February 23, 2012

Email: mynews@southbeltleader.com

www.southbeltleader.com

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Thompson event Feb. 25

Thompson Intermediate's third annual Old School versus New School Powder Puff/Football Frenzy is set to kick off Saturday, Feb. 25, at the school.

The event, which will include vendor booths and music, will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. A series of scrimmage games will pit the players fathers against male students, mothers against female students and teachers versus students.

Tickets will be sold for \$1 during school lunches Feb. 23 and Feb. 24, and \$2 the day of the event. For more information, call Laura Scott at 281-650-3558 or Wendy Childs at

Junk waste pickup set

Junk waste will be picked up Thursday, Feb. 23, for city of Houston residents living south of Beltway 8. For information, call 3-1-1.

LSA holds open house

Lutheran South Academy will host Preview Day for the 2012-2013 school year on Sunday, Feb. 26. Parents and students are invited to meet the administration and staff, visit with current parents, tour the facilities, and enjoy refreshments.

Curriculum, extracurricular and financial information for grades Pre-K through 12 will be available. For information, call or email Aaron Schneider at 281-464-8299, ext. 326 or aaron.schneider@lutheransouth.org, or check the Web at www.lutheransouth.org

College workshop at church

New Covenant Christian Church, 10603 Blackhawk, will hold a free youth education workshop on Saturday, Feb. 25, from 9 a.m. to

The workshop, for ages 13 through 18, will include freshman admission requirements for various colleges and general financial aid and scholarship information.

Parents are also welcome. For more information, call 281-481-2003 or contact Kia

Knights hold fish fry

The Knights of Columbus Council 9201 will again serve fish dinners during Lent at St Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church on Fridays, Feb. 24 and all Fridays in March.

Each dinner will consist of a breaded fish fillet, french fries, hush puppies, cole slaw, corn-on-the-cob and iced tea. Soft drinks and desserts will be available for purchase. Baked fish will also be available in limited quanti-

One-piece dinners are \$9, and two-piece dinners for \$12, dine in or take out. Dinners will be served from 5 until 7 p.m. at the St Luke the Evangelist Parish Hall, 11011 Hall Road, between Sageberry and Sagetrail.

All money raised will be used for scholarships and other local community charitable projects. All are welcome. For more information, call 832-444-4958.

Nominations sought

Dobie High School is seeking nominations for alumni worthy of consideration for a hall of honor that is planned for the school. Anyone with information on a Dobie alumnus who has achieved exceptional stature over the course of a professional career, or who has earned great distinction for public service, is asked to submit the graduate's name along with supporting documentation. Submissions may be dropped at the school or emailed to Principal Franklin Moses at fmoses@pasadenaisd.org.

Scholarships available

Moore Elementary PTO will offer scholar ships to four graduating seniors at Dobie High School who attended Moore for third and fourth grades. Applications are available through the Dobie senior counselor's office and must be returned by Monday, March 26, to be considered. The scholarships will be awarded at the May PTO meeting.

Health fair at Frazier

Frazier Elementary will host its second annual health fair on Tuesday, March 6, from 6 to 8 p.m. Free blood pressure, dental and vision screenings will be provided along with information about hospitals, clinics, Gold Card, CHIP and Medicaid. The public is invited to attend.

Support group meets

Grandparents Acting As Parents, a support group for grandparents or relatives who are raising or helping to raise relatives, meets the first Wednesday of each month from 7:17 to 8:30 p.m. at Sagemont Church, Room 111 The next meeting will be held on March 7. Share experiences and concerns with others who are in the same (and often unexpected) situation or just listen and encourage. For more information, call 281-481-8965 or 281-

Cookoff teams to meet

There will be a South Belt Spectacular Cookoff team meeting on Wednesday, March 7, at 7 p.m. at The Gardens.

Brook staff suspended over alleged pics

Two faculty members at Clear Brook High School were placed on administrative leave Thursday, Feb. 16, pending the outcome of an investigation into an unspecified matter.

According to a report on KPRC Channel 2, the incident involved a female teacher and a male coach at the area high school.

The female teacher, who reportedly has ties to the school's cheerleading program, allegedly took photographs of the cheer team as the girls were being spray tanned before an event. According to the report, the teacher then forwarded the photos to the male coach.

Clear Creek Independent School District officials would neither confirm nor deny the report but did release an official statement saying that no laws had been broken.

"This is strictly a personnel investigation and not related to any criminal matter," said CCISD Director of Communications Elaina Polsen

"Due to state and federal laws, the Clear Creek Independent School District is prohibited from disclosing additional information.

There is wide speculation the incident involves Clear Brook boys' varsity basketball coach Jason Pillow, who, according to the Bay Area Citizen,

is currently on administrative leave and rumored to be resigning.

Pillow was noticeably absent from the team's playoff game Tuesday, Feb. 21, with Garrett Hil-

ton coaching in his place. See related story on Page 6B.

SJC's Murphy takes new job

Jacinto College made a major announcement Thursday, Feb. 16, regarding the area school's administra-

After five years as San Jacinto College South campus president, Dr. Maureen Murphy is leaving the position to return

to her roots and become president of Brookdale Community College in Monmouth County, N.J.

Maureen Murphy

"This was a bittersweet decision," Murphy said. "I am thankful to have worked with truly outstanding faculty and staff. San Jacinto College has achieved much in its efforts to promote student success, and I am grateful to have had this opportunity.

During her tenure, the SJC South campus has seen an enrollment growth of nearly 28 percent, from 8,742 students in fall 2007 to 11,129 students in fall 2011. Murphy has worked diligently on partnerships with the Pasadena, Clear Creek and Pearland independent school districts, and she was instrumental in the development and operations of the Clear Horizons Early College



"I appreciate Maureen's service to San Jacinto College, the community and our students," said SJC Chancellor Dr. Brenda Hellyer. "During her time here, she has shown incredible dedication to the faculty, staff and students on the South campus and across the college. This is the next step for her in her career, and all of us at San Jacinto College thank her and wish her the best."

Murphy has created a vibrant atmosphere on the South campus and saw both of the South campus athletic teams rise to new heights in the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA). In the spring of 2008, the softball team advanced to the national tournament for the first time in school history, finishing fourth in the nation. Later that year, the men's soccer team finished as the national runner-up. Murphy was also instrumental in bringing the Houston

Continued on Page 2A

Pond poses danger



The above retention pond at Kurland at Freehill has been the site of two fatal accidents since October. Lillian High, 82, and Jose Morales, 23, have both died at the location. Tire tracks can still be seen above from Morales' Feb. 5 crash. At press time, investigators had not determined High's cause of death. Photo by Marie Flickinger

Parker, Sullivan to host CIP meeting Event will be joint function for Districts D and E

Houston Mayor Annise Parker and District E City Councilmember Mike Sullivan will host a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) meeting on Monday, Feb. 27, at University of Houston-Clear Lake located 2700 Bay Area Blvd.

The meeting will be held in the Bayou Building-Forest Room. Sign in will begin at 6 p.m., with the CIP presentation beginning promptly at

Residents of Wanda Adams' District D. which now includes much of the South Belt area, will also be allowed to attend. This area was formerly represented by Sullivan as a portion of District E; however, it was lost in redistricting, effective

Representatives from various City of Houston departments will present upcoming projects for District E and the South Belt-Ellington portion of District D. A question-and-answer session will follow, allowing constituents an opportunity for input in the process.

Sullivan encourages residents to attend and show their support for upcoming projects sched-

uled in their respective communities.
"These annual CIP meetings give residents the forum to voice their thoughts and ideas on current and future CIP Projects," Sullivan said. "It is also a great time for citizens to see their local government hard at work and see how their

METRO opens HOT Lanes

Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lane.

drivers without passengers will now be able to use the HOV system by paying a toll on the I-45 South HOT Lanes. Prices range from \$1 to \$4.50, based on the time of day and level of con-

Inbound lanes will be available to solo drivers Monday through Friday, between 5 and 11 a.m. except for the 7-8 a.m. hour when the lanes will remain open only to drivers with passengers.

Outbound HOT lanes will be available weekdays from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m., except between 4 and

The Gulf Freeway is the first corridor in METRO's 84-mile HOV network to undergo the transformation, with US 59 South, IH-45 North, US 290 and US 59 North to follow. A gradual opening of the HOT Lanes started on Monday, Feb. 13. An official grand opening featuring an art car parade took place Monday, Feb. 20.

Gulf Freeway drivers have a new commuting option to combat gridlock – METRO's High-drivers will be able to use any of the following Cash is not accepted in the HOT Lanes but authorized toll tags: METRO HOT Lanes Toll Tag, Harris County EZ Tag, TxDOT's TxTAG or the Dallas NTTA Toll Tag. METRO HOT Lane Toll Tags are now available for purchase at MET-RO's 1001 Travis RideStore or www.ridemetro.

Carpools, vanpools and motorcyclists will still ride for free.

Solo drivers who try to avoid paying the HOT Lane toll face a \$75 penalty.

In addition to posting updates regarding METRO's HOV-HOT Lane conversion on the agency's website, METRO also launched an educational campaign – I Hate Houston Traffic, which included billboards, radio spots and print and digital ads. The agency invited the congestion-loathing community to its Facebook and Twitter sites to open up the conversation about the project, educate and answer questions.

For more on METRO's HOT Lane project, visit www.ihatehoustontraffic.com.

Both area councilmembers file to run for new positions

Both Houston city councilmembers who directly serve the South Belt area have filed to run for different positions.

Houston District E City Councilmember Mike Sullivan has filed to run in the GOP primary for the position of Harris County tax assessor-collector, while District D Councilmember Wanda Adams has filed to run in the Democratic primary for the position of state representative for House District 131.

Sullivan is challenging incumbent Don Summers, and Adams is challenging incumbent Alma Allen. In the race for the tax assessor-collector position, Ann Harris Bennett, a former candidate for Harris County clerk, is the lone Democrat to file. At press time, no Republicans had filed to run in the state representative race.

Both parties' primaries are tentatively set for Tuesday, April 3, and the general election will take place Nov. 6.

Local students perform in Region Orchestra concert



Beverly Hills and Thompson Intermediate and Morris Middle School students recently performed in the Texas Music Educators Association's Region XIX Orchestra Concert held at Deer Park High School. (See related story Page 3A.) Band and orchestra students earned a spot in the performance during Region auditions last semester. Students pictured are, left to right, (front row) Adam Boswell (B), Giselle Landa (B), Albert Luu (B), (second row) Heidi Tran (B), Garrett Barrientos (M), Roberto Zavaleta (B), Abraham Valencia (T), David Cruz (T), Jordan Moreno (T), (third row) Jesus Tijerina (B), Vicky Nguyen (B), Michelle Hoang (T), (fourth row) Ariel deLaRosa (B), Angelica de Jesus (B), Roderick Spikes (T), Esther Kim (T), (fifth row) Catherine Thai (B), Edgar Arzate (B), Jay Do (T), Tin Nguyen (T), (sixth row) Kathrina Villanueva (B), Greelyne Panza (T), (seventh row) Nancy Carrera (B), Christopher Johnson (B), Jordan Efird (T), Ben Reyes (T), (eighth row) Samantha Merrill (M), Nancy Nguyen (T), (ninth row) Aileen Mazariego (B), Chris Cuya (B), Alyssa Solis (T), Charish Williams (T), (tenth row) Karina Gutierrez (B), Marilyn Acosta (B), Zach Aomari (T), Bobbie Le (T), (eleventh row) Vincent Gutierrez (B), Kevin Quijano (B), Elizabeth Tran (T), Brady Jacobs (T), (twelfth row) Luis Cabreja (B), Isaiah Munoz (T), (back row) Omar Medina (B), Vinh Tran (T) and Cristian Ascencio (T). Not pictured are Cesar Ortiz (B), Joshua Dobbs (B) and Oren Moreno (T).

Readers' Opinions

Mitchell praised for Chamber work

I have been attending Chamber Banquets for a very long time and have attended almost 100 of these events. My sincere appreciation to Sally Mitchell for the fabulous job she did last week. The Banquet was perfect, every detail taken care of and the largest crowd I have ever seen at one of our banquets. And out of all the ones I have been to I would rate this one at the top.

There are so many details that go into just putting on a Banquet that is "OK" but to put on a banquet that is phenomenal takes talent, skill and determination. Not to mention many long hours and lack of sleep. Sally did all of this and made it look like a simple task and that it was effortless. But we know the truth - it is a very difficult task to do this Sally – is a treasure and an extremely

talented lady! In all of her actions she is promoting the chamber, community and always putting others first.

We are blessed to have Sally Mitchell as our Executive Director!

