

Sageglen to meet Nov. 17

Sageglen Community Association will hold a homeowner meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 17, at the Sageglen Community Building, 11610 Sageyork. Guest speaker to be announced. Light refreshments will be served. All Sageglen residents are encouraged to attend. Meetings typically take place the third Monday of every other month. For more information, call 281-481-2160.

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.

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 Tristan at 713-249-2662.

City composts pumpkins

City of Houston residents are urged to compost their discarded pumpkins rather than just throwing them away. The city's fifth annual Pumpkin Compost Drop-Off Program, currently underway through Nov. 29, will reduce waste while also helping to make a greener Houston. Pumpkins may be dropped off at the city of Houston Reuse Warehouse, 9003 N. Main St.; and at the Westpark Recycling Center, 5900 Westpark Drive in Kingwood. Hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday.

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. 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 more information, call Alfredo Huerta at 832 283-4895.

Coffee with the Constable

Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia will be at Donut Haven, 10802 Hughes Road at Beamer, from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. each Thursday morning as part of the weekly Coffee with the Constable series. For additional information, call Sagemont Civic Club President Kay Barbour at 713-419-3545.

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.

Beltway closures planned

Two northbound and two southbound Beltway 8 frontage road lanes will be closed at Fairmont Parkway daily from 4 a.m. to 4 p.m. through Friday, March 31. Significant delays are expected.

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.

Nov. 4 elections head to 2026 runoff

Voters approve all 17 proposed amendments to state constitution

With the majority of votes being counted from the Nov. 4 contests, it appeared at press time that both special elections would be headed to a runoff, with no candidates securing 50 percent of the vote or more in the crowded races.

In the 16-candidate contest for the 18th Congressional District seat vacated this past March by the death of former Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner, Amanda Edwards will face Christian Menefee in a runoff in early 2026.

With 77 percent of precincts reporting, Menefee received approximately 29 percent of the

vote, while Edwards received around 26 percent of the vote.

Also performing well – but still falling far short of the 50 percent threshold needed – was state representative and former City Council Member Johanna Jones, who received around 19 percent of the vote at press time.

None of the 13 remaining candidates in the race secured more than 7 percent of the vote in the crowded field.

In the 15-candidate race to fill Houston's city-wide At-Large Position 4 seat vacated by Le-

titia Plummer, who stepped down earlier this year to campaign for Harris County judge, Alejandra Salinas will head to a runoff against former Houston District D City Council Member Dwight Boykin. The At-Large Position 4 runoff will be held on Saturday, Dec. 13.

With 65 percent of precincts reporting, Salinas had received 21 percent of the vote, while Boykin received 20 percent of the vote.

Also performing well in the crowded race were Jordan Thomas who received 16 percent of the vote and Sonia Rivera who received around

11 percent of the vote.

None of the remaining 11-candidates had secured more than 7 percent of the vote at press time.

Voters also approved all 17 proposed amendments to the state constitution, with all measures easily passing with 100 percent of precincts reporting.

At press time, a runoff date had not yet been announced, but the follow-up contests have traditionally been held in January or early February of the subsequent year.

Aguilar dies at 93



Longtime South Belt resident and community volunteer Gilbert Aguilar (right) died Tuesday, Oct. 28, at the age of 93. A retired U.S. Coast Guard officer, Aguilar devoted roughly 20 years to helping local students and Spanish-speaking residents of the South Belt community. Aguilar is shown above in 2013 as he was inducted into Dobie's Hall of Honor, along with fellow inductees the Rev. Emory Gadd of Sagemont Church (left) and Dobie faculty member Richard Golenko.

Longtime resident Gilbert Aguilar dies

A volunteer for decades, Aguilar recognized by PISD, Dobie

Longtime South Belt resident and community volunteer Gilbert Aguilar died Oct. 28 at the age of 93.

To hundreds of Dobie students and Spanish-speaking South Belt residents, Aguilar stood as a rainbow of hope and a fountain of generosity. For roughly 20 years, Aguilar reached out to assist struggling students and helped improve the socialization skills of Spanish-speaking residents.

While an extensive volunteer at both Beverly Hills Intermediate and Dobie High School, Aguilar devoted most of his free time at the latter campus.

Almost a daily fixture at Dobie for two decades, Aguilar assisted ESL and special education programs, provided tutoring and counseled at-risk students. He established English-improvement classes for Dobie staff workers. And when parents of immigrant students sought similar help, Aguilar arranged classes at the Parker Williams Library Branch.

A retired U.S. Coast Guard officer, Aguilar was also active in Dobie's JROTC program.

Retiring from the Coast Guard in 1976 with 28 years of service, Aguilar was a veteran of both



Gilbert Aguilar

the Korean and Vietnam conflicts.

Following his military retirement, Aguilar earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Houston, and then followed in his wife Helen's footsteps and became a school volunteer.

Helen and Aguilar were married for 73 years and were a staple at various South Belt events for decades. The couple were recently recognized as being church elders at St. Luke the Evangelist's 50th anniversary celebration.

Aguilar also served as a literacy volunteer at St. Luke Catholic Church.

In 2000, Aguilar was named Pasadena ISD's Distinguished Citizen of the Year.

"A growing number of Pasadena ISD students come from Central and South American countries with little ability to speak English," a statement from Pasadena ISD said at the time. "These young people are at an educational disadvantage until they learn enough English to be successful in school. Assisting with tutorials before and after school, Gilbert Aguilar works with students in ESL classes and extended-day programs, providing homework assistance and tutorials. He also teaches survival English skills to students and parents who are new to this country through his work in the schools, his church and the local library."

The following year in 2001, Aguilar earned the prestigious Texas Heroes for Children Award.

In 2013, Aguilar was inducted into Dobie

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Harris County launches online mosquito-borne illness tracker

6 suspected West Nile cases detected; residents urged to follow 3 Ts

Harris County Public Health (HCPH) announces the launch of its online dashboard to keep the community informed about human cases of mosquito-borne diseases reported this year in Harris County (outside the City of Houston).

This resource provides daily updates on confirmed, probable and travel-related cases of diseases such as West Nile virus, dengue and other mosquito-related illnesses.

The dashboard website, hcphtx.org/MosquitoDiseases, offers an overview of current mos-

quito-related health concerns and practical prevention tips to help community members protect themselves and their families. HCPH's Mosquito and Vector Control Division (MVC) web page, hcphtx.org/MC, also provides live maps of diseases detected among mosquito samples throughout Harris County.

As of today, HCPH has reported six probable West Nile virus cases, six travel-related dengue cases and six travel-related malaria cases in 2025. All reported cases reported on the dash-

board include probable and confirmed cases, and counts are subject to change. The cases reported in the dashboard are within HCPH's jurisdiction and do not include the cases from the City of Houston.

Although the prevalence of mosquitoes peaks every summer, these pesky bugs also persist in the "offseason." Throughout the year, MVC tracks tests and eliminates disease-carrying mosquitoes in Harris County. As of Oct. 16, HCPH has reported 192 positive mosquito samples

across the county so far this year.

"The new dashboard is a valuable tool for residents to stay informed about mosquito-borne diseases in our area," said Jennifer Kiger, director of the Office of Epidemiology, Surveillance and Emerging Diseases (OESD) at HCPH. "While our current case numbers are low, it's still important for everyone to protect themselves from mosquito bites – especially during the warmer months when mosquitoes are most active."

Continued on Page 2

Work on new Friendswood detention basin moves forward

County crews excavate 460,000 cubic yards/46,000 truckloads of soil

Work is moving forward on the future Friendswood Regional Stormwater Detention Basin, to be located on an undeveloped 105-acre site along the Clear Creek overbank at FM 1959/Dixie Farm Road and Blackhawk Boulevard.

Being constructed by the Harris County Flood Control District, the basin is to be located essentially across the street from the South Belt Stormwater Detention Basin, which opened in May 2023.

Approved by Harris County Commissioners Court in December 2023, the Friendswood Regional Stormwater Detention Basin is a partnership project between Harris County Flood Control District, the City of Friendswood, Galveston County and Galveston County Consolidated Drainage District.

