

### CCISD public meetings set

Clear Creek ISD will host a pair of community meetings in October to inform the public of the elements of the proposed 2023 bond election and Voter Approval Tax Rate Election (VATRE). This is the first time in school district history that voters will be asked to consider a VATRE, which would add three cents onto the maintenance and operations tax rate to offset the increasing cost of education. The two bond proposals on the ballot total \$302 million and would be used for priority repairs and replacements, school safety upgrades, school infrastructure and instructional technology. Visit [www.ccisd.net/electioncentral](http://www.ccisd.net/electioncentral) to learn more. Meetings will be held at 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 5, at Clear Lake High School, 2929 Bay Area Blvd. and Thursday, Oct. 12, at Clear Springs High School, 501 Palomino Lane in League City.

### Sagemeadow seeks vendors

Sagemeadow is seeking local vendors with handmade/homemade items for its second annual fall festival, set to take place Nov. 4 at Sagemeadow Park. Local businesses are also welcome. If interested, email [events@sagemeadow.org](mailto:events@sagemeadow.org).

### Heavy trash pickup dates set

City residents south of Fuqua will have heavy trash pickup Thursday, Oct. 12 (second Thursday of the month). City residents north of Fuqua and west of the Gulf Freeway will have heavy trash pickup Friday, Oct. 13 (second Friday of the month). October is for junk waste but tree waste will also be accepted. Pickups may be delayed. For additional information, visit [www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste](http://www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste) or call 311.

### New Covenant feeds needy

New Covenant Christian Church, 10603 Blackhawk, will distribute food the second and fourth Saturday monthly from noon to 1 p.m. or until supplies run out. The purpose is to provide food to community people in need. For information, call 281-484-4230.

### Coffee with the Constable

Harris County Pct. 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. 5. For more information, call Sagemont Civic Club President Kay Barbour at 713-419-3545.

### Local COVID cases reported

The number of active COVID-19 cases in the South Belt community stayed roughly on par with the previous week, according to Harris County health officials.

As of Tuesday, Oct. 3, there were 129 active cases in 77089, down eight from the previous week. To date, 139 from the ZIP code have died from the disease. (Harris County had reported 142 deaths in the ZIP code the last several weeks. The reason for the change was unclear at press time.)

In ZIP code 77075, there were 13 active cases, no change from the previous week. To date, there have been 83 deaths in the ZIP code. (The county had reported 84 deaths the last several weeks.)

In 77034, there were 20 active cases, down three from the previous week. To date, 91 residents from ZIP code 77034 have died from the disease. (The county had reported 92 deaths the last several weeks.)

Statistics are updated daily 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/cumulative-data](http://covid-harriscounty.hub.arcgis.com/pages/cumulative-data).

### 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.

### Beltway 8 closure planned

At least one northbound frontage road lane on Beltway 8 will be closed from Fairmont Parkway to Spencer Highway continuously through 3 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 31. No detour will be needed but drivers should expect delays.

### Ellington eRecycling event set

The City of Houston Solid Waste Management Department's monthly electronic recycling event will take place Oct. 14, at the Neighborhood Recycling Center at Ellington Airport from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Recycling electronics keeps potentially harmful materials, such as mercury, cadmium, lead and cathode ray tubes out of the waste stream and the environment. Items accepted are PCs, servers, keyboards, mice, laptops, game consoles, monitors, printers, copiers, scanners, fax machines, projectors, batteries, cellphones, PDAs, tape drives, hard drives, cords, cables and cameras. The collection events take place the second Saturday of each month. For additional information, visit [www.houstonsolidwaste.org](http://www.houstonsolidwaste.org) or call 311.

## Voters to decide on homestead exemption increase

### Historic property tax relief hinges on passage of increase

A massive property tax relief bill signed into law this past July by Gov. Greg Abbott now hinges on voter approval of an amendment to increase the state's homestead exemption.

If approved by Texas voters next month, Proposition 4 (HJR 2) will do the following:

– Increase the homestead tax exemption from \$40,000 to \$100,000.

– Authorize the state legislature to limit the annual appraisal increase on nonhomestead real property.

– Exclude appropriations made to increase state education funding from the state appropriations limit; and authorize the state legislature to provide for four-year terms for members of the governing body of an appraisal entity in counties

with a population of 75,000 or more.

State officials said the average homeowner will save approximately \$1,200 a year but larger properties will save more.

July's tax relief package was passed during the state's second special session after the measure failed to pass during the regular legislative session and a special session called by Abbott.

#### Previous homestead increases

–2022: The homestead tax exemption was increased from \$25,000 to \$40,000 (approved by 85 percent of voters).

–2015: The homestead tax exemption was increased from \$15,000 to \$25,000 (approved by 86 percent of voters)

–1997: The homestead tax exemption was increased from \$5,000 to \$15,000 (approved by 94 percent of voters).

State voters will also decide on 13 other amendments.

For additional information on the 14 proposed amendments to the state's constitution, visit [www.sos.texas.gov/elections/forms/2023-explanatory-statements-14-final.pdf](http://www.sos.texas.gov/elections/forms/2023-explanatory-statements-14-final.pdf).

## Dobie names king, queen



Dobie High School named its homecoming king and queen at its varsity football game against Pasadena High School Thursday, Sept. 28. Santos Magana was crowned king, and Shaira Balanta was crowned queen. The Longhorns routed the Eagles 59-13. See related story on Page 5. Photo by David Flickinger

## Martin to hold farewell town halls

City of Houston Mayor Pro Tem and District E City Council Member Dave Martin will host a pair of town hall meetings in October, marking the conclusion of his final term.

The South Belt-Ellington/Clear Lake town hall will be held at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 19, at Space Center Houston, 1601 NASA Parkway.

The Kingwood/Lake Houston town hall will be held earlier in the week at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 17, at the Kingwood Community Center, 4102 Rustic Woods Drive in Kingwood.

During these meetings, residents can plan to hear from Martin and other city representatives about ongoing and future District E projects.

There will also be information tables hosted by City of Houston Departments, available for those who arrive to the event early, beginning at 5:30 p.m.

For more information, contact Martin's office at 832-393-3008 or via email at [districte@houstontx.gov](mailto:districte@houstontx.gov).

Term-limited Martin is currently campaigning for the position of city controller.

## PISD to hold Early College meeting

Pasadena ISD will host a parent meeting on the district's Early College High School program on Tuesday, Oct. 24, at Phillips Gymnasium, 2906 Dabney in Pasadena, beginning at 6 p.m.

The function is for parents of students from fifth to eighth grade who would like to learn more about the district's ECHS program.

The free events will include a general overview of the program, a question-and-answer session with all five of the high school ECHS deans and inspirational success stories from previous ECHS students. Translators will be available for Spanish-only speakers.

"Research indicates that students who get a head start on taking college classes in high school have a better chance of completing a college degree," said

Jennifer Boushley, district coordinator of Early College High Schools. "In these districtwide meetings, we will share details about the enrollment process and best ways to support students as they begin to make decisions about high school."

Early College High School is a four-year program offered at all five comprehensive high schools in PISD. The program provides students with the opportunity to earn an associate degree (or 60+ college hours) along with their high school diploma. Students in the program take college level classes at their high school campus in ninth and tenth grades and at San Jacinto College during their junior and senior years.

Upon graduation from Pasadena ISD, students

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## BAHEP hosts District E candidate forum

The Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership (BAHEP), Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce and South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce will jointly host a candidate forum Thursday, Oct. 12, for individuals seeking the position of City of Houston District E city council member.

Taking part in the event are candidates Fred Flickinger and Martina Lemond Dixon. A former longtime resident and Dobie graduate, Flickinger

is the son of *Leader* publisher Marie Flickinger and Clear Brook City MUD board member David Flickinger.

The forum will take place at BAHEP's temporary office located at 1150 Gemini (first floor). A meet and greet with candidates will take place from 4:30 to 5 p.m., with the forum following from 5 to 6 p.m.

For more information, visit [bayareahouston.com](http://bayareahouston.com).

## City's drought plan remains in place

Despite receiving some much-needed rainfall in recent weeks, the City of Houston remained under Stage 2 of its Drought Contingency Plan at press time. The city's Drought Contingency Plan calls for Stage 2 mandatory water conservation measures when the significant drop in annual rainfall and higher-than-normal daily temperatures lead to continued stress on the water system. Houston

Public Works has recommended the implementation of a Stage 2 designation of the Drought Contingency Plan for the entire city, including systems that are supplied by groundwater only.

During Stage 2, outdoor water use will be restricted except for the following time periods:

– Between the hours of 7 p.m. and 5 a.m. with

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## Gibbs film returns to local theater

Back by popular demand, "Old Man Jackson" – a film made by longtime South Belt resident Johnny Ray Gibbs – will return to the Star Cinema Grill - Baybrook Friday, Oct. 6, for a week-long screening.

The independent film made its debut at the Star Cinema Grill - Baybrook this past June to multiple sold-out showings.

The owner of Lighthouse Electric, Gibbs said

his own story is one of rags to riches.

Originally from Atlanta, Gibbs moved to Houston in 1989 following a major accident that left him in a coma at 23 years old.

"I was homeless," Gibbs said. "Someone bought me a bus ticket, and I ended up at the old Greyhound bus station."

Gibbs said he started a landscaping business

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## County releases health disparities report

### 5-year study analyzes disparities by race, ethnicity

Harris County Public Health recently released its inaugural Health Disparities Annual Report, a comprehensive assessment of health services provided by HCPH from 2018 to 2023, broken down by race and ethnicity.

The report aims to inform the community about the services offered by HCPH and to identify and address disparities in access to these services, ultimately improving health outcomes for all Harris County residents.

The 80-page Health Disparities Annual Report aims to promote equity in access to health services and programs. Health equity is defined as a state in which everyone has a fair and just

opportunity to attain their highest level of health.

By analyzing data over a five-year period, the report highlights efforts by HCPH to bridge the gap in health disparities among different communities within Harris County. These efforts align with the Harris County Leading Causes of Death Report published in 2021 and the Community Health Status Assessment 2022 Report for Precincts 1, 2, 3 and 4.

