

## Cowboys registration set

The Sagement Cowboys and Cowgirls will hold early registration Saturday, Feb. 21, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Cowboy's football field at El Franco Lee Park. Early registration is open to last year's returning football players and their siblings and all drill and mascot applicants, returning and new. The club will also be accepting contact information from any new football players. A \$100 deposit is due at the time of early registration. For more information, contact club President Denny Wranich at 281-785-8353 or club Drill Director Lynn Blanton at 832-423-0139.

## Scarsdale Civic meets

The Scarsdale Civic Association will hold an election of officers meeting at 6 p.m. at 12127 Teaneck Monday, Feb. 23. A quorum of members is needed to conduct the meeting and elect a board of directors. Be watching for proxy letters in the mail.

## Knights sell fish dinners

Knights of Columbus at St. Luke the Evangelist Church, 11011 Hall Road, will serve fish dinners Fridays, Feb. 20 through March 27. Dinners consist of breaded USA catfish fried fillet, hush puppies, cole slaw, corn-on-the-cob, fries and iced tea or lemonade. Baked fish fillets will be available in limited quantities. Dinners will be served between 5 and 7 p.m. All money raised will benefit local and community projects. Dine in or take out dinners are \$10 each.

## Blood drive at St. Luke's

The Knights of Columbus #9201 will host a blood drive in the social hall at St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church, 11011 Hall Road, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 22. Save lives by donating blood.

## Dobie cheer tryout meeting set

A Dobie cheerleader tryout meeting will be held Thursday, Feb. 26, at 6:45 p.m. in the Dobie cafeteria for all students interested in becoming a cheerleader for next year. The meeting is for eighth-graders from Thompson and Beverly Hills and all Dobie students. A candidate must have a parent with them at the meeting to receive paperwork.

## Church hosts cooking class

The Gulfhaven Adventist Church, 10716 Sabo Road, will conduct a vegetarian cooking class on Sunday, Feb. 22, from 3 to 5 p.m. This is a free benefit to learn how to prepare healthy dishes and increase health awareness. The dishes will be available to sample, and a video on health will be shown. For information, call 713-944-6912 or 713-562-4580.

## PTO scholarships offered

**Atkinson Elementary**  
The Atkinson Elementary PTO is offering \$500 scholarships to two graduating seniors at Dobie High School who attended Atkinson at least two years, one being fourth grade. Applications and requirement information are available through the senior counselor's office at Dobie. The application must be received by Feb. 27, 2015, at noon to be considered.

**Frazier Elementary**  
Frazier Elementary is offering scholarships to seven graduating seniors at Dobie High School who attended Frazier in third and fourth grades. Applications and requirement information are available in the Dobie Dual Credit office in Portable 16. Applications must be returned to Nancy Carlton in that office by Friday, March 13, to be considered.

## Brook to host cheer clinic

The Clear Brook High School cheerleaders will host a cheer clinic Saturday, Feb. 28, from 9 a.m. to noon in the CBHS gymnasium, 4607 FM 2351 in Friendswood. The cost of \$20 includes a snack and shirt. The clinic is for ages 4 through high school. Download the registration form at [www.brookcheer.weebly.com](http://www.brookcheer.weebly.com). Email the form to [schamberlain@ccisd.net](mailto:schamberlain@ccisd.net). For more information, call 832-618-7616.

## Library seeks tutors

Parker Williams Branch Library, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd., is seeking volunteers to help adults new to the United States to improve their ability to read, write and speak English.

The library will host a training session for new volunteer English as a second language tutors on Saturday, Feb. 28, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. After this session, tutors will work with a small group of adults once or twice weekly to help them gain literacy skills for work purposes, to help their children in school, or for numerous other uses.

Second language ability is not required for tutors, and materials including lesson activities are provided. For more information or to register for this workshop, call 281-484-2036.

## Kirkwood to meet Feb. 26

The Kirkwood Civic Association will meet Thursday, Feb. 26, at the Sagement Community Center, 11507 Hughes, at 6:30 p.m. Meetings are held the last Thursday of the month. For additional information, call Ericka McCutcheon at 281-989-9990.

# Local Islamic building destroyed by fire

## Homeless man charged with arson, says incident was accidental

A homeless man was arrested for starting a Feb. 13 fire that destroyed a storage building at the Quba Islamic Institute at 730 FM 1959/Dixie Farm Road, located between the Gulf Freeway and Highway 3.

Darryl Ferguson, 55, was arrested around 4 p.m. Monday, Feb. 16, and charged with first-

degree felony arson. Officials said Ferguson admitted to setting the fire but said it was to merely keep warm and not intended to damage the building.

According to authorities, the blaze started about 5:30 a.m. Friday. It heavily damaged a 3,000-square-foot prefabricated metal storage

building. No injuries were reported.

Fire officials said Ferguson approached detectives on his bike and voluntarily asked to speak with them about the incident.

According to Harris County Court records, Ferguson has an extensive criminal history with more than 40 arrests for crimes ranging from

credit card abuse and drug possession to burglary and prostitution.

The incident made national headlines, with many suspecting it to be an anti-Islamic hate crime. At press time, however, fire officials declined to comment on a possible motive in the case.

## Firefighters battle area blaze



Houston firefighters are shown above responding to a blaze Friday, Feb. 13, that destroyed a storage building at the Quba Islamic Institute, 730 FM 1959/Dixie Farm Road. The incident garnered national media attention, as many suspected it to be a hate crime. A homeless man has since been arrested for starting the fire but said it was unintentional.

Photo by Isaiah Wright

## Hughes Road project delayed, again

The long-awaited project to repair Hughes Road from Beltway 8 to the Houston city limits in Sagemeadow has been delayed once again, according to City of Houston Public Works and Engineering Department spokesman Alvin Wright.

Work was supposed to have begun last month, but funding for the project must be reapproved by City Council, as a new contractor has been selected.

Mainline Industries was awarded the new contract this past December after the company originally assigned to the project was forced to withdraw its offer, citing delays from Center-Point Energy in hooking up the necessary utilities.

In the works for nearly two decades, the endeavor will remove existing paving and replace

it along with curb, gutter and sidewalks on both sides of the street and provide necessary storm sewer system and street lighting.

Part of the city's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), the undertaking was initially proposed in 1999, while Rob Todd served as the South Belt area's City Council member.

Construction was originally scheduled to begin in 2000 but has been pushed back multiple times to make room for other projects.

The \$11.7 million project is expected to go before Council in the next 30 to 45 days, Wright said.

Despite the delay, Wright said construction is still scheduled to take place before the end of the city's 2015 fiscal year (July 2015), with a target date sometime in May.

## Martin to hold CIP/town hall March 3

Houston District E City Council Member Dave Martin will hold a joint Capital Improvement Project (CIP) and town hall meeting on Tuesday, March 3, at Space Center Houston, located at 1601 NASA Parkway, from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

These meetings encourage residents to participate in the CIP process by contributing questions, comments and suggestions to the respective city department regarding project planning

and delivery in the council district.

The CIP is a five-year document outlining the city's infrastructure improvement strategy and is organized by priority, project capacity and timing constraints.

Additionally, funding sources are identified for all proposed projects.

For more information about the CIP projects for District E, visit the CIP homepage at [www.houstontx.gov/cip/CIP-Home-Page](http://www.houstontx.gov/cip/CIP-Home-Page).

## Edgebrook Flood Control meeting set

Harris County Flood Control District officials will meet with residents of the Edgebrook community Thursday, Feb. 26, at St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, located at 2217 Theta, beginning at 7 p.m.

Representatives will furnish residents with the current status concerning the mitigation of flood-

ing caused by Berry Bayou.

Officials will also address the ongoing construction of detention ponds and concrete lining of ditches in the area and their completion dates.

Once improvements are complete, the Edgebrook area will be re-evaluated for flooding, and there is a chance insurance rates will go down.

## SJC honor students recognized

Five Honors Program students from San Jacinto College, representing all three campuses, were chosen to present their research at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research in April.

This year, the conference is being hosted by Eastern Washington University in Cheney, Wash.

Last year, out of 465 institutions of higher education represented at the conference, fewer than a dozen were community colleges. Institutions such as the University of Texas, Texas A&M University, Harvard and Stanford, among others were represented.

Most students who present their research at this meeting are seniors from research universities, making it difficult for a community college student to be accepted. This year, there were more than 3,700 abstracts submitted, and five students from SJC were asked to present their work.

Three of the students selected are from the South campus.

Abstracts from the South Campus include Dirk Johnston's *The Chamizal Settlement and the Dispersion of a People Group*, Mary Grace Pruet's *Bill Hicks, a Satiric Comic with a Philo-*

sophical Tinge and Danielle Rivers' *Tom Lea: The Artist from the Texas Desert of El Paso*.

The three are students of professors Greg Smith and Eddie Weller.

The lone abstract selected from the Central Campus was Jeffrey Hallinan's *The Cowboy of Pasadena, Texas: The Origins Behind the Pasadena Livestock Show & Rodeo and its Relevance Today*.

Hallinan is a student of professor Marcus Turner.

Selected from the North Campus was Emilia Herrera's *Electrooculogram Analysis: Reading Differences between Native and Non-Native English Speakers*.

Herrera is a student of professors Susan Lustick and Yuli Kainer.

For more information on NCUR 2015, visit [www.cur.org/ncur\\_2015](http://www.cur.org/ncur_2015).

## Money found at Leader

Some money was found near the paper stand at the Leader office Thursday, Feb. 5. Anyone wishing to claim the money should contact the Leader and describe the amount and how it was contained.

## Filing underway for school elections

Filing for multiple area school board elections is currently underway and will remain open through 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27.

### PISD

In the Pasadena Independent School District election, Larry Savala (Position 5), Marshall Kendrick (Position 6) and Vickie Morgan (Position 7) are all up for re-election. All three have filed to maintain their positions.

Kenneth Fernandez and Alvino Gonzalez have filed to challenge Savala.

Morgan is being challenged by Erica Davis Rouse and Charles Maricle.

At press time, Kendrick was running unopposed.

Terms are for four years.

Ballot applications must be submitted to the PISD Administration Building, 1515 Cherrybrook Lane in Pasadena in the Accountability and Compliance office. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

For more information, call 713-740-0027.

### CCISD

In the Clear Creek Independent School District election, Page Rander (District 4), Dee Scott (District 5) and Charles Pond (At-Large Position A) are up for re-election.

At press time, Rander and Pond had filed to maintain their positions, but Scott had not. No challengers had filed.

Terms are for two years.

Potential candidates may pick up a candidate application and information packet at the CCISD Education Support Center located at 2425 E. Main Street in League City or request the packet in email form by emailing Early Voting Clerk Beatriz Bentley at [bbentley@ccisd.net](mailto:bbentley@ccisd.net).

The district will accept applications between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

For more information, email Bentley or call her at 281-284-0181.

### San Jacinto College

In the San Jac College election, the seats of John Moon Jr. (Position 5) Dan Mims (Position 6), and Keith Sinor (Position 7) are unopposed. All three incumbents have filed to maintain their positions.

Terms are six years.

Potential candidates may pick up application packets at the district office at 4624 Fairmont Parkway in Pasadena.

For more information, call Mandi Reiland at 281-998-6100.

## South Shaver repair work continues

Progress is continuing on the \$13.5 million South Shaver Road reconstruction project initiated in summer 2013 by the Texas Department of Transportation, according to Houston District E City Council Member Dave Martin's office.

Concrete paving on the north half of Shaver is nearing completion, with the paving of all three travel lanes on the north side of the street expected to be completed up to North Broadway by the end of February.

Contractors expect to switch traffic on the road and begin paving the section south of the center line at the end of February, by which time all sections of North Broadway will be open.

Paving activities on the south portion of the street will commence in early March after traffic is switched and will proceed from 5200 South Shaver to the project's endpoint at Interstate 45.

Overall, concrete paving is 70 percent com-

plete at this time.

Transitions between Shaver and other adjacent streets which intersect it, such as Wald Road, are currently being covered by flexible bases to protect vehicular traffic. Before the project's end, asphalt will be applied to these transitional sections to smooth the transition between the streets.

Storm sewer installation is currently 90 percent complete for the project, with one section remaining on Almeda Genoa Road. Sanitary sewer installation is estimated to be 95 percent complete.

Overall completion of the South Shaver Road Reconstruction project is currently targeted for late spring 2015.

All project timelines are subject to change due to inclement weather and/or other unforeseen circumstances.

## Hobby sets passenger traffic records

The Houston Airport System (HAS) again posted record-setting passenger traffic numbers.

According to a 2014 year-end traffic report, HAS saw more than 53.1 million passengers in 2014 – a 4.5 percent increase that easily eclipsed the record 50.9 million passengers in 2013. More than 43.3 million domestic travelers passed through HAS airports, a 3.5 percent increase.

Overall passenger traffic at William P. Hobby Airport (HOU) reached an all-time high for the fifth consecutive year and international traffic at George Bush Intercontinental Airport (IAH) continued to grow at a record pace, thanks in large part to continued expansion in the num-

ber of carriers launching new service and routes from Houston.

"This is an exciting time for the city and for the Houston Airport System," said Mayor Annise Parker. "The development we see all around Houston is mirrored by the steady growth at our airports – the kind of numbers that befit the fastest-growing major city in the United States. We've been remarkably successful in attracting new international air service to Houston and are moving forward with investments and projects that will ensure that growth continues."

Hobby Airport saw more than 11.9 million  
Continued on Page 2A

## PISD vehicle catches fire



A Pasadena Independent School District maintenance vehicle caught fire Thursday, Feb. 12, as it was pulling out of the Dobie campus and onto Blackhawk. The truck reportedly stalled out in the intersection before bursting into flames. No injuries were reported.

Photo by James Bolen

# In My Opinion

## Byrd: Response to Larry Reams

In response to Larry Reams' diatribe against President Obama which he attempted to disguise as legal commentary on 2016 Republican presidential contenders, I have a few observations:

1. Nobody was 'so afraid of candidate Obama that they dared not challenge his citizenship'. He was fully vetted a nauseating number of times and proven to have been born in Hawaii. The 'birthers' are too full of hatred for him to accept facts.

2. The Constitution was written at a time when slavery was legal and women were the property of their fathers or husbands. I hardly think the founders, as intelligent and far-thinking as they were for their time, could have conceived of a time when women could vote, slavery would be illegal, or even that indoor plumbing was in the country's future. Fortunately they were smart enough to leave room in the Constitution for required adjustments.

3. The accepted intent of the qualifications for president is to be born on U.S. soil (Obama qualifies) or to be born to a U.S. Citizen (Obama qualifies). To determine that only a male U.S. citizen is good enough to produce a presidential candidate is vastly insulting and further proof the Republican Party is in fact waging a war against women. **Karen Byrd**

not to party ties. Furthermore, they should not disregard our role as defender against world tyranny, & champions of liberty. We must continue to shine our beacon of freedom before us, exposing & conquering the dark evils opposing America, & the World. Of course potential allies are going to be reluctant to join us in our endeavors, if we continue failing to take the lead in these noble pursuits.