This project is utilizing American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant funds through Harris County's partnership with Galveston County. Construction also utilizes funds from HCFCD's 2018 bond.

Total allocation for this project is approximately \$32.4 million, of which an estimated \$13.5 million is from bond funding. Additional contributions from partners include an estimated \$8 million from the city of Friendswood, \$7.5 million from Galveston County and \$3.5 million from the Galveston County Consolidated Drainage District.

According to Harris County Flood Control officials, the project is on schedule, with workers recently completing the first phase of work, which involved preliminary excavation. The excavation site is located on an undeveloped 105-acre tract north of Clear Creek, south of FM 1959 and east of Blackhawk Boulevard.

The future stormwater detention at this location is part of an overall flood risk reduction project, which includes mitigation storage along Clear Creek.

HCFCD officials point out, however, that the

Friendswood Regional Stormwater Detention Basin Project is not part of the ongoing Clear Creek Federal Flood Risk Management Project, being conducted in partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The purpose of the new Friendswood basin along Clear Creek is to work in conjunction with future channel conveyance improvement projects to reduce flooding risks in the Clear Creek watershed. While the channel conveyance improvements will move the stormwater more efficiently out of an area, the stormwater detention basin will take in and temporarily store stormwater to ensure that the increased conveyance does not transfer the flooding risk to upstream or downstream communities. Typically, stormwater detention basins are constructed first and can provide flood risk reduction benefits on their own.

The \$5.5 million preliminary excavation was a way to get started with the basin in advance of major project construction. County officials had an excavation target of more than 460,000 cubic yards (approximately 46,000 truckloads) in three locations within the tract of land.

The project is now entering the second phase of construction, with design plans moving forward.

Officials said the basin is anticipated to provide anywhere from 700 to 1,300 acre-feet in storage, once complete.

The Friendswood Regional Stormwater Detention Basin Project is expected to be complete in late 2026, according to HCFCD officials.

For additional information on this project, visit hcfcd.org/Friendswood.

History

In 2017, out-of-bank flooding along Clear Creek caused approximately 3,000 homes to flood within the Friendswood city limits during Hurricane Harvey. During the community en-

gagement meetings prior to the 2018 bond election, Friendswood community members requested that the Flood Control District evaluate potential stormwater detention options along Clear Creek near the city of Friendswood.

As a result, the Flood Control District contracted with an engineering firm in 2019 to evaluate the potential locations for stormwater detention basins between FM 1959 and FM 528. Nine

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Detention pond work continues



Work continues on the Friendswood Regional Stormwater Detention Basin, with preliminary excavation recently coming to an end. To be located near FM 1959/Dixie Farm Road and Blackhawk Boulevard (see map on Page 2), the basin is expected to assist in local flood control by detaining approximately 700 to 1,300 acre-feet in stormwater storage, once complete. The project is now currently in the design phase, with an expected completion date in late 2026.

In My Opinion

O'Brien responds to Congressman Babin

Dear Editor:

Thank you, Congressman Babin, for your letter to your constituents. However, let me remind you that it was not the Democrats who:

- Pardoned more than 1600 people including insurrectionists, George Santos, the crypto crook that the President declared "no idea who he is" on his "60 Minutes" interview on Nov 2
- Tore down the East Wing of the White House
- Are planning to spend \$300 million

on a gawdy dance hall

- Have asked the DOJ to pay \$230 million
- Created tariffs that are hurting farmers
- Are buying cattle from Argentina, which can negatively affect domestic ranchers
- Are not blowing up fishing boats in the Caribbean, and
- Are arresting documented as well as undocumented individuals.

Finally, the price of my eggs at my favorite grocery store have increased since I started tracking them on Jan 24.

C. H. O'Brien
Independent Voter

Pct. 2 arrests suspected fentanyl dealer

Suspect also found with cocaine, heroin, pharmaceuticals



Joseph Ray Pittman

On Tuesday, Oct. 28, deputies with Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia's Special Operations Unit, along with the assistance of DEA-Galveston Regional Office concluded a lengthy narcotics investigation of a known fentanyl dealer identified as 42-year-old Joseph Ray Pittman.

Pittman was ultimately taken into custody in the 8500 block of Beltway 8 at Pearland Parkway/Monroe, in a business parking lot after he was observed conducting a suspected narcotics transaction.

During the arrest, Pittman was found in possession of a firearm concealed on his person without a holster. Deputies also discovered large amounts of narcotics inside his vehicle. Fentanyl, heroin, powdered cocaine, crack cocaine, Xanax, Hydrocodone and Carisoprodol (Somas) were discovered and all found to be for distribution purposes.



Seized contraband

NASA Aglow Lighthouse invites public Nov. 15

NASA Aglow Lighthouse invites all to its meeting Saturday, Nov. 15, beginning at 10 a.m. at Praise Chapel, 18516 SH 3 in Webster.

The meeting will feature Pastor Carolyn Sissom, of Eastgate Church of Katy who will minister.

Sissom has traveled as a prophetic minister to Israel, Italy, India, Germany, Belize, Wales, the Caribbean, Mexico and within the United States.

Also, she is a participating intercessor in the National Day of Prayer in Washington, D.C. through Capitol Hill Prayer Group.

She is an elder in the Gospel Ministerial Alliance Brady and serves as overseer of the Houston City-Region for the Alliance under Bishop Halford of Brady.

Sissom has served the Houston community as pastor since 1999. She continues to minister in conferences and retreats as a guest speaker, as well as at many churches, Aglow Lighthouses, Para-church groups and small groups.

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, Nov. 6, 4 – 5:30 p.m. Weekly English language classes. Registration required.

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

Monday, Nov. 10, 11 a.m. – noon. Open lab computer help. Registration required.

Tuesday, Nov. 11, 4 – 5 p.m. Family craft adventure. Registration required.

Wednesday, Nov. 12, 6 – 7 p.m. Pajama storytime. Registration required.

Wednesday, Nov. 12, 6 – 7:30 p.m. Conversational English classes. 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> for reopening information or the main website at <https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library>. The library will follow state and county guidelines for mask and social distancing.

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

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

Friday, Nov. 7, 1 – 3 p.m. Genealogy.

Saturday, Nov. 8, 10 a.m. – noon. Tai Chi.

Saturday, Nov. 8, 10 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. Vietnamese classes: topic conversation. Registration required.

Saturday, Nov. 8, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Veterans Day party.

Monday, Nov. 10, 1 – 2:30 p.m. ESL conversation club. Registration required.

Monday, Nov. 10, 4 – 5:30 p.m. Laser cutter orientation. Registration required.

Monday, Nov. 10, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Tai Chi.

Wednesday, Nov. 12, 6 – 7 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, 10 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>.

South Belt-Ellington Leader

The Voice of Community-Minded People

11555 Beamer 281-481-5656
E-mail: mynews@southbeltleader.com
David Flickinger, owner

Elected officials share their words

Letter from Fred Flickinger

During the October 15th City Council Meeting, my colleagues and I voted to adopt the same tax rate as the previous fiscal year, \$0.5191 per \$100 of home valuation, continuing our commitment to fiscal responsibility and protecting taxpayers.

Although the rate remains unchanged, the City is projecting an increase in overall property tax revenue for FY2026. Total revenue is estimated to rise by \$30.9 million, or 2.17 percent, from the prior year's actual collections. This increase is primarily driven by new development and investment across our city — an encouraging sign for Houston's future growth.

To put the numbers in perspective:

- \$5.2 billion in new taxable property value was added to Houston's tax rolls for Tax Year 2025.
- That new value accounts for \$26.4 million of the projected revenue increase.
- The remaining \$4.5 million — a comparatively small portion — comes from property that was already on the rolls last year.

This means the overwhelming majority of revenue growth is due to new construction and investment, not higher taxes on existing homeowners. Maintaining the tax rate ensures we continue funding essential services while honoring our responsibility to remain good stewards of your tax dollars.

