops races begin

Continued from Page 1B

Lady Longhorns Vacie Davis and D'Mesha Hewitt had big games with 11 points each, and many times when Dobie needed to stem a Memorial rally, it was Johnson who answered. Together, the three players guided the team to a big win. Memorial's Lisa Ramirez had five points in the final 90 seconds of the first quarter to give the Lady Mavs a 9-8 lead. Three-point specialist Jessica Gonzalez then sank a long triple from the left wing as Memorial led 12-8. From there, Dobie took the lead and never trailed again. Shenitra Davis knocked down a 3-pointer for Dobie, and Vacie Davis scored back-to-back baskets off an offensive rebound and then a fine assist from Shadae Shepherd. Tied at 15-15, Dobie went on an 8-2 surge to

close out the half. Johnson, Vacie Davis, Hewitt and Cerena Gentry scored for Dobie before Isis Wilson added the final basket for Memorial. In the third quarter, the momentum went back and forth. Memorial got within a point of Dobie, but then the Lady Longhorns extended their edge to as many as nine. Entering the fourth quarter, Dobie led 39-31. Hewitt's three-point play to open the fourth quarter gave Dobie its largest lead of the game at 42-31. The Lady Longhorns twice again led by 11, but Memorial would retaliate. With under three minutes to play, the Lady Mavs trailed by seven but went on a 6-0 push to close within 46-45. But Johnson answered with a short jumper in the lane, and Vacie Davis drove from a layup to give the

Lady Longhorns a 50-45 edge with 1:02 left. Ramirez dribbled the ball off her leg and out of bounds to all but seal the win for Dobie. Johnson made sure of it with a basket and free throw. "There's no doubt we need a big effort from Ashley and the rest of the team as we go along," Brown said. "Ashley had a big game, and we had several others contribute. "Our thing is to slow down, take care of the basketball and make our free throws. We didn't do all of those things tonight, but we did it just enough better than Memorial!"

JFD boys survive
Dobie's varsity boys' team started slow but recovered enough over the final three quarters to hold off Memorial 51-45 at Memorial. The Mavericks entered the game at just 4-13 over-

all but jumped out of a 14-9 lead after a quarter against Dobie, which entered play at 10-12. From that point, Rayshad Joseph and Deylan White (15 points each) took over with a little help from Randy Owens (10 points). Dobie outscored Memorial 16-8 in the second quarter to lead 25-22 at halftime. The two teams battled the rest of the way with the Longhorns holding the edge. It's just one win, but every district win is big in a district that includes ranked teams from Pearland, La Porte and Deer Park.

Wolverine boys fall
In a battle of co-champs from 2008, Galveston Ball built a 73-49 lead after three quarters and held on for a 95-83 victory over Clear Brook. The Wolverines were led by senior guard Aaron Miller, who scored a game-high 25 points. Michael Evans led Ball with 24 points.

JFD boys soccer alumni take on current squad



In celebration of the upcoming 2009 high school soccer season, past and present members of the Dobie High School boys' program gathered for an alumni game Jan. 2 at Newcomb Field. In the end, the current Longhorns came away with a 2-1 win. Those taking part in the action included, left to right, (front row) Douglass Leighton, Josue Meljivar, Nathan Carcamo, Francisco Costilla, Omar Arregui, Carlos Rodriguez, Irving Garza, Eric Barnica, Luis Guerrero, Johnny Olmos, Alex Herrera, Jesus Vidal, Rudy

Solis, (middle row) Gilberto Gaona, Jose Alvarado, Hein Pham, Gilberto Tzintzun, Jorge Siqueria, Christopher Torres, Walter Andino, Able Campeon, Chris Carlton, Cody Carlton, Salim Naser, Jose Balvaneda, Le Vu, Julian Romero, (back row) Pedro Mares, Eric Gay, Marlon Pennington, Tony Solis, Juan Rodriguez, Jamie Navarez, Leo Gallegos, Adrian Ramirez, Alberto Navarez, Joe Salamanca, Dustin Legrand, Justus Anoruo, Walter Anoruo, Steven Carasco, Ricky Valdez and Edgar Velasquez.