Rebecca Lilley

Pit Bull attack on hike & bike trail

My name is Steve Blakely, long time resident of the Sagemeadow community

and daily jogger/dog walker at the Hike and Bike trail between Hall Rd. and Scarsdale Blvd. Yesterday morning (2/16/12) at approximately 9:40 a.m. my pet blue healer suffered an unprovoked attacked by two pit bulls (one white and one brown) running loose on the hike & bike trail. My small blue healer was severely injured by the two large dogs with numerous bite marks to ears, neck, and head as well as damage to his right rear hind quarter which may require treatment and/or surgery.
The two attack dogs live in the 11000

block of Sage Country and the most frus-trating part of the whole ordeal was that the dog owner was present and aware of the attack but lent no assistance whatsoever to aid me in separating or restraining their pets. After I was finally success ful at subduing the attack, the two pit bulls continued running loose down the hike and bike trail away from the dog This incident was subsequently report-

ed to Harris County Animal Control and was assigned a case or activity #A12had been dispatched to further investi-gate and interview the owners of the I felt compelled to inform the South

Belt Leader in hopes of warning other hike and bike trail goers of the potential danger to their pets. Regards,

Guest Editorial

Focus on the Future of Space

By State Sen. Mike Jackson and State Rep. John Davis

America is a global space leader, and Texas has contributed in significant ways to that reality. The NASA Johnson Space Center team of civil servants and private sector contractors have taken us to the moon, operated the Space Shuttle and assembled the International Space Station. We are now reaping the benefits of those efforts through scientific research aboard the Station and the development of the Orion spacecraft capable of supporting missions to the moon, asteroids and ultimately Mars. Our history of leadership and excel-

lence does not, however, guarantee our future success. Indeed, periods of dynamic change - as we continue to experience as a nation and around the world pose challenges, but at the same time present opportunities. Thus far, we are happy to report that Texas is meeting the challenge and building for the future. In Washington D.C. and Austin, Texas, elected officials are working on a bipartisan basis with NASA, industry and academia to preserve our highly skilled engineering workforce, maintain our core mission of human space exploration, and position ourselves for opportunities in commercial space and innovative technology initiatives.

future of the Johnson Space Center is human spaceflight, operations and exploration. The International Space Station - an extraordinary engineering feat engaging the very best efforts of 16 nations under U.S. leadership - is a centerpiece of America's current human space program. This unique orbiting scientific laboratory, which will operate through 2020 and beyond, contributes much to improving life on Earth and advancing the goal of further exploration. In addition, NASA is focusing on the next step in exploration with the Orion and Space Launch System, which will allow humans to travel deeper into space for longer periods of time than ever before possible

The continuing excitement space travel holds for people is reflected in the fact that NASA recently received more than 6,300 applications to compete for a mere 9-15 positions available to be filled for the next class of astronauts. Moreover

ue to transform our world in health care, recreation and quality of life improve-ments that create jobs and opportunities in the private business sector.

The Johnson Space Center is also

supporting efforts to promote commercial space initiatives that will change the way we operate in low-Earth orbit, provide cargo and crew support for the International Space Station, and complement a national program of deep-space human exploration. Companies like SpaceX. Sierra Nevada and gins are finding ways to partner with NASA, drawing on the expertise and facilities that reside at the Johnson Space Center.

Much like continued leadership in space exploration is critical to American security and ability to compete on a global scale, collaboration in the area of commercial space development is essential to Texas given competition from other states like Florida, Alabama, Utah, Colorado. New Mexico and California.

Additional complementary efforts are under way and ramping up. For example, Senate Bill 1047 approved during the 82nd legislative session added the Johnson Space Center as a state research institution to allow scientists and researchers to receive Emerging Technology funding from the governor's office. In addition, the governor's office and state legislature have teamed with Bay Area and fund the Bay Area Houston Advanced Technology Consortium that will be a major driver of space-related innovation and technology applications.

These efforts, combined with initiatives under way at the Johnson Space Center to forge new, creative partner-ships with non-space sector industries to effectively leverage our space research and testing facilities – and, more impor-tantly, our high-tech workforce – will help protect jobs and ensure a robust program of space leadership for a new generation of explorers and scientists.

Together, Texas is making it happen. We are building on our core mission capabilities and developing new opportunities and relationships with a keen eye on what it will take to continue to succeed in space in the future.

Torres spelling bee champion



Frazier Elementary fourth-grader Sidney Torres (front) was the winner of the spelling bee held recently at the school. She advanced to the Pasadena Independent School District Spelling Bee in early February, where she placed sixth. Pictured with Torres are, left to right, Vice Principal Lindsey Lesniewski and Principal Wendy Wiseburn. Torres is a student in Charity

Herpetology class at Dobie amphibious life. Kneisler - a

have had the unique opportunity to make a tangible difference in their local ecosystem. Through Dobie's herpetology class, students have been able to study area populations of reptiles and amphibians.

Students in this senior elective, led by instructor John Kneisler, make monthly trips to El Franco Lee Park, where they trek through the park listening for amphibious life. When they encounter it, they collect and monitor the releasing them later in the day.

In addition to monitoring

in education - and his stuquality and all species of animals that call El Franco Lee home. This includes such rare species as the bald eagle, American alligator, leopard

Later in class, the students compile reports on their findings, which are submitted to the Texas Parks and Wildlife commission annually. These reports have been invaluable recently, due to the fact that the area is in the middle of

frogs and caracara, a preda-

tory bird closely related to

Kneisler, for whom herpetology is also a personal passion, is excited that he is able

to bring this rare and valuable experience to enthusiastic School, and the students are equally excited to be able to make a difference in the ecol-Herpetology is a full-year

science elective Dobie which studies reptiles and amphibians with a focus on monitoring local amphibi-Texas Parks and Wildlife and



J. Frank Dobie senior Darren Motley, left, and teacher John Kneisler are shown at El Franco Lee Park on one of their monthly visits.

Dobie 30-year reunion set The Dobie High School Class of 1982 will hold its

30-year reunion on Friday, April 27, from 8 p.m. to 12:30 p.m., and a cash bar will be available from 8 p.m. on.

line is April 11. At the door cost is \$55 each, cash only For more information, contact Reunions by Class Act at 713-780-0020 or visit www.classact95@comcast.net. To access reunion information, type in BD82 (use capital let-

Parenting classes held

Family Outreach Clear Lake/Bay Area will host a parenting class series, Parenting Young Children, for parents of children ages 0-6. The classes will continue each Monday through March 26 at the Bay Area United Way Building, 1300-A Bay Area Blvd., at the corner of Bay Area Boulevard and Saturn Lane. The total cost of all six classes is \$30. Learn to better understand children's behaviors, communicate positively, elicit cooperation, decrease power struggles and discipline effectively.

For more information or to register, contact Pam McDonald at 281-486-8827.

Electronics donations accepted

The Thompson Science Department is collecting old electronics, especially used cell phones, through May 25. Students are encouraged to bring the electronics to their science teacher. Donations from the community are encouraged. Drop off donations to Thompson Intermediate Science Department at 11309 Sagedowne Lane.

Proceeds will help replenish used science lab supplies at the school and buy new equipment to enrich the learning environment. For information, contact Martha Weatherford at 713-740-0510 or mweatherford@pasadenaisd.

Vendors needed for spring fair

Epiphany Lutheran of Pearland will sponsor its annual spring fair on Saturday, April 28. The fair will feature craft booths, barbecue, auction, children's activities, plant sale, raffles, baked goods and door prizes. Vendors are needed. For booth information call 281-482-5162.

Deaths

Lillian High



Lillian High, 82, was found Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2012. She is preceded in death by her husband and two grandchildren. She is survived by 10 children, 12 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Services will be held at 10 a.m. on Friday, Feb. 24, 2012, at Grace Community Church, 14505 Gulf Freeway. In lieu of flowers, dona-

tions can be made in her honor to Laura Recovery Center, Texas Equusearch, or MD Anderson Cancer Center.

Sign the online guest-book at www.funerariadelan gelpasadena.com. She worked at Chase Bank

on South Belt. High has relatives living

in the South Belt area. She resided in Arlington Heights.

David Elmer Pratt



outh Belt, died Monday, Feb. 20, 2012, in his sleep. He was born in Windom, Minn., Jan. 19, 1920. His family moved

Pratt grew up in the Heights in Houston and attended Reagan High School. He served in the Texas 36th Division of the 143rd Infantry where he served in Germany, France, Italy and Northern Africa during World War II. When he returned home from the Army, he went to work at Sinclair Refinery in Pasadena. Sinclair was bought out by Atlantic Richfield Company, and Pratt retired from ARCO

in 1982 after 37 years.

Pratt was one of the premier softball pitchers in the Houston area from 1945 to 1971. He loved to bowl, travel and spend time with his family. He was very patriotic. He also loved to watch the Houston Astros, Oilers, Rockets

Pratt is preceded in death by his parents, Frederick and Florence Pratt; siblings, Donald Pratt, Richard F. Pratt, Eleanor Patterson and Eva Riffenberg; and his wife of 57 years, Frances Clark Pratt

He is survived by daughter Linda Wright and husband Herman of South Belt; son David Pratt Jr. and wife Elly of Petersborough, Eng-

Braswell and husband Dale of Bothell, Wash., and Tara Wright of Everett, Wash.; great-granddaughters Hannah Braswell and Kaitlyn Braswell, both of Bothell, Wash. sister Virginia Moore and husband Joe of Tomball; and many nieces, nephews, great-

nieces and great-nephews. The family will receive friends on Thursday, Feb. 23, 2012, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Grand View Funeral Home.

Chapel services will be held on Friday, Feb. 24, at 12:30 p.m. with interment at Grand View Memorial Park.

Online memorial tributes may be placed at www.grand

Lillie Joy **Pearce**



Lillie Joy Pearce, 81, of South Belt, died Monday, Feb. 20, 2012. She was born on Dec. 22, 1930, in Wreck, Okla., to John and Elcie (Ackers) Davis. She had lived in the South Belt area for more

sons. Danny Pearce and wife Mabel of Pasadena, and Tim Pearce and wife Mary Lou of Sugar Land; grandchildren Darren Pearce, Natalie Gardner, Katie Pearce and T.J Pearce; and great-grandchildren: Evan Pearce and Brelyn Gardner.

The funeral service will be conducted at 10 a.m. or Thursday, Feb. 23, 2012, at the Jeter Memorial Funeral Home Chapel, 311 N. Friends wood Drive in Friendswood with Rick Fife, Scott Allen and Cliff Fridge officiating A private burial will be con ducted at Houston National

Cemetery.
Condolences may be sent to the Pearce family in care of Jeter Memorial Funeral Home at www.jeterfuneral home.com.

Leader obituary policy

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

at Wytheville Community College, also in Virginia. Be-fore that, she served as dean

and English faculty at St

Louis Community College

Meramec. She holds a Bach-

elor of Arts in English from

the University of Louisville

a Master of Arts in English

from the University of Mis

souri-Columbia and a Ph.D

in American studies from St

For the past five years, Murphy has served on the

board of directors for the

South Belt-Ellington Cham-

In 2010, the chamber se-

lected the San Jacinto College

Louis University

ber of Commerce

Murphy leaves SJCS

Spanish Flamenco Festival, a unique partnership with the Consul General of Spain, to the South campus, and was proud to see the South campus Community Choir earn a trip to perform at Carnegie Hall in New York in 2011. Other accomplishments include her work with the in-

structional recovery follow ing Hurricane Ike in 2008. That work involved a collaborative effort across the col-lege, and helped San Jacinto College earn its reaffirmation of its 10-year accreditation by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). That work was the foundation of the college's Instructional Continuity Plan and has been integrated into

college operations. Murphy came to San Ja-cinto College South in 2007 from Rappahannock Community College in Virginia, where she was a vice presi-dent of instruction and student development. She previ-

South campus as its business of the year. Murphy will continue in her current role of president at the San Jacinto College

South campus through June 22, 2012. Hellyer said the college will develop a transitional

plan to compensate for the loss of Murphy in the next

PW Library sets events

The following events are scheduled for the Parker Williams Library, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd., Feb. 23 through AARP will provide free income tax preparation or

Fridays and Mondays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Bring all Movie Madness is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 23, at

4 p.m. This family-friendly movie is rated G. Contact the library for more information. On Saturday, Feb. 25, Vietnamese storytime will include Reading Club at 9 a.m., followed by intermediate

storytime at 11 a.m. and beginner storytime at 1 p.m. A book discussion will be held on Wednesday Feb. 29,

at 2 p.m. Red River by Lalita Tademy will be discussed. Preschool storytime is at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, and toddler storytime is at 10:30 a.m. Thursday.

a.m. at the Nassau Bay Hilton, 3000 NASA Parkway. A variety of hors d'oeuvres will be served beginning at 8:30 Taylor comments on launch The cost is \$42 per person for credit card payments made by 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 25. Pay-by-check dead-

Recently, Rep. Larry Taylor, R-Friendswood, made a statement on the Texas state auditor's initiation of an audit of the Texas Windstorm Insurance Association (TWIA).