However, we must also acknowledge a critical challenge impacting our tax base and neighborhood quality of life: delinquent and abandoned properties, particularly those tied to estates where owners are deceased and no clear legal successor has taken responsibility. In many cases, these properties fall into disrepair or become occupied by squatters, creating safety concerns and eroding surrounding property values. I presented this issue to Harris County Tax Assessor Annette Ramirez during our July 8th Budget and Fiscal Affairs Committee meeting.

These situations hinder collections, burden neighborhoods, and place additional strain on public safety resources. As your Council Member, I am working with our legal and housing departments, as well as state partners, to improve enforcement tools, streamline estate property resolution, and ensure abandoned homes do not destabilize our communities or shift tax burdens onto responsible residents.

Houston must continue growing responsibly, investing in core services, and protecting our neighborhoods. I remain committed to transparency, fiscal stewardship, and championing policies that support safe, strong, and thriving communities across District E and the City of Houston.

Sincerely,
Fred Flickinger
Council Member, District E

Letter from Fred Flickinger

critical challenge impacting our tax base and neighborhood quality of life: delinquent and abandoned properties, particularly those tied to estates where owners are deceased and no clear legal successor has taken responsibility. In many cases, these properties fall into disrepair or become occupied by squatters, creating safety concerns and eroding surrounding property values. I presented this issue to Harris County Tax Assessor Annette Ramirez during our July 8th Budget and Fiscal Affairs Committee meeting.

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Sincerely,
Fred Flickinger
Council Member, District E

Pedestrian killed in Beamer crash

A man was killed in an automobile/pedestrian crash Thursday, Oct. 30, on Beamer Road near Olive-wood Drive.

According to officials with Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia's office, deputies responded to the crash around 4:40 a.m. to find the pedestrian unresponsive.

Responding paramedics pronounced the pedestrian dead at the scene.

The identity of the victim, a male in his mid-30s, remained unknown at press time.

Investigators with the Harris County Sheriff's Office took the lead role in the investigation, which remained open at press time.

Precinct 2 deputies assisted with traffic control at the scene of the crash.

Pct. 2 cracks down on local DWIs

Deputies with Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia's Toll Road Division continue to enforce suspected DWIs, making at least four such arrests in recent weeks, with three of the arrests taking place in just one day.

On Oct. 24, Toll Road deputies conducted a stop on a suspicious driver in the 5300 block of Beltway 8. Suspecting the driver was intoxicated, a Standardized Field Sobriety Test was administered, confirming the suspicions. Moyra Diaz, 52, was charged with DWI and transported to the

was subsequently arrested and charged with DWI.

Also that same day, Toll Road deputies conducted a traffic stop on Elijah M. Jackson after observing him travel at a high rate of speed. Jackson reportedly displayed multiple signs of impairment and was discovered to be in possession of a firearm. The Harris County District Attorney's Office was contacted and accepted charges of DWI and unlawful carrying of a weapon against Jackson, who was arrested and transported to the Harris County Jail for processing.

Friendswood detention basin moves forward

Continued from Page 1

potential regional stormwater detention basin alternatives were evaluated in the area. Due to the characteristics of the watershed, the study found that none of the alternatives, without a broader plan for stormwater management measures beyond just regional detention, were significantly beneficial, cost-effective, or sustainable. This study was completed in February 2020. To view the Engineering Report, visit www.hcfd.org/Portals/62/Watershed/Clear-Creek/2024/C162/ReportWithoutExhibit_LCC%20Detention%20Study%20-%20Final.pdf.

In late 2019, the Flood Control District participated in another planning study led by the city of League City and additional key planning partners, including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, city of Friendswood, Galveston County and the Galveston County Consolidated Drainage District. This study, called the Lower Clear Creek & Dickinson Bayou Watershed planning study, aimed to develop a comprehensive flood mitigation plan for the sub-watersheds of lower Clear Creek and Dickinson Bayou. One of the improvement strategies identified in

the preliminary modeling of the study was the design and construction of a stormwater detention basin in the lower Clear Creek area — which led to the creation of the Friendswood Regional Stormwater Detention Basin project.



HCPH launches online tracker

Continued from Page 1

The dashboard reflects the collaboration between two specialized HCPH teams:

- The Office of Epidemiology, Surveillance and Emerging Diseases (OESED) monitors and investigates human cases of mosquito-borne illnesses, analyzes trends and

provides guidance to health-care providers and community partners. OESED also works to reduce the spread of highincidence or emerging diseases through public health response and community education.

- The Mosquito and Vector Control Division (MVC) monitors and tests mosquitoes for diseases like West Nile virus, dengue, chikungunya, St. Louis encephalitis and Zika, while implementing mosquito control measures across the county.

By combining their expertise, OESED and MVC provide a complete picture of mosquito-borne disease activity — helping protect community members from both the mosquitoes and the illnesses they can carry.

To prevent mosquito bites and reduce the risk of mosquito-borne illnesses, HCPH reminds people to follow the 3 Ts:

- Tip standing water from containers around your home.
- Toss out items that can collect rain or irrigation water.
- Take action by using insect repellent and wearing protective clothing when outdoors.

For more information on mosquito bite prevention, call 713-440-4800 or visit hcphtx.org/MosquitoDiseases or hcphtx.org/MC.

Thompson names September Teacher of the Month



Thompson Intermediate School recently announced Amanda Anderson (right) as its Teacher of the Month for September. Anderson was selected by her peers for showing "Lion Pride." Pictured with Anderson is principal Tanis Griffin.

Death

Gilbert Aguilar



Born Jan. 31, 1932, in San Antonio to Jose Aguilar and Elena Aguilar, Gilbert Aguilar passed away peacefully on Oct. 28, 2025, at home in Houston. Gilbert grew up in San Antonio where he met his wife Helen Aguilar at Fox Tech High School.

In 1949 Gilbert enlisted in the Coast Guard at age 17. Gilbert and Helen married in July of 1952. During 28 years of active duty, he was stationed at multiple Coast Guard bases around the country and deployed to the Korean and Vietnam conflicts. Gilbert retired in December 1976. After retirement from military service he earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Houston. After a few years of working in the oil industry he spent 19 years volunteering for Pasadena ISD.

Predeceasing Gilbert were his parents, his brothers Ralph and Tony Aguilar and sisters Helen Martinez and Lilian Stein.

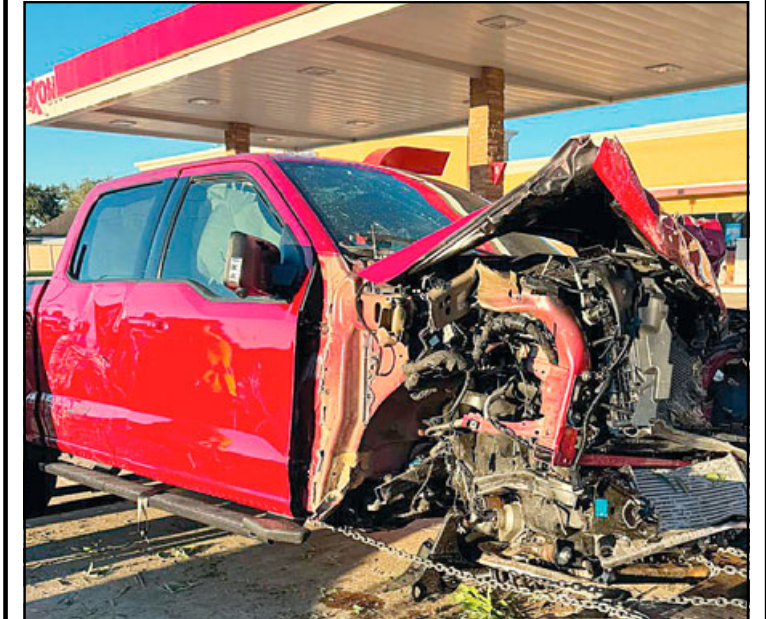
Gilbert is survived by his loving wife of 73 years; his son Joe Gilbert Aguilar and his wife Mary and their sons Dustin, Nathan and Daniel; his son Robert Aguilar and wife Lucia and son Ryan; and 10 great-grandchildren.