Lofty goals ahead as Brook, Dobie soccer programs get started

Continued from Page 1B
faced them in the playoffs. I think the team is ready for a start like this, and it will definitely give us an indication of where we stand and what we need to do to prepare for district."

Looking ahead to district play (the slate begins Jan. 30 against Memorial) and beyond, Mullan knows her third season with the Lady Longhorns can be special. Deer Park is still likely the team to beat in the district, but the Lady Longhorns are aiming at a deep playoff run. One of the team's captains from 2008, Taylor Deleon, must be replaced. But there is plenty of depth and talent to lead the team forward. Senior goalkeeper Beatrice Soto and midfielder Lindsey Eikenburg are four-year starters. Several other key players, including 2008 defensive player of the year Ashlyn Leighton, return. "I think 2009 is going to be a great year because we have an amazing core of returning players," Mullan said. "Bea (Soto) is going to be the glue that keeps everyone together. Eikenburg (as a four-year starter) is going to solidify the back. "Yancy Moreno is going to replace Taylor, and I am certain she will dominate in her new role. Our two outside backs, Sofia Mata and Monika Rivera, have a ton of speed and grit. Ashlyn Leighton and Chelsea Deleon will run our central midfield and have more chemistry and talent than I have seen in a long time. Our outside midfielders, Chanel Reyes and Lariza Uribe, will continue to run teams ragged on the outside." Mullan, who raved about the freshman class that entered the program during her first season (2007), also has freshman Tanya Polamares in the mix. The coach is excited to see how Palomares fits in with the veterans. All in all, Mullan is simply ready to get started. This Dobie team is as deep as it has been in years in terms of talent. Now, Mullan simply has to make the right moves at the right time.

"For the first time since I've been here, I believe I can count on every player, both the starters and the bench players, to step up and do their job when they are needed," Mullan said. Brittany Barrett and Melissa Leal are both recovering from injuries and will be welcomed to the mix when they are ready, giving the team more depth. Mullan's one focus right now is filling a spot up front in the scoring area. "I'm still playing with the other forward position, but I am certain I will find the right combination before district," Mullan said.

Dobie boys focused
After missing the post-season in 2008, Dobie's varsity boys' team went back to the basics. Head coach Jesse Saavedra, now in his third season, likes what he sees heading into the 2009 campaign. "I have high expectations for this year," Saavedra said. "We worked extremely hard this past offseason, harder than in any other year I have coached. That's a credit to these guys and what they want to achieve." And the Longhorns will have to be at their best. North Shore, the defending 22-5A champion, has moved to another district. However, second-place South Houston, third-place Deer Park and talented programs at Pasadena, La Porte, Sam Rayburn and Pearland await. In short, each game will present a true test. "We focused on getting the guys in really good physical condition," Saavedra said. "We had lots of fitness days without ever touching a soccer ball. The team bought into the routine and gave 100 percent day in, day out." Saavedra said the Longhorns will look to key veterans Walter Anoruo and Gilberto Tzintzun for leadership. Both players were captains during the off-season, asking others to step up as well. And Dobie's addition of a full-time varsity assistant and volunteer coach has also paid off.

"We think it can be a great season," Saavedra said. "Our guys are ready to get started."

