

Councilman seeks assistant

Councilman Dwight Boykins is seeking a South Belt area assistant to work with him representing the needs of the South Belt area. See related ad Page 5B.

Knights sell fish dinners

The Knights of Columbus will serve fish dinners each Friday of the Lenten season from 5 to 7 p.m. at St. Luke's Catholic Church Parish Hall through April 11. St. Luke's Catholic Church is located at 11011 Hall Road. Proceeds benefit the Knights of Columbus 2014 Scholarship Fund Program.

Dobie offers credit-by-exam

Dobie High School will offer free credit-by-exams for Spanish Level I and II on Saturday, March 22. Only one exam can be taken. Applications can be picked up from the counseling office or any foreign language teacher. Applications must be submitted by Friday, March 21. The Level I test will start at 8:45 a.m., and the Spanish II exam will start at 10:15 a.m.

Book donations sought

The Friends of Parker Williams Library are currently in need of donations of nonfiction, current fiction, pocket paperbacks, children's books, DVDs and current magazines. The library is located at 10851 Scarsdale Blvd. All proceeds go to help the library.

Cowboys, Cowgirls register

The Sagemont Cowboys will hold their final returning player registration on Saturday, March 22, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Cowboy Football Field in El Franco Lee Park. Early registration is open to last year's football players and their siblings, and all drill members and mascot members, last year's and new. Contact information will be accepted from any new football players at this time.

A \$100 deposit is due at the time of registration. After this registration, all remaining football spots will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis at a future registration. For more information, contact Denny Wranich, club president, at 281-785-8353 or Club Drill Director Kerri Blanton, drill director, at 832-423-0139.

Scarsdale CC elections set

Scarsdale Civic Association will hold board member elections Monday, March 31, at 6 p.m. at the clubhouse in the community park, 12127 Teaneck. Plan to attend so as to have a quorum of homeowners needed to elect the officers of president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and all directors. Those who want to run for an office should let it be known at the meeting.

Dobie JROTC sets car wash

Dobie's Air Force JROTC unit will host a car wash Saturday, April 5, at Snowie's, Beamer and Scarsdale, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Funds will help cadets with costs of attending JROTC Leadership School and the military ball. That day, cars will be washed for a minimum of \$5 per vehicle. Tickets will also be pre-sold by cadets. No rain checks for pre-sold tickets.

Support group at Cokesbury

Those who are the husband, wife or partner of a chronically ill/disabled person may join a new support group, Sickness and Health, the last Thursday of each month from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Cokesbury United Methodist Church, 10030 Scarsdale.

Free child care will be provided. This month's meeting is Thursday, March 27. For more information, contact Jennifer Miller at sicknesshealthhouston@gmail.com or 713-724-2360, or visit the Well Spouse Association at <http://www.wellspouse.org>.

Melillo sets spring carnival

Melillo Middle School will hold its sixth annual spring carnival on Friday, April 11, from 6 to 8 p.m. Attractions will include a rock wall, bungee trampoline, train, dunking booth, concessions, various booths including hairspray paint, face painting, cake walk, silent auction and more.

Tickets may be purchased March 31 through April 10 and at the event.

Crawfish Festival at PLS&R

The Pasadena Livestock Show & Rodeo will host a Pasadena Crawfish Festival Saturday, April 12, from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Proceeds from this event will support the scholarship program benefiting FFA students in the Pasadena, Deer Park, La Porte and Clear Creek school districts. There will be live bands, a car show, vendors and a carnival. Tickets are \$10. Children 10 and under are free.

For more information or to purchase tickets, contact the PLS&R office at 281-487-0240 or visit the website at www.pasadenarodeo.com.

CCFA support group meets

The Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America (CCFA) Bay Area Support Group will meet Tuesday, March 25, at 7:30 p.m. at State Farm Insurance, 12941 Gulf Freeway, Suite 101.

Meetings are free. Patients and caregivers are invited to attend.

City responds to resident complaints

The City of Houston is responding to resident complaints of recent street repairs that officials refer to as "unsatisfactory."

The worst of the repairs, where construction crews patched concrete with asphalt, are located on Sabo Road between Fuqua and Beltway 8.

Arellano warns of Sabo damage



Multiple area residents have complained to the *Leader* this past week about shoddy asphalt repairs being done along Sabo Road between Fuqua and Beltway 8. Resident Danny Arellano said he felt compelled to place the above cone at one spot to warn other drivers about a particularly rough patch. City officials are working to resolve the issue.

Photo by Danny Arellano

"We're aware of the community's concerns," said Public Works and Engineering spokesman Alvin Wright. "It has been brought to the construction company's attention, and we're working to resolve the issue as quickly as possible."

Wright said the problems are associated with ongoing waterline replacement in the area.

The major issues on Sabo occur on the south-bound lanes where bore pits and connections are located, Wright said. The contractor put in temporary asphalt, which settled due to recent rains, making for a very bumpy ride.

City inspectors have since told the contractor to level up the areas with more asphalt and to

compact or plate them.

Additional problems have been reported in areas not incorporated by the city. A particular area of concern is a pothole located in the 12400 block of Beamer in front of Niday Funeral Home, where at least one vehicle experienced a tire blowout this week. The damaged portion of the road has subsequently been repaired.

The *Leader* is asking readers to submit photos of areas of concern to the paper, so it may contact the appropriate entities to get the necessary repairs done. Submissions may be emailed to mynews@southbeltleader.com or sent to the *Leader's* Facebook page.

Dog attack victim recuperating

The female jogger attacked by two pit bulls on the South Belt hike and bike trail Wednesday, March 5, is still recovering at Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital.

On Tuesday, March 18, Monica Garza underwent her fourth surgery following the attack. She is expected to undergo several more over the next year.

At press time, Garza, 34, had received six units of blood, and doctors believe she may have suffered nerve damage.

Garza received 52 lacerations during the attack.

Garza's father, Jeff Mack, believes his daughter is alive only due to the actions of Sagemead-

ow resident Charles Jordan, who threw his body on top of the victim to shield her from further attack.

A judge ruled last week that the dogs responsible for the attack be euthanized.

A barbecue fundraiser for Garza is scheduled for Saturday, March 29, at El Franco Lee Park, 9400 Hall Road, beginning at 11 a.m. The event will take place by the baseball field concession stand. Plates will be \$8 each. For more information, call Mack at 713-412-9165, Kyle Garza at 713-515-0469 or Randy Garza at 713-504-9493.

A bank account has also been set up for Garza. Donations may be made at any Wells Fargo branch to Monica M. Garza.

Boykins supports community regarding low-income project

Recently elected Houston District D City Council Member Dwight Boykins said he will oppose the construction of a controversial low-income apartment complex in the South Belt area.

Proposed to be built on Beltway 8 west of Blackhawk, The Monarch would be located immediately adjacent to the Barmore Insurance Agency building.

The item was placed on the March 19 Houston City Council agenda but was not likely to move forward without Boykins' approval.

A primary concern is the high concentration of existing low-income apartment complexes already in the area.

There are currently eight government-subsidized apartment complexes between Almeda Mall and Dixie Farm Road.

Low-income developments traditionally put an extra strain on local fire departments and law enforcement agencies.

According to officials from the Clear Brook City Municipal Utility District, the local Highland Meadow Village apartment complex has roughly five times more annual calls for police and ambulance service than single-family residences in the community.

A second concern is the added burden to area schools.

If approved, students living in the proposed complex would attend Dobie High School, which is already overcrowded.

Despite being recently constructed, the school currently has portable buildings on campus, as it is overcapacity.

While the *Leader* has been a vocal opponent of many similar proposals in the area, it has also thrown its support behind several in recent years — most recently, the Regency Park Apartments, a 55+ seniors complex, located in the 10600 block of Southdown Trace Trail near Beltway 8 and Conklin.

Catholic Daughters support troops

The St. Luke's chapter of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas is currently accepting donations to be delivered to U.S. military troops overseas.

Desired items include white tube socks and individually sealed sanitary wipes.

The group has joined together with Operation Interdependence in the collection effort, which picks up where the previous efforts of Mary Gal-

van left off.

A longtime member of the Catholic Community of St. Luke the Evangelist and the Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Galvan died this past December at 77.

A donation box will be located in the church narthex through Wednesday, April 30.

For more information, call Pat Arp at 281-481-5611 or Betty Dixon at 281-481-1777.

Haywood website removed

The website for Haywood Management recently went blank, renewing concerns on the current state of the company that once oversaw the majority of homeowner associations in the South Belt area.

The lone message on the website, www.haywoodmgt.com, reads "Please contact your Board of Directors or attend your next regularly scheduled Board Meeting for more information about your individual Association."

The move comes fresh on the heels of the decision from residents of South University Place to re-establish their homeowners association.

Residents said the re-establishment of the HOA is necessary because they have been unable to contact Haywood, the company responsible for operating the existing homeowners group, for several months. Homeowners further said they had been denied access to the HOA's financial records and that they've yet to receive a bill for this year's services.

In the wake of the development, the remaining two area subdivisions under Haywood's management — Blackhawk and Woodmeadow — have also dropped the company, saying that they, too, have been unable to contact it.

The *Leader* has learned that at least one of the HOAs has been in contact with the Harris County Attorney's office regarding possible criminal charges.

In recent years, Haywood has been relieved of duty from the Sageglen, Ashley Pointe and Kirkwood South HOAs.

In 2011, Haywood was also relieved of duty from the Woodmeadow HOA before being rehired approximately a year later after an entire new board was elected. Nita Haywood, owner of Haywood Management, was actively involved in getting the existing board removed and then replaced with another, which went on to rehire her company.

A similar push took place last year when Haywood was relieved of duty from the Highland Meadow HOA. In that instance, however, a group of Highland Meadow homeowners with ties to Haywood was unsuccessful in its attempt to get new board members elected and the management company reinstated.

Haywood subsequently filed a lawsuit against the Highland Meadow HOA for wrongfully terminating the company's contract.

Litigation in that case is currently ongoing.

Annual cookoff set for May 1-3

A few spots remain for the 18th annual South Belt Spectacular Cookoff, set to take place Thursday, May 1, through Saturday, May 3, at El Franco Lee Park, 9400 Hall Road.

With approximately 120 spots already accounted for from 65 cooking teams, this year's event will be the largest to date.

Sponsored by the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department, the event raises funds for the annual

South Belt Fourth of July fireworks display, also to be held at the area park.

Aside from barbecue, other highlights include children's games and activities, such as moonwalks, rock climbing, pony rides, a petting zoo, a train and photos with a live watusi bull.

For additional information or to reserve a spot, call event organizer Linda Arnone at 281-484-4325.

South Belt blog grows in size

Former South Belt resident Tori Saltsman Mask's online blog, South Belt Houston Digital History Archive, continues to grow, with hundreds of vintage photos being added this month.

Located at www.southbelthouston.blogspot.com, the blog spans from the '60s through the '80s.

Now a Colorado resident, Mask makes regular trips to Houston, where she scours through thousands of photos at the *Leader* office and the Dobie High School library.

Mask's interest in the project began roughly two and a half years ago when she sought a photograph of a childhood memory from Almeda Mall. As a child, Mask spent several hours playing on a fake pirate ship located in the children's shoe section of the then-Foley's (now Macy's) store. Mask refers to the long-lost plaything as the "shoe ship."

In hopes of tracking down a photo of her beloved pirate ship, Mask, a 1988 Dobie graduate, started a Facebook page called Almeda Mall '68 - '88 years (www.facebook.com/groups/148215485069).

While the page attracted several posts of classic photos from Almeda Mall, a picture of the shoe ship proved elusive.

Mask eventually got a lead on a photo of the ship from Facebook user Cheryl Wittge.

Wittge served as parliamentarian for the 1969 Dobie freshman class and told Mask she remembered taking her class officer picture on the shoe ship.

Working off the tip, Mask tracked down a 1969 Dobie yearbook at the school's library and was able to scan the photo.

"I found my boat," Mask said. "No one, of course, in the 1970s carries a camera with them when they take their 3-year-olds shopping. The external flash bulb alone is more trouble than it's worth for indoor pictures. The likelihood that this 3-year-old will wait 40 years and then be able to locate a picture of it is minuscule. And yet, here is my ship."

Mask plans to travel to Houston again in late April for a week to scan more photos.

To view the blog, visit www.southbelthouston.blogspot.com.

Mask remembers Best of times



Former South Belt resident Tori Saltsman Mask's online blog, South Belt Houston Digital History Archive, is filled with hundreds of vintage photos of the South Belt community spanning from the '60s through the '80s. A 1988 Dobie graduate, Mask uses the blog to remember her childhood, as she now resides in Colorado. Several of the photos have been scanned from the *Leader* and past Dobie yearbooks. The unique architecture of the old Best store by Almeda Mall is shown above in the mid-70s. To view the blog, visit www.southbelthouston.blogspot.com.

Photo submitted

In My Opinion

Reams: Impeachment is in order

Mr. Obama is a cancer on America. He destroys everything of value to our republic. The list of known lawless activities is sufficient for impeachment and conviction for high crimes and misdemeanors. He shreds the Constitution. Obamacare is the "law of the land," according to Mr. Obama himself, yet with his pen he has changed the law some twenty-nine times without congressional approval. He and Eric Holder decided among themselves not to enforce DOMA yet the role of the Executive Branch is just that - uphold all laws. They pick and choose which to uphold and which to not. Throw in the IRS scandal, Benghazi, Fast and Furious, NSA, his acceptance of illegal campaign funds in 2008, his blatant lies on a whole range of issues, many just to get past the 2012 election cycle, a forged birth certificate and on and on it goes. He deliberately divides us and seeks to transform America into a socialist / communist nation.

Many Members of Congress have said, or hinted, that impeachment was in order. But spineless as they are, so far they have taken no action. As with everything else, it will take We The People pressuring the right folks to start impeachment proceeding. Scores of conservative groups have also already called for impeachment. It is time patriots came together, united in a common goal to remove the cancer from the White House so we can then get on with correcting the many ills that face us before we collapse under our own weight.