"Our commitment to addressing health disparities is unwavering," stated HCPH Executive Director Barbie Robinson. "This report is a crucial step toward ensuring that all residents of

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## Maduzia ghost bike dedicated



A ghost bike was recently installed near Fuqua and Sabo in memorial of longtime South Belt resident Greg Maduzia, who died in a cycling accident with an 18-wheeler at the location Friday, July 28. Shown above at the dedication are, left to right, David Maduzia (brother), Jackie Maduzia (mother), Johnny Maduzia (father), Kathy Hillman (cousin) and Brenda Maduzia (sister).

## Man killed in Gulf Freeway crash

Houston police are investigating a fatal crash that took place around 5 a.m. on Sunday, Sept. 24, in the 11900 block of the Gulf Freeway near Almeda Mall.

The identity of the deceased male was pending verification by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences at press time.

According to Houston Police Department officials, witnesses stated the male was crossing the southbound lanes of the Gulf Freeway when

he was struck by a gray Chevrolet Town and Country minivan traveling south.

Houston Fire Department paramedics responded to the incident and pronounced the male dead at the scene.

The male driver of the minivan, who remained at the scene, was determined not to be impaired and was questioned and released.

The investigation was continuing at press time.

## Riehle stars in Gibbs film



Johnny Ray Gibbs' debut film "Old Man Jackson" is back by popular demand, as it returns to the Star Cinema Grill - Baybrook for an encore screening Oct. 6-13. A longtime South Belt resident, Gibbs (left) is shown above with actor Richard Riehle, who plays Father Donovan in the movie. Riehle has appeared in more than 200 films, including "Glory," "The Fugitive," "Casino" and "Office Space."

**King re-examines rationale for transit**

In polling, Americans consistently support more transit. Yet, ridership on transit flattened about 15 years ago before collapsing in the pandemic. Ridership has recovered since the lows of the pandemic but is still almost 40% below the all-time highs in 2008. Some transit analysts believe that ridership will eventually recover to the pre-pandemic levels but others doubt that it will ever recover, as transit faces the new headwinds of the work-at-home paradigm and ubiquitous rider sharing services like Uber and Lyft. This lackluster performance is despite

an investment by American taxpayers of about \$60 billion each year in transit. It seems that this dichotomy between how Americans view transit and the reluctance of 99% of them to use it, raises some fundamental questions about what we believe the purpose of a transit system is in the first place. I would like to hear your thoughts on this subject and have prepared the attached survey asking about the purpose(s) of a transit system. I would greatly appreciate your participation. I am going to let this run for about a week and I will share the results with you.

Thanks for your help.

Bill King

**Natividad G "Joe" Delgado**



Natividad G "Joe" Delgado went home to be with the Lord on Sept. 18, 2023, after his long battle with Parkinson's disease.

Natividad was born in San Antonio on May 27, 1935, to parents Juanita and Andres Delgado.

Natividad is preceded in death by his wife Rose Delgado.

They were married for more than 64 years.

He is survived by his four children Betty "Boop" Delgado, Judge Jo Ann Delgado (Danny), Bobby Delgado (Annette), Felix Delgado (Lisa); grandchildren Jesse Salazar, Jennifer Salazar (Enrique), Jaime Salazar

(Cynthia), Ryan Delgado, Zachary Delgado (Cara) and Amanda Delgado; and great-grandchildren Eric Mexicano, Hannah Salazar, Andrew Salazar and Evan Mexicano.

Joe, as he was best known, loved his children but when his grandchildren arrived he would often say that "You may have messed up raising your children but you get a second chance with your grandchildren."

He was blessed to have his oldest granddaughter Jennifer Salazar move in with him to become his caretaker for the last three years of his life.

Joe served in the United States Army for three years as a specialist second class. Joe moved his family to Houston in 1966 at the advice of his older brother Felix.

He settled in the East End of Houston and began his career as a longshoreman at the Port of Houston for more than 30 years. He was committed to his job and took pride in being a member of the ILA local 28.

Joe enjoyed the sport of boxing and shared his talent by being a boxing coach at

the East End Variety Boys Club. He had the opportunity to take several fighters to the Golden Gloves and acquired the name "The Champ."

His love for politics landed him a position as precinct judge for precinct 154 where he served for 10 years.

Joe enjoyed block walking and meeting residents and encouraging them to always get out to vote. Delivering the votes from his precinct was something he took very seriously.

He had the opportunity to work on several state and local campaigns along the way.

Joe would always tell his children to work hard and never forget who helped them along the way and believed everyone had an obligation to "leave the world better than before."

Joe the "Champ" will be missed but never forgotten by his family and friends.

A Celebration of Life will take place as follows: Friday, Oct. 13, visitation 5 to 9 p.m. with the rosary recited at 6 p.m. and service Saturday, Oct. 14, at 10 a.m.; Forest Park East Funeral Home, 21620 Gulf Freeway, Webster.

**William Curtis Gadd Jr.**



William (Bill) Curtis Gadd Jr., loving and devoted husband of Louise McGill Gadd, son of the late William Curtis Gadd Sr. and Sylvia Gant Gadd, passed away peacefully on Sept. 11, 2023, after a long illness. Bill is survived by his loving wife; his two children, Elizabeth Ann, and James William; his brother Timothy M. Gadd; sisters Wynne S. Gadd and Teri R. Posey; and uncle Emory Gadd.

Bill was born and raised in Houston, and attended and graduated from Dobie High School in 1983, where he was a long-distance runner, and member of the school choir, math and debate club. Upon graduation, Bill attended the University of Houston, where he earned his Bachelor of Science in electrical engineering, followed by his master's in electrical engineering. During his educational years, Bill supported himself by working at Brown Sugar's BBQ restaurant with his brother Tim by his side. Bill enjoyed watching the Houston Astros play and listening to The Beatles.

In 1995, Bill decided a change was in order. He moved to Dallas to work for Raytheon. Shortly after settling in, a unique opportunity arose for Bill to get a security clearance and venture into a new world, Australia (Alice Springs to be precise). Throughout 1995 and 1996, Bill traveled numerous times to Alice Springs to support the mission there and after these trips he decided to accept a full-time position there. In November 1996, he returned to Alice Springs to live there permanently.

During those earlier temporary visits, Bill was introduced to Louise. They began their romance and became engaged in December 1998, and married in July 1999. Together, she and Bill, nicknamed "The Gadd Man" by Louise, enjoyed traveling, camping, playing golf, and spending time with family and friends. In March 2003, Bill found unconditional love with his daughter Elizabeth,

and then his son James in September 2006. Bill enjoyed designing and supervising the building of their first family home in 2004. Once complete, many hours were spent in happiness and contentment, swimming in the pool, or playing on the grass. Bill greatly enjoyed teaching the kids to hit golf balls, drive a cart, swim, read and starting their math education early.

During 2010, another opportunity found Bill, this one involved moving to Virginia, U.S.A. It was a massive undertaking moving the family across the ocean, however, Bill and his family quickly settled comfortably into new employment, new home, new town, and new country with the help of new friends. Bill brought his genius to new work with his typical calm, sharing, generous approach. He adapted quickly and well to the new work tempo while mentoring scores of engineers in the ways of the "Gadd Man." Bill was widely respected for his knowledge and willingness to share it with anyone who listened.

Bill was an exceptional man, kind, generous, courageous, scary intelligent, with a sense of purpose and moral compass that supported an amazing professional career and his family. Bill was a man of few words, however quick with a cheesy joke, a bit of gossip and a cheeky smile.

"The Gadd Man" will be greatly missed by his family, friends and all those who were fortunate to work with or meet him. His final goodbye is being observed at a memorial service on Saturday, Oct. 7, 2023 at 1 p.m. at Sagemont Church 11300 S. Sam Houston Parkway Houston, 77089.

Hartman Junior High and Mill by High School, from which he graduated in 1962.

After high school, he started working at Summers Electric before moving to the Jim Edwards Co. and completed his career at SMR Gulf Coast as an electrical manufacturer's representative. He truly loved his job and enjoyed every friend he made.

In 1965, Richard married the love of his life, Carol Davidson. They dated for five years and attended many dances at Mt. Carmel High School together. Richard and Carol loved square dancing, traveling in their motorhome and spending time with their children and grandchildren. They had two children, Tracy and Ronald. Richard was the epitome of a family man. He volunteered to coach for numerous YMCA teams, was actively involved in the parent organizations for the Dobie Lariatettes and Dobie band, and was a youth leader at St. Luke's Catholic Church. Richard was a devout Catholic who was a member of the Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree.

Richard loved his three grandchildren. He watched them at their tennis tournaments, soccer games, band performances, gymnastics competitions and cheerleading performances. He was so proud of each one of them and always wanted to spend time with them.

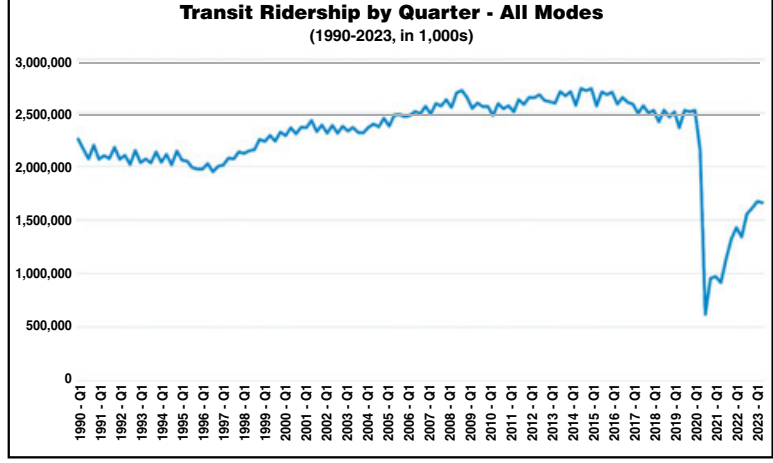
Richard loved music, especially Doo Wop and dancing the Jitterbug and Bop. He also enjoyed being a disc jockey at dances. Richard loved holidays. He dressed up as Frankenstein for Halloween, Uncle Sam for the Fourth of July and Santa Claus for Christmas. He never missed watching his Houston Astros, Texans, Rockets and Cowboys.

Richard was predeceased by his parents; brother, James Wach; and wife. He is survived by his daughter, Tracy Yarbrough; son, Ronald Wach and his wife, Jessica Wach; grandchildren, Jeremy Yarbrough, Andrew Wach and Julia Wach; brother, Robert Wach; and sister, Janice Roberts.

Visitation will be held from 6 until 8 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 10, at Peevey Funeral Home. The following day, Wednesday, Oct. 11, a funeral service will be held at 12:30 p.m. at St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church. Interment will follow at Forest Park Lawn-dale, Cemetery.