"I fully support the Texas State Auditor's Office (SAO) decision to initiate an audit of TWIA Last session under House Bill 3, we gave explicit authority to the State Auditor to audit TWIA and association continues to grap- funds.

tion spending. I believe it's time to rein in questionable claims handling and address the reported fraud and abuse that has plagued TWIA since Hurricane Ike."

The audit objectives outlined by the state auditor's office are to:

• Determine whether the TWIA's controls over selected financial processes proits processes. Today, the chalduce accurate financial infor-lenges facing TWIA loom mation and help ensure mation and help ensure large for policyholders as the accountability for association

TWIA's claims processing procedures and related controls help ensure that claim payments are authorized, supported, timely and made in requirements. • Determine whether se-

lected TWIA expenses are reasonable and necessary, properly authorized, supportwith applicable statutory, regulatory, and contractual requirements and TWIA poli

Olson: Obama budget is more of the same

Rep. Pete Olson, R-Sugar Land, recently issued the following statement in response to President Barack Obama's latest budget proposal:

"The president's budget spends \$47 trillion over the ago. next 10 years, imposes a \$1.9 trillion tax increase on has turned a blind eye to the American families and adds trillions of dollars in new policies. debt. President Obama's chief of staff said recently, 'The time for austerity is not

Mr. President? Americans face a fourth year of \$1 trillion-plus deficits - nearly twice the share of GDP that Obama predicted four years "Once again, the president

'If not today, then when,

crushing weight of his budget

"America faces a looming fiscal crisis that will leave our children and grandchildren with unprecedented levels of

problems: More failed 'stimulus' spending policies and government dependency, or meaningful reductions in spending coupled with fixing our entitlement programs so they will be there for those who need them.

spending and record debt.

"America has a clear choice on how to fix our

"America must forge a new path that strengthens our economy, allowing businesses to expand and create jobs."

Chili cookoff held at Frazier

hosted a Faculty Chili Cookoff on Thursday, aff members cooked up 13 tasty po of chili for this fun event. Judges included parents, community members and campus administrators from Stuchbery Elementary, Melillo Middle School, Thompson Intermediate, Moore Elementary, and Dobie High School. The grandprize chili was made by Frazier's technology instructor, Meredith Rives. Phots submitted



Chili cookoff judge and Moore Elementary Assistant Principal Deedee Pitts (front right) is pictured with Frazier Principal Wendy Wiseburn (front left) and Frazier Assistant Principal Lindsey Lesniewski (back).



Toni Lopez. Below: Chili cookoff judge and com-



to College community recently toured the new 35,000square-foot health sciences expansion during a grand opening at the Central cam-

Funded by the 2008 bond referendum to construct, ren- to the forefront so that San ovate, and expand facilities at all three SJC campuses, the \$11 million expansion is equipped with the latest in ence education in this alcove, four adult simulation health care technology and facilities to simulate real patient environments. The building houses an eve care suite, dental assistant laboratory, sonography suite, and a simulation center.

"This new facility will provide an environment that simulates actual clinical and

patient care opportunities in a eight stations, a storage room chosen discipline," said and a debriefing and class-administration office suite, a training available to increase administration office suite, a health care job opportunities Veronica Jammer, dean of the health sciences division at SJC Central. "Additionally, this building will provide an avenue for new health science programs to be brought competitive and retain its sta-

The eve care suite features a reception and lobby area, contact lens laboratory, dispensing laboratory with eight examination rooms, ophthal-mic and refracting laboratory, storage room and administra-

room.

SJCC unveils new health sciences expansion

ratory includes four examination chairs, digital X-ray room, panoramic X-ray room, room and workroom. The simulation center includes a mock nurse station

and medication-dispensing examination rooms, an obstetrics simulation and baby room, a pediatric simulation room, simulation control rooms, debriefing and classroom, storage rooms and administrative offices. across the greater Houston region. In result, needs of the

The building also features two general use classrooms,

conference room, patios and for SJC students.

sciences faculty work closely

tified and addressed to pro-

According to the U.S. nology addition is an eco-Bureau of Labor Statistics, friendly designed facility that most of the health care jobs allows anyone pursuing extoday require less than four vears of college education fessional the very best in edu-Ten of the 20 fastest growing occupations are health care Denetrice Coleman, a local related. By 2018, 3.2 million eye physician whose husband new wage and salary jobs will be generated in this is enrolled in the San Jacinto College's eye care technoloindustry alone.

gy program.

The eye care technology San Jacinto College health program at San Jacinto Colwith medical professionals lege enjoys a 100 percent job placement rate and is the only accredited ophthalmic tech nician program in the state of Texas. Many students in the clinics and hospitals are idenimaging/radiology program are hired before they gradu-

> The dental assistant program will begin in fall 2012. Recently, the college obtained a \$4.7 million U.S. Department of Labor grant to finan-cially assist students in such programs as electrocardiogram, phlebotomy, certified nurses' aide, and for licensed vocational nurse, transition or mobility associate degree nurse, and medical laboratory technology.
> "The health sciences ex-

> pansion is a marvelous facility and a testament to the incredible team work of San Jacinto College faculty, staff, and administration with the singular focus of serving the students in our region and providing state of the art educational opportunities," said Dr. H. Neil Matkin, SJC

Spelling bee winners at Burnett



pus spelling bee. The winners advanced to the Debbie Ramm (fourth-grade teacher), (back row) Pasadena Independent School District Spelling Cecilia Garza (Daniel's mother) and Shawn Fojtik Bee in early February. Pictured are, left to right, (spelling bee coordinator). (front row) Gina Petrash (fourth-grade teacher).

The sonography suite has two teaching theaters, three vide the highest quality of nationally accredited medical

At the ribbon-cutting for the new 35,000-square-foot health sciences expansion located on the San Jacinto College Central campus are, left to right, Brandon Meyers, project manager, SpawGlass; Calvin Powitzky, principal, Bay Architects; Brad Hance, member, San Jacinto College Board of Trustees; Jay Guerrero, regional director - Southeast Texas, representing Sen. John Cornyn; Dr. Brenda Hellyer, SJC chancellor; Louis Rigby, mayor, City of La Porte; Dr. H. Neil Matkin, president, SJC Central campus; Dr. Barbara Hanson, vice president for learning, SJC Central campus; Veronica Jammer, dean of health sciences, SJC Central campus; Edna Robinson, former interim dean of health sciences, SJC Central campus; Tim Culp, president and CEO, Deer Park Chamber of Commerce; Tony Vistein, design manager, Tech Knowledge; and Dr. Ron Rucker, co-owner, Rizzo & Associates.

UHCL profs at autism event in Brazil

Clear Lake Professor of Advanced Science: advances
Psychology and Director of in Research and Treatment of the 'How?' Mand for Information
Developmental Disobilities

guests of Sao Paulo School of Teaching Children with Autism Two Mand Frames for the 'How?' Mand for Information

The Autistic Behavior (ESPCA mation) Developmental Disabilities Autism). (CADD) Dorothea Lerman and Assistant Professor of Psychology, Language and Behavior Analysis and CADD-

dents from Beverly Hills Intermediate, Morris Middle

School and Thompson In-

termediate performed in the

Texas Music Educators Asso-

ciation's Region XIX Or-

Region XIX is made of

tudents in grades 6 through

Also included were pri-

vate schools in the area.

Autism? Evaluating Common ector Sarah Lechago were in Data Collection Methods,

schools partipated in the

and conducted in a perfor-

mance by some of the top

The students received the

Many of the students

with their teachers over the 1A.)

worked on the audition music

music teachers in the state.

for the audition.

8 in the Pasadena, Deer Park, Humble, Aldine, Galena school year, and have prac-Park, Barbers Hill and La ticed daily in order to prepare

This orchestra is an all-

star group of the best players of school. from these schools, rehearsed These s

guests of São Paulo School of Teaching Children with Au- areas of behavioral analysis,

From Jan. 9 to 13, 2012. ESPCA Autism promoted the ture, What Practices are Best meeting of young scientists When Teaching Children with and recognized researchers who study autism in centers United States, Canada, Nor-

Area students from 3 schools perform in Region including Brazil.

XIX Orchestra Concert Approximately 30 eligible summer. Students attended directors throughout the summer and the first eight weeks These students are directed by Ana Payne, Sandra Shaffer, Albert Lo and Wes Hardy at Beverly Hills Intermediate; Michelle Ham, Max Wilson Paul Bushy and State of São Paulo Research

> School: and Mark Varian and Debbie Hirsch at Thompson Intermediate (See related photo Page for both academic and clinic

related to identification, treatpresentations in ESPCA Autism, participants highlighted the need for greater interaction between research groups from different countries and emphasized the importance of early identification and treatment of autism and the lack of public policies for the topic in several countries,

The event was organized by professor Celso Goyos, coordinator of LAHMIEI -Human Learning, Multimedia and Computer-based Teaching Laboratory, from the Department of Psychology of UFSCar (Federal University of São Carlos), in a partner-ship with professors Caio Miguel (California State University) and Thomas Higbee (Utah State University), with the support of FAPESP -

Foundation. From this meeting are emerging several international agreements of partnership

Beauchemin wins big for songwriting

Lifelong South Belt resident Peter Beauchemin recently took top honors in a national songwriting compe-

tition for his piece, Be On Top. The competition was created by thesongwriters.biz, a Texas-based organization that has called on musicians to share their original compositions in hopes of landing a recording contract with BGM school diploma, it was hard Management Group in Nash- to find work, a reality that

On Tuesday, Jan. 10, Beauchemin performed at the Webster concert as one of only 15 finalists. Even though his lead singer had to cancel at the last minute, Beauchemin, who is the first to proclaim he "is not a singer." won the crowd's adoration as the underdog, apprehensively singing his song at Danny D's Guitar Hacienda in League City.

As per the contest rules, Beauchemin's song is uplifting and motivational with to Beauchemin, is following what he describes as a "this your dreams. So where is his town is not big enough to

pushed him to enroll in night school and finally earn his diploma in 2003. the Houston Post, Beauchemin created his own roofing company that, in time, became very successful due to hurricane damages

and never give up on dreams.

knows all about. He was sup-

posed to graduate in Dobie's

class of 1984 but lacked one

During high school, he

which folded in 1995. With-

out a degree, or even a high

Through his struggles, Beauchemin has learned a hard lesson that he wishes to impart to today's youth: "finish school and go to college.

Get your degree. Also important, according passion taking him next?



Peter Beauchemin, the first place winner at the Webster concert, proudly accepts his prize, a G-series Takamine guitar GS330S, G7th Performance guitar capo, a Neotech guitar strap, and S.I.T. guitar strings. Beauchemin hopes to bring home the grand prize from Texas Song Fest in April.

Photo courtesy of Danny D's Guitar Hacienda

Truck driving certification scholarships available

Those who are interested obtaining certification in truck driving may apply for truck drivers, according to scholarships to cover tuition the U.S. Bureau of Labor and fees at San Jacinto Col-

Thanks to a recent \$100,000 2018. grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation, qualified students may receive \$2,050 for the six-week course in safety awareness/ cation, visit http://www.sanjac training for the truck driving .edu/sites/default/files/CTD workforce.

The overall goal of the doc. SJC truck driving program is to increase the number of about the program, contact operators within the state of gram at 281-476-1872. Texas. The program enjoys a 100 percent job placement rate upon successful completion of the course and passing company background

Overall job opportunities Statistics, with approximately 291,900 new jobs created by

San Jacinto College weeking class schedules are available. For a scholarship appli-Grant Student Application

For more information Commercial Motor Vehicle the SJC truck driving pro-

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281-481-5656 COMMUNITY & MILITARY FAMILIES WORLDWIDE SINCE 1994.

SJC employees donate to children's centers



San Jacinto College employees showed their sup- AAWCC secretary; Dr. Toni Pendergrass, SJC with a check at a recent SJC AAWCC meeting. Pictured are, left to right, Amanda L. Booren, SJC

port for child care on campus by donating \$200 AAWCC president; Kathy Greenway, SJC North to each SJC children's center as part of the SJC campus Children's Center director; Sarah Fusig, American Association for Women in Community SJC South campus Children's Center assistant Colleges (AAWCC) Angel Tree initiative. Chapter director; Kathy Sanchez, SJC Central campus SJC AAWCC Chapter vice president.

Photo by Jeannie Peng-Armao

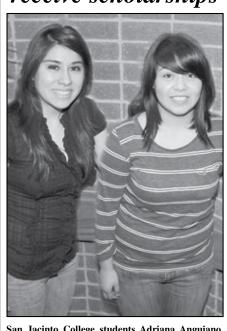
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San Jac students receive scholarships



San Jacinto College students Adriana Anguiano, Jennifer Morales and Quintin Lee were each awarded a \$500 scholarship from the SJC Foundation for simply filling out their course evaluations at the end of the semester. As part of a research initiative from the college's Achieving Strategic Planning Institutional Research Effectiveness Office, students are sent a Student Survey of Instruction to their SJC email accounts at the end of each semester. Those who complete and submit their online course evaluation surveys are automatically put in a random drawing for a \$500 scholarship. Pictured, Anguiano (left) attends the South campus and is currently completing prerequisites for the college's radiology program, and Morales (right) is majoring in criminal justice at the North campus. For more information about course evaluation surveys, visit sanjac.edu/survey

Photo by Andrea Vasquez

Art exhibition features photography at UHCL

See the exciting exhibition of original photography, Re-connecting Through Photography: Czech Republic –

This event is free and open to the public. For more information, call

Bay Area Blvd. in Houston.

