

# South Belt Leader

## Ellington

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Voice of Community-Minded People

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## City condemns Almeda Chateau apartments

By James Bolen

At press time Wednesday, City of Houston officials said they planned to cut off all utilities at the Almeda Chateau apartments, located at 10802 Kingspoint, Thursday, March 12, due to unsafe living conditions at the complex.

The city had originally planned to vacate the complex Monday, March 9, but many of the tenants had no other place to go, said Alvin Wright, a spokesman for the City of Houston Public Works and Engineering Department.

"They didn't believe us when we said we were shutting them down," Wright said. The spokesman said roughly 30 residents were still living in 24 apartment units Monday when city officials attempted to vacate the complex.

Last week, the Public Works Department disconnected the water at the complex because the owner, David Wise of San Diego, owed more than \$80,000 in back water bills.

Wise has since paid the majority of the delinquent bills, but other conditions, such as faulty electrical wiring, mold and structural problems make the complex uninhabitable.

Houston City Councilmember Mike Sullivan toured the property Monday, March 2, and agrees with city inspectors that the property needs to be vacated.

"It was despicable, absolutely horrible," Sullivan said.

van said. "It was hard to tell what color the walls were there was so much mold."

Sullivan is adamant that city codes be enforced.

"I'm a bulldog on these properties," he said. "If there's a bad apartment complex in District E, I'm your worst enemy."

The councilman said he would like to see the complex torn down, as it negatively affects the economic development of the entire area surrounding Almeda Mall.

Wise, however, said he intends to make the necessary repairs to bring the buildings back up to code.

Wright isn't confident the work will be done. "It's up to the owner what he wants to do with the property. He knows what needs to be done," Wright said. "But he's got a lot of work to do."

The owner has other problems in addition to the needed repairs. Harris County records show he owes \$69,257 in unpaid property taxes, which were due January 31.

Many of the complex's residents were Hurricane Ike victims who were placed there by charity groups.

City of Houston officials are trying to relocate the displaced residents, but many of them have criminal records, making it difficult for them to place.

## Bill introduced to include Pearland in SJC service area

By James Bolen

State Sen. Mike Jackson introduced a bill Wednesday, March 11, that, if approved, would make Pearland part of San Jacinto College's service area.

The action took place just hours after the Pearland Independent School District board unanimously passed a resolution in favor of the proposal.

The plan to include Pearland in San Jac's service area has gained much strength by local organizations over the last several months. Other groups supporting the bill include the City of Pearland, the Pearland Economic Development Corporation, the Pearland Chamber of Commerce and the Northern Brazoria County Education Alliance. Pearland residents initiated the action.

Alvin Community College currently services Pearland, though it is not in its taxing district. Pearland students, however, are not charged out-of-district fees.

Jackson's District 11 encompasses both San Jac's and ACC's service areas.

"I filed Senate Bill 1857 to open up lines of communication between the City of Pearland and Alvin Community College," Jackson said.

The proposed bill, if passed, would not require any additional taxes from Pearland residents, as San Jacinto College would also be considered out of district. At this time, it is unclear if Pearland students would receive a similar discounted

rate at San Jac, as this would require a vote from the college's board of directors.

Any change that would allow San Jacinto College to also service Pearland students would require legislation. Former Rep. Mike O'Day was in favor of introducing a similar bill as Jackson's, but he has since retired.

Organizations favoring such legislation are not suggesting ACC relinquish Pearland from its service area but to simply add San Jacinto College as a second option. Currently, San Jacinto College is prohibited from promoting itself to Pearland ISD students.

While San Jacinto College is not presently allowed to recruit students from Pearland ISD, students from the district overwhelmingly choose to attend the college rather than Alvin.

Last year, 1,400 Pearland residents attended San Jacinto compared with 625 who attended Alvin. Each year, roughly 19 percent of Pearland ISD graduating seniors attend San Jacinto College to the approximate 6 percent who attend Alvin.

Groups promoting the change in the service area attribute this to many factors.

Every school in the Pearland ISD is closer to San Jacinto South than it is to ACC. The distance from Pearland High School to San Jacinto South is 7 miles, compared with the 11 mile drive to ACC. The construction of

Continued on Page 6A

## Pct. 2 Deputies kept busy

Following a two-week investigation, deputies from the Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's office, working jointly with the Pasadena Independent School District Police Department, have made a second arrest in the Feb. 27 drive-by shooting on Highland Meadow Village.

James Lewis, 18, was positively identified by a Dobie student who had witnessed the incident. A former Dobie student, Lewis was arrested Thursday, March 5, by PISD police for criminal trespassing after an alert Dobie teacher notified the department that he was in the school's cafeteria.

The following day, charges of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, a second-degree felony, were filed on him by the constable's office.

The previous week, deputies arrested William Archer, 17, for his role in the shooting. Archer is believed to be the driver, and Lewis is believed to be the gunman, according to Precinct 2 Constable Sgt. Zerick Guinn.

Deputy Raymond Deleon was dispatched Friday, March 6, at 9:30 p.m. to the 2100 block of Nine Iron Court, where someone had reported a burglary of a motor vehicle in which a cellular phone had been taken.

Deleon spotted the suspect, David Tay-

lor, a few blocks away in the 11000 block of Christophers Walk Trail. Taylor, 17, was carrying a bag that was determined to contain the cellular phone that had been stolen. He was arrested and charged with possession of stolen goods.

Two days earlier, Deputy Jason Curry stopped a vehicle at 5 p.m. in the 11200 block of Fuqua to serve a felony warrant to Jarmarlon Brooks. A subsequent search of Brooks' vehicle yielded a stash of crack cocaine.

Brooks, 27, was arrested and charged with possession of a controlled substance.

In the past month, there have been four separate burglaries of motor vehicles in the Sageglen subdivision in which purses have been stolen.

According to Guinn, all of the vehicles were parked in front of residences with the purses in plain view.

The method of entry to the vehicles are all alike and believed to be related, Guinn said.

The sergeant recommends residents living in the community to bring purses or any other valuables into their homes.

Anyone with information on these cases is urged to call the constable's office at 713-477-2766.

## South Belt Spectacular Cookoff set for April 16-18

The annual South Belt Spectacular Cookoff will take place Thursday, April 16, through Saturday, April 18.

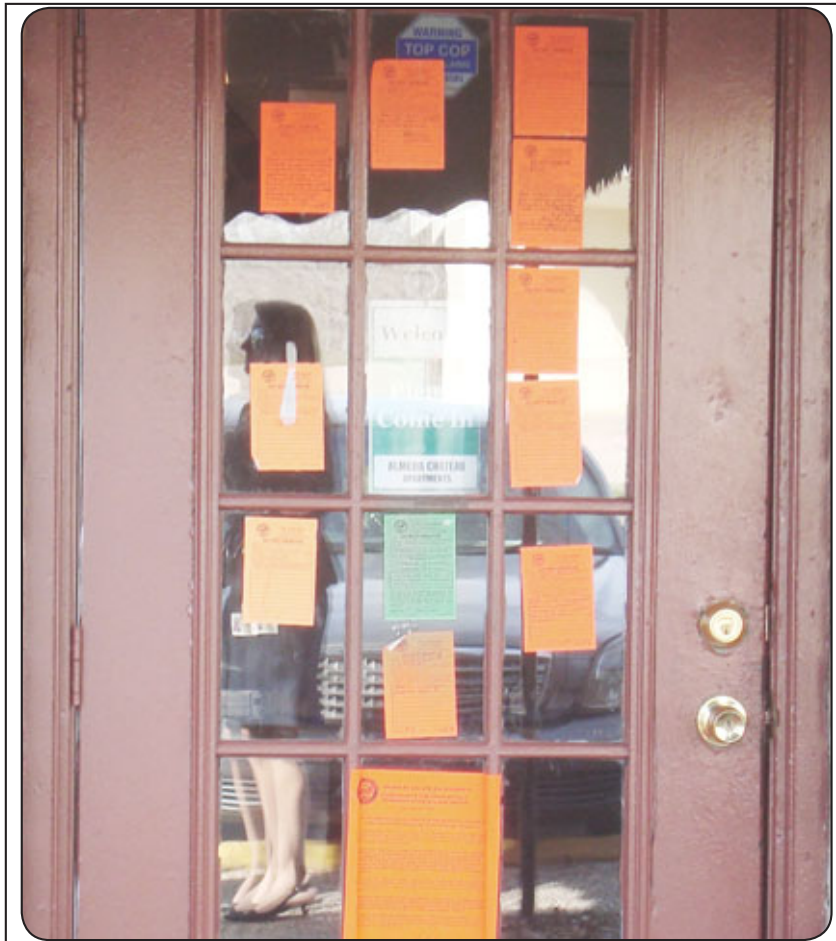
Now in its 13th year, the event will once again be held at Tom Bass I Park, due to ongoing construction at El Franco Lee Park. The cookoff is the only fundraiser for the annual Fourth of July fireworks display at El Franco Lee Park.

All 86 cooking spots for this year's event

are currently accounted for, as are next year's. Cooking teams wanting to participate in next year's event must get on a waiting list to participate.

A silent auction will also take place Saturday. Donations for the auction are currently being sought.

For additional information, to get on next year's waiting list or to donate items, call Linda Arnone at 281-484-4325.



The Almeda Chateau apartments at 10802 Kingspoint were ordered to be vacated Thursday, March 12. The demand stems from several safety problems with the complex such as faulty electrical wiring, mold and structural issues. Several code violation notices issued by the City of Houston are shown above on the office door of the complex.

Photo by Karina Moreno (Councilmember Mike Sullivan's office)

## Body of De Jesus found Suspected carjacker led police to body

By James Bolen

The body of former South Belt resident Susana De Jesus was found early Tuesday morning in a tractor trailer near Reliant stadium.

Police were led to the body after questioning Nicholas-Michael Edwin Jean.

Jean, 21, was arrested by authorities following a daylong manhunt Monday, March 9, after an attempted carjacking in Pearland that forced the closure of Magnolia Elementary and the lockdown of two other schools in the area.

A Pearland resident, Jean has been charged with attempted murder, aggravated kidnapping, burglary, aggravated robbery and theft of a firearm. All are felonies, and all related to the incident on Monday. His bond has been set at \$1.2 million.

At press time, no charges had been filed on him in connection to De Jesus' disappearance.

De Jesus was abducted at gunpoint by a masked man Monday, Feb. 2, as she left her job at Catherine's Plus Sizes near FM 518 and Highway 288, according to a co-worker who witnessed the incident.

Two surveillance photos of the believed kidnapper were released by police in hopes of finding leads.

One of the photographs was taken an hour after the kidnapping at a bank's ATM in the 3600 block of Old Spanish Trail, where the suspect made a withdrawal from De Jesus' account.

The second was taken at a Whataburger in the 7600 block of West Bellfort about 3:40 a.m.

## Local board elections set

By James Bolen

Monday, March 9, marked the last day to file to run in the upcoming May 9 school board elections, with many candidates filing at the last minute.

To be decided are three Pasadena Independent School District board seats, three Clear Creek Independent School District board seats and an unprecedented four San Jacinto College District board seats.

The PISD positions up for election are the ones currently held by Fred Roberts, Carmen Orozco and Nelda Sullivan. All open seats have three-year terms.

Both Roberts and Sullivan have filed to retain their positions, while Orozco did not.

Roberts is running uncontested. Randy Smith and Terry Robinson have both filed against Sullivan for her Position 3 seat.

Mariselle Quijano-Lerma and Neel McGovern have filed to run for Orozco's position.

The CCISD positions up for election are the ones currently held by Stuart J. Stromeier, Dee Scott and Ralph Parr. As in PISD, all seats are three-year terms.

Feb. 3.

De Jesus' car, a 2008 Cadillac, was found abandoned at an apartment complex in the 6000 block of West Airport Boulevard later Feb. 3.

The Leader received several calls Wednesday, March 11, from concerned residents as to why there was so much media at Bishop Park on Blackhawk. De Jesus' sister, Guilly Puente, a South Belt resident, opted to do TV and radio interviews there rather than at her home.

## NASA Rd. 1 work causing delays

Construction crews recently demolished an overpass at NASA Road 1 and are currently working on the area street, causing heavy traffic congestion in the area.

NASA Road 1/FM 528 is shut down in both directions.

The Texas Department of Transportation recommends eastbound motorists take the southbound Gulf Freeway feeder road to the NASA Bypass and use the U-turn to the northbound frontage road.

Westbound traffic should detour to the northbound Gulf Freeway frontage road to Bay Area Boulevard and use the overpass to the southbound frontage road.

The street is expected to reopen May 4.

### AARP meets at new center

The South Belt AARP will meet Friday, March 13, at 10 a.m. at El Franco Lee Community Center, 9400 Hall Road. The guest speaker for the first meeting in the new building will be Marie Flickinger, publisher of the South Belt-Ellington Leader. The chapter will also recognize those who have been instrumental in helping to get the community center. All seniors are invited to attend.

### Dobie 10-year reunion set

Class officers from J. Frank Dobie's Class of 1999 are planning a 10-year reunion for Saturday, June 20, at 7 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn Pearland, 12101 Shadow Creek Parkway. Presale tickets are available before April 20. For more information, e-mail dobieclassof99reunion@gmail.com or visit the Web site at www.dobieclassof99reunion.webs.com. Also visit the MySpace group at http://groups.myspace.com/dobieclassof99reunion.

### Band BBQ dinner March 26

The Dobie Longhorn Band will hold a barbecue dinner, concert and silent auction fundraiser on Thursday, March 26, from 6 to 8 p.m. Dinners are \$10 each and can be purchased from any band member through March 13. A plate consists of sliced brisket and links, beans, potato salad and iced tea, dine in or take out. Each band will perform during the dinner. Donations are being accepted for silent auction items. For information about donations or to purchase a ticket March 14-20, e-mail cdenise630@yahoo.com.

### Dance ticket sales set

Eighth-grade dance ticket sales will be held at Thompson Intermediate during lunch March 12-13. Tickets are \$40 each, cash or check. This includes dinner, music and prizes. The event will be held at The Gardens on May 30. Parent volunteers are needed. For information, e-mail Kimberly Campos at gatlions09@yahoo.com. Information regarding the dance is also posted on the Thompson Web site.

### BHI hosts Science Night

Beverly Hills will host Science Night on Thursday, March 12, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. There will be fun science activities, Wii, demonstrations, food, door prizes and more. A book fair will also be available in the library.

### K of C fish fry at St. Luke's

The Knights of Columbus Council 9201 will once again serve fried catfish dinners at St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church on Fridays, March 13, March 20, March 27 and April 3. The dinner will consist of a large farm raised catfish fillet, french fries, hush puppies, cole slaw, corn on the cob and iced tea. Soft drinks and desserts will be available for sale.

One- and two-piece dinners will be available, dine in or take out. Dinners will be served from 5 to 7 p.m. at St. Luke the Evangelist Parish Hall at 11011 Hall Road.

Profits will be used for scholarships and other local community charitable projects. Everyone is invited and welcomed. For more information, call 281-484-2127.

### Cowboys, Cowgirls register

The Sagemont Cowboys and Cowgirls will hold early registration for all returning football players and any and all drill and mascot members at the football field in El Franco Lee Park on Saturday, March 14, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

A \$50 deposit is required for all football and mascot applicants, and a \$100 deposit is required for drill applicants. Check out the Web site at www.sagemontcowboys.com.

### Frazier scholarships offered

The Frazier PTO will offer five scholarships to Dobie seniors who attended Frazier in fourth and fifth grades. Applications and requirement information are available through the senior counselor's office at Dobie. Applications must be received no later than Thursday, April 9.

### PIP meeting March 17

The next Positive Interaction Program meeting will be Tuesday, March 17, at 7 p.m. in the first floor staff meeting room at Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital, 11800 Astoria. Guest speaker will be Assistant Chief of Police Dorothy Edwards, Neighborhood Protection Corps. The PIP program consists of police and citizens working together to make neighborhoods safer. For information, call Officer Randy Derr at 281-218-3900.

### Sagemont meeting set

Sagemont Maintenance will hold its annual meeting Wednesday, March 18, at 7 p.m. in Room 110E of the Parker Williams Library annex on Scarsdale.

### Heavy trash scheduled

Tree waste will be picked up Thursday, March 19, for city of Houston residents living north of Beltway 8. Residents south of Beltway 8 are scheduled for Thursday, March 26. For more information, call 3-1-1.

# Readers' Opinions

## Reams: A bloodless coup

George Valtaras and Howie Rich last week touch on important issues relating to the Obama White House but neither got down to the crux of our problem, in my opinion: America has a Marxist in the White House. So many factors have come together to create the perfect storm that allowed this to happen: weak republican leadership; five decades of "social justice" instruction in our universities leaving the majority of voters with no frame of reference as to our history, our founding or the constitution; an economic recession of great magnitude; elements of the extreme left seizing control of the Democratic Party; a media that violates its constitutional duty to investigate and report news and facts and instead tries to sway opinions and votes; and the arrival of a charismatic individual who happened to be a minority.