Pallbearers are: Robert Wach, Ronald Wach, Kevin Roberts, Kelby Roberts, Jeremy Yarbrough and Andrew Wach.

Flowers can be sent to Peevey Funeral Home or donations made to the Alzheimer's Association (alz.org).



**Senator Middleton on border security**

Fellow Texans,

This year, Texas made a historic \$5.1 billion investment for border security. Unfortunately, the Biden administration is hellbent on undermining Texas' efforts to secure the border.

Today, I sent a letter to Governor Abbott asking him to add border security to the upcoming special session call. I believe Texas needs as many tools as possible to protect our sovereignty, including legislation formally declaring an invasion at our southern border, addressing the Colony Ridge Colonia, expanding felony criminal trespass laws to allow law enforcement to take swift action against the ongoing invasion, and utilizing a border force to actively repel persons attempting to illegally cross the border. You can read my letter to Governor Abbott below.

Governor Abbott, September 28, 2023

I applaud the historic \$5.1 billion investment the Legislature made under your leadership this past session for border security. Unfortunately, the Biden administration is working to undermine and undo Texas' efforts to secure our border. Cartels, criminals, and fentanyl

are flooding into Texas.

Thank you for your willingness to add border security to the special session call, including addressing the Colony Ridge Colonia. Respectfully, I'm asking you to add additional border security measures to the call for the upcoming special session, so the Legislature can partner with you to help stop the invasion at the Texas border with Mexico, counter the Federal Government's open border policies, and address this national security crisis.

I believe we need as many tools as possible to protect our sovereignty as a state and nation, including legislation formally declaring an invasion at our southern border, expanding felony criminal trespass laws to provide law enforcement the ability to take swift action against the ongoing invasion, and expanding or creating an additional border force to actively repel persons attempting to illegally cross the border.

Thank you for your continued efforts to keep Texas safe. In the upcoming special session(s), I look forward to working with you to defend and protect the freedom and sovereignty of this great state against the ongoing invasion along our southern border.

Sincerely,

Mayes Middleton

**Ghost bike honors Maduzia**

By M.T. Duke  
Leader staff  
The ghost bike recently installed at the corner of Fuqua and Sabo in the South Belt area.



South Belt resident who passed away on July 28 after an eighteen-wheeler struck him on his bicycle.

Gregory and his siblings grew up in the South Belt area and attended Atkinson Elementary, Beverly Hills Intermediate and J. Frank Dobie High School.

Gregory's sister Brenda stated her brother, a recovered alcoholic, cycled more than 20 miles each day and "could ride like nobody's business."

While Gregory had difficulty walking and dealt with a speech impediment, his doctors encouraged him to keep up his cycling routine, something he had done for years. Gregory even participated in the MS150, a 150-mile bike ride from Houston to Austin, with his brother. Brenda remarked fondly that Gregory's bike was his Cadillac and that he rode regardless of the weather. She said her brother was very aware of bike safety, "He would've never been unsafe."

"It could've been anybody," Brenda said. She hopes this ghost bike will help bring awareness to drivers in the area, reminding them that they do share the road with bicyclists.

See related photo on Page 1. For more information on Gregory's life, see Page 2 of the Aug. 3, 2023 edition of the Leader for his obituary.

**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. 5, 3 - 4 p.m. Open lab - computer class. Registration required.

Thursday, Oct. 5, 4 - 5 p.m. Family storytime. Registration required.

Monday, Oct. 9, 11 a.m. - noon. Open lab - computer class. Registration required.

Tuesday, Oct. 10, 4 - 5 p.m. Retro games. Registration required.

Wednesday, Oct. 11, 6 - 7 p.m. Pajama storytime. 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.

**Additional resources**

The Houston Public Library has electronic resources, books, audiobooks, databases for research, tutoring, language learning, education and parent information for Texas residents with a library card. To get a card, visit the home page at [www.houstonlibrary.org](http://www.houstonlibrary.org) under Here's What's Happening. Click on Free Resources for All to access digital resources and access a link for a temporary card. Also, under Here's What's Happening, the card titled Online Resources for Kids accesses a Virtual Storytime provided on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 11 a.m. The archived storytimes are found on Facebook under Houston Public Library Virtual Storytimes. Another virtual program is Craft.

Houston Public Library's many free online resources and digital services are available 24/7 with a MY Link Library Card at [www.houstonlibrary.org](http://www.houstonlibrary.org), including e-books and e-audiobooks, streaming TV, movie and music services, online classes and tutoring and databases. Until further notice, only electronic items (i.e. e-books, e-audio books, etc.) are eligible for holds and check-out. HPL has a collection of free e-books and audio books. Visit the catalog for previously requested hold selection may be in a digital format. Instructions on downloading the e-book or audio book are on the site.

**Commissioner Rodney Ellis plans to run for third term**

Rodney Ellis, Commissioner for Harris County Precinct One, announced today that he will seek a third term in 2024. Ellis was first elected to Commissioners Court in 2016 and sworn in on Jan. 1, 2017.

Ellis made the following statement:

"When I came to Commissioners Court in 2017, I was the only Democrat, the only progressive, and the only commissioner ready to prioritize social, racial, economic, cli-

mate and criminal justice - and equity - for all Harris County residents.

"What a difference seven years has made. Together with my Democratic colleagues, we changed the composition of the court and the direction of our county government.

"I am proud to have championed reforms to make Harris County safer for all of us, reduce crime and mass incarceration, and fix our broken justice system, including: mis-

demeanor bail reform; innovative public health strategies proven to reduce gun violence; targeted mental health interventions; shelters for those experiencing homelessness, and more.

"I am thankful to have helped make Harris County more affordable, working to give every resident a stable foundation and a clear path to build a better life for themselves and their families.

"In that spirit, I led the fight

to reduce income inequality, created good paying jobs and worker safety, created job training and apprenticeship programs, and leveled the playing field with equitable economic policies.

"We have increased access to safe, stable, and affordable housing and increased tax breaks for seniors and the disabled so they won't get priced out of their homes. We're investing in our future with expanded access to childcare,

early education, and youth enrichment programs.

"We're giving Harris County families the building blocks they need to prosper.

"That's a lot, but we're just getting started. The truth is, we can't stop - not until, in the words of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., 'justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream.' That's my goal, and if Precinct One voters see fit to give me another term, I'll continue to devote my skills and experience achieving it."

Learn more at [www.RodneyEllis.com](http://www.RodneyEllis.com).

**Leader obituary policy**

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

**Parker Williams Library**

Parker Williams Library is open. 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. 5, 10 - 11:30 a.m. Conversation club.

Thursday, Oct. 5, 10:15 - 10:45 a.m. Toddler time.

Monday, Oct. 9, 11:15 - 11:45 a.m. Family story time.

Monday, Oct. 9, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. Book buddies.

Monday, Oct. 9, 6 - 7 p.m. Conversation club.

Tuesday, Oct. 10, 10:15 - 10:45 a.m. Babies 'n' books.

Tuesday, Oct. 10, 1 - 2 p.m. Pre Interview practice.

Tuesday, Oct. 10, 1 - 2 p.m. Homeschool hangout.

Wednesday, Oct. 11, 2 - 3 p.m. Pop Culture Club!

**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>.

**Harris County protects reading freedoms**

Harris County Commissioners Court passed a resolution aimed at protecting Texans' freedom to read as they choose. The resolution designates Harris County Public Library (HCPL) as a book sanctuary. In this, the library joins more than 2,700 organizations and institutions nationwide that have committed to safeguarding Americans' right to read, speak, and think for themselves as guaranteed by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution.

**The need for book sanctuaries**

Book sanctuaries are committed to these principles:

Collect and protect endangered books.

Make those books broadly accessible.

Host book talks and events, including sparking conversations about diverse characters and stories.

Educate others on the history of censorship, and current efforts to ban books.

HCPL has long been committed to providing the widest possible selection of books and other materials to its patrons so that its shelves reflect the diversity of cultures, beliefs, and lived experiences of the people of Harris County. The motivation for the resolution is the recent politicized surge in attempts to ban books across the country, particularly in Texas which led the nation in book challenges in 2022. The vast majority of those Texas book challenges

targeted books about traditionally marginalized communities including many books by African-American, Latino, and LGBTQ+ authors.

"I think it's very important for the library to be able to provide content and information to everyone, especially in a community that is as diverse as Harris County," says HCPL Executive Director Edward Melton, "The thing about books is that they are crucial not only as mirrors that reflect our own experiences but also as windows into the experiences of others. The library must be able to provide those opportunities for all people."

**Banned Books week**

The Book Sanctuary Resolution was passed ahead of

the American Library Association's (ALA) annual Banned Books Week (Oct. 1-7). According to ALA's website, Banned Books Week "highlights the value of free and open access to information and brings together the entire book community - librarians, educators, authors, publishers, booksellers and readers of all types - in shared support of the freedom to seek and to express ideas." Harris County Precinct 1 Commissioner Rodney Ellis will hold a press conference on Monday, Oct. 2, at 11 a.m. to address Banned Books Week and the Freedom Schools initiative. The event will include Houston Federation of Teachers President Jackie Anderson

who will discuss the impact of closing libraries in HISD.

**A library for all**

The Book Sanctuary Resolution does not bar library users from asking the library to reconsider items on its shelves.

The library has longstanding policies and procedures that allow patrons to voice their concerns about the appropriateness of materials in its collections, and each request is taken seriously. The resolution underscores that Harris County Public Library is duty-bound to safeguard all patron's intellectual freedom and equitable access to information. The Book Sanctuary Resolution dovetails with

**Continued on Page 4**

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Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9 a.m.  
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## Melillo scientists engineer energy conservation techniques



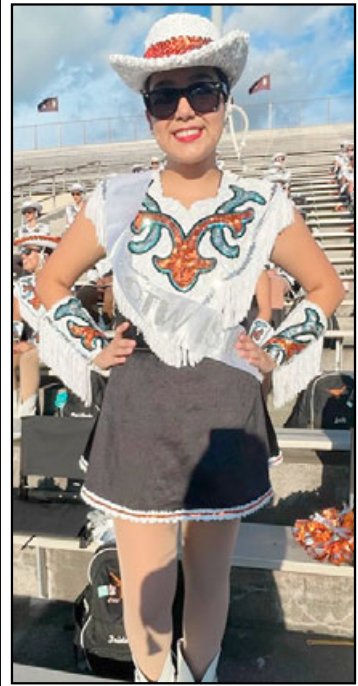
Melillo Middle School students recently practiced their engineering skills. Sixth-grade science teacher Debbie Bass says of her classroom experiments, "The sixth grade students are learning the conservation of energy – energy is neither created nor destroyed, it transforms. "Rube Goldberg machines allow energy to move from one object to another to make something simple complicated. "Their mission was to create three energy transformations to make a pencil roll off the table. Their descriptors are fun, cool, frustrating, creative, interesting and difficult."



Shown above, sixth-graders, left to right, Zuriel Erguiza, Aaron Grau, Viviana Gamez and Abby De Hoya work on their experiments whilst their science teacher Debbie Bass (right) observes.

Participating in the energy transformation experiment, left to right, Melanie Chavez, Sofia Charles and Ruben Castillo work to configure their machines.

## Lariaette of the Week, Sept. 21



The J. Frank Dobie Lariaette of the Week of Sept. 21 is junior Isabella Hernandez, a first-year line member.

## Lariaette of the Week, Sept. 28



The J. Frank Dobie Lariaette of the Week of Sept. 28 is junior Megan Vu, a second-year line member.

## Hispanic Heritage Month celebrated at Jessup Elementary

By M.T. Duke  
Leader staff  
Teamwork really does make the dream work, as evidenced at Jessup Elementary. Throughout the school year, coaches, counselors and teachers work together with the faculty to recognize each heritage month, and September was no different.

Art teacher Lucia Peña explained that a collaborative desire between staff and faculty members to further celebrate the primary cultures represented at the school was what led to creating a walk-in museum to commemorate Hispanic Heritage Month. Mariel Kelinske, assistant principal, commented that honoring the traditions and cultures of Mexico and Latin America was the motivation behind creating the exhibits, as well as student projects.

Peña said students as well as teachers contributed to the walk-in museums. "It was like the whole school participated in bringing and collecting all these items."



Above, left to right, Lucia Peña (art teacher); Jessica Lopez (nurse); Dalia Salinas (pre-K paraprofessional); Maricruz Cruz (custodian); and Rosy Huesca Fernandez (clerk) participated in the celebration.



Above, left to right, Yuly Fernandez (clerk); Ryan Pavoe (principal); and Nancy Cantu (LPAC parent) stand in Jessup's meticulously created walking museum.



Peña's art students created oil pastel compositions of classic Mexican pottery, Talavera. The lesson began with instructions on simple line work, then students created their own pottery designs with oil pastels.

## Laura Bush honors Hispanic heritage



Laura Bush Elementary students celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month with clothing representing Hispanic cultures and peoples. Shown, left to right, are (front row) Anthony Contreras, Madison Obregon, Jose Munguia, (back row) Emily Chavez, Heidy Mejias and Grecia Martinez.

## South Belt Elementary kicks off Start With Hello week

Students and staff at South Belt Elementary kicked off Start With Hello Week, in commemoration of the Sandy Hook Promise which envisions safety at schools. The various activities throughout the week were intended to create a culture of connectedness while encouraging them to reach out and include others. At right are staff members, left to right, (front row) Audra Taylor, (back row) Mirasol Fitzgerald and Laurie Weathers wearing green in support of the program.



Above, students wear their school color to demonstrate unity, the theme for that day being "We're All One Team." Left to right are, (front row) Ayvah Rios, Clark Arce, Eli Sutton and (back row) El Jireh Udomah.



Students shown above also wearing green are, left to right, (front row) Jaylen Romero, Xavier Puente, (back row) Tatum Toomer, Donnie Thomas, Kiana Lundstrum, Alaina Navarrete and Reyana Harmouch.



Wearing neon for the theme, "Light Up Someone's World," are, left to right, (front row) Hailee Walker, Kennedy Watson, Avery Thomas, (back row) Dominic Mendoza, Robin Castillo, Sean Rodriguez and Jax DeSoto.

## SJC takes honors at FBLA

Several students from San Jacinto College were recognized recently for their achievements at the state and national level of the Future Business Leaders of America competitions.

From the south campus, 11 students competed at the state leadership conference hosted on the central campus in April. Seven students competed at the national leadership conference held in Atlanta, Georgia, June 22-25.

The following students placed in the top 10 at the national competition: Umahi Agwu, first and third place, microeconomics; Sharon Gaspard, third place, desktop publishing; Juan Pena Serna, eighth place, client service; and Gurtej Singh, third place, job interview. Serna also placed in the top 15 for public speaking. Sebastian Duarte placed in the top 15 for social media marketing.

Students that placed at the state competition include: Dina Alkswani, first place, sales presentation, and second place, emerging business issues; Ian Allen, second place, impromptu speaking, and third place, business ethics; Dior Muangkaew, second place, public speaking; Fatima Nadeem, second place, sales presentation, and second place, entrepreneurship concepts and Cain Rodriguez, second place, organizational behavior and leadership, and second place, marketing concepts.

"I am incredibly proud of the achievements of our south campus FBLA students," said Dr. Aaron Knight, south campus provost. "They worked hard and showed real effort, talent and acumen at the state and national competitions."

From the central campus, eight students competed and placed at the state competition and three placed at the national competition. The following students placed in the top 10 at the national competition: Anthony Pesina, sixth place, business ethics, and eighth place, human resource management;

Marcoantonio Rodriguez, tenth place, finance case competition; and Isaac Villarreal eighth place, cyber security.

Students that placed at the state competition include: Bailey Aube, first, entrepreneurship concepts, and second, computer concepts; Azalia Barajas, third, foundations of accounting, and third, job interview; Mitchell Clayton, first, foundations of accounting, and fourth macroeconomics; Nancy Suarez, second, administrative support technology; Julia Thomas, fourth, foundations of accounting; Pesina, first, business ethics, and first, human resources; Rodriguez, first, finance case competition, and second, business presentation; and Villarreal, first, cyber security, microeconomics.

Additional honors include Villarreal and Barajas serving as voting delegates, and Suarez serving as an intern for the FBLA staff for the competitive events. Villarreal also received a "Who's Who in Texas FBLA Award."

Professors Sherilyn Reynolds received an outstanding advisor award for 2023 and Helen LaCour received the Adviser Hall of Fame Award for serving more than 20 years as a Future Business Leader of America advisor. In addition, the central campus chapter received the outstanding chapter award.

"The central campus FBLA students made such a wonderful showing at this year's competitions," said Van Wigginton, central campus provost. "These students have demonstrated that they are ready to be the leaders of tomorrow."

Future Business Leaders of America – formerly Phi Beta Lambda – is the largest business Career and Technical Student organization in the world with more than 230,000 members preparing for careers in business. FBLA inspires and prepares students to become community-minded business leaders in a global society through relevant career preparation and leadership experiences.

**Time to clean out your garage and closets!**  
**Durham Park Community Garage Sale**  
 Saturday, Oct. 7, 2023, 8:00 am – 2:00 pm  
 Rain or Shine  
 PLEASE DO NOT BLOCK THE SIDEWALK WITH YOUR ITEMS  
 POR FAVOR NO BLOQUEE LA ACERA CON SUS ARTICULOS

**GARAGE SALE**  
**SAT, OCT 14**  
**8AM - 2PM**  
**Blackhawk HOA Community Wide GARAGE SALE!**  
 Neighborhood located at the corner of Blackhawk and Astoria  
 Multi-Family, electronics, furniture, baby items, clothes, household items and much more!  
 Rain Date is October 21.

# Harris County protects reading freedoms

Continued from Page 2  
 HCPL's Library for All initiative which seeks to address the needs of underrepresented and underserved communities through library policies, services and programs with a particular focus on the library's commitment to fight efforts to ban books that represent those communities.

"Fundamentally, it is a matter of respect for others. Not all books are right for all people. Each individual and family has the right to decide for themselves what is appropriate, and the obligation to allow others to do the same," says Melton. "That idea is at the core of the Book Sanctuary Resolution."



Left to right, are Commissioner Lesley Briones, Commissioner Tom Ramsey, HCPL Executive Director Edward Melton, Commissioner Rodney Ellis and Commissioner Adrian Garcia.

# Disparities in HCPH

Continued from Page 1  
 Harris County, regardless of background, have equal access to essential health services. We have meticulously reviewed the determinants of health in each precinct, assessing the impact of our interventions and programs on reducing the leading causes of death and improving the overall health of our communities." The report examines disparities in disease burden, injury, violence or access to optimal health. These gaps affect individuals and communities that have historically faced barriers to health. HCPH aims to create an inclusive and healthier Harris County by analyzing data through an equity lens. To view the Health Disparities Annual Report, visit [hchptx.org](http://hchptx.org).

# Remember When

**5 years ago (2018)**  
 Ellington Field was scheduled for the weekend. Tickets were \$10 for adults and \$5 for children ages 6 to 11. Children 5 and under were free.

**25 years ago (1998)**  
 Audi Resendez and Coby Cagle were chosen the homecoming queen and king for J. Frank Dobie High School.

**40 years ago (1983)**  
 Stacey Allen was crowned Dobie homecoming queen. The city of Houston added more chlorine to area water and made the three blow-off valves at Sagecanyon at Hall, Sagecanyon at Sageplum and Ryewater at Pompton operational.

**35 years ago (1988)**  
 Confusion over the health and safety of the Brio Toxic Waste Dump continued as additional professional opinions were released in court-submitted documentation. George Carlisle was to leave Clear Creek ISD after 40 years of service to the school district and the citizens of the community.

**30 years ago (1993)**  
 Dobie senior Kyia Porche was crowned homecoming queen. Football player Craig Joseph was voted homecoming king but was unable to participate in the halftime ceremonies.

**15 years ago (2008)**  
 Alameda Mall General Manager Terry Felton announced Burlington Coat Factory would fill the location that formerly housed J.C. Penney. Founded in 1972, the company's first store, located in Burlington, N.J., sold coats exclusively, hence its moniker. With 394 stores in 44 states, the company had expanded its inventory to include men's and women's clothing, linens, baby products and home furnishings. Construction was delayed, however, due to damage caused by Hurricane Ike.

**10 years ago (2013)**  
 Marie Flickinger, San Jacinto College board of trustees member and *Leader* publisher, received the 2013 national M. Dale Ensign Trustee Leadership Award. The award, given by the Association of Community College Trustees, honors an individual who has made a significant contribution as a community college board trustee toward promoting the community college concept.

**1 year ago (2022)**  
 A woman was killed in a hit-and-run crash that took place around 1:20 a.m. Monday, Sept. 28, in the 9500 block of Clearwood Drive near Edgebrook and the Gulf Freeway. According to Houston Police Department officials, a black Dodge Charger was traveling south at a high rate of speed at the above address when the vehicle veered off the street and struck a light pole. The impact caused the Dodge to roll over and then strike the victim, a pedestrian. Paramedics pronounced Evelina McKenzie dead at the scene. Witnesses told police they observed a female driver fleeing from the scene on foot. Three passengers were inside the Dodge at the time of the crash. They told police they had just met the driver at a nightclub. Officers detained the three for questioning. They were said to have been cooperative. No immediate arrests were made.

Charges were filed against a suspect arrested in the fatal shooting of one man and the wounding of another around 1:05 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 21, in the 1200 block of Redford near Edgebrook and the Gulf Freeway. Juan Juarez, 38, was pronounced dead at the scene. The other victim, 34, was expected to survive his wounds. The suspect, Justin Thomas, 31, was charged with capital murder. According to Houston Police Department officials, the two victims were inside an apartment at the above address when two black male suspects entered and shot the victims. The suspects took money and other items from the victims and fled the scene. A second suspect known simply as "Atlanta" was sought in connection to the shootings but no additional arrests had been made at press time.

# Over The Back Fence by Natalie

**STACEY CELEBRATES A BIRTHDAY!**  
 Stacey (Hayes) Flowers enjoys a birthday Oct. 6. Wishes for a wonderful day are sent from husband Stephen, daughters Kennedy and Evie and son Owen; parents and former longtime South Belt residents Jannie and Robert Scarberry; sister Jenny (Hayes) and husband Josh Laney and children Brayden, Baylee and Olivia; brother Joey Hayes; brother Austin Scarberry and daughters Jade and Lily; and brother Tyler Scarberry. Stacey and her siblings are all Dobie High School graduates.

**SCHOOL DAZE**  
 The following staff of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays Oct. 5 through Oct. 11.

**Atkinson Elementary**  
 Michael Gonzales celebrates a memorable birthday Oct. 8. The day for cake and ice cream for Elizabeth Eckols and Stephanie Quintana is Oct. 9. Break out the balloons and party favors Oct. 10 for a celebration for Maria Cantu.

**Burnett Elementary**  
 The day for a party for Beatriz Garcia is Oct. 11.

**Bush Elementary**  
 Stephanie Tellez marks a birthday Oct. 7. Light the candles on a birthday cake for Yesenia Rivera Oct. 9.

**Genoa Elementary**  
 Share a slice of a triple-layer birthday cake Oct. 8 with Christie Bishop and Norma Sierra. Send special birthday greetings Oct. 9 to Marcy Salinas and Kristi Peterson.

**Meador Elementary**  
 Break out the balloons and party favors Oct. 5 for Michael Butler and Shirley Hawley. Send a birthday greeting Oct. 8 to John Holder. The day for a birthday celebration for Amanda Johns is Oct. 9.

**Moore Elementary**  
 Join in the birthday fun for Christina Le-Tran Oct. 6.

**Stuchbery Elementary**  
 Oct. 5 is a day of celebration for Scarlett Walker for her birthday.

**Melillo Middle School**  
 Send a humorous birthday card Oct. 7 to Christine Nichols.

**Roberts Middle School**  
 Send a special birthday greeting Oct. 5 to Erin McBride. Sing two verses of a birthday song Oct. 7 to Gidget Gonzales and Christine Pellerin. Oct. 8 is the day for a birthday party for Virginia Fernandez.

**Beverly Hills Intermediate**  
 Light the birthday candles Oct. 7 for Brian Thompson. Remember to wish John Lanier a happy birthday Oct. 8. Send a humorous birthday greeting Oct. 10 to Sandra Shaffer.

**Thompson Intermediate**  
 Join in the birthday fun Oct. 11 with Laura SanMiguel.

**Dobie High**  
 Oct. 7 is the day to break out the balloons and party favors for Justo Manrique.

**FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS**  
 Thursday, Oct. 5: Deborah Helm, Nicole Nalepa and Robin McDaniel; Friday, Oct. 6: Jennifer Garcia, Stacey Flowers, Theresa Theroux, Rick Wright and Marta Nelson; Saturday, Oct. 7: Jeanette Allen, Paul Grizzle and Marcus Lerma; Sunday, Oct. 8: Courtney George, Lisa Stephens, Charles Young and Sandy Twyman; Monday, Oct. 9: Robert Caballero, Vicki Talton, Denny Wranich Jr., Mary Guerrero and Dolores Bordovsky; Tuesday, Oct. 10: Patty Wheeler, Clayton Bichm, Cheryl Randall, Joel Miller, Jesse Guerra, Manny Carrillo and Gloria Sanchez; and Wednesday, Oct. 11: Samantha Mendoza, Katina Decker, Roberta Tomkins and Michelle Manzanales.

**LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS**  
 Email announcements to [mynews@southbeltleader.com](mailto:mynews@southbeltleader.com) with OTBF in the subject line by Friday noon for the next week's publication. For Birthdays, type "OTBF: Friends Celebrate Birthdays" in the subject line.

# Gold Star event set for Nov. 9

The South Belt Chamber of Commerce has announced a Gold Star Event for Thursday, Nov. 9, at 11:30 a.m. for the inaugural Gold Star Family Recognition and Honor Luncheon being hosted by the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce at the Lone Star Flight Museum, 11551 Aerospace Avenue at Ellington Field. Registration opens at 11 a.m.

This luncheon is dedicated to Gold Star Families – those who have lost loved ones while serving in the armed forces – and will pay tribute to their ultimate sacrifice in ensuring our country's freedom.

The featured keynote speaker is the Honorable Mike Foreman, Friendswood mayor, former astronaut and retired naval aviator. Loren Westerfield, Houston USO executive director, will also speak at the event.

Senior Vice President and Memorial Hermann Southeast and Pearland hospitals' CEO Noel Cardenas, former colonel of the U.S. Army will serve as emcee.

Ticket sales are available online at <https://rb.gy/mvk8f> for \$50 per person, with a minimum purchase of two tickets.

Anyone interested in sponsoring the event should, email the chamber at [info@southbeltchamber.com](mailto:info@southbeltchamber.com) or call 281-481-5516.

Seating is limited, so submit reservations now.

# Grammy winner at Bayou Theater

Michael Cleveland picked up a fiddle at the age of four, and he describes the memory as, "Love at first note." Since then, he has made his passion for bluegrass music into a Grammy-winning career, with additional accolades from the International Bluegrass Music Association and a seat at the National Fiddler's Hall of Fame.

He will bring his fiddling to University of Houston-Clear Lake's Bayou Theater on Friday, Oct. 6 at 7:30 p.m.

As a boy, he heard a local fiddler playing when he attended the bluegrass shows his grandparents hosted near his hometown, Henryville, Ind. Cleveland is as passionate about playing today, as he was back then.

Cleveland attended Kentucky School for the Blind in Louisville, where he said many of his teachers were also visually impaired, but still able to assist and do anything they set their minds to. They didn't let the disability stop them, and he wasn't going to let it stop him from achieving his dreams either. Cleveland said they inspired him.

"When you love something this much you can't help but want to do it,"

Cleveland said. "I didn't really think a lot about my disability.

The people I was around never made a big deal out of the fact that I was blind. Resilient people and great musicians came out of there."

The group will be playing selections from Cleveland's new album "The Lovin' of the Game," and older selections.

For more information about Michael Cleveland visit, [www.michaelclevelandfiddle.com/the-band/](http://www.michaelclevelandfiddle.com/the-band/).

To purchase tickets to the show visit, <https://uhcl.universitytickets.com/w/event.aspx?id=1396&r=5eb606638334170846d5bd538ff1d8e>.



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– John

[JohnWhitmire.com](http://JohnWhitmire.com)



John Whitmire and Marie Flickinger

# PISD Early College meeting set

Continued from Page 1  
 can either receive an associate degree from San Jacinto College or transfer their credits to a four-year university to pursue a bachelor's degree.

Tuition for ECHS is completely free to parents and all eighth-graders are eligible to apply to the program.

ECHS students can still participate in extracurricular activities, including sports and band, at the high school campus or join clubs and organizations on the college campus.

Degrees offered through the ECHS program include the following:

- Associate of Arts in general studies.
- Associate of Arts in business.
- Associate of Arts in communications.
- Associate of Arts in behavioral science.
- Associate of Science in life sciences.
- Associate of Science in mathematics.

The online application for the 2024-2025 school year will open Oct. 2, 2023.

To learn more about Pasadena ISD's Early College High School program, visit [www1.pasadenaisd.org/departments/departments\\_c-\\_el/ECHS](http://www1.pasadenaisd.org/departments/departments_c-_el/ECHS).

# Lions set area Walk for Sight

The Pasadena Lions Club invites all PISD students, staff, families and locals to join in their Walk for Sight, set for Oct. 28 at 8 a.m. at Veterans Memorial Stadium.

Those participating are encouraged to arrive early, check-in begins at 7:30 a.m.

Elementary and middle school students and their families check in on the home side, while middle and high school students and their families check in on the visitors side of the stadium.

This fundraising event supports PISD health services such as nurse memberships and eyeglass vouchers, See to Succeed Transportation, vision screeners, Excellence in Wellness Award support, PE/ Health Memberships/ fees and PE/ Wellness equipment.

To register for the Walk for Sight and to donate, visit <https://secure.qgiv.com/event/walkforsight2023/> or text WFS2023 to 50155.

# CCART sets October meeting

The Clear Creek Association of Retired Teachers (CCART) will hold its October meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 10, at the Bay Area Community Center, 5002 NASA Parkway in Seabrook.

There will be a short business meeting including information about encouraging fellow teachers, active and retired, friends and neighbors to get out and vote this November.

A constitutional amendment authorizing the first cost of living increase since 2013 for retired teachers will be on the ballot. Early voting begins Oct. 23. There will also be a book sale benefiting the Children's Book Project prior to the meeting.

The meeting will start at 9:30 a.m. with a social gathering for coffee and cookies.

The business meeting will begin at 10 a.m. All Texas retired school employees from the area are invited. Annual dues are \$50.

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# SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

## 22-6A unbeaten Dobie, Memorial to clash in Battle of the Beltway



Dobie receiver Tariq Riley (6) reeled in a 30-yard scoring reception in the first half from quarterback Juan Huerta, giving Riley three scoring grabs in two games and four for the season. At 4-2 overall and 2-0 in league play, the Longhorns will take on Memorial in the Battle of the Beltway Oct. 6 at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena.



Safety Derrick Kelley (1) heads the other way after picking off a Pasadena pass in the first half of the Longhorns' easy homecoming win over the Eagles Sept. 28 at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena.

By John Bechtle  
Sports Editor

Riding the confidence of a 2-0 start to league play and owning a convincing five-year winning streak in the series, the Dobie varsity football team is feeling great heading into the 2023 version of the Battle of the Beltway against the Memorial Mavericks.

Memorial, the home team in this season's Beltway Trophy battle, is off to a 2-0 start in league play thanks to a crushing win over Rayburn in week one and then quite the defensive effort in a 21-7 win over South Houston Sept. 29.

As expected, the Longhorns cruised past Pasadena to highlight homecoming week Sept. 28, getting four touchdowns from star Cameron Mathews in the first half to lead 47-0 at the break and then easing to an eventual 59-14 win. It was Dobie's 21st consecutive victory over the Eagles.

On the subject of streaks, Dobie has out-

scored Memorial 265-62 over the course of five straight victories dating back to 2018. The Mavericks' last win in the Battle of the Beltway was in 2017, 37-13. Dobie has also scored 50-plus points in each of its last three wins over Memorial.

Most importantly, the winner this go-round figures to take a monumental step toward the postseason.

While Dobie junior running back Mathews has been 22-6A's most explosive offensive player with a league-leading 872 yards and eight scores, the Mavericks also feature two top-five rushers in running back Lorenzo Delgado and quarterback Logan Johnson.

As for Johnson, the sophomore quarterback has rushed for more than 11 yards an attempt, has 507 yards and seven touchdowns on the ground, and has passed for 500 yards and three touchdowns despite five interceptions.

Defensively, the Mavericks have allowed just 110 points through six games, but Dobie presents a big test.

As if Mathews and sophomore running back Demarcus Hodges weren't enough to think about,

Continued on page 8

At right, Dobie junior Lauren Garza had a personal record time at the Nike South Invitational in The Woodlands as she finished 41st overall in the elite girls' division 5K at 19 minutes, 10.60 seconds. Senior Kyla Lobo was at 21:45.10 for 49th place in the girls' Red division 5K, while teammates Aracely Alvarado (23:23.40 for 36th place), Mariah Medina (24:26.90 for 54th place), Jasmine Mooney (23:30.40 for 75th place) and Madison Punte (25:48.30 for 77th place) competed in the girls' 5K White division. The Dobie boys, including Chris Lopez (fifth at 17:04.40), Francisco Dunn (27th at 18:09.80), Jose Munoz (37th at 18:21.20), Damian Rosas (43rd at 18:34.40) and Johan Villavicencio (49th at 18:41.40) competed in the boys' 5K White division.



### JFD tennis hosts Eagles in bidistrict round

The Dobie varsity team tennis squad finished with five straight wins in District 22-6A play and will now host Atascocita as the bidistrict playoff round starts Oct. 10.

What an exciting week it promises to be for the Dobie High School tennis program.

On the strength of a five-match winning streak to close out District 22-6A play, the Longhorns have earned the right to host Atascocita in the bidistrict playoff round.

Dobie, which wound up the league team tennis season as the No. 2 seed behind champion Deer Park, will host the Eagles Tues., Oct. 10, at 2 p.m. on the Dobie main campus. Atascocita is third-seeded out of District 21-6A.

A season ago, Dobie advanced to the area round

via forfeit over Beaumont West Brook and then fell 10-0 to Region III power Dawson.

This season, the Dobie boys are led by Diego Flores, Nolan Tran, Ryan Le, Nestor Garza, Pitou So and Rigo Alaniz, while the Longhorn girls feature Hailey Maldonado, Leslie Figueroa, Kayla Tran, Amalia Reyes, Abby Panza and Hallie Vu.

Moreno celebrated

The Dobie program is also anticipating the annual Exes Matches Sat., Oct. 7, with dozens of former players expected to be in attendance as head coach Manuel Moreno Jr., is honored as part of his Silver Anniversary, 25 years as the leader of the Longhorns.

Moreno has logged 50 years total in youth tennis,

taking over the Dobie program in 1999. The Exes Matches will begin at 9 a.m. at the Dobie main campus.

The Dobie squad got off to quite a lengthy winless start but steadied things just in time for the start of the 22-6A season. Regardless of experience on his own squad, Moreno believes playing a tough nondistrict slate proves beneficial in the long run.

So while the Longhorns indeed took some lumps early on, they are full of confidence entering the bidistrict playoff round. Atascocita is first up, and the locals have every intention of advancing to the area round Oct. 12-13.

**Bidistrict Team Tennis**

**Dobie hosts**

**Atascocita**

**Oct. 10, 2 p.m.**

**Dobie main campus**

### Football squads begin to assert prominence in 22-6A, 24-6A ranks

Through the first two weeks of league play in the District 22-6A and District 24-6A varsity football races, several teams have already asserted themselves.

Yes, five full weeks remain heading into Oct. 5-7 play, but it is impossible for the early frontrunners to not feel good about their eventual postseason hopes.

For those who had unbeaten Dobie and Memorial going head-to-head Oct. 6 for the outright lead

in 22-6A, congratulations. To this point, the Longhorns and Mavericks have taken care of business, scoring standings-popping wins along the way.

Dobie's opening week of a stunner, a 38-35 road win over Deer Park after trailing for all but 36 seconds of play, very well could be the difference maker in the league championship hunt.

At the very least, the Longhorns have positioned themselves well to

claim the Division I top playoff seed.

As impressive as the Longhorns have looked to start 22-6A action, the Mavericks have to feel great about the race moving forward after crushing Rayburn in the opening week and then holding South Houston to a single touchdown in a 21-7 win over the Trojans Sept. 29.

Memorial's Lorenzo Delgado had 158 yards rushing and scored all three of his team's touch-

downs on the ground on his way to 553 yards rushing and 10 touchdowns for the season.

In a seven-team district, three wins is often the magic number when it comes to making the postseason.

So if Dobie and Memorial have jumped to the lead paragraph in 22-6A, both the Clear Falls Knights and Clear Creek Wildcats have done the same in the 24-6A ranks.

Falls hammered Clear

Brook 55-0 in week one of league play and then downed Clear Springs Sept. 29 to make a huge statement in 24-6A. Similarly, the Wildcats scored a road win at Brazoswood in the first week and then edged Clear Lake in the oldest Clear Creek ISD rivalry Sept. 29.

22-6A sets tone

Deer Park, which enjoyed its bye week Sept. 28-30, will make the postseason despite its early loss to Dobie. Head coach

Austin Flynn's team is simply that talented.

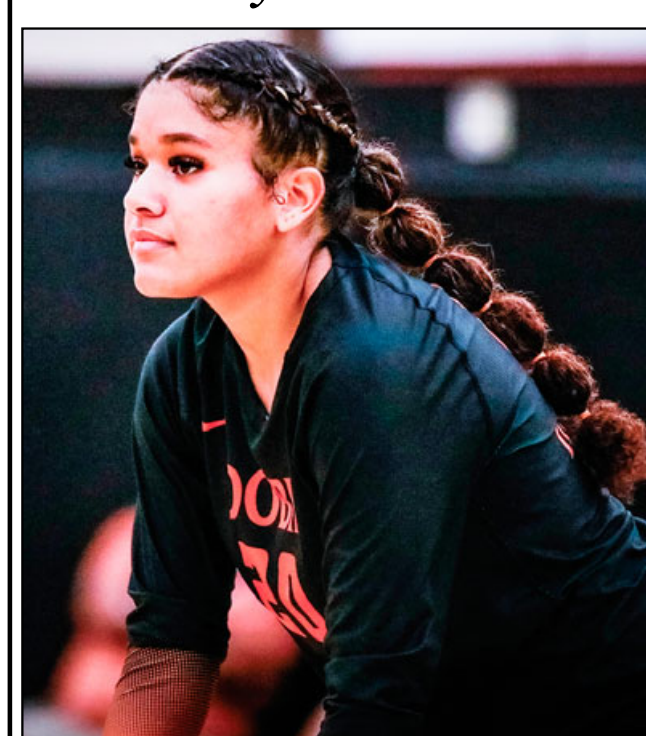
Dobie has dominated the Battle of the Beltway series of late, winning five straight and hanging 50 or more points on the Mavericks in each of the previous three meetings.

And with Dobie and Memorial both off to hot starts, defending league champion Channelview may find itself going head-to-head with South Houston for a Division II postseason berth.

After a bye in the opening week, Channelview cruised past Sam Rayburn Sept. 30 in Pasadena to begin its title defense.

In 24-6A, Dickinson is the frontrunner until proven otherwise. But Falls and Creek have both set the tone as for the Division II playoff bracket, leaving both Springs and Lake with work to be done.

### Dobie volleyball rolls to solid No. 2 seeding in District 22-6A



Senior co-captain Naima LeBlanc (20) and her Dobie varsity volleyball teammates have already delivered a memorable season, getting to 26 overall wins for the first time in head coach Dawn Sexton's nine seasons. And there's much more in store. Heading into the Oct. 3 match against league leader Deer Park, the Longhorns are very much in control of the No. 2 postseason seed as the second half of league action plays out. After playing at Pasadena Oct. 5 at 5 p.m., Dobie will host Memorial Oct. 10 at 5:30 p.m., looking to lock up no worse than the second playoff seed. LeBlanc entered play against Deer Park with 129 kills this season.



Amid a roster loaded with senior talent, Dobie freshman Maya Langellier also represents the present and future for the Longhorns as she has been a top performer throughout the season for the varsity squad.

**Battle of the Beltway**

**Memorial**

**hosts Dobie**

**Oct. 6, 7 p.m.**

**Veterans Stadium, Pasadena**

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**Bay Area Football League  
Regular Season Standings  
(Through Sept. 30 Play)  
Pee Wee Division**

Team	W	L	T
Sagemont	7	0	0
Angleton	7	1	0
Bay Area	6	1	0
Hitchcock	6	1	0
Manvel	5	2	0
League City	5	2	0
Pasadena	4	3	0
Pear. Pats	4	3	0
Brazosport	4	3	0
SE Houston	3	5	0
Pear. Texans	2	5	0
La Porte	1	6	0
Alvin	1	7	0
Magnolia	0	8	0
East End	0	8	0

**Freshman Division**

Angleton	7	1	0
Bay Area	6	1	0
La Porte	6	1	0
League City	6	1	0
Sagemont	5	2	0
Hitchcock	4	2	0
Manvel	4	3	0
Pear. Pats	4	3	0
Magnolia	4	4	0
Brazosport	3	4	0
Pear. Texans	2	5	0
Pasadena	1	6	0
Alvin	1	7	0
SE Houston	1	7	0
East End	0	8	0

**Sophomore Division**

Hitchcock	7	0	0
SE Houston	7	1	0
League City	6	1	0
Angleton	6	2	0
Pear. Pats	6	2	0
Brazosport	5	2	0
Magnolia	4	4	0
La Porte	3	4	0
Bay Area	3	4	0
Alvin	3	5	0
Pear. Texans	2	5	0
Pasadena	2	6	0
East End	1	6	0
Sagemont	1	6	0
Manvel	0	7	0

**Junior Division**

Hitchcock	7	0	0
Sagemont	6	1	0
Angleton	6	1	0
League City	6	1	0
Bay Area	5	2	0
Magnolia	5	3	0
Pear. Pats	4	3	0
SE Houston	4	4	0
La Porte	3	3	0
Pear. Texans	3	4	0
Pasadena	1	5	0
Alvin	2	6	0
Manvel	1	6	0
Brazosport	0	6	0
East End	0	8	0

**Senior Division**

Pasadena	7	0	0
Hitchcock	6	1	0
Pear. Pats	6	1	0
La Porte	5	1	0
League City	5	2	0
Manvel	4	3	0
Magnolia	4	4	0
Sagemont	3	4	0
Angleton	3	4	0
Brazosport	3	4	0
Pear. Texans	3	5	0
East End	2	6	0
Alvin	1	6	0
Bay Area	1	7	0
SE Houston	0	7	0

**Brook football  
beats Bucs  
in overtime**

Steven Craft's two-yard quarterback keeper in overtime was the difference as the Clear Brook Wolverines stunned Brazoswood 14-7 in a key District 24-6A varsity football game Sept. 28 in Webster. The win evened the Wolverines' league mark at 1-1.

Craft, the third player to line up at quarterback for Clear Brook this season, also had a 60-yard touchdown run for his team's other score.

Brazoswood went 7-3 overall a season ago en route to a Division II playoff berth but has now opened the 2023 league season at 0-2 with consecutive one-score losses to Clear Creek and now Clear Brook.

The Wolverines, who take on Clear Lake Oct. 6, have now won two games against four losses.

Jaiden Carter has rushed for 429 yards to lead the Wolverines.

**South Belt  
football  
predictions**

	John Bechtle	Emory Gadd	Troy Leland	Stephen Sutton	Debbie Vaughn
Dobie vs. Memorial	Dobie	Dobie	Dobie	Dobie	Dobie
Clear Brook vs Clear Lake	Clear Lake	Clear Lake	Clear Lake	Clear Lake	Clear Lake
North Shore at Summer Creek	North Shore	North Shore	North Shore	North Shore	North Shore
Katy vs. Paetow	Katy	Katy	Katy	Katy	Katy
Beaumont West Brook at Humble	Humble	Humble	Humble	Humble	Humble
South Houston at Channelview	Channelview	South Houston	South Houston	Channelview	South Houston
Strake Jesuit at Dawson	Strake Jesuit	Dawson	Dawson	Dawson	Dawson
Dickinson at Clear Falls	Dickinson	Dickinson	Dickinson	Dickinson	Dickinson
La Porte at Port Arthur Memorial	PAM	PAM	PAM	La Porte	PAM
Fulshear at Friendswood	Fulshear	Fulshear	Friendswood	Friendswood	Fulshear
Last Week's Results	6-4	7-3	7-3	6-4	8-2
Season record	42-18	43-17	45-15	39-21	45-15

**Hunter Bolden, Glover among CCISD class**

At right, Terri Hunter Bolden, one of two Clear Brook High School graduates to enter the Clear Creek ISD Hall of Honor as part of the 2023 class of inductees, admires her permanent plaque on the wall during the district's Sept. 23 induction ceremony. A four-year varsity girls' basketball star at Clear Brook, Hunter Bolden graduated in 1996 and went on to enjoy a collegiate playing career and professional career start in the United States Air Force. She joined Jennifer Gordon as the first student-athletes from Clear Brook to enter the Hall of Honor.

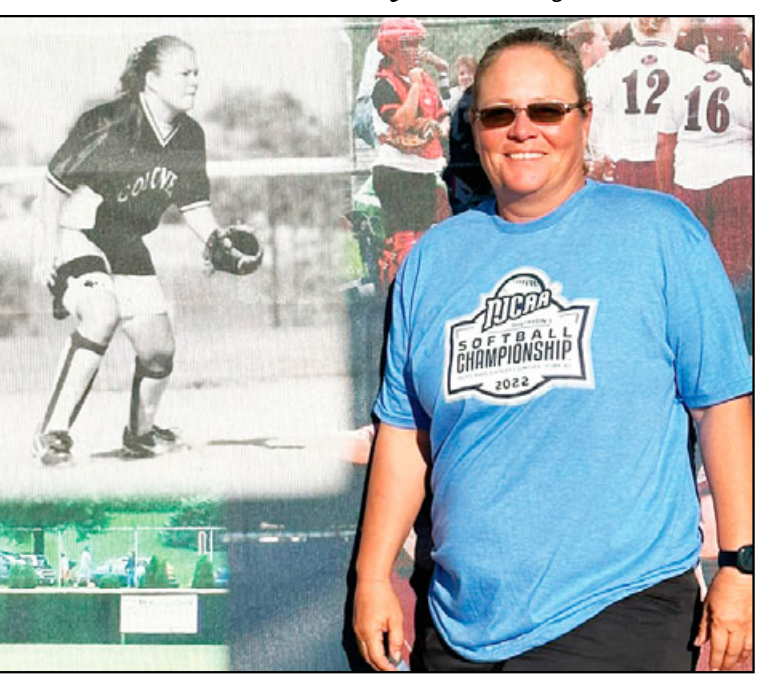


At right, Clear Lake High School Class of 1990 graduate Tim Glover (left) shared a moment with legendary Falcons' varsity boys' basketball head coach Bill Krueger during Clear Creek ISD's annual Hall of Honor induction ceremony Sept. 23. Glover helped the Falcons win the Class 5A state boys' basketball championship as a junior in 1989, with Krueger leading the way as head coach. Glover went on to play college basketball at both Pittsburgh and UT-San Antonio.



**Saenz joins Eastern Kentucky Hall of Fame**

At right, Kelly Saenz, who has won more than 700 career games as San Jacinto College softball head coach, was inducted into the Eastern Kentucky University Hall of Fame Sept. 23, recognizing her stellar career as a player. Then Kelly Swanson, she hit .321 over a four-year career and was the 1998 Ohio Valley Conference Player of the Year. "Shocked, honored, surprised," Saenz told the *Leader* of her initial reaction when she received the call notifying her of the induction. "It's both humbling and gratifying to be joining such a prestigious group and to be considered among the greats."



**Dobie Varsity Girls' Basketball  
2023 Regular Season Schedule**

Date	Opponent	Time
Oct. 28	at Atascocita scrimmage	TBA
Oct. 31	at Cypress Creek scrimmage	TBA
Nov. 7	Clear Lake	7 p.m.
Nov. 9-11	at Baytown Tip-Off Classic	TBA
Nov. 14	George Ranch (Phillips)	7 p.m.
Nov. 16-18	McDonald Texas Invitational	TBA
Nov. 21	Grand Oaks	1 p.m.
Nov. 28	at Clear Springs	7 p.m.
Dec. 1	at Dawson	5 p.m.
Dec. 5	Atascocita	7 p.m.
Dec. 8	at Alief Hastings	7 p.m.
Dec. 12	*at Deer Park	7 p.m.
Dec. 15	*Pasadena	7 p.m.
Dec. 19	*at Pasadena Memorial	7 p.m.
Dec. 28-29	at Fort Bend Classic	TBA
Jan. 3	*Channelview	1 p.m.
Jan. 6	*at Sam Rayburn	1 p.m.
Jan. 10	*South Houston	7 p.m.
Jan. 17	*Deer Park	7 p.m.
Jan. 20	*at Pasadena	1 p.m.
Jan. 23	*Pasadena Memorial	7 p.m.
Jan. 26	*at Channelview	7 p.m.
Jan. 30	*Sam Rayburn	7 p.m.
Feb. 2	*at South Houston	7 p.m.

\*District 22-6A games

**Brook Varsity Girls' Basketball  
2023 Regular Season Schedule**

Date	Opponent	Time
Oct. 28	at Alief Hastings scrimm.	TBA
Oct. 30	at Bridgeland scrimm.	TBA
Nov. 4	Shadow Creek (Delmar)	4 p.m.
Nov. 7	at Fulshear	7:15 p.m.
Nov. 9-11	at Peggy Whitely Classic	TBA
Nov. 14	at Dawson	7 p.m.
Nov. 16-18	at Langham Creek Invite	TBA
Nov. 21	Cibolo Steele	TBA
Nov. 22	Cibolo Steele	TBA
Nov. 28	Summer Creek	7 p.m.
Dec. 5	at North Shore	7 p.m.
Dec. 8	Houston Memorial	7 p.m.
Dec. 12	*at Clear Falls	7 p.m.
Dec. 15	*Brazoswood	7 p.m.
Dec. 19	at Clear Lake	7 p.m.
Dec. 28-30	at Sandra Meadows Classic	TBA
Jan. 3	*Clear Creek	1 p.m.
Jan. 10	*at Clear Springs	7 p.m.
Jan. 13	*Dickinson	1 p.m.
Jan. 17	*Clear Falls	7 p.m.
Jan. 20	*at Brazoswood	1 p.m.
Jan. 23	*Clear Lake	7 p.m.
Jan. 26	*at Clear Creek	7 p.m.
Feb. 2	*Clear Springs	7 p.m.
Feb. 6	*at Dickinson	7 p.m.

\*District 24-6A games

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# CALENDAR

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5**

7 a.m. **AA** - "Breakfast With Bill," at Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., in Cornell Conference room. Call 713-686-6300 or visit https://aahouston.org/meetings/.  
7:30 a.m. **Rotary Club of Pearland** - Meets at either Pearland Chamber of Commerce, 6117 Broadway St., Pearland, or on Zoom. See Pearland Chamber of Commerce calendar or call 281-485-3634.  
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - 204 S. Main, Pasadena. Call 713-472-0565 for tours.  
Noon **AA** - Imperfect Nooners Group, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or at https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners. Call 713-686-6300.

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6**

7 a.m. **AA** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.  
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - See Thursday's notice.  
7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2930 E. FM 518, Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). Call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com or https://nastuff.com/.  
7 p.m. **Congregation Shaar Hashalom** - All services are live and on Zoom. For details regarding services, Judaism classes, film series and lunch with the Rabbi, visit https://www.shaarhashalom.org.  
8 p.m. **Serenity Now Al-Anon Group** - meets at CrossRoads UMC, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Family members and friends of problem drinkers/addicts share and discover choices available. Call 281-484-9243.  
8 p.m. **AA** - meets at CrossRoads UMC, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Call 281-484-9243.

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7**

7:30 a.m. **AA** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.  
9:30 a.m. **Congregation Shaar Hashalom** -

See Friday's notice.

11 a.m. **Al-Anon Meeting (Women Only, English)** - For women affected by an addict. Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, Cornell Conference room #111. Call 281-487-8787 or visit https://www.houstonalanon.org/.

1 p.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - offers a knitting class. Call 281-479-7285 beforehand.

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8**

8 a.m./ 10:15 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - has worship and Bible study programs at 11456 Space Center Blvd. (in back of a medical/retail community). Call 281-479-7285.  
2 p.m. **Grief Support Group** - For adults who have lost a loved one. Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy. Call 713-944-9186.  
5:30 p.m. **Celebrate Recovery** - A faith-based 12-Step program, in the Life Kids Chapel at Life Church, 9900 Alameda Genoa. Call 713-419-2635.  
8 p.m. **AA** - See Friday's notice.  
**MONDAY, OCTOBER 9**  
Noon **AA** - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday noon notice.  
1:30 - 3 p.m. **Hometown Heroes Dance** - at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 E. League City Parkway. Volunteers teach dance lessons. Call 281-554-1180.  
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. **AA** - St. Luke's 12 Step Recovery open meeting in the education Bldg., room 4, at 11011 Hall Rd. Call 832-725-8479 or 281-309-2801.  
7 p.m. **TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)** - #0683 chapter meets at the Methodist Church, 110 N Friendswood Dr. in the educational bldg., room 201. Call 832-858-4617 or 713-875-8820.

7 p.m. **NA** - See Friday's notice.

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10**

7 a.m. **AA** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.  
10:00 a.m. **CCART** - The Clear Creek Association of Retired Teachers meets at Bay Area Community Center, 5002 NASA Parkway. Texas-retired school employees from surrounding school districts welcome. Annual dues are \$50.  
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - See Thursday's notice.  
10:30 a.m. **Tri County Republican Women** - General meetings are held at the Golfcrest Country Club, 2509 Country Club Dr., Pearland. Exact cash or a check requested for lunch (\$15). To RSVP, visit www.tricountyrw.club/ or call 832-250-8901.  
11:30 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - has worship at 11456 Space Center Blvd. (in back of a medical/retail community). Call 281-479-7285.  
Noon **AA** - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday noon notice.  
6:30 - 7:30 p.m. **Southeast Houston Toastmasters** - Club #05324194 meets for a hybrid meeting at 10500 Scarsdale Blvd (SB Chamber of Commerce). Visit seahouston.toastmastersclubs.org or call 832-722-9061.  
7 p.m. **NA** - See Friday's notice.  
**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11**  
7 a.m. **AA** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.  
Noon **AA** - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday noon notice.  
12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. **Hometown Heroes Humpday Dance** - at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 E. League City Parkway. Casual ballroom dancing. Call 281-554-1180.  
7 p.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - See Sunday's notice.  
7 p.m. **NA** - See Friday's notice.  
8 p.m. **AA** - See Friday's notice.

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# Film, much of which shot in South Belt, returns

**Continued from Page 1** that grew to around 75 customers. He then put himself through school, learning to become an electrician. Putting in the necessary work, Gibbs went from being an apprentice to a master electrician. Having worked as an extra in a couple movies as a teen while living in Florida, Gibbs said he never lost the itch of working in the film industry. Gibbs developed an online relationship with a director who invited him to

California to act as a cowboy in one of his films. "I fell in love with it," Gibbs said. Gibbs went on to act in the movie "The Highwaymen," featuring Kevin Costner and Woody Harrelson, and the TV show "Queen of the South." Devoted to the craft, Gibbs began attending Film Acting Academy in the Heights. "I started working behind the camera," Gibbs said. "Old Man Jackson" was birthed at Film Acting Academy, evolving from a short demo reel to a full-length feature film. Although being made with a relatively small budget, Gibbs was able to attract several well-known performers to appear in the film, such as Kathy Garver from "Family Affair" and Butch Patrick from "The Munsters." The film also features Lorelei Linklater, daughter of famous director Richard Linklater, as well as David Born, who plays the lead role of Andy Jackson.

The majority of the movie was shot in the South Belt, with former Southeast Volunteer Fire Department Chief Chuck Tylka making a cameo appearance. Gibbs said the family movie is fun for all ages. "It's a comedy," Gibbs said. "We need comedy. Even though it's a new movie, I'd describe it as a classic comedy." Gibbs said he has three more scripts written that he plans to turn into more films.

A resident of the South Belt community since 1998, Gibbs and his wife have four children and three grandchildren. "It's been a real blessing," said Gibbs. "I'm grateful." For more information on Gibbs and his film, visit [www.facebook.com/OldManJacksonFilm](http://www.facebook.com/OldManJacksonFilm) or [www.imdb.com/title/tt7197162](http://www.imdb.com/title/tt7197162).

# 2020 Dobie football champions reconnect



Class of 2021 Dobie High School graduates Jeremiah Ballard (left) of the University of Texas-El Paso and Johnathan Baldwin of the University of Nevada-Las Vegas (right) met on the field Sept. 23 in El Paso as Baldwin's Rebels scored a 45-28 victory to improve

to 3-1 on the season. A junior, Baldwin is a star safety for the Rebels while Ballard, a red-shirt sophomore with the Miners, had his first touchdown reception of the 2023 season, a 27-yard grab from quarterback Gavin Hardison in the fourth quarter.

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# City's drought plan remains

**Continued from Page 1** the following schedule:  
 -Sundays and Thursdays for single-family residential customers with even-numbered street addresses.  
 -Saturdays and Wednesdays for single-family residents with odd-numbered street addresses.  
 -Tuesdays and Fridays for all other customers.

Any water customer who violates watering times will be issued a written warning for a first-time violation. Any subsequent violations are subject to a fine up to \$2,000 for each occurrence of the offense (Section 54.001 of the Texas Local Government Code).

- Residents are encouraged to do the following to prevent loss of water:
- Check and repair water leaks, including dripping faucets and running toilets.
  - Check sprinkler heads to make sure water is not spraying into the street or directly into a storm drain and/or gutters. Typically, more than 5 minutes of sprinkler use creates runoff into the street.
  - Run dishwashers and washing machines only full.
  - Take shorter showers.
- Additional water conservation tips can be found at [www.houstonpublicworks.org/waterconservation](http://www.houstonpublicworks.org/waterconservation).

Despite receiving their water from the same source as the city, South Belt residents serviced by local municipal utility districts are unaffected by the drought plan. According to Clear Brook City MUD board member Chris Clark, the local districts are able to avoid the stricter regulations because their infrastructure is newer and better maintained. Additionally, the MUD's smaller size allows crews to respond to water line breaks more quickly than their city counterparts. Find details about the City of Houston's Drought Contingency Plan at [www.houstonpublicworks.org/water-conservation-plan](http://www.houstonpublicworks.org/water-conservation-plan).

# Dobie football boosters host BBQ event

The Dobie football booster club is selling tickets for its annual barbecue fundraiser to be held Sat., Oct. 7, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the main campus near the athletics field house.

The \$10 plates will include a pulled pork sandwich, chips, cookie and canned drink as organizers raise funds for annual expenses within the football program, including scholarship funds, equipment purchases and more.

For additional information on the fundraiser, call booster club president Roxanne Tellez at 832-641-1593. Pre-event ticket purchases are strongly encouraged so as to account for a reasonable expectation of pulled pork sandwiches.

# LSA's Collins makes AVCA's notice

Lutheran South Academy sophomore setter Aniston Collins has been named to the American Volleyball Coaches Association's Phenom Watch List for 2023 as she has guided the Pioneers to prime postseason position while recording her 1,000th career assist. The Pioneers were state semifinalists a season ago and have posted a 31-7 overall record thus far this season.

# Battle of the Beltway

**Continued from page 5** the Mavericks have a plus-seven turnover advantage and D'vaughn Stewart leads the team in tackles. While Riley has just 12 grabs overall, he has four touchdowns and is averaging nearly 25 yards per catch. Both teams have their share of defensive standouts as well. Dobie's Dempsey Spears has 56 total tackles, including 11 tackles for loss. Roderick Drumgo has four sacks, while secondary leaders C.J. Richard and Derrick Kelley have picked off passes. Richard Crawford and Evan Stewart have combined for seven sacks, and Daniel Campero is 20 for 20 on conversion kicks and has made good on a league-best three-of-three field goals.

Overall, there is much more on the line in 2023 than bragging rights. Dobie is looking to take another step toward a second district title in four seasons, while the Mavericks know a win over the Longhorns could set up a similar path for themselves. The Longhorns also possess a big weapon in the kicking game as senior Daniel Campero is 20 for 20 on conversion kicks and has made good on a league-best three-of-three field goals.

# McDonald's hoops invite seeks volunteers

The McDonald's Texas Invitational basketball tournament is celebrating its 20th anniversary for 2023, and event organizers are seeking volunteers for the three-day event, which will be held Nov. 16-18 at nine different venues. Volunteering at one of the locations includes selling game tickets, t-shirts, handing out programs and answering general questions from attendees. To sign up for duty at the tournament, visit [www.texas-invitational.com](http://www.texas-invitational.com).

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