



South Belt-Ellington Leader

41 years of covering South Belt

Voice of Community-Minded People since 1976

Thursday, January 11, 2018

Email: mynews@southbeltleader.com

www.southbeltleader.com

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Leader seeks storm info

The *Leader* is seeking information about area residents who are still impacted by Hurricane Harvey.

The newspaper has received multiple reports of local families that have been reluctant to come forward and seek government assistance for various reasons.

The *Leader* is attempting to organize a community effort to help such families in need make needed home repairs and address other pressing issues. The effort is not affiliated with any governmental organization.

The newspaper is particularly interested in hearing about families with children or seniors.

Affected residents are asked to contact the *Leader* by calling 281-481-5656 or emailing mynews@southbeltleader.com.

Deputies make drug bust

A tip from an alert resident led to a major drug bust late Monday, Jan. 8.

Deputies from the Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's office responded to a call that evening from a resident who said he saw a suspicious male in the parking lot of Legends Sports Bar in the 12300 block of Scarsdale near Sageglen.

The caller told authorities it appeared the man was selling drugs.

Upon making contact with the man, deputies found him to be in possession of multiple Xanax tablets. Jason Keys, of the 11600 block of Corkwood, was subsequently arrested and charged with possession of a controlled substance.

While being questioned by deputies, Keys told the officers that another person at his residence had additional drugs. The deputies then visited the residence and were reportedly given consent to search the home. In plain view in one of the bedrooms, deputies found 52 grams of cocaine and 8.5 grams of methamphetamine.

Kimberly Garza was then also arrested and charged with possession of a controlled substance.

Holiday trash schedule

In honor of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday, there will be no trash collection on Monday, Jan. 15, for residents serviced by the City of Houston. All neighborhood depositories/recycling centers will also be closed.

Monday's garbage will be picked up Tuesday, Jan. 16.

Trash regularly scheduled to be collected on Tuesday will be picked up on Wednesday, Jan. 17.

Normal collection dates will resume on Thursday, Jan. 18.

Gulf Freeway closures set

At least one northbound and one southbound main lane and frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway from FM-518 to FM-517 in League City will be closed daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Saturday, Jan. 13. Alternate entrance and exit ramps will be closed.

At least one northbound and one southbound main lane and frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway from Fuqua to FM-528/W NASA Parkway will be closed daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Friday, Feb. 9. Alternate entrance and exit ramps will be closed.

The closures are associated with an ongoing construction project to widen the freeway from three to five lanes in each direction and the frontage roads from two to three lanes in each direction.

Atkinson sets scholarships

The Atkinson Elementary PTO is offering \$500 scholarships to two graduating seniors at Dobie High School who attended Atkinson for at least two years, one being fourth grade. Applications and requirement information are available through the senior counselor's office at Dobie. Applications must be received by noon Wednesday, March 7, in order to be considered.

Free self-defense classes

The American Society of Karate is offering the winter/spring session of self defense and martial arts classes beginning Friday, Jan. 19, from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. for youths/adults (ages 13-70). The classes are free and are taught by experienced black-belt instructors. The sessions run continuously on Fridays through May 25, except for Jan. 26 and March 16, at the Sagemont Recreation Center located at 11507 Hughes Road. For more information, email Michael.Alonzo@ASKKarate.com or call 281-788-5930.

Beltway 8 closures set

Blackhawk Boulevard will be closed at Beltway 8 from 9 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 11, through 5 a.m. Friday, Jan. 12.

Beamer Road will be closed at Beltway 8 from 9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 12, through 5 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 13.

The closures are associated with the ongoing project to widen Beltway 8 from Beamer to Highway 288 from two to four lanes in each direction.

Work begins on Sagemont drainage project

The long-awaited city project to make drainage and pavement improvements in the Sagemont subdivision is finally moving forward.

Originally scheduled to begin in 2012, the endeavor will make improvements on selected streets that have been determined to be in the most need of repair. Improvements include drainage systems, necessary concrete paving, curbs, sidewalks, driveways and underground utilities.

In all, eight area streets will be addressed. See related map and estimated time frames on Page 6A.

Impacted streets include Sageglen (from

Sagehollow to Sagedowne); Sagearbor (from Sagehollow to Sagedowne); Sagedowne (from Sagearbor to Sageglene and from Sagehill to Sageheather); Sagehollow (from east and west of Sageglen); Sageriver (from Sageleaf to Sageorchard); Sageorchard (from Sageriver to Beamer and from Sagepark to Sagewillow); Hall Road (from Sagewillow to Sagepark); and Sagepark (from Sageleaf to Hall Road).

Work has already begun on Sagedowne from Beamer to Sageriver. Crews have installed signage allowing for only one lane of traffic (going east). Westbound traffic on this stretch of Sagedowne will be closed for approximately two

months (depending on weather conditions and exact location of underground utilities encountered).

Construction will be broken down into six phases and is expected to complete by January 2019. See related time frames on Page 6A.

The work is expected to affect school traffic, bus routes and through traffic during construction. Water and trash service may also be impacted.

Residents are urged to prepare for construction by documenting the condition of their property and finding alternative places to park.

Affected residents and businesses should have received a door hanger notifying them of the project and who to call with any questions or comments.

A public meeting on the project has been scheduled to take place Tuesday, Jan. 16, at Sagemont Church at 6:30 p.m.



Admins open new campus

The new Dobie ninth-grade center officially opened for class Tuesday, Jan. 9. Built to alleviate overcrowding at the main Dobie campus, the center houses roughly 1,000 students. Shown above at the campus on opening day are, left to right, Alyta Harrell, Pasadena Independent School District associate superintendent; Michael Van Essen, Dobie ninth-grade center principal; and Angela Stallings, Pasadena ISD associate superintendent.

Photo by Marie Flickinger

Christmas tree recycling underway

South Belt residents may recycle their Christmas trees by dropping them off at one of the city's 26 free, drop-off sites located throughout the area. The program is currently underway and will run through Monday, Jan. 15.

Recycling Christmas trees saves taxpayers a significant amount of money in landfill space and disposal costs, according to city officials.

Christmas trees collected by the city will be given a second life by being ground into mulch that is available in bulk directly from Living Earth or available in bags at Living Earth Houston Mulch at Houston area retailers.

Trees must have all decorations, ornaments, tinsel, lights and stands removed. Flocked trees cannot be recycled.

Residents are asked to discard artificial trees with regular trash.

The nearest drop-off site for South Belt residents is located at the Neighborhood Recycling Center at Ellington Airport, located at Highway 3 at Brantley Road.

To get to the Ellington recycle site from the intersection of Gulf Freeway and Beltway 8, take I-45 south toward Galveston and turn left onto FM 1959/Dixie Farm Road; proceed to Highway 3/Old Galveston Road and turn right; drive two blocks and turn left onto Brantly; go past a dock with signs to the right and turn left onto Loop Road/Broussard. The recycling center will then be on the left-hand side.

The site is open daily from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

To see a complete listing of drop-off sites, visit <http://www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste/press-12262017a.html>.

In addition to the drop-off locations, residents with City of Houston waste collection service may place their clean Christmas trees curbside on their regularly scheduled tree waste day to be recycled. See related story on this page.

While not affiliated with the city's recycling program, Harris County has also set up a Christmas tree disposal site at El Franco Lee Park, located at 9400 Hall Road.

Leader remembers 2017 highlights

The year in review is continued from the last issue. Stories up to April 20 can be found in the Dec. 28 edition of the *Leader*.

April 20

Dobie student Nikkole Ballard, 15, was reported missing Wednesday, April 19, after failing to return home from school the previous day. She was found safe the afternoon of Thursday, April 20.

April 27

After multiple setbacks, the project to reconstruct Hughes Road from Beltway 8 to Sagemont was finally completed. The project had originally been slated to be complete by the end of 2016. Begun in June 2015, the \$11.7 million Hughes Road Drainage and Paving Project removed existing paving and replaced it, along with curb, gutter and sidewalks on both sides of the street and provided necessary storm sewer upgrades and street lighting. Part of the city's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), the undertaking was initially proposed in 1999, while Rob Todd served as the South Belt area's city council member. The project had drawn the ire of many local residents and business owners, who said the project had caused widespread confusion and traffic congestion. The construction had also been blamed for causing multiple automobile accidents, particularly at the corner of Beamer and Hughes.

May 4

Chris Bezdek was honored Tuesday, May 2, as the Pasadena Independent School District's 2017 Distinguished Alumnus. A 1998 Sam Rayburn graduate, Bezdek is a longtime volunteer and supporter of the district and executive vice president of CommunityBank of Texas. He joined the district's

Education Foundation board in 2010, serving as president for two terms and now as treasurer. He has also been a volunteer at the foundation's Shining Stars Gala and annual golf classic. In 2012, he began serving as the McDonald's Texas Invitational Basketball Tournament steering committee's finance chair. A bronze commemorative plaque was placed on permanent display outside the district's administration building.

South Belt resident Wayne Lominac Sr. got the thrill of a lifetime when Houston Texans star player J.J. Watt delivered a pizza to his house, as part of Papa John's contest. Lominac was joined by his wife, Stephanie Lominac; his son, Wayne Lominac Jr.; his daughter, Shea Lominac; and some close friends as Watt stuck around to visit, sign autographs and take photos.

May 11

The results from the local May 6 school board and bond elections were tallied, with most of the old guard maintaining their positions. In the Pasadena Independent School District Board of Trustees election, all incumbents were successful in their bid for re-election. Incumbent Fred Roberts handily defeated challenger Roel Saldivar for the Position 1 seat. Roberts received 70.3 percent of the vote to Saldivar's 29.7 percent of the vote. In the Position 2 race, incumbent Mariselle Quijano easily defeated challenger Maria Vilma Duran, receiving 57.5 percent of the vote to Duran's 42.5 percent of the vote. Incumbent Nelda R. Sullivan held on to her Position 3 seat, significantly defeating challenger Larry Savala. Sullivan received 70.8 percent of the vote to Savala's 29.2 percent of the vote. In the Position 4 contest, Jack Bailey comfortably defeated challenger Jose A. Cazares.

Continued on Page 6A

Encampment ban back in place

U.S. District Judge Kenneth M. Hoyt recently dissolved a court order blocking enforcement of a city ordinance that bans homeless encampments in public places.

Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner is pleased with the judge's ruling.

"I'm grateful that the judge has for now essentially endorsed the city's effort to strike a balance between preserving personal freedoms of every Houstonian and eliminating threats to public health that have developed at and near encampments on public property in the center of the city," Turner said. "My staff, including my special assistant for homeless initiatives and Houston Police Department commanders will meet to decide how to move forward with enforcement of the ordinance. What will not change are continuous efforts by city departments, local non-profit agencies and HPD to place encampment residents in short-term and long-term housing."

Those efforts have reduced homelessness in Houston by about 60 percent in the last six years, city officials said.

Along with dissolving his Aug. 22, 2017 temporary restraining order that blocked enforcement of the ordinance, the judge scheduled the case against the ordinance for trial sometime after Dec. 3, 2018. The lawsuit against the ordinance had been filed by four people on behalf of themselves and other homeless individuals.

In denying the plaintiffs' request for a preliminary injunction against the ordinance, the judge wrote that testimony presented by the city legal department "establishes that allowing the encampments to continue in their current condition poses a greater detriment to the city and its residents more so than any harm that may result from the city's enforcement of the ordinance."

Such encampments have been a growing problem over the past year, attracting crime and creating health issues.

"Since the (temporary restraining order) has been in effect, instances of homeless persons having been seriously injured or killed at or near the encampment sites have been reported; trash

Continued on Page 4A

Vandal smashes multiple car windows

Multiple vehicles reportedly had their windows smashed out the night of Tuesday, Jan. 11, outside the Sagemont Townhouses near Hughes Road and Beamer. It is believed the same indi-

vidual smashed additional windows at the complex the previous Sunday. At press time, it was unclear if anything had been taken from the vehicles.

Police crack down on wheel thieves

The Texas Rangers are now assisting in the search for the suspects wanted for stealing several sets of wheels from the South Belt community and surrounding areas.

At a press conference held by Crime Stoppers of Houston on Wednesday, Jan. 10, the Rangers released enhanced photos of two of the suspects, which were originally captured on local surveillance cameras. See related photos.

The organization has now offered a \$5,000 reward for any information leading to the arrest and conviction of the suspects.

According to officials from Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Chris Diaz's office, there have been at least 30 reported cases in the South Belt area in the past 14 months. It is estimated that at least \$50,000 worth of rims and tires have been stolen from this area alone.

The crooks have also targeted the surrounding areas of Houston, Pearland, Pasadena, La Porte

and Deer Park.

"They know what they're doing," said Precinct 2 Deputy Dwayne Pacifico, noting the suspects usually take only around two minutes to complete a job. "They're very quiet, and they're very efficient."

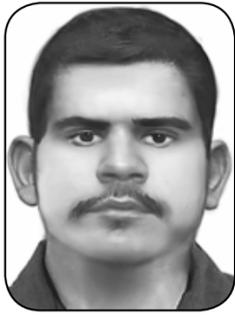
Investigators believe the two suspects are not working alone.

"We have reason to believe they're part of a much larger ring," said Precinct 2 Lt. Mike Kritzer.

Most of the wheels are stolen from Chevy or GMC trucks that are 2014 models or newer. The thefts usually take place in the early morning hours between 2 and 5 a.m.

Residents are encouraged to park their vehicles inside their garage if possible and to put some kind of identifying markings on their rims, as they have no serial numbers from the factory, which makes them harder to trace.

Anyone with any information on the suspects is urged to call 713-222-TIPS (8477).



Car crashes into Beamer ditch



A car crashed into the Beamer ditch at Hughes Road the afternoon of Monday, Jan. 8. The 15-year-old driver had just gotten his driver's permit and was celebrating his birthday by taking his grandfather for a ride. The teen was reportedly following his GPS and turned too early, causing the accident. The weight of the vehicle snapped the first responders' winch. No one was injured and no one was ticketed. The *Leader* was first notified of the crash by Larry Morgan, before several other residents also called. The paper is grateful for all news tips.

Photo by Marie Flickinger

In My Opinion

Weeke addresses traffic, light issues

As the development in Sageglen area has grown over the years traffic has increased accordingly and there appears to be much heavier traffic at the intersection of Beamer and Scarsdale. The congestion is worse at certain times from either morning/evening traffic or classes letting out from San Jacinto College. As cars stack up, northbound traffic on Beamer may have to sit through a few cycles of the traffic light to get across or onto Scarsdale. Sometimes the line of cars stretches beyond the Food Town parking lot further complicating mess. Southbound traffic on Beamer already has two left turn lanes to accommodate the crowd. Maybe we can create two left turn lanes on the northbound route since a large portion of the traffic turns onto Scarsdale headed for Pearland. And of course, the proper signage to let everyone know of the change.

And then...like everyone around here I am very pleased with the completion of all the roadwork done on Hughes Road as it was a major improvement. But a lingering problem is the traffic light at Sagecreek Drive. While driving on Hughes I get stopped at that red light 90% of the time, and usually when there are no cars on Sagecreek. Hughes has become a heavily travelled commuter path with constant traffic in both directions of all four lanes. Sagecreek is a small road that dead ends into a residential neighborhood. I've been told of "smart" traffic lights that respond to current traffic conditions. But I'm guessing this one is a "dumb" light as it almost always favors the small, empty road by unnecessarily stopping traffic on a busy thoroughfare. These really aren't major problems but they are consistently nagging ones. Perhaps Marie can use her influence to have someone from the traffic department look into this or let us know who we can call for help to improve the traffic around the area.

Restivos thank Memorial Hermann

We lost our brother George Restivo on December 9. I would like to take a moment to thank the entire staff of the ER department and the ICU of Memorial Hermann Southeast for their heroic efforts to try and save our brother's life. To a man and woman these wonderful

doctors and nurses fought valiantly and tirelessly to save him but his injury from the blood clots were beyond even their tireless efforts. In addition I would like to say thank you for their kindness and care of all of us, his family, as we grieved our loss. They cried with us, as well as comforted us in our sorrow. We were not only grateful for your efforts but comforted by your compassion. You were to a man and woman, not only warriors of your professions but truly angels of mercy. Thank you and God bless you all each and every one of you!

Turner thanks the community for help

I want to thank you for the food, and Christmas gifts. I really appreciate your giving hearts. Your generous gifts, have brought great joy to my family. Thank you, and I wish blessings on you and your families!

Cubos expresses gratitude for gifts

Thank you for today! The kids will be so happy on Christmas - especially after the hurricane and the damage. Sunshine will love the doll bed! I can't thank you enough for that! I love you so much and I admire your heart for South Belt! I am so grateful that we met and I regret not sticking it out with you! I wish I knew then what I know now!! It's the little things in life that impact people the most - at least I think so, and you, ma'am, have a huge piece of my heart! You taught me a lot and I enjoyed working with you! Love you, Marie!

Sexton warns of an unsafe bus service

I was taking my grandchildren to school this morning I past a private bus service, Kids on the Move. There were students in this van. The driver was texting while driving our precious children to school. The driver saw me look at her and shake my head; but, she continued to text.

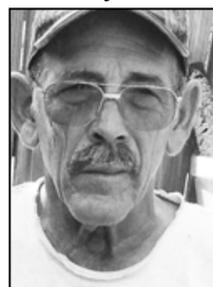
I tried to look up the phone number for Kids on the Move to report the driver; but, was unsuccessful. I just thought the community and anyone that considers using this transportation service should know that this is an unsafe service and puts our PISD children in danger.

Leader checks out social media

By Laura Benavides Scallan
A member of the *Community of Sagemont & 77089* Facebook group posted that someone had backed into their car that was parked on the Sagemont Drive between Sageyork and Sageking on Thursday, Jan. 4.
The member is asking if anyone has any kind of camera set up facing any of the streets to review footage and contact her. The post is also

on *The Mont!!* Facebook group.
A member of the *people of sagemont 2* Facebook group posted that they woke up on Jan. 2 to the wheels being taken off their truck and the truck placed on bricks. The member warns others to be on the lookout.
A member of the *ASHLEY POINT SUBDIVISION* Facebook group posted a warning to others about locking one's

Glen Wayne "Frenchy" Simon



Funeral services for long-time South Belt resident Glenn Wayne "Frenchy" Simon, 74, will be held at the Sagemont Church Worship Center at 10 a.m. Friday, Jan. 12. Simon died at home Jan. 9 after a lengthy illness. Visitation will be 6 - 8 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 11, at Niday Funeral Home, 6777 Fairmont Pkwy.

Born in Lafayette, Louisiana, Simon later moved to Texas and graduated from Pasadena High School in 1962 and has maintained lifelong friendships with his high school friends. After marrying Linda Gail in 1966, he was drafted into the Army and served in Korea.

In 1969 he and Linda moved to the South Belt area.

A member of the Painters Local, he formed his own commercial painting contracting company after working for Te-Co and ran his company until his 2009 retirement.

A lifelong lover of hunting and fishing, he especially enjoyed the annual Frenchy's Fish Fry he hosted each October at Sagemont Church's Danbury Lodge, where he volunteered for 11 years. Prior to that volunteer job, he served for 15 years on the parking team at Sagemont Church. His enjoyment of church contacts extended to his Bible study class and to his and Linda's bowling team.

Above all, Simon loved his family. His son Russell Clayton preceded him in death Oct. 22, 2016, shortly before his father's diagnosis of lymphoma.

In addition to his loving wife, Simon is survived by his daughter Christine Renee Elliott and son-in-law Christopher Elliott; grandchildren Jonathan Glenn Elliott, David Andrew Elliott, Stephen William Elliott and Anna Renee Elliott; sisters Beverly Ann Burkland, Linda Sue Vaughn and Jeanne Marie Slepenson; and brother Jimmy Simon.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent in Simon's name to Sagemont Church, 11300 S. Sam Houston Parkway East, Houston, TX 77089.

Deaths

Hortencia Gonzalez



Hortencia "Granny" Gonzalez, born Sept. 16, 1929, died on Dec. 27, 2017, in the season of the birth of Jesus Christ.

She is survived by her cherished sisters Cecilia and Esther Castillo; daughters Dora Cummings and husband Robert and Carmen Hatton and husband Robert; sons Santiago Gonzalez and wife Norma, Jorge Gonzalez and wife Pat and Gabriel Gonzalez, Javier Gonzalez and wife Sylvia; and son-in-law Jesse Padilla. She also leaves behind nieces Graciela Gonzalez and Susie Rodriguez and husband Tino; and nephew Juan Garza and wife Betty; and their families.

Hortencia was blessed with eighteen grandchildren, three step-grandchildren, fourteen great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild. She is preceded in death by her parents Jose and Josepha Castillo; her husband of sixty-six years Carmen Gonzalez; her beloved sisters Maria Del Carmen Castillo, Gregoria Castillo and Elvira Garza; daughter Magdalena Padilla; son Jose Luis Gonzalez; and grandson Roberto Gomez Jr.

Hortencia was one of five daughters born and raised in Laredo, Texas. Upon graduating from business college, she worked at Mercy Hospital as a secretary for a very arduous Catholic nun, though challenging, she was thankful for the experience.

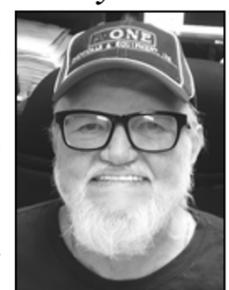
Early in their marriage they lived in the state of Washington; however, the bitter cold brought her back to the warmer climate of Laredo, where they raised their children until the mid-1980s. Then the family moved to Houston. Many thought Hortencia made the best pancakes, flour tortillas and the bottomless bowl of Spanish rice and chancala. She enjoyed watching crime and mystery shows like *Murder She Wrote* and *Law and Order* and loved anything Disney, often treating her granddaughters to Disney on Ice shows. Her love for travel took her to New York City, Tennessee, Germany, Paris and Lourdes.

She was known as "Granny" to many and anyone who was privileged to meet her knew she never met a dessert she didn't like and it was perfectly OK to have dessert before any meal. As her illness progressed and traveling became more difficult, she delighted in getting into the car and taking a short drive anywhere, especially to Sonic. Though a quiet and reserved personality, she loved being in the middle of the activities. Granny was a woman of great faith in God, had great devotion to the Blessed Virgin, loved praying the rosary and attending Mass.

A special thanks to her caregivers of seven years, Nerieda Velasquez and Maria Ontiveros, who doted over her and cared for her with the utmost dignity and love.

Visitation and recitation of the rosary were Jan. 5, at Niday Funeral Home on Beamer. The funeral Mass was celebrated Jan. 6 at the Catholic Community of St. Luke the Evangelist Church. The Rite of Committal followed at Forest Park East Cemetery.

Billy Mack Doyle Sr.



Billy Mack Doyle Sr., 74, of Houston died Nov. 24, 2017. He was born in Newport, Arkansas Jan. 6, 1943.

He graduated from Roy Miller High School in Corpus Christi and married Betty Jean Horak on Aug. 14, 1971. Billy is survived by his wife; and his children Billy Mack Doyle Jr., Byron Clay Doyle, Kevin Doyle, Michael Gilliland, Sabrina Doyle, Julie Doyle and Michelle Turner Buchanan; his grandchildren Colton Buchanan, Cassandra

Askin, Jessica Askin, Savannah Askin, Kadi Creel, Stella DeLaughter, Oscar DeLaughter, Julius DeLaughter and Felix DeLaughter; and his sister Doris Bailey.

Billy was vice president/general manager at A-One Chemicals and Equipment Inc. He was a member of Deer Park Chamber of Commerce. He had a passion for coaching baseball and managing the family business. His Jan. 6 funeral service was attended by former South Belt players from his teams from around the country.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Billy's honor to: Sagemont Beverly Hills Little League, P.O. Box 34271, Houston, Texas, 77234. Make checks payable to SBHLL, tax id #76-0265996. If using a credit card, call Cheryl Amesen, of Sagemont Beverly Hills Little League, 713-459-4330.

Karen Marie Colman Blevins



Karen Marie Colman Blevins, 57, of Alvin, died on Jan. 2, 2018, after a courageous fight with pancreatic cancer.

Karen was born on March 23, 1960, in Houston, to Ron and Joan Colman. Karen grew up in the Houston area and moved to Sagemont in 1972. She graduated from J. Frank Dobie High School in 1978.

Karen met Thomas "Tommy" Gray Blevins in 1979, were married in 1981 and made their home in Sagemont. They were blessed with three beautiful daughters Michelle DeBerry, Krystal Blevins and Amanda Blevins.

Karen was a Girl Scout leader for many years and very active in the San Jacinto Council. The family moved to Alvin in 1997. Karen worked as a manager at the Alvin Walmart for many years.

She is preceded in death by her husband who was the love of her life; her loving parents Ron and Joan Colman; and grandparents Grover and Bobbie Bowers and Amos and Opal Colman.

Karen is survived by her beautiful daughters Michelle DeBerry and husband L.A., Krystal Blevins and Amanda Blevins; and boyfriend Jaramie Jackson; sister Ronda Poole and husband Craig; brother Ron "Rowdy" Colman; grandchildren Seth, L.A. and Lyra DeBerry; aunts and uncles Susie and Sonny Kostocka and Sue and David Colman and Neil Bowers; mother-in-law Barbara Blevins; father-in-law Tommy Blevins and his wife Mary; brothers-in-law Mike Blevins and Mark Blevins; sister-in-law Dianne Murray and husband John; nephews Christopher Poole and Michael "Bucky" Poole and wife Kristy, Brent Blevins, Derrick Murray and Cody Murray; nieces Cassie Murray, Courtney Blevins and Brittany Blevins; Gran-momma Joy and PaPa Don Poole; honorary sisters Rose Konzelman, Karen Gartman, Laurel Robertson, Karen Duke and Coleen Lamb; honorary nephews Jonathan Utsey and wife Christy, Cody Beville and wife Courtney and Frank Kamaz and wife Jen; and many others that loved and supported her including her Walmart family.

He was born on Oct. 22, 1973 to Ronald and Gwendolyn Heitman. Jonny was a friend to many and was surrounded by an abundance of friends throughout his life. He enjoyed spending time with his friends and family, good music, art, working on cars and antique shopping.

Jonny was preceded in death by his parents Ronald and Gwendolyn Heitman. He is survived by his daughter, Gwen; brother, Chris Heitman, and wife, Stephanie; nephew, Nick; nephew, Andrew; niece, Katherine; sister, Jennifer Pliske; niece, Emily; nephew, Joshua; nephew Carson; great niece, Olivia; and cousins, Kathy and Eddie Pad-dock.

Visitation and funeral service will be at 2 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 15, at Crowder Funeral Home, 2422 E. Broadway St. in Pearland.

Carol Rhodes Gamblin

Carol Rhodes Gamblin, nee Bremer, 54, died on Dec. 20, 2017, after a long battle with illness surrounded by her family. She was born on Sept. 1, 1963.

Carol is survived by her husband and two daughters, as well as her brother and her sister and her mother. Carol was born and raised in Houston and attended Lanier Middle School and Bellaire High School before she attended Brown University and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in biology.

After college, she returned to Houston and married her high school sweetheart. She worked for the Houston Hu-

man Health and Services department, serving the public, before settling down and building a home for her two daughters and her husband.

She had a lifelong love of animals, and volunteered at local veterinary clinics and at the Houston Zoo, with the primates. She became ill within the last few years, and used every ounce of her will to fight and get better.

Her public wake was held on Dec. 28, 2017, followed by a private funeral the next day. In lieu of flowers, send donations to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

Lynda W. Andrus



Lynda W. Andrus died Jan. 1, 2018. She was born in Port Arthur on Oct. 5, 1948, to William and Betty Wiebold and was the eldest of seven children.

Lynda graduated from Forest Park High School in Beaumont and attended Lamar University where she was a member of Delta Zeta sorority.

She was active in the South Belt community and was an involved parent. She held many leadership positions in her children's activities such as Girl Scout troop leader, Frazier PTO treasurer and vice president, Thompson PTO, Dobie football booster club president and Dobie cheerleader booster club vice president.

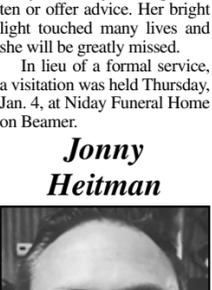
She had a love of children and teaching, and taught more than 25 years at Cokesbury UMC, Park Place UMC, University Baptist, St. Luke's, and Burnett Elementary.

Lynda is preceded in death by her husband Don Andrus and her parents. She is survived by her children Michelle Andrus, Darrin Andrus and wife D'Ann and Jason Andrus and wife Clarissa. She is also survived by her siblings Bill Wiebold and wife Sarah, Gary Wiebold, Cheryl King, Kirk Wiebold and wife Melinda, Tonya Montoya and husband Ed and Byron Wiebold and wife Misty. She leaves behind six grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

Lynda was a vibrant woman who never met a stranger. She was a second mother to many and always willing to listen or offer advice. Her bright light touched many lives and she will be greatly missed.

In lieu of a formal service, a visitation was held Thursday, Jan. 4, at Niday Funeral Home on Beamer.

Jonny Heitman



Jonathon "Jonny" Heitman, 44, died Sunday, Jan. 7, 2018. Heitman was a longtime Sagemont resident and graduated from Dobie High School in 1992.

He was born on Oct. 22, 1973 to Ronald and Gwendolyn Heitman. Jonny was a friend to many and was surrounded by an abundance of friends throughout his life. He enjoyed spending time with his friends and family, good music, art, working on cars and antique shopping.

Jonny was preceded in death by his parents Ronald and Gwendolyn Heitman. He is survived by his daughter, Gwen; brother, Chris Heitman, and wife, Stephanie; nephew, Nick; nephew, Andrew; niece, Katherine; sister, Jennifer Pliske; niece, Emily; nephew, Joshua; nephew Carson; great niece, Olivia; and cousins, Kathy and Eddie Pad-dock.

Visitation and funeral service will be at 2 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 15, at Crowder Funeral Home, 2422 E. Broadway St. in Pearland.

Leader obituary policy

Obituaries submitted to the Leader are published free of charge. They are edited to conform to the Leader style.

Elected officials share their words

District D News

By Council Member Dwight A. Boykins

2017 in the City of Houston has had some highs and lows but we have proven to be resilient through it all. From hosting an amazing Super Bowl LI to surviving the devastation of Hurricane Harvey, we have shown true leadership and strength to many both near and far. We are forever Houston Strong.

As we prepare to enter into a new year, I would be remiss not to highlight our last quarter of the year. We ended 2017 with a bang in District D and there is so much to be grateful for as we go into this holiday season.

Just to recap a few of the projects from this year. Using my Council District Service Funds we were able to purchase illegal dumping cameras, three speed awareness monitors, Houston Fire Department equipment (roof & car saws), and speed cushions for Riverside I, Riverside II, Southwood, South Park, and Oakdale. Some of the completed and ongoing capital improvement projects include the \$11.8 Million Hughes Road reconstruction, \$5 Million Sagemont drainage & paving improvements, and \$21 Million MLK Boulevard reconstruction. Lastly, we raised almost \$50,000 for the

District D Senior Minor Home Repair Fund for the Inaugural Softball Game, Swingin' for Seniors Golf Tournament, and Holiday Tree Lighting & Kwanzaa Celebration. I would like to thank everyone that contributed to this effort for the District D seniors.

There is much more to come in 2018 as I prepare to roll out new plans for the community ranging from new grocery store plans to banks. There will be a new \$5 Million park design and a \$25 Million Multi-Service Center.

Also, I am still working with Solid Waste for debris removal and getting District D back up and running better than ever. If you are still in need of debris removal in your neighborhood, please be sure to call it into 311 and follow up with my office with your service request number.

If you have any specific questions or concerns, please contact my office by calling 832-393-3001 or emailing districtd@houstontx.gov. Last but certainly not least, I hope that each and everyone of you had a very Merry Christmas and I wish you a prosperous and Happy New Year!

District E News

By Council Member Dave Martin

As we head into 2018, we look forward to what the new year will bring. It is a priority of the District E office to identify and pursue meaningful storm water drainage and flood mitigation projects. These projects will take careful coordination and participation with multiple levels of government as we work to reduce the impact of flooding to our communities.

My office has been hard at work coordinating with the Mayor's Office, Public Works and Engineering, as well as, Harris County Flood Control on projects, small and large. As these projects complete feasibility studies and are awarded funding, we will continue to update the community through press releases as well as our monthly newsletter.

The District E office understands these projects have an impact on day-to-day lives of residents. The projects being investigated include districtwide storm sewer investigations, small dredging projects along San Jacinto River to diminish effects of choke points, updating surveys of the San Jacinto River and Lake Houston as well as targeted studies within several communities for additional drainage needs.

The road to recovery is long and I plan to stay focused on drainage and flood mitigation. We are working with area legislators and local community organizations to make sure that the needs of District E are a priority for the next legislative session to take place in 2019.

I recently created a position as the Chair of the newly created City of Houston Committee on the Historic Site Tax Exemption Program. I look forward to working with the Mayor and City Council to shape policy that creates a balance between preserving historic structures as well as maintaining realistic expectations in regards to the financial impact to the City.

Lastly, if you or your neighbors have storm debris, please continue to call those reports in to 3-1-1 (713) 837-0311. These reports are key to returning our communities to pre-Harvey conditions. Once you have contacted 3-1-1 with storm debris reports please contact my office with your service request number so that staff can assist with the tracking your request.

Wishing everyone a very Happy 2018 and appreciate the opportunity to continue to serve the communities within District E.

San Jac sets calendar

San Jacinto College has announced its upcoming calendar of events.

Spring 2018 registration
Registration for the spring 2018 semester beginning Tuesday, Jan. 16, 2018, is open. Payment is due upon registration. For more information on steps to register, visit sanjac.edu/apply-register/overview/registration.

Martin Luther King Jr. holiday
San Jacinto College will be closed on Monday, Jan. 15, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. All campus and administrative offices will be closed and there will be no

classes held. Offices and classes will resume regular hours on Tuesday, Jan. 16.

Meningitis vaccinations
San Jac will offer meningitis vaccinations through VaxA Nation at the San Jacinto College Central campus, Building 1, room C1.110; North campus, Building 1, room C1.110; North campus, Building 1, room C1.110; North campus, Building 1, room C1.110.

Continued on Page 4A

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COH closed \$1.005 billion pension obligation bond

On Dec. 22 the City of Houston closed on a \$1.005 billion pension obligation bond issuance that put the gift wrap and bow on a historic and hard-earned pension reform package that will benefit city workers and taxpayers.

The sale of the bonds to investors allowed the city to deliver \$250 million to the Houston Municipal Employee Pension System and \$750 million to the Houston Police Officer Pension System, making good on the promises made to the systems in exchange for \$1.8 billion in reduction of future benefits that the two systems agreed to.

Mayor Sylvester Turner crafted and then followed through on a solution to the city's pension obligations woes that had eluded a cure for 17 years.

"With this sale, the residents of the City of Houston will end 2017 knowing their city is on much stronger fiscal footing than when the year began," said Turner. "Our city first responders and employees can also go into the holidays knowing their pensions are safe and will be available to them when they retire."

Completion of the pension reform work took place despite a failed last-ditch effort by opponents to thwart the reforms through a lawsuit.

More than three quarters of voters in the November

election in Houston approved the sale of the bonds.

Earlier this year the Texas Legislature approved the reform effort with two-thirds, bipartisan majorities and Gov. Greg Abbott signed it into law. City Council had approved the plan 16 to 1 and key members of the business community gave their support.

The total of \$1 billion in payments to the pension funds was for loans made by the city. City employee pensions had suffered for more than 15 years from underfunding and payments out of the reach of city budgets, but no mayor before Turner had been successful in reaching a compromise with the employee groups and attaining legislative approval.

The unfunded pension liability reached as high as \$8.2 billion and cost the city an additional \$1 million per day through 2017. The pension crisis threatened the financial solvency of the city and could have forced layoffs of thousands of employees.

Yet the reform effort succeeded without a tax increase or a large infusion of city revenue.

Also, lowering the city's pension liability changed the city's financial position to positive \$1.9 billion in Fiscal Year 2017 from negative \$95 million in Fiscal Year 2016.

The bond offering, which

was issued in a favorable interest rate environment, achieved an all-in rate of 3.97 percent and attracted investors new to the city's credit in large part because of the innovative reform measures.

The overall reforms will eliminate the \$8.2 billion unfunded liability of the three pension systems over 30 years.

The reforms include an innovative "cost corridor" concept that controls costs for the city. The corridor serves a risk-sharing mechanism: If investments perform too far below established levels, the pension boards will cut benefits or increase employee

contributions to bring costs in line.

Under the plan, which uses a more realistic seven percent rate of return on investments, the city is required to meet its annual contribution until the unfunded liability is fully paid off in 30 years. The pension reform is a comprehensive package that experts have called a "national model."

In November, Moody's rating service cited voter approval of the bonds as a major factor in removing the negative outlook on the city's credit rating.

If the sale had not been completed, \$1.8 billion in benefit reductions agreed to by the employee pension

boards could have been rescinded, destroying much of the pension reforms.

"As the city seeks to recover from Hurricane Harvey, the worst that could have happened is the loss of historic pension reforms we reached earlier this year," said Turner. "With this sale on the books, we can move forward knowing we have overcome one of the biggest hurdles to a fiscally sound city and focus on building a greater, more equitable city for our residents."

"We can now say mission accomplished. This has been an incredible year and I am so proud of Houston, Texas," the mayor added.

Mini-concert delights Meador staff



Some staff members at Meador Elementary were treated to a surprise mini-Christmas concert on Dec. 18 by Pasadena Independent School District's multi-talented Mylo Simmons from the maintenance department. Meador staff members took a post-performance picture

with Simmons after he sang a few songs. Shown are left to right, Amy Clowers, Sheila Wilborn, Beverly Bolton, Simmons, Johanna James, Tara Merida, Connie Dumas and Nora Gonzalez.

Photo by Myriam Garcia

Stuchbery holds spelling bee



Stuchbery recently held its spelling bee in which third- and fourth-grade classroom winners competed for the school championship. The winner, Angie Munoz (left), will advance to compete at the district level where she will face the top spellers from each elementary school in the Pasadena Independent School District. Shown above are, left to right, Munoz and runner-up John Tran. Both Munoz and Tran are fourth-graders.

Photo by Kristin Wallis

Museum offers free admission to kids

The Lone Star Flight Museum at Ellington will offer free admission for all visitors age 17 and under on Martin Luther King Day, Monday, Jan. 15, with support from the Dr. L.C. Carter Foundation.

The museum will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The cost for adults, ages 18 through 64, will be \$20. The cost for seniors, 65 and older, will be \$16. The cost for military will be \$12.

The Lone Star Flight Museum at Ellington is located at 11551, Aerospace Ave., Houston.

Public invited to comment on UHCL police department accreditation

A team of assessors from the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators will arrive on Feb. 4 to examine all aspects of University of Houston Clear Lake Police Department's policies and procedures, management, operation, and support services. Chief Allen Hill said, "University students, employees and the public can comment directly to assessors by calling 281-283-2113 on Feb. 5, from 9 to 11 a.m."

Telephone comments must address the department's ability to comply with

IACLEA's standards. The IACLEA Accreditation Standards Manual is available at www.iaclea.org.

Anyone wishing to submit written comments about the department's ability to comply with accreditation standards may send them to IACLEA Accreditation, 1110 Bonifant St., Suite 220, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

Verification by the assessment team that UH-Clear Lake Police Department meets IACLEA's state-of-the-art standards is part of a voluntary process to gain ac-

creditation - a highly prized recognition of campus public safety professional excellence, Hill said.

The department has to comply with 190 standards in order to achieve accredited status.

"The women and men of the UHCL PD are focused on providing exceptional law enforcement service to the community, and being accredited ensures that we are employing the best standards and practices in the industry," Hill said.

"Through accreditation

and our commitment to excellence, we endeavor to provide a safe and welcoming campus for the students, faculty, staff and visitors," added Hill.

UHCL Police Department's accreditation manager, Law Enforcement Compliance Officer Kelley Reid, said the assessment team is composed of experienced, out-of-state campus law enforcement professionals. The assessors will review written materials, interview individuals and inspect facilities. After the team's review, it will report to IACLEA, which will decide

on accreditation, Reid said.

Assessors are Chief Brian A. Seaton, University of Arizona Police Department, team leader; Patrick Wasley, retired police chief of the California State-San Francisco Police Department; and Peter A. Agnesi, retired associate vice president of the Department of Safety, Security & Emergency Preparedness, Broward College.

Accreditation is for four years, during which the department must submit annual reports attesting to continued compliance to standards.

Thompson students share New Year's resolutions

The following are the remaining classes from Thompson Intermediate who wrote New Year's resolution letters.

Sophia Medrano's class
My New Year's resolution is, to be more responsible with my school work. I usually just procrastinate to turn in work.

Valerie Akinoye
My New Year resolution is to get better grades and focus on school. Also I would like to spend more time with my family and less time on my phone.

Leslie Espinoza
In 2018, my new year resolution is to eat less. Another goal is to absolutely stop procrastinate on all of my schoolwork because it causes me a lot of stress and pressure to finish them on time.

Lyzbeth Flores
In the new year, I would like to have money so I can buy my own stuff, and not depend on my mom for stuff. I also want to become really popular on vine2, meet David Dobrik, move to LA, meet more famous people, and be happy.

Natalia Jones
I want to do one thing this New Year and it is practice on my keyboard. I also want to not procrastinate as much as I do.

Evan Krustchinsky
For the new year, I would like to not get a single B in my report card. I would also like to get more condition so that I could be a better runner.

Mauricio Leal
In the coming year, I want to keep my grades at an average of an 85 or above far all of my classes. My other resolution I would like to not procrastinate as much as I have this year.

Paula Mendoza
My New Year's resolution is to be a better me. I would

also like to start a new hobby like tennis or piano.

Dominic Ortiz
In this New Year, I would like to get better grades in my school I probably won't but I can try to make my grade better.

Jaden Pham
This new year I want to start over I want to make better grades and focus on school more. Also have all A's and B's!

Claire Ramirez
My new year's resolution is to get A's in all my classes. I want to get better grades.

Samantha Talamantez
My New Year's Resolution is to be less mean, get good grades, and loss weight.

Johnny Tran
In the New Year, I would like to be better at time management and to do more healthy habits. Also I want to be a better person to my family, around the house, with my community, and basically in general.

Kaitlyn Webb
Alex Alvarado's class
Try to pass all the classes that I need to. To pop a lot of fire works

Aaron Camacho
To pass all my class, to be good. love more ppl and not be as rude. get a lot of high school credit

Adrian Panerio
6 pack ab. eat healthier

Alexander Couchman
My new years resolution is to be more academically more smart. my new years resolution is to be more nice to people in need and give them a chance

Alexia Velasquez
Have fun and spend a happy year. Study hard to get good grades

Allison Arreola
nothing, help out and go outside some more

Andrick Morin

To pass all my test that i need before Christmas break. to complete all my projects before Christmas break

Andrick Perez
try to not get sick. learn 5 songs on my bell kit

Anthony Zepeda
Focus on my more often. Get good grades

Antonio Lopez
Pass to the next grade level. staying out of trouble

Ariana Cardenas
be good at school, pass all my grades

Bryan Guillen
Be with my family more. Make better grades

Caleb Jackson
to be on track. is to get on varsity choir

Chris Cantu
to be nice to my best friends. To be nice to my classmates

Jacob Garcia
to say yes more. try new things

Jacob Hernandez
To be nicer to my best friends. To pass all my classes

Jasmin Garcia
pass school, go to college

Jessica Coleman
To Pass the school year. To Behave

Jocelyn Perez
to be nicer to my parents. pass all of my classes

Jonathan Krenek
To sleep. Pass

Juan Rodriguez
be more appreciative. not asking for much

Kayla Burton
Learn how to curl my own hair. Be healthier

Kayla Coleman
Make my grades higher. play more sports

Get fit. Get ps4

Emmett Rodriguez
to study more, to talk more

Evelyn Wheeler
My New Year's resolution is to be passing all my classes. My New Year's resolution is never step foot into Mr. Teichelmans office ever again.

Evelyn Sanchez
is to pass all my class. to try my hardest on anything

Ginessa Olvera
Finish 2 player Cuphead 100%. Pass all my classes.

Hector Lopez
to get caught up with school. be a better person

Jack Hartley
I want to change the way I appreciate people. I want to change the way I value other people

Jacob Garcia
to say yes more. try new things

Jacob Hernandez
To be nicer to my best friends. To pass all my classes

Jasmin Garcia
pass school, go to college

Jessica Coleman
To Pass the school year. To Behave

Jocelyn Perez
to be nicer to my parents. pass all of my classes

Jonathan Krenek
To sleep. Pass

Juan Rodriguez
be more appreciative. not asking for much

Kayla Burton
Learn how to curl my own hair. Be healthier

Kayla Coleman
Make my grades higher. play more sports

Christian. Meet new friends

Luis Betancourt
Exercise more and go to the gym. Don't have one

Luke Auzenne
To pass seventh grade. Have a great year

Madeline Torres
Pay more attention in class. By nicer to my parents

Manuel Colunga
Pass math, pass Texas History

Manuel Rodriguez
Pass all my class and be on track. Learn a new hobby

Marissa Rojas
to get on track with math. to get at least one additional focus area in each class

Natalie Hernandez
To catch up on all my classes. And pass 7th grade

Pedro Jimenez Berrum
loose weight. be nicer with my family

Raul Perez-Rodriguez
I dont know. I dont know

Reyna Galvan
to get better grades, to be have better

Ryan Navy
Pass all mt test in time. be in time in my classes

Salet Lovio
Say on track in school. make money

Serena Segura
To be a better friend, to spend more time with my family

Serenity D.
Be nice to my parents. Make good grades and stay on track

Serenity Garcia
Pass all my classes. Improve on my behavior

Law passed to create federal Maritime Center of Excellence designation

President Donald Trump signed into law the fiscal year 2018 National Defense Authorization Act, which includes provisions from the Domestic Maritime Centers of Excellence Act (H.R. 2286) that authorizes federal designation of community and technical college "centers of excellence" to help provide technical education and training programs to secure the talent pipeline for the nation's maritime workforce.

U.S. Rep. Gene Green introduced the Domestic Maritime Centers of Excellence Act. In September, the legislation was offered on the Senate floor as part of a broader package of maritime provisions contained in an NDAA amendment by Sen. John Cornyn.

"San Jacinto College is positioned as a top maritime training program in the heart of one of the largest ports in the world," said Cornyn. This legislation will benefit both national security and international trade and allow for the growth and strengthening of our maritime workforce thanks to training programs

at our community colleges." As a Maritime Center of Excellence, San Jacinto College will expand its capacity to train domestic maritime workers by admitting more students, training faculty, expanding facilities, creating new maritime career pathways from associate degree to baccalaureate degree programs, and awarding credit for prior learning experience - including military service.

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

A lack of federal government focus on domestic maritime industry technical training, maritime workers approaching retirement, technological advancements, and the expansion of the Panama Canal are all factors that affect the maritime workforce shortage. Under the provisions of the Domestic Maritime Centers of Excellence Act, the U.S. Maritime Administration can support community and technical college centers of excellence by providing funding and support, technical assistance, and donating surplus federal assets for maritime education - such as marine vessels for use in training programs.

Recently, San Jacinto College received support from MARAD to allow maritime students access to Ready Reserve Fleet ships to keep current with the most recent developments of the standards of training, certification and watchkeeping.

San Jacinto College has awarded more than 5,500 U.S. Coast Guard-approved course completion certificates since 2010 and introduced the state's first associate degree program in maritime transport-

ation to train those new to the maritime industry. Last year marked the opening of the College's Maritime Technology and Training Center on the Maritime Campus in La Porte to offer more training opportunities for new and incumbent mariners.

"We are truly grateful to Sen. Cornyn and Rep. Green for supporting the important role community colleges hold in the training of mariners for the workforce," said Dr. Brenda Hellyer, Chancellor of San Jacinto College, in a prepared statement. "San Jacinto College's maritime program is located along one of the busiest ports in the United States. We are committed to producing highly qualified mariners and aim to alleviate the shortages occurring due to retirements and the expanding global market."

The San Jacinto College Maritime Technology and Training Center on the Maritime campus offers a full calendar of USCG-approved maritime courses. For more information and to register, visit sanjac.edu/maritime.

HCAD mails homestead exemption postcard

The Harris County Appraisal District has mailed a confirmation postcard to all homeowners currently on file with a homestead exemption.

Homeowners should receive a postcard in their mailbox verifying they have a homestead exemption on their property. This is an annual mailing by HCAD to homeowners confirming their homestead exemption is in place.

An exemption excludes all or part of a property from taxation, so homeowners with an exemption are eligible for the tax break that the exemption provides.

