

South Belt-Ellington Leader

40 years of covering South Belt

Voice of Community-Minded People since 1976

Thursday, January 19, 2017

Email: mynews@southbeltleader.com

www.southbeltleader.com

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Cook-off date announced

The 21st annual South Belt Spectacular Cook-off will be held Thursday, April 27, through Saturday, April 29, at El Franco Lee Park, 9400 Hall Road. See future editions of the *Leader* for additional information.

Melillo holds garage sale

Melillo Middle School will hold a community garage sale Saturday, Jan. 21, from 9 a.m. to noon in the school gym. Items for sale will include clothing, sports/fitness, toys/games, household, electronics, furniture, books, outdoor and more. Proceeds will go toward a performance opportunity in New York City for a group of vocal students led by Melillo Choir Director Bridget Bellach. Cash only. To donate items, contact Bellach at BBellach@uarts.edu to arrange a drop-off or pickup.

Kirkwood South to meet

The Kirkwood South Committee will hold a board meeting Friday, Jan. 27, at Judge Jo Ann Delgado's courtroom, located at 10851 Scarsdale, suite 500, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

HPD chief visits Kirkwood

New Houston Police Chief Art Acevedo will visit the Kirkwood Civic Club meeting Thursday, Jan. 26, at the Sagemont Park Community Center, 11507 Hughes Road, beginning at 6:30 p.m. HPD's Stephen Daniel will give a presentation on how to survive an active shooter incident. All other civic clubs are welcome to attend the function.

SJC drive rescheduled

The San Jac Cosmetology Department's Spring School Supply Drive, originally scheduled to take place Jan. 7 at the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department, 10510 Scarsdale, has been rescheduled to Saturday, Jan. 21, due to inclement weather. The event will provide vouchers for free professional haircuts with a style to those who donate \$25 or more worth of school supplies. This year's event will focus on providing supplies to underprivileged students at Stuchbery Elementary. The drive will take place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For additional information, contact Jeanette Wright at 281-922-3406 or jeanette.wright@sjcd.edu.

Free self-defense offered

The American Society of Karate will offer free one-hour self-defense and martial arts courses for teens and adults (ages 13-80) at the Sagemont Park Community Center, 11507 Hughes Road, on Fridays from Jan. 20 to May 26, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Under the direction of fifth-degree black-belt instructor Michael Alonzo, the class is not only geared toward the aspiring martial artist. The self-defense portion will be structured so that someone participating for only one class will have a simple yet effective strategy against potential attackers.

Gulf Freeway closures set

At least one northbound and southbound main lane and frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway from FM-1959/Dixie Farm Road to FM-528/NASA Road 1 will be closed daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Saturday, Feb. 4. Alternate exit and entrance ramps will be closed.

At least one northbound and one southbound main lane and frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway from FM-1959/Dixie Farm Road to FM-528/NASA Road 1 will be closed nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Saturday, Feb. 4. Alternate exit and entrance ramps will be closed. The closures are associated with an ongoing construction project to widen the freeway from three to five lanes in each direction and the frontage roads from two to three lanes in each direction.

Crohn's & Colitis meeting

The Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America (CCFA) Bay Area Support Group will meet Tuesday, Jan. 24, from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at State Farm Insurance, 12941 Gulf Freeway Suite 101. Patients and caregivers are invited to attend. Meetings are free.

Chamber holds event Jan. 23

The South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce will host an educational community event Jan. 23 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The event is being presented by professionals to guide attendees through job changes, family growth, business growth and retirement. Informational topics to be included are: Wealth Management by Edward Jones; Insurance, Today's Benefit Solutions; Estate Planning and Personal and Business Finances.

Quilt guild plans meetings

The Bay Area Quilt Guild meets the first Tuesday of each month at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, located at 10310 Scarsdale Blvd. Fellowship begins at 6:30 p.m., with the general meeting starting at 7 p.m. February's guest speaker will be Bonnie Hunter, award winning quilter and bestselling author. Her program is titled *Scraps and Shirtings*. Guests are welcome. For additional information, call Debby Benson at 713-248-8757 or check the website at bayareaquiltguild.org.

Truck size increases; traffic decreases

Residents near pond construction site complain of soot from brush burn-off

South Belt residents have likely spotted fewer excavation trucks traveling through the community in recent weeks from the site of the future detention pond near Beamer and Dixie Farm Road. The decrease can be attributed to multiple

factors, according to Harris County officials.

The first of three phases of construction has nearly come to a close, with all Phase I excavation work now being complete.

Phase II contractors have also now switched

to using larger tractor trailers to haul dirt from the site, rather than the traditional smaller dump trucks.

"Larger loads equals fewer trucks," said Phase II Project Manager Zeke Saavedra, noting that the county did not require the change.

Rain and inclement weather have additionally suspended construction efforts at the site on multiple days, as contractors are being mindful not to leave area streets full of mud and debris.

Night hauls were originally scheduled to be-

gin Monday, Jan. 16, but have been postponed to Monday, Jan. 23, also due to weather issues.

Multiple area residents, particularly in the Meadows of Clear Creek subdivision, have complained to the *Leader* about soot on their vehicles resulting from the burning of trees and brush at the site. County officials said the soot was likely due to fires not burning hot enough, compounded with wet weather. Officials further said they take the problem seriously and would take steps to address it.

Moore bids farewell to Durrs



Moore Elementary recently bid farewell to Tom Durr and his wife Brenda Durr, who retired from the area school this past December. Tom Durr had served as a coach at the school since it opened in 1980, while his wife worked as a physical education aide. Prior to his tenure at Moore, Tom Durr had served as a coach at other campuses in the Pasadena Independent School District. Tom Durr spearheaded multiple events at Moore, including the annual Jump Rope for Heart and Haunted Gym. Photo submitted

Dogs stolen from local pet shop

Three valuable dogs were stolen from the Pet Place pet shop, located at 13730 Beamer across the street from San Jacinto College, during a break-in the night of Saturday, Jan. 14.

Two English bull dogs (valued at \$3,500 each) and one Maltese (valued at \$900) were taken during the burglary.

According to investigators, the incident took place shortly before 9 p.m. Surveillance footage shows a male being dropped off at the pet store shortly before the break-in. The male is then shown finding a large rock, which he wraps up in a cloth, before smashing in the front door glass in once the coast appears to be clear on Beamer.

Once inside the shop, the crook went straight to the dogs, before fleeing the store with the animals and meeting back up with the getaway driver.

"I'm pretty sure he'd done it before," said Pet Place owner Christie Vaughn. "It looked like he knew what he was doing."

Vaughn is confident the thief had visited the store with a female earlier in the day to look at the dogs.

"I'm 99.9 percent sure it's the same guy," Vaughn said. "They were here for over an hour. They kept going outside to the car, then back inside. I thought they were going to try and sneak off with the dogs. It just seemed flaky."

Investigators agree with Vaughn's assessment, saying the suspect in the surveillance footage appears to be one of the same people in the store earlier that day.

Both suspects were described by the Harris County Sheriff's Office as being white and between 25 and 30 years old. The male suspect was reportedly wearing a blue Houston Texans jersey, weighing between 150 and 160 pounds and had a tattoo above his right eyebrow. The female suspect was said to be wearing a red Texans jersey. Their vehicle is described merely as a white four-door compact car of unknown make or model.

Vaughn said this was not the first time a dog had been stolen from the store.

"It's not the first time, but this was a little too much," Vaughn said.

The store owner is hopeful the episode will serve as a warning to others.

"People should be careful," Vaughn said.

Vaughn is grateful for the fast response from law enforcement officers, who rushed to the scene after receiving an alarm call.

"I appreciate the sheriff's deputies and the constable's office for getting here so quickly," Vaughn said. "They were here within a couple minutes."

In addition to the surveillance footage, deputies were also able to retrieve fingerprints from the crime scene. Authorities said the crime is being treated as a felony theft due to the large amount of money involved. The investigation was ongoing at press time.

Anyone with information about this case is urged to contact the Harris County Sheriff's Office Burglary and Theft Division at 713-274-9100.

Residents warn of potential scam

The *Leader* has received recent complaints about a possible telephone scam in which the caller claims to be from a government agency offering free grant money that will not have to be repaid.

While it is the first time the newspaper has encountered this particular con, federal watchdogs say it has been happening for several years.

According to the Federal Trade Commission, the scam can also originate from classified ads placed in newspapers and magazines, aimed at luring in potential victims.

In the recent cases reported to the *Leader*, the callers, who reportedly had thick Indian accents and claimed to be from a federal grants department, congratulated the persons on the receiving end of the phone for having been such a good citizen by paying their taxes and having not gone to jail and offered to give them a grant for \$9,200. In order to claim the money, however, the recipient would have to transfer \$200 to the caller for fees — an expense they are told will later be reimbursed. The recipients are further told they will never have to repay the grant or pay any taxes on the money. The would-be victims are then told to not tell anyone else about the exclusive deal.

The FTC offers the following tips to avoid being falling for the scam:

- Don't give out your bank account informa-

tion to anyone you don't know. Scammers pressure people to divulge their bank account information so that they can steal the money in the account. Always keep your bank account information confidential. Don't share it unless you are familiar with the company and know why the information is necessary.

- Don't pay any money for a "free" government grant. If you have to pay money to claim a "free" government grant, it isn't really free. A real government agency won't ask you to pay a processing fee for a grant that you have already been awarded — or to pay for a list of grant-making institutions. The names of agencies and foundations that award grants are available for free at any public library or on the Internet. The only official access point for all federal grant-making agencies is www.grants.gov.

- Look-alikes aren't the real thing. Just because the caller says he's from the "Federal Grants Administration" doesn't mean that he is. There is no such government agency. Take a moment to check the blue pages in your telephone directory to bear out your hunch — or not.

- Phone numbers can deceive. Some con artists use Internet technology to disguise their area code in caller ID systems. Although it may look like they're calling from Washington, DC, they

Continued on Page 4A

SJC South art gallery to open

There will be a grand opening celebration for the new art gallery at San Jacinto College South on Friday, Jan. 27, from 4 to 6 p.m.

The gallery's first exhibit opened Jan. 17 and will run through Feb. 16.

A joint project with the Houston Museum of Natural Science (HMNS), *Lithic* is an interactive art exhibition featuring a collection of ancient stone tools from the HMNS permanent collection.

"Since last summer, we have been working on building a museum-quality exhibition for the San Jacinto College community," said San Jacinto

College South Campus Gallery curator and art professor Jeff McGee. "Some of the artifacts on display are around 400,000 years old and come from all over the world. Stone tools are the first step in a long chain of technological advances leading up to our modern, tech-driven world, so this exhibition really highlights the beginnings of human ingenuity. Our intention is to expose our students and visitors to the offerings made available to them in the Houston area, to bring a bit of the museum experience to their front door, and ultimately make the museum a destination."

Continued on Page 2A

JFD student performs at inauguration

Dobie High School junior Garrett Barrientos has been chosen to perform with 12 members of the Virtuosi of Houston for some of the biggest names in office during the presidential inauguration.

An oboe player for the Longhorn band, Barrientos, 16, will perform at the Black Tie and Boots Inaugural Gala. Barrientos began playing the oboe at the age of 10 and has had multiple placements at region competition since sixth grade and at area competition during his sophomore year.

"To be part of the few that are representing Pasadena ISD and Dobie High School is a huge honor," Barrientos said. "It's surreal to think that I will be doing what I love at such a historical event."

Virtuosi is comprised of some of the top young musicians in town. The students will provide music at a private reception and candlelight congressional dinner, leading up to the inaugura-

tion. The performance was arranged by Virtuosi board member Monzer Hourani of MediStar Corporation, who is co-hosting the dinner and helping to fund the trip, along with Dr. and Mrs. Garrett Peel and Glenda Perryman, supporters of Virtuosi of Houston who wanted to give the young musicians this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

"We recognize that the youth of today are growing up in a smaller, globally and politically connected world," Zarine Boyce, president and CEO of Virtuosi of Houston said. "Understanding our political process and experiencing an Inauguration by being there is crucial to developing a child into a responsible citizen."

The musicians — ranging in age from 11 to 18 — will also be present during the swearing-in at the Capitol.

Garrett Barrientos is the son of Raul and Kari Barrientos and resides in the Kirkmont subdivision.

Pasadena ISD drill team members Aylene Espinoza and Karla Hernandez, from South Houston and Sam Rayburn high schools respectively, are also scheduled to perform at the Black Tie and Boots Inaugural Gala.

Area charter school breaks ground

After years of delays, construction crews recently broke ground on the new charter school to be located on Riverstone Ranch Road at Kirk-sage.

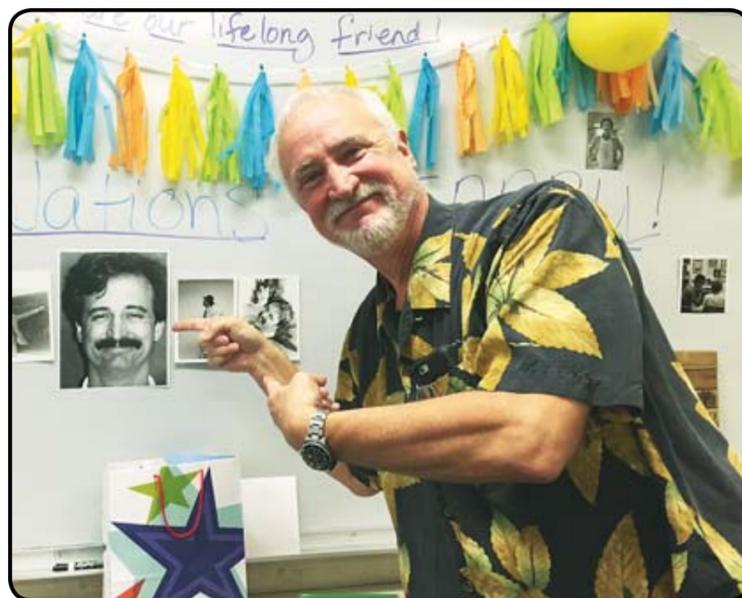
A branch of the Houston Gateway Academy, the Elite College Prep Academy — Riverstone will serve pre-kindergarten through 12th grade.

The three-floor 170,000-square-foot campus will include classrooms, offices, a band hall, science labs, a gym, a kitchen, a natatorium, multi-purpose rooms and a stadium complex. Construction is expected to cost \$31 million.

Construction will be broken down into four phases. The first phase will be the main building. The second phase will be a 200-seat natatorium for swimming. The third phase will involve adding a third story to the main building. The final stage of construction will be a 1,200-seat stadium to be located across the street from the main building.

While contractors have 16 months to complete the project, school officials are hoping the work can be done earlier to ensure the campus opens in the fall of 2018.

Longtime SJC professor retires



Former students and colleagues gathered at San Jacinto College South Jan. 12 to honor longtime history instructor Kearby Lyde on his retirement after 36 years at the campus. Not an original faculty member, he came during the college's first year of operation and has been perennially popular with generations of students. Lyde is shown above at the function pointing to a photo of his younger self. Photo by Cheryl Bolen

In My Opinion

William Watson warns bank email scam

I thought I should report that there is a scam being run on e-mail. I took a copy of the letter to the South Belt Chase and showed it to on the bank personnel, she verified that indeed it is a scam and DO NOT click the link. She said that one person came in reporting a loss of \$700 and all of the credit card information was compromised. Sincerely,

William Watson

PS. The email letter reads as follows: Important Message from Chase Online Verify your current information Dear Chase account Holder

During our regularly scheduled account maintenance and verification procedures, we were unable to verify your account information.

This might be due to either one of the following reasons:

1. A recent change in your personal information (i.e. change of address).
2. Submitting invalid information during the initial enrollment process.
3. An inability to accurately verify your account information due to an internal error within our processors.

We demand that you take 5 minutes out of your online experience and renew your records to avoid running into any future problems with the online service.

However, failure to update your records will result in your account suspension. Once you have updated your account records your service will not be interrupted and will continue as normal

Following the link below.

Click here to update your account Thanks for your co-operation.

Fraud Prevention Unit Legal Advisor

Publisher's note: There are many similar scams. It is a good practice to never give this information via email. Even though the document sent may have the exact logo, etc, it is normally a scam. Best to call the business represented and make sure.

And remember, if an offer seems too good to be true, it is probably TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE!

-Marie Flickinger

Bonnie Dimicelli on Arnone's 30 years

A concept began some 30 years ago.

It was named Kirkmont. That concept needed a lot of things to be successful. One of the most important things required water; and that water had to be delivered to every home built. It took a while to get all the required things together and then it needed someone to manage it.

At that time: myself, Mike Clark, Gordon Bevil, Cathy Goforth and Boe Beaty were elected to the board. Soon we began to interview for that manager. Mike Clark and I were in charge of making the decision of who to pick for the job. The district was in serious trouble from the developer's lack of care. (That explains why the 5 of us took control to save the district.)

Mike and I agreed on the same person to be the manager... Linda Arnone. Her job was stressful. It required managing all water bills, working daily with the maintenance company, the bookkeeping company, the Board's requirements as mandated by the state of Texas, working with the district's attorney, plus keeping owners and tenants of 750 homes happy. (That last task is the hardest.)

After leaving the board, Linda and I became friends. She took on more responsibility with the Annual BB-Q fund raiser. I never had a close friend, but Linda and I seemed to click, I loved her attitude, and we never discussed the business of the district.

I heard many homeowners comment about her and her knowledge of the district.

Last week Linda celebrated 30 years with the district. 30 years already?! I think she raised her kids in the office. One day I walked in and she had boxes of puppies in her office. They were too young so Linda had to feed them by bottle. There were times we laughed so much we both had to make a run to the bathroom.

I love Linda like a sister. She is so special to me and to the district. It is an honor to have her as my rare and precious friend. She is my personal sounding board; she never lies to me. She's the friend I've always prayed for, and now I'm blessed beyond measure.

Congratulations Linda !!!! 30 years with the District and 30 years for me. I thank God every day I have "someone to lean on."

Bonnie Dimicelli

(I recommend buying "The Sacred Sisterhood of Wonderful Wacky Women" by Suzy Toronto, a 103 page book of wonderful women.)

City holds rate increase hearing

The City of Houston Administration and Regulatory Affairs Department has announced that it will conduct a public meeting to consider public comments regarding the customer service and proposed rate change for retail gas customers within the corporate limits of the city of Houston as follows:

CenterPoint Energy Entex Jan. 30, at 6 p.m. at the City Hall Annex Council Chambers, City Hall Annex, Public Level, 900 Bagby, Houston.

Details information on the proposal can be found at: <http://www.houstontx.gov/citizensnet/center>

point-entex-notice.pdf.

All Motions to Intervene as a party to Houston's rate proceedings must be on file with the city secretary by Jan. 30, at 5 p.m.

For additional information, contact: Alisa Talley at 832-393-8531 or email Talley at alisa.talley@houstontx.gov.

Art gallery at San Jac South

Continued from Page 1A I am very excited to host the HMNS here at the South Campus Gallery."

The exhibition will feature artifacts, live demonstrations, videos and interactive activities aimed at highlighting the manufacturing of stone tools as a creative endeavor from ancient peoples across the globe.

Live flintknapping demonstrations will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 1 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and

Thursday, Feb. 16, from 2 to 4 p.m. Flintknapping is the process of chipping away material from high silica stones, like flint, in a carefully controlled manner with special tools to produce sharp projectile points or tools.

Lithic runs Tuesday, Jan. 17, through Friday, Feb. 17, at the San Jacinto College South Campus Gallery, room S15.143 in the Marie Spence Flickinger Fine Arts Center (building 15).

The exhibition is free and open to the public. Local independent school districts, colleges and universities are invited to bring their classes to the exhibition, and if interested, are asked to contact Jeff McGee at jeffrey.mcgee@sjcd.edu.

Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday. A closing reception will be held on Thursday, Feb. 16, from 2 to 4 p.m.

Mental peace, clarity event to be held Feb. 1

To help the community of Houston start February off with mental peace and clarity, Alejandro Chaoul is hosting a Bon-Buddhist meditation at the Rothko Chapel, scheduled for noon on Wednesday, Feb. 1.

Chaoul, who has been teaching meditation for more than 20 years, will lead guests in meditation from the ancient tradition originating in Tibet. "Alejandro Chaoul shares his experience that meditation can be a medicine for the mind and a balm for troubled thoughts and emotions." Rothko public programs and community engagement director Ashley Clemmer said. "He will

guide us in the practice of simple techniques that offer help in everyday life."

Chaoul is assistant professor and director of education at M. D. Anderson Cancer Center's Integrative Medicine program, an associate faculty member at the McGovern Center for Humanities and Ethics at University of Texas Medical School and a board member and teacher of meditation and Tibetan yoga at Ligincha Texas Institute for the Tibetan Meditative and Healing Arts.

He is also an advisor for Rothko Chapel.

The event is a continuation of Rothko Chapel's

educational meditation series, "12 Moments: Experiencing Spiritual and Faith Traditions," designed to help guests experience spiritual practices to quiet, center, expand and renew their minds.

The "12 Moments" series is co-sponsored by Ligincha Texas Institute, the Jung Center of Houston, M. D. Anderson Cancer Center and the Rothko Chapel.

To register, and for more information about the Rothko Chapel and the full calendar of upcoming programs, workshops and events, visit rothkochapel.org or call 713-524-9839.

167 nurses graduate from San Jacinto to Houston's health care

Approximately 167 San Jacinto College students became nurses this fall after receiving their associate degrees in nursing (ADN).

Many of the students plan to transfer to universities and pursue a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN), while many plan to enter the workforce at surrounding hospitals and clinics. Liza Gonzalez gained valuable experience at seven clinical sites over the course of her two years in the San Jacinto College ADN program. At one of the sites, she watched the birth of a baby and is now considering working as a nurse in obstetrics and gynecology. "At first, I was studying

to become a teacher but I really found my niche in nursing," said Gonzalez. "I plan to work as a nurse while getting my BSN online."

Spencer Minor worked as a special education teacher and case manager for eight years after earning his bachelor's degree from Stephen F. Austin State University. While he enjoyed the teaching profession, Minor said he found his calling in nursing and enrolled in the College's LVN/Paramedic to ADN Transition program. LVN is the acronym for Licensed Vocational Nursing. He is now able to work as a registered nurse for his current employer, Harris County Psychiatric

Center.

"I wanted a career change because I really wanted to work in psychiatric nursing," said Minor, who plans to pursue his BSN in the near future. "Going through the ADN program at San Jacinto College was tough; the nursing field is tough but it is all worth it."

San Jacinto College offers ADN programs at the Central and North campuses and an LVN/Paramedic to ADN Transition program at the South campus. The college also offers LVN and Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) programs.

For more information, visit sanjac.edu/career/nursing.

Local library events set

Parker Williams Library

The following events are scheduled for the Parker Williams Library, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd.:

Thursday, Jan. 19, 5 p.m. STEM Time-Chemistry. For ages 8 and older. Some simple chemical experiments that may be done at home will be demonstrated.

Friday, Jan. 20, 1:30 p.m. Interviewing Skills, Resumé and Applications

Saturday, Jan. 21, 11:30 to 1 p.m. Lunar New Year Celebration: The Year of the Rooster, for children of all ages.

Wednesday, Jan. 25, 3 to 6 p.m. The library will be hosting voting for the Texas Bluebonnet Award. If your child or teen is home-schooled or goes to a school that does not participate in voting, a ballot may be picked up from the reference desk from 3 to 6 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 25, 2:30 p.m. Files & Folder Management computer class

Wednesdays, Preschool storytime, 10:30 a.m.

Thursdays, Toddler storytime, 10:30 a.m.

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

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

Bracewell Branch Library

The following events are scheduled for the Bracewell Branch Library, 9002 Kingspoint:

Thursday, Jan. 19, 4 - 5:30 p.m. Homework Help

Thursday, Jan. 19, 6 p.m. Book Club

Saturday, Jan. 21, 10:30 a.m. Computación Básica (Spanish Computer Class)

Thursday, Jan. 21, 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. English Learning

Saturday, Jan. 21, 12:30 p.m. Lego Playtime

Tuesday, Jan. 24, 10:30 a.m. Baby storytime; 10:30 a.m. Toddler playtime

Tuesday, Jan. 24, 4 p.m. Homework Help

Wednesday, Jan. 25, 10:30 a.m. Toddler storytime; 11 a.m. Toddler playtime

Wednesday, Jan. 25, Computer courses: 2 p.m. Computer Basics; 3:15 p.m. Internet Basics; and 4:30 p.m. Basic Powerpoint

For more information on these programs, call the library at 832-393-2580. All events are free and open to the public. Bracewell hours are Sunday and Monday - Closed; Tuesday and Wednesday - 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursday - noon to 8 p.m., Friday - 1 to 5 p.m., and Saturday - 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Deaths

Patrick "Pat" Cummings



Longtime South Belt resident Patrick "Pat" Thomas Cummings, 63, died Monday, Jan. 9, 2017.

He is preceded in death by his father Jerome Cummings; step-father, Edward Weiman; and sisters Christina and Marie Cummings. Pat is survived by his mother Jane Weiman; brothers Jim Cummings and wife Janet, David Weiman and wife Sarah; sisters Kathy Shatto and husband Alf, Mary Bourgeois and husband Gary, Yvonne Kelley and husband Greg; and a host of other family and friends.

Pat graduated from J. Frank Dobie High School before attending the College of the Main Land and Lee College to become certified in pipe fitting I, II, III and blue print reading. His career consisted of pipe fabricator and pipe fitter for various chemical plants in the Pasadena area from General Petro Chem and Kellogg Brown & Root. Pat enjoyed surfing, snow skiing, and playing baseball. He loved the great outdoors because he loved hunting deer, ducks and dove as well as salt and fresh water fishing. Pat's goldfish aquarium gave him such peace and tranquility during his illness. He also enjoyed watching football and reading the entire daily newspaper.

Pat was most proud of his family and family heritage. He loved hearing stories from the other family members. Recently, Pat moved in with his parents to help with their care, a responsibility he accepted and proudly continued. Pat will be greatly missed by all that knew and loved him.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, Jan. 21, 2017, at 11 a.m. at Fairmont Park Church, 10401 Belfast Rd., in La Porte. Online condolences may be left for the family at www.claytonfuneralhomes.com.

Mary S. Nitschke



Mary S. Nitschke, 90, of Houston, died Jan. 8, 2017. She was born in Houston on Jan. 1, 1927, to Anthony and Frances Serio. She was married to Harold Nitschke for 48 years. She spent her days as a homemaker since taking care of her family was very important to her.

Mary adored animals, especially cats. She took in any and all strays that crossed her path, ensuring they had a warm place to sleep, a good meal and lots of love. She was proud of being a Texan and of Italian descent. Although Mary was of tiny stature she had a huge personality. She was much loved and will be missed.

Mary is preceded in death by sons Jack Bobbitt

and Mike Ryan; and grandson Andrew Miesch. She outlived all of her siblings and was the last surviving member of her immediate family.

She is survived by her husband; daughter Mary Frances Wheat; grandchildren Mike Ryan, Tammy Bobbitt, Kaitlin Miesch, MacKenzie Miesch, Robert Ryan and Michelle Ryan; and great-grandchildren.

Services were held on Friday, Jan. 13, 2017, at Forest Park East Funeral Home, 21620 Gulf Freeway in Webster.

Leader obituary policy

Obituaries submitted to the Leader are published free of charge. There must be a South Belt connection. Obituaries are edited to conform to the Leader style.

Beltway closures set

At least one inside lane on the eastbound and westbound Beltway 8 frontage roads from Beamer to South Wayside will be closed daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Tuesday, Jan. 31.

The eastbound U-turn lane on the Beltway 8 frontage road at Beamer will be closed nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Tuesday, Jan. 31.

At least one inside lane on the eastbound and westbound Beltway 8 frontage roads at Pearland Parkway will be closed daily (excluding Sundays) from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Friday, Feb. 24.

The closures are associated with the ongoing project to widen Beltway 8 from Beamer to Highway 288 from two to four lanes in each direction.

Bridge classes to begin again

Classes at the Clear Lake Bridge Club, 16614 Sea Lark, will begin in late January. Dave Glandorf, resident teacher, will have the schedule the first of the year. He is planning a new series of advanced classes, and will have two beginner classes.

The club offers bridge games daily. On Monday, Wednesday and Friday there are open games beginning at 10 a.m.

On Tuesday and Thursday there are classes for players with less than 299 ACBL points beginning each day at 10 a.m.

On Monday and Wednesday afternoon at 2 p.m., Mack Meigs and

Charles Hilding will be directing games for beginners.

There is an open game on Saturday at 1 p.m. The lab games are Sunday and Tuesday at 2 p.m. In these games teachers are available to help the players.

LSA hosts open house

Lutheran South Academy will host an open house for prospective families on Sunday, Jan. 29 from 2 to 4 p.m.

Lutheran South is a PreK-12, fully accredited, college preparatory Christian school, with certified Christian educators who prepare students for higher education and life to become the Christian leaders of tomorrow.

During the open house, parents will take a tour

of the facilities, meet the faculty and have the opportunity to see first hand what Lutheran South is all about.

Lutheran South is located at 12555 Ryewater Drive, near I-45 and Dixie Farm Road.

For more information about the open house and LSA, contact Lee Ann Kerr, director of admissions, at 281-617-5619 or at leeann.kerr@lutheransouth.org.

South Belt-Ellington Leader

The Voice of Community-Minded People

11555 Beamer 281-481-5656

E-mail: mynews@southbeltleader.com

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Burnett Elementary names top spellers



The winners from each class participating in the Burnett Elementary schoolwide spelling bee are, left to right, (first row) Eric Snell (literacy coach), Angel Valerio, Ashley Cantarero, Jayden Guerra, Riley Martinez, Jae Lee (principal), (second row) Ashunti Smith, Marquise Williams, Aniya Brannon, Jeffrey Ordenez, (third row) Kennedy Cavazos, Damaris Ortiz and (top row) Luis Salazar.

Photos by Kim Edwards

Burnett spelling champ, runner-up set



Winners of the spelling bee competition at Burnett Elementary are shown with literacy coach Eric Snell (far left) and school principal (far right) Jae Lee. Ashley Cantarero runner-up (second from left) and Jayden Guerra, champion, hold their trophies.

County taxes could be postponed

Texas who are age 65 or older or who are disabled as defined by law may postpone paying current and delinquent property taxes on their homes by signing a tax deferral affidavit at the Harris County Appraisal District office.

Once the affidavit is on file, taxes are deferred – but not canceled – as long as the owner continues to qualify for the exemption. Taxes accumulate with 8 percent interest per year. The law extends the tax deferral to the surviving spouse of the person who deferred taxes on the homestead if the surviving spouse was at least 55 years old when the deceased spouse died.

“Homeowners who are 65 or older or disabled also should be sure they have applied for and received the appropriate homestead exemptions. These exemptions will reduce tax burdens, and the tax savings from homestead exemp-

tions are theirs to keep,” said Chief Appraiser Roland Altinger.

A filed tax deferral affidavit keeps homeowners from losing their homesteads because of delinquent property taxes.

A pending sale to foreclose on the homestead’s tax lien will also cease as a result of filing a tax deferral affidavit.

In addition, no taxing unit can start or continue a lawsuit to collect delinquent taxes once an affidavit is filed. There are no penalties on delinquent taxes during the deferral period; however, a tax deferral does not cancel penalties that were already due.

“Homeowners with a mortgage on their home should first check with their mortgage company to make certain the deferral does not violate the terms of the deed of trust securing the mortgage on the property. Most deeds of trust require that taxes be

paid currently,” Altinger said.

All deferred taxes and interest become due when the homeowner or surviving spouse no longer qualifies for the exemption. If the tax debt remains unpaid at that time, penalties may be imposed and taxing units may take legal action to collect the past due amount.

For more details about property tax deferral, contact the Harris County Appraisal District’s information center at 713.957.7800 or visit the district’s offices at 13013 Northwest Freeway in Houston. Information can also be found online at www.hcad.org under “Resources > General Information > Frequently Asked Questions – Tax Deferrals.” Information is also available on the Comptroller’s Property Tax Assistance Division’s website at www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/prop tax/.

PISD gears up for 1st academy

Pasadena ISD is gearing up for its first-ever Community “U” Academy – a three-part educational program that will offer parents and community stakeholders an inside look at the school district.

The workshop series will raise awareness about various topics that impact students, campuses and the school district. These include curriculum and instruction, state account-

ability testing, fine arts and athletics, Early College High School, personalized learning, security and safety, and career and technical education.

The goal of Community “U” is to increase knowledge about Pasadena ISD, while building a collaborative relationship with the school district.

The academy will conclude with a graduation dinner, where participants

will receive a certificate of completion.

The academy will meet Jan. 25 from 9-11:30 a.m. at the Lewis Career and Technical High School; March 21 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Lomax Middle School and May 16 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Athletic Hall of Fame. To be a participant in the first Pasadena ISD Community “U” participant, visit the webpage and apply today.

CCISD issues third accountability report

The Clear Creek Independent School District has published its third annual community-based accountability report which is centered on regionally identified local taxpayers identified as important to them. This criteria includes the quality of the teaching staff, student to teacher classroom ratios, course offerings and course advancement, results on college entrance exams and rate of student discipline and the conditions of school buildings.

“This report highlights our strengths such as boasting one of the highest graduation rates in the State of Texas, SAT and ACT scores that surpass world-wide averages, and important bond program improvements that have made our schools safer for students,” said Greg Smith, superintendent of schools. “The report also highlights areas where we need to improve upon such as advanced placement course enrollment, classroom overcrowding,

school-to-home communications, and the number of discipline referrals.”

The timing of this third-annual report comes on the heels of the state’s so-called “What if” A-F ratings of schools based on data from 2015-16. The state’s ratings are based majorly, upwards of 55% of a school’s total grade, on results of the embattled State of Texas Assessment of Academic Readiness (STAAR). Based on a random sample phone survey by Baslice & Associates in 2014 and 2016, state standardized test results rank last in importance to the CCISD community.

“We are not surprised by this since our schools and schools have exceeded the state’s academic expectations, and have, for many years,” said Smith. “Our community expects more from us. This report gives an in depth and honest look at how we perform every day, not just one day in the spring.”

AARP Webster area meets on Jan. 20

AARP Webster Area Chapter 199 will meet at 10 a.m. Friday, Jan. 20, at Bay Area Community Center, 5002 E. NASA Parkway in Seabrook (the large building with a blue roof inside Clear Lake Park on the north side of NASA Parkway). Everyone is invited to come to the meeting, and to enjoy coffee, cookies and fellowship at 9:30 a.m. before the meeting starts at 10 a.m. Each month, the group has entertainment or a speaker on various topics of interest to seniors. Every two months the group has a potluck lunch.

On Friday, Jan. 20, Al Bennett, Houston Fire Department Community Liaison in Public Affairs, will speak on fire safety in homes. The Jan. 20 meeting is a

potluck lunch. Members and visitors are asked to bring a dish to share.

The group also organizes day trips by bus to local area points of interest at minimal cost. The next day trip will be on Wednesday, Jan. 25, to the Dickinson National Weather Service office. Lunch during the day trip will be at Willie’s Grill and Icehouse. Following lunch, the group will visit the Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum.

For those interested in joining the group, annual dues are \$6 per year/per person. However, one must be a member of national AARP to join any local chapter.

For more information, contact Quin Shepperd at 281-486-7770 or Qeshepperd@yahoo.com.

Pasadena ISD students chosen for all-state musical ensemble

Eight Pasadena ISD students earned top spots with the prestigious Texas All-State Musical Ensemble over the weekend, one of the highest honors musicians can achieve at the high school level.

“We are proud of these students for their hard work and effort to make it to this level of achievement,” said Linda Fletcher, Pasadena ISD director of fine arts. Only 1,700 students were selected out of 64,000 statewide, who vied for a position in one of 15 ensembles, including band, orchestra and choir. The students will represent Pasadena ISD as they perform with the Texas All-State Band and Choir in San Antonio Feb. 8 to 11 as part of the 2016 Texas Music Educators Association Clinic/Convention.

The 2016-17 All-State students are: Sean Saperstein, Dobie High School Choir, Tenor 1; Terry Williams Jr., Memorial High School Band, Cornet/Trumpet; Nadjalie Santos, Rayburn High School Choir, Alto 2; David Gonzales, Rayburn High School Choir, Tenor 2; Jorge Alcocer Rubio, Rayburn High School Band, Cornet/Trumpet; Charles Dyall, Rayburn High School Band, Cornet/Trumpet; Mariah Martinez, South Houston High School Choir, Soprano 2; and Matthew Linares, South Houston High School Choir, Tenor 2.

Genealogical group meets

Bay Area Genealogical Society hosts Nick Cimino, professional genealogist, on Friday, Jan. 27, who will speak on the Genealogical Proof Standard. Ways to properly prove and document genealogical findings will be discussed.

There is a meet-and-greet at 6:30 p.m. and the program starts at 7 p.m. in the Chapel at University Baptist Church, 16106 Middlebrook Drive, Houston. For more information, visit www.TxBayAreaGen.org or call Kim Zrubek at 281-992-2636.



Thompson spelling bee winners named

The George A. Thompson winners for the spelling bee competition were two eighth graders, runner-up Celeste Ortiz and winner Clayton Goforth. They are shown here with Thompson principal, Dr. Melissa Allen Goforth. Goforth will advance to compete in the district spelling bee which will be on Feb. 28.

Photo by Kimberly McCalla

Pasadena Little Theatre begins 62nd season



Sybil (Nikki Vanderhoofven), Weetsie (Karen Rush), Tood (Alyssa Luchsinger) and Kate (Barbara Winburn) are featured in Pasadena Little Theatre’s presentation of *The Cover of Life*.

Photo submitted

PLT presents *The Cover of Life*

Pasadena Little Theatre, Houston’s oldest community theatre in continuous operation, continues its 62nd season, *The Something to Talk About* season, with *The Cover of Life* by RT Robinson.

Tood, Weetsie, and Sybil are brides in rural Louisiana in 1943. Each married a Cliffter brother. The men are off to war and a local news story about these young wives keeping the

home fires burning intrigues Henry Luce. He decides that they belong on the cover of Life Magazine and assigns Kate Miller to the story. She has been covering the war in Europe and, though she views doing a “women’s piece” as a career set back, she accepts because it will be her first cover story. Kate spends a week with the Cliffter women and her haughty urban attitude gives way to sympathy as she begins

to understand them while coming face to face with her own powerlessness in a man’s world. Filled with charm and fun, *The Cover of Life* is a deeply affecting story about the struggle for self-worth.

PLT’s presentation of *The Cover of Life* features well-known actor and director Gregory R. Brown, along with an outstanding cast. This production opens on Jan. 27 and continues

weekends through Feb. 12. Friday and Saturday show times are 8 p.m. and Sunday matinees are at 3 p.m. Ticket prices are \$15 for adults and \$12 for students and seniors. There is one Thursday show on Feb. 9 which is the 2-for-\$20 show.

To purchase tickets, make reservations or for more information call the box office at 713-941-1758, or visit www.pasadenalittletheatre.org.

Caldwell named SJC Chief of Police

Bruce Caldwell has been named chief of police at San Jacinto College, bringing with him more than 30 years of law enforcement and public safety experience.

Caldwell, who has served as the interim chief of police at San Jacinto College since December 2015, will oversee a San Jacinto College police force of 44 full-time officers that monitor all four San Jacinto College campuses, 10 extension centers and the college administration office. He will also oversee the college’s emergency management department and provide leadership for campus safety, crime prevention, parking and traffic control. Caldwell is the ninth police chief in the history of the department.

“I am honored to be appointed as the chief of the San Jacinto College police department,” said Caldwell, who officially assumed the role on Jan. 1, 2017. “I am excited to continue working with the college administration and the command staff of the police department to provide quality police services to the San Jacinto College community.”

Caldwell has been with the San Jacinto College police department since April 2013, when he began as a police lieutenant. In that role he managed investigations, assisted with crime prevention and training programs, and oversaw the dispatch staff and other per-

sonnel. He was also responsible for data collection and analysis, policy revision, budget management and planning, and handled citizen complaints.

“Chief Caldwell has demonstrated quality leadership abilities over the last year,” said Chet Lewis, vice chancellor for fiscal affairs. “I know that he will be successful moving forward in his role as chief of police for our college.”

Prior to joining the San Jacinto College police force, Caldwell served 25 years with the Sugar Land Police Department. He began with that department in 1988 as a police officer and worked his way up to police lieutenant. His duties throughout his time with the Sugar Land PD ranged from patrol officer and evidence handling and submission, to police detective and sergeant managing officer schedules and conducting in-depth criminal investigations before moving into the lieutenant role. During his time with the Sugar Land PD Caldwell was named a distinguished employee.

Caldwell’s experience also includes work as a deputy constable with the Harris County Precinct 5 Constable’s office, Houston Community College and Houston Independent School District. He holds numerous Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education (TCLEOSE), now Texas Commission on Law

Enforcement (TCOLE) certifications, including Master Peace Officer, Crime Prevention Inspector and Instructor.

Caldwell’s education includes Basic Peace Officer Certification from the University of Houston – Downtown; Leadership Command College graduate from Sam Houston State University; FBI National Academy Session #242

graduate from the FBI National Academy; and Police Executive Development from Pennsylvania State University.

The San Jacinto College police department serves students, faculty, staff and guests seven days a week, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. For more information about the San Jacinto College police department, visit sanjac.edu/police.



Bruce Caldwell assumed the role of Chief of Police at San Jacinto College effective Jan. 1, 2017.

Photo credit: Jeannie Peng Mansyur, San Jacinto College

Avoiding scams . . .

Continued from Page 1A
 could be calling from anywhere in the world.
 • If you want to reduce the number of telemarketing calls you receive, place your telephone number on the National Do Not Call Registry. To register online, visit donotcall.gov. To register by phone, call 1-888-382-1222 (TTY: 1-866-290-4236) from the phone number you wish to register.
 • File a complaint with the FTC. If you think you

may have been a victim of a government grant scam, file a complaint with the FTC online, or call toll-free, 1-877-FTC-HELP (1-877-382-4357); TTY: 1-866-653-4261. The FTC enters Internet, telemarketing, identity theft, and other fraud-related complaints into Consumer Sentinel, a secure online database available to hundreds of civil and criminal law enforcement agencies in the U.S. and abroad.

San Jacinto registration still available for classes

Registration is underway for the spring 2017 semester at San Jacinto College. Weekend College courses begin Friday, Feb. 3. Registration remains open for the spring 2017 semester after the payment deadline, but all financial obligations incurred after the payment deadline not covered by financial aid, installment payment plan, third party agreement, or scholarship must be paid on the day of registration. Students may register and pay in full up to the start of class.

“Our educational planners and financial aid advisors are here to help new and current students navigate the enrollment and registration process,” said Joanna Zimmermann, associate vice chancellor, student services. “We understand that not everyone who comes to San Jacinto College knows the educational pathway they want to follow. Our staff is knowledgeable and has the resources available to help students find their passion.”

Students are encouraged to apply for financial aid. Students should begin by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. There is no fee to apply, and assistance is available by contacting a San Jac financial aid

representative. Financial aid information is online at sanjac.edu/financial-aid. The San Jacinto College FAFSA Code is 003609.

San Jac can assist in choosing a career path; selecting an area of study; and application, enrollment and registration processes. Educational planners are on all campuses to help students select courses that will easily transfer to a four-year college or university, or get them the skills they need to enter the workforce.

Students who are looking for an alternative to attending classes during the workweek should consider Weekend College or online courses. These courses provide another option for students who work during the week or cannot take classes in the traditional Monday through Friday format. Students who take weekend classes via the Weekend College program can complete an associate of arts degree and transfer to the university of their choice within two years. Online classes are available for some basic courses, offering full credit and transferability. For more information, visit the San Jac online learning website. To apply to San Jac, visit sanjac.edu/apply.



Over The Back Fence by Alexis

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO MARY
 Best wishes to **Mary Clark** as she celebrates her birthday Jan. 20. Greetings are sent to Mary from her husband **Chris**, other family members and her friends at the *Leader*.
MIKE ENJOYS A BIRTHDAY
Mike Williams celebrates his birthday Friday, Jan. 20. Best wishes are sent for a special day from his co-workers at Central Ace Hardware, family and friends at the *Leader*.
BIRTHDAY WISHES FOR REBECCA
 Happy birthday wishes are sent to Dobie graduate and San Jacinto College faculty member, **Rebecca (Heeth) Irvine** on Monday, Jan. 23 from her husband, **Steve**, and her parents, **Richard and Nancy Heeth** of Kirkwood.

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO CLAUDIA
Claudia Cubos celebrates a birthday Jan. 23. Warm birthday wishes are sent to Claudia from her family, friends and former co-workers at the *Leader*.
STUDENTS NAMED ON DEAN'S LIST
 Congratulations to the Baylor University students who were named to the Dean's Academic Honor Roll for the 2016 fall semester, having a minimum grade-point average of 3.7 while enrolled in a minimum of 12 semester hours. The South Belt students being honored are: Oscar Daniel Cruz (School of Music), Jennifer L. Le, (College of Arts and Sciences), Damian Moncada (Hankamer School of Business), Ehinomen Allison Ojeaga (Louise Herrington School of Nursing) and Alexis Dominique Uribe (College of Arts and Sciences).

SCHOOL DAZE
 The following personnel and staff members

of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays Jan. 19 through Jan. 25.
Atkinson Elementary
 Sing a happy birthday song to **Katy Glass** Jan. 20.
Burnett Elementary
 On Jan. 23, **Janice Merritt** celebrates a birthday.
Bush Elementary
 Jan. 23 is the day for a birthday party for **Maria Garza**.
Frazier Elementary
Rhonda Meredith enjoys a birthday Jan. 22.

Meador Elementary
 The day for a celebration for **Maria Hernandez** is Jan. 21. Special birthday wishes are sent to **Jocelyn Woodard** Jan. 22. **Ashley Boehme** enjoys a birthday Jan. 25.
Moore Elementary
 On Jan. 19, **Sandra Rodriguez** enjoys a birthday.
South Belt Elementary
Linh Moore enjoys a birthday Jan. 19. Send a birthday greeting Jan. 21 to **Deborah Edwin**.
Stuchbery Elementary
 Sing a happy birthday song to **Michelle Bonner** Jan. 20. Join in the birthday fun Jan. 21 with **Juana Valdez**.
Roberts Middle School
 Sing a happy birthday song Jan. 22 to **Julie Lanham**.
Beverly Hills Intermediate
 Send a happy birthday card Jan. 22 to **Amber Estrada**. Jan. 24 is the day for a celebration for **Chelsea Hughes Martinez**.

Thompson Intermediate
 Sing a chorus of a happy birthday song Jan. 23 for **Sharon Curry**.
Dobie High
 On Jan. 19, a double birthday is celebrated by **Cathy Meek** and **LaNora McNeil**. Special birthday wishes are sent to **Nereida Villafana** Jan. 20.
FACEBOOK FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS
 The *Leader* sends happy birthday wishes to its Facebook friends who celebrate a birthday this week:
 Thursday, Jan. 19: **Janet Thompson, Lisa Gates, Grace Lazo, Stephanie Puyear, Brenda Mahoney and Lori Watts**; and Friday, Jan. 20: **Jeremiah Orsak, Temika Bolar, Stephanie Johnson, Mary Belz, Mark Roden and Mary Clark**; Saturday, Jan. 21: **Traci Fort, Rudy Trevino, Susan Bernabe, Kim Saucedo, Karen Harlan, Connie Birmingham and Lisa Allen-Bragg**; Sunday, Jan. 22: **Amber Estrada, Rhonda Meredith, Karen Hatten, Shad Taylor and Mitchal Nordstrom**; Monday, Jan. 23: **Becky Forsyth, Audi Resendez, Rodney Thiel, Wendy Gray and Bill A. Stevens**; Tuesday, Jan. 24: **Renee Lister and Lee Balinas**; and Wednesday, Jan. 25: **Berri Walker, Kristy Guzman and Xuan Loan**.

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

Frazier second 9-week honor roll announced

Frazier Elementary has announced the second nine weeks perfect attendance and honor rolls for Frazier.

Kindergarten
Perfect Attendance
 Jude Ariza, Emily Armenta, Alexandra Betancourt, Benjamin Carter, Matthew Cenobio, Olivia Gaitan-Williams, Kaisen Mericle, Kallie Mericle and Alessandra Paz.
 Romeo Plancarte, Annalisa Potter, Alexis Ramos, Delilah Sample, Gavin Salter, April Sample, Zion Taylor, Blake Turmpseed and Jocelyn Urrutia.

First Grade
Perfect Attendance
 Yosselin Banegas, Jasmine Brown, Emily Campos, Isreal Cantu, Elias Cardenas, Sophia Cardenas, Tayla Carter-Curl, Naomi Castellanos and Annalise Chavez.
 Amber Corpeno, David Corral, Earon Garivey, Oscar Guzman, Jaelyn Henry, Deliyah Horton, Jadyan Jaso, Collin Lyons, Joseph Marre-ro, Jordan Mata, Hazel Nino, Bryan Ojeda, Taylor Palacios, Damian Paz and Derek Pena.
 Kassidy Piatti, Cameron

Second Grade
Perfect Attendance
 Aiden Aguilar, Jermaine Bartley, Aaron Baulch, Lali Bowman, Cristian Carter, Javier Chavez, Uriah Coronado, Dylan Corpeno, Alina Farooq, Hunter Ford, Isaiiah Garcia and Gabriella Garza.
 Alexander Griffin, Mia Hernandez, Jose Hinojoza, Jeremy Jaso, Julian Jimenez, Amaira Johnson, Talan Le, Kayla Lind, Alayna Mariscal, Monserrat Marquez and Rodrigo Martinez.
 Elena Nassar, Mia Payne, Geovanny Perez, Zoe Perez, Penelope Rodriguez, Alfredo Tamez, Kendra Tamez, Andrew Urrutia and Hayden Walker.

Third Grade
Perfect Attendance
 Anderson Aguilar, Olivia Aguirre, Alijah Alba, Aaron Almaguer, Alexa Arredondo, Adam Baker, Samuel Berrospez, Christopher Berrum, Diego Betancourt, Keily Bo-

Ramos, Armando Reyes, Haley Rodriguez, Marcus Rodriguez, Noah Rodriguez, Gariella Soza, Nkiruka Uzomah, Daila Valdez and Ezekiel West.

Fourth Grade
Perfect Attendance
 Adam Aguilar, Ariana Alaniz, Grace Arriola, Jose Avila, Julian Ayala, Lorenzo Betancourt, Loriana Betancourt, Kaylie Bui, Viviana Cantu and Johann Castellanos.
 Andre Espinosa, Bridgett

nilla and Mikayla Castillo.
 Adrian Corral, Oliver Fabian, Marvin Gonzalez, Donovan Harper, Jordan Hernandez, Landon Kenney, Alexis Lazcano, Nayelly Marquez, Kevin Martinez, Nayla Martinez and Addison Mcafee.
 Aubrey Mcafee, Kiara Merckson, James Moe, Krystal Molina, Steven Morillo, Diego Paz, Octavio Paz, Angelina Pizano, Delylah Ramirez and Amy Rangel.
 Asia'h Richard, Francisco Serrano, Raymundo Solis, Diego Trejo, Addison Vela and Brianna Yanez.

Honor Roll
 Anderson Aguilar, Roxann Franco, Julietta Garcia and Olivia Wheeler.
Merit Roll
 Nicholas Kemp, Ava Richardson and Addison Vela.
Fourth Grade
Perfect Attendance
 Adam Aguilar, Ariana Alaniz, Grace Arriola, Jose Avila, Julian Ayala, Lorenzo Betancourt, Loriana Betancourt, Kaylie Bui, Viviana Cantu and Johann Castellanos.
 Andre Espinosa, Bridgett

Flores, Lindzey Flores, Julianne Garcia, Ethan Garivey, Max Garza, Stacie Harris, Dhailen Hopes, Myranda Kelley, Tiana Le, Linus Maciukiewicz, Alexandria Martinez and Rubi Martinez.
 Yarezi Martinez, Laura Mata, Ariel Merckson, Joseph Meza, Jenny Nguyen, Luis Ojeda, Avery Owens, Andrew Pavalonis, Juliana Perez, Andre Reyes, Yazmine

Salas and Heidi Sanchez.
 Mauricio Serma, Nicholas Soza, Nina Walker and David Williams.
Honor Roll
 Kaylie Bui, Juliana Perez and Nicholas Soza.
Merit Roll
 Grace Arriola, Chance Bess, Loriana Betancourt, Jonathan Carter, Andre Espinosa, Karyme Leal and Heidi Sanchez.

Clear Creek will host job interview event
 The Clear Creek Independent School District will host an open interview night for auxiliary positions at the CCISD Challenger Columbia Stadium Field House from 5 - 7 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 26, 2017.
 The field house, which is located at 1955 W. NASA Blvd., Webster, is on the south end of the stadium, and interviews will be held on the second floor of the building.
 Open transportation, maintenance and child nutrition

positions include bus drivers, bus aides, mechanics, child nutrition workers, kitchen equipment repairman, custodians, plumber assistant, energy management tech assistant and fire alarm technicians.
 Laptops will be provided to fill out applications online. Interested applicants may also bring a resume with them.
 Visit www.clearcreekisd.tedk12.com/hire to see the full list of job openings. For questions, call 281-284-0150.

Williams pitched one year at UCLA before pitching three more seasons at the University of Texas from 1997 to 1999. Williams won a second gold medal with the U.S. Olympic team in 2000. She then pitched for several years in the professional softball ranks.
1 year ago (2016)
 Dobie High School announced its fourth class of Hall of Honor inductees. Inductees included banker Robert E. Marling Jr. (Dobie Class of 1974), research scientist Dr. Mark Yandell (Class of 1983), the Rev. Sean Horriagan (Class of 1984), and Harris County Constable Phil Sandlin (Class of 1987) will be honored at an induction ceremony next month at the high school. The late Carole Stockinger, a longtime English teacher at Dobie, was also inducted.

changes in the representation of the South Belt area. Longtime Reps. Garnet Coleman and Al Edwards, both Democrats, were left with little or no political interest in the area, while Republican Robert Talton, a Pasadena representative, gained much of the South Belt area.
 Paul Kieft was shot by two young white males. They came from behind his vehicle and demanded money, and when he refused, they shot him.
 Gene Paul Robertson, 29, a South Belt resident, was sentenced to 10 years of deferred adjudication and 45 days in jail after pleading guilty to manslaughter. Robertson was on trial for the murder of Anthony Chapin.
10 years ago (2007)
 Two Harris County deputy sheriffs, Tommy Wilks and Bilsen Espinoza, wrote at least 737 traffic tickets in just four months. The majority of the tickets came from the intersection of Dixie Farm Road and Beamer, where road construction was underway.
 David and Marie Flickinger (publisher of the South Belt-Ellington Leader) celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary on Jan. 20.
 The family of former Dobie student Dianne Hegar Helms set up a fund to help cover medical costs after a New Year's Eve automobile accident left her in a coma.
 Longtime South Belt resident and former Dobie teacher Gloria Shifflet was spared injury after her car flipped and snapped an electrical pole.
5 years ago (2012)
 Harris County Precinct 2 Constable deputies busted a suspected marijuana growing operation in the 10300 block of Sageberry. Deputies responded to a call at roughly 8 p.m. after a neighbor called to report suspicious behavior at a

residence that involved a U-Haul truck. Three men were at the residence when the deputies arrived. One of the men, Fernando Hernandez, reportedly consented to a search of his home, where deputies found large amounts of marijuana. In all, 12 pounds of marijuana was confiscated. Precinct 2 Sgt. Zerick Guinn said there were multiple signs that the house was used to grow the marijuana.
 Dobie graduates Trevor Cobb and Christa Williams were named part of the inaugural class of 12 inductees for the new Pasadena Independent School District Athletics Hall of Fame. Cobb, Class of 1989, played nearly every sport offered at Dobie, but his performances as an elusive running back for the Longhorns quickly earned him a statewide reputation. Following high school, he signed with the Rice Owls and earned four letters. Cobb signed as a free agent with the Kansas City Chiefs and made the Chicago Bears' roster in 1994. He returned to Houston to form Helping Hands, a charitable organization that assists children with special needs. He was selected for the Rice Athletics Hall of Fame in 1998.
 As for Williams, she arrived at Dobie for the 1992-1993 school year and instantly made an impact. That year, the University Interscholastic League, the official governing body of extracurricular activities in public schools, had given the go-ahead for the sport of softball to be played. In the early summer of 1993, Williams pitched Dobie to the state championship, then did so again in 1995. Opting to try out for the U.S. Olympic team, a successful endeavor, Williams did not pitch for Dobie in 1996. Instead, Williams won the first of two Olympic gold medals. At the time, she was the lone high school player on the Olympic team. Collegately,

Williams pitched one year at UCLA before pitching three more seasons at the University of Texas from 1997 to 1999. Williams won a second gold medal with the U.S. Olympic team in 2000. She then pitched for several years in the professional softball ranks.
1 year ago (2016)
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Atkinson Principal Week Awards announced

Principal Week Award
 This award is given to one or two students per class at Atkinson Elementary that have shown improvement in either academics or behavior over the nine weeks.
Kindergarten
 Antonio Sanchez, Rebecca Covarrubias, Jannette Campos, Cody Guzman, Joseph Moore, Aliyah Arispe, Beija Orellana, Christian Jimene, Kimberly Hernandez and Arturo Serrano.
1st Grade
 Joshua Montes, Gabriel Garcia, Sophia Hewitt, Kyle Contreras, Destiny Sidiropoulos, Miley Aguirre, Jordan Ortega, Jesus Carrillo, Trinity Franks, Sophia Gonzalez, Lilian Tercero, Genesis Jimenez and Karla Fernandez.
2nd Grade
 London Spell, Precious

Armenta, Mohamed Abdelaal, Isabella Cardenas, Ruben Flores, Alissa Nguyen, Cesar Garcia, Bree Renert, Jorge Martinez, Clayton McElhaney, Sadie Dias, Sandy Armenta and Ismael Rodriguez.
3rd Grade
 Madison Pham, Noah Sanchez, Max Estrada, Shelby Gentry, Victoria Gomez, Miranda Medel, Esbeydi Fonseca, Dayana Serrano, Linh Luu and George Nguyen.
4th Grade
 Loi Tran, Amy Trevino, Valerie Pesquera, Santino Perez-Bautista, Jalemy Rivera, Anthony Garza, Diego Nunez, Ruth Monge and Ryleigh Rodriguez.
 Allen Nguyen, Stephanie Mosqueda, Genesis Garcia, Eliazar Campos and Angel Armenta.

CCISD students earn top Texas music honor

Twenty-five Clear Creek ISD students, across all five comprehensive high schools, were selected as 2017 Texas All-State members through the Texas Music Educators Association.

This is the highest honor a Texas music student can receive and earns these students a spot to perform in one of 15 ensembles throughout the band, vocal and orchestra divisions.

The process began with nearly 70,000 students across Texas auditioning for one of these coveted positions, with only 1,778 students being selected in the end. The all-state students will now practice together over three days of rehearsals, directed by nationally recognized conductors. They will then perform before thousands during the annual TMEA Clinic/Convention in San Antonio on Feb. 11.

The following students are to be congratulated: Caleb Drew, Clear Brook High School; Akhil Majmudar, Clear Brook High School; Carl Saad, Clear Brook High School; Vincent Thibodeaux, Clear Brook High School; Alyssa Estrella, Clear Brook High School; Kyle DuPont, Clear Falls High School; Christopher Layden, Clear Falls High School; Shane Stewart, Clear Falls High School; Samuel James, Clear Falls High School; Derek Marcum, Clear Falls High School; Hannah Killingsworth, Clear Falls High School; Samuel Enriquez, Clear Lake High School; Patrick Soisson, Clear Lake High School; Kevin Chan, Clear Lake High School; Kasun Raigama, Clear Lake High School; Yan Hao Wang, Clear Lake High School; Rahul Yesantherao, Clear Lake High School; Hannah Chuang, Clear Lake High School; Lydia Marshall, Clear Lake High School; Jhanvi Patel, Clear Creek High School; Sophia Sledge, Clear Creek High School; Katriel Velasco, Clear Creek High School; Travis Faulkner, Clear Creek High School; Zachary Hoover, Clear Creek High School; and Gilberto Torres Jr., Clear Springs High School.

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Remember When

40 years ago (1977)
 A pavilion building approved by the Civic Association Board of Seardsdale and a citizens advisory committee, to be built on the park site, was approved for construction at a cost of \$14,000.
 Harvey Turner was elected as president of the board of trustees for Pasadena Independent School District. Dorothy Wells was named principal for the new Teague Elementary School.
35 years ago (1982)
 Houston arson investigators determined that a fire which destroyed a home in the 10400 block of Sagewick was deliberately set.
 Robert E. Taylor was shot on Choate Road while clinging to his car af-

ter it was stolen from the Sagemont Shell station.
 Two PISD incumbent trustees were handily returned to office in a low voter turnout election.
30 years ago (1987)
 Laura Hayes, 15, a Dobie freshman, suffered from a fractured pelvis from a hit and run accident.
 Lamont Roberts turned himself in after killing his father, Benny Roberts. According to police Lamont had intervened in a quarrel between his parents resulting in a "physical confrontation." The son went upstairs, obtained a shotgun and returned to the kitchen where he shot his father in the upward portion of the body.
25 years ago (1992)
 Demolition of three structures at the Park on Fuqua began to make room for Sam's Wholesale Club on the site.
 Students in the Clear Creek Independent School District scored above the state averages on every portion of the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills test at every grade.
 Linda Wayland, daughter of South Belt Justice of the Peace Howard Wayland, was preparing for a trip to Tashkent, Uzbekistan, the fourth largest city in the former Soviet Union, to teach English.
20 years ago (1997)
 Dobie's Academic Decathlon won the regional championship with 45,938 out of a possible 60,000 points.
 Linda Kryslar, who resided at her sister's Sage-meadow home, was awakened at 3 a.m. by a barking poodle named Teddy who jumped on her. At first she knocked him away, but then she heard breaking glass. She leaped from the bed to find a fully engaged fire engulfing their house. Kryslar woke her sister, and the two fled from the burning house.
15 years ago (2002)
 Redistricting in the state Legislature led to many

changes in the representation of the South Belt area. Longtime Reps. Garnet Coleman and Al Edwards, both Democrats, were left with little or no political interest in the area, while Republican Robert Talton, a Pasadena representative, gained much of the South Belt area.
 Paul Kieft was shot by two young white males. They came from behind his vehicle and demanded money, and when he refused, they shot him.
 Gene Paul Robertson, 29, a South Belt resident, was sentenced to 10 years of deferred adjudication and 45 days in jail after pleading guilty to manslaughter. Robertson was on trial for the murder of Anthony Chapin.
10 years ago (2007)
 Two Harris County deputy sheriffs, Tommy Wilks and Bilsen Espinoza, wrote at least 737 traffic tickets in just four months. The majority of the tickets came from the intersection of Dixie Farm Road and Beamer, where road construction was underway.
 David and Marie Flickinger (publisher of the South Belt-Ellington Leader) celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary on Jan. 20.
 The family of former Dobie student Dianne Hegar Helms set up a fund to help cover medical costs after a New Year's Eve automobile accident left her in a coma.
 Longtime South Belt resident and former Dobie teacher Gloria Shifflet was spared injury after her car flipped and snapped an electrical pole.
5 years ago (2012)
 Harris County Precinct 2 Constable deputies busted a suspected marijuana growing operation in the 10300 block of Sageberry. Deputies responded to a call at roughly 8 p.m. after a neighbor called to report suspicious behavior at a

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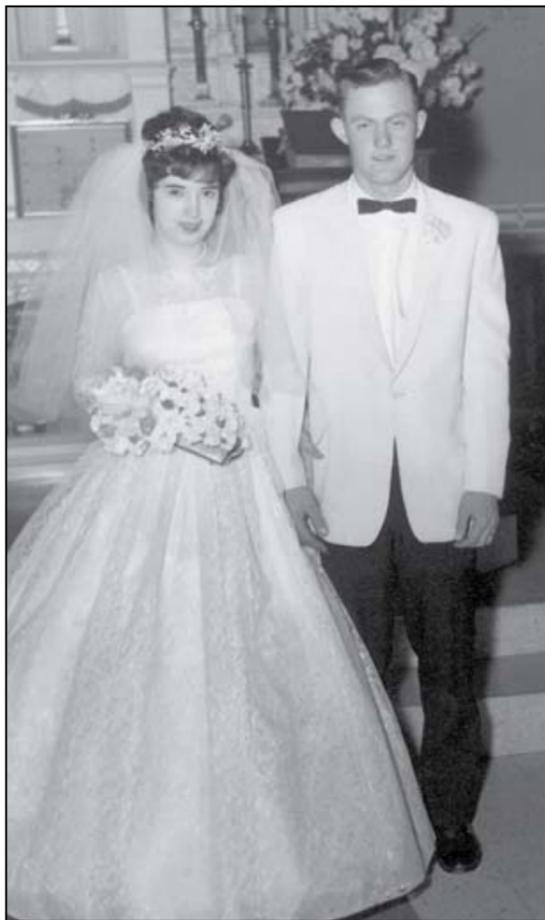
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Flickingers celebrate 55 years



David and Marie Flickinger, 50-year residents of the South Belt area, celebrate their 55th anniversary on Jan. 20. The couple married in Council Bluffs, Iowa, where Marie was born. David was born in Grand Meadow, Minn. The couple lived in both Council Bluffs and Grand Meadow before moving to Houston in 1966 and to South Belt the following spring. They have two sons, Fred and Davy Flickinger. Fred lives in Kingwood with his wife, Leslie, and daughter Kimberly. Their other daughter, Courtney (Fairchild) Durham, and husband Chris live in Houston with their daughter Abigail and son Jackson. Davy resides in Riverstone Ranch with his wife of five years, Ellie.

Living nearby is Ellie's daughter, Natalie and her husband Jose Abarca, and grandkids Kelvin Lopez and Noah and Isabella Abarca. David Flickinger is self-employed at Flickinger Machine. Fred also works at Flickinger Machine. David serves on the Clear Brook City Municipal Utility District Board. Marie, along with friend and co-worker Bobby Griffin, founded the *South Belt-Ellington Leader* and South Belt Graphics. The *Leader* begins its 42nd year next month. Since Griffin semi-retired in 1998, Davy became Marie's partner and president of South Belt Press, Inc. A family dinner is being planned by the couple's sons.

Kramers celebrate 50 years Jan. 20



Jim and Jean Kramer met and married in Washington D.C., Jean's hometown, while Jim was in the Navy stationed in Maryland. The couple moved to New York, near Jim's family when he got out of the service. They lived there until 1976 when they moved to Texas. The couple were longtime residents of the South Belt area before they both retired and moved to San Leon. They enjoy traveling in their 5th wheel and plan to continue, they say "as long as life allows." Their children, daughter, Sherrie, who's married to Gerardo Castro and son, Larry who is married to Kerry, both attended local schools. Both couples live in the area. Granddaughter, Jackie (Sherrie's daughter) is married to Charles Carlock and they are the parents of Kramer's great grandson, Hunter who lives outside Dallas. They plan to have an immediate family dinner gathering. Their 50th anniversary gift to each other is a total bathroom remodel which they plan to enjoy for years. The Kramers are good friends of the *Leader* and have been helpful over the years with community projects.



San Jac students get grant for nursing training

Nine people took an opportunity to apply for free job training at San Jacinto College, and now it's paying off. After 12 weeks they are ready to apply for work as Certified Nurse Aides, thanks to the Texas Public Education Grant that covered the cost of their training.

Caldwell said the course provided a perfect opportunity to begin working in health care while studying to become a registered nurse. "I'm so glad I did this," said Caldwell, who was hired as a patient care technician by DaVita dialysis center while in the course. She will continue her studies in spring 2017 to pursue a degree in nursing. "This class

gave me insight on where I can go with my certification and an opportunity to dive into the healthcare field and start working while I study nursing." The CNA course is a part of the health occupations program in the continuing and professional development division and offers a variety of health care courses to train participants for quick entry

into the industry. Training provides participants with the skills, knowledge and abilities to care for residents of long-term care facilities. Those who complete the training will be prepared for entry-level employment in long-term care facilities, hospitals, and doctors' offices. He or she will also be eligible to take the State of Texas Certified Nurse Aide Certifi-

cation Exam. Courtney Melcher, a stay-at-home mom, found out just how easy it was to apply for TPEG funding to get back into the health care workforce. "I had an impulse and stopped by the Central campus, saw the continuing and professional development window, was handed a TPEG application, filled it out and received the scholarship."

9 to become CNA after 12-week program



Nine San Jac students became CNAs thanks to funding by Texas Public Education Grant. Show here are, left to right, Ellen Poxon, San Jacinto College CNA instructor; CNA course graduates Courtney Melcher, Diana Arredondo, Jordan Thierry, Carlos Medrano, Sharon John-

son, Cesalie Caldwell, Pshavoun Hadnot and Roshan Maknojia; and Laura Martinez, coordinator of skills training with the Continuing and Professional Development division at San Jacinto College.

Photo by Jeannie Peng Mansyur, San Jacinto College

Moore lists honor, merit, attendance rolls

Moore Elementary has announced the honor roll for the second nine weeks. The following is a list of students named to the honor, merit and attendance rolls.

Perfect Attendance

Pre-K

Kyle Le, Lam Luu, Nhi Ly, Katelyn Pham, Hailey Sichanh, Chelsea Ta, Jocelyn Tran and Miguel Valendia Alfaro.

Perfect Attendance Kindergarten

Vallery Casillas, Arianna Castellano, Noah Cervantes, London Freeman, Jaelyn Jimenez, Maximo Martinez, Bang Nguyen, Ethan Nguyen, Trieu Nguyen and Quy Tran.

Perfect Attendance First Grade

Lilah Aguayo, Khalia Allen, Juan Alonso, Benjamin Arbing, Zadi Battarbee, Naomi Burton, Julian Chavez, Krew Duong and Christopher Flores.

Perfect Attendance Second Grade

Aiden Ly, Emmery Lynn, Kobe Magana, Noah Obregon, Evan Orozco, Jacob Phan and Toryn Provost.

Perfect Attendance Third Grade

Isabella Alvarez, Adeliz Barahona, Yerik Casillas,

Natalie Elkins, Alesi Estrada, Elijah Garza, Alyssa Gutierrez, Keira Hammond, Jimena Hernandez, Christian Jasso, Anthony Le, Esther Le, Jordan Le, Ruby Lovo, Orlando Luna, Trinity Macias Horton and Jorge Martinez.

Miah Martinez, Nevaeh McZeal, Mariana Mejia, Faith Molina, Charleston Nash, Cayden Patton, Tyler Pham, Anthony Puente, Yamileth Ramales, Jesus Ramos, Sergio Rios, Andrew Rojas and Jessica Rummel.

Madisyn Saenz, Samantha Salazar, Sophia Saucedo, Taylen Sayles Galloway, Stephen Swanner, Jennifer Tan, Marlee Tillman, Arianna To, Katie Tran, Christopher Wickliff and Isaac Zamora.

Honor Roll

Third Grade

Piper Battarbee, Aiden Cabrera, Jaslynn Chavez, Morgan Hill, Donovan Luu, Matthew Murica and Christopher Sanchez.

Merit Roll

Third Grade

Kevin Chau, Grant Garcia, Anson Huynh, Peyton Lynn and An Ton.

Perfect Attendance Third Grade

Jalynn Alix, Londyn August, Katelynn Binns, Brian Bui, Christian Carbajal, Kevin Chau, Jaslynn Chavez, Jordan De Robles, Cooper Estes and Amanda Fernandez Boujourne.

Merit Roll

Fourth Grade

Charles Nash, Faith Garcia, Laila Jack, Ryan Nguyen, Khnum Amos, Caitlyn Tran, Johan DeLaPaz, Joseph Le, Rendi Taylor, Kristin Do,

olas Harris, Alejandro Hernandez, Sebastian Jasso, Alejandro Jimenez Hernandez, Keenan Llanes, Donovan Luu, Peyton Lynn, Ava Macias and Alia Martinez.

Leo Martinez, Damyah Mills, Andrew Nguyen, Anthony Nguyen, Jayden Nguyen, Jathan Obregon, Kai Okonkwoonah, Angela Pena, Lindsey Perrett, Jezreel Ramos and Yvette Ramos.

Luke Riley, Tyson Riley, Jesus Rodriguez, Christopher Sanchez, Melanie Sanchez, Kimora Shio, An To, Jenna To, Kian Ton, Emily Tran, Lauren Turner, Julian Vasquez and Aidan Veitia.

Honor Roll

Fourth Grade

Anthony Almanza, Dillon Steve, Anneliese Goodrum-Toth, Vivian Tran, Natalie Martinez, Riley Nguyen To, Tahllon Provost, Julian Ruiz, Isaac Penado and Jordi Zamudio.

Merit Roll

Fourth Grade

Charles Nash, Faith Garcia, Laila Jack, Ryan Nguyen, Khnum Amos, Caitlyn Tran, Johan DeLaPaz, Joseph Le, Rendi Taylor, Kristin Do,

Austin Silva, Cruz Torres and Philip Tran.

Perfect Attendance Fourth Grade

Andrea Aguilar, Khnum Amos, Karel Arredondo, Aiden Carrillo, Paris Cervantes, Aden Chavez, Nathaniel Chevalier-Manlangit, Eduardo Cuevas, Valeria DeLaGarza, Kristin Do and Alan Flores.

Cesar Flores, Jose Flores, Valeria Garcia Cuevas, Joyce Gossett, Tripp Harris, Leonel Hernandez, Madison Hill, Sophia Ho, Luis Ibarra, Laila Jack, Nia Jackson, Jorge Jasso and Kayla Lam.

Joseph Le, Vance Le, Pablo Lopez, Kate Magana, Bobby Maldonado, Brissa Marroquin, Natalie Martinez, Joshua Medina, Alejandra Munoz, Charles Nash, Riley Nguyen To and Jacky Nguyen.

Ryan Nguyen, Isaac Penado, Timothy Pham, Mariela Quirino De La Fuente, Martin Ramos, Tariq Riley, Jael Rivera, Gerardo Ruiz, Emeli Salazar and Hunter Stacey.

Sophy Swanner, Jacob Tagle, Rendi Taylor, Phillip Tran, Vivian Tran, Maria Valdez-Colvin and Jordi Zumudio.

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Sunday School • 9:30 a.m.	Mid-Week Service • 7:45 p.m.
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PISD board recognized in School Board month



Pasadena ISD Board of Trustees Kenny Fernandez, secretary; Jack Bailey, member; Dr. DeeAnn Powell, school superintendent; Fred Roberts, vice-president; Nelda Sullivan, president; Marshall Kendrick, member; Vickie Morgan, assistant secretary; and Mariselle Quijano, member. Photo by Reesha Brown, PISD

PISD's Powell recognizes board

When it comes to supporting the school system, the Pasadena ISD Board of Trustees are the all-stars of the school district.

These seven individuals volunteer countless hours to serve the district's 56,000 students, 8,000 employees and its community members. January is School Board Recognition Month and the Pasadena ISD family will join school districts across the state to thank these local leaders for their dedication and willingness to serve as advocates for our children and public schools.

As elected officials, they are the voice of their communities, serving first and foremost in the best interest of Texas school children.

"Even though we are making a special effort in January to show appreciation to our board members, we realize their many contributions reflect a year-round commitment. They generously give of themselves to ensure that decisions directly affecting our local schools are made by representatives of this community, people who are close to our schools and know

our teachers, parents, and students," said Dr. DeeAnn Powell, Pasadena ISD school superintendent.

"Board members shoulder critical responsibilities and often make difficult choices," Powell said. "Their ultimate goal is always focused on the future success of the children in our district. It's more important than ever before that the public supports our schools so that today's students are prepared to be productive citizens and the leaders of tomorrow."

Board members are elected by local constituents and play a crucial role in governing the district. Working collaboratively with the school superintendent, staff, parents, students, and community members, the board establishes a vision for the district, adopts a strategic plan to achieve that vision, looks for opportunities to move the school district forward and remain united in shaping the quality of education for children.

To achieve these goals, the board is visible in the community, and can be sited at campuses, community functions and small group gatherings seeking input about matters that impact the district. On a formal level, the board hosts monthly meetings to make difficult decisions that affect students and staff.

In addition, board members attend training sessions to stay informed about changes in federal regulations and educational trends. Board members also serve on various community, service and civic organizations and are members of area chambers of commerce, Rotary Clubs, Optimist Club, Lions Club, PTO's and local churches.

Serving as a crucial link between the community and classroom, this board has been instrumental in enhancing curriculum, increasing student and campus achievements and implementing many successful programs. These include:

- Increasing the Connect Personalized Learning program 1-to-1 wireless towers

implementation;

- Pasadena ISD being named a state demonstration site for blended learning under the Raising Blended Learners initiative;
- Earning a Met Standard rating from the Texas Education Agency, with eight campuses receiving all distinction designations;

- Raising the graduation rate to 89 percent;
- Securing, in conjunction with the grants department, more than 27 grants totaling \$8 million for district programs;
- 40 Early College High School graduates earning associate degrees;

- Red Bluff and Turner being named "Let's Move! Active School National award winners";
- Pasadena Memorial being named Best High School in America by U.S. News and World Report in the bronze category for the second consecutive year;
- Earning multiple state and international business awards for financial transparency;

- Opening two campuses to create space for classroom learning as a result of the 2014 school bond;
- Providing a Community "U" Academy to give parents and community members an inside scoop of the school district;
- Having a board with a combined total of over 120 years serving the district;
- Implementing the 1-to-1 technology initiative;
- Securing \$42,276,453 in high school scholarships for 2016; and
- Increasing the number of Advanced Placement tests taken over the years to 6,171, with 292 scholars.

Board members serving Pasadena ISD are Nelda Sullivan, president; Fred Roberts, vice-president; Kenny Fernandez, secretary; Vickie Morgan, assistant secretary; Marshall Kendrick, member; Jack Bailey, member; and Mariselle Quijano, member.

"If you spot a board member, please be sure to thank them for their service to Pasadena ISD," Powell said.

Garcia named SJC Minnie Stevens Piper nominee

Dr. Rachel Garcia once defied the odds to find success in her science career, and she "accepts the challenge" to help others do so as well.

For this tenacity, Garcia is this year's Minnie Stevens Piper nominee and Faculty Excellence Award recipient for San Jacinto College.

"I vividly recall my experiences in college where I had to navigate my path on my own," said Garcia. "Many students attend college part time due to family and work obligations. I share my story with them, and I personally accept the challenge of removing all looks of defeat in the classroom whenever I am discussing a difficult topic. I have been in their shoes and encourage them to never give up."

When it came time to think about college, Garcia chose chemistry, a traditionally male-dominated career field. At first, Garcia struggled some with her college courses, worked part time, and commuted 60 miles a day to get to college. Her experiences later shaped her advocacy for students.

"Rachel advocates for our students in and out of the classroom," said Dr. Ann Cartwright, chemistry professor and science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) coordinator at San Jacinto College. "She is

both respected and appreciated by her colleagues for her work as an instructor and a department chair. We have a strong faculty body, and her persistent contributions and positive attitude mark her as an outstanding example of exhibiting the college values and fulfilling the mission of student success."

Each year, Garcia submits a report on science outreach and receives a grant from the Greater Houston Section of the American Chemical Society (ACS) to purchase supplies for chemistry demonstrations. The ACS has also awarded her a grant to fund a STEM Expo for young children.

Garcia also presents to sixth grade girls at the Expanding Your Horizons conference each year, and this past October, she organized a chemistry conference to address the cost of textbooks and other instructional resources. In February 2017, she will present on an intervention initiative to help lower student withdrawals at the Texas Community College Teachers Association Conference.

Before becoming a department chair at San Jacinto College, Garcia served as a professor of chemistry. She represents the College at the Greater Houston Partnership, the League for Innovation

STEMtech Conference and the Hispanic Alliance of Colleges and Universities. She also serves on the San Jacinto College STEM Council.

Garcia earned her bachelor's degree in chemistry and biology from Houston Baptist University and doctorate degree in inorganic analytical chemistry from the University of Houston. Her career has taken her across the globe to study electron donor acceptor compounds in Osaka, Japan. She has been invited to serve on a national grant review panel in Washington, D.C.

"I often hear from students that they never 'got' chemistry in high school," said Garcia. "I take those statements to heart and accept the challenge of getting the students to love chemistry as much as I do."

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San Jacinto College graduates contribute nearly \$690 million each year to the Texas workforce.



Dr. Rachel Garcia is this year's Minnie Stevens Piper nominee and Faculty Excellence Award recipient for San Jacinto College. Photo by Jeannie Peng Mansur, San Jacinto College

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Whitney, Shannon at area fundraiser

Featured from the 2016 fall season of "The Voice", Whitney & Shannon will take center stage at the annual fundraiser benefiting Beltway 8 South Crisis Pregnancy Center. The duo were recent participants on the 11th season of "The Voice". Their parents were traveling missionaries, and the girls began by singing and ministering to people on the street. Over the years their love of music and talent grew. "The Voice" gave them opportunity to come together and share their incredible harmony with an overwhelmingly receptive audience.

The sisters, whose sound draws from country and pop, earned chair turns from all four coaches. To date, the video of this performance has been viewed on YouTube 3,011,348 times at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rnkFPB9stLM>.

The event will be Friday, Feb. 17, at Grace Community Church, 14505 Gulf Freeway. The evening will include a silent auction beginning at 5:30 p.m. and a banquet from 7 to 9:15 p.m. All proceeds benefit the Beltway 8 South Crisis Pregnancy Center serving South Belt, Pearland, Ellington, Friendswood, and Clear Lake women in unplanned pregnancies. The banquet is a great way to celebrate a choice for life, since the pregnancy center offers its clients a safe haven, respect, kindness and unconditional love.

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Brook, Dobie basketball score big wins

Apparently, second place isn't too bad, especially when the days keep getting shorter in the chase to the varsity basketball playoffs.

If that postseason began today, the Clear Brook and Dobie boys' teams as well as the Dobie girls' team, would enter the bracket as No. 2 seeds. Granted, it's not first place, but it will certainly work. Each

of those teams scored key wins Jan. 17 to keep pace with the respective leaders in districts 22-6A and 24-6A.

In 24-6A boys' play, Clear Brook staved off a

late rally by Alvin to score a big 60-59 victory over the Yellowjackets at Alvin.

David Azore led the way for the Wolverines with 21 points, while Herman Johnson chipped in

with 10. Savion Flagg of Alvin, a Texas A&M University commit, was the high scorer of the game with 28 points.

Brook, however, came

Continued on Page 6B

March 4 event SBHLL seeking vendors

The Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League is seeking crafts, food and merchandise vendors to participate in the league's opening day carnival on Saturday, March 4, at El Franco Lee Park. The cost per vendor spot is \$100. Those interested in participating or learning more information about the day-long event may direct email to league officials at sbhll@hotmail.com.

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For Wilson, perseverance pays off

At right, perseverance definitely has paid off for 2011 Dobie High School graduate Reggie Wilson (4) as he and his University of Mary Hardin-Baylor teammates won the NCAA Division III national championship football title with a win over Wisconsin-Oshkosh last month. UMHB's Blake Jackson, also a Dobie graduate, was the Player of the Game, but Wilson has been a solid contributor to the Cru secondary over three seasons and now has a national championship ring coming his way. For more on Wilson's title path, see Page 6B.

Photo courtesy UMBH



Defense keys Dobie's 5-0-1 soccer start

By John Bechtle
 Sports Editor

Career victory No. 100 was truly special for Dobie varsity boys' soccer head coach Justo Manrique as the Longhorns delivered the milestone win courtesy of a 2-0 victory over 2016 Class 6A state finalist Lake Travis Jan. 13, at Lake Travis High School.

In all, it was a second straight weekend of solid tournament soccer play for the Longhorns, who have now opened the 2017 regular season at 5-0-1, with one more big non-district match coming Jan. 20 at North Shore before the start of District 22-6A play thereafter.

Manrique began his head coaching career at MacArthur High School and certainly owes a debt of gratitude to the Generals' past players and assistant coaches, but he's also put together three-plus seasons of tremendous success at Dobie High School, including back-to-back district championships that have included undefeated records.

A 2-0 win over Kingwood Jan. 12 gave Manrique No. 99, and the 2-0 win over Lake Travis was good for No. 100.

The Longhorns finished out the Austin Lakes Elite Showcase with a scoreless tie against Leander Vista Ridge.

Manrique said he remembers his first-ever scrimmage victory coming against defending state finalist Klein years ago.

To have No. 100 come against another state final-

ist is almost unimaginable, he said.

"If somebody would have told me that win No. 100 would come against a state-level team like Lake Travis at their place, I would've said no way,"

Manrique said.

"It was a beautiful place to play soccer, but it was also a tough, hard-fought match. No. 100 is symbolic in that the guys are really playing the style of soccer that I've always en-

visioned, and having success doing it.

"The entire weekend just could not have gone any better for us. The guys got the chance to spend a lot of time together, to bond and to hopefully grow as a team. That's what it's all about."

Dobie 2 Kingwood 0

The Dobie contingent arrived in Austin, ate a pregame meal and had about an hour to coordinate at a hotel before leaving to face Kingwood in an evening match.

Kingwood is certainly

Continued on Page 2B



Dobie at North Shore
 Fri., Jan. 20
 GPISD, 7 p.m.

At right, with two wins at the Austin Lakes Elite Showcase Jan. 12-13, the Dobie varsity boys' soccer team was able to secure career win No. 100 for head coach Justo Manrique. He began his head coaching career at MacArthur before taking over the Dobie program prior to the 2014 campaign.

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New directors due soon Pasadena ISD officials close in on candidates

Pasadena ISD officials are making steady progress on determining the new leadership group in the district's athletic office.

According to a Pasadena ISD source, the current timeline calls for those involved in the interview process to present their choice for athletic director to the PISD Board of Directors for approval in time for a Jan. 24 meeting.

In turn, the athletic director will have the opportunity to determine his or her choice for assistant athletic director before submitting that person for board approval Feb. 21. Current athletic director Rodney Chant and assis-

tant athletic director Jana Williams have both re-signed their positions but remain on the job within PISD until replacements are named.

Chant is set to become the athletic director of Fort Bend ISD, while Williams has been named the assistant athletic director with in Humble ISD.

Interest in both positions was widespread, with dozens of candidates submitting applications for the roles.

Pasadena ISD athletic office officials oversee the sports activities of the school district's five high schools as well as its 10 competitive intermediate schools.

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Sports Calendar

BASKETBALL

Thursday, Jan. 19

Beverly Hills boys at 7th Dark tourn., SoHo, TBA
Thompson boys at 7th Dark tourn., SoHo, TBA
Beverly Hills boys at 8th Dark tourn., Queens, TBA
Thompson boys at 8th Dark tourn., Queens, TBA

Friday, Jan. 20

Dobie varsity girls at Memorial, 7:00
Brook varsity girls at Dickinson, 7:00
Brook varsity boys host Dickinson, 7:00
Dobie varsity boys host Memorial, 7:00
Dobie JV boys host Memorial, 5:30
Brook JV boys host Dickinson, 5:30
Brook JV girls at Dickinson, 5:30
Dobie JV girls at Memorial, 5:30
Dobie sophomore boys host Memorial, 5:30
Brook sophomore boys host Dickinson, 5:30
Brook freshman A boys host Dickinson 4:00
Dobie freshman A boys host Memorial, 4:00
Dobie freshman A girls at Memorial, 4:00
Brook freshman A girls at Dickinson, 4:00
Dobie freshman B boys host Memorial, 4:00
Brook freshman B boys host Dickinson, 4:00
Dobie freshman B girls at Memorial, 4:00

Monday, Jan. 23

Beverly Hills 8th Dark girls at Queens, 5:00
Beverly Hills 8th Light girls at Queens, 6:15
Beverly Hills 7th Dark girls at Queens, 5:00
Beverly Hills 7th Light girls at Queens, 6:15
Thompson 8th Dark girls at Miller, 5:00
Thompson 8th Light girls at Miller, 6:15
Thompson 7th Dark girls at Miller, 5:00
Thompson 7th Light girls at Miller, 6:15
Beverly Hills 8th Dark boys host Queens, 5:00
Beverly Hills 8th Light boys host Queens, 6:15
Beverly Hills 7th Dark boys host Queens, 5:00
Beverly Hills 7th Light boys host Queens, 6:15
Thompson 8th Dark boys host Miller, 5:00
Thompson 8th Light boys host Miller, 6:15
Thompson 7th Dark boys host Miller, 5:00
Thompson 7th Light boys host Miller, 6:15

Tuesday, Jan. 24

Dobie varsity girls at West Brook, 7:00
Brook varsity girls at Clear Falls, 7:00
Brook varsity boys host Clear Falls, 7:00
Dobie varsity boys host West Brook, 7:00
Dobie JV boys host West Brook, 5:30
Brook JV boys host Clear Falls, 5:30
Brook JV girls at Clear Falls, 5:30
Dobie JV girls at West Brook, 5:30
Dobie sophomore boys host West Brook, 5:30
Brook sophomore boys host Clear Falls, 5:30
Brook freshman A boys host Clear Falls 4:00
Dobie freshman A boys host West Brook, 4:00
Dobie freshman A girls at West Brook, 4:00
Brook freshman A girls at Clear Falls, 4:00
Dobie freshman B boys host West Brook, 4:00
Brook freshman B boys host Clear Falls, 4:00
Dobie freshman B girls at West Brook, 4:00

Wednesday, Jan. 25

Beverly Hills boys at 7th Light tourn., Jackson, TBA
Thompson boys at 7th Light tourn., Jackson, TBA
Beverly Hills boys at 8th Light tourn., Southmore, TBA
Thompson boys at 8th Light tourn., Southmore, TBA

Thursday, Jan. 26

Beverly Hills boys at 7th Light tourn., Jackson, TBA
Thompson boys at 7th Light tourn., Jackson, TBA
Beverly Hills boys at 8th Light tourn., Southmore, TBA
Thompson boys at 8th Light tourn., Southmore, TBA

Friday, Jan. 27

Dobie varsity girls host South Houston, 7:00
Brook varsity girls host Clear Creek, 7:00
Brook varsity boys at Clear Creek, 7:00
Dobie varsity boys at South Houston, 7:00
Dobie JV boys at South Houston, 5:30
Brook JV boys at Clear Creek, 5:30
Brook JV girls host Clear Creek, 5:30
Dobie JV girls host South Houston, 5:30
Dobie sophomore boys at South Houston, 5:30
Brook sophomore boys at Clear Creek, 5:30
Brook freshman A boys at Clear Creek 4:00
Dobie freshman A boys at South Houston, 4:00
Dobie freshman A girls host South Houston, 4:00
Brook freshman A girls host Clear Creek, 4:00
Dobie freshman B boys at South Houston, 4:00
Brook freshman B boys at Clear Creek, 4:00

SOCCER

Friday, Jan. 20

Dobie varsity girls at Dawson, 7:00
Brook varsity boys at La Porte, 6:00
Dobie varsity boys at North Shore, GPISD, 6:00
Brook varsity girls host Brazoswood, 5:00
Dobie JV girls at Dawson, 5:00
Dobie JV boys at North Shore, GPISD, 4:00
Brook JV girls host CCISD tourn., TBA

Saturday, Jan. 21

Brook JV girls host CCISD tourn., TBA

Friday, Jan. 27

Dobie varsity girls at West Brook, 7:00
Brook varsity boys at Clear Falls, 7:00
Dobie JV girls at West Brook, 5:00
Brook JV boys at Clear Falls, 5:00

Saturday, Jan. 28

Dobie varsity boys host West Brook, Veterans, noon
Dobie JV boys host West Brook, Auxiliary, 10 a.m.



Dobie softball to host alumni game Feb. 4.

The Dobie High School softball program is celebrating the start of its season Saturday, Feb. 4, by hosting an alumni game at Lady Longhorn Field. Dobie graduate Katie Lee (above) won't be able to play as she will begin her senior season at the University of Dallas that same day, but perhaps a few of Lee's former Dobie teammates will make an appearance. Any former players interested in competing in the game may direct email to Lady Longhorns' head coach Robin Rackley at rrackley@pasadenaisd.org.

Lady Longhorns go 2-2 at PNG

With two wins at the Port Neches Groves Invitational Jan. 12-14, the Dobie varsity girls' soccer team stands at 3-4 through the first two weeks of the season.

The road ahead won't get any smoother, but Lady Longhorns' head coach Bryan McDonald cites many reasons for optimism as the District 22-6A playoff chase soon gets under way.

Dobie opened the regular season with a 1-0 victory over Clear Brook but then lost games to Atascocita and Klein Collins — both legitimate playoff threats — at the Humble ISD Invitational.

Fast forward a week, and Dobie found itself in the mix at the Port Neches-Groves Invitational. Dobie lost games to host PNG and Jasper, but that's nothing to be ashamed of.

PNG, which defeated Dobie 3-0, made its way to the Class 5A Region III

semifinals a season ago. Jasper, which downed Dobie 3-1, was the Class 4A state finalist in 2016.

After those losses, the Lady Longhorns came back to defeat Victoria West 2-0. In the tournament finale for Dobie, a 6-1 rout came over Livingston.

In the 3-0 loss to PNG, McDonald said the game was actually much closer than the final score indicated.

A couple of defensive miscues allowed the Lady Indians to score a pair of early goals.

From there, Dobie had to try to force the action up top to get back into the game. While there were chances to score for the locals, PNG came away with the shutout.

Lesly Garcia scored for Dobie against Jasper, but the Lady Longhorns found themselves in a 2-1 hole late. Then, Jasper landed another chance on a counter attack and notched

a goal in the final four seconds for a 3-1 win.

In the 2-0 win over West, Alex Magana scored for the Lady Longhorns, as did Victoria Chu on a beautiful pass from Emily Hernandez.

The Lady Longhorns came up big offensively against Livingston, winning 6-1 as Magana and Garcia scored twice each. Mystique Ortega and Hernandez also scored goals.

With reference to the two defeats, McDonald said that while the competition was certainly tough, his team did battle until the very end in both.

"We are creating more scoring chances, but we so far have not been able to capitalize on as many as we would like," McDonald said.

"So that is a positive for us. We are getting the chances, and our time will come when more of them will find the net.

"I like some of the things we are doing in

San Jac to debut; return to nationals the goal

San Jacinto College

2017 Women's Softball schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Jan. 27-28	at Galveston Invitational	TBA
Feb. 3	Odessa (2)	2 p.m.
Feb. 4	Howard (2)	noon
Feb. 10-12	San Jacinto Invitational	TBA
Feb. 17-18	at Temple Invitational	TBA
Feb. 22	McLennan (2)	1 p.m.
Feb. 24-26	at Region XIV Crossover	TBA
March 3	*Coastal Bend (2)	2 p.m.
March 4	*Laredo (2)	2 p.m.
March 10	*at Lamar State (2)	2 p.m.
March 11	*at Blinn (2)	2 p.m.
March 17	*at Alvin (2)	2 p.m.
March 18	*at Galveston (2)	2 p.m.
March 22	Nesho (2)	2 p.m.
March 24	*at Coastal Bend (2)	11 a.m.
March 25	*at Laredo (2)	1 p.m.
March 31	*Alvin (2)	2 p.m.
April 1	*Galveston (2)	2 p.m.
April 5	at LSU-Eunice (2)	1 p.m.
April 8	*Lamar State (2)	2 p.m.
April 12	Baton Rouge (2)	3 p.m.
April 21	*Blinn (2)	3 p.m.
April 25	LSU-Eunice (2)	2 p.m.
May 4-7	at Region XIV tourn.	TBA
May 17-20	at NJCAA Champs.	TBA

* Region XIV game



San Jacinto College softball head coach Kelly Saenz is set to lead the Coyotes into action beginning Jan. 27 as the team looks to get back to the national tournament. In 2016, SJC reached the quarterfinals at nationals.



Dobie varsity girls' soccer head coach Bryan McDonald has seen his team go 3-4 through the first two tournaments this season. Yet with a blend of youth joining some talented veterans, he believes the best is yet to come as the Lady Longhorns near District 22-6A play.

Dobie varsity boys' soccer continues strong start to 2017 campaign

Continued from Page 1B
a team that Dobie could eventually see in the bidistrict playoff round out of

District 21-5A.

For now, Dobie has the upper hand.

"They were the best or-

ganized team that we have faced this season," Manrique said.

"They were neat on both ends of the field and played solid defense. They're maybe not as explosive on the offensive end, but definitely a play-off team."

Brian Nava scored first for the Longhorns deep in the first half, and Sabino Lozano made it 2-0 with about 30 seconds left in the first half.

Kingwood had its chances, but hit a post on a shot try that would have provided a 1-0 lead for the Mustangs.

Manrique said things might have played out a bit differently if Kingwood would have struck first, but instead Longhorns' netminder Ramon Cahue notched his third shutout of the young season.

Dobie 2

Lake Travis 0

Almost from the opening kickoff, Dobie knew it was in for a huge test against a big, physical and fast Lake Travis team.

Dobie spent the morning visiting the state capitol and even enjoyed a photo opportunity with Senator Sylvia Garcia, who represents District 6. 2016 state all-tournament team picks Marcelo Mitre and Luke Thompson were as advertised.

Manrique said the Cavaliers came out of the gate pushing the action. Still, the Longhorns were up to the challenge.

Raul Hernandez scored first for the Longhorns in

the final 10 minutes or so. Nava then created a foul in the box in the final stages, with Saldivar converting the penalty kick for the final margin of victory.

Dobie 0

Vista Ridge 0

Getting to bed late and rising early, the Longhorns substituted freely in a 10 a.m. start against Vista Ridge, which resulted in a scoreless tie.

The Longhorns used the game as a chance to get playing time for anyone who made the trip but had yet to see time on the field. In all, Manrique utilized about 25 players over the three games.

"Vista Ridge is another good, solid team," Manrique said. "The big thing is we didn't surrender a goal. The defense has really played well to open the season."

"We've gone against playoff caliber teams every match so far and have come through big time."

The Longhorns have begun the 2017 season just the way they had hoped.

Manrique thinks Alief Elsik is the favorite for the Region III title until proven otherwise, but the Longhorns have certainly established themselves once again as a contender.

It's really more than Manrique could have hoped for when he took over the program prior to the 2014 season. Those incoming freshmen are now seniors, and what a ride it's been.

"To me it's just been a lot of hard work that

has paid off," Manrique said.

"We started that year with a lot more seniors than we have now. I have just nine now, but the program has really come together the way we had hoped."

"It's still all about winning in the end, and we haven't won anything this year yet. But the guys have done everything we have asked of them and really had some solid success. So far, we have to like where we are."

North Shore next

Manrique watched North Shore in action at the Lake Travis tournament. Still very talented, but a different team than the one that ended Dobie's 2016 season with a 1-0 loss in the regional quarterfinals.

The Mustangs will host Dobie Friday, Jan. 20, at Galena Park ISD Stadium.

After that, it's all District 22-6A action for the Longhorns, who begin league play Saturday, Jan. 28, against Beaumont West Brook at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena.

"Obviously we would like to beat North Shore, but I want to see a competitive game where maybe they try to expose a weakness of ours, and then we have a chance to respond," Manrique said.

"We have done very well at answering the challenge, but we know North Shore is a quality opponent that represents our last test before district play. We are looking forward to it."



A four-year starter, Sabino Lozano (23) has triggered the Longhorns' offense from his spot on the field. Now, he hopes Dobie can continue its recent dominance in 22-6A action.



Senior Edwin Saldivar has continued his strong season to this point after a summer injury threatened to hamper it. Instead, Saldivar has been a big contributor to Dobie's 5-0-1 start.

Dobie girls' track and field's Knight-Gray off to Goose Creek ISD

Longtime Dobie girls' track and field and cross-country head coach Tina Knight-Gray has resigned her position and is now at Baytown Lee High School as girls' campus athletic coordinator.

Beginning this fall, Knight-Gray will also oversee the Lady Ganders' track and field program.

Knight-Gray was in the midst of her 11th year with the Lady Longhorns, having helped develop many regional qualifiers in both track and field and cross-country during her time with the program.

Her husband, Terry Gray, was a longtime staff member at Lee who retired in December after 13 years, and she is assuming his role.

Knight-Gray, who previously coached at Lee before coming to Dobie, said she was actually attending a varsity girls' basketball game during the Lady Gander Invitational in November when approached about assuming her husband's role at Lee.

From there, decision-making and conversations at both locales ensued. It was simply the right move for the Grays.

Dobie High School principal Franklin Moses was unavailable for comment at press time.

But Knight-Gray said Mo Hickman, also a long-time multi-sport assistant coach at Dobie, will take over as the head coach of the girls' track and field program on an interim basis.

Knight-Gray added that she spoke to Hickman prior to making her move final in an effort to ensure the Dobie girls' track and field program is in good shape going forward.

Also, Knight-Gray said she is hopeful that Hickman will be able to take over the girls' cross-country program on a full-time basis.

However, Hickman is also a longtime assistant coach in the volleyball program, which runs concurrently with much of the cross-country season.

As for the Dobie girls' track and field program at present, preseason workouts are under way now with the first meet just about a month away.

With Hickman still involved with girls' basketball, Dobie assistant coach staff member Kristin Tolley is working with the track and field team.

Perhaps on the surface, the timing of Knight-Gray's exit doesn't look good, but there's really never a great time when opportunity knocks.

"That's (timing) one of the things Mr. Moses and I discussed," Knight-Gray said. "There's not always perfect timing for a change, and this was one of those."

"It was an opportunity that I had to take. I have seven to eight years to go, and I'm not ready to give

up coaching and working with young people. This was just something that worked out quickly."

Knight-Gray said the prospect of talking to many of her student-athletes at Dobie about her move was too much to handle.

Some of the Lady Longhorn freshmen told Knight-Gray they wanted her to stay at least through her senior year. But Knight-Gray knows students in every grade class would likely repeat the same message.

"It wasn't just the cross-country and track and field kids, but the kids I had in the classroom as well," Knight-Gray said.

"It's tough to leave a good situation like that with great kids."

As for the upcoming track and field season, Knight-Gray hopes the Lady Longhorns continue to focus on the same goals

she had as when she was leading the show.

"Continue to work hard and do what you've always done out there on the track and never lose sight of the goals that we have set for each season."

"The ultimate goal was always to make it to state, and I know they still have those goals."

Dobie lost Justice Henderson, a state qualifier in the long jump. She is now competing at the University of Houston.

But the Lady Longhorns have been very strong in the sprint relays for several years and should again be solid.

There are other individual athletes who should give the Dobie program an excellent chance to compete with the likes of La Porte, Beaumont West Brook and Deer Park for the District 22-6A championship come early April.

Knight-Gray's time at

more than 10 years. Now, she's basically going home, a place where she has been before and feels comfortable. Sounds like a great career move for Knight-Gray, and there's really no fault in wanting to be home.

has been before and feels comfortable. Sounds like a great career move for Knight-Gray, and there's really no fault in wanting to be home.

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South Belt area sports, news briefs

SBHLL offers late baseball registration, tryouts

The Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League has finished off regular registration proceedings, but there are still a pair of late registration opportunities that will coincide with tryouts for the upcoming spring 2017 season at El Franco Lee Park.

Those ages 3 and 4 (born between Sept. 2012 and Jan. 1, 2014) may register for \$150 per player, while those ages 5 to 16 (born between May 2000 and Aug. 2012) may register for \$200 per player. There is a \$5 discount for families registering more than one player.

SBHLL will also host its sixth season in the Challenger division, which is designed to allow disabled children between the ages of 5 to 18 to enjoy the game of baseball in a safe environment. Registration in the Challenger division is free of charge.

Tryouts and late registration will be held both Saturday, Jan. 21 and Saturday, Jan. 28, from 9 a.m. to noon and 1:30 to 3 p.m.

All registering families must provide a copy of the player's birth certificate, to be kept on file. Families must also provide three current forms of residency, such as driver's license, voter registration, utility bills, etc.

SBYSC seeks age specific girls' competitors

The South Belt Youth Soccer Club is seeking female players born in 2005 to compete on a newly-formed U-12 team, with play beginning in early March.

Those interested in competing on this team may contact coach Jerry Garcia at 832-875-0111 to learn more about tryouts, registration, etc. In addition, the South Belt Youth Soccer Club has begun league wide online registration. Visit www.southbeltsoccer.org for details.

Dobie grads named all-academic at UMHB

More than 500 student-athletes from 13 member institutions have been recognized by the American Southwest Conference on its 2016 Fall All-Academic honor roll.

The list of honorees from the University of Mary-Hardin Baylor includes three Dobie High School graduates and members of the Crus

2016 NCAA Division III national championship squad, including quarterback Blake Jackson and receivers Reginald Cole and Michael Collins.

The teams were announced by the ASC office Jan. 17 and also include men's and women's cross-country, football, men's and women's soccer and volleyball.

To be eligible for ASC All-Academic honors, student-athletes must be classified academically as a sophomore, junior, senior or graduate student during the competition season and have been in attendance and completed at least one academic year (two consecutive semesters) at their institution.

They must also have a 3.0 cumulative grade point average as certified at the conclusion of the academic semester in which the ASC sport championship is held.

The Mary Hardin-Baylor football, volleyball, men's soccer and women's soccer teams combined to place 66 student-athletes on the fall All-Academic squads.

Pasadena ISD Intermediate Girls' Hoops

Through Jan. 9 games

8L Records	District			Overall		
	Zone A	W	L	T	W	L
San Jacinto	3	0	0	6	1	0
South Houston	2	1	0	3	4	0
Southmore	2	1	0	3	4	0
Park View	1	2	0	1	6	0
Beverly Hills	0	4	0	0	7	0

Zone A	W	L	T	W	L	T
Miller	3	0	0	6	1	0
Bondy	1	2	0	4	3	0
Queens	1	3	0	3	4	0
Jackson	0	3	0	2	5	0

Game Scores

Thompson 37, Bondy 33
 Southmore 31, Beverly Hills 25
 Miller 33, San Jacinto 22
 South Houston 36, Park View 10
 Queens 33, Jackson 24

8D Records	District			Overall		
	Zone A	W	L	T	W	L
San Jacinto	3	0	0	4	3	0
Southmore	2	1	0	4	3	0
Beverly Hills	2	2	0	3	4	0
South Houston	1	2	0	1	6	0
Park View	0	3	0	0	7	0

Zone B	W	L	T	W	L	T

Zone B	W	L	T	W	L	T

Pasadena ISD Intermediate Girls' Hoops

Through Jan. 9 games

7L Records	District			Overall		
	Zone A	W	L	T	W	L
South Houston	3	0	0	5	2	0
Beverly Hills	3	1	0	3	4	0
Southmore	1	2	0	1	6	0
Park View	1	2	0	3	4	0
San Jacinto	0	3	0	0	7	0

Zone B	W	L	T	W	L	T

Game Scores

Miller 31, San Jacinto 12
 Beverly Hills 36, Southmore 20
 South Houston 33, Park View 15
 Bondy 29, Thompson 21
 Jackson 19, Queens 16

7D Records	District			Overall		
	Zone A	W	L	T	W	L
San Jacinto	2	1	0	4	3	0
Park View	2	1	0	4	3	0
South Houston	2	1	0	3	4	0
Beverly Hills	2	2	0	3	4	0
Southmore	0	3	0	3	4	0

Zone B	W	L	T	W	L	T

Zone B	W	L	T	W	L	T

Pasadena ISD Intermediate Boys' Hoops

Through Jan. 16 games

8L Records	District			Overall		
	Zone A	W	L	T	W	L
Beverly Hills	4	0	0	5	1	0
Southmore	2	1	0	5	2	0
San Jacinto	1	2	0	4	3	0
South Houston	1	2	0	2	5	0
Park View	0	3	0	2	5	0

Zone B	W	L	T	W	L	T

Game Scores

Miller 41, San Jacinto 39
 Beverly Hills 57, Southmore 44
 South Houston 60, Park View 45
 Thompson 67, Bondy 42
 Queens 50, Jackson 37

8D Records	District			Overall		
	Zone A	W	L	T	W	L
San Jacinto	3	0	0	7	0	0
South Houston	2	1	0	5	2	0
Beverly Hills	2	2	0	3	4	0
Southmore	1	2	0	2	5	0
Park View	0	3	0	1	6	0

Zone B	W	L	T	W	L	T

Zone B	W	L	T	W	L	T

Pasadena ISD Intermediate Boys' Hoops

Through Jan. 16 games

7L Records	District			Overall		
	Zone A	W	L	T	W	L
Park View	2	1	0	5	2	0
Southmore	2	1	0	4	3	0
South Houston	2	1	0	3	4	0
Beverly Hills	2	2	0	4	3	0
San Jacinto	0	3	0	1	6	0

Zone B	W	L	T	W	L	T

Game Scores

Thompson 63, Bondy 39
 Miller 34, San Jacinto 31
 Southmore 53, Beverly Hills 48
 South Houston 45, Park View 28
 Jackson 19, Queens 14

7D Records	District			Overall		
	Zone A	W	L	T	W	L
Beverly Hills	4	0	0	6	1	0
San Jacinto	2	1	0	5	2	0
Southmore	1	2	0	3	4	0
South Houston	1	2	0	3	4	0
Park View	0	3	0	2	5	0

Zone B	W	L	T	W	L	T

Zone B	W	L	T	W	L	T

CALENDAR

THURSDAY, JANUARY 19
 7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.
 8 a.m.
HATS - Hobby Area Travel Social has a day trip to Wharton, Texas, visiting the 20th Century Technology Museum on Thursday, Jan. 19, leaving the church parking lot at 8 a.m. The cost is \$5. Visit <http://hatsocial.org/> for details.
 10 a.m.
Clear Lake Bridge Club - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.
 Noon
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.
 6 - 8 p.m.
CrossRoads UMC - Invites everyone to the Thursday night service beginning with a light meal and fellowship at 7 p.m. followed by a praise, worship and prayer service at 6 p.m. Directly afterward both pastors lead a Bible study in both English and Spanish. Everyone is welcome to join! 10030 Scarsdale Blvd.
 6 p.m.
Texas German Society, South Belt (SE) Chapter - A social group focused on the culture, music, heritage and language of Texas German immigrants. Meets the third Thursday, monthly, 6 p.m., Fellowship Hall of Mount Olive Lutheran Church, 10310 Scarsdale Blvd. Visitors welcome. Call 281-481-1238 for details.
 7 p.m.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Women's Group, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-856-1611.
Al-Anon (English) - Support for family and friends of alcoholics/addicts, 7 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, room 215. Call 281-487-

8787, or drop in.
Alateen - Support for teens, friends and family members of alcoholics/addicts, 7 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, room 208. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.
Alcoholics Anonymous - Alcohol problems? Meets Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7 to 8 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For details, call 713-306-4366 or 713-480-4166.
FRIDAY, JANUARY 20
 7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.
 10 a.m.
Interfaith Care Partners - ministry at St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church, 10727 Hartsook St., for those with Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, strokes, etc. and caretakers, meets on the third Friday, 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., for continental breakfast, arts/crafts, exercises, entertainment, devotional break, lunch, and game. Family members or acquaintances are invited. For details, call the church at 713-946-5768; Claudia Rojas at 713-682-5995; or visit www.interfaithcarepartners.org.
Clear Lake Bridge Club - Open games Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.
 Noon
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - West End Group, noon, Shepherd of the Heart United Methodist Church, 12005 County Rd. 39, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.
 6 p.m.
Un Dia a la Vez Alanon Group (Spanish) - Support for family/friends of alcoholics/addicts. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, room 215, First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.
 7 p.m.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2245 N. Main St., Pearland. Call 713-856-

1611.
 8 p.m.
Serenity Now Al-Anon Group - meets at CrossRoads UMC Fridays, 8 to 9 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Family members and friends of problem drinkers/addicts share, learn Al-Anon principles, that they are not alone, and discover choices available. For details, call 281-484-9243.
SATURDAY, JANUARY 21
 7:30 a.m.
Alcoholics Anonymous - "Breakfast with Bill", Saturdays, 7:30 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.
 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.
Free community exercise - offered Saturdays by certified personal trainer and "Brains and Balance" specialist Lisa Maki for active adults age 60 and older, who value mental acuity and physical stability. Age 59 and younger are welcome for \$3 per class. Call 832-212-5191 for details or to confirm a spot, 16202A Hickory Knoll Dr. in Clear Lake.
 10 a.m.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2245 N. Main St., Pearland. For information, call 713-856-1611.
 11 a.m.
Al-Anon Meeting (Women Only, English) - For women affected by an addict. Saturdays, 11 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, Cornell Conference room #111. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.
 1 p.m.
Clear Lake Bridge Club - Open games Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.
 7 p.m.
Bay Area Bluegrass Association - bluegrass music show and jam session on the third Saturday (except December.) Stage show is at 7 p.m. Pickers may bring instruments and come early. Free. Johnny Arolo Civic Center, 300 Walker, League City. For details, visit <http://www.bayareabluegrass.org>.

8 p.m.
Alcoholics Anonymous - meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For information, call 281-484-9243.
SUNDAY, JANUARY 22
 11:15 a.m.
Congregation Shaar Hashalom - Presents *Line by Line with the Prophets*, sessions by Rabbi Stuart Federow, 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., at 16020 El Camino Real, 77062, the conservative synagogue in the Bay Area. Everyone is welcome. Previous classes are not required. Visit www.shaarhashalom.org or contact the synagogue office at 281-488-5861 or csh@shaarhashalom.org.
 1 p.m.
Clear Lake Bridge Club - Open games Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.
 2 p.m.
Clear Lake Bridge Club Lab Class - Sunday and Tuesday, 2 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. For details or classes, contact Dr. Glandorf at dr.glandorf@sbcglobal.net

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FOUND: BIKE at Clear Brook City Park. Please call 281-484-1562 to identify and claim. TF

HELP WANTED
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MECHANICS LIEN FORECLOSURE, Lawell Motorsports Inc, 5815 Royalton St., Houston, TX. 77081. Monday, Feb. 20, 2017, 9 a.m. 1964 Chevrolet Impala VIN 41847U110695 1-19

MISCELLANEOUS
MOVING SALE - 11611 Sagehollow, Sat., Jan. 21, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Furniture, household items.

FOREST PARK EAST CEMETERY: Three spaces, choice location Section 206, lot 89, spaces 7, 8, 9. Call 281-487-7932 TF

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The Southeast VFD needs you!

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

Continued from Page 3B

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22
7 p.m.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA meets Sundays, 7 p.m., 2245 N. Main St., Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.
Alcoholics Anonymous - Alcohol problems? Meets Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7 to 8 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For details, call 713-306-4366 or 713-480-4166.

Alcoholics Anonymous - meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For information, call 281-484-9243.

MONDAY, JANUARY 23
10 a.m.
Al-Anon Deer Park - Mondays, 10 to 11 a.m. Literature Study, In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P Street, Deer Park. Enter through Fellowship Hall in back of church. Call 409-454-5720 for details, or drop in.

Clear Lake Bridge Club - Open games Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.

Seniors and Law Enforcement Together - SALT meetings are 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., Madison Jobe Senior Center, 1700 East Thomas St., Pasadena. January meeting is on the fourth Monday. Meetings start timely and teach seniors how to avoid identity theft, scams, fraud, etc. Police officers and sheriffs may be in attendance. Free. Refreshments served. For details, call 713-477-0175.

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

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.

Genealogy Group - The Parker Williams Genealogy Group will meet Monday, Jan. 23 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Parker Williams Library, Beamer at Scarsdale. The public is invited to attend. For details, email Liz Hicks at erootrot@usa.net.

Houston Area Parkinson Society - Free exercise and speech therapy for adults with Parkinson's. 3:15 to 4:45 p.m., Clear Lake Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster. Visit www.hapsonline.org for details.

Scrabble Club #511 - Meets Monday at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua. Come, improve crossword playing skills. Call 281-488-2923 for details.

ESL at CrossRoads UMC - Academic ESL classes begin Jan. 23. Meet both Mondays and Tuesdays, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. No fee to attend. Call Cris at 832-724-4296 to register. 10030 Scarsdale Blvd.

Pearland Overeaters Anonymous HOW Meeting - Mondays at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 2535 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland. Enter door next to recycling bins. For details, call 713-865-3668 or visit www.oahouston.org.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church-youth bldg. For information, call 713-856-1611.

Friends Helping Friends Grief Support Group - meets Mondays, Kindred Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster, 7 to 8:15 p.m., in the Team Conference Room. Anyone who's lost a loved one is welcome. Free. For information, call Mrs. Barry Craven at 281-486-4241 or R. Sanchez at 281-337-4365.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Saint Luke's Group, 12 Step Recovery, open meeting Mondays, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Education Bldg., 11011 Hall Rd., 77089. For details, call Russell at 832-483-6715.

Congregation Shaar Hashalom - Israeli Folk Dancing on Monday, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m., 16020 El Camino Real, 77062. \$4/session or \$35/10 sessions for CSH members and \$5/session or \$45/10 sessions for nonmembers. Everyone is welcome. For information, contact 281-488-5861 or csh@shaarhashalom.org.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 24
7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.

Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum - Exhibits include dioramas, a turn-of-the-century doctor's office and an old-time kitchen. Tuesday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., 204 S. Main, Pasadena. For details, call 713-472-0565.

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

Clear Lake Bridge Club - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call 281-480-1911 for details.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.

Rotary Club of Pearland - Meets Tuesdays, noon to 1 p.m., Golfcrest Country Club, 2509 Country Club Dr., Pearland. Lunch is \$15. Variety of interesting speakers. For information, call 281-900-7257 or visit nalix@texascitizensbank.com.

Clear Lake Bridge Club Lab Class - Sunday and Tuesday, 2 p.m.,

16614 Sea Lark, 77062. For details or classes, contact Dr. Glandorf at drglandorf@sbcglobal.net or call 281-488-6318.

Un Dia a la Vez Alanon Group (Spanish) - Support for family/friends of alcoholics/addicts. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, room 215, First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church-youth bldg. For information, call 713-856-1611.

Houston Space City Lions Club - Meets the second and fourth Tuesday, 7 p.m., at Luby's (11595 Fuqua). For details, call George Malone at 281-438-7243.

Alcoholics Anonymous - Alcohol problems? Meets Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7 to 8 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For details, call 713-306-4366 or 713-480-4166.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25
7 a.m.
AAA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.

Young at Heart Club - Meets the second and fourth week monthly (Nov./Dec. meet second week only) at Covenant United Methodist Church, 7900 Fuqua. Lots of activities, trips, etc. Call Doris Byerly at 713-944-4474 for information.

Clear Lake Bridge Club - Open games Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.

Hometown Heroes Park - has free Hump Day Dance to practice ball-room dance, 1 to 3:30 p.m. Wednesdays, 1001 E. League City Pkwy. League City nonresidents must purchase activity card. Help is available to assist learning dance moves. For details, call Neva Schroder at 417-838-2204.

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

ESL at CrossRoads UMC - Academic ESL classes begin Jan. 23. Meet both Mondays and Tuesdays, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. No fee to attend. Call Cris at 832-724-4296 to register. 10030 Scarsdale Blvd.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church-youth bldg. For information, call 713-856-1611.

Bay Area Turning Point Crisis Intervention - Call 281-286-2525 (24-hour crisis hotline) for confidential domestic violence/sexual abuse support group for women. Visit www.bayareaturningpoint.org for information.

Alcoholics Anonymous - meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For information, call 281-484-9243.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26
7 a.m.
AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.

Clear Lake Bridge Club - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.

CrossRoads UMC - Invites everyone to the Thursday night service beginning with a light meal and fellowship at 6 p.m. followed by a praise, worship and prayer service at 7 p.m. Directly afterward both pastors lead a Bible study in both English and Spanish. Everyone is welcome to join! 10030 Scarsdale Blvd.

Kirkwood Civic Association meets at the Sagemont Community Center, 11507 Hughes Rd. For more information, call Ericka McCutcheon at 281-989-9990.

Well Spouse Support Group - meets the last Thursday at CrossRoads UMC, 10030 Scarsdale, with the spouse of a chronically ill/disabled person, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Childcare is free. No meetings in Nov. or Dec. For details, contact Jennifer Miller at houstonwellspouse@gmail.com or 713-724-2360, or visit <http://www.wellspouse.org>.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Women's Group, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-856-1611.

Al-Anon (English) - Support for family and friends of alcoholics/addicts, 7 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, room 215. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.

Alateen - Support for teens, friends and family members of alcoholics/addicts, 7 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, room 208. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.

Alcoholics Anonymous - Alcohol problems? Meets Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7 to 8 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For details, call 713-306-4366 or 713-480-4166.

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Clear Brook, Dobie boys' hoops join JFD girls in first-place push

Continued from Page 1B up with the big win to stay within reach of Dickinson, which has opened District 24-6A action at 6-0. The Wolverines, who are currently alone in second place at 5-1, will host Dickinson Fri., Jan. 20, to close out the first half of league play. The varsity game will tip off at 7 p.m., at Wolverine Gymnasium. Clear Brook's victory over Alvin helped off-set a tough loss to Clear Springs on Friday the 13th. In that one, the Chargers won the overtime session 9-8, handing the Wolverines their first loss in District 24-6A action by a 70-69 count.

Dobie boys now 5-1 Wins are wins, at least that's the way teams have to view things when deeply engaged in district competition.

The Dobie varsity boys basketball team, aiming at the 22-6A championship this season, hasn't been dominant in many of its 22-6A contests.

Yet, at 5-1 after a 57-55 road win at La Porte Jan. 17, the Longhorns are just a game behind undefeated South Houston, which has set the pace at 6-0.

The seesaw game at La Porte saw the hosts jump out to a 19-9 lead after eight minutes.

The Longhorns responded in kind with a 17-7 second-quarter run,

but La Porte wound up with a four-point lead entering the fourth quarter before the Longhorns hung on for the win. Royce Hunter had a game-high 22 points for the Longhorns, while Jonathan Cooper (13 points) and Jeremy Williams (11 points) contributed on the offensive end of things. Jeremy Davis continued to excel on the backboards, yanking down nine rebounds for Dobie.

The Longhorns also came up with a solid effort Jan. 13 at Deer Park. With a big 14-5 third-quarter push, Dobie went on to defeat the Deer 56-49 as Hunter had 13 points and Williams added 11.

Dobie now has back-to-back home games coming against Memorial and Beaumont West Brook. Then comes a game at South Houston, a contest the Longhorns seemingly must win in order to keep their 22-6A title hopes intact.

Lady Horns roll on Similar to the story of the Dobie boys' team, the Lady Longhorns may find themselves needing to beat Deer Park on the road on the final day of the regular season to have a shot at first place.

It's simply the way things have gone to this point in District 22-6A, where Deer Park's 57-47

at Dobie Jan. 13 gave the Lady Deer sole possession of first place in the league.

In the loss, Dobie's Jade Giron had 19 points, while Alexis Osos added 11.

Shanyce Cabrales continued her sharp shooting from the outside with a trio of 3-pointers for nine points, and Victoria Onozie had seven rebounds.

Fast forward to Jan. 17 as the Lady Longhorns hammered La Porte 55-28, moving to 7-1 in 22-6A play, just a game behind the Lady Deer.

The Lady Longhorns now must survive road games at Memorial and at West Brook, but it appears the locals are in great shape to compete the entire way for the eventual crown.

Brook girls get a win The Clear Brook varsity girls' team is playing from behind after winning just twice in the first round of league play.

But the Lady Wolverines did open the second half of 24-6A action with a 32-28 victory at home against Alvin, moving to 3-5 in the standings.

The biggest hurdle for the Lady Wolverines is that the current playoff contenders are all at least two games ahead of them with just six to play.

Clear Lake is currently fourth at 5-3.

Longhorn, Trojan trainers team up, give to support cancer research

The South Houston and Dobie High School Sports Medicine programs united during football season to donate over \$600 to the Houston Methodist Cancer Center.

The contribution was made in honor of cancer survivors and those who have lost the fight against cancer.

"As athletic trainers, we provide treatments to student athletes, and we are making this donation to assist in research and treatment for cancer," said Michelle Nettles of the South Houston Sports Medicine Department.

Students at both campuses raised funds during a varsity football game between South Houston and Dobie, a South Houston volleyball game and at South Hous-

ton's annual Trunk or Treat event.

"The donation will be used by Houston Methodist Cancer Center to develop the latest treatments and therapies for patients," said Jenny Chang, M.D., Emily Hermann Chair in Cancer Research and director of the Houston Methodist Cancer Center.

"We are deeply grateful to the Pasadena ISD students whose generosity and philanthropic support further strengthen our momentum to develop new research advances," Chang said.

"It's wonderful to see the spirit of giving alive and well in these gracious young students."



Those lending a helping hand during the Houston Methodist Cancer Center fundraising effort included, left to right, (front row) Dobie staff athletic trainer Ruth Gonzales-Grasty, Valeria Lomas, Evelyn Chun, Yuliana Buenrostro, Myriam Gaspar, Myrna Baker, Methodist Cancer Research representative; Mariah Colin, Cathy Supak, Methodist Outreach Athletic Trainer for

Pasadena ISD, Bianca Comepan, Karina Santos, (back row) Troy McCarley, Pasadena ISD associate superintendent; Jessica Pfannstiel, South Houston staff athletic trainer; Carlos Munoz, Jesse Lopez, Dobie staff athletic trainer; Aaron Smith, Rolando Arana, Emily Lloyd and Michelle Nettles, South Houston staff athletic trainer.

Wilson's no-give, no-quit outlook pays off with UMHB

By John Bechtle Sports Editor

To say Reggie Wilson has taken the long road during his collegiate football career is, to be honest, an understatement.

The important part? Wilson, a 2011 Dobie High School graduate, is about to don an NCAA Division III football national championship ring, and he still has a chance to play for another of those title rings next season.

No offense to Wilson, but he wasn't exactly a 5-star prospect coming out of Dobie in the spring of 2011. Yes, he was a key member of Dobie's 2010 District 22-5A championship squad, but the Longhorns still weren't garnering much respect from college recruiters.

A defensive back on that 2010 squad that crushed Deer Park for the league title in 22-5A but then was subsequently

dominated at Beaumont West Brook in the bidistrict round, Wilson went searching for colleges in the spring of his senior season.

He wound up at Alcorn State. But after just one season, Alcorn State's head coach was relieved of his duties, meaning the scholarships of Wilson and other players were left hanging in the balance.

Two collegiate football seasons ensued without Wilson seeing a field.

With the help of a recommendation of then Dobie varsity football head coach Jim Phillips, Wilson landed at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, a highly-successful NCAA Division III program located in Belton, Texas.

Wilson showed up on campus prior to the 2014 campaign with four years of competition eligibility remaining. By 2015, he was a starter at strong

as the Cru went 11-2 overall, losing to Linfield in the third round of the playoffs.

During that 2015 season, Blake Jackson, Wilson's former teammate at Dobie, also saw considerable time at quarterback.

While Wilson is a school grade older than Jackson, both also were standout athletes at Beverly Hills Intermediate, and their friendship dates well beyond that.

Fast forward to his season as Jackson and Wilson played big-time roles as the Cru went 15-0 to capture the NCAA Division III national title following a 10-7 victory over Wisconsin-Oshkosh in the championship game.

Jackson, a senior, was named the Player of the Game in the championship tilt and has since landed in Sports Illustrated in its Faces in the Crowd section.

He may or may not have played his final competitive football game at a big-time level and is still considered the top-performing quarterback at Dobie in at least a dozen seasons.

But what to make of Wilson? Quite honestly, he's a self-made standout.

Despite being essentially pushed out at Alcorn State and missing two complete seasons, he continued to believe in his dream of playing collegiately.

Neither Jackson nor Wilson are considered future pro football prospects, but both deserve their just due for pushing the proverbial envelope and taking their talents to the limit.

"I learned a lot about leadership even going back to Dobie," Wilson said.

"We hadn't won a lot in a long time, and we went out and won the district title in 2010 with coach Phillips in his first year.

"Even when things didn't go the way I had wanted at Alcorn State, I kept telling myself to be patient, that I was going to get a second chance."

Since Wilson gained that second chance with Mary Hardin-Baylor in 2014, he hasn't looked back.

While Jackson paced the Cru offense with his dual threat capabilities this season, Wilson did his own damage on defense.

For the season, Wilson had 46 solo tackles among his 83 total stops from his safety position.

He had a 38-yard punt return for a touchdown against Sul Ross and might have played the game of his life Dec. 3 against Wheaton with 15 total tackles and three blocks on special teams in the kicking game.

"We felt like we could go as far as we wanted to go," Wilson said. "We went three rounds deep last year, and with Blake in at quarterback full time, I knew we could push it farther."

"Even when things didn't always go right for Blake, you could always see the look in his eye that he was going to count on us to get the ball back and he would make a big play. That happened a lot for us this season."

The national championship ring style has been chosen, and while the rings have yet to be deliv-

ered, Wilson says the time will come. When it does, he may never take it off, he said.

While Jackson's career is done at UMHB, Wilson has one season remaining. He's had a great deal of success, but isn't about to rest now.

"Honestly, we just want to pick up where we left off this season and go out there and chase a second national title," Wilson said.

"I know the coaching staff expects nothing less from us, so the work has already started for next season. This football program has given so much to us as players, and we just want to make sure we can give back as much as possible before our time is up."

Wilson said he will become a senior academically this summer. He is pursuing a degree in criminal justice and one day hopes to work in the federal end of things.

Lessons to be learned from Wilson?

Never, never quit chasing a dream. He wasn't highly-recruited yet found a collegiate home.

That door closed after just one season, but Wilson kept training, staying prepared for that second chance.

Physically, few who knew Wilson at Dobie and haven't seen him in a while may not recognize his physical build today.

"I just feel like if I'm resting or not doing what I am supposed to do from a training standpoint, then there is someone out there taking advantage of that and looking to take my spot," he said.

"Nothing is given to you in the game of football or life. You have to go out there and get it. I've always been willing to put in the work, to go out there and give my 110 percent on the field. It really has paid off."

At right, a cornerback at Dobie High School during the team's 2010 District 22-5A championship run, Reggie Wilson (4) remained a cornerback until switching to safety in 2015 for the Mary Hardin-Baylor football program. The team went 11-2 in 2015 but then went all the way this past season with a 10-7 Division III national championship victory over Wisconsin-Oshkosh.



At right, University of Mary Hardin-Baylor safety Reggie Wilson, a 2011 Dobie graduate, spent plenty of time smiling during the 2016 season with the Cru as he logged 83 total tackles to go with a punt return for a touchdown and three blocked kicks/punts on special teams. It all added up to a national title for the Cru football team after a perfect 15-0 run.



Area sports news, notes

Rising Stars track club to register

The Rising Stars Track Club, led by head coach Ivory Kimble, is now hosting registration and practice sessions at the Dobie High School track. Staff members will be on hand to register new and returning athletes each Friday beginning at 4:30 p.m., each Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon and each Sunday from 2 to 4 p.m. Practice sessions are held each Wednesday and Friday, from 4:30 p.m. until dark, Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and Sundays from 2 to 4 p.m. Those ages 5 to 18 are eligible to compete in the Rising Stars Track program, which has qualified dozens of athletes for national competition over the last few summers. For more information, call Kimble at 281-561-1248.

Lady Longhorn softball sets scrimmages Feb. 11

There will be a series of scrimmage games in a round robin format hosted by the Dobie varsity softball program at the high school and the girls' softball facility at El Franco Lee Park Saturday, Feb. 11, and the public is invited to view the action. Members of the Lady Longhorn booster club will be on hand selling barbecue combination plates for \$8 each, and other concessions will be available. Entry fee is \$5 for adults and children older than 5. Children age 5 and under as well as any South Belt Girls Softball Association players who wear their game uniform to the event will be admitted free of charge. Game action will begin at 9 a.m.

SBGSA offers free youth camp Jan. 28

The South Belt Girls Softball Association will host a free youth softball camp on Saturday, Jan. 28, as players and coaches from Dobie, Clear Brook, Pasadena Memorial and Rising Stars track club to register.

The Rising Stars Track Club, led by head coach Ivory Kimble, is now hosting registration and practice sessions at the Dobie High School track. Staff members will be on hand to register new and returning athletes each Friday beginning at 4:30 p.m., each Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon and each Sunday from 2 to 4 p.m.

Practice sessions are held each Wednesday and Friday, from 4:30 p.m. until dark, Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and Sundays from 2 to 4 p.m. Those ages 5 to 18 are eligible to compete in the Rising Stars Track program, which has qualified dozens of athletes for national competition over the last few summers. For more information, call Kimble at 281-561-1248.

South Belt Youth Soccer Club online registration

The South Belt Youth Soccer Club is now accepting online registration for the spring 2017 season. Practices will begin in early February, with the season set to begin later that month. The registration fees are as follows: U-5 through U-8 (4, 5, 6, 7) is \$75, which includes uniform. U-9 and U-10 (8, 9) is \$85, and uniform fee is an additional cost.

The U-11 and older (10 to 18) is \$95, and uniform fee is an additional cost. Only credit cards and debit cards will be accepted as forms of payment. A late registration fee of \$10 will be assessed after Feb. 15. To register, visit the league's website at www.southbeltssoccer.org.