Brook girls reloading
With state-ranked and defending Region III champion Clear Lake residing in her team's district, it's easy to see why Clear Brook head coach Rhonda Berry-Gomez is approaching the 2009 season with caution. On top of that, Brazoswood, which made its way to the regional quarterfinals a season ago, must also be reckoned with. Add to the mix playoff teams from Clear Creek and 24-5A newcomer Dickinson (second in 23-4A in 2008), and the 24-5A alignment is loaded. But Clear Brook, which finished second a season ago, is not struggling much. Berry-Gomez simply wants to use the preseason to help build continuity and to fill the losses created by last year's graduation. Randi Hafele, a four-year starter at goalkeeper has moved on. Freshman Jamie Simmons, the lone keeper on the varsity roster to start the season, will need to step up. The Lady Wolverines should again be strong in the midfield as freshman Beth Stratton, the offensive most valuable player a season ago, returns alongside first team all-24-5A performer Brittany Hankins. Alex Duehren, a second team all-district pick at defender, is also on her way back. But the Lady Wolverines lost five players who were named all district in 2008. And of the 20 players on the current varsity roster, half are underclassmen. **CB boys optimistic** Like the Brook girls in 24-5A, the Wolverine boys will eventually find the road to the playoffs difficult to navigate. Clear Lake is the likely frontrunner, while talented teams at Brazoswood, Clear Lake and Dickinson also await. Newcomer Clear Springs could also play a spoiler role before things are

decided. But Clear Brook has found a way to make the playoffs four times in the previous five seasons. Veteran head coach Rick Sickmiller will have his team ready to play and

everything else will have to take care of itself on the field. The Wolverines were originally entered into the Pearland/Friendswood tournament but got bumped due

to a mixup among tournament officials. Instead, Clear Brook opens its regular season Jan. 9 at Newcomb Field against Pasadena Memorial. Game time is 5 p.m.

Action within the Pasadena Independent School District intermediate basketball scene began its after-holidays session Jan. 7 after press time. Thus far, several teams from Beverly Hills and Thompson are playing well. The Beverly Hills eighth-grade Light boys' team has won three of four games to

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Senior goalkeeper Beatrice Soto and midfielder Lindsey Eikenburg are four-year starters. Several other key players, including 2008 defensive player of the year Ashlyn Leighton, return. "I think 2009 is going to be a great year because we have an amazing core of returning players," Mullan said. "Bea (Soto) is going to be the glue that keeps everyone together. Eikenburg (as a four-year starter) is going to solidify the back. "Yancy Moreno is going to replace Taylor, and I am certain she will dominate in her new role. Our two outside backs, Sofia Mata and Monika Rivera, have a ton of speed and grit. Ashlyn Leighton and Chelsea Deleon will run our central midfield and have more chemistry and talent than I have seen in a long time. Our outside midfielders, Chanel Reyes and Lariza Uribe, will continue to run teams ragged on the outside." Mullan, who raved about the freshman class that entered the program during her first season (2007), also has freshman Tanya Polamares in the mix. The coach is excited to see how Palomares fits in with the veterans. All in all, Mullan is simply ready to get started. This Dobie team is as deep as it has been in years in terms of talent. Now, Mullan simply has to make the right moves at the right time.

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- Pearland/Friendswood Tournament (Dobie boys' games)**
- Jan. 8: Dobie vs. Foster, 5:30 p.m. at Friendswood Winston Stadium
 - Jan. 9: Dobie vs. Galena Park, 7:30 p.m. at Friendswood Winston Stadium
 - Jan. 10: Dobie vs. Brazoswood, 11 a.m. at Pearland Presner Stadium
 - Jan. 10: Tournament trophy games, TBA
- Woodlands Lady Highlanders Kilt Cup Classic (Brook girls' games)**
- Jan. 8: Brook vs. Cinco Ranch, 1 p.m.
 - Jan. 9: Brook vs. Lamar, 11 a.m.
 - Jan. 10: Brook vs. St. Agnes, 1 p.m.
 - Jan. 10: Tournament trophy games, TBA
- Brazoswood Lady Bucs Classic (Dobie girls' games)**
- Jan. 8: Dobie vs. Travis, 5:30 p.m.
 - Jan. 9: Dobie vs. Brazoswood, 11 a.m.
 - Jan. 9: Dobie vs. Hightower, 5 p.m.
 - Jan. 10: Tournament trophy games, TBA

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