Imagine a moment sitting in a large auditorium high up in the seats, toward the middle, peering down on the spectacle below. On one end is the U.S. President & included in his enclave, each World leader from countries that consistently support us. At the opposite end facing them, stands those that oppose the U.S. frequently, including our known outright enemies. Gee, what end do you think most World leaders would be standing at? Not very crowded at our end, is it?

Pressing on, how many participants in this fantastical analogy would be willing to take a (gasp!) "Leading Role"? If you said "Not many or even zilch", you probably are in the majority of this consensus. The point very succinctly is: If we become too timid or reluctant to pick up & wield the mantle of freedom against oppression virtually no others will. It is my firm belief that God intended this role for America, & expects the same from America. Should American's expect less?

These are the cards God dealt us; we should play them thoughtfully, but forcibly if we are required. Besides, who are we to second guess God anyway? **Mike Polka**

## Polka: Let every nation know

"Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe, in order to assure the survival and the success of liberty. This much we pledge and more." This excerpt from the JFK January 20th, 1961 inaugural address, still rings true to our present day. He further testifies; "We dare not tempt them with weakness," et al.

Please note this statement was crafted by a Democratic President, not currently my party of choice, but I fervently believe this tutorial should be embraced by all parties. It remains a haunting reminder of what America stood for back then. Why have we seemingly abandoned this? If only every person that plants their posterior in that oval office seat, would follow the dictates of this erstwhile predecessor, regardless of party affiliations. Did that commitment perish with him and the resolve of the American people back then?

The President of the U.S., whoever they shall be, has a sworn duty to America first,

## Higginbotham on Obama's citizenship

The Constitution states that only a "natural born" citizen may serve as President of the United States, but the Constitution does not define what "natural born" means. Therefore the exact meaning of that term devolved to the interpretation of the nation's courts. The issue has been examined and argued for more than two centuries and the weight of opinion is clear: Birth within the boundaries of the United States trumps all other considerations for citizenship ..... yes, "natural born" citizenship. Mr. Reams states: "You do NOT have to be born within the United States itself, but your parents (or father) must have been a citizen at the time of your birth no matter where that took place." He then states: "Barack Obama is not a citizen of the United States" ..... because his father was not. This is not what the nation's courts have determined (long before the Obama question emerged). I invite you to check Wikipedia under the heading "United States presidential eligibility requirements."

**Bruce Higginbotham**

# Mailbox vandalized



The mailbox in the parking lot of Food Town on Scarsdale at Beamer was vandalized early Wednesday, Feb. 18. Precinct 2 Deputy P. Jones reported the incident to the U.S. Postal Inspection Service. The crime is a federal offense, which carries a penalty of up to three years in prison and a \$250,000 fine. *Photo by Cecelia Ganje*

## 3,000 PISD students attend Junior Achievement Job Fair

More than 8,300 eighth-grade students poured into the Pasadena Convention Center recently to get a lesson in career planning at the Junior Achievement Job Fair of Southeast Texas.

Considered one of Houston's largest networking events, the three-day fair welcomed students from several school districts including Channelview, Deer Park, Galena Park, La Porte, Sheldon and Pasadena. Students mingled with business representatives from hundreds of companies in Southeast Texas including LyondellBasell, Chevron Phillips, BP, San Jacinto College, Technip, Quanta Services, Dow, Sectra Energy and CP Chem.

About 3,000 PISD students had a unique opportunity to participate in hands-on activities and explore various

career pathways and educational options.

"I think this is a good event because I am able to talk to people in the profession I plan to work in," Park View Intermediate student Ryan Domingo said after adding his name to a sign-up sheet at the Chevron table.

The event was broken up into three parts involving industry presentations, career stations, a soft-skills play and display tables showcasing the growing demand in local jobs that align with high school endorsement tracks. Those endorsements include science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM); business and industry; public services; and arts and humanities. The goal of the event was to inspire students to make informed decisions about their future.

"This was a great opportunity to expose our students to careers and industries across Houston and the Gulf Coast area," Troy McCarley, Pasadena ISD associate superintendent said. "We greatly appreciate all the sponsors and everybody involved for helping our students receive this hands-on field trip expanding their knowledge and understanding of various careers."

LyondellBasell plant manager Todd Monette left students with an inspiring message to encourage them to be proactive about career planning.

"Stay focused, work hard and look at the opportunities in front of you at our company and many more in the area," Monette said to the crowd. "This is your future. Work hard to achieve your dreams."

## San Jac to present A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum

The San Jacinto College Central Campus Theatre and Film Department will present the award-winning musical comedy *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*.

The musical is unique in that there are showcase moments for each female dancer and comedic actor. *Forum* has been described by critics as a "bawdy, wild comedy" in which Pseudolus, a crafty slave, struggles to win the hand of a beautiful but slow-witted courtesan named Philia, for his young master, Hero, in exchange for freedom.

Set in ancient Rome, the plot twists and turns with cases of mistaken identity, slamming doors, and a show-girl or two. The show is rated PG-13.

The musical's original

1962 Broadway run won several Tony Awards, including Best Musical and Best Actor (Musical), and was a vehicle written for comedy legend Zero Mostel. The show enjoyed several Broadway and West End revivals and was made into a successful film in 1966.

A 1972 Broadway revival of the show won two Tony Awards. The musical was revived again on Broadway in 1996 starring modern comedy legend Nathan Lang and had great success, winning another Tony Award, closing after 715 performances.

San Jacinto College's production of *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* is the first production celebrating the 20th anniversary with San Jacinto College of Dr. Jerry Ivins, Central campus chair of fine arts. *Forum* was performed at the

college in 1997, and is one of Ivins' favorite productions.

The musical will be performed in Slocomb Auditorium, 8060 Spencer Highway in Pasadena.

Show dates are Feb. 25, 26, 27 and 28 at 7:30 p.m. There will be a Sunday matinee at 2:30 p.m. on March 1.

General admission is \$15 per person at the door, with a discount price of \$13 per person for all who purchase and pick up tickets two days in advance of any performance. For ticket reservations, call 281-476-1828.

San Jacinto College offers theater degrees and classes at the South and Central campuses.

The Central campus also offers classes in film and video production. For more information about fine arts programs at San Jacinto College, visit sanjac.edu.

# Death

## Julie Sumra



Julie Sumra, also known as Mrs. Villie of Derniere Rivière, Denney, 89, died on Thursday, Feb. 12, 2015.

Survivors include three daughters: Sylvia "Clorona" Alexander and Lucia Swanson of South Belt, and Bertille James; six sons: Patrick Sumra, Andrew "Harry" Sumra, and Gregory "Ocoy" Sumra,

James Sumra and Valentine "Valous" Sumra all of Houston, and Edmund Sumra.

Sumra has 47 grandchildren: Marius Sumra, Shirley Alexander, Andy Alexander, Alva "Jenna" Sumra, Amina "Gail" Sumra, McKay Sumra, Lisa "Hermine" Remy, Howard Remy, Clarendia Remy, Curlin Swanson, Lazarus "Lazo" James, Shermiqua Sumra, Shaylan Sumra, Razel Sumra all residing in Houston; Peckus "Pecky" Sumra and Cleopatra Sumra; Daryl "Danny" Smith, Cindy "Crisy" Sumra-Charles, Elton Sumra, Kenis Sumra, Kelvin Degallard, Mathaline Sumra, Cliff Avril, Fimber Sumra, Garvey Sumra, Shane "Nilbert" Sumra, Nerisha, Ianna and Luanna, Cathy Sumra, Richie Sumra, Tara Sumra, Britney Sumra, Sherquain Sumra, Courtney Sumra, and Jermaine Sumra, Shayla Sumra, Burton James, Jamie Sumra, Tinika Sumra, Valerie "Vernicia" Sumra, Shelbert

Sumra, Milton Sumra, Emilia Sumra, Mandy Sumra, Josiah James and Manda Sumra; 43 great-grandchildren; daughters-in-law Julia Sumra, Niha Sumra, Sandra Pittman Sumra, Patricia Sumra, Vanita Sumra; and Antonia Sumra; sons-in-law Michael "Mike" Alexander and Lucian "Lucious" Swanson and Melvin James; sisters Rose Faisal, Jetune Faisal, Lyna Faisal and Juliana Pamphile; niece Elmelda Durman; sister-in-law Josephine "Ma Romeo" Joseph; brother-in-law Bibben Sukra of Grand Ravine; best friends Venora and Ma "Ma Fitz" Allahdua; and numerous other relatives and friends in St. Lucia and abroad.

Sumra will be laid to rest at Mount Olivet Catholic Cemetery in Dickinson, Texas, on Saturday, Feb. 21, 2015. Visitation will be from 10 to 11 a.m. for family and friends, and the service will be from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

## Elected officials speak out

### Taylor files priority legislation

On Feb. 10, 2015, state Sen. Larry Taylor, R-Friendswood, filed the first of three bills to ensure coastal residents have access, affordability and availability to windstorm insurance coverage.

Senate Bill 498 ensures access to a critical Texas Windstorm Insurance Association (TWIA) program that would otherwise expire at the end of the year. The program authorizes a "waiver" from

certain TWIA eligibility requirements when a coastal resident's windstorm coverage is canceled or non-renewed in the private market through no fault of their own.

"The process for a homeowner to prove after the fact that their home meets eligibility standards is unnecessarily cost prohibitive in many cases," said Taylor. "Extending the waiver program is essential to maintain-

ing economic stability on the coast." As filed, SB 498 removes an arbitrary expiration date that was added during the last legislative session and allows the program to continue indefinitely.

The waiver program represents more than 40,000 of TWIA policyholders.

Discontinuation of the program would result in economic chaos along the coast.

### Hobby passenger traffic peaks

**Continued from Page 1A** passengers, a 7.5 percent increase over the previous record of 11.1 million of 2013. The growing numbers are nothing new: Demand for travel from Hobby Airport has increased steadily over the past decade, growing by more than 34 percent over the past 10 years.

The growth in international passenger numbers goes hand-in-hand with the steady growth in foreign flag carriers coming to Bush Intercontinental Airport – six new international carriers began service from IAH in 2014, with four more scheduled to begin operations in 2015. IAH serves as a global gateway to more than 70 international destinations and offers service to more Mexican destinations than any other U.S. airport.

The international passenger numbers figure to continue to rise – and not just at

Bush Intercontinental. Work continues on a new international terminal at Hobby Airport, scheduled to open later this year. Through a partnership with Southwest Airlines, a new \$156 million five-gate facility will accommodate regional international flights to various locations across Latin America.

Bush Intercontinental Airport saw record highs in both combined passenger totals – more than 41.2 million in both domestic and international passengers, a 3.6 percent increase – and in the number of international passengers – more than 9.8 million, a 9.2 percent increase from 2013's 8.9 million. Bush Intercontinental also saw a 2 percent increase in domestic passengers, up to more than 31.4 million.

Those numbers are the highest in IAH's 46-year history, and in rankings recently released by the FAA,

the nearly 509,000 flight operations in 2014 make Bush Airport the eighth busiest airport in the United States. In determining the total number of flight operations, the FAA counts commercial airline flights, general aviation flights, military flights and air taxi operations.

"Houston's vibrant and diverse economy is presenting some extraordinary business opportunities for international air carriers based in markets around the world," Houston Aviation Director Mario C. Diaz said. "George Bush Intercontinental Airport plays a key role in making sure that Houston is connected on a global scale, and that level of connectivity is important to our city, both from an economic standpoint as well as culturally. The record-setting passenger totals tell us that we're doing a good job in making sure that connection is as strong as possible."

### SJC Fine Arts Open House March 5

The San Jacinto College South campus will host a Fine Arts Open House Thursday, March 5, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Marie Spence Flickinger Fine Arts Center.

Fine arts faculty from the dance, theater, art and design, technical art and design, and music programs will lead three back-to-back sessions

regarding their programs and facilities.

Visitors will have the option to attend up to three sessions of their choice.

A resource fair will also be available with representatives from various student services on hand for questions and information.

To register for the free

event, email name, age, contact email address, contact phone number, name of high school (if applicable), and disciplines of interest (choosing from dance, theater, art and design, technical art and design, and music) with subject line "Open House" to Jeffrey McGehee at jeffrey.mcgee@sjcd.edu.

### Crohn's & Colitis Foundation meets Feb. 24

The Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America (CCFA) Bay Area Support Group will meet Tuesday, Feb. 24, at 7:30 p.m. at State Farm Insurance, 12941 Gulf Freeway, Suite 101. Patients and caregivers are invited to attend the free meetings.

### Sickness and Health support group meets

Those who are the husband, wife or partner of a chronically ill/disabled person may join a new support group, Sickness and Health, the last Thursday of each month from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Cokesbury United Methodist Church, 10030 Scarsdale. Free childcare provided. This month's meeting is set for Thursday, Feb. 26. For more information, contact Jennifer Miller at sicknesshealthhouston@gmail.com or 713-724-2360, or visit the Well Spouse Association at <http://www.wellspouse.org>.

### Tax-Aide available at Parker Williams Library

Volunteers from AARP Tax-Aide will be at the Parker Williams Library, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd., to assist with tax questions and filing tax returns Mondays and Fridays through April 13 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This service will be available in the library meeting room on a first-come, first-served basis. Bring Social Security cards or other official documentation for oneself and all dependents, copy of last year's income tax return, W-2 forms from each employer, unemployment compensation statements, and other necessary forms to help the volunteer complete the return. For more information, visit [aarp.org/taxaide](http://aarp.org/taxaide).

### Dobie sets 40-year reunion

The J. Frank Dobie Class of 1975 will hold its 40-year reunion Sept. 25-26 at South Shore Harbour Resort and Conference Center, 2500 S. Shore Blvd. in League City. Tickets are \$85 per person if paid by Aug. 1. Tickets purchased at the door or after Aug. 1 will be \$100 per person. This includes dinner and entertainment for Saturday night. A block of rooms at a special rate will be available. For more information, call Susie Holmes Holt at 281-222-4140, Pam West Saxton at 832-330-8368, or Debbie Green Harrell at 832-818-5028.

### Local library events set

#### Parker Williams Branch

The following events are scheduled this week at the Parker Williams Branch Library, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd.

On Thursday, Feb. 19, at 4 p.m. attendees can make a piggy bank during the Chinese New Year craft.

Wednesdays – Preschool storytime is at 10:30 a.m.

Thursdays – Toddler storytime is at 10:30 a.m.

Saturdays – Vietnamese Storytime: Level 2 begins at 10 a.m., Level 1 begins at 11:15 a.m., and Level 3 begins at 2:30 p.m. For more information on these programs, speak with Loc Bui.

For more information on these programs, call the Parker Williams Branch Library at 281-484-2036.

#### Bracewell Branch Library

The following events are scheduled for February at the Bracewell Branch Library, 9002 Kingspoint Road.

Tuesdays: 10:30 a.m. – Family storytime, followed by a storytime-themed craft at 11 a.m.; 4:30 p.m. – Kid's Craft.

Wednesdays: 10:30 a.m. – Toddler storytime, followed by toddler playtime at 11 a.m.; 2 p.m. – Computer Basics; 3:15 p.m. – Internet Basics; 4:30 p.m. – Intro to MS PowerPoint.

Thursdays: 2 p.m. – Computer Help Session; 5 p.m. – Citizenship Class; 6 p.m. – ESL Beginners; and 7 p.m. – ESL Advanced.

Saturdays: 10:30 a.m. – Computacion Basica 1; noon – ESL Beginners; and 1 p.m. – ESL Advanced.

Thursday, Feb. 19, at 6 p.m. – Not Your Mama's Book Club will discuss *The Casual Vacancy* by J.K. Rowling.

Bracewell hours are Sunday and Monday - Closed; Tuesday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Wednesday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursday noon to 8 p.m., Friday 1 to 5 p.m., and Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information on programs, call the Bracewell Branch Library at 832-393-2580.

## Healthcare Amenities:

- Rehabilitation-Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapy
- Wound Care
- Pain Management
- Post-Operative Care
- Cardiac Services
- Intravenous Therapy Services
- Respiratory Care
- Pulmonary Services
- Hospice/Respite Care



## Carnival vendors sought

### Weber Elementary

Weber Elementary, 11955 Blackhawk, will celebrate its annual PTA carnival on Saturday, March 7, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wristbands are \$15 pre-sale (\$12 per sibling) or \$20 on carnival day. A wristband includes all games and rides. Vendors may contact Julie Lam at [lammjulie@gmail.com](mailto:lammjulie@gmail.com) (\$25 per exhibit space).

### SBHLL Opening Day

Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League officials are seeking vendors for the opening day carnival set for Saturday, March 14, at El Franco Lee Park. Those selling crafts, food and merchandise are welcome to host a booth for \$100 each. Those interested are asked to contact league officials at [sbhll@hotmail.com](mailto:sbhll@hotmail.com).

### Melillo Carnival April 10

Melillo Middle School will hold its seventh annual spring carnival on Friday, April 10, from 6 to 8 p.m. Attractions will include a rock wall, bungee trampoline, train, dunking booth, concessions, booths including hairspray paint, face painting, cake walk, silent auction and more. Tickets may be purchased pre-sale beginning March 31 through April 10 and at the event.

## Dobie orchestra receives \$3,000 from Plus4 CU

### By Jay Do

The members of the J. Frank Dobie High School Orchestra were recently fortunate enough to have been chosen as the recipients of a generous donation from the Plus4 Credit Union in the sum of \$3,000.

For more than 82 years, Plus4 Credit Union has served the financial needs of United States Postal Service workers. Since its transition from the Houston Postal Credit Union into a community credit union in 2006, the organization has looked not only to expand its services to its community, but also to enhance and improve its community in any way that it can.

"We are a credit union, but we are also the oldest credit union in the city of Houston," said Plus4 Credit Union Marketing Manager Ericka Calvillo. "We do offer many of the same services and competitive programs as some of the larger credit unions, but we try to be much more community oriented."

The connection between Plus4 Credit Union and the J. Frank Dobie High School Orchestra can be credited to orchestra president and Plus4 Credit Union teller Joseph Mercado.

Mercado has been working with the credit union since September of 2013 as a co-op student. He has worked rigorously as a leader of his school in order to improve the state of his community by actively participating as an officer in the orchestra, student council and the Distributive Education Clubs of America.

Mercado was thrilled to be able to form a working relationship between his

employer and his orchestra.

"It's both an absolute honor and a privilege to be working for such an amazing company," said Mercado. "I feel extremely fortunate to be working for a company that places its values on ensuring the success of the youth and next generation."

The monetary grant will be put to use for supplies, including new music and instruments. The funds will also go toward new equip-

ment, including chairs and music stands.

"I think it's wonderful that a local business is helping out our organization," said orchestra director Angela Badon. "We are really fortunate that Joseph was able to introduce our two organizations, and we are very grateful for their generous donation to our orchestra. It will definitely help us out with replacing some of our old equipment as we begin transitioning to

our new orchestra room."

Calvillo maintains Plus4 Credit Union will make more donations like this in the future to provide financial assistance where they are most necessary.

"We really want to tap back into the children of our community because they are the next generation," said Calvillo. "We're trying to let them know that we were once in their shoes, and we just want to be part of their success."



Members of the J. Frank Dobie Orchestra are shown accepting the \$3,000 donation from representatives of the Plus4 Credit Union. Those pictured are, left to right, Assistant Orchestra Director Thomas Chen, Jocelyn Peña, Nhu Nguyen, Shelby Gonzales, Head Orchestra Director Sam Flippin, Plus4 Credit Union Marketing Director Ericka

Calvillo, Plus4 Credit Union Employee Growth and Development Specialist Susan Sireno, Jess Bustamante, Plus4 Credit Union Operations Manager Kerri Zinn, Diana Torres, Orchestra President Joseph Mercado, Austin Pritchett, Mary Doan, Vicki Nguyen, Taylor Nguyen, Madison Moreno, Kiyah Brooks, Mi Nguyen and Victoria Blackmon.

## Pauls meet Kranz



State Rep. for District 129 Dennis Paul (right) and his wife, Eliza (left), recently attended the Galveston County Republican Women's Lincoln Day Dinner where they had the pleasure of meeting Gene Kranz (center). One of the many accomplishments of Kranz (the NASA Mission Control flight director during the Gemini and Apollo programs) and his team was the safe return of the Apollo 13 manned moon landing mission crew.

Photo submitted

## San Jac, A&M International sign articulation agreement

The San Jacinto College Board of Trustees recently approved an articulation agreement with Texas A&M International University (TAMIU), designed to create seamless transitions for San Jacinto College students and graduates seeking baccalaureate and masters degrees.

San Jacinto College students have transferred to TAMIU through the years, but establishment of an articulation agreement between the two institutions is a positive step that will benefit students, according to Dr. Catherine O'Brien, San Jacinto College associate vice chancellor for learning and assessment.

"An articulation agreement is more specific than a transfer plan," O'Brien explained. "Articulation agreements are also transfer plans, but they are more formal and may identify specific admission conditions to be accepted into a program or degree

plan at a university and may describe articulation of credit not guaranteed by transfer plans or state regulations."

TAMIU, located in Laredo, offers baccalaureate and masters programs, and stresses an international agenda for global study and understanding across all disciplines. In particular, the agreement between the two colleges will create a seamless transfer for San Jacinto College students who earn associate degrees and who pursue bachelor's degrees in business, biology, and criminal justice.

"Texas A&M International University is excited to join with San Jacinto College in helping students on their way to baccalaureate degrees and beyond," said Dr. Kevin Lindberg, TAMIU associate provost. "This partnership offers students an opportunity not only to advance the already fine education they receive at San Jacinto Col-

lege, but to enrich that experience in a truly international atmosphere. We look forward to showing students just what this means, and what a difference it can make in preparing for the next step in life."

The articulation agreement will feature some cost savings. Application and admission fees to TAMIU will be waived for San Jacinto College students transferring under the agreement.

Under the articulation agreement, San Jacinto College students earning associate of arts, associate of science, associate of applied science, or associate of arts in teaching degrees with a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 or greater will be guaranteed admission to TAMIU. A maximum of 60 semester credit hours earned at San Jacinto College with a grade of C or better will be accepted and applied to designated TAMIU degree plans.

## Students, parents enjoy Frazier Math and Science Night

Frazier Elementary held its annual Family Math and Science Night on Thursday, Jan. 29. Students and their families were invited to participate in a variety of fun activities involving science and math. Each pod was decorated as a store and offered an activity to match the store theme. There was jewelry making at Tiffany's where the students worked on patterns, grocery shopping at H-E-B where students worked on counting money, and Build-a-Bear Workshop where students worked on comparing and ordering numbers. There was even a Lego store and a Frazier Arcade.



At right, second-grader Victoria Gomez and her mother, Melissa Gomez, work together on a math activity.

Photos submitted

## Clear Creek ISD Scholastic Art Award winners announced

The Clear Creek Independent School District recently announced that 84 Scholastic Art Awards were given to CCISD students in the 2014-2015 competition.

The winners hail from

Clear Brook, Clear Creek, Clear Falls, Clear Lake and Clear Springs high schools as well as Clear Lake Intermediate and League City Intermediate Schools.

"This high number of awards is a reflection of the excellent instruction happening in the classroom every day guided by an incredible staff," said Shara Appanaitis, CCISD coordinator of Visual and Performing Arts. "Congratulations to the visual arts students who competed in the Scholastic Art Awards and represented the district so well at the regional level of competition."

The students' work will be juried again at the national competition in New York. Results should be available during the month of April.

**Intermediate**  
Gold Key recipients:

Magen Holt (Clear Lake); and Victoria Pontieri (League City).

Award totals: Gold Key - 2; Silver Key - 4; Honorable Mention - 6; Total - 12.

**High School**

Gold Key recipients: Michelle Cabler (Clear Brook); Katie Corkern (Clear Brook); Akhila Janapati (Clear Brook); Vicky Nguyen (Clear Brook); Kelly Sang (Clear Brook); Madeline Castillo (Clear Creek); Sarah Wilson (Clear Creek); Kris Carnahan (Clear Lake); Joann Chung (Clear Lake); Shayla Bowen (Clear Springs) - two Gold Key Awards; Christina Rasmussen (Clear Springs); Dorothy Shelton (Clear Springs); and Ariel White (Clear Springs).

Award Totals: Gold Key - 14; Silver Key - 20; Honorable Mention - 38; Total - 72.



Frazier's Robotics Club set their bots up for the parents to experience what it's like to drive one. Pictured are, left to right, Elena Nassar (kindergarten), Olivia Nassar and their father, Cesar Nassar. Assisting Nassar is Titus Giang, a member of the Robotics team.

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## NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING SEWER LINES AND IMPOSING PENALTIES TO: ALL RESIDENTS OF AND BUILDERS WITHIN CLEAR BROOK MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT AND TO ALL OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES

Pursuant to the Texas Water Code, notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors (the "Board") of Clear Brook City Municipal Utility District (the "District") as of December 2, 2012 adopted rules and regulations concerning its sewer house lines and sanitary sewer connections (the "Rules"), adopted a substantive statement and the penalties for violation of the Rules.

These Rules were adopted for the purpose of preventing overloading of wastewater treatment plants, preventing increased plumbing and treatment costs, and preventing line failures and service disruptions.

The amended Rules establish standards for service lines, connection of home and commercial sewer outlets to service lines, requirements for connection permit and type of flow and waste to be excluded. The amendments (1) establish standards for the connection of apartment complex outlets and service lines to the District's sewer lines (including authorizing apartment connections upon plan approval), (2) list the materials that may be used in construction of service lines without prior Board approval, and (3) add a new standard with respect to excluded flow and waste for customer-owned lines.

In addition to the amended rules the District has previously adopted and published notices of adoption of rules, rules the purposes of which are to (1) secure and maintain safe, sanitary and adequate plumbing installations, connections, and appurtenances as subsidiary parts of its sanitary sewer system; (2) preserve the sanitary condition of all water controlled by the district; (3) prevent waste or the unauthorized use of water controlled by the district; and (4) provide and regulate a safe and adequate freshwater distribution system.

Failure to adhere to said Rules can result in a civil fine of up to \$2,000 per violation.

On January 21, 2015, the District adopted procedures for penalties of up to \$2,000 per occurrence under Texas Local Government Code Section 54.001, as authorized under Texas Water Code chapter 4.

The full text of all of the Districts Rules is on file in an administrative office of the District where they may be read by any interested person. The office is located at 1301 McKinney, Suite 5100, Houston, Texas 77010, Attention: Neil Thomas, 713-651-3613.

## Knight's comedic robots to perform at San Jac

A robot comedian, robot film festival, and Cyborg Cabaret are all part of Marilyn Monrobot Labs, founded by Carnegie Mellon doctoral candidate and social roboticist, Heather Knight. She will bring her robotic comedy show to the San Jacinto College South Campus on Tuesday, March 3.

When describing a social roboticist, Knight simply explains that she makes robots that interact with people in a human way. Her current research involves human-robot interaction, nonverbal machine commu-

nications, and non-anthropomorphic social robots.

Data, the robot comedian, has a large database of jokes programmed internally. Each joke is labeled with certain attributes so that Data knows something about the subject, length, and flow of the joke. Data then watches the audience's response and begins to cater the following jokes based on audience interaction and participation.

Over time, Data can then tailor a comedy routine based on its audience such as children, adults and different cultures.

An alumna of the Personal Robots Group at the MIT Media Lab, Knight was named to the 2011 Forbes List for 30 under 30 in Science, and is featured for her Robot Comedy performances at TED (Technology, Entertainment, Design) conferences.

Her work also includes robotics and instrumentation at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, interactive installations with Syyn Labs (including the award-winning "This too shall pass" Rube Goldberg Machine music video with OK GO),

and field applications and the Marie Spence Flickinger sensor design at Aldebaran Fine Arts Auditorium.

The South campus is located at 13735 Beamer Road in Houston. This event South campus on Tuesday, March 3, at 7 p.m. in the Jacinto College Lyceum Proscenium Theatre inside Committee.

## San Jac and Mind Trekkers to host two-day STEM festival

Mind Trekkers from Michigan Technological University will bring more than 100 of the nation's most interactive science experiments to San Jacinto College on March 12 and 13 during Dow Chemical Adventures in STEM.

Approximately 6,500 sixth-graders from six independent school districts will make their way to the San Jacinto College Central Campus during both days to watch how science is applied toward such experiments as walking on water, making ice cream in 60 seconds, DNA extraction, fire tornadoes, and skewering balloons.

Families from across Houston are invited to the campus from 6 to 8 p.m. on March 12 for Family Night. This free event will give children of all ages the chance to perform the many experiments brought by Mind Trekkers.

"We produce an environment that is different than what students are used to in their classrooms," said Cody Kangas, Mind Trekker director and co-founder. "When students walk into a Mind Trekkers event, they see people running around having fun with music and hands-on discovery-based learning. This is science in action!"

Kangas added that another benefit of the STEM festival is that K-12 students learn from college students, those

who are about to embark on their own careers in STEM. "They get to see science as cool with college students having fun and professionals making money doing these experiments," said Kangas.

Dow Chemical has been a longtime partner with Mind Trekkers. With Houston's robust energy industry, Kangas said it was a natural choice for a Mind Trekkers festival. "It was a match that made a lot of sense," he said. "We're excited because we think Houston is prime for this."