The family will welcome friends from 5 until 7 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 13, at Peevey Funeral Home, 12440 Beamer Road.

Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m., Friday, Nov. 14, at St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church, 11011 Hall Road.

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

Seizure causes Scarsdale crash



Local emergency crews responded to a crash the morning of Wednesday, Oct. 29, on Scarsdale at Bogey Way after a driver reportedly suffered a seizure, causing him to cause a major accident at a gas station located at the intersection. According to witnesses, the driver was traveling on the other side of the street, before crossing the median and striking a vehicle at the gas station. Both the driver who suffered the seizure and the driver of the second vehicle, who was outside the car using the air machine, were transported to the hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

Aguilar dies at 93

Continued from Page 1

High School's recently created Hall of Honor for his community volunteer efforts.

A wake will be held for Aguilar Thursday, Nov. 13, at Peevey Funeral Home, 12440 Beamer, from 5 to 7 p.m.

A memorial Mass will be celebrated the following day Friday, Nov. 14, at St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church, 11011 Hall Road, beginning at 11 a.m.

See related obituary on this page.

Gibson Insurance

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- Hagerty • Kraft Lake and many more

713-941-3221

Jeffrey@jeffreylgibsoninsurance.com

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.	
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Stuchbery takes part in Punt, Pass and Kick

Pictured below are third- and fourth-grade students from Stuchbery Elementary who recently showed off their skills in the Punt, Pass and Kick event at Veterans Memorial Stadium.



Third-graders Jet Garcia and Valentina Aguirre



Fourth-graders Joselinne Ruiz and Christopher Cahee

Lung cancer retains lead as top cause of cancer deaths in the U.S.

Lung cancer remains the leading cause of cancer deaths for both men and women in the United States, but early detection can dramatically improve survival rates. If lung cancer is detected before it spreads, the chance of surviving five years or more increases to 65 percent. During Lung Cancer Awareness Month this November, health experts are urging those at risk to get screened.

Did you know? Smoking is the primary cause of lung cancer. Nearly 9 in 10 lung cancers are caused by smoking cigarettes. Non-smokers, however,

can also be diagnosed if there's:

- Secondhand smoke exposure; increases risk by up to 20 to 30 percent.
- A family history of lung cancer.
- Radiation therapy to the chest.
- Exposure to carcinogens like asbestos or radon gas.

More than 226,000 Americans are expected to be diagnosed with lung or bronchus cancer by the end of 2025, according to the American Cancer Society and more than 124,700 are expected to die from lung cancer this year.

Current guidelines recommend annual low-dose CT scans for adults 50 to 80 years old who:

- Currently smoke or quit within the past 15 years, and
- Smoked at least one pack a day for 20 years or more.

Symptoms vary among individuals. Many don't have symptoms until the cancer is advanced.

"Early detection is the key, with cure rates approaching 90 percent for smallest tumors," said Dr. Jitesh Joshi, hematologist and oncologist at Houston Methodist Clear Lake Hospital. "Our screening rates,

however, are woefully low, with less than 10 percent of eligible population in the state of Texas being routinely screened. With more awareness and community outreach initiatives, hopefully, this number will increase over time."

Lung Cancer Awareness Month is a time to educate, advocate and act. If one or know someone who meets the screening criteria, call a Houston Methodist provider today to schedule an appointment.

To schedule an interview with a Houston Methodist expert, contact Natalie Hall at njhall@houstonmethodist.org.

Holocaust Museum Houston to offer free admission in observance of Veterans Day

In honor of Veterans Day, Holocaust Museum Houston (HMH) will offer free admission to our nation's veterans, active duty service-members and their families Tuesday, Nov. 11 through Sunday, November 16. In addition to waiving admission fees for children and students ages 18 and under and college students with valid ID, active duty military receive discounted admission year-round.

Military visitors can experience the Holocaust, Human Rights, Samuel Bak and Young Diarists Galleries along with ongoing Survivor testimony films in the theater. Free admission is extended to featured changing exhibitions including Unveiled: From the Vault, Growing up Jewish – Art and Storytelling and the newly opened Anachronous. Visit hnh.org/tickets to reserve free tickets.

Holocaust Museum Houston, Lester and Sue Smith Campus, is fully bilingual in English and Spanish. Located at 5401 Caroline Street, HMH is closed Mondays except Martin Luther King Jr. Day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; open Tuesdays through Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays from noon to 5 p.m. The Bagel Shop at the Museum is open Tuesdays through Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. General admission is \$22

for adults; \$16 for seniors (ages 65+), AARP members and active duty military; always free for children and students through age 18 and under and college students with valid ID; and free to all visitors Thursdays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Parking is available at the Museum's adjacent lot for \$8 for a four-hour period. Tickets are available exclusively online. For more information, visit hnh.org/visit.

South Belt announces September Super Steers of the month



Pictured are South Belt Elementary's September Super Steers. These students were chosen by their teachers, based on their ability to display the character trait of the month: respect. Left to right, are (first row) Cristiano Sanchez, Ava Bomer, (second row) Chloe Nguyen, Nihansi Sirasapalli, Ezra Lugo, Braxton Brown, Julian Lopez, Ace Teran, Remi Wilkinson, (third row) Kielyn Nguyen, Dominic Dimas, Evan Rodriguez, Jonah Cardona, Steven De Ochoa, John Phillips, Belinda Franklin, Tye Saffary, (fourth row) Aaliyah Clemons, Irene Gurung, Anthony Doan, Ella Nguyen, Josiah Babalola, Miguel Medrano, Hunter Hessong, Savannah Wilson and Corbin Mitchell. Not pictured, are Saifullah Azizi, Ian Magby, Greyson Padilla, Emma Rodriguez, Olivia Estrada, Easton Rodriguez and Idalia Gutierrez.

Photo by Lakitha Thomas/counselor

Melillo students awarded Kindness Champion



Melillo students were recently recognized for the Kindness Champion Award for going the extra mile to teach kindness and strengthen connections during mentoring. Pictured left to right are (front row) Genesis Vidal, Fabian Rogers, Thomas Garcia, Kayden Spears, Gia Baeza, (back row) Melillo principal Jennifer Saucedo and ELAR resource teacher Kristen Konzelman.

Local schools participate in Dobie homecoming parade



Aviators representing Fred Roberts Middle School in the Dobie High School homecoming parade were, left to right, (front row) Citlali Guerrero (principal), Alejandro Nieto, Victoria Steck, Talia Vega, Khloe Benitez, Khoi Nguyen, Natalia De La Cerda, (back row) Jonathan Ramirez, Lylah Richards, Nicolette Martinez, Gabriella Padilla, Annahi McKinney, Julianna Martinez, Azariah Rios, Marjorie Torres and Adamaris Cuellar.

Clear Brook High speech and debate team takes home state qualifications

While other students were out being tricked on Halloween, a small contingent of the Wolverine speech and debate team brought home treats to Clear Brook in the form of state qualifications from Grand Oaks High School. Friday night saw speakers out competing in Extemporaneous Speaking, an event steeped in current event knowledge; as well as Information Speaking which is an event that is focused on a personal connection to a topic that students want their listeners to take to heart. And heart was brought to both. Senior Kelyn Tran, a four-year student of Clear Brook's team began her evening with six of her needed 12 points to attend

the state meet in March. At the end of the evening she wowed her judge panel and walked away with two ranks of 1 and one rank of 2 for her 10-minute speech on

the uniqueness of crocheting. With this, she stitched together a first place finish which qualifies her for state. But debaters were not to be outdone. At the end of

three arduous preliminary rounds that began with the impacts of surge pricing, the team of Elaina Joseph, Emily Joseph, Victoria Constanza and Hania Khan fought their way through semifinals and to the final round where they won on a 3-0 decision against Westchester International. They articulated cogent and complex arguments about the merits of space exploration over deep sea exploration. And finally, novice member Zaahid Mansoor also fought his way to the final round of Novice Extemp where he placed sixth overall. These wins brings the team to a total of seven qualifications among five members with at least five more waiting in the wings.