Obama has been mentored by communists, socialists and the hate-America black liberation preacher most of his life. He spouts off platitudes and disarms us while giving no details of his plan. "Hope and change" isn't a plan. In public he shows disrespect for our flag and national anthem and has Che Guevara's mug shot on his campaign walls. He is highly intelligent; deliberately following some of FRD's Great Depression solutions that did not work. He doesn't want them to work now. He divides us by pitting the "wealthy" against the middle class, punishing the former to the benefit of the latter through tax policy; pits Rush Limbaugh against republican leadership; chokes off growth with taxes; ties us to huge debt the next three generations can't pay off; weakens us militarily with a number of decisions; favors union labor

in stimulus projects rather than non-union; controls large groups by making them dependent on the government and obligated through various favors; further intrusions into the education field; talks of nationalizing banks; pushes bills through before they can be thoroughly debated, properly read, and doesn't allow amendments; on and on it goes. The latest news is an attempt to get the 22nd Amendment revoked so that Mr. Obama is not limited to two terms as president (H.J. Res. 5). And, we hear constant rumors regarding gun and ammunition control legislation, and limits to free speech with the "fairness doctrine" and "card check." He is aiming at two basic constitutional rights, the 1st and 2nd amendments.

A few quotes and platitudes from Mr. Obama and his chief of staff: "The fundamental transformation of the United States." "A new way of doing things has begun." "Not the same old tired politics of Washington." "You never want a crisis to go to waste..." "This crisis provides the opportunity for us to do things that you could not do before." What is it about all this that the American people don't understand? We're witnessing a bloodless coup by a Marxist leader to create a one party political system, control the US economy through socialism rather than capitalism, and rule over We The People for a long time. Think Cuba or Venezuela. Welcome to the United Socialist States of America. When is the next "tea party," or "Lexington and Concord?"

Larry Reams

## Shepherd answers Hickey comments

Last week, a readers comment was placed by Mr. Hickey in the *South Belt Leader* inviting people to visit a Gmail Fo-

rum site. It was indicated that this was a way to avoid having to wait for a returned phone call and that no one is in charge of it. Please note that although this forum has the word SagemontPark in it, and has a Password of SPCIA which is the Initials for the Sagemont Park Community Improvement Association, it is in no way associated or affiliated with the SPCIA, it's elected Officers, or any Legal Entity associated with the Sagemont Park Community Improvement Association.

Anyone wishing to participate in any Forum on the Internet is welcome to do so but should be aware that the Forum mentioned last week will not be monitored by or officially responded to by any Officer of the SPCIA at this time or anytime in the near foreseeable future.

As with any anonymous open forum posted on the Internet, please use caution, do not give out personal information or any information which might put yourself or your family's safety at risk since it can be read by and posted on by anyone in the world with an Internet connection. Please also do not expect that a posting has brought a Neighborhood Deed Restriction Issue to light to the SPCIA.

Anyone wishing to contact an Elected Officer of the SPCIA may do so by e-mail at SagemontPark@yahoo.com and allow

72 hours response time. Thank You,  
Jeff K. Shepherd  
President, Sagemont Park Community Improvement Association (SPCIA)

## McElroy writes on Bramble's life

This afternoon USAF Staff Sergeant Bobbie Kristine Boren Bramble was laid to rest in the National Cemetery here in Houston, Texas. She was just 23 years old when she lost her life in a freak accident on a lonely highway in Arkansas late last Saturday night. A shocking and unexpected end to a life so full of joy and generosity of spirit!

As we grow older, I think the mind plays tricks on us. I look out across our front yard on Palmsprings, and I can easily see the little girl that was Bobbie, playing with other neighborhood children. I look out again and I see Bobbie and Lance in fatigues, hauling fallen tree limbs from our back yard following Hurricane Ike.

Serving and helping wherever necessary, something Bobbie Bramble took very seriously from helping out former neighbors to serving her country.

Bobbie was born on August 16, 1985. She grew up in the Genoa Township area of Houston, attending Genoa Elementa-

ry, Miller Intermediate School, and South Houston High School. She set a goal for herself to join the Air Force and that's what she did.

Bobbie attended basic training at Lackland AFB and technical school at Sheppard AFB, where she was trained as an aerospace medical service apprentice. Bobbie served her first duty at Lackland AFB where she was assigned to the Wilford Hall Medical Center Obstetrics/Gynecology Flight assisting physicians with medical screenings and exams.

After OB/GYN, she was transferred to the WHMC emergency department where she responded to more than 500 emergency medical 911 calls, provided pre-hospital care and secured optimum patient outcomes.

Bobbie volunteered to deploy in early 2007 and was sent to Iraq where she worked in the intensive care unit of the 332nd Expeditionary Medical Group. While in Iraq, she volunteered to work in the Humanitarian Outreach Program which provided health check-ups and immunizations to needy Iraqi children.

In April 2008, Bobbie was accepted to the Medical Readiness Training Flight and assigned to Camp Rissington where

she taught medical readiness training to deploying personnel. Her first-rate leadership and remarkable teaching skills ensured mission success and the execution of medical readiness training to 3,000 active duty personnel annually. In August, Bobbie was promoted to the rank of Staff Sergeant. She was also the recipient of Air Force Achievement medal, and the Air Force Commendation Medal.

The last time I saw Bobbie was when she, Lance, Bobbie's dad, Dan, and Lance's sister, Crystal, came to visit me in the hospital. The visit was good - she was so happy and animated. I shall always remember that smile!!

To say that Bobbie will be missed is quite an understatement!! She leaves behind a loving husband of 4 years, Lance Bramble, her parents Danny and Mae Boren; brother Billy Boren; sister April Boren; grandmother Faye Boren; and numerous other loving family members and so many friends. We are all better for having known you...to us you are and always will be a hero! You somehow managed to put so much joy, kindness, life, and goodness into your 23 years of living!! You will not be forgotten!

Eleta M. McElroy

## Statement on proposed changes to state accountability system in SB 3/HB 3

Linda Bridges, president of Texas AFT, offered this comment on the bill to change the state accountability system (SB 3/HB 3) introduced by Sen. Florence Shapiro and Rep. Rob Eissler recently:

The authors of this bill said today they want to move away from the current "gotcha" system of school accountability, put testing in its rightful place, and shift the focus to preparing our students for college and workforce success upon graduation.

The performance of one student in one subgroup on one narrow, fill-in-the-bubble test covering a small slice of the curriculum could still cause a school to be rated low-performing.

Under this proposal our teachers and students would receive no relief from the severe loss of real instructional time caused by excessive practice testing, test preparation, and benchmark testing tied to the standardized state exams. The bill would leave in place the punitive 2006 laws that force arbitrary school shutdowns

based on state test scores, without assuring that struggling schools receive the resources and support they lack.

Nor would this proposal resolve the contradictions between conflicting federal and state ratings of our schools.

The authors of this legislation said their bill remains a "work in progress" and invited stakeholders to participate in efforts to improve it. "We appreciate the invitation and will take them up on it," said Bridges.

Texas AFT represents more than 61,000 teachers, paraprofessionals, support personnel, and higher-education employees across the state. Texas AFT is affiliated with the 1.4-million-member American Federation of Teachers.

## A shift in education goals could put more Texans to work

By Susan Combs  
Texas Comptroller

Last year, refinery and plant expansions added about 5,000 new jobs in Houston's energy sector. Those job gains could have potentially been higher if the area's available work force had possessed in-demand skills such as welding and process control.

The work force skills the region needed do not require a four-year degree but do require technical training beyond high school. According to Carol Wilson, senior human resources director at Centerpoint Energy, the problem is not isolated.

"It's getting tougher to find people for technical skills-related positions," Wilson said. "The demand is greater than the supply of the people who possess these skills."

Our state as a whole stands to reap significant economic rewards if we shift some of our education policies from the traditional emphasis on four-year colleges and direct more attention, money and research toward work force training opportunities offered by community and technical colleges.

Community and technical college graduates add fuel to

Texas' economic engine and provide skills that keep our cities moving, building and thriving. In 2007, more than 80 percent of all Texas jobs did not require a bachelor's degree. Neither did nearly 44 percent of the jobs paying wages above the state average. The U.S. Department of Education estimates about 80 percent of the fastest growing occupations in the near future will require some postsecondary training but not a bachelor's degree.

Monte King, of the Workforce Development office at Shell Oil Company, recognizes the benefits of developing a labor supply that is trained and ready for tomorrow's in-demand jobs.

"If Texas is known to have work force talent, more companies will locate and expand in the state," King said.

In my office's recent Texas Works report, we detail strategies for developing our work force in ways that dovetail with future labor needs. One way to do that is to ensure high school students have multiple pathways to graduation by allowing greater flexibility in Texas graduation requirements and grade point average calculation standards, which can otherwise prevent or discourage high

school students from enrolling in career and technology courses.

In addition to policy changes, we need to strengthen Texas' work force. Establishing a \$25 million fund to support community and technical colleges offering career-technical education will be invaluable to schools facing startup costs associated with purchasing equipment and outfitting state-of-the-art training facilities.

Without an adequate supply of skilled workers, Texas' ability to attract and retain new businesses will suffer. We also jeopardize the future financial well being of many young Texans by focusing on only one "ideal" route beyond high school. By bolstering our state's sometimes overlooked educational assets, Texas can stand ready to greet future work force developments not as challenges, but as opportunities.

Texas Comptroller Susan Combs recently released *Texas Works*, an in-depth study of the emerging gap between the demand for skilled workers and the state's ability to supply them. The report is available online at [www.window.state.tx.us/specialrpt/workforce/](http://www.window.state.tx.us/specialrpt/workforce/).

weight given to state tests in deciding whether a student in grade school or middle school will be promoted; otherwise, state test scores would remain the key determinant of student achievement, school ratings, and graduation standards.

The performance of one student in one subgroup on one narrow, fill-in-the-bubble test covering a small slice of the curriculum could still cause a school to be rated low-performing.

Under this proposal our teachers and students would receive no relief from the severe loss of real instructional time caused by excessive practice testing, test preparation, and benchmark testing tied to the standardized state exams. The bill would leave in place the punitive 2006 laws that force arbitrary school shutdowns

While the bill as introduced would reduce the

## Principal selected for Education Village High School in CCISD

Clear Creek Independent School District's newest high school will be led by a home-grown principal, Karen Engle is a product of CCISD and has been a principal for six years. On Monday, Feb. 23, the board of trustees approved her selection as principal for the Education Village High School.

The yet-to-be-named campus is set to open in the fall of 2010. It will be part of the first Education Village to be built in the State of Texas. It features three schools on one campus on Highway 96 near Highway 146. Sandra Mossman Elementary School will open in the fall of 2009, while the intermediate campus will open its doors in

2010.

Karen Engle served as principal of Clear Lake City Elementary School (2005-2007) where she herself was a student the year it opened. She is currently principal of Clear View Education Center, which was once Webster Intermediate School, where Engle attended sixth, seventh and eighth grades. She is a graduate of Clear Lake High School.

Under her leadership, Clear View, a charter school for academic success, achieved a Recognized Rating from the Texas Education Agency for the first time. During her tenure at Clear Lake City Elementary, the campus received the

## William R. "Rick" Newton

William Richard "Rick" Newton, former South Belt resident, died March 5, 2009, in a Las Vegas hospital.

He is preceded in death by his parents, William Milton Newton and Ann Christine (Tucker) Newton.

Survivors include his wife of 39 1/2 years, Sharon (Dabbs) Newton; children William Michael Newton and Angela Michelle Newton; grandchildren William Nathan Bodiford and Amaya Grace Newton. He has relatives in Texas, Oklahoma and California.

Newton and his wife were high school sweethearts. He joined the U.S. Navy while she went to college. He was stationed in Palo Alto, Calif., and then served in IUWG2 in Norfolk, Va., until 1969.

He loved to travel with his family, and had been in every state, Canada, Mexico and many countries in Europe. Above all, he loved cruising as his mode of travel.

Teaching was Newton's profession, and he retired from teaching in Texas. He taught in Clear Creek, Pasadena, McKinney, Madisonville and Grand Prairie independent school districts. Then, he and his wife moved to Las Vegas to teach in Clark County School District. He would have completed five years this August. In Las Vegas, he taught at Finley Middle School and Cheyenne High School.

Newton was a licensed minister. He had his Doctorate of Chaplaincy and ministered with humor every day.

He always had time for an encouraging word or a moment of prayer when it was needed.

Visitation was Tuesday, March 10, and the funeral service was held Wednesday, March 11, at Forest Park East Funeral Home in Webster.

## Sybilene Alice Stoddard

Sybilene Alice Stoddard, 86, died March 8, 2009. She was born in Avery, Texas, on Sept. 8, 1922, to Ray and Edna Holder. She was an

## Deaths

Edgebrook area resident. Stoddard is preceded in death by her daughter, Billie Jean.

Survivors include her husband of 48 years, George, and two grandchildren. She was a member of OES Park Place, Chapter 731.

Visitation was held Wednesday, March 11, at Forest Lawn Cemetery Chapel Mausoleum with services following at Forest Lawn Cemetery.

## Martha Sharon Ament

Martha Sharon Ament, 62, died Wednesday, March 4, 2009, with her family by her side following a courageous battle with cancer.

Ament, known to all her friends as "Sharon," was born in Houston on Jan. 15, 1947, and lived in Houston all her life. She had a successful life but was most happy with family and her many friends.

Ament was a 1965 graduate of Milby High School. She obtained a degree from the University of Houston in education in three years. Later, she would return to UH-Clear Lake and obtain her Master of Science. She was a member of Phi Kappa Phi honor society.

When her children were young, she taught elementary school. After teaching, she became PTA president and coached Little League boys' baseball.

Ament decided to try her hand at real estate and was named Rookie of the Year and became a member of the Million Dollar Club with McCarver Realty. In her spare time, Ament established and taught the first Vacation Bible School at St. Luke's, was in charge of RCIA, and elected the first woman president of Parish Council.

Ament concluded her career as guidance counselor for the Pasadena school district. The last 15 years, she was content to take care of her family, home and many animals. She loved nature, cruising, gardening, fishing,

casino poker and became an expert at Texas Hold'Em.

Ament was preceded in death by her father, Olen, and mother, Christine Jackson, whom she took care of for seven years after her father's death.

Ament is survived by her husband of 40 years, David, with whom she attended elementary school; sons Nathan and Adam and wife Sherry; and Tawney, her only granddaughter. A memorial service was held at 10 a.m. Monday, March 9, in the Family Chapel of Forest Park Lawndale Funeral Home.

## Richard Allen Zella



Richard Allen Zella, 57, a resident of Reading, Pa., returned to his hometown of Houston and died March 9, 2009, after a year-long battle with brain cancer. The family resides in the South Belt area.

Zella is survived by his wife, Donna; sons Jeremy and Aaron; stepson Danny; parents Julius and Leona Zella of Houston; brother Gary of Houston; sisters Denise and husband Joe of Alvin; Cathy and husband Mark of Webster; and nephews Tyler and Andrew of Webster.

Visitation will be from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, March 12, and the funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Friday, March 13, both at Niday Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers the family requests donations be made in Zella's name to the National Brain Tumor Society, 124 Watertown St., Suite 2D, Watertown, MA 02472, 415-834-9970.

## Lariaettes end competition season, win numerous awards



The J. Frank Dobie High School Lariaettes recently returned from competition with numerous awards. Pictured are, left to right, (front row) Cassandra Murray, Libby Garza, Ivette Armenta, Brandie Arce, Alexandria Galvan, Nadine Tavera, Tiffany White, BiAnca Rodriguez, Vyanka Reyna, Denise Zuniga, Demmi Garcia, (middle row) Lisa Scott, Senia Rubio, Jeannette Cruz, Gaby Lara, Sandy Nemons, Linda Mindiola, Alyssa Loreda, Caitlin

Woods, Amy Muniz, Cristina Gonzalez, Ashley Cantu, Asia Allen, (back row) Crystal Cabriaes, Alyssa Lozano, Donna Hernandez, Camilla Contreras, Brittany Rankin, Tristana Guyote, Aimee Cessna, Adriana Gutierrez, Shanay LaCout, Jontay Warner, Jennifer Blanco, Elise Harper, Clarissa Vega, Katlyn Hoggard, Megan Barker, Ashley Sarabia, Paige Cavazos, Nicolette Baade and Mayra Correa.

Photo submitted

The J. Frank Dobie Lariaettes recently attended the American Dance Drill Team Houston Regional Competition at Dekaney High School in Spring.

The girls did an outstanding job, walking away with numerous awards, and were named to Best of the Best for the day.

The officers received a Sweepstakes award for their officer lyrical, jazz and hip-hop, as well as the Gussie Nell Davis Award for scoring 90 or above on all routines.

They also received a Judges Award for their officer lyrical, as well as an award for outstanding officer choreography.

The team did an amazing job and also received a Sweepstakes award for their team jazz, modern and hip-hop, as well as the Gussie Nell Davis Award for their routines.

The Lariaettes were awarded judges awards for all three of their team routines, as well as receiving awards for outstanding technique, outstanding presentation, outstanding precision, and outstanding choreography. They were also named runners-up to Academic Champion.

The Lariaettes also received a Division I for their medium lyrical ensemble, and were awarded Best in Class and the overall winner for their large ensemble jazz routine, performed by the Elite Jazz Troupe, selected to perform through an audition process at the beginning of the season.

The Small Ensemble, performed by four of the junior and seniors, won Best

In Class and was the overall winner for small ensembles.

There were 12 Division I soloists, with four placing in solo finals. Finalists were fourth runner-up Nadine Tavera, third runner-up Alexandria Galvan, second runner-up Ivette Armenta, and first runner-up Vyanka Reyna.

Other award winning soloists were Aimee Cessna, Alyssa Loreda, Tristana Guyote, Denise Zuniga, BiAnca Rodriguez, Brandie Arce, Elizabeth Garza and Tiffany White.

Overall, the Lariaettes had an outstanding contest season.



A funeral should be as unique and special as the person it represents. We believe every life has a unique story and deserves to be honored. Let us help you tell that story, and truly celebrate a life that was lived.

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# Dobie announces honor rolls for fourth six-weeks

Dobie High School recently released its honor roll for the fourth six-weeks grading period. Students named are as follows:

## Honor roll Ninth grade

Basem Salim Abouassi, Javier Aguirre, Hasan Akber, Edward Jesse Alvarado, Raquel Lasha Ardoin, Andres Armenta, Emily Nicole Averitt-Cleaveland, Alex Avila, Cynthia Joanna Avila, Jennifer Avila, Michael Phillip Baez and Veronica Beatris Barales.

Adam Scott Barker, Raymond Floyd Bashinski, Joshua Emmanuel Basquez, Lindsay D. Belus, Mariani Benavides, Celeny Adriana Benitez, Cesar Bernal, Grace Anne Boersche, Deandre Jerrod Bolden, Susan Marie Bowdoin, Mitchell Brady and Ceci Kasandra Brizuela.

Brandon C. Brown, Kayla Corin Bryce, Christine Bui, Shaun Tuankhang Bui, Alaina Michelle Burns, Roy Cantu, Duong Thuy Cao, Sheila Estefanny Cardenas, David Allen Carrier, Ana Karen Castaneda, Ana Isabel Cavazos and Joe M. Cavazos. Saul Cervantes, Erica Gisel Chavez, Javier G. Chavez, Michael Wayne Clark, Mitchell Andrew Clark, Katrina Carina Collins, John Albert Colunga, Samantha Paige Coyle, Gabriela Cruz, Veronica Michelle Defautente and Gabriella L. DeLeon.

Mercedes Lynn Delgado, Oscar Aaron Delossantos, Jessica Dennis, Jordan Taylor Deubner, Hibba Arsan Diab, Duyen Thi Thao Dinh, Sunny Do, Ivan Daniel Dorantes, Elizabeth Ngo Duong, Diego Osvaldo Escalera, Chloe Liseth Escobar, Britthany K. Esquivel, Eric James Everett

and Felicia Brie Fernandez. Adrian J. Flores, Courtney Franklin, Erick Frias, Jorge Luis Fuentes, Crystal Ashley Galaviz, Dyana Lissette Galvan, Eden Galvan, Cody Andrew Garcia, Jesus Garcia, Veronica Alejandra Garcia, Megan Alyce Gary, Loren Milton Gautney and Loyce James Gayo.

Mantej Kaur Gill, Samantha Gomes, Suva Bernard Gomes, Denise Azaret Gomez, Ana Julia Gonzalez, Andrea Cecilia Gonzalez, Brandon Edgardo Gonzalez, Crystal Celeste Gonzalez, Paul Michael Goodin, Laura Pilar Gutierrez and Allison Kay Hall.

Briana Maritza Harper, Joshua Cassell Hart, Dyna Tieda Hay, Kevin Duc Hoang, Phuong Elizabeth Hoang, Mai Khanh Hoang, Nguyen Bac Hong, Christopher Robert Jackson, Rachael Annalisa Jagdeo, Karen Johanna Jimenez, Betty Ann Jordan and Lindsey Michele Justice.

Aaron Michael Kimzey, Savannah Jean King, Charity Crystal Knight, Andrew Michael Lake, Van Tuyet Le, Douglas Worthington Leighton, Edward Alexander Lewis, Zachery Morgan Long, Jacob Andrew Lozano, Maximiliano Lozano, Tony Lu and Tina Huynh Luong.

Puong Kim Ly, Michelle Macias, Jennifer Clarissa Maciel, Jesse Vara Magana, Nikes Allen Manriquez, Taelor Ashley Marquettagadison, Kirsten Savory Marshall, Natalie Kay Martin, Bernardo Martinez, Christopher Matthew Martinez and Briana Marie Mazzola.

Alayna Kay McDonald, Leslie Marilyn Melgoza, Chelsea Nichole Mendoza, Atalya Joscelyn Mermella,

Calvin Gean Mitchell, Ahmad Osama Mohamad, Jared N Morales, Darrin Keith Motley, Julie Elizabeth Murphy, Dustin Quangdinh Ngo, Austin Ryan-Vinh Nguyen and Dana T. Nguyen.

Duoc Thanh Nguyen, Kenny Nguyen, Khanh Phuong Nguyen, Stephanie Nguyen, Teresa Kim Nguyen, Thuan Chi Nguyen, Tri Nhan Nguyen, Veronica Nicole Nicholson, Christopher Alan Nickelson, Chidi Carl Nnabuife, Erik Tristan Olmos and Miguel Angel Ovalle.

Maritza Perez, Rosa P. Perlera, Tyra Rose Perry, Minhchau Hong Pham, Trang Tran Thuy Pham, Vy Thanh Nguyen Pham, Khanh Tran Uyen Phan, Jenny Thi Phung, Elizabeth Ann Pier, William Edelmiro Pinales, Katie Elizabeth Posey and Jasmin Nicole Pruneda.

Sazin Rahim, Yvonne Ramirez, Guillermo Arturo Ramos, Ramish Rasool, Ricardo Rendon, Jorge Manuel Reta, Raquel Carlene Reyes, Radherson Emilio Rijo, Anthony Geno Rocha, Charly Vianey Rodriguez, Elena Lizeth Rodriguez and Isabel Nicole Rodriguez.

Rene Rafael Rodriguez, Anthony Salas, Liz Arandi Santos, Ashley Noelle Schroeder, Reese Daniel Selman, Jacqueline Eusebia Silva, Amanda Nicole Smith, Kayla Elizabeth Smith, Steven Patrick Smith, Terral Latanjatoinette Smith and Christopher Ray Sorensen.

Treg Edward Spigner, Jorge Luis Stefanoni, Sheldon Avery Stockfleth, Zachary Randal Stockfleth, Kristen Danielle Stolicik, Dajah Elies Swinton, Clarissa Tamez, Melanie Lois Thompson, Tony Tieu, Carol To-Uyen Tran and Dorothy Thuyuyen Tran.

Hoa Thanh Tran, Hong Tuyet Tran, Paul Huy Tran, Thomas Ray Trevino, Chukwumeka Kendrick Uchendu, Brooke Carneal Urdiales, Kenneth Javier Valerio, Marco Mencion Varron, Nyla Osiris Vasquez and Shannon Janea Veal.

Jose Luis Vega, Brenda Velasquez, Joseph Duc Vu, Vivian Vu, Jasmine Gabrielle Walker, Kaitlyn May Wallis, Eric Anthony Wilson, Joseph Duval Wright, Ytzanyia Yzaguirre, Sergio M. Zelaya.

**Tenth grade**  
Anas Fakhri Abuhawala, Mark Timothy Admani, Uwade Sadiq Alade, Daniel Jake Alanis, Gabrielle Mar-

cella Allbritton, Asia Brooke Allen, David Jonatan Anleu, Janelle Alexandra Arqueta, Jonathan Alejandro Armenta, Jose Armenta, Kyle Douglas Arnold, Leslie Avitia and Christian Baez.

Amber Monique Balderas, Magaly Balderas, Nicole Rene Barnett, Erik Barnica, Ruben Garcia Bautista, Destiny Lane Bellamy, Jacob Andrew Boelsche, Devonte Fils Boyd, Shelby Noelle Bradley, Carissa Buentello, Nhat Minh Bui, Erin Nicole Caballero and Monica Cecilia Campos.

Ariel Shaniece Carter, Krista Marie Carter, Samantha Elise Castillo, Caitlin Elizabeth Caughlin, Patricia Nmi Cedillo, Katia Graciela Ceja, Aimee Rene Cessna, Davy Chan, Bonnie Rae Chatham, Jorge L. Cortez, Julie Marie Croce, Dorothy Tramahn Dao and Kristine Casandrapatag David.

Rodney Devon Davis, Rebecca Angela Day, Austin Blake Dietz, Phong Quoc Do, Christine Myhanh Doan, Cristina Jacqueline Dorantes, Luis Felipe Duarte, Aaron Scott Ebbinghaus, Justin Loyd Eckols, Jose Dejesus Escalera, Cristina Espinoza, Diana Guadalupe Espinoza and Ashley Nicole Feyses.

Katherine Fern Finney, Carlos Alberto Flores, Marissa Renee Flores, Amie Lynn Gallant, Leonardo Gallegos, Carla Lucia Galvan, Andrew Garcia, Armando Garcia, Christopher Martin Garcia, Madelyn Angelica Garcia, Kelley Suzanne Gardner and Devin Hannah Gettig.

Malcolm Devan Glover, Karla Mireya Gomez, Alvaro Gonzalez, Eduardo Gonzalez, Justin Lee Goodin, Treydell Jewon Gray, Kayla Nicole Guel, Crisma Sandoval Guevara, Amy Lynn Hall, Erin Britanni Henderson, Ryan Richard Henry and Arturo Hernandez.

Julian Augustine Hernandez, Hongnhung Thanh Ho, Ky Gia Ho, Ashley Danielle Hoggard, Katlyn Michelle Hoggard, Andrey Angelica Howard, Jessica Hanh Huynh, AbRafael Jaimes, Christopher Michael Krivik, Jacob Austin Lacamu, Jeremy Allen Lacamu and Michelle Lam.

Kristen Marie Lanza, Christianna Le, Kevin Nguyen Le, Ngocbao Thanh Le, Eun Kyeong Lee, Jorge Ernesto Lopez, Huy Phan Luu, Jimmy Ly, Kevin Khanh Ly, Yolanda Yvette Marciano, Angelica Rivera Martinez, German Martinez, Marcelo Martinez and Kaitlyn Maire McMurrrough.

Rolando Medina, Katelynn Marie Miille, Malaz Osama Mohamad, Jordan Alexander Monette, Angela Montes, Kia Montgomery, Cassandra Lynette Montoya, Myles Aaron Morales, Alberto Alexander Moreno, Jeremy Milton Morris, Muhammad Shazheeb Naqvi, Abraham Nhu Nguyen and Gina Nhi Nguyen.

Hien Chanh Nguyen, Hien Thanh Nguyen, Kathleen Thi Nguyen, Kimhong Thi Nguyen, Lee Dac Nguyen, Mathew Nguyen, Thanh Thien Nguyen, Tina Ngoc Nguyen, Tinh Bao Nguyen, Ashley Nicole Nichols, Jose Eduardo Nunez, Andrew McKenzie Parker and Edward Liem Peabody.

Constance Michelle Peace, Kevin Mcallister Pell, Alexa Perez, Aracely Perez, Hoang-Vu Tran Pham, Tina Kim Pham, Jennifer Tran Phan, Dony Van Phung, Frank Joel

Pina, Aaron Michael Pritchett, Jasmin Sarai Rameles, Jasper Richardson and Monika Nikole Rivera.

Nadine Elizabeth Robbins, Faith Ann Roberts, Alyssa Rodriguez, Brandon Andres Rodriguez, Chelsea Rodriguez, Pedro Rojas, Cesar Romero, Gabriela Romero, Maria Beatrice Rosales, Larenda Larmonique Rose, Braiden Norman Rucker, Christian Saldana and Paige Leigh Sanchez.

Lizet Ayari Santos, Kyara Ja'Quoia Mary Elizabeth Scott, Marcos Serrano, Danielle Nicole Shaw, Samantha Christina Simmons, Suzelle Solis, Christopher J. Soto, Erin Michelle Spencer, Amber Lynn Stone, Yumara Ilse Suarez, Teresa Ta, Jonathan Morrill Taylor and Robert E. Timmons.

Chung Ting Tong, Bill Van-Liem Tran, Kalina Mai Tran, Kimlin Thi Tran, Long Thai Tran, Minhhoang T. Tran, Mylinh Tran, Shelly My Tran, Uyen Le Tran, Alejandro Chavez Triana, Tristann R. Trujillo, Michael Valverde, Darian R. Vela and Steven Quinn Velasquez.

David Hoang Vo, Joshua Minh Vu, Ngoclinh Dinh Vu, Dac Tien Vu, Xuan Thuy Vu, Dylan Frederick Wall, Hannah Nicole Waters, Philip L. Watkins, Kelsey Ann Wells, Dylan Joseph White, Chelsea Marie Williams, Drake Walker Williams, Caitlin Renee Woods and Hei Tung Yuen.

**Eleventh grade**  
Monique Maxine Anderson, Walter Chinoyem Anoruo, Elda Ivette Armenta, Nicolette Baade, Megan N. Barker, Julianne Marie Belus, Blake Stephen Beynaerts, Gena Paige Brown, Steeve Minh Tri Bui, Brandon Vincent Bulman, Shekeyla Nicole Caldwell, Jose Luis Cano and Joshua Cano.

Binh Quoc Cao, Esmeralda Carrillo, Vincent Daniel Castoreno, Alyssa Chapa, Travis Alston Chrisman, Jose Alejandro Cordero, Gabrielle C. Cruz, Christina Mi Dang, Thao Nguyen Dao, Tony Tutuan Dao, Allyssa Delacruz, Chelsea Victoria Deleon, Tiffany Delgado, Nirali M. Desai and Mohamad Arsan Diab.

Alan Diep, Kathleen Tara Dittmann, Scott Khanh Do, Vinh Phuc Do, Theresa Hong Duong, Tiffany Duong, Brooke N. DuPont, Andrea Ferreira, Danica Terese Frazier, Carlos Alberto Galaviz, Veronica Yvette Galvan, Bryan Jerome Garcia, Alex Stewart Gary and Kristin Diane Gaston.

Keenan Lee Jenkins, Jisha Jose, Heather Ann Jung, Johnathan Andrew Kipp, Sarah Nicole Koons, Aaron David Kutra, Alexander James Lacamu, Cristina Lynn Lancaster, Annina Marlene Laske, Tina Myngoc Le, Melisa Berenice Leal, Ashlyn Jeanneth Leighton and Garrett Jacob Leland.

Jonathan Wai Chun Lo, Axel Guillermo Lopez, Loc Lu, Duc Quang Luu, Mi Cam Ly, Mariela Nmi Macias, Josefa Maldonado, Yodisa M. Marciano, Gregory T. Mar-

sella, Robert Ray Martin, Gilberto Antonio Martinez, Stephanie Lizbeth Martinez, Ancy Mathew and Michael Joseph McDonald.

Katie Marie McElroy, Jordyn Danyelle McLearen, Jessica Aracely Molinar, Alexandria Monet Montgomery, Josue Ignacio Montoya, Kaitlynn Rose Marie Mubarak, Quynhhu Thi Ngo, Amanda Ashley Nguyen, David Viet Quoc Nguyen and Ha-Bang Susie Nguyen.

Phuc Hong Nguyen, Sonya Kimthanh Nguyen, Tam Ngoc Thanh Nguyen, Tuyen Nhan Nguyen, Shanae Christen Nix, Adriana Noyola, Adebayo Oluwadamilola Omole, Mauricio Eduardo Palacios, Sonali Raj Patel, Cheyenne Osheafeil Peer and Juan Alberto Perez.

Diem Kieu Pham, Myle Pham, Tin Trung Phan, Anna Marlene Pomykal, Michael Pierce Raney, Chanel Nicolette Reyes, Rebecca Marie Reyes, Ruby Elaine Rios, Nyssa Simone Robinson, Stephen Albert Rodriguez, Katherine Marie Salazar, Tyler Colton Scarberry and Jorge Luis Paes Siqueira.

James Martin Stahl, Curlin Swanson, Stefanie Dianne Ta, Edgar Roberto Tamez, John Kevin Clyde Batuto Tan, Chad Andrew Tapper, Sarah Zehra Taqvi, Alex Tieu, Nathan Touchette, Brian Viet Tran, Julian Thong Tran, Michael Phonghoai Tran, Thai Ngoc Tran, Vu Hoang Truong, Philip Adrian Ullrich and Lariza Uribe.

Katelyn Vargas, Hung Duc Vu, Natalie Ngoc Vu, Stephanie Le Vu, Evan Jon Weaver, Andrew Douglas Williams, Darius Scott Wilson, Ashley Desiree Wrenn, Brandon Lee Wright, Caitlin Elise Wright, Xiaomin Xue, Anna Yasm, Gabrielle Elaine Ybarra, Sherien Maher Zaid and Susan Renee Zamora.

**Twelfth grade**  
Shohreh Abedinzadeh, Sholeh Abedinzadeh, Kiomara Acostamelendres, Natalie Sophia Alas, Joshua Ryan Allen, Rebekah Y. Amare, Rhiana Michelle Anthony, Mariel Michelle Arhelger, Jesus A. Arredondo, Adrienne Elizabeth Ball and Jennifer Blanco.

Bryan Jon Burleigh, Justin Anthony Cadena, Amber Elizabeth Calderon, Hilda Ariana Cano, Nathan Carcamo, Rebecca Marie Castorena, Jonathan D. Cervantes, Sandra Seng Chau, Breancia Christine Clark, Kylie Rebecca Court, Julianne Alexa Cross and Taylore Brynne Curry.