Homeowners do not need to do anything if the type of homestead exemption listed on the postcard is correct. HCAD will automatically renew their homestead exemption unless the property owner informs HCAD differently. Exemptions include residence homestead, over-65, disabled person exemptions and disabled veteran exemptions.

If the card is returned, HCAD will cancel the homestead exemption and send the owner a letter asking them to reapply if they believe they are still entitled to the exemption.

"We want to make it as easy as possible for homeowners to get the exemptions they are en-

itled to," said Roland Altinger, chief appraiser. "If all the information on the card is correct, the homeowner does not have to do anything."

"However, if one of the homeowners has had a 65th birthday or become disabled, they may be eligible for one additional tax exemption, and if that's the case, they should contact our office. Similarly, if they have sold the home or established a different primary residence, they need to contact us so we can cancel the exemp-

tion," said Altinger. A change in ownership also includes the death of an owner or the transfer of ownership through divorce proceedings.

If either event has occurred during the year, the survivor or new owner should contact the appraisal district. Not reporting changes could mean substantial tax penalty liabilities later on.

Homeowners who have recently turned 65 or have qualified for disability under Social Security should also contact

the appraisal district and apply for the additional exemption available to over-65 or totally disabled individuals.

For more information on homestead exemptions, over-65 exemptions, disabled person exemptions and disabled veteran exemptions, call the HCAD Information Center at 713-957-7800, or go to the district's website at www.hcad.org where one can find exemption information and applications under the Forms tab on the top toolbar.

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REPLACEMENT & STORM WINDOWS

Tardi builds snowman



Moore Elementary night custodian Frances Tardi used recycled items to construct a snowman. Students and staff were delighted to find a friendly snowman at school. Photo by Viet Lam

Crisis Pregnancy Center banquet set

The Beltway 8 South Crisis Pregnancy Center will hold its upcoming fundraiser, "Love for Life Banquet," on Friday, Feb. 23. Rachel Norris will take center stage at her potter's wheel. She loves to work with clay and testify to the way "The Potter" has transformed her life. Norris is known for making the Bible come alive through her beautiful artistry and powerful message. When attendees observe her work firsthand, they will be awed and amazed. The event will be at Grace Community Church, 14505 Gulf Freeway. The evening will include a silent auction beginning at 5:30 p.m., and banquet from 7 to 9:15 p.m. All proceeds benefit the Beltway 8 South Crisis Pregnancy Center serving South Belt, Pearland, Ellington, Friendswood and Clear Lake women in unplanned pregnancies. The banquet is a way to celebrate choices for life as Beltway 8 South Crisis Pregnancy Center offers clients a safe haven, respect, kindness and unconditional love. Individuals, companies or organizations can purchase a table and invite friends or buy tickets at \$50 each by visiting www.LifelineCPC.org. Click "Love for Life Banquet" at the bottom of any page and then Click PROGRAM: Information for more details.

Israeli Folk Dancing dates set

Israeli folk dances are held at Congregation Shaar Hashalom on Mondays, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. January dates are 15, 22 and 29. February dates are 5, 12, 19 and 26. Cost is \$4 per session or \$35 for 10 sessions for congregation members and \$5 per session or \$45 for 10 sessions for nonmembers. Everyone is welcome to join the group, even with no previous attendance. Congregation Shaar Hashalom is located at 16020 El Camino Real and is the conservative synagogue in the Bay Area. The entire community is invited to attend. For more information, contact the synagogue office at 281-488-5861 or at csh@shaarhashalom.org.

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Over The Back Fence by Alexis

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, KRISTEN!
Kristen Giles celebrates her 18th birthday Jan. 13. Her parents Tracy and Jim Giles, grandparents Bobby and Ken Griffin, and brothers Aaron and Cody, extend their best wishes for a wonderful birthday. Kristen is a student at Dobie.

CARL VALIGURA ENJOYS A BIRTHDAY
On Jan. 13, Carl Valigura celebrates a birthday. His wife, Frances, four children, 13 grandchildren, great-granddaughters and friends at the Leader wish him well on his special day. Carl is well-known to merchants in the area where he has delivered the Leader for many years.

DR. JOHN MORGAN CELEBRATES
Greetings are sent to Dr. John Morgan, senior pastor of Sagemont Church, from friends and the Leader staff as he celebrates a birthday Jan. 14.

SCHOOL DAZE
The following personnel and staff members of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays Jan. 11 through Jan. 17.

Burnett Elementary
Send a birthday greeting Jan. 13 to Jenny Gonzales. Light the birthday candles on a double-layer cake Jan. 14 for Jocelyn Chavez and Nichellet Sherman.

Bush Elementary
Cynthia Covarrubias enjoys a birthday Jan. 11. The day for a party for Irma Henriquez is Jan. 15. Blow out the candles on a triple-layer cake for Jacqueline Breed and Esmeralda Guerra and Maria Villanueva.

Frazier Elementary
Alma Hernandez and Maria Lozano celebrate a happy birthday Jan. 13. Cecilia Ramirez enjoys a birthday Jan. 15.

Meador Elementary
Enjoy a slice of a double-layer cake Jan. 11 with Tara Merida and Anne Hamilton. Send a humorous birthday card Jan. 14 to Brooke Caskey. The day for a celebration for Melisa Hinojosa is Jan. 16.

Moore Elementary
Jan. 17 is the day for a birthday cake for Kimberlyn Patterson.

South Belt Elementary
Birthday greetings are sent to Melinda Woods Jan. 17.

Meillito Middle School
Jan. 14 is the day for a celebration for Blanca Sanchez.

Roberts Middle School
Sing a happy birthday song Jan. 12 to Jennifer Saucedo. The day for a party for Debbie McKelvey is Jan. 14.

Beverly Hills Intermediate
Martha Garcia enjoys a birthday Jan. 12. Remember Irene Flores on Jan. 16 with a special birthday wish.

Thompson Intermediate
Jan. 15 is the day for a birthday cake for Melinda Harrison.

Dobie High
Enjoying a birthday Jan. 11 is Stacy Thomas. Voy Wenzel marks a birthday Jan. 12. Send a birthday greeting Jan. 13 to Audrena Soto. Light the birthday candles Jan. 14 for Chrystal Limon and Constance Ramos. Sing a happy birthday song Jan. 15 to Neal Brownlee. Sharing a birthday Jan. 16 are Jessie George and Anthony Evans. A birthday is enjoyed by Deborah Scheffer on Jan. 17.

FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS
The Leader sends happy birthday wishes to friends who celebrate a birthday this week: Thursday, Jan. 11: Kelly Cavazos, Myles Barkman, Amy Villareal, Kathleen Wenzel, Deirdre Davis and James Mouton Jr; Friday, Jan. 12: Rosalind Vela, Troy Vessel, William Carpenter, Carol Lonidier, Jose Pena, Barry Francis and Tammy Overstreet; Saturday, Jan. 13: Scott Langefeld, Claire Mules, Gregden Martin, Betty Shamblin, Jessica Hynes, Joseph Farias and Shane Poynter; Sunday, Jan. 14: Tracy Oliver, Laurie Lynn, Tiffany Defreitas and Louis Casas; Monday, Jan. 15: Denise Montano, Patrick Lesley, Heather White, Cody Fountain and Barbara Bennett-Northern; Tuesday, Jan. 16: Rachel Perez, Heidi Ferguson, Troy Merkall, Samesia Bass-Hamlett, Kimberly Dann-Mandy, Dana Willis and Lisa Pennington; and Wednesday, Jan. 17: Scott Greene, Tiffany Juarez, Donald Adams, Katherine Macias, Carla Parker, Jodie Lawson and Kevin Jasso.

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

South Belt Elementary holds spelling bee



South Belt Elementary held its spelling bee. Shown above, left to right, are the spelling bee participants, (front row) Olivia Antoine, Courtlyn Fletcher, Kyleigh Dorsey, Alexia Hoang, Bianca Flores Pineda, Javieah Lewis, (back row) Mima Tran, Haley Nguyen, Christopher Vu, Ayden Munoz, Ethan Perez and Kinotsu Ploucha. Antoine was named the winner and Nguyen came in as runner-up. Shown right are, left to right, (front row) Antoine, Nguyen and (back row) Candy Howard, principal. Photos submitted



SJC Foundation receives \$100K for Harvey student aid

San Jacinto College students adversely affected by Hurricane Harvey will now be able to receive additional recovery assistance funds thanks to a grant awarded to the San Jacinto College Foundation by the Greater Houston Community Foundation from the Hurricane Relief Fund. Founded by Mayor Sylvester Turner and Harris County Judge Ed Emmett, the fund was created to channel the exceptional generosity and compassion of Houston and Harris County area residents, as well as companies, foundations and individuals from across the United States, into tangible ways to help their neighbors in need as soon as possible. The fund's second distribution of \$28.9 million in November consisted of donated funds to 90 local nonprofit organizations that will provide financial aid and services to Houston/Harris County flood victims. Since its founding after the hurricane, the Hurricane Relief Fund has collected more than \$100 million and has distributed more than \$36 million. "We are honored and grateful to have been selected as a grant recipient of the Hurricane Relief Fund," said Ruth Keenan, San Jacinto College Foundation executive director of advancement. "The East Harris County area, the College's district, was heavily impacted by Harvey's flooding, and hundreds of our students suffered substantial losses. We struggled to provide disaster relief assistance to those most affected, but the demand was greater than our resources. These grant funds will help us provide much needed relief to students already on our waiting list and additional students who were affected. On behalf of our students who lost books, computers, clothing, furniture, vehicles and homes, I'd like to express our sincere gratitude to the Greater Houston Community Foundation and the Hurricane Relief Fund advisory committee for allowing us to provide our students with financial support and a measure of hope in their time of need." Within 24 hours of Hurricane Harvey's devastating aftermath, the San Jacinto College Foundation went into action to assist students and employees that were severely affected by the natural disaster. In a matter of minutes, the San Jacinto College Emergency Relief Fund was established for students as a resource for assistance and for community members to have a means to directly give back to the community they call home. Within 72 hours of opening applications for assistance, more than 900 applications were received. Students also had additional resources for lost textbooks with the help of Barnes & Noble for the San Jacinto College Emergency Relief Textbook Fund. Barnes & Noble provided up to \$250 per student who qualified for textbook assistance. To date the San Jacinto College Foundation has raised \$177,826 for the college's Emergency Relief Fund with nearly 350 students receiving disaster and textbook relief assistance.

Remember When

40 years ago (1978)
Incumbents Jay Welch, Cecil Ghormley and Billy Morris regained their seats on the Pasadena Independent School District Board of Trustees.

Harris County Commissioner Tom Bass was nominated president of the Houston-Galveston Area Council.

35 years ago (1983)
San Jacinto College Chancellor Dr. Thomas Spencer announced his retirement at a special meeting of the college board of regents. Dr. Thomas Sewell was voted to a three-year contract to replace him at the same meeting.

Trustees of the Pasadena school district approved starting UIL boys' varsity soccer at Dobie High School. Establishing the program was expected to cost \$15,000.

30 years ago (1988)
A revised Pasadena Independent School District Board reorganized and began conducting district business in the first meeting of the year.

The Dobie High School cheerleaders were invited to compete in the National High School Cheerleading Championship in Orlando, Florida.

25 years ago (1993)
Pasadena Independent School District trustees named Stephanie Wright to replace retiring Tommy Bacaro as Beverly Hills Intermediate principal.

Sagemont resident Joe Dominguez was selected 1992 Teacher of the Year for the Crystal Apple Award. Dominguez, who was the March award recipient, beat out all the monthly winners to receive the award.

20 years ago (1998)
Carlos Zertuche pleaded guilty to four charges of making obscene telephone calls to area cheerleaders.

Construction crews from Champagne-Webber Company added a free access lane to the Beltway 8 toll road over Mykawa Road.

15 years ago (2003)
A 43-year-old substitute teacher was attacked by a 16-year-old male student at Dobie High School. The student was removed from the school and placed in the Community Education Partners facility.

Arthur John Medina, a Highland Meadow resident and Southeast Fire Department volunteer, was awarded the Bravo Award by the City of Houston.

Community College Week named San Jacinto College South one of the country's 50 fastest growing community college campuses with its 7.3 percent increase in enrollment for the spring semester.

10 years ago (2008)
The owner of the pit bull that threatened residents and deputies was served papers to appear in court should he choose to contest the status of his dog being declared dangerous.

Deputies Jason Curry and Robert Sanchez from the Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's office stopped a vehicle that was parked at a closed business in the 12500 block of Seardsdale.

The car's passenger, Edward Defalente, was found to be in possession of a small amount of marijuana, and the car's driver, Quentia Castilow, was found to have \$6,100 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.

5 years ago (2013)
Seven Dobie High School students – three from band, three from orchestra and one from choir – were selected All-State honorees for 2013. Chanse Morris, a junior at Dobie, was named All-State in band for the third consecutive year. Longhorn band members chosen were Morris, for clarinet; senior Joel Arhelger, also for clarinet; and senior Veneron Villanueva, for flute. Honorees from the Dobie orchestra were sophomore Hernan Campa, for cello; senior Ira Lanza, for bass; and senior Edwardo Rios, for viola.

1 year ago (2017)
The Pasadena Independent School District named Iraj Jabbari its 2016 Distinguished Citizen of the Year. The owner of ABC Dental, Jabbari has a long history of supporting PISD causes, providing complimentary access to dental care, scholarships, school supplies and wellness resources for students in the area. Through the business, he routinely gives at the top level as a Major Sponsor for the McDonald's Texas Invitational Basketball Tournament and hosts tables for the district's Shining Stars Gala as a Platinum Sponsor.

McDonald graduates



Air Force Airman 1st Class Luke McDonald graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio. The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness and basic warfare principles and skills. Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits towards an associate degree in applied science through the Community College of the Air Force. Luke is the son of Chris and Dawn McDonald of Sageglen. He is a 2015 graduate of J. Frank Dobie High School where he was recognized as a Trailblazer and student commander of the Air Force JROTC program.

BASC holds monthly dance

The Bay Area Singles Club will hold its monthly dance on Jan. 20 from 7 to 10 p.m. at the VFW Lodge, Post # 6378, located at 5204 Highway 3, in Dickinson. Guests are encouraged to bring party snacks to share. The cost will be \$7 for members and \$9 for nonmembers. For more information, call 832-483-3257 or 832-477-6778.

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SJC leads crosswalk project for apprenticeships

San Jacinto College is working on a crosswalk project that would allow for apprenticeships to translate into college course credits.

The college already offers apprenticeships with several employers, including Dow Chemical, with an approximate 80 percent success rate. Dr. Sarah Janes, associate vice chancellor for Continuing and Professional Development at San Jacinto College, recently held a workshop between industry representatives and educators to crosswalk registered apprenticeships in 10 areas to specific courses in the Texas Higher Education Workforce Education Curriculum Manual. A steering committee will present the crosswalks to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for approval in early 2018.

Recently, San Jacinto College was presented with a proclamation from Gov. Greg Abbott in appreciation of National Apprenticeship Week.



Shown above are, left to right, John Moon Jr., member, San Jacinto College Board of Trustees; Marie Flickinger, chair, San Jacinto College Board of Trustees; Courtney Arbour, Workforce Division director, Texas Workforce Commission; Dr. Ruede Wheeler, member, San Jacinto College Board of Trustees; Dr. Sarah Janes, associate vice chancellor for Continuing and Professional Development, San Jacinto College; Desi Holmes, apprenticeship director, Texas Workforce Commission; and Dan Mims, vice chair, San Jacinto College Board of Trustees.

Photo by Jeannie Peng Mansyur

Web page explains projects post Harvey

Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner has launched a Web page explaining the city's requests for federal funding for Houston's recovery from the Hurricane Harvey floods and projects that will lessen flooding in Houston in the future. The Web page is PostHarvey.org.

"Houston has come to the aid of other Gulf Coast communities in their time of need and represents an essential hub for American energy, medical treatment, shipping, aerospace, and trade," the mayor writes on the Web page.

"Working with our Congressional delegation, we need the federal government to come to our aid to help build a more resilient city that has learned the lessons of Harvey. Without flood mitigation, rebuilding dollars are just funding for future failure."

The page goes into details about the city's need for federal Community Development Block Grants, Community Disaster Loans, flood mitigation projects and environmental reviews. PostHarvey.org, which will be updated periodically, also includes news reports, interviews and opinion pieces

about the city's funding efforts, along with about 20 letters and relevant documents.