Shown, left to right, are team members Victoria Constanza, Kendrick Toennies, Hania Khan, Khang Ngo, Emily Joseph and Elaina Joseph.



Beverly Hills Intermediate cheer and dance team at the homecoming parade, left to right, are (front row) Alayna Rice, Isabella Villalobos, Ariel Reyes, Makayla Laurie, Aubrey White, Leah Ponce, Kinley Lerche-Fowler, Juliana Avila, Arleth Garcia, (back row) coach Jacqueline Resendez, Daiera Brown, Alaina King, Liliana Bonilla, Layla Villanueva, Alayah Holmes, Faith Vazquez, Giselle Solares, Myrion Davis, Melany Ybarra, Ximena Espinoza, Emily Garza, Alani Bravo, Kynedy Dickerson and coach Krystal Smith.



Participants from the Thompson Intermediate cheer team were, left to right, (front row) Xara Oddo, Soraya Shah, Aliyah Alvarez, Jaselym Enriquez, Julissa Bonilla, Landon Rodriguez, (back row) Aubrey Barajas, Brooklynn Reyes, Isabella Squier, Dora Campos, Bella Hernandez, Alicia Syplen and Demi Rose Gaitan.

Dobie FFA students participate in the State Fair of Texas Livestock Show



Pictured, are agriculture teacher Schuyler Morris (left) and Luke Stacey who took first place in his class with his ARB heifer "Princess."



Third place ribbon-winner in his class for his heifer Kaleb Jones (far right) is pictured with (left to right) dad Curt Jones, younger sister Sadie Jones, mom Stephanie Jones and friend Sam Whalen.



Above, are Dobie FFA student Vianka Alanis (right) who placed sixth in her class with her ARB heifer "Stella Mac" and former Dobie FFA student Vianey Alanis.

Lariaette of the Week, Oct. 30

The J. Frank Dobie Lariaette of the week of Oct. 30 is senior Suheylee Belman, a third-year line member.

Atkinson Elementary recognizes students of the month for September, October

Atkinson Elementary officials recently submitted students of the month for September and October. The students are recognized for many different character traits by their teachers. These traits include kindness and inclusivity. Not pictured is first-grader Daleyza

Silva of Jessica Armenta's class. Armenta explains, "Dayelza is very kind to her classmates and teachers. She is always engaged in the classroom and loves to help others when they are struggling. She is always listening to what others have to say and uses kind words."



Preschooler Albert Martin of Ashley Armenta's class displays the characteristics of kindness and inclusivity in his class. Armenta explains, "Albert is always looking out for others and helping his friends. When the students forget their stuff or need help cleaning up, he is always one of the first ones to lend a helping hand without being asked."



Preschooler Julian Hernandez of Ashley Riley's class displays the traits of kindness and inclusivity in his class. According to Riley he is always quick to include others in activities and inviting them to join. He enthusiastically greets his classmates when they arrive in the morning.



Kindergartener Ashley Cruz of Cherie Cundiff's class exhibits kindness and inclusivity in her class. Cundiff describes her as a very compassionate and kind student. She is usually one of the first to offer help when she sees a classmate in need. If a friend is sad, she is right there showing concern and offering a hug.



Second-grader Luis Martinez of Kim Nguyen's class has shown kindness and inclusivity in his class. Nguyen explains, "Luis is compassionate and respectful. He goes out of his way to ensure everyone is taken care of and feels heard. He creates a supportive atmosphere in both of his classrooms and throughout the school."



Third-grader David Alfaro of Gustavo Cadena's homeroom exhibits kindness and inclusivity in his class. "David is always looking to help his peers whenever they need help or clarification, he volunteers to help anyone in need, even if they did not ask for help; when he is working, he is also aware of his surroundings checking if someone is in distress to lend a hand, first asking respectfully and politely if he is able to assist them," says Cadena.



Third-grader Tristan Russell of Cherrie Hanson's homeroom displays kindness and inclusivity. Hanson finds him to be very helpful and kind to staff and students and appreciates he listens in class and follows directions — always with a smile.



Fourth-grader Esmeralda Saucedo of Tracy Nguyen's homeroom shows kindness and inclusivity. Nguyen states, "Esmeralda is a positive, kind-hearted, and thoughtful student towards everyone she interacts with. Her bubbly and silly personality makes everyone feel welcome in our classroom and school. We are so proud to have her in our 4th grade classroom."



Fourth-grader Matthew Martinez of Nicole Stalkfleet's class displays kindness and inclusivity to his classmates, is very respectful to adults and always helps out.

Remember When

45 years ago (1980)

A new item in the *South Belt Leader* which made its debut Nov. 5 was a weekly calendar of events which listed activities in the South Belt and surrounding areas. As a regular weekly addition to the *Leader*, the calendar would provide the date, time and other information concerning upcoming events for that week.

40 years ago (1985)

A ruling was expected in the next three to four months from the Texas Commissioner of Education regarding whether Pearland's Green Tee subdivision would remain in the Clear Creek Independent School District or if it would be annexed by the Pearland school district.

A group of Woodmeadow homeowners who did not receive compensation from a recent out-of-court settlement regarding flood damages six years prior, organized an action committee to recoup their losses.

The South Belt area endured more rain than any other part of Harris County during a recent day's rain. Clouds dumped 5.63 inches of rain at the service's Dixie Farm Road and Genoa Red Bluff sites and some 5.59 inches at the Beamer and Hughes Road site. Most of the rain fell within a three hour period.

Genoa Elementary School celebrated its Golden Anniversary in the Pasadena Independent School District. Superintendent Dr. Lon Luty, was guest speaker. The Genoa choir, under the direction of Linda Fletcher, performed.

Due to a ruling by the University Interscholastic League, Dobie High School's newest sports team, a girls' varsity soccer team in its first year and coached by Rhonda Foster, was placed in a district (22-5A) all by itself, thus awarding the South Belt school an automatic berth in the February 5A playoffs.

35 Years ago (1990)

Eleven members of the Houston-Aires precision drill team were selected by the American Drill Team School to participate in the Junior All-American Drill Team performance at Walt Disney World in the summer of 1991.

Two South Belt area trick-or-treaters found needles embedded in their candy which contract constable deputies believed was handed out in the Kirkwood South subdivision.

During homecoming at the University of Houston football

game against Texas Christian University, South Belt resident B.J. Garner joined other members of the Cougar Alumni Band in playing before the game and during halftime.

South Belt area schools and residents were urged to send letters, cards and packages early in order to reach the service personnel of Desert Storm in time for the holidays.

30 years ago (1995)

Three Pasadena Independent School Board incumbents who ran successfully in a Community United for better Schools slate in 1992 all filed for re-election the first day of filing for the Jan. 20 election. Sagemeadow's Fred Roberts, 41, sought a second term. Roberts, whose son who attends Dobie High School and daughter attends Moore Elementary, owns an insurance agency in South Belt. Banker Nelda Sullivan, 60, also sought a second term. She was board president and lived in Pasadena. Her three children graduated from Pasadena schools and two of her grandchildren attended PISD schools. Carmen Orozco, 59, ran for her fourth three-year term on the school board.

25 years ago (2000)

Niday Funeral Home opened on Beamer Road.

Andy Pettitte was honored at San Jacinto College Foundation Golf tournament. The foundation honored him with

an honorary associate of arts degree and a \$100,000 endowment scholarship in his name.

Dr. Rick Schneider was asked to serve on a statewide panel to push to improve math education at the intermediate school level.

20 years ago (2005)

The intersection of Beamer and Scarsdale was the location of six motor vehicle collisions within a 30-hour period. A representative from Harris County Commissioner El Franco Lee's office said the high number of accidents warranted a traffic study. Timing of the lights was adjusted soon after.

The Brio Site Task Force reached an agreement with state and federal conservation agencies to provide approximately 142 acres of land to replace the defined losses.

South Belt state Rep. Robert Talton was honored by the Texas Eagle Forum as the most conservative lawmaker in Austin.

PISD was seeking nominations for the district's annual distinguished alumnus award.

15 years ago (2010)

After a few construction delays, the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department celebrated the grand opening of its new station at 10510 Scarsdale with an open house. Funded by a Clear Brook City Municipal Utility District bond that voters

approved in March 2007, the station cost roughly \$2 million to construct and occupied approximately 9,500 square feet. The facility was the third in the area for the department, along with two located on Hughes Road and would serve as its main station and first large-scale disaster headquarters.

10 years ago (2015)

The Lone Star Flight Museum officially broke ground on its new facility at Ellington Airport on Nov. 9. In addition to a collection of award-winning historic aircraft, the 130,000-square-foot museum will feature interactive, educational exhibits focusing on the science, technology, engineering and math concepts essential to flight while allowing visitors to explore Texas' rich aviation heritage. Among the highlights of the new facility will be a \$1 million Aviation Learning Center and the Texas Aviation Hall of Fame. The Aviation Learning Center, originally developed at the Seattle Museum of Flight, will be replicated for the first time at the new museum. The total project cost, including facility, exhibits and relocation expenses, is estimated at \$35 million. In 2014, the museum completed an initial \$25 million capital campaign. The success of that campaign encouraged the board of directors to expand the museum, add additional

educational programming and undertake a \$10 million Phase II capital campaign. The museum is scheduled to open in February 2017, just in time for Houston's Super Bowl L.I. The museum is moving from its current location in Galveston as a result of damage suffered during Hurricane Ike.

Founder and publisher of the *South Belt-Ellington Leader*, Marie Flickinger, was selected to receive the Pasadena Independent School District 2015 Distinguished Citizen award. Flickinger found her niche in the newspaper business when she co-founded what was then the *South Belt Press* in 1976 with Bobby Griffin. The name was later changed to the *South Belt Leader*, then the *South Belt-Ellington Leader*. As a passionate supporter of education, Flickinger had been an active and visual presence in PISD and its partner, San Jacinto College. She had served on numerous superintendent advisory boards and search committees in the district. Through editorials, personal communication with area community members and by serving on the bond steering committee, Flickinger was instrumental in the passing of the 2014 School Bond measure. Flickinger has supported district initiatives that helped increase graduation rates. These include

the expansion of dual credit options, particularly College Now, which is available on all high school campuses; and career and technical initiatives, such as the Lewis Career and Technical High School project. Flickinger took part in career day activities, various campus fundraising initiatives and the Education Foundation. Through her leadership, the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce backs the work of the school district in many ways, including sponsoring a luncheon to honor the top-10 graduates of Dobie High School for their outstanding achievement. Flickinger's involvement in the community was not only limited to PISD. In 1995, she became the first woman elected as a member of the San Jacinto College Board of Trustees and later served as board president. Nearly 30 years earlier, she became the chief organizer and founding president of the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce and often served as the organization's president. She had coordinated Christmas drives for needy families and taken the lead in organizing annual Fourth of July activities, including an annual parade and fireworks display. Flickinger's efforts helped the South Belt area flourish. Through the newspaper, she raised awareness of the Brio Superfund

Site which had disposed of toxic materials into the neighborhood. Even though she had no formal background in science, she attended conferences throughout the country to gather research to present to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Ultimately, her investigation and coverage led to a method of containment making the community safe again. She served in several prestigious community positions including membership on two mayoral transition committees for the City of Houston, chairman of the leadership group for the State Education Leadership Board of Trustees and chair of the Community College Association of Texas Trustees. Flickinger had been recognized for her leadership and humanitarian efforts locally and statewide. For her noted service to the school district, she had been inducted into the Hall of Honor at Dobie High School, and the Marie Spence Flickinger Fine Arts Building on South campus was named in her honor. In 2013, Flickinger earned the prestigious Association of Community College Trustees M. Dale Ensign Leadership Award as the national community college trustee of the year. She was honored by the district at a reception on Jan. 28 at the Lewis Career and Technical High School.

5 years ago (2020)

The Clear Creek ISD Board of Trustees unanimously named Dr. Eric Williams as the sole finalist for the CCISD Superintendent position. The live announcement made on Nov. 9, capped a nationwide search for a leader who embodies the characteristics that the board of trustees identified as critical, with the help of a process of community and stakeholder input. Williams previously served as the superintendent of Loudoun County Public Schools, a high performing school district of approximately 82,000 students, 13,000 employees, and a \$1.3 billion budget in Leesburg, Va. Williams had more than 28 years in education, spanning from a social studies teacher in Virginia and an English teacher in Brazil to a high school principal in Florida and superintendent in Virginia. Williams' educational background included a bachelor's degree in education from The College of William and Mary, a master's degree in public policy from Harvard University and a doctoral degree in educa-

tional leadership from Boston University. He was married with two grown children. In compliance with Texas law, the Clear Creek ISD Board of Trustees had to wait a minimum of 21 days from making the sole finalist announcement to making the appointment official.

The results from the Nov. 3 Clear Creek Independent School District board election with tabulated, with one incumbent maintaining their position and another being defeated. In the race for the position of District 2 trustee, incumbent Win Weber was handily defeated by challenger Michelle M. Davis. Davis received 53.93 percent of the vote, while Weber received 31.25 percent.

Additional challenger Will Stromeyer received 14.82 percent of the vote.

In the contest for the District 3 trustee position, incumbent Arturo Sanchez received 60.84 percent of the vote, while challenger Jason Clark received 39.16 percent.

A man was fatally shot Monday, Nov. 9, in the 10100 block of Kirkvren Drive. Deputies with the Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's office responded to the incident to

find the resident, Roman Harris, had been shot by an unknown suspect(s). His girlfriend told deputies they had just returned home from the store and were about to enter the house when the shooting occurred. Harris, 28, was transported by paramedics to the hospital, where he died. No immediate arrests were made.

A 27-year-old male was fatally shot Friday, Nov. 6, at a nightclub in the 12300 block of the Gulf Freeway near Fuqua. According to police, witnesses stated the male was escorted out of the Paradise City gentleman's club at the above address after starting a fight.

A short time later, he returned with a gun and pointed it at a security guard. A second security guard shot the male, striking him multiple times. Paramedics pronounced the male dead at the scene. The male's friend, who was not involved in the altercation was also struck by gunfire and taken to a hospital in a private vehicle. No charges were immediately filed.

1 year ago (2024)

The results from the Nov. 5 general election were tabulated, with Republicans making big gains across the board at nearly every level.

Over The Back Fence by Nicole

DICK CELEBRATES A BIRTHDAY!
Special birthday wishes are in order for longtime South Belt resident and local business owner **Dick Orth** who celebrates a birthday Tuesday, Nov. 11, from family, friends and staff of the *South Belt Leader*.

SCHOOL DAZE
The following staff and personnel of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays Nov. 6 through Nov. 12.

Atkinson Elementary
The day for **Emily Childs** and **Aaleyah Dorman** to celebrate with ice cream and a double-layer birthday cake is Nov. 7. Sing a chorus of a birthday song to **Michelle Lopez** Nov. 9. Send a birthday greeting Nov. 12 to **Jessica Herring**.

Bush Elementary
Wishes for a happy birthday are sent to **Aimee Ingalls** Nov. 8.

Frazier Elementary
Send a humorous birthday card Nov. 8 to **Ana Avilez**. The day for a celebration for **Andrew Arriaga** is Nov. 10.

Genoa Elementary
Nov. 7 is the day for a party for **Amanda Egan**. Nov. 8 is the day for a fun celebration for **Aizlyn Garza**. Join in the birthday celebration Nov. 11 for **Itzel Ramirez Prado**.

Meador Elementary
Rachelle Lopez celebrates a birthday Nov. 6. A day of celebration for **Ana Bradford** is planned Nov. 8.

Moore Elementary
Cristina Ponce enjoys a birthday Nov. 7. The day for cake for **Kristi Donaho** is Nov. 11.

Stuchbery Elementary
Birthday greetings go out to **Michelle Tijerina** Nov. 6. Nov. 9 is a day of celebration for **Sarah Straubinger**.

Melillo Middle School
Nov. 8 is the day for a cake for **Gabriela Alejandro**.

Beverly Hills Intermediate
Send a birthday greeting Nov. 6 to **Jessica Jackson**. Marking a birthday Nov. 7 is **Alejandra Read**. Sing a happy birthday

song to **Janet Hatch** Nov. 11.
Thompson Intermediate
Gina Teston marks a birthday Nov. 8.

Dobie High
Break out the balloons and party favors Nov. 7 for **Charles Washington** and **Tonie Noise**. Blow out the candles Nov. 8 for **Jasmine Hooker**. **Patrick Nava** celebrates a birthday Nov. 9. Send a birthday greeting Nov. 11 to **Schuyler Morris**.

FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS
Saturday, Nov. 8: **Karen Swearingin**, **Matt Laas**, **Chris Lee** and **Gina Ramirez-Salinas**; Sunday, Nov. 9: **Raul-Lisa Rodriguez** and **Patricia Overby**; Monday, Nov. 10: **Kevin Aguilar** and **John Gentry**; and Wednesday, Nov. 12: **Mark DeVries**, **Janie Clark** and **Robin Zacks Grosso**.

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.

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SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

Longhorns welcome all-in game at Manvel

Victories over South Houston, Sam Rayburn and Alvin out of the way, it's time to get down to business as the Dobie varsity football team will head into a tough environment to take on Manvel Nov. 7 on the campus of Manvel High School in a winner-take-all scenario for a playoff berth. Dobie will enter the contest having won three straight games, including an Oct. 30 victory over Alvin by a 38-7 count as the Longhorns improved to 4-3 overall in District 22-6A



While the Longhorns have utilized the passing game sparingly this season, Nolen Thomas (13) has proven to be a go-to guy on the outside. Against Alvin, Thomas reeled in a 26-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Oscar Hernandez in the first quarter to help the Longhorns get rolling.

Photo by David Flickinger

competition.

A night later, Manvel pulled off what some would think was a minor upset as the Mavericks handed Dawson a 38-31 setback, with the 38 points scored being the most that the Dawson team has allowed this season.

Pearland is on its way to the district championship and will represent 22-6A as the top seed in the Division 1 postseason bracket. Dawson will also advance along with Shadow Creek, with the Sharks destined for the Division 2 bracket. All that's left to settle is whether it will be the Longhorns or the Mavericks moving on.

The Longhorns are led by senior running back Da'Marcus Hodges, who is currently the league leader in rushing at 1,261 yards and 15 touchdowns. Manvel counters with senior running back Eric Mosley, who has rushed for 552 yards and seven scores.

The Dobie defense will also need to deal with Manvel quarterback Cam Renfro, who with just over 1,500 yards passing to go with 11 touchdowns as well as 549 yards and eight touchdowns on the ground is the most dangerous dual-threat quarterback in the district.

"We are going to have to play a clean football game for 48 minutes," Dobie varsity football head coach Danny Fitzmorris said. "We have been prone to untimely mistakes here and there that have caused

us to lose possessions or miss out on scoring opportunities in some of our losses, and we cannot do that against Manvel.

"On paper, Manvel has a terrific talent pool with plenty of collegiate prospects. But we know what is at stake, and I know our guys will go out there and leave it on the field.

"This is what you play for, and as exciting as it was for us to earn a playoff berth last season with a last-second score over Manvel, there's no doubt that they will be looking to turn things around against us. Hopefully it's a tremendous football game and we come out on the winning end of it. I know our guys will be ready to go."

After dropping three district games through the first four weeks of play, the Longhorns turned things around to get wins in their last three games, which has put the locals in position to earn an what would be eighth consecutive playoff berth for the program. But this year's Team 57 is still looking for its first victory over a team with a 500+ record.

If Dobie fans feel as

though they have seen this movie before, it's because the current season has played out win-loss wise exactly as it did in 2024.

Entering the season finale at home against the Mavericks in 2024, the Longhorns needed a victory of 17 points or more to win a playoff tiebreaker that included Dawson as well.

As the game wound down, the Longhorns had the victory well in hand but needed a touchdown in the final minute to secure a playoff berth and managed to get the job done with a last-second touchdown pass.

Fitzmorris and the 2024 group hope that it doesn't come down to the final minute this time around, but will no doubt accept a victory of any final score.

Continued on Page 6

Dobie
at Manvel
Nov. 7, 7 p.m.
Mavericks
Stadium



Lutheran South's Theron Ayala (center) joined his parents Lee Ayala (left) and Michele Ayala, in celebration after placing eighth overall at the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools 5A state cross-country finale in Waco.

Lutheran South boys' runners take fourth place at 5A state

The Lutheran South Academy varsity boys' cross-country team wrapped up an exceptionally successful season, placing fourth at the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools 5A state championship meet at the Cottonwood Creek Golf Club in Waco.

Navigating a 5,000-meter course, Lutheran South's Theron Ayala, a junior, led the way as he was eighth overall in a time of 17 minutes, 33.06 seconds.

Adrian Rule of San Antonio Christian was the overall gold medalist in the event as he ran to the tape in a time of 16:34.36.

Behind Ayala, senior Case Noack was 21st as he finished the event at 18:34.56.

The Pioneers' Sam Hergenrader, also a senior, wrapped up his cross-country career with a 24th-place finish at 18:41.91. Junior Nicholas Pena clocked in at 18:55.09 for 31st place, and Brock Boessling, a sophomore, placed 48th in a time of 19:31.91. Senior Reid Toner also competed for the Pioneers, ultimately placing 55th with his time of 20:16.55.

With Rule leading the way, along with teammate Elijah Savage, who placed second, San Antonio Chris-

tian was the overall team champion followed by Fort Bend Christian. Lutheran South was fourth overall as a team.

The Lutheran South varsity girls' squad competed in the 2-mile state final as senior Elisabeth Hergenrader led the team with a 54th-place finish at 14:42.12.

Sophomore Jayde Barefield was 78th in the time of 15:10.25, and Karys Rodriguez, a senior, finished her career as she was 88th at 15:25:20. Jemma Reikert, also a senior, turned in a time of 15:39.44 for 94th place.

See related boys' team picture on Page 8.

Lutheran South VB headed to regional

The Lutheran South Academy varsity volleyball team is headed to the regional round following a three set sweep of St. Mary's Hall Nov. 4 on the Pioneers' home floor.

At 29-7, Lutheran South has moved one step closer

to a possible return to the state tournament following a fairly easy win over St. Mary's. Senior Aniston Collins and sophomore Addy Musgrove continue to lead the way for the Pioneers, with plenty of contributions coming

from elsewhere on the roster. Collins, who has committed to play collegially at Stephen F. Austin, has joined forces with Musgrove as the two have paced the Pioneers in both kills and assists this season.

Thompson football completes dominant run

The Thompson Intermediate football program completed a dominant run through the Pasadena ISD ranks this season, ultimately winning three divisional championship football games on the way to claiming superiority within the district.

The Lions' eighth grade A program handed the Beverly Hills Bears a 28-0 loss in the championship game to complete an undefeated campaign.

At the seventh grade level, the The Lions went undefeated in both divisions to claim champion-

ships. Thompson defeated Bondy 22-6 at the seventh-grade A level, and trounced the Patriots 38-0 at the seventh-grade B level.

The *Leader* will have additional district results as well as photos in the Nov. 13 issue.

Girls' hoops tip off Nov. 7

Yes, the high school football playoffs will begin in just a matter of days, but the basketball season is also ready to take its proper spot in the spotlight as the girls' season will begin Nov. 7, with the boys' season tipping off a week after that.

There is plenty of anticipation at Dobie, where head coach Rachel Flores and her Longhorn girls' program will get started Nov. 7 by hosting the Baytown Sterling Rangers at Dobie 9.

After taking on Sterling, the Longhorns will also host Clear Lake Nov. 11 before the highly anticipated Nov. 14 evening as Dobie girls basketball legend Karima Christmas Kelly is

honored with a banner reveal at 5 p.m. prior to the start of play against Channelview, with the varsity girls tipping off at 5:30 p.m., followed by a nightcap that will feature Dobie head coach Branford Jones making his debut with the varsity boys at 7 p.m. against Clear Lake.

There are also high expectations at Clear Brook, where the varsity girls will begin their season Nov. 8 at home against Barbers Hill in a battle of state-ranked opponents.

Clear Brook will also take on Fulshear on the road Nov. 11 before taking part in the Nov. 13-15 Peggy Whitley Classic within Clear Creek ISD.

As for the Whitley Clas-

sic, 24 of the area's top programs will compete at Clear Creek ISD's 67th annual version of the event, this one beginning with pool play at four different locations Nov. 13 and concluding with trophy-round games Nov. 15.

Each of the 24 programs will ultimately vie for a spot in the gold bracket championship game Nov. 15 at 11:30 a.m. at Butler Field House on the campus of Clear Creek High School.

The 24 programs involved in the tournament include Atascocita, Barbers Hill, Bay Area Christian, Bridgeland, Clear Brook, Clear Creek, Clear Falls, Clear Springs, Cy-Woods, Dulles, Galveston Ball, Hightower, Hitchcock, Humble, Klein Cain, La Porte, Magnolia West, North Shore, Pasadena Memorial, Ridge Point, Shadow Creek, Texas City and Tomas.

Clear Brook, which opens bracket play at home Nov. 13, enters the season with a state ranking courtesy of the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches. The Wolverines will host Bay Area Christian at 12:30 p.m. before going against Dulles at 3:30 p.m. Bracket play then proceeds Nov. 14-15.

On the boys' side of things, Wolverine head coach Nathan Janek leads his program into action Nov. 14 at home against Alief Taylor. The Wolverines will also host Alief Elisk Nov. 18 before taking part in the McDonald's Texas Invitational.

McDonald's hoops celebrates \$4M milestone

The McDonald's Texas invitational basketball tournament annually features 48 varsity boys' teams and another 32 on the girls' side of things and has earned a reputation as one of the most competitive early-season high school showcases in the nation.

Equally as important, is the fact that the 2025 event will allow organizers to surpass \$4 million in support of both the Pasadena ISD and Deer Park ISD education foundations.

Tournament founder Ben Meador, owner of Meador Staffing Services, has told the *Leader* on many occasions that he wanted to be able to showcase the Pasadena and surrounding areas and as much of the high school

basketball talent across the state as possible but also maintain the focus of supporting education programs of many interests.

Consider Meador's vision a rousing success as the decades-long success of the event on the court and support of the community at the various venues over the years has now allowed the event to provide millions of dollars of support to the aforementioned education foundations.

Dr. Kirk Lewis dedicated 30 years of his career in education to Pasadena ISD, including nearly 10 years as the superintendent of the school district.

Both during and since his retirement in 2015, Lewis, now the tournament director, has guided the tournament steering

committee in fundraising efforts that support a variety of programs through teachers mini grants.

With more than \$3.7 million raised in support of the education foundations prior to 2025, Lewis says the \$4 million mark will be surpassed this year.

"I know that everyone who has played a role in this event over the years is exceptionally proud to have contributed their time and energy in supporting the education foundations and raising needed funds for so many programs that assist our students each year," Lewis said.

"On the court, we always get plenty of positive feedback from the head coaches and players who appreciate the competition level of the event.

"We believe the McDonald's Texas Invitational provides an unmatched level of competition, particularly early in the season, that many of these teams feed off in an effort to get their seasons off and running.

"In addition, we have seen that the event truly provides a road to the state tournament. I think I speak for everyone involved with the event to say that we are so proud of what the event has meant to the area as well as what the future holds.

"We certainly wish

everyone a tremendous amount of success as we near the start of the 2025 event."

Continued on Page 8

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Mitchell lifts Pirate golf to win



Southwestern University (Georgetown, Texas) golfer Ricky Mitchell captured tournament champion honors at the Abilene Intercollegiate, posting rounds of 73 (+2) and 68 (-3) for a two-day total of 141 (-1). He led the field in par 4 scoring (-4) and tallied 5 birdies, 25 pars and a clutch eagle on hole 18 to edge out his own teammate for the title. Mitchell's standout performance helped the Pirates secure a first-place team finish, highlighting his impact both individually and for the team. A junior golfer from San Antonio Johnson High School, Mitchell is the son of Colleen and 1988 Dobie graduate LTC Ricky Mitchell and the grandson of the late Osia and Charlie Mitchell, longtime South Belt residents.

22-6A Football Standings

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

22-6A Week 11 Football

South Houston hosts Pearland
Nov. 6, 6:30 p.m.
Veterans Stadium

Dobie at Manvel
Nov. 7, 7 p.m.
Maverick Stadium

Memorial at Alvin
Nov. 7, 7 p.m.
AISD Memorial Stadium

Shadow Creek at Rayburn
Nov. 7, 7 p.m.
Veterans Stadium

24-6A Football Standings

Dickinson 6-0
Deer Park 5-1
Clear Falls 4-2
Clear Springs 4-2
Brazoswood 2-4
Clear Creek 2-4
Clear Lake 1-5
Clear Brook 0-6

24-6A Week 11 Football

Brazoswood at Clear Brook
Nov. 7, 7 p.m.
Challenger Stadium

Clear Springs vs. Clear Creek
Nov. 7, 7 p.m.
CCISD Veterans

Clear Falls vs. Clear Lake
Nov. 7, 7 p.m.
Challenger Stadium

Dickinson at Deer Park
Nov. 7, 7 p.m.
Abshier Stadium

South Belt football predictions



John Bechtle



Emory Gadd



Troy Leland



Stephen Sutton



Debbie Vaughn

Manvel hosts Dobie	Dobie	Dobie	Dobie	Dobie	Manvel
Clear Brook hosts Brazoswood	Brazoswood	Brazoswood	Brazoswood	Brazoswood	Brazoswood
Dickinson at Deer Park	Dickinson	Dickinson	Dickinson	Dickinson	Dickinson
Atascocita at GC Memorial	Atascocita	Atascocita	Atascocita	Atascocita	Atascocita
Summer Creek at North Shore	North Shore	North Shore	North Shore	North Shore	North Shore
Pasadena Memorial at Alvin	Memorial	Memorial	Memorial	Alvin	Memorial
Porter at Kingwood Park	Kingwood Park	Kingwood Park	Kingwood Park	Kingwood Park	Kingwood Park
Barbers Hill at Beaumont West Brook	Barbers Hill	Barbers Hill	West Brook	Barbers Hill	Barbers Hill
Beaumont United at Baytown Sterling	Sterling	Beaumont United	Beaumont United	Beaumont United	Beaumont United
Lutheran South hosts KIPP Sunnyside	LSA	LSA	LSA	LSA	LSA
Last Week's Results	6-4	6-4	5-5	8-2	7-3
Season record	78-22	74-26	73-28	77-23	78-22

Longhorns set up huge game after blitzing Yellowjackets 38-7

Continued from Page 5

Alvin came into the game last in the league in total offense but got out of the gate well on its first series with pass completions of 39 and 20 yards to help set up a first-and-goal at the Dobie 4-yard line.

Following a 1-yard pick

up on first down, Alvin responded with a high snap on second down, which resulted in a forced fumble caused by big-play defensive lineman David Agyemang.

The loose ball was recovered by a linebacker Orlando Gomez as, just

like that, the Longhorns took over possession at their own 5-yard line barely two minutes into the game.

Taylor broke free down the left sideline for 38 yards on second down to get the Longhorns rolling, then Hodges burst his way

down the right side line for 43 yards to the Yellow-jacket 12-yard line.

Things bogged down from there, but Dobie got on the scoreