

South Belt Church celebrates

South Belt Church, 13100 Beamer at Astoria, will host its annual Candy Boo-Nanza Friday, Oct. 31, from 6 to 8 p.m. The indoor family event will feature trick-or-treating rain or shine. For additional information, visit southbeltchurch.org/events/calendar.

Sagemont meeting canceled

There will be no Sagemont Civic Club meeting this month, as its originally scheduled date of Tuesday, Nov. 4, conflicts with local voting. (See related story on this page.) Sagemont residents are encouraged to exercise their right to vote. Meetings will resume next month on Tuesday, Dec. 2, as the functions typically take place the first Tuesday of each month. For additional information, call Sagemont Civic Club President Kay Barbour at 713-419-3545.

Knights hold blood drive

Knights of Columbus Council 9201 will host a blood drive Sunday, Nov. 16, at St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church, located at 11011 Hall Road, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Appointments are preferred but not necessary. Donors must bring identification. For additional information or to schedule an appointment, visit www.commitforlife.org/donor/schedules/geo.

Freeway Manor to meet

Freeway Manor Civic Club will hold a meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 30, at Bible Way Church, 10120 Hartsook. Residents of Freeway Manor, Sun Valley and Gulfway Terrace are encouraged to attend.

St. Luke to bless veterans

St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church, 11011 Hall Road, will hold its annual veterans blessing ceremony during the 10 a.m. Mass Sunday, Nov. 9, in honor of Veterans Day. The event will recognize all church members who have served in the U.S. armed forces and thank them for their sacrifice. Veterans are asked to arrive 15-20 minutes early and gather in the narthex, as they will be seated in reserved pews. All veterans are encouraged to wear their uniforms if possible. For questions, contact Joe Tristano at 713-249-2662.

Church celebrates Halloween

Kirkwood South Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), located at 10811 Kirkfair at Beamer, will hold its annual Trunk or Treat event Friday, Oct. 31, from 6 to 8 p.m. The event will take place on the east side of the church's parking lot.

New Covenant feeds needy

Each month, New Covenant Christian Church, 10603 Blackhawk at Kirkfair, will have food distribution events 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 events is to provide food to people in need. For additional information, contact the church at 281-484-4230.

Kirkmont III, IV to meet

Kirkmont III and IV will hold their annual meeting at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 13, at the Kirkmont MUD Building, 10102 Blackhawk. Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia will be guest speaker. All homeowners/residents of Kirkmont Sections III and IV are encouraged to attend. The 2026 annual maintenance fees and deed restrictions will be discussed, and board members will be elected. Homeowners attending the annual meeting may be eligible for a discount on their 2026 maintenance fees. For additional information, call Alfredo Huerta at 832-283-4895.

Hughes/Sabo closures set

At least one southbound lane on Hughes/Sabo will be closed continuously at Beltway 8 until further notice due to a city water repair.

Westbound Beltway 8 frontage roads may also be intermittently closed at Hughes/Sabo until further notice.

Ongoing city construction has also caused the partial closure of nearby Sageglen Drive between Hughes and Sagedowne.

Gulf Freeway closures set

At least one northbound and one southbound main lane and frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from SH 96/Calder/Brittany Bay in League City to FM 519/Main Street in La Marque daily from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and from 8:30 p.m. to 5 a.m. until further notice.

At least one northbound and one southbound frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from Deats Road in Dickinson to FM 2004/Camp Wallace Access in Texas City from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. until further notice.

At least one northbound and one southbound main lane and frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from FM 519/Main Street in La Marque to Tiki Drive in Galveston daily from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and nightly from 8:30 p.m. to 5 a.m. until further notice.

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.

Multiple elections to take place Nov. 4

Voters to decide 2 special elections, 17 proposed amendments

Local voters will head to the polls Tuesday, Nov. 4, to decide key races and weigh in on 17 proposed amendments to the Texas Constitution.

The ballot includes a competitive race for Houston's At-Large Position 4 on City Council, a crowded field for the 18th Congressional District and a slate of statewide propositions.

At-Large Position 4

The citywide At-Large Position 4 seat became vacant following the resignation of Council Member Letitia Plummer, who stepped down to pursue a run for Harris County Judge. The special election will determine who fills the remainder of her term.

A crowded field of 15 candidates have filed to replace Plummer, including seasoned public servants, community advocates and newcomers.

Vying for the At-Large Position 4 seat are the following candidates:

- **J. Brad Batteau:** Civic activist and perennial candidate known for his grassroots engagement.
- **Sheraz Mohammad Siddiqui:** Business consultant focused on economic development and fiscal transparency.
- **Angie Thibodeaux:** Education advocate and nonprofit leader emphasizing youth empowerment.
- **Alejandra Salinas:** Attorney and former national political organizer with a focus on equity and inclusion.
- **Sonia Rivera:** Small business owner and neighborhood leader advocating for community revitalization.
- **Kathy L. Tatum:** Environmental justice

advocate and founder of a nonprofit focused on clean air and water.

- **Jordan Thomas:** Youth mentor and entrepreneur promoting civic engagement and innovation.
- **Ethan Hale:** Technology professional and first-time candidate focused on digital infrastructure.
- **Adrian Thomas Rogers:** Pastor and community organizer emphasizing public safety and family values.
- **Cris Wright:** Policy analyst and civic strategist focused on transparency and government reform.
- **Martina Lemond Dixon:** Former Humble ISD board president with a background in education and leadership.
- **Al Lloyd:** Retired law enforcement officer advocating for crime prevention and community policing.
- **Dwight A. Boykins:** Former District D City Council member known for his work on infrastructure and public safety.
- **Miguel Herrera:** Real estate agent and community volunteer focused on housing affordability.
- **Kristal Mtaza-Lyons:** Write-in candidate and education advocate promoting parental rights and school reform.

18th Congressional District

A special election was called for the 18th Congressional District after the March death of U.S. Rep. Sylvester Turner, who formerly served as Houston mayor.

The race to represent Texas' 18th Congressional District – a historically Democratic stronghold – features a wide array of candidates across party lines.

Competing to fill the vacated Congressional seat are the following 16 candidates:

- **Amanda Edwards:** Former Houston City Council member and attorney focused on economic opportunity and infrastructure.

– **Jolanda Jones:** State Representative and former council member emphasizing justice reform and education.

- **Isaiah Martin:** Youth activist and recent college graduate advocating for climate action and student debt relief.
- **Christian Meneff:** Harris County Attorney known for legal advocacy and progressive policies.
- **Stephen Huey:** Educator and community advocate focused on public schools and civic engagement.
- **Valencia Williams:** Nonprofit leader promoting housing access and equity.
- **Feldon Bonner II:** Entrepreneur and political newcomer focused on innovation and small business support.

– **Theodis Daniel:** Business owner and conservative activist emphasizing limited government and fiscal responsibility.

- **Ollie Knox:** Retired military officer focused on national security and veterans' affairs.
- **Carmen Montiel:** Former Miss Venezuela and media personality advocating for family values and immigration reform.
- **Carter Page:** Energy consultant and former Trump campaign adviser focused on energy independence.
- **Ronald Whitfield:** Pastor and community leader promoting faith-based outreach and education.

Others

- **George Foreman IV:** Independent candidate and son of boxing legend George Foreman, focused on youth programs and entrepreneurship.
- **Reyna Anderson:** Independent and small business owner advocating for economic development and civic engagement.
- **Vince Duncan:** Independent and local activist focused on transparency and community empowerment.

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Garcia celebrates Halloween

Dozens of South Belt families gathered at the County Courthouse Annex on Scarsdale Saturday, Oct. 25, as Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia (center) hosted his third annual Trunk or Treat event. Shown to the left at the event with the constable are Dr. Gloria Griffin, Rotary Club of Houston-Hobby Area (left); and Martha Moreno. See additional photos on Page 4.

Photo submitted

Residents urged to compost pumpkins

Now in 5th year, program reduces waste at landfills

The city of Houston recently launched its fifth annual Pumpkin Compost Drop-Off Program.

A partnership between the Solid Waste Management Department, in partnership with At-Large Position 5 City Council Member Sallie Alcorn, the program encourages residents to not throw aging pumpkins away but to compost them instead.

"Pumpkins are everywhere, and I love seeing them," said Alcorn. "They get me excited for Halloween and Thanksgiving. And while pumpkin season is upon us, we know it won't last forever. When your once-glorious pumpkin is ready to be retired, don't throw it in the trash. Take advantage of the city's pumpkin composting initiative. Turn your pumpkin into glorious compost to be used in city parks and green spaces."