Chelsea N. D'Ambrosio, Ashley Ann Dana, Stephanie Danielle Dumas, Joshua Roland Davis, Sammie H. Davis, Maria Valentina Delgado, Eric Jesus Diaz, Jany Do, Kim Thien Do, Vu Hoan Do, Kanisha Lashae Dolford, Tam Thanh Thuy Duong and Sarah Ann Eapen.

Audrey Elizabeth Early, Quinton Kirk Edwards, Lindsey Brooke Eikenburg, Ryan Daniel Epps, Amaka Marie Eziuku, Leobardo Flores, Brittany Nicole Frederick, Alexandria Irene Galvan, Anna Kristina Garcia, Anuar Isael Garcia, Mariana Garcia, Edward Santos Garza and Cerena Elizabeth Gentry.

Kiara Lenese Gibson, Reynaldo Gomez, Joanna Marie Gonzales, Catherine Elizabeth Greene, Jaileen Grullon, Ashley Nicole Guerrero,

David Gutierrez, Coronda Tanika Harris, Racquell L. Henry, Rachel M Hernandez, Corey Jordan Hinojosa and Stephanie Hinojosa.

Tramahn Nu Hoang, Sydnee Faith Hubenak, Tien Ngoc Huynh, Vicente Ibarra, Christina Renee Jackson, Jake Alan Jackson, Olivia Jaramillo, Gerin John, Aaron Benjamin Johns, Alexander Douglas Johnson, Keyah Mishea King, Joanna Marie Krienitz, Celina Miranda Lara and Daniel Keith Le.

Dona Tp Le, Lisa Tp Le, Nhu Quyen Le, Yen Thai Hong Le, Christina Marie Lee, Jennifer Johana Linares, Kay Dee Little, Bruce Christian Livingston, Daniel Hilario Lopez, Alyssa Rae Lozano, Leslie Marie Luna, Samuel Robert Marks, Adam Sebastian Martens, Claudia Illisa Martinez, Sebastian Martinez and Sofia Mata.

Allison Y. McClintock, Adrianna Medina, Khranasa Nesa Mohebbpour, Mercedes Moore, Amy Michelle Muniz, Melanie Muniz, Nykethia Cresha Nash, Phung Phi Ngo, Bao Phuc Nguyen, Dat Ba Nguyen, Duy Truong Nguyen, Khai Ta Nguyen, Linh Cao Nguyen and Phi Dac Nguyen.

San Le Nguyen, Stephanie Thi Nguyen, Tracy Phuong Truc Nguyen, Carol N. Nnabuife, Maggie Okay Oberpriller, Nallely Xiomara Palacios, Lauren Paige Palos, Kenneth Blaine Pell, Juan

Miguel Perez, Jeanie Linh Pham, Khanh Phuong Pham and Duc Hong Phan.

Tan Ngoc Phan, George Pitikas, MacKenzie Lanae Powell, Ashley Prescott, Amber Latrice Price, Cody Allen Priest, Fabian Alfredo Ramirez, Melissa Rayos, Josh Andrew Rentas, Delmy Yanin Rivera, Veronica Dale Rubit, Stephanie Amy Ruiz and Berenice Saldivar.

Randi Clare Sampson, Daniel J. Sawyer, Keegan Jerome Schmitt, Demerius Cipriano Seals, Spencer Alexander Smith, Elizabeth Raye Sorensen, Alexander Ray Soto, Daysy Soledad Soto, Sebastian Soto, Derek Deandre Spiller, Tam M. Ta and

Nadine Tavera. Denny Abraham Thomas, Victor Tieu, Jessica Paige Tillman, Elyse Pauline Totten, Brenda Tuthanh Tran, Jeanie Hue Van Tran, Ngoclinh Thi Tran, Phuongquynh Thi Tran, Daniel Cuong Truong, Jennifer Marlem Valdez, Romel Angelo Valencia, Jessica Lynn Vasquez and Jennifer Mai Vo.

Thehuy Nguyen Vo, Hung Hoang Vu, Jessica Leanne Walsh, Brittany Kaylynn Waters, Allison Marie Wells, Tessa Ann Wells, Tiffany White, Tyler Brent Williams, Caleb Daniel Wilson, Jordan Ryan Windsor, Taquila Denise Young, Alicia Zambrano and Alexandra Nicole Zayas.

**Haywood Management Homeowner's Association and Civic Club Management**  
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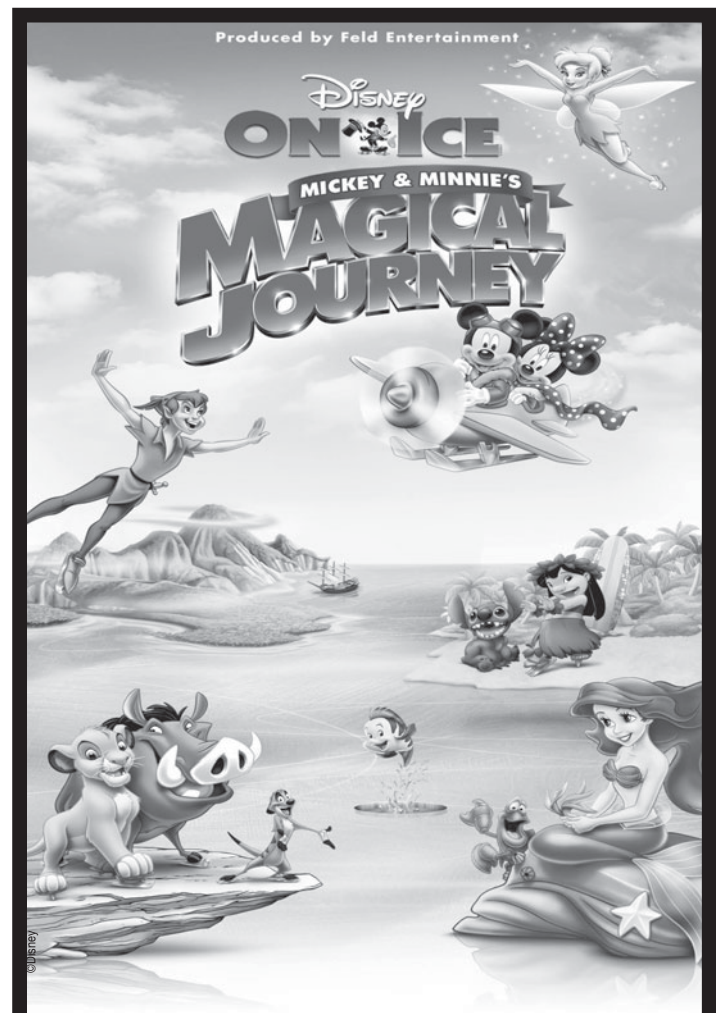
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**REQUEST FOR COMPETITIVE SEALED PROPOSALS**  
RFP # 09-37 Project ID: # 2901  
Proposals will be received in duplicate by the San Jacinto College District from qualified contractors for work in accordance with the Procurement Documents and addenda as may be issued prior to receipt of proposals for the San Jacinto College Pavement & Drainage Improvements at the North Campus, 5800 Uvalde Rd., Houston, TX 77049. All proposals will be received in the office of Construction at the Thomas S. Sewell District Administration Building, 4624 Fairmont Parkway, Suite 207, Pasadena, Texas 77504 until 2:00 PM on Tuesday, March 24, 2009. All inquiries should be directed to Larry Logsdon, Construction Director. Proposal selection in the amount of ten (10) percent of the total Proposal amount for the Base Proposal and Alternates must accompany each proposal in accordance with the Instructions to Offerors.  
Documents will be available on Monday, March 9, 2009. The Procurement Documents will be distributed by Ridgway's Inc. 2900 Smith Street, Houston, TX 77006 Tel (713) 782-8580 through the "Plan Well" system.  
Under the provisions of Texas Education Code, The San Jacinto College District will select a contractor to provide construction services that **in the opinion of the evaluators will offer the best value for the District.** A mandatory pre-proposal meeting is scheduled for all interested general contractors at 2:00 PM. on Tuesday, March 17, 2009, to be held in the ILC Building, Kaleidoscope Room (Rm 124) at the North Campus, 5800 Uvalde Rd. Houston, TX 77049. The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and/or to waive any informalities in the process.



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**TICKET PRICES: \$16 & \$28**  
Limited number of Magic, VIP Floor and VIP seats available. Call for details.  
(Service charges, facility and handling fees may apply.)

## Melgar wins 1st place . . . again



Via Colori is an annual street painting festival that showcases 175 artists on the streets near downtown Houston. Students in seven school districts were invited to compete. For the third year in a row, a Clear Brook High School student won first place. Brenda Melgar took the opportunity to showcase her talent with an original design in pastels. Each entry was evaluated on the quality of work and its aesthetic appeal as street art. The winners chosen from each of the selected school districts were given the opportunity to recreate their art work in a 6-foot-by-6-foot square at Via Colori, as well as an invitation to attend various artist events associated with the festival. Alicia Moore is Melgar's art teacher at Clear Brook High School.

# Master Gardeners set propagation workshop

Propagation is a great way to save money in a gardening budget by growing your own plants. In this hands-on workshop, *Growing Plants from Seeds and Cuttings*, one will learn about and practice a variety of methods to propagate popular plants. All participants will take home the plants they propagate. The workshop will be held Saturday, March 21, from 9

a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Environmental Institute of Houston, University of Houston-Clear Lake, 2700 Bay Area Blvd., MCS40, North Annex Office. Early registration fee is \$15 before March 14. Registration at the door is \$20. Attendance is limited. For more information, visit the Web site at <http://hcmgap2.tamu.edu>.

# 5K cancer walk, music festival set

The Jori Zemel Children's Bone Cancer Foundation will hold a 5 kilometer walk and music festival on Sunday, April 19, at noon at Clear Lake High School on Bay Area Boulevard.

her death, her parents sadly became aware of a gross lack of funding for children's bone cancer research. Because of this foundation, more than \$370,000 has gone to M.D. Anderson for bone cancer research.

Music, food and fun festivities are planned for children. Register online at [www.jorzemel.org](http://www.jorzemel.org).

The presidents of this foundation, Brook & Nina Zemel, are open to interviews for news/feature stories.

The Jori Zemel Children's Bone Cancer Foundation was established in 2002 as a result of the loss of 14-year-old Jori Starr Zemel to osteosarcoma in 2001. Through the ordeal of her illness and

For more information about the Jori Zemel Children's Bone Cancer Foundation, the disease, or how to become involved, contact the foundation at 832-563-4212.

# UHCL Career Services works with employers

When an employer has a job opening, finding the right applicant to fill the spot can be a difficult task. University of Houston-Clear Lake's Career Services is available to collaborate with local employers in their recruiting efforts.

time, summer or temporary positions; referral searches through the university's student and alumni resume database; on-campus recruiting; and cooperative education program development.

Services available to employers include posting open professional and non-professional full-time, part-

For more information, call UHCL's Office of Career Services at 281-283-2590 or visit <http://www.uhcl.edu/careerservices>.

# Over The Back Fence by Jan

**SCHOOL DAZE**  
The following personnel and staff members of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays March 12 through March 18.  
**Burnett Elementary**  
The day for a birthday party for **Maria Ruiz** is March 15. On March 16, **Judy Bleck** marks a birthday. A St. Patrick's Day birthday is enjoyed by **Laura Olivas** on March 17. The day for a birthday cake for **Sonia Hernandez** is March 18.  
**Bush Elementary**  
On March 12, a birthday wish is sent to **Angela Wright**. The day to celebrate a birthday for **Minh Nguyen** is March 13.  
**Frazier Elementary**  
Blow out the birthday candles for **Debbie Clark** March 12. **Jackie Wilhite** celebrates a birthday March 14. Marking a St. Patrick's Day birthday on March 17 is **Shannon Poché**.  
**Jessup Elementary**

On March 13, **Jill Childres** is sent a birthday greeting.  
**Meador Elementary**  
Birthday wishes for a wonderful day are sent to **Martha Guadiana** March 18.  
**Stuchbery Elementary**  
Blow out the birthday candles for **Linda Escamilla** March 18.  
**Melillo Middle School**  
Enjoying a birthday March 14 is **Troy Ralls**.  
**Morris Middle School**  
**Aimee Reeves** will celebrate her birthday March 14. Blow out the birthday candles for **Ella Blackburn** March 16. **Olga Moody** is wished a happy birthday March 18.  
**Beverly Hills Intermediate**  
Wishes for a wonderful birthday are sent to **Amanda Palmer** March 12. Birthday greetings are sent to **Maria Noyola** March 13. The day for a birthday cake for **Brenda Mitchell** is March 18.

**Thompson Intermediate**  
**Martha Vega** is wished a happy birthday March 12.  
**Dobie High**  
**Bridget Hamann** celebrates a birthday March 13. The day for a birthday cake for **Kathleen Murrell** is March 14. **Clara Ullman** is sent birthday greetings March 16. Enjoying a St. Patrick's Day birthday March 17 is **Karrie Valerio**. On March 18, **Gloria Flores** has a birthday.  
**HOME RUN CORNER**  
Congratulations are sent to **Jake Lozano** for hitting a two-run homer at the Dobie versus South Houston game on Saturday, Feb. 28. Love, **Dad Jimmy**, **Mom Cynthia**, **Jonathan** and **Lauren**.  
**LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS**  
E-mail birthday, anniversary, vacation, congratulations, etc., to [mynews@southbeltleader.com](mailto:mynews@southbeltleader.com) with OTBF in the subject line. Items must be submitted by Friday noon for the next week's publication.

# Library events scheduled

The following events are scheduled for the Parker Williams Library, 10851 Scarsdale: Movie Madness is Thursday, March 12, at 4 p.m. Call the library at 281-484-2036 for feature title. Investigate ancestries and family histories when the genealogy discussion group meets on Monday, March 16, at 2 p.m. A jewelry making workshop is scheduled for Wednesday, March 18, at noon for ages 5 and up, and 3:15 p.m. for ages 12 and up. Free tickets are required. Play games at the library at its game day on Thursday, March 19, at 2:30 p.m. Free income tax assistance is available Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call 281-484-2036 for more information. Family storytime is Tuesdays at 7 p.m. Preschool storytime is Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. Toddler time is Thursday at 10 and 11:15 a.m.

# AARP meets March 20

AARP Chapter 199 will meet Friday, March 20, at 10 a.m. A program on guide and therapy dogs will be presented. The public is welcome to attend this free program at The Bay Area Community Center, 5002 E. NASA Parkway in Seabrook. For general information about the Bay Area Community Center or about what AARP Chapter 199 has to offer, call 281-326-2955 or e-mail Carol at [clerder@hotmail.com](mailto:clerder@hotmail.com).

# Thompson Students of the Month named



The Thompson Intermediate School February Citizens of the Month are, left to right, (front row) Jancy Varghese, Victoria Perla, Savana Velasquez, Cecilia Cardenas, (middle row) Nikea Brandon, Adam Tran, Hunter Hicks, Eusebio Maldonado, Mia Vasquez, (back row) Daniel Duran, Reyna Hernandez, Jesse Tate, Alex Rivera, Avion Holmes, Erica Rosales and Christian Highfield.

# Hobby Lions Club to meet

Hobby Airport Lions Club meets Wednesday, March 18, at noon at the Golden Corral at Fuqua and I-45. E-mail Hobby AirportLions@gmail.com for more information.