The San Jacinto College STEM Council will assist with coordination of experiments. San Jacinto College has increased the amount of activities and initiatives in recent years to attract more students to STEM fields. Mind Trekkers will allow San Jacinto College students to serve as volunteers and engage in outreach education to inspire K-12 students.

"San Jacinto College is proud to work with Dow and the Mind Trekkers of Michigan Tech to bring this event to Houston," said Dr. Allatia Harris, San Jacinto College vice chancellor for Strategic Initiatives, Workforce Development, Community Relations, and Diversity. "We are preparing the scientists, engineers and technicians of tomorrow. Engaging young people with STEM in a meaningful way is key to

developing the talent this region needs to maintain our position in the world economy. Besides, these activities are really fun, and as Mind Trekkers say, 'Come out and get your geek on.'"

The San Jacinto College Central campus is located at 8060 Spencer Highway in Pasadena. For more information about Mind Trekkers, visit <http://mindtrekkers.mtu.edu/>.

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# Meador releases 2nd 9-weeks rolls

Meador Elementary School recently announced its recognized, honor and merit rolls for the second nine-weeks grading period of the 2014-2015 school year.

Students earning status are:

## First grade Recognized roll

Jacelyne Adan, Leonela Aguila, Kevin Argueta, Hussai Arias, Landon Bates, Arihanna Berrones, Natalia Betancourt, Ethan Blandon, Rick Bonilla and Allen Campos.

Marlin Carter, Tristian Castillo, Joseph Chacon, Fernanda Coello, Tiffany Contreras, Keana Davis, Josselyn Delgado, Ian Esquivel and Geovanny Fuentes.

Yazmyne Gains, Aitana Glover, Adam Gonzales, Tim Guerra, Aylin Infante, Kiera In Louis, Audrina Lanza, Richard Le, Lauren Lewis and Alejandro Martinez.

Xavier Martinez, Nelson Mendez, Liani Mercado, Katy Moreno, Jacoby Muniz, Minh Nguyen, Leslie Ontiveros, Jayla Pulido, Jaylene Pulido and Joaquin Ramirez.

Rachel Rivera, Jayden Robinson, Brandon Rock, Kimberly Rodriguez, Sebastian Rodriguez, Irene Rosales, Oliver Saavedra, Gisell Sabillon, Mia Sanchez and Brianna Schulgen.

Mario Segovia, Allon Seymour, Jordyn Smith, Itzel Sosa, Xavier Swafford, Charles

Thomas, Diego Torres, Nhu-Y Tran, Victoria Tran, Fernando Vargas, Tawirena Virgin and Janyvia Williams.

## Second grade Honor roll

Aysjha Anderson, Bryan Anderson, Jordan Bray, Marvin Carter, Tatyonna Chapell, Kendra Denoon and Brenden Foxx.

Anyscia Hagler, Natalie Martinez, Edson Moreno, Elaine Nguyen, Kristi Nguyen, Lex Palm, Tre Ramirez, Cindy Su and Yara Valois.

**Merit roll**  
Dominic Alejandro, Byanka Ayala, Bethany Espinoza, Valerie Gonzales, Ileen Preza, Omar Santos, Lena Swick, Patience Thomas and Michelle Zarate.

**Third grade Honor roll**  
Natali Iglesias, Arick Lastik, Alejandro Lopez, Yulissa Oliva, Brianna Pedraza, Serenity Quillens, Arianna Ramos, Efrain Ruiz and McKenzie White.

**Merit roll**  
Noelani Gonzalez.

**Fourth grade Honor roll**  
Lorenzo Cantu, Fabian Martinez, Marcelo Saucedo and Luis Torres.

**Merit roll**  
Landen Adame, Gabrielle Addison, Alex Ayala, Isaac Dao, Kylie Dennis, Anna Le, Carlie Nix, Mark Penaloza and Isaac Thompson.

# Over The Back Fence by Alexis

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY, JIM!

Special birthday greetings are sent Feb. 25 from family and friends to **Jim Muecke**, an Edgebrook area resident who does community volunteer work on road and drainage projects.

## SCHOOL DAZE

The following personnel and staff members of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays Feb. 19 through Feb. 25.

### Burnett Elementary

A special birthday greeting is sent to **Frances Rivera** Feb. 24. Light the birthday candles for **Ashley Carroll** on Feb. 25.

### Bush Elementary

On Feb. 23, sing a happy birthday song to **Gabriela Vasquez**.

### Meador Elementary

Greetings for a wonderful birthday are sent to **Virginia Fortson** Feb. 19. Blow out the birthday candles Feb. 25 for **Cheryl Richards**.

### Moore Elementary

The day for a birthday party for **Leah Laredo** is Feb. 25.

## Melillo Middle School

The day for a cake for **Stacy Paxton** is Feb. 20. Feb. 21 is the day for **Wanda Soto** to celebrate a birthday. Light the candles for **Rosa Salinas** Feb. 25.

## Beverly Hills Intermediate

**Melissa Gutierrez** celebrates a birthday Feb. 21. Blow out the birthday candles on a double-layer cake Feb. 23 for **Joseph Fee** and **Quan Nguyen**. Feb. 25 is the day for a celebration for **Gary Warner**.

## Thompson Intermediate

The day for a party for **Yolanda Robinson** is Feb. 19.

## Dobie High

**Dendy Farrar** enjoys a birthday Feb. 20. **Eva Vasquez** celebrates a birthday Feb. 21. On Feb. 22, birthday wishes are sent to **Lori Sims**. **Jesse Goodwin** is wished a happy birthday Feb. 23. Sharing a birthday Feb. 24 are **Wendy Sharpless** and **Tamalar Whiting**. Blow out the birthday candles for **Michael Arroyo** and **Kha Nguyen** Feb. 25.

## FACEBOOK FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS

The Leader sends happy birthday wishes to its Facebook friends who celebrate a birthday this week:  
Thursday, Feb. 19: **Jason Minck, Dalaina Rounsavall-Harris, Patricia Doran and Ryan Mint**; Friday, Feb. 20: **Paul Brantly, Heidi Samford, Judy Lucadou-Dooly and Jamie Baggett**; Saturday, Feb. 21: **Michael Gabbard, Vonda Byars, Kellie Nelson and Richard Salinas**; Sunday, Feb. 22: **Gerald Maduzia**; Monday, Feb. 23: **Mark Roberts, David Adkins, Brian Groff, Tonya Abel, Angie Abel, Charlese Richard, James Spence and Liz Cantu**; Tuesday, Feb. 24: **Wendy Sharpless, Andrew Belmarez, Ken Moore, L.A. Dalton, Michael Brown and Rebecca Cappello**; and Wednesday, Feb. 25: **Frank Acosta, Carla Burbach, Kayla Ferrell, Rene Hernandez, Kobe Ruiz-Estrada and Luciana Serrano**.

## LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS

Email birthday, anniversary, vacation, congratulations, etc., to [mynews@southbeltleader.com](mailto:mynews@southbeltleader.com) with OTBF in the subject line.

Items must be submitted by Friday noon for the next week's publication.

# GBSPS sets boating safety course Feb. 21

The Galveston Bay Sail and Power Squadron (GBSPS), a member of the United States Power Squadrons (USPS), will conduct a Saturday, America's Boating Course on Feb. 21 for a full day of safe boating topics.

The class will run from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The course covers boating terminology, required safety equipment, regulations, adverse conditions, knots and lines, navigation, boating problems, trailering, storing and protecting a boat and more, all taught by experienced boaters.

The course is for ages 12 and up. Cost is \$60 and includes materials, USPS

textbook, both the USPS and Texas Parks & Wildlife certifications, snacks and lunch. Two people sharing the same book and materials may attend for \$90.

America's Boating Course will be held at the GBSPS training building located on the grounds of Lakewood Yacht Club, 2425 NASA Parkway in Seabrook.

Space is limited. To reserve a spot contact squadron education officer Pam Sanders at 713-962-8878 or [psanders3@gmail.com](mailto:psanders3@gmail.com).

The GBSPS will also offer the course on Saturdays, March 21, and April 25 at the same times and costs.

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# BHI triumphs at 2015 PISD Science Fair

On Jan. 23, 11 students from Beverly Hills Intermediate participated in the Pasadena Independent School District Science Fair. These students were Miracle Rollins, Emanuel Sanchez, Ariel Robles, Corbin Sherwood, Adrian Montez, Sarah Tyler, Angel Aguilar, Jennifer Nguyen, Michaela Taylor, Ashley Tsikis and Minh To.

The students began their day by touring PISD's new Career and Technology High School. They were then transported to San Jacinto College Main campus where they were able to interact with both San Jacinto teachers and students.

One of the many highlights of the day was a multitude of interactive labs and experiments which were hosted by the San Jacinto College faculty.

Finally, the day ended in competition, and Beverly Hills Intermediate came out shining.

Top awards were given to eighth-grader Adrian Montez (first place in chemistry), seventh-grader, Sarah Tyler (first place in plant science), seventh-grader Angel Aguilar (second place in physics), and eighth-graders Jennifer Nguyen and Michaela Taylor (second place - Team Division).

Beverly Hills also secured two out of six Special Awards. Adrian Montez received a Special Award for best experimental design and Angel Aguilar received the Special Award for best real-world application.

A large percentage of Beverly Hills' science fair team received invitations to the next level of competition, the Houston Science

Fair. Students who received invitations were Adrian



BHI students Adrian Montez (left) and Angel Aguilar (right) won the Special Award for their projects. Pictured with them is Dr. Grant Pector (science teacher).



BHI students who earned awards at the district science fair were, left to right, (front row) Jennifer Nguyen, Adrian Montez, Angel Aguilar, Michaela Taylor, (back row) Sarah Tyler, Ashley Tsikis, Miracle Rollins, Ariel Robles, Corbin Sherwood, Emanuel Sanchez and Minh To.

# Remember When

**35 years ago (1980)**  
South Belters living in Houston city limits were surprised to learn that they lived in Zone C, the

cheapest National Flood Insurance zone.  
Pasadena Independent School District board voted to assess property at 100 percent of its value, instead of the previous 80 percent.

**30 years ago (1985)**  
Houston Fire Department Station 70 opened on Beamer, and firefighters moved into the new station.

**25 years ago (1990)**  
The jury in the Slaughter v. Monsanto case absolved Monsanto of any liability regarding the Brio waste dump. Close to \$350 million in damages was being sought by 222 plaintiffs.

The Committee For Good Schools, made up of community watchdogs, encouraged a "no" vote on the upcoming Pasadena Independent School bond issue.

Thompson Intermediate principal Vicki Thomas promoted a sense of school spirit and self-achievement by starting the "BUG" (Bring Up Grades) Club for her 950 students.

Meador Elementary was chosen to conduct

a pilot program which would allow each student to use a computer on a daily basis.

**20 years ago (1995)**  
Leader publisher Marie Flickinger received 90.5 percent of the votes cast at Dobie High School for San Jacinto College District's board of regents Position 3.

Dobie High School's Academic Decathlon Team would be among 40 large schools competing at Clear Creek High School.

The Pasadena Independent School District board unveiled a facilities plan that could lead to a \$44.86 million bond election in the fall.  
Merchants along Scarsdale Boulevard were alerted that a contractor had been telling some that they had been annexed by the city, when in fact they had not.

**15 years ago (2000)**  
The Pasadena Independent School District \$200 million bond issue was approved by 88 percent of the voters.

Minh Pham, three-year Dobie varsity football letter winner on the line, was selected to the 5A acad-

emic all-state team.

**10 years ago (2005)**  
The city council for the city of League City did not approve an interlocal agreement which would have provided infrastructure to build CCISD's fourth high school.

A previous article in the Leader resulted in the newspaper office being deluged with telephone calls informing the staff of illegal gaming operations in the South Belt area. One location in a shopping center on Hughes at Beamer removed gaming machines and closed its doors for business.

**5 years ago (2010)**  
Eighth-grade Thompson student Alexander Mays won the Pasadena Independent School District's annual spelling bee, allowing him to advance to the citywide Houston PBS Spelling Bee. Mays won the competition by successfully spelling the word, *toucan*.

**1 year ago (2014)**  
Andrea Gonzalez from Meador Elementary won the Pasadena Independent School District Spelling Bee. The fourth-grader competed against students

from 32 elementary campuses to gain her title. The winning word was *col-lage*.

# Bay Area Singles Dance set

The Bay Area Singles Club monthly dance will be held Saturday, Feb. 21, from 7 to 10:30 p.m. at the VFW Lodge, Post 6378, at 5204 Highway 3 in Dickinson. Bring party snacks to share. Cost is \$7 for members and \$9 for nonmembers. For more information, call 409-948-1156 or 281-484-4762.

# Care Partners meet Feb. 20

Interfaith Care Partners Ministry group at St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church, 10727 Hartsook St. (near Alameda Mall), a gathering for persons with Alzheimer's, dementia or memory loss, meets the third Friday of each month from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Gatherings consist of a continental breakfast, arts and crafts, exercises, entertainment, a singalong, a devotional break, lunch, and ends with a game.

Those who have a family member or know of someone with these challenges, are welcome to attend. All services are provided free of charge. An initial interview must be conducted by Interfaith Care Partners staff to welcome new participants into this program.

The next gathering will be in the Mother Cabrini Center at the church on Friday, Feb. 20.

For more information, call Interfaith Care Partners at 713-682-5995 or visit the website at [www.interfaith-carepartners.org](http://www.interfaith-carepartners.org).

# Lions Club meeting set

The Houston Space City Lions Club will meet Tuesday, Feb. 24, at 7 p.m. at the Golden Corral, 12500 Gulf Freeway.

For more information, call George Malone at 281-438-7243.

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# Dobie College Now preparing students

In an effort to further high school students' college readiness, San Jacinto College has partnered with J. Frank Dobie High School on a new initiative called Dobie College Now.

Over the last four years, Dobie High School's campus-wide college-prep program, Dobie College Now, has provided its students with an array of opportunities to learn about the college application process, financial aid, and other information for first-time college students. Recently, the high school's ACE (Afterschool Centers

for Education) program has allocated funds to pay for tuition and books for 40 Dobie sophomores to enroll in San Jacinto College's Learning Framework (EDUC 1300) course. The San Jacinto College Learning Framework course helps students develop effective best practices for success in college.

These students have taken and passed the Texas Success Initiative Assessment (TSI) and have met all the admission requirements for San Jacinto College. The ACE program provides afterschool

opportunities focusing on college and careers that feature guest speakers from local industry professionals, various facility tours, and a chance for students to get hands-on experience in their areas of interest.

San Jacinto College South Campus Dual Credit Coordinator, Kate Graham, says this is an innovative way to help younger high school students prepare for the rigor of the college's dual credit program. "This is a way to hopefully ease them into their first college course," said Graham. "The idea is that we are pre-

paring them as sophomores to be ready for full dual credit courses as juniors."

Dobie High School College Now Coordinator, Jennifer Johnson, adds that this allows students to try out the dual credit program without the large-scale commitment that's required their last two years of high school. "This new initiative helps identify students who are really ready to tackle dual credit classes and lets them see what the San Jacinto College dual credit program will be like during their junior and senior years," said

Johnson. "By taking the EDUC 1300 class their sophomore year, those moving on to the full dual credit program will have a chance to take more classes the summer prior to their junior year, helping them attain more college credit hours sooner."

The EDUC 1300 course is taught at Dobie after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays, with tutoring on Wednesdays. Dobie teachers Jane Damico and Linda Puckett, who teach the course, are certified by San Jacinto College to do so. "Our students can see a light at the end of the tunnel as college students," said Damico. "They carry themselves with greater pride and stronger confidence because of the Dobie College Now program. Our students are enthusiastically taking on the challenges of succeeding in a college culture."

Dual credit programs are partnerships between state high schools, universities, and community colleges that allow junior and senior high school students to enroll in college courses to simultaneously earn college credit and high school credit. Dual credit programs allow for a smoother transition into college and increase the likelihood of degree completion.

In a recent study done by the Texas-ACE College Success Research Consortium of more than 36,000 first-time college students with and without dual credit hours, results showed that students with dual credit course hours were more likely to earn a cumulative GPA of 3.0 within their first two years of college.

The study also showed that 59 percent of students entering college with dual credit hours have greater chances of completing a bachelor's degree within five years compared to 50 percent of students with no dual credit hours. Students entering college with dual credit hours also showed to complete a bachelor's degree within 57 months, while those with no dual credit hours averaged degree completion within 72 months.

For more information on San Jacinto College's dual credit program, visit sanjac.edu/dual-credit.

# Dobie students prepare for college



J. Frank Dobie High School students attend Dobie College Now, a new college-prep program offered at the school. San Jacinto College recently partnered with Dobie on the new initiative to help high school students prepare for college.

Shown are, left to right, Karen Flores, Brynn Dempsey, Ashali Carter, Jane Damico (instructor), Linda Pucket (instructor), Alia Crawford and Alfredo Santoscoy.

Photo submitted

# BHI January Bears of the Month



Students of Beverly Hills Intermediate strive to achieve positive characteristics to guide them throughout their lives. The characteristic for January was perseverance. Perseverance is trying hard and not giving up despite the obstacles and difficulties. The January Bears of the Month were selected by the music department as best representing this characteristic. Students receive a special Bear paw-print pin and a Bear of the Month T-shirt to wear.

BHI January Bears of the Month are, left to right, (front row) Adrian Montez, Brenda Cavazos, Melissa Vidal, Jacob Nguyen, (middle row) Victoria Dao, MeeMee Mannery, Tomas Garcia, (back row) Saul Gonzalez, Jocelyn Solis, Jeremiah Gray and Robert Lewis. Not pictured is Lilliana Fonseca.

Photo submitted

cial Bear paw-print pin and a Bear of the Month T-shirt to wear. BHI January Bears of the Month are, left to right, (front row) Adrian Montez, Brenda Cavazos, Melissa Vidal, Jacob Nguyen, (middle row) Victoria Dao, MeeMee Mannery, Tomas Garcia, (back row) Saul Gonzalez, Jocelyn Solis, Jeremiah Gray and Robert Lewis. Not pictured is Lilliana Fonseca.

Photo submitted

# Students earn places at VASE Competition

The floor of the Commons at Education Village was covered with paintings, drawings and sketches as jurors decided which artwork was worthy of moving on to the state VASE Competition.

The Visual and Performing Arts Department recently announced that 22 Clear Creek Independent School District students received a superior rating at the Visual Art Scholastic Event (VASE) regional and area competitions held Saturday, Feb. 7, and will advance to the state VASE Competition.

The Texas Art Education Association has sponsored the Visual Art Scholastic Event since 1994.

VASE is the only art event of its kind in the nation. Students are provided the opportunity to bring artworks created in their art classes to their regional event where they are inter-

viewed by a certified juror who evaluates their work based on a standard-based rubric and their understanding of the art processes involved in the development of their artwork.

Only academically eligible high school students in grades 9-12 from throughout Texas can participate in VASE.

Jurors assess each work of art for originality of concept, technical expertise, understanding of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for visual art, and the interpretation of the student's stated intent.

Works that receive a superior rating at region are juried again at the area competition. Area medalists advance to the state competition. Region 4 South had 2,210 total entries, with only 106 works of art advancing to state.

CCISD's 22 area medalists, listed below, will compete at the state VASE competition on April 24-25, 2015, in Dallas:

Akhila Janapati, teacher Alicia Moore, Clear Brook HS; Lauren Leduc, teacher Alicia Moore, Clear Brook HS; Vicky Nguyen, teacher Alicia Moore, Clear Brook HS; Daniela Paniagua, teacher Alicia Moore, Clear Brook HS; Kelly Luong, teacher Jeffrey Samp, Clear Brook HS; Ana Rodriguez, teacher Jeffrey Samp, Clear Brook HS; Trenton Allison, teacher Terri Foltz-Fox, Clear Creek HS; Trenton Allison, teacher Terri Foltz-Fox, Clear Creek HS.

Kirsten Bolender, teacher Terri Foltz-Fox, Clear Creek HS; Hannah Burwell, teacher Terri Foltz-Fox, Clear Creek HS; Kaitlyn Gothreaux, teacher Terri Foltz-Fox, Clear Creek HS; Monica Jackson, Clear Falls HS; Samantha Pringle, teacher Terri Foltz-Fox, Clear Creek HS; Sabrina Shepherd, teacher Terri Foltz-Fox, Clear Creek HS; Sarah Wilson, teacher Terri Foltz-Fox, Clear Creek HS; Jenan Taha, teacher Suzanne Lienhart, Clear Creek HS; Kari Langford, Clear Falls HS; Faith Leskowitz, teacher Nina Makepeace, Clear Falls HS; Stone Shulsky, teacher Nina Makepeace, Clear Falls HS; Joann Chung, teacher Candice Matthies, Clear Lake HS; Shayla Bowen, teacher Lisette McClung, Clear Springs HS; and Kayeon Lee, teacher Lisette McClung, Clear Springs HS.

# Students travel to Capitol to lend voices about community college

Approximately 50 San Jacinto College students traveled to Austin, Texas, on Feb. 3, 2015, for Community College Day at the Capitol to participate in conversations about higher education.

For Emmanuel Quiroz, the trip hit home as legislators spoke of helping students from all walks of life, including disadvantaged backgrounds.

"I graduated from Pasadena High School in the top 25 percent and was accepted to eight universities, but even with scholarships, I couldn't afford the total cost to attend any of them," said Quiroz. "I decided to attend San Jacinto College for music and will now be the first person in my family to graduate with my associate degree. This is a huge step for me."

Quiroz and his peers were among nearly 2,000 commu-

nity college supporters who gathered at the Capitol to focus on the 5-Point Campaign: Legislative Priorities - workforce and skills alignment, measuring and funding success, college readiness, transfer and articulation, and Texans in community colleges.

In addition to tours of the Capitol, San Jacinto College students visited with Sen. Larry Taylor, Sen. Sylvia Garcia, Rep. Ed Thompson, Rep. Wayne Smith, Rep. Ana Hernandez, and a legislative aide from Sen. John Whitmire's office.

"Students need to know about the bills coming up and the ones that impact us as students," said Quiroz, who serves as president of the San Jacinto College Central Campus Student Government Association, treasurer of the choir club, and is a member of the psychology club. "If we don't

get involved, we can lose it all."

Quiroz has paid his way through college with the help of scholarships and paychecks from H-E-B and as a campus student employee.

He will graduate from San Jacinto College this May with an associate degree in music.

His goal is to attend either Texas State University or the University of Texas at Tyler in the fall.

Trisha McCurdy, treasurer of the San Jacinto College South Campus Student Government Association, will graduate in December with an associate degree in cosmetology. Having worked approximately 15 years as an accountant, the single mother knew it was time for a career change and to become involved in what is happening in legislation for community colleges for her

child's future in education.

"I decided to go to Austin with the group because I wanted to know what they are talking about in the Capitol as far as education goes," said McCurdy, who also marched in Washington, D.C., recently with SkillsUSA and advocated for Perkins funding. "I think about my son's future every day, and that's why I came back to college. I want him to be happy."

Like Quiroz, McCurdy received tuition assistance through San Jacinto College scholarships. She is the vice president of SkillsUSA college/postsecondary for the state of Texas, president of the SkillsUSA South campus chapter, and vice president of the South campus cosmetology club.

"This was a great day, and I feel like I am more involved, especially with the people I look up to, like our San Jacinto College Board of Trustees," said McCurdy. "I encourage any student to attend college, especially San Jacinto College, and to get involved on the community, state, and federal level."

Community College Day is held in Austin every two years and is hosted by the Texas Association of Community Colleges and the Community College Association of Texas Trustees.

For highlights of Texas Community College Day 2015, visit the Tagboard at <https://tagboard.com/ccday2015>.

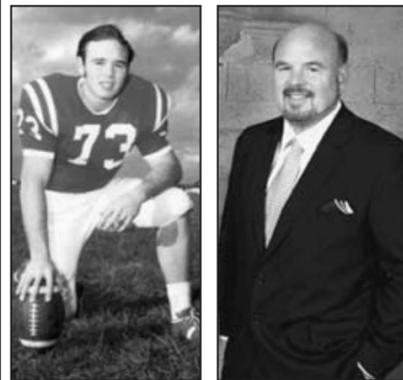
# Stuchbery's Tran wins first place



Stuchbery Elementary's spelling bee winner, Jasmine Tran, recently advanced to the Pasadena Independent School District Elementary Spelling Bee where she won first place. Tran will now compete in the final district spelling bee on Feb. 24. She is a fourth-grader in Emily Bass' class.

Photo submitted

# Happy 60th Birthday Mark Roberts!



Special Happy Birthday Wishes to Mark who turns **60 years old** Monday, February 23rd

We love you so much and can't imagine the world without you!

Hugs and Kisses are sent to Mark from his wife, Sherry Roberts, son Grant Roberts, daughter Tiffany Deal and son-in-law Michael Deal. Mark is an active member of Sagemont Church, a 1973 Dobie High School Graduate and has been a lifelong resident of South Belt.

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# Leader reflects on first 39 years serving South Belt

In honor of the *Leader's* upcoming 40th anniversary, (Feb. 5, 2016) the paper will run nostalgic photos throughout the year, with these then-and-now pictures being the second in the series.



The above photo, taken in the early 1980s, shows then-state Rep. Randy Pennington (left) and then-Harris County Judge Jon Lindsay overseeing the construction of the bridge at the intersection of Hughes Road and Beamer. The photo below

shows the same bridge as it stands today. The two men also played a key role in expediting the construction of the Seardsdale bridge at Beamer.

Photos by Marie Flickinger



To commemorate the *Leader's* 40th anniversary, more then-and-now photos will be posted in upcoming issues.



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## Tornado chaser presents at San Jac

Dr. Grady Dixon, department chair of geosciences at Fort Hayes State University in Kansas, will guest lecture on Texas tornadoes at the San Jacinto College South campus on Thursday, March 5.

Dixon is a meteorologist and physical geographer who studies human-weather interactions. Recently, he has spent most of his time researching tornado climatology and the effects of weather on suicide rates.

He earned his Bachelor of Science in meteorology from Mississippi State University followed by a master's and a doctoral degree in geography from the University of Georgia and Arizona State University, respectively. Dixon has been storm chasing since 1998 and now leads chase courses each spring.

Dixon's lecture, *Texas Tornadoes: When and Where Do They Occur?* will take place on Thursday, March 5, at 7 p.m. in Room S1.113 of the Science and Allied Health Building (Building 1), as part of Texas Severe Weather Awareness Week. The event is free and open to the public.

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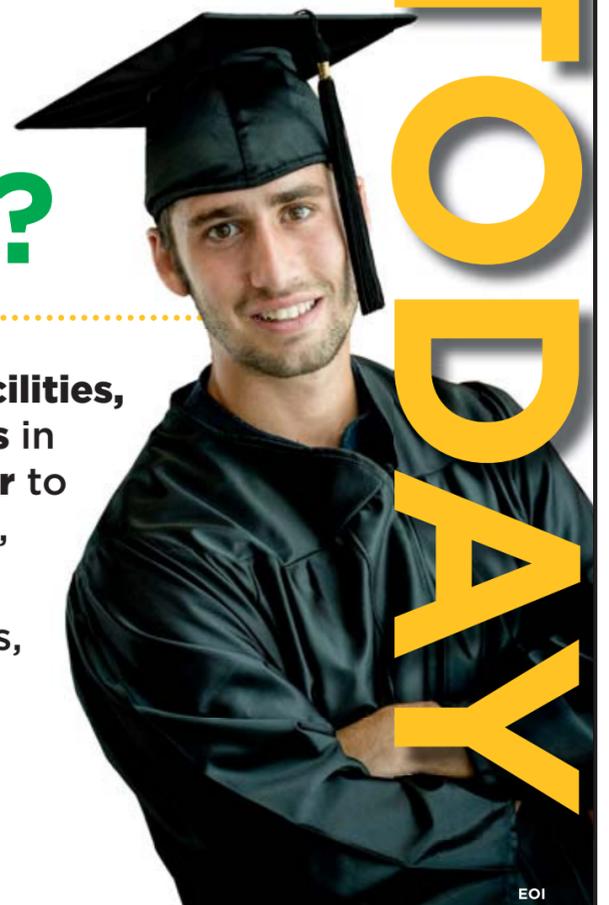
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# SPORTS & CLASSIFIED

## Brook girls take first; relay wins prove key

Wins in a pair of relays were the difference as the host Clear Brook varsity girls' track and field squad scored a win at the Wolverines Relays Feb. 13. Clear Brook captured first place in the 4x100- and 4x200-meter relays, leading the way to 88 overall points, eight better than second-place Ridge Point's 80. Pearlland was a distant third.

Breanna Byrd, Kalia Hendrix, Jamaris Stephen and Maygen Smith teamed in both relay victories for the Lady Wolverines.

Brook's Raygen Smith (100-meter hurdles) was an individual gold medalist for Clear Brook, and Byrd (triple jump) and Hannah Schillaci (pole vault) were silver medalists.

**Continued on Page 3B**

## Pasadena ISD to host annual Brown Relays

The prestigious Brown Relays are coming to Pasadena ISD's Auxiliary Stadium Friday, Feb. 20. Dobbie will be in the mix as more than a dozen of the area's top varsity track and field teams will be in on the action.

Running preliminaries and field events will begin at 2:30 p.m. The running finals are set to start at 6 p.m.



Dobbie defender Gerardo Infante (3) and midfielder Nixon Urrutia pressure Memorial's Jose Trevino (5) during the first half of the Longhorns' 2-1 victory over the Mavericks Feb. 14 at Veterans Stadium. The win gave first-place Dobbie 23 of 24 possible points over the course of the first half of league play. Following a 2-1 win over Pearlland Feb. 17, Dobbie is 8-0-1 in league play and 12-1-1 overall for the season. Dobbie also has a 10-point edge in the 22-6A standings. Photo by John Bechtle

## Girls lose ground in race Tough-minded Dobbie soccer leaps to District 22-6A lead

If the Dobbie varsity boys' soccer team has flown under the radar at all through the first half of the 22-6A season, it's time to take notice.

Snagging 26 of 27 possible points through the first nine games of 22-6A action, the Longhorns have emerged as the team to beat as turn three approaches with the back straightaway in sight.

Mix in a 2-1 win over Pearlland Feb. 17 to extend the team's record to 8-0-1 in district and 12-1-1 overall, and something special just may be brewing.

"These kids are just mentally strong, and they want to win," said Dobbie head coach Justo Manrique after his team tripped up Memorial.

"I'm no genius, but even when I have subbed, it seems like the player I have put in the game has done something positive on his first touch of the game."

Perhaps Dobbie's 2-1 win over Memorial Feb. 14 to close out the first half of league action is a perfect example of how this Dobbie team goes about its business.

Manrique said he figured the senior-laden Memorial group would come out firing with a chance to make a big leap in the standings.

Dobbie didn't generate a lot on offense but was still able to hold the Mavs in check during a scoreless opening 40 minutes.

After halftime, Carlos Martinez and Josue Villalta netted goals just minutes apart to put the Longhorns ahead 2-0.

Despite a silly foul that led to a Memorial goal later, Dobbie held on for the 2-1 victory. More second half magic for a team that has gotten it done after halftime on numerous occasions this season.

A game earlier against Sam Rayburn, Dobbie led 1-0 at halftime but then scored an insurance goal just a minute into the second half.

Manrique said the second goal took much of the steam out of Rayburn's game.

"Guys are contributing when they get into the field," he said.

**Continued on Page 6B**

### District 22-6A Standings Varsity Boys' Soccer (Through Feb. 17 play)

Teams	W	L	T	Pts.
Dobbie	8	0	1	26
Memorial	4	3	2	16
Pasadena	4	2	3	16
Sam Rayburn	4	3	2	15
Manvel	3	3	2	12
Dawson	3	4	2	12
South Houston	3	5	2	11
Pearland	2	6	1	7
Alvin	2	7	0	6

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## Defense keys Horns' playoff clincher

With head coach Kevin Cross (far left) looking on, Dobbie players Travores Gilbert (14) and Jarvis Lester (5) apply tight defensive pressure on Memorial's Ja Michael Golden (with ball) during the first half of the Longhorns' 82-60 win Feb. 17 at Dobbie. Combined with Pearlland's loss to Manvel the same night, the win clinched the fourth and final playoff seed for the Longhorns, who will face District 21-5A and defending state champion North Shore in the bidistrict playoff round. That game is set for Tuesday, Feb. 24, at Pasadena Memorial High School, with a 7 p.m. start. For more, see Page 2B.



## Lady Longhorns outslug Pearlland 11-5

If offense earns playoff berths and subsequent playoff series wins, the Dobbie varsity girls' softball team may be in good shape this season.

It's just one night, but it was a good one as Dobbie opened its season with a smash, slugging its way

past nemesis Pearlland 11-5 in a District 22-6A opener Feb. 17 at the Pasadena ISD Sports Complex. Marissa Longoria led the way with a pair of doubles and four runs driven in. Three newcomers also came through in a big way. Sophomore Yasmine Myers had two hits and an RBI, and freshman Yvonne Whaley had three hits and scored two runs. Another freshman, Haylie Rocha, had a hit and scored two runs.

## NS eliminates Dobbie



Dobbie's Audrey Wandji (20) made good on this inside attempt against North Shore's Kayla Mack (22), but the rest of the night was a struggle as the No. 2 state-ranked Lady Mustangs handed Dobbie a 76-30 loss in the bidistrict playoff round Feb. 16 at Deer Park. Dobbie's season ends at 19-13 overall. See more on Page 2B. Photo by John Bechtle

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## Sports news, notes

### Diamond Club to meet

The Dobie Diamond Club, the school's official baseball booster organization, will host its monthly meeting Wednesday, March 4, at 7 p.m., in the school's annex near the weight room. Parents of all Longhorn baseball players are encouraged to return, and players are welcome as well. In-season spring plans will be discussed during the meeting. For more information, direct email to [dobiediamondclub@gmail.com](mailto:dobiediamondclub@gmail.com).

### Rising Star track sign-up

The Rising Stars Track Club, the area's longtime youth track and field team, is accepting registration now through the end of February. The team practices each Monday, Wednesday and Friday at the Dobie High School track from 5 to 7 p.m., as well as Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Sundays from 3 to 6 p.m. Those interested may register at any of the practice sessions. The team, which competes in both Amateur Athletic Union and USA Track and Field competitions, will begin its season in April.

### CRAZY Krewe fun runs March 7

Tired of running on flat ground? Try the only Houston Bay Area run that includes a sprint up and over the NASA bypass. The public is invited to register for the 7K Fun Run or a 3K Walk. This is a family-friendly event with free activities, food, and entertainment. Serving the community for 11 years by increasing drug and alcohol awareness and decreasing risks to youth, the Bay Area Alliance for Youth and Families is now planning its fifth annual CRAZY Krewe event. The alliance is perhaps best known for its Medication Take Back events, having collected nearly 8,500 pounds of unused and expired medications for disposal since 2010. But this time, it's all about running for a good cause. The event is set for Saturday, March 7. Home base is Clear View High School, located at 400 S. Walnut St. in Webster. Registration is \$25 per person or \$75 for a family four pack, if registered by Feb. 27. All of the action starts March 7, at 8 a.m. The timed race will award the top three male and female finishers in elementary, intermediate and high school as well as ages 19 to 35, 26 to 59 and 60 and older. Register online at [www.tinyurl.com/CRAZYKrewe2015](http://www.tinyurl.com/CRAZYKrewe2015). For more information, call 281-284-0370.

### Baseball United seeks players

Baseball United Clubs will host tryouts for the upcoming 2015 Nations Baseball season throughout February. Players will be required to pass a series of skills drills prior to the tryout, which will be held at the Clear Lake Dad's Club. Those in the 7-under division may register free of charge. There are openings in the 6-under through 14-under divisions. There are three team levels, including select, premiere and elite. For more information, call Terrance Small at 832-212-3543. Families may also direct email to [Small@coach@nightmareamateursports.com](mailto:Small@coach@nightmareamateursports.com).

### South Belt Youth Soccer Club

Online registration is ongoing in the South Belt Youth Soccer Club as officials prepare for the upcoming spring season. Players in the Under 5 through Under 8 (ages 4, 5, 6, 7) divisions may register for \$90 per player, while it will be \$100 for players in the Under 9 and Under 10 (ages 8, 9). Those in the U-11 and older (ages 10 to 18) may register for \$110 per player. The registration fee in the U-5 through U-8 divisions includes a uniform, while the uniform cost is extra in the older divisions. Forms of payment include credit and debit cards only. No cash or checks will be accepted. To register or to learn more about the league, visit [www.southbelt.soccer.org](http://www.southbelt.soccer.org).

### Stampede 12-U seeks players

The Texas Stampede, a 12-under select baseball team in the South Belt area, is seeking a few players for its upcoming spring and summer season. The Stampede compete primarily in United States Specialty Sports Association events, usually up to three per month in the Houston and surrounding areas. Officials charge families only for the cost of field rental and tournament fees, etc. There are no monthly dues. For more information, call Pete Rodriguez at 713-540-1257 or Mike Escobedo 281-758-9440.

### PISD Hall of Fame tickets selling

Tickets for the fourth annual Pasadena ISD Athletics Hall of Fame Banquet will go on sale starting Monday (Feb. 23) at the school district's athletics ticket office. Six new inductees will be honored at the April 11 banquet with former University of Texas head football coach David McWilliams set to serve as guest master of ceremonies. Tickets for the banquet are \$50 each. Table sponsorships are also available at various donation levels. Table sponsors and inductees will gather at a reception in the Hall of Fame Museum just before the banquet, which starts at 6 p.m. at Phillips Field House. The museum is located on the north end of the gym. McWilliams will take part in a ceremony that will include the induction of two former Pasadena ISD football standouts who played for UT during McWilliams' 16-year stint as a Longhorns' assistant coach. McWilliams was a UT defensive assistant coach during the college careers of both Steve Oxley and Randy McEachern.

Oxley, a 1969 Rayburn graduate, played in the offensive line for the Longhorns from 1970 to 1972 under Darrell Royal. McEachern, a 1974 Dobie graduate, played quarterback for UT in 1977 and 1978 under Fred Akers.

Other former Pasadena ISD athletes set for induction are David Webb, Pasadena High Class of 1959, a four-sport standout who later played football at Lamar; Jeff Wylie, Pasadena High Class of 1987, who went on to star in the high jump at Baylor; and Kyla Hall Holas, South Houston High Class of 1990, who enjoyed an All-American softball career as a pitcher for Southwestern Louisiana.

Also selected for induction is the late Scott Talton, who coached Dobie's boys basketball team to 500 victories, four district titles and 15 playoff appearances over a 27-year career.

Individuals or groups interested in sponsoring a banquet table are asked to contact Cindy Parmer, director of community relations for the Pasadena ISD, at 713-740-0288, or by email at [cparmer@pasadenaisd.org](mailto:cparmer@pasadenaisd.org).

Information on sponsorship tables for the 2015 banquet can also be found at <http://tiny.cc/pol5ex>.

The athletics ticket office is located on the east side of the Phillips Field House complex at 2906 Dabney in Pasadena. The office is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

# Longhorns edge out Pearland, will take on 21-6A champions

Perhaps the Dobie varsity boys' basketball coaching staff should consider hosting senior night more often.

Just minutes after the team's final-season players were honored along with their family members, seniors Justin Turner and Jarvis Lester led the Longhorns to the playoffs.

Providing a terrific 1-2 punch during Dobie's opening first-quarter 27-10 blitz of Memorial, Turner and Lester guided Dobie to an easy 82-60 victory over the Mavericks Feb. 17 at Dobie in a game with huge implications.

Combined with Pearland's loss to Manvel on the same night, Dobie's win sends the Longhorns to the bidistrict playoffs at 10-6 in league play.

The Longhorns will face tough odds against defending state champion North Shore in the first round, but at least on this night, Dobie was really

## Bidistrict hoops playoffs

### Dobie vs. North Shore

Tuesday, Feb. 24

Pasadena Memorial H.S., 7 p.m.

good. Dobie head coach Kevin Cross of course credited Turner, who had 32 points in the game, as well as Lester. But there was more.

"Really, the whole team played well as a group," Cross said.

"It was a great effort by everybody on a big night when we needed a win. Some of the three balls were going down, which is something we're not really known for.

"Defensively, it was a great team effort. Got our hands on a lot of basketballs and made some plays in transition. Turner and Jarvis Lester (12 points) were great, and Jason Les-

ter (11 points) was good down low.

Travores Gilbert made some shots, and we were able to get some guys in who haven't seen a lot of action. Just a great team win."

Cross is aware of what his team faces in going against North Shore. Senior Kerwin Roach is a University of Texas signee and one of the top players nationwide. Overall, North Shore is simply very good.

"But we went in as a No. 4 seed several years ago and beat Port Arthur Memorial," Cross said. "We just have to play great basketball."



Turner-led JFD moves on, will face NS

At left, Dobie's Justin Turner highlighted the team's senior night effort against Memorial, scoring a game-high 32 points as the locals handed the Mavericks an 82-60 setback Feb. 17 at Scott Talton Court. At the same time, Pearland suffered a loss to Manvel, allowing the Longhorns to secure the fourth and final playoff berth in District 22-6A at 10-6. Dawson won the league title at 15-1, with Manvel next at 12-4. South Houston was third at 11-5, with Dobie next. Pearland wound up fifth with a 10-6 record. Dobie will now face defending state champion North Shore in the first round of the playoffs.

Photo by John Bechtle

# North Shore girls' top Dobie, 76-30, for opening-round win

The game provided a little bit of excitement near the end of the first half, and just like that, North Shore was off and running again.

The Lady Mustangs, ranked second statewide, cruised past Dobie 76-30 in a bidistrict playoff clash Feb. 16 at Deer Park High School.

For Dobie, it was the second consecutive lopsided loss in the first round of the playoffs, including last year's defeat at the hands of Channelview.

It's just the cost of doing business in the ultra-competitive Class 6A ranks.

North Shore, which has lost to only Barbers Hill and Cy-Woods this season, controlled the action against Dobie from the start.

Sophomore Chasity Patterson, one of the nation's top players in her grade class, hit a pair of early 3-pointers as North Shore led 7-0 before Dobie scored.

Dobie's Jade Giron fed

Kiara Hart for a fast break layin as the Lady Longhorns got on the scoreboard, but North Shore still managed a 14-5 lead after the first eight minutes.

Dobie closed to within 26-21 in the closing seconds of the first half, but Patterson sank a 3-pointer at the halftime buzzer to give the momentum right back to the Lady Mustangs.

For Dobie head coach Shane Brown, it was a case of a team hanging tough for 16 minutes but not being able to sustain anything solid against a great team.

"Even with (Patterson's) the 3-pointer right there before the half, it was an eight-point game at halftime," Brown said. "Realistically, our biggs played well down low and gave us a chance.

"We knew coming into the game that North Shore was going to force the action on both ends of the floor. That's what they do."

But instead, the second half simply got worse for Dobie.

North Shore outscored the locals 30-4 in the quarter to lead 59-25.

For North Shore, it was all about ball pressure.

The defense forced Dobie into four 5-second calls on inbounds plays and a slew of turnovers throughout the game.

When the threes started falling with regularity for North Shore, the scoreboard lit up.

"We just didn't have the mental fortitude to stick with it and make it a game in the second half," Brown said.

"Basketball is a game of mistakes, and it's how you respond to some of those mistakes that often determines the outcome.

"When the turnovers started piling up, we weren't able to settle things down often enough to get enough good looks (scoring chances) to get back in the game."

Still, Brown gave credit where it was due. Al-

though North Shore never backed off of its pressure tactics on either end despite the scoreboard, Brown had no issues.

"When a team is good at something - in North Shore's case the pressing defense and sprint back the other way offense - they usually don't quit with it. That's just how they play."

So North Shore moves on, and it very well could be state No. 1 Cypress Woods and North Shore

eventually playing for the Region III title.

North Shore handed Cy-Woods its lone loss of the season in the Division I gold division championship game at the McDonald's Texas Invitational.

Cy-Woods then defeated North Shore at the Peggy Whitley/Clear Creek ISD Classic a couple of weeks later.

"North Shore really has some shooters, don't they?" he said.

"But Cy-Woods has the

great size that could make a difference. If it gets to that point, what a game."

Dobie, fourth in the final District 22-6A standings, closed out the season at 19-13.

Looking ahead, full time starters Giron and Christy Christmas will return along with key contributors Audrey Wandji, Gabrielle Jones and Taja Tillman.

It may not be what the Lady Longhorns want to hear right now, but the

future looks bright with those key players returning along with other newcomers.

"We do have a solid core group coming back, and most importantly some good size inside," Brown said.

"We'll come back and hopefully be able to get in a better playoff position in the District 22-6A race. We had chances this year. It'd be nice to get a little farther in the playoffs next season."



Dobie junior Jade Giron (11) used some fancy dribbling to get North Shore's Adrianna Jackson (right) off balance on this play, but Jackson and her Lady

Mustang teammates turned the tables on the Lady Longhorns for much of the rest of the game in the bidistrict playoffs.

# San Jacinto College Central to host GCIC Sports Day

Recreational sports teams from Gulf Coast area community colleges are scheduled to go head-to-head at the Spring 2015 Gulf Coast Intercollegiate Conference Sports Day Feb. 26 at San Jacinto College.

Tournaments will take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the San Jacinto College Central campus.

Flag football will take place on the infield of the campus track, soccer on the recreational sports fields, volleyball in the

main gym, basketball in the auxiliary gym, golf on the San Jacinto College golf course, and table tennis and billiards inside the game room.

Each sport will be supervised by a certified, paid official.

The event serves to spotlight college students who participate in recreational sports and to increase the camaraderie that results from playing sports.

There are no tryouts, and GCIC participants are selected by their depend-

ability, attitude, sportsmanship, and athletic ability exhibited through their respective recreational sports programs.

San Jacinto College has hosted the Gulf Coast Intercollegiate Conference Sports Day for more than 20 years, with a GCIC Sports Day taking place three times a year.

Students do not pay to compete. Admission for spectators is also free. San Jacinto College Central campus is located at 8060 Spencer Highway in Pasadena.

## Atkinson's Big Shoot-Out winners



Atkinson Elementary recognized its Big Shoot-Out winners following the completion of the Pasadena ISD competition Feb. 9, at Phillips Field House. Those representing the Eagles at the district event included, left to right, Matison Mitchell (third-grade girls' winner), Ashly Lopez (fourth-grade girls' winner) and Christian Covarrubias (third-grade boys' winner). Not pictured is Mario Anthony Valdez, the school's fourth-grade boys' winner.



North Shore's Shea Johnson (10) finds the baseline cut off as she tries to work inside against the double team of Dobie's Kiara Hart (34) and Patrice Jackson (21). The Lady Longhorns kept things close briefly

in the first quarter before North Shore, ranked second in the state at 30-2, cruised on to a 79-30 bidistrict playoff round victory over Dobie Feb. 16 at Deer Park.

Photos by John Bechtle



Former players, San Jacinto College Board of Trustees members, and college administrators enjoyed the San Jacinto College baseball Legends Ceremony. Pictured, from left: Jared Wells; Duane Walker; Lucas Luetge; Nick Stavino; San Jacinto College baseball head coach Tom Arrington; Jesse Crain; Rusty Pendergrass; Kyle VanHook; Russell Stockton; Chris Rupp; Ruth Keenan, San Jacinto College Foundation executive director, Frank Nadolney; San Jacinto College

Foundation Board of Directors member; Dan Mims, San Jacinto College Board of Trustees Chairman; Larry Wilson; San Jacinto College Board of Trustees vice chairman; John Moon Jr., San Jacinto College Board of Trustees secretary; San Jacinto College chancellor Dr. Brenda Hellyer; Kelvin Ramos; Holden Helmink; Jake Cowan and Donald Wright.

# San Jacinto College baseball welcomes back host of past legends

A highlight of the Feb. 6-7 Tournament of Champions, hosted by San Jacinto College, was the Legends Ceremony on Friday, Feb. 6. Former San Jacinto College players with professional playing experience, as well as San Jacinto College alumni star players, were recognized for their success and contributions.

San Jacinto College head baseball coach Tom Arrington gave a warm welcome to the former student-athletes, who were presented gifts of appreciation from the college at a pregame gathering. "The college's baseball program has a lengthy tradition of excellence," commented Arrington, who is now in his 14th season at the helm of the program.

"We are proud of all the players that have contributed to the success of San Jacinto College baseball. The Legends Ceremony is special in that it allows many former players to get together and reminisce about the good times they shared at San Jac." Chicago White Sox pitcher Jesse Crain, guest speaker at a pregame mixer, said his experience

at San Jacinto College (2000-2001) was a defining moment in his life. "It was the most important stepping stone in my career because without San Jac I probably would not have made it to the big leagues," said Crain, who was the first student-athlete to be drafted by a pro team under Arrington's tenure at San Jacinto College.

As a college freshman, Crain left the University of Texas because he was not getting enough playing time. "UT coaches recommended that I see about attending San Jacinto College," he said. "It was the best thing that could have happened. I was able to get plenty of playing time, and I feel the competition level in San Jacinto College's conference is as good as most Division 1 universities,

so I was able to improve in every area of the game. I also received a well-rounded education at San Jacinto College." Alumni with major league experience who were also recognized include Jared Wells (San Diego Padres), Duane Walker (Cincinnati Reds, Texas Rangers, St. Louis Cardinals), Lucas Luetge (Seattle Mariners), Nick Stavino (St. Louis Cardinals, now with the Sugar Land Skeeters),

Kelvin Ramos (Los Angeles Dodgers), and Holden Helmink (Arizona Diamondbacks). San Jacinto College Foundation board of directors member Frank Nadolney threw out the ceremonial first pitch. Relatives of the late John Ray Harrison, for whom the San Jacinto College baseball field is named, were also recognized at the ceremony. Harrison served as San Jacinto College's first

baseball coach from 1961 to 1962. San Jacinto College's season record stands at 3-5 after going 2-2 in the Tournament of Champions. In the tournament, San Jacinto College played non-conference games against New Mexico Junior College, Howard College, Pensacola State College, and Odessa College. The first home conference game for San Jacinto College will be Friday,

Feb. 20, a doubleheader against Wharton County Junior College, with the first game starting at 1 p.m. All San Jacinto College home games are played at the John Ray Harrison Field on the San Jacinto College North campus, 5800 Uvalde Road in Houston. Games are free and open to the public. For more information about SJC athletics, visit sanjac sports.com.

## Henderson-led JFD girls take fourth

Houston Memorial was easily the best team in the boys' and girls' fields at the Jim Kethan Relays in Deer Park, but Dobie certainly had its fair share of outstanding individual efforts.

Junior Justice Henderson won top honors in three different events, leading the Lady Longhorns to a fourth-place finish in the team standings with 64 points. She was also part of a relay victory for Dobie.

and then took care of business in the 200-meter dash with a time of 26.10. She scored the trifecta with a win in the long jump, making her way to the 18 foot, 3 inch mark for the victory.

jump with a best effort of 33'0". **JFD boys sixth** The Dobie varsity boys' squad finished tied for sixth in the final standings at Deer Park, pulling together 44 points.

rick Matthews as Dobie was second in a time of 1:37.15. The same four athletes combined to earn the team a third-place finish in the 4x100-meter relay at 45.00.

Elsewhere, Tucker's time of 11.77 was fourth in the 100-meter dash, and Matthews made his way to the 19'4" mark for fourth place in the long jump.

Peete-Myers' time of 24.61 was fifth in the 200-meter dash, and Keion Patterson scored a sixth-place finish in the discus at 107'5".

Weather permitting, the Clear Brook and Dobie varsity baseball teams will go head-to-head for the first time in several seasons.

Both programs are in the field at the 2015 David Anzaldua Memorial Baseball Tournament, hosted by La Porte ISD and carried out at a variety of locations.

The Wolverines and Longhorns are scheduled to face one another on the final day of the event, Feb. 28, at La Porte High School. Game time is set for 3 p.m.

Both teams will play five games in the tournament over the three days. Dobie will also face an intriguing opponent - Lutheran South Academy - during the event.

The LSA Pioneers have become a power in Texas Association of Private and

Parochial Schools in recent years, with several players signing Division I letters of intent. The Anzaldua tournament will also feature action at Bob Cobb Field on the Clear Lake High School campus.

The complete tournament field includes Argyle, Barbers Hill, Clear Brook, Clear Lake, Deer Park, Dobie, Galveston Ball, La Porte, Lutheran South Academy, Port Neches-Groves, South Houston and Texas City. Games are at La Porte, Deer Park and Clear Lake.

Counting its Feb. 24 season opener against Pearl and a March 3 District 22-6A game at Manvel, Dobie will compete against seven straight teams that advanced to the playoffs a season ago in opening this season.

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## Lady Wolverines win host relays to open season

out on a medal in the long jump, eventually finishing fourth at 17'1 1/2". Clear Brook's Alicia Phillips-Sanfilippo was fifth in the shot put.

**Brook boys reloading** The Clear Brook varsity boys' team, reloading this season after several key seniors from 2014 graduated, finished in the middle of the boys' standings.

Jared Roberson highlighted things for the Wolverines, winning the pole vault after clearing 14'0".

Raygen Smith missed

## Brook, Dobie baseball to meet at La Porte tourney

David Anzaldua Memorial Baseball Tournament Thursday, Feb. 26 through Saturday, Feb. 28

**Feb. 26 - Dobie vs. Deer Park, 10 a.m., Dobie vs. Barbers Hill, 12:30 p.m., both at Deer Park; Clear Brook vs. South Houston, 12:30 p.m., Clear Brook vs. Argyle, 3 p.m., both at La Porte High School.**

**Feb. 27 - Dobie vs. Lutheran South, 10 a.m., Dobie vs. La Porte, 3 p.m., both at La Porte; Clear Brook vs. Deer Park, 12:30 p.m., Clear Brook vs. PN-Groves, 12:30 p.m., both at Deer Park High School.**

**Feb. 28 - Dobie vs. Clear Brook, 3 p.m., at La Porte.**

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## Lady Horns to take on the elite

After facing state-ranked Pearl and to open both the regular and District 22-6A seasons, the Dobie varsity girls' softball team will catch little if no breaks.

The Lady Longhorns are in the prestigious 64-team field at the Bryan/College Station tournament, which runs Feb. 19-21.

Eight state-ranked programs are in the field, including Class 6A No. 1 Deer Park as well as Class

6A standouts Bellaire (No. 5), Plano (No. 6) and Atascocita (No. 9).

Dobie will take on a state-ranked opponent to open the tournament. The Lady Longhorns will face Class 5A third-ranked Lucas Lovejoy Feb. 19, in a 1 p.m. game.

Temple or College Park will be Dobie's second-round opponent, depending on the outcome of the opening day.

Many of the big-name programs from the Hous-

ton area are also included in the tournament, such as Alvin, Friendswood, Manvel, Clear Falls, Brazoswood, Dawson, Kingwood Park and others.

Following the tournament, Dobie will return home to take on Manvel in a big District 22-6A game Tuesday, Feb. 24.

The Lady Longhorns will play at Manvel that evening at 6:30. Manvel has defeated Dobie four straight times since 2013.

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# CALENDAR

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19**  
7 a.m.  
**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" each Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.  
Noon  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group of Alcoholics Anonymous, noon, 2245 N. Main (building next to pawn shop). For information, call 713-856-1611.  
4 p.m.  
**Houston Area Parkinson Society** - Free water exercise for individuals with Parkinson's disease, 4 to 5 p.m., Kindred Rehabilitation Hospital Clear Lake, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster. Call 713-313-1652 or visit www.hapsonline.org for a list of all services.  
6 p.m.  
**Texas German Society, South Belt (SE) Chapter** - A social group interested in the culture, music, heritage and language of German immigrants in Texas. Meetings are on the third Thursday of each month, 6 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall of Mount Olive Lutheran Church, 10310 Scarsdale Blvd. Visitors are welcome. Call 281-481-1238 for information.  
7 p.m.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Women's Group of Narcotics Anonymous, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), First Presbyterian Church in the youth building on the Westminster side. For information, call 713-856-1611.  
**Al-Anon (English Speaking)** - Provides support for family and friends of alcoholics and addicts. Thursday, 7 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, room 215. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.  
**Alateen** - Provides support for teenage children, friends and family members of alcoholics and addicts.

Thursday at 7 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, room 208. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.  
8:30 p.m.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** - Alcohol problems? AA meetings are held Thursdays, 8:30 to 9:30 p.m., and Sundays and Tuesdays, 8 to 9 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta Street. For information, call 713-204-2481.  
**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20**  
7 a.m.  
**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" each Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.  
10 a.m.  
**Interfaith Care Partners** - Interfaith Care Partners ministry at Saint Frances Cabrini Catholic Church, 10727 Hartsook St., near Alameda Mall. This gathering, for those with Alzheimer's, dementia, Parkinson's, strokes, etc. and their caretakers, meets the third Friday of each month, 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. It consists of a continental-type breakfast, arts, crafts, exercises, entertainment, a sing-a-long, devotional break, lunch, and bingo game. Those who have a family member or know of someone with these challenges are invited. For information, call the church at 713-946-5768; Claudia Rojas, Interfaith Care Partners, at 713-682-5995; or visit the website at www.interfaith-carepartners.org.  
Noon  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - West End Group of Alcoholics Anonymous, noon, Shepherd of the Heart United Methodist Church, 12005 County Road 39, Pearland. For information, call 713-856-1611.  
6 p.m.  
**Un Dia a la Vez Alanon Group (Spanish)** - Provides

support for family and friends of alcoholics or addicts. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 6 p.m., room 215, First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.  
7 p.m.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of Narcotics Anonymous, open meeting, 2245 N. Main St., (Hwy 35), in building next to pawn shop. For more information, call 713-856-1611.  
**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21**  
7:30 a.m.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** - "Breakfast with Bill", Saturdays, 7:30 a.m., First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.  
10 a.m.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of Narcotics Anonymous, open meeting, 2245 N. Main St., (Hwy 35), in building next to pawn shop. For more information, call 713-856-1611.  
11 a.m.  
**Al-Anon Meeting (Women Only, English)** - For persons whose lives are affected by an addict. Saturdays, 11 a.m., First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy, Cornell Conference room #111. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.  
7 p.m.  
**Bay Area Bluegrass Association** - Produces a bluegrass music show and jam session the third Saturday of each month, August and December are exceptions. Stage show begins at 7 p.m., but pickers may bring instruments and come earlier. Free. Johnny Arolfo Civic Center, 300 Walker, League City. For more information, visit http://www.bayareabluegrass.org.  
**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22**  
2 p.m.  
**Grief Support Group** - For any adult who has lost a loved one. Meets Sundays, except Mother's Day, Easter

and Christmas, 2 to 3:15 p.m., First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway. For information, call 281-487-8787.  
5:30 p.m.  
**Celebrate Recovery** - A faith-based 12-Step Program, Sundays, 5:30 p.m., Chapel of the Educational Building at Life Church in Houston, 9900 Alameda Genoa. Call 713-419-2635 for information or to RSVP for child care.  
6:30 p.m.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** - Candlelight Meeting, Sunday, 6:30 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.  
7 p.m.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of Narcotics Anonymous NA meets Sundays, 7 p.m., 2245 N. Main St., Pearl and (building next to pawn shop). For more information, call 713-856-1611.  
8 p.m.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** - Alcohol problems? AA meetings are held Thursdays, 8:30 to 9:30 p.m., and Sundays and Tuesdays, 8 to 9 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta Street. For information, call 713-204-2481.  
**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23**  
10 a.m.  
**Al-Anon Deer Park** - Mondays 10 to 11 a.m. Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P Street, Deer Park. Enter through Fellowship Hall in back of church. Call 409-454-5720 for information, or just drop in.  
11:30 a.m.  
**Overeaters Anonymous Deer Park** - 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P Street, Deer Park. Enter through Fellowship Hall in back of church. Call 409-454-5720 for information, or just drop in.  
Continued on Page 4B

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ROOM FOR RENT: 1 Bed, 1 Bath, 1 Living area upstairs, utilities included. Near Beamer & Dixie Farm. James 832-657-2533 or [skipperp2000@yahoo.com](mailto:skipperp2000@yahoo.com) 2-26

## SERVICE

HANDYMAN: Painting interior / exterior, wood fences, tree services, trimming & removal, mulch installation, lay fresh grass. Ruben 832-276-4820 or [rvelamoc@gmail.com](mailto:rvelamoc@gmail.com) 3-5

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We are seeking local volunteers to join our active Volunteer Fire and EMS Department. If you are over 18 and can pass a background check and driving record check, we encourage you to come join us any Thursday evening at 7PM at our #1 Fire Station at 10510 Scarsdale Blvd. If you have no, or very limited training, we will provide all the training and protective gear upon acceptance. If you have any previous fire or EMS training, (Fire Department, Forest Service, Military, etc), we can accept those training hours also. You can visit our website: [www.southeastvfd.com](http://www.southeastvfd.com) to learn more, download an application package and see some of the activities that we participate in yearly. Please come to one of our meetings to meet your fellow volunteers and join us in this very important and worthwhile activity. Become a valued and needed part of our growing community where Neighbors Help Neighbors! Your community needs you!



Advertise in the Leader!

# CALENDAR

Continued from Page 3B

## MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Noon  
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group of Alcoholics Anonymous meets at noon at 2245 N. Main (building next to pawn shop). For more information, call 713-856-1611. 3:30 p.m.

Houston Area Parkinson Society - Free exercise and speech therapy from 3:30 to 5 p.m. at Clear Lake Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster. Visit [www.hapsonline.org](http://www.hapsonline.org) for a complete list of services offered. For adults with Parkinson's disease only. 6 p.m.

Scrabble Club #511 - Meets Mondays at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua, 6 p.m. Come and improve crossword game playing skills. Call 281-488-2923 for more information. 6:30 p.m.

Pearland Overeaters Anonymous HOW Meeting - meets Mondays at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 2535 E. Broadway (FM 518). Enter door closest to recycling bins. For more information, call 713-865-3668 or visit [www.oahouston.org](http://www.oahouston.org). 7 p.m.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of Narcotics Anonymous, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), First Presbyterian Church in the youth building on the Westminster side. For more information, call 713-856-1611. 7 p.m.

Friends Helping Friends Grief Support Group - Group meets Mondays, Kindred Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster, 7 to 8:15 p.m., in the staff meeting room. Anyone who has lost a loved one is welcome. Free. For information, call Betty Bielat at 281-474-3430 or Diana Kawalec at 281-334-1033. TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

7 a.m.  
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" each Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, in the Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or drop in. 9:30 a.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, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., 204 S. Main, Pasadena. For information, call 713-472-0565. 10 a.m.

American Begonia Society - Houston Satellite meets the fourth Tuesday of each month, Clear Lake Park, 5001 NASA Parkway (on the lake side), Seabrook. For information, call Joe at 281-481-2458. Noon

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group of Alcoholics Anonymous meets at noon, 2245 N. Main (building next to pawn shop). For more information, call 713-856-1611. 1 p.m.

Rotary Club of Pearland - Meets weekly, Tuesdays, noon to 1 p.m., Golfcrest Country Club, 2509 Country Club Drive, Pearland. Lunch is served for \$15. Variety of interesting speakers. For information, call 281-900-7257 or visit [nalix@texascitizensbank.com](mailto:nalix@texascitizensbank.com). 1 p.m.

Ballroom Dance Practice - Tuesdays, Hometown Heroes Park, League City. Come and enjoy free ballroom dancing, 1 to 3 p.m., on a beautiful 3,630 sq. ft. floating hardwood floor. Dancers practice to a large variety of ballroom music. Instructor available to assist people with new moves. Everyone is welcome! For questions, call 281-554-1180. 1001 East League City Pkwy. 1:30 p.m.

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) - TOPS #1530 meets at the Sagemont Park Community Center, 11507 Hughes Road, at 1:30 p.m. For information, call Jeanette Sumrall at 713-946-3713. 6 p.m.

Un Dia a la Vez Alanon Group (Spanish) - Provides support for family and friends of alcoholics or addicts. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 6 p.m., First United Methodist Church, room 215, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in. 7 p.m.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of Narcotics Anonymous, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518) at the First Presbyterian Church in the youth building on the Westminster side. For information, call 713-856-1611. Houston Space City Lions Club - Meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, 7 p.m., Golden Corral, 12500 Gulf Freeway. For information, call George Malone at 281-438-7243. 8 p.m.

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

8 to 9 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta Street. For information, call 713-204-2481.

## WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

7 a.m.  
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" each Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, in the Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or drop in. 9:30 a.m.

Young at Heart Club - Meets the second and fourth week of each month (except November and December) at Covenant United Methodist Church, 7900 Fuqua. Lots of activities, trips, etc. Call Nellie Gainey at 713-991-3517 for information. Noon

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group of Alcoholics Anonymous meets at noon at 2245 N. Main (next to pawn shop). For information, call 713-856-1611. 6 p.m.

Un Dia a la Vez Alanon Group (Spanish) - Provides support for family and friends of alcoholics or addicts. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 6 p.m., First United Methodist Church, room 215, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in. 7 p.m.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of Narcotics Anonymous, open meeting, meets at 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518) at the First Presbyterian Church in the youth building on the Westminster side. For more information, call 713-856-1611. 7 p.m.

Bay Area Turning Point Crisis Intervention Center - Confidential domestic violence support group for women, 7 p.m., 210 S. Walnut off NASA Pkwy. between 145 South and Highway 3. Call 281-338-7600 or visit [www.bayareaturningpoint.com](http://www.bayareaturningpoint.com) for information. 24-hour crisis hotline is 281-286-2525. THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26

7 a.m.  
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" each Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in. Noon

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group of Alcoholics Anonymous meets at noon, 2245 N. Main (building next to pawn shop). For information, call 713-856-1611. 4 p.m.

Houston Area Parkinson Society - Free water exercise for individuals with Parkinson's disease, 4 to 5 p.m., Kindred Rehabilitation Hospital Clear Lake, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster. Call 713-313-1652 or visit [www.hapsonline.org](http://www.hapsonline.org) for a list of all services. 6:30 p.m.

Kirkwood Civic Association meets at the Sagemont Park and Recreation Center on Hughes Road. For more information call Ericka McCutcheon at 281-989-9990. 7 p.m.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Women's Group of Narcotics Anonymous, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518) at the First Presbyterian Church in the youth building on the Westminster side. For information, call 713-856-1611. 1 p.m.

Al-Anon (English Speaking) - Provides support for family and friends of alcoholics and addicts. Thursday, 7 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, room 215. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in. 1 p.m.

Alateen - Provides support for teenage children, friends and family members of alcoholics and addicts. Thursday, 7 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, room 208. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in. 8:30 p.m.

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

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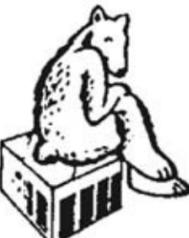
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# Longhorn boys sit atop 22-6A

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 "Sergio Quintanilla has been a guy who has put the team on his back at times, but what he does off the field and the leadership he shows is just as important. "When we lost Edwin Gomez to injury for the season, we had guys step up. We had to change the formation without Edwin in there, but the guys sucked it up and have kept it going." Dobie has had plenty of success on the field in previous years, reaching the Region III final four three times and coming within a

shootout victory of reaching state. While Manrique is not ready to predict anything of that nature just yet, he knows what the Dobie players have put together at this point is special. "Guys are committed, and they are finding ways to win games. But we've still just had only the one easy game in district play. "Our guys know all of the teams are going to give us their best trying to beat us. Right now, we just have to keep it going. Sometimes you don't know exactly what it is, but it's working."



Dobie midfielder Sergio Quintanilla (10) and Memorial's Chris Rodriguez chase a through pass during Dobie's big win Feb. 14. Quintanilla, back in the

Dobie program this season after missing 2014 while pursuing other opportunities in the sport, has been a catalyst for the team during its current run.



Swiping a Memorial pass at midfield, Dobie's Santos Blanco (13) goes on the offensive during the first half of the Longhorns' 2-1 win over the Mavericks Feb. 14, at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena. Photos by John Bechtle

## Anthem at its best



Sydney Horton, daughter of Ruth and Dobie staff member Joseph Horton, sang the national anthem prior to the start of the Dobie/Memorial varsity boys' basketball game Feb. 17, at Dobie. Sydney, an eighth-grade student at Bondy Intermediate, stepped in for her father, who despite having a cold this night, has delivered the anthem to thousands of thrilled fans over the years.

# Lady Longhorns lose ground in district race

Opportunities are dwindling as the Dobie varsity girls' soccer team looks to climb back into the District 22-6A playoff picture. There's still seven games remaining for Dobie to get some work done, but things aren't looking nearly as nice as a couple of weeks ago. There was a time when three straight wins in District 22-6A play and a shootout decision over Dawson gave the Lady Longhorns 11 points and a third-place standing.

However, following a 0-0 tie and then shootout loss to Pearland Feb. 17, the Lady Longhorns have now scored just six points over five league games. Along the way, the locals have added just four points to their total and currently sit fifth in the standings. Dobie surely hopes a playoff berth does not come down to the season finale against Memorial as the Lady Mavericks simply have had their way

with the Lady Longhorns dating back to 2014. Even Dobie head coach Bryan McDonald admitted his team's matchup with Memorial is not a good one, particularly due to Memorial's strength and size advantage through the middle and up top. Dobie will get another chance at Memorial to close out the regular season but may have to pull an upset or two before then to make it matter on

that final day. Dobie's biggest issue, as the standings point out, is that the teams above them have simply kept rolling. Pearland is undefeated so far in league play, with Dobie giving the Lady Oilers perhaps their biggest tests in consecutive matchups. Alvin has also played exceptionally well throughout league play with just two losses, and

District 22-6A newcomer Dawson has also shown the ability to compete at the highest level. Memorial, despite losses to Pearland and Alvin, took care of business the rest of the way en route to a 6-2 first half of league play. So Dobie has some work to do. Certainly no team in the 22-6A field wants to finish fourth and therefore face the prospect of playing Deer Park in the

first round of the playoffs. That happened a season ago to Dobie. After a scoreless first half, Deer Park went on to win easily. This season, the Lady Deer, now led by former Dobie varsity girls' and then boys' head coach Jesse Saavedra, are said to be even better than that 2014 group. There's still time for Dobie to make a move in the standings, but that move is likely to have to include a win over Dawson or Alvin.

District 22-6A Standings				
Varsity Girls' Soccer				
(Through Feb. 17 play)				
Teams	W	L	T	Pts.
Pearland	7	0	1	22
Alvin	7	2	0	21
Dawson	6	2	1	19
Memorial	7	2	0	18
Dobie	4	3	2	15
South Houston	2	4	1	8
Pasadena	2	5	1	7
Manvel	1	7	0	3
Rayburn	0	8	0	0

At right, the Lady Longhorns' Malyn Nunez (right) and Memorial's (17) wait for the ball to come down before making a play during second-half action. At far right, Dobie's Erica Romero (5) looks for an opening in the Memorial defense late in the Lady Mavericks' 4-1 win Feb. 14 at Veterans Stadium. Dobie trailed 2-0 at halftime but got to within 2-1 before Memorial added a pair of insurance goals. Photos by John Bechtle



## Begle helps at SJC



Bridgette Begle, a former standout for the Clear Brook varsity girls' softball team, has remained close to the game since her playing career at Lipscomb University ended last spring. Begle is assisting with the San Jacinto College program this season under the leadership of head coach Kelly Saenz, whose staff also includes former Memorial High School star Kelsey McClain.

# Ice-cold bats costly to SJC

Few fans would blame the San Jacinto College softball program if it petitioned those in charge to play the remainder of the 2015 schedule on the road. There simply wasn't much to be excited about as the locals lost three of four games over two days at the San Jacinto College Invitational, the home debut for the team. Carah Nunez, Bridgette Gauvin, Brittany Woods and others led the way offensively as San Jacinto opened the season with eight wins in 12 games. At home for the first time Feb. 14-15, the bats simply never got hot despite beautiful weather for softball. Iowa Western defeated San Jacinto 5-1 in the tournament opener and then cruised to an 8-5 victory in the tournament finale. San Jacinto downed Wallace State 3-2 for its lone win but also lost an 8-0 decision to the same team to begin play on the

second day. All told, San Jacinto stroked just 17 hits over the four games and was outscored 23-9. It's not nearly the end of the world for San Jacinto, which will now go back on the road for back-to-back weekend tournaments before the start of Region XIV play. However, head coach Kelly Saenz doesn't want to see a repeat any time soon. "Our bats were very cold," she said. "We could not string hits together or get that one key hit with runners on base." It all started in the first game against Iowa Western. San Jacinto scored an unearned run in the bottom of the third inning for a 1-0 lead but then watched Iowa Western score four times in the sixth inning to secure the win. Saenz said she did like the pitching delivered by her starters - Bridget Stein and Katy Potter - who both performed well.



San Jacinto College shortstop Alyssia Torres fires over the first base while warming up between innings Feb. 14 against Iowa Western. The locals held an early lead over Iowa Western before the Reviers scored four runs in the sixth inning on their way to a

5-1 win. The theme played out the following day in losses to Iowa State and Wallaceville State Community College, resulting in a 1-3 homestand for San Jacinto, which is now 9-7 this season.