Already underway, this program offers a convenient way for Houston residents to compost their holiday pumpkins, reducing waste that would otherwise end up in landfills.

From now through Nov. 29, Houston residents can drop off their used or unused pumpkins at two city facilities. All collected pumpkins will be transformed into nutrient-rich compost to help grow a greener Houston.

Residents are encouraged to remove any candles, stickers, paint or other decorations before dropping off their pumpkins.

Last year's event was a smashing success, diverting more than 25,000 pounds of pumpkins from Houston's landfills, making it the most successful year yet. The city hopes to break that record in 2025 and divert even more compostable material from the landfill.

"We're proud to see Houstonians embracing composting and taking action to reduce waste," said Solid Waste Management Director Larius Hassen. "It's amazing to see how something as simple as a leftover pumpkin can help grow a more sustainable Houston."

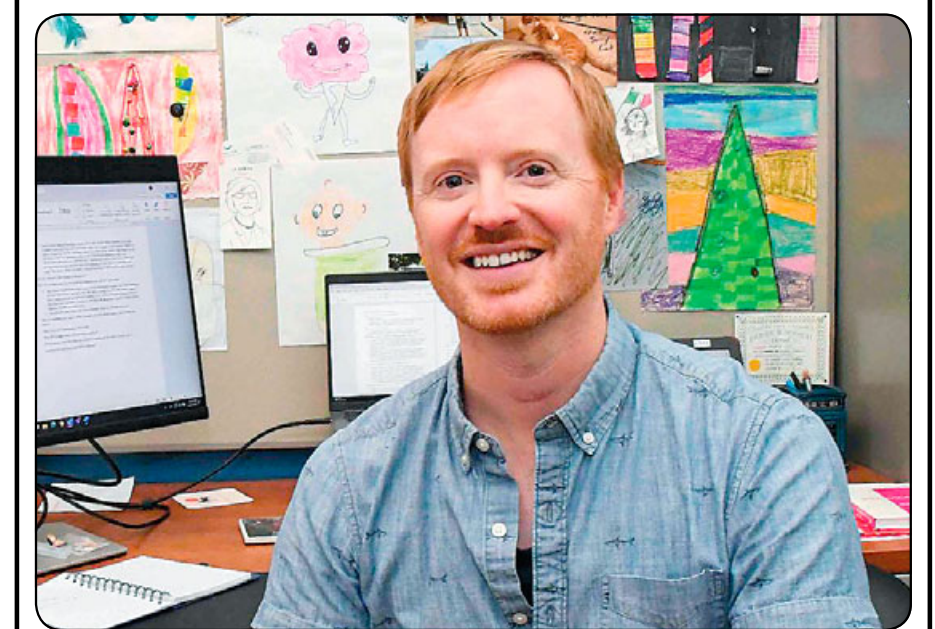
Pumpkin drop-off sites include the following:

- **City of Houston Reuse Warehouse,** 9003 N. Main St.
- **Westpark Recycling Center,** 5900 Westpark Drive in Kingwood.

Hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday.

For additional information on the city's annual Pumpkin Compost Drop-Off Program, visit www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste/compost.

Hixenbaugh studies music healing



In somewhat of a unique pairing, San Jacinto College English and humanities professor Dr. Dustin Hixenbaugh recently joined forces with University of Texas at Arlington nursing professor Dr. Rhonda Winegar to pen an academic paper on the healing power of music. Also a musician, Hixenbaugh said music has played an integral role throughout his life in both high times and the lows. See additional photo on Page 2.

Pct. 8 makes drug arrest



A traffic stop led to a felony drug arrest around 11:10 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 12, near the Gulf Freeway and Edgebrook, an area known for high crime and narcotics activity. According to Precinct 8 officials, driver Ronald Keith Hugonnett was stopped by deputies in the 10100 block of the Gulf Freeway for violating multiple infractions. After establishing probable cause, Precinct 8 K9 Deputy K. Peters conducted a search of the vehicle, which yielded 28 grams of marijuana and 3 grams of cocaine. Hugonnett, 41, was arrested and charged with possession of a controlled substance. His bond was set at \$10,000.

SJC professor promotes music therapy

English professor co-authors paper on healing power of music

Dr. Dustin Hixenbaugh makes going above and beyond look harmonious.

The San Jacinto College English professor teaches composition, literature and humanities. He also serves as co-chair for the district's Hispanic Heritage Month programming committee and recently co-authored an academic paper with Dr. Rhonda Winegar, assistant professor of nursing at the University of Texas at Arlington, titled "Prescribing Music as an Adjunctive Treatment."

Hixenbaugh and Winegar first crossed paths outside of academia.

"Rhonda and I met in Austin – she was my landlady," he said. "We quickly discovered some shared interests. We were both in graduate school, we both love country music, and we would run into each other at concerts and share listening suggestions."

The two kept in touch after Hixenbaugh relocated to work at San Jac and discussed joining forces for a writing project that played into their areas of expertise.

"Humanities and nursing are pretty different, so it took us time to settle on a topic," he said. "We ran across the annual International Country Music Conference in Nashville and pitched a paper presentation about using country music for music therapy purposes. They accepted us, and we got to work."

Not his first rodeo
Considering music from a therapeutic angle

was a first for Hixenbaugh, though he has experience writing about music.

At the University of Texas at Austin, he taught a Rhetoric of Country Music class and edited a blog where students would report on country music they were experiencing in the Austin area.

Hixenbaugh has also addressed music in other papers and conferences. A few years ago, he wrote a paper for the South Central Modern Language Association conference about how "Mexican Americans pushed back on the way country music whitewashed the image of the cowboy."

On a personal note

Hixenbaugh's life story would be incomplete without mentioning music as his listening preferences have had a symbolic link to many of his most memorable moments.

"I played clarinet from fourth through 12th grades, concert and marching band," he said. "I have always enjoyed listening to music, especially country music, probably as a result of growing up in Cheyenne, Wyo."

He values music to reflect or adjust his mood – sad songs when feeling down or upbeat songs when on the road to work. This project helped him realize he unknowingly uses music as therapy.

"For instance, I had to put my dog down and spent the next week listening to Dolly Parton's miserably sad song 'The Grass Is Blue' over and over again."

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Elected officials share their words

Chairman Babin: “Schumer’s Shutdown: Everyday ‘Gets Better’ for Democrats, worse for America”

It didn't have to be this way.

For three weeks, hardworking Americans, from our troops and border agents to TSA workers and park rangers, have been caught in the crossfire of a completely avoidable government shutdown.

This isn't about healthcare, protecting Americans, or fiscal responsibility. It's about politics, plain and simple. It's Trump Derangement Syndrome (TDS).

We did our job as U.S. House Republicans. We passed a clean, commonsense continuing resolution to fund the government at the same levels the Democrats themselves supported thirteen times before. We voted to keep the lights on, to pay our troops, and to protect vital health care services for the American people. But Senate Democrats, led by Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., refused. They chose to hold the government hostage in exchange for their wish list of radical left-wing policies, including a \$450 billion bailout for Obamacare subsidies that were meant to be temporary COVID-19 pandemic measures.

They're dying on the hill of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), convincing Americans it's in their best interest, when all the program does is line the pockets of insurers and limit patient access to networks. They say they're fighting for you and your healthcare. In reality, their funding bill strips support for rural hospitals out of the One Big Beautiful Bill (the OBBBA). Democrats are deceiving the American people, causing pain in the process, and bragging about it.

Sen. Schumer was quoted saying, "Every day it gets better" for Democrats during this shutdown. Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-N.Y., has also previously declared, "It is not normal for us to shut down the government when we don't get what we want." But that's exactly what they've done. On top of that, a senior Democratic aide said they're not conceding "short of planes falling out of the sky."

Shameful.

U.S. Rep. Brian Babin

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. 30, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. Kids craft time at the library. Registration required.

Thursday, Oct. 30, 4 – 5:30 p.m. Weekly English language classes. Registration required.

Monday, Nov. 3, 10:15 – 10:45 a.m. Toddler playtime. Registration required.

Monday, Nov. 3, 11 a.m. – noon. Open lab computer help. Registration required.

Tuesday, Nov. 4, 4 – 5 p.m. Get creative at Craft Lab. Registration required.

Wednesday, Nov. 5, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. Experience the flavors of Indigenous American cuisine with Chef David Skinner. Registration required.

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> 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.: Friday, Oct. 31, 1 – 3 p.m. Diamond Painting Club. Registration required.

Saturday, Nov. 1, 10 a.m. – noon. Tai Chi.

Saturday, Nov. 1, 10 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. Vietnamese classes: topic conversation. Registration required.

Monday, Nov. 3, 1 – 2:30 p.m. ESL conversation club. Registration required.