Flood victims detailed their personal crises at a recent news conference where the mayor spoke about the federal funding requests. A video of the news conference is at <https://www.facebook.com/houstonmayor/videos/10155671819297535/>.

Repairs underway on Martinville Drive

Houston City Council Member Dave Martin announced that repairs on Martinville Drive began Jan. 8. The scope of work includes the replacement of existing pavement with new asphalt concrete pavement as well as ditch grading. Construction is anticipated to be completed by early spring 2019.

The City of Houston's Public Works and Engineering Department is scheduled to

start repairs in the northbound lane, between 2618 and 3000 Martinville Drive. During construction, one lane will be closed. The open lane will accommodate two-way traffic with flaggers directing traffic between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. There will be one-way traffic with a detour affecting traffic.

Since being sworn into office, Martin has been contacted by the community about

the condition of this road and has worked with PWE to implement long-term effective repairs. The goal is to preserve as well as prolong the life of the road base while providing a smoother riding surface.

During the project drivers should expect reduced traffic speed through the channelized areas. There will be access to driveways at all times. To ensure driver and worker safety, traffic control measures will

be in place at all times. The District E office has contacted the Houston Police Department's Eastside Division to ask that officers monitor the location and provide assistance with traffic control as needed.

For more information on the upcoming Martinville Drive repairs, contact the District E office at 832-393-3008 or via email at districte@houston.tx.gov.

RodeoHouston 2018 lineup announced

The 2018 RodeoHouston entertainment lineup features a mix of country, rock, R&B and Spanish pop artists. Several RodeoHouston favorites, plus six entertainers new to RodeoHouston, will be the first to perform on the new state-of-the-art RodeoHouston stage in 2018.

"In addition to a fantastic entertainment lineup, RodeoHouston 2018 will feature a brand new, star-shaped stage with top-of-the-line technology that will greatly enhance the presentation and place fans closer to the entertainers inside NRG Stadium," said Joel Cowley, Rodeo president and CEO. "There's something fun for everyone at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo — Houston's favorite tradition since 1932."

Tickets will go on sale next Thursday, Jan. 11, at 10 a.m., through AXS Ticketing via rodeohouston.com. Customers may enter the Online Waiting Room between 9:30 and 9:59 a.m. At 10 a.m., customers in the Waiting Room will be randomly selected to enter the store to purchase tickets.

Star Entertainment
The following entertainers will perform on the new RodeoHouston stage in NRG Stadium, Feb. 27 - March 18.

Tuesday, Feb. 27, Garth Brooks.

Wednesday, Feb. 28, Armed Forces Appreciation Day, presented by BHP Little Big Town.

Thursday, March 1, Blake Shelton.

Friday, March 2, Black Heritage Day, sponsored by Kroger, Leon Bridges.

Saturday, March 3, Kelsea Ballerini.

Sunday, March 4, Alessia Cara.

Monday, March 5, First Responders Day, presented by BP Rascal Flatts.

Tuesday, March 6, Jason Aldean.

Wednesday, March 7, Thomas Rhett.

Thursday, March 8, Luke Bryan.

Friday, March 9, Chris Young.

Saturday, March 10, Cody Johnson.

Sunday, March 11, Go To-jano Day, Calibre 50.

Monday, March 12, Zac Brown Band.

Tuesday, March 13, J Balvin.

Wednesday, March 14, OneRepublic.

Thursday, March 15, Keith Urban.

Friday, March 16, Chris Stapleton.

Saturday, March 17, RodeoHouston Super Series Championship, Brad Paisley.

Sunday, March 18, RodeoHouston Super Shootout, presented by Crown Royal, Garth Brooks.

Individual Rodeo Tickets
Rodeo ticket prices range from \$18 to \$25, plus a \$4 per ticket convenience fee. A few performances may have a limited number of tickets, including scattered singles (no two seats together), available from \$30 to \$100.

Because of the Rodeo's successful Season Ticket program, which began in August, ticket availability in the lower levels is extremely limited.

A 6-ticket purchase limit is set for the Feb. 28 - March 17 performances through the first day of public sales, Thursday, Jan. 11, 2018.

The Feb. 27 and March 18 performances were offered in a previous sale.

All tickets will be delivered via Flash Seats. Allow 48 hours for delivery.

Individual Rodeo tickets can be purchased in the following ways:

- via AXS mobile app available for Android and Apple devices;
- in person beginning Friday, Jan. 12, at the NRG Park Box Office, with no service charge; or
- online at rodeohouston.com and at taxs.com/rodeohouston.

The Online Waiting Room will open at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 11, 30 minutes before the sale begins. Beginning at 10 a.m., customers who entered the Waiting Room between 9:30 and 9:59 a.m. are randomly selected to enter the "store." Those entering after 10 a.m. are placed behind those already in the Waiting Room.

Each performance is purchased as a separate order. To purchase another performance, the customer will return to the Online Waiting Room. Note: a place in the Waiting Room does not guarantee ticket availability.

Ozieh, Chavez represent Moore



The Moore Elementary Spelling Bee winners for 2017-2018 are Awele Ozieh (left) and Jaslynn Chavez. They will be representing Moore Elementary at the Pasadena Independent School District Elementary Spelling Bee at South Houston High School on Feb. 20.

Photo by Angelica Perez

Brown celebrates 40 years



Longtime South Belt resident Debbie Brown (left) celebrated 40 years as a dental hygienist for Dr. Ray Pomykal. Brown's first day with Pomykal was in January 1978 at the old Eagle shopping center location on Beamer. Eight years later, the office relocated to its current location on Beamer across from the hospital. During the past 40 years Brown had the pleasure of caring for the smiles of generations of patients, many of whom have become dear friends.

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Sunday School • 9:30 a.m.	Mid-Week Service • 7:45 p.m.
Worship Service • 10:45 a.m.	

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Leader remembers highlights, low points of 2017

Continued from Page 1A
 Bailey received 69.6 percent of the vote to Cazares' 30.4 percent.

Voters in the Clear Creek Independent School District approved the district's \$487 million bond referendum, with 63.6 percent voting in favor of the measure, and 36.4 percent voting against it. The measure would provide funds to construct one new elementary school, add to existing schools for enrollment growth, rebuild two schools that are more than 50 years old and make various upgrades throughout the district. In the contested race for the Clear Creek ISD Board of Trustee District 3 position,

challenger Arturo Sanchez upset incumbent Ken Baliker. Sanchez won the seat with 64.9 percent of the vote, compared to Baliker's 35.1 percent. Chris Reed ran unopposed for the District 2 position.

In the San Jacinto College District election, Doobie graduate Erica Davis Rouse was elected to fill the Position 1 seat on the Board of Trustees, narrowly defeating Rick Guerrero. Rouse received 2,658 votes to Guerrero's 2,406 votes. Rouse will replace Brad Hance, who chose not to seek re-election. Dr. Ruede Wheeler ran unopposed for the Position 2 seat.

May 18

A Houston police officer was relieved of duty after being charged with driving while intoxicated after leaving the annual South Belt Spectacular Cook-off on Saturday, April 29. Officer Jose Ayala was officially charged on Tuesday, May 10, after blood test results determined he had a blood alcohol level of 0.082. He had initially been detained for suspicion of drunk driving. According to police, Ayala left the cook-off in a white Corvette shortly after midnight and was stopped by Precinct 2 deputies after he was witnessed driving recklessly, almost hitting an officer who was directing traffic. Once detained, Ayala identified himself as an

HPD officer, and Houston police were called to the scene. Ayala reportedly admitted to drinking four beers and two shots of whiskey between 8 and 11:30 p.m. and agreed to take a blood test.

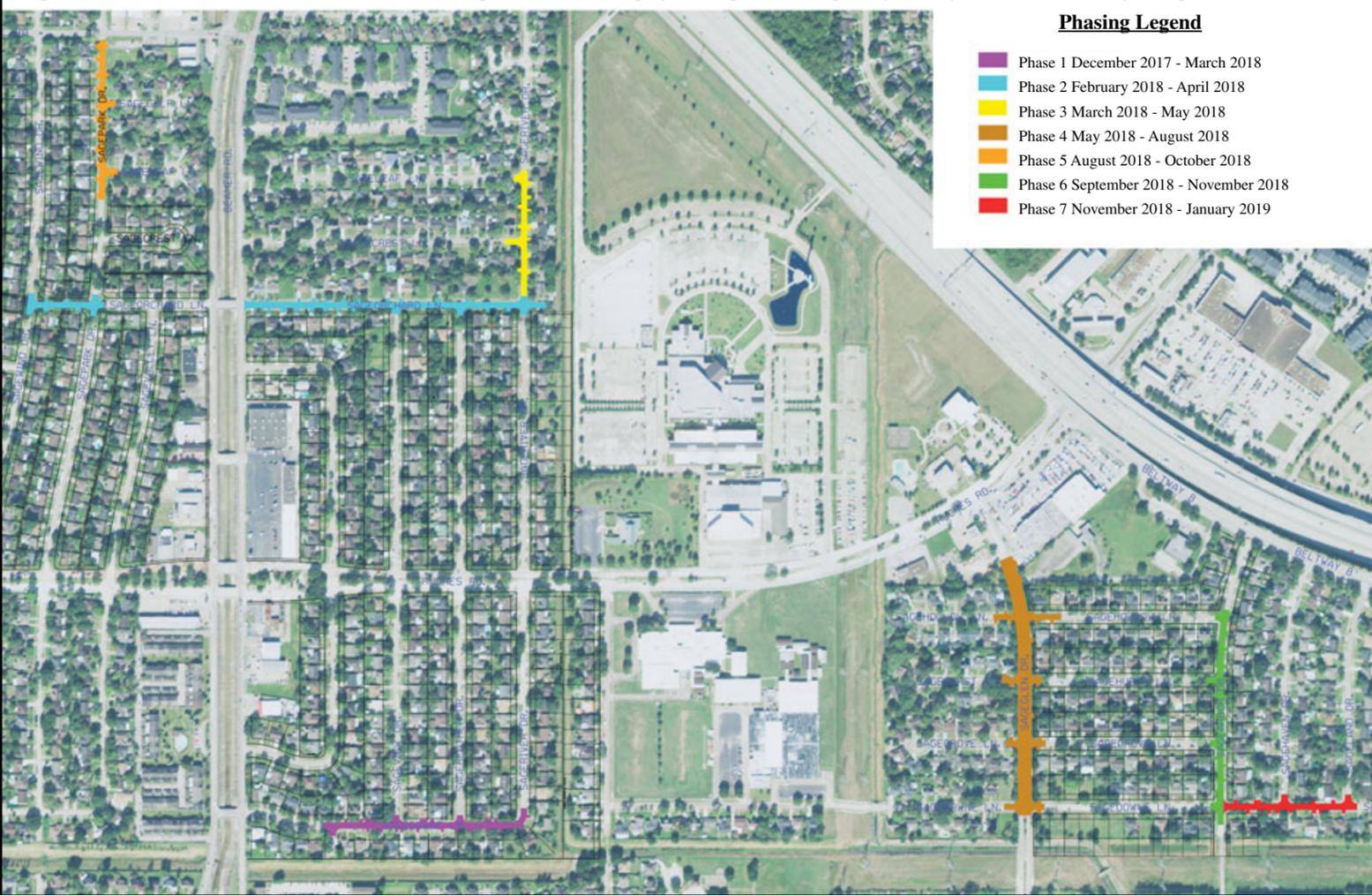
Students from the Clear Creek Independent School District's robotics team, The Robonauts, placed second in the world at a competition held at Minute Maid Park. For its entry, the team designed a shooting robot named Ruckus.

The team is composed of 64 members from throughout the district, with 24 members being from Clear Brook High School and Clear Horizons Early College High School. Local team members include Yuka Abe (Clear Brook, 10th grade), Taylor Cao (Clear Brook, 11th grade), Sakshi Kulkarni (Clear Brook, 10th grade), Amanda Lu (Clear Brook, 11th grade), Elena Michnovicz (Clear Brook, 11th grade), Claire Romero (Clear Brook, 10th grade), Chanmarie Un (Clear Brook, 10th grade), Christa Westheimer (Clear Brook, 10th grade), Jessa Westheimer (Clear Brook, 12th grade), Brennan Butcher (Clear Brook, 12th grade), Danny Nguyen (Clear Brook, 11th grade), Bhargav Parthasarathy (Clear Brook, 11th grade), Marcus Schlauch (Clear Brook, 10th grade), Wittiker Schlauch (Clear Brook, 12th grade), Alec Shih (Clear Brook, 10th grade), Hunter Smith (Clear Brook, 11th grade), Michael Vidales (Clear Brook, 12th grade), Zain Virani (Clear Brook, ninth grade), Gabrielle LaRochelle (Clear Horizons, 11th grade), Megan Perry (Clear Horizons, 12th grade), Aaron Beaty (Clear Horizons, 11th grade), Alex Campos (Clear Horizons, 11th grade), Nuriel Canizal (Clear Horizons, 12th grade) and Chamikera Dharmawardene (Clear Horizons, 11th grade).

To be continued next week

Work on Sagemont drainage/paving project begins

Work on the city's long-awaited Sagemont drainage and pavement project has finally begun. Part of the city's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), the endeavor will make improvements to eight area streets. Construction will be broken down into six phases. Work on the project is expected to complete by January 2019. See related story on Page 1A.



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ADVANCING HEALTH

SECTION B SPORTS & CLASSIFIED

Defending regional champs defend Pasadena ISD Cup crown

By John Bechtle Sports Editor
The tournament has changed official names a few times over a 13-year span, but some things simply stay the same. Coming up with a tremendous defensive effort against Region IV power Brownsville Hanna, de-

fending Region III boys' soccer champion Dobie came away with a 2-0 win in one of two trophy title matches at the Pearland/Pasadena ISD Cup Jan. 6 in Pasadena. It is Dobie's third tournament championship win in four years and second straight.

Defeating Goose Creek Memorial 4-0 and then topping George Ranch 4-2, the Longhorns finished pool play with a draw against Houston MacArthur, forging a championship match against Hanna. Dobie entered the season ranked No. 2 in Region III by the Texas Association of Soccer Coaches, while Hanna was at No. 7 in Region IV. Dobie head coach Justo Manrique was concerned about both

Hanna's experience and overall size advantage. Instead, the Longhorns executed and got the win. Remember, this is not the same Dobie team that went to state a season ago. Nine seniors from that team have since graduated, leaving vacancies for newcomers. The road to a fourth straight District 22-6A crown may also deliver more bumps.

Continued on Page 6B

Continued on Page 6B

Continued on Page 6B

Jan. 11-13 Soccer Tournaments

- Dobie boys at Austin Lakes Elite Showcase
- Brook girls at I-10 Shootout
- Dobie girls at PN-G Classic
- Brook boys at Clear Creek invite

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At right, Dobie's Antonio Arias (18) eyes a passing option upfield as team co-captain Sebastian Leal (10) surges ahead during the Longhorns' 4-2 win over George Ranch in day two action at the Pearland/Pasadena Cup boys' soccer tournament. The Longhorns eventually defeated Region IV power Brownsville Hanna 2-0 to win their bracket championship Jan. 6 at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena. Photo by John Bechtle



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Dobie's Cobb makes college Hall of Fame

Rice star won Walker; led SWC

the College Football Hall of Fame, as announced by the National Football Foundation Jan. 8 in Atlanta. The NFF made the official announcement welcoming Cobb, nine other former college football greats, as well as three former collegiate coaching legends.

Some of the candidates were introduced prior to the college football national title game, which pitted Alabama against Georgia Jan. 8 in Atlanta. In a thrilling overtime contest, Alabama shocked Georgia in overtime to win its fifth national title under head coach Nick Saban. Those five national crowns tie him with Crimston Tide coach legend Paul "Bear" Bryant.

Cobb, a 1989 Dobie graduate and already a member of the Pasadena ISD's athletics Hall of Fame (2014) and the Dobie High School Hall of Honor (2014), was a star player for the 1987 Dobie



At left, Rice University football great and Dobie High School graduate Trevor Cobb reacts to a question during a press conference Jan. 8 at Rice after Cobb was named as a member of the College Football Hall of Fame's 2018 class of inductees. A 1989 Dobie graduate, Cobb went on to win the Doak Walker Award at Rice in 1991, recognizing him as the nation's top Division I running back. He rushed for 4,948 career yards, which ranks him second all-time in Southwest Conference football history. He briefly enjoyed NFL stops with the Kansas City Chiefs and Chicago Bears and is a member of both the Dobie Hall of Honor and Pasadena ISD athletics Hall of Fame. Photo courtesy Rice U.

Continued on Page 6B

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Basketball races heat up

The leaders have emerged in the respective District 24-6A and District 22-6A varsity boys' and girls' basketball races.

At present, Dobie is chasing co-leaders West Brook and Deer Park, with South Houston and La Porte sharing third place with the Longhorns.

Region III power Clear Brook stumbled at home against Clear Lake at 5-1 after a Jan. 9 win over Clear Brook. The Lady Wolverines, now 3-3, are jammed in a third-place tie with three other teams.

The Dobie varsity girls, meanwhile, are very much in the battle for the District 22-6A crown as the first half of league play nears a close.

Dobie took a step forward Jan. 9 with a big win over the Pasadena Eagles,

In the 24-6A girls' race, a familiar face is handling its business and may just run away with things.

Continued on Page 6B

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SBHLL registration ongoing this month

The Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League is now accepting online registration for the spring 2018 season, and there is one remaining in-person date for those who prefer to do business that way.

Children ages 3 and 4 (born between Sept. 2013 and Jan. 1, 2015) will be eligible to register for \$125 per player, and those ages 5 to 16 (born between Sept. 2001 and Aug. 13, 2017) may register for \$200 per player.

Those who want to register online may do so at www.eteamz.com/sbhll.

The single in-person registration date remaining is Saturday, Jan. 13, from 9 a.m. to noon and 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the league's facility at El Franco Lee Park, 9400 Hall Road.

SBHLL will again host the Longhorns' Challenger Division team this season for those with physical and/or mental disabilities.

Those ages 5 to 16 will have the opportunity to enjoy the game of baseball in a fun, safe and structured environment.

All registrants must provide three forms of proof of residency (driver's license, voter's registration card, school records, tax records, etc.).

With questions regarding sign-up or other league information, direct email to sbhll@hotmail.com.

The Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League regular season will start in March. For more league information, visit www.eteamz.com/sbhll.

Continued on Page 6B

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A quick look back at the 2017 sports scene moves forward

Editor's note: In the December 28, 2017 issue of the *Leader*, the sports staff began taking a look back at some of the most memorable moments of the year. This week, the journey continues with a peek at some of the highlights from May through August.

May
Freshman right-hander Daniel Garza threw a three-hit shutout against Pasadena Memorial, with the 5-0 Dobie victory ensuring a playoff berth.

At 7-7, the Longhorns grabbed the No. 4 playoff seed out of District 22-6A and faced Kingwood in the first round of the post-

season. Deer Park defeated La Porte 17-3 in a lopsided play-in game to grab the 22-6A championship. La Porte, therefore, finished second while Memorial snagged third place.

Dobie finished the regular season at 12-13-1, then was swept in two games in the bidistrict round against Kingwood. In June, 22-6A winner Deer Park went on to capture the Class 6A state championship.

Talk about doing it the hard way.

The Clear Brook varsity baseball team also headed to the playoffs, having closed the regular season with two of the most excit-

ing games of its season to get the job done.

The Wolverines first needed what seemed to be an improbable victory over District 24-6A champion Dickinson just to have a chance at the postseason.

Well, a 7-5 win over the Gators took care of that, setting up a one-game playoff against Friendswood for the No. 4 playoff seed in 24-6A.

Trailing that game 7-2 through five innings, the Wolverines refused to give in, instead coming up with a big nine-run sixth inning to take the lead.

Friendswood did its best to claw its way back from the new deficit, but the Wolverines held on for an 11-9 win.

The Wolverines advanced to the bidistrict playoffs, where they found

themselves in a one-game, winner-take-all scenario against District 23-6A co-champion George Ranch.

Aided by three late-game errors, George Ranch eliminated Brook 3-0.

Joseph Menefee of George Ranch went 6 1/3 innings, allowing just a single to Brook's Madison Delgado.

Missed opportunities. It no doubt still is a topic of consideration for many of those who remain involved with the Dobie varsity softball program as the 2018 season nears in just over a month.

In 2017, Atascocita, the defending Region II champion from 2016, ended Dobie's season in the bidistrict playoff round with an 8-4 win.

Atascocita's four-run

rally in the sixth inning provided a cushion and the final margin of victory, but Dobie had multiple chances in the game to close the gap. The timely hits just didn't come often enough.

Neither team came away feeling as though it had played its best with the season on the line. Dobie made seven errors in the game, each critical in its own way. Atascocita ping-ponged its way to four errors.

Runners stranded? Dobie left 13 on base in the game, including two bases-loaded situations. Atascocita, meanwhile, left 12 runners on base.

Back-to-back state qualifiers Terrel Davis and Marleen Guerrero led a large group of Lutheran South Academy tracksters to the state meet.

The Texas Association

of Private and Parochial Schools State Track and Field Championships played out in early May at Baylor University's Clyde Hart Track and Field Stadium in Waco.

Davis and Guerrero medaled at state as juniors in 2016 and repeated just before preparing for the collegiate ranks.

An Air Force Academy signee for track and field, Davis entered the state meet as the Class 5A South Regional champion in the 400-meter dash after winning the event at 49.75 seconds.

Davis was also involved in the Pioneers' 4x100-meter relay victory as he teamed with Christian Shelmire, Trey Palmer and Ryan Jackson for a time of 44.09 and a state berth.

Guerrero, meanwhile,

headed back to state as the South Regional champion in the high jump as she cleared 5 feet, 6 inches for the win.

The University of Texas at Austin signee also qualified for state in the triple jump after she won a silver medal in 2016. This time at the 2017 regionals, Guerrero went 34'11 1/2" for second place in the same event.

At the 2017 TAPPS state meet, Guerrero scored a silver medal (5'2") in the high jump, and Davis was third for a bronze medal in the 400-meter dash.

The outstanding track and field careers of Dobie's Jeremy Davis and Camille Singleton came to at the Region III Championships in Webster.

Singleton was eighth in the 400-meter run at 56.47, the best finish among locals. She also ran the 200-meter dash at 25.87. Davis ran the 110-meter hurdles at 17.10 and threw the discus 136 feet.

Clear Brook's John'te Horace triple jumped 44-4, and Jake Allison threw the discus a distance of 141-7.

Clear Brook varsity boys' soccer players Gareth Cupples and Jordan Greenshield are currently leading the way for the 2018 season after garnering high honors as juniors.

As the 2017 season came to a close, Cupples was named the Newcomer of the Year in District 24-6A, while Greenshield was the Wolverines' lone selection to the 24-6A first team.

The San Jacinto College softball team punched its ticket back to the National Junior College Athletic Association national tournament with a 1-0 win over Blinn College at the Region XIV tournament.

San Jac (41-19) entered the Region XIV tournament as the No. 1 seed from the South and co-conference champions for the first time since 1999.

The win over Blinn, coupled with a 1-0 thriller over Bossier Parish Community College the previous day, sent San Jac to the Region XIV tournament championship game and back to the NJCAA national tournament for a second consecutive year and the fourth national tournament appearance under head coach Kelly Saenz.

San Jacinto College did not win the National Junior College Athletic Association's Division I championship, but sophomore pitcher Niki Gonzalez certainly established herself as one of the sport's greats during the 2017 season.

Gonzalez exited the program as its all-time leader in career wins and strikeouts. Nationally, her 34 wins and 270 strikeouts placed her second in both categories. As a team, San Jac went 2-2 at nationals to complete a 43-21 season.

The Pasadena ISD intermediate athletics season officially came to a close with the soccer season finishing. The Beverly Hills and Thompson boys' programs celebrated the most, winning tournament titles to end the season.

The Bears' eighth-grade boys' team came away victorious, while the Lions' seventh-grade team won that title match.

Speaking of Beverly Hills Intermediate, Michael Arroyo was named the school's new boys' athletic coordinator/head football coach in May.

Arroyo has spent his now 11-year career in education all within Pasadena ISD, including six-plus years at Beverly Hills Intermediate and four at Dobie High School.

Another season, another National Junior College Athletic Association JUCO World Series appearance for the San Jacinto College baseball program.

If it isn't the case, it

sure seems that way after the Gators dispatched Navarro in the Region 14 championship game, qualifying for a World Series appearance for the third straight season.

San Jacinto has now reached a JUCO record 25 World Series tournaments. The program has won five championships, the last coming in 1990.

In 2016, the locals reached the series finale before losing. Again in 2017, the Gators reached the national championship round needing just one win in two games, yet settled for second place.

Former Dobie varsity boys' basketball standout Royce Hunter is currently furthering his education and playing career at Ranger College.

Hunter, a three-year starter at the varsity level for Dobie, averaged 21.5 points and five rebounds during his senior campaign. Ranger is 15-3 this season, with Hunter averaging just over 9 points per outing as one of the team's top reserves.

June
St. Mary's men's golfer and Dobie High School graduate Ben Arnett was named to the NCAA Division II PING All-South Central Region Team, the Golf Coaches Association of America announced following the 2017 season.

The longtime South Belt resident helped lead St. Mary's to its first Heartland Conference championship since 2009, pacing the squad with a 72.66 stroke average. It was the third-best single-season average turned in by a Rattler in the history of the program.

Perhaps his Paris team fell short of its dream of a Region XIV title baseball title during the 2017 season, but Tyler Myers certainly did his part to help the Dragons get close.

Myers, a 2016 Dobie High School graduate and

Continued on Page 3B

Sports Calendar

BASKETBALL

Friday, Jan. 12

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

Monday, Jan. 15

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

Tuesday, Jan. 16

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

Friday, Jan. 19

Brook varsity boys at Dickinson, 7:00
Dobie varsity girls host Memorial, 7:00
Dobie varsity boys at Memorial, 7:00
Brook varsity girls host Dickinson, 7:00
Brook JV girls host Dickinson, 5:30
Brook JV boys at Dickinson, 5:30
Dobie JV girls host Memorial, 5:30
Dobie JV boys at Memorial, 5:30
Dobie sophomore boys at Memorial, 5:30
Brook sophomore boys at Dickinson, 5:30
Dobie freshman A boys at Memorial, 4:00
Brook freshman A boys at Dickinson, 4:00
Brook freshman A girls host Dickinson, 4:00
Dobie freshman A girls host Memorial, 4:00
Brook freshman B boys at Dickinson, 4:00
Dobie freshman B boys at Memorial, 4:00

SOCCER

Thursday, Jan. 11 through Saturday, Jan. 13

Brook varsity boys at Clear Creek ISD Classic, TBA
Brook varsity girls at Katy Showcase, TBA
Dobie varsity boys at Austin Elite Showcase, TBA
Dobie varsity girls at Port Neches Groves invite, TBA

Tuesday, Jan. 16

Brook varsity boys at Goose Creek Memorial, 7:00
Brook varsity girls at Brazoswood, 6:00
Brook JV girls at Goose Creek Memorial, 5:00

Thursday, Jan. 18 through Saturday, Jan. 20

Dobie varsity boys at Galena Park invite, TBA
Brook JV girls at Clear Creek ISD invite, TBA

Friday, Jan. 19

Brook varsity boys at Baytown Lee, 7:00
Brook JV girls at Baytown Lee, 5:00



Dobie varsity pitcher Daniel Garza helped the Longhorns qualify for the postseason by delivering a 5-0 shutout performance against Pasadena Memorial on the final day of the regular season. In the bidistrict playoffs, District 21-6A champion Kingwood eliminated Dobie in a two-game sweep.

Brook's Milton finds perfect match with Baylor football

By John Bechtle
Sports Editor

Getting an in-person look at the way a program can flourish under new leadership, current Clear Brook High School senior and varsity football standout Mark Milton is hopeful of a repeat performance in Waco later this year.

The Wolverines' three-year starter and two-time District 24-6A Ironman Award winner will soon join the Baylor University football program after signing a letter of intent with the Bears just prior to the holiday break.

For Milton, the chance to join a rebuilding program at Baylor was simply the right thing to do for both him and the Bears.

Milton sees plenty of similarities between what he was a part of at Clear Brook for three of his four seasons and what Baylor has going in Waco under head coach Matt Rhule, who went 1-11 in his first season with the Bears in 2017.

Baylor has worked tirelessly to rebuild the image of its football program after a series of off-field issues prior to Rhule's hire. All of that is in the past now, and Milton is excited to be part of what he believes is a great future in Waco.

After all, he saw the Clear Brook program undergo a huge turnaround following the arrival of head coach Mike Allison and an almost entirely new football staff prior to the 2015 season.

"I've seen what can happen when everyone is committed and pulling in the same positive direction," Milton said. "I have seen and been a part of it here at Clear Brook. A lot of the current seniors were here for what was almost an entire rebuild. I'm a team guy. I want to be part of a positive solution on the football field. We can do that

at Baylor." Milton is thrilled to have the opportunity to play for Rhule once he arrives in Waco, but he credits Bears' associate head coach and defensive backs coach Francis Brown for swinging his choice.

Brown was a defensive back at Western Carolina University when Rhule was an assistant head coach there.

After graduating in 2006 with a degree in criminal justice, Brown spent brief time with the Cincinnati Bengals during the 2007 and 2008 seasons.

Brown was also an assistant coach under Rhule at Temple University before Rhule brought Brown to Baylor.

Whether Milton can become an NFL-quality defensive back when he is done in Waco is yet to be determined, but he is ready for the chance to

learn the tools and tricks of a collegiate defensive back from Brown.

"Coach Fran (Brown) keeps it real, and I'm the type of person who appreciates that," Milton said.

"Sometimes the truth hurts, but if you want to become better as a person off the field and get better as a player, you need someone to shoot it to you real. That is what I have gotten from coach Fran, and I'm excited to get started."

Milton earned the 24-6A Ironman Award in consecutive seasons after making contributions

to the Wolverines' cause in multiple phases of the game. He's a dangerous threat from the slot receiver spot and can also cause special teams units to panic in the return game.

Last season, with Baylor having already suggested a full-time shift to defensive back, Milton became a first-team all district honoree at cornerback for the Wolverines.

Let there be no doubt that Milton could easily help Baylor on the offensive side of the ball, but he's more than happy to play defense. In fact, he welcomes the role.

"I've always loved defense, honestly," Milton said. "I'm a physical person out there on the field, and I like to hit. I also feel like I have a chance to stand out more at defensive back."

"I've been measured at 6-feet-2-inches, and the NFL has shown a shift to the bigger, more physical defensive backs on the field."

"When I get to Baylor, I'm just going to soak in everything coach Fran has for me. He told me to go ahead and play the position at Clear Brook this season and to be coached

up here, but then we were going to wipe the slate clean at Baylor."

"He doesn't want me to build up any poor habits at the position. I'm excited for a fresh start. It's going to be challenging, but that's what I want."

Academically, Milton has consistently handled his business at Clear Brook, and he's taking aim at majoring in psychology at Baylor, with the plan to earn a PhD.

Milton currently plans to become a medical therapist, focusing on helping athletes with recovery after brain-related injuries,

etc. Will his professional career begin in the NFL? Milton isn't even thinking about that at this point.

"I look at it like I have a job to do, and I'm going to go out there and do it to the best of my abilities and let everything else play out as it may," Milton said.

"My first goal is to go to Baylor and earn playing time quickly. If I go out there, work hard and focus on getting better every day, I think that can happen quickly."

"Whether a guy is a freshman or a senior, I want to out-work them and earn my keep. The coaches always say they are going to put the best 11 out there, and I aim to be one of those guys as fast as I can."

Brook's Allison, having watched both Milton and teammate Caleb Chapman develop into two of the Houston area's top talents since his arrival during their freshman years, expects big things from Milton in Waco.

"MJ has the amazing athletic ability, but he also has the 'yes sir, no sir' mentality and has done whatever we have asked of him without asking questions," Allison said.

"He has the abilities, and he also has a great head on his shoulders to be successful in all things off the football field. Baylor is getting a terrifically talented young man. We are going to miss his contributions here at Clear Brook, but MJ has earned the chance to play major college football, and we are all excited for him."

Allison during his career has also coached athletes who have gone on to play professionally. With Milton, Allison said, anything is possible.

"The drive and determination is there, and when you have that type of athletic ability, you can see a guy like MJ getting that chance," Allison said.

At right, Clear Brook varsity football player Mark "MJ" Milton (fourth from left) will continue his education and playing career at Baylor University in Waco after signing a letter of intent with the Bears. Those with him at the signing included, left to right, Danita Bratton (aunt), Brianna Milton (sister), Yolunda Milton (mother), Ashley Milton (sister) and Mark Milton Sr. (father). MJ Milton, a three-year starter for the Wolverines at the varsity level, was the Ironman Award winner in District 24-6A in both the 2016 and 2017 seasons, recognizing his versatility on the playing field. He was also a first-team selection within 24-6A at his cornerback spot.

Submitted photo



The summer South Belt athletics picture was bright

Continued from Page 2B
three-year letterman with the Longhorns, adjusted quite nicely to the closer's role at Paris, eventually earning All-Region XIV status following the completion of the season. Although the Dragons chased the .500 overall record mark for much of the season, Myers finished the season with 11 saves, tying him for fourth nationally. Myers has now committed to playing at the University of Mississippi next school year. The dream of all dreams came true for 2014

Clear Brook High School graduate and University of Houston junior outfielder Corey Julks. Just days after completing his junior season with the Cougars, Julks was the eighth-round draft choice of the Houston Astros, becoming the 241st overall selection in the 2017 MLB First-Year Player Draft. Julks did sign with the Astros shortly after the completion of the draft. Although he suffered a minor injury and struggled offensively at the plate in his pro debut in the New York Penn League, Julks

is looking forward to the preseason getting underway next month. Another player with local ties, San Jacinto College outfielder Aaron Bond, is also looking forward to the start of the 2018 minor league season. A 12th round pick of the San Francisco Giants in 2017, Bond excelled, hitting .306 with eight homers and 31 runs batted in over 41 games in the Arizona Fall League. Three other Gator players were drafted but chose to continue playing collegiately.

San Jacinto College softball sophomore pitcher Niki Gonzalez was named first team All-American by the National Junior College Athletic Association Division I Softball committee following the 2017 regular season. The National Fastpitch Coaches Association also named Gonzalez a second team NFCA NJCAA Division I All-American and first team NFCA Midwest Region pick. Gonzalez is now preparing for the start of her junior season at the University of Houston-Victoria, whose longtime head coach is Dobie graduate Lindsey Ferguson. Class of 2006 Clear Brook High School graduate Cyp Hedrick made his 100th career appearance in the USL as a member of the San Antonio FC in June. Hedrick, who played at San Jacinto College and Coastal Carolina University after high school, was originally drafted by Sporting KC in the 2012 MLS SuperDraft. He was injured that season but has since become a big-time defensive presence in the USL. In 2016 as a member of the Oklahoma City Energy, Hedrick logged 2,610 minutes of action, seventh-best leaguewide. Competing among 64 Division I entries at the Adidas State 7-on-7 Championships, Clear Brook advanced to the semifinals in the championship bracket before being defeated. In pool play, the Wolverines went 2-1, losing only to eventual Division I state champion Lake Travis. In championship bracket play, Brook opened the day with a scintillating 46-40 victory over Longview after trailing by 14 points with about four minutes to play. Brook then downed Georgetown (40-32) and All Saints (42-14) to make the Division I final four. Although Waxahachie defeated Brook 46-26 to end the locals' run, but Clear Brook had already come up with its best-ever performance. July A pair of Class of 2017 Dobie High School graduates and varsity boys' soccer standouts were honored by TopDrawerSoccer.com following the Longhorns' first-ever appearance at the state soccer tournament in Georgetown. Sabino Lozano and Alejandro Flores, both four-year varsity players, made the TopDrawerSoccer.com State All-Star Team in Texas. Lozano has now continued his education and playing career at Iowa Western College. Following the completion of the summer season, the South Belt Area Swim Team Sharks coaching staff honored its Swimmers of the Year in the various age divisions. Those winners included Ryan Reed, Aaron Villarreal, Dorothy Nguyen, Penny Bodde, Robert Pheister, Dahiria Gutierrez, Alexis Medina, Arianna Rivera, John Mendiola, Logan Vuong and Kilan Vega. August Dobie extended its opening night varsity volleyball match to four games before falling to visiting Elkins, while Clear Brook began its campaign with a straight-

sets sweep over St. Agnes. At Dobie, the Lady Longhorns went back and forth with Elkins throughout the night, but the Lady Knights were able to close out the tight games to win the match in four. In the end, Elkins claimed a 25-20, 25-23, 22-25, 25-21 victory, but Dobie, which played a strong third game to get back into the match, also had its chances in the fourth and final game. Sydney Devereaux was one of the top performers for the Rising Stars at the Amateur Athletic Union

Junior Olympic Games. In the girls' 15-to-16-year-old age division, Devereaux posted a time of 4 minutes, 56.91 seconds to claim third place and a bronze medal in the 1,500-meter run. Devereaux also excelled in other events at nationals. Qualifying for four different events at nationals, Camryn Dickson of the Rising Stars once again turned in a terrific effort at the 2017 finale. She was seventh nationally in the 400-meter dash at 58.66 seconds, and her leap of 34 feet, 2 inches was good enough for eighth place in the girls' 13-year-old triple jump event. Manuel Moreno Jr. is a tennis lifer and a veteran of more than 30 years on the high school tennis scene, but Dobie's head coach had to have HAD a hard time deciding just what would play out during the fall 2017 team tennis season. After defeating Willis 12-7, the Longhorns lost to Friendswood 17-2 and then made a road trip, losing big to both San Antonio Clark (17-2) and San Antonio Reagan (19-0). Shifting to Aug. 15, the Longhorns defeated visiting Katy 13-6. At this point in the season for almost every sport, things came to an abrupt halt as Hurricane Harvey ravaged the entire Houston area. For the better part of two-plus weeks, the South Belt area sports scene was put on hold while many residents recovered from what had occurred. There was certainly better news to come in the month of September Right?

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Antonio Reagan (19-0). Shifting to Aug. 15, the Longhorns defeated visiting Katy 13-6. At this point in the season for almost every sport, things came to an abrupt halt as Hurricane Harvey ravaged the entire Houston area. For the better part of two-plus weeks, the South Belt area sports scene was put on hold while many residents recovered from what had occurred. There was certainly better news to come in the month of September Right?

Right?

Pasadena ISD Intermediate Girls' Hoops Through Dec. 18 Games

Pasadena ISD Intermediate Basketball						Pasadena ISD Intermediate Basketball							
8L Records	District			Overall			7L Records	District			Overall		
Zone A	W	L	T	W	L	T	Zone A	W	L	T	W	L	T
Beverly Hills	2	0	0	4	1	0	Beverly Hills	2	0	0	5	0	0
Park View	1	0	0	2	3	0	Southmore	2	0	0	3	2	0
San Jacinto	1	1	0	1	4	0	Park View	0	1	0	0	5	0
South Houston	0	1	0	0	5	0	South Houston	0	1	0	0	5	0
Southmore	0	2	0	0	5	0	San Jacinto	0	2	0	0	5	0

Pasadena ISD Intermediate Basketball						Pasadena ISD Intermediate Basketball					
Game Scores						Game Scores					
Beverly Hills 20, San Jacinto 9						Beverly Hills 42, San Jacinto 4					
Park View 33, Southmore 27						Southmore 22, Park View 4					

Pasadena ISD Intermediate Basketball						Pasadena ISD Intermediate Basketball							
Zone B	W	L	T	W	L	T	Zone B	W	L	T	W	L	T
Jackson	2	0	0	5	0	0	Bondy	1	0	0	4	1	0
Bondy	1	0	0	4	1	0	Thompson	1	0	0	4	1	0
Miller	0	2	0	3	2	0	Miller	1	1	0	3	2	0
Queens	1	1	0	3	2	0	Jackson	1	1	0	3	2	0
Thompson	0	1	0	3	2	0	Queens	0	2	0	3	2	0

Pasadena ISD Intermediate Basketball						Pasadena ISD Intermediate Basketball					
Game Scores						Game Scores					
Beverly Hills 20, San Jacinto 10						Beverly Hills 20, South Houston 12					
Southmore 32, Park View 14						Thompson 29, Jackson 13					
Beverly Hills 9, San Jacinto 8						Miller 18, Queens 17					
Southmore 18, Park View 13						Thompson 29, Jackson 13					
Beverly Hills 30, Thompson 25						Miller 18, Queens 17					

Pasadena ISD Intermediate Basketball						Pasadena ISD Intermediate Basketball							
8D Records	District			Overall			7D Records	District			Overall		
Zone A	W	L	T	W	L	T	Zone A	W	L	T	W	L	T
South Houston	1	0	0	2	3	0	Beverly Hills	2	0	0	3	2	0
Beverly Hills	1	1	0	2	3	0	Southmore	2	0	0	3	2	0
San Jacinto	1	1	0	2	3	0	Park View	0	1	0	1	4	0
Park View	0	1	0	0	5	0	South Houston	0	1	0	0	5	0
Southmore	0	1	0	1	4	0	San Jacinto	0	2	0	1	4	0

Pasadena ISD Intermediate Basketball						Pasadena ISD Intermediate Basketball					
Game Scores						Game Scores					
Thompson 41, Jackson 14						Miller 29, Queens 10					
Miller 34, Queens 33						Thompson 36, Jackson 4					
Bondy 23, South Houston 18						Bondy 29, South Houston 10					

Pasadena ISD Intermediate Boys' Hoops Through Dec. 18 Games

Pasadena ISD Intermediate Basketball						Pasadena ISD Intermediate Basketball							
8L Records	District			Overall			7L Records	District			Overall		
Zone A	W	L	T	W	L	T	Zone A	W	L	T	W	L	T
Park View	1	0	0	4	1	0	Beverly Hills	2	0	0	4	1	0
Southmore	1	1	0	2	3	0	Park View	1	0	0	2	3	0
San Jacinto	1	1	0	2	3	0	San Jacinto	1	1	0	2	3	0
Beverly Hills	1	1	0	2	3	0	South Houston	0	1	0	0	5	0
South Houston	0	1	0	2	3	0	Southmore	0	2	0	0	5	0

Pasadena ISD Intermediate Basketball						Pasadena ISD Intermediate Basketball					
Game Scores						Game Scores					
Park View 46, Southmore 42						Beverly Hills 37, San Jacinto 35					
San Jacinto 49, Beverly Hills 43						Park View 35, Southmore 18					

Pasadena ISD Intermediate Basketball						Pasadena ISD Intermediate Basketball							
Zone B	W	L	T	W	L	T	Zone B	W	L	T	W	L	T
Thompson	0	0	0	3	0	0	Miller	2	0	0	5	0	0
Bondy	0	0	0	3	0	0	Thompson	1	0	0	5	0	0
Miller	0	0	0	1	2	0	Queens	1	1	0	4	1	0
Jackson	0	0	0	1	2	0	Bondy	0	1	0	2	3	0
Queens	0	0	0	0	3	0	Jackson	0	2	0	0	5	0

Pasadena ISD Intermediate Basketball						Pasadena ISD Intermediate Basketball					
Game Scores						Game Scores					
Thompson 43, Jackson 37						Bondy 32, South Houston 24					
Bondy 54, South Houston 20						Thompson 67, Jackson 26					
Miller 62, Queens 22						Miller 36, Queens 35					

Pasadena ISD Intermediate Basketball						Pasadena ISD Intermediate Basketball							
8D Records	District			Overall			7D Records	District			Overall		
Zone A	W	L	T	W	L	T	Zone A	W	L	T	W	L	T
Beverly Hills	2	0	0	4	1	0	Beverly Hills	2	0	0	4	1	0
Park View	1	0	0	3	2	0	San Jacinto	1	1	0	3	2	0
San Jacinto	1	1	0	3	2	0	Southmore	1	1	0	2	3	0
South Houston	0	1	0	2	3	0	South Houston	0	1	0	1	4	0
Southmore	0	2	0	0	5	0	Park View	0	1	0	0	5	0

Pasadena ISD Intermediate Basketball						Pasadena ISD Intermediate Basketball					
Game Scores						Game Scores					
Beverly Hills 32, San Jacinto 31						Beverly Hills 40, San Jacinto 11					
Park View 39, Southmore 36						Southmore 35, Park View 7					

Pasadena ISD Intermediate Basketball						Pasadena ISD Intermediate Basketball							
Zone B	W	L	T	W	L	T	Zone B	W	L	T	W	L	T
Bondy	1	0	0	5	0	0	Queens	2	0	0	4	1	0
Thompson	1	0	0	4	1	0	Thompson	1	0	0	5	0	0
Miller	1	1	0	3	2	0	Bondy	0	1	0	3	2	0
Jackson	1	1	0	1	4	0	Miller	1	1	0	2	3	0
Queens	0	2	0	1	4	0	Jackson	0	2	0	1	4	0

Pasadena ISD Intermediate Basketball						Pasadena ISD Intermediate Basketball					
Game Scores						Game Scores					
Bondy 46, South Houston 25						Thompson 57, Jackson 18					
Thompson 52, Jackson 28						Bondy 38, South Houston 26					
Miller 43, Queens 36						Queens 30, Miller 26					

CALENDAR

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11
7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.
9:30 a.m.
NASA Aglow Community Lighthouse - Second Thursday of the month, 9:30 a.m., Praise Chapel, 18516 Hwy. 3 in Webster. The public is welcome and encouraged to bring others. For details, call 281-910-1971.
10 a.m.
Fun Bunch - for senior citizens, ages 55 and older, meets the second Thursday of each month at 10 a.m. at the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce, 10500 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call Ronn Canon at 281-610-8999 or the chamber at 281-481-5516.
Clear Lake Bridge Club - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.
11:30 a.m.
ABWA - Southeast Express Network - American Business Women's Association-South meets the second Thursday, Spring Creek Barbeque, 9005 Broadway (FM-518), Pearland. Lunch is 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. (\$20). Includes networking with professional business women and guest speaker. Women of all ages/occupations invited. Bring business cards. Reservations appreciated. Visit www.seen-abwa.org.
Noon
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.
12:30 - 1:30 p.m.
Hometown Heroes Park - has dance lessons Thursdays, following the senior luncheon. Lewis and Betty Whistler teach lessons in two-step, triple two-step, west coast swing and night club two-step at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 E. League City Pkwy. A \$25 activity

card is required for nonresidents which is free to senior League City residents.
7 p.m.
Congregation Shaar Hashalom's - Rabbi Stuart Federov hosts free discussions on Judaism and religion in general, open to the public, second Thursdays, at Victor's, 1425 NASA Pkwy., (next to "space" McDonald's). This is the conservative synagogue in the Bay Area. For details, contact the office at 281-488-5861 or at csh@shaarhashalom.org.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Women's Group, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM-518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-856-1611.
Alcoholics Anonymous - Alcohol problems? Meets Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7 to 8 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For details, call 713-306-4366 or 713-480-4166.
FRIDAY, JANUARY 12
7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" each Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or just drop in.
10 a.m.
Clear Lake Bridge Club - Open games Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.
Noon
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - West End Group, noon, Shepherd of the Heart United Methodist Church, 12005 County Rd. 39, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.
7 p.m.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2245 N. Main St., Pearland. Call 713-856-1611.
8 p.m.
Serenity Now AI-Anon Group - meets at CrossRoads UMC Fridays, 8 to 9 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd.

Family members and friends of problem drinkers/addicts share, learn AI-Anon principles, that they are not alone, and discover choices available. For details, call 281-484-9243.
SATURDAY, JANUARY 13
7:30 a.m.
Alcoholics Anonymous - "Breakfast with Bill", Saturdays, 7:30 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.
10 a.m.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2245 N. Main St., Pearland. For information, call 713-856-1611.
11 a.m.
AI-Anon Meeting (Women Only, English) - For women affected by an addict. Saturdays, 11 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, Cornell Conference room #111. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.
1 p.m.
Clear Lake Bridge Club - Open games Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.
8 p.m.
Alcoholics Anonymous - meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call 281-484-9243.
SUNDAY, JANUARY 14
1 p.m.
Clear Lake Bridge Club - Open games Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.
2 p.m.
Grief Support Group - For adults who have lost a loved one. Meets Sundays, except Mother's Day, Easter and Christmas, 2 to 3:15 p.m., First United Methodist Church 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena. For details, call 281-487-8787.

Scleroderma Support Group - Do you know someone with scleroderma? Join a support group on the second Sunday, 2 to 4 p.m., at Memorial Hermann Northeast Hospital in Humble. Bring a friend. Call Jacob Davila at 281-706-6232, or email jdavila@scleroderma.org. 5:30 p.m.
Celebrate Recovery - A faith-based 12-Step Program, Sundays, 5:30 p.m., in the Chapel at Life Church, 9900 Alameda Genoa. Call 713-419-2635 for details or to RSVP for child care.
7 p.m.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA meets Sundays, 7 p.m., 2245 N. Main St., Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.
Alcoholics Anonymous - Alcohol problems? Meets Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7 to 8 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For details, call 713-306-4366 or 713-480-4166.
8 p.m.
Alcoholics Anonymous - meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For information, call 281-484-9243.
MONDAY, JANUARY 15
10 a.m.
AI-Anon Deer Park - Mondays, 10 - 11 a.m. Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P Street, Deer Park. Enter through back of church. Call 409-454-5720 for details, or drop in.
10 a.m.
Clear Lake Bridge Club - Open games Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.
11:30 a.m.
Overeaters Anonymous Deer Park - 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P Street, Deer Park. Enter through Fellowship Hall in back of church. Call 409-454-5720 for details, or drop in.

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Continued on Page 4B

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COMPUTER
COMPUTER REPAIR. South Belt Area. Free Estimates. New Computers For Sale. Deal with a Technician Not a Salesman. Call Harry 713-991-1355. 1-25

SOUTHBELT - Data-Systems - Hard Drive Data Recovery - Linux Installation. 10909 Sabo, Suite 120, 281-481-0909. E-mail: sds@walkerlaw.com TF

ESTATE SALE
7019 GRIFFIN, PEARLAND. Fri & Sat, Jan 12 &

13. Huge estate garage sale. Lots of awesome things, furniture, kitchen stuff, etc. 1-11

FOUND PET
FOUND DOG wandering the neighborhood, Sagepark/Kirkfair, male, reddish brown, short hair and mixed breed. Seems to be well taken care of and well groomed. Very friendly and calm, wearing collar but no tags or chip. Call 832-465-2441. Also listed on Nextdoor Kirkwood and Pets of SouthBelt for photo. 1-11

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CALENDAR

Continued from Page 3B
MONDAY, JANUARY 15

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.
2 p.m.
Genealogy Group - The Parker Williams Genealogy Group meets from 2 - 4 p.m. on the first and third Mondays at the Parker Williams Library, Beamer at Scarsdale. The public is invited to attend. For details, email Liz Hicks at erootrot@usa.net.
3:15 p.m.
Houston Area Parkinson Society - Free exercise and speech therapy for adults with Parkinson's, 3:15 - 4:45 p.m., Clear Lake Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster. Visit www.hapsonline.org for details.
6 p.m.
New Directions Singles - Age 50 and older group meets the first and third Mondays for a potluck dinner with activities and/or guest speakers at Webster Presbyterian Church, 201 W. NASA Pkwy. For details, call Margarita at 832-715-9658.
Scrabble Club #511 - Meets Monday at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua. Come, improve crossword playing skills. Call 281-488-2923 for details.
Pearland Overeaters Anonymous HOW Meeting - Mondays at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 2535 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland. Enter door next to recycling bins. For details, call 713-865-3668 or visit www.oahouston.org.

neighborhoods safer. Bring a friend. For information, call Officer Richard Buitron at 281-218-3900.

Alcoholics Anonymous - Alcohol problems? Meets Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7 to 8 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For details, call 713-306-4366 or 713-480-4166.
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17
7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.
9:30 a.m.
The Community Club - meets the third Wednesday, monthly, at Golden Corral, 4021 Spencer Hwy., in Pasadena. Social time is 9:30 a.m.; meeting is at 10 a.m. The club is a charitable organization of women helping the Salvation Army feed and care for homebound elderly disabled people, children and the homeless, providing scholarships for Bridge Over Troubled Water clients. Day trips may be scheduled followed by a guest speaker/program with fellowship and lunch. New members and guests are invited. For information, email jmopry@yahoo.com.
10 a.m.
Clear Lake Bridge Club - Open games Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.
11:30 a.m.
Houston Hobby Airport Lions Club - meets monthly, first and third Wednesdays, Golden Corral, 4021 Spencer Hwy., Pasadena. December may be an exception. For information, call Monica Montoya at 281-794-5531.
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.
1 p.m.
Hometown Heroes Park - has free Hump Day Dance to practice ballroom dance, 1 to 3:30 p.m. Wednesdays, 1001 E. League City Pkwy. League City nonresidents must purchase activity card. Help is available to assist learning dance moves. For details, call Neva Schroder at 417-838-2204.
7 p.m.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church-youth bldg. For information, call 713-856-1611.
Bay Area Turning Point Crisis Intervention - Call 281-286-2525 (24-hour crisis hotline) for confidential domestic violence/sexual abuse support for women. Visit www.bayareaturningpoint.org for information.

7 p.m.
Survivors of Suicide Support Group - gives coping skills in a non-threatening environment to adults who have lost a loved one to suicide. For details email LynneAnnH@yahoo.com or visit www.crisishotline.org.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church-youth bldg. For information, call 713-856-1611.
7:30 p.m.
The Clear Lake Gem and Mineral Society - Meets the third Monday at Clear Lake Park Bldg., 5001 NASA Pkwy., Seabrook. Presenters explore topics such as fossils, planetary geology, mineralogy, lapidary, jewelry making, fossil and mineral collecting. Field trips to Texas collecting sites and surrounding states. Interested persons welcome. Door prizes. Free parking. For details, visit www.clgms.org.
Congregation Shaar Hashalom - Israeli Folk Dancing on Monday, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m., 16020 El Camino Real, 77062. \$4/session or \$35/10 sessions for CSH members and \$5/session or \$45/10 sessions for nonmembers. Everyone is welcome. For details, contact 281-488-5861 or csh@shaarhashalom.org.
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Saint Luke's Group, 12 Step Recovery, open meeting Mondays, 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. in the Education Bldg., 11011 Hall Rd., 77089. For details, call Russell at 832-483-6715.

8 p.m.
Alcoholics Anonymous - meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call 281-484-9243.
THURSDAY, JANUARY 18
7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.
10 a.m.
Clear Lake Bridge Club - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.
Noon
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.
Texas German Society, South Belt (SE) Chapter - A social group focused on the culture, music, heritage and language of Texas German immigrants. Meets the third Thursday, monthly, 6 p.m., Fellowship Hall of Mount Olive Lutheran Church, 10310 Scarsdale Blvd. Visitors welcome. Call 281-481-1238 for details.
7 p.m.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Women's Group, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-856-1611.
Alcoholics Anonymous - Alcohol problems? Meets Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7 - 8 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For details, call 713-306-4366 or 713-480-4166.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16
7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.
9:30 a.m.
Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum - Exhibits include dioramas, a turn-of-the-century doctor's office and an old-time kitchen. Tuesday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., 204 S. Main, Pasadena. For details, call 713-472-0565.
10 a.m.
Clear Lake Bridge Club - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.
Noon
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.
Rotary Club of Pearland - Meets Tuesdays, noon to 1 p.m., Golfcrest Country Club, 2509 Country Club Dr., Pearland. Lunch is \$15. Variety of interesting speakers. For details, call 281-900-7257. Email nalix@texascitizensbank.com.
12:30 - 1:30 p.m.
Hometown Heroes Park - has beginner ballroom lessons taught by Eileen Bauerlein on Tuesdays following the senior luncheon at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 E. League City Pkwy. A \$25 activity card is required for nonresidents (free to senior League City residents.)
1:30 p.m.
TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) - #1530 meets at the Sagemont Park Community Center, 11507 Hughes Rd., For information, call Jeanette Sumrall at 713-946-3713.
2 p.m.
The National Active and Retired Federal Employees - NARFE Chapter 941 meets the third Tuesday, El Franco Lee Park Community Center, 9500 Hall Rd. Visitors welcome. For details, call Roy at 713-734-1461 or EFL Center at 281-464-9708. No meeting in Aug.
Clear Lake Bridge Club Lab Class - Tuesday, 2 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. For details/classes, contact Dr. Glandorf at dr.glandorf@sbcglobal.net or 281-488-6318.
6:30 p.m.
Breast Cancer Support Group - Meets on the third Tuesday from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the lobby of the Clear Lake Regional Breast Diagnostic Center, 200 Medical Center Blvd., Suite 106, Webster. For details, call 281-526-6840.
7 p.m.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church-youth bldg. For information, call 713-856-1611.
Positive Interaction Program - meets the third Tuesday, 7 p.m., at Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital, 11800 Astoria, first floor staff meeting room. PIP is police and citizens working together making

neighborhoods safer. Bring a friend. For information, call Officer Richard Buitron at 281-218-3900.

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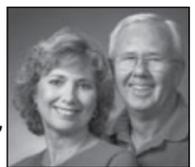
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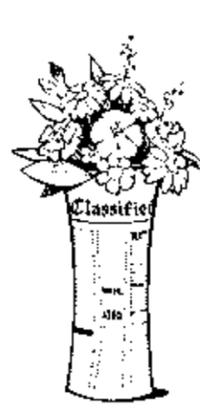
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Varsity basketball races taking shape

Continued from Page 1B
Dobie boys win pair

Following losses to certain playoff contenders West Brook and South Houston to begin league play, the Dobie varsity boys' team needed to start winning.

Consider it done to this point in 2018, with the Longhorns having downed Rayburn and Pasadena consecutively to even their 22-6A slate at 2-2.

On Jan. 5 against Rayburn, Dobie delivered arguably its most balanced scoring of the season in a 71-51 win over the Texans at Phillips Field House.

Justin Thomas led the way with 15 points, and Erville Mackey controlled things inside with 13 points and 12 rebounds.

Marquise Scott added 13 points of his own, and Brick Fosnight had 10 points. D.J. Garrett came up with nine for the Longhorns, who built a 10-point first-quarter lead and eventually coasted to the win.

Shifting to Jan. 9, the Longhorns came up with another team effort at Pasadena while tripping up the 22-6A winless Eagles 62-54. Fosnight dominated the tune of 17 points and 17 rebounds, and Garrett made seven of 15 shots on his way to a game-high 19 points. Thomas added 10 as the Longhorns stayed in the mix early on in the 22-6A playoff chase.

Granted, it's relatively early in the 22-6A mix, but the Longhorns could very well be facing a crossroads in their season.

Deer Park and West Brook have started league play at 4-0, with South Houston, Dobie and La Porte at 2-2.

The catch? The Longhorns are about to host consecutive home games against Deer Park and La Porte. A pair of wins will go a long way toward cementing the locals as a bonafide postseason contender. Anything else, and the struggle could get real.

Brook boys also 2-2
 The Clear Brook varsity boys' basketball squad is also fighting a battle with multiple teams to keep up with the frontrunners in District 24-6A.

The Wolverines missed a big opportunity Jan. 9, suffering an 80-64 home loss to the Clear Lake Falcons as Lake senior forward Ajare Sanni led all scorers with 26 points.

Clear Lake came up with a 19-8 lead after eight minutes and closed the game with a 25-16 fourth-quarter run to cruise to the victory.

Kendrick Christian led the Wolverines, now 2-2 in league play, with 21 points. Nakia Johnson and Nathan Chuong had 10 points each in the losing cause.

Back on Jan. 5, the Wolverines got a season-high 22 points from Caleb Chapman in a 55-43 victory at Friendswood. Johnson added 12 as the Wolverines helped keep the Mustangs winless in league play.

As is the case in District 22-6A, there is seemingly plenty of basketball to be played. Even so, the contenders appear to be separating themselves from the pretenders.

Clear Creek has leaped out to a bit of a surprising 4-0 start, with Dickinson, Clear Lake and Clear Springs all at 3-1. Brook is fifth with its 2-2 record, and Clear Falls and Alvin have started with just one win in four starts.

Friendswood, with two players providing the majority of its scoring all season, is 0-4.

The games simply keep getting bigger at this point in the season. The Wolverines play the most important game of their season to this point Jan. 12 at Clear Springs, before returning home Jan. 16 to face Alvin.

Lady Wolverines now 3-3
 Region III power Clear Springs is leading District 24-6A as University of Houston signee Dymond Gladney has led the Lady Chargers to a 6-0 start in varsity girls' play.

Clear Lake has also been on a roll at 5-1.

Unfortunately, one of Clear Lake's big wins came Jan. 9 at the expense of Clear Brook.

The Lady Falcons stayed just a game back in the standings with a 45-38 win at Krueger Field House.

NaKayla Bell led Clear Brook, now 3-3, with 19 points. Things had been looking very good for the Lady Wolverines after they turned back Friendswood Jan. 5, by a 56-47 count.

Celeste Clemente scored 21 points in the victory, while Bell added 17.

So, Brook now finds itself in a third-place tie with Clear Falls, Clear Creek and Alvin at 3-3. But Brook will host unde-

feated Clear Springs Jan. 12, and then will travel to Alvin Jan. 16. Thus, the next two games could very well go a long way toward determining whether the locals remain in the postseason chase.

Dobie girls co-lead
 The Dobie varsity girls' basketball team seems to be in a great position at 5-1 with one remaining game left in the District 22-6A race.

Daisia Garza and Victoria Onozio had 10 points each to help guide the league's co-leaders to an

easy 59-24 victory over Pasadena Jan. 9. Combined with a 54-52 victory over Rayburn Jan. 5, the Lady Longhorns will now face Deer Park Jan. 12 with a chance to seize sole control of first place.

Not so fast, Dobie head coach Shane Brown warns.

"In my 11 years, I have never, ever seen so much parity in this district," Brown said.

"Memorial has two losses by a combined points, and they lost both games on last-second

shots. We have two wins courtesy of last-second makes. Every night in this district, you better come out ready to play from the moment you get off that bus. If not, it's not going to be fun."

As for the upcoming battle with Deer Park, Brown said, "It's a war every time we play them, and especially at their place where they are awfully hard to beat."

"We have to play our best basketball from here on out. One slump, and you might go from being

in the playoff mix to being out of it."

In proving his point further, Brown pointed to the fact that Pasadena played West Brook extremely competitively, and then defeated an improved Sam Rayburn team by nine points in the first of two district games between the two sides.

Dobie, albeit 5-1 to this point, needed a last-minute shot to defeat Memorial and now owns a two-point win over Rayburn. The race is simply going that way this time around.



With George Ranch defender Evan Elkins (16) closing in, Dobie varsity boys' soccer forward Raul Hernandez pushes ahead against the Longhorns. The Dobie Longhorns went on to beat George Ranch and eventually claimed its second straight Pasadena ISD Cup title and third in four years. Photo by John Bechtle

Soccer squads start hot

Continued from Page 1B

At this point, however, it's all good for the Longhorns, who have come out of the gate ready to take on all comers.

Lady Horns to semis
 A promising start to the season was also enjoyed by Dobie's varsity girls' team, which marched to the semifinals of the Waller Classic after three wins.

Dobie began its season with a 4-0 victory over Bellville, and then took out C.E. King to the tune of 2-1. With a berth in the bracket semifinals in play, Dobie again emerged victorious, besting Barbers Hill 1-0 to complete pool play at 3-0.

In the semifinals, Dobie saw its strong start end after a tough 1-0 loss to Concordia, but the stage has been set.

The Lady Longhorns will now face a couple of regional powers at the Jan. 11-13 Port Neches-Groves Invitational, including a match against PNG.

CB girls win two of three
 The Clear Brook varsity girls' squad opened their season at the Humble ISD tournament, where the team opened Jan. 4 with a well-fought game against Jasper.

Down 2-0, the Lady Wolverines took advantage of a set piece, and Gabrielle Wilcox found the back of the net from 20 yards out to cut Jasper's lead in half.

Unable to get back the second goal to tie the game, Brook dropped its opener, and Jasper went on to win the tournament after topping Kingwood Park 3-2.

In the second game of the tournament for the locals, Wilcox got the Lady Wolverines started strong with a pair of first-half goals.

The second half goal scorers for the Lady Wolverines were Katherine Orellana, Delaney Mees, Micaela King and Madison Parker.

Chloe Yelovich, who has played every second of every game between the pipes for Clear Brook since her freshman year in 2016, recorded the shut-out.

In the consolation finals Wilcox once again put the Wolverines up 1-0 on Longview Pine Tree, and strong play from the back line maintained the shut-out for Yelovich.

Brook boys win two
 Clear Brook's varsity boys' squad got started its season with a pair of wins at the Katy ISD Classic, defeating Shadow Creek 3-1 and then taking down Fort Bend Austin 2-1.

Next up, the Wolverines will be one of the hosts of the Clear Creek ISD Classic Jan. 11-13 as the second tournament plays out.

Players are expected to be at Longhorn Field and ready to compete no later than 3:30 p.m. All players must have a current athletics physical on file at the school prior to competing.

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