

### Holiday markets set

The second of six holiday markets in South Belt will be Sunday, Oct. 20, at the Gardens Houston, 12001 Beamer Road from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event features local vendor and yard sale booths and is open to the public.

Vendor space and yard sale spaces are available. Booths start at \$10 each. Future market dates are Nov. 3 and 17, and Dec. 1 and 15. For information, call or text Kay Barbour at 713-419-3545.

### Children's items needed

The Friends of the Parker William Branch Library needs donations of children's books, gently used softback novels and CDs. These items can be dropped off at 10851 Scarsdale Blvd., Suite 501, during normal library hours. Donations will help the library to better serve the community.

### Hughes/Sabo closure set

At least one southbound lane on Hughes/Sabo will be closed continuously at Beltway 8 until further notice. The closure is associated with an ongoing City of Houston project to replace a force water main at the area intersection.

### Telephone closure planned

At least one northbound and one southbound lane on SH 35/Telephone Road will be closed from Airport Boulevard to Bellfort Avenue daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (excluding Sundays) until further notice.

### Beltway 8 closure planned

At least one northbound frontage road lane on Beltway 8 will be closed from Greenshadow to SH 225 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. until further notice.

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

### COVID cases reported

The number of COVID-19 cases reported in the South Belt community is roughly on par with the previous several weeks, according to Harris County health officials.

As of Tuesday, Oct. 8, there were 295 active cases in 77089, no change from the previous week. To date, 134 from the ZIP code have died from the disease, no increase from the previous week.

In ZIP code 77075, there were six active cases, no change from the previous week. To date, there have been 84 deaths in the ZIP code, no increase from the previous week.

In 77034, there were six active cases, no change from the previous week. To date, 92 residents from ZIP code 77034 have died from the disease, no increase from the previous week.

Statistics are updated weekly and include numbers from within the Houston city limits and throughout Harris County. To view an interactive map, visit covid-harriscounty.hub.arcgis.com/pages/cumulativedata.

### Gulf Freeway closures set

At least one northbound and one southbound main lanes and frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from SH 96/Calder/Brittany Bay to FM-519/Main Street daily from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and nightly from 8:30 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Sunday, Dec. 31.

The U-turn lane on the northbound Gulf Freeway frontage road (north to south) at FM-519/Main Street in La Marque will be closed until further notice.

The U-turn lane on the southbound Gulf Freeway frontage road (south to north) at FM-519/Main Street in La Marque will be closed until further notice.

The northbound Gulf Freeway exit ramp to SH-6/SH-146 in La Marque will close permanently at 9 a.m. Wednesday, July 5. Traffic must exit FM-519 and U-turn. Traffic will merge onto the Gulf Freeway southbound main lanes at next available entrance ramp.

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.

### New food distribution times

New Covenant Christian Church, 10603 Blackhawk at Kirkfair, will have new food distribution dates.

The church will have a food distribution event on the first and third Wednesday from 1 to 2 p.m. and the second and fourth Saturday of the month from noon to 1 p.m. or until supplies last. The purpose of the distribution is to provide food to people in need in the surrounding community.

For additional information, contact the church at 281-484-4230.

### Sagemeadow meets Oct. 17

The Sagemeadow HOA will hold a meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 17, at The Gardens, 12001 Beamer at Hughes. The meeting is open to the public.

All Sagemeadow residents are encouraged to attend. For additional information, visit sagemeadow.org.

# Annual Evening of Cuisine set for Oct. 17

## Chamber of Commerce fundraiser to be held at Lone Star Flight Museum

The annual Evening of Cuisine will take place Thursday, Oct. 17, at the Lone Star Flight Museum, 11551 Aerospace Ave., near Ellington Airport, from 6 to 9 p.m.

Hosted by the South Belt-Ellington Chamber

of Commerce, the event allows attendees to sample food and beverage from a wide variety of local vendors. The yearly event is traditionally the chamber's most successful fundraiser each year. This year's event will feature a live musical

performance by The Slags. Jennifer Lopez Fuller from the Bay Area Houston Food Lovers will serve as the event's guest of honor.

Confirmed vendors include Bakkhus Taverna, Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia's office, Dave & Buster's, Dobie Culinary Arts, Interstellar Confections, Jack in the Box, Maggiano's Baybrook, Minuti Coffee, Mornings Kolache, Nothing Bundt Cakes, PF Chang's, San Jacinto College Culinary Department, Saltgrass Steakhouse, Sandra's Carolina Kitchen, Savannah's Cafe &

Bakery, Scrumptious Bite, SpaceCraft BBQ & Taps and Taqueria El Barbon.

Awards will be given to best entree, best dessert, best decorated, rookie of the year, people's choice and best of show.

The event will also feature live and silent auctions.

Tickets are \$25.

For additional information, contact the chamber at 281-481-5516 or info@southbeltchamber.com.

## St. Luke's Douglas blesses pets



St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church held its annual Blessing of the Pets event Saturday, Oct. 5. A favorite among church members, the event attracted dozens of area pets. Shown above at the recent event are, left to right, Lucy Bedolla with dog Maya, the Rev. Douglas Guthrie, Adrian Bedolla and Makayla Bedolla.

## Flickinger to host town hall meetings

### Pair of District E meetings set for Oct. 22, 24

Newly elected Houston District E City Council Member Fred Flickinger will host a pair of town hall meetings in the South Belt community, with the first event taking place in the Edgebrook area at 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 22, at OneMovement Bible Church, located at 10120 Hartsook St.



Fred Flickinger

A second event will take place in the Clear Lake area at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 24, at Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership (BAHEP), located at 1150 Gemini St.

This will mark the first time a District E City Council member has held two separate town hall meetings in the southern portion of the district. A

third town hall meeting was held Sept. 19 in the northern portion of the oddly shaped District E.

Son of *Leader* publisher Marie Flickinger and Clear Brook City MUD board member David Flickinger, Fred Flickinger replaced term-limited District E City Council Member Dave Martin, who ran an unsuccessful campaign for city controller after leaving office.

The town hall meetings will also feature presentations from the following representatives:

- Houston Public Works.
- Solid Waste Management Department.
- Houston Police Department.
- Houston Fire Department.
- TIRZ 10/Lake Houston Redevelopment Authority (Kingwood).
- CenterPoint Energy.

For additional information, contact the District E office at 832-393-3008 or via email at district@houston.tx.gov.

## Open bar tab leads to Pct. 2 arrest

### Man drinks \$200+ worth of alcohol, refuses to pay

A suspect was arrested Saturday, Sept. 28, after allegedly drinking more than \$200 worth of alcohol without paying from a bar in the 12300 block of Scarsdale near Sageglen.



Jisan Makojiya

According to officials with Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry

Garcia's office, deputies were dispatched to Legends Sports Bar after a customer consumed the aforementioned alcohol without paying for it.

The male customer - later identified as Jisan Makojiya - reportedly told responding deputies that he refused to pay and requested that they take him to jail.

Deputies contacted the Harris County District Attorney's Office, and the charge of theft of a business was accepted.

Deputies gave Makojiya a ride to the Harris County Joint Processing Center, where he was booked without further incident.

## Wings Over Houston celebrates 40 years

### Annual airshow to showcase rarely encountered planes

Celebrating its 40th anniversary, the Wings Over Houston Airshow (WOHA) is bringing aviation enthusiasts a rare opportunity to witness two highly sought-after aircraft - the F-100 Super Sabre and the USAF KC-46A Pegasus.

These planes join a diverse lineup of aerial displays and exclusive appearances for the event coming to Ellington Airport Oct. 26 and 27.

"Wings Over Houston has always been about creating unforgettable moments for our guests," said Bill Roach, executive director of WOHA. "These aircraft draw fans from across the globe, so featuring both the KC-46A Pegasus and F-100 at this year's show will offer fans a truly unique experience."

Part of the Collings Foundation collection, the only airworthy F-100 Super Sabre in North America - and possibly in the world - was a critical asset in U.S. operations during the Vietnam War. Flown by Houstonian Rick Sharpe, founder of the Vietnam War Flight Museum, the F-100 will join a fleet of Vietnam-era planes and helicopters for a tribute to those who served in this

rare public appearance. Making its debut at the Wings Over Houston Airshow, the KC-46A Pegasus will showcase advancements in aircraft design, such as refueling capabilities and innovative technology extending the operational limits of modern aircraft.

Headlining the event is the U.S. Navy Blue Angels, along with performances from the F-16 Viper Demo Team, the C-17 Globemaster III, John and Shane McGillis, MiG-15 and ME-262 by Rick Sharpe, the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force Vietnam War Tribute, the RE/MAX Skydiving Team, Tora! Tora! Tora!, U.S. Air Force Heritage Flight and a U.S. Coast Guard search and rescue demonstration.

Other special elements of this year's WOHA event include the Legends and Heroes tent, with presenting-sponsor United Airlines, and the Veterans Business Marketplace, presented by Walmart.

To learn more about ticket options, display aircraft, additional event attractions, travel accommodations, sponsorship or volunteer opportunities, visit www.wingsoverhouston.com.

## HCFCD to hold public meeting Oct. 14

### Meeting to discuss proposed Flood Control District tax

The Harris County Flood Control District will host a public meeting from 6 to 8 p.m. Monday, Oct. 14, at El Franco Lee Community Center, 9500 Hall Road, to educate the South Belt community on Proposition A.

Set to appear on the upcoming Nov. 5 ballot, Proposition A would increase the Flood Control District's ad valorem tax rate for investment in the operation and maintenance of flood control infrastructure in Harris County.

The purpose of the meeting is to educate residents about HCFCD's current and potential maintenance efforts and the impact of Proposition A in the area. Residents will be able to engage with Flood Control District experts, as well as submit comments about maintenance efforts and Proposition A through comment cards, an online comment form or email. Interpreters will be in attendance to provide translation in Spanish, Vietnamese and Mandarin.

If approved, Proposition A would increase the HCFCD Fiscal Year 2025 property tax rate by an additional 1.5 cents per \$100 of evaluation - a jump of more than 57 percent from the previous year. That would be on top of the already approved 0.2 cents per \$100 of evaluation increase over the FY 2024 budget. This would result in an FY 2025 HCFCD property

tax rate of 4.9 cents.

According to district officials, the average homeowner would see an increase of approximately \$60 per year. Overall, Proposition A rate would raise around \$120 million more than FY 2024.

Of this, nearly \$8 million would be raised from new properties added to the tax role, according to Harris County's proposed budget.

The current property tax rate for FY 2024 is 3.1 cents per \$100. If Proposition A fails, the FY 2025 rate will still increase by 0.2 cents, or 6.8 percent to 3.3 cents - the highest tax rate that HCFCD can adopt without seeking voter approval. If Proposition A passes, however, the FY 2025 rate will increase by 57.7 percent over the current rate to 4.9 cents.

The Oct. 14 meeting is just one of 10 to be held by HCFCD officials throughout Harris County. Eight of the meetings will be in person, while two will be held online.

The complete list of meetings can be found on the Flood Control District's Maintenance Matters webpage at www.hcfdc.org/PropA. This page provides comprehensive information on Harris County Flood Control District's Proposition A ballot initiative including a FAQ, public meeting information and updates.

## Pct. 2's Sanchez dragged by vehicle

### Suspect in stolen car charged with felony assault

A Precinct 2 sergeant was injured around 10:30 a.m. Tuesday Sept. 23, when he was dragged from a suspect's vehicle as the driver was attempting to flee from a traffic stop in the 11300 block of Hughes Road near Sageglen.



Kevin Vasquez

According to officials with Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia's office, Sgt. Robert Sanchez initiated a traffic stop on a 2020 Ford F350 for speeding (65 mph in a 35 mph zone). Upon making contact with the driver, Sanchez said he was displaying suspicious behavior.

The sergeant asked the driver - later identified as a 19-year-old Kevin Silval-Vasquez - to step out of the vehicle but he refused. When

Vasquez declined to exit the truck, Sanchez attempted to remove him by force. At that time, however, Vasquez attempted to speed away from the scene, with the sergeant still holding onto the vehicle door.

The suspect stopped suddenly, throwing Sanchez to the ground. The sergeant was dragged approximately 130 feet before being thrown to the concrete.

A wrecker driver with Challenger Wrecker Service was on the scene, witnessed this incident and was able to assist in detaining Vasquez until backup units could arrive.

Sanchez was transported to a nearby hospital, where he was treated for minor injuries and later released.

Vasquez was arrested and charged with second-degree felony assault on a public servant.

It was later determined that the vehicle was reported stolen out of the Harris County Precinct 4 constable district.

## Community celebrates NNO



Harris County Precinct 2 officials held their annual National Night Out gathering Tuesday, Oct. 1, at the Scarsdale county annex. This marked the 40th anniversary of the national event aimed at fostering better relationships between law enforcement and the communities they serve. Shown above at the local event are, left to right, David Flickinger, Oscar Salazar, Ed Jackson, Cecelia Ganje, Judge Jo Ann Delgado, Luis Garza (chief of staff for Judge Delgado), Sandy Robb and Stacey Waugh. Photo by Marie Flickinger

# In My Opinion

## King: County increase may be as high as 19%

It has been widely reported by the local media that Harris County Commissioners' Court increased taxes by 8% at their meeting on September 19.

However, the County's public tax notices clearly show that for the increase for the average homeowner will be at least 15% and may be as high as 19%. While this increase is jaw-dropping, it is made even more egregious because it comes on the heels of a nearly 12% increase last year, making the increase over the last two years 29.5%. These increases will result in the County and its related entities receiving nearly \$900 million more in tax revenue than just two years ago. To say this increase is unprecedented is a gross understatement. I suspect this is the largest two-year tax increase in the history of the State of Texas.

### The Tax Setting Process

First, it is important to remember that your tax bill is a function of two factors: the tax rate and the taxable appraised value of your property. If either of those goes up or down, so will your tax bill.

When elected officials set their tax rates in the fall of each year, the appraisal district has provided them with an estimate for the likely increase in the appraised values for that year. That estimated increase in the appraised value for the average taxpayer's home is included in the required tax notices. So, when elected officials set tax rates for the year, they know what the likely effect will be on their residents' tax bills.

Officials like to talk about tax rates but ignore appraised values, which for many years have been steadily moving higher. This allows elected officials to claim that they are holding taxes steady or, in this case, mislead taxpayers that an increase is not as dramatic as it actually is.

### The 2024 Tax Increases

The Commissioners' Court sets the tax rates for the Harris County along with the Harris County Flood Control District, the Harris County Hospital District and the Port Authority. Because these are separate legal entities, they must publish separate public notices regarding their tax rates.

So, let's look at happened at each of these entities in the tax setting process over the last two years.

In both of these tax years, the Harris County Appraisal District (HCAD) notified Commissioners' Court in advance of setting the tax rate, that appraised values would be increasing. The projected increase in 2023 was 9.3% and 4.48% in 2024. So, Commissioners knew that even if they did not increase the tax rate at all, property owners' tax bills would still go up by those amounts.

Here are the tax rates set by Commissioners' Court this year and the effect they had on the average homeowner according to the official public tax notices.

For the County, the Commissioners' Court approved an increase in the tax rate of just over 10%. When the 10% tax rate increase is combined with the 4.48% valuation increase, the result is that the average homeowner's Hospital District tax bill will increase by 19.09%.

For the Port Authority, the Commissioners' Court approved a 7.14% increase in the tax rate. When the 7.14% tax rate in-

crease is combined with the 4.48% valuation increase, the result is that the average homeowner's Port Authority tax bill will increase by 11.96%.

In addition, the Commissioners' Court has also asked voters to approve a massive 65% increase in the property taxes for the Flood Control District. If voters approve the increase for the Flood Control District, the total tax bill for all four entities for the average homeowner will jump from \$1,159 last year to \$1,379 this year, a 19% increase.

### The 2023 Tax Increase

As I mentioned previously, this increase comes on top of another large increase in the tax bills last year. However, the math last year was different.

Last year, there were small increases in the tax rates for the County and the Flood Control District with small offsetting reductions in the tax rates for the Hospital District and the Port Authority. But HCAD projected at the time that the value of the average home would increase by 9.3%. As a result, the Commissioners' Court knew that if they held the tax rate close to even, taxpayers would be paying about 9% more. The end result was an overall 9.7% increase last year.

When added together, the taxes for the average homeowner will increase in just two years by 29.5% (\$1062 \$1,379).

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, from the beginning of 2023 through the first quarter of 2024 (their last published data), average wages for Harris County were only up by 3.9%. So, Harris County taxes over the last two years have grown more than the rate seven times higher than Harris County's residents' wages.

The increase in Harris County taxes is five times the rate of inflation for our region over the last two years.

Of course, homeowners are only one piece of the property tax pie. The increases in the total tax levy by the County provides a more macro view of the magnitude of the increases over the last two years. Again, according to the County's tax notices, the total levy for all four entities has gone from slightly under \$3.1 billion in 2022 to nearly \$4 billion for this year, a staggering 28.7% increase in the overall tax burden from the County in just two years. Frankly, I have never heard of a property tax increase even close to this magnitude before.

And keep in mind that is on top of historic increases in the amount that County has siphoned from the Harris County Toll Road Authority.

This tax increase will be felt by every person and business across the county. The cost of everything will be higher as result of it and that will be on top of the current inflation we are already dealing with.

I am not sure when, or perhaps, if ever, these elected officials will come to comprehend that people do not have to live here. Ultimately, they will vote with their feet. Indeed, they have already begun to do so. In the last decade, Harris County's net domestic migration has been a negative 200,000. I suspect these massive tax increases will send more running for the exits.

Note 1: The appraisal roll is established as Jan. 1 each year with appraisal notices going to taxpayers in the spring. Once the deadline has passed for protesting the values, the appraisal district will begin resolving those protests. Normally in August of each year the appraisal will publish its original certified roll which will contain about 90% of the accounts. Shortly thereafter, the appraisal district provides taxing entities with their projections on the final roll which is used by the entities in setting their tax rates. The projections are normally fair-

ly accurate. For example, in 2023 HCAD's projection for the average home's value proved to be only slightly too high (218,989 vs. 218,533).

Note 2: The vote all of the tax rate in-

creases were 4-1, with Commissioner Ramsey being the only "no" vote except for the Flood Control District, which he voted for.

Bill King

## Elected officials share their words

### Letter from Carolyn Evans-Shabazz

From the Desk of Dr. Carolyn Evans-Shabazz, Council Member, District D Dear Friends and Neighbors,

As we welcome the fall season, I want to take this opportunity to reflect on the strength and resilience of our community. The changing of the seasons brings a fresh start, and as we prepare for cooler days ahead, I am reminded of the progress we have made together and the challenges we continue to face with unwavering determination.

This time of year is one of transition, not only in the weather but also in our daily routines. With school back in session, I want to extend my best wishes to all our students, educators, and families. Whether you are starting a new grade, navigating the school year as a teacher, or supporting your children as they learn, I encourage you all to remain hopeful and focused. Education continues to be a cornerstone of our community's future, and I am dedicated to ensuring that resources are available to support your success.

Our community has always demonstrated incredible resilience, and I know that we will continue to do so. As we face ongoing challenges, whether in our neighborhoods, schools, or daily lives, let's remember the strength that comes from standing together. Our office is always here to listen and respond to your concerns. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us if you have any issues that need

to be addressed. Your voices are important, and together we can ensure that District D remains a place where everyone can thrive.

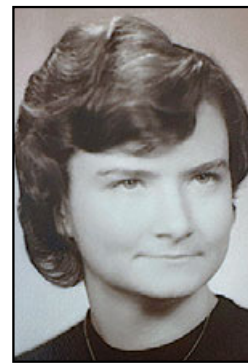
I am also proud to share that road and street projects are being actively completed throughout the district. Recent accomplishments include the sidewalk repair outside of Mt. Hebron Baptist Church on Calhoun Road and the road repaving in front of the Buffalo Soldiers National Museum, enhancing the accessibility and safety of these important community landmarks. These improvements are vital to ensuring that our community is safe and accessible for all. We remain committed to continuing these efforts and improving the quality of life for our residents.

As we move forward into the fall season, I encourage each of you to remain engaged, stay strong, and continue supporting one another. Whether it's through local events, neighborhood improvements, or lending a helping hand to those in need, together, we will keep building a brighter future for District D.

Thank you for your continued support, and please know that my office is here for you. Let's continue working hand-in-hand to create a stronger, more unified community.

With sincere gratitude and determination, Dr. Carolyn Evans-Shabazz Councilwoman, District D

## Dorothy Elizabeth Strange



Dorothy Elizabeth Strange, age 74, passed away peacefully at Houston Hospice on Friday, Sept. 27, 2024, surrounded by her loving family. She was born on Dec. 4, 1949, in Chicago, to Richard and Elizabeth Poprawski, who preceded her in death. Dorothy was the oldest of thirteen children and grew up in a humble home converted into a five-bedroom house. She graduated from Carmel Catholic High School. After graduation, Dorothy joined the Navy to become a nurse. During her time serving, she met Ronald Strange in Corpus Christi while caring for him in the hospital after he was wounded in Vietnam. They married in 1969 and moved to Houston, where they started their family of five children. After leaving the service,

# Deaths

she earned her welder certification and worked for Arco and Grumman. Dorothy and Ronald separated, and she joined the Hope Village to become a housemother where she helped individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. After her time there, she accepted a position with Health and Human Services from which she retired.

She spent more than 30 years on her Magnolia property, relishing the tranquility of the outdoors. As her health declined, she moved to Village on the Park in Friendswood. Though her time there was brief, she cherished the camaraderie of her breakfast table friends.

As a child, she loved visiting the beach and horseback riding. Her passions shifted to swimming and water aerobics as she grew older. She also enjoyed collecting angel and Indian figurines and displaying them in her home. She loved to watch movies and shows; one couldn't ask her about a show without her giving spoilers.

Her favorite times of the year was Thanksgiving and Christmas, because she knew she was going to enjoy homemade tamales from the Rodriguez family. If her health would let her, she always loved to spend time at the Rodriguez and Rios gatherings.

Dorothy is survived by her five children, Matt Strange, Beth Hendrix, Denise Guidry, Ronnie Strange, and Peter Strange. She had twenty-two grandchildren and four

## Arthur John Malachowski



Arthur John Malachowski, 70, passed away on Monday, Sept. 30, 2024, at his home on Sage Hollow Lane in Houston. He was born on March 23, 1954. His parents, Theresa and Arthur Joseph Malachowski, predeceased him and he is survived by his sister Kathleen (Clint) Dowdy from McKinney, Texas and a niece, Danielle Defoe, from Frisco, Texas. He will be truly missed by many friends and neighbors. Private services are being held in the near future.

## Meador rewarded for excellence



For the third consecutive year Meador Elementary has been recognized for the Excellence in Wellness Award as platinum level winners. Pictured, left to right, are Malorie Ehrlich (PE coach), Jennifer Chavez (principal) and Stephanie Bounds (PE coach).

## Harris County launches first public probate

Harris County launched the new Office of the Public Probate Administrator to assist residents who lack the resources or family support to manage their estates. The office will help residents who can not manage their finances or who passed without a will, ensuring their assets are protected from fraud and transferred to rightful heirs.

Led by Public Probate Administrator Brandon Co-field, this office will serve as a critical safety net for Harris County residents, especially those facing illness, injury, or aging, as well as those without next of kin or legal representation. The office has the authority to act

as a universal heir when necessary, determining whether an individual has heirs, a will, or a trust. The goal is to prevent fraud, misappropriation, or abuse by third parties, while also protecting residents from financial exploitation.

"My goal is to ensure that no person loses or receives a lesser inheritance because of a lack of resources or guidance," said Co-field. "For too long, the assets of those who pass away in Harris County have not been transferred to lawful beneficiaries because of inaction or lack of knowledge. My office will work to close the information gap and protect vulnerable popu-

lations."

Harris County Attorney Christian Menefee highlighted the far-reaching impact of this initiative. "This office will fundamentally change the way we protect vulnerable residents in Harris County. For too long, people without resources or legal support have fallen through the cracks, leaving their estates open to fraud or exploitation. This is about ensuring that every resident — no matter their circumstances — is treated with dignity and fairness. We're not just creating a new office; we're closing a long-standing gap in our community's safety net."

## Volunteers needed for disaster shelter

The American Red Cross Texas Gulf Coast Region is issuing an urgent appeal for volunteers who are willing to travel this fall to support emergency shelters for major national disaster relief efforts.

Interested volunteers are urged to sign up at [redcross.org/volunteer](http://redcross.org/volunteer). All candidates must complete necessary training and be able to commit to a two-week deployment. Applicants who don't have disaster experience, but have supervision, management or organization skills; a strong desire to help others; and the ability to thrive in a fast-paced, dynamic environment, are encouraged to apply.

"When disasters upend lives, Red Cross volunteers are on the frontlines providing refuge and comfort to people in their darkest hours," Jake Peters, regional disaster officer, of Texas Gulf Coast Region said. "They truly are the heart and soul of the Red Cross — comprising 90 percent of our workforce — to help ensure families never face a crisis alone."

## McDonald hosts NNO



On Tuesday, Oct. 1, Dawn McDonald held the second event for National Night Out at her home in Sage Glen. This event featured drinks, snacks and yard games. Pictured, left to right, are Deputy James Lancaster, Deputy John Ricarte, Constable Jerry Garcia, Deputy Javier Sarimento, Deputy Christopher Pena and McDonald.

## County appraisal district sends reminder

The Harris Central Appraisal District is reminding property owners who had physical damage to their property during Hurricane Beryl that the deadline to apply for the temporary disaster exemption is Monday, Oct. 21.

Property owners can apply for the temporary disaster exemption for physical damage to the structures on their property and to business personal

property, which is property used to produce income. Damage to trees or shrubbery is not eligible. The temporary disaster exemption could reduce 2024 property taxes for a portion of the appraised property value.

The disaster application form can be found online at [www.hcad.org](http://www.hcad.org) under FORMS > ALL FORMS > General Information > Form 50-312, Temporary Exemption for

Property Damaged by a Disaster. The form should be mailed to the address in the top left of the form, which is Harris Central Appraisal District, Information and Assistance Division, P.O. Box 922012, Houston, TX 77292-2012.

For further information contact the HCAD's information center at 713-957-7800 or by using the web form under ABOUT > CONTACT US > ACCOUNT QUESTIONS.

## Local library events set

In case of storms or adverse weather, refer to library website for details.

### Bracewell Branch Library

Bracewell Library is at 9002 Kingspoint. Customers are encouraged to visit the building to browse, check out and return materials, use the computers and Wi-Fi, and check out holds. For information, visit <https://houstonlibrary.org>. For online learning, visit <https://houstonlibrary.org/online-learning-7556> or call 832-393-2580. Hours are Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Wednesdays, noon – 8 p.m.; Fridays, 1 – 5 p.m.; and Saturdays, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Bracewell is closed Sundays.

Thursday, Oct. 10, 10 – 11:30 a.m. Family story time.

Thursday, Oct. 10, 3 – 4 p.m. Open lab - computer class.

Thursday, Oct. 10, 5 – 6 p.m. English language learning at the library.

Monday, Oct. 14, 11 a.m. – noon Open lab - computer help.

Tuesday, Oct. 15, 4 – 5 p.m. Board games.

Wednesday, Oct. 16, 6 – 7 p.m. Conversational living English lessons.

Wednesday, Oct. 16, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Family night unplugged.

Visit <https://houstonlibrary.libcal.com/calendar/events> for more library events.

### Book drop

The book drop is open. Library materials can be returned. The library continues to provide online resources to enjoy the library virtually. Large items such as FLIP kits or laptops should not be placed in the book drop, but taken inside.

### Parker Williams Library

Parker Williams Library is open. Visit <https://www.hcpl.net/reopening> for reopening information or the main website at <https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library>. The library will follow state and county guidelines for mask and social distancing.

The book drop is open. Social media links are Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary and Instagram.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary.

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

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2 – 4 p.m. Tech help.

Monday, Oct. 14, 1 – 2:30 p.m. Conversation club.

Monday, Oct. 14, 2 – 4 p.m. Pathway to citizenship.

Wednesday, Oct. 16, 10 – 11 a.m. Data axle: reference solutions training.

Wednesday, Oct. 16, 10 – 11:30 a.m. Conversation club with Ed.

Wednesday, Oct. 16, 6 – 8 p.m. Pathway to citizenship.

### Parker Williams "No-Contact Curbside Holds Pick-Up"

– After receiving notification that holds are ready for pickup, call 832-927-7870.

– Have a library card number and PIN handy.

– A pickup time and instructions will be given.

– Upon arriving, park in one of the two parking spots reserved for curbside holds.

– Be prepared to show a library card or other form of ID for verification.

Hours are Monday, 11 a.m. – 8 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Friday, 1 – 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Visit <https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library> for details.

### Online services

– Use HCPL Wi-Fi service with HCPL's drive-up Wi-Fi.

– Download e-books and audiobooks, stream movies, research and learn at [www.hcpl.net](http://www.hcpl.net).

– Attend an HCPL program or story time online through Facebook or YouTube.

– Check an account to renew loans or request books, e-books, comics or graphic novels.

– Stream classic films, indie cinema and award-winning documentaries on Kanopy.

– Listen to audiobooks through RBDigital or OverDrive.

– Read along and play with picture books on TumbleBooks.

Don't have an HCPL library card? Instant access can be obtained to all HCPL's digital materials and research tools with an iKnow Digital Access Card. Apply at <https://www.hcpl.net/services/iknow-card> for a HCPL card. For details, visit <https://www.hcpl.net>.

# South Belt-Ellington Leader

The Voice of Community-Minded People

11555 Beamer 281-481-5656

E-mail: [mynews@southbeltleader.com](mailto:mynews@southbeltleader.com)

Davy & Marie Flickinger, owners

## New Covenant Christian Church

Day Care Christian Based Child Care



New Covenant Christian Church provides Christian based child care for the local community. Director Nedra Jackson and her staff are here to take perfect care of your children while you work.

281.481.2003

[www.newcovenantchristianchurchhouston.com](http://www.newcovenantchristianchurchhouston.com)

10603 Blackhawk Blvd. Houston, TX 77089

Blackhawk @ Kirkfair

## ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST

Catholic Church

Rev. Douglas J. Guthrie, Pastor

Rev. Antonio Cisneros, Parochial Vicar

11011 Hall Rd. (between Beamer & Blackhawk)

www.stlukesatholic.com

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil 5:30 p.m.

Sunday 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

Sunday 1 p.m. Misa en Español

Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9 a.m.

Tuesday & Thursday 7 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions)

Thursday 7:45 to 8:30 p.m. Saturday 4 to 5 p.m.

Parish Office: 281-481-6816

Children's Faith Formation: 281-481-4251

Adult Faith Formation: 713-538-2862

All are welcome to come to worship and serve the Lord in a spirit of love, sharing, and hope.

## South Belt Elementary celebrates Hello Week



South Belt students wore green to kick off the start of Hello Week for "So Fresh and So Green Day." Pictured, left to right, are (front row) Alivia Bhakta, Genesis Limon, Christabella Martinez, (middle row) Carter McCoy, Lucas Avila, Jose Lazo, Mason Gilbert, Kyler Watson, Aaron Tristan, (back row) Caitlyn Huynh, Unni Komulainen, Elaine Basil and Grace Okwuonu.



Kindergarten teachers wore things that connect them to others on "Reach Out and Connect Day." Left to right, are Christina Herrera, Arielle Taylor, Francelli Monreal and Ciara Reliford.



Students wore superhero outfits to show that they are someone special on "Superhero Day." Left to right, are Aliyah Bhakta, Jet Saffary and Arian Segovia.

# CenterPoint announces GHRI Phase Two

As part of CenterPoint Energy's Greater Houston Resiliency Initiative (GHRI), the company has worked diligently on modernizing its infrastructure to address major concerns following Hurricane Beryl. They are proud of

the immediate resiliency improvements delivered during Phase One of the GHRI, and consider these actions only the beginning.

CenterPoint is excited to announce Phase Two of the GHRI. Over the next eight

months and before the start of the 2025 hurricane season, CenterPoint will build on the work completed in the first phase of the GHRI.

The actions in the GHRI Phase Two will help enable a self-healing grid, reduce the

length and frequency of outages and lead to more than 125 million fewer outage minutes annually for customers in the Greater Houston area. Work will be completed ahead of the 2025 hurricane season, or June 1, 2025, and will include:

– Installing new or replacing 25,000 poles that meet extreme wind standards.

– Trimming or removing higher-risk vegetation across 4,000 miles of power lines.

– Installing 4,500 automation devices, known as trip savers, and 350 Intelligent Grid devices.

– Undergrounding more than 400 miles of power lines.

– Launching a year-round public emergency preparedness and safety communications campaign.

– Strengthening local partnerships with agencies and partners critical to emergency response efforts.

## Atkinson hosts Hello Week



Atkinson Elementary students and staff celebrated Hello Week through different themed days for the Sandy Hook Promise. Jayden Hernandez (left), third-grader in Diane Davis' class, and Benjamin Garcia, fourth-grader in Tulu Sarkar's class, dressed for Wednesday's "Wear Green" day.



Pictured is Ludi Perez kindergarten teacher in her festive green attire.

0% INTRO APR  
\$0 ANNUAL FEE  
10K BONUS POINTS\*\*

AMOCO REWARDS CREDIT CARD

No matter how you *math it*, choosing AMOCO Rewards Credit Card is a *no-brainer*. Shop this back-to-school season with our card to earn reward points redeemable for merchandise, travel, gift cards, and beyond!

800.231.6053 | AMOCOfcu.org

Visit our Clear Lake City Branch or scan QR code to apply!

Subject to membership eligibility. \*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Intro Fixed Rate applicable until the first day of the billing cycle that includes the 6 month anniversary date of the opening of your account. Standard rate thereafter. The standard APRs will vary with the market based on the Prime Rate. Rates and terms determined by borrower's credit qualifications. \*\*Spend \$3,500 in the first 3 months and receive 10,000 bonus points. For a complete list of all rates and terms, visit us online at [www.AMOCOfcu.org/loan-rates](http://www.AMOCOfcu.org/loan-rates). Some fees and restrictions may apply.

## Houston Public Library resumes printing charges

Effective Nov. 1, the Houston Public Library will resume charging customers to print documents.

Over the past year, the library's budget has absorbed

the cost of offering free printing services. However, it is no longer sustainable to continue absorbing these expenses.

**Charges for Printing**  
Black and White: \$0.15

per page.

**Color:** \$0.50 per page.

**Payment Information**

Only cashless payment options will be accepted.

All major credit and debit cards will be accepted.

There will be a minimum \$1 charge and \$5 credit card hold per transaction.

Houston Public Library recognizes the vital role its system plays in providing free and accessible resources to all residents and contend they remain dedicated to ensuring that the library serves as a vital resource for everyone in the community.

Houston Public Library is actively working on solutions to improve access to printing services. This includes exploring options to address the challenges posed by minimum credit card hold requirements and identifying accommodations for unbanked and underbanked households.

## CBHS debate team awarded



After two days of competition at the Memorial/Spring Woods Swing held at Spring Woods High School, the Clear Brook speech and debate team has its first Texas Forensic State qualifier, team president Stuart. At the end of the first half of the swing, Greg finished fifth overall in Domestic Extemporaneous Speaking, earning two state points, as well as placing third overall in Impromptu Speaking. In addition, varsity member Altaf also placed fifth in Informative Speaking, earning two state points as well. At the conclusion of the second half, Greg finished third in Domestic Extemp Speaking, which earned him four state points and his TFA State qualification, as well as placing fifth in Impromptu Speaking. Other notable achievements include the World Schools Debate team consisting of Toennies, Tiffany Tran, Danetta Paul, Victoria Constanza and Ngo who finished third overall, earning them four state points each, and Altaf who advanced to semifinals in Informative Speaking. In total, the team walked away with 28 state points, its first state qualifier. Pictured are Clear Brook High School speech and debate team members, left to right, Abiha Altaf, Gregory Stuart, Khang Ngo and Kendrick Toennies.

## Small-business loan applications open

Small businesses in Harris County can start applying for low-interest loans from the \$17 million Harris County Opportunity Fund, which focuses on lending to small businesses that have historically lacked access to capital.

"The Harris County Opportunity Fund embodies our commitment to fostering economic growth, innovation and job creation within Harris County while addressing longstanding disparities in access to financial resources," said Harris County Commissioner Rodney Ellis, who initiated the program. "By launching Harris County's first-ever revolving loan fund, we are taking decisive steps toward closing the wealth and equity gaps that persist among our entrepreneurs, particularly those from minority-owned firms."

The loan program, the largest direct investment by a local government in a low-interest loan program in Texas history, will start with \$17 million – \$8 million from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and a matching \$9 million from the PeopleFund, a nonprofit economic investment company that the county contracted with to implement the fund.

The fund, which will be managed by the county's Department of Economic Equity & Opportunity (DEEO), will target entrepreneurs at different stages who can apply for low-interest micro-loans up to \$50,000 and growth loans up to \$250,000.

Fund seeks to provide at least 400 loans, create or retain at least 1,500 jobs, and provide at least 10,000 hours of technical assistance in Harris County.

"We have been around for 30 years and ... our impact has reached \$1 billion in the Texas economy," Lasala said. "Half of that in the last five years and 20 percent in Harris County. So, imagine how this fund super charges the impact that we will have here in this area."

**Loan terms**

A 2 percent buy-down on interest rate.

No closing fees.

Projected average term length of 5-7 years.

A 10-day grace period for late payments.

The money businesses use

to repay the loans goes back into the fund for future borrowers to create a revolving loan fund that has a sustainable funding source for Harris County.

"I strongly urge all eligible businesses needing a cash infusion to apply and join us in this transformative journey toward a more equitable and thriving community," Commissioner Ellis said. "Together, we can build a future where every entrepreneur has the opportunity to succeed, every business can thrive, and every individual can realize their full potential."

To apply for loans, visit the PeopleFund.org or the DEEO's site at [deeo.harriscountytexas.gov](http://deeo.harriscountytexas.gov) and click on the "Program Planning & Innovation" tab.

# Prioritize you.

# Schedule a mammogram.

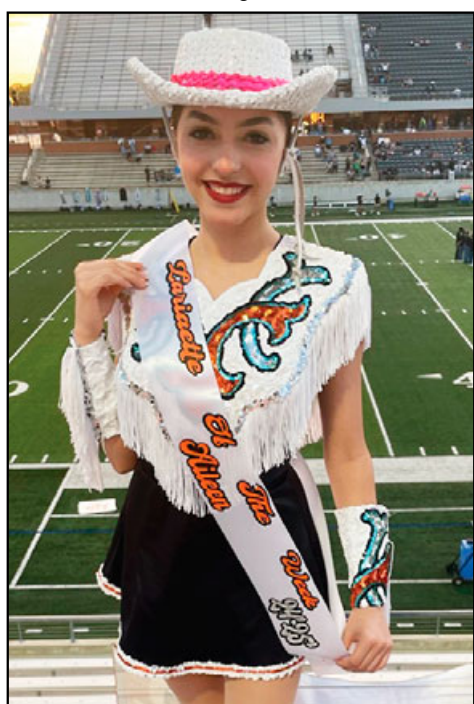
Take charge of your breast health with an annual mammogram. We offer convenient hours at more than 15 Greater Houston locations, near home and work. All with 3D screening for your best chance of early detection. This is breast care designed for you.

[memorialhermann.org/mammo](http://memorialhermann.org/mammo)  
**877.40.MAMMO (62666)**

Advancing health. Personalizing care.



## Lariaette of the Week



The J. Frank Dobie Lariaette of the week of Oct. 4 is junior Aileen Rivera, a second-year line member.

# Fire prevention: Smoke alarms, make them work; safeguard lives and property

By Daniel Anderson, Fire Protection Association has announced this month's theme is "Smoke alarms: Make them work for you!" Here are some tips on one of the most important things one can have in one's home: properly working smoke alarms. While fire safety is important all year, Fire Prevention Month is the perfect time for a refresher on life-saving steps to protect the family and home. One of the most important actions one can take is to make sure the home has working smoke alarms. In fact, smoke alarms are so critical that this year's Fire Prevention Week (October 6-12) theme is, "Smoke alarms: Make them work for you!™"

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), more than half of home fire deaths happen in homes with either no smoke alarms or smoke alarms that didn't work.

Smoke alarms serve as the first line of defense in the event of a house fire, giving families the crucial time to escape safely. The biggest priority is to make sure every home is safe and protected.

Here are safety tips on the correct use and management of smoke alarms:

Cover all the bases. Smoke alarms should be installed on the ceiling or high on the wall in every bedroom and outside each sleeping area. If the smoke alarm is installed on the wall, make sure it isn't covered by curtains or any other obstruction. If one's home has multiple levels, smoke alarms should be installed on each one, including the attic. Follow the manufacturer's instructions when installing them.

All for one, one for all. Interconnected smoke alarms offer the best protection—especially if you sleep with your bedroom door shut. When one sounds, they all sound. Every second counts during a house fire, and this may give one more time to get out.

Choose an alarm that is listed by a qualified testing laboratory. There are two common types of smoke alarms: ionization and photoelectric.

Photoelectric alarms are more responsive to smoldering fires, and ionization alarms are more responsive to flaming fires. It's recommended to have both types or alarms for the best protection. For fewer false alarms, photoelectric are the best for kitchens and bathrooms.

Test smoke alarms regularly. All smoke alarms should be tested once a month. Do that by pressing the test button. If the alarm doesn't sound, it's time to replace the batteries (or the alarm itself). In addition to testing, smoke alarms should also be cleaned regularly. Be sure to follow the manufacturer's instructions and clean carefully.

Make the proper replacements. Smoke alarms should be replaced every 10 years even if they appear to still be working properly. Batteries should be replaced every six months. If the alarm chirps, then the batteries should be replaced right away.

Some smoke alarms have long-life batteries that are nonreplaceable. These are designed to work for up to ten years and don't need their batteries changed every six months. However, if the alarm chirps, replace the whole smoke alarm.

Ensure smoke alarms meet the needs of all in your household. For those who are deaf or partially deaf, typical smoke alarms may not be reliable to alert them of danger.

There are other options available, such as smoke alarms that have strobe lights that flash when the alarm sounds.

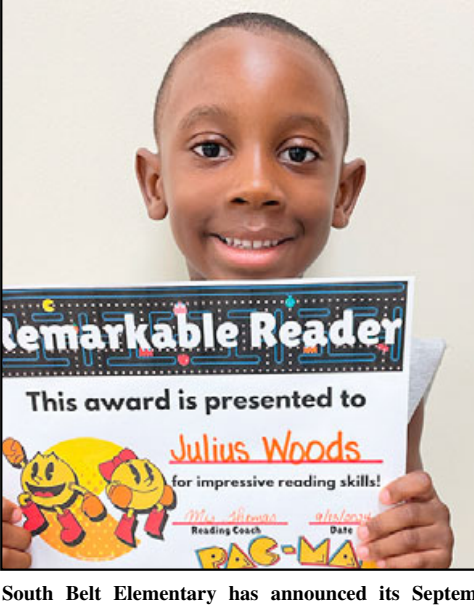
Research various options and different products, and find the best fit for the household. Everyone needs to be alerted in the event of a fire.

Again, make sure these devices are listed by a qualified testing laboratory.

Working smoke alarms save lives, but only if they are installed correctly and maintained regularly.

Every family is encouraged to make sure their home is equipped with functional smoke alarms in the right places.

## South Belt names readers, mathematicians of the month



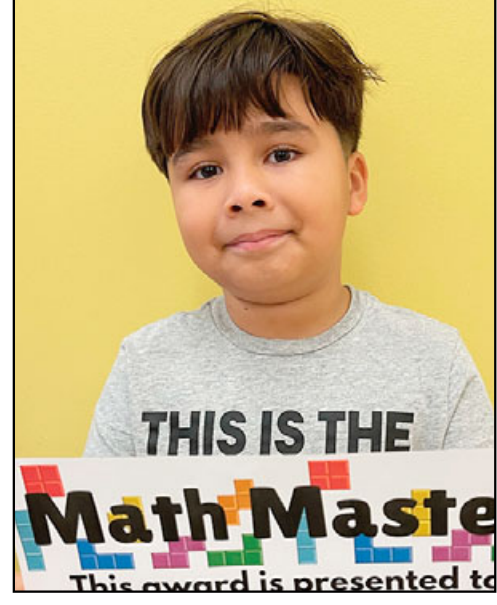
South Belt Elementary has announced its September readers and mathematicians. First-grader Julius Woods was awarded on Sept. 13 for his reading skills.



Madeline (Maddie) Hudson, fourth-grader, was awarded for leveling up her reading level.



Kindergartener Isaac Doan was awarded for being a remarkable reader.



Second-grader Jacob Martinez was recognized as a math master.



Pre-K student Ivy Nguyen was all smiles when she received her reading award.



El Jireh (E.J.) Udomah, second-grader, was awarded for his impressionable reading skills.



Third-grader, Ella Nguyen was awarded for being a remarkable reader.



Azelle Tamegnon, third-grader, was awarded for leveling up her math skills.



First-grader, Elain Basil was awarded a math master certificate.



An (Ryan) Truong was awarded for his fourth-grade math skills.



Kindergartener Ariyah Denman was awarded for her math skills.



Pre-K student Nicholas Salinas was awarded for being a math master.

## Remember When

**45 years ago (1979)**  
Lynda Richardson was crowned Longhorn queen at Dobie High School's homecoming game.

A Sageglen resident spotted at least one prowler in the area.

**40 years ago (1984)**  
The Alameda Mall area was hit by tornadoes, which plowed through buildings, ripped off roofs, blasted out windows and flipped over vehicles.

The South Belt Security Alliance responded to 24 calls during one week.

**35 years ago (1989)**  
Members of the Dobie High School Longhorn marching band earned three Division 1 ratings at the University Interscholastic League regional contest.

For his efforts in saving a baby from dying in a fire, Houston police officer and South Belt area resident Fernando Marin earned the respect and thanks of the city firefighters from Station 70 on Beamer Road.

**30 years ago (1994)**  
Dobie High School senior Alisan Snyder was crowned homecoming queen. Quarterback John Scheschuk was voted homecoming king.

The Clear Brook High School band scored a division 1 rating in the Katy Independent School District Invitational Marching Festival.

**25 years ago (1999)**  
Two Dobie High School graduates were killed in separate vehicle accidents in two days.

Independent School District music director Eugene Stuchbery, was the director of the Air Force Band of the West that performed at Stuchbery Elementary School. The school is named after Eugene Stuchbery.

**20 years ago (2004)**  
Local law enforcement officers were busy with home burglaries, attempted auto thefts and marijuana recovery. A loaded, sawed-off shotgun was recovered when two burglary suspects were arrested. An off-duty Baytown officer heard glass breaking near his

home and found a man trying to steal a neighbor's car. Two men were arrested after they were seen separating marijuana from a large bag into smaller ones.

**15 years ago (2009)**  
As a result of an accidental shooting, former South Belt resident Charles Kelly McDaniel, 25, died. He was an organ donor and four individuals were recipients.

**10 years ago (2014)**  
Gov. Rick Perry had recently announced the appointment of longtime South Belt resident Bob Mitchell, president of the Bay Area

Houston Economic Partnership, to the Aerospace and Aviation Advisory Committee.

Zohab Burges was charged with two counts of intoxication manslaughter for the traffic accident that killed Sagemont resident Michael Raymond Crowley Jr. Police reports showed he had a blood-alcohol content of 0.196 at the time of the accident.

**10 years ago (2014)**  
Harris and Galveston county officials held a groundbreaking ceremony for

the new South Belt Stormwater Detention Basin, a massive project aimed at reducing area flooding. Formerly known as the Mud Gully Stormwater Detention Basin, the 174-acre site was to be located near the intersection of Beamer and Dixie Farm Road in the area that once housed the South Bend subdivision.

Soil sampling conducted by both Harris County and the Brio Site Task Force determined the once-hazardous site safe. Once complete, the pond will hold up to 1,250 acre/feet or 407 million gallons of stormwater.

**5 years ago (2019)**  
The body of a male was found floating in a detention pond outside Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital Tuesday, Oct. 8. The man was later identified as Alan Montes, 27. While initially investigated as a possible homicide, the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences determined the cause of Montes' death was accidental drowning. Montes was not a patient at the hospital.

A 12-year-old child was shot early Sunday, Oct. 6, in a possible road rage incident on the service road in the 10500 block of the Gulf Freeway near Edgebrook. The victim was transported to an area hospital in stable condition, with a gunshot wound to his leg. According to police, the victim was a passenger inside a truck traveling north on the Gulf Freeway service road approaching Edgebrook when a red sedan pulled alongside the truck. The driver of the sedan pointed a gun at the truck and then fired several shots into the passenger side of the vehicle, striking the victim. The suspect fled the scene to the east on Edgebrook. No immediate arrests were made.

**1 year ago (2023)**  
A man was shot in the leg during an attempted robbery at a taco truck in the 900 block of Edgebrook near Theta around 4:30 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 9. According to Houston Police Department officials, officers responded to a shooting call and found the wounded man down the street from the taco truck.

The victim said he had just ordered his food and was about to enter his truck when a suspect in a ski mask pointed a gun at his head and demanded money. As the victim began to give the suspect his money, he noticed the gunman was distracted and attempted to get in his truck and flee. The suspect fired multiple shots, striking the victim in the leg, before fleeing the scene in an unknown vehicle. The victim was transported to a nearby hospital for surgery and was expected to be OK.

Research various options and different products, and find the best fit for the household. Everyone needs to be alerted in the event of a fire. Again, make sure these devices are listed by a qualified testing laboratory.

Working smoke alarms save lives, but only if they are installed correctly and maintained regularly.

Every family is encouraged to make sure their home is equipped with functional smoke alarms in the right places.

## Over The Back Fence by Natalie



**NATALIE AND JOSE CELEBRATE 11TH**  
Best wishes for an enjoyable 11th wedding anniversary Oct. 12 are sent to Natalie and Jose Abarca from children Kelvin Lopez, Noah and Elliana Abarca and Isabella Delgado and husband Sebastian; mom Ellie Flickinger and husband David; and grandparents Marie and David Flickinger and Kina Reyes.

**BIRTHDAY WISHES TO CATHERINE**  
Dr. Catherine O'Brien is wished a happy birthday Sunday, Oct. 13, from family, friends and the Leader staff. She is currently teaching at a local university.

**SCHOOL DAZE**  
The following staff of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays Oct. 10 through Oct. 16.

**Atkinson Elementary**  
Light birthday candles for Karen O'Connor Oct. 14. Break out the balloons and party favors Oct. 16 for a celebration for Maria Hubley.

**Burnett Elementary**  
Join the birthday fun Oct. 13 with Denise Ngo. The day for a party for April Cerda is Oct. 14.

**Bush Elementary**

Break out the balloons and party favors Oct. 15 for a double celebration for Nely Maicher and Megan Mayes.

**Genoa Elementary**  
Share a slice of a birthday cake Oct. 14 with Belinda Wiese.

**Hancock Elementary**  
The day to celebrate with cake and ice cream for Anahi Ayala, Yvette Marquez and Ashley Nandlal is Oct. 10. Send a humorous birthday card Oct. 16 to Monica Rosado Melendez.

**South Belt Elementary**  
Oct. 15 is the day for a party for Angela Walker and Lauren Gonzalez.

**Stuchbery Elementary**  
Grace Gonzalez enjoys a happy birthday Oct. 12.

**Beverly Hills Intermediate**  
Send a humorous birthday greeting Oct. 10 to Stephanie Davis. Oct. 16 is the day for a birthday celebration for Melanie Flowers.

**Thompson Intermediate**  
Join in the birthday fun Oct. 16 with Valeria Bosquez.

**Dobie High**

Chanda Taylor is wished a happy birthday Oct. 12. The day for a celebration for Roger Brown is Oct. 16.

**FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS**  
Thursday, Oct. 10: Patty Wheeler, Clayton Bichm, Cheryl Randall, Joel Miller, Jesse Guerra, Manny Carrillo and Gloria Sanchez; Friday, Oct. 11: Samantha Mendoza, Katina Decker, Roberta Tomkins and Michelle Manzanales; Saturday, Oct. 12: Christy Chapman, Vikki Kaufman and Laura Garcia; Sunday, Oct. 13: Cathy Rex and Mark Chassay; Monday, Oct. 14: Kristy Hall, Karen O'Connor, Tammy Fort, Nick Kafarella, Michele Rodriguez, Jason Warren and Richard Flores; Tuesday, Oct. 15: Tonya Willoughby, Kelli Nobles Candace and Dorsey Green; and Wednesday, Oct. 16: Cristina Denson, Rusty Jewell, Alice Wood, Erin Lutich and Patricia Escamilla-Tamez.

**LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS**  
For birthdays, "Friends Celebrate Birthdays" or announcements email to mynews@southbeltleader.com with OTBF in the subject line by Friday noon for the next week's publication.

## Coffee with the Constable

Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia will be at Donut Haven, 10802 Hughes, from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. each Thursday as part of the weekly Coffee with the Constable series.

The next event will be Thursday, Oct. 10, with another event happening the following Thursday, Oct. 17. For information, call Sagemont Civic Club President Kay Barbour at 713-419-3545.

## Lopez sings at rodeo



Melillo Middle School student Sophia Lopez delivered the Pledge of Allegiance on Sunday, Sept. 22 at the Pasadena Rodeo.

# SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

## Longhorns to face Pearland Oilers as 22-6A varsity football race heats

In need of a victory over a playoff contender, the Dobie Longhorns will host the Pearland Oilers in a key District 22-6A varsity football matchup Oct. 11 at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena.

The Longhorns slipped to 1-2 within league play following a 56-15 loss to Shadow Creek Oct. 4 at Freedom Field in Alvin. The Sharks stayed un-

beaten in 22-6A action at 4-0, joining Pearland, which is also off to a 4-0 start in 22-6A play. Both Pearland and Shadow Creek have won five of six games to this point in the season.

At 2-3 overall, the Longhorns currently sit sixth in the league standings but have a couple of big opportunities in front of them with battles

against Pearland and then South Houston, which has won two of three to open district play.

With five games remaining for the Longhorns in 22-6A play, the locals are still in control of their own destiny but likely will need to string together some victories over the final month.

District newcomers Pearland, Shadow Creek,

Dawson and Manvel were projected to be the four postseason representatives from 22-6A prior to the season.

Pearland and Shadow Creek are almost locks for the playoffs at this point, but the other seven teams still have opportunities in front of them.

Pearland is leading the district in total defense, having surrendered just

over 1,000 total yards in six games.

From an offensive standpoint, Dobie head coach Danny Fitzmorris said the Oilers will look to control the clock with the running game, which is led by Tate Chisolm, who has rushed for 560 yards and eight touchdowns and teammate Cam'ron Bush, who has rushed for nearly

300 yards and three touchdowns.

Oilers' quarterback Jake Westmoreland has completed 51 of 85 throws for 853 yards and nine touchdowns.

Pearland's leading receiver is junior Jordan Hernandez, who has 34 grabs for 568 yards and seven touchdowns.

The Longhorns will continue to lean on senior running back Cameron

Mathews, who leads the district in rushing with 928 yards and 10 touchdowns.

"It's another big challenge for us, but we are never going to back away from a good test," said Fitzmorris.

"Defensively, they have been really tough to move the ball against. With the way they like to run it and move the chains, they are

physical. Being able to match their toughness and do."

Continued on Page 6

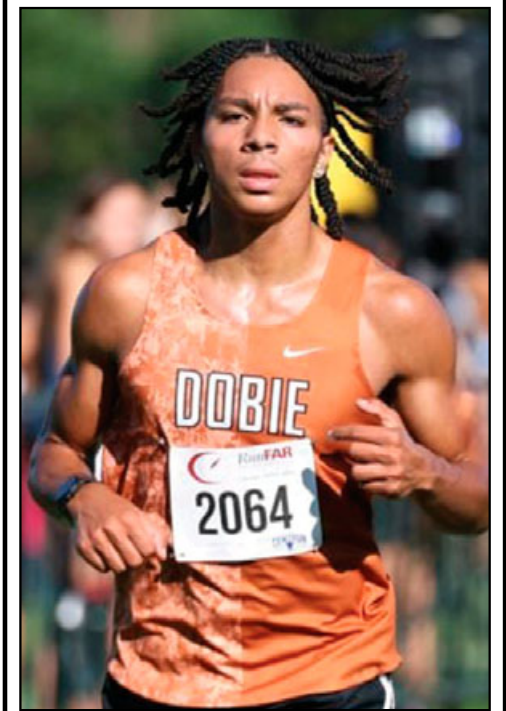


At left, the Dobie Longhorns will continue to rely on Cameron Mathews (2), who has led the district in rushing this season with nearly 1,000 yards. He will go up against a Pearland defense that is leading the league in fewest yards allowed through six games. At right, Dobie defensive back Adrian Taylor (9) and his teammates will look to slow down a Pearland rushing attack that is led by Tate Chisolm. Pearland, 5-1 overall and 4-1 in district play, will look to remain undefeated as the teams meet Oct. 11 at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena.

Photos by Gloria Wallace



### 22-6A cross-country Oct. 10



Dobie junior Johan Villavicencio and his varsity boys' cross-country teammates believe they have what it takes to make a serious push toward winning the 22-6A team championship, which would bring the Longhorns an automatic invitation to regionals. The district meet is Oct. 10 at Dobie main.

## Dobie's team tennis bidistrict loss ends rewarding run

A 19-0 loss to No. 2 state-ranked Fort Bend Clements does very little to tell the full story of the outstanding achievements delivered by the Dobie varsity team tennis program this fall.

Dobie wound up winning its final four matches of the district campaign on its way to qualifying for the fourth playoff seed within District 22-

6A, which then set up the matchup with Clements.

In the new district alignment for this year and then next, district champion Dawson, Shadow Creek and Pearland proved to be solid competitors, but Dobie once again swept past the four Pasadena ISD programs in addition to Alvin in route to the fourth seed in the playoffs at 5-3, including 10-20 overall.

Head coach Manuel Moreno Jr. said the 30 overall matches were the most any of his team tennis programs have ever played.

"This was an outstanding group of overachievers really," said Moreno.

"They really exceeded expectations in a lot of ways. We knew we had the majority of the guys lined up coming back, but we

had an entirely new girls' lineup.

"We were extremely inexperienced in a lot of areas, and asked several kids to play in singles ladder positions that maybe they were unaccustomed to, but overall the kids worked hard and really gave it their all.

"In team tennis, it all comes down to winning the big points when you

have a chance to win them. I'm very proud of this group. Sometimes, we struggled with that, but even against Clements, the final score doesn't tell the tale of how competitive we were.

"Our kids really represented our school, our community and our program very well."

Once again, Dobie's graduation losses will be

heavy after this school year. Seniors Diego Flores, Rigo Alanis, Nestor Garza, Pitou So, Nolan Tarn and Trey Ramirez are all exiting, as is Vince Bui.

Looking ahead to next season within the singles ladders, Moreno said he expects current junior Jordan De Robles to be the No. 1 boy singles player.

On the girls' side, co-

captains Dulce Mejia and Chloe Estes will both return along with Angelina Vu, Tiffany Nguyen, Aranza Gonzalez and Marina Kostikoglou. Vyvy Do and Alena Morgan are the key senior losses on the girls' side of things.



## Volleyball programs hit closing stretch in league play

At 24-5 overall heading into a road match at Bay Area Christian Oct. 8 after press time, the Lutheran South Academy varsity volleyball team seems to be right on schedule for another possible run at the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools state tournament.

Nothing is guaranteed, of course, but the Pioneers certainly have to believe in themselves following a perfect 4-0 start to district play.

Every season is different, but head coach Geoff Stressman's team has been to the state tournament in each of the last two seasons and very well could be poised for another push

to the state final four. Senior Kirra Musgrove has led Lutheran South to this point with 263 kills, while her sister, freshman Addison Musgrove, has added 227 kills of her own.

Senior Kenna Sambra and setter Aniston Collins both have delivered more than 100 kills for the Pioneers, and senior Haileigh Pham has 98 heading into action against Bay Area Christian.

Collins has led the way with more than 430 assists, and Kirra Musgrove has chipped in with 325 assists. Senior Jaime Faselar has led the way on the back line with nearly 250 digs.

While Lutheran South is in control of its own destiny and certainly has big postseason plans, both Dobie and Clear Brook may be fighting from behind in an effort to catch up in the public school ranks.

In the 22-6A ranks, four newcomers to the league are in charge as the playoff race is into the second half. Pearland is undefeated at 10-0, with Shadow Creek just a match back at 9-1. Dawson is at 7-2, with Manvel at 6-4.

Dobie, 4-6 through 10 league matches, is in fifth place. With a roster comprised of many first-year varsity level players, the Longhorns figured to have

a bit of a transition season as it was, and the loss of its top performing player from a season ago to transfer didn't help.

Seniors Julie Aguirre and Mia Campos have led the Longhorns in kills this season, and sophomore Alys Sanchez paces Dobie with more than 200 assists.

While there is still the second half of the race to go, the playoff picture in the 24-6A field has taken shape at the top.

Clear Springs, which has gone 7-0 in the first half of play, is in first place with Dickinson just a match back at 6-1. Deer Park, despite suffering a pair of district losses for

the first time in decades, is also in great shape at 5-2. Deer Park and Dickinson would represent 24-6A in the Division I postseason bracket, with Clear Springs and a yet-to-be-determined squad headed to Division 2.

Clear Creek, currently 3-4, is in the fourth position through the first half of league play, with a pair that includes Clear Brook and Clear Lake also with an opportunity.

At far left, Dobie sophomore Alys Sanchez (1) has had a solid first season at the varsity level and is aiming to finish strong as the locals push for a winning record in league play.

At left, seniors Hope Ortiz (6) and Miah Hypolite (20) have enjoyed their final seasons with the varsity volleyball program, with Ortiz on pace for more than 200 digs.

At 3-6 in district action prior to taking on Pasadena Memorial Oct. 8 after press time, Dobie will host Shadow Creek Oct. 11, then play at Pearland Oct. 15. The Longhorns will also go against Alvin, Sam Rayburn and South Houston to close out the regular season.

**ROY SHIFLETT REALTORS**  
281-481-3733

**Roy Shiflett Realtors**  
281-481-3733

**BUYING or SELLING?**

**We're South Belt's #1**

- ★ 50 Years Experience
- ★ Great Office Location
- ★ Knowledgeable Personal Service

**ROY SHIFLETT REALTORS**  
281-481-3733

**The Name You Know!**

**With Experience You Can Trust!**

(Free Home Inspection With Estimate of Value)

**Call Today!**

Auto Service Center & Car Wash

Now Hiring CASHIERS, CAR WASH PERSONNEL & LUBE TECHNICIANS

Mon. - Sat. 8am - 6pm  
Sun. 9am - 5pm

APPOINTMENTS RECOMMENDED FOR ALL WASH SERVICES (Wash Packages, Details and Hand washes)

All vehicles SANITIZED (\$10 value) [www.islandbreezecarwash.com](http://www.islandbreezecarwash.com)

No need to wait shuttle service now available!

\*\*shuttle service only available within a 5 mile radius\*\*

\$20

The Works Includes

- Island Breeze LAVA Carnuba Wax
- Underbody Rinse
- Wheel Cleaning
- Clear Coat Protectant
- Tire Shine
- Hand Drying

\$50 Monthly

\$15

Wheels & Tires Includes "Shine & Polish" Plus

- Rain-Guard
- Tire Shine (In Tunnel)
- Clear Coat Protectant

\$35 Monthly

\$8

Express Exterior

- Wash
- High Velocity Drying (In Tunnel)

\$20 Monthly

\*MONTHLY UNLIMITED WASH PLANS (PER VEHICLE)

Full Service Oil Change \$49.99

plus FREE Car Wash

- Includes our 16 point inspection - Oil Change (Up to 5 Quarts Conventional Oil)  
 • Install New Oil Filter • Check & Fill Transmission Fluid • Check & Fill Windshield Washer • Check PCV Valve  
 • Complete Chassis Lube • Check Air Pressure in all Tires • Vacuum Interior • Check Radiator Overflow Reservoir  
 • Check Brake Fluid • Check Gear Boxes • Check Air Filter & Cabin Filter • Check Belts  
 • Check & Fill Power Steering Fluid • Check Battery Fluid • Check Breather Element • Check Wiper Blades

Up to 5 Qts Conventional Motor Oil - 16 Point Check • With coupon. Not valid with any other offer or discount. Expires 10/28/24.

# BAFL Weekly Standings

## Peewee Division

Team	W	L	T
Manvel Texans	8	0	0
Cowboys	7	0	0
Pear. Patriots	7	0	0
49ers	5	2	0
Stingrays	5	2	0
Pear. Texans	5	3	0
Red Raiders	4	3	0
S.E. Wildcats	4	3	0
Ang. Wildcats	4	3	0
Buccaneers	3	4	0
Panthers	3	5	0
Stingrays	3	2	0
Gators	2	5	0
Eagles	2	5	0
La Porte Texans	1	6	0
Longhorns	1	6	0
Raiders	0	7	0
Sharks	0	7	0

## Freshman Division

Team	W	L	T
49ers	7	0	0
Panthers	7	1	0
Manvel Texans	7	1	0
Pear. Patriots	6	1	0
Buccaneers	6	1	0
Cowboys	4	3	0
Red Raiders	4	3	0
Gators	4	3	0
S.E. Wildcats	3	4	0
Stingrays	3	4	0
Eagles	2	5	0
Sharks	2	5	0
Ang. Wildcats	2	5	0
Pear. Texans	2	6	0
Raiders	1	6	0
Longhorns	1	5	0
La Porte Texans	0	7	0

## Sophomore Division

Team	W	L	T
Buccaneers	7	0	0
La Porte Texans	7	0	0
Angleton	6	1	0
S.E. Wildcats	6	1	0
Cowboys	5	2	0
Pear. Patriots	5	2	0
Red Raiders	5	2	0
49ers	4	3	0
Pear. Texans	4	4	0
Gators	3	4	0
Longhorns	2	5	0
Panthers	2	6	0
Stingrays	2	5	0
Raiders	1	6	0
Eagles	0	7	0
Sharks	0	7	0

## Junior Division

Team	W	L	T
Pear. Texans	7	1	0
Angleton	6	1	0
Buccaneers	6	1	0
S.E. Wildcats	6	1	0
Red Raiders	6	1	0
Pear. Patriots	5	2	0
49ers	5	2	0
Eagles	4	3	0
49ers	5	2	0
La Porte Texans	3	4	0
Manvel Texans	3	4	0
Raiders	2	5	0
Cowboys	1	6	0
Sharks	1	6	0
Panthers	1	6	0
Longhorns	1	6	0
Stingrays	0	7	0

## Senior Division

Team	W	L	T
Stingrays	7	0	0
Red Raiders	6	0	0
Manvel Texans	6	1	0
49ers	6	1	0
Sharks	5	2	0
Cowboys	5	2	0
Pear. Texans	5	3	0
Panthers	5	3	0
Longhorns	3	4	0
Eagles	3	4	0
La Porte Texans	3	4	0
Gators	2	4	0
Buccaneers	1	6	0
Pear. Patriots	1	6	0
S.E. Wildcats	1	6	0
Raiders	0	7	0

**BAFL Week 8**  
Sat., Oct. 5 Results  
Cowboys' Peewee 1  
Gators 0 (forfeit)

**Gators 46**  
Cowboys' Freshmen 40

Cowboys' Sophomores 33  
Gators 0

**Gators 37**  
Cowboys' Juniors 0

Cowboys' Seniors 42  
Gators 20

**Week 9 Schedule**  
Sat., Oct. 12  
Cowboys' Peewee  
host Manvel, 8 a.m.

Cowboys' Freshmen  
host Manvel 9 a.m.

Cowboys' Sophomores  
host Manvel, 11 a.m.

Cowboys' Juniors  
host Manvel, 1 p.m.

Cowboys' Seniors  
host Manvel, 3 p.m.

# South Belt football predictions

	John Bechtle	Emory Gadd	Troy Leland	Stephen Sutton	Debbie Vaughn
Pearland at Dobie	Dobie	Dobie	Shadow Creek	Dobie	Shadow Creek
Kingwood at Channelview	Kingwood	Kingwood	Kingwood	Kingwood	Kingwood
Summer Creek at C.E. King	Summer Creek	Summer Creek	Summer Creek	Summer Creek	Summer Creek
Angleton at Friendswood	Angleton	Angleton	Angleton	Angleton	Angleton
Crosby at Kingwood Park	Crosby	Crosby	Crosby	Crosby	Crosby
La Porte at Kempner	La Porte	La Porte	La Porte	La Porte	La Porte
Porter at Pasadena	Porter	Porter	Porter	Porter	Porter
Lutheran South at Second Baptist	Second Baptist	Second Baptist	Second Baptist	LSA	Second Baptist
Shadow Creek at Pasadena Memorial	Shadow Creek	Shadow Creek	Shadow Creek	Shadow Creek	Shadow Creek
South Houston at Dawson	Dawson	Dawson	Dawson	Dawson	Dawson
Last Week's Results	8-2	8-2	8-2	7-3	8-2
Season record	43-17	45-15	46-14	44-16	49-11

# 24-6A football postseason lineup all but set

The cream has definitely risen to the top within the District 24-6A varsity football ranks as the league now takes a Week 7 break in the schedule, which precedes the final month-long run to the postseason.

If the postseason began today, Dickinson and Deer Park would represent 24-6A in the Division 1 playoff bracket, while Clear Springs and Clear Falls would be the Division 2 representatives. As it stands, the likelihood of that changing by season's end is unlikely.

During Week 6 action, Dickinson continued to roll in 24-6A play as the Gators seemed intent on repeating as league champions.

Malachi Gamble rushed for 363 yards and four touchdowns as the Gators cruised past Clear Lake 57-35 Oct. 4 at Sam Vitanza Stadium in Dickinson. Gamble had three touchdowns in the first quarter alone as Dickinson rushed out to a 28-7 lead over the Falcons.

Now the leading rusher in the 24-6A ranks with 761 yards to go with 11 touchdowns, Gamble had scoring runs of 33, 9, 63

and 47 yards as he helped his team out to an eventual 35-7 lead en route to the easy win. Clear Lake fell to 2-4 overall, including 1-2 in district play.

Clear Lake actually got within 43-35 with just over nine minutes to play in the game, but Dickinson quarterback Lorenzo Aguirre had two short touchdown runs down the stretch to help the Gators stay atop the standings.

The Falcons' Calab Benjamin, who entered the game as the league leader in rushing with 601 yards, returned a kickoff 63 yards for a touchdown and also had a 47-yard scoring run in the loss.

The Gators will return to action Oct. 18, taking on Clear Springs.

Dickinson is joined by Deer Park and Clear Springs at 3-0 to this point in the 24-6A race. Deer Park improved to 5-1 overall following a 63-7 victory over Clear Brook in Week 6.

Dickinson will host Deer Park on the final night of the regular season, Nov. 8 at Sam Vitanza Stadium in Dickinson in a game that could very well decide the league championship.

Clear Springs, meanwhile, has not backed down from the lead pack as the Chargers are off to a 3-0 start of their own in league play.

The Chargers, also 5-1 overall, scored touchdowns and all three phases of the game on their way to an easy 50-21 victory over Brazoswood at Hopper Field in Lake Jackson.

Clear Springs came up with three turnovers on defense, including an interception in return for a touchdown and also got a kickoff return for a touchdown in the game to overwhelm the Bucs.

Connor Bednarczyk had a 43-yard interception return for the Chargers, and Sean Carter had a 75-yard kickoff return touchdown later in the game.

Clear Falls also distanced itself from the rest of the pack in the chase for a Division 2 playoff spot as the Knights got past Clear Creek 41-0.

Jake Champagne led the way for Clear Springs as he passed for 200 yards and three touchdowns before exiting the game midway through the third quarter. The Knights are now 4-2 overall, including 2-1 within 24-6A play.

<b>Clear Lake vs. Clear Creek</b> Oct. 24, 6 p.m. Challenger Stadium	<b>Clear Falls vs. Clear Brook</b> Oct. 25, 7 p.m. CCISD Veterans Stadium
<b>Deer Park at Brazoswood</b> Oct. 25, 7 p.m. Hopper Field	<b>Dickinson at Clear Springs</b> Oct. 25, 7 p.m. Challenger Stadium

# Dobie to go up against 4-0 Pearland

**Continued from Page 5**  
"We need to play four clean quarters of football," Fitzmorris said.

"We also need to be able to execute the game plan in all three phases of the game. I felt like we left 28 points on the field against Shadow Creek, and most of that was my responsibility.

"We had a couple of breakdowns, and I take responsibility for that. We're still in this thing, and just need to find a way to not hurt ourselves and put ourselves in a position to win some of these games against great competition."

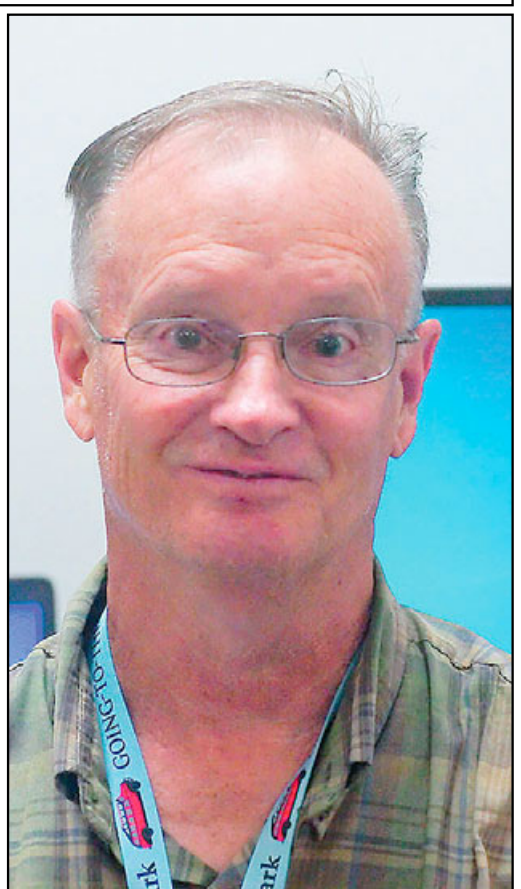
### District 22-6A Varsity Football Standings

Team	District			Overall		
	W	L	T	W	L	T
Pearland	4	0	0	5	1	0
Shadow Creek	4	0	0	5	1	0
S. Houston	2	1	0	2	3	0
Manvel	2	2	0	2	4	0
Dawson	2	2	0	3	3	0
Dobie	1	2	0	2	3	0
Rayburn	0	3	0	2	3	0
Memorial	0	3	0	2	3	0

### District 24-6A Varsity Football Standings

Team	District			Overall		
	W	L	T	W	L	T
Deer Park	3	0	0	5	1	0
Clear Springs	3	0	0	5	1	0
Dickinson	3	0	0	4	2	0
Clear Falls	2	1	0	4	2	0
Clear Lake	1	2	0	2	4	0
Clear Creek	0	3	0	1	5	0
Clear Brook	0	3	0	1	5	0
Brazoswood	0	3	0	0	6	0

Robert Avery's Press Box Dedication ceremony at Veterans Memorial Stadium in Pasadena will be held Oct. 18 as the Dobie Longhorns and South Houston Trojans go head-to-head at Bill Newcomb Field that evening. Avery, a decades-long sportswriter for the Pasadena Citizen and the sports editor at the Baytown Sun at the time of his death earlier this year, dedicated the majority of his career writing about and promoting the achievements of generations of Pasadena ISD student-athletes. He will now be honored forever as his name will front the stadium's press box. The South Houston/Dobie football game will feature a 7 p.m. kickoff as usual, and a short ceremony recognizing the naming of the Avery press box will be held in between the first and second quarters.



From left, Dobie offensive linemen Camron Robertson (64), Markel Terry (75) and Alonzo Chapman (55) jog toward the sideline during a break in the action Oct. 4 against Shadow Creek at Freedom Field in Alvin. The Longhorns will return to action hosting the Pearland Oilers Oct. 11 at Veterans Memorial Stadium in Pasadena. Photo by Gloria Wallace

## JFD hosts Pearland in 22-6A

At right, Dobie defensive back Rashaud Howard (27) and his teammates will return to Veterans Memorial Stadium and Pasadena Oct. 11 for a key game against the Pearland Oilers. Pearland will come into the game at 5-1 overall, including 4-0 in district play. Dobie, meanwhile, is 2-3 overall, including 1-2 in District 22-6A action. Photo by Gloria Wallace



# SERVICE

Attention advertisers, make your ad stand out with color. Call 281-481-5656 for information. Participants will be limited to 10, so call soon if you want to be included.



**SOUTH BELT**  
A/C & HEATING INC.

**CALL FOR A/C CHECK-UP**

Free Estimates on New Equipment

*American Standard*  
HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

100% Financing to Qualified Buyers

**281-484-1818**

**4403 F.M.2351**

www.Southbeltair.com

TACL B26543E

**GET IT TODAY!**

**After Hours Plumbing Service**  
Commercial, Industrial & Residential  
Sewer • Water Heaters • Drains  
Leaks • Water • Repairs • Gas

**\$75 OFF Any Service w/coupon**

Free Estimates - MPL#41513 - Hablo Español  
Military, Law Enforcement & Senior Discount  
www.afterhoursplumbingservicehouston.com

**832-715-6441**

**BONANZA AIR & HEAT\***  
**281-922-5665**

Someone You Can Trust • NEVER A SERVICE CALL CHARGE  
We Service ALL Makes & Models • We Honor Competitor Coupons

**Call about our Preseason A/C Systems Upgrade Specials Save \$\$\$\$\$\$**

Goodman Financing Available TACL B002755C

**LOPEZ OVERHEAD DOORS**  
Residential & Commercial  
New Garage Door Installation & Repair

24 Hour Emergency Service **713-953-1697**

Looking to sell or lease your home? Let us help you! Place an ad in the South Belt-Ellington Leader's weekly Real Estate section! **11555 Beamer 281-481-5656**

**Garage Door Problems? Call Big Edd's**  
"When Excellence Counts"  
Serving Houston & Surrounding Areas Since 1979

Repair/Replacement **281-480-8898** Garage Doors & Openers **713-784-4238**

**LEWIS CONSTRUCTION TX**  
EST. 1991  
Residential Remodeling  
Serving Greater Houston

Myron Lewis, Owner  
**713.944.5257**  
Lewisconstructiontx.com

**ELECTRIC REPAIRS & INSTALLATIONS**  
45 Years Experience

- Free Estimates
- Senior Citizen Disc.
- No Service Charge
- Res./Comm.
- Master Electrician
- Insured
- TECLP#21246

**281-484-8542**  
LOW PRICES HIGH QUALITY  
We accept most major credit cards.

**Support Leader Advertisers**

Let the Leader help with your advertising.  
**Call 281-481-5656**

**ANY SEASON TERMITE & PEST CONTROL, LLC**  
Residential & Commercial  
TRUSTWORTHY and RELIABLE

Providing environmentally friendly services with your children and pets' safety in mind.

Jimmie Sue Orth, Owner  
Richard (Dick) Orth, Operator  
B.S. Chemistry  
Trinity University

**281-484-6740**  
Family Owned and Operated Since 1984

**G & F APPLIANCE REPAIR**

We service all major home appliances. Our Professional Technicians will provide you with service you can trust.

**MENTION THIS AD AND SAVE \$10**  
**281-650-4777**  
SAME DAY SERVICE

Annual maintenance will save you money.  
**A/C Systems on Sale Now**  
Call for Free Estimates.

**Airstream**  
AIR CONDITIONING & HEATING

**281-481-6308**

Serving South Belt since 1978

- Vinyl • Hardi Board Siding
- Replacement & Storm Windows

**5 Year Labor Warranty**  
**WINNER OF BEST ROOFING COMPANY IN BAY AREA**

**281-481-9683**

Primary Plumbing Services  
COMMERCIAL RESIDENTIAL

**713-643-7228**

Ruben Muñoz - MPL 17449

**Triple M Plumbing**  
**281-455-1175**

Melvin D. Glover III  
Master License # 40217

**The Handyman Can.**  
Fences, Decks, Painting & General repairs

Work done right at the right price  
Serving southbelt and surrounding areas.

**713.701.7400**

**R.B. GARAGE DOORS**  
Garage Door Experts • 20 Years Experience  
Affordable Prices • Free Estimates

- \*Replace Garage Doors
- \*Garage Door Openers
- \*Crashed Door Resets
- \*Lube, Tunes & Springs

**ROGELIO 832-755-5245**  
www.rbgaragedoorsouthouston.com rbgaragedoors@gmail.com  
• Genie • Craftsman • Lift Master • Chamberlain

**A & M PAINTING**  
• PAINTING INTERIOR/EXTERIOR • REMODELING • SHEETROCK  
• TAPE & FLOAT • DEMOLITION • HAULING • FENCES  
• CARPENTRY • PRESSURE WASHING

Alvaro Bravo **281-642-2939** Free Estimates

**JT Garage Door Systems**  
Free Repair, Replace, Install  
Over 20 Years of Experience  
Contact Jason Teel  
**281-991-7697**

**COUPON**  
**\$200 OFF FOUNDATION REPAIR OR SEWER REPAIR**  
(on jobs \$2,500 & up)  
Not valid with any other offer. One coupon per house.

**FOUNDATION REPAIR UNDER SLAB SEWER REPAIR HOUSE LEVELING**

**Allied Foundations**  
**281-479-5247**  
FREE ESTIMATES

Turn those unwanted items in your garage and closets into cash. Bring ads into the Leader office by Tuesday or use the mail slot by the front door.

11555 Beamer  
**281-481-5656**

**Support Leader Advertisers**

**BOOKKEEPING**  
Cynthia L. Veters, CPA  
Individual-Corporate-Partnership & Estates

- All Tax Preparations
- Financial Statement Preparation
- Monthly Accounting Services
- Individual & Business Tax Planning
- Payroll & Other Related Services

**281-481-4184**

**LAWN & GARDEN**

**ADRIAN'S TREE-SERVICES.COM**  
**713-501-0184**  
Licensed, Insured, Affordable  
• Free Estimates •  
Professional Trimming, Shaping, Removal, Grass Installation, Mulching

**Arbor King Tree Service**  
• Tree Removal • Tree Topping • Trimming  
• Thinning Out • Elevating • Stump Grinding  
• Emergency Storm Damage  
Free Estimates  
South Belt Resident **832-660-3622** We will work with you

## CALENDAR

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10**  
7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill," Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., and Saturday at 7:30 a.m. Hope Community United Methodist Church, 2838 Lily St. Call 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit <https://aahouston.org/meetings/>.  
7:30 a.m. **Rotary Club of Pearland** - Check website for time and location <https://pearlandrotary.com/events/calendar> or call 832-293-9860.  
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - Exhibits include dioramas, a turn-of-the-century doctor's office and an old-time kitchen. Open Tues. - Sat., 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., 204 S. Main, Pasadena. Call Karen Hollon 713-472-0565 for appointment. Tours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
9:30 a.m. **NASA Aglow Community Light-house** - Second Thursday of the month, 9:30 a.m., Praise Chapel, 18516 Hwy. 3 in Webster. The public is welcome and encouraged to bring others. For details, call 281-910-1971 or visit [aglownet.org](http://aglownet.org).  
11:30 a.m. **ABWA - Southeast Express Network** - American Business Women's Association-South American Business Women's Association - Meetings are held January - November on the second Thursday of the month at Big Horn BBQ, 2300 Smith Ranch Rd., Pearland, TX 77584. Lunch is 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. (\$20 cash or check). Includes networking with professional business women and guest speakers. Women of all ages/occupations invited. Bring business cards. Reservations appreciated. Visit [www.seen-abwa.org](http://www.seen-abwa.org).  
**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11**  
7:30 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.  
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** See Thursday's notice.  
Noon **Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or at <https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners>. Call 713-686-6300 for more information. Meets Monday, Wednesday and Friday.  
7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit [www.hascona.com](http://www.hascona.com) or <https://nastuff.com/>. Meets Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.  
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.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** - meets at CrossRoads UMC Wednesday, Friday and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call 281-484-9243.

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12**  
7:30 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.  
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** See Thursday's notice.  
9:30 a.m. **Congregation Shaar Hashalom** - All services are live and Zoom online. For details on the 7 p.m. Friday night or the 9:30 a.m. Saturday service, Judaism classes, film series, and lunch with the Rabbi, visit <https://www.shaarhashalom.org>.  
1 p.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - offers a knitting class, Saturdays 1 p.m. Call 281-479-7285 prior to coming.  
**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13**  
8 a.m./ 10:15 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - has worship Tuesday at 11:30 a.m., Wednesday at 7 p.m. (Bible study, Book of Revelation, at 6 p.m.) and Sunday at 8 a.m. and 10:15 a.m., 11456 Space Center Blvd. (in back of a medical/retail community). For details, call 281-479-7285 and leave a message, or stop by.  
5:30 p.m. **Celebrate Recovery** - A faith-based 12-Step program, in the Life Kids Chapel at Life Church, 5215 Preston Ave. Pasadena, 77505 Call 713-419-2635 for details.  
8 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous** See Friday's notice.  
**MONDAY, OCTOBER 14**  
Noon **Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** See Friday's notice.  
6 p.m. **Scrabble Club #511** - Meets Monday at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua. Join in the fun and improve crossword skills. COVID-19 vaccination required. Email [huff\\_reunion@juno.com](mailto:huff_reunion@juno.com) for details.  
7 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - St. Luke's Group, 12-Step Recovery, open meeting Mondays, 7 p.m. in the Education Bldg. in room 6, at 11011 Hall Rd., 77089. For details, call Rita at 281-309-2801.  
**TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)** - #0683 Friendswood chapter meets at the Friendswood Methodist Church, 110 N.Friendswood Dr. in the educational bldg., room 201. For information, call Lynette Ringrose 832-858-4617 or Dorothy Pourteau 713-875-8820.  
7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** See Friday's notice.

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15**  
7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.  
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - See Thursday's notice.  
11:30 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - See Sunday's notice.  
6:30 - 7:30 p.m. **Southeast Houston Toastmasters** - The Southeast Houston Toastmasters Club #05324194 meets virtually with the exception of the second and fourth Tuesdays (hybrid meeting) at sehouston.toastmastersclubs.org. In-person address 10500 Scarsdale Blvd. (SB Chamber of Commerce). Visit the website or call Karen Nunn at (832) 722-9061 for information.  
7 p.m. **Houston Skyscraper Shadows Civic Club** - meets the third Tuesday of the month at 7900 Fuqua (inside Covenant of Faith United Methodist Church). No meeting in December. Contact [Cathy@cheyder@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Cathy@cheyder@sbcglobal.net) or call 346-970-3507 for details.  
**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16**  
7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.  
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - See Thursday's notice.  
Noon **Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or at <https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners>. Call 713-686-6300 for more information. Meets Mondays - Fridays.  
12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. **Ballroom Dancing** - See Monday's notice.  
7 p.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - See Sunday's notice.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - See Friday's notice.  
8 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous** - See Friday's notice.

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17**  
7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill," Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., and Saturday at 7:30 a.m. Hope Community United Methodist Church, 2838 Lily St. Call 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit <https://aahouston.org/meetings/>.  
7:30 a.m. **Rotary Club of Pearland** - Check website for time and location <https://pearlandrotary.com/events/calendar> or call 832-293-9860.  
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - Exhibits include dioramas, a turn-of-the-century doctor's office and an old-time kitchen. Open Tues. - Sat., 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., 204 S. Main, Pasadena. Call Karen Hollon at 713-472-0565 for appointment. Tours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**LEADER READERS**  
25 words: Personal: \$8 for 1 week/ \$21 for 3 weeks;  
Business: \$10 for 1 week/ \$27 for 3 weeks

**HELP WANTED**

**FURNITURE**  
HILTON FURNITURE. Serving over 27 yrs. 12100 Gulf Frwy., Hou., 77034. Mattress clearance - \$99 twin mattress or \$149 full mattress. Offering free delivery to the South Belt area. Call Today - 832-857-4881. 10-10

**GARAGE SALE**  
12818 COBDEN CT. Fri., Oct. 11, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Children's clothes, shoes, toys, holiday decorations and much more... 10-10

11230 SAGEKING. Thur. & Fri., Oct. 10 & 11, 8:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. Lots of clothing for large people and children's clothes, too. 10-10

12114 NEW ROCHELLE DR. Fri. & Sat., Oct. 11 & 12, 8 a.m. Dining room table w/4 chairs & lots of house items. 10-10

**SERVICE**  
CARPENTER/HANDYMAN. Light electrical, plumbing & painting, replace/repair. No Job Too Small. 281-948-8887. 11-21

**LAWN & TREE SERVICE.** Tree removal, trimming and care. Mulch installation, pressure washing and wood fences. Call 346-577-3347. 10-31

**PRESSURE WASH-ING!** Free Estimates. Call Scott and Sons at 979-235-0645. House, driveways, sidewalks, boats, R.V.s, etc. We also clean solar panels. Time for cleaning. Free Estimates! 10-31

RUBEN'S PAINTING.

Interior & exterior painting, Sheetrock repair, wood fences, pressure washing. Free estimates. Call 346-577-3347. 10-31

**Advertise in the Leader**

**Hydraulic equipment repair technician needed.**

Flexible hours full or part time. Paid vacation and holidays. Fluent Spanish required! Will train the right person \$14.00 per hour and up with experience.

**832-671-0978**

**South Belt Graphics & Printing**  
One stop for all your printing needs  
11555 Beamer **281-484-4337**

## Dobie graduate Rivera primed for junior year with Georgetown



Dobie graduate Victoria Rivera will begin her junior season with the Georgetown University women's basketball program as the Hoyas open the season Nov. 6 at home against Virginia University of Lynchburg before traveling to Madison, Wis., Nov. 10 to take on the Badgers. Rivera, who was a two-time District 22-6A Most Valuable Player during a star-studded career at Doobie, started 33 games with the Hoyas as a sophomore a season ago. She averaged 6.3 points, two rebounds and nearly an assist per game and she helped the Hoyas make a deep run in the Big East Conference postseason tournament. She scored a season-high 16 points in a nonconference win over



Northwestern. Putting together a late-season rally under then interim head coach Darnell Haney, Georgetown finished 23-12 a season ago, ultimately earning an invitation to the Women's Basketball Invitation Tournament. There, the Hoyas defeated Washington 64-56 before their season ended following a 73-61 loss to Tulsa. With Haney since having earned the permanent head coaching job, Georgetown believes it is positioned for another solid season within the Big East Conference. UConn remains the standard within the conference, but Rivera and her teammates could be poised for another run to the postseason.

## Clear Brook Varsity Girls' Basketball 2024-2025 Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Oct. 26	at Crawford	scrimm. TBA
Oct. 29	at Bridgeland	scrimm. TBA
Nov. 1	at Lancaster	TBA
Nov. 5	Fulshear	7 p.m.
Nov. 7-9	at Peggy Whitley Classic	TBA
Nov. 14-16	at Katy ISD Classic	TBA
Nov. 19	at Fort Bend Austin	7 p.m.
Nov. 27	West Brook (at Yates)	TBA
Nov. 30	at Stafford	TBA
Dec. 3	at Summer Creek	7 p.m.
Dec. 6	at Hightower (Hopson)	7 p.m.
Dec. 10	*Clear Springs	7 p.m.
Dec. 13	*at Dickinson	7 p.m.
Dec. 17	*Deer Park	7 p.m.
Dec. 27-28	at Fort Bend Showcase	TBA
Jan. 3	*Clear Falls	7 p.m.
Jan. 7	*at Clear Lake	7 p.m.
Jan. 10	*Brazoswood	7 p.m.
Jan. 14	*at Clear Springs	7 p.m.
Jan. 17	*Dickinson	7 p.m.
Jan. 22	*at Deer Park	7:15 p.m.
Jan. 25	*Clear Creek	1 p.m.
Jan. 29	*at Clear Falls	7 p.m.
Feb. 1	*Clear Lake	1 p.m.
Feb. 5	*at Brazoswood	7 p.m.

\* 24-6A games

## McDonald's Texas Invitational basketball scheduled to play out Nov. 21-23 locally

Back-to-back Division 1 gold bracket boys' champion North Crowley and defending Division 1 gold girls' champion San Antonio Brandeis return to headline the 2024 McDonald's Texas Invitational basketball tournament, which plays out Nov. 21-23.

North Crowley tops the lineup of 48 varsity boys' basketball teams that will be in attendance, including 24 in the Division 1 bracket and 24 more in Division 2. Brandeis tops an impressive 32-team girls' lineup, including 16 within Division 1 and another 16 teams within Division 2.

Phillips Field House in Pasadena will host the Division 1 girls' then boys' gold bracket championship games on Nov. 23.

As usual, the tournament's other game locations include Pasadena Memorial High School, Doobie's main campus, South Houston High School, Sam Rayburn High School, Pasadena High School, Deer Park ISD's Auxiliary and Watkins cam-

pus, Doobie9 and Beverly Hills Intermediate.

Three-day tournament passes purchased on or before Nov. 21 are \$20 each, while two-day passes are \$15 each. Adult single game tickets are \$5 each and student tickets are \$2 each.

Children under seven are admitted free with an adult present. Game-day tickets, 3-day purchase passes and commemorative T-shirts are among the available items for sale at each of the tournament locations.

The event will again feature nearly 200 games played over the course of three days at 10 venues. All proceeds support the Pasadena ISD and Deer Park ISD education foundations.

The education foundations were created to support educational programs for both the students and staff of district programs.

The foundations provide funds for educational programs and activities which either have not been funded or have been underfunded

through the normal operating budget.

The 2024 pool play brackets will be released at a later date. For additional information, visit the official tournament website at [www.texasinvitational.com](http://www.texasinvitational.com).

The boys' roster of teams includes Aldine Nimitz, Allen, Angleton, Atascocita, Barbers Hill, Baytown Sterling, Clear Brook, Conroe Grand Oaks, Crosby, Cypress Creek, Cypress Fairbanks, Cypress Ridge, Deer Park, Denton Guyer, Dickinson, Fort Bend Dulles, Fort Bend Elkins, Fort Bend Marshall, Fort Bend Ridge Point, George Ranch, Goose Creek Memorial, Summer Creek, Iowa Colony, Katy Paetow, Katy Taylor, Katy Tompkins, Klein Cain, La Porte, Lake Travis, Lewisville Hebron, Manvel, Waco Midway, Montgomery Lake Creek, North Crowley, North Shore, Pasadena, Pasadena Memorial, Sam Rayburn, South Houston, Pearland, Dawson, Randle, Richardson, Richardson J.J. Pearce, San An-

tonio Brennan, South Grand Prairie and The Colony.

The girls' lineup of 32 teams includes Barbers Hill, Corpus Christi Veterans Memorial, Clear Lake, Clear Springs, Converse Judson, Cypress Creek, Cypress Lakes, Deer Park, Desoto, Friendswood, Galena Park, George Ranch, Hardin-Jefferson, Houston Westside, Humble, Iowa Colony, Klein Oak, North Crowley, Pasadena, Doobie, Pasadena Memorial, Sam Rayburn, South Houston, Pearland, Dawson, San Antonio Brandeis, San Antonio Clark, San Antonio Johnson, Seven Lakes, Shadow Creek, Spring Branch Memorial and Summer Creek.

At right, Doobie junior Audrey Volper (1) and her teammates will open workouts Oct. 16 with first-year head coach Rachel Flores leading the way. The Longhorns will start scrimmages Oct. 26.

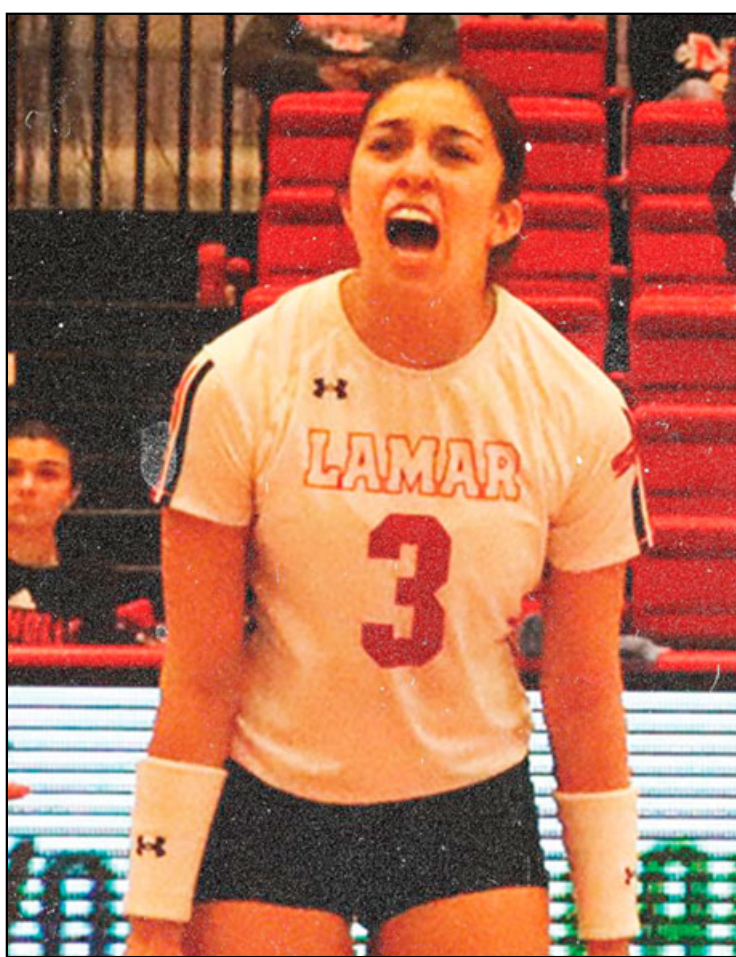


## Dobie Varsity Girls' Basketball 2024-2025 Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Oct. 26	at Atascocita	scrimmage TBA
Oct. 28	at Cy-Creek	scrimmage TBA
Nov. 5	at Clear Lake	7 p.m.
Nov. 7-9	at Peggy Whitley Classic	TBA
Nov. 12	at George Ranch	7 p.m.
Nov. 15	*Alvin	7 p.m.
Nov. 19	*at Manvel	7 p.m.
Nov. 21-23	at McDonald's Invitational	TBA
Nov. 26	*at Dawson	7 p.m.
Dec. 3	Clements	7 p.m.
Dec. 6	Clear Springs	7 p.m.
Dec. 10	*Pasadena Memorial	7 p.m.
Dec. 13	*at Shadow Creek	7 p.m.
Dec. 17	*Pearland	7 p.m.
Dec. 20	*at South Houston	7 p.m.
Dec. 27-29	at Fort Bend ISD Classic	TBA
Jan. 3	*Sam Rayburn	7 p.m.
Jan. 7	*at Alvin	7 p.m.
Jan. 10	*Manvel	7 p.m.
Jan. 14	*Dawson	7 p.m.
Jan. 22	*at Pasadena Memorial	7 p.m.
Jan. 25	*Shadow Creek	7 p.m.
Jan. 29	*at Pearland	7 p.m.
Feb. 1	*South Houston	7 p.m.
Feb. 5	*at Sam Rayburn	7 p.m.

\*District 22-6A games

## Lexie earns Southland honor



Averaging 12.08 assists and 2.58 digs per set, Doobie High School graduate and current Lamar University freshman volleyball player Lexie Gonzalez posted a career-high 59 assists at Sam Houston Sept. 20, the most by a Cardinal since London Hatch in 2022 and the second most by a Southland player this year. She was named to the All-Tournament team at the Bearkat Classic for her efforts and was later recognized as the Southland Conference Volleyball Setter of the Week (Sept. 23). Lamar went 10-5 overall during its first 15 matches of 2024, with Gonzalez collecting more than 500 assists and 109 digs.

## Newsome, MSU start SEC play



Kailin Newsome and teammate Karli Schmidt had 10 kills each as the Mississippi State University women's volleyball team opened conference play with a loss (25-23, 25-20, 25-20) to Louisiana State University Oct. 4 in Starkville. The Bulldogs improved to 7-5 overall with a 1-2 Southeastern Conference start. Newsome, the all-time kills leader during a star-studded career at Clear Brook, has a team-high 133 kills over 38 sets played.

## Girls' basketball starts Oct. 16

The start of the basketball season is getting closer and closer as the state's high school girls' programs may begin pre-season workouts Oct. 16.

At Doobie, first-year head coach Rachel Flores is set to get started with the Longhorns, who will scrimmage Oct. 26 at Atascocita, then scrimmage once more Oct. 28 at Cypress Creek.

Doobie will open the 2024-2025 regular season Nov. 5 at Clear Lake, taking on the Falcons at all levels. The varsity game is at 7 p.m. at Krueger Field House.

Doobie will then make its first tournament appearance of the season Nov. 7-9 at the Clear Creek ISD Peggy Whitley Classic.

Clear Brook, which will also play in the Whitley Classic, will scrimmage at Crawford Oct. 26, then

scrimmage at Bridgeland

Oct. 29.

The Wolverines, who very well could be one of the surprise teams within the region this season, will open the regular season by hosting Fulshear at all lev-

els November 5.

The University Inter-

scholastic League has set

Oct. 23 for the start of

boys' basketball preseason

workouts in Texas. Addi-

tional boys' hoops details

will appear Oct. 17.

**COUPON**  
**\$200 OFF** FOUNDATION REPAIR  
 OR SEWER REPAIR  
 (on jobs \$2,500 & up)  
 Not valid with any other offer. One coupon per house.

**FOUNDATION REPAIR**  
**UNDER SLAB SEWER REPAIR**  
**HOUSE LEVELING**

**Allied Foundations**  
**281-479-5247**  
 FREE ESTIMATES