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# SJC to extend pre-college piano class

San Jacinto College Central's pre-college class for beginning piano students, launched in January, has proved so popular that more classes will be offered this summer. The summer schedule for the pre-college class will coincide with the college's eight-week summer session from June 8 through July 24. "One session is already full, and we are accepting enrollment for a second class," commented Dr. Martha Braswell, music professor at the college, who is coordinating the program. The class, which is now in session, provides piano lessons for third- through fifth-

grade students. "We would like to expand and offer a session specifically for middle school students," Braswell remarked. "We had quite a few inquiries about kindergarten and first grade, but physically these children are not ready for the muscle demands of piano playing. We encourage them to participate in either a Suzuki violin program, or a kinder-musik program." The cost for the eight-week pre-college summer piano session is \$150 per student. The location for the class will be the Monte Blue Music Building, Room 108, located on the San Jacinto College Central campus at

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# Remember When

**30 years ago (1979)**  
Two South Belt area youths survived a harrowing speeding and shooting incident which resulted in the firing of one Harris County Sheriff's officer and the suspension of another. The J. Frank Dobie trackers set two records and placed at least one athlete in the top four in all but three of 18 events at the Brown Relays.  
**25 years ago (1984)**  
Clear Creek Independent School District trustees approved a recommendation to revise the grading system so that no grade below 70 would be passing. The new officers of the Scarsdale Civic Association cracked down on deed restriction violations.  
**20 years ago (1989)**  
Six law enforcement agencies chased a suspect from South Belt to Texas City to Dickinson, traveling much of the way on the wrong side of the I-45 feeder road. Dobie High School's Academic Decathlon team finished 14th of 40 schools at the state competition in Austin.  
**15 years ago (1994)**  
A year of controversy surrounding the activities of

Sandra Woodard. **1 year ago (2008)**  
Pasadena Independent School District superintendent Kirk Lewis received a doctorate in education leadership from Lamar University. Over the past two-and-one-half years, Lewis traveled to Beaumont every other weekend to attend the school, where he would have classes on Friday nights and all day Saturdays. The FLY Dance group continued to soar, performing both locally and nationally. Originally called the Morris Fifth-Grade Dance Team, the troupe was formed in 2004 by physical education teacher Rhonda Valencia to participate in the school's annual Olympiad. The group specialized in hip-hop dancing. Valencia was aided by Kathy Wood, head of the FLY Dance Company. The last day approached for potential candidates to file to run in local school and municipal utility district elections which were to be held in May. The Clear Creek Independent School District's School Boundary Advisory Committee announced its proposed boundary changes to its board of trustees. The

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**IMAX WATCHMEN: THE IMAX EXPERIENCE (R)**  
(11:40 @ \$8), 3:20, 7:00, 10:40  
**DIGITAL 3D**  
**JONAS BROTHERS: THE 3D CONCERT EXPERIENCE (G)** 1:35, 6:10, 10:30  
**CORALINE 3D (PG)** (11:10 @ \$7), 3:35, 8:10, 12:30  
**THE LAST HOUSE ON THE LEFT (R)** (10:40 @ \$5), 12:10, 1:30, 2:50, 4:25, 5:30, 7:15, 9:15, 9:55, 10:50, 12:40  
**MISS MARCH (R)** (10:20 @ \$5), 12:35, 2:55, 5:10, 7:30, 9:45, 12:05  
**RACE TO WITCH MOUNTAIN (PG)** (10:05, 11:00, 11:50 @ \$5), 12:40, 1:40, 2:20, 3:10, 4:10, 5:00, 5:50, 6:45, 7:35, 8:25, 9:25, 10:10, 10:55, 11:55, 12:45  
**WATCHMEN (R)** (10:00, 10:50 @ \$5), 12:25, 1:10, 1:55, 2:35, 4:05, 4:50, 5:40, 6:15, 7:45, 9:30, 9:15, 9:50, 11:25, 12:10, 12:55  
**STREET FIGHTER: THE LEGEND OF CHUN-LI (PG-13)** 4:15, 6:40, 9:05, 11:20  
**FIRED UP (PG-13)** (10:35 @ \$5), 12:50, 3:25, 6:35, 8:55, 11:10  
**TYLER PERRY'S MADEA GOES TO JAIL (PG-13)** (10:05, 11:15 @ \$5), 12:30, 1:50, 3:05, 4:20, 5:35, 6:50, 7:10, 8:00, 8:50, 9:40, 10:25, 11:15, 12:15, 12:55  
**CONFESSIONS OF A SHOPAHOLIC (PG)** (11:35 @ \$5), 2:10, 4:30, 6:55, 9:35, 12:00  
**FRIDAY THE 13TH (2009) (R)** (10:30 @ \$5), 1:00, 3:55, 6:25, 8:40, 11:00  
**CORALINE (PG)** (10:15 @ \$5), 1:45, 4:30, 6:50, 9:10, 11:30  
**3D NOT AVAILABLE FOR THESE SHOWTIMES**  
**HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU (PG-13)** (10:35 @ \$5), 1:45, 4:35, 7:40, 10:30  
**THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG)** (11:45 @ \$5), 2:05, 4:20, 6:30  
**PUSH (PG-13)** 9:35, 11:05  
**TAKEN (PG-13)** (11:05 @ \$5), 1:20, 3:45, 6:05, 8:20, 10:35, 12:50  
**TAKEN (PG-13)** (10:10 @ \$5), 12:20, 2:45, 4:55, 7:20, 9:30, 11:45  
**THE UNINVITED (PG-13)** (10:55 @ \$5), 12:55, 3:30, 5:45, 7:55, 10:00, 12:20  
**HOTEL FOR DOGS (PG)** (10:45 @ \$5), 1:15, 3:30  
**PAUL BLART: MALL COP (PG)** (10:00, 11:10 @ \$5), 12:15, 1:25, 2:30, 3:40, 4:45, 5:55, 7:05, 8:05, 9:20, 11:35  
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**SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R)** (11:20 @ \$5), 2:00, 4:40, 7:25, 10:05, 12:40  
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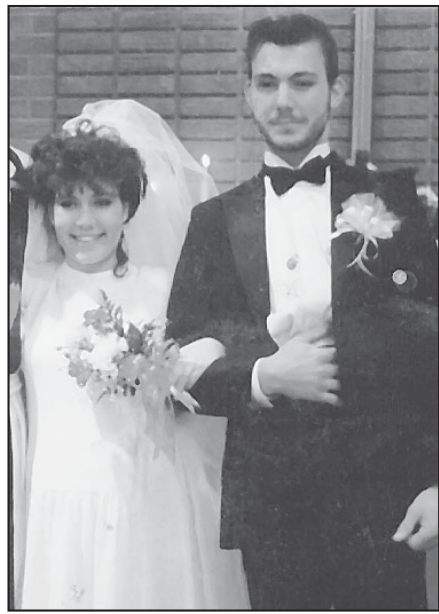
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## Dobie's Ramirez visits A&M



Recently, Dobie ninth-grade students attended Texas A&M University's Aggieland Saturday. During the tour, Ashley Ramirez stopped long enough to pose for a picture in front of Rudder tower. Students had a chance to explore majors and careers in business, engineering, architecture, meteorology and many more. The trip was sponsored by Dobie High School's GEAR UP Program.

## Washingtons celebrate 20th anniversary



Longtime South Belt residents David and Paula (Malone) Washington celebrated their 20th wedding anniversary Thursday, March 5. Malone attended Beverly Hills Intermediate before attending Northbrook High School in the Spring Branch Independent School District, where she met her future husband. The couple returned to the Sagemont area in 1990, where they continue to reside. They have two children, Joshua, 19, and Brittany, 14. Joshua graduated from Dobie in 2008. Brittany currently attends Life Christian Academy. The couple celebrated their anniversary with an elegant steak dinner.



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## Fortner, Green to marry



Louise and Ron Fortner, longtime residents of Woodmeadow, announce the engagement and upcoming marriage of their daughter, Rachel Dianne Fortner, to Eric Wayne Green, son of Carolyn and Wayne Green, former residents of Sycamore Valley who now reside in Cypress, Texas. The bride-to-be, a lifelong resident of Woodmeadow, is a 2005 graduate of J. Frank Dobie High School. She plans to graduate from the University of Houston in May 2009 with a Bachelor of Business Administration in management. She currently works in the Human Resources Department at Situs where she will continue to work after graduation. The prospective groom also graduated from J. Frank Dobie High School in 2005 and plans to graduate in May 2009 from the University of Houston with a Bachelor of Science in electrical engineering. He currently works as an engineering intern for the Dashiell, an engineering firm, and will continue there in a full-time position after graduation. A September 2009 wedding is planned.

### Leader wedding, engagement policies

Wedding writeups must be run in the newspaper in time outlined, not submitted: From wedding date to six weeks – photo and full article; Six weeks to three months – photo and limited information; After three months from wedding date – will not be run

Engagement and wedding announcements are published free of charge on a first come, first served basis. Information must be submitted by Friday to be considered for the next issue.

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## Upcoming SJC art shows, sales open to the public

San Jacinto College Central's art department will host several exhibitions and sales featuring the artwork of students and visiting artists during the spring term. All events are free and open to the public.

San Jacinto College offers a wide range of course options in art at all three campuses.

San Jacinto College South

is located at 13735 Beamer Road in the South Belt area.

San Jacinto College North is located at 5800 Uvalde Road in the North Channel

area. The Central campus is located at 8060 Spencer Highway. For information, call 281-998-6150 or visit www.sanjac.edu.

The following is a listing of the shows, along with related information about each event:

- April 20 through May 7 - Spring student art exhibit and high school art scholarship competition, featuring works of local high school students, and works of San Jacinto College students. The event will be held in the Central Gallery, with a reception and awards ceremony to be held April 20 from 10:30 a.m. to noon.
- May 6 - Ceramic Club sale, featuring artwork items for sale created by former and current ceramic students of San Jacinto College. The event will take place in the Slocomb Fine Arts Building's ceramic studio, Room 150 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.



San Jacinto College students Kelly Bufkin (left) and Cynthia Weisinger work on clay art projects during a recent class session. The students' artwork, along with the art of community members who attended SJC workshops, is sold at exhibits at the college throughout the spring session.

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### LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday	Vigil	5:30 p.m.
Sunday	7:30, 9:15, 11:15 a.m.	
Sunday	1:00 p.m.	Misa en Espanol
Monday, Wednesday, Friday		9:00 a.m.
Tuesday & Thursday		7:00 p.m.
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Thursday	6:30 p.m.	Saturday 4:15 p.m.

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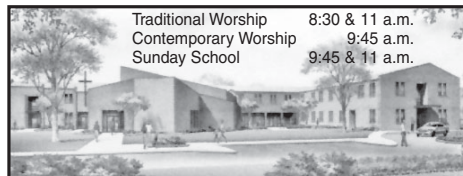
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Adult Bible Class: 9:30 a.m.



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## Dobie students visit UT



On Saturday, March 7, nine Dobie ninth-graders and their parents traveled to Austin to participate in the University of Texas' Explore UT. Students were able to choose from more than 700 sessions to attend. The day was concluded with a performance by the University of Texas Longhorn Band, a class photo, and free ice cream. This trip was sponsored by Dobie High School's GEAR UP Program. Pictured are, left to right, Waffa Abouassi, Basem Abouassi, Sabrina Roy, Judith Glasco, Anita Nickelson and Christopher Nickelson.



Top student fundraiser and third-grade student Molly Thrasher applies the first several strips of duct tape to Burnett Principal Cynthia Henderson.



Henderson, after being taped to the wall by 1,137 strips of duct tape (the actual number of dollar bills donated) and Thrasher.

## Burnett supports Pasta for Pennies fundraiser

Burnett Elementary recently supported the Olive Garden's 14th annual Pasta for Pennies program benefiting the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

The program, which took place over a three-week period, encouraged students and teachers to collect spare change to support the society's mission to cure leukemia, lymphoma, myeloma and Hodgkin's disease and to improve the quality of life of patients and their families.

This was a tremendous opportunity for children to demonstrate their passion for supporting classmates and families in their local

community. They learned at a young age how important and fulfilling community service can be.

As an incentive to participate, the top fundraising class will receive an Olive Garden Hospitaliano! Lunch (pasta party) in their classroom.

This year's winner was Pam Finklea's third-grade class which raised \$350.84. The top fundraising student was Molly Thrasher, who donated \$192 to the program.

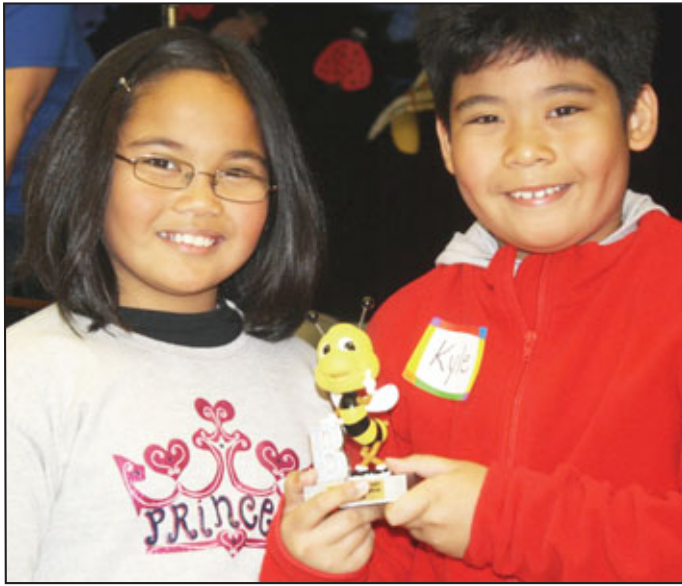
As an additional incentive, Principal Cynthia Henderson agreed to be duct taped to the gymnasium wall by every child who donated a dollar bill.



Winners of the pasta party, Pam Finklea's third-grade class shown are, (front row) Andrea Mujica, Alicia Pizano, Tatyana Mose, Alena Hay, Ruby Espinoza, Valerie Zamora, (middle row) Colin

Averre, Ezequiel Guerrero, Edison Huynh, Danielle Reed, Jackie Garcia, (back row) Finklea, Jacob Stokes, Chris Deramus, Sang Nguyen, Lesley Martinez and Molly Thrasher.

## Spelling bee siblings



Siblings Maxene Sophia and Kyle Francis Pallorina-Mamitag recently participated in the McWhirter Elementary School's spelling bee. Maxene finished in fourth place, while Kyle was the champion. He represented the school in the Chambers/Galveston County Spelling Bee on Feb. 21. The family are residents of Blackhawk subdivision and are members of St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church.

## Girl Scouts donate to troops

Local Girl Scout Troop 8522 is currently collecting Girl Scout Cookies and other items to donate to U.S. soldiers abroad.

In addition to cookies, sought items include medicines, snacks, coffee and tea, toiletries, batteries, books and magazines, bug repellent (wipes), CDs and DVDs, gloves, extension cords, 1-inch paintbrushes and dental tools (for cleaning weapons), dry skin lotion, baseballs, Frisbees and hacky sacks, eye drops, personal fans, prepaid phone cards, pipe cleaners, playing cards, sunscreen, warm wool hats, Ziploc-type bags, pens, pencils and stationery supplies.

The group has made arrangements with Ellington Field officials to ship the items for free. Items may be dropped off at the South Belt-Ellington Leader office, all Ron Carter auto dealerships and Reflex Gymnastics and Cheer Academy in Pearland through Monday, March 30.

For more information or a complete list of desired items, contact Kristi Gartman at 281-484-7435 or 832-428-4303.

## Candidate forum March 16

The San Jacinto Republican Women's Club invites every Pasadena City Council candidate to participate in the Pasadena City Council Candidate Forum.

The forum will be held on Monday, March 16, at 6 p.m., at the Neighborhood Centers, 720 Fairmont Parkway in Pasadena, 713-944-9186.

The forum is free and open to the public. This is an opportunity for all voters of Pasadena to meet the candidates personally in order to help make an informed decision on May 9.

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## Ready to rodeo



Austin and Tyler Patrick take a moment to pose in their western wear before going to school to celebrate Go Western Day. The boys are the grandsons of Gary Wilkerson, longtime automotive technology teacher at Dobie High School, and his wife, Cyndee. They are the children of Kai and Cheryl Patrick of La Porte.

## Pearland & SJC...

Continued from Page 1A new thoroughfares to San Jac South also make the drive from Pearland easier now than when Alvin's service area was established in 1995.

San Jacinto also offers far more programs than Alvin. San Jac offers 70 credit programs to Alvin's 31, and San Jac offers 57 technical programs to ACC's 12.

Rep. Ken Legler, whose district includes the South Belt, Pasadena and parts of Pearland, agrees with Jackson.

"It's a perfect idea," he said.

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**2009 Schedule**

<b>Mar. 30 - Apr. 20</b> 6-8 p.m.	<b>Apr. 7 - Apr. 28</b> 4-6 p.m.
<b>Apr. 21 - May 12</b> 6-8 p.m.	<b>Apr. 29 - May 20</b> 4-6 p.m.

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## JFD boys' soccer to play for 22 title

A group numbering roughly 20 is on the verge of making a name for itself in Dobie High School sports history. That group is the varsity boys' soccer team. The history is the chance to win the program's first district title this decade. Dobie will meet Sam Rayburn March 14 at Newcomb Field in a soccer game that means something big to both teams. The winner will likely walk away with the District 22-5A title. Weather conditions are due to be cold and may also include some rain, but the action should be plenty hot. Sam Rayburn won the first-round matchup between the two teams 1-0, scoring a late goal in sloppy conditions at Newcomb Field. With two games remaining for both teams in District 22-5A play, Dobie (9-2-1) has collected 28 points in the standings. Sam Rayburn, now (8-2-2) has 26 points. Teams earn three points for each victory and one for each tie

in district play. Dobie kept pace with a 1-0 win over Pasadena March 9 as Leo Gallegos headed in the game's lone goal late in the first half. Sam Rayburn beat Deer **Continued on Page 6B**



Dobie varsity boys' soccer coach Jesse Saavedra now knows the Longhorns can get closer to the District 22-5A championship with a win over Sam Rayburn March 14 at Newcomb Field. Game time is 4 p.m.

## JFD girls' relay express rolls on at Bayshore O's

The Dobie girls' fifth-place finish at the La Porte Bayshore Olympics likely didn't cause much of a stir in the high school track and field community. But a closer look at the Lady Longhorns' accomplishments will reveal something special going on these days. The 4x100- and 4x200-meter relay units are among the region's best. Both foursomes posted season-best times at La Porte while winning both events. The 4x100 group, which includes Monique Anderson, Kiara Harris, Tieres Franks and Chili Montgomery, finished at 48.54 seconds, bettering the team's previous mark of 49.07. At the 4x200 distance, Dobie's Anderson, Harris and Montgomery teamed up with freshman Charity **Continued on Page 6B**

## Girls' soccer hosts raffle

Members of the Dobie High School girls' soccer programs are selling raffle tickets in order to raise money to support their banquet. The \$5 raffle tickets may be purchased from any player or during either of the team's remaining games March 14 versus Pasadena at noon at Newcomb Field or prior to the March 18 Pearland game. The drawing is at half-time of the Pearland game, which begins at 7 p.m. Winners need not be present to win. Raffle items include a 2008 Houston Dynamo spirit shirt (with DeRosario's signature), 4-pack Dynamo ticket set, Brian Mullan autographed jersey and a \$25 Visa gift card.

## District softball: JFD, Brook lose openers

The planned softball playoff runs for Clear Brook and Dobie have hit an early snag. Both teams were defeated in their respective district openers March 10. Clear Creek had a four-run fifth inning en route to a 4-3 victory over the Lady Wolverines at Clear Creek. At the Pasadena Independent School District sports complex, Memorial stunned

Dobie 6-3 in nine innings as Shannon Millman blasted a 3-run, walkoff homer with two outs in the bottom of the ninth inning. Even though it's only one game, the local squads must play catch-up while navigating a rugged schedule. Clear Brook will host Dickinson March 14 and then host Brazoswood March 17. Brook must regroup



Christina Diaz (left) singled in the second inning and later scored for Dobie, but the Lady Longhorns eventually fell 6-3 in nine innings to Memorial March 10 in Pasadena.

Dobie plays South Houston March 13 before playing at La Porte March 14 at 2:30 p.m. The Lady Longhorns then play at Deer Park March 17 at 6:30 p.m. Coming off a strong showing at the Houston Specialty Sports League tournament in Sugar Land that included a 10-0 shutout over area-ranked Bellaire, Clear Brook was riding a wave of confidence entering the 24-5A opener. In 2008, Brook defeated Clear Creek in the first round and used that win as a springboard to the playoffs. Not so this time. Clear Creek pitcher Katlyn Moulder struck out eight. **Continued on Page 2B**

## Dobie varsity baseball enjoying happier times



Derrick Murray, Dobie's senior third baseman, rounds third base and draws congratulations from head coach Roy Grant after blasting a two-run homer against rival Memorial March 6 at Dobie. Murray's shot started a big offensive surge as the Longhorns went on to win the game 13-1 by run-rule in five innings. The Longhorns went 3-0 in round robin play but then fell to Kinkaid March 7 in a trophy round game at Maguire Field. The win over Memorial, the team's second over its District 22-5A foe this season, gives the Longhorns seven wins, one more than they had throughout all of nondistrict play in 2008. Next up, Dobie travels to Round Rock for a three-day tournament March 12-14. For more on that event and the Longhorns, see Page 6B. *Photo by John Bechtle*

## Dobie's Sawyer no-hits Humble

Dobie senior right-hander Daniel Sawyer no-hit Humble 1-0, striking out 12 along the way in a brilliant effort March 10 at Dobie. Sawyer also carried the Longhorns offensively, hitting a solo home run in the second inning for the game's lone run. Dobie (7-4) got just four hits in the game but played well behind Sawyer, who walked two batters and hit three more with pitches. Sawyer then picked off two of the five runners to reach base. "I didn't even realize it was a no-hitter until late," Sawyer said. "With the score being 1-0 the whole way, I was more focused on getting outs." The win gives the Longhorns more nondistrict wins than in all of 2008. The team will play at the Round Rock tournament March 12-14, weather pending. See more Dobie baseball on Page 6B.

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# Dobie's subvarsity hoops stands out

**Editor's Note:** Season recaps for the Dobie High School freshman A and sophomore boys' basketball teams appeared in the March 5 Leader.

As Dobie High School varsity boys' basketball coach Kevin Cross continues the offseason program, he has to be excited about what lies ahead. Each of the four subvarsity programs had winning records during the 2008-2009 season to go along with the Longhorns' third straight varsity playoff appearance.

Edward Peabody were the Longhorns' most improved players. Reggie Wilson operated his role very well as the Longhorns' sixth man. Others who played well in the roles included Nicholas Munerlyn, Christian Washington, Terrance Hypolite and Cleve Barber.

**Freshman B was 16-7**  
The Longhorns' freshman B team capped the season with a 16-7 record.

The team ended on a high note with a big win over Pearland in its final game.

Marco Varron, Keyton Malone and Geovanni Ramirez were outstanding in the play at the point guard spot.

JerMichael Washington, Nicolas Galicia, Donald Senegal and Brandon Brown were solid offensively at the wing positions and also played good defense.

Dominic Huggins, Kearston Norris, Quindell Terrell and Justin Anderson all rebounded and scored key points from the post position.

Post player Michael Ngo was also in the midst of a good season before an injury ended his play, but the coaching staff is looking forward to Ngo's return in 2009-2010.

Michael Collins and Dominique Simon did a great job of running the team from the point guard spot, and Jonathan Vargas and

# South Belt area sports news, notes

## South Belt track register, BBQ

The South Belt Track Club will host a registration session and fundraising barbecue Saturday, March 14, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in The Gardens parking lot, located at the corner of Beamer and Hughes roads. Children ages 6 to 18 are eligible to compete. Registration fee is \$110, which includes a uniform and Amateur Athletic Union Track and Field dues. The fundraiser will go toward raising monies for the team's trip to nationals this summer. For more information, direct e-mail to run@SouthBeltTrack.com.

## Dolphins set BBQ fundraiser

The Southbelt Dolphins of the Bay Area Football League will host a fundraiser barbecue March 14 in the parking lot of Liberty Tax Service on Fuqua (next to Cici's Pizza) from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Barbecue sandwich/chips plates will be sold for \$5 each. Drinks will be sold for an additional charge. Funds raised during the sale will be used to cover various equipment costs, etc. during the 2009 season.

## PISD Quick Start tennis

The Pasadena Independent School District will host its sixth annual tennis program for all third-through sixth-grade students in the PISD system. The Quick Start tennis program is an exciting play format for young students interested in learning more about tennis. The program is designed to bring kids into the game by utilizing specialized equipment, shorter court dimensions and modified scoring, all tailored to age and size. All interested players may contact their physical education teacher at their respective school for registration forms. The cost is \$30, which includes a tennis racket, program T-shirt, water bottle and four instructional lessons. The Quick Start kickoff and packet pickup will be held Saturday, April 4, from 1 to 2:30 p.m., at Phillips Field House, located at 22906

Dabney. Lesson dates will be April 5, April 19, April 26 and May 3 from 1 to 2 p.m. Lessons will be conducted at Dobie High School and Beverly Hills Intermediate in an effort to accommodate students in the South Belt area.

## Atkinson Health/Fitness fair

The Atkinson Elementary physical education department will host a health and fitness fair at the school March 31 from 5 to 7:30 p.m. All students of the school are invited to come and bring their families and friends to participate in the festivities. Some of the activities will include; jump ropes, cup-stacking, jogging, dance, dance revolution and a moon walk. Officials from a local martial arts school will also be on hand for a performance. Inside the school, various vendor booths will include products and services from a variety of health and fitness areas.

## Brook football to golf

The Clear Brook High School football booster club will host a fundraiser golf tournament April 4 at Evergreen Pointe Golf Club in Baytown. The tournament, which features an 8 a.m. shotgun start, will include foursomes competing for top honors. Individual players may register for \$100. Proceeds from the tournament will go toward costs associated with the Wolverines' football program. For more information, call booster club vice president Wayne Priestly at 832-443-7725.

## Ellington Rams to register

The Ellington Rams of the Bay Area Football League will host registration for returning football players and all drill, cheerleading and mascot candidates March 28 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at El Franco Lee Park. All children registering must bring a copy of their birth certificate to the session.

# Machine pitch Rangers win

The machine pitch Rangers of the Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League set the pace with big hits, taking an early 4-0 lead on their way to an 8-3 victory over the Red Sox.

Hayden Broussard, A.J. Guillen, Dusty Ferris, Jake Corpus, Andy Neira, Chris Wohleb and Luis Rangel Flores, David Nolen, Carlos during the win.

## Spring break in SBHLL

In recognition of spring break in the Pasadena Independent School District March 16-20, there will be no games competed in the Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League March 14 through March 20. Action in the league will resume March 21.

## Machine pitch Braves capture banner honor



Coaches Jack Moes (left) and Alex Quinn display the machine pitch division Braves' winning banner from a contest held during the Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League's opening ceremonies March 6 at El Franco Lee Park. Members of the Braves will be treated to a pizza party in recognition of their fine artwork.

# Sagemont Showdown baseball champions, runners-up recognized



The Rangers of the Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League's major division won first place at the preseason Sagemont Showdown tournament. Members of the team are, left to right, (front row) Kianna Zermeno, Isaac Martinez, Cristian De Leon, Michael Ortega, Christian Gonzalez, (middle row) Jarrod Halicki, Damion Molina, P.J. Cruz, Andrew Garza, Aaron Torres, (back row) J.D. Gonzalez, manager Rolando De Leon and assistant coaches Patrick Cruz and Juan Molina. Not pictured is Noah DeLeon.

The Sagemont Showdown included teams from each of the Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League's divisions. All of the teams involved played well during the event, and the action was exciting for each and every fan. In the end, the top teams emerged. The following teams claimed the top two spots in each division.

## Sagemont Showdown honorees

### T-Ball Division

Champions – Reds, second place – Braves

### Machine Pitch Division

Champions – Padres, second place – Red Sox

### Peeewe Division

Champions – Indians, second place – Rangers

### Minor Division

Champions – Tigers, second place – Indians

### Major Division

Champions – Rangers, second place – Pirates

### Junior/Senior Division

Champions – Braves, second place – Astros

Special thanks to league secretary/information officer Amy Smith, who worked tirelessly to get the photos and identifications together for publication.



The Pirates of the Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League's major division captured second place in the preseason Sagemont Showdown. Members of the team are, left to right, (front row) Justin Garza, Jon Alek Harrison, Juan Almanza, Mason Miller, Arthur Pedraza, Jacob Izaguirre, (back row) coach Ignacio Izaguirre, Austin Ingalls, Jose Torres, Adan Solis, Matthew Reyes, Ryan Shofner, Ernesto Rodriguez and coach James Miller.



The Indians of the Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League's peewee division won first place in the preseason Sagemont Showdown. Members of the team are, left to right, (front row) Jose Varela, Aaron Perea, Garrett Barrientos, Brendon Griffin, Alex Hernandez, Lorenzo Navarro, (middle row) Jordan Murillo, Andres Padilla, Alex Muniz, Michael Wooton, Mattias Gallo, Frank Mendez, (back row) manager Rudy Mendez and assistant coaches Carlos Gallo and Oscar Perea.



The Indians of the Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League's minor division placed second in the preseason Sagemont Showdown. Members of the team are, left to right, (front row) Evan Mottu, Eric DeLosSantos, Michael Coscarelli, Darius Hypolite, Bailey Reichelderfer, (middle row) Bryan Torres, Christian Garcia, Jesse Gonzales, Jesus Paredes, Jonathan Gutierrez, Drayton Heinrich, (back row) coach Jesse Gonzales, manager Marcelo Garcia and coach George Mottu.



The Red Sox of the Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League's machine pitch division finished as the runner-up team at the preseason Sagemont Showdown. Members of the team are, left to right, (front row) Isaac Gil, Seth Warren, Joshua Rodriguez, Jordan Garcia, (middle row) Marquice Scott, Kobe Ruiz, Brandon Harris, Coby Riley, James Skinner, Marcus Herrera, (back row) manager Chris Riley and assistant coaches Alvaro Gil and Albert Garcia.



The Padres of the Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League's machine pitch division won the championship in the preseason Sagemont Showdown. Members of the team are, left to right, (front row) Paul Villarreal, Mario Rodriguez, Joshua Ramirez, Matthew Moron, Jonathan Morales, (middle row) Amaury Mateo, Alan Lopez, Matthew Dawkins, Sebastian Pichardo, Joseph Castillo, (back row) assistant coach Robert Castillo and manager Mario Rodriguez. Not pictured is player Jayden Robinson and assistant coaches Russ Dawkins and Andy Mateo.



The Tigers of the Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League's minor league division won first place in the preseason Sagemont Showdown. Members of the team are, left to right, (front row) Robert Green bat boy, Zachary Castillo, Jeremy Green, Juan Moreno, Ernie Guzman, Jesus Tijerina, (middle row) Joseph Ramirez, Evan Hausler, Nathan Turrubiates, Nathaniel Dominguez, Darian Gay, Zachary Zarate, (back row) coaches Jeremy Green, Robert Ayala and Jesse Tijerina.

## High school softballers must regroup

**Continued from Page 1B**  
innings. Clear Brook head coach Ashley Pillow said the Wildcats were able to take advantage of several defensive mistakes in taking the victory. She left it at that.

### CB wins three more

The loss to Clear Creek spoiled Pillow's mood that had been good after the team's great play at the Houston Specialty Sports League tournament in Sugar Land.

The Lady Wolverines crushed Lamar 14-1 to open play and fell to Tomball 4-3 after leading 3-2 in the seventh inning.

But the team came back to run-rule Bellaire 10-0 and shut out Denton Ryan 4-0. Montgomery tripped Clear Brook 11-2, but the locals won their finale 5-3 over Cinco Ranch.

In the tournament, Molly Fitchner had eight runs batted in during the six games. Bridgette Begle, Michelle

Svehla, Kristy Gonzalez and Brandy Gonzalez also swung the bat well.

### Dobie slips a pace

Dobie also played well at the HSSL event, winning three straight games after falling to Brazoswood and The Woodlands. The Lady Longhorns then defeated Santa Fe, Bellaire and Clements.

In the tournament, senior center fielder Julie Cross suffered a collarbone injury and could miss much of the remainder of the season.

The injuries have mounted for the Lady Longhorns, but the team was ready to start fresh as the District 22-5A race began March 10. A win over Memorial would have soothed some of the Lady Longhorns' hurts, but it didn't happen.

Millman, a left-handed pitcher, tossed six good innings and then delivered the big blow that won the game. Cassandra Smith socked a solo homer in the bottom of

the sixth inning that tied the game at 3-3.

Dobie trailed in the game twice but had several chances to break open the game. In the first inning, the Lady Longhorns put runners at first and second with one out, but Nicole Andrade struck out, and Tessa Wells was thrown after a rundown on the play.

Dobie again placed two runners on base with no outs in the third inning but then hit three straight fly outs.

Memorial missed a chance to win the game in the bottom of the seventh inning as Jasmine Hutchinson tripled with two outs. But she was stranded as Millman lined out softly to Wells at third base.

Finally, Millman finished off the game in the ninth inning against Dobie's third pitcher, senior JoJo Krienitz. Krienitz returned from injury to throw 5 1/3 innings in relief.

# Sports Calendar

## SOCCKER

**Thursday, March 12**

Dobie JV (B) girls host Deer Park, Dobie, 4:00

**Friday, March 13**

Dobie varsity girls vs. Sam Rayburn, Newcomb, 7:00  
Clear Brook varsity boys host Alvin, 7:00  
Clear Brook JV girls at Alvin, 5:00  
Dobie JV girls vs. Sam Rayburn, Auxiliary, 5:00  
Clear Brook JV boys host Alvin, 5:00

**Saturday, March 14**

Dobie varsity boys vs. Sam Rayburn, Newcomb, 4:00  
Dobie JV boys vs. Sam Rayburn, Newcomb, 2:00

**Tuesday, March 17**

Dobie varsity boys at Pearland, The Rig, 7:00  
Dobie JV boys at Pearland, The Rig, 5:00

**Wednesday, March 18**

Dobie varsity girls host Pearland, Newcomb, 7:00  
Dobie JV girls host Pearland, Newcomb, 5:00

## TENNIS

**Friday, March 13**

Dobie varsity at Pasadena ISD tourn., Strawberry, TBA

**Friday, March 27**

Dobie varsity at Kemah tourn., all day

**Saturday, March 28**

Dobie varsity at Kemah tourn., all day

## SOFTBALL

**Friday, March 13**

San Jacinto College hosts Angelina (2), 1:00/3:00  
Clear Brook varsity hosts Dickinson, 7:30  
Dobie varsity hosts South Houston, PISD complex, 6:30  
Dobie JV hosts South Houston, PISD complex, 5:00  
Clear Brook JV hosts Dickinson, 6:00

**Saturday, March 14**

Dobie varsity at La Porte, 2:30  
Dobie JV at La Porte, 1:00

**Tuesday, March 17**

Dobie varsity at Deer Park, 6:30  
Clear Brook varsity hosts Brazoswood, 7:00  
Dobie JV at Deer Park, 5:00  
Clear Brook JV hosts Brazoswood, 6:00

**Wednesday, March 18**

San Jacinto College at Blinn (2), 2:00/4:00

## TRACK AND FIELD

**Friday, March 13**

Dobie varsity girls at Santa Fe meet, TBA  
Dobie JV girls at South Houston meet, TBA

## BASEBALL

**Thursday, March 12**

Clear Brook varsity at Spring tourn., TBA  
Dobie varsity at Round Rock tourn., TBA  
Clear Brook JV at Conroe tourn., TBA  
Dobie JV at Pasadena ISD tourn., TBA  
Clear Brook sophomores at Clear Creek tourn., TBA

**Friday, March 13**

Clear Brook varsity at Spring tourn., TBA  
Dobie varsity at Round Rock tourn., TBA  
Clear Brook JV at Conroe tourn., TBA  
Dobie JV at Pasadena ISD tourn., TBA  
Clear Brook sophomores at Clear Creek tourn., TBA

**Saturday, March 14**

Clear Brook varsity at Spring tourn., TBA  
Dobie varsity at Round Rock tourn., TBA  
Clear Brook JV at Conroe tourn., TBA  
Dobie JV at Pasadena ISD tourn., TBA  
Clear Brook sophomores at Clear Creek tourn., TBA

**Monday, March 16**

Dobie varsity at Memorial, 4:00  
Clear Brook JV hosts Clear Creek, 7:00  
Dobie JV hosts Memorial, Dobie, 2:30  
Dobie sophomores host Memorial, Dobie, noon  
Clear Brook sophomores host Clear Creek, 4:30

**Tuesday, March 17**

Clear Brook varsity at Clear Creek, 7:00

**Thursday, March 19**

Dobie varsity hosts South Houston, Dobie, noon  
Dobie JV vs. South Houston, PISD complex, 7:00  
Dobie sophomores vs. S. Houston, PISD complex, 4:00



## SJC's Saenz nears 200 wins

Now in her sixth season, San Jacinto head coach Kelly Saenz (right) is inching toward the 200-win mark. Saenz entered the season with a 169-107 record as the Coyotes' coach and has picked up 18 more wins to this point. Over the past two seasons, San Jacinto has averaged 39 victories, so Saenz seems sure to get No. 200 this season. But her focus remains the team's play in Region 14 action. Aiming to repeat its national tournament appearance from 2008, the Coyotes are 2-0 at press time with 30 more regional games to be played. In the regional-opening doubleheader March 7 against Lamar State, sophomore pitcher Kelsey McClain won both games, getting a 4-0 shutout in the opener and winning the second game in relief.

Photo by John Bechtle

# San Jacinto College softball starts hot

A combination of stellar pitching and timely hitting gave the San Jacinto College South softball team a sweep of its Region 14 opening series March 7 at Coyote Field. Sophomore ace Kelsey McClain pitched the Coyotes to a 4-0 win in the opener with a five-hitter that included six strikeouts. In the second game, Courtney Pettit provided the heroics as she belted a walk-off solo home run to lead off the eighth inning for a 3-2 San Jacinto victory.

The wins gave the Coyotes an 18-9 overall record. The key, though, is getting out of the gate quickly in Region 14 action. San Jacinto has done that by sweeping Lamar State, which entered the series at just 3-7 and has only played the sport competitively since 2005.

"It's always big when you win conference games," San Jacinto head coach Kelly Saenz said. "In the first game, Kelsey came up with a great pitching effort. Courtney Pettit then gave us the win with the walk-off home run in the second game. That's an exciting way to start."

It was also fitting that McClain and Pettit, two of the team's senior leaders, led the way. McClain, was the team's top pitcher last season as the Coyotes reached the national tournament for the first time in school history.

Just days before the Region 14 opening series this season, McClain, a Pasadena Memorial High School graduate, signed a letter of

## District's athletics challenge heats up

# Dobie narrows gap; Bondy leaps over BHI

The Pasadena Independent School District athletic department's first-year PISD Cup is creating a stiff competition as the spring sports arrive. Athletic director Mike Stephens and his assistant, Rodney Chant, created the contest in an effort to build rivalries and competition between the schools.

The PISD Cup is working as planned. Memorial, which led the high school standings after the competition of the football, basketball, cross coun-

try and team tennis season by a 17-point margin, has seen Dobie close the gap thanks to great results in swimming and basketball.

Memorial has now collected 92.5 points compared to 89 for Dobie.

At the high school level, points are awarded based on district finish as well as playoff results.

In the intermediate school division, Bondy has taken over the top spot from fall leader Beverly Hills after a solid basketball season in boys' and girls' action.

Bondy, which trailed Beverly Hills by 2 1/2 points when the first round of results were posted, now has a 137 to 125.5 lead over Beverly Hills. San Jacinto

has now collected 119.5 points. As Stephens and Chant had hoped, the chase for the trophy is likely to go down to the wire.

## PISD Cup

### Intermediate School Standings

Bondy	137
Beverly Hills	125.5
San Jacinto	119.5
Queens	103
Thompson	98
Miller	78.5
Southmore	77.25
Park View	57.5
South Houston	53.25
Jackson	38.75

Sports included: football, volleyball and basketball

## PISD Cup High School Standings

Memorial	92.5
Dobie	89
Sam Rayburn	54.5
South Houston	41
Pasadena	30

Sports included: football, volleyball, team tennis, cross country, swimming and basketball

# Brook, Dobie exes lift NCAA hoops

Two local basketball stars are continuing their fine sophomore college seasons at the national level.

Former Dobie star Karima Christmas had 18 points as part of a terrific performance as her Duke University Blue Devils advanced to the Atlantic Coast Conference championship game March 8.

Christmas came off the bench and delivered a solid 28-minute effort that also included four rebounds, three assists, two steals

and a blocked shot against eventual winner Maryland.

Duke twice trailed the Terapins by 10 points in the final 10 minutes of play, but Christmas played a big role in leading the Blue Devils back.

Chante Morris tipped in a missed shot with :02 remaining as Duke forced overtime. Maryland eventually escaped with an 82-79 victory.

Duke, ranked eighth nationally entering the tournament, will now await word of its seeding in the national

tournament later this month.

Kelli Griffin, formerly of Clear Brook, is ready to play in the Phillips 66 Big 12 Championship March 12-15 in Oklahoma City.

The Baylor Bears, who went 25-4 in the regular season and 12-4 in Big 12 play, have a first-round bye in the tournament.

Griffin, like Christmas a 2007 high school graduate, had 11 points in the team's final game, a 63-60 victory over Texas A&M in College Station.

## PISD cross country

# BHI athletes take top spots

Beverly Hills Intermediate's seventh-grade program completed its domination of the Pasadena Independent School District cross country regular season, taking the boys' and girls' titles March 4 at South Houston High School.

The Lady Bears took top honors in the seventh-grade division for the third straight week. The boys' team, which captured second place during the opening week, ended the regular season with back-to-back wins.

As for Thompson, the Lady Lions were fifth as a team at the eighth-grade level and sixth in the seventh-grade meet.

**BHI 7th girls' stout**

Mikaela Guevara and Kelsee Manuel guided the Lady Bears' seventh-grade team to the team win. Guevara's time of 14 minutes, 50 seconds over the two-mile course won the title, and Manuel was just behind, second at 14:52.

The Lady Bears' other three point scorers finished in the top 16, including Ashley Gallant, eighth at 15:25, Audrey Hernandez, 14th at 15:45 and Maria Alarcon, 16th at 15:55.

Tessa Costello was 19th for the Lady Bears in a time of 15:59.04, and Amber Nguyen was 23rd in a time of 16:10. Others taking part in the race included McKayla O'Connor (17:11.54), Aliyah Ortega (17:14), Riley Miller (18:03), Hannah Brown (18:11), Arleni Espinoza (18:43), Jessica Montoya (19:37) and Torrie Brown (19:43).

**Lady Lions 7s sixth**

Thompson's seventh-grade girls' team placed sixth as a team as Destinee Smith posted a time of 16:17 for 28th place.

The Lady Lions' other scorers included Morgan Clay, who was 30th in a time of 16:23; Lauren Brown, who came across at 16:25 for 31st; Aimee Mar, 35th at 16:27.39 and Victoria Maldonado, who was 47th at 16:59.

The Lady Lions' other competitors included Christina Oliviera (17:02), Lisa Brooks (17:03), Lynsi Crawford (17:53), Maria Flores (18:01), Shalyn Scott (18:25), Sydney Gutierrez (20:08), Mayve Rodriguez (22:25), Jacklyn Bernal (22:27) and Aydalís San-

chez (22:29).

### Lady Bears' 8s second

San Jacinto dominated the eighth-grade girls' event with a meet-low 22 points, but the Lady Bears were second with 69 points.

Five of the top nine finishers were from San Jacinto. Each of Beverly Hills' scorers found their way into the top 19 spots.

In sixth place, Katie Perrone was Beverly Hills' best runner, coming across the finish line at 14:50. Cassidy Peng was 11th with a time of 15:35. The Lady Bears' three other point-scorers were Melina Ceja, 13th at 15:40.48; Brittney Montross, 18th at 15:51 and Kate Incheon, 19th at 15:53.

The Lady Bears also had Rebecca Guerra (16:29), Amber Cadena (16:30), Debbie Aguiste (16:33), Jennifer Galvan (16:36), Nathalie Yui (17:05), Modesta Ugo (17:22), Analía Alcoba (17:35.1), Cassie Gilman (18:01), Lisa Gilk (18:30) and Lauren Wilkerson (19:35).

### Lady Lions 8s are fifth

Thu Nguyen's seventh-place finish led the way as the Lady Lions' eighth-grade team took a fifth-place finish.

Andrea Vargas, who was 16th at 15:48; Lorin Mata, who took 26th at 16:15; Amanda Medrano, who took 52nd at 17:18 and Melissa Bonilla, who was 56th at 17:21, also scored for Thompson.

Thompson's other runners included Jenny Chung (17:26), Amanda Rodriguez (17:31), Sydney Keatts (17:33.89), Loana Solis (17:55), Sara Vela (18:03), Vanessa Salazar (18:13), Genevieve Au (18:25) and Carol Amaro (19:03.21).

### BHI 7 boys

D.J. Jones raced to the front down the stretch and won first place for Beverly Hills in the eighth-grade boys' race in a time of 12:36.

A time of 12:58 placed Jaylon Johnson fifth overall, and Jesse Cedeno was 24th at 13:44. The team's two other scorers were Levi Marshall, 29th at 14:02 and Jacoby Lewis, who placed 35th in a time of 14:15.

The Bears also had Vinny Rudolfo (14:17), Josh Sutton (14:19), Hector Carrillo (14:34), Jonathan Rivera (14:37), Victor Castillo (15:00), Christian Bertrand

(15:49) and Ramiro Aguilera (16:11).

### Lions' 7 boys

The Lions' overall best competitor was Hunter Hicks, who claimed third at 12:45. Gabriel Garza, 46th in a time of 14:36; Ozzy Castillo, who was 49th at 14:39; Carlos Sanchez, who took 59th at 14:50 and Carlos Amaro, who was 61st at 14:52, also scored points for Thompson.

The Lions' other runners included Tyler Baumann (14:57), Antonio Beltran (15:31), Jordan Julks (15:43), Juan Amaro (15:57), Wesley Schoppe (16:14), Jason Edkopa (17:22), Jesse Jackson (17:30), Carlos Martinez (17:30), Mauricio Rivera (17:33) and Anthony Gee (20:54).

### BHI 8s

Jose Cabreja was the Bears' top eighth-grade finisher as he was 13th overall in a time of 10:35.

The Bears also got point-scoring efforts from Adrian Trancoza (23rd at 10:45), Adrian Flores (25th at 10:47), Donte Morris (39th at 11:03) and Stephen Lopez (83rd at 12:03).

Roger Lizama (12:31) and Damien Miller (12:33) also ran for the Bears.

### Lions 8 boys

Thompson's top racer was Rolando Martinez, who claimed the 33rd spot in a time of 10:57. Johnathan Betancourt was 34th at 10:58.

Also scoring for the Lions were Ricardo Mendiola (46th at 11:10), Obed Martinez (50th at 11:15) and Neftali Carcamo (67th at 11:35).

Other Lions competing included Andre Timmons (11:40), Eric Montoya (12:09), Manuel Duke (12:34), Ezequiel Ramirez (12:36), Michael Aymond (12:41), Gerardo Garza (13:25), Eliud Balderas (13:38), Chris Payne (13:41) and Brian Campbell (13:42).

The district hosted the final championship meet March 12 after press time at Sam Rayburn High School.

The results from the championship meet will appear in the March 19 Leader.

The PISD track and field season for intermediate schools will begin April 1 for girls' teams and April 2 for boys' teams.

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# CALENDAR

**THURSDAY, MARCH 12**  
7 a.m.  
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" each Monday through Friday, from 7 to 8 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Room 114. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.  
9:30 a.m.  
NASA Aglow Community Lighthouse - meets the second Thursday of the month at 9:30 a.m. at the Lighthouse Fellowship of Friends, 144 Park Avenue in League City. The public is welcome and encouraged to bring others to the interdenominational meeting.

Noon  
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 - Free tutoring for all ages is available Thursdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Education Building at St. Luke the Evangelist Church, 11011 Hall Road. For information, call 281-484-1397 or e-mail joe\_pavlicek@yahoo.com.  
Houston Chapter of Inmate Families Organization - Meets at the Montrose Library, 4100 Montrose. Call 713-515-3736 for more information.  
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.  
7 a.m.  
FRIDAY, MARCH 13  
7 a.m.  
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" each Monday through Friday, from 7 to 8 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Room 114. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.  
10 a.m.  
Free Line Dance Class - The Friendswood Senior Citizen Program offers free line dancing classes. The class is held at the activity building, located at 416 Morningside. All area senior citizens, 55 or older, are invited. Previous experience not required. For more information, call 281-487-8787.  
AARP - The American Association of Retired Persons meets the second Friday of each month at Kirkwood South Christian Church, 10811 Kirkland.  
Noon  
Moving Forward Women's Adult Children Anonymous - The ACA group meets Fridays at noon at the Up The Street Club in Webster, 508 Nasa Parkway, in room 4. ACA is a 12-step program of hope, healing and recovery for people who grew up in alcoholic or dysfunctional homes. For more information, call 281-286-1431.  
4 p.m.  
The Men's Club of St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Community - The public is invited to a fish fry on Friday, March 13, from 4 to 7 p.m. in the Cabrini Center, 10727 Hartsook. Meals are \$8 each, eat in or take home.  
8 p.m.  
Pasadena Little Theatre - Opening night for Pasadena Little Theatre's *Lend Me a Tenor* by Ken Ludwig at 8 p.m., 4318 Allen-Genoa Road. Show runs through March 29, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. One Thursday show will be at 8 p.m. on March 26. Janet Sharpley is the director. Reservations can be made online at pasadenalittletheatre.org or call 713-941-1758.  
SATURDAY, MARCH 14  
6 p.m.  
Frontier Squares - Meets to square dance at the NASA Gilruth Center on Space Center. Refreshments provided. For more information, contact Gina Sherman at 281-554-5675 or George Wieland at 281-286-5682, or visit www.frontiersquares.com.  
SUNDAY, MARCH 15  
2 p.m.  
Grief Support Group - For any adult who has lost a loved one. Meets every Sunday, except Mother's Day, Easter and Christmas from 2 to 3:15 p.m. at First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062

Fairmont Parkway. For more information, call 281-487-8787.  
8 p.m.  
Alcoholics Anonymous - Alcohol problems? AA meetings are held Sundays and Tuesdays from 8 to 9 p.m. and Thursdays from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. at St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta Street. For information, call 713-204-2481.  
7 p.m.  
Pasadena Little Theatre - Auditions for *Guys and Dolls*, music and lyrics by Frank Loesser, book by Jo Swerling and Abe Burrows, will be held at Pasadena Little Theatre, 4318 Allen-Genoa Road, beginning at 7 p.m. This show runs May 1-24 and is directed by Mary K. Isaacs. Fifteen-plus men and eight-plus women are required. Prepare one song, and be prepared to dance. There will be cold readings from the script. Address questions to PLT.GuysandDolls@gmail.com or visit the Web site at pasadenalittletheatre.org.  
MONDAY, MARCH 16  
7 a.m.  
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" each Monday through Friday, from 7 to 8 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Room 114. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.  
9 a.m.  
Houston Area Parkinson Society - Free exercise and speech therapy from 9 to 10:30 a.m. at Clear Lake Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster. Visit www.hapsonline.org for a complete list of services offered.  
10 a.m.  
Free Walking Classes - for plus size women are held Mondays and Wednesdays at 10 a.m. at the Sagemont Community Center, 11507 Hughes Road. Let's move together. Registration required. For more information, call Beatrice at 281-922-2343.  
Noon  
Free Exercise Class - Basic low impact aerobic classes on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at noon at the Sagemont Community Center, 11507 Hughes Road. Registration is required. For more information, call Beatrice at 281-922-2343.  
6 p.m.  
Scrabble Club #511 - Meets every Monday at the IHOP on Fuqua from 6 to 9 p.m. All who enjoy the game or want to learn to play are invited to join. For more information, call 281-488-2923.  
6:30 p.m.  
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.

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Continued from Page 3B

**Pasadena Little Theatre** - Auditions for *Guys and Dolls*, music and lyrics by Frank Loesser, book by Jo Swerling and Abe Burrows, will be held at Pasadena Little Theatre, 4318 Allen-Genova Road, beginning at 7 p.m. This show runs May 1-2 and is directed by Mary K. Isaacs. Fifteen-plus men and eight-plus women are required. Prepare one song, and be prepared to dance. There will be cold readings from the script. Address questions to PLT.GuysandDolls@gmail.com or visit the Web site at pasadenalittletheatre.org.

**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.

**The Clear Lake Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.** - Meets the third week of each month at the Clear Lake Park Building, 5001 NASA Parkway. Guests welcome. Designed to promote education and popular interest in the various earth sciences, hobbies dealing with the art of lapidaries and the science of minerals and fossils.