Impeachment proceedings MUST begin in the House of Representatives, specifically the House Judiciary Committee. The committee consists of 22 Republicans and 17 Democrats; majority vote rules. The "right" people to pressure are our own representatives and the members of this committee. Five Members of Congress who have already said Obama should be impeached are on that committee; Ja-

son Chaffetz, Blake Farenthold, Louis Gohmert, Trey Gowdy and Steve King. Here is the link to that committee's web site: <http://judiciary.house.gov/> Their mailing address is 2138 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515. The phone number is 202-225-3951. If tens-of-thousands of patriots from all across the nation flooded their mail box, or their phone line, maybe they'd find their spine and do the right thing.

"If we move in mass, be it ever so circuitously, we shall attain our object..." (Thomas Jefferson)

It has been said, mostly by RINOS, that it will do no good because the Senate won't convict even if the House impeaches. How do we know that? Is that like the Benghazi mess - "we didn't send aid because it could not have arrived there on time." That presumes they knew how long the battle would last. Not impeaching presumes some senate Democrats would not look out for their own career with elections coming by trying to get back in their constituent's good graces. At the very least it would serve to wake up those American still asleep to our problem and cause Mr. Obama to perhaps back off his tyranny as self protection. A sitting president cannot be prosecuted legally other than by impeachment, conviction, and removal from office. Then he can be prosecuted through the courts. I think that would be fitting for Mr. Obama. The whole process would probably also cause voters to question the motives of the Democrat brand.

My hope is that large numbers of patriots will take a personal interest in this issue, pursue it diligently through their congressional representative and the Judiciary Committee, and seek the help of others they know to do the same thing.

"The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing." (Edmund Burke)

"It is the duty of the patriot to protect his country from its government." (Thomas Paine)

God Bless America. **Larry Reams**

Elected officials speak out

Olson votes to rein in an imperial presidency

By State Rep. Pete Olson

Rep. Pete Olson, Texas-22, recently voted to rein in executive overreach and challenge the Obama Administration's refusal to enforce current laws. The ENFORCE the Law Act, H.R. 4138, gives the House or the Senate authority to sue the executive branch for its failure to faithfully execute federal laws.

H.R. 4138 passed in the House by a vote of 233-181. The Faithful Execution of the Law Act, H.R. 3973, requires the attorney general to submit a report to Congress if any federal official refuses to enforce a federal law; the report would have to include the basis for non-enforcement.

H.R. 3973 passed in the House by a vote of 244-171.

"The President's duty to enforce the written law is required by our US Constitution," Olson said. "President

Obama seems to think he has an imperial presidency where he can pick and choose which laws he wants to enforce based on political expediency. The President refuses to enforce existing immigration laws, exempts portions of his own healthcare law, and stretches environmental laws at the expense of our economy. Yet, he has no constitutional authority to rewrite laws; only Congress can do that.

"These bills will keep the Administration honest by allowing legal challenge to non-enforcement of the law. The House is acting to rein in executive overreach and hold the Administration accountable for ignoring the Constitution. Our system of checks and balances is critical to our representative government, and we cannot allow any official to breach their constitutional powers."

Williams rides bull

Sandra Williams of Central Ace Hardware is shown sitting on a watusi bull named Oliver. The animal, whose calm demeanor allows people to sit on it and pose for photos, was a hit at a recent Ace event. The animal has since been contracted to appear at the 18th annual South Belt Spectacular Cookoff, scheduled to take place May 1-3 at El Franco Lee Park.

Photo submitted



The largest livestock show just grew larger

Almost 24,000 entries will have competed for champion titles at the Houston Livestock Show at Reliant Park by March 23. This year, the open livestock show had a 7 percent increase in entries, while junior show entries increased by 5 percent. The junior shows started March 13 for thousands of Texas 4-H and FFA members from across the state.

With more than 1,000 clubs and chapters represented, only the elite will exhibit at the Houston Livestock Show. The stalls of Reliant Center and Reliant Arena will be filled with all types of livestock, including market barrows, goats, lambs, poultry, and steers; beef and dairy heifers; breeding gilts and sheep; and commercial steers.

"The dedication of our volunteer committees, superin-

tendents, and staff, along with our state-of-the-art facilities, make this show an enjoyable and valuable experience for our ambitious 4-H and FFA exhibitors," said Allyson Tjoelker, executive director of agricultural exhibits.

The market animal shows - barrow, lamb and goat, poultry (broiler and turkey), and steer - represent animals raised by junior exhibitors as food sources. The winning animals in each category are then eligible for the junior market auctions.

Many of these exhibitors also will compete in the 4-H and FFA judging contests, including poultry, meat, wool, livestock, dairy, and horse judging; range and pasture plant identification; floriculture; wildlife habitat evaluation; and nursery landscape. Some entrepreneurial-minded

students will bring their innovative and practical inventions to the Agricultural Mechanics Project Show, with the hopes of returning to their hometowns with the Grand Champion title.

The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo is a Section 501(c)(3) charity that benefits youth, supports education, and facilitates better agricultural practices through exhibitions and presentation. Since its beginning in 1932, the show has committed more than \$350 million to the youth of Texas. The 2014 show runs through March 23. For tickets and more information, visit rodeohouston.com and connect with Rodeo-Houston online via Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, Pinterest and Tumblr for all of the latest news.

Silver Stars Series programs for senior citizens at HPL

Today's senior citizens want to stay informed, have some fun, and make new friends. The Silver Stars Series are programs specifically designed with those needs in mind.

Ring Neighborhood Library offers several programs every Thursday in April between 11 a.m. and noon.

Seniors will get to meet and chat with author Jane Lowry, or learn about couponing, or discuss diabetes and alzheimer's issues, and maybe make new friends along the way. These programs are free and open to the public.

For more information, visit www.houstonlibrary.org or call 832-393-2000. Ring Neighborhood Library is located at 8835 Long Point in Houston.

Scheduled programs include:

Chatting with the Author Jane Lowry

Thursday, April 3, from 11 a.m. to noon - Jane Lowry discusses the creation of her

first novel, *Wobbly Barstool*, a Dickens-inspired story of a young man in Victorian rural England who strives to increase his worldliness in hopes of swaying the affections of a reluctant London socialite. Add a mysterious "stranger" to a charming mix of characters, and Jane tells a tale of love, danger and perseverance. Lowry, along with her husband, David, will do a dramatic reading and perform a song from the book.

Extreme Couponing with Tiffany Ivanovsky

Thursday, April 10, from 11 a.m. to noon - Learn how to take full advantage of the reward programs drugstores offer, begin to shop for free, and even understand how to make shopping profitable. Learn techniques that smart shoppers use to spend pennies out of pocket each shopping trip. Discover the secrets to saving and reduce your grocery budget even more.

Diabetes 101 - American Diabetes Association

Thursday, April 17, from

11 a.m. to noon - An estimated 25.8 million adults and children in the U.S. have diabetes, and approximately 79 million have pre-diabetes. Learn the facts: know what the "right" foods are to eat, and learn how to manage this silent disease. This program will be presented by a representative of the American Diabetes Association Houston Chapter.

American Alzheimer's Association

Thursday, April 24, from 11 a.m. to noon - Alzheimer's disease is a growing health problem. Learn about the disease, how it works in the brain, and how to join in the fight for a cure. This information will be included in a fun Jeopardy-style game with categories such as newsworthy events of the '40s and '50s, movie stars of the '50s, and complete the song lyrics. This program is presented by Sarah Taylor, manager, Houston and Southeast Texas Chapter of the American Alzheimer's Association.

City officials urge preparedness during severe weather times

City officials and representatives from Houston's Weather Research Center gathered recently to ask Houston residents to think about being prepared for severe weather. A part of the National Severe Weather Preparedness Week campaign, Houston residents were urged to get an emergency kit, make an emergency plan, and be informed about severe weather.

"When emergencies and disasters happen in our community, it's the people who have prepared, with supplies and a plan, who are able to bounce back quicker," said Rick Flanagan, City of Houston Emergency Management coordinator. "We want Houstonians to know that the city has resources available to help them plan for those times when severe weather strikes. That's why the city has partnered with other agencies and community organizations to make preparedness materials widely available."

Citing the fact that Houston deals with severe thunderstorms more than it does

hurricanes and that these storms have very similar effects, just in smaller areas, officials urged residents to begin taking steps to ensure that they have what they need, and know what to do when severe weather strikes.

Knowing the risk

Houston is a very risk-prone city for severe weather. Numerous storms in our history have caused flooding, wind, hail damage and have even spawned tornadoes. This range true in 1992, when a series of tornadoes, including an EF4 ripped through the Clear Lake area, causing millions of dollars of damage and injuring 16 residents.

Everyone in Houston is at risk from dangerous winds, hail and rain. Houston residents can find out what their flood risk is by visiting the Harris County Flood Control District's "Flood Education Mapping Tool" at www.harriscountyfem.org.

Houston Fire Department officials also urged residents to "Think, Don't Sink" when confronted with high water.

Many times, injuries and deaths can be avoided when people steer clear of high water areas.

Taking action

Have what is needed: This includes having an emergency supply kit in the home, vehicle, office or school. These kits should have basic daily items, such as food, water and important medications, as well as things to help protect oneself in the immediate aftermath of a storm, including sturdy shoes, a change of long pants, and rain gear.

Know what to do: Having an emergency plan is key to ensuring that family members know what to do, and know who to call after a storm. Select a meeting spot at a designated location for family members to rally after a storm. Also, think about selecting an out-of-town contact person for all family members to check in with. It is often easier to make a call out of an impacted area, than within one.

Stay informed: Be informed by ensuring access to

official emergency information. Be sure to enable wireless emergency alerts on a phone so you know about dangerous weather, and sign up for community alerting systems, such as the city's AlertHouston program by visiting alert.houstonoem.org. Also, bookmark houston.tx.gov/emergency for up-to-date emergency information from the City of Houston.

Be an example

Some of the best prepared people are those who have communities around them that help promote preparedness. Be a leader in your community when it comes to severe weather preparedness. Sign up for training through the many programs offered by the City of Houston. This includes joining a Community Emergency Response Team or taking SKYWARN® weather spotter courses.

Resources

The City of Houston, through partnerships with community organizations and other governments offers

emergency preparedness resources through the Office of Emergency Management and the Ready Houston program. The city's Disaster Preparedness Guide is available for residents as a printed copy or download. Also, ReadyHoustonTX.gov has emergency preparedness

resources for people from all across the greater Houston area.

Preparing starts with each person. Have what is needed, have a plan, and be informed about emergencies. Find out more by visiting houstonoem.org, or follow on Facebook and Twitter (@HoustonOEM).

Sagemont Church presents Banjos on Parade in April

The All Stars Youth Banjo Band will present Banjos on Parade on Friday, April 25, at 7 p.m., and Saturday, April 26, at 2 p.m. at The Hall - Sagemont Church, 11300 S. Sam Houston Pkwy E. Admission is free.

Join the fun and see the amazing 60-plus piece, energetic, talented and "just plain fun" band play music that will put a smile on one's face, a snap in one's fingers, a song in one's heart and a tap in one's toes.

Attendees will hear nearly

all types of music played on tenor banjos, guitars, mandolins, fiddle, keyboard, bass, washboards, kazoo's and a few other things... all designed to make the audience smile, laugh, clap and have a great time.

The average age of this group is 12 years old and they have played over 600 concerts "from sea to shining sea."

For more information, call Buddy Griffin, director and Banjo Hall of Fame member, at 281-493-4993.

National Flood Safety Awareness Week

Flood preparedness on the Web, on the go

The Harris County Flood Control District offers several online tools and websites to help residents in the region be prepared and stay safe during major rain events.

The Flood Control District maintains a Family Flood Preparedness center at www.hcfd.org/famfloodprepare.html.

Learn how to create a Family Flood Preparedness Plan and stock a waterproof Family Emergency Kit. Printable resources include a Family Emergency Contact Card to fill out and give to each family member, and a Turn Around, Don't Drown brochure (by the National Weather Service) that advises all residents to stay out of flooded roads and waterways.

During a severe weather event, residents can monitor rainfall amounts and bayou levels near their workplace, school and home through the Flood Control District's Flood Warning System mobile website at www.harriscountyfws.org. Type in an address and the system will display readings from the nearest flood gauge stations in the region. Residents can use this information to avoid dangerous areas and make other important decisions during a flooding event.

The Flood Control District's Flood Education Mapping Tool at www.harriscountyfem.org, shows mapped floodplains in Harris County. Residents can type in their address and view maps based on the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Flood Insurance Rate Map

for this area.

And before hurricane season begins in June, get acquainted with the *Hurricane Tracker* mobile website at

www.thehurricanetracker.org. This handy online tool allows one to track a tropical storm or hurricane, view evacuation routes and much more.



Isn't life grand?
Matilda
2011



I've been sick, but I'll be alright because my daddy is giving me medicine with cat meat.

Matilda was so sick, the chemo failed, and she passed away March 1, 2014.

Martinez earns first place

Eleven-year-old Joshua Martinez recently attended NAGA (North American Grappling Association) where he won first place in no-gi winning a samurai sword, and second place in gi, winning a gold medal. He is now a purple belt in martial arts and loves it. He attends Stuchbery Elementary. Martinez has attended Cantu

Martial Arts for the past two years under the training of Joseph Cantu, owner of the facility. His mother is Renee Delgado, his father is Oscar Martinez, and big sister is Kiana Garcia. His grandmother is Anna Benavidez and step-grandfather is Robert Martinez, who attends many of his competitions.



The top three winners in the kids no-gi beginner (60 to 69.9 lbs.) 11- to 13-year-olds are, left to right, Daryl Llanas (third place), Joshua Martinez (first place) and Shawn Meza (second place). Photo submitted

Family, marriage, relationship seminar set

Life Church, located at 9900 Alameda Genoa, will hold a family, marriage and relationship seminar on April 5, from 10 a.m. to noon in the chapel. Whether married, a single parent, or wish to better skills for relationships of all types, this will be a great opportunity to learn more about these important facets of life.

Franklin and Dr. Britani Moses will teach on communication: *What I'm Really Trying To Say*, and Melodee Alexander will teach on conflict and resolution: *Resolving Conflict Rationally & Effectively*. All three instructors are local educators. The seminar is free to the public. Register in advance by emailing Jean Carlen at jean.carlen@life.cc.

Deadline nears for scholarships

Frazier Elementary

Frazier Elementary will offer scholarships to seven graduating Dobie High School seniors who attended Frazier in third and fourth grades. Applications and information are available from the Dobie senior counselor. Applications must be submitted March 21.

Moore Elementary

The Moore Elementary Student Council will offer scholarships to four graduating seniors at Dobie High School who attended Moore in the fourth grade. Applications are available through the Dobie senior counselor's office and must be returned by March 25.

Local library events set

Parker Williams Library

The following events are scheduled for the Parker Williams Library, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd., March 20 through March 26.

Volunteers from AARP Tax-Aide will be in the library meeting room to assist with tax questions and filing a tax return. Tax assistance is available Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. through April 14. This service is available in the library meeting room on a first-come, first-served basis. Bring Social Security cards or other official documentation for oneself and all dependents, a copy of last year's income tax return, W-2 forms from each employer, unemployment compensation statements, and other necessary forms to help the volunteer complete a return. Call the library for more information.

On Thursday, March 20, Movie Time Classics will be presented at 1 p.m. Movie Madness for Children is also scheduled for Thursday, March 20, at 4 p.m. Call the library for titles.

Email Basics will be presented at 3 p.m. on Friday, March 21, and Wednesday, March 26. Preschool storytime is at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, and toddler storytime is at 10:30 a.m. Thursday.

For more information on these programs, call the library at 281-484-2036.

Bracewell Neighborhood Library

The Bracewell Neighborhood Library, 9002 Kingspoint Drive, recently announced its programs for March 20 through March 26.

On Thursday, March 20, Computer Basics is scheduled at 2 p.m., Internet Basics at 3:30 p.m., and Intro to MS Powerpoint at 5 p.m.

Family storytime will be at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 25, and at 11 a.m., a family craft is scheduled.

Baby/toddler storytime will be at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 26, with a baby/toddler playgroup at 11 a.m.

Also on Wednesday, March 26, Computer Basics is scheduled for 3:15 p.m., and Internet Basics is at 4:30 p.m.

For information about any of these programs, call the Bracewell Neighborhood Library at 832-393-2580.

Park Manor of South Belt



Park Manor celebrates its residents!

Clinical Services Covering:
♦ Skilled Nursing
♦ Long Term Care
♦ Rehabilitation & much more

11902 Resource Pkwy.

(near Memorial Hermann SE Hospital)

281-922-6802

Fax: 281-922-6804

We love our residents at Park Manor! Shown here are Jessica Hernandez, C.N.A., Bella Vita resident Sharon Macha, and Jason Shi, PT.

Moore hosts Jump Rope for Heart

Moore Elementary students in second through fourth grades recently participated in the annual Jump Rope for Heart. Students, staff and parents jumped, danced, and competed to raise money for the American Heart Association. Photos submitted



Above: fourth-graders Priscilla Espinoza and Kaitlyn Meza enjoyed the Jump. Top right photo: Fourth-grader Anthony Sanchez jumps with the help of Dobie cheerleaders Samantha DeLaCruz and Adriana Resendez. Bottom right photo: Fourth-grader Nivia Escobedo jumps with the help of Dobie cheerleaders Tia Joseph and Kaneesha Williams.



Thompson announces 4th 6-weeks honor rolls

Thompson Intermediate School recently released its honor roll students for the fourth six-weeks grading period. Students earning status are:

Seventh grade Honor roll

Pricilla Margarita Andrade, Elyssa Karmen Armenta, Victoria Noemi Ayala, Ulvi Bakhtashi, Marlene Balderas, Corina Gisselle Banda, Ailyn Michelle Bonilla, Meloni Camacho, Connor A. Caughlin, Omar Nicolas Chapa, Diocelina Chavez-Sanchez and Ivan Nicholas Cortez.

Sara Elaine Cortez, Angela Leticia Cruz, Yessica Ivone Cruz, Matthew Gregory Dawkins, Isabella Rose De La Garza, Celestina Olivia Deluna, Tiffany Tram Duong, Elizabeth B. Early, Osasere Edo-Ewanshi, Adriana Escamilla, Angela Escamilla and Osvaldo Jared Escamilla.

Emily Jovanna Estrada, Ruben Flores, Yareli Garcia, Lucio Ricardo Garza, Genesis Isela Gaytan, Nicholas Roland Gaytan, Adam Israel Gil, Megan Erin Glass, Angel Isaiiah Gomez, Alivia Nicole Gonzalez, Alysa Marie Gonzalez, Jenice Marie Gonzalez

and Karina Nicole Gonzalez. Stephanie Nicole Gonzalez, Victoria Lauren Gonzalez, Max River Guerra, Jeremy Guerrero, Thomas Alexandru Henry, Daniel Alexander Hernandez, Katelyn Nicole Hernandez, Julyssa Marie Herrera, Johnny Khang Ho, Evelyn Michelle Holder and Trevor Anthony Hondros.

Ivy Lynngoc Hua, Kimberly Dinh Huynh, Van Thanhthisandy Huynh, Rocio Jimenez Rebollar, Alec McKinney Johnson, Blair Makayla Kellogg, Melody Ngoc Thuy Le, Matthew Samuel Lopez, Samantha N. Lopez, Briana Karleen Loredo and Katherine Aleli Martinez.

Lauren Lee Martinez, Stephanie Martinez, Anelli Lana Mata, Elijah August Ryan Mazzoquette-Seidel, Taylor Antoinette McGee, Andres Martin Melchor, Alejandra Monserrat Mendez, Madison Celeste Mendiola, Marco Antonio Mendoza and Peyton Robinson Miller.

Jose Francisco Montiel, Jacob Agustin Montoya, Jonathan Roger Moreno, Briana Alyssa Munoz, Eliana Marisa Munoz, Michaela Munoz, Luis Andres Neira, Aaron

and Karina Nicole Gonzalez. Tyler Viet Nguyen, Alan Tuieu Nguyen, Andy Nguyen, Dalila Thao Nguyen and Emmy Kim Phung Nguyen.

Justin Khang Nguyen, Natalie Mai Nguyen, Randy Quang Nguyen, Ronald Tai Nguyen, Tiffany Ngoc Nguyen, Vi Uyen Nguyen, Victor Phong Nguyen, Precious Udodirim Oguamanam, Sara Christine Otwell, Macie Renee Owens, Maurice Anthony Parris and Cayla Sofia Pena.

Johana Ivett Pena, Dominique Desiree Peralta, Izayah Matheu Perez, William Joseph Pettis, Brandon Hoang Long Pham, Minh-Triet Ngoc Pham, Thien Minh Pham, Amy Nhi Phan, Joshua Allen Phan-Coy, Jazmin Gabriella Pina, Eduardo M. Pineda, Taylor Tress Pleasants and Rijja Rasool.

Ashley Crystal Rivera, Christian Xavier Rodriguez, Gustavo Alejandro Rodriguez, Isaiiah Jeremiah Rodriguez, Joanna Michelle Salazar, Christian Jared Saldivar, Kaitlyn Nicole Sanchez, Lauren Elizabeth Schwausch, Betzabe Analee Solis, Emily Solis and Giovanni Solis.

Victoria Adelina Solis, Haley Ann Spencer, Jesse Gerald Sumrall, Michelle Ta, Autumn Celeste Tilley, Ariana Kaylee Toran, Adriana Alexis Toro, Alexis Hang Thu Tran, Patrick Tinh Tran and Chelsey Elizabeth Urdiales.

Cristian Everardo Vela, Zoe Nicole Vela, John Velarde, Marco A. Velazquez, Lily Ann Vitrella, Dai Ngoc Thanh Vu, Brianna Cheyenne Williams, Rionna Carshaye Williams and Kayla Danielle Wilson.

For more urgent needs, the Center's 24-hour, state-of-the-art emergency department is staffed by Memorial Hermann's board-certified emergency medicine physicians and emergency trained nurses. Patients in need of higher levels of care will be transferred to Memorial Hermann Southeast or Memorial Hermann-Texas Medical Center.

"Memorial Hermann is proud to be an active member of the Pearland community," said Erin Aspre, chief executive officer of Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital. "Since we opened our doors

and Katherine Keaira Labarrera, Alexis Brielle Law and Donisha Leeshae Lawson. Jason Dang Le, Jenna Nguyen Thi Le, Vina Le, Sebastian Leal Rodriguez, Dakota Rose Lewallen, Sarah Michelle Lewis, Andrew Logan, Eliana Yasmeeen Loredo, Thomas John Lugo, Kevin Dangkhua Ly, Aran Maldonado, Michael Anthony Mendoza and Katherine Montes.

Brooke Rayne Nabi, Reyna Nering, Dominic Minh Nguyen, Sean Hung Nguyen, Tommy Nguyen, Tommy Thai Nguyen, Vy Phuong Nguyen, Andrea Orrego Restrepo, Daniel Oscar Ortega, Ramon Ruiz Ortega, Victoria Palos, Maria Jose Pedroza Rodriguez and Belen Perez.

Danielle Ilyn Perez, Jordan Renee Ashley Perez, Luis Ivan Perez, Taia Shanel Perrodin, Lan My Phan, Rosa Thao Phan, Christian Alex Ponce, Kayla Sarai Promise, Valerie Belle Provence, Ricardo Ramos, Reagan Elizabeth Razo, Jackelyn Jade Rendon and Jenna Cassandra Rodriguez.

Krystan Marie Rodriguez, Leslie Magaly Rodriguez, Marcos Rodriguez, Brianna Marie Rodriguez-Hernandez, Ruby Renee Ruiz, Valerie Alexandra Sahagun, Angelyn Marie Sanchez, Dominique Amber Sanchez and Jonathan Joel Sarazen.

Bryon Scott Schwausch, Jacob Raymond Sims, Tyrique Smith, Emmerson Snyder, Kennedy Paige Southall, Andy P. Hung Ta, Rachel Lee Tabarez, Ivan Ariel Tagle, Jeremy Rey Tajonera, Jocelyn Desiree Thompson and Darian Nicholas Tijerena.

Madison Gabrielle Tobias, John Patrick Tortorice, Hy Gia Tran, Patrick Martin Tran, Nnam Le Tran, Alex Marie Trevino, Ann Phung Truong, Luis Eduardo Tufino Berber, Jose Salvador Varela and Marvin Roberto Villatoro.

Andrew Ryan Vu, Nhi Xuan Vu, Cindy Vuong, Dien-Loong Kwan Wang, Yvonne Anahi Whaley, Bryan Anthony Wheatley, Haley Machell Williams, Joshua Patrick Woernley, Michael Bryan Wootton, Jacob Alan Young and Alaan Zamora.

Adamaris Celeste Garcia, Jacquelyne Andrea Garcia, Daniel Joseph Goforth, Maxine Angelina Gomez, Cyrus Rene Gonzalez, Alejandro Gonzalez, Elezar Ezequiel Gonzalez, Monica Irene Gonzalez, Mahogany Shante' Green, Brendon Thomas Griffin and Mara Jade Guerra.

Alena Hay, Maritza Janeth Hernandez, Ramon Hernandez, Raquel Danielle Hernandez, David Vie Hoang, Chelsey Jeanni Holman, Alejandro Raymundo Ibarra, Sameria M. Jackson, Hannah Danielle Klugh, Georgina Keaira Labarrera, Alexis Brielle Law and Donisha Leeshae Lawson.

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Memorial Hermann opens 2nd Convenient Care Center

The second of Memorial Hermann's Convenient Care Centers, located in Pearland, opened Monday, Feb. 17, as part of the Memorial Hermann Pearland Medical Complex. A ribbon cutting ceremony was held recently to celebrate the grand opening of the state-of-the-art facility.

Representatives from the Memorial Hermann System, Pearland City Council, including the mayor, Pearland

Chamber of Commerce, Pearland ISD, as well as other city, state and county officials, community members and business owners marked the occasion with a special ceremony on March 6.

"Pearland is the third largest city by population in the Gulf Coast Area and the second fastest growing city in the state of Texas, and our citizens will now have immediate access to Memorial Her-

mann's world-class, patient-centered care," said Tom Reid, mayor of Pearland.

"Pearland is a great city to live, work and raise a family. Our community and the surrounding region only grow stronger with partners like Memorial Hermann who are committed to advancing the health of our residents," said state Rep. Ed Thompson.

The innovative facility offers one-stop, highly coordinated access to a vast array of Memorial Hermann services in a single location. Specifically, it provides the greater Pearland area with primary care (adult and pediatric), lab services, comprehensive radiology services, wellness, prevention and a 24-hour emergency room.

Additionally, the center is designed to take the stress out of scheduling appointments for routine health needs by offering families convenient options such as walk-in access and extended evening and weekend hours.

For more urgent needs, the Center's 24-hour, state-of-the-art emergency department is staffed by Memorial Hermann's board-certified emergency medicine physicians and emergency trained nurses. Patients in need of higher levels of care will be transferred to Memorial Hermann Southeast or Memorial Hermann-Texas Medical Center.

"Memorial Hermann is proud to be an active member of the Pearland community," said Erin Aspre, chief executive officer of Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital. "Since we opened our doors

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Harrison donates to Locks of Love

Judy Harrison recently donated 11 inches of her hair to Locks of Love to help provide wigs for cancer patients. This is her second year to give to the organization, donating 10-1/2 inches two years ago. Harrison's mother died from a brain tumor, and she knows many others who have had cancer and the chemo treatments that caused their hair to fall out. She decided that since she has thick, healthy hair, she would let it grow out again and donate it to this cause that helps people feel good about themselves while going through such an ordeal. Harrison has been a resident of the South Belt area since 1975. She taught at Dobie High School where she started girls' cross country and track teams. She is a professor of physical education at San Jacinto College South campus. Shown with Harrison is her hairdresser, Julia Fullen of One Hair Place in Clear Lake. Fullen has donated the cutting both times.



Christopher Diaz Constable Precinct 2



Golf Shoot-Out

Monday, March 31st, 2014

Glenbrook Golf Course
8205 North Bayou Drive

Registration: 7:00-7:45a.m.

Tee off: 8:00 a.m.

Entry Fee: \$125.00 per player. Entry fee includes green fee, cart and Texas-style fajita dinner. Door prizes will be given away during the awards presentation.

Donations: Constable Diaz would like to have everyone bring a package of athletic socks. These socks will be donated to area school athletic departments. Many of our children are playing school sports with extremely worn or no socks.

Please feel free to wear and display your own crazy socks. **Best Socks Award will be given!!**

For more information, contact: Kim 713-851-8850 houstonswim@hotmail.com

Make checks to Chris Diaz Campaign, PO Box 172, Galena Park, TX 77547.
No Corporate Checks, Please.

Player 1:	_____	Player 2:	_____
Address:	_____	Address:	_____
Phone:	_____	Phone:	_____
Player 3:	_____	Player 4:	_____
Address:	_____	Address:	_____
Phone:	_____	Phone:	_____

Entry Fee \$125.00 per player Check # _____ Cash _____

Hole Sponsorship

Hole Sponsorship sign should read: _____

Name _____	Company _____
Address _____	City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____	E-mail _____

Hole Sponsor Fee \$100.00 per hole Check # _____ Cash _____





Presents

18th Annual

South Belt

Cookoff

El Franco Lee Park

Thursday, May 1 to

Saturday, May 3, 2014

\$5 Admission at the gate

until 6 p.m. – \$10 after 6 p.m.

Free admission for ages 12 & under

Proceeds fund South Belt Fireworks

Games & Rides for Kids

Family Attractions

Great Food & Good Fun

Golf Carts, Kids Activities, Sno Cones and Banner sponsorship opportunities available. For information, call 281-481-5656 or email mynews@southbeltleader.com

Care Partners meet March 21

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

Gatherings consist of a continental breakfast, arts and crafts, exercises, entertainment, a singalong, a devotional break, lunch, and ends with a bingo game. Those who have a family member or know of someone with these challenges, are welcome to attend.

The next gathering will be held in the Mother Cabrini Center at the church on Friday, March 21, with a theme of *Apple-a-Day*.

For more information or to register, call Interfaith Care Partners at 713-682-5995, or visit the Interfaith Care Partners website at interfaithcarepartners.org.

AARP 199 sets March meeting

AARP Chapter 199-Webster will meet Friday, March 21, at 10 a.m. at the Bay Area Community Center, 5002 NASA Parkway in Seabrook. Social hour with coffee and cookies will begin at 9:30 a.m. The meeting will start at 10 a.m.

This month, Jan Flewelling, BSN, MEd, CNRN, of Houston Methodist Neurological Institute will speak on a Stroke Outreach presentation.

The public is invited to the meetings. For those who are interested in joining, annual dues are \$6 per year per person. One must be a member of national AARP. Every month the group has a different speaker to present a discussion on various topics for seniors.

For more information, contact V.J. Thakkar at 832-563-4874 or vthakkar@comcast.net.



Over The Back Fence by Alexis

BIRTHDAY WISHES FOR B.J.

Longtime local optometrist **Dr. B.J. Garner** celebrates his birthday Sunday, March 23. Best wishes are sent from wife **Laura**, family, friends and the *Leader* staff. **HAPPY BIRTHDAY, JUDGE DELGADO!** South Belt's justice of the peace, Judge **Jo Ann Delgado**, celebrates a birthday Wednesday, March 26. Happy birthday wishes are sent to her from the *Leader* staff.

SCHOOL DAZE

The following personnel and staff members of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays March 20 through March 26.

Atkinson Elementary
Special birthday greetings are sent to **Elena Asher** March 21.

Burnett Elementary
March 22 is the day for a birthday for **Maria Vargas**. Blow out the candles on March 23 for **Linda Resendez**. Marking a day of celebration on March 25 is **Carmen Norris**.

Frazier Elementary
On March 20, **Bertila Guerrero** celebrates a birthday. On March 21, **Maria Campos** celebrates a birthday.

Moore Elementary
The day for a birthday cake for **Shelby Willis** is March 22.
South Belt Elementary

A birthday greeting is sent to **Jaee Lee** March 20. Warm wishes for a wonderful birthday are sent to **Brandi Ballard** March 26.

Stuchbery Elementary
Maria Flores is wished a happy birthday March 26.

Melillo Middle School
The day for a birthday celebration for **Carissa Puckett** is March 23. Blow out the birthday candles for **Elizabeth Williamson** on March 26.

Beverly Hills Intermediate
Special birthday greetings are sent to **Lucretia Robles** March 24. Blow out the birthday candles for **Janis McKinney** March 26.

Thompson Intermediate
A triple birthday celebration is in order March 21 for **Hannah Arning**, **Ayana Swift** and **Patricia Castillo**. Blow out the candles for **Travis Meyer** on March 24. On March 25, double birthday wishes are sent to **Deanne Davis** and **James Sky-Eagle Smith**.

Dobie High
On March 21, double birthday wishes are sent to **Carol Declercq** and **Damian Judge**. **Amy Crowder** enjoys a birthday March 22. Special birthday wishes are sent to **Maggie Tiernan** on March 23. Double birthday greetings are sent to **Tyler Coker** and **Angela Gaston** March 24. **Glenda**

Nicholson and Tracy Whatley are wished a happy birthday March 26.

FACEBOOK FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS

The *Leader* sends happy birthday wishes to its Facebook friends who celebrate a birthday this week:

Thursday, March 20: **Roxanne Wheeler, Ken Dittrich, Martinez Joaquin, Carol Dawkins, Al Vanek, James Leslie, Martha Heinrich and Sheri Rose**; Friday, March 21: **Suni Ballard, Jamacia Zabala-Gonzalez and Joseph Block**; Saturday, March 22: **Kristy Poole, Crystal Pettibone, Maria Ybarra, Michael Hansen, Edwin Watson and Gary Hooks**; Sunday, March 23: **Cindy Kiessling, Monica Garza, Michael McKissick and James Lucadou**; Monday, March 24: **Jessica Faulkner, Jaime Napoli, Rainbow Montenegro, Larry Bischof and Michelle Noble**; Tuesday, March 25: **Joe Dominguez, Iris Scentsy, LaMagnolia Trattoraitaliana, Chris Williams and Jeff Wright**; and Wednesday, March 26: **Andrew Crow, Pratik Bajpayee, Lori Johnson, Kevin Waters, Victoria Michelle, Sunday Evans and Brittany Waters**.

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

Support local vendors at farmer's market

From fresh fruits and vegetables to treats such as sizzling bacon hot dogs and freshly squeezed lemonade, the farmer's market offers something for everyone on March 24 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. in University of Houston-Clear Lake's Bayou Building, Atrium I, 2700 Bay Area Blvd.

Health Expo provides free testing, information

Learn more about the resources available to you during Women's Health and LGBT Health Expo, sponsored by University of Houston-Clear Lake's Office of Intercultural Student Services. Focusing on health issues relevant to women and the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities, this expo offers information, vendors and presentations March 25 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the university's Bayou Building, Atrium II, 2700 Bay Area Blvd.

Seniors receive assistance through HBA Will-a-Thon

The Houston Bar Association's Elder Law Committee will sponsor a Will-A-Thon to provide simple wills and basic medical directives, free of charge, for elderly citizens who meet the income guidelines.

To apply for assistance through the Will-A-Thon, senior citizens must call 713-228-0735 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., by April 4 to complete a screening application over the phone. To qualify, applicants must be Harris County residents 60 years of age or older and meet the Houston Volunteer Lawyers' low-income guidelines.

Those who qualify will be given an appointment to meet with a volunteer attorney on April 9 at the Third Ward Multi-Purpose Center, 3611 Ennis, Suite 118. The documents will be completed and executed on May 21 at the Third Ward Multi-Purpose Center.

The Houston Bar Association's Elder Law Committee provides free legal services and advice to senior citizens in Harris County, as well as free handbooks on elder law.

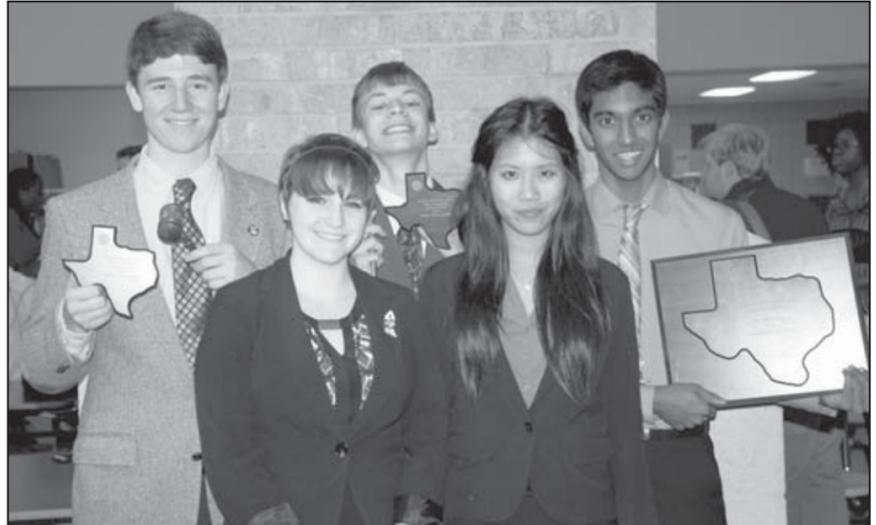
Brook debate contends at state competition

The five Clear Creek Independent School District high school speech and debate programs qualified a total of 28 students for the

Texas Forensics Association State tournament that was held March 6-8 at Cypress Creek High School. Clear Falls and Clear

Springs, under the direction of Abby Walker and Kelly Hairfield, respectively, each qualified two students for this tournament; Clear

Creek coach Leslie Hernandez qualified six of her students for the meet; Clear Lake coach Ryan Nassif qualified eight; and Clear



Clear Brook High School Speech & Debate Team members display awards earned at the Texas Forensics Association State tournament March 6-8. Pictured are, left to right, Lucca Timmerman, Chelse Tillman, Logal Ellis, Connie Lee and Rakesh Vijayakumar. Photo submitted

Remember When

35 years ago (1979)
Pasadena Independent School District students Jay Rasco, Charles Farmer, Chris Dorflinger, Erin Walsh and Jeff Ehrlich had their artwork sent to New York for the National Scholastic Art Awards competition.

30 years ago (1984)
Houston City Council authorized a five-acre expansion of Sagemont Park.

20 years ago (1994)
Though Sagemont residents complained about their water quality, department heads at several city of Houston water departments said there were no major problems in Sagemont's water.

15 years ago (1999)
The South Belt chapter of the American Association of Retired Persons celebrated its 10th anniversary.

10 years ago (2004)
Burnett Elementary and Thompson Intermediate were

recognized for their sustained high academic performance.

5 years ago (2009)
Brazoria County authorities made a second arrest in connection with the Feb. 2 abduction and shooting of former South Belt resident Susana De Jesus. Wallace Charles Ledet IV, 25, was arrested and charged with aggravated kidnapping after allegedly admitting to being at the scene of the De Jesus abduction along with prime suspect, Nicholas-Michael Edwin Jean. Ledet, however, denied having anything to do with the woman's killing.

5 years ago (2009)
Groundbreaking for the new City of Houston J.S. Bracewell Library took place. Located at 9002 Kingspoint near Blackhawk, the facility replaced the 45-year-old building located at 10115 Kleckley near Alameda Mall. City of Houston District E Councilmember Mike Sullivan and Houston Public Library Director Rhea Brown Lawson hosted the event.

1 year ago (2013)
Longtime Houston Police Officer Randy Derr retired after serving nearly 34 years on the force. Many South Belt residents knew Derr from his extensive work with the Houston Police Department's Positive Interaction Program, a monthly meeting held to bolster relations between area residents and local police. A 1977 graduate of South Houston High School, Derr had been involved with the PIP meetings for 20 years.

nearby Fuqua Park & Ride. Both of the Park & Ride locations reached their parking capacity the previous summer as gas prices rose to record highs. Surprisingly, however, bus ridership remained steady even as fuel prices dramatically dropped.

25 years ago (1989)
A 79-year-old resident of the Alameda Chateau apartment complex reportedly committed suicide as City of Houston officials attempted to vacate the premises due to unsafe living conditions. Dimas Yanez was found hanging in his doorway by a city worker passing out fliers to residents of the complex. Yanez had reportedly told neighboring tenants he had nowhere else to go once the apartments were vacated.

25 years ago (1989)
Harris County Commissioners Court's plan to cut the number of unpaid reserve deputies who could serve on a constable's staff was to end the South Belt area's 24-hour contract service.

25 years ago (1989)
Houston City Council member for District E Adie Wiseman hosted a CIP (Capital Improvement Plan) meeting at San Jacinto College South campus to discuss upcoming City of Houston projects.

25 years ago (1989)
Thompson Intermediate inducted 66 students into the National Junior Honor Society. Local real estate agent Sandra Yandell was named "Top Dog" by the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce for recruiting 16 new members.

25 years ago (1989)
Three young men were victims of a drive-by shooting on Alameda-Genoa.

25 years ago (1989)
Houston City Council member for District E Adie Wiseman hosted a CIP (Capital Improvement Plan) meeting at San Jacinto College South campus to discuss upcoming City of Houston projects.

ARE YOU BEHIND ON MORTGAGE PAYMENTS?
- Save Your Home -
We Stop Foreclosure and Have Loan Modification Assistance.
DON'T MOVE OUT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.
We Have Buyers Ready to Buy Your Home.
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Brook's Rutledge earns award

Clear Brook High School teacher Michael Rutledge recently received an award through the Walter Kase Anti-Defamation League organization.

Rutledge has been the speech and debate coach at Clear Brook High School since 2003.

He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Sam Houston State University in 1995 with a minor in public relations. He did not pursue an undergraduate degree with the specific intent of teaching at the time; however, he worked in a corporate human resources and recruiting/headhunting capacity for 10 years before his immersion into education. Rutledge stated, "Because of this background, I strived to bring a real-world perspective to the classroom in all that I do as I am fully aware of what the business world expects in the product of a modern-day classroom and I strive to ensure that my students - speech or debate - are well equipped to be received into that world."



Michael Rutledge

"A large part of truly qualified applicants in an employment setting is the recognition and acceptance of diversity and tolerance, whether these take the form of open acceptance or respectful disagreement that is fostered through open dialogue. This is what makes an effective classroom setting, in my opinion, and is what the true goal of education should be."

Rutledge's specific background in this particular field of study began with his high school education where he spent four years as a student of Gloria J. Walter at Palacios High School. He said he participated in every play production of the high school as well being an active member of the speech

and debate traveling squad.

Rutledge added, "Although we were mainly a UIL squad at that time, I did have the opportunity to participate in numerous events and activities ranging from One Act Play, University Interscholastic League (prose, poetry, ready writing, news writing, feature writing, headline writing), as well as the National Forensics League and Texas Forensics Association where I focused on events such as cross examination debate, extemporaneous and impromptu speaking."

"As I finish my 11th year at Clear Brook High School, I have been both privileged and honored to teach some of the highest caliber of students whom our district has

the pleasure of teaching."

Over the past 11 years, Clear Brook Speech and Debate has been home to four class valedictorians, two class salutatorians, perfect SAT scores, and secondary education at distinguished institutions including Harvard, Rice, Notre Dame, Vanderbilt, U-Miss Honors, UT-Honors and even the Naval Academy of the United States and, most recently, the second-place impromptu speaker in the state of Texas in 2014, Rakesh Vijayakumar, and the first-place ranked extemporaneous debater in the nation in 2013, Rishi Suresh.

A banquet, in which Rutledge will be honored, will be held at the Westin Galleria on May 2.

Preview of Maritime Technology and Training Center scheduled

As San Jacinto College prepares to break ground to build the region's newest maritime training facility, some of the industry's most sought after training technology has arrived and is awaiting its new home.

The college recently received three interactive, full-mission, ship bridge simulators, thanks to a collaborative agreement with the Houston Pilots. They will be moved to the college's 45,000-square-foot Maritime Technology and Training Center once it opens, projected for mid-2015.

"For our new, waterfront maritime campus, we did our homework and traveled across the country to research exactly what we needed to provide in our new facility in order to be certain that we are offering today's maritime professionals the best training available anywhere in the country" said Capt. Mitch Schacter, director of the San Jacinto College maritime program.

The simulators are room-sized replicas of ship control bridges, each with a 270-degree view and lifelike graphics displayed on fourteen 65-inch monitors. They are equipped with the newest versions Kongsberg's Polaris 7.2 ship simulation software. They allow trainees to experience different sea conditions from flat calm water to 30-foot high waves, from zero wind to hurricane winds, from clear blue skies to rain, snow, sleet, fog, and sand storms, and include day and night operations.

"This technology allows trainees from almost any type of vessel to experience wind, current and wave action from any direction and at any level of magnitude as well as close quarters interaction with other vessels operating in the same scenario, without ever putting anyone's life or property in peril," said Bryan Elliot, maritime instructor and simulator

operator. "It provides a very safe and very realistic experience."

The three simulators are currently operating at the San Jacinto College maritime training center off Highway 225 in Pasadena. Once the new training center is built along the Port of Houston, the simulators will become a part of a 3,748 square-foot simulation suite with instructor stations, debrief classrooms, and development stations.

In addition, the new facility will house engineering simulators to train maritime engineers for hydraulic, electric, pump control, motor control, heating and air conditioning, and refrigeration.

Also planned is a full-mission engine room simulator, which will be interactive and interconnected with the bridge simulators to allow vessel management exercises to accommodate deck and engineering officers and crew at the same time, in the same scenario.

Other features will include a 2,000 square-foot multipurpose space for industry conferences and corporate partner meetings along with a fully equipped commercial

kitchen to support those functions. The entire building will sit 14 feet above ground and will house 15 classrooms, and administrative support offices. The ground level will showcase a training dock with lifeboats, davits, and fast rescue craft, and a separate industry dock for crew changes. It will also allow vessel specific training for local maritime companies and have an aquatic training facility for sea survival and life raft training, complete with men's and women's locker rooms.

"The center will serve as the premier training facility for regional industry and new maritime technology associate degree program," said Schacter. "It will house the very latest technology and U.S. Coast Guard-approved curriculum to allow us to continue and to offer much training for captains, mates, deckhands, tankermen and engineers in a safe, professional and productive training environment."

For information about the San Jacinto College maritime program, visit <http://www.sjcd.edu/continuing-professional-development/corporate-and-workforce/maritime>.

Gorntos, Legend underwrite Keep Kids in School Golf Tournament

The fifth annual Keep Kids in School Golf Tournament will be underwritten by Janice and Rick Gornto and Legend Health Care. The tournament benefits Communities In Schools-Bay Area (CIS-Bay Area), a dropout prevention program serving Clear Creek and Dickinson independent school districts.

The tournament will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday, April 28, at Bay Oaks Country Club in Bay Area Houston.

The Gorntos have been longtime supporters of the

tournament and CIS-Bay Area. Rick is managing partner with DRDA, PLLC, a full service CPA firm with offices in Bay Area Houston and on Galveston Island.

The other underwriter is Legend Health Care, a provider of the highest level of patient care.

For more information on teams, underwriting and sponsorships, contact Angela Jenkins at angela@cisba.org or 281-486-6698.

For more information on the dropout prevention program, visit www.cisba.org.

Kirven, Taylor engaged



Chenise Kirven, daughter of Dianne and Charlie Kirven of South Belt, and Lawrence Taylor, son of the late Lois Taylor, announce their engagement and upcoming marriage. The bride-to-be is a 2001 graduate of Clear Brook High School. She received a Bachelor of Business Administration in accounting from Prairie View A&M University and a Master of Science Accounting degree from the University of Houston. She is a certified public accountant. The prospective groom received a Bachelor of Science in criminal justice from Sam Houston State University, and a master's degree in counseling from Texas Southern University. He is an adjunct professor at Sam Houston State University, where he is also a doctoral candidate in counseling education. The couple are planning a late-April wedding in Montego Bay, Jamaica.

Bond deals save City of Houston water system over \$200 million

Houston City Controllor Ronald Green announced that a bond sale of \$1.3 billion by the City's Combined Utility System to re-finance previously issued bonds will generate approximately \$207.5 million of savings.

Rated AA by S&P and Aa2 by Moody's, the bonds attracted significant demand, even in tougher parts of the curve, and allowed the city to achieve an extremely low interest rate of 3.15 percent on the tax-exempt sale and 3.59 percent on the taxable deal.

"Our expanded investor

outreach and continued transparency, including a recently unveiled investor relations page and an annual investor conference, appear to have paid off handsomely. We were able to leverage this strong demand and press for lower interest rates to increase the savings on both transactions. The substantial savings generated from this refunding bolsters the system's ability to carry out its mission to provide clean and safe water to our citizens," noted Green. In addition to demand from previous purchasers, the system attracted several new investors.

Council Member Jerry Davis, vice chair of the Budget and Fiscal Affairs committee, was also in attendance along with other city staff and noted that "it is imperative as council members, we perform our own due diligence regarding matters on which we vote. Accordingly, I felt it was critical for me to actively engage in a deal of this magnitude and complexity. I was extremely pleased with the performance and the significant savings on both transactions, which were led by Siebert Bradford Shank and JP Morgan."

Business women meet May 8

South East Express Network of the American Business Women's Association will meet on Thursday, May 8, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Golden Corral (private meeting room) 9115 Broadway (FM-518) in Pearland. The cost of \$20 covers the meal and meeting fee.

Guest speaker is Moniki S. Mason, business community liaison for Pearland Independent School District, managing the community and busi-

ness partnerships, events and student outreach for the district. She was brought into the school district to establish and manage the Pearland ISD Education Foundation. The foundation raises funds to support teacher grants, student scholarships and program support.

Mason has more than 16 years of experience working with nonprofit organizations, state agencies, higher education and public schools in fundraising. In addition to her

professional life, she finds it important to participate in various civic activities. She is a board member for United Way of Brazoria County and a member of the Pearland Rotary Club. Business women and men throughout the community are invited to attend.

For more information, visit the website at www.SEEN-ABWA.org. For reservations, call Bryan Davis at 979-297-9922 or email bdavis3731@sbcglobal.net.

Frazier holds chili cookoff



Frazier Elementary recently held its annual chili cookoff at the school. Pictured are, left to right, Frazier Assistant Principal Kristina Espinosa and longtime staff member Paula Golden. Winners were Paula Golden and Katie Belus (tied for first place), Amanda Brewton (second place), and Adrianna Cortez (third place). Judges included Pasadena Independent School District Superintendent Dr. Kirk Lewis, J. Frank Dobie Principal Franklin Moses, and Associate Superintendent of Campus Development Alyta Harrell.

Photo by Marie Flickinger

Lions Club meeting set

The Houston Space City Lions Club will meet Tuesday, March 25, at 7 p.m. at the Golden Corral, 12500 Gulf Freeway.

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

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BHI rodeo art winners named



Beverly Hills Intermediate art students display their artwork for the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo School Art Contest. Student work covered a variety of media from colored pencil to paint. Students worked before and after school to create a composition, photograph their subjects, and ultimately render their award-winning imagery. Shown are, left to

right, (front row) Hana Mohamad, Wendy Pantoja, Andrew Nguyen, Denise Avalos, Kareem Salomon, (middle row) Paul Ontiveros, George Villarreal, Erika Rubio, Brittany Puente, Mallerim Morales, Pricilla Cardiel, (back row) Eric Escobedo, Bailie Ankenbruck, Matthew Benavidez, Abraham Alanis and Sami Yu.
Photo submitted

Community film festival honors female veterans

As part of Women's History Month, the Veterans in Our Community Film Festival will show the documentary *SERVICE: When Women Come Marching Home* on Tuesday, March 25. Screened at the nation's capital, this documentary portrays the courage of several women veterans as they transition from active duty to civilian lives. The film shows the horrific traumas they faced, their invisible as well as physical injuries and all their challenges in receiving benefits and care.

According to the film, women comprise 14 percent of today's military forces. That number is expected to double in 10 years. *SERVICE* gives audiences a glimpse into life after war for these women, from wrestling with prosthetics, homelessness, post traumatic stress disorder, and dealing with military sexual trauma. *SERVICE* introduces the issues faced by this wave of mothers, daughters, and sisters as they return home.

Social media has enabled *SERVICE* to grow into a larger project that continues to support women through open

and closed Facebook groups where women can exchange information, find friendship and share solutions that have changed their lives.

SERVICE: When Women Come Marching Home will be shown on Tuesday, March 25, at 1 p.m. in the San Jacinto College South campus student center banquet room. The film will be part of a Women's History Month mini-conference featuring a guest speaker from the Bridge Over Troubled Waters organization along with information on its Clothesline Project; guest speaker Marilyn Harris, director of the Women Veterans Business Center; and a female veteran panel discussion with student and faculty veterans. The mini-conference will be held in the student center banquet room from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Prior to the screening of *SERVICE*, an additional screening of *The Invisible War* will be shown at noon, in the South Campus Interactive Learning Center (ILC) Kaleidoscope Room. *The Invisible War* is a powerful documentary that discusses sexual assault in the military

through the stories of both male and female survivors.

On March 31, from 2 to 4 p.m., a panel discussion, *San Jacinto College Women of Character, Courage, and*

Commitment, will be held in the South Campus Interactive Learning Center Kaleidoscope Room.

The South campus is located at 13735 Beamer Road. All

Veterans in Our Community Film Festival showings, the Women's History Month mini-conference, and the panel discussion, are free and open to the public.

Lifeguards needed for area pools

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department is seeking applicants to fill open lifeguard positions at 37 pools for the 2014 swim season.

Applicants must be at least 16 years of age, be American Red Cross certified, and pass a skills screening test prior to being considered for employment.

The department will assist applicants who pass the skills screening test prepare for the American Red Cross certification test and will consider these candidates for employment once they have attained this certification.

HPARD lifeguard job position wage range is \$10.30 to \$14 per hour based on position. Applications must be made by April 15, 2014.

"Summer is rapidly approaching and we are cur-

rently looking for American Red Cross certified lifeguards for our 37 pools," said Joe Turner, director, Houston Parks and Recreation Department. "The need is urgent as we will be opening all HPARD pools at the same time this year as opposed to having a two-phase opening. This means we will need over 140 lifeguards ready to go and staff our 37 pools on May 24. Our goal is to make sure all Houstonians across the city have access to their neighborhood pool all summer long beginning Memorial Day weekend."

The HPARD summer swim season runs from

Memorial Day, May 24, through Labor Day, Sept. 1.

Applications for HPARD lifeguard positions must be made through the City of Houston online job site at <http://www.houstontx.gov/jobs/index.html>.

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department stewards and manages more than 37,832 acres of parkland and greenspace for the City of Houston and develops and implements recreational programming for citizens of all abilities. For more information on the Houston Parks and Recreation Department, call 832-395-7022 or visit www.houstonparks.org.

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Harris County offers free public car safety clinic, car seat check-ups

Summer road trips require more than just time off from work and school, but they also require preparation. Each year the Harris County Sheriff's Office (HCSO), through its Motorist Assistance Program (MAP), comes to the aid of thousands of motorists with vehicles experiencing trouble on Houston highways.

To keep Houston-area drivers safe and get their cars ready for summer travel, several community organizations are working together to hold a free drive-through community Car Safety Clinic and Car Seat Check-Up event. The event is set for Thursday, April 17, from 3 to 6 p.m. at Northline Commons, 4400 North Freeway in Houston.

A phone bank will precede the drive-through clinic on Wednesday, April 16, from 4 to 6:30 p.m., and the public will be able to call in

with their car maintenance and car seat safety questions before attending the event.

English and Spanish techs will be answering callers' questions. The public number to call for English is: 713-866-7021 and for Spanish: 713-866-7032.

AAA Texas Approved Auto Repair shop technicians will be conducting free 38-point visual maintenance inspections for the public at the drive-through event.

Each visual maintenance inspection takes about five minutes, and event organizers will offer several lanes to get motorists through the event quickly.

HCSO deputies and Safe Kids Greater Houston will also be on site to offer free car seat checks.

Maintenance inspections and car seat checks will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Parents or caregivers wanting a car seat

check are asked to bring their child, the child's car seat, the car seat owner's manual, and the vehicle owner's manual so that car seat technicians performing seat checks can find the most appropriate fit. Spanish speakers will be available for both the maintenance inspections and the car seat checks.

Following the vehicle manufacturer's recommended maintenance schedule in the owner's manual is the best way to keep a car running properly and avoid costly repairs.

The 38-point maintenance inspection offered at the free Car Safety Clinic will include a review of these items and others: tire pressure, tire tread, engine air filter, battery cables/clamps/terminals, windshield washer fluid/wiper blades, engine oil, and anti-freeze/coolant protection.

Making sure a child is in the proper restraint system, car seat or booster seat can help provide protection in the event of a car crash. All children younger than 8 years old who are shorter than 4 feet, 9 inches in height must be properly secured in a car seat or booster seat, according to Texas law. Children improperly restrained in a crash can suffer serious injuries and even death.

Members of the public attending the event will receive one goody bag per car with additional educational information and community resources about vehicle repairs and maintenance as long as supplies last.

Community organizations working together to hold the April event include: Harris County Sheriff's Office MAP, AAA Texas, Texas Department of Transportation and Verizon Wireless. Additional support provided by: Houston TranStar, Safe Kids Greater Houston, Houston-Galveston Area Council, Houston METRO, SAFEClear Program, Greater Northside Management District, Northline Commons and the Houston Car Dealers Association.

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Baumann's hit lifts JFD over Manvel

Paredes delivers complete game

It was Tyler Baumann's 18th birthday, and he wound up inviting all of his Dobie varsity baseball teammates to the party. Baumann's game-winning single to right field scored pinch runner Damian Molina in the bottom of the seventh inning as Dobie remained unbeaten in District 22-5A play with a dramatic 4-3 victory over Manvel March 18 at Dobie.

The Longhorns, who trailed 3-1 at one point, are now 3-0 and have joined Pearland atop the 22-5A standings. Manvel, meanwhile, fell to 2-1.

"I know we were 5-7 coming into district play, but we've just kept fighting and trying to do the little things to win," Dobie head coach Miguel Torres said.

"We still need to work on some of those little things. We're going to do

that starting tomorrow at practice. For now, we got this win."

The Longhorns did so with a two-out rally that was one for the ages.

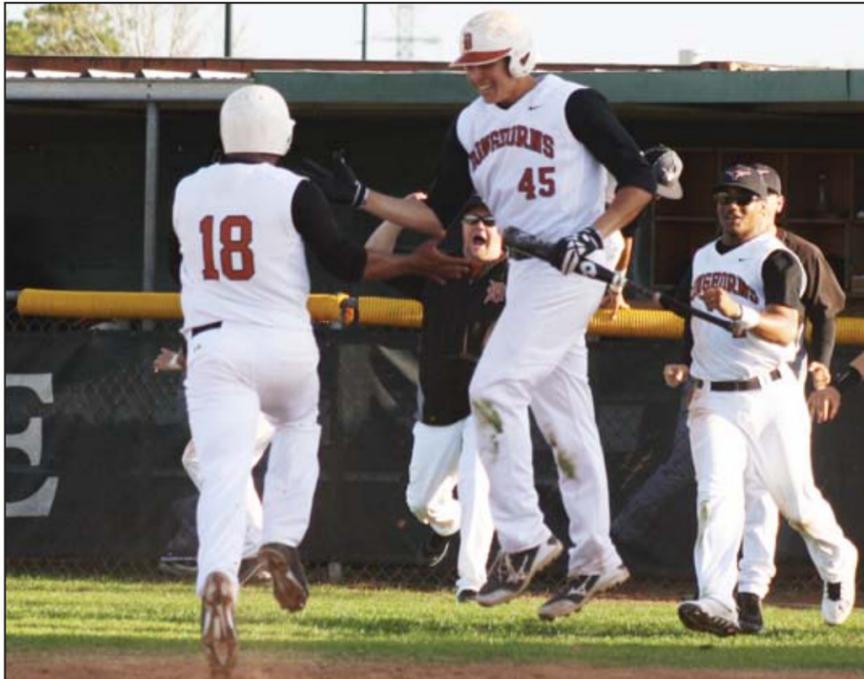
Travarus Ansley led off the bottom of the inning by being hit by a pitch against Manvel reliever Levi Dixon.

But Dixon recovered by picking Ansley off of first base. Jake Mendoza then flew out to right field as the game seemed headed for extra frames.

Not so fast. Ruben Guevara got things going by lofting a single into left field. Isaiah Myers, who also doubled in the game, followed with another single.

Molina was inserted as a pinch runner for Guevara at second base before Baumann's big hit.

Coming through big on his birthday, Baumann sent



Pinch runner Damion Molina (18) crossed home plate with the winning run as teammates rush out to congratulate him after the Longhorns' Tyler Baumann delivered the game-winning single in a 4-3 victory over Manvel March 18 at Dobie. Others in on the celebration included assistant coach Stephen Sutton, winning pitcher Jesse Paredes (45) and Travarus Ansley.

Photo by John Bechtle

Brook baseball back on track

The District 24-5A varsity baseball race is turning into a nightly battle of wills. Clear Brook, certainly down in the dumps after an 0-2 start, is suddenly back on track after back-to-back wins.

Cody Williams homered and Corey Julks had a triple among his three hits as the Wolverines pounded Dickinson 14-4 March 18 at Dickinson. The Wolverines' latest win came on the heels of an 8-4 triumph over Clear Falls.

Now at 2-2, Clear Brook has evened its slate as the playoff push enters the middle stages.

Not long ago, things weren't looking good for the Wolverines. The team lost 11-10 to Clear Springs in the 24-5A opener and then watched a 5-0 lead evaporate during a 6-5 loss to Clear Lake.

Now, Williams, Julks, Matt Svehla and others have bailed Brook out. Svehla was the winning pitcher against Dickinson. In that one, Kyle Jakubik had three hits, including a pair of doubles. Brett Farroux also had three hits as Brook won easily.

22-5A tennis championships to Galveston March 27-28

The District 22-5A spring season varsity tennis championships are headed to Galveston Island March 27-28, and it's easy to see why Dobie is ready for the trip.

The Longhorns played exceptionally well at both the Spring Fling in Corpus Christi earlier this month before winning the Ron Westbrooks/Lamar University Invitational team championship for the second straight season after that.

Obviously, Dobie head coach Manuel Moreno is excited about the possibilities as the District 22-5A championships come. And, looking ahead, he's pleased to see that some of his junior and sophomore players are showing promise for this fall's team tennis season.

"The kids have just played really well," Moreno said.

"They've gained experience and more confidence with each match and have made themselves and our program proud. It's been great to see."

At the Spring Fling event in Corpus Christi, Dobie brought home second place in the tournament division and third place in the championship division after a series of strong performances.

Junior Ruben Vargas, who will take aim at his second straight 22-5A boys' singles crown in Galveston, placed fifth among a 32-player field. Along the way, Moreno said Vargas defeated a very talented player from Corpus Christi Carroll High School.

"It was a three-setter, and Ruben played a very smart match," Moreno said. "He definitely earned that win and played well in getting fifth overall."

Two doubles teams also fared well for Dobie. Garrett Armstrong and Tommy Le advanced to the boys' doubles final.

Mixed doubles players Juan Melesio and Julie Nguyen also fared well, giving Dobie a big lift.

Continued on Page 3B

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Dobie soccer teams take aim at playoffs

The table hasn't been set yet, but the Dobie High School varsity boys' and girls' teams know where they're sitting.

Both teams have one regular season game remaining. The Dobie boys will host Pearland March 21, set for 4 p.m. at Veterans Stadium.

Later that evening, the Lady Longhorns will play at The Rig in Pearland at 7.

After that, it's on to the playoffs. The seedings have been finalized. Dobie will occupy the No. 4 seed in both the boys' and girls' brackets.

What does that mean? The most likely scenario has Dobie taking on Deer Park - in both boys' and girls' bidistrict playoff games.

The Dobie boys have a little bit of experience with the Deer, having beaten Deer Park Jan. 25 by a 4-2 count.

That could be good, or bad, depending on how you look at it.

There will be a revenge factor involved, but more-so, the senior-laden Deer team will be looking to quickly get past the Longhorns on the road to what it hopes will be a return to the Region III final four.

In 2013, the Deer advanced to the Region III championship match before falling to Alief Elsik 1-0, thus missing the state tournament.

On the girls' side of things, a Dobie/Deer Park matchup should be just as daunting.

Dobie, a district champion last season, has had trouble keeping up with the Joneses this season while dealing with injuries.

Lady Longhorns' head coach Bryan McDonald says he won't use the injury bug as an excuse, but it no doubt would have been

Continued on Page 6B



At right, Dobie's Shelby Nunez (14) plays a header over a Memorial player during a match between the two teams at Veterans Stadium as the Longhorns went on to win a shootout.

Photo by Gary Williams

Roberts leading way at St. Edwards softball



Faith Roberts, a 2011 Dobie High School graduate, has plenty of reasons to smile this season as she is having a solid overall campaign for the St. Edwards University softball team. Her success during her junior season comes on the heels of a sophomore season that saw her earn second team All-Heartland Conference and post-season all-tournament team accolades. See more about Roberts on Page 3B.

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SJC softball now 4-4, slips in NJCAA poll

Since seeing its name in the bright lights of the National Junior College Athletic Association's national rankings, the San Jacinto College softball team has had trouble making headway in Region XIV play.

Following 1-0 and 3-0 losses at Galveston March 12, the team did bounce back with 7-1 and 7-0 wins at Coastal Bend College in Beeville.

San Jacinto played two big conference games at Angelina March 19 after press time.

Given the locals' 4-4 early record in league play, the games against Angelina were big.

GC wins pair
After starting 2014 ranked in the preseason poll, Galveston saw itself out of the first regular season poll while San Jacinto sat at No. 4.

It didn't take long for Galveston to answer for that.

The Whitecaps' Brooke Sheshen tossed a one-hitter in Galveston's

1-0 win in the opener. In the nightcap, Galveston's Laci Belovsky pitched into the sixth inning and Sheshen got the save in a 3-0 Whitecaps' win.

At the time, that left San Jac at 2-4 in conference play.

Thanks to Lauren Von Boeckmann and others, the Coyotes got back on track with a pair of wins over Coastal Bend March 15.

San Jac won the first game 7-1 as Von Boeckmann doubled and had two runs driven in to support winning pitcher Bridget Stein, who struck out six.

In the second game, San Jacinto scored five runs in the first inning en route to a 7-0 victory, moving San Jacinto back to the .500 mark in conference action at 4-4.

In that shutout win, Karri Smith earned the victory in the circle, and Von Boeckmann and Taylor Burnett doubled to pace the offense.

SJC's Howard earns dual hoops honors

San Jacinto College women's basketball freshman Kendra Howard (Dallas / Cedar Hill HS) has been named to the Region XIV all-region and all-conference teams. The 5-foot-8-inch guard led the team in scoring at 18.8 points per game, a mark that ranked 16th in the country. She shot 37.1 percent from the field, and 33.1 percent from the 3-point line. Howard was second on the team in assists per game at 4.0. "Kendra stepped up when we needed her most and started playing beyond even her own expectations," said first-year head coach Brenita Williams. "She works hard daily, and really buys into our program. It is nice to see Kendra recognized, because she deserves it." In addition to her success on the court, Howard maintained a 3.1 grade point average.



Dobie football banquet to be held April 2

At right, Dobie High School senior running back Adoniz Thomas (1) and his teammates will be honored along with the rest of the JFD football program at the annual banquet Wednesday, April 2, at the school. The event, which will include a catered dinner, slide show and awards presentation session, will run from 5 to 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for students (age 17 and younger), and \$15 for adults. Football players will be admitted free. Dobie's varsity team finished the season at 5-5, which included a third-place standing in District 22-5A. The varsity team eventually lost to North Shore in the bidistrict round of the playoffs. The school's subvarsity teams all enjoyed standout seasons in 2013 as well. For more information about the banquet, call booster club members Anna Flores at 281-221-5602 or Angie Colins at 832-372-2114.



BHI, Lady Lion track and field excel

Hats off to Bondy Intermediate, which swept both team championships at the first Pasadena ISD intermediate girls' track and field meet at Auxiliary Stadium.

The Lady Patriots won the eighth-grade meet with 173 points, compared to 107 for second-place Beverly Hills. Thompson was a distant fourth with 64 points.

In the seventh-grade meet, Bondy produced 214 points for the easy win, with Thompson second at 104.5. Beverly Hills' 35 points were fourth.

GAT 7s are second
Thompson's overall speed at the seventh-grade level delivered results in the 100-meter dash as Rachel Smith was the champion in a time of 13.43 seconds for 10 points. Teammate Nyah Earl was second at 13.96, and Sha'kira Carlisle placed fourth in a time of 14.40.

The Lady Lions also utilized their outstanding speed while winning a pair of relays, the 4x100 and the 4x200 events.

In the 4x100-meter matchup, the Lady Lions teamed Earl and Smith with Taylor Pleasants and Tonya Montgomery for the win in a time of 56.59 for 20 points. The Lady Lions also posted 20 points for their win in the 4x200-meter event as Earl, Montgomery and Smith teamed with Carlisle for a time of 2:05.03.

Olivia Garcia ran very well for the Lady Lions in the 1,600-meter event as she was third at 6:48.14 for six points. She then was even better at the 2,400-meter distance, clocking in at 10:26.53 for second place. Thompson's

Megan Glass (10:43.00) was fifth overall.

In other events, Anelli Mata came in at 20.28 in the 100-meter hurdles for fourth place, and Thompson's Melody Le's time of 1:17.58 was sixth in the 400-meter dash. In the 300-meter hurdles, Mata placed fifth at 1:02.51, while teammate Lily Vitrella (1:05.40) was sixth.

Thompson was sixth in the 4x400-meter relay in a time of 5:22.79. That foursome for the Lady Lions included Le, Celine Espinosa, Emily Solis and Glass.

Shifting to the field events, Thompson's Mata cleared the 4-foot-2-inch mark for second place in the high jump, and teammate Pleasants also made her way over the 4'2" mark in more tries for fifth place.

Thompson triple jumper Pleasants was second for a silver medal after she scored a distance of 27'3".

BHI 7s place 4th
Beverly Hills' seventh-grade team made its PISD debut with 35 team points for fourth place.

Natalie Armenta was one of the team's leaders as she won the 800-meter run in a time of 2:55.09 for 10 points.

The Lady Bears scored 16 points for a second-place finish in the 4x400-meter relay.

