

Merry Christmas to all

from the

South Belt-Ellington Leader

Voice of Community-Minded People since 1976



December 22, 2011

Email: mynews@southbeltleader.com

www.southbeltleader.com

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Leader holiday closings

The *Leader* will be on a holiday schedule the last week of 2011 so there will be no Dec. 29 edition. The *Leader* and South Belt Graphics will have limited hours during this time.

The next issue will be available Thursday, Jan. 5. Items to be considered for publication may be sent to mynews@southbeltleader.com.

Emergencies may be directed to *Leader* publisher Marie Flickinger at 281-948-2714.

Police respond to gunfire

Multiple units from the Houston Police Department responded to an incident Monday, Dec. 19, at roughly 5 p.m. in the 11000 block of Cayman Mist where several gunshots were fired.

According to one resident, between 30 and 40 rounds were discharged.

Police were unable to locate a suspect, and a check of all local hospitals found no one suffering from a gunshot wound.

The street was barricaded for several hours while the investigation was conducted.

Junk waste pickup set

Junk waste will be picked up Thursday, Dec. 22, for city of Houston residents living south of Beltway 8. For more information, call 3-1-1.

Library closings set

Parker Williams Library

The Parker Williams Branch Library will close at 5 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 22, and will reopen on Wednesday, Dec. 28, at 10 a.m.

For the New Year's holiday, the library will close at 5 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 30, and reopen on Wednesday, Jan. 4, at 10 a.m.

For library events, call 281-484-2036.

Bracewell Library

The Bracewell Library will be closed Dec. 23 through Dec. 26, and will reopen Tuesday, Dec. 27, for regular business hours.

Local school holidays set

The Pasadena and Clear Creek independent school districts will be out for the Christmas holidays Monday, Dec. 19, through Tuesday, Jan. 3. Students will return to school on Wednesday, Jan. 4.

Chamber sets holiday times

The South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce offices will be closed for the Christmas holidays Thursday, Dec. 22, through Monday, Jan. 2. The offices will reopen on Tuesday, Jan. 3.

CBC MUD closings, trash

Office Closings

The offices of Clear Brook City Municipal Utility District will be closed Dec. 23 through Dec. 26, in celebration of the Christmas holidays. They will reopen on Tuesday, Dec. 27, at 8 a.m.

To avoid late fees, payments may be left in the drop box located on the drive-thru side of the building.

The offices will also be closed Monday, Jan. 2, in observance of New Year's Day. They will reopen Tuesday, Jan. 3, at 8 a.m.

Regular Trash Service

Residents living in the Clear Brook City MUD will have regular trash service pick-up on Monday, Dec. 26, 2011, and on Monday, Jan. 2, 2012.

Youth soccer registers

The South Belt Youth Soccer Association will hold spring 2012 registration for ages 4 to 18 years on Saturday, Jan. 14, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Sagemeadow Municipal Utility District Building, 10755 Hall Road (corner of Blackhawk).

For online registration and more information, visit www.southbeltsoccer.org or call 713-559-6200.

Christmas at Cokesbury

There will be three evening services on Christmas Eve at Cokesbury United Methodist Church, 10030 Scarsdale, as well as a special service on Christmas morning.

The first service is set for 5 p.m. with a family/children emphasis, then at 7:30 when the Chancel Choir will perform part of their Christmas Cantata, and a third service at 11 p.m.

The 7:30 and 11 p.m. services will feature traditional candlelight. There will be one service on Christmas Day at 11 a.m.

For additional information, call the church at 281-484-9243 or visit www.cumchouston.org.

Building evacuated after structural shift

A four-story office building located at 12600 Featherwood, near Fuqua and the Gulf Freeway, was evacuated Friday, Dec. 16, due to a structural shift.

According to Houston Fire Department officials, one of the columns that supports the building's northeast side shifted around 9 a.m., lowering that side of the building by about 2 inches.

Roughly 250 people were inside at the time. "There was a big boom, and the building shook," said Aimee Bacarisse who works in the building for Leasing Associates. "I've never been

in an earthquake, but I thought we were having an earthquake."

Around noon, the fire department and city officials deemed the structure safe enough for employees to re-enter to get personal belongings on a floor-by-floor basis.

Bacarisse, however, opted not to chance it, as her office is located directly above the damaged column.

Kevin Menchaca of Bamberger Polymers said he was willing to take the risk to re-enter the building to retrieve his laptop computer he

left behind. Others said they were re-entering to retrieve Christmas gifts.

At least one dental patient was under anesthesia at the time of the incident and had to be brought back to exit the building.

There were no broken gas or water pipes because of the shift, and no injuries were reported.

At press time, it was unclear whether ground movement or a structural problem with the beam

itself caused the shifting.

The property owner has hired an engineer to determine the exact cause of the shift in order to make the necessary repairs, according to Houston Public Works & Engineering spokesman Alvin Wright.

Once repairs are made, the building must then be inspected by the city to see if it's up to current code, Wright said.

Deputy accused of conflict of interest

Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Gary Freeman's office is investigating a possible conflict of interest case involving one of its deputies using privileged information to benefit a side business. Deputy Ernie Flores, who is responsible for serving eviction notices, reportedly has a company that also cleans and restores similar properties.

The issue came to light when a single mother of a 5-year-old child came to the *Leader* for Christmas assistance and told the paper's staff she was recently evicted from her home before she was allowed to retrieve her belongings.

A writ of re-entry was issued by Judge Jo Ann Delgado on Nov. 22 to allow the woman back into the house to get her things. According to the tenant, however, she was unable to retrieve her items, and it was learned that Flores was the party allegedly hired to clean and remodel her former residence.

Freeman said he has given Flores an order to "immediately cease and desist" the practice, if occurring.

"Even if they did everything by the letter of the law, it's still not right," Freeman said. "We don't profit from other people's losses."

Frazier students collect toys



Frazier Elementary's annual toy drive was a huge success this year. Students donated 85 toys and \$527.47 which was used to purchase additional toys. The toys were donated to the South Belt-Ellington Leader where they will be distributed to less fortunate boys and girls in the community for Christmas. Pictured are, left to right, (front row) Fernanda Davila, Kendall Brown, Dillon Barsock, (back row) Adrianna Golden, Victoria Acosta, Josh Carter, Alana Pogue, Emily Tamez and Ashley Napper. Photo submitted

Felony burglary suspect arrested

Deputies from the Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's office arrested a burglary suspect Friday, Dec. 16, following a three-week investigation.

Eric Gomez was charged with felony burglary of a habitation.

The arrest stemmed from a home burglary that took place Monday, Nov. 21, in the 11100 block of Woodknot. The incident was witnessed by one of the victim's neighbors and captured on a surveillance camera by a second neighbor.

The neighbor who recorded the surveillance footage posted a photo of the suspect's vehicle, a white Chevy truck with black molding and distinct after-market wheels, on his Facebook page, asking for help in identifying it.

A friend of the neighbor contacted him a few days later stating he had seen the same truck at

a Target on Beltway 8. A copy of the store's surveillance tape showed two males picking up a third male, who was a Target employee.

The Target video was shown to the eyewitness, who identified one of the three men in the video as being involved in the burglary.

The Target employee, who was not fingered in the burglary, was then interviewed by police and identified the other two men he was with.

Once Gomez, 17, was then positively identified by the eyewitness, the burglary charge was accepted by the Harris County District Attorney's office.

Deputies tried unsuccessfully for two days to apprehend the suspect at his listed address before receiving a tip that he was staying at an apartment complex in the 7900 block of Easton, where he was subsequently arrested.

Local homeless pets go online

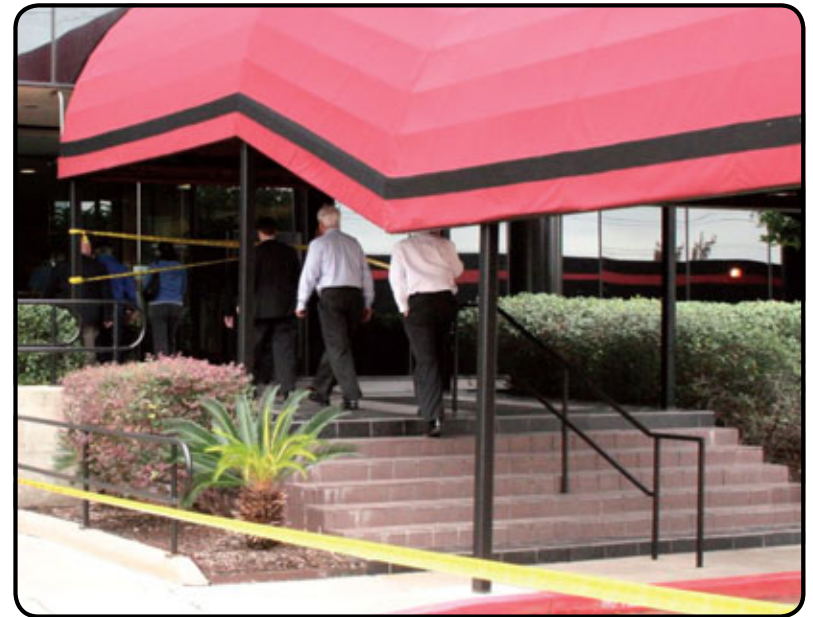
South Houston Animal Shelter and Country-side Animal Refuge have joined other animal welfare organizations in the area that list their homeless pets on Petfinder.com, the oldest and largest database of adoptable animals on the Internet.

The site currently has more than 359,000 homeless pets listed, and it is updated continually. More than 13,500 animal welfare organizations in the U.S., Canada, and other countries post their pets on the site. Pets may be viewed at www.petfinder.com.

A potential adopter enters search criteria for the kind of pet he or she wants, and a list is returned that ranks the pets in proximity to the ZIP code entered. Adoptions are handled by the animal placement group where the pet is housed, and each group has its own policies.

Petfinder.com was created in early 1996 as a grass-roots project by Jared and Betsy Saul to end the euthanasia of adoptable pets. Since its inception, the site has facilitated approximately 20 million adoptions, making it the most life-saving initiative in animal welfare.

Tenants shaken, uninjured



An office building at 12600 Featherwood was evacuated Friday, Dec. 16, after a support beam on the structure's northeast side shifted around 9 a.m., causing the floors to shake. Tenants of the building are shown above crossing warning tape to re-enter the facility to retrieve personal belongings once city officials deemed it was safe.

Photo by James Bolen

City park barbecue ban lifted

The temporary ban on barbecuing, grilling and smoking put in place for all City of Houston parks last September has been lifted for all but 12 locations, none of which are in the immediate South Belt area.

Mayor Annise Parker, the Houston Parks and Recreation Department and the Houston Fire Department indicated that since summer, the City of Houston has been working to remove fire fuel sources in city parks. As a result of this work and the increased rainfall, the fire risk has declined. However, there is still concern about 12 heavily

forested city parks where the dead tree removal has not been completed. Therefore, the temporary ban on grilling and smoking continues in the following 12 parks: Brock Park, Coolgreen Corridor/Strickland Park, Cullen Park, Cullinan/Oyster Creek Park, Hermann Park, Herman Brown Park, J.S. & L.H. Cullinan Park, Keith Wiess Park, Lake Houston Wilderness Park, Memorial Park, Tidwell Park and West 11th Street Park.

Signs will remain in place to advise the public.

Truck slams tractor trailer



A dramatic crash took place the morning of Thursday, Dec. 15, on the southbound feeder road of the Gulf Freeway and Astoria, where the driver of a pickup truck slammed into the rear end of a parked tractor trailer. According to witnesses, the driver of the 18-wheeler had parked his rig on the feeder while he went to eat inside McDonald's. Despite having to be cut out from of the vehicle, the driver of the pickup survived the crash. The feeder and the Dixie Farm Road exit were both closed after the accident, causing traffic delays for several hours.

Photo by James Bolen

Publisher's' Opinion

Christmas program ends Leader year

The *Leader's* annual Christmas program again hit a new high in which we helped a record number of families. All of us at the *Leader* want to thank the entire community for its support of our annual Christmas program. Thanks to our staff that managed to put together a paper, and take care of approximately 175 children. Diddy Clark did a super job organizing the families. The school children really came through for those area children in need. But that is not unusual; the school children are the backbone of our program. Also, special thanks to Stacey Waugh and Sandy Robb who have worked with our program for years. Thanks also to Toys for Tots and Johnny and Mary Rodriguez.

We had a new participant this year, Daniel Hinojosa, who has participated in the annual South Belt cookoffs. He put together an event to gather gifts which we hope will become a big annual event. Thanks also to the many other individuals who's donations make our program a success. Christmas break will not last long enough, but we look forward to 2012. The office will be officially closed until Tuesday morning, Jan. 3, at 9 a.m. But check the front page for deadlines to get items in the paper, as we are for sure going to be in a short time frame to get the Jan. 5 issue to press. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.
—Marie Flickinger

Residents give back

Meador collects food



Meador Elementary students and faculty recently collected canned goods to be donated to local families. Pictured are, left to right, Darlene Davis, principal; Gordon Berg, president of Action Ministries; Courtney Holt, school nurse; and fourth-grade students Vanessa Villarreal, Adam Robicheaux, Joseph Salazar and Roman Galvan. Photo submitted

BHI, police collect for Christmas



Beverly Hills Intermediate students were in the "giving" spirit this month. The Bears for Christ partnered with the Pasadena Independent School District Police Department in collecting toys. They collected 300 toys, exceeding their 250-toy goal. The theme for the collection was Toys for Tots/Teachers in Tights, and if the students reached their goal, two of the teachers would dress in elf outfits with tights. Tennis coach Ronnie Thomas and science teacher Elizabeth Ferguson volunteered to dress in tights. Bear Co. (student council) organized the Coins for Christmas drive where they raised more than \$800 which was donated to the *South Belt Leader*. Pictured are, left to right, (front row) Katrina Herazo, Audra Anderson, Emily Rios, (back row) Thomas, Traci Bray, PISD Officer Eric Rojas, Santa (science teacher Gary Warner), PISD Officer Trae Morris, Chris Tran and Ferguson.

Best Wishes

As 2011 draws to a close, all of us are reminded of the special customers and friends who have made our progress possible. May our spirit of thanks and best wishes stay with you throughout the holiday season and the new year ahead.



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Central ACE Hardware
11676 Beamer 281-481-6482

OPEN Christmas Eve & New Year's Eve 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
CLOSED Christmas Day & New Year's Day

Deaths

Leona Moore



Leona Moore, 80, died Monday, Dec. 12, 2011, surrounded by her family. She was born July 10, 1931, to Leo J. Leake and Alma Beatrice Leake. She was a member of Freeway Baptist Church and a longtime resident of the Sagemont area. Moore is preceded in death by her husband, Jack Moore, her parents, sister Ermalee Gossett and brother Pete Leake. Survivors include her children, Leo C. Thacker, Kathy Lahey, Alma Quan, Danny Thacker, Roy Thacker and Wade Thacker; grandchildren, Deborah Becker, Cynthia Chism, Jennifer Ochoa, James Thacker, Melissa Lahey, Roy Thacker, Scott Thacker, Richard Bird, Matthew Thacker, Angela Stimpfil and Joseph Cruz; great-grandchildren, Samantha Thacker, Colby Thacker, Joseph Becker, Roman Stimpfil and Joseph Cruz; sister Ernesteen Folds; and brother Carlos Leake. A service of remembrance was held at the graveside of SouthPark Cemetery. Words of comfort may be shared with the family at www.southparkfunerals.com.

Harold L. Smith

Harold L. Smith, 66, of Spring, Texas, died Saturday, Dec. 17, 2011. He was born on Dec. 11, 1945. He is preceded in death by his mother, Bonnie E. Smith, father Herman K. Smith and



brother Herman A. Smith. Survivors include his wife, Carolyn Heite Smith; daughter Penny Smith Smethers, husband Paul and grandchildren Blake and Emily; son Brian Smith, wife Jennifer and grandchildren Brianna, Dylan and Jenna; and daughter Holly Smith Taylor, husband James "Scooter" Cooley and grandchildren Mackenzie and Cy Taylor. Smith was a 1964 Reagan High School graduate and a 1970 University of Houston graduate with a degree in chemical engineering. He worked for Lubrizol Corporation where he co-opted in college, and was then employed for 37 years until retirement. He was ordained a deacon at Heights First Baptist Church and First Baptist Church of Genoa where he led the youth choirs and was an active member. Smith was involved in his children's lives by coaching soccer and baseball in the Sagemont area where the family lived for 20 years. He also supported the J. Frank Dobie band and athletic departments for his children. He then moved to Deer Park where he continued his support of Deer Park High School drill team for his daughter. Once in Deer Park, Smith became involved with the Texas Scholars Program and worked closely with the Deer Park and La Porte school districts. He was a mentor for students at La Porte Elementary. He was named the 1999 Deer Park Outstanding Citizen for his dedication for improvement in schools and the community. After retirement, Smith and his wife moved to Spring, followed by his children. Smith's last years were a struggle with diabetes, but he was a fighter and a stubborn man determined to prove the doctors and family wrong and make it through the trying times. Services had not been announced at press time.

South Belt donates to Christmas program



South Belt Elementary students recently participated in the toy drive for the *South Belt Leader*. Pictured are, left to right, (front row) Thalia Tabarez, Ryan Saxton, (back row) Kara Hungaski, Devin Garza, Kayden Fernandez, Justice Johnson, Mary Pham, Makenzie Castillo, Shaylyn Dunlap and Kyle Redmon.

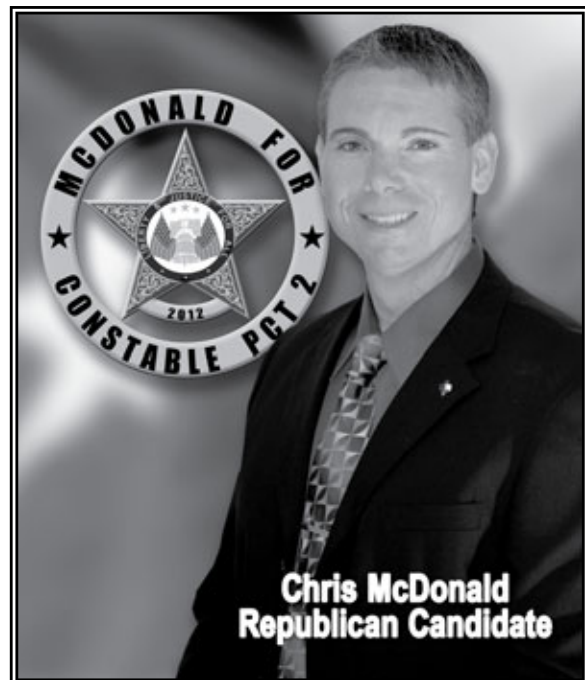
Pay early to deduct property tax

Anyone wanting to deduct their 2011 federal income tax purposes must pay them on or before Dec. 31, 2011. "You'll enjoy the holidays more if you pay your taxes or at least have a plan to get them paid," Tax Assessor-Collector Don Summers said. If taking the tax deduction on 2011 federal tax return is not a concern, one can pay property taxes for 2011 on or before Jan. 31, 2012 without penalty or interest. "Your opportunities to pay or get assistance in person are dwindling," Summers said. "Like Harris County does every year, offices will be closed a few days for the holidays. All of our 15 branches will be closed Friday, Dec. 23, and Monday, Dec. 26, to celebrate with our family and friends. Because Jan. 1, 2012, is on a Sunday, the offices will be closed Monday, Jan. 2 for New Year's Day." Property tax bills are available online at www.hctax.net.

Receipts for tax payments or the envelope's U.S. Postal Service postmark will show the date paid. However, to comply with the state's next business day payment law, taxes paid on the first business day of 2012, Tuesday, Jan. 3, will be posted as paid on Dec. 31, 2011, whether paid in person, online via www.hctax.net or by mail if the envelope is postmarked on or before Jan. 3, 2012, by the U.S. Postal Service. All of the 15 tax office branches take credit and debit cards at the counter. And all have a computer terminal kiosk that taxpayers can use to pay via credit card or E-Check. A surcharge of 2.15 percent is added to each credit card transaction, as well as MasterCard debit transactions. When using a VISA debit card, there is a flat fee of \$3.95. E-Checks are free. "Of course, our computers don't get holidays off. You can pay online, 24 hours a day," Summers said. Taxpayers may use any combination of credit cards and/or E-Checks for payment online at www.hctax.net, and by touch-tone telephone by calling 713-368-CARD (2273). The Harris County Tax Office also accepts partial payments of property taxes. For information call 713-368-2000 or visit the tax information center, 1001 Preston, first floor, Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. except holidays or online at www.hctax.net.

South Belt-Ellington Leader wants to wish everyone a happy holiday and a wonderful new year!

Constable Candidate Chris McDonald and family wish you a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!



"From Precinct 2, For Precinct 2"

Political Ad paid for by Chris McDonald

Happy Holidays

Wishing you the best for 2012

Proud to Serve the South Belt Community

EL FRANCO LEE
Commissioner Harris County, Precinct One
Not printed at County Expense

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



I am honored to have served you this year as your State Representative and look forward to representing you in the future.

Political ad paid for by friends of Ken Legler

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

Weber, South Belt Elementary second-graders write Santa letters

Weber Elementary

These letters to Santa Claus written by second-grade students at Weber Elementary.

Lacy Prahm's class

I want for christmas is I thing...the webkinz pet of the month. Please with sugar on top. I deserve it because I have helped with my grandma because she had surgery in her neck. So please! Please! Can I have the webkinz pet of the month. PS. Thanks for the scooter last year. PPS. If you get me the pet of the month I'll have extra cookies for you. PPPS. Merry Christmas.

Abigail H.

for Christmas I want all of the monster high dolls because I've been very good I get all A in my report card and if you could get me a huge KitKat bar that reaches up to space. PS. Just because I'm on the newspaper I'll give you my autograph love you bye!

Isabella B.

I want for christmas is lego sets! all of the lego sets lego ninjas, lego city, lego cars, Hero factory, spogbob lego sets, make the lego guy, lego star wars I deserve it because I got all A's. PS. You are cool

Vincent L.

For Christmas I want a 3DS, a computer, a PSP, a Pet hamster, a robot who dose chores for me because I've been good. PS. write or call back if you want my autograph.

Arayo B.

I want to have a Xbox 360 and a playstation I work really really hard and have been really really good. P.S. Nextst Christmas can you play with me on my X box 360 and play station3 and I will cook you some of my cookie and leave it on the Table and maybe more so you can bring home to the north pole and share it with Ms. Claus.

Mathew P.

How are you? I really want a toy cookie from toy's a rus cause I have been so good to my mom I washed dishes for my grand ma that can't walk so pretty please with sugar on top. p.s. write back if you want my autograph. p.p.s I also want ten dollars.

Nya J.

I want a fur real pet White dog with the leash contoler. I deserve this because I've been very good this week and I try my best. P.S. I LOVE YOU!!!! Please right back. Tell Mrs. Claus and your reindeer I love them too.

Haylie N.

I really want to own a library so I could read anything I want. Why? Because I love to read. I've been helpful to my parents. Plus I've been a good friend. I appreciate everybody. Pleeeasee! If you do I'll tell you a funny joke.

Melissa N.

I raely want a cotton candy machine and DQ Blizard maker and a Dipindotz machine and a cool soccer Ball and easy Bake oven and a Jewelry Box and a pink Doodle Bear and a pop corn machin. I Deserv those things Because I helped my mom make pancakes.

Melanie R.

All I want for Christmas is all the Sonic games (except for ones that I have). Because I listen to my teacher. The games I want are with Wii PS3, and DS. Ex. Sonic Generations PS3. P.S. Merry Christmas!!

Ben T.

I would want a Xbox 360 because I help my teacher at school alot.

Christopher Ng

All I want for Christmas is an ipad 2, and a wuggle machine with some wagle pets. I deserve it because i'm a A+ student. Also when it was my B-day I didn't get that much but thats ok because I got 10\$ from my mom. P.S. Could you please write back with you and Mrs. Claus autograph on it.

Madisyn S.

I want for christmas really bad is a phone, Mood-ring, trampoline, treshure box, a bell from the rainder's barness I should have all that caus I am a good girl to my teacher and for the bell I should have one cause I believe in you and I Love you. PS. Love you Santa.

Jennifer L.

All I want is a laptop and a ds and i rickie to play with me. Why I helped mom bring happy faces and helped dad do ladre and helped rickie cline. sene back if you want my adgrafe.

Joshua C.

I want polar Express train for christmas I really want on I was doing my Best in school I help my mom and dad did buy me a train. Please buy me polar Express for chrisham I am good to help people and I really want one for christmas so bad

Shiloh S.

I want for christmas DSiXL because I was good at school and I listen to Ms. Prahm and when Ms. Prahm says something I do it for her. PS. I LOVE YOU!!! please right back. And tell Mrs. Claus and you reindeer I Love your reindeer too. And can you have your autograph.

Lexi H.

Santa I want an ipad 2 and I deserve it because my elf senar stigles always tells you how I'm doing.

Jack C.

I want a p 2 bacus 1 and I bin nies to my brother when he say do you want to play with me I sad yes and I bin nic to my Mom and Dad.

Jason P.

Jean Womack's class
I want for bayblabe because it could spin so fast and it stops when we halled it. I want to play with it and train it.

Sreehar P.

How are you? I'm doing good. I want a kitchen and Barbie fasion Jewry and taria Fasion Barbie dress up. I never had a kitchen and I want to cook with it and to dress to Jewels on my Barbie.

Smyrna

I want a polar express movie for and on football collection and that is it. Bye

snack for school B/C she left hers at home and I had nothing to eat for snack at school! P.S. I Love you santa.

Alyssa

I want a wii CD for christmas because I already have the rest of the stuff even internet. I've been a good kid!

Clinton J.

I hownp you and mrs. claus are good. I want a air hawk, a 3DS, a 3D poner air hog, and new hipots, and a toy helicopter and a camra air hawk and a glowing foot ball. I want a bike and I've been verry good.

Christian

Most thing I want is a boy bike, I'm being good boy for you Santa and my mom.

Ethan V.

I want some new boots, a new shirt, plus I want a new... bike. I also been a very good girl. My brother has been too. I also want-ed toknow, how is mrs. Claus doing? See you later. Ho Ho! Merry Christmas.

Anaya

I want a WWE Rumbleers. I want it because I am strong! I've been a good boy protecting my little sister. P.S. Merry Christmas

Gio

Do you know Christmas is my Favorite holiday, and how are you doing to day? For christmas I really want a sword and a really cool toy shield but if you now that my couzin men is going to get it for me than you don't hafte too. P.S. Have a great christmas Santa!

Ably N.

I would like a new DSiXL Of chismis. I've been a very good girl this year. And I really want a now DS thank you.

Camryn D.

I want a Baby puppy as a girl for Chisma and I want the Best Chisma ever.

J.T.

I would like a p.s.p. for chismis. Because I was a Good boy.

Bryson C.

I want a surf board, and one to have a little fun. I hope to get new swimming suites, And a little teddy bear. And a new hawi staff with the surf boards in my room.

Leia M.

I want a Unlimented Easy Bake oven for Chrismas. I want it because I want to make sweets for my little baby brother. I have been a good girl.

Hannah T.

I will like to get the Polar Ex press train for chistmas. I have been a very good boy this year.

DeMarcus T.

Can I have game Disney Univers for chrismas? And can I have a Nerf gun? This is the preznet I relly want I relly want a texans shirt. I have been a good boy. P.S. You are my hero.

Jason

I want a chicgo bulls snap back hat. Why? Because I will look good and because I am always wanted one. And NBA 2K for xbox 360. Why? Because I like playing basbaket ball.

Jack L.

I want a new puppy for Christmas. And a bike too and I rilly want a barbie and a new book and barbie dreame house and a new bed and the best christmas ever.

Arianna

Elisa Rushing's class
I want a Diary because I never have one and they have a locker on it. And my sister want a Dora Doll house because she always love dora. Diary book ppost to have paper, locker, picture in front, lines to write. Or you can give my sister a Justin Bieber Doll because she love Justin so much. And when you give it to her she well scream "Justin Bieber!" Do you buy presents or do elfs make the presents?

Emily

Can I have a airswmmer a remote cotrol beyblade games named Kirdy Dream land and Super Mauroi Dream Land. And Star fox all for 3DS. A razor ground force drifter. A laser chaser. And I should get it because If been good.

Andrew

I would like a very big play-ground please. I want a play-ground because we could all play on it. I would like the game Operasion, it looks fun! Aiden D.

Aiden D.

Can I please have a Nerf football for Christmas, a foot ball Jerrsey because. Your best friend,

Allen N.

I want a buzz Lightyner with the belt for Christmas because I've never have one. Can you give buzz Lighty year?

Khang N.

I want a Diary for Christmas because my friends Trang and Christine have a club and i'm in it. I want my Diary to have a pink cheatah on it and at the bottom it says Cheatah 124 in light purple. I also want a charm bracelet that has my code Cheatah 124 on and Cheatah 124 will be in pink. Thank you Santa. PS. have a great Christmas.

Chloe D.

I want a kid projektor for Christmas so I can teach my little brother how to read and pretend to be an art teacher. Also I want a ipad and boot's because if you are bored we can play the ipad and when it's cole I could wear my boots. that's all I wanna say. thank you!

Evelyn T.

I want a Power ranger I only have three and I want the new Mario Kart seven cause it keeps coming on tv. I hope I be good so I can get them.

Donovan

I want a ipod and Xbox 360 with two cuncholes pleas. cause i never had a ipod and a Xbox with two cuncholes.

Anthony A.

I want a artis with a stand with it because I like it and I want a spie wocetlake because it looks asum and I like it. Santa is it at Kous. Santa I have been good. Santa. One morn thing and mothere skouter and I want it to be bleu. Santa. Because my brothers have one to.

Andrew C.

I want a redakai card for Christmas that we can batel with two players. Because I been a littel good this yare and I'll do good in school. I hope you have a good Christmas. And deliver all the toys for the children's.

Jasson

Can you bring me a ma tralle toy. because I nver had one be for. Can you get me a pirip ship, because the one that you got me last year my sister broke it. this year all I want is legos because I alin have a litl of legos.

Jake

I want money holder because I hav mor money stile can I have a 3DSi because I onle DS. And I want a remoeat cintrial Barebeary car because I saw it at

a store. and a skaytboaed. that is shiney pink and has playisss for my feet. new cullring books to because I like the pikshrs. I want some presser dresis and some dresup shous because I love dresup for Chistmas.

Grace H.

May I pleas have a real alive Venus fly trap because when I was 4 I wan't more responsible than I am now. Can I also have a elf because I am more responsible and because I can make toys with him or her. Then I can give the toys to peple that don't hav enney.

Shamsi

I want a lol-lops Dolls and I want tow of them for I can play with them on Christmas, and wher ever I go lick in the car. and I love you. and can you put the presents under the christmas tree, and I hoppe I tack pierce with you at the mall.

Gabbie

I want my new putter because I lost my putter. I will take care of it and I don't lost it any more.

Samantha N.

For chrismas I want a NFL robote. But! I think I ben bad at home. but Don't get Jerike enothing has been bad to. But get Jordin stuffing.

Jay P.

Kari Keck's class
Could I please, have a kneket for xbox 360. Because I really, really, want to play thoes games. And I will try to be really good. No talking with my mouth full. Not asking again if the anser is no, and I will not talk when my teacher has not gave me an anser yet.

Nathan B.

I want a Elf because my mom dos not buy my toys and my mom has lots of mony. I want a Elf so it could make me toys. I want a Elf that's a girl wet corly here and pretty.

Alexia G.

Can I have a Electricl thing that has lots of books? I love to read. I need more books. I read almost all my books I have. I have lots of and lots of books. I did n't read the bigger kids books. (like 6th grade - Any grade exepst 5th grade and lower.) I need more books my age.

Allie C.

I wish for lego universe membership. El drago, dark wolf beyblades. I even really want lego universe membership because mom won't buy one. Can you please give it to me I really need it because... I don't have fun on lego universe.

Cody D.

Can I have a full share shooter set, a real gun for target practice (not hunting) Please? Oscar

Oscar

I want a Diary because I am nice to my sisters. Can you get my sister Justin bieber Doll she loves him so much. Can you get my brother gummy a sponge bob pillo and car. My sister Kelly wants a victorius singing doll. My sister Katie wants a wii, drizzly drake poster cause she loves him so much. My brother Brandon wants a phone, a play station. Merry Christmas Santa. Ho Ho. Tell every one Merry Christmas. Your nice one,

Ashley D.

Could I have a doll from bild a rail work shop can it be a cat? I relly want some star wars acthin figurs then I will be relly happy. I hope you have a good Christmas. Could you leave a note to tell me if you like this paper. And can I have a paint ball gun thank you.

Mateo C.

I really know I should get a pack of pokemon cards. And your odgraf and Ray Striker. And I also want a pack of card joosoo!

Jason T.

I want twister cause I want to Learn Gynatics and How to be a not. I want more presents than My brother, I want lo of them. I want twister, barbie doll, water glob, diary. Charm bracelets, Easy bake kitchen, Lab, stuff bear, Justin bieber doll, and ginger bread House. My dads says I am pretty so I want to keep practicing Fashion with My doll. I want a water glob cause I want to give it to my grandma. She want-ed one yesterday I bought one for My teacher so now I will give it to My grandma. I want a charm-bracet cause it is Lovely. I want a Easy bake kitchen cause I am learning to cook.

Molysa H.

How are you doing? I hope you are fine. May I have a puppy that is a girl Labrador please. Can I have all it's stuff like it's bed, collar, brush, litter and water bowl with the bag of dog food. I want a dog because I don't want to be lonly sometimes when I have nothing to do. Please put the name Madisyn on the collar. Can I also have a diary with a tiger and at the bottom may you print tiger 213 in light blue. Thank you very much Merry Christmas! P.S. Just put the puppy in my closet.

Trang M.

I want 3 secret diaries, 3 charm bracelets, a Hello Kitty bear from Build-A-Bear Workshop and a ipod, because I been good this year. how are you? I'm fine. Merry Christmas! P.S On 1 of the diary I want the word I pod 123. On 1 of the other diaries put Cheatah 124. On the last diary put Tiger 213.

Christine N.

Can I please get a Litkretch skootre case I Bin as nice as I can be this yaeer can I get a nift gun please and can I please get the new gerdens. Can I please get that new truck this a raising reer. Cose I Ben onis Can I get som Bay Blods. Can I get a angel to hang up in my room. Can I get a new tu for me and my brodre. I can have my onwn ponking bag Be kosh I get made.

Dylan D.

How are you? Can I have a elf because I don't now how to rap presents. And a bike with out training weels. And a iPod thc because I whont to exa my cosin every day. if you don't I will be happy. if you don't it will be ok. and I hop to get good grads in scool.

Chassiti H.

I want a 3DSi to play game to play and a 3DSi Be kus Jerrick Hav a 3DSi. I want want to be kus it si fun.

Jovanny S.

For Christmas I want a puppy. Puppies are so cute. I love puppies so much. I was so good. How are you doing Santa? how do you rap presents? Valerie A.

Valerie A.

I wat for Cirsimie I wat a wey And a big bole And A face of And A los ue stcers And a

now I Am gorweg to be hav And less And I will be good. And my sidre. I Luove you,

Carl A.

I want a Blabaty because I been good in school and I want a raserapser scooter and a xbox 360 and a game called skylander the game I osow want a Dragin tetebeare and a 3DS and pocemon for 3DS.

Steve

I want a aletrec gotore So I can rock out and sonde good. I have lots of fun, and play mom and dad a conser, and when I get older I will be rilke good at Playing the cotore.

Kaden

Can I have eleritke skutr. cuse my cousin has one and a Xbox 360 because my cousin has one. And can you tell dad to get me the moon map becose I nevrd played moon. Best wishes, Larry

Larry

Two Redakwi card game because it gous in 3D. And pro serres Paper Jame because it sands beder sands beber and it bas rouk. And a now Dary of Kik. Not the rauga, not the dog days or the now do it you self.

Dominic D.

I want for Christmas is a dogy Doo becas its silley b cas it poos. For Christmas.

David M.

Chelsea Forse's class
I just wanted to let you know if I am on the naughty side or good side. I hopeing you bring this gameboard it's call the game of Life can ou because I really love that game. I been waiting for that game almost 3 years. Do you think that you can bring that gameboard to my house. I fyou bring the game to my house you can put it in my stocking if it doesn't fit you can just put it by the chimney.

Madison L.

what I want this year is... Spynet watch, and thats what I want. add that up with the list you took from my house.

Danny C.

I just wanted to tell you what I want for Christmas. I would like a littles pet shop set. Please don't give me the Rescue Tails Center because my mom is giving me it for Christmas. Thank you Santa!

Victoria N.

I wotned you to know what I want for Christmas. Santa I want a tv a pool and a doll thank you for giving me toy's evry Christmas. Oh I almost forgat to tell you I want a laptop to. Hav do you git to evry hous in the world in just one nite ther is more thing's I wont like a shiney pink bike I want all my toy's a shiney pink and the pink I like nice to be a hot pink oh and spakley. How am I on the notey list or the good list better chek agan Santa. I think I should get all the thing's because I do all my chors every day. So you better git those things know!

Lorelei

I want to let you know what I want for Christmas. I want a Wii and I want to let you know the type of Wii I want it is Mario Sports Mix, I want a new soccer ball because I lost the other one, the whole set of Flat Stanley books because I like to read, the whole set of Magic Tree House books. Well this all I want for Christmas. Don't think I don't like playing. Have a good day Santa and Do your best!

William H.

I what you to know what I whot for Christmas. I whot a Hellukotter, some head fons for my ipod, a phone wat make it two phones, and two boxes of Helo legos.

Nathan M.

I want to let you know what I want for Christmas. I know what I want I just like an iPod 2, a Dsi xl 3d, that is all and I really wanted the iPod 2 but I need the bible to go with it. And I diserve it because every day now my sister-kin is sick and I gave the best I can to make my sister feel a whole lot better. I really hope you will know how I feel.

Danielle T.

Am I in the naughty side? Are you giving me and my brother coal this year? I saw some of the Christmas shows are they real? I hope you are real. Are you? If you come, give me a pair of night vision goggles. I also want one of the reindeers bells.

Bria D.

I would like a Monster Hight nintendo ds game and a disney princess nintendo ds game and I would also like a nintendo ds case with pink diamans and Ariel on it. And disney princess game to play on the laptop and real laptop that is pink and have nice christmas and a Merry Christmas.

Diana N.

I want to tell you what I want for Christmas. I want a ipod, remote control helicopter, and a remote control car, Dsi.i,XL, 3D.DSi.i, and some games for the Dsi.i,XL and 3D Dsi, only PG games, and a charger for both Dsi.i,XL 3D.DSi.i, and elf hats for five people 3 gron ups 2 kids, and a lap top computer. Mark P.

Kevin P.

I was hoping if you can give me these things toys, candy, gum, and money. I deserve these things because I be good at school and at home. Do you think you can give me these things?

Dalal R.

I would like to know if you're having fun and if you're doing okay? What I would like for Christmas is... 1. sket baord 2. intendo 3DS 3. nerf Vortex 4. Xbox 360.

Jonathan N.

I hope you are doing good. I would like to have I phon 5 for because you can do a lot of stuff on it. that is what I would like for Christmas. I would use that every Day. You would not even have to get on the computer, you would not have to read a Book or Magozevan you would not have to play games ont eh X Box 360 or an I pod thc, that is what I really want for Chrismas. Marry Chrismas Santa!

Brennan C.

How are your elfs? I want to let you know what I want for Christmas is a lap top, Iphone, I pad, RLStines series, a DSI XL, and a stuffed fox, Junie B. Jones series, My own Room, a teddy bear, a babby brother, another elf on the shelf, a new house, a little puppy, 3D.DS, a christmas count-down, Black Wii,

Over The Back Fence by Jan

HAPPY 14TH BIRTHDAY, NICKLAUS
Wishes for a happy 14th birthday are sent to **Nicklaus Velasquez** on Saturday, Dec. 24, from his dad and mom, **David** and **Sylvia Velasquez**, and his brothers, **Davin** and **Carlos**. Nicklaus is an eighth-grader at Thompson Intermediate.

HAVE A WONDERFUL DAY, JERRY!
Former Dobie principal and current Pasadena ISD board member, **Jerry Speer**, celebrates a birthday Thursday, Dec. 22. Best wishes are sent for a fantastic day from family, friends and the staff at the *Leader*.

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO DAVID
David Flickinger celebrates a birthday Dec. 22. His wife, **Marie**; sons **Fred** and wife **Leslie** and **Davy** and wife **Ellie**; granddaughters **Kimberly Flickinger** and **Courtney Durham** and husband **Chris**; and new granddaughter **Natalie** and great-grandson **Kelvin**, all wish him a happy birthday.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, ELAINE
Elaine Edwards, wife of former *Leader* staffer **Bill Edwards**, celebrates her birthday Monday, Dec. 26. Daughters **Margaret** and **Maggi**, and granddaughter **Kylie** wish her a happy birthday.

BETH CELEBRATES A BIRTHDAY
Beth Williams of Central Ace Hardware celebrates her birthday Tuesday, Jan. 3. Best wishes are sent to Beth from her family, friends and the staff at the *Leader*.

SCHOOL DAZE
The following personnel and staff members of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays Dec. 22 through Jan. 4.

Atkinson Elementary
Wishes for a wonderful day are sent to **Maria Martinez** Dec. 24. **Maria Salazar** has a birthday Jan. 3.

Burnett Elementary
The day for a cake for **Sylvia Lazard** is Dec. 22. On Dec. 29, birthday wishes are sent to **Jessica Leon**. Dec. 31 is the day to celebrate another year for **Jessica Jones**. The day for a party for **Shawn Fojtik** is Jan. 1. **Beatriz Escalera** and **Maria Nunez** share a birthday Jan. 4.

Bush Elementary
On Dec. 25, **Shara Crites** enjoys a birthday. The day for a party for **Susan Escobar** is Dec. 27.

Frazier Elementary
Yvette Herrera and **Pat Risley** share a Christmas birthday Dec. 25. A special birthday greeting is sent

to **Katie Belus** Dec. 26. Dec. 30 is the day for a cake for **Michelle Mendez**.

Meador Elementary
Blow out the birthday candles for **Sarah Flores** Dec. 26. Dec. 27 is the day for a celebration for **Crystal Rothberg**. **Maira Armenta** enjoys a birthday Dec. 28. On New Year's Day, **Laura Proctor** has a birthday.

South Belt Elementary
Blow out the birthday candles for **Graciela Hernandez** and **Sarah Smith** on Dec. 23. **Estella Montoys** marks a birthday Jan. 4.

Stuchbery Elementary
Having a birthday Dec. 22 is **Robert Mendoza**. A birthday is enjoyed by **Cherry Mendoza** Dec. 30.

Melillo Middle School
On Dec. 29, **Jill Sharma** is wished a happy birthday.

Morris Middle School
Dec. 23 is the day to celebrate for **Heather Grissom**. The day for a party for **Irene Tsafantakis** is Dec. 28. **Antonio Carlos** has a birthday Dec. 29. Dec. 31 is the day for a party for **Charles Jodway**. Greetings for a happy birthday are sent to **Lauren Kocian** Jan. 4.

Beverly Hills Intermediate
Dec. 22 is the day for a cake for **Johna Moreland**. Blow out the birthday candles for **Dionna Lopez** Dec. 25. **Kenneth Davidson** has a birthday Dec. 29. A special birthday greeting is sent to **Angelica Grappe** on Jan. 1. Celebrating a birthday Jan. 3 is **Diane Hallman**. On Jan. 4, **Paula Jennings** is sent a birthday greeting.

Thompson Intermediate
A birthday is celebrated by **Michelle Mendez** Dec. 30. Blow out the birthday candles for **Tiona Samuel** Jan. 1. On Jan. 4, birthday wishes are sent to **Carolina Aguilera**.

Dobie High
Dec. 23 is the day for birthday greetings for **Traci Schott**. On Dec. 24, **Tina Knight-Gray** celebrates a Christmas Eve birthday. **Jesus Minjares** enjoys a Christmas birthday Dec. 25. The day for a triple party for **Donna Cobb**, **Martha Medrano** and **Maria Salazar** is Dec. 26. **Natalia Morales** is wished a happy birthday Dec. 28. On Dec. 29, **Andrea Morgan** marks a birthday. **Barry Harris** has a New Year's Day birthday on Jan. 1. Three cheers for a happy birthday are sent to **Jane Damico**, **Ashley Deadwyler** and **Tess Tobin** who share a birthday Jan. 3. Celebrating a birthday Jan. 4 is **Sylvia Alexander**.

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

Burnett 2nd-grade writes Santa letters

The following are letters to Santa Claus written by second-grade students at Burnett Elementary.

Janina Allum's class
It's been a year since I have talked to you, and for this year I would like a ds game and a orbeez spa and a dsi and Zigzag to bring me a very very very pretty neckles and a Rc car and more stuff for my doll house like the brother and a sister, and a ipod touch!

Kaylee
1. I want a lot games and toys. 2. I want a xbox kenect. 3. And I want wipeout 2. 4. And I want wipeout 2 for wii. 5. Fanally a real phone. sencerly

Brian
I want a montherie for christmas. And a hoahoop For christmas. And a forreal toy for christmas. And a sharepay moive and a puppy. A touch screen computer and a I pad touch. And a bike with flowers on it. And a flat screen tv.

Malayja
I hope I be good at school but if I be good at school will I want a connect 4 and a Monopoly and a brand new wii color red and a ipod touch and a football and blue big basketball. I hope If I be good at school I hope you can gave me a peresont IP I be good at school. Santa I love you.

Leo Dere
Help santa how are you doing how was your day. I want a pet snake. I want a modcoso can you make my mom get that for me. I want a playstahon 3 but wite. I want to make eveone to be nice to me. I want a nice family. I wish I can be with you. I wish evey crissim I want 1,000,000,000,000 preze. I want a I toch. I want a I Pad 2. I want a I Pad 4. **Saul**
For christmas I want a bike, elbow Pads, knee Pads, a helmet, a bell for the bike, a nintendo dsi, Toy car, flying helicopter, a pet vet, petshops, Book Marks, shiny Boots, clear back Pack, computer, iPhone, Stickers, walkietalkies, a book Book shelf, pillows, snoopy Jacket, shirt, bear, a hat,

Neveah
What I want is a baby dog barbie set. More games for my dsi. I want a Kunect xbox360 and games for it. I want a pet

Celia Rocha
Hi Santa thante you for the last yer presents. I want midy werfer 3 for I can play with my brother. I want a bike for I can race with my sister. I want a xbox connect for I can play with my family. I want lego Halow for me and my sisters can play that is all I want.

Christopher Medina
I am thankful my mom and dad do thinks. I am thankful for my mom and dad take me

shop movers and a nutcracker. Pet vet set and a toy car. I want a bisicle with extra training wills and a touch screen computer and a iPad touch. And a diary and with a secret code lock. and the lock has to be a name, and iphone touch like my step sister has, a helmet, and walky talkies, and a santa room, and move to a big house and get a big huge pool. **Eliza**
What I want for Christmas is: toys, a new softball bat, and glove, xbox 360 connect, and a nother elf for Christmas. And I want Rc car. And I want an Ipod touch. And I want a Big time Rush t-shirt. And I want a orbeez spa. And a just dance 3, and a wii and a necklises and bracelets, and a cool night light. And a new friend. And a new TV. And most of all a new watch.

Alayna Cavillo
I want a 3DS and a new boke with a cup holder and a basketball and a football and I want you to fix the playstahon 3. The End **Julian Becerra Bernice Barraza's class**
It is almost Christmas I'm happy are you? This year I will like a DSI so I can counet with friends. I think it is cool to also. I will like a stuff animal that look like Rudolph please. I will like a Crayola glow book because I lik things that glowow. Your friend, **Ana Flores**
I want a computer so I can play on it. Me and my cosin America who wants to see my IPod touch blue for Christmas. And I want a toto to play balloryna with my cosin America. And I want a Lala Loopsy Silly Hair Doll because I like to play with their hair. And I want a blue bike and books to read cause I love reading. A baby to for my baby cosin Angel so I can play with him.

Kristine Lara
I want a wii So I play with my little sister. I want pant for me. I want makeup. I want jewelry for me and my sister. Your Friend, **Valeria Palafox**
I can't wait to see you. I'll give you some cookies and milk. This year I want a scooby-do game for DSI. My dad wants a new car. My mom wants a makeup. My sister want a barby house and a red doll. Your friend, **Angel**
This year I want a Xbox 360 and a PS3 because is cool and the Xbox-360 and I want to my friend to get a lot of gifts. And I also want a Wii because it has a lot of player. Your friend, **Ismael Banda**
Hey Santa how are you? Thanks for all the present you've gave me. I wish I can see you. I can't wait for Christmas. Thanks for all the gifts from last year. This year I want a remote control car. I want a football and a game for the play station its call'ed Need for speed. I like your beard. I hope I'm one of your elves. I like your red suit.

Gerardo Escamilla
Santa what I want for Christmas is a dol, or a jeep. Thank you for my mom. This year I want a Lalalopsy wig. Because it looks funny. You can put it on your hair. You can pretend to be a doll. You can be a Lalalopsy. It's pink and beautiful. You can play with it, and it so squiggly. It's big and it's pretty. Or a Lalalopsy doll because it has buttons.

Lupita Martinez
Hey Santa how are you? It is almost Christmas. I wish I can see you Santa. Thank you for the gifts from last year. This year I want boxing clubs for traing. I want a play station 3 because its cool. I want call of duty modern warfare III because its cool. I want Real steel game because its best. I want a Ipad 2 because its so cool. I want tape for boxing traing. I want a lap to because is cool. I want yellow romot cotrol corvet car because its cool.

Alex Mateo
Are you going to come because I am allredy doing my card. I am so glad because you are so nice. Santa I want a doll because I want one for my sister and me. I want a wig because I want to pretend that I have face hair. I want m akeup so I could look pretty.

Celeen
How are you? Nise to meet you. I want a game I want the new game of wwe 12 for my wii. I want Zack Riter and cin cara and the mack of cin cara black. I Lov eyou, thank you. Thats all I want this year.

Luis Lopez
Are you good today? I want a Play Station 2. At last I want X-Box 360 for Oscea. I want Dsl. I want MonoPlay. I want Rudolph. I want soccer ball. I want totem Pole. I want a tepee. I want a Beard.

Mauricio
How are you. I hoop I can see you this Christmas. Thankyou for my mom and dad. I want a doll house with spa. I wanted because is pretty. I want a X-box 360 because I can play with my cousin. I want a doll Bratz maskaraid. Your Friend, **Annie Herrera**

Jocelyn Baker's class
How are you and mrs. Santa and the reindeer and the Elves doing? I had a good year. And I hop you did to! On Christmas can you and the Elves make me the all new easy bake oven and

plases. My mom and dad take me good care. I am thankful for my mood and dad love me. I am thankful my mom and dad is working hard.

Oscar Perez Negron
How are you? Nice to meet you. Thanks for all the gifts you gave me last year. I cant wait for you to come. I want a Skates, 3 Story town house w/ Barbies, Doctor deadful zombie. I want moners huge dolls, Bratz maskaraid vampier Girl, Esay Bake kit. Also a I pod, Bratz on the mic, a ring, leap pad, Books. I also want a Christmas song, practis books, frog poster.

Eden
How are you doing Santa? Please bring me a Rudolph toy for christmas. And a big Teddy bear. Please bring me promise. And for my puppy a squeaky toy please. And a doggy beb for my dog candy. For mom a new comforter. And for my Dad a ney pars of golf klovs. For my sisters barbie. For my brother a xdoxo360. Thank you. Your friend, **Alicia**
How are the reindeer? How are you? Can I have a stuffed panda and art set please. **Jason**
Been ok christmas. tramp-din. snowman bel better snow. doigl reindeer. Rudolph pippy squeaky. I Love Dears. **Eliseo**
how are you doing it been a year how is Ruolph and eles I havenot made my Crimas list But get me a puppy for Crimas plesse and a trampoline and a peano

Ivette
how are you doing Santa? I want a spy helicopter. **Nathan**
How are the reindeer? I had a good year How is mrs. Santa? Can I have fortune steart the video game? Can I have a trampoline? Can you give my friend a nintendo 3ds for Kailor and anintendo ds for his brother trace? Have a great christmas. Can I have three more things a red power ranger and a I pod touch and a Ipad touch.

Nikolas
Is rudolph o.k. can you breeng me a three wheeler can you breeng me a puppy can you breeng me a a ramp can you breeng me a xbox 360 can you breeng me a bike can you breeng me a cologne please can you breeng me a car can you breeng me a ps3 can you breeng me a plan **Jacob**
How are you doing? Be-cuase I am doing good and I want Mario Kart and I want Star Wars because mine is lost and I want bla-bla and my brother Toby he wants a fish and I want Itoons for my Ipad.

Tommy
I hope you are good. How are your reindeers doing. I hope Rudolph is good. I can plesse hulahoop for Christmas. Are your elfs O.K. And can I have a trampoline for my two sisters Karolina and Arelia. I would like my little sister arelia strawberry shortcake dool. I want my big sister a artset.

Jessica
How are you doing Santa! Today was a gerat day. I got a little puppy it is a cute dog. So I would something for my mom and dad I want a Xbox 360 and something for Ryan and

Adrian
Are you excited about Christmas? How are your reindeer? Are the elves busy? Is rudolph ready? I hope you have a good Christmas. I hope you enjoy your cookies. Santa can I please have a dairy queen shake maker, electric diary and a camera. That is all. **Lilliana**
How are your reindeers? Have you ben busy? How was your year? How are your toys? Can you please and money did you. Hope you had a nice Thanksgiving. You are my best friend. Have a great Christmas. **Anthony**
How are you doing? I want a MP3 for Christmas. Your friend, **Adrian**
Are you excited about Christmas? Did you have a good vacation? How are your reindeer doing? How are your elves? Can I please have a sleigh? Can I please have a barbie? Can I please have a Hello Kitty shirt? Can I please have a globe? Thanks. **Selena**
How are your Santa? How can I turn in to an elf? Where do you get the magic? Santa are you getting healthy? I am so excited! May I have money, fish, jewelry, magic, reindeers, chicha, iPod, boy barbie, Airel coustem, paint heely, lalaloop-sie, clothes, 4 B.F.F necklace, night-light and movies about Christmas. **Lisette**
Continued on Page 5A

Meador faculty bowls for turkeys



Meador Elementary School faculty enjoyed a Turkey Bowl after school recently. Each member of the highest scoring team won a turkey. Winners pictured are, left to right, (front row) Cecelia Stewart, Molly Savala, Cara Widermuth, (back row) Connie Daumas, Mike Gill, Cheryl Caudill and Layna Hamon.

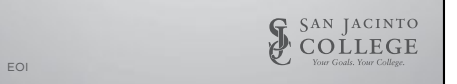
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Remember When

35 years ago (1976)
Agenda items set for the Pasadena Independent School District Board of Trustees included the purchase of a proposed school site located in the South Belt area and the trimester system.

15 years ago (1996)
Dobie's junior varsity cheerleading team won first place at state for the second consecutive year at UCA competition in San Marcos.

10 years ago (2001)
Frazier Elementary students raised \$1,200 for toys for the *Leader's* annual South Belt Christmas program. Beverly Hills Intermediate students contributed \$780 to the annual program.

5 years ago (2006)
The annual *South Belt-Elington Leader* Christmas program was under way. Numerous local schools and residents held food and toy drives to aid local needy families.

1 year ago (2010)
The annual *South Belt-Elington Leader* Christmas program was a huge success, with many in the community generously donating food, toys and cash to ensure that more than 60 needy families in the area had a happy holiday.

20 years ago (1991)
Acting on tips from students, Dobie High School officials found two guns in students' vehicles. As a result, three students were disciplined.

5 years ago (2006)
The annual *South Belt-Elington Leader* Christmas program was under way. Numerous local schools and residents held food and toy drives to aid local needy families.

1 year ago (2010)
The annual *South Belt-Elington Leader* Christmas program was a huge success, with many in the community generously donating food, toys and cash to ensure that more than 60 needy families in the area had a happy holiday.

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South Belt Spelling Bee results

South Belt Elementary hosted its third annual spelling bee on the morning of Thursday, Dec. 8. Each third- and fourth-grade classroom had one representative who competed for the title of "2011-2012 Campus Spelling Bee Champion." Jordan Tran from Sarah Smith's fourth-grade class captured the title with the winning word, *antelope*. Tam Tran from Rachel Garcia's fourth-grade class earned the runner-up position. All students did an outstanding job.



2011-2012 Campus Spelling Bee runner-up Tam Tran and champion Jordan Tran display their trophies.



Third- and fourth-grade classroom representatives pictured are, left to right, (front row) Alonso Garza, Kaitlyn Bess, Anissa Howard, Trishita Nguyen, Jonathan Garcia, (back row) Olga Cisneros, Nathan Ancira, Jordan Tran, Tam Tran and Reid Ball.

Photos submitted

Burnett 2nd-graders write letters to Santa

Continued from Page 4A

I want a toy car, a dog, and a pet rabbit. Did you have fun at Thanksgiving? My dad wants a little shark. Mom wants a new purple shirt. Your friend, **Jaden**

How are you doing? Is it freezing at the North Pole? I had the best Thanksgiving ever! I'd like an Xbox 360. A red Wii and some games. I'd like toys, a Walmart gift card and a toy sleigh. Merry Christmas! **Luke Wittenberg**

How are you? Are you doing good? I am excited! I want games. I want a toy, I like to have these things. Your friend, **Mohammad**

How are your elves today? How are you today? I love you. How are the reindeer? How is Mrs. Claus? I hope you are good. I might have a tree. Please can you tell me after Christmas what kind of cookies you like. Can I have jewelry? **Ellyiah**

May I please have an MP3 with headphones? Did you have a good year? **Sami**

How are you doing? I am doing good. May I have a globe and a remote control plane? Your friend, **Caleb**

I would like a ps3 for my brother a ring for my mom a ipod for my dad, computer for me, necklace for my mom and a 3d dsi. Merry Christmas. I like last year Christmas. Tell the elves that I said hi.

or another sonic Game and a game for the DS. I hope your alright Santa Claus. **Gabriel**

How is it in North pole? How's Miss. Claus? How are you? It's cold here I can't wait for you to visit me. It would be great if you bring me a dsi, Xbox 360. **Oscar**

Thank you for everything. How has Mrs. Clause been? Has anybody got on the naughty or nice? And have the elfs gave a present? I've been bad and I don't lie that's why this days until Christmas I'm going to be good! Santa may I ask you for thing if I be nice. Can you give my brother a ipod touch and a chocolate bar for my dad and my mom not to be sick? Can you gie me a npe on the computer for small worlds cause my sister doesn't want anything. **Joe**

I wonder how your doing and how your elfs are working. I want to wish you a very good Christmas. I was wondering if you can give my mom a new car. I wonder if you can bring my sisters a phone and a computer and for my brother a big fake motorcycle and for me I just an ipod and for my dad some brand new boots for work. **Naveily**

I wonder how you work that fast. How you go to every house in just one night? Do your reindeer work had to? I bet they do I forgot their names. Christmas looks like fun. For Christmas I would like lego batman like real life. **Hassan**

This Christmas I like to give something, the things I would like to receive are: ipod, easy bake, kid's camera or kids camcorders, MP3 player, scooter, or DQ Blizzard make that you can ride. Thanks for reading my letter and wish you a Merry Christmas. **Dahira**

How is your family, your reindeers and Mrs. Santa? I would like a xbox 360 and a book of diary of a wimpy kid book of cabin fever and a toy remote car but the color of it I want it red. **Jorge**

How are you Doing? This Happy Christmas Tell Mrs. Clause Hello. I want to get for Christmas A Connet. And for my sister A Nintendo. And for my brother A car. For Every Boddy in my family wants A Ipod And for my Dad A lap top. I wish you have A Good day for this holiday. **Emily**

How are you doing today Santa? Are you having a good time with your family? For Christmas I would like a Santa sweater for me, my sisters and for my parents. And a mini animal pillow. Thank you Santa? **Maria**

I wish you give me a very beautiful Christmas day. I wish you have one too. You are very nice. How is Mrs.? She is nice too. You are so sweet. Are your reindeer resting alot cause there gonna do alot on Christmas? I want you to make me a Barbie doll Kitchen. Rest alot reindeer. Mrs. Claus, Mr. Claus. **Crystal**

I wonder how it is at the north pole? Is it cold? How is it working with Dasher, Dancer, Pranser, Vichsin, Comid, Bitsin, and Rudof. Is it fun delivering toy? How is Mrs. Claus and the elfs. Is it fun being in the sky? **Gilberto Perez**

For christmas I would like a x-box 300 color block with 2 extra control. My second christmas wish will be a iPad color blue and two cases one tiger other orange. My third wish for christmas will be a bull dog to play with it to feed it. Sincerely, **Refugio Pulido**

On Christmas Day I would like to see under the Christmas Tree. 1. Nintend 3D Ds 2. Laptop 3. PSP Game Console 4. Play Station 5. Game Call Mario Karts 7. 6. Kribby Return to Dearm land. 7. Lego Harry Potter. I will leave some cookies and milk by the fireplace. Thank you, Santa. **Alejandro Ramos**

I have been acting good and I would like a toy. How are you doing? I am doing good and

my family has been acting good. I have been helping people and I have good grades. **Albaro**

How are Mrs. Santa and the raindeers doing? I also wanted to tell you what I want for christmas I will like a Nentindo Dsi and I will like for you to give me my lost puppy which her name is cosita. Please give me my Lost puppy and I want for you to have a happy new year. I hope you to have happy christmas and Mrs. Santa. and I will like a new Wii, too. **Nelly Velasquez**

I've been waiting for you this year. Santa how are you and Miss Claus? My brother and me were waiting for Christmas. I hope it will snow this year again. I hope we get our presents. Santa I have been good in school. I'm glad you are coming to give my brother and me our presents. Santa I know that all of the kids love you but I love you the most. **Melanie**

How are you? I am good. I want a bike. Do you know my sister wants a Barbie? My mom wants a new sofa. But the best thing have a happy Christmas. **William**

Chantay Hill's class

I am a good girl. I'm a good girl because I follow the directions. I help at school. I got all A's on my report card. I'd love to get two I pads white I pads and the second one is for my mom, a lalalopsie silly hair doll, and a Dairy Queen ice cream Maker. I really want a million dollars. **Alani**

I am very good. I've did my class work all year. I want a lego pack with star wars. I am going to cook cookies that are great for you. **Kailor**

I have been and super boy this year I cleaned my room I have got all A+'s on my selling test and I really want a D.S.i.x.l I love you Santa. **Keelan**

I been a good girl this year. I helped my mom vaccumd. I got all A+ on my report card I got no concas marks. I clean my room I really want DS games, DSIXL and a I Phone. **Jocelyne**

I've Been good for santa. I want a ps3 and xodx 360 and Ratchet and clank and Dragenball z Ring of blast 3 and lapetop and pant Ball gum and tictic. Your Friend, **Uriel**

I have been a gaet boy this year. I love to get a ipod and a bike Also, a call of Duty MN3. I really want a caben Fever the book. **Joshua Jack**

I have been a terrific boy and student this year. I followed the rules listen to my teacher and I behaved. I would Love to get a caBin Fever MW3 and a Xbox 360. **Isaac**

I have been a super girl this year because I have A's in conduct I have 100's in spelling and on test I have good grades. I love to get monster High dolls clothes and shows too. I Love you Santa and hope to see you on Christmas Day. **Laci**

I do good things. I will love a toy and a game. I really want these gifts. **Bryan**

I'm a good student. I want a go cart, Iphone and MW3. I can't wait for you Santa. **John**

I have been a super boy this year. I love to get XBOX 360, foot ball, Wii game and a play station. I really want a P.S.P. **Benson**

I have been a wonderer boy

I love to get a paper Jamz Intendo 3DS and Just Dance 3. I really want these toys and I will have some home made cookies with Milk. **Marco**

I have been a good girl this year. I've been Doing my homework, I'm listen to my brother and I've been good to my Daycare teacher Santa. I would Love a Book please and a smensel and an ipod. The thing I really won't a Justin Bever diary, ipod and a Diary of a Wimpy Kid Cabin Fever. **Natalie**

I have been a super girl this year. I did not get any conduct marts. I Love to get Barbie and Monster High a Latop. I Love you Santa. **Danile**

I have been a super boy this year. I love to get LEGO aliens, just Dau and nintenDo scooter that thos **Angel**

I have been a super boy this year. I Love to get a shotGun nerf and a controller for my Game and Just Dance 3. **Adrian**

I and a good stood no cund mark and I want a toy look so cool. This is a good day you thik right Santa. And a I'pod and Icon a cool game in Ps. **Loc**

I do my class Room Job's I listen to the teacher and I do my work. Because I have been a good boy I dsurve a Call of duty mw3 BB gun and a nurf gun and I will have cookies and milk for you. **Alex**

Lions Club meetings set

Space City Lions Club
The Houston Space City Lions Club will meet Tuesday, Dec. 27, at 7 p.m. at the Golden Corral, 12500 Gulf Freeway. For more information, call George Malone at 281-438-7243.

Houston Hobby Airport Lions Club
Houston Hobby Airport Lions Club will meet Wednesday, Jan. 4, at 11:30 a.m. at the Golden Corral at Fuqua and I-45. For information, call Monica Montoya at 281-794-5531.

Stuchbery helps Humane Society



Stuchbery faculty and families collected dog and cat food recently and donated more than 900 pounds to the Brazoria County Humane Society. Besides the food, they also collected medical supplies, toys and bedding. Even though the Brazoria County Humane Society is located in Brazoria County, they rescue animals from all over South Houston. Pictured are students Marcus Doss (front) and Zack Deem.

Photo submitted

Students learn about generosity



In order to teach students more about giving (Character Trait/Generosity), Stuchbery Elementary School Counselor Tina Jo Flotten asked them to bring any book from home (they were not allowed to purchase one) in order to receive their name on a "Bee" to be posted on the "Bee a Giver" tree in recognition of that student's donation. The books were then to be donated to an extremely low economic school in the Houston Independent School District. Pictured, left to right, Ja'LeeYa Green, Jo Anthony Lopez, Alize Alvarez and Jorge Arredondo display a few of the books collected. Flotten wanted to teach the students that generosity is a trait that everyone needs to instill into his or her life every day.

Photo submitted

Campeche showcased at UHCL

Take a break from holiday shopping to experience *Campeche*, a University of Houston-Clear Lake Art Gallery exhibition titled after pirate Jean Laffite's name for his colony on Galveston Island. The exhibition features the unique blend of photography by Van Edwards and poetry by Joshua Edwards, now through Jan 13, in the university's Bayou Building, Atrium I, Art Gallery, 2700 Bay Area Blvd.

Joshua Edwards' first collection of poetry, *Campeche*, was published by Noemi Press in 2011. Van Edwards is a photographer, educator and carpenter, as well as an adjunct faculty member at UH-Clear Lake.

Art gallery hours are Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Friday, 9 a.m. to noon.

This exhibition and the artists-in-residence are funded through the art exhibitions, Office of University Advancement, cultural arts, and the Dean of Human Sciences and Humanities of the University of Houston-Clear Lake. The gallery will be closed Dec. 23 through Jan. 1.

For more information, call Jeffrey Bowen, coordinator of audience development, at 281-283-3376 or e-mail bowen@uhcl.edu.

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Frazier bee winners named



Frazier Elementary held its annual spelling bee on Friday, Dec. 9, 2011. Twenty fourth-graders participated, but in the end, it came down to a battle between Marcus Hernandez (left) and Sidney Torres (right). Torres captured the victory in round 14 with the word *shawl*. All participants did an outstanding job. Torres will represent Frazier in the district spelling bee.

Photo submitted



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Judges needed for science fair

Plans are under way for the 51st annual CCISD Science Fair to be held Monday, Jan. 23, 2012, from noon until about 5 p.m. With more than 800 projects qualifying for the district fair, almost 200 judges are needed.

Each year, every campus holds a science fair within the

Clear Creek Independent School District, with approximately 8,000 students participating. The District Science Fair brings together the best of the projects from each of the school fairs.

Awards are given in a fourth-grade division, fifth-grade division, junior divi-

sion (grades 7-8), ninth-grade division, senior division (grades 10-12), and team divisions (grades 7-8, grade 9, and senior).

Clear Creek ISD's science fair is one of the most extensive in the state, and students consistently take top honors at the Houston (regional), state, and international science fairs. Much success can be attributed to the quality of judges at the district fair.

Volunteer professionals from the local community conduct judging for the district science fair. At the secondary level, judges conduct interviews with each student to determine winners.

Those interested in serving as a judge, should register online at <https://www2.ccisd.net/Departments/CurriculumInstruction/Science/CCISDScienceFair/ScienceFairJudges/judgeregistration.aspx> or contact Rose Swafford at 281-284-7323 or rswofford@ccisd.net. Additional information about the fair is available at www.ccisd.net.

Elementary categories include life sciences, physical sciences, consumer sciences, earth/space sciences, and mathematics.

Secondary categories include animal science, behavioral/social science, biochemistry/microbiology, chemistry, computers, earth/space science, energy and transportation, engineering, environmental science, mathematics, medicine and health, physics, and plant science.

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Cheerleaders parade winners



Galaxy Cheer recently won first place in the kids category of the Highland Meadow Homeowners Association Christmas Light Parade. Members pictured with Santa Claus (center back) are, left to right, (front row) Alyssa Allen, Gia Robinson, Julie Perez, Isabel Sanchez, Hailey Ortega, (back row) Jahlyssa Ramirez, Melissa Montana and Sofia Martinez.

Photo by Rudy Alafa

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SECTION B SPORTS & CLASSIFIED

Brook footballers picked all-district

The Clear Brook varsity football team, which rallied in the final week of the regular season to make the playoffs, celebrated having several Wolverines' players being named all-24-5A selections.

District champion Clear Springs and second-place Pearland dominated the awards and first team picks, but the Wolverines were not left out of the mix in the end.

The Wolverines' first team picks included offensive lineman Jeremy Knight, linebacker Fred Conyers and punt returner Kierman Cupples.

On the second team, the Wolverines were represented by running back Tim East, offensive lineman Ethan Lierman, defensive linemen T.J. Johnson and Justin Ackerman, defensive back Aaron Tellis and kicker Jannis Routsas.

Hoopsters brace as district play nears

Christmas is just days away, which means Texas high school basketball coaches and their programs are bracing for the most important portion of the schedule.

With the exception of the District 24-5A girls' race, where the respective teams will go to the break with three games already in the books, the majority of the region's races have only just begun or will begin in the first week of January 2012.

The Clear Brook Lady Wolverines stumbled out of the 24-5A gate with an opening loss to Pearland, but head coach Blair Redmon's team came up with one of its finest efforts of the season Dec. 16, at home against Dickinson.

Trailing early after scoring just five points in the first quarter, the Lady Wolverines scored 64 points over the ensuing three quarters to win easily, 69-54.

Redmon watched as five players scored in double figures. Chelsea Ngo had a team-high 19 points, and Aliyah Owens was next with 14.

Three other players, including Kelsey Balque, Chassidy Harris and Twon Mackey, had 10 points apiece.

Clear Brook followed that up with a win over Alvin Dec. 19, giving the locals a 2-1 mark with 11 games to go in 24-5A play post-Christmas.

Clear Brook now has one more tournament remaining. The locals will travel to the Willis Holiday Classic Dec. 27-29. The team will return to District 24-5A action Jan. 3 with a road game at Clear Creek.

The Wolverines' boys team, which has started off very well this season, opened District 24-5A action Dec. 20, after press time.

Like the girls, Brook's boys' team will also hit the trail for the holidays, playing in the Byron Johnson Classic in Midland Dec. 27-31.

Once returning from the Christmas break, the Wolverine boys will brace for the remaining 13 games of the 24-5A schedule, which starts Jan. 3 against Clear Creek.

Continued on Page 3B



Dobie varsity girls' basketball coach Shane Brown hopes his team is pointed in the right direction once and for all as the District 22-5A season gets under way Jan. 6 against South Houston at Philips Field House.

Local youth leagues to register

No matter the sport, South Belt area youths will be able to get their new year started in 2012 by registering within a variety of leagues.

The South Belt Youth Soccer Club, Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League and the South Belt Girls Softball Association are among the leagues that will be involved.

Each of the three aforementioned leagues will host registration dates throughout January 2012.

The South Belt Youth Club will have just one on-site registration date, coming Saturday, Jan. 7, at the Sagemont MUD Building, 10755 Hall Road at the corner of Blackhawk. Players may register online at southbeltsoccer.org.

The Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League will host its first registration for the spring 2012 season on Jan. 7, at El Franco Lee Park. For details concerning any of the South Belt area league registration dates, see Page 2B.

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All-district nods handed to Dobie FB players

Nine Dobie High School football players, including Player of the Year Andrew Robinson, were the big winners in the District 22-5A sweepstakes.

The Leader recognized Robinson and his other 22-5A first team selections in the Dec. 15 issue. Now, the second-team members take center stage.

Dobie, which finished second to Deer Park in the final 22-5A standings, had four additional offensive players named to the second team.

Deandre Bolden, who put together a solid season at tailback before shifting to quarterback midway through the campaign, was a second-team selection at running back.

The senior two-year varsity player wound up the season with 676 yards rushing and five touchdowns over 90 total carries. Bolden was Dobie's second-leading rusher.

Teammate Chris Stockman was once again one of Dobie's most productive receivers.

Stockman, also a senior, had 14 catches for 149 and two touchdowns on his way to second team all-22-5A status.

Two senior offensive linemen, including two-year starters Josh Basquez and Aaron Giles, also made their way onto the second team.

Three Longhorns' defensive players were picked as part of the second team.

Defensive tackle Fabian Davalos was named to the squad along with linebacker Anthony Simmons and defensive back Demetrius Green.

Dobie's Nguyen has holiday tales aplenty

Amanda Nguyen hasn't even finished her second year as a member of the United States Army, where she is also a member of the Black Knights women's softball team.

But that hasn't kept the 2010 Dobie High School graduate from stockpiling memories that are destined to last a lifetime.

Yes, Nguyen's calendar stays full. She must juggle her military duties along with those in the classroom and on the softball field. So far, Nguyen has passed with flying colors.

One of her fondest memories to date had to have been the chance to speak with President Barack Obama during the president's visit to the annual Army-Navy football game Dec. 10, at FedEx Field in Landover, Md.

Nguyen and several of her fellow cadets had the opportunity to escort the president during his stay. Navy went on to win the

ever year regardless of how well our football team is doing this season (3-9 overall)," Nguyen said.

"It's a 'Game of Honor' because of what each player from both teams has decided to commit their lives to after graduating. With the luck of the draw, I was chosen to be one of the cadets to sit with President Obama and many other important officials at

Continued on Page 3B

Lady Horn ex meets President Obama

Amanda Nguyen (far right), a 2010 Dobie High School graduate, had a chance to rub elbows with President Barack Obama during the 112th installment of the Army-Navy college football game Dec. 10, at FedEx Field in Landover, Md. Navy booted a pair of fourth-quarter field goals to hand Nguyen's Army squad a 27-21 loss in the big game. Nguyen was one of the honored Army personnel to be part of Obama's escort entourage. She is also a member of the Army women's softball program.

White House photo



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Sports Calendar

BASKETBALL Tuesday, Dec. 27

Brook varsity boys at Midland Classic, TBA
Brook varsity girls at Willis Classic, TBA
Dobie varsity girls at Barbers Hill tourn., TBA
Dobie varsity boys at Alvin Lions Club tourn., TBA

Wednesday, Dec. 28

Brook varsity boys at Midland Classic, TBA
Brook varsity girls at Willis Classic, TBA
Dobie varsity girls at Barbers Hill tourn., TBA
Dobie varsity boys at Alvin Lions Club tourn., TBA

Thursday, Dec. 29

Brook varsity boys at Midland Classic, TBA
Brook varsity girls at Willis Classic, TBA
Dobie varsity girls at Barbers Hill tourn., TBA
Dobie varsity boys at Alvin Lions Club tourn., TBA

Friday, Dec. 30

Brook varsity boys at Midland Classic, TBA

Saturday, Dec. 31

Brook varsity boys at Midland Classic, TBA

Tuesday, Jan. 3

Brook varsity boys host Clear Creek, 7:00
Brook varsity girls at Clear Creek, 7:00
Dobie varsity girls host Port Arthur Memorial, 7:30
Dobie JV girls host Port Arthur Memorial, 6:00
Brook JV girls at Clear Creek, 5:30
Brook JV boys host Clear Creek, 5:30
Dobie sophomore boys host Clear Creek, 5:30
Dobie freshman A girls host Port Arthur Memorial, 4:30
Brook freshman A boys host Clear Creek, 4:00
Brook freshman A girls at Clear Creek, 4:00
Brook freshman B boys host Clear Creek, 4:00
Brook freshman B girls at Clear Creek

Wednesday, Jan. 4

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

Friday, Jan. 6

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

Monday, Jan. 9

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

Tuesday, Jan. 10

Brook varsity boys at Brazoswood, 7:00
Brook varsity girls host Brazoswood, 7:00
Dobie varsity girls host Deer Park, 7:30
Dobie varsity boys at La Porte, 7:00
Dobie JV boys at La Porte, 6:00
Dobie JV girls host Deer Park, 6:00
Brook JV girls host Brazoswood, 5:30
Brook JV boys at Brazoswood, 5:30
Dobie sophomore boys at La Porte, 4:30
Brook sophomore boys at Brazoswood, 5:30
Dobie freshman A boys at La Porte, 6:00
Dobie freshman A girls host Deer Park, 4:30
Brook freshman A boys at Brazoswood, 4:00
Brook freshman A girls host Brazoswood, 4:00
Brook freshman B boys at Brazoswood, 4:00
Brook freshman B girls host Brazoswood, 4:00
Dobie freshman B girls host Deer Park, 6:00
Dobie freshman B boys at La Porte, 4:30

SOCCER

Friday, Dec. 30

Dobie varsity girls host alumni game, Newcomb, 4:00
Dobie varsity boys host alumni game, Newcomb, 6:00

Tuesday, Jan. 3

Brook varsity boys host Baytown Lee scrimm., 7:00
Dobie varsity girls at N. Shore scrimm., GPISD, 7:00
Brook JV boys host Baytown Lee scrimm., 5:00
Dobie JV girls at N. Shore scrimm., GPISD, 5:00

Friday, Jan. 6

Brook varsity boys at Aldine scrimm., 7:00
Brook JV boys at Aldine scrimm., 5:00

Saturday, Jan. 7

Brook varsity boys host alumni, Brook, 4:00
Brook varsity girls host alumni, Brook, 1:00

Lions' seventh-grade Light team wins San Jac invitational hoops

The Thompson Intermediate boys' seventh-grade B team played in the San Jacinto Invitational, one of the biggest intermediate school tournaments in the Houston area.

With teams coming from 17 different area districts to play in the respective divisions of the tournament, the competition was tough.

In the end, the Lions showed they are one of the area's best.

Falling victim to the Lions on their path to the championship were teams from Crosby, Friendswood, Seabrook and Victory Lakes.

The Lions finished the tournament emphatically winning the semifinal and

the final games by more than 20 points each.

Julio Vela and Triston Gibson were team most valuable players for the tournament.

Saul Arenas, Zion Walker, Trey Prater, Dejean Jolivette, Jeantrel Jolivette, Robert Lazo, Gerald Jessie and Donatus Oguamanam all played key roles through-

out the tournament.

The Lions kept up their winning ways during the fourth week of the Pasadena Independent School District regular season as the locals swept a four-game set against the Southmore Cowboys.

In the seventh-grade Light game, the Lions stayed alone in first place at 4-0 after ripping Southmore 61-29.

The Lions also stayed in first place in the seventh-grade Dark division, cruising past Southmore 46-17

to move to 4-0.

Thompson's eighth-grade teams were also victorious over the Cowboys.

In the eighth-grade Light game, the Lions won for the third time in four outings, taking down the Cowboys by a 56-41 count.

Thompson's eighth-grade Dark team also beat Southmore, earning an easy 56-30 win to stay atop the PISD standings at 4-0.

The PISD season will now take a holiday hiatus before returning to the court on Jan. 4.

BHI girls' basketball rolls on

The Beverly Hills Intermediate girls' basketball program stayed on a roll with four easy victories over the San Jacinto Tigers in the final series of the pre-Christmas schedule.

Overall in 16 games to this point in the season, the Lady Bears have won 14 games and lost just two.

Both the eighth-grade Light and eighth-grade Dark teams are now atop the standings at 4-0.

BHI 8 Dark 36 San Jacinto 17

The eighth-grade Dark team started the game against San Jacinto strong, holding the Tigers scoreless in the first quarter on the way to a 36-17 win.

Georgette Wandji scored the first points of the game for Beverly Hills and wound up with four points, eight rebounds and two steals.

The Lady Bears also got a big game from Julianna Salinas, who had two points and three rebounds.

Brittany Rodriguez gave the Lady Bears a good lead going into halftime as she came through with nine points and four steals.

In the second quarter, Melany Menjivar played great defense against the San Jacinto guards and added nine points, two steals and a blocked shot.

Giselle Landa led the Bears to the easy victory with 11 points and nine steals.

BHI 8 Light 40 San Jacinto 21

In the eighth-grade Light game, the Bears started off a little slow but later turned up the heat on the Tigers during a 40-21 victory.

Kristy Christmas had an all-around great game to help the team stay unbeaten at 4-0.

Christmas contributed 12 points, four rebounds and six steals.

Next up was Kaitlyn Cadena, who added 10 points and two steals. Lada Heng also had two points.

The Lady Bears went into halftime with a 20-10 lead over the Tigers.

In the second half, the Bears played much harder, which led to 11 overall steals.

Leading the way was Justice Henderson, who had six points and six steals.

Under the basket, Gabby Jones and Macalyn Castro combined for four points, 10 rebounds, four steals and three blocked shots.

Genevieve Anabogu had four steals to lead the Bears to the big win.

BHI 7 Dark 38 San Jacinto 10

Holding San Jacinto

scoreless in the first half, the Lady Bears' seventh-grade Dark team went on to win 38-10.

Winning for the third time in four district games, Beverly Hills seventh-grade Dark team led 24-0 at the half.

Chelsea Hamilton and Zaria Thomas helped the team to the big lead with 10 points combined.

In the second half, the Tigers made a quick break but were unable to get out of the hole the Lady Bears had dug for them.

Top scorers for the Lady Bears were Taja Tillman with 10 points and Camille Singleton with eight.

BHI 7 Light 33 San Jacinto 4

Beverly Hills' seventh-grade Light team had a quick start as well en route to a 33-4 victory over San Jacinto. The win left the Lady Bears at 3-1 thus far in league play.

The Lady Bears were able to have an easy time of it by holding the Tigers scoreless in the first half.

Crystal Glover and Marissa Magoo both helped the Lady Bears get out to a big lead early in the game.

Top scorers were Audrey Wandji with 10 points and Alexandria Garcia with six.

Lions' 7 boys handle Cowboys

The Thompson Intermediate seventh-grade boys' Light and Dark basketball team remained unbeaten with wins over the Southmore Cowboys.

Lions 7 Dark 47 Southmore 24

In a battle of unbeaten teams, the Lions' seventh-grade Dark team beat Bondy 47-24.

Defense and rebounding were the keys to the victory as the Lions held Bondy to eight points in the first half while scoring 25 of their own.

The outstanding play of Julio Vela inside combined with Triston Gibson's dynamic ball-handling were too much for the Patriots as those two combined for 30 of the Lions' 47 points.

Lions 7 Light 52 Southmore 28

The Lions' seventh-grade Light team downed Southmore 52-28 to stay undefeated.

After falling behind late in the second quarter, Jeremy Williams keyed a Lions' comeback with two big 3-pointers, including one at

the halftime buzzer.

After that momentum shift, Josh Cooper and Luis Chavez led the Lions as they cruised through the second half.

Chavez and Cooper were the leading scorers with 14 points each while Williams chipped in with 12. Alvin Deveza played tough inside, as did Landen Cunningham against the Cowboys' post players.

Royce Hunter also played a key role with his tough defense up top and multiple steals.

Area sports news, notes

Dobie soccer sets alumni games

The Dobie High School boys' and girls' soccer programs will host their annual alumni games Friday, Dec. 30, at Newcomb Field. The girls' game will be played at 4 p.m., followed by the boys' game at 6 p.m. Those interested in playing can simply show up at the stadium ready to compete.

Wolverines' soccer to host alumni games

The Clear Brook High School boys' and girls' soccer programs will host their alumni games Saturday, Jan. 7, at Clear Brook High School. The girls' game will be played at 1 p.m., followed by the boys' game at 4 p.m. Those interested in playing are asked to arrive ready to play with enough time to warm up beforehand.

SBHLL sign-up dates

The Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League has established 2012 spring season registration dates as Saturday, Jan. 7, and Saturday, Jan. 14, from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m. at the SBHLL facility at El Franco Lee Park. Junior T-Ball fees (ages 3 – must turn 3 by Jan. 1, 2012 – and 4) are \$100. Fees for all other divisions (age 5 and up – must turn 5 by April 30, 2012) are \$140. Those registering must provide a birth certificate and three proofs of residency.

SBHLL taking bids – The league is also accepting bids through Jan. 10, 2012, for those wishing to handle the league's team picture services as well as those wishing to take action photos (for sell) at league games. The league is also seeking a snow cone provider for the season. Those wishing to submit a bid or obtain more information may do so by directing email to sbhll@hotmail.com.

South Belt Youth Soccer Club registration

The South Belt Youth Soccer Club will host its lone on-site registration Saturday, Jan. 14, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Sagemeadow MUD Building, 10755 Hall Road at the corner of Blackhawk. Fees for those in the U5 to U8 division are \$80 in person or \$65 online. Fees are \$85 in person and \$70 online for those in the U9 and U10 divisions, and \$90 in person and \$75 online for those in the U11 through U18 divisions. The sign-up fee includes uniform, shirt, shorts and socks. Parents must provide shin guards, soccer cleats and a soccer ball. To register online, visit the league website at www.southbeltsoccer.org.

Dobie softball youth clinic

The 2012 Dobie Lady Longhorn Softball Clinic will be held Saturday, January 28, from 9 a.m. to noon at the South Belt Girls Softball Association facility at El Franco Lee Park. Girls age 6 to 14 are eligible to attend the session, which is \$30 per participant. The fee includes a clinic T-shirt to those who register prior to Jan. 18. The clinic will include hitting, fielding, bunting and baserunning instruction from members of the Dobie coaching staff as well as current players. To sign up for the clinic, families may download the entry form and get updated information at www.ladylonghornssoftball.org.

SBGSA releases more sign up dates

The South Belt Girls Softball Association is kicking its spring 2012 registration dates into high gear with a series of upcoming sessions at the league's facility at El Franco Lee Park. The first regular registration date is set for Saturday, Jan. 7, 2012, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Fees are \$80 per participating family member, with a \$5 discount extended to each family player thereafter. Additional dates will include Jan. 14 and Jan. 19. There is also a late registration date, but league officials are encouraging players to register as soon as possible. The league tryout date has been set for Saturday, Jan. 21.

Seventh-Grade Light Boys' Basketball Standings

(Week Four)		
Teams	W	L
Thompson	4	0
Bondy	3	1
South Houston	3	1
Queens	3	1
Jackson	2	2
San Jacinto	2	2
Beverly Hills	2	2
Miller	1	3
Park View	0	4
Southmore	0	4

Game scores:

Thompson 47, Southmore 24

Bondy 37, Miller 16

Beverly Hills 37, San Jacinto 22

South Houston 44, Jackson 32

Queens 41, Park View 23

Eighth-Grade Light Boys' Basketball Standings

(Week Four)		
Teams	W	L
Park View	3	1
Southmore	3	1
Queens	3	1
Thompson	3	1
Beverly Hills	3	1
San Jacinto	2	2
Jackson	1	3
South Houston	1	3
Miller	1	3
Bondy	0	4

Game scores:

Thompson 56, Southmore 41

South Houston 59, Jackson 38

Beverly Hills 40, San Jacinto 24

Miller 45, Bondy 42

Queens 48, Park View 36

Seventh-Grade Light Girls' Basketball Standings

(Week Four)		
Teams	W	L
Bondy	4	0
Jackson	3	1
Thompson	3	1
Beverly Hills	3	1
Southmore	2	2
South Houston	2	2
Park View	2	2
Miller	1	3
San Jacinto	0	4
Queens	0	4

Game scores:

Thompson 36, Southmore 18

Bondy 29, Miller 9

South Houston 23, Jackson 18

Beverly Hills 33, San Jacinto 4

Park View 26, Queens 20

Eighth-Grade Light Girls' Basketball Standings

(Week Four)		
Teams	W	L
Beverly Hills	4	0
Park View	4	0
Bondy	3	1
Southmore	3	1
San Jacinto	2	2
Queens	2	2
Miller	1	3
South Houston	1	3
Thompson	0	4
Jackson	0	4

Game scores:

Southmore 38, Thompson 30

Bondy 35, Miller 13

South Houston 17, Jackson 15

Beverly Hills 40, San Jacinto 21

Park View 36, Queens 16

Seventh-Grade Dark Boys' Basketball Standings

(Week Four)		
Teams	W	L
Thompson	4	0
Beverly Hills	3	1
South Houston	3	1
Bondy	3	1
Miller	2	2
San Jacinto	2	2
Queens	2	2
Park View	1	3
Jackson	0	4
Southmore	0	4

Game scores:

Thompson 58, Southmore 22

Bondy 34, Miller 20

Beverly Hills 32, San Jacinto 28

South Houston 25, Jackson 19

Queens 29, Park View 12

Eighth-Grade Dark Boys' Basketball Standings

(Week Four)		
Teams	W	L
Thompson	4	0
Beverly Hills	3	1
San Jacinto	3	1
South Houston	2	2
Park View	2	2
Jackson	2	2
Queens	2	2
Southmore	1	3
Bondy	1	3
Miller	0	4

Game scores:

Thompson 56, Southmore 30

San Jacinto 27, Beverly Hills 21

Bondy 42, Miller 19

Jackson 38, South Houston 36 (2OT)

Queens 28, Park View 17

Dobie grad Nguyen details Army life as she knows it

Continued from Page 1B

the game. There were many security measures that had to be taken in order to be around him, but it was all worth it in the end. Just to be chosen to be around the President was an honor, but I was even able to sit two seats away from him, so I was able to hold a conversation with him.

"(Obama) was definitely a man who cared about our personal lives and commended us on our commitment to our nation."

It is a well-known fact that Obama loves basketball. He has even been known to play basketball whenever the situation allows. But Nguyen also discovered that the president has a knowledge of many sports.

"He knows his sports as well, because I was able to talk to him about softball and how much it has helped ease life at the academy," Nguyen said.

"He is a family man, and he talked about his two daughters and wasn't shy about it. I am so honored to have had an opportunity to sit near him and have a casual conversation with our commander-in-chief as we cheered on the Black Knights in the fourth quarter."

Nguyen is currently back in the South Belt area visiting family and friends for the holidays.

It will be a brief visit, however, as Nguyen must return soon to get back on the softball field with her teammates.

The Black Knights will open the season Feb. 10 as part of the Red & Black Invitational at the University of Georgia.

As a freshman last spring, Nguyen had a record-setting debut for the Army team en route to sharing team Rookie of the Year honors with teammate April Ortenzo.

Nguyen set academy team records with 70 hits, 41 runs scored and 27 stolen bases while also converting to left field.

The freshman also had 2011 team highs that included a .383 batting average, a .415 slugging percentage and a .421 on base average.

"It's easy to see why Nguyen was a first team all-Patriot League pick. She was also named to the Patriot League all-tournament squad."

"It was definitely a great year for me out on the field, if only that was all I had to worry about on top of academics," Nguyen told the *Leader*.

"On a personal level, I expect to continue to get on base so that my teammates are able to drive me in. I also need to keep the team motivated as much as possible."

"I maintain a positive attitude in order to keep the team going."

As for 2012 and beyond on the softball field, Nguyen has high hopes for the Black Knights team.

"We have a different dynamic pitching-wise this year, so it will be very interesting as we compete in the Patriot League again," Nguyen said.

"Our team has developed a much more consistent hitting base, and I am very excited to see what we are able to do. I obviously expect to be Patriot League champions during the regular season and at the conference

tournament, so that we are able to compete in NCAA regionals.

"We were able to defeat the University of Maryland in the fall, so we know that we are capable as long as we believe we are."

Her freshman season behind her, Nguyen is excited to see what is in store when the Black Knights return to the field.

She also expects things to smooth out a bit after learning on the go both on and off the field as a freshman.

"I would have to say my college experience has been one on a different route than most would choose to take."

Those in the South Belt area who know Nguyen would definitely not be surprised to know that she handled up to 22 hours per semester in the classroom while earning a 3.1 grade point average.

Nor are they likely surprised at what she was able to do on the softball field. But this holiday season, her friends and family no doubt are more interested in the stories involving Nguyen's military accomplishments.

"I have spent many nights out in the woods pretending as though I was out for deployment," Nguyen said.

"We would set up patrol bases where we had to have security at all times, which definitely means only a couple of hours of sleep for a few days."

"Even though some days were rough as we would carry a 50 pound rucksack to our next site, which was at least three to four miles away, I got to go to the shooting range and qualify for weapons such as an M4 carbine, M240B, M249, and a M203."

And of course there are other issues. As a youth, Nguyen often had trouble maintaining direction and knowing her way around when out and about. That's a no-no in the military.

"Land Navigation is a graduation requirement here," she said. "You have to navigate through the woods using only a compass, protractor and a map."

"I am poor with directions, so when I drive around back home, I always have my GPS with me."

"(Land Navigation) showed to be a big challenge for me; however, I managed to pull out of the test with all of my points to pass, so you could say it was a big accomplishment."

"After the past year-plus, the most important lesson I learned is that you aren't going to be good at everything like you were in high school."

"You have to learn to accept failure and then learn from it. Then, celebrate the little stuff that gets accomplished, whether it's that you are the first one at formation or you finally passed a test."

Now well into her sophomore academic year, Nguyen has also settled things in the classroom. She one day hopes to become a pediatrician and seems well on her way.

"I declared my major as life sciences with a minor in environmental engineering in October," Nguyen said.

"It would be equivalent to a biology major at other colleges. I am still on the pursuit of going to medical school and becoming a pe-

diatrician.

"I would have to say, it is very demanding compared to what I expected it to be. We have to take 18-22 credits a semester, so it's really hard to manage your time on top of practice every day."

According to Nguyen, a regular school day goes something like this: 0445: Wake-Up 0530: Morning conditioning 0655: Breakfast formation 0700-0715: Mandatory breakfast 0730-1155: Class 1205: Mandatory lunch formation 1210-1230: Lunch 1255-1345: Company meetings 1355-1450: Class 1515-1800: Practice 1830-1900: Dinner 1930-whenever: Homework

After a typical day like that, Nguyen and her fellow cadets sleep and start the process again five days a week. She said staying up until 2 to 3 a.m. in the morning to finish studying is not uncommon. Otherwise, a 1 a.m. bedtime is nice.

As for being in and around the New York area the majority of the time, Nguyen has also made a few adjustments. She won't likely ever adapt to the frigid winter temperature and subsequent conditions, but she adapts.

"There is definitely time to relax during weekends when there is not a training day scheduled or a football game," Nguyen said.

"I would say there are about three weekends a semester where we are able to take pass and leave West Point."

"Most people head to New York City and enjoy what that city has to offer. Some go home if they live on the east coast. Most take advantage of it and sleep as much as they can and get a lot of homework done so that they are able to get some decent sleep during the week."

"The spring semester is spent at softball games

every weekend, so there is only relaxing at the field for me around that time."

"I have not adapted to the weather one bit. I love the sun and summer, so the winters here have been treating me brutally. Sometimes I just don't understand where the cold comes from."

"This past May, we were still wearing our coats to class and it snowed on the 1st of April! For this school

year, we thankfully only received snow on the 31st of October, and other than that, it has been ranging from 20 to 40 degrees for the most part."

"I am very excited to head back for winter leave in warm winter weather."

"Living in New York is great at times, but I do miss home a lot. I had a lot of trouble my first year because of the distance and

limited contact with my family, but as I found ways to adjust better to the atmosphere, it has become exponentially easier to live and go to school here."

"Plus, the food does not even compare to the home cooking at home!"

So Nguyen is now home for a while, and no doubt enjoying the home cooking and friendships. Then, it's back to the grind.



All-Patriot League as a freshman

Amanda Nguyen, a 2010 Dobie High School graduate, was right at home on the women's softball field while playing for the Army Black Knights. She set three team single season records and also led the team in another three categories on her way to be named to the all-Patriot League first team and the post-season all-tournament team.



San Jacinto College sophomore players Candyce Carter (left) and Shannon Millman (right) will continue their educations and playing careers at Lamar University in Beaumont after signing letters of intent. With them at the signing was SJC head coach Kelly Saenz. Both players will finish their careers at San Jacinto College next fall before joining the first-year Lamar program beginning in the 2012-2013 school year.

Photo by Andrea Vasquez

SJC softball pair picks Lamar

San Jacinto College softball players Shannon Millman and Candyce Carter have signed national letters of intent to continue their education and softball careers at Lamar University in Beaumont.

Millman, a sophomore pitcher from Pasadena Memorial High School, led San Jac last season with a 21-8 overall record and a 1.68 earned run average.

In 200 innings pitched, she struck out 180 batters, setting a new school record.

Millman was named to the National Fastpitch Coaches Association Midwest Region first team, the NFCA All-America third team, the Region XIV All-South conference team and was also an All-Region se-

lection.

Millman said she chose Lamar University "because of the amazing facilities." She also likes that it is close to her hometown and family.

Carter, a sophomore outfielder from Sweeny High School, broke the school record for doubles last season with 23.

She was an NFCA All-Midwest Region second team selection, a Region XIV All-South conference selection, and an All-Region honoree.

In 204 at bats, Carter hit .387 behind 79 hits, including 23 doubles, two triples, and two home runs. She knocked in 26 runs.

Carter chose Lamar University right from the beginning when she stepped on

campus and met the coaches.

She said, "I knew I belonged here. I just got the feeling that this school and softball program would fit me best."

Lamar University will revive its softball program in the spring of 2013 after a 25-year hiatus.

San Jac kicks off the 2012 softball season on the road Saturday, Jan. 28, at Heartland/Louisiana State University - Eunice.

Last season, San Jac finished fifth at the Region XIV tournament with an overall record of 40-12.

It was the third season with 40 or more wins for head coach Kelly Saenz in her eight seasons at the helm of the San Jac softball program.

District hoops lead early 2012

Continued from Page 1B
Creek and continues Jan. 6, against the Clear Springs Chargers.

The pace will also pick up at Dobie eventually as the Longhorns will step into District 22-5A action against Deer Park and the rest of the Pasadena Independent School District ranks.

Both the Dobie varsity girls and boys teams finished second a season ago. Deer Park was the frontrunner in the girls' division, while South Houston was the 2010-2011 boys' champion.

The Dobie girls have one more tournament appearance remaining, that coming Dec. 27-29, at the Barbers Hill Invitational.

Following that event, Dobie will take on Port Arthur Memorial Jan. 3, before facing South Houston Jan. 6, at Phillips Field House in the District 22-5A opener for both teams.

The Dobie boys also have one tournament left before the start of district play. The Longhorns will be part of the Alvin Lions Club tournament, which will be held at Alvin High School and Alvin Community College Dec. 27-29.

Like the Lady Longhorns, the Dobie boys

are looking to build some consistency as district approaches. The locals fell 71-58 to Channelview Dec. 16.

As has often been the case one rough quarter proved costly as the Longhorns lost the third quarter 23-11.

Brook High School

Varsity boys' soccer schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Jan. 3	Baytown Lee scrimmage	7 p.m.
Jan. 6	at Aldine scrimmage	7 p.m.
Jan. 7	Alumni scrimm at Brook	4 p.m.
Jan. 10	at La Porte scrimmage	7 p.m.
Jan. 12-14	at Klein tourn.	TBA
Jan. 17	at Clear Falls	7 p.m.
Jan. 24	at North Shore (GPISD)	7 p.m.
Jan. 27	Texas City	7 p.m.
Jan. 31	at C.E. King	7 p.m.
Feb. 3	*at Alvin	7 p.m.
Feb. 7	*Clear Creek	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 11	*Clear Springs	2 p.m.
Feb. 14	*at Brazoswood	7 p.m.
Feb. 17	*Clear Lake	7 p.m.
Feb. 21	*at Pearland	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 24	*Dickinson	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 28	*Alvin	7 p.m.
March 2	*Clear Creek (at CCISD)	7:30 p.m.
March 7	*at Clear Springs	7:30 p.m.
March 9	*Brazoswood	7 p.m.
March 12	*at Clear Lake	7 p.m.
March 20	*Pearland	7 p.m.
March 23	*at Dickinson	7 p.m.

* District 24-5A matches

Brook High School

Varsity girls' soccer schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Jan. 7	Alumni scrimmage at Brook	1 p.m.
Jan. 10	at Cy-Falls	7 p.m.
Jan. 13	La Porte	7 p.m.
Jan. 17	Elsik	7 p.m.
Jan. 19-21	at I-10 Shootout	TBA
Jan. 24	Clear Falls	7 p.m.
Jan. 31	Friendswood	TBA
Feb. 3	*Alvin	7 p.m.
Feb. 7	*at Clear Creek	7 p.m.
Feb. 10	*at Clear Springs	7 p.m.
Feb. 14	*Brazoswood	7 p.m.
Feb. 17	*at Clear Lake	7 p.m.
Feb. 21	*Pearland	7 p.m.
Feb. 24	*at Dickinson	7 p.m.
Feb. 28	*at Alvin	7 p.m.
March 2	*Clear Creek	7 p.m.
March 7	*Clear Springs	7 p.m.
March 9	*at Brazoswood	7 p.m.
March 20	*at Pearland	7 p.m.
March 23	*Dickinson	7 p.m.
March 27	*Clear Lake	7 p.m.

* District 24-5A matches

Continued from Page 1B
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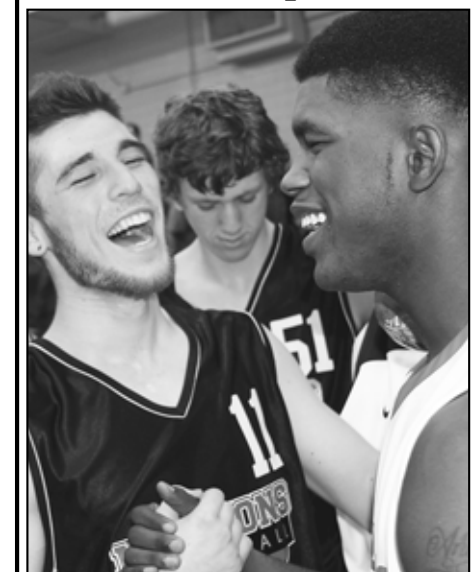
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Like the Lady Longhorns, the Dobie boys

Australian hoops in town



South Houston High senior Kenneth Marshall (right) shakes hands and shares a laugh with Peter Nichols (11), a member of the HSE Kangaroos, following a 76-27 victory for the Trojans Dec. 9, at the South Houston gymnasium. The Kangaroos are a touring high school team from Australia. The visitors spent the day at South Houston High School and were treated to a catered Mexican food lunch.

CALENDAR

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22

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

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

6:30 p.m.
Alcoholics Anonymous - Thursday and Friday at 6:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.
St. Luke's Catholic Church - St. Luke the Evangelist Church, 11011 Hall Road, offers free tutoring on Tuesdays from 7 to 9 p.m. and Thursdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tutoring is held in Room 2 of the Education Building. Contact Joe Pavlicek at 281-484-1397 or by e-mail at joe_pavlicek@yahoo.com.

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

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23

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

Noon
Moving Forward Women's Adult Children Anonymous - The ACA group meets Fridays at noon at the Up The Street Club in Webster, 508 Nasa Parkway, in room 4. ACA is a 12-step program

of hope, healing and recovery for people who grew up in alcoholic or dysfunctional homes. For more information, call 281-286-1431.

6 p.m.
Spanish Al-Anon - Friday at 6 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.

6:30 p.m.
Alcoholics Anonymous - Thursday and Friday 6:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24
- CHRISTMAS EVE -
11 a.m.

Al-Anon Meeting - Women Only - Meets each Saturday morning from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Room 111. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25
- CHRISTMAS DAY -
2 p.m.

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

6:30 p.m.
Alcoholics Anonymous - Sunday at 6:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.

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

MONDAY, DECEMBER 26

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

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

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

6:30 p.m.
New Directions Singles Club - New Directions Singles support meetings are held each Monday at 6:30 p.m. at Webster Presbyterian Church, 201 W. NASA Parkway in Webster. For further information, call Linda at 409-392-6886.

Civil Air Patrol Meeting - Weekly at Ellington Field in the Civil Air Patrol Building. Call 281-484-1352 and leave a message for more information.

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

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27

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

10 a.m.
American Begonia Society - Meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at Maxum Bank in League City. For more information, call 281-946-4237 or 281-471-5048.

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

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

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

6 p.m.
Spanish Al-Anon - Tuesday at 6 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.

6:30 p.m.
Clear Lake Toastmasters Club - Meets at the Clear Lake Church of Christ, 938 El Dorado Blvd. Call Jerry Tate at 281-481-5417 for information.

7 p.m.
Houston Space City Lions Club - Meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Golden Corral, 12500 Gulf Freeway. For more information, call George Malone at 281-438-7243.

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

South Belt Elementary writes Santa Claus

Continued from Page 3A
 would like for Christmas is a giant micangle hand.
Wyatt
 Did you tell the elves to throw toilet paper all over the pod? Santa I want a magic kit for Christmas. How is Buddy the Elf at the north pole? My little sister really wants that pricus casual for Christmas get her it.
Matthew
 How are you doing? I hope you are doing good. How old you are and Buddy the Elf too? I bleve in you and the other Elfs too, I been good and I will keep on doing reely reely good. I bleve in Christmas Spirit. I hope your reindeers are doing good and yere little Elfs too. I want a orange and black bike for Christmas. **Adrian**
 How is Buddy the Elf doing at the North Pole? I hope Buddy the Elf see's nothing bad today. What do you do at the North Pole? I like the names of your reindeer. How does your reindeer fly? I really want a puppy.
Kenzie
 Buddy the Elf is funny of all. Becase he been watohing us like a long time in the classroom. But can I aks you a question can Buddy the Elf fly to the North Pole? I want a Dora Doll. **Lara**
 I have been good at school. I had a hard time doing my home work I will try better next year. I did good on math. I tried to get work done I tried to work hard and get good grades I did good on my math. I am good every day. And bring me lego ning ago batles for Christmas.
Luis
 I think I was good. I will like a D.S. for Christmas. I had lots of present for Christmas. Some times I get in droble. I hope you have a great Christmas. **Akira**
 How are you doing? I have been doing good so far. I was wondering if you could give me a list of your reindeers? I want to have snow for Christmas. I have fourteen things on my wish list. Buddy the Elf tied string to people's desk! I thought that was very funny. Buddy is sitting on top of the flag pole in our classroom. I also want a I Phone. **Cameron**
 I was wondering if you could

your reindeer? I also want to know how Buddy the Elf was in the North Pole with you. I also would like it to snow on Christmas or on a day close to Christmas. Did you know that Buddy the Elf and the other elves put toilet paper all over the second grade pod. I want the new Ben 10 galactic racing game on DS. Merry Christmas! **Marcus**
 How do you eat so many cookies in one night? How many Elfs are in the North Pole? How are you doing in North Pole? How do you send presents to each kid? How long does it take you to send all the presents? I want a Laptop.
Asher
 Santa, I am being good. Can you send Franklin the elf back to my house? I was wondering if your elfs can make me a xbox360. I want a intindo 3D D.S. and a blue will! I dezerv all this stuff cause I been good. You are the best. I will make you cookies and milk. I hop you come throo my chemane and not my door. Girl elfs red and white and a drees? Christmas is my favorit holiaddy because Santa delivers presents at night and a time to sellabrate! It is cold at the north pole every day!
Jaedon
 How have you been? Did you have a good Christmas last year? Why did Buddy the Elf put string on everybody's desk? Santa can you get me dollhouse and Brat's Masgrurade. Can you get me a real brown bunny an Perfect Petezz.Can you get me a Yorkie. Merry Christmas!
Caidence
 How is Buddy the Elf doing? How is Mrs. Claus? How are you doing Santa? I helped a girl carry her chair. Buddy the Elf got in our cheser chest and nook it down. I want legos for Christmas.
Kaden
 How are you doing Santa? How is Buddy the Elf doing? How is Ms. Claus doing? It was funny when Budd the Elf put string on peoples desk. I want a Ipad for Christmas. Merry Christmas Santa Claus!
Brianna
 How are you doing? How are your elves and Ms. Claus doing? You are like the best! Do you salbreat chistmas? Is Buddy the Elf getting along with the other elves? I would like an art pack for Chirstmas.
Kelly
Cameron Dodson's Class
 I wand wont a iPod, i Phone an LnnoTab, Pedpad an flat screen TV-80 desh. A tunde all magic tree House.
Gentry
 How is your reindeer? For chirstmas I want a 3DS and game with it. Moster High dolls. A pogo stick. A Barby doll and Barby clouse. A art kit. And a Moxe doll. Merry Christmas!
Avry
 I been really good this year. Santa is very nice. Christmas is my favorite year. For Christmas I want a dog. What I like about Christmas I get presents. For chirstmas I want a lizard. I want a computer. I want a play station. For Christmas I want a skate-board.
Ryan Saxton
 I been good at scool. I want a my favorit toy fro chirstmas. I brothr want a skatebord. Please by my mom and dad a presents for me taink you. can you by me a flat screen T.V. Can you by me a new bike. Merry Christmas.
Jasmine Bethely
 I been good this year and for Christmas I want a book for Christmas and the book is called Thor and I wand a action figure and a Wii game called toy talk and some legos to play with my family.
Gael Barrera
 I was good Can I please have a video game named Goldin war 3 col o duty black cops Mintendo Wii controler and a Play Station 3 and a computer with a I Pad Please Santa.
Abraham
 I have been good I want some shoes a remote a control car 4-wheeler some games electric scooter pogo stick a I phone 4 playstation computer I lov eyou santa
Jeremiah
 For Christmas I want a remote control car, a wii, a xbox360, a remote control helicopter, a skatebord, electric scooter, guitar, Phone, flat screen T.V., bike any bar a game, Mareo Kart