**TUESDAY, MARCH 17**  
St. Patrick's Day

**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.

**The Bay Area Military Officers' Wives** - hold monthly luncheon meetings on the third Tuesday of each month. Meetings are held at Bay Oaks Country Club from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Active duty or retired officers' wives are eligible. For information, contact Wanda Symmonds, president, at 832-425-2724 or www.WSYMMONDS@houston.rr.com or Wendy Peters, membership, at 281-333-3115 or www.WendyPeters@verizon.net.

**Free Exercise Class** - Basic low impact aerobic classes on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at noon at the Sagemont Community Center, 11507 Hughes Road. Registration is required. For more information, call Beatrice at 281-922-2343.

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

**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.

**Houston Area Parkinson Society** - Free water therapy from 5 to 6 p.m. and 6 to 7 p.m. at Clear Lake Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster. Visit www.hapsonline.org for a complete list of services offered.

**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.

**TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)** - Meets at Sagemont Recreation Center, 11507 Hughes. For information, call Erma Coskey at 713-946-6049.

**Pearland Area Republican Women's Club** - meets at Perry's Landmark Restaurant, 2501 S. Main. For more information, call 281-485-4140 or 281-485-1431.

**St. Luke's Catholic Church** - Free tutoring for all ages is available Tuesdays from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Education Building at St. Luke the Evangelist Church, 11011 Hall Road. For information, call 281-484-1397 or e-mail joe\_pavlicek@yahoo.com.

**The Compassionate Friends** - TCF meets on the third Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. at the Friendswood United Methodist Church, 204 W. Edgewood (FM2351) in the Family Life Center, second floor, room 204. TCF is a nondenominational, self-help organization offering friendship, support and understanding to bereaved families who have lost a son, daughter or sibling. For information, call 281-332-2887 or 281-992-0145.

**Positive Interaction Program** - meets the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital, 11900 Astoria, in the staff meeting room 1st floor. Bring a friend or neighbor and work together to make PIP the best in the city. PIP consists of police and citizens working together to help make neighborhoods safer. For more information, call Officer Randy Derr at 281-218-3900.

**Bay Area Turning Point Crisis Intervention Center** - Weekly sexual assault support group offers a confidential self-help support group for victims/survivors of rape and sexual abuse. To attend or for more information, call 281-286-2525.

**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.

**Harris County Master Gardeners at Precinct 2** - Free monthly gardening educational programs meet on the third Wednesday of each month. The programs are at 10 a.m. at Clear Lake Park in the meeting room located at 5001 NASA Parkway, Seabrook (on the south side of the lake). The programs are free and open to the public. For information, call 281-991-8437 or visit the Web site at www.hcmgap2.tamu.edu.

**Free Walking Classes** - for plus size women are held Mondays and Wednesdays at 10 a.m. at the Sagemont Community Center, 11507 Hughes Road. Let's move together. Registration required. For more information, call Beatrice at 281-922-2343.

**Hobby Airport Lions Club** - meets at 11:30 a.m. on the first and third Wednesday of the month. Meetings are held at the Golden Corral at Fuqua and I-45. E-mail HobbyAirportLions@gmail.com for more information.

**Free Exercise Class** - Basic low impact aerobic classes on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at noon at the Sagemont Community Center, 11507 Hughes Road. Registration is required. For more information, call Beatrice at 281-922-2343.

**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.

more information, call 281-998-1095.

**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.

**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. BAPT is located at 210 S. Walnut off NASA Parkway between Interstate 45 South and Highway 3. The 24-hour crisis hotline is 281-286-2525.

**THURSDAY, MARCH 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.

**Texas Southeast Christian Women's Club** - Texas Southeast Christian Women's Club, in affiliation with Stonecroft Ministries, hosts monthly luncheons at Golfcrest Country Club from 11:15 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the third Thursday of every month. The luncheon includes a buffet, an informative program and an inspirational speaker. Cost is \$16 all inclusive. All ladies are welcome, but reservations are necessary. A complimentary nursery is provided. For information, call 281-992-1675 or 281-482-9727.

**ABWA - Southeast Express Network** - American Business Women's Association-South meets on the third Thursday of each month at Makenzies Grill, 9330 Broadway in Pearland. Lunch is from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cost is \$20 and includes networking with professional business women, lunch and guest speaker. Women of all ages and occupations are invited. Bring plenty of business cards. Reservations are appreciated. Contact Monica Perez at mlynnperez2002@yahoo.com for reservations, or visit the Web site at www.seen-abwa.org.

**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.

**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** - Free tutoring for all ages is available Thursdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Education Building at St. Luke the Evangelist Church, 11011 Hall Road. For information, call 281-484-1397 or e-mail joe\_pavlicek@yahoo.com.

**Korean War Veteran Association** - The Texas Lone Star Chapter meets the third Thursday of each month at the Tracy Gee Community Center, 3599 West Center. For information, call 713-774-3662.

**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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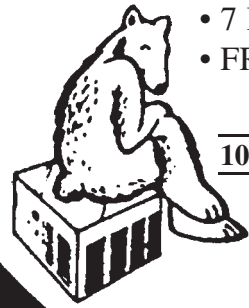
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# Brook, Dobie baseball teams set to end phase one on high note; district coming

**Continued from Page 1B**  
So with district play just days away for both teams, Clear Brook and Dobie both have reason to feel optimistic entering district play.

Entering the playoff hunt, the Wolverines (seven) and Longhorns (six) have surpassed their nondistrict victory totals of a year ago. Simply put, the two

squads are playing better baseball.

## CB now at 7-4

Aside from being shut out twice during the Clear Creek Independent School District tournament March 5-7 and then letting a two-run, seventh-inning lead over St. Thomas evaporate into a loss March 9, Clear Brook has played well.

With several underclassmen listed in the starting lineup every game, the Wolverines started the season with five straight wins.

Things haven't gone as well since at 2-4 overall, but the Wolverines still have a chance to pick up more wins at the Spring tournament March 12-14.

Then comes the March 17 District 24-5A opener against Clear Creek. The Wolverines have their 24-5A home opener March 20 against Dickinson.

In winning seven of 11 to this point, Clear Brook has done two things fairly well. That is, the defense has been steady, and the pitching has proved to be consistent.

If the team is to win consistently in district play, though, the hitting will have to improve.

Clear Brook was blanked 10-0 by Seven Lakes and then lost 6-0 to Pearland in the first day of the CCISD tournament.

However, the Wolverines came back to down Seguin 6-2 as freshman Derek Montag and sophomore Ryan Vrugink homered to give the team an early 3-2 lead.

From there, starting pitcher Andrew Phu did his job, going six innings for the win.

Erik White and Michael Skiba combined to pitch the Wolverines past Victoria Memorial in the team's final tournament game.

But facing Craig Biggio's St. Thomas team March 9, the Wolverines let Vrugink's solid pitching performance go to waste by giving up the tying two runs in the seventh inning and the eventual game-winner in the eighth.

"We could never put them away, and it came back to bite us," Ferrell said. "We had eight hits, scored four runs, stole a bunch of bases and made no errors. And we turned three double plays. Still, we couldn't win."

With district play coming, the Wolverines will need to step it up a notch or two.

Alvin, Brazoswood and Clear Creek are the most experienced teams in the district, but the Wolverines have been able to excel with some youth on their side so far.

"Our pitching and defense may have to carry us," Ferrell said. "So far those two areas have been pretty good. We might be able to (make the playoffs) with those two phases in our favor."

## Dobie eyes 22-5A start

It's early and the games don't truly matter until district play starts. However, with few exceptions, the Dobie Longhorns should be pleased to be 7-4 entering what promises to be a difficult three-day stretch at the Round Rock tournament March 12.

The Longhorns have now surpassed their nondistrict win total from 2008 after winning four of their last five games.

Dobie went three for three in pool play at the Pasadena Independent School District tournament March 5-6.

On March 5, the Longhorns beat Channelview 5-4 and then topped Galena Park



**Dobie senior right-hander Cody Priest simply had too much going his way against Memorial March 6 at Dobie. He allowed just one run on three hits and fanned seven to guide the Longhorns to a 13-1 win in five innings. On Feb. 26, Priest struck out 10 Memorial hitters and left the game with the lead during the Angleton tournament.**

## In final week, soccer playoffs have essentially begun

**Continued from Page 1B**  
Park 1-0 March 10 on a goal by Victor Cantu. So with a two-point lead over the Texans with a head-to-head match looming, the smoothest path to the 22-5A crown for Dobie is by winning March 14. Since the Texans closed the season against Pasadena, the Longhorns likely need to top Pearland in their final game to win the title.

In getting to first place, Dobie has beaten the teams below them consistently. Even with the Sam Rayburn game lurking on the schedule, the Longhorns were able to win a couple of key games lately.

On March 6, Dobie crushed La Porte with a four-goal barrage in the first half on the way to a 5-0 win.

Gilberto Tzintzun stayed on a scoring tear in the second half of district play with a pair of goals. Chris Torres and Walter Anorou also found the net.

Another goal was scored by Dobie on a deflected ball sent toward the net by Adrian Ramirez.

La Porte has struggled this season, but after the Longhorns played sluggishly in a tie against La Porte in the first half of 22-5A action, Dobie head coach Jesse Saavedra was pleased to see the troops take a different route this time.

"We dominated La Porte from the start," Saavedra said. "We scored four goals in the first half to put the game away. From there, our defense dominated. La Porte managed to get two shots all game."

Although Gallegos' goal was the only score against Pasadena, the end result was a Dobie win.

"We had so many chances to put this game away but could not find the net," Saavedra said. "Salim Nasser delivered a throw-in about two minutes before halftime, and Gallegos

headed it in for the goal. "After a shaky start, our defense stepped up. Pasadena had three shots on goal and only one in the second half."

## Title shot looms

Like several of his peers at the school, Saavedra is a Dobie graduate. His desire to win a district crown burns red hot. But Saavedra knows he can't play, but only may prepare his team.

But the Longhorns have excelled by putting team goals first and staying focused on what truly matters and little else.

"Good is the enemy of great," was our off-season slogan," Saavedra said. "We don't want to settle for just getting into the playoffs. Now we have also adopted 'We are what we do repeatedly, excellence,' as another slogan."

"We need to bring our best attitude and effort, just like we have for most of the season. If we do it, then I think the outcome will be in our favor."

In Rayburn's win during the first round of district play, both teams struggled in a constant rain that drizzled for the most part but at times came down harder.

A defensive lapse in the final minutes cost Dobie the game. The Longhorns will make no excuses for the first loss and will instead move forward.

"The first time around, we missed several opportunities, and they capitalized on theirs. I need not say more. I told the guys that if we had finished our goal opportunities the first time around, the outcome would have been in our favor," Saavedra said.

"But that is the nature of the game. The ball doesn't always bounce your way. Yes, it was drizzling rain for most of the game, but I make no excuses. They won and we lost. We just have to put the ball in the back of the net when we get the opportunity."

Dobie is in the playoffs. That much is known. But the Longhorns, who have not won a district title since 1995, seek more.

"We have worked extremely hard this past off-season, and now the team is close to accomplishing something really special."

"If we show up like we did against Pearland, La Porte, South Houston and Deer Park the first time around, then I think the outcome will be in our favor," Saavedra said.

## Dobie girls need wins

The good news is the Lady Longhorns are headed to the playoffs for a fifth straight time.

The team won't win the district title. That likely belongs to unbeaten Deer Park. But at 9-2 with remaining games against Pasadena, Sam Rayburn (March 13) and Pearland (March 18), Dobie has a realistic chance at taking second place.

If the Lady Longhorns take out Pearland March 18, the league's tiebreaker rules will determine the playoff seedings.

Pearland defeated Dobie 2-1 in the first round of district play with a pair of second-half goals.

## CB boys want second

In the District 24-5A boys' race, Clear Brook is looking to finish second behind Clear Lake.

With a win over Alvin in the final game of the regular season March 13, the Wolverines will claim second.

Trouble is, the Wolverines have played very well against good teams and have struggled at times against those teams which are destined to miss the playoffs. Case in point: Clear Brook played Clear Springs, a first-year Class 5A program with no seniors, to a 1-1 tie March 10.

"I am proud of our guys in the sense that they have overcome some adversity and distractions to get to

6-5. Justin Edwards had the key blow as he tied the game against Channelview with a three-run homer.

But Dobie's signature win in the tournament came March 6 at home against Memorial.

Starting pitcher Cody Priest did his part on the mound, allowing just three hits and a run while striking out seven.

The offense handled the beating from there.

Derrick Murray's two-run homer in the bottom of the first inning opened the scoring. The Longhorns seemingly never stopped from there.

In a six-run second inning, Sam Grant smacked an RBI triple, and the Longhorns strung together seven straight hits. Justin Eckols, Joseph Gutierrez, Murray and Priest also plated runs with hits before the inning ended.

Eckols had two more RBI singles in the game, and Gutierrez was 4 for 4 with two RBIs. Murray had three hits and drove in four runs.

Dobie head coach Roy Grant understands that 13-run, 17-hit outings don't come along often, so he was glad to see this one as the Longhorns defeated Memo-

rial for the second time this season. "Memorial always has a good program, and it's always special to get a win," Grant said.

"You rarely expect to see what we were able to do, but that's what can happen when you execute well and play to your capabilities."

Dobie was unable to carry over its momentum March 7 as Kinkaid pitcher Matt Bean silenced the Longhorns in a 5-2 win.

But Daniel Sawyer picked up the slack for Dobie, tossing a no-hitter against Humble March 10 at Dobie (see Page 1B).

Homering for the game's lone run, Sawyer also took care of the no-hitter late by getting the final nine outs of the game via strikeout. He finished with 12 punchouts.

After the Round Rock tournament, the real games begin. Dobie opens District 22-5A action March 16 at Memorial. To get off to a fast start, the Longhorns will have to beat Memorial for a third time.

"Hopefully, we can keep some of our momentum going and win the opener against Memorial," Grant said.

"We have shown at times that we can be a very, very good team."

## Soccer playoff scenarios

**22-5A boys:** At 9-2-1, Dobie (28 points) holds the lead over Sam Rayburn (8-2-2 for 26 points). Deer Park is third at 8-4 (24 points). Dobie, which plays Sam Rayburn March 14 at Newcomb Field, can clinch the 22-5A title with two wins. Dobie finishes the regular season March 18 at home against Pearland. Sam Rayburn faces Pasadena March 17 in its finale.

**24-5A boys:** One game remains in play. Clear Lake is the district champion at 11-1-1. Clear Brook is second at 7-2-4 (25 points). Brazoswood is third (6-2-5 for 23 points) and Clear Creek is fourth (7-5-1 for 22 points). Clear Brook needs to defeat Alvin in its final game to ensure itself of taking second place.

**22-5A girls:** Deer Park is undefeated at 12-0 and has can secure the championship with a win over Pearland March 18. Pearland is currently second (10-2 for 30 points) and Dobie is third (8-4 for 24 points). La Porte is fourth (7-5 for 21 points). Dobie continued with a March 11 game after press time, a March 13 game against Rayburn and then the regular-season finale March 18 at home against Pearland. In order to finish second, Dobie needs two wins combined with two Pearland losses.

## Lady Horns' relays still setting a tone

**Continued from Page 1B**  
Knight to come in at 1:42.6 at La Porte, another season-best for the locals.

In the Region III picture, the Lady Longhorns are in rare company in both events.

In the 4x100, Elsik has delivered the region's fastest time at 46.01, while Hightower stands at 47.22.

But Dobie's 48.54 is still among the area's top eight times. In the 4x200, Dobie also sits among the area's top seven times.

With the Dobie girls set to compete at the Texas Southern University Relays March 20-21, the Lady Longhorns are in a position to make a statement.

The TSU meet is prestigious in these parts, much like the Texas Relays in Austin. Dobie will also attend the Texas Relays April 3-4.

At TSU and in Austin, the Lady Longhorns' relay units will have a chance to compare themselves with many of the region's and state's best.

Realistically, the Lady Longhorns should be ecstatic to make the finals at the Region III meet in either event.

That would be a tremendous accomplishment considering the competition in

the mix. Time will tell. **Other news at La Porte**  
The Lady Longhorns' relay teams weren't the lone bright spots.

Senior Ashley Johnson continues to do well in the weights. She was second in the shot put and third in the discus at the Bayshore Olympics.

Johnson cleared 36 feet, eight inches in the shot and 113 feet, 11 inches in the discus. In the shot put, Clear Lake's Aleja Hall's throw of 36-10 1/2 was just good enough to edge Johnson.

Montgomery placed second in the high jump, going over the 5-4 level for the honor.

Shadae Shepherd, getting back into the mix now after the varsity girls' basketball season, took third place in both the long jump (17-9) and triple jump (35-0).

**Dobie boys get 10th**  
The Dobie boys' team scored nine points and took 10th place at the Bayshore Relays as the team had limited participants in the finals.

Christian Washington claimed fourth place in the triple jump with a leap of 45 feet, 5 inches.

Teammate Chris Higgins was fourth in the high jump, going over the 5 feet, eight-inch mark.

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**Jose Balvaneda has enjoyed a spectacular freshman season in the nets for the Dobie varsity boys' soccer team, but he could use a couple of big performances to deliver a capper as the team chases the District 22-5A crown.**