

## PISD GT exhibit set

The Pasadena Independent School District's Advanced Academics Department will hold its annual GT Showcase, featuring projects by Gifted and Talented students in the district, May 25 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the foyer and cafeteria areas of Beverly Hills Intermediate.

Most of the elementary, middle schools and intermediate schools in the district will have students participating. The showcase has grown from about 50 projects to more than 150 projects in recent years.

The public is invited to view the projects and ask students questions about their work.

## Graduation issue planned

The *Leader's* high school special edition will be published June 2. It will feature graduation information for Dobie, Clear Brook, South Houston high schools and Lutheran South Academy. To honor a candidate with a personalized ad, call the *Leader* at 281-481-5656 or e-mail mynews@southbeltleader.com. The deadline is 3 p.m. Thursday, May 26.

## Tree waste pickup set

Tree waste only will be picked up Thursday, May 19, for city of Houston (77089) residents living north of Beltway 8. Residents south of the beltway are scheduled for Thursday, May 26. For more information, call 3-1-1.

## Kindergarten Roundup set

Atkinson Elementary will hold its Kindergarten Roundup on Tuesday, May 24, for students who will be in kindergarten for the 2011-2012 school year. The Kindergarten Roundup will be held in the cafeteria from 4 to 6:30 p.m. To enroll a child, the following information must be brought: birth certificate, record of immunizations, Social Security card and proof of residence. For more information, call the office at 713-740-0520.

## Cheerleaders hold car wash

Dobie cheerleaders will hold a car wash Saturday, May 21, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at McDonalds on Fuqua. The squad is asking for a \$5 donation, but any amount is welcome. Proceeds will help the cheerleaders throughout the year with spirit items they give away at football and basketball games and other events, and competition fees and scholarships the booster club gives annually.

## Legion hosts BBQ benefit

American Legion Post 490 will sponsor its 3rd annual barbecue championship cookoff June 9-11, 11702 Galveston Road, (across from Ellington Field). Entries include brisket, ribs and chicken. Entry fee for all three is \$150 with cash prizes and trophies given in each category. Beans entry is optional with a \$10 fee - winner takes 90 percent of entries. The last date to enter is June 1. For information, call 713-515-8267 or 281-481-1179.

## Dobie sets class reunions

### 10-year class reunion

Dobie Class of 2001 will hold its 10-year reunion on July 9, 2011, from 7:30 p.m. to midnight at Golfcrest Country Club in Pearland. The cost, April 15 through June 1, is \$50; June 2 through July 2, \$60 (this is the last day to pre-order tickets); and on July 9, \$75 (cash only at the door). For more information, contact <http://www.dobie2001.webs.com/>.

### 20-year class reunion

The Dobie High School Class of 1991 will hold its 20-year reunion Saturday, Oct. 8, 2011, from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Trevisio Restaurant & Ballroom, 6550 Bertner Ave. in Houston. For information and/or tickets sales, visit <http://www.jfdobie91reunion.com/> or on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/?f=home#1/dobieclassof91reunion>.

### 35-year class reunion

Dobie Class of 1976 will hold its 35-year reunion on June 11, 2011, from 6 p.m. to midnight in the Marina Ballroom at South Shore Harbour Resort in League City. The cost through May 20 is \$75; May 21 through May 31, \$85 (last day to preorder tickets); and June 11, \$85 (cash only at the door). For more information, contact Milly Valez McHale at [sillymilly\\_40@yahoo.com](mailto:sillymilly_40@yahoo.com) or [facebook.com/pfister.lvel](http://www.facebook.com/pfister.lvel). There is also a link on the Dobie website.

## St. Frances Cabrini bazaar

St. Frances Cabrini Church's annual festival will be held at 10727 Hartsok May 22 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. There will be activities, food, children's games and rides, bingo, music and dance, and a raffle with five prizes, including a \$4,500 VISA gift certificate. Trash & Treasure, known to be one of southeast Houston's largest garage sales, is open daily through May 22. For more information, call 713-946-5768.

## Dobie Choir pop show

Dobie choir students will hold a concert Thursday, May 19, and Friday, May 20, at 7 p.m. Cost of admission is \$10.

The theme this year is Once Upon a Time with music from *Beauty and the Beast*, *Little Mermaid*, *Mulan* and many more.

# CCISD mulls closing Clear Horizons

By James Bolen

In an effort to cut costs, the Clear Creek Independent School District's Citizens Finance Advisory Committee has recommended closing Clear Horizons Early College High School.

Located at San Jacinto College South, the

school allows eligible CCISD students to take high school and college courses simultaneously. Many students in the program earn their associate degree, while also earning their high school diploma.

College credits earned through the program

can be transferred to most major Texas universities, including the University of Texas, Texas A&M University and the University of Houston. The program is offered at no cost to students, allowing them to save a significant amount of money on college tuition.

The campus opened the fall term of the 2007-2008 school year and currently has roughly 400 students.

The committee's recommendation is not based on an evaluation of the program, but rather what it viewed as being a high cost per student. The committee further argued that students could still receive college credit by taking dual credit or advanced placement courses at the district's comprehensive high schools.

Other budget recommendations offered by the committee include eliminating the 5 percent homestead exemption, allowing out-of-district students to attend CCISD schools for a tuition, reducing teacher and non-teacher contract pay by up to five days, eliminating or charging a fee

for all nonmandatory transportation, charging fees for extracurricular activities and charging a transportation fee of \$20 per student, per year for athletics and fine arts.

The recommendations would cut \$16.2 million from the district's deficit, which administrators said is between \$21 million and \$41 million based on proposed state legislation that would reduce public education spending.

Established by the CCISD Board of Trustees last December, the Citizens Finance Advisory Committee was formed to generate community-driven ideas to cope with the projected cuts.

CCISD will hold public input meetings on Monday, June 6, at Clear Lake High School at 6 p.m. and Tuesday, June 7, at Clear Springs High School at 6 p.m. to get feedback from the community. The board of trustees is expected to take action on the recommendations during its June 27 general board meeting.

For additional information, call 281-284-0020.

## More concerns on drainage fees

By James Bolen

Frustrations continue to mount as more South Belt residents are receiving their sample water bills that contain the new Rebuild Houston drainage fees that are higher than expected.

While the actual payments are not due until July, residents only have 60 days from the time they receive the sample bill to contest the fee if they feel it is incorrect.

According to the sample bills, the fee for a curb-and-gutter home is based on a rate of 3.2 cents per square foot of impervious surface, or concrete, that is located on each piece of property.

When residents were asked to vote on Proposition 1 last November, they were told by proponents of the program that the average price per household would be roughly \$5 per month or \$60 per year. However, many area residents have

received sample bills that are more than twice that amount.

Residents wishing to challenge the fees need to measure the amount of impervious surface on their properties, including sidewalks, driveways, slab, garage and swimming pools.

Homeowners wishing to dispute their bills have three options: Visit [www.rebuildhouston.org](http://www.rebuildhouston.org) to submit an online Request for Verification and Correction form; Fax a Request for Verification and Correction form, attached to the sample bill, to 1-855-865-4617; or mail the attached Request for Verification and Correction form to City of Houston, Public Works and Engineering Department, PO Box 4244, Houston, TX 77210-4244.

South Belt residents who believe their fees are incorrect are also urged to contact the *Leader* at [www.southbeltleader.com](http://www.southbeltleader.com).

## Sullivan holds town hall meeting

In what was his last town hall meeting for most of the South Belt area, Houston City Councilmember Mike Sullivan spoke on a number of issues, ranging from redistricting to the controversial new drainage fee.

The second-term councilmember said if current redistricting plans are approved, the portion of his District E that is located west of the Gulf Freeway will be transferred to District D, which is represented by Councilmember Wanda Adams.

The move was necessitated by the need to create two new council seats in response to the city's growing population.

Responding to resident concerns over the new drainage fee, Sullivan expressed his opposition to the program.

"I voted against it. I campaigned against it," Sullivan said. "It was a poorly advertised initiative."

Voted on this past November as Proposition 1, the program, now called Rebuild Houston, is aimed at repairing city drainage systems and streets by collecting a monthly fee from residents.

While campaigning for the program, Mayor Annise Parker and other proponents told voters the average cost would be around \$5 per household. Several in attendance at the meeting, however, said they had received sample bills stating the costs would be twice that amount.

The fee for a curb-and-gutter home is based

on a rate of 3.2 cents per square foot of impervious surface, or concrete, that is located on each piece of property.

Sullivan urged those wishing to contest their fees to visit [www.rebuildhouston.org](http://www.rebuildhouston.org) or call 713-371-1111.

The councilmember also voiced his dissatisfaction with other city programs, such as the recyclable garbage bags.

"These are bad ideas," Sullivan said. "People are fed up."

Yvonne Forrest from the Public Works and Engineering Department told attendees a project to repair Hughes Road is not expected to be complete until August 2014.

Proposed more than a decade ago by City Councilmember Rob Todd, the project is to repair the area street from Beltway 8 to Blackhawk and was originally to be complete before the Hughes expansion into Pearland, which is now already under way.

*Leader* publisher Marie Flickinger told Forrest she feared the project would become, "South Shaver No. 2," in reference to another city endeavor that has taken decades to even begin work.

Sullivan said he would look into the issue. Representatives were also on hand from Solid Waste Management, General Services and the Houston Fire and Police departments.

Sullivan is planning a hurricane preparedness meeting on Monday, June 6.

## Commissioner awards prizes



The South Belt Spectacular cookoff was a success, raising more than \$20,000 for the annual Fourth of July fireworks show. One of the surprises of the weekend occurred when Harris County Commissioner El Franco Lee presented the awards to the winners. The overall winner for the weekend was Team Henek. Additional photos will be posted on the *Leader* website next week and also will appear in next week's edition.

Photo by David Flickinger

## South Belt cookoff a success

The 15th annual South Belt Spectacular cookoff was a huge success this past weekend, raising more than \$20,000 for the yearly Fourth of July fireworks show.

While the area received much-needed rain on Thursday, the weather was cooperative for the weekend festivities.

This marked the first year that the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department was responsible for organizing the event, and the group is already gearing up for next year's festivities.

"We are already making plans to make this an even better event next year," said SVFD volunteer.

Continued on Page 6A

## County to shred documents

The Harris County Sheriff's Office is once again teaming up with Shred-It to help citizens permanently destroy old or unwanted personal documents.

Anyone interested in participating in the effort to help prevent identity theft can bring their old documents to have them shredded. The HCSO, in collaboration with Shred-It, will provide this service free of charge on Saturday, May 21, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Harris County Court Annex located at 10851 Scarsdale at Beamer.

Identity theft has become one of the costliest crimes in the nation. In addition to helping pre-

vent thieves from physically getting their hands on the discarded personal and confidential information of others, Shred-It also helps by heightening general public awareness on how to avoid becoming a victim of identity theft.

Batteries, glass and needles will not be allowed. Documents will only be accepted if they are received in file/banker boxes. Each household will be limited to five boxes.

About 5,000-10,000 pounds of documents are shredded at each event, Harris County officials said.

For more information, call 713-759-9454.

## McIngvale addresses top students

Jim "Mattress Mack" McIngvale was the guest speaker at a luncheon Thursday, May 12, honoring top local students.

Sponsored by the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce, the event recognized the top 10 graduating students from Dobie, Clear Horizons High School and Lutheran South Academy.

McIngvale stressed the importance of educa-

tion and hard work to the students. "Success is built on hard work, commitment and dedication," McIngvale said.

He further compared receiving an education to winning the lottery and quoted Bill Gates as saying, "Education is more valuable than money."

The highly successful entrepreneur told stu-

Continued on Page 6A

## CCISD election results tallied

The results are in from the May 14 Clear Creek Independent School District elections, with both incumbents winning. In the race for the District 2 seat, incumbent Win Weber handily defeated challenger Lisa Salinas. Weber received 81.9 percent of the vote to Salinas' 18.1 percent, with

Weber receiving 217 total votes to Salinas' 48 votes. In the contest for the District 4 position, Page Rander defeated challenger Alan D. Benjamin. Rander received 53.8 percent of the vote to Benjamin's 46.2 percent, with Rander receiving 57 total votes to Benjamin's 49 votes.

## Thompson student causes stir

Inappropriate remarks reportedly made by a student at Thompson Intermediate Friday, May 13, prompted Pasadena Independent School District officials to send out an automated phone call notifying parents.

A spokeswoman for the school district would not elaborate on what was said, as the incident is still under investigation.

The automated call stated, "Because our students' safety is always our first priority, I wanted to tell you about an incident that has occurred on the Thompson campus. A student was allegedly making inappropriate statements to other students. Please be assured that whenever an incident occurs, we and the Pasadena ISD Police Department investigate thoroughly and, if appropriate, discipline is given according to the district's Student Code of Conduct which is online

at [www.pasadenaisd.org](http://www.pasadenaisd.org).

Thompson Intermediate School and Pasadena ISD will not tolerate threats of any kind. Please talk to your children and impress upon them the seriousness of threats in today's society. Ask them to notify you or school personnel should they hear of any planned or potential disruptive behavior or safety concerns. Your child's safety is of utmost importance to us.

I appreciate your continued support. Please call the Thompson office if you have any questions."

## State warning on alarm sales

The Texas Department of Public Safety is urging Texas residents to make sure that any alarm salesperson, company or alarm installer that they hire is licensed by the DPS Regulatory Services Division.

Historically, some alarm salespersons have aggressively marketed their services to residents in municipalities - primarily going door to door in neighborhoods. DPS is working with the alarm industry trade associations to provide information to citizens regarding licensed companies and individuals.

"If someone offering alarm-related services shows up at your door unsolicited, ask them for their DPS Private Security pocket card, which will also have their picture," said Assistant Director RenEarl Bowie of the DPS Regulatory Services Division. "Do not accept any other form of identification as proof you are dealing with a licensed salesperson or installer."

Sagemont resident Gordon Berg reported alarm companies and installers must be licensed to operate legally in the state of Texas. The licensing process includes a criminal background check to help ensure the safety of the public.

To check whether a salesperson or installer is licensed in Texas, visit the following link: [http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/psb/individual/individual\\_search.aspx](http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/psb/individual/individual_search.aspx)

To check whether an alarm company is licensed in Texas, visit the following link: [http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/psb/company/company\\_search.aspx](http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/psb/company/company_search.aspx)

"Beware of aggressive tactics, or of someone trying to push you into making a decision immediately," said Bowie. "We have had numerous complaints of substandard work and broken promises in these situations."

## Car vandal sought



Deputies from the Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's office responded to 10 separate criminal mischief calls Tuesday, May 10, where automobile windows had been smashed. It is presumed the incidents occurred the night before. Most of the acts of vandalism took place near the intersection of Blackhawk and Astoria. Anyone with information regarding these incidents is urged to call 281-481-9189.

Photo by John Hoover

# Publisher's Opinion

## Fantastic community event

This past weekend, the 15th annual South Belt Spectacular cookoff was held, and what a weekend it was! There was so much hard work done by a fairly small group which included the new sponsor of the event, the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department including committee chair John Layton, his hard working assistant Dean Baier and Fire Chief Chuck Tylka along with community members David Matthews, Thuy Epperson, Chris McDonald and Linda Arnone.

Arnone has worked on the fundraising event for the last 10 years. The event would not have been possible without the help of the Harris County Sheriff's Department, vendors who donated blow-ups, game vehicles and a climbing wall. Add in activities sponsored by the San Jacinto Cosmetology department making Saturday morning and afternoon great family times. There are so many to thank, some will be left out; to them, I apologize.

Although a \$5 entrance fee was charged adults, all kids 12 and under were free. This included groups of ages up to 12 and 14 who were members of area baseball teams. The event had two goals: to raise enough money for the annual July 4th fireworks and to turn the

event into a friendlier South Belt community family event.

Initial financial reports show the event will fund the fireworks, and the free fun had by many children on Saturday made the event a complete success.

In 1988, I asked the chamber to host the event which would allow us to have a July 4th fireworks display in the community. In the past 23 years, the fireworks display has become a great tradition. The basic cost of fireworks during that time has gone from a minimum of \$5,000 to a minimum of \$20,000. Thanks to the hard work of many, we made it!

It is this type of involvement that keeps our community a neat place to live and work. My love and thanks to all who worked in the past on this event and to the new group that stepped up to the plate.

One person who must not be left out is County Commissioner El Franco Lee. Not only does he support our community daily, last Saturday he spent his time congratulating each and every winner of trophies and ribbons.

The South Belt community owes a debt of gratitude to all involved for making this possible.

—Marie Flickinger

# Readers' Opinions

Hospital, or the Bethesda Naval Hospital, or the Veteran Hospitals throughout our wonderful country, but then comes the special care needed in their homes. That is the phase of their lives that Wounded Warrior Project is concerned about. AND me too. What about you?

Oh, and one more thing I'm concerned about: Are there, or will there be, wounded warriors from the Afghanistan and Iraqi Wars in the South Belt-Ellington Field area? I don't know. What I do know, though, is that, and let me repeat, "Those combat veterans of today, when they leave the hospital, deserve the special care necessary for them to live their lives to the greatest extent possible."

Therefore, let me ask you to PLEASE contribute.

Hardie B. Matthews

## Gorman writes while waiting for response

While awaiting for the latest broadside from Mr. Volper, I have a brief reply to Mr. Valtasaros's latest letter to the *Leader*. I am well aware of his Greek heritage, partly because of his last name and dishly because of the delectable Greek dishes at his restaurant, but I didn't think that his ethnicity was relevant to the topic being discussed. I assume that he knows more about Greek government than I do (that is a reference to his ethnicity), but I would like to point out one thing: The original democracy in the Greek city-states was an attempt at direct democracy whereas we have a representative democracy (a.k.a. a republic).

Mr. Valtasaros has cherry-picked sixteen quotations to support his anti-democracy views, and he concludes by saying "I think these guys said it all." Well,

not quite. I think that I could come up with sixteen or more pro-democracy quotes, but I will settle for just one. It was by Winston Churchill, himself a product of a democracy (it's called the United Kingdom). Churchill said "Democracy is the worst form of government except for all of the other forms of government in the world." It can always be improved, but it is still, as Churchill said, the best of the worst.

Even if Mr. Valtasaros's preposterous statement that "every country that has called itself a democracy has failed" were correct, which it is not, we shouldn't give up on our democracy because it has worked for over 200 years. We can improve it by getting more involved in the political process by voting regularly, working for our favorite candidates, and attending precinct caucuses, if we support one of the major parties. It is a little embarrassing that some of the fledging democracies in the world have much higher voter turnouts than we do. Hopefully, this won't happen in 2012.

James J. Gorman

## Johansen: Thank you, Mr. President!

Justice has been done. President Obama campaigned to fight the right war. As a new president, he redirected the US effort and now has achieved what couldn't be done in the nine years since 9/11. He directed the CIA to make bin Laden's capture or death a top priority and authorized use of drones to break down the al Quida leadership. With careful planning and close presidential involvement, President Obama has brought bin Laden to justice once and for all. Thank you, Mr. President.

Pete Johansen

## Doyle Gene Whitfield

Former South Belt resident Doyle Gene Whitfield, 60, died Monday, May 9, 2011, at home in Grapeland, Texas. He was born in Carlsbad, N.M. on Aug. 3, 1950.

Whitfield was preceded in death by his parents, Elter Elvis and Jeanie Tucker Whitfield; his parents-in-law Harold and Roberta Miller; and his grandparents-in-law, Martin and Mary Thompson of the Texas Friday Community.

He is survived by his wife Jackie; his two sons, Martin and wife Traci and Dwight and wife Kerri; and grandchildren Becky, Sarah, Steven, Mason, Ryan and Adam. He is also survived by his brother, Howard, and wife Marylou of Montgomery, Texas; his special "daughter," Wendy Jones of Alvin, Texas; and his falling down buddy Pat Flurry of Palestine, Texas.

A memorial service was held at the Friday Community Center on FM 1280 on Saturday, May 14, 2011.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Heart to Heart Hospice, 209 Christie, Lufkin, TX 75904.

## Clair Pitman

Clair Pitman, 88, of Bella Vista, died on Thursday, May 5, 2011, after a courageous battle with lung cancer. He was born Jan. 23, 1923, in Portage, Wis. He was a World War II veteran who served with the Headquarters Battery 198th Coast Artillery Battalion.

Pitman was preceded in death by his wife, Virginia, who died in 2005, and a grandson, Randy Winklevoss.

He is survived by his children, Carol Miller, Terry Winklevoss, Linda Lawson and son-in-law Rex Lawson Sr.; grandchildren, Tiffany Young, Christina Nichols, Camaron Miller, Tera Stevens, and Rex Lawson Jr.; and great-grandchildren, Alyssa Young, Lillian Nichols, Delaney Nichols, Vaughn Stevens and Hadley Stevens.

He is also survived by a sister, Betty Jones-Hervey and several nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, it is requested memorial donations be made to M.D. Anderson

# Deaths

Cancer Hospital or Hospice. At the request of the deceased, there will not be a memorial service.

## Hortense Cambiaso



Hortense Cambiaso "My Honey," 81, was born Sept. 27, 1929, in San Antonio, and died peacefully May 9, 2011, at her home. She was preceded in death by her parents, numerous family and friends. She was a friend to many, wife of 55 years to Jose, mother of three children, Tony, Jo and Joey and grandmother to their children.

The Cambiaso family lived in the South Belt area for 55 years and owned many rental properties and a film company (filmed high school sporting events).

Visitation was held at Forest Park East Funeral Home. The funeral services were held at the chapel. Interment followed. Condolences may be offered at www.ForestParkEast-FHC.com

## Charles Richard Wyhs

Charles Richard "Chuck" Wyhs Jr., 59, of South Belt, died Friday, May 13, 2011, at St. Luke's Hospital. He was born June 23, 1951, to Charles and Mary Wyhs at Scott Air Force Base in Illinois.

Upon graduating from St. Charles High School in St. Charles, Mo., Wyhs joined the U.S. Air Force and served from 1969 to 1978. After leaving the Air Force, he joined the Houston Police Department in 1979, and retired in 2005.

Survivors include his son, Christopher Jason Wyhs; granddaughter Emily Wyhs; brother Joey Wyhs; sister Charmayne Wyhs Gurley; and several nieces, nephews and a host of friends.

A graveside service will be held at 11:30 a.m. Thursday, May 19, 2011, at Houston National Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Wyhs favorite charity, Texas Children's Hospital.

## Ted Ball



Ted "Papaw" Ball, 77, former longtime South Belt resident, died Friday May 13, 2011. He was born Nov. 27, 1933, in Washington, D.C.

Ball is survived by his wife, Virginia Ball; brother Glenn Ball; six sons, Teddy, David, Eric, Tom, Bob and John; three daughters, Kim, Melissa and Michelle; 35 grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

A celebration of life will be held Thursday, May 19, 2011, at 3 p.m. at South Park Funeral Home, 1310 North Main Street in Pearland.

# Readers' Opinions

## Friend: Keep U.S. flags flying high

Dear South Belt Area friends and neighbors, I can't believe that almost a year has gone by since the flag drive. I must say, I have seen more flags flying lately so this is just a reminder to please keep those U.S. flags flying high. Memorial Day will be here before you know it followed closely by Flag Day, June 14th and of course the 4th of July.

Also, please say a prayer for our nation and our men and women in uniform. As the saying goes, "Freedom isn't free." Many someone's paid dearly for the rights that we enjoy in this beautiful land of ours. Also, when you see one of our brave military persons, remember to thank them for their service to our country - it is the very least we can do.

Sincerely, Carolyn Friend

## Horsts, others upset over loose dogs

Thanks to those who read about our concern about loose dogs on and near our streets. On April 4, after working a full 8 hour shift and enjoying my day very much; and upon returning home things turned very emotional and devastating for me as I pulled into my driveway to notice my cat laying lifeless in my front yard. I immediately got out of my car to go over to look to see why she was laying like that. I could tell she was really dead.

I was the proud owner of 3 cats, now 2. We also have another family cat. Mona and I shared a bond unlike my other cats and I share. If I saw her from the window, I would wave and she would come to the window. If I opened my blinds from my bedroom window, she would come to my window. When I came home from anywhere, she would be in the driveway to greet me. She wasn't just loving towards me, but towards anyone. The only reason she was in the front was because she was waiting for me to come home.

This precious sweetheart that had a big heart must have endured a gruesome and painful death. I know I did not witness her attack nor was I able to be by her side while she lay dying in my front yard, but her wounds can speak for themselves. Mona did not deserve this to happen to her, nor do any other animals that are victims of vicious dog attacks.

Mona's claws had black fur in them. Upon questioning neighbors, I was informed some dogs had been seen running loose. I understanding the mail carriers that deliver mail to these owners home frequently ask for the dogs to be put up; however by the following day or so the dogs will be loose again. I have seen the same dogs chasing one of my other cats into the backyard. The dogs are a white pit bull with brown spots and a black dog with shaggy hair. I have been told the same dogs dug holes under neighbors' fences getting into their backyards and causing a nuisance. I have been told some people who were walking had to take another persons car just to avoid the dogs as they were leaving someones house on Sagevalley, where the dogs live. When they tried leaving, the dogs were outside loose, and another neighbor was throwing things at them, apparently the dogs were bothering the person. The dogs live on Sagevalley and roam freely onto Sageorchard and onto Sagepark. They are making attacks on peoples pets on streets away from their owners. No one should be allowing their pit bulls and other medium to large sized dogs to run loose and unsupervised.

As I was trying to cope with the loss of Mona, again on April 15, one of my other cats, Blink, was attacked. Thankfully, my neighbor who was coming home intervened and there are no serious injuries to Blink with exception to an emergency vet clinic bill. Blink did suffer some pretty huge dog bite marks on his back and was definitely traumatized. He seems to be recovering. I know it is not the dogs fault but I believe the owners need to take responsibility for their dogs. I understand the owners were cited on April 16. Another neighbor of mine said he saw the dogs roaming loose again on April 23rd. Are the owners prepared to be liable for all damages their dogs cause while they continue to allow their dogs to run loose? There are many animal organizations the owners could even use to help them maintain their dogs and teach them how to behave or they could fund a more responsible home for them. Many reports have been made to animal control, but nothing seems to be enforced. Is it not enough to know all the information I have gathered to concur that these

dogs are dangerous and a nuisance in disturbing the peace to our neighborhood? If the dogs are doing this now, who knows what else the dogs can do and the possibility of them attacking a small child or even an adult.

Janna Horst

## Buckmans: Honoring Cecil Callahan

The South Belt lost Cecil Callahan, a pillar of our community last week. She was a true friend and inspiration to many of us both in dedication to our Lord and to the South Belt community. Cecil had the ability to clearly, succinctly yet politely give her view on matters. Her obituary appears in the May 12 edition of the *Leader*.

Cecil was a 30+ year board member/secretary and resident of Sagemont and the Sagemont Civic Club. Over that time we can only imagine the countless hours she donated to the community in handling the Civic Club's work.

We understand the club is planning a project to honor Cecil's many years of service. Kelly and I suggest you join us in making a donation to the Sagemont Civic Club in Cecil's memory. For convenience, the *Leader* will accept the donations and forward them to the Civic Club. Won't you join us in remembering one who gave so much to the South Belt.

Kelly & Steve Buckman

## Matthews: Wounded Warrior Project

Tim McGraw, the renowned country singer, stated: "Our wounded warriors deserve only the best. They have given for us, now it is our turn to give to them." Then a video was shown. There was that handsome blonde haired young man holding his little blonde son up in the air. Daddy was playing away with that cute little son of his, and the baby boy was laughing. Then dad sat his baby son on his lap and that wounded warrior's artificial, metal legs were shown.

That really got me. I was watching the Bravo channel and wished that video could be shown on all TV channels, including the networks. It should be, but since it isn't for whatever stupid reason, I want you to see that video, so type in this URL: woundedwarriorsupportproject.org/ I wish everyone could see it.

Let me tell you something. This story is the most difficult I have ever written. Last night after seeing that video, I was going to write about it and couldn't; just went numb. Then this morning at five, I got up, came in here to this computer with the intent to write about it, but could not, again. Went back to bed and slept for over an hour. When I woke up, I was thinking of writing about those wounded warriors and realized why I could not: That could have so easily been me. It could have been that I was injured in the Korean War like those men in the video that are shown from the Iraq and Afghanistan Wars.

I had to get ready to drive across Houston to the Galleria area to get my acupuncture treatments, but when I came home, I sat down here once again. And now I'm finally writing away about that dramatic video. It is very factual and shows one wounded warrior after another. All have lost limbs, or have had head injuries and are in need of constant care by their loved ones.

I called 1-877-832-6997 and spoke to Jennifer Lake. I told her that I had lost all my buddies in the Korean War and wanted to contribute to the Wounded Warriors Project and write this story. She said that she would send me a brochure and thanked me.

Now here it is several days later and I received that brochure. Once again, you can do as I've done and type in the URL given above and make an immediate donation, or if you don't have a computer write to: Wounded Warrior Project, 7020 AC Skinner Parkway, Suite #100, Jacksonville, Florida, 32256-9726.

The project this wonderful organization concentrates on is the after-care of our wounded warriors. They and their families have so many special needs for the care of these men and women who have given so much. I hope you will make a contribution. Your help is needed. Once again, the reason for my being so concerned is because I too could have needed special care the rest of my life. All my buddies were killed in the Korean War. These men and women, our wounded warriors of today, need our help so they can live the lives they deserve. They have received great care through Walter Reed Army General

## Dobie in World Scholar's Cup

Houston's former mayor, Bill White, came to Pasadena High School recently to be one of the readers of questions for a regional competition of the World Scholar's Cup.

With the theme for the competition being *A World Transformed*, White asked a series of questions regarding modern metropolis formation in the Scholar's Bowl. The students submitted their responses via clickers.

Three Dobie students, junior Michael Baez, senior Robert Luna III, and junior Anthony Rocha, represented

J. Frank Dobie in a burgeoning competition viewed by many as a training field for Academic Decathlon.

The team began the morning by writing an essay and answering a 125-question test over six areas of modern metropolis, science (biotechnology), history (technology), literature (six stories, nine poems and film), arts, and economics.

After lunch, there were three rounds of debate with the prompts coming from the theme, *A World Transformed*.

The team of Rocha and Baez won two out of three

rounds, and Baez was invited to be one of six participants in the Debate Showcase.

At the awards presentation, Luna was given a medal for being top scorer for his team, and Baez was presented with two fifth-place medals for economics and debate. He also received a fourth-place medal in literature and was recognized as the top scorer for his team.

Dobie's team was coached by senior Tad Walters, a member of the Dobie Academic Decathlon team, and sponsored by teacher Trish Boudra.



Participating in the World Scholar's Cup at Pasadena High School recently were, left to right, Michael Baez, Robert Luna III and Anthony Rocha.

# Give your Grad a Special Congratulations with a personalized graduation ad!

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June 4, 2010

**GREAT JOB JO-ANN... WE LOVE YOU!**

Congratulations to Jo-Ann Smith, daughter of Joe and Ann Smith of Kirkmont. Jo-Ann will graduate Magna Cum Laude from Clear Brook High School and will be attending the University of Houston in the fall. Jo-Ann was awarded several scholarships for her academic excellence which include National Honor Society, Debate Team, and Student Council.

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**Happy Birthday**  
**MIGUEL "MIKE" FUENTES**  
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*with love, the Fuentes family*

# Thompson choirs excel at UIL

Recently, the Thompson Intermediate choirs attended the UIL Concert and Sightreading Contest at North Shore High School.

The Varsity Men's Choir and the Varsity Treble Choirs each received Superior ratings in both the concert and

sightreading portions of the competition earning Sweepstakes trophies.

The Treble Choir received three Superior ratings from each part of the contest (three in concert and three in sightreading).

The Men's Choir re-

ceived three Superior rating in concert and two Superior and one Excellent rating in sightreading.

"All of our students worked extremely hard, and we are really proud of what they have accomplished at UIL this year. This is the

second year that the eighth-grade students have experienced a Sweepstakes Award. We are looking forward to next year and accomplishing a "threepeat." said George Martin, one of Thompson's choir directors.



Thompson Intermediate's Varsity Men's Choir received Superior ratings in the Concert and Sightreading UIL competition which was held recently. Shown are, (first row): Randall MacNeill, Jacob Izaguirre, Isaiah Brooks, (second row), George Molina, Richard Vega, Tyler Scott, Jacob Alford, Deandre Childs, Socrates Guzman, Chris King, Martin Nguyen, Daniel Alvarez, Wesley Smith, (third row), David Mendiola-Garcia,

Zishan Kabir, Orlando Ochoa, Freddy Oviedo, Micah Dishongh, Tyson Thompson, Nathan Lazenberry, Travores Gilbert, Alexis Saldivar, Scott Nguyen, Brandon Harris, Jorell Campos, Abby Seible, (back row), George Martin, David Holcomb, Austin Perkins, Ty Lozano, John Rico, David Casas, Juan Chavez, Kevin Rodriguez, Caxton Petri, Jimmy Nevarez, Jacob Lara, Zach Blue and Carlos Martinez.



Thompson Intermediate's Varsity Women's Choir received Superior ratings in both the Concert and Sightreading UIL competition which was held recently. Shown are, (front row) Dejene Thomas, Allison Dasilva, Dayessi Arboleda, Lorena Torres, Valerie Colunga, Alisa Gonzales, Ashley Perez, Kallie Hart, Andrea Cedeno, Alyssa Gonzalez, Valerie Vo, Clarissa Sanchez, Marissa Mendieta, (second row) Mallory Warren, Sherin John, Kristin Scholwinski, Isabel Tabarez, Veronica Tzintzun, Jessie Huynh, Kayla Posey, Savannah Amaro, Dechanelle Howell, Rainy Ferrell, Diana Tufino, Julisa Perez, Holly

Gonzales, Cybelle Cerda, (third row) Jada Edwards, Joslyn Gallien, Marissa Longoria, Krista Richard, Rachel Glass, Alyssa Medrano, Alexis Corpus, Chelsea Tajonera, Julie Nguyen, Savannah Oropeza, Angelica Zuniga, Kristin Enriquez, Oxzebria Marshall, Danielle Cisneros, Laura Stephens, (back row) Abby Seible, Autumn Lefever, Amber Newsom, Raven Wilson, Crystal Garza, Valerie Mendoza, Sarahi Gomez, Kiara Hart, Deneil Bell, Carolina Herrera, Alyssa Morin, Ricky Pearson, Emily Wolfe, Tia Joseph and George Martin.

Photos submitted

# Melillo third 9-weeks honor rolls named

Melillo Middle School recently released its honor rolls for the third nine-weeks grading period. Students earning status are:

### Honor roll - Fifth grade

Jonathan Acosta, Diana Adame, Tyra Adams, Adela-Marie Alanis, Thomas Aleman, Azalie Amaro, Anthony Anderson-Johnson, Francesca Arellano, Rogelio Armenta, Clarissa Arredondo, Hector Arreola Covarrubias, Natalie Aviles and Leonardo Baez.

Nicholas Barrientos, Pedro Barrientos, Felicia Barton, Hillary Bazaldua, Nathan Bennett, Trinity Blockmon, Sydney Bonner, Dailon Botley, Ethan Brown, My Linh Bui, Lauren A Burleigh, Madison Caballero and Derius Caldwell.

Daniel Camacho, Jamie Carman, Britney Castaneda Jasso, Nathan Castaneda, Alyssa Chapa, Nathan

Chapa, Jalen Clark, Christion W Compton, Karissa Cook, Rafael Coreas, Fabian Corrales, Jasiel Cruz, Mateo Cruz, Julissa Davila and Camryn Davis.

Andrea Del Villar, Diamante DeLeon, Vi Diep, Mason Douglas, Jacqueline Duarte, Thoi Duong, Emily Duren, Mason El-

dridge, Mark Embrey, Alan Escudra, Bryce Feagin, Renee Figueroa, Alexis Gammon, Adamaris Garcia and Jacquelyne Garcia.

Kristen Giles, Cyrus Gonzales, Alejandro Gonzalez, Destinie Gonzalez, Elezar E Gonzalez, Monica Gonzalez, Mahogany S Green, Alena Hay, Aiana Hernandez, Lauren Hernandez, Maritza Hernandez, Ramon Hernandez and Jacob Hinojosa.

Brendan Hoang, David Hoang, Chelsey Holman, Alejandro Ibarra, Sameria Jackson, Cheyenne Jewell, Devin Jewell, Jakob Jones, Hannah Klugh, Diemtuyen Le, Jason Le, Vina Le, Sebastian Leal, Edgar Lerma, Dakota Lewallen, Sarah Lewis and Andrew Logan.

Katelyn Loxterman, Marcus Loya, Kevin Ly, Daira Macias, Christopher Marshall, Juan Martinez, Amanda Mejia-Hernandez, Ellena Mendez, Jacqueline Mendoza, Michael Men-

doza, Katherine Montes, Brooke Nabi and Anthony Nguyen.

Deon Nguyen, Dominic Nguyen, Katie Nguyen, Kirsten Nguyen, Sean Nguyen, Tommy Nguyen, Andrea Orrego, Victoria Palos, Jordan Perez, Luis Perez, Ricky Perez, Maria

Perrazo, Melody Perry, Ngoc Phan, Rosa Phan and Melanie Pineda.

Christian Ponce, Valerie Provence, Andrew Quiroz, Alexis Ramirez, Ricardo Ramos, Reagan Razo, Jackelyn Rendon, German Reyes, Omar Rodela, Ma-

rissa Rodgers, Jenna Rodriguez, Krystan Rodriguez and Leslie Rodriguez.

Brianna Rodriguez-Hernandez, Leslie Rodriguez-Rangel, Nahum Ruiz, Dominique Sanchez, Jose Sanchez, Dulce Santos, Harrison Sauter, Bryon Schwausch, Montra Scott, Kaylee Segura, Dominic Smauldon, Emmerson Snyder and Kennedi Southall.

Joseph Suarez, Andy Ta, Rachel Tabarez, Jeremy Tajonera, Samuel Taye, Madison Tobias, Esai Torres, John Tortorice, Devin Tran, Hy Tran, Luong Tran, Patrick Tran, Vivian Tran, Vnam Tran, Ann Truong, Luis Tufino, Jeremiah Tyler and Joshua Valtierra.

Gavin Valvaneda, Jose Varela, Cesar Villarreal, Marvin Villatoro, Andrew Vu, Cindy Vuong, Colby Walker, Dien Wang, Matthew Willhoite, Haley Williams, Joshua P Woernley, Michael Wooten and Jacob Young.

### Sixth grade

Nathaly Alvarado, Jennifer Amaya Argueta, Ciriach Amerson, Saul Arenas, Arnya Arora, Valencia Barrientos, Destinie Bautista, Jesse Bernal, Stephanie Bonilla, Allison Bravo, Derek Bui, Jonathan Campos, Alayna Cano and Jennifer Cantarero.

Kristy Castellon, Michael Castillo, Zachary Castillo, Andrea Cavazos,

Diana Chapa, Angelique Chau, Gabrielle Chretien, Toneschara Clarke, Alyssa Corpus, Renee Coy, Alyssa Cruz, Belen Cruz, Chealse Cubos, Trinity Curry and Austin Dandridge.

Amanda Davila, Ajah Davis, Parker Deem, Samantha Delgado, Brynn Dempsey, Alvin Deveza, Gabriel Diaz, Jay Do, Mary Doan, Nathanael Doss, Jordan Efird, Jackson Elings, Mariel Emilliano, Janneth Flores, Karen Flores and Bryana Garcia.

Cassandra Garcia, Pedro Garcia, Kevin Gartner, Luisa Garza Orozco, Jazalyne Garza, Triston Gibson, Leandra Gonzales, David Gonzalez, Joshua Gonzalez, Shelby Gonzalez, Jeremy Green, Trinity Harrison and Beatriz Hernandez.

Emily Hernandez, Eric Hoang, Emani Hollins, Jazmine Howard, Joe Huerta, Nicole Huynh, Thanh Huynh, Rebekah Jagdeo, Cristina Jasso, Joaquin Jimenez, Jeantrel Jolivet, Preston Kelley, Esther Kim, Michelle Kristoff and Marissa Krustchinsky.

Robert Lazo, Sean Le, Mauro Lerma, Valeria Lomas, Nicole Lopez, Nikolas Maffei, Amaya Martin, Marissa Martinez, Zayda Martinez-Reyes, Brooke McGrath, Eduardo Menca, Alexandra Meyers, Amy Montelongo and Viv-

iana Montemayor. Deandre Moore, Oren Moreno, Matthew Morris, Aimy Nguyen, Anthony Nguyen, Bao Nguyen, Catherine Nguyen, Derek Nguyen, Dorothy Nguyen, Jaclynn Nguyen, Johnathan Nguyen, Quyen Nguyen, Taylor Nguyen, Tin Nguyen and Hector Nunez.

Erinn O'Brien, Laura Ochoa, Donatus Oguamanam, Adam Padilla, Beng Panerio, Ashley Patterson, Star Patterson, Thanh-Nguyet Pham, Steven Phan, Jaysha Ploucha and Brandon Ponce.

Erika Ragasa, Syla Rocha, Eric Rodriguez, Mario Rodriguez, Tori Roy, Ashley Ruiz, Astrid Ruiz, Edwin Saldivar, Kaylan Salinas, Devin Sanchez, Vianney Sanchez and Savanna Schmidt.

Brian Schoppe, Yenifer Serrano, Gustavo Serrato, Rebecca Shaffer, Brian Sharpe, Jordan Shea, Astrid Silva, Nadelyn Smith, Lillian Spigner, David Strout, Sara Sultan, Leanna Ta, Debra Tabarez, Kassandra Tabarez, Hailey Tapia and Nathanael Taylor.

Joe Thomas, Patricia Thompson, Katherin Torres, Andrew Tran, Elizabeth Tran, Johnny Tran, Joseph Tran, Julio Vela, Janice Vo, Lam Vo, Mykhanh Vuong, Zion Walker, Monica Watson, Kiara Wells and Samaria Wilson.

## Showcar rolls into San Jac South



Members with the U.S. Army's National Hot Rod Association top fuel drag racing team recently visited with students at San Jacinto College South. Leon Pruitt, mobile marketing manager with Don Schumacher Racing, treated the automotive collision repair students to a viewing of a Tony "The Sarge" Schumacher showcar. From left, SJC automotive student Jose Aguayo asks Pruitt questions about the showcar. A group of SJC students were to attend the 24th annual O'Reilly Auto Parts NHRA Spring Nationals to gain insight of what it's like to run a NHRA drag racing event.

Photo by Jeannie Peng-Armao

## Project Grad seeks help

Dobie Project Graduation, Class of 2011 Senior Picnic, needs donations for the drawings to be held June 2 from 1 to 6 p.m. at El Franco Lee Park. The Project Committee needs help with donations of food, items and funds, to sponsor a successful event for Dobie's Class of 2011.

There is a dire need of senior parent volunteers to assist with all the activities planned for that afternoon, including the Powder Puff football game for the senior girls, with coaching assistance by the senior boys.

Contact Christine Duenning at 281-974-0867 or Sharon Finney at 281-793-5918 to volunteer. Details will be posted on the Dobie Project Grad Facebook.

## Library offers events

The following events are scheduled for the week of May 19 through May 25 at Parker Williams Library, 10851 Scarsdale:

A family friendly movie is scheduled for Thursday, May 19, at 4 p.m. Contact the library at 281-484-2036 for more information.

On Saturday, May 21, Vietnamese storytime will include Reading Club at 9

a.m., followed by intermediate storytime at 11 a.m. and beginner storytime at 1 p.m.

Preschool storytime is at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, and toddler storytime is at 10:30 a.m. Thursday.

## Singles dance May 28

The Bay Area Singles Club monthly dance will be held Saturday, May 28, from 7 to 10:30 p.m. at the VFW Lodge 8566 in Bacliff, located at 1401 Grand Avenue on FM-646. Bring snacks to share. Cost is \$6 for members and \$8 for nonmembers. This is the Anniversary Dance. For more information, call 409-948-1156 or 281-484-4762.

**Zerick GUINN** Saturday, June 18th, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.  
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## A family affair: stories on today's student

Once considered a stepping-stone to four-year institutions, community colleges are now also serving a different role - preparing people for the workforce, and preparing them fast.

Study time takes a backseat to the immediate need for income.

Many students juggle both their work and college schedules; more families consider affordable local educational options; and too many sacrifice their education to make ends meet.

As community colleges respond to these types of needs they also seek to under-

stand and support the changing lives of today's college student.

What used to be institutions mainly comprising full-time students have now evolved to include fast-track training grounds preparing the nation's work force within a few short semesters, a few months, and even a few weeks. Here are some stories from today's community college students.

This is a continuation of San Jacinto College's "stories from today's community college students" series.

### Terry, Sean and Shannon Kelly, HVAC students

"There's a secure feeling when you learn a skilled craft because you know you can always make a good living, and my sons and I are learning a valuable craft thanks to San Jacinto College," said Terry Kelly, San Jacinto College South student.

Education is a family affair for Kelly and his two sons Sean and Shannon, who are taking courses in heating, ventilation and air conditioning at San Jacinto College South.

The father and sons plan to earn HVAC associate degrees and graduate together from the South campus at the

same time, which will probably be next May.

"A few years ago my sons and I sat down and started discussing possible trades or crafts that we could learn together that might at some point become a way to make a good living," said Kelly, 50. "I have a good full-time position, and I like my company and my job, but the economy can be unstable at times, and I thought it would be a good idea to have something to fall back on, because life can be uncertain."

The trade they decided to learn was HVAC, which is a high-demand career field in the Houston area. "We learned that there's almost always a big demand for good HVAC technicians, because every home and every business needs air conditioning, especially here in the Gulf Coast area," commented Shannon, 23.

They also learned that SJC South, located near their Sagemont neighborhood, offered affordable HVAC courses and flexible class schedules. "All three of us have full-time jobs, so we were really glad to learn that we could take HVAC courses at night because it enabled us to fit college into our work schedules," said Sean, 24.

The father and two sons have earned their occupational certificates through the college's HVAC program, and their training is already paying valuable dividends.

From connections they have made through the college, Terry and Sean are getting calls for repair work, which is bringing in some much-needed cash. And Shannon responded to a job posting listed at the college's HVAC office and was recently hired as a full-time HVAC technician by a local school district.

Once the Kellys graduate and receive their associate degrees, the family that now attends college together might some day be in business together. "Several times we have discussed the possibility of starting a family HVAC business together," remarked Terry. "Right now all three of us have full-time jobs, and we all like our jobs. But, like I said, there are no certainties in life. We're just glad that San Jac is helping us to learn a trade so we can be prepared no matter what."



Terry Kelly is flanked by his sons Sean (left) and Shannon in an HVAC training lab at San Jacinto College. Photo by Rob Vanya

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Vera Brown celebrating a birthday with visitor Carol Wright.

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## Cavazos places at French contest



In Dobie High School's first time representing the Pasadena Independent School District in the National French Contest which was held recently at the school, Dobie's level II honor student Ana Cavazos made the list of the Houston Chapter Top Ten. She placed seventh among numerous other schools, and eighth in the nation. She is the daughter of Guadalupe and Ana Cavazos of South Belt. *Photo submitted*

## Lt. Harry Zamora

For Harris County Constable Pct. 2

Since the beginning of policing in America, constables evolved from night watchmen, who were unpaid volunteers that protected people and property when the sun went down. Later, the need to serve civil papers and carry out duties assigned by magistrates led to the creation of constables. Constables are responsible for serving civil process and providing basic police services.

**What leadership traits must the Constable have?**  
As the chief executive that manages personnel, equipment, and a multi-million dollar budget, it is mandatory that the Constable have the appropriate experience, a broad depth of knowledge and maturity to use all available resources to continue with the American tradition of public safety and civil process. Most importantly, the Constable must have a record of success in prior management and leadership positions.

**Who can meet these high standards?**  
As a 31 year Houston Police lieutenant with experience managing large budgets, hundreds of men and women, and meeting the high expectations of diverse communities, Harry Zamora is the best qualified and most experienced candidate to lead the men and women of Precinct 2.

**Who am I?**  
I am Harry Zamora, and I want the opportunity to represent you and make sure you are safe in our community. If you want to have a voice in local government, better services and more visibility, I can make it happen. I have plans to bring much needed programs to our community and to accomplish this, I need your vote. Together we can improve our quality of life and make Precinct 2 a safer and more prosperous community.

**Youtube.com search "Harry Zamora"**  
Harry Zamora Campaign Christina Morales - Treasurer  
111 N. Ennis Houston, TX 77003 832-264-5517  
[www.voteforzamora.com](http://www.voteforzamora.com)

# Over The Back Fence by Jan

**BEST WISHES TO JOHN AND SHARON**  
Congratulations and best wishes are sent to John and Sharon Layton who celebrated their 26th wedding anniversary on Wednesday, May 18, from their friends at the South Belt Leader and the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department.

The South Belt Leader and the entire South Belt community owe thanks to John Layton for all the hard work and effort that he, as chair of the committee, put into the South Belt cookoff sponsored last week by the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department, to bring it all together and make it such a success. (See publisher's opinion, Page 2A.)

**WELCOME TO THE WORLD BENJAMIN**  
Jason and Rebecca Carter happily announce the birth of their son, Benjamin Elijah Carter. He arrived Saturday, May 14, 2011, at 10:15 p.m. Benjamin weighed 7 lbs., 4 oz., and stretched 19.5 inches long. He is welcomed by big brothers Zachery, Joshua, Jonathan and Christian, and big sister Samantha.

**BEST WISHES TO JACLYN**  
Best wishes are sent to former Leader

staff member Jaclyn (Ramirez) Tremont on her birthday, Friday, May 20, from her friends, family and the Leader staff.

**BAYLEE TURNS EIGHT!**  
Happy birthday hugs and kisses are sent to Baylee Espinosa who turns 8 years old on Wednesday, May 25, from grandma and grandpa, Jannie and Robert Scarberry of South Belt; aunt Stacey (Hayes), uncle Stephen, and cousins Kennedy and Owen Flowers of Dickinson; uncle Joey and aunt Nyssa Hayes of Oklahoma City; uncle Austin, aunt Nicole and cousin Jade Scarberry of Boston; uncle Tyler Scarberry; and mom Jenny (Hayes) and big brother Brayden Espinosa. Baylee's aunt Stacey, uncles Joey, Austin and Tyler, and mom Jenny are all Dobie High School grads.

**SCHOOL DAZE**  
The following personnel and staff members of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays May 19 through May 25.

**Atkinson Elementary**  
Happy birthday wishes are sent to Maria Lara May 22. May 24 is the day for a birthday surprise for Donna Enlow.

**Meador Elementary**  
On May 25, Heather Cline celebrates a birthday.

**Moore Elementary**  
Blow out the birthday candles for Jennifer Christen on May 22.

**South Belt Elementary**  
May 25 is the day for a party for Candice Arthur.

**Beverly Hills Intermediate**  
May 19 is the day for a birthday party for Daniel Jacobs. Having a birthday May 20 is Karen Green. Blow out the birthday candles on May 21 for Micah Strickland. Palmira Salas-Merchant enjoys a birthday May 25.

**Thompson Intermediate**  
Wishes for a happy birthday are sent to Cherisse Lindsley May 20. On May 24, greetings for a wonderful birthday are sent to George Martin.

**Dobie High**  
On May 22, blow out the birthday candles for Sheryl Smith. Lisa Barrett and Fernando Urrutia are wished a happy birthday May 24. May 25 is the day for a birthday surprise for Aimee Small.

## Scholarships available from Wings Over Houston

Wings Over Houston Airshow, which is performed at Ellington Air Field annually, is accepting scholarship applications for its 2011-2012 scholarship program.

The organization awards five scholarships ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,000 to selected college students. The

scholarships, which are intended to assist and reward students who have demonstrated academic potential, leadership and extracurricular involvement, are available for students pursuing degrees associated with a career in aviation, aeronautics or aerospace.

"Aviation education, both from a historical perspective as well as furthering the advancement, is a primary goal of the Wings Over Houston Airshow," says Steve Sehnter, Wings Over Houston Airshow Scholarship Committee chairman. "As such, scholarships are an opportunity to encourage youth

to pursue careers that will positively impact the field of aerospace and aviation for years to come." The scholarships are available to students from the Greater Houston area who are enrolled at an accredited college or university and have

completed two academic years of full-time college work or 60 semester hours of credit. Graduate students are also eligible. Applicants must have a minimum college grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale and be enrolled in a minimum of 12 credit hours each semester during the year of the awarded scholarship.

As Wings Over Houston supports local communities, applicants must have legal residence in Harris County or one of the contiguous surrounding counties including Galveston, Brazoria, Fort Bend, Waller, Montgomery, Liberty and Chambers. The residency requirement is waived for members of the Texas A&M University Corps of Cadets. All applicants must be citizens or permanent residents of the United States.

In addition to the completed application, applicants must submit a written essay describing his or her career objectives as well as three letters of recommendation. Financial need of the applicants will be considered by the selection committee.

Applications must be post-marked or submitted online no later than June 30, 2011. For more information or to download the 2011/2012 Wings Over Houston Airshow scholarship application, visit the website at [http://wings-overhouston.com/woh\\_community\\_mn.htm#scholarship](http://wings-overhouston.com/woh_community_mn.htm#scholarship) program

## LSA students attend World Affairs Council



Several Lutheran South High School students were recently invited to attend the World Affairs Council of Houston, Jesse H. Jones Awards Luncheon. Following the luncheon, the students were introduced to the guest speaker, former U.S. Ambassador to Zambia, India and Egypt, Frank Wisner. Pictured are, left to right, (front row) Eric Vining, Wisner, Loreal Curtis, Alessandra Scotto, (back row) Ryan Fletcher, Rainer Richter, LSA teacher Archie Buchman, LSA principal Mike Rathje, Adam Fechter, Abigail Hart and Ashley Burks. The students are all members of the Lutheran South program, Conversations With History. Lutheran South Academy is located at 12555 Ryewater Drive off Dixie Farm Road. *Photo submitted*

## Remember When

**35 years ago (1976)**  
A vehicle ran a stop sign and crashed into John Van Alstine's home on Torrington near Almeda Mall. The car hit a station wagon, that hit a third car which came into the den of Van Alstine's home.

The South Belt area held two memorial drives in memory of Jeff Tate. The first was a blood donation drive and a memorial fund called the United Sports Association

Jeff Tate Memorial Reserve Fund. The second was a memorial drive to raise money for library books at Stuchbery Elementary.

**30 years ago (1981)**  
Keith Kveton, a Rice University graduate, became the first player from Dobie High School to sign a professional football contract. The 1977 Dobie graduate signed with the Oakland Raiders.

A \$3.6 million contract was awarded by the San Jacinto College Board of Regents for the construction of an occupational-technical education building and a maintenance building for the college's South campus.

Pasadena Independent School District trustees awarded a \$2,619,542 contract for construction of a new gym and band hall at Thompson Intermediate. The contract also allowed for renovations to Thompson as well as Beverly Hills and Miller intermediates.

The Harris County Flood Control District constructed a footbridge between Sage-mont and Wood Meadow. The new bridge, made of surplus materials, allowed students from Thompson Intermediate to walk home.

**25 years ago (1986)**  
The Southeast Volunteer Fire Department began construction of its first permanent home since the operation began. The property to hold the \$130,000 structure was donated by Ayrshire Corporation.

A representative of the Environmental Protection Agency denied the agency was considering incineration of toxic wastes at the Brio site.

Scarsdale resident Geraldine Swain, 43, was sentenced to life in prison after

being found guilty of arranging the death of her husband, Boyce Swain, 40. He was gunned down in his bathroom at their home. Two suspects implicated Swain, saying she left the front door open and left cash in a prearranged location.

Thompson sixth-grader Shelly Soto submitted the winning entry in the Leader's My Mom's the Best Mother's Day contest. Elsa Soto won an overnight stay at the Hobby Hilton hotel as well as Sunday brunch.

**20 years ago (1991)**  
PISD board members awarded a \$9,589,000 contract to Tandy for computer hardware to start phasing in the district's Technology Plan.

Clayton Chenault, 34, a 1975 Dobie High School graduate, his wife Sharon, and infant daughter Kasi, 23 months, died when their 1984 Ford LTD station wagon was struck by another car traveling the wrong way in the 4300 block of Telephone Road.

**15 years ago (1996)**  
Local fifth-graders were filmed in public service announcements at Stuchbery touting the benefits of recycling wood.

After only two years as Thompson Intermediate's principal, Cheryl Fowler, resigned to take a position in the Spring Branch School District.

**10 years ago (2001)**  
Retired U.S. Coast Guard Lt. Cmdr. Gilbert Aguilar, a Vietnam veteran, was awarded the Texas Education Agency's coveted Heroes for Children award.

Texas State Comptroller Carol Keeton Rylander was the guest speaker at the San Jacinto South graduation. She was presented an honor-

ary associate of arts degree by Dr. Adena Loston, president of SJCS.

**5 years ago (2006)**  
After 35 years as an educator, Dobie Latin teacher Richard Golenko would leave quite a legacy of accomplishment when he retired at the end of the school year.

Dobie High School's production of *The Sound of Music* received two Tommy Tune Awards for best orchestra and best musical direction.

Deputies from Precinct 2 Constable Gary Freeman's office were busy with several arrests after receiving calls from alert South Belt residents. Two arrests were for crack cocaine, three were for marijuana, and three were on burglary and truancy charges.

**1 year ago (2010)**  
The staff at Moore Elementary was honored with teachers being named both the Pasadena Independent School District's Elementary Teacher of the Year and First-Year Teacher of the Year. Elizabeth Neubauer, the school's special education SUCCESS teacher, took home the honor of Elementary Teacher of the Year, while Leah Laredo, a fourth-grade teacher at the school, was awarded the First Year Teacher of the Year prize.

Stuchbery Elementary second-grade teacher Sharon Brantly celebrated her 40th year at the area school. She came to Stuchbery when the school was three years old and taught in the same classroom for her entire tenure. The teacher's co-workers surprised her by having a party in the school's library. The Pasadena Independent School District officially recognized Brantly at a banquet.

## 1st Christian registering

First Christian Academy will have preregistration until June 10 for grades PK 3 through 12. During the preregistration period, registration fees will be 50 percent discounted and all applicants applying for the Hardship Scholarship Funding will be given priority consideration.

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# AFJROTC starts at Dobie High School

This year is the beginning of something steeped in tradition and at the same time new to Dobie High School. The U.S. Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps has established a unit on campus.

Maj. Alfonso Viera is the instructor who teaches the 90 students who were enrolled this year. Next year, Viera is expecting more than 170 students in the program. He makes it clear, however, that the entire program is built to be run by the cadets with guidance from the instructors.



Members of the Dobie Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps pose for a picture on the bleachers. Shown are, left to right, (front row) Jaclynn DeLeon, Jasmine Castro, Jennifer Chicas, Samantha Paredes, Oranna Trockle, Robert Luna, Thomas Garza, (second row) aerospace science instructor Everett Valdez, Alondra Harper, Stephanie Cherry, Mark Gonzalez, Lewis Ramirez, Dylan

Garman, senior aerospace science instructor Alfonso Viera, (third row) BJ Bravo, Jose Garza, Francisco Rada, Jonathan DeLeon, Cristina Dorantes, (back row) Michael Clark, Alejandro Lopez, Adrian Cano, Anthony Gomez, Jordan Howard and Micheal Lee. Members pictured are only 25 out of the total 87 students involved in AFJROTC at Dobie.

the younger cadets." Throughout the program, the students are taught several subjects that are universal throughout the AFJROTC program. Students are taught aviation history, aerospace science, leadership education, astronomy, principles of management, survival training, life skills, cultural studies and global awareness.

In addition to the normal course of studies, there are lessons that the students can carry on to their lives outside of school. Students learn lessons in interviewing skills, resume writing, first aid, budgeting and finances, leadership skills, military skills and management skills.

The students compete against other schools in drill meets and field day events. Drills include rifle and color guard demonstrations. Field day events include sprints, push-ups, relays, sit-ups and long jumps. The Dobie team has also competed in model rocket, academic and paint ball competitions.

The program, which provides opportunities for students to prepare for a military career, also provides a chance for the students to advance in rank upon entering the military after graduation.

"If the students are in the program for three years, they can receive credit if they enlist in the military by being promoted two extra ranks after basic training, which means higher pay and responsibility than their peers," Viera said. "If a student elects to join college ROTC, they can get a year of JROTC credit and also can be considered for scholarships that will help defray the cost of education."

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

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

# Frazier health fair a success



Frazier Elementary hosted its first-ever Parent/Community Health Fair on May 3, 2011. More than 20 service providers participated by providing information and free health screenings including dental, vision, glucose and blood pressure. The event was a huge success with more than 200 parents and community members attending. Pictured having her glucose level tested by Victor Teran from Pasadena Health Centers (left) is Janese Henderson (right) while her son, Troy Henderson, watches. Photo submitted

# Meador reflects on service to San Jac College

Ben Meador, noted Pasadena businessman and long-time supporter of San Jacinto College, recently announced he would not seek re-election to the SJC Board of Trustees. Meador has held the position since 2004.

"Timing is everything, and I just felt that this would be the best time for me to not seek re-election to a six-year term," commented Meador.

"It has been an honor for me to serve. I feel that many of the objectives that we had conceived when I first joined the board have been accomplished. I have great respect and admiration for my fellow board members, Dr. Brenda Hellyer (SJC chancellor), and the leadership, and I feel very positive and optimistic about the future of the college."

Meador has avidly supported the college for many years. His association with the college dates back to 1960 when he was a young child. His father had him deliver fliers in the neighborhood requesting voter support for the referendum to establish the college. Each of his four children attended San Jacinto College, but Meador never dreamed he would one day serve on the board of trustees. "I hope my tenure on the board has been of value to the college," he added.

Meador has been the board secretary for the past four years. He was also a member of the board's finance committee and served as chair of the policy committee. He was co-chair of the board committee that worked on the 2008 capital improvement bond issue, which was approved by a wide margin of voters within the San Jacinto College District enabling the college to prepare for future growth.

"We will certainly miss Ben's steady, calming demeanor. His quiet, but firm way of expressing himself has been a great asset to the board," said Marie Flickinger, SJC board chair. "During his tenure, the college has gone through tremendous challenges, including surviving Hurricane Ike and the current battle of adjusting to major funding cuts by the state of Texas. The only positive thing about losing him from the board is his commitment to stay supportive of the college, just as he was before he was elected as a trustee."

Meador has also served the college in other capacities. He was a founding member of the San Jacinto College Foundation board, which raises funds for scholarships and student initiatives, and served as vice chairman of the foundation's board of directors in 2002.

Meador has played an integral role on the college's Continuing Education and

Business Education Advisory Committee and was instrumental in initiating and implementing the performance management program that is currently in place for SJC employees.

Meador says he is proud to have been a part of the success of San Jacinto College students. "The primary focus of the board has always been on student success," he noted. "We are seeing improvement in our retention and graduation rates, and that means we are preparing our students well as they move on to four-year institutions or to a career that will be rewarding because of the education they have received here at San Jacinto College."

Meador and his wife, Janice, have four adult children and four grandchildren. He has lived in the Pasadena area all his life and is widely respected as a successful businessman and civic leader.

He is the founder and president of Meador Staffing Services, ranked as one of the

# San Jac South fine arts shows off performances at open house

The San Jacinto College South fine arts department held its annual open house recently in the Marie Spence Flickinger Fine Arts Building. Department faculty and students were on hand to answer questions and provide more information on scholarships, available classes, degree and certification programs, and upcoming performances.

Demonstrations were also held to show examples of program work throughout the year. Among these were performances by the guitar ensemble, jazz band, concert band, San Jac dance performing arts company, flute ensemble, percussion ensemble, college/community choir, drama performances, and metal forming demonstrations. Student artwork was also exhibited in the building's atrium and the art gallery, which is now displaying pieces in the current visual communications art showcase *VisCom 1*.

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San Jacinto College trustee Ben Meador (center) receives a proclamation of recognition from the college's board of trustees, which includes (from left): John Moon Jr., Larry Wilson, Marie Flickinger (board chair), Meador, Chancellor Dr. Brenda Hellyer, Dan Mims, and Dr. Ruede Wheeler. Photo by Rob Vanya

# Haulbrooks travel to Europe



Les (left) and Donna Haulbrook pose for a photograph in Versailles, just outside Paris, where they recently visited during a trip to Holland and France (primarily the Paris area). They visited Amsterdam, drove to The Hague, the North Sea shore, Delph and Rotterdam. They then took the bullet train to Paris for a five-day visit.

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## Genoa visits San Jac Central



Genoa Elementary School students recently participated in a series of science projects at San Jacinto College Central. Pictured are, left to right, Jacqueline Marin and San Jacinto College science lab supervisor Ruben Ramirez. Together the team dipped a rose into liquid nitrogen. The fourth-graders who participated created slime, butterflies from coffee filters, gak, lip gloss and skewered balloons. They also measured acidity levels and created chemical reactions in a bag. The half-day event was hosted by the campus' department of science under the direction of Dr. Ann Cartwright.

## Dobie FFA places at 2011 Houston Livestock Show



Shown are, left to right, Willie Washer, Cynthia Waters and Bradley Waters.

Several Dobie FFA members placed at the 2011 Houston Livestock Show. Events included: FFA Tour Guide Program - 21 members participated; Agriculture Product Identification Contest - 12 members competed - placed 6th; AG4U Day - 24 members participated; Livestock Show - 17 exhibitors: Steers - 2, Goat - 1, Broilers - 2, Heifer - 1, Pigs - 11. The following exhibitors placed with their animals as well as sold in the auction: Ryan Divin - 1st place Lightweight Hampshire; Isaac Jackson - 1st place Heavyweight Hampshire; Janna Rex - 5th place Lightweight Berkshire; Bradley Waters - 6th place Heavyweight Crossbred; Matthew Mikes - 6th place Heavyweight Poland China; Elizabeth Pier - 13th place ABC steer.



Don Williams, agriculture teacher at Dobie, Tim Tatsch (breeder), Ryan Divin, Jacob Divin and Penny Divin are shown with their trophy for first place.



Pictured are, left to right, Don Williams, agriculture teacher at Dobie, Lee Jackson, Isaac Jackson, Garrett Williams and Glen Blount, breeder.



Tina Mikes, Matthew Mikes and Alan Mikes pose with Matthew Mikes' 6th place ribbon for heavy-weight Poland China.



Janna Rex poses with her 5th place ribbon for light-weight Berkshire.

## Top 10 grads honored at chamber luncheon

Continued from Page 1A  
dents about his journey from being a 28-year-old grocery sacker in Dallas making \$3 an hour to starting his own multimillion-dollar furniture franchise.

He said a tipping point for him came when he heard the televangelist say, "Use your talents."

McIngvale got a job at a furniture store, and 18 months later, opened his own store. The speaker further emphasized the importance of lifelong learning, saying that his hero was Dr. Michael DeBakey, a world-renowned cardiac surgeon who practiced medicine until his death at 99 years of age.

McIngvale reminded students they must compete with students from other countries, where a higher emphasis is placed on education.

"You've got to outsmart, outthink and outwork them,"

McIngvale said.

**Clear Horizons**  
The top 10 graduating students from Clear Horizons High School were Deena Lucardi, Stacey Lee, Diap Ngoc Le, Jessica Knerr, Melody Clay, Aviana Knochel, Ryan Lear, Michelle Harold, Ciara Gonzales and Sarah Cravens.

**Dobie**  
The top 10 graduating students from J. Frank Dobie High School were Jeremy Morris, Jessica Huynh, Ngoc Le, Jimmy Ly, Uyen Tran, Paige Sanchez, Kevin Le, Huy Luu, Malaz Mohammad and Dac Vu.

**Lutheran South Academy**  
The top 10 graduating students from Lutheran South Academy were Taylor Canada, Ryan Fletcher, Mark Franklin, Emily Rosenhagen, Nika Tafarroji, Anthony Carona, Ian Fortney, Jillian Freise, Chelsy Schield and Anna VanBuskirk.

Future professional plans for the students ranged from undecided to engineering to biology to the clergy.

The students were introduced by Houston City Councilmember Mike Sullivan, who told them he was also graduating the following day from Lone Star College with an Associate in Arts degree.

## Cookoff a huge success

Continued from Page 1A  
teer and event organizer John Layton.

One major change this year was the addition of children's games and activities.

"The children had plenty to do and had a great time all day Saturday," Layton said.

One entire local Little League baseball team attended the family event.

Also new this year was the addition of live music, karaoke and shuttle buses.

"We had some new ideas that worked really well, such as the shuttle buses," Layton

said. "They really helped with traffic management.

Several people from the community also selflessly volunteered their efforts to contribute to the event.

"We had the most amazing support staff of volunteers," Layton said. "They really worked hard and long hours and made this cookoff a great success."

The event's success was the result of a team effort, Layton said.

"Though this was the first year for the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department to present and manage the event, with the help of all of our staff and the tremendous help of our business volunteers, we ended up with a really awesome team," Layton said. "We had amazing support from our sponsors and volunteers. This was certainly a team effort, and I can't give enough thanks to people like Dean Baier, Chris McDonald, Thuy Epperson, Chuck Tylka and Marie Flickinger for all of their support in the preparation it took to make this happen."

Layton feels for those who were unable to attend the festivities. "Anyone who didn't get to come out and enjoy the great weekend just doesn't know what they missed," Layton said.

More photos will be in next week's *Leader* and even more photos will be online on the *Leader's* website at [www.southbeltleader.com](http://www.southbeltleader.com).

See related editorial on Page 2A.

Winners are listed below:

- 2011 Cookoff winners**
- Overall Winner**  
Team Henek
- Brisket**  
1. Pyromanics  
2. Team Henek  
3. B & B Cookers
- Ribs**  
1. Pyromanics  
2. Team Henek  
3. B & B Cookers
- Chicken**  
1. R & R GNC Pit Crew  
2. Los Pistoleros Cookers  
3. B & B Cookers
- Beans**  
1. Young Blood  
2. Smoke Dawg  
3. Smokin Aces
- Chili**  
1. Team Henek  
2. Young Blood  
3. Team Henek
- Chef Choice**  
1. Hang Em High  
2. Smoke Dawg  
3. 100 Proof
- Showmanship**  
1. Pit Vipers  
2. H Town Cookers  
3. Saloon Dog

## Smith wins 1st place



Lutheran South Academy middle school eighth-grader, Justin Smith, shows off his first-place medal in listening skills following the Private School Inter-scholastic Association State Finals held recently in Fort Worth. Smith not only won first place against 26 other competitors at Texas Christian University, he also earned a perfect score on the listening skills test. Smith advanced to the State Finals after winning first place at the regional competition held in April at Lutheran South Academy.

## St. Luke's Pre-K graduates named



The 2011 pre-kindergarten class at St. Luke's Early Childhood Center will hold a cap and gown ceremony on Thursday, May 19, 2011, at 7:30 p.m. in the St. Luke's Social Hall. The graduating pre-kindergartners are, left to right, (front row) Nathaniel Manlangit, Victory Piccola, Donofrio Vasquez, Austin Corwin, Julia Hernandez, Hailey Oliver, (middle row) Pilar Benegas, Lucas Guerra, Jackelyn Ochoa, Maxwell Cash, Ruben Herrera and Roberto Hernandez, (back row) the Rev. James Burkart, Maria Ortiz, Director Liz Beltran and Larry Mercado.

Photo submitted

## Meador celebrates Cinco de Mayo



Meador Elementary pre-kindergarten and Preschool Program for Children with Disabilities students celebrated Cinco de Mayo by dressing in traditional attire and parading down the halls for the rest of the Meador student body. They played musical instruments and passed out flowers to the parade onlookers. Pictured are, left to right, (front row) Hannah Carrillo, Antonio Gonzalez, Francisco Gonzalez, Sebastian Aguilar, Manuel Zamora and pre-K teacher Maria Rutherford, (back row) pre-K aide Erica Nava.

Photo submitted

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# SECTION B SPORTS & CLASSIFIED

## Lady Horns double dose Brazoswood, reach Region III semis

By John Bechtle  
Sports Editor

The Dobbie High School varsity softball team is headed to the Region III semifinals for the first time since 1997, and it took a group effort to get the job done.

Fighting back from a 13-3 first-game loss to 24-5A champion Brazoswood in the first game of a best-of-three series, Dobbie came

back with 6-4 and 3-1 wins May 14 at Manvel High School.

The series win has earned Dobbie a berth in the Region III semifinals against a Katy Taylor team that advanced to the regional final in 2010.

Pearland, the defending Class 5A state champion, will take on Bellaire in the other regional semifinal matchup.

The Lady Longhorns entered second-day action against Brazoswood with at least two players nursing sore knees, another couple of players with sore arms and a pitcher fighting a foot blister.

During the action, Karina Ramirez also suffered a cut finger.

Through it all, Dobbie pushed on.

In game two of the series, Dobbie built a 5-0 lead through two innings and held on for a 6-4 victory as Lady Horns' starting pitcher Shannon O'Connor retired Kellye Kincannon

on a ground ball back to the circle for the final out with the bases loaded.

Battling to even the series, Dobbie scored three runs in the top of the first inning on run-scoring hits by Faith Roberts, Ariel Morgan and Jenna Medina.

In the top of the second inning, Brazoswood pitcher Cassidy Droste was instructed to intentionally walk Dobbie's Shelby O'Brien with two outs, and Roberts made the Lady Bucs pay with a two-run single for a 5-0 lead.

Brazoswood scored two runs on five hits in the bot-

tom of the third inning, but O'Connor struck out Mariah San Miguel with the bases loaded to end the threat.

Alyssa Lerma's RBI double in the top of the sixth inning gave Dobbie a 6-2 lead, and O'Connor handled the

rest. Brazoswood scored twice with one out to get within 6-4, but O'Connor got Break Whitten to pop out foul to Morgan behind plate before getting Kincannon on the ground ball back to the circle.

With the series knotted at one game apiece, the Dobbie players ate cheap ballpark

hot dogs and nachos in between games and simply tried to stay out of the heat.

O'Connor, treated for a blister on her foot during

Continued on Page 6B

**Softball playoffs  
Regional Semifinals  
Dobbie vs. Katy Taylor**  
Thursday, May 19  
Aldine ISD Sports Complex, 7 p.m.

### Spring football games set

The Dobbie and Clear Brook football programs will conclude spring work-outs while hosting scrimmage games Thursday, May 26. Dobbie will host its game

at 5 p.m. on campus at the school.

Clear Brook, meanwhile, will play games at Veteran's Memorial Stadium, with the varsity game at 6 p.m.

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8-10 a.m. 4-6 p.m. & 6-8 p.m.

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The Dobbie varsity softball bench cleared to congratulate starting pitcher Shannon O'Connor (far right) after she got the final out on a ground ball to third base, sending Dobbie to the Region III semifinals after 6-4 and 3-1 wins over Brazoswood May 14 at Manvel High School. Those also joining in on the fun included, from left, Ashley Garza (7), Chezni Critchfield, Faith

Roberts and Jenna Medina (5). In reaching the semifinals for the first time since 1997, the Lady Longhorns climbed back from a 13-3 defeat in game one of the series. In games two and three, O'Connor pitched all 14 innings, winning both as Dobbie advanced to the regional final four.

Photo by John Bechtle

## No. 1 Clements trips Dobbie baseball

It might not have taken a flawless effort, but the Dobbie High School varsity baseball team certainly needed to execute the fundamentals much better than they did.

Instead, the Longhorns found themselves on the short end of a 16-3 decision against state-ranked Clements in an area round playoff game May 13 at Pearland High School.

By Dobbie head coach Miguel Torres' count, his team made eight errors and issued 10 walks over seven innings, allowing the Rangers plenty of chances to score.

Clements entered the game as the Houston area's top-ranked team, so the Longhorns knew they had to handle their business fairly seamlessly in order to win. It simply didn't happen.

The beginning of the end came in the top of the first inning. With one out, Longhorn shortstop Jose Reyes, sure-handed for much of the season, misplayed a ground ball for an error.

After a walk, Dobbie starting pitcher Emmitt Pitts spun off the mound and had Clements' Austen Guill picked off en route to third base.

Instead, Pitts tossed the ball past third baseman Ed-

ward Peabody for an error. G.R. Hinsley then rocked the Dobbie High School varsity baseball team certainly needed to execute the fundamentals much better than they did.

"You just can't have eight errors and 10 walks and expect to win a playoff game against a very good team," Torres said.

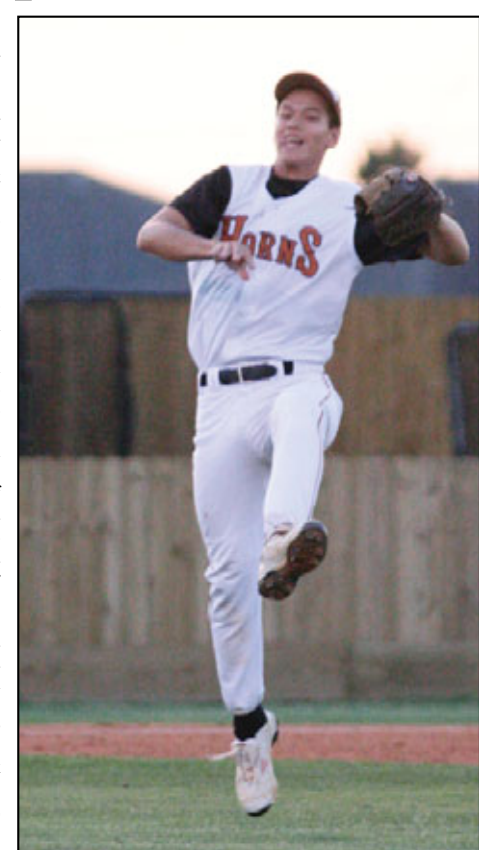
"We didn't have to play perfect, but we had to be better than we were. From there, it was about convincing the guys we were still in the mix. We hung in there as long as we could, but the miscues were costly."

Dobbie scored a single run in the bottom of the first inning as Justin Eckols led off with a single to right field and courtesy runner Jose Cabreja eventually scored on a ground out by Xavier Johnson.

The second inning was quiet, but the Rangers plated three more runs in the third and four more in the fourth inning to lead 12-2.

In all, Torres turned to six pitchers in the game. Pitts was followed by Zack Long, Ryan Henry, Chandler Salas, Aaron Gonzalez and Ryan McCormack.

"Clearly we are disappointed to have lost the game when we felt like we



Dobbie third baseman Edward Peabody went airborne during a play at third base as the Longhorns took on the Clements Rangers in an area round playoff game.

## San Jacinto basketball picks Wonders

San Jacinto College Central athletic director Scott Horstman has announced the hiring of Jacob Wonders as men's basketball head coach.

Wonders spent last season as a SJC assistant coach and replaces Scott Germander, who resigned last month after accepting a voluntary separation and severance plan offered by the college.

"I'm both honored and humbled to be named the San Jacinto College men's basketball head coach," said Wonders, who is the seventh coach in the history of the SJC men's basketball program.

coming off a successful season, and I look forward to building on that success and continuing the basketball tradition here at San Jac in the years to come.

"I'd like to thank coach Germander, coach Horst-



Jacob Wonders

man, Dr. (H. Neil) Matkin, Dr. (Brenda) Hellyer, and the rest of the San Jacinto College community for this opportunity."

Wonders has more than 10 years coaching experience, including a four-year stint as head coach at Panola College in Carthage, Texas.

Under his tutelage, the Ponies averaged more than 80 points per game each season (2006-2010), and qualified for the regional tournament in his last three seasons.

Panola advanced to the regional semifinals in 2008, marking only the second time in 25 years for the Ponies.

Wonders also saw 27 student-athletes continue

their education and basketball careers at four-year universities, including 17 who earned scholarships to play at the NCAA Division I level.

Prior to his time at Panola, Wonders spent three years as an assistant coach at Houston Baptist University (HBU).

With the Huskies, he was responsible for scouting, academic monitoring, on-the-floor coaching, and coordinating recruiting efforts.

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# Region III finalist Dobie rules 22-5A boys' soccer picks

These, Dobie High School boys' soccer fans, are the best of times for the program.

Many players, as well as head coach Jesse Saavedra, were honored at the district, regional and state levels after the completion of the 2011 season.

And what a season it was. The Longhorns first won the

District 22-5A title with an 8-0-2 record, then sprinted through the playoffs en route to the program's first-ever Region III title game.

Although the Longhorns lost to Strake Jesuit in a shootout in the Region III final, the players and their coach had obviously made

their mark. Omar Arreguin, the overall leading scorer in District 22-5A when assists were added to goals, was honored along with Jose Gonzalez, the 22-5A goal-scoring leader.

Arreguin, a first team member in the 22-5A mix, was also an All-Region III pick and was named to the All-Greater Houston first team.

Gonzalez was named the overall Most Valuable Player in 22-5A and also was mentioned as a member of the Region III second team. Defender Leo Gallegos

was a second team All-State pick, and goalkeeper Jose Balvaneda was a second-team All-State pick and was listed on the All-Greater Houston first team.

Head coach Jesse Saavedra, who was the Coach of the Year in District 22-5A and in Region III, said the players deserved the recognition after a 24-2-3 season.

"It's a great accomplishment for the guys," Saavedra said. "We started the season with a goal and for the most part came through on every aspect. A win in the Region III final would have sent us to state, but it was a terrific season nonetheless."



Pedro Mares (10), a senior midfielder for the Longhorns, made his way onto the first team as he helped the locals lead the 22-5A in both goals scored and fewest goals allowed.



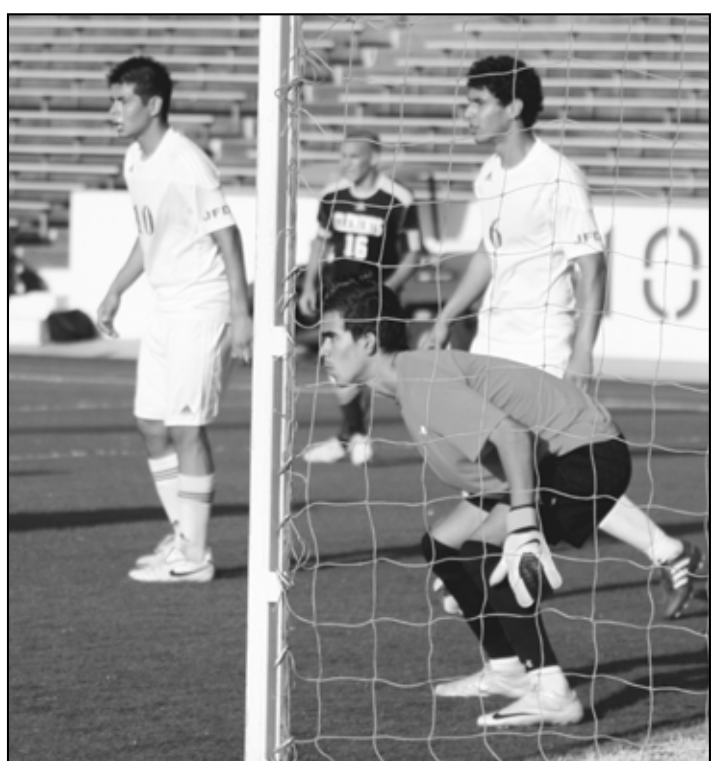
Midfielder Omar Arreguin (15), splitting three Strake Jesuit defenders during the Region III final, was named a first team, all-22-5A pick after leading the league in overall scoring. Arreguin was also a first team All-Greater Houston and second team Region III pick.



At left, Dobie striker Jose Gonzalez finished the District 22-5A season as the league's leading goal scorer on his way to being named the league's overall Most Valuable Player. A three-year varsity performer, Gonzalez was part of two Region III final four teams during his sophomore and senior seasons. As a senior, Gonzalez helped the Longhorns to a 24-2-3 record and a berth in the program's first-ever Region III title match. Gonzalez was also a Region III second team pick this season.



Senior Leo Gallegos was the leader of Dobie's defense that produced 15 shutouts this season as he controlled the box on many occasions. Gallegos was a District 22-5A first team pick and was also a second-team All-State selection.



Longhorns' goalkeeper Jose Balvaneda (right), shown with teammates Pedro Mares (10) and Leo Gallegos (6), capped a special year in a senior player. Balvaneda was the goalkeeper of the year in District 22-5A and later was named to the All-Greater Houston first-team. Balvaneda was also an All-Region III second-team selection.

## Dobie varsity boys 2011

2011 record: 24-2-3

District 22-5A record: 8-0-2

Notes: Team scored playoff victories over Baytown Sterling, Clements, Dickinson and Houston MacArthur, becoming the first team in program history to reach the regional final. Lost to Strake Jesuit in a shootout for the Region III title. The team's 24-2-3 record was also a program best, and the Longhorns scored a shootout victory over eventual state champion Southlake Carroll, handing that team its lone setback of the year. It's also the first time the team has had three players and a coach win districtwide superlative awards.

## 22-5A Boys Soccer All-District Selections

### Most Valuable Player

Jose Gonzalez, Dobie, Sr.

### Defensive Most Valuable Player

Raul Gonzalez, Memorial, Sr.

### Offensive Most Valuable Player

Leobardo Vazquez, So. Houston, Jr.

### Most Valuable Goalkeeper

Jose Balvaneda, Dobie, Sr.

### Newcomer of the Year

Giovanni Pacheco, Pasadena, Fr.

### Coach of the Year

Jesse Saavedra, Dobie

### First Team Selections

- F Martin Castillo, Rayburn, Sr.
- F Jesus Gomez, Memorial, Sr.
- F Jose Gonzalez, Dobie, Sr.
- F Leob. Vazquez, So. Houston, Jr.
- M Omar Arreguin, Dobie, Sr.
- M Marco Chacon, Rayburn, Jr.
- M Zane Gonzalez, Deer Park, So.
- M Pedro Mares, Dobie, Sr.
- M Austin Roark, Deer Park, Sr.
- M Javier Vasquez, Memorial, Jr.
- D Luis Benites, Pasadena, Jr.
- D Austin Fletcher, Deer Park, So.
- D Leo Gallegos, Dobie, Sr.
- D Raul Gonzalez, Memorial, Sr.
- D Hector Ramirez, Pasadena, Jr.
- D Joaquin Sosa, So. Houston, Sr.
- GK Jose Balvaneda, Dobie, Sr.
- GK Edgar Resendiz, Deer Park, Sr.

**Second team selections** – F: Carlos Farias, So. Houston; Luis Araoz, Rayburn, Sr.; M: Jesus Lucatero, Pasadena, Jr.; Derrick Gonzalez, Rayburn, So.; Alex Ochoa, Memorial, So.; Douglas Leighton, Dobie, Jr.; Dylan Camacho, Deer Park, Jr.; Hayden Duncan, Deer Park, Sr.; Juan Rocha, Deer Park, Sr.; D: Nelson Conedera, Pasadena; Jr.; Jonathan Otero, Pasadena; Jr.; Edwin Padilla, Dobie, So.; Carlos Rivas, Dobie, Jr.; Carlos Ibarra, Dobie, So.; Joel Rivera, Deer Park, Jr.; GK: Jesus Mendoza, Pasadena, Jr.; Jose Gonzalez, Memorial, Sr.; Hector Salazar, Dobie, Jr.

## San Jacinto men's basketball names Wonders head coach

Continued from Page 1B top-10 national ranking in points per game.

During the 2005-06 season, Wonders' last at HBU, the Huskies finished eighth in the nation with a 27-6 overall record and appeared in the NAIA Sweet Sixteen for the second time in school history.

"We are excited to have Jacob as our new men's basketball head coach," said Horstman. "He has a proven record both as an assistant

and head coach and has the ability to recruit top-notch student-athletes to continue the tradition of basketball excellence here at San Jacinto College."

Wonders began his coaching career at his alma mater, Central Michigan University, where he was a student assistant with the Chippewas.

He then came to Texas where he served as an assistant coach for four years at Lamar University in Beau-

mont. During that time, Lamar won the 2000 Southland Conference tournament championship and earned a berth in the NCAA tournament, the Cardinals' only NCAA tournament appearance in the last 25 years.

Wonders has also held coaching stints at Lewis-Clark State College in Lewiston, Idaho, and as a volunteer assistant coach at San Jacinto College during the 2001-02 season.

In his first tour in Pasa-

dena, San Jac went 30-2 overall, won the conference championship, and finished the season with a final National Junior College Athletic Association ranking of third.

"Coach Wonders was an excellent addition to the San Jacinto College basketball program when he joined us a year ago; he is well prepared to serve as head coach," added Dr. H. Neil Matkin, San Jacinto College Central campus

president.

"Jacob is extraordinarily talented, and I look forward to him leading the Ravens for many seasons to come."

He is a member of the National Association of Basketball Coaches and the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches. He currently serves as the college men's director for the TABC Board.

For information about men's basketball, visit [www.sanjacsports.com](http://www.sanjacsports.com).



Dobie varsity boys' head coach Jesse Saavedra was named the Coach of the Year in District 22-5A after leading the Longhorns to the championship with an 8-0-2 record. Saavedra eventually guided the team to the Region III title game.

## Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League Standings

As of May 18 on league website

### Junior Division

Team	W	L	T
Phillies	10	1	0
Padres	8	2	0
Marlins	5	5	0
Reds	5	4	1
Astros	3	6	1
Mets	3	8	0
Red Sox	1	9	0

### Major Division

Team	W	L	T
Astros	15	2	0
Diamondbacks	13	2	1
Braves	13	3	1
Rangers	10	10	0
Cubs	9	8	1
Orioles	7	11	0
Marlins	5	13	1
Phillies	3	14	1
Cardinals	3	15	1

### AAA Division

Team	W	L	T
Orioles	12	1	0
Astros	9	4	0
Phillies	4	8	1
Rangers	3	8	1
Diamondbacks	3	10	0

### AA Division

Team	W	L	T
Cardinals	10	3	1
Cubs	8	7	0
Astros	4	8	1
Athletics	4	8	2

### A Division

Team	W	L	T
Mets	12	0	1
Mud Cats	10	1	1
Hooks	10	3	0
River Dogs	6	4	1
Express	7	5	0
Bulls	7	5	1
Scrappers	6	6	0
Muck Dogs	5	6	1
Raptors	5	6	1
Owlz	3	8	1
Blue Claws	1	10	1
Thunder	1	10	1
Storm	1	10	1

### T-Ball Division

Team	W	L	T
Scrappers	9	0	1
Hooks	7	2	2
Express	6	3	2
River Dogs	5	5	0
Raptors	5	5	0
Red Wings	5	6	0
Thunder	4	3	3
Rattlers	3	7	1
Storm	2	8	0
Hot Rods	1	8	1

## CB footballer Wilburn to Concordia-Michigan



Clear Brook High School varsity football player Terrence Wilburn Jr. (seated center) will continue his studies and playing career at Concordia University of Michigan after inking a letter of intent. Those with him at the signing included, left to

right, (seated) Rosalyn Blakely (mother), Terrence Wilburn Sr. (father), (back row) Clear Brook head varsity football coach Paul Lanier, Terralyn Wilburn (sister) and Clear Brook varsity assistant coach Sam Mims.

## Brook basketball's Love picks Temple Junior College



Clear Brook High School varsity girls' basketball player Kia Love (seated center) will continue her education and playing career at Temple Junior College after signing a letter of intent. Those with her at the signing included, left to right, (front row) Kelsey Love (sister), Melissa Love (mother), Tracy Love (father), Christian Love (brother), Jerie Rollins (cousin),

(standing) Joyce Young (school counselor), Jennifer Gault (Brook assistant principal), Cathy Supak (Brook girls' athletic trainer); Tricia Mize (Brook varsity girls basketball assistant coach), Toya Peterson (freshman girls' basketball coach), Blair Redmon (varsity girls' basketball head coach) and Noah Cardenas (strength and conditioning coach).

## Sports news, notes

### Texans' 8U select baseball

The Texans' 8-under select baseball program is preparing to compete in United States Specialty Sports Association and Nations Baseball events beginning in June. Those wishing to join the team may call Craig Redmon at 281-236-5112.

### Sagmont-Beverly Hills notes

SBHLL Senior/Big League division coaches sought - The league has openings for the senior and big league divisions that will soon start play. Those interested may call Cindy Munoz at 832-618-3649.

### SBHLL meeting now May 25

The Sagmont-Beverly-Hills Little League board has rescheduled its monthly meeting to Wednesday, May 25, at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Kirkmont MUD Building, 10102 Blackhawk Boulevard (across from the ballpark).

### Beverly Hills speed camp

The Beverly Hills Intermediate coaching staff will host a 5-week speed camp beginning June 6 and running through July 8. The drills will focus on agility, muscle strength and muscle endurance. The sessions will run weekly on Mondays through Thursdays, with the exception of the final week. Hours are 10 a.m. to noon. The fee is \$60 cash, which includes a camp T-shirt. Deadline to register is Monday, May 23. The camp is open to all boys and girls ages 11 to 15. For additional information, call coach Ben Portis at 713-740-0420, ext. 05124 or 713-299-0251.

### Brook softball camp

Clear Brook High School head softball coach Ashley Pillow will host a youth camp June 14-16 at Lady Wolverine Field from 9 a.m. to noon each day. Registration prior to June 1 is \$60 and \$75 thereafter. Girls entering kindergarten through the ninth grade as of the 2011-2012 school year are eligible to attend. For more information, direct e-mail to Pillow at apillow@ccisd.net.

### Brook soccer camp

Clear Brook High School varsity boys' soccer coach Chris Stromeyer and varsity girls' head coach Jeff Brewer will host the Wolverines' youth camp June 6-10 at the school. Boys and girls entering the fifth through ninth grades as of the 2011-2012 school year are eligible to attend. The camp will run from 9 to 11 a.m. each day. Fee is \$50, which includes a camp T-shirt. For more information, call Stromeyer at 832-457-5181 or Brewer at 713-822-9107.

### Brook volleyball camp

Clear Brook High School varsity volleyball coach Meredith Thompson and her staff will host the 2011 Lady Wolverines' youth camp July 25-29 at the school. Students entering the fourth through ninth grades as of the 2011-2012 school year are eligible to attend. To register, visit the volleyball web site at www.clearbrookvolleyball.org.

## Top-ranked Clements baseball knocks out Dobie 16-3 in area round game



Continued from Page 1B could've come out and played much better," Torres said.

So the 2011 season is complete, and with it also are the careers of valuable seniors like catcher Justin Eckols, a three-year starter, as well as designated hitter Al Gonzalez, who slapped the game-winner homer in Dobie's bidistrict series win over Channelview.

Seniors Edward Peabody at third base, Marcelo Mar-

tinez at second base, Xavier Hernandez in left field, Troy Tapper in center field and pitcher Chandler Salas also contributed a great deal.

But this Dobie varsity team is also well-built for the future.

Torres will enter the off-season with a cache of arms that may be the deepest Dobie has seen in recent years. Starters Pitts and Long will return, and Johnson, McCormack and Aaron Gonzalez will also vie for the precious innings.

Johnson will return at first base, and Torres said Cabreja will be the likely starter at second base with Reyes returning at shortstop.

In the outfield, Long will be back in right field, and freshman Travarus Ansley showed enough skill in the postseason to merit a look in the outfield as well.

Suffice to say, Dobie's

talent pool is a deep one at the moment, and Torres plans to use that pool to his advantage.

"I said two years ago when I took over that I wanted to get this program back to where it was in the late 1980s and 1990s," Torres said.

"Getting to the playoffs is nice, but we want to do more year in and year out. We have the players to be able to do that, but it takes extra work and a dedication to the little things. I think we are in good shape right now."

With that, Torres relayed a story about the days following the loss to Clements. He received a call from a player seeking to use the cage at Dobie in order to get some swings in.

When Torres arrived at the school, there were as many of nine players there ready to get back to work.

Sounds like the offseason is already in full swing.

"This was a good year for us without a doubt, but we can do better and we can keep our success going. We believe that as coaches and players, so now it's about getting out there and putting the work. We want to be one of the top programs around."

### Mantle tryouts at Dobie May 24

Current eighth-grade students who will be attending Dobie as of the 2011-2012 school year are eligible to try out for the Mickey Mantle summer league team.

The tryout will be held Tuesday, May 24, beginning at 4 p.m. at the Longhorns' varsity field.

Players should bring gloves and bats and be dressed in baseball attire for the tryout.

## U-9 South Belt Stars' soccer goes 7-1



The South Belt Stars, a U-9 team in the South Belt Youth Soccer Club, scored a division-high 55 goals during the season en route to a 7-1 finish. Members of the team are, left to right, (front row) Chloe King, Victoria Vu, Hallie Nelms, Marissa Maxwell, (second

row) Mia Davis, Charlize Tamayo, Taiya Mitchell, Josselyn Vale, Olivia Abrego, Josie Elmore, (back row) coaches Nick Tamayo, Sammy Abrego and Rocky Vale.

## CB student trainers recognized



The Texas State Athletic Trainers Association honored two student athletic trainers as Academic All-State honorees for the 2010-2011 school year. Carol Jennings (second from left) and Nam Dinh (third from left) were the honorees. The award is given annually to graduating seniors who possess a 92 grade point average or better through their junior year and the first six weeks of their senior year. The candidates must also be in good standing as an athletic trainer and must be nominated by their supervising school trainer. Cathy Supak, the girls' athletic trainer and president of the TSAT, is at left. At right is Clear Brook principal Michele Staley.

# CALENDAR

### THURSDAY, MAY 19

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

**Houston Area Parkinson Society** - Free 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.

**Al-Anon** - Meets every Thursday from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, Room 111. For information, call 281-487-8787.

**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.

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

**Alcoholics Anonymous** - 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, MAY 20**  
7 a.m.  
**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" each Monday through Friday,

from 7 to 8 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Room 114. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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, MAY 23**  
7 a.m.  
**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" each Monday through Friday,

from 7 to 8 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Room 114. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.

**Houston Area Parkinson Society** - Free exercise and speech therapy from 9 to 10:30 a.m. at Clear Lake Rehabilitation Hospital,

655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster. Visit www.hapsonline.org for a complete list of services offered.

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

**New Directions Singles Club** - New Directions Singles support meetings are held each Monday at 6:30 p.m. at Webster Presbyterian Church, 201 W. NASA Parkway. For further information, call Susan at 832-494-5098 or Carolyn 281-340-2354.

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

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

**TUESDAY, MAY 24**  
7 a.m.

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

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

**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.

**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.

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

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

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

**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.

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

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 25**  
7 a.m.  
**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" each Monday through Friday,

from 7 to 8 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Room 114. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.

Continued on Page 4B

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**LOST: FEMALE, BLACK Yorkshire** Terrier. Less than 2 lbs. Lost from Sagemorgan, named Sagerock and Sageplum. "Sassy" Please call Crystal Garza, 281-484-8142 (home) or 281-777-5367 (cell). 5-19

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**GARAGE SALE**  
11102 SAGEHEATHER DR. Fri., May 20, 9 a.m. & Sat., May 21, 8 a.m. Moving sale - everything must go! Furniture, electronics, baby items, household, toys and more! 5-19

11402 SAGEWIND DR. near Beamer & Scarsdale. Fri., May 20, 8 a.m.-6 p.m. & Sat., May 21, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. 6.6'x11.4' German shrunken decorative storage, household items, linens, dishes, decor, adult clothing, toys, books, all must go. 5-19

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## CALENDAR

Continued from Page 3B

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 25**  
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. 6:30 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. B.A.T.P. 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, MAY 26**  
7 a.m.  
**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" each Monday through Friday, from 7 to 8 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Room 114. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.

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.  
1:30 p.m.  
**Al-Anon** - Meets every Thursday from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Room 111. For information, call 281-487-8787. 6:30 p.m.  
**St. Luke's Catholic Church** - St. Luke the Evangelist Church, 11011 Hall Road, offers free tutoring on Tuesdays from 7 to 9 p.m. and Thursdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tutoring is held in Room 2 of the Education Building. Contact Joe Pavlicek at 281-484-1397 or by e-mail at joe\_pavlicek@yahoo.com. 7 p.m.  
**Pasadena Gulf Coast Art Society** - Monthly meetings held the last Thursday of each month in the Community Room at Pasadena Town Square Mall. 8 p.m.  
**Pasadena Little Theatre** - Special two-for-one performance of *Getting Sara Married* by Sam Bobick starts at 8 p.m. at Pasadena Little Theatre, 4318 Allen-Genoa Road. Vanessa Pearson and Janet Sharpley are the directors. Buy one ticket for \$14 and get another person in free. For reservations, call 713-941-1758 or online at pasadenalittletheatre.org. 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 softball to take on Katy Taylor in Region III softball semifinals



After driving in two runs in the first game of the day, a 6-4 Dobie win, Faith Roberts came through with an RBI double in the bottom of the third inning of the decisive series finale as the Lady Longhorns won 3-1.

Continued from Page 1B  
the break, came out in the third game and got the job done in a big way.

Kincannon burned Dobie with an RBI triple to open the top of the first inning, but O'Connor retired 10 of the next 11 hitters as she found her groove in the circle.

Meanwhile, Dobie plated two runs in the bottom of the first inning with the help of some shaky defense from Brazoswood.

Kellen Gomez drew a walk to start the bottom of the first inning, and Amie Gallant then singled to second base. Gomez and Gallant then moved up a base on a double steal.

Droste got O'Brien to foul pop to the catcher for the first out, but then Brazoswood goofed. Roberts hit a ground ball to second baseman Jennifer Armstrong, who briefly thought of throwing to the plate before turning to throw to first base.

Trouble is, Brazoswood first baseman San Miguel wasn't prepared for the throw.

Instead, Armstrong's throw sailed past first base as Gomez and Gallant scored for a 2-1 Dobie lead.

Gallant singled and stole a base before Roberts drove her home with an RBI double in the bottom of the third inning for a 3-1 lead.

Again, O'Connor handled the rest of the deal.

The top of the sixth inning was huge for Dobie and not so good for Brazoswood.

The Lady Bucs had runners at second and third with one out in a bid to tie the game, but O'Connor

again dismissed the potential rally.

O'Connor struck out Allie Martinez for a key second out before retiring Allison Gier on a ground ball to second base.

In the top of the seventh, O'Connor wrapped two ground ball outs to third base around a strikeout as a wild celebration began.

"I knew I had to go out there and get it done today because my team was counting on me," O'Connor said.

"I didn't want to let them down, especially after the first-game loss. Things didn't go my way in the first game, but I knew today was a new day."

Not lost in the mix was the defensive performance of Dobie shortstop Chezni Critchfield. The sophomore fielded five ground ball outs without a problem and also raced into foul territory to catch a pop up during a critical moment in the game.

For Dobie head coach Robin Rackley, the series win was extra-special.

Rackley was a member of a state championship team while attending Dobie but had never reached beyond the regional quarterfinals in her first eight seasons as head coach.

"My kids have amazing hearts, and they never quit," Rackley said.

"This kind of performance is what Dobie softball has been about: doing the things you have to do to win and refusing to give up. 1997 was a long time ago, but we have broken through. These kids have every reason to be proud, but we're not done yet."

Along the way, both

ence today, and I know the kids did, too. She's with us, and we're going to keep playing."

Despite never missing the playoffs since the University Interscholastic League began recognizing softball as an official high school sport in 1993, Rackley and her teams, dur-

ing some years, have felt as though they were playing as underdogs or sliding under the radar.

Well, no more. Lady Longhorns. You're back in the Region III semifinals, just one of four teams still standing in the region.

"We're going to take this time to enjoy this win, but

now we have Katy Taylor," Rackley said. "This team is on a mission, and none of us are ready for it to end."

**Bwood takes opener**

Brazoswood took control of the series with a 13-3 victory May 13 at Manvel High School. The Lady Bucs led 6-3 through six innings before scoring seven runs in

the top of the seventh inning to win going away.

Dobie took a 1-0 lead in the first inning, but the game belonged to Brazoswood after that.

Following the game, members of the Dobie coaching staff got word that the Brazoswood coaching staff was calling ahead to learn the winner of the Katy

Taylor/Cy-Fair one-game playoff. It was a move that did not sit well with Dobie, and the Lady Longhorns promptly delivered the payback the following day.



Dobie catcher Ariel Morgan (15) hustled into second base with a head-first slide after driving in a run in the first inning of the second game May 14. Taking the throw is Brazoswood shortstop Allie Martinez.



Brilliant in both games 2 and 3, Dobie junior pitcher Shannon O'Connor went 14 innings against Brazoswood, allowing just one run in the series clincher as the Lady Longhorns advanced to the Region III semifinals.

### Regional quarterfinals

**Game 1: Brazoswood 13  
Dobie 3**

**Game 2: Dobie 6  
Brazoswood 1**

**Game 3: Dobie 3  
Brazoswood 1**



Dobie head coach Robin Rackley (left) and varsity assistant coach Chris Swinnen watch their players celebrate after the Lady Longhorns reached the Region III semifinals for the first time since 1997.

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