Slovak Republic, all day in the Lake Art Gallery Coordinator Bayou Building, Arrium I, of Audience Development, at Level 2, at the University of Houston-Clear Lake, 2700 en@uhcl.edu.

Learn to embrace 'play' through broadcast lecture

it of play and creativity by of Leadership & Success proattending University of Houston-Clear Lake's live broadeast lecture, Play is Serious Business, presented by author and speaker Kevin Carroll, Tuesday, Feb. 28, from 6 to 7:30 p.m., in the Student Services and Classroom Building, Lecture Hall, 2700 Bay Area Blvd. in Houston, and UHCL Pearland campus, Room 111, 1200 Pearland Parkway in Pearland.

The lecture is offered by the university's Student Lead-

gram. Carroll is the author of Rules of the Red Rubber Ball, What's Your Red Rubber Ball?! and The Red Rubber Ball at Work.

An encore presentation is scheduled for Wednesday, March 7, from noon to 1:30 Student Services and Class room Building, Lecture Hall.

Admission is free. For more information, email Tiffany McCleney, student chapter president, a ership, Involvement and Tiffanymcclenney@hotmail. Community Engagement and com.

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The following personnel and staff members of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays Feb. 23 through Feb. 29.

Blow out the birthday candles on Feb. 24 for Frances Rivera.

Bush Elementary Greetings for a happy birthday are sent to Gloria Ventura Feb. 28.

Melillo Middle School On Feb. 25, Rosa Salinas is wished a happy birthday.

Morris Middle School

Feb. 26 is the day for a double party for Regina Richardson and Anna Willis. Happy birthday wishes are sent to Irma

Beverly Hills Intermediate

The day for a triple-layer cake for Joseph Fee, Angelika Martin and Quan Nguyen is Feb. 23. Feb. 25 is the day for a double birthday party for Michael Arroyo and Gary Warner. Blow out the birthday candles for Rodney Martin on Feb. 26. Shay Woodruff celebrates a birthday Feb.

Thompson Intermediate

On Feb. 25, a birthday greeting is sent

to **John Fowler**. A birthday is enjoyed by Justin Duncan Feb. 26

Dobie High

The day for a double birthday celebration for Wendy Sharpless and Tamalar Whiting is is Feb. 24. Kha Nguyen is wished a happy birthday Feb. 25. David Chollett and Zoila Salazar share a birth-

LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS

E-mail birthday, anniversary, vacation, congratulations, etc., to mynews@south beltleader.com with OTBF in the subject line. Items must be submitted by Friday noon for the next week's publication.

Thompson

science students

School is now accepting nominations for the school's hall of honor, a project started two years ago to pay tribute to the school's most distinguished alumni.

Nominations accepted

for SHHS Hall of Honor

Anyone wishing to share information on a South Houston alumnus who has achieved exceptional stature over the course of a professional career - or who has earned great distinction for public service - is encouraged to submit the graduate's name along with supporting documentation.

The nominee must have

accepted until May 1. Alumn selected will remain on the candidate list. Resubmissions are not necessary, but letters of support from other alumni for that candidate may be

Nominations may be dropped off at the school or emailed to Danette Jolliff at djolliff@pasadenaisd.org.

Dobie High School is also accepting nominations for its new hall of honor project off at the school or emailed to graduated prior to 2002 to be fmoses@pasadenaisd.org.

Quick THEA testing available at UHCL

THEA (Texas Higher Education Assessment) exam through University of Hous-ton-Clear Lake's Office of Counseling Services. The test is scheduled for

Friday, March 2, at 8 a.m. in the Student Services and Classroom Building, Room 3310, 3311, University of Houston-Clear Lake, 2700 Bay Area Blvd.

Registration deadline is Friday, Feb. 24, at 11:30 a.m.,

Photos submitted

tional \$10 institution fee, and scores are available in four to five business days. For more information, cal 866-565-4879 or 413-256

admission to Texas colleges

and universities and teacher

education programs.
Fee is \$29 with an addi-

2890 or visit http://www thea.nesinc.com Participants may also contact UHCL's Office of Coun-

seling Services at 281-283with late registration on 2580 or http://www.uhcl.edu. March 1 at 5:30 p.m., for this testingservices.

GRE Review set

in time for graduate school admissions with the GRE Review, a review course held four consecutive Saturdays, March 3, 10, 17 and 24, from 8 a.m. to noon in the Bayou Building, University of Houston-Clear Lake, 2700 Bay Area Blvd

GRE Review provides an overview of the exam, testtaking strategies, reading

All participants receive a copy of the Princeton Review's Cracking the GRE used in the course. Course fee is \$349 per person.

For more information or to register, visit http://www uhcl.edu/camp, call UHCL's Center for Advanced Manage ment Programs at 281-283-3133 or 281-283-3121, or

Urban Souls Dance Company performs

al artistry of Houston-based Urban Souls Dance Company as members take the stage at University of Houston-Clear Lake to perform selections from their multicultural and socially conscious works. Friday, Feb. 24, at 8 p.m. in the university's Bayou Build-Theater, 2700 Bay Area Blvd.

Presale tickets are \$12 for UH-Clear Lake ID; at the Life at 281-283-2560.

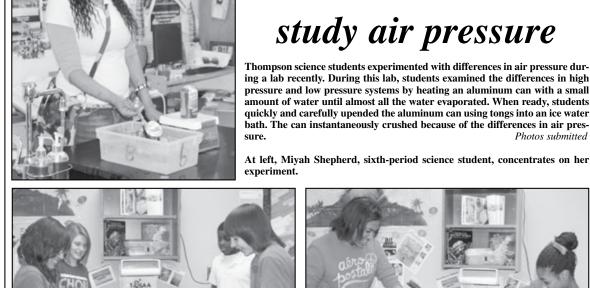
admission and \$10 with UH-Clear Lake ID. To learn more about Urbar Souls Dance Company, visit

http://www.urbansoulsdance company.com. This event is sponsored by the university Office of Student Life's Cultural Arts program.
For more information

about events, visit http:// www.uhcl.edu/culturalarts or general admission, \$8 with call the Office of Student

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First-period science students De Ann Dimas, Kacie Little,



Third-period students Noe Valdez and Daniel Rincon.



Second-period science students Amber Newsome and Jasmine

Fourth-period students Tristan Serna and Javier Guerra.

Remember When

County Commissioner Tom Bass appeared before a joint meeting of the Sagemont and Kirkwood South

Sam Jamison and Al Wilof the Sagemeadow utility the district's evening school. district board. Both men of-ficially retired from the board unit apartment complex on

J. Frank Dobie High School's Hustlin' Horns cap-

Pasadena school trustees accepted the low bid of \$452,184 for athletic faciliand South Houston high schools and Jackson Intermeliams were given plaques of diate, and they raised the tuappreciation by the members ition and teacher salaries for

> Beamer between Kingspoint man Baptist Church and Kirkshire the Beamer Place Apartments.

made possible the purchase power dance team. of a six-acre site which was A national used for park and recreational

Concerned parents of Navy Junior ROTC cadets appealed an administrative decision, made by the Pasadena board of trustees, to dissolve the NJROTC programs at Dobie and Rayburn high schools.

20 years ago (1992)
As a result of a closed-door meeting of PISD trustees, Superintendent Dr. Larry Vaughn's contract would not be extended when it ran out

two years hence. Clear Brook senior Donald Wayne Hughes, 17, was arrested after he allegedly stabbed a 15-year-old sophomore on campus. Friction between the two began at a Randalls store where the two worked together.

Pat Smith, 44, a PISD contract employee, was indicted by a Harris County grand jury and charged with theft of district property and services totaling more than \$2,000. Smith allegedly sold copper wiring and diverted the funds to his personal bank account and used district employees to Talks regarding park usage fees for local sports groups were renewed with City striking Davila. No immediate arrests were made.

Houston police and cusseized approximately \$35 million in cocaine from a residence on Tiltree. Seized were 21 boxes of coand parents in attendance. caine weighing a total of 741

pounds and 15 additional boxes which contained 15 pounds of marijuana. 15 years ago (1997)

Houston City Council-Street. The complex became
Beamer Place Apartments.

Chamber of Commerce at its
monthly luncheon.

of an occupied truck on Canarywood Street in Highland

25 years ago (1987)
Harris County MUD 13 Col. Amy Wilson became Former Dobie Lariaette Meadow. sold \$600,000 in junior lien the youngest member of the his first open-house meet-revenue notes, a sale which 17-person Houston Rockets ing at his district office in

> agency was selected to locate presidents for San Jacinto College's north and south campuses. Both were being replaced due to retirement. 10 years ago (2002)

> A benefit was held for South Belt resident Okie Griffin who was hospitalized following an incident at KC's Bar and Grill that left her par-

> Workers began clearing land for the 240-unit Trammel Crow apartment complex located on Sabo Road. Constable Gary L. Free-

man's office announced that at 11045 Fuqua. The victim, Timothy B. Dixon had been arrested and sentenced to 10 years confinement. Dixon had opened a checking account in the scene. According to Louisiana and then had gone on a spending spree from the South Belt area to the Galleria and 1960 area writing checks for jewelry, furs and laptop computers for a total of \$26,000.

5 years ago (2007)

man, who joined opponents of the proposal. The topic dominated a local Capital Improvement Project meeting

The Dobie Academic Decathlon Team placed first in Sweepstakes and second in the regional contest to qualify for the state competition.

A juvenile was arrested for man Joe Roach addressed deadly conduct after shoot-the South Belt-Ellington ing out the back windshield

> Rep. Nick Lampson held Stafford.

1 year ago (2011)

Hundreds of South Belt's

faithful attended a City of Houston meeting to voice their opposition to Mayor Annise Parker about churches being assessed a mandated drainage fee under the Rebuild Houston program. Sagemont Church's executive pastor, the Rev. Chuck Schneider, and Grace Community Church's pastor, the Rev. Garrett Booth. as well as Pasadena Independent School District Superintendent Kirk Lewis spoke at

A fatal shooting took place

David Davila, 27, suffered a gunshot wound to the head and was pronounced dead at police, Davila was inside Joe's Texas Club, an afterhours club, when he and two men began arguing. The argument escalated into a physical altercation, which then moved to the sidewalk outside. During the fight, one



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Dobie donates to Teens for Jeans

South Houston students reap 'global' spoils

If Matthew Koska's dream ecomes reality, he'll soon be walking along the East River, looking up at the teal facade of United Nations Headquarters, looking for the entrance through which he'll escort a contingent of South Houston High School students.

And in a New York minute, he'll remember to whip

Just five months ago, Koska never dreamed that such a dream was even possible. A Pre-AP World Geography teacher at South Houston High School, Koska was approached last fall by students interested in participating in the Model United Nations program, a national organization that sponsors student simulations of U.N. proceedings and competitions in resolution craftsman-

ship. Last Thursday and Friday, at the George R. Brown Convention Center, the tiny South Houston team captured top-delegation honors at the Houston Area Model United Nations conference, an event attended by 1,000 students from three dozen schools across Texas.

The nine-member South at the conference and the only Pasadena Independent

honors among those schools designated as smaller

Two South Houston seniors - Meet Patel and Alan Deleon - landed two of the three highest individual honors handed out to all students attending the conference. Patel received the Best

Delegate Award, the highest honor presented. Deleon received the Most Heralded Delegate prize. was happy with our

kids simply because they were so eager to compete," Koska says, "But to be named the outstanding delegation makes me especially proud

The list of delegations included blue-ribbon private schools like Episcopal, Second Baptist, St. Agnes Academy, St. Johns and the Westchester Academy for International Studies Some of the public schools, like Bellaire, brought enough students to fill out seven delega-

South Houston had one. at home. Group study sessions are crammed into afterschool hours. The night knew we had a top team." before the area conference, Houston squad - the smallest Koska and team members sequestered themselves in a

Matthew Koska (center back) is shown with his South Houston Model U.N.

team, left to right, (front row) Selena Barron, Hannah Arnold, Karen Cruz,

Olga Trevino, (middle row) Mario Gonzalez, Alan Deleon, Meet Patel, Shivam

South Belt-Ellington Leader

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Gulf Freeway.

Lions Club meeting set

Tuesday, Feb. 28, at 7 p.m. at the Golden Corral, 12500

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Vakil and (top left) Ulisses Gonzalez.

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10:30 p.m. When Koska left the building, he was approached by a Pasadena ISD police officer. The officer wanted to know what Koska was doing in the building at such a late hour. The officer also wanted to see his school district ID.

"I forgot my badge that day," Koska says. "I had to pull out my driver's license."

Security badges, as it turned out, was just about the only U.N. procedure beyond the grasp of the Trojan team.

Before the conference, the nine South Houston students were assembled in a single delegation and assigned the task of representing the nation of Mauritius, a tiny island in the Indian Ocean. What followed was a crash course on the geography and politics of Mauritius.

At the conference students participated in a series of caucuses during which ideas were presented, arguments made and resolutions

"All I really wanted was a good experience for our kids, Much of the South Houston the opportunity to learn students' prep work was done something new," Koska says. "But after the first day, I couldn't contain myself. I

South Houston's quest began at the end of last school year when Deleon read about school computer lab until the Model United Nations

form a team. Soon, Deleon wasn't suggesting. He was insisting.

"I said, 'Koska, we're going to do this!" Deleon recalls. "We can pioneer this for the rest of the district!'

Deleon enlisted the support of Patel, who was just as dogs "The new school started,

and I got busy and kept putting it off," Koska savs. wasn't until the final

week in September that Koska decided to do his own research. "I got on the computer to look up the information," he says. "The next day was the

deadline for registering for the workshop."

He signed his school up for the required workshop. Had he waited another day

South Houston would have been out of luck. Meanwhile, Deleon and Patel began to recruit other team members. The final nine included three other seniors

Gonzalez and Ulisses Gonzalez - and four juniors: Selena Barron, Karen Cruz, Shivam Vakil and Hannah Arnold.

When the Trojan nine walked into the first phase of the conference – the General Assembly meeting - most were in awe. Many schools had brought dozens of students. The designer labels on expensive clothes were as noticeable as the flags and

there had been preparing in their AP classes. That intimi-

dated me." "It was intimidating at first," Patel says. "But soon we realized that nothing was expected out of us. We could

With nothing to lose, the South Houston delegation sessions and quickly caught the eye of moderators.

"Being a small country, you have to make sure the larger countries are listening to us," says Patel, who had one advantage. He once visited Mauritius

Says Patel: "We had to stand up and convince people that our resolutions were right."

And they did.

Unfortunately, the opportunity to make their arguwill have to wait A national in Manhattan, but Koska's team doesn't have the funds to attend, and the deadline for registering has passed.

Still, Koska's dream has no expiration date. He hopes to take a team of Trojans to the Big Apple in 2013.

"I would like to see these

seniors stick with it and take part in Model U.N. activities at the collegiate level," he says "And I would like to see more of these kinds of activi ties on our campuses. We need more activities like this that emphasize what our stu-

Legler awarded Fighter for Free Enterprise Rep. Ken Legler, R-Pasa-TAB president and CEO Legler received the Fighter for Free Enterprise by TAB

Dobie High School students recently participated collected 561 pair of jeans, the most that were

in Teens for Jeans. Led by the senior class, Dobie turned in to the local Aeropostale store. Pictured,

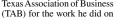
distribute the donated jeans to shelters to help and count the 561 pair of jeans that were collected homeless youth. In three days, Dobie students and donated.

Photo submitted

dena, was honored by the Texas Association of Business

students collected gently used jeans that they

donated to Aeropostale stores. The stores will then



HCMGA sets March events

The Harris County Master Bluff Road. Gardener Association recently released its events for the month of March.

Spring Plant Sale
The public is invited to the

Precinct 2 spring plant sale consisting of fruit trees, berries, pepper and tomato plants, with an 8 a.m. presentation by Heidi Sheesley, owner of Treesearch Farms, on the plants that are available at the sale.

Children are welcome but must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

This free event is scheduled for Saturday, March 3, from 9 a.m to 1 p.m. in Campbell Hall at the Pasade-

Green Thumb

Lecture Series Louis Mickler, Harris County Precinct 2 Master

Gardener, will provide a lecture on Efficient Irrigation for Your Home. This lecture is free and open to the public, and is set for Tuesday, March 13, at 6:30 p.m. in the meet ing room at Clear Lake Park (on the lakeside), 5001 NASA Parkway in Seabrook

Open Garden Day

The public is invited to tour the working and demonstration gardens maintained by the Harris County Master Gardeners at Precinct 2. Master gardeners will be on hand na Fairgrounds, 7600 Red to answer gardening ques-

tions during this free event on Monday, March 19, from 8:30 to 11 a.m. at the Genoa Friendship Garden, 1202 Genoa Red Bluff in Houston.

Children are welcome, but must be accompanied by an adult at all times. Master Gardener

Lecture Series

Margaret Lloyd-Binham, master gardener and entomology specialist, will provide a lecture on *Insects in* my Garden/Butterflies. This lecture is free and open to the public and is scheduled for Wednesday, March 21, at 10 a.m. in the meeting room at side), 5001 NASA Parkway



during the Legislative Session.

"The 2011 Session was one

of the most difficult in recent history," said Bill Hammond,

based on votes during the 82nd Session, which were important

to various businesses and

given, for the second session

small business owner, I know

ernment to do all they can to

"It is very humbling to be

"Because of budget, lawmak ers like Rep. Legler, faced a lot of hard decisions, but thankfully, the majority stuck with the plan of trimming spending and holding the line on taxes. Because of the actions of Rep. Legler and other members of the Texas Legislature, Texas' jobs climate remains one of the best

in the country."
The TAB serves as Texas Chamber of Commerce. It was established in 1922 in San Antonio, and since then, the TAB has worked on all manner of legislative, regulatory, and judicial matters on behalf

SJC students help at science fair

A group of San Jacinto emy for science activities and this year's recipient of College students recently and the third year to particivisited the Iman Academy to judge science projects as department's community

Cartwright. This is the college's

pate in the academy's South East Science Fair. SJC stupart of the SJC science dents serve as ambassadors. interacting with the school science education

fourth year to visit the acad-science department chair in 1990.

the American Chemical Society Excellence in Teaching in a Two-Year College Award, started the service learning program service learning program, children and increasing two decades ago after she spearheaded by Dr. Ann interest and awareness of began inviting elementary school students to visit the Cartwright, SJC Central Central campus science labs



Pictured, left to right, six-year-old Safia Khan showcases her project on water absorption as San Jacinto College students Abby David and Nadia Grassmuck serve as judges and apply scientific principles from their college classroom to assess each project category. Photo by Jeannie Peng-Armao

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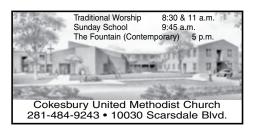
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Photos from the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce Installation Banquet

Photos by David Flickinger & David Ellison



Clear Brook City M.U.D. board member Bill Morgan and wife Terrie were in attendance at the recent Chamber banquet.



Commissioner Jack Morman, with wife Andi, join Guest of Honor Commissioner El Franco Lee and wife Kay.



Board member, and aide to El Franco Lee, David Matthews with wife Donna enjoying the evening.

Spring has sprung in South Belt



Winter must be over by the looks of this wild apple tree that is now in full bloom at the home of Dr. and Ms. Zafar Tagvi in Sagemeadow.

Photo by Marie Flickinger

South Belt area couple featured on reality show

Houston and longtime Sere - http://www.youtube. South Belt resident Raquel Hernandez (a.k.a. Raquel Serenil) and her husband, Boujourne (a.k.a. Pryme Status) were recently featured on the MTV Tr3 reality show Quiro Mi Boda.

The realty show highlighted the couple's struggle as they hid their relationship while they were pursuing careers in music and their differences in culture and upbringing as a "Tejana" and

on the album Los Super Reyes - Channel 872 and DirectTV

com/watch?v=4Vsm_QJm Mqg. Hernandez attended Clear

Brook High School but graduated from Texas Tech High School through a homeschool program.

Repeats of the broadcast will be shown on future dates on the following television stations

AT&T Uverse - Channel 3505, AT&T Uverse - Channel 506, Comcast - Houston Channel 506, Comcast Pryme Status was featured Houston - Channel 141, Dish

and is a writer on the song Yo - Channel 445

SJC, NASA team up for Space **Settlement Design Competition**

Johnson Space Center for the 14th annual Space Settlement Design Competition that brings high school students together from across the country for space exploration activities during National Engineers Week

competition emulates the experience of working as member of an aerospace industry proposal team. The event features an industry simulation game set in the later years of the 21st century.

The theme of the competition is related to the vision of space exploration. The proposal requirements of the space settlement design differ for each competition.

Participants from Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota, and Texas are scheduled to compete in the event.
"The experience of partici-

young people optimism for the future, technical competence, management skills, knowledge of space environments and resources, appreciation for relationships between technical products and human use, teamwork, and Set for March 16-18, the techniques for preparing mpetition emulates the ex-effective documentation," said Bridget Kramer, project coordinator with the San Jacinto College Aerospace Academy. "It requires stu-

> ence, writing, speaking, art and common sense." The Iowa Northwest Area Education Agency will send 140 students to the competition, and approximately 40 students from southeast Texas will compete as well.

dents to integrate their knowl-

edge of and utilize skills in

space science, physics, math,

chemistry, environmental sci-

ence, biology, computer sci-

Registration now open for foreign language classes

language classes is open through April 16 in the Bayou Building and Student Services and Classroom Building, University of Houston-Clear Lake, 2700 Bay Area Blvd.

Learning a foreign language or improving conversational English can enhance career goals and expand personal horizons. Register now for small group classes offered through UHCL's foreign language program. Classes that run April 16 through June 1 will meet for

Registration for foreign 90 minutes weekly for seven English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Mandarin, Russian, Brazilian Portuguese and Spanish at beginner to advanced levels.

New student fees are \$135, and returning students are \$115. Private and semiprivate lessons are also available.

Registration can be completed online, by phone or in person. To register online, visit http://www.uhcl.edu/fl. To register by phone, call

ter on a database maintained by the Iowa organizers.

The blend of rural Iowa students with the more urban Texas students provides a unique and stimulating learning and team-building environment, said Kramer

A subset of 12 members of the winning company from the NASA-JSC competition will be invited to par ticipate at NASA-JSC this July in the International Space Settlement Design Competition Finals "San Jacinto College has

become a partner in the organization and management of the Space Settlement Design Competition for 2012 in order to begin assuming the planning, organization and implementation tasks of this year's event and subsequent years, said Norman Chaffee with student programs at NASA-JSC. "This will help to preserve the program in future years after the original orga-nizers are no longer available to participate."

The competition is spon-

sored and underwritten by the Houston-area aerospace companies, the State of Iowa Education Department and the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics Houston Section. The Johnson Space Center provides the competition venues and in-kind support.

For more information about the 14th annual Space Settlement Design Competition, contact Bridget Kramer at bridget.a.kramer@nasa.

A special Valentine at Meador



The students at Meador Elementary LOVE their principal, Darlene Davis. Her office was adorned with handmade valentines from hundreds of Meador students who wanted to show their love for her. Photo submitted

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SECTION B SPORTS & CLASSIFIED

Boys' area playoffs

Dobie Longhorns (22-5A champion)

Fort Bend Bush Broncos (23-5A runner-up)

Friday, Feb. 24 Pearland H.S., 7:30

Brook, Dobie open CCISD softball event

up featuring Clear Brook hosting Dobie will kick off the 2012 Clear Creek ISD Softball Classic. Brook and Dobie will

Later in the day, Dobie and North Shore. faces Conroe at 3 p.m., and Clear Brook takes on Santa

Fe at 5 p.m. clude games at Clear Brook. Clear Creek, Clear Lake and see Page 2B.

A neighborhood match- Clear Springs high schools. The teams in the tournament include Clear Brook, Clear Creek, Clear Falls, Clear Lake, Clear Springs, Dobie, Santa Fe, Conroe, play Thursday, Feb. 23, at La Porte, Goose Creek, 11 a.m., at Lady Wolverine Atascocita, Texas City, South Houston, Nederland

> Dobie will also play at Creek and Springs.

For a full schedule of The tournament will in- games in the tournament as well as other softball news,



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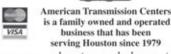
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Mar. 29 - Apr. 20

Bidistrict hoops playoffs

JFD boys advance; Brook ousted



ty of Houston men's basketball signee, drives against Clear Brook's Fred Richardson during the Hurricanes' 57-51 bidistrict playoff victory over the Wol-six rebounds, ended his career as the Wolverines Feb. 21, at Dobie High School. Brook's first-time leading scorer. See Page 6B for details.

Hightower forward Daniel House (right), a Universi-round playoff loss brought a sudden end to the season that saw the Wolverines post a school best overall record at 29-4. Richardson, who had 14 points and six rebounds, ended his career as the Wolverines' all-

Baseball opening night

Pitching keys Brook, Dobie victories

anything, the Clear Brook tory. Trabanino, the Wolver- played pretty good, and it sitv baseball teams just may be onto something nice.

Both teams opened the 2012 season with wins over eral first-year varsity play- be part of the David Anzaldquality opponents, giving ers in the lineup, struggled plenty of reason for optimism moving forward.

banino was terrific against eventual winning run as Clear Brook, fanning 12 as was hit by a pitch with the cautious heading into the

and Dobie high school var- ines' top returning pitcher from a season ago, walked Clear Brook, with sev-

> respective coaches offensively.
>
> of reason for opti
> The Wolverines collected just two hits but man-

Clear Brook's Nolan Tra- aged to scratch across the

Next, the Wolverines will ua Invitational at La Porte High School. See Page 2B

was a great win to start the

season," Brook head coach

for a schedule of games. Citing the fact the Wolfrom the 2011 season to Morton Ranch Feb. 20, at sophomore Derek Simmons the college ranks, Flores is

verines lost three pitchers Feb. 21, at Friendswood.

Dobie, meanwhile, will head to the Humble ISD schedule on Page 2B) on a high after beating state-

depth is not what it was last

year, so it could be tough at

ranked Friendswood 3-1 Like Clear Brook, Dobie got an outstanding effort on Continued on Page 2B

Horns' soccer teams get early start in 22-5A

varsity girls' and boys' soccer teams are off to a quick start in District 22-5A ac-

Longhorn boys, still one of the state's few unbeaten teams at 14-0-2, opened league action with 2-0 victory over Pasadena before routing Pasadena Memorial 5-1 Feb. 21.

The situation is much the same for the 11-2-2 Dobie girls, who opened the 22-5A season with a 4-0 triumph over Pasadena before edging a very good Pasadena Memorial team 1-0 Feb. 21 at Newcomb Field

With just 10 games to be played in the district, each win and loss is magnified. So far, so good for Dobie's

JFD girls playing well A cooperative effort on

offense and a very stingy defensive performance has continued to work wonders for the Lady Longhorns.

Against Pasadena, Mariah Escobar found the net twice and Sharon San-

At right, Dobie's Erica Romero (15) heads a free ball forward against the Memorial Mavericks during Do-bie's 1-0 victory Feb. 20, at Newcomb Field. The Lady Longhorns won on a penalty kick goal from Tanva Palomares.

GaryWPhotos.com

As planned, the Dobie miguel and Kayla Dokhani Memorial, the Lady Long- kick for a 1-0 victory. also scored as the Lady horns earned a key win

opener 4-0

Longhorns won the 22-5Å over the Lady Mavericks as senior forward Tanya Palo-Three days later against mares scored on a penalty

Goalkeeper Jackie Baade earned her 10th and 11th shutouts of the season.

Continued on Page 6B



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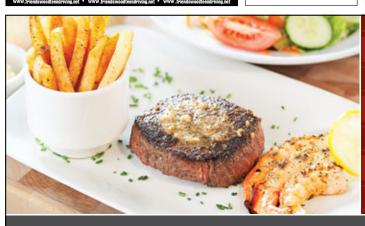
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Sports Calendar

Thursday, Feb. 23 Dobie JV (B) girls at Dickinson, 4:00

Friday, Feb. 24

Dobie varsity girls vs. Sam Rayburn, Newcomb, 7:00 Brook varsity boys host Dickinson, 7:00 Brook varsity girls at Dickinson, 7:00 Dobie varsity boys vs. Sam Rayburn, Newcomb, 5:00 Brook JV boys host Dickinson, 5:00 Brook JV girls at Dickinson, 5:00 Dobie JV girls vs. Sam Rayburn, Auxiliary, 4:00 Dobie JV boys vs. Sam Rayburn, Auxiliary, 3:00

Saturday, Feb. 25

Dobie JV (B) girls at Brazosport, 10 a.m. Dobie JV (B) boys host North Shore, campus, 10 a.m.

Monday, Feb. 27

Dobie varsity boys host South Houston, Newcomb, 5:00 Dobie JV boys host South Houston, Auxiliary, 7:00

Tuesday, Feb. 28

Dobie varsity girls vs. South Houston, Newcomb, 5:00 Brook varsity boys host Alvin, 7:00 Brook varsity girls at Alvin, 7:00 Brook JV boys host Alvin, 5:00 Brook JV girls at Alvin, 5:00 Dobie JV girls vs. South Houston, Auxiliary, 7:00

Thursday, March 1

Dobie JV (B) girls at Pearland, 4:00 Dobie JV (B) boys at Deer Park, 4:00

Friday, March 2

Dobie varsity girls at Deer Park, Abshire, 7:00 Brook varsity boys vs. Clear Creek, CCISD, 7:00 Brook varsity girls host Clear Creek, 7:00 Brook JV girls host Clear Creek, 5:00 Dobie JV girls at Deer Park, Abshire, 5:00 Brook JV boys vs. Clear Creek, CCISD, 5:00

Saturday, March 3

Dobie varsity boys host Deer Park, Newcomb, 10 a.m. Dobie JV boys host Deer Park, Auxiliary, 10 a.m.

TENNIS Friday, Feb. 24

Dobie varsity at Spring Fling tourn., Corpus Christi, TBA

Saturday, Feb. 25

Dobie varsity at Spring Fling tourn., Corpus Christi, TBA

SOFTBALL Thursday, Feb. 23

Brook varsity at Clear Creek tourn., TBA Dobie varsity at Clear Creek tourn., TBA Dobie JV at Humble tourn., TBA

Friday, Feb. 24

Brook varsity at Clear Creek tourn., TBA Dobie varsity at Clear Creek tourn., TBA Dobie JV at Humble tourn., TBA

Saturday, Feb. 25

Brook varsity at Clear Creek tourn., TBA Dobie varsity at Clear Creek tourn., TBA

Dobie JV at Humble tourn., TBA

Tuesday, Feb. 28

Brook varsity at The Woodlands, 6:30 Dobie varsity hosts Clear Lake, PISD, 6:30 Brook JV at The Woodlands, 5:00 Dobie JV hosts Clear Lake, PISD, 5:00

Thursday, March 1

Dobie varsity at Sugarland tourn., TBA Dobie JV at Pasadena Memorial tourn., TBA

Friday, March 2

Brook varsity hosts Barbers Hill, 6:30 Dobie varsity at Sugarland tourn., TBA Brook JV hosts Barbers Hill, 5:00 Dobie JV at Pasadena Memorial tourn., TBA

Saturday, March 3

Dobie varsity at Sugarland tourn., TBA Dobie JV at Pasadena Memorial tourn., TBA

BASEBALL

Thursday, Feb. 23

Brook varsity at La Porte tourn., TBA Dobie varsity at Humble tourn., TBA Dobie JV at Humble tourn., TBA

Friday, Feb. 24

Brook varsity at La Porte tourn., TBA Dobie varsity at Humble tourn., TBA Dobie JV at Humble tourn., TBA Dobie sophomores at Pasadena tourn., TBA

Saturday, Feb. 25

Brook varsity at La Porte tourn., TBA Dobie varsity at Humble tourn., TBA Dobie JV at Humble tourn., TBA Dobie sophomores at Pasadena tourn., TBA

Monday, Feb. 27

Dobie varsity hosts Dickinson, Maguire, 7:00 Dobie JV at Dickinson, 4:00 Dobie sophomores at Dickinson, 6:30

Tuesday, Feb. 28 Brook varsity hosts PN-Groves, 5:00 Brook JV at PN-Groves, 6:00

Brook sophomores at PN-Groves, 4:00

Thursday, March 1 Dobie varsity at Pasadena ISD tourn., TBA Dobie JV at Pasadena ISD tourn., PISD, TBA

Friday, March 2

Dobie varsity at Pasadena ISD tourn., TBA Dobie JV at Pasadena ISD tourn., PISD, TBA

Saturday, March 3

Dobie varsity at Pasadena ISD tourn., TBA Dobie JV at Pasadena ISD tourn., PISD, TBA

Brook softball wins four at Brenham

softball team quickly erased the pain of an opening night loss Feb. 14, coming back to win four straight games at the Brenham tournament.

While much of the action in the Houston and surrounding areas was halted by rains Feb. 20 and Feb. 21. the respective teams were able to play four games in

Brenham. Sophomore pitcher Laura Napoli was again a star in the circle and at the plate. Napoli, the team's top

pitcher, was at her best for much of the tournament. She also slammed her second home run of the season at the tournament. Katie Bischof also hit her

second homer of the season and Taylor Nickell blasted Chyna Phipps did a great job of getting on base at the

top of the lineup, and Alexa Anzaldua was also one of the Lady Wolverines' top hitters at the event.
The Lady Wolverines began the tournament with

a 5-3 win over Fort Bend Austin, then pummeled San

Marcos 9-1 to complete

first-day action. Clear Brook came back for two more wins, taking out Cedar Park 10-2 and then blanking a talented Santa Fe team 6-0.

"We've had a good start "We have some veteran to the season," Clear Brook coach Ashley Pillow said. players, and they know how to get things done."



Sophomore Laura Napoli is off to a great start early this season, getting her job done in the pitching circle and also blasting a pair of home runs as Clear Brook opened the season with four wins in five games.

CB wins fifth straight, Dobie falls

Classic, the Clear Brook squad is on a roll early on.

The Lady Wolverines won their fifth straight game, downing host Deer Park 4-2 as Laura Napoli earned the pitching win. Alexa Anzaldua was the

offensive star for the Lady Wolverines as the team moved to 5-1 this season. Clear Brook's CCISD Katie Lee and Stephanie

tournament opponent in the opener, Dobie, has not gotten off to a similar start. Fielding a lineup of

quite a few first-year play-

struggled of late. After coming back to

beat Kingwood in the sealost three straight games. The final two days of the Brenham tournament

were washed away by rain, but Dobie dropped a pair of games on Feb. 16. Against Elgin, pitchers

Buenrostro went to work in the circle, getting little offensive support in an 11-0 outcome. In the second game, hit in the game.

Heading into the Clear ers along with pitching vet-O'Connor pitched well Creek Indpendent School eran Shannon O'Connor, against Manvel, but the District Varsity Softball the Lady Longhorns have Lady Longhorns could not generate much offense in a 2-0 setback.

> son opener, Dobie has now Feb. 21 to take on Brazoswood at the Pasadena Independent School District complex.

Scoreless through six, Brazoswood got three runs late and went on to win 3-0 in the game.

O'Connor struck out eight in the game before the Lady Bucs did some dam-

Dobie's offense had one

Humble ISD

Varsity Baseball Invitational February 23-25

February 23, games at Summer Creek

11 a.m. Dobie vs. Crosby

1:30 p.m. Dobie vs. Klein Forest

February 24, game at Summer Creek

11 a.m. Dobie vs. **Beaumont West Brook**

February 25 trophy games to be determined

La Porte ISD

David Anzaldua Invitational February 23-25

February 23

February 23

Games at La Porte

Games at Baytown Sterling 10 a.m. Baytown Sterling 10 a.m. Clear Lake vs. vs. Manvel Texas City

12:30 p.m. La Porte vs. Texas City

12:30 p.m. Baytown Sterling vs. Manvel

3 p.m. La Porte vs. Clear Lake

5:30 p.m. Boerne vs. PN-Groves

February 24

February 24 10 a.m. Texas City vs. PN-Groves

vs. Boerne

10 a.m. La Porte vs. Manvel

12:30 p.m. Manvel vs. 12:30 p.m. Baytown Sterling Clear Brook

3 p.m. Brook vs. La Porte

5:30 p.m. Boerne vs. Clear Lake

February 25

10 a.m. B. Sterling vs. Texas City

12:30 p.m. La Porte vs. Boerne

3 p.m. Brook vs. PN-Groves

5:30 p.m. Clear Lake vs. Manvel



1 p.m. Texas City vs.

New Caney

3 p.m. La Porte vs.

Texas City

5 p.m. New Caney vs.

Creek

February 24

11 a.m. Clear Falls vs.

1 p.m. Dobie vs.

Clear Falls

3 p.m. Dobie vs.

Creek

February 25

9 a.m. Santa Fe

11 a.m. Atascocita vs.

Santa Fe

1 p.m. Atascocita vs.

Creek

Creek

6 p.m. Hebron vs.

Jersey Village

March 3

11 a.m. Creek vs.

1:30 p.m. Nederland

vs. Seven Lakes

March 1

1 p.m. Rayburn vs.

Kinkaid

4 p.m. Rayburn vs.

West Brook

Dobie trips Mustangs; opener a big success

Continued from Page 1B the mound from starter Emmitt Pitts, who went the distance as part of a two-hitter.

Pitts, Dobie's team leader in victories a season ago, retired Friendswood 1-2-3 in the fifth, sixth and seventh innings to close out a great

performance "Emmitt got stronger as the game went on," Dobie

At left, sophomore Trarun triple to help guide Dobie past Friendswood 3-1 in the season opener. At right in photo is JFD varsity assistant coach

said. "He put in a lot of work in the offseason aimed at going deep in games. His work has paid off so far."

Dobie scored all the runs they would need in the top of the third inning.

Travarus Ansley, who made his varsity debut as a freshman in the playoffs last season, had a two-run triple to put the Longhorns in front to stay.

Xavier Johnson drove in Ansley for the third run, and Pitts handled the rest.

"We put up a crooked number in the third inning, and that's what you aim to do," Torres said. "It's a good win. Friendswood is good."

1 p.m. Clear Falls vs.

Nederland

3 p.m. Clear Falls vs.

S. Houston

5 p.m. Nederland vs. Springs

February 24

11 a.m. North Shore

vs. Springs

1 p.m. North Shore vs.

New Caney

3 p.m. New Caney vs.

Springs

February 25

9 a.m. Dobie

vs. Springs

11 a.m. Conroe vs.

Texas City

Clear Creek ISD Varsity Softball Classic February 23-25

February 23 February 23 February 23 February 23 **Games at Creek Games at Brook Games at Lake Games at Springs** 11 a.m. La Porte vs. 11 a.m. Dobie vs. 11 a.m. North Shore vs. 11 a.m. S. Houston vs. Lake Springs

3 p.m. Dobie vs.

Conroe

5 p.m. Santa Fe vs.

Brook

<u>February 24</u>

11 a.m. La Porte vs.

Brook

1 p.m. Santa Fe vs.

Goose Creek

3 p.m. Brook vs.

Goose Creek

February 25

9 a.m. Clear Falls

11 a.m. North Shore vs.

Clear Falls

1 p.m. S. Houston vs.

Brook

Hebron

Nederland

March 3

11 a.m. Brook vs.

Chavez

1:30 p.m. Pearland vs.

Hebron

5 p.m. – Championship

March 1

1 p.m. Santa Fe vs. 1 p.m. Atascocita vs. Goose Creek

> North Shore 5 p.m. Atascocita vs.

3 p.m. Goose Creek vs.

February 24 11 a.m. Texas City vs. Lake

1 p.m. S. Houston vs. **Texas City** 3 p.m. S. Houston vs.

February 25

9 a.m. La Porte

11 a.m. Nederland vs. La Porte 1 p.m. Nederland vs.

1 p.m. Conroe vs. **Springs**

3 p.m. Goose Creek vs.

Clear Creek ISD Varsity Baseball Classic March 1-3

March 1 March 1 March 1 March 1 **Games at Creek Games at Brook** Games at Lake **Games at Springs** 11 a.m. Brook vs. 11 a.m. Morton Ranch 1 p.m. Lake vs. 1 p.m. Springs vs. vs. Creek Seven Lakes Jersey Village Nederland 3:30 p.m. La Porte vs. 1:30 p.m. Chavez vs. 3:30 p.m. Victoria vs. 3:30 p.m. Pearland vs. Seven Lakes Hebron Jersey Village Friendswood 4 p.m. Chavez vs. 6 p.m. Victoria vs. 6 p.m. Hebron vs. 6 p.m. Friendswood vs. Creek Clear Falls Lake Springs 6:30 p.m. Brook vs. Clear Falls March 2 March 2 March 2 1 p.m. Seven Lakes vs. 1 p.m. Victoria vs. 1 p.m. Springs vs. March 2 Clear Creek Pearland 1 p.m. Nederland vs. 3:30 p.m. Friendswood 3:30 p.m. Chavez vs.

3:30 p.m. Morton Ranch vs. Lake 3:30 p.m. Brook vs.

6 p.m. Pearland vs. 6 p.m. La Porte vs. Morton Ranch Victoria March 3 March 3

11 a.m. Lake vs. 11 a.m. Springs vs. Friendswood

1:30 p.m. Jersey Village vs. Clear Falls

vs. Clear Falls

Morton Ranch

March 1

Games at Maguire

10 a.m. Ravburn vs.

Laredo Martin

1 p.m. Pasadena vs.

4 p.m. Katy Taylor vs.

North Shore

7 p.m. Elsik vs.

Laredo Martin

March 2

Pasadena ISD Varsity Baseball Classic March 1-3

Games at Dobie Games at Memorial 10 a.m. Memorial vs. 10 a.m. Dobie vs. Galena Park 1 p.m. Dobie vs. 1 p.m. Memorial vs. **Beaumont West Brook** Magnolia 4 p.m. Kinkaid vs. 4 p.m. Cy-Falls vs. **Beaumont West Brook** Galena Park <u>March 2</u> March 2 10 a.m. Magnolia vs. 10 a.m. Memorial vs. Galena Park Kinkaid

1 p.m. Dobie vs. Cy-Falls

North Shore 1 p.m. S. Houston vs. **Alief Taylor**

March 1

Games at S. Houston

10 a.m. Alief Taylor vs.

March 2 10 a.m. Katy Taylor vs. Alief Taylor

1 p.m. S. Houston vs. Alief Taylor

4 p.m. Dickinson vs. Pasadena

10 a.m. Pasadena vs. Laredo Martin

1 p.m. Dickinson vs. Elsik

4 p.m. Magnolia vs. Cy-Falls

7p.m. S. Houston vs.

North Shore

Moorer places third at Big Shootout

At right, South Belt Elemenfourth-grade Colby Moorer represented his school well at the Pasadena In-dependent School District's Big Shootout event, held at Phillips Field House. Moorer was third in his division with a score of 47

Submitted photo



SJC softball now 9-2 overall



All but three games of the San Jacinto College softball tournament were washed away by rain Feb. 17-18, but the locals did earn a 6-2 victory over Ranger Feb. 17, as shortstop Jaclyn Bechtle (above) blasted a three-run homer in the bottom of the first inning to lead the way. For more information about the team or to view a schedule, visit www.sanjacsports.com.

SB Sluggers 12-U baseball

Taji Garcia.

Pasadena Independent School District **Big Shootout Results**

Third-Grade Girls

| Participant | School | Score |
|----------------------------|---------|-------|
| lst Vanessa Lam | Freeman | 50.53 |
| 2nd Cidnee Ojeda | Bush | 56.73 |
| 3rd Chloe Beauchamp | Jensen | 60.1 |

Third-Grade Boys

| Participant | School | Score |
|--------------------|------------|-------------|
| 1st Jared Tate | Frazier | 46.8 |
| 2nd Parker Nichols | Jensen | 51.0 |
| 3rd Robert Lucio | S. Houston | 52.1 |

Fourth-Grade Girls

| Participant | School | Score |
|---------------------|------------|-------|
| 1st Kemoni Irvin | Williams | 57.06 |
| 2nd Natalie Garza | Pomeroy | 57.9 |
| 3rd Gisel Hernandez | S. Houston | 58.46 |

Fourth-Grade Boys

| Participant | School | Score |
|--------------------|---------|-------|
| 1st Jacoby Flores | Smythe | 30.48 |
| 2nd Cameron Boutin | Richey | 43.1 |
| 3rd Colby Moorer | S. Belt | 47.0 |

Fifth-Grade Girls

| Participant | School | Score |
|----------------------|-----------|-------------|
| 1st Alyssa Jaramillo | Schneider | 52.7 |
| 2nd Lena Henderson | Lomax | 54.1 |
| 3rd Jasmine Gay | Keller | 59.3 |
| | | |

Fifth-Grade Boys

| Participant | School | Score |
|--------------------|----------|-------------|
| 1st David Amaya | Melillo | 42.94 |
| 2nd Gerardo Cepeda | Milstead | 50.56 |
| 3rd Uriel Perez | Jensen | 52.6 |

Sixth-Grade Girls

| Participant | School | Score |
|--------------------|-----------|-------|
| 1st Bianca Silva | Park View | 47.4 |
| 2nd Melody Garza | Shaw | 50.4 |
| 3rd Perla Perales | Queens | 56.0 |

| l | Sixth-Grade Boys | | |
|---|---|-----------|-------|
| l | Participant 1st Jonas Varella 2nd Jesus Munoz 3rd Jonathan Acosta | School | Score |
| l | 1st Jonas Varella | Lomax | 43.5 |
| l | 2nd Jesus Munoz | Schneider | 48.99 |
| ١ | 3rd Jonathan Acosta | Melillo | 49.1 |
| ı | | | |



Sports registrations, etc.

Blitz softball seeks competitive players

The Bay Area Blitz, a 10-under select softball team, is currently hosting tryouts for players interested in competing at a high level this spring. Specifically, the team is seeking pitchers, catchers and a utility player, with plenty of playing time available. The Blitz will host tryouts each Thursday this month, beginning Feb. 23 at 6 p.m. at Bay Area Park, until the slots are filled. For additional information or to schedule a private tryout, direct email to bayareablitz02@yahoo. com. For current news about the Blitz, visit the team website at www.eteamz

SJC volleyball open tryouts

The San Jacinto College volleyball team will host tryouts for the 2012 squad on Friday, Feb. 24. Those interested in trying out should bring a copy of a current physical, bottled water, \$10 for an athletic training fee, and a signed waiver form available at www.sanjacsports.com. Participants should also wear volleyball attire. The tryouts begin at 5 p.m., with check-in and a statistical assessment. The tryouts will be held in Anders Gymnasium (building C-18) on the San Jacinto College Central campus located at 8060 Spencer Highway in Pasadena. San Jac (32-5) finished fourth at the 2011 NJCAA national tournament. For more information about San Jacinto College volleyball, visit www.sanjacsports.com.

Toros' 7-under baseball tryouts

The Houston Toros' 7-under select baseball team will host tryouts Friday, Feb. 24, at the Beverly Hills Park baseball diamond from 6 to 8 p.m. For more information, call coach Rudy Peralez at 832-473-5549, or direct email to coach

SBHLL seeks opening day festival vendors

Officials in the Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League are seeking crafts, food and merchandise vendors to participate in the league's Opening Day Carnival on Saturday, March 24. The booths will cost \$100 per vendor. Those interested may direct email to league officials at sbhll@hotmail.com.

Rising Stars Track Club sign up

The Rising Stars Track Club is still accepting registration for the 2012 spring/summer season. Youths age 5 to 19 are eligible to join the Rising Stars program, which competes within the Amateur Athletic Union. This season, Rising Stars athletes will have the chance to compete at regionals and nationals in the Houston area. For more information about the Rising Stars Track Team, call Kimble at 832-561-1248 or visit

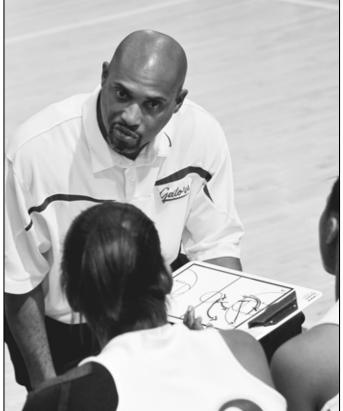
Mount Carmel Golf Fundraiser

Mount Carmel Academy will host its 12th annual Rebel Golf Classic Saturday, March 24, at Glenbrook Golf Course, 8205 Bayou Drive, Houston, TX 77017. All proceeds from the four-person scramble tournament go to support the MCA sports teams. Mount Carmel Academy opened in the fall of 2008 as a Houston Independent School District public charter school. A shotgun start will

The cost is \$99 per person or \$350 per foursome and \$400 per foursome on the day of event. The fee includes 18-holes of golf, cart fee, dinner and a chance to win various prizes

Contests include putting challenge, longest drive, and closest to the pin. All participants must be at least 12 years of age. For more information, call Lacy Wolf at 281-508-6090 or direct e-mail to LacyWolfJr@yahoo.com or salrico27rebelsgolfclassic@yahoo.com.

San Jac women's hoops tryout set



San Jacinto College women's basketball coach Eric Taylor (above) will oversee an open tryout for openings on the team Saturday, April 14 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Nichols Gymnasium on the North campus, 5800 Uvalde in Houston. Players will be placed on any one of seven teams for the first tryout session. From the early session, 15 players will be evaluated and selected to play in the final session, which will include scrimmages against the current SIC women's team. Players trying out will be required to pay a \$20 processing fee. For more information, visit sanjacsports.com.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23

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

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

6:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.

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

St. Luke's Catholic Church – St. Luke the Evangelist Church,

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

8:30 p.m.

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

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24

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

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

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

6:30 p.m.

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

Bay Area Genealogical Society – Meets the last Friday of each

month at University Baptist Church, 16106 Middlebrook Drive in Clear Lake. Coffee and socializing is at 6:30 and the meeting begins at 7 p.m. For more information, visit www.TxBayAreaGen.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25

7 p.m. 11 a.m. 11 a.m. 11 a.m. 11 a.m. 12 a.m. 12 a.m. 12 a.m. 13 a.m. 14 a.m. 15 a.m. 15 a.m. 16 a.m. 16 a.m. 16 a.m. 16 a.m. 17 a.m. 18 a.m. 8787, or just drop in.

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

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26

2 p.m.

Grief Support Group – For any adult who has lost a loved one. Meets every Sunday, except Mother's Day, Easter and Christmas from 2 to 3:15 p.m. at First United Methodist Church Pasadena,

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

Narcotics Anonymous – Sunday at 6:30 p.m. at First United

Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.

8 p.m.

Alcoholics Anonymous – Alcohol problems? AA meetings are held Sundays and Tuesdays from 8 to 9 p.m. and Thursdays from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. at 5t. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta Street. For information, call 713-204-2481. MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27

7 a.m.

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

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

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

6:30 p.m.

New Directions Singles Club – New Directions Singles meetings for ages 55 and up are held each Monday at 6:30 p.m. at Webster Presbyterian Church, 201 W. NASA Parkway in Webster For further information, call Carolynn at 713-340-2354 or Linda at

1062 Fairmont Parkway. For more information, call 281-487-8787. Civil Air Patrol Meeting – Weekly at Ellington Field in the Civil Air Patrol Building. Call 281-484-1352 and leave a message for more information.

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

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

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

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

1 p.m. Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum – Exhibits include dioramas, an old-time kitchen and a turn-of-the-century doctor's office. Tuesday through Friday from 1 to 5 p.m. 204 S. Main, Pasadena. For information, call 713-472-0565. 1:30 p.m.

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

2 p.m.

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

Continued on Page 4B

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Jesus and place it within your own broken heart, where your father broken neart, where your father sees it. Then, in your merciful eyes, it will become your favor not mine. Amen. Say this prayer for three days, promise publication, and favor will be granted. Never known to fail, JS

2-23

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CALENDAR

Continued from Page 3B

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Spanish Al-Anon – Tuesday at 6 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in. 6:30 p.m.
Clear Lake Toastmasters Club – Meets at the Clear Lake Church of Christ, 938

7 p.m. St. Luke's Catholic Church - St. Luke the Evangelist Church, 11011 Hall Road, offers free tutoring on Tuesdays from 7 to 9 p.m. and Thursdays from 6:30 to 8:30

p.m. Tutoring is held in Room 2 of the Education Building. Contact Joe Pavlicek at 281-484-1397 or by e-mail at joe_pavlicek@yahoo.com.

Houston Space City Lions Club – Meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Golden Corral, 12500 Gulf Freeway. For more information,

8 p.m.

Alcoholics Anonymous – Alcohol problems? AA meetings are held Tuesdays and Sundays from 8 to 9 p.m. and Thursdays from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. at St. Stephen

7 a.m. **AA Meeting** – "Breakfast With Bill" each Monday through Friday. from 7 to 8 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Room 114. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in. 9:30 a.m.

Covenant United Methodist Church, 7900 Fugua. Lots of activities, trips, etc. Call Nellie Galney at 713-991-3517 for more information.

4 p.m. Houston Area Parkinson Society – Free exercise held from 4 to 5 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Pearland, 3005 Pearland Parkway, Pearland. Visit www.hapson-

6:30 p.m. Bay Area Turning Point Crisis Intervention Center - Domestic violence

DivorceCare Group - CT Church - DivorceCare Group meetings are held at CT Church, 9701 Almeda Genoa Road, every Wednesday evening from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in Room #1201. The support group is for separated and divorced individuals. Child care is provided. For more information, call 713-944-4815, email divorcecare@

ctchurch.tv. or visit http://ctchurch.tv/ministries.html#17. violence support group for women meets every week. For information, call 281-338-7600 or visit www.bavareaturningpoint.com, BATP is located at 210 S. Walnut off NASA Parkway between Interstate 45 South and Highway 3. The 24-hour crisis hotline is 281-286-2525.

THURSDAY, MARCH 1

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

Noon

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

6:30 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous - Thursday and Friday at 6:30 p.m. at First United

Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway. Call 281-487-8787, or just St. Luke's Catholic Church - St. Luke the Evangelist Church, 11011 Hall Road

offers free tutoring on Tuesdays from 7 to 9 p.m. and Thursdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tutoring is held in Room 2 of the Education Building. Contact Joe Pavlicek at 281-484-1397 or by e-mail at joe_pavlicek@yahoo.com

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

The Bay Area Writers League - Meets the first Thursday of each month at

Barnes and Noble at Bay Area Boulevard and the Gulf Freeway. Newcomers are 8:30 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous** – Alcohol problems? AA meetings are held Thursdays from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m., and Sundays and Tuesdays from 8 to 9 p.m. at St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta Street. For information, call 713-204-2481.

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Young at Heart Club - Meets the second and fourth week of each month at

Spanish Al-Anon - Wednesday at 10 a.m Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.

line.org for a complete list of services offered. 6 p.m. Spanish Al-Anon – Wednesday at 6 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.

support group for male survivors meets each Wednesday at 210 S. Walnut off NASA Parkway. Call 281-338-7600 for information. Participants may join at any time as this is an open group.

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2-0 starts welcome JFD soccer teams

Continued from Page 1B We played our best soccer of the season for the first 20 minutes of the game against Memorial," Dobie head coach Bryan McDon-

ald said.
"We should have put two goals away early. Then we seemed to let off the gas. We got the one goal on the penalty kick, and that was enough.' Again, McDonald cred-

ited a group effort for the team's continuing success on the field.

I was really pleased with

the play of our offense early," McDonald said.
"Malyn Nunez played really well, creating scoring opportunities for us and herself. When she is on, she elevates our offense to the

next level. "Erica Romero and Kavla Williams, our team captain, had very good games in the midfield and helped us on both sides of the ball.

"Those two players don't get a lot of recognition or glory, but they do a fantastic job supporting us all over the field."

As for the defense, Mc-Donald predicted the group might represent a strength overall, and the Lady Longhorns have delivered on that prediction.

"Defensively, we played outstanding against Memorial," McDonald said.

"Kendall Sifuentes probably had the best game of her career. Memorial's Itzel Guajardo was the district's offensive most valuable

player last season.
"I made Kendall's sole responsibility shutting her down. She did. Defensively, freshmen Mariah Escobar lent games as well. Brittany game."

Hernandez was great, and Jackie Baade gets her 11th shutout.

"Our defense stuck to the game plan, executed what we worked in practice and shut down their best weapons. It was an overall solid

Dobie boys roll on

The defending District 22-5A boys' champions are also off to a great start in league action.

Against Pasadena, Jonathan Palma had a pair of goals and Douglas Leighton had an assist on one of those for the win.

"Palma is now healthy, and it shows on the field," Dobie head coach Jesse Saavedra said.

"He just brings our team a whole new look on offense. And it was another great performance from the Dobie defense, giving us our 11th overall shutout of the season.'

Against Memorial, Saavedra said the issue was simple.
"We just had a better day.

Memorial is young and in-experienced, and it showed on the field," he said. "We were able to move

the ball and control the tempo of the game. Raul Bustos had a hat trick, along with Douglas Leighton and Marvin Solis.

'We scored two goals in the first half and netted 3 in the second to get our second win of district and improve overall to 14-0-1.

"The defense again was outstanding and kept them from getting a shot in the second half.

"A foul inside the box, awarded a PK late in the second half to give Memoand Kara Snyder had excel- rial their only goal of the



Jonathan Palma came through in a big way against Pasadena in the district opener, and his return to health

Knights 10U baseball captures championship



The Bay Area Knights 10-under select baseball team took first place at the Big League Dreams Global NIT 10-U AA tournament. Members of the team are, left to right, (front row)

Dylan Kimsey, Ethan Allred, (middle row) Alex Rodriguez, Robert Green, Aidan Hanna, Daniel Garza, (back row) coaches Chris Ramirez and Danny Garza.

Dobie moves on to meet Bush, Brook falls to Hightower

Just minutes prior to the that same room had been ball team returning to a joyous locker room on campus,

Dobie varsity boys' basket- filled with despair courtesy of Clear Brook

It's simply the way things at Deer Park High School,

in any team sport. Dobie, taking on La Porte

of the playoffs for the second time in three years after Jason Pillow was believed taking down the Bulldogs to be involved. See related The outcome wasn't the

same for Clear Brook, who moved on, with varsity ashosted Hightower at Dobie.

trict 23-5A at Dobie High tains Fred Richardson, the School, the Wolverines school's all-time leading could not snap out of a bit of a second-half slump, losing 57-51 to exit the playoffs quickly.

Hightower, last season's Region III champion, ad- a quick 6-0 lead as the Wol-Hightower, last season's vances to meet Channelview in the area round.

Sanders lifts Dobie

against La Porte but refused to give in.

Christian Sanders, a transfer student who entered the season as one of sophomores, picked a great

time to step up. Scoring 29 points on 10 of 15 shooting, Sanders led early in the second quarter. the way for the Longhorns, who pulled away from La Porte largely in part to a 25-14 run in the third quarter.

Geo Ramirez was next with 16 points, and Devonte Banks added 12 more.

Vance Leonard and Daryl Edwards also played key roles as the Longhorns moved on to face Fort Bend Bush in the second round.

Dobie head coach Kevin Cross credited the team's trap to start the second half as a big help.

Creating turnovers, the Longhorns were able to get out in transition and make things happen on the offensive end.

Now taking on secondplace Bush out of 23-5A. Dobie knows the task at hand as one of the region's remaining 16 teams. The Longhorns don't want to return to the same sad locker room Clear Brook found.

CB falls, Pillow out

What transpired for Clear Brook is simply an example of how quickly a special season can be erased.

Shortly after the Wolverines' regular season ended with a win over Dickinson, Clear Creek ISD officials announced that two Brook staff members had been placed on administrative leave.

The announcement included the stipulation that no criminal act was believed to have taken place. However, the move sent shockwaves through the

At right, co-captains Chris Campbell (23) and Fred Richardson of Clear Brook discuss strategy during the Wolverines' season-ending 57-51 loss to Hightower in the bidistrict playoffs Feb. 21. The duo combined for 39 of the team's points in the game. Richard-son exits as the school's all-time top scorer.

go when the playoffs arrive advanced to the area round Brook varsity boys' basket- time adjustment battle en couple of terrific players in route to a 37-34 lead after three quarters. By the end of the quarter,

> So the Wolverines sistant Garrett Hilton taking Facing the fourth-place over as acting head coach. Hurricanes out of Dis- With senior co-cap senior co-cap-

scorer, and slashing guard Chris Campbell leading the way for the Wolverines, the locals figures to be fine.

ball program as head coach

story on Page 1A.

verines misfired on their first six shots.

But Richardson and Dobie sank into a quick Campbell soon answered, 21-11 hole after one quarter and the Wolverines went and the Wolverines went on a 12-3 run to close the quarter up 12-9 after a big 3-pointer from Chase Mul-

In the second quarter, the region's most heralded Campbell went off for four quick points, and another -pointer from Mullen gave Clear Brook a 19-9 edge

> Back came Hightower, though. A three-point play late in the quarter pushed the Hurricanes ahead 22-21 before Campbell hit a pair of free throws and Prince Albert sank another for a 27-24 halftime lead.

Hightower won the half-

berating a teammate, and the Canes had things right where they wanted them.

a frustrated Richardson was

sition that gave the Canes a 47-39 lead. From there, the Wolver-

ines had to foul Hightower on the defensive end and hope for misfires on the free throw line. It didn't work out as planned as the Hurricanes made good on 23 of 32 attempts in the game.

"Our guys played hard and gave us a great effort, Hilton said. "We had a hard time finishing on the offen-

sive end, and that hurt. "We were the 24-5A champions with a 29-3 record. Hightower won 24 games and was fourth in their district. They're a

good, solid team. We knew

Campbell led the way for Clear Brook with 25 points and 10 rebounds. Richardson was next with 14 points

"You're talking about a

said. "Fred is a four-year starter who is the school's all-time leading scorer Chris Campbell has been a three-year starter and has been great as well. It's just

woiverines simply could not get their offense in gear. With 3:02 to play, Hightower's Leon Gilmore delivered a slam dunk in transition one of those nights.

Brook's post players struggled throughout the game on the offensive end, which didn't believed. the cause. Hilton said he thought Hightower's overall length in the paint played a role. He also pointed to Hightower's ability to make free throws down the

stretch. "Two great teams went at it, and they came out on top," Hilton said. "I know there's a lot of disappointment in our locker room but our guys have nothing to be down about. They gave it

their all." More on Pillow

As for the situation with Pillow, athletic officials are quite mum on the issue as expected.

Questions have arisen as to whether Pillow has resigned, but there have been no answers.

For now, the team's 2011 2012 season is done, and the offseason will begin with Hilton in charge. The rest will simply have to play out.





Defender Kara Snyder has been just one of the many players standing out on defense this season for the Dobie varsity girls team. Counting 4-0 and 1-0 victories to open District 22-5A play, the Lady Longhorns have now blanked 11 opponents this season en route to an 11-2-2 record. GaryWPhotos.com



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Clear Brook point guard Chase Mullen (5), working against Hightower's Leon Gilmore (00), looks inside during first half action of the bidistrict playoff game between the two teams. Mullen sank a pair of 3-pointers in the first half but was quieted a bit in the second half during the Canes' 57-51 win.