Bondy won at 5:05.49, and the Lady Bears were second in a time of 5:08.46 as Armenta was joined by Gimena Quintanilla, Alyssa Trevino and Joanna Cruz.

Beverly Hills placed fifth in two other relays. In the 4x200-meter race, the Beverly Hills foursome that included Alexis Shaw, Alana Ortega, Mya Gar-

cia and Cruz finished at 2:13.54.

In the 4x100-meter event, Beverly Hills clocked in at 1:01.52 as Shaw, Ortega, Garcia and Cruz made up the team. Alondra Acevedo was sixth in the 1,600-meter run at 7:01.40.

Bears' 8s take second
Beverly Hills performed even better at the eighth-grade level, scoring 107 points for second place behind Bondy's winning total of 173.

A big portion of the Lady Bears' points came in the relays, as the team won two events and finished second in another for a total of 56 points in those three events.

Beverly Hills' first win came in the 4x100-meter relay as Aylene Vela, Jakkara Henry, Karyn Williams and Natasha Walters teamed for the victory in a time of 53.92.

The Lady Bears also scored the win in the 4x200-meter event, this time in at 1:58.80 as Amber Terrell was joined by Henry, Maia Davenport and Walters.

Henry used her individual talent for a big win in the long jump, making her way to the 14'0" mark for the gold medal.

In the 4x400-meter race, the Lady Bears took second place in a time of 4:53.19 by Alondra Rios Lopez, Davenport, Natalie Diosdado and Annette Vela.

Walters and Williams ran well in the 100-meter dash as Walters wound up third at 13.52. Williams' time of 13.96 was sixth.

A big team effort paid off for Beverly Hills in the 200-meter dash as Vela was second in a time of 30.03, and Henry's time of

30.04 was third. In fourth place was Kristen Patton at 30.70.

Rios Lopez took fourth place in the 800-meter run at 2:52.58, and Diosdado was second in the 2,400-meter run at 10:09.09. Vela's time of 58.79 placed her fourth in the 300-meter hurdles.

Lady Lion 8s fourth
Thompson's 64 team points were fourth overall in the eighth-grade meet.

The Lady Lions scored 16 of those points in the speedy 4x100-meter relay. There, Erin Fleming and Paige Darden were joined by Victoria Onozie and Yvonne Whaley for a time of 54.15 and second place.

Whaley was crowned the champion of the 100-meter dash as her time of 13.29 landed the Lady Lions 10 points. Fleming's time of 13.54 was fourth-best.

A'Naya Thomas won the high jump and scored 10 points for Thompson as she cleared 4'7", and Thompson was fifth at 4'2". At 13'1", Thompson placed fourth for her team in the long jump.

Bazaldua's best effort of 27'1" gave her third place in the triple jump.

At 2:54.09, the Lady Lions' Jackie Garcia placed fifth in the 800-meter run, and teammates Jocelyn Thompson (18.81) and Hilary Bazaldua (19.18) were fourth and fifth, respectively, in the 100-meter hurdles.

Bazaldua was also fifth in the 300-meter hurdles at 59.56.

The Lady Lions placed sixth in the 4x400-meter relay at 5:16.60. That foursome included Garcia, Felicity Boutte, Darden and Thompson.

CB's Thompson offers hoops training



Clear Brook High School varsity boys' basketball head coach Christian Thompson (above) is offering offseason training for boys' and girls' players in both 1-on-1 and group sessions. The training sessions will include drills covering the fundamentals of the game, including shooting, ball-handling, dribbling, passing and more. For additional information, call Thompson at 832-573-0739.

Local sports news, notes

Quickstart tennis to register March 29

The Pasadena Independent School District's Quickstart youth tennis program is now enrolling second- through sixth-grade students to take part in the annual program. In-person registration will be held Saturday, March 29, at the Pasadena Memorial High School tennis courts from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. The registration fee is \$35, which includes a racket, T-shirt and four introductory tennis lessons. The Quickstart tennis program is designed to be a great way to promote fun and fitness while exposing youths to tennis. For further information, call program coordinator Joey Pena at 832-788-4040.

Dobie Diamond Club to meet

The Dobie Diamond Club, the official booster club of the school's baseball program, will host its monthly meeting Wednesday, March 26, at 7 p.m., in the school's annex near the weight room facility. All parents of Longhorn baseball players are encouraged to attend, and players are also welcome. For additional information, direct email to dobiebaseball@yahoo.com.

Lajaunie tennis tourney next month

The Darren Lajaunie Tennis Scholarship Fund along with the Bay Area Racquet Club in Houston will host the third annual Darren Lajaunie Memorial Tennis Tournament Friday, April 25 through Sunday, April 27. The event will again award members of the Bay Area Racquet Club junior tennis players camp and Dobie High School senior players college scholarships. Members of the Dobie varsity tennis team will also be allowed to play in the tournament free of charge. Lajaunie, who lost his battle with melanoma May 3, 2011, began his tennis career at Dobie High School and graduated as the co-valedictorian in 1984. For tournament details, visit the Lajaunie website at www.DLTennisScholarships.com. The Darren Lajaunie Tennis Scholarship Fund is a nonprofit corporation, and all donations are tax deductible. Donations may now be made via the website with a credit card or by check or money order via mail at Darren Lajaunie Tennis Scholarship Fund, 3106 Mossy Elm Court, Houston, Texas 77059. Direct any questions or donation requests to Camille Lajaunie, committee chairperson, at cjlajau nie@gmail.com. The Bay Area Racquet Club (281-488-7026) is located on Kings Park Lane, off NASA Road 1 in Houston.

San Jac soccer to play scrimmages

The San Jacinto College men's soccer team will host spring exhibition matches on March 22 and 29. On Saturday, March 22, San Jacinto College will face the University of St. Thomas at 6 p.m. On Saturday, March 29, San Jac will take on University of the Incarnate Word at 2 p.m. All soccer games are played at the San Jacinto College South campus soccer field located at 13735 Beamer Road and are free and open to the public. The San Jacinto College men's soccer team will also hold open tryouts for the 2014 season on Friday, March 21, at the South campus soccer field. Tryouts are open to high school seniors, recent high school graduates, current San Jacinto College students and college transfers. Participants are required to bring their own shinguards and water. Tryouts will be from 5:30 to 8 p.m. For more information about open tryouts and the soccer program, call soccer head coach Ian Spooner at 281-922-3475 or email him at ian.spooner@sjcd.edu.

Lunar Rendezvous tennis April 25

The 2014 Lunar Rendezvous Festival committee has set the date for its tennis tournament. The Astronomic Aces Tennis Tournament will pit some of the area's top tennis players when tournament play begins Friday, April 25, at 6 p.m., at the Fitness Center at South Shore Harbour, 3000 Invincible Drive in League City. Play continues through the weekend. The divisions include men's and women's doubles 4.5, 4.0 and 3.5 and juniors as well as mixed doubles 4.5, 4.0 and 3.5 and juniors. A player can participate in only two divisions. The fee is \$30 per person. All matches will be best two out of three. For more information about the tournament or sponsorships, contact Kevin Duke or Curtis Chen at 281-334-2560 or kevinduke@southshorefitness.com. Entries also are available at www.southshorefitness.com. There will be details of the Lunar Rendezvous golf event in May.

Legion Post 490 golf classic April 21

American Legion Post 490 will host its 2014 Charity Golf Classic Monday, April 21, at Magnolia Creek Golf Club in League City. Proceeds from the tournament go to support 490's youth baseball teams as well as other youth programs supported by the post. The early bird player entry fee is \$89 for individuals and \$320 for foursomes through March 22 and \$99 per player and \$355 for foursomes thereafter. American Legion members of any post designation may register for \$89 per player. Registration the day of the event will begin at 7 a.m., and there will be an 8:30 a.m. shotgun start. In addition to 18 holes of tournament play, the day will feature longest drive, closest-to-the-pin and Vegas hole competitions. There will be individual and team cash awards presented. American Legion Post 490 is located at 11702 Old Galveston Road in Houston. The post's phone number is 281-481-1179. For more tournament information, call Bob Lindemann at 713-557-6238 or Linda Mortier at 281-236-7893.

Paredes goes distance against Manvel, Dobie unbeaten with Alvin coming

Continued from Page 1B
a single through the right side. Torres said he initially intended to hold Molina at third base, but that didn't happen.

was in time to perhaps retire Molina, but Manvel catcher Kyle Rogers let the ball get past him as Molina scored for the win. The rally made a winner out of Dobie starting

pitcher Jesse Paredes, just one of the team's top newcomers this season. **Chances missed**
In truth, both teams squandered multiple opportunities to gain the up-

per hand in the game. Dobie loaded the bases with one out in the bottom of the fourth inning, but Tyler Myers bounced into a 5-2-3 double play to end the threat.

An inning later, Dobie's Jake Mendoza reached third base with one out before Manvel starter Donovan Lewis struck out Ruben Guevara and retired Isaiah Myers on a soft pop-up to shortstop.

As for Manvel, the Mavericks had their chances as well. With the game still tied at 3-3, Manvel placed runners at the corners with one out against Paredes.

But Paredes toughened up, getting Lewis on a foul pop to Dobie catcher Adrian Rivera. With two outs, Manvel pinch hitter Tomas Garcia hit a comebacker to Paredes, who threw softly to first base for the out.

The Mavericks had another chance in the seventh against Paredes, but it simply wasn't to be. Austin Alexis led off with a sharp single to right field on the first pitch Paredes threw. Dixon sacrificed Alexis to second base with a bunt.

But Alexis got caught in a rundown on another roller back to Paredes. Although Dixon reached second base on the play, the threat ended as Guevara fielded a grounder to first and fired to Paredes covering the



Dobie sophomore Jesse Paredes went the distance against Manvel in a 4-3 win March 18 at Dobie, striking out five over seven innings while walking just one. Paredes is now 3-0 this season.

bag for the final out. Acknowledging that both teams had their chances, Torres was more than willing to take the win.

At the same time, he pointed to the terrific play of sophomores like Paredes as well as both Myers: Tyler and Isaiah. "I love my sophomores," Torres said. "We've had a lot of guys step up, including Michael Munoz (March 21 starter against Alvin, which is to be played at 4 p.m. at Dobie.) Right now, we're doing what it takes."

While Ansley was picked off of first base in the seventh and also had a single to center field escape him during Manvel's three-run, third inning, he also tied the game at 3-3 with a mammoth two-run homer to deep center field in the bottom of the third.

As for Paredes, he simply has earned the right to stay a while. Ansley, who developed into Dobie's top starting pitcher in 2013, has yet to throw off the mound competitively this season and is unlikely to do so until perhaps the second half of district play.

In turn, Paredes won the right to be a starter with a pair of wins in nondistrict play. Now, Paredes is 2-0 in 22-5A play and 3-0 overall. Right now, there is no

thought of Paredes having to take a secondary role. In fact, he seemingly cements his status with each outing. Against Manvel, Paredes allowed three runs in the third inning, but the Mavericks were helped as Dixon's routine single got past Ansley and went for a two-run triple.

running for Dobie's Player of the Year to this point in the season, was brilliant. The senior right-hander allowed the Mavericks just one hit in a complete-game effort, and the Longhorns scored a sixth-inning run to take the lead for good. Ansley walked to start the sixth and moved to second base on a fielder's choice. Later, Ansley broke for third base on a steal try and raced in to score after the Memorial catcher sailed his throw into left field. Munoz then finished off the win in the seventh.



Tyler Baumann found himself at the bottom of the pile after his single lifted the Dobie varsity baseball team to a dramatic walk-off win over Manvel March 18 at Dobie. Photos by John Bechtel

Dobie netters on a roll as District tourney arrives

Continued from Page 1B
The Westbrooks event, named after Moreno's former collegiate coach, is special for obvious reasons. Again, the Longhorns have made Moreno proud.

At Lamar University, Tony Ly and Brian Williams finished second in the A boys' doubles, and Ashley Deveza and Karen Neira won the girls' A doubles. Levi Marshall, stepping

up big, won the boys' B singles. It was an all-Dobie final in three other events. In the varsity boys' B doubles, Flavio Castillo and Albert Luu teamed to defeat fellow Dobie mates

Michael Duron and David Ho. In freshman boys' singles, Dobie's Bao Nguyen downed Taylor Nguyen. In freshman girls' singles, Alice Phan defeated Jacklyn Tran.

"I'm just proud of the kids for the way they came together and played really good tennis here in the spring," Moreno said. "It's a tough time of year to stay focused, and they've done it."



The Dobie High School varsity tennis team posed for a victory picture after winning the Lamar University/Ron Westbrooks Invitational in Beaumont for the second consecutive season. Members of the team are, left to right, (kneeling) Lada Heng, Kim Dinh, Levi Marshall, Bao Nguyen, Albert Luu, Alice Phan, Ashley Deveza, Garrett Armstrong, Kyle Gee, Tommy

Le, (standing) Julie Nguyen, David Ho, Juan Melesio, Michael Duron, Brian Williams, Jacklyn Tran, Tony Ly, Luis Cabreja, Taylor Nguyen, John Le, Flavio Castillo, Dobie coach Manuel Moreno Jr., Westbrooks, Brandon Chung, Elizabeth Tran, Andrea Tran, Justin Gee and Karen Neira.

Roberts' power surge lifts St. Edwards softball

Faith Roberts, now a junior at St. Edwards University in Austin, smacked a pair of home runs to lead her team to a weekend sweep over Oklahoma Panhandle State March 14-15. For the season, Roberts is hitting .355 with 11 doubles, six home runs, 25 runs driven in and a slugging percentage of .668. After the sweep over OPS, the Hilltoppers are 22-11 overall and 7-2 in Heartland Conference play. Since playing in a handful of games as a freshman at St. Edwards, Roberts has been one of the team's best overall players. In 2013 as a sophomore, Roberts hit .333 and had four home runs and 31 runs driven in. Roberts was a three-year starter at Dobie High School before graduating in 2011.