gams. **Mazen Mussad**
 I've been very good this year. I want an ipad. I want new bike. I will want my family to come celebrate Christmas with me. I will want a electric guitar. I will be happy to get a iPhone 4. I will want a camera. I will be happy to get a laptop. **Elijah Hernandez**
 For Christmas I want a Xbox 360. Mario and Sonic at the London games. Mario Kart 7. Super Mario 3D Land. Two black 3DSes. An AR for DS. An iPad. I Phone. I touch. Laptop. Mario Kart DS.
Andre Barrientos
 May I please have a Reduky and Poke'mon card's and one more thing a hex bag and a poke'mon game. Phone. Play Station.
Kenneth Merrit
 I was really good here is my list I want a poke'mon black the game. I want the hawk eye blue sky. I want a scooter and a electric guitar. The yoyo kick side. A video camera.
Jaxon Efirid
 I love youra Rain Deers. And you to and Ms. Claus and the elves to wate I want 5 Sta wase clon troopers Lego sest and a new game for the Wii and nerf gun. And a new skoter. **Colby Reed**
 I have been being good. I would like for Chirstmas an elf in the shelf and skyscrapp CD and supper mario brothers. I would really want a Justin Beiber doll and a dollhouse a really big doll-house. That is all I want so Merry Christmas.
Leslie Hernandez
 For Christmas I would like a pair of high tops, a sweater, skatebord, an elf on my shelf, remote control helicopter and car, scooter.
Alana Arrington
 I have been good. I would like a Barbie doll. And my brother wants a toy helicopter. And I want a Baby doll. Merry Christmas!
Alyssa Chapman
 I want a antler elf on the shelf. I want some new music CD's. A lot of other kids don't believe in you. But I do. how are the Elfs? I have one at home they are really nice. Mine is named Max. Have a Merry Christmas. I would like a helicopter.
Rhiannon Barron

CALENDAR

TUESDAY, Dec. 27
 8 p.m.
Alcoholics Anonymous - AA meetings are held Tuesdays and Sundays, 8 to 9 p.m. and Thursdays, 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. at St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta Street. Call 713-204-2481.
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 28
 7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" each Monday through Friday, from 7 to 8 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Room 114. Call 281-487-8787 or just drop in.
Young at Heart Club - Meets the second and fourth week of each month at Covenant United Methodist Church, 7900 Fuqua. Call Nellie Galney at 713-991-3517 for more information.
 10 a.m.
Spanish Al-Anon - Wednesday at 10 a.m. at First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.
Houston Area Parkinson Society - Free exercise held from 4 to 5 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Pearland, 3005 Pearland Parkway, Pearland. Visit www.hapsonline.org.
Spanish Al-Anon - Wednesday at 6 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.
Bay Area Turning Point Crisis Intervention Center - Domestic violence support group for male survivors meets each Wednesday at 210 S. Walnut off NASA Parkway. Call 281-338-7600 for information.
Houston Area Parkinson Society - Free exercise and speech therapy, 9 to 10:30 a.m. at Clear Lake Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd. Visit www.hapsonline.org.
Scrabble Club #511 - Meets every Monday at the IHOP on Fuqua from 6 to 9 p.m. All who enjoy the game or want to learn to play are invited to join. For more information, call 281-488-2923.
New Directions Singles Club - Meetings are held each Monday at 6:30 p.m. at Webster Presbyterian Church, 201 W. NASA Parkway in Webster. For further information, call Linda at 409-392-6886.
Civil Air Patrol Meeting - Weekly at Ellington Field in the Civil Air Patrol Building. Call 281-484-1352 and leave a message for more information.
Grief Support Group - "Friends Helping Friends" meets every Monday, 7 to 8:15 p.m. at Kindred Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd. in Webster. For information, call Betty Flynn, 281-474-3430 or Diana Kawalec, 281-334-1033.
TUESDAY, JANUARY 3
 7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" each Monday through Friday, from 7 to 8 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Room 114. Call 281-487-8787 or just drop in.
Alcoholics Anonymous - Thursdays and Friday at 6:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway. Call 281-487-8787 or just drop in.
Local NARFE Meeting - The National Association of Retired Federal Employees, Chapter 1321, meets the first Tuesday of each month in the Clear Lake Community Center, 5001 NASA Parkway. A meal is available for \$6. For information, call Bob Mitchell, 281-333-2881.
Trailmixers - Meets the first Tuesday of the month at the Luby's Cafeteria on Fuqua. Former and current employees of J. Frank Dobie High School are welcome for lunch and conversation.
Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum - Exhibits include dioramas, an old-time kitchen and a turn-of-the-century doctor's office. Tuesday-Friday from 1 to 5 p.m. 204 S. Main. Call 713-472-0565.
Houston Area Parkinson Society - Free exercise and speech therapy, 1:30 to 3 p.m. at Bayshore Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation Center, 4021 Brookhaven, Pasadena. Visit www.hapsonline.org.
TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) - TOPS #1530 meets at the Beverly Hills Community Center, 10201 Kingspoint, from 2 to 4 p.m. For information, call Jeanette Sumrall at 713-946-3713.
Spanish Al-Anon - Tuesday at 6 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.
Clear Lake Toastmasters Club - Meets at the Clear Lake Church of Christ, 938 El Dorado Blvd. Call Jerry Tate at 281-481-5417 for information.
St. Luke's Catholic Church - St. Luke the Evangelist Church, 11011 Hall Road, offers free tutoring on Tuesdays from 7 to 9 p.m. and Thursdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tutoring is held in Room 2 of the Education Building. Contact Joe Pavlicek at 281-484-1397 or by e-mail at joe_pavlicek@yahoo.com.
Alcoholics Anonymous - AA meetings are held Tuesdays and Sundays, 8 to 9 p.m. Thursdays, 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. at St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta Street. Call 713-204-2481.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" each Monday through Friday, from 7 to 8 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Room 114. Call 281-487-8787 or just drop in.
Moving Forward Women's Adult Children Anonymous - Meets Fridays at noon at the Up The Street Club in Webster, 508 Nasa Parkway, in room 4. ACA is a 12-step program for people who grew up in alcoholic or dysfunctional homes. For more information, call 281-286-1431.
Spanish Al-Anon - Friday at 6 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.
Alcoholics Anonymous - Thursdays and Friday 6:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.
Bay Area Genealogical Society - Meets the last Friday of each month at University Baptist Church, 16106 Middlebrook Drive in Clear Lake. Coffee and socializing is at 6:30 and the meeting begins at 7 p.m. For more information, visit www.TxBayAreaGen.org.
SATURDAY, DEC. 31
 11 a.m.
Al-Anon Meeting - Women Only - Meets each Saturday morning from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Room 111. Call 281-487-8787.
Pasadena Little Theatre - Annual New Year's Eve Casino Night Fundraiser at Pasadena Little Theatre, 4318 Allen-Genoa Road at 8 p.m. Blackjack, roulette and craps, dancing, music, champagne toast, door prizes, silent auction, chances to win prizes with gambling winnings, and a post-midnight buffet. Call 713-941-1758 for reservations and visit www.pasadenalittletheatre.org for more information.
SUNDAY, JANUARY 1
 2 p.m.
Grief Support Group - For adults who have lost a loved one. Meets Sundays from 2 to 3:15 p.m. at First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway. For information, call 281-487-8787.
Alcoholics Anonymous - Sunday at 6:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.
Narcotics Anonymous - Sunday at 6:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.
Alcoholics Anonymous - Meetings are Sundays and Tuesdays, 8 to 9 p.m. and Thursdays, 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. at St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta Street. Call 713-204-2481.
MONDAY, JANUARY 2
 7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" each Monday through Friday, from 7 to 8 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Room 114. Call 281-

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Texas Cyclone Cookers collect toys



Members of the Texas Cyclone Cookers, along with Ultimate Tejano Radio and South Belt-Ellington Leader, welcomed residents to Fox and Hound to gather toys for needy families in the community Saturday, Dec. 17. Pictured are, left to right, Ricardo Avila, Comedian David "Rey Rey" Reyes, Isaac Nuñez, Daniel Hinojosa, Carlos Arredondo, Sophia Hernandez, Nancy Lopez and Erica Cuevas. Photo by Marie Flickinger

South Belters aid in toy drive

South Belt residents Sandra Robb (left) and daughter Stacey Waugh attended the recent holiday party and toy drive at Fox and Hound (see related photo below). The mother-daughter team has selflessly donated several hours to the South Belt-Ellington Leader Christmas program for numerous years. A day care employee by trade, Waugh enjoys helping children. "She loves kids," Robb said. "That's her thing." Once again this year, Waugh designed and distributed fliers to local businesses to promote the program. "This is our favorite time of the year," Robb said. "We love Christmas." The Christmas drive is unique to Waugh and Robb in the fact that donated goods go directly to help local residents. "We want to help families in this area," Robb said. "This is our neighborhood." Photo by Marie Flickinger

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South Belt-Ellington Chamber holds its annual Christmas party



The South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce held its annual Christmas party Thursday, Dec. 15. The annual gathering is a great place to meet new people, catch up with old friends and reflect on the year's happenings in the South Belt community. Pictured at left, left to right, are Senator Mario Gallegos, Chamber Director Sally Mitchell, Judge JoAnn Delgado and Dr. Catherine O'Brien. Shown top right, left to right, are Anna Groff and Chieko Webb. Shown bottom right, left to right, are B.J. Garner and former constable Bill Bailey. Photos by Marie Flickinger



Houston Area Parkinson Society - Free exercise held from 4 to 5 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Pearland, 3005 Pearland Parkway, Pearland. Visit www.hapsonline.org.
Spanish Al-Anon - Wednesday at 6 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.
Alzheimer's Support Group - The free group meets the first Wednesday of each month in the third floor classrooms 3 and 4 of Bayshore Medical Center, 4000 Spencer Hwy. in Pasadena. For information, call 713-944-4782 or 713-266-6400.
Bay Area Turning Point Crisis Intervention Center - Domestic violence support group for male survivors meets each Wednesday at 210 S. Walnut off NASA Parkway. Call 281-338-7600 for information.
 Continued from Page 3B

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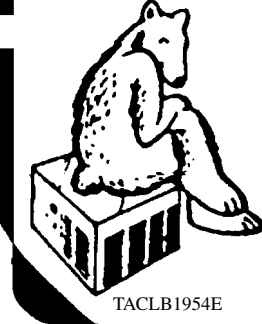
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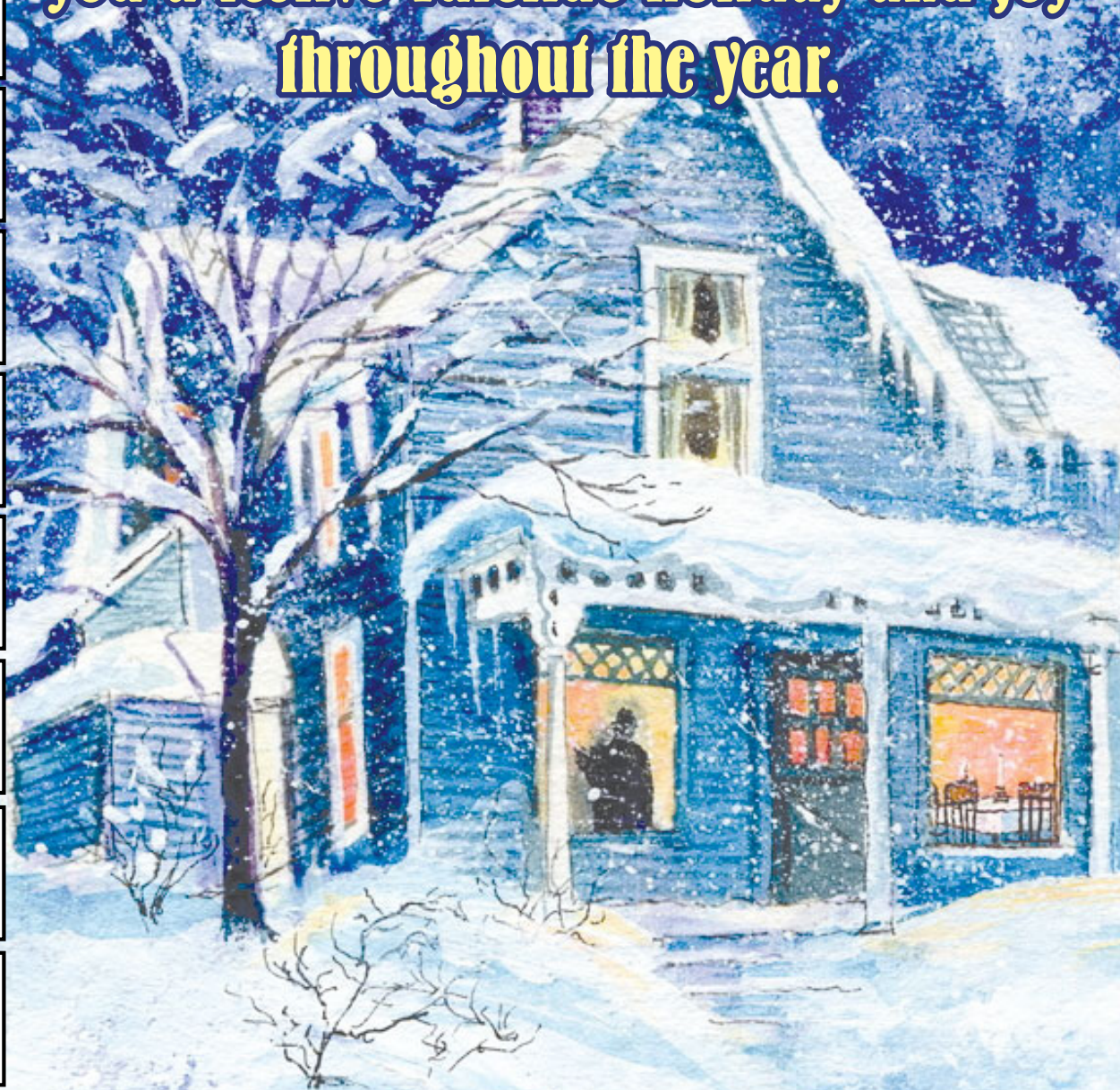
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