Monday, Nov. 3, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Tai Chi.

Tuesday, Nov. 4, 10:15 – 10:45 a.m. Personas que corren con libros: Club de lectura en español. Registration required.

Wednesday, Nov. 5, 6 – 7:30 p.m. Pathways to citizenship class. Registration required.

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.
- 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>.

Chamber attends H-E-B Truck or Treat



The South Belt-Ellington Chamber participated in this year's H-E-B annual Trunk or Treat held Friday, Oct. 24 at their Blackhawk and Beltway location. The Chamber also participated in the Precinct 2 Trunk or Treat on Saturday, Oct. 25. Pictured are, left to right, Erika Love Saavedra, H-E-B administration; Lisa Holbrook, South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce president; Anita Eakman, South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce vice president; and Rosanne Kerr, H-E-B Chamber representative.

Garcia spreads awareness



Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia is shown above dressed in support of Pink Out Day Oct. 24 to raise awareness for breast cancer during October. “Together, we’re spreading hope, honoring survivors and supporting those who are currently fighting,” the commissioner posted on his Facebook page. “We stand with you.”

CCISD seeks calendar input

The Clear Creek Independent School District needs to hear from parents and staff members about the proposed academic calendar for the 2026-2027 school year.

Through Nov. 30, 2025, the public may select their preference from two options available.

To take the community survey, visit ccisd.net/calendar/communityvote.

To take the CCISD staff survey, visit ccisd.net/calendar/staffvote.

The transition day for pre-K, kindergarten, sixth and ninth grade students, as well as holidays and early release days, are included in both calendar options. The main differences to note between the two drafts are the proposed holidays and professional learning days in March 2027.

Additionally, Draft One ends the school year on May 20, 2027, while Draft Two concludes one day later, on May 21.

The CCISD Board of Trustees has final authority regarding adoption of the school calendar. The final version of the school calendar may also be subject to change as a result of mandates by the Texas Legislature or inclement weather.

Catholic Daughters attend St. Luke corporate Mass



On Oct. 25, Catholic Daughters of the Americas (CDA) Court Mother of Unity No. 2292 attended a corporate Mass as a group at St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church to celebrate the organization's mission and activities. Several of the members served during the service, and all the women received a special blessing by the Rev. Douglas J. Guthrie to close out the ceremony. CDA members shown above at the Mass are, left to right, (first row) Faye Greaber-Guth (regent), (second row) Mary Garza, Rosario Wilson, Vanessa Veltman (treasurer), Linda Wolf (financial secretary), Eileen Nicholas,

Alice Fredricka “Freddie” Thompson



On Monday, Oct. 6, 2025, a beautiful light faded from this world. Longtime South Belt area resident Alice Fredricka “Freddie” Thompson, age 87, passed away in Bryan, while under the loving care of her family. Freddie was born the youngest of five children to James Lee Smith and Amy Sophronia Smith in El Campo on Feb. 9, 1938.

She dedicated more than four decades of her life to the care of expectant mothers, the ill and the injured of Harris County as a registered nurse in the Hermann and Memorial hospital sys-

Death

tems, MD Anderson Cancer Center, and later providing home health care to home-bound patients.

She loved the simple pleasure of spending leisure time in fellowship with her friends and family. Her favorite activities included sharing a cup of coffee or a meal at one of her favorite Mexican food or Chinese food restaurants; shopping for bargains, bartering for antiques and exploring her family's genealogy and Texas history. While she enjoyed engaging in them, the specific activities themselves were not as important to Freddie as the pleasure of sharing time with and enjoying the company of those she loved and who loved her.

She was a devoted wife and mother, who raised four successful children in the Christian faith, and she relished the role of Grandma Freddie. She was a great lover of dogs, as she always found a special comfort in caring for them. If she had the room, she would have adopted every “pup” she could get her hands on.

Friends old and new, immediate and extended family alike are deeply saddened by their loss of her.

Freddie was preceded in death by her parents; brother, Lee James Smith; and sisters, Betty Lee (Smith) Presse, Amy Corrine (Smith) Swope and Carol Diane (Smith) Vrana.

Freddie is survived by her four loving children Lane Thompson (Denise), Todd Thompson (Beth Milam), Amy Scarborough (Joe) and Tari Sarabia (Emilio); grandchildren Rachel Vasek (Ty), Jake Scarborough, Brittany Thompson and Courtney Thompson; great-grandchild, Laramie Thompson; along with numerous extended family and friends.

Visitation was held Friday, Oct. 17, 2025, at Scott Funeral Home.

Donations may be made in Freddie's name to any of the following charities: Houston Humane Society, St. Jude or Shriners Hospital for Children.

Leader

obituary policy

Obituaries submitted to the *Leader* are published free of charge. They are edited to conform to the *Leader* style.

SJC professor promotes music therapy

English professor co-authors paper on healing power of music

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Why is music therapeutic?

Hixenbaugh believes music has a lot of untapped therapeutic potential.

His research with Winegar found that people enjoy positive therapeutic benefits from participating in a variety of activities they enjoy, but music seems to have certain powerful and pervasive qualities overall.

Greater good

Hixenbaugh and Winegar published the article in the Journal for Nurse Practitioners hoping it might inspire health care workers to encourage patients to listen to music in targeted, potentially therapeutic ways.

“Nurse practitioners might create a recommended playlist

for patients facing certain situations or encourage patients to create their own,” Hixenbaugh said.

He supports his students' musical interests, whether they choose to study a particular musician's influence or have discussions about how music has intersected with their lives.

“Last semester, in my Composition II course, two students decided to conduct their own research into how music could be harnessed for mental health benefits,” Hixenbaugh said. “I was excited to share our article with them and converse about our common interests.”

Though country music was the inspiration, the duo's paper explores music therapy broadly without focusing on genre. Hixenbaugh noted that most

studies have relied on wordless classical music like Mozart, but he personally finds “clear therapeutic benefits from listening to popular music with lyrics and

melodies that are relatable.”

The two might team up again to extend their study into how music genre influences therapy.



Rhonda Winegar and Dustin Hixenbaugh

Election Day set to take place Nov. 4

Voters to decide 2 special elections, 17 proposed state amendments

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powerment.

– **Tammie Rochester:** Green Party candidate emphasizing environmental protection and social justice.

Proposed amendments

A special state election is being held to consider 17 proposed amendments to the Texas Constitution, addressing such topics as property taxes, parental rights, bail reform and funding for education and infrastructure.

Some of the more high-profile measures include the following proposals:

Property tax relief:

Multiple propositions aim to reduce or limit property taxes, especially for seniors, disabled homeowners, and disaster-affected properties. These include caps on appraisal increases and expanded exemptions.

– **Parental rights (Proposition 15):** This amendment would enshrine parental rights in the Texas Constitution. It's controversial, with both conservative and liberal groups expressing concern over its potential legal implications.

– **Bail reform (Proposi-**

tions 3 and 12): These measures would allow judges to deny bail for certain violent offenses and reform bail procedures to enhance public safety. Supporters say it strengthens law enforcement tools, while critics warn of due process concerns.

– **Workforce education (Proposition 1):** Would create a permanent fund to support Texas State Technical Colleges, aimed at expanding vocational training and facilities.

– **Broadband expansion (Proposition 8):** Seeks to create a fund to improve internet access in rural and underserved areas, a priority for education and economic development.

– **Medical research funding (Proposition 14):** Proposes a constitutionally dedicated fund for medical research initiatives, including cancer and infectious disease studies.

– **Capital gains tax ban (Proposition 2):** Would prohibit the state from ever imposing a capital gains tax, reinforcing Texas' low-tax reputation.

These amendments require

a majority vote to pass. Voters are encouraged to review the full ballot language in advance.

To see a complete list of the 17 proposals, visit www.harrisvotes.org.

Early voting

Early voting for the Nov. 4 election is currently underway and will continue through Friday, Oct. 31.

Nearby early voting locations include the following:

– **El Franco Lee Community Center,** 9500 Hall Road.

– **Freeman Branch Library,** 16616 Diana Lane (Harris County Annex).

– **BakerRipley Pasadena Campus,** 720 Fairmont Parkway in Pasadena.

– **East Harris County Activity Center,** 7340 Spencer Highway in Pasadena.

– **South Houston Municipal Courthouse,** 1019 Dallas St. in South Houston.

– **Tom Bass Park Community Center,** 15108 Cullen.

Election Day

Nearby polling locations on Election Day include the following sites:

– **Frazier Elementary,**

10503 Hughes Road.

– **Harris County Scarsdale Annex,** 10851 Scarsdale Blvd., Suite 510.

– **Stuchbery Elementary,** 11210 Hughes Road.

– **San Jacinto College South,** 13735 Beamer Road, Fine Arts Building.

– **South Belt Elementary,** 1801 Riverstone Ranch Road.

– **El Franco Lee Community Center,** 9500 Hall Road.

– **Beverly Hills Community Center,** 10201 Kingspoint Road.

– **Fred Roberts Middle School,** 13402 Conklin Lane.

– **Laura Welch Bush Elementary,** 9100 Blackhawk Blvd.

– **Genoa Staff Development Center,** 12900 Alameda Genoa Road.

– **Lone Star Flight Museum,** 11551 Aerospace Ave. (Ellington Airport).

– **Clear Brook High School,** 4607 FM 2351 in Friendswood.

Voting hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

To see a complete list of polling locations and a sample ballot, visit www.harrisvotes.com.

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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.

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
10603 Blackhawk Blvd. Houston, TX 77089
Blackhawk @ Kirkfair

Moore Elementary students present “Salute to America”



Moore Elementary third graders recently performed a “Salute to America” program for students and families. Armed service members from the past and present were honored during the area school’s patriotic program. Shown at left, students performed a Boomwhacker routine to a medley of patriotic songs, titled “Battlehackers.” Left to right, are (front row) Valentina Licon, Heidy Sarabia, Mariana Flores, Abigail Izaguirre, Erick Faisal, (middle row) Victor Arzate, Jose Chavez, (back row) Cristo Sarabia, Adrian Zepeda, Christian Michel-Esteviz, Thiago Cruz, Rene Marines, Allison Lopez and Samantha Sanchez.



Lily Bosler shared the meaning of Inspiration as one of America’s ideals.



Performing a flag routine to “Stars and Stripes Forever,” left to right, are (front row) Miriam Portillo, Alonzo Juarez, and Alyana Hansen, (middle row) Frankie Ar-

baiza, Darien Soun, Thomas Alba, Arabell Perez, (back row) Alfonso Zamarripa, Kim Nguyen, Ashley Mejia and Aniyah Reyna.



Performing a routine to “Patriotic Medley” are, left to right (front row) Amberlynn Reyna, Camila Sanchez, Silas Torres, Alessandra Estrada, Adrianna Gar-

za, Angel DelaGarza, (back row) Sofia Tahay, Brooke McAfee, Dravahn Godoy, Monica Holzbach and El-drid Fobb.



Students pictured above performed a dance routine to “Yankee Doodle.” Left to right, are (front row) Julian Sanchez, Kassidy Cannon, Janelly Medina, Serafina Salazar, (middle row) Victoria Contreras, Sophia

Stephen, Darvin Nguyen, (back row) Ashley Evans (teacher), Lily Bosler, Arthur Davis, Elijah Roy, Ryan Keele, Alison Spivey and Sheryl Munn (music teacher).

Dobie orchestra performs at PISD building

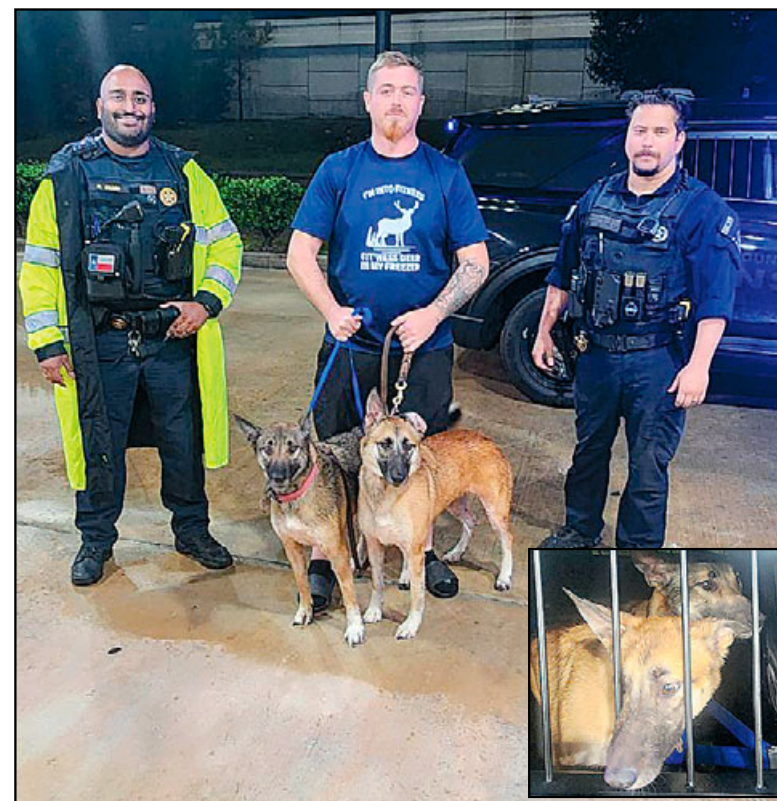


The Dobie High School Chamber Orchestra was recently invited to perform at the school board meeting at the new Pasadena administration building. Musicians shown to the left, left to right, are (first row) Thalia Oddo, Kelvin Nguyen, Chamber Orchestra Director Angela Badon, (second row) Milan Piedra, Nathaly Bonilla, Santiago Lopez, (third row) Theodore Villarreal, Giselle Espar-

za, Emyly Pineda, Daniella Tamayo, (fourth row) Hus-sai Arias, Rubi Reyes, Andrew Jaramillo Zamora, (fifth row) Avery Payne, Devin Duong, Richard Le, (sixth row) Javanni Capuchino, (seventh row) Dawson Tran, Khai Nguyen, Minh Abi, (eighth row) Christopher Sanchez, (ninth row) Wilson Ponce, Anne Tran and (tenth row) Matthew Perez.

Pct. 8 celebrates rescue service, civilian dogs

Harris County Precinct 8 Constable Phil Sandlin’s office has expressed its love of dogs on social media, with multiple recent posts regarding both service dogs and local pets. On Monday, Oct. 20, the precinct celebrated the fourth birthday of K9 Max (shown below). At right, during thunderstorms Sunday, Oct. 27, Deputy H. Atluri (left) spotted two loose dogs near Beltway 8 and Beamer. Fearing they may be injured in an accident, Atluri wrangled the two dogs and “detained” them in the back of his squad car (inset photo) until Precinct 8 K9 Deputy K. Peters (right) arrived to assist with transporting the dogs. A tag on the dog collars provided a phone number, allowing deputies to contact the unidentified pet owner (center), who had been looking for the dogs for four hours after they escaped from his backyard.



Moore teachers read to patients at Texas Children’s



Each year Moore teachers make book characters out of craft pumpkins to go along with storybooks. The books and character pumpkins are donated to Texas Children’s Hospital for the children in the hospital. This year, Moore donated 110 storybooks along with pump-

kin characters. The children at the hospital chose books and character pumpkins to keep. Teachers who read books to the children are, left to right, Lourdes Guenard, Krishelle Rangel, Sheryl Munn and Christina Le-Tran.

Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia celebrates Halloween



Shown above at Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia's annual Halloween celebration are, left to right, Deputy M. Lai with the Harris County Sheriff's Office, Chief Clerk Eli Garcia and Precinct 2 Chief Mike Kritzer.



A local child is shown above getting candy from the decorated trunk of a vehicle at the annual Precinct 2 Halloween celebration.



Precinct 2 Capt. Marcus Anderson is shown above with Assistant Chief Clerk Leslie McCaffrey.

Photo by Bruce Summers

Lariaette of the Week, Oct. 24



The J. Frank Dobie Lariaette of the week of Oct. 24 is sophomore Hailey Demart, a first-year line member.



Shown above are, left to right, Cecelia J Ganje, Clear Brook City MUD general manager; Emma Fonseka with H-E-B; Rigo Alanis (H-E-B Buddy); and Precinct 2 Justice of the Peace Jo Ann Delgado.

Photo by Bruce Summers



Precinct 2 Capt. Zerick Guinn, a longtime South Belt resident, is shown above handing out candy to area children at the annual event.

Photo by Bruce Summers



Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia (left) hosted his third annual Trunk or Treat event Saturday, Oct. 25. Shown above at the event with the constable is Sgt. Crista Villanueva.

Photo by Bruce Summers

Melillo recognizes Elizondo

Melillo Middle School recently announced sixth-grader Jacob Elizondo (left) as its September Student of the Month. Elizondo was given this award for exhibiting the school's "Hearts that Care-Hands that Serve-Minds that Think" slogan. Pictured with Jacob is Jennifer Saucedo, principal.

Remember When

45 years ago (1980)
The Southeast Volunteer Fire Department advertised for bids for a new ambulance to replace the converted Chevrolet Step Van purchased in 1974 for \$15,000 that was broken and unable to be repaired. The estimated cost to replace the van which made 300 runs the previous year, according to Chuck Tylka, SVFD president, with a new ambulance was \$28,000 to \$30,000. The station served approximately 18,000 residents in the unincorporated areas of the South Belt area. Tylka said SVFD was grateful to the city of Houston and Bay Area Ambulance and Clear Lake Emergency Corps for assistance during the recent mechanical trouble. The SVFD is funded by donations of residents in the unincorporated areas of South Belt.

40 years ago (1985)
Construction on a new \$4 million Coast Guard Hangar/Office Complex facility at Ellington Field was underway. The facility, designed by Lockwood, Andrews & Newman, Inc., was set to be completed the next year.
The Dobie Longhorn football team hoped for a win over the Baytown Sterling Rangers which would give them the "winningest" varsity football season in the school's history and would clinch the district championship for the team.
Construction of a postal contract station within Holiday Foods on Scarsdale began and was expected to be open for business by the beginning of the following week.
35 Years ago (1990)
Suzanne Hernandez was chosen Clear Brook High School's first homecoming queen.

For the third consecutive year, the Dobie High School Longhorn Marching Band earned a superior rating at the district University Interscholastic League marching contest.
Both lanes on the stretch of South Belt Drive from Sagewood to Interstate 45 would be closed for approximately 14 days for crews to lay a special telephone cable while construction of Beltway 8 continued.
Former Kirkwood resident Mandie Buhler won a seven-day cruise and a chance to meet the New Kids on the Block. Buhler invited her friend, South Belt resident Jennifer Carter.
The Clear Brook girls wa-

ter polo squad won the Texas State Water Polo Championship at the Spring Branch Natatorium.
30 years ago (1995)
A reassigned Pasadena school administrator filed suit against the district, its superintendent and board in federal court charging that he was demoted in retaliation for his opposition against the Dec. 2 bond issue. He had been reassigned from associate superintendent for campus development to associate superintendent for project management.
Three Pasadena school board incumbents who ran successfully on a Community United for Better Schools slate three years prior, all

filed for re-election: Sage-meadow's Fred Roberts, Nelda Sullivan and Carmen Orozco.
A 32-year-old Sagemont resident was charged with aggravated assault after allegedly shooting his older brother. Police said the brothers had been drinking and got into an argument at the suspect's home in the 11000 block of Sageheather.
25 years ago (2000)
The Pasadena Independent School District named South Belt's new fifth-grade campus after longtime school supporter and area resident, the late Kathleen Morris.
Tim Harty, 48, died after a motor scooter accident.

David Earles, 22, died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound.
Dot Jonas, a 20-year employee for the *South Belt-Ellington Leader*, was recognized at a luncheon by the *Leader* staff.
20 years ago (2005)
South Belt voters were preparing for the upcoming biennial city council and mayoral elections as well as nine proposed amendments to the Texas Constitution.
A 7-year-old boy who was left at home alone on Kirkhollow escaped injury after his home caught on fire. The mother arrived at the scene and took possession of the boy. When the father arrived, he was arrested for

endangerment to a child.
Dobie seniors Xavier Bowman and Alaina Villa were crowned king and queen at Dobie's homecoming game against Sam Rayburn.
After undergoing extensive renovation, the community center at Beverly Hills Park held a grand opening celebration. Councilmember Addie Wiseman was the guest speaker.
A two-car collision on Sageberry caused a car to land in the living room of a house. An 8-year-old girl was in the living room at the time but did not suffer any injuries.
The U.S. House of Representatives voted 324-85 to

allow the first round of base closures and consolidations recommended by the Base Realignment and Closure committee. As a result, the F-16s stationed at Ellington air field under the 147th Texas Air National Guard were to be removed.
15 years ago (2010)
The Pasadena Independent School District was named one of the top 100 workplaces in the Houston area, the only public school district to be selected to the list. The district was also cited as a special award recipient for employee training, judged to be the best of the top 100 companies. An abundance of teacher workshops and technology training opportunities were cited as reasons for the award. PISD was ranked No. 18 among 26 companies named to the large companies list. Surveys used to qualify companies for the list were conducted by Workplace Dynamics, a Pennsylvania-based research firm.
10 years ago (2015)
The Pasadena Independent School District Board of Trustees announced at a special meeting Nov. 4 that longtime district employee DeeAnn Powell was the lone finalist for the position of superintendent of schools. This marked the first time in the district's history a female was selected for the position. Powell will replace Kirk Lewis, who announced in the summer he would be retiring at the end of 2015 after serving nine years in the position. Powell has served PISD since 1991 as a teacher, facilitator, assistant principal, principal, associate superintendent for campus development and for the past two years as deputy superintendent for campus development. She holds a

doctorate of education from the University of Houston-Clear Lake.
The Nov. 3 election votes were counted, with few surprises at the local level. The Houston mayor's race headed to a December runoff between state Rep. Sylvester Turner and businessman Bill King, with the pair easily defeating the remaining 11 candidates. The city's controversial Houston Equal Rights Ordinance (HERO) failed by a wide margin, with voters choosing to reject the measure by a 61-39 vote.
5 years ago (2020)
The results from the Nov. 3 general election were tallied, with few surprises at the local level. In the race for the position of Harris County Precinct 2 constable, Democrat Jerry Garcia easily defeated Republican challenger Daniel Vela to fill the seat formerly held by Chris Diaz. State Rep. Dennis Paul, whose District 129 encompasses much of the South Belt area, kept his position, handily defeating Democratic challenger Kayla Alix. State Sen. Larry Taylor also maintained his Senate District 11 seat, easily defeating Democratic challenger Susan Criss. In the race to replace outgoing Rep. Pete Olson for the U.S.

House District 22 position, Republican Troy Nehls defeated Democratic challenger Sri Kulkarni.
Officers from the Harris County Attorney's Office reportedly entered Constable Chris Diaz's Precinct 2 headquarters the morning of Wednesday, Nov. 4, to secure documents pertaining to an alleged illegal eviction that occurred in South Houston the previous January. According to sources familiar with the case, it appeared Diaz had not been cooperative with an ongoing investigation into the matter. The latest incident took place just one day after Jerry Garcia was elected to replace Diaz.
Jeremiah Ballard and Clarissa Rodriguez were crowned king and queen during halftime at the annual J. Frank Dobie homecoming game held Friday, Oct. 30. Dobie played Pasadena High School in the event, beating them 62-0. The event capped the week's activities which included a reverse parade.
1 year ago (2024)
A play loosely based on the local Brio controversy of the 1980s called "The Pits" made its debut San Jacinto College South. Written by Sarah Welch, the play featured a cameo by *Leader* publisher Marie Flickinger.

happy birthday song to Mark Webber Nov. 4.
FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS
Thursday, Oct. 30: Carmen Cantu, Patricia Goforth-Rakes, Sara Peters-Wiggins, Greg Chavez, Jennifer Miller, Jennie Minter, Bo Bolar and Olyn Taylor; Friday, Oct. 31: Carmen Cantu, Patricia Goforth-Rakes, Sara Peters-Wiggins, Greg Chavez, Jennifer Miller, Jennie Minter, Bo Bolar and Olyn Taylor; Saturday, Nov. 1: Earl Sword, Dawn McDonald, Sean Connors, Sherry Rightmer, Randy Read, Richard Veltman, and Susan Quintana; Sunday, Nov. 2: Debbie Davis, and Kathy Young; Monday, Nov. 3: Brett Waltz, Gabriel Estrella, Randi Whitney, Tricia Porter, Laura Armer, Kevin Duckworth and Phillip Jackson; and Tuesday, Nov. 4: John Salinas and Kandy Ger.
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.

Blow out the birthday candles for Katherine Fincher Nov. 2.
South Belt Elementary
Send a birthday greeting Nov. 2 to Lisa Dupla. Break out the ice cream for Linda Moreno Nov. 5.
Stuchbery Elementary
Veronica Andrade celebrates a birthday Oct. 30. Best wishes for a special birthday Nov. 3 are sent to Maria Guerrero. Nov. 4 is a day of celebration for Karla Rosales.
Beverly Hills Intermediate
The day for cake and ice cream for Melissa Diaz is Nov. 3.
Thompson Intermediate
Prudencio Reyna celebrates a birthday Nov. 3. Remember to wish Doug Sawyer a happy birthday Nov. 5.
Dobie High
Break out the balloons and birthday cake Oct. 30 for Louis Cannon and Olyn Taylor. Send a birthday greeting Oct. 31 to Lauren Calderaro. Sara Gokey is wished a happy birthday Nov. 1. Maria Samford marks a birthday Nov. 2. Remember to wish Michael Rogers a happy birthday Nov. 3. Sing a

SCHOOL DAZE
The following staff and personnel of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays Oct. 30 through Nov. 5.
Atkinson Elementary
Sing a happy birthday song to Gladys Elizondo Nov. 1.
Burnett Elementary
Remember to wish Beatriz Medina a happy birthday Oct. 30. Rebecca Wells is wished a happy birthday Nov. 1. Sing a chorus of a birthday song Nov. 4 to Jabria Stephens.
Bush Elementary
Maralda Isaac celebrates a birthday Nov. 4.
Frazier Elementary
Light the birthday candles for Marco Cuevas Oct. 31. Give a birthday shoutout Nov. 1 to Jacqueline Rojas and Melody Cisneros.
Meador Elementary
Blow out the candles Nov. 2 for Elvia Montes. Send a humorous birthday card Nov. 3 to Kacie Hedge.
Moore Elementary

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SPORTS NEWS & NOTES



Dobie senior Audrey Volper (1) and her teammates will open the varsity girls' basketball regular season Nov. 7 by hosting Baytown Sterling in a 7 p.m. varsity tip-off. Dobie will then host Clear Lake Nov. 11, also at 7 p.m. The locals will play the early game Nov. 14 at Dobie main against Channelview as the JFD program honors all-time great Karima Christmas-Kelly at 5 p.m. prior to the start of action. The night game features the JFD varsity boys taking on Clear Lake at 7 p.m. as head coach Branford Jones makes his debut.

Photo by Gloria Wallace

Dobie, Brook squads learn MTI opponents

With the 2025 McDonald's Texas Invitational coming Nov. 20-22, tournament organizers have released the pool play schedules for Day One as well as girls' pool play on Day Two.

A total of 80 varsity boys' and varsity girls' basketball games will play out across 10 locations, including Dobie main, Dobie9 and Beverly Hills Intermediate, Nov. 20.

The Dobie varsity boys will compete in the 24-team Division 2 bracket and will host Stratford Nov. 20 at 9 a.m. in the opener of what promises to be an exciting full day of action at the main campus.

Dobie will also take on

Klein Cain at 1:30 p.m. before being slotted into tournament bracket play Nov. 21-22.

The Longhorn varsity girls, also part of the 16-team Division 2 field, will open tournament play at Phillips Field House with a noon game Nov. 20 against Deer Park, then will return to Dobie main to play a 4:30 p.m. game against Klein Oak.

The Clear Brook varsity boys, set to compete in the Division 2 bracket, will play Memorial High School. The Wolverines will go up against the host Mavericks at 1:30 p.m., then return to action at 6 p.m. against

Continued on Page 8

2025-2026 Season Opener

JFD girls host Sterling

Nov. 7, 7 p.m.

JFD girls host

Clear Lake

Nov. 7, 7 p.m.



Dobie sophomore running back Tyler Owens (21) has excelled with his opportunities in the offensive backfield, particularly over the last two victories for the Longhorns, as he has done his part to help his team remain in position for a push toward a playoff spot.

Photo by David Flickinger

Big second quarter lifts JFD over Texans

A thorough 49-14 victory over Sam Rayburn has the Dobie varsity football team back to .500 at 4-4 heading into the most important two-week stretch of the 2025 season.

The Longhorns, winners of two straight, will host Alvin Oct. 30 at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena. Kickoff is at 6:30 p.m. The Longhorns need a victory over the Yellowjackets and then will turn their attention to Manvel.

All signs set up a possible winner-take-all clash Nov. 7 at Manvel for the fourth and final playoff spot out of District 22-6A. Should the locals earn an eighth consecutive playoff berth, they would draw a 6A Division I rematch at Ridge Point.

A season ago, the Longhorns defeated Manvel in a wild finish that ultimately eliminated Dawson from the

postseason and sent the locals to their seventh consecutive postseason.

This time, district champion Pearland, Shadow Creek and Dawson have already qualified for the postseason, leaving the fourth spot in the league up for grabs. Regardless of district finish, Dobie is the largest high school via enrollment and will compete in the D1 playoff bracket.

While the Longhorns have spread the ball around more of late, senior running back Da'Marcus Hodges has carried the heavy weight with 1,115 yards rushing and 14 scores while averaging more than nine yards per tote.

The Texans moved the football just across midfield midway through the first quarter before Dobie linebacker Rashaud Howard forced a fumble that was recovered by team-

Continued on Page 8

Dobie hosts Alvin

Oct. 30, 6:30 p.m.

Veterans Stadium

Roman paces JFD boys at RIII cross-country

Alvarado 21st overall

The Dobie varsity cross-country program completed its 2025 season with a fourth straight appearance at the Region III Championships Oct. 20 at Kate Barr Ross Memorial Park in Huntsville.

Sophomore Jordan Roman was the Longhorn boys' top finisher as he was 47th overall in the 5,000-meter course in a time of 17 minutes 07.20 seconds.

Senior Johan Villavicencio completed his sol-

id cross-country career as he was 106th in a time of 18:10.60.

The Longhorns' other finishers included freshman Robert Pheister, 123rd in a time of 18:31.70; Jorge Rodriguez, who was 136th at 18:47.50; Wilfredo Chinchilla, 151st at 19:22.30 and Matthew Dunn, 172nd with his time of 20:07.20.

In the varsity girls' 5,000-meter event, Dobie junior Aracely Alvarado was 21st overall as she ran

to the finish line in a time of 19:28.40.

Roman, who will be a junior next season, has really fortified himself as a major player within the Dobie distance running program. For 2026, Roman figures to return along with 2024 district champion Cruz Jasso and Pheister to give the Longhorns a big three that should be able to help push the program toward a potential fifth straight regional berth.



Dobie sophomore cross-country runner Jordan Roman bounced back from injury earlier this season to capture the District 22-6A individual gold medalist title before finishing his season 47th overall at the Region III Championships Oct. 20 in Huntsville. Roman, who will return next season to lead a Dobie program that has now reached four consecutive regional events, posted a 5,000-meter time of 17 minutes, 07.20 seconds at regionals.

Jordan Roman, 47th, 17:07.20

Johan Villavicencio, 106th, 18:10.60

Robert Pheister, 123rd, 18:31.70

Jorge Rodriguez, 136th 18:47.50

Wilfredo Chinchilla, 151st, 19:22.30

Matthew Dunn, 172nd, 20:07.20

Longhorn basketball to honor all-time great

Dobie varsity girls' basketball all-time great Karima Christmas-Kelly will be the featured guest of the evening as she is honored with a lifetime banner reveal during the Longhorns' Nov. 14 varsity basketball doubleheader.

On the court, the 2025-2026 Longhorn varsity girls will host Channelview at 5:30 p.m., with the JFD varsity boys in action thereafter against the Clear Lake Falcons.

Christmas-Kelly, one of the most decorated student-athletes in Pasadena ISD history and certainly within the halls of Dobie High School, will be on hand with family members as a banner recognizing many of her

accomplishments on the hardwood from 2003-2004 through 2006-2007 will be unveiled and forever hang in the same gymnasium in which she played.

Christmas Kelly was born in Long Beach, Calif. before she and her family soon made their way to the Houston area when Karima was 5 years old.

As a young student at South Houston Elementary, she won both Punt, Pass and Kick and Big Shootout championships and also had similar successes while a student at Morris Middle School.

Christmas-Kelly's talent potential and success on the basketball court at Beverly Hills Intermediate

Continued on Page 8



At left, Karima Christmas-Kelly (13) helped lead the Dobie varsity girls' basketball team to the state tournament in 2004 and later stood out at Duke University before a lengthy WNBA career that involved six stops, including the Dallas Wings. She and her husband, Austin Kelly, are currently assistant coaches with the Indiana Fever. Karima is a 2007 Dobie High School graduate.

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Christmas-Kelly Banner Reveal

Nov. 14, 5 p.m.

JFD girls host

Channelview, 5:30 p.m.

JFD boys host

Clear Lake, 7 p.m.

BAFL Weekly Standings

Peewee Division			
Team	W	L	T
Wildcats	10	0	0
49ers	9	1	0
Cardinals	8	2	0
Pearland Texans	8	2	0
LP Texans	7	3	0
Red Raiders	6	3	1
Patriots	6	4	0
Manvel Texans	5	5	0
Panthers	4	5	0
Buccaneers	4	6	0
Cowboys	4	6	0
Eagles	4	6	0
Stingrays	4	6	0
Braves	3	7	0
Longhorns	2	8	0
Gators	0	10	0
Sharks	0	10	0

Freshman Division			
Team	W	L	T
Red Raiders	10	0	0
Manvel Texans	9	1	0
Cardinals	9	1	0
49ers	7	3	0
Panthers	7	3	0
Stingrays	6	4	0
Cowboys	6	4	0
Buccaneers	5	5	0
Wildcats	5	5	0
Eagles	4	6	0
Longhorns	4	6	0
Patriots	4	6	0
Pearland Texans	4	6	0
Sharks	2	8	0
LP Texans	2	8	0
Braves	1	9	0
Gators	0	10	0

Sophomore Division			
Team	W	L	T
Manvel Texans	10	0	0
Buccaneers	10	0	0
Cowboys	9	1	0
49ers	7	3	0
Red Raiders	6	4	0
Stingrays	6	4	0
Wildcats	5	5	0
Cardinals	5	5	0
Sharks	4	5	1
Braves	4	6	0
Patriots	4	6	0
LP Texans	4	6	0
Pearland Texans	3	6	1
Eagles	3	7	0
Gators	3	7	0
Longhorns	1	9	0
Panthers	0	10	0

Junior Division			
Team	W	L	T
Buccaneers	10	0	0
Manvel Texans	9	1	0
Wildcats	8	2	0
Red Raiders	8	2	0
LP Texans	7	3	0
Patriots	6	4	0
Gators	6	4	0
49ers	6	4	0
Sharks	6	4	0
Cowboys	4	6	0
Pearland Texans	4	6	0
Cardinals	3	7	0
Panthers	3	7	0
Eagles	2	8	0
Stingrays	2	8	0
Braves	1	9	0
Longhorns	0	10	0

Senior Division			
Team	W	L	T
LP Texans	10	0	0
Red Raiders	9	1	0
Buccaneers	9	1	0
Cardinals	7	3	0
Gators	7	3	0
Pearland Texans	7	3	0
Cowboys	7	3	0
Sharks	6	4	0
Wildcats	6	4	0
49ers	4	6	0
Patriots	4	6	0
Eagles	3	7	0
Longhorns	3	7	0
Manvel Texans	2	8	0
Panthers	1	9	0
Stingrays	0	10	0
Braves	0	10	0

Week 11 Scores
Patriots 20
Cowboys' PW 14

Cowboys' Fr. 19
Patriots 6

Cowboys' Soph. 36
Patriots 0

Patriots 20
Cowboys' Jrs. 18

Cowboys' Srs. 27
Patriots 0

LSA VB unbeaten

The Lutheran South Academy varsity volleyball team completed a perfect 10-0 run through league play to capture the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools Division 2 District 4 championship and will look to make a run toward a possible state tournament berth following the completion of a 28-6 regular season.

Sophomore Addy Musgrove has been one of the top players in the entire state as she leads the Pioneers with 498 assists while the senior Aniston Collins has 415 assists. LSA will open the post-season Oct. 30 against St. Michael's.

South Belt football predictions

Dobie hosts Alvin	Dobie	Dobie	Dobie	Dobie	Dobie
Pasadena Memorial vs. Rayburn	Memorial	Memorial	Memorial	Memorial	Memorial
Manvel at Dawson	Dawson	Dawson	Dawson	Dawson	Dawson
Clear Brook vs. Clear Lake	Clear Lake	Clear Lake	Clear Lake	Clear Lake	Clear Lake
Brazoswood vs. Clear Creek	Brazoswood	Clear Creek	Clear Creek	Brazoswood	Brazoswood
Clear Falls at Dickinson	Dickinson	Dickinson	Dickinson	Dickinson	Dickinson
Deer Park at Clear Springs	Deer Park	Deer Park	Deer Park	Deer Park	Deer Park
North Shore at C.E. King	C.E. King	North Shore	C E King	North Shore	North Shore
Angleton at La Porte	Angleton	La Porte	Angleton	La Porte	Angleton
Lutheran South hosts Woodlands Christian	Woodlands	LSA	Woodlands	Woodlands	Woodlands
Last Week's Results	9-1	10-0	10-0	10-0	10-0
Season record	72-18	68-22	67-23	69-21	69-21



John Bechtle



Emory Gadd



Troy Leland



Stephen Sutton



Debbie Vaughn

Nov. 1 – Sr. Division at Pearland Texans
(PW) Pearland Texans vs. LP Texans, 8 a.m.
Cowboys vs. Red Raiders 9 a.m.
Pearland Texans vs. Buccaneers 11 a.m.
Gators vs. Cardinals 1 p.m.
Magnolia Park vs. LP Texans 3 p.m.

Nov. 1 – Jr. Division at Bay Area Cardinals
(PW) Manvel Texans vs. Angleton, 8 a.m.
Gators vs. Manvel Texans, 9 a.m.
Pearland Patriots vs. Angleton 11 a.m.
League City vs. Buccaneers 1 p.m.
LP Texans vs. Red Raiders 3 p.m.

Nov. 1 – Soph. Division at Pasadena Panthers
(PW) Red Raiders vs. Cardinals, 8 a.m.
Angleton vs. Buccaneers, 9 a.m.
Cardinals vs. Manvel Texans, 11 a.m.
Stingrays vs. Cowboys, 1 p.m.
Red Raiders vs. League City, 3 p.m.

Nov. 1 – Fr. Division at Hitchcock
(PW) Pearland Patriots vs. 49ers, 8 a.m.
Buccaneers vs. Red Raiders, 9 a.m.
Cowboys vs. Manvel Texans, 11 a.m.
Stingrays vs. Cardinals, 1 p.m.
49ers vs. Panthers, 3 p.m.

Thompson volleyball dominates Pasadena ISD, wins four titles



The Thompson Intermediate eighth-grade A volleyball team went on the Pasadena ISD regular-season championship this season to help the Lions show dominance in all divisions. Members of the team are, left to right, (front row) Abigail DeHoyos, Zylah Vargas



Thompson Intermediate's eighth-grade B volleyball team went undefeated to win the Pasadena ISD regular-season division and district championships this season. Members of the team are, left to right, (front row) Kobee Rodriguez, Simone Jones, (back row) Dahlia Salinas, Emilee Lugo, Daniella Gonzalez, Nevaeh Torres, Sophia Carter, Altia Caldwell, Elise Perseval, Ximena Barahona Guzman and coach Thuy Nguyen.



Thompson Intermediate's seventh-grade A volleyball team went undefeated to capture both the Pasadena ISD regular-season division and district championships this season. Members of the team are, left to right, (front row) Cassandra Perez Melendez, Abbiella Nguyen, April Alaniz, Mariah Mendez, (back row) Miranda Coronado, Audryna St. Romain, Edina Lendsey, Victoria Neira, Aubrey Brown, Kelsie Snook-Bolling, and Coach Kaylyn Harlan.



Thompson Intermediate's seventh-grade B volleyball team went undefeated to win the Pasadena ISD regular-season division and district championships this season. Members of the team are, left to right, (front row) Charlotte Kearbey, Aleena Robinson, Zuleigh Gaona, Scarlett Vega, Gift Obah, (back row) Soraya Lungs, Natalia Flores, Nevaeh Flores, Anaya Esquivel, Rayah Semien, Leilyn Castillo, Adelyn Guillen, and coach Tiffany Nelson.

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GARAGE SALE
2516 S. Venice, Sat., Nov. 1, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Giant BellaVita (Treasure Box) Charity garage sale. Christmas, decorator and household items. 10-30 9902 SAGECOURT DR. Sat., Nov. 1, 8 a.m. - noon. Multifamily garage sale. Located at Scarsdale @ Blackhawk.

Numerous items: purses, tools, tool chest, fishing rods, plumbing/welding materials, household and kitchen items, dishes, clothes, shoes, small furniture, toys, games and much more! 10-30

YARD SALE
10738 SAGEWIND DR. at Hall Rd. Sat. & Sun., Nov. 1 & 2, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Huge yard sale. 10-30

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CALENDAR

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30
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.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31
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.
8 p.m. **Serenity Now Al-Anon Group** – meets at CrossRoads UMC Fridays, 8 – 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.
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 or https://nastuff.com/. Meets Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays.
8 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous** – meets at CrossRoads UMC Wednesday, Friday and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call 281-484-9243.
8 p.m. **Beverly Hills Sharers Group AA** – meets at CrossRoads UMC Wednesday, Friday and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Call 281-484-9243.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1
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.
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2
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 Cen-

ter 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, 5125 Preston Ave. Pasadena, TX 77505. Call 713-419-2635 for details.
8 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous** See Friday's notice.
8 p.m. **Beverly Hills Sharers Group AA** – See Friday's notice.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3
5 p.m. **New Directions** – Age 55 and older meets the first and third Mondays for a potluck dinner with activities and/or guest speakers at 600 Hobbs Road, League City, TX 77573, (community room). For further information, call Jill at 646-489-4367.
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 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 Road, 77089. For details, call Rita at 281-309-2801.
7 p.m. **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 at 832-858-4617 or Dorothy Pourteau at 713-875-8820.
7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** – See Friday's notice.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4
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. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** – See Friday's notice.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5

7 a.m. **AA Meeting** – “Breakfast With Bill.” See Thursday's notice.
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** – See Thursday's notice.
Carmelites – a nondenominational senior citizen social group meeting at St. Bernadette Catholic Church, 15500 El Camino Real, in Clear Lake on the first and third Wednesdays for a time filled with fun, fellowship, lending library with books and puzzles, coffee and bingo. The meetings are open to those ages 55 and older, with no dues. Day trips and extended trips available. Deposits are now being taken for Poland. For details, call Marilyn at 713-444-6744.
Noon **AA – Imperfect Nooners.** See Friday's notice.
Noon **Ballroom Dancing** – casual ballroom dance, open to the public, held every Wednesday afternoon from 12:30 to 3 p.m. at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 East League City Parkway, League City. Everyone is welcome to come with or without a partner. The dance itself is free as music is provided by volunteer, Neva Schroder. The city requires an activity card for participants in all of the city's many activities. Call the park office 281-554-1180 for answers to any questions regarding the activity card. Visitors are welcome to walk in to observe or participate.
7 p.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** – See Sunday's notice.
7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** – See Friday's notice.
8 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous** – See Friday's notice.
8 p.m. **Beverly Hills Sharers Group AA** – See Friday's notice.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6
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.

Dobie basketball to honor Christmas-Kelly

Continued from Page 5
and then quickly in high school enabled her to make an almost immediate jump to the varsity level in 2003-2004, where she joined a Dobie varsity program that was already talented before her arrival.

As a freshman, Christmas-Kelly made several key free throws in the Region III tournament as the Longhorns went on to defeat Westside in the 2003-2004 championship game, earning what was then and still remains the program's first and only state championship appearance.

By her senior year, Christmas-Kelly had garnered McDonald's All-American status and signed to play collegiately at Duke University. She was an All-Conference performer multiple times for the Blue Devils and in 2009 was an second round draft pick of the Washington Mystics in that year's WNBA draft.

She went on to play for five other organizations during a successful run professionally before joining the coaching ranks within the WNBA. She is currently an assistant coach with one of the more popular WNBA franchises along with her husband Austin Kelly as they are both on staff with

the Indiana Fever.

Christmas-Kelly had her No. 13 jersey retired at Dobie High School in 2018 and was inducted into the Dobie Hall of Honor that same year. She became a member of the Pasadena ISD Athletics Hall of Fame in 2019.

Suffice to say, Christmas-Kelly has earned just about every accolade possible as a star student-athlete at Dobie and then collegiately as well as at the pro level. Still, she would almost certainly wish for her banner reveal evening to be a celebration of what is possible.

But there has been plenty of sacrifice and hard work along the way. Karima's story is one to be celebrated, but most importantly, it serves as a reminder to any student athlete within the Pasadena ISD ranks that dreams are possible.

As a child, family members say that all Christmas-Kelly wanted to do was bounce a ball.

It may have been annoying at the time to have the sound of a bouncing ball in the background all the time, but it seems to have worked out well for Christmas-Kelly.

She is an example of what is possible through outstanding classwork, focused dedication in a chosen sport and a willingness to make both sacrifices and be willing to do what is necessary within a team concept to be successful. Not everyone will end up with a banner reveal, but there are other success stories to be had.

Also with the Longhorns, Christmas-Kelly was named a Parade Magazine fourth-team All America pick in 2007 and played in the WBCA High School All-America game. She was a three-time All-District selection and was the Most Valuable Player of her high school team in both 2005 and 2007.

As a senior in 2007, Christmas-Kelly averaged 18.7 points, 9.6 rebounds and nearly five steals per game while leading Dobie to a 32-7 record.

After her star-studded four-year varsity basketball career at Dobie, Christmas-Kelly joined Duke University and was a prominent performer in each of her four seasons with the Blue Devils.

She is currently tied for 10th all-time in steals and program history. After making zero 3-point field goals as a freshman, Christmas-Kelly proceeded to make 56 shots from deep over her final three seasons

and finished with 1,052 career points while averaging nearly five rebounds per game over her career.

She played in 134 career games, including 55 starts and helped Duke to back to back Atlantic Coast Conference regular season and postseason tournament championships.



Karima Christmas-Kelly (left) was on hand to support her husband, Austin Kelly, during the 2021-2022 NCAA women's basketball season as he was an assistant coach at UT Arlington as the program won the Sun Belt Conference title en route to the NCAA tournament.



The Dobie defense used a gang-tackling effort to bring down Sam Rayburn ball carrier Tyrone Smith (6) as, from left, R.J. Robinson (50), Orlando Gomez (37) and Dakarai Parker (19) were in on the play for the Longhorns.

Photo by David Flickinger

Dobie defeats Sam Rayburn with 28-point second quarter

Continued from Page 5
mate Orlando Gomez to give the Longhorns possession of the ball.

The Longhorns proceeded to methodically move down the field to score the first points of the game as the Texans looked on.

Dobie put together a 64-yard drive that consumed more than six minutes and the rest of the opening quarter before Adrian Taylor scored on a 3-yard touchdown run on the first play of the second quarter to give his team a 7-0 lead.

Rayburn gained just four yards on its next possession and then snapped the ball over the punter's head. A relatively short punt resulted in the Longhorns taking possession at the Texans' 49.

Hodges ran for 16 yards on the first play of the series and then ran up the gut for 26 more yards. Senior quarterback Titus Howard took a direct snap and ran 12 yards for the touchdown with eight minutes, 40 seconds to go in the second quarter as the locals took a 14-0 lead.

Rayburn proceeded to go three and out for a second consecutive drive, and a fourth down punt gave the Longhorns the ball at the Texan 46-yard line with 6:55 to go in the half.

Back in the game, junior quarterback Oscar Hernandez launched a deep ball and connected with Marcus Jones for 33 yards and a first down at the Rayburn 13-yard line.

An explosive two-play touchdown drive was capped by Hodges, who broke to the outside for 13 yards and a touchdown that gave Dobie a 21-0 lead with 6:39 to play in the first half.

The Longhorns effectively put the game away late in the second quarter as Taylor scored his second touchdown of the half, this one from 11 yards out, as his team led 28-0.

Down four touchdowns, Sam Rayburn responded with a scoring drive in the final 46 seconds of the first half as running back H'nei Jones launched the 25-yard touchdown pass to Wesley Austin with nine seconds remaining.

The two-point conversion was no good, but the Texans had gotten themselves on the board.

A pooch kick to open the second half backfired on the Texans as first Taylor fielded the ball and returned it across midfield.

The Texans were also flagged for offside on the play. All of a sudden, Dobie opened the second

half with a first down at the Texan 36-yard line.

Randle took off on the quarterback draw to open the series with a 17-yard pickup.

Hodges ran down the middle for another 10 yards and a first down, and then took the pitch for 9 yards and a touchdown.

Just like that, the Longhorns were in front 35-6 with barely a minute gone in the third quarter.

Coming into the game confident about the possibility of downing the Longhorns for the first time in many many years, a four-touchdown disadvantage across the first 26 minutes of action dispelled that thought for the Texans.

A scoring lull ensued from there before the Texans made it 35-14

McDonald's invitational set

Continued from page 5
Cypress Ridge.

The 32-team girls' field will compete Nov. 21 in a third round of pool play games.

Dobie is scheduled to host Kempner in a 1:30 p.m. contest at Dobie main. Bracket play in both the 16-team Division 1 and 16-team Division 2 girls' divisions will play out all day Nov. 22.

The boys division will compete in bracket play both Nov. 21 and Nov. 22.

Both single-day and three-day tournament passes will be available for purchase at each of the 10 tournament locations via cash, credit or debit cards.

Three-day tournament passes are \$30 each, and single-day adult tickets are \$7 each. Single-day student tickets are \$3 each.

For complete tournament information, visit www.texasinvitational.com.

22-6A Football Standings	
Pearland	7-0
Dawson	6-1
Shadow Creek	4-2
Manvel	4-2
Dobie	3-3
Rayburn	2-4
Alvin	1-5
Memorial	1-5
South Houston	0-5

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