CALENDAR

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THURSDAY, MARCH 20
7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" each Tuesday through Friday at 7 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, in the Cornell Conference Room. 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.
5:30 p.m.
Texas German Society, South Belt (Southeast) Chapter - A social group interested in the culture, music, heritage and language of the immigrants in early German settlements in Texas. Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of Mount Olive Lutheran Church, 10310 Scarsdale Blvd. Visitors are welcome. Call 281-481-1238 for more information.
7 p.m.
Al-Anon (English Speaking) - Provides support for family and friends of alcoholics and addicts. Thursday at 7 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, Room 215. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.
Alateen - Provides support for teenage children, friends and family members of alcoholics and addicts. Thursday at 7 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, Room 212. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.
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, MARCH 21
7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" each Tuesday through Friday at 7 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, in the Cornell Conference

Room. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.
10 a.m.
Interfaith Care Partners - Interfaith Care Partners ministry has been established at Saint Frances Cabrini Catholic Church, 10727 Hartsook Street in Houston, near Alameda Mall. The gathering is for persons with Alzheimer's, dementia, Parkinson's, strokes and similar disabilities and their caretakers is provided on the third Friday of each month from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The gathering consists of a continental-type breakfast, arts and crafts, exercises, entertainment, a sing-a-long, devotional break, lunch, and ends with a bingo game. Those who have a family member or know of someone with these challenges are welcome to attend. For additional information, call the church office at 713-946-5768; Claudia Rojas, Interfaith Care Partners, at 713-682-5995; or visit the website at interfaithcarepartners.org.
Noon
Moving Forward Women's Adult Children Anonymous - The ACA group meets Fridays at noon at the Up The Street Club in Webster, 508 Nasa Parkway, in room 4. ACA is a 12-step program of hope, healing and recovery for people who grew up in alcoholic or dysfunctional homes. For more information, call 281-286-1431.
6 p.m.
Un Dia a la Vez Alanon Group (Spanish speaking) - Provides support for family and friends of alcoholics or addicts. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday at 6 p.m. in Room 215 at the First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.
8 p.m.
Pasadena Little Theatre - *How Green Was My Brownie*, a farce by Jack Sharkey, at 8 p.m., 4318 Allen-Genoa Road. Performances are weekends through March 30. Friday and Saturday performances are at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m. One special-priced Admit Two for \$14 is Thursday, March 27, at 8 p.m. Director is Gregory R. Brown. For reservations, call 713-941-1758 or visit www.pasadenalittletheatre.org. Credit cards accepted.

SATURDAY, MARCH 22
7:30 a.m.

Alcoholics Anonymous - "Breakfast with Bill" each Saturday at 7:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Cornell Conference Room. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.
10 a.m.
Pasadena Little Theatre - Donations accepted 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for Pasadena Little Theatre's first annual garage sale fundraiser benefitting Pasadena Little Theatre. For more information, contact Craig Trauschke at medicant@fastmail.us or visit www.pasadenalittletheatre.org.
11 a.m.
Al-Anon Meeting (Women Only, English) - For persons whose lives are affected by someone who is addicted. Each Saturday morning at 11 a.m. at First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Cornell Conference Room #111. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.
6 p.m.
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.
7:30 p.m.
Pearland Overeaters Anonymous HOW Meeting - Saturdays 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Open discussion. Memorial Hermann Prevention and Recovery PARC, 2245 N. Main St., Suite 2, Pearland 77581. (Located on Hwy 35, just north of Broadway.) The group's primary purpose is to abstain from compulsive overeating and to carry the message of recovery to those who still suffer. Call 713 865-1611 for information, or just drop in.
8 p.m.
Pasadena Little Theatre - *How Green Was My Brownie*, a farce by Jack Sharkey, at 8 p.m., 4318 Allen-Genoa Road. Performances are weekends through March 30. Friday and Saturday performances are at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m. One special-priced Admit Two for \$14 is Thursday, March 27, at 8 p.m. Director is Gregory R. Brown. For reservations, call 713-941-1758 or visit www.pasadenalittletheatre.org. Credit cards accepted.

SUNDAY, MARCH 23
10 a.m.
Pasadena Little Theatre - Donations accepted 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for Pasadena Little Theatre's first annual garage sale fundraiser benefitting Pasadena Little Theatre. For more information, contact Craig Trauschke at medicant@fastmail.us or visit www.pasadenalittletheatre.org.
2 p.m.
Grief Support Group - For any adult who has lost a loved one. Meets every Sunday, except Mother's Day, Easter and Christmas from 2 to 3:15 p.m. at First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway. For more information, call 281-487-8787.
3 p.m.
Pasadena Little Theatre - *How Green Was My Brownie*, a farce by Jack Sharkey, at 3 p.m., 4318 Allen-Genoa Road. Performances are weekends through March 30. Friday and Saturday performances are at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m. One special-priced Admit Two for \$14 is Thursday, March 27, at 8 p.m. Director is Gregory R. Brown. For reservations, call 713-941-1758 or visit www.pasadenalittletheatre.org. Credit cards accepted.
5:30 p.m.
Celebrate Recovery - A faith-based 12-Step Program meets every Sunday evening at 5:30 p.m. in the Chapel of the Educational Building at Life Church in Houston at 9900 Alameda Genoa. Call 713-419-2635 for more information or to RSVP for child care.
6:30 p.m.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - For persons who are trying to overcome drug addiction. Sunday at 6:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Fellowship Hall 4. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.
7 p.m.
Alcoholics Anonymous - Candlelight Meeting Sunday at 7 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, Cornell Conference Room. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.

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CALENDAR

Continued from Page 3B

SUNDAY, MARCH 23
 8 p.m.
Alcoholics Anonymous - Alcohol problems? AA meetings are held Sundays and Tuesdays from 8 to 9 p.m. and Thursdays from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. at St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta Street. For information, call 713-204-2481.

MONDAY, MARCH 24
 9 a.m.
Houston Area Parkinson Society - Free exercise and speech therapy from 9 to 10:30 a.m. at Clear Lake Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster. Visit www.hapsonline.org for a complete list of services offered.

10 a.m.
Al-Anon Deer Park - Mondays 10 to 11 a.m. Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P Street, Deer Park. Enter through Fellowship Hall in back of church. Call 409 454-5720 for information, or just drop in.

11:30 a.m.
Overeaters Anonymous Deer Park - 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P Street, Deer Park. Enter through Fellowship Hall in back of church. Call 409 454-5720 for information, or just drop in.

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

7 p.m.
Friends Helping Friends Grief Support Group - The grief support group "Friends Helping Friends" meets every Monday at Kindred Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd. in Webster. Time is 7 - 8:15 p.m. in the staff meeting room. Anyone who has lost a loved one is welcome to attend. The meetings are free. For information, call Betty Bielat at 281-474-3430 or Diana Kawalec at 281-334-1033.

TUESDAY, MARCH 25
 7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" each Tuesday through Friday at 7 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, in the Cornell Conference Room. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.

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

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. For information, call 713-472-0565.

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

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

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

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

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26
 7 a.m.

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

9:30 a.m.
Young at Heart Club - Meets the second and fourth week of each month at Covenant United Methodist Church, 7900 Fuqua. Lots of activities, trips, etc. Call Nellie Galney at 713-991-3517 for more information.

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.hapsonline.org for a complete list of services offered.

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

6:30 p.m.
Bay Area Turning Point Crisis Intervention Center - Domestic violence support group for male survivors meets each Wednesday at 210 S. Walnut off NASA Parkway. Call 281-338-7600 for information. Participants may join at any time as this is an open group.

7 p.m.
Bay Area Turning Point Crisis Intervention Center - Confidential domestic violence support group for women meets every week. For information, call 281-338-7600 or visit www.bayareaturningpoint.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 27
 7 a.m.

AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" each Tuesday through Friday at 7 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, in the Cornell Conference Room. 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.

7 p.m.
Al-Anon (English Speaking) - Provides support for family and friends of alcoholics and addicts. Thursday at 7 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, Room 215. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.
Alateen - Provides support for teenage children, friends and family members of alcoholics and addicts. Thursday at 7 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, Room 212. Call 281-487-8787, or just drop in.

8 p.m.
Pasadena Little Theatre - Special two-for-one performance of *How Green Was My Brownie*, a farce by Jack Sharkey, at 8 p.m., 4318 Allen-Genoa Road. Director is Gregory R. Brown. Buy one ticket for \$14 and get one free. For reservations, call 713-941-1758 or visit www.pasadenalittletheatre.org. Credit cards accepted.

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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Dobie soccer teams land 22-5A No. 4 postseason seedings



Summer Naser of Dobie (4) wrestles with a Memorial defensive player during a game at Veterans Stadium. Naser and her Lady Longhorn teammates will take on Pearland at The Rig in Pearland Friday, March 21. After that, the locals will head to the playoffs as the No. 4 seed in 22-5A.

Continued from Page 1B nice to have seen his team at full strength.

As it stands, the Lady Longhorns will enter the playoffs as the fourth and final seed out of 22-5A.

As McDonald has pointed out, anything can happen once the playoffs start.

Dobie won't likely be at full strength in the playoffs, either, but McDonald

is set to move forward. Before then, the Lady Longhorns will play Pearland, a team that has given Dobie fits in the past.

Dobie was moving right along last season before a pair of back-to-back physical battles against Pearland took place.

As a result, Dobie went into the playoffs at less than full strength and eventually lost in the first

round. "Once you are in the playoffs, it's all about playing well on a given night," McDonald said. "We found that out last season."

"We've played well the second half of the season here, so I think we'll be ready to go when the time comes. Whether you are the No. 1 or No. 4 seed, you can advance."

22-5A Varsity Boys' Soccer Standings

Teams	W	L	T	Pts.
Sam Rayburn	10	0	3	34
Memorial	9	0	4	33
Pasadena	10	3	0	30
Dobie	5	5	3	21
South Houston	4	8	1	13
Alvin	3	10	0	9
Pearland	1	7	4	9
Manvel	1	10	1	4

22-5A Varsity Girls' Soccer Standings

Teams	W	L	T	Pts.
Pearland	12	1	0	36
Memorial	11	2	0	33
Alvin	9	3	1	29
Dobie	7	3	2	24
Pasadena	3	7	3	13
South Houston	1	9	3	8
Sam Rayburn	1	8	3	6
Manvel	1	11	1	4

Lady Longhorns pound PHS, 19-0

The Dobie High School varsity softball team went back to action March 18 after an eight-day layoff and had little trouble getting back in to the swing of things. The Lady Longhorns pounded Pasadena 19-0 to improve to 3-2 in District 22-5A play, which is currently fourth-best in the district. Pearland leads the way at 5-0, with Alvin and Manvel tied at 4-1. Dobie is next at 3-2, with Memorial 2-3. At right, Dobie outfielder Ashley Gallant and her teammates will take on Sam Rayburn Friday, March 21, at the Pasadena ISD complex. Game time is 6:30 p.m. Dobie will then close out the first half of 22-5A play by facing Pearland Tuesday, March 25, at Pearland. That game is also set for 6:30 p.m.

Photo by John Bechtle



Dobie's Rachel Glass plays the ball forward during the team's easy win over Manvel. At 7-3-2 with one game remaining in District 22-5A play, the Lady Longhorns have qualified for the playoffs and are likely to face Deer Park in the bidistrict playoffs.

Nguyen adds to softball legacy

While the Army women's softball team struggled to a 7-10 start through March 18 play, Dobie graduate Amanda Nguyen continued to add to her star-studded legacy.

Now a senior for the Black Knights, Nguyen took over the all-time lead in hits at Army.

Needing just five hits entering the season to top Nikki Robbins' 1999-2002 total of 225, Nguyen entered play March 18 with 245.

For Nguyen, it's just another record to add to others she owns.

In just three seasons, Nguyen became the Army

career leader with 139 runs scored, and her 96 stolen bases coming into 2014 represented both a team and Patriot Conference all-time record.

A three-time Patriot League champion, Nguyen is hoping to lead Army to a repeat of its Patriot League tournament title.

Amanda Nguyen's career at Army Totals as of March 18 games

Career hits – 245 (Army career record and currently fifth all-time in Patriot League. LeHigh's Julie Fernandez had 262 from 2009 to 2012.)

Career runs – 139 (Army career record and currently fifth all-time in Patriot League. LeHigh's Audra Wood had 172 from 2009 to 2012.)

Career stolen bases – 96 (Army and Patriot League career record. Also holds PL single-season mark with 40.)

*Patriot League began play in 1991.



Dobie's Denis Lopez (2) maintains possession of the ball while challenging a Memorial defender during District 22-5A action. With just one game remaining in the league race, the Longhorns own the No. 4 playoff seed.

Photos by Gary Williams

Curtis helps Florida win SEC women's track title

All she ever truly wanted to do was attend the University of Florida.

Now a member of the Gators' women's track and field program midway through her career, former Lutheran South Academy star and multiple state gold medal winner Loreal Curtis is having fun.

Curtis completed one of the finest careers in Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools history before signing a letter of intent to attend DePaul University in Chicago following high school graduation in 2011.

It was fun while it lasted.

With her heart pulling her to Gainesville, Curtis transferred to the University of Florida last summer.

It didn't take her long to make a difference on campus.

The women's track and field team won the Southeastern Conference Indoor Championships earlier this month as Curtis con-

tributed to Florida's win in the distance medley relay.

Running a 400-meter second leg of the DMR at 54.44, Curtis did her part as Florida won the event in a time of 11 minutes, 08.11 seconds.

Teammates Rebekah Greene (1,200 meters), Agata Strausa (800 meters) and Cory McGee (1,600 meters) also contributed to the Gators' win in the event.

Overall, Florida tallied 102 points to win the SEC crown over foes such as Texas A&M and LSU.

The Florida team went on to compete at the NCAA nationals.

At those nationals in Albuquerque, N.M., Curtis shifted relays, joining the 4x400-meter event as Florida was fourth in a time of 3:32.06.

Florida's DMR team also placed fourth at nationals.

Overall, the Florida men's and women's teams both claimed third place in the final team standings.



Members of the University of Florida distance medley relay team show off their medals after winning the event at the Southeastern Conference Indoor Championships. The relay win also helped the Gators win the overall meet title with 102 points. The foursome in the distance medley relay (1,200-meter,

400-meter, 800-meter and 1,600-meter legs) included, left to right, Cory McGee, Agata Strausa, Loreal Curtis and Rebekah Greene. Curtis, a former star at Lutheran South Academy, ran the 400-meter leg for the team during the win.

Photo courtesy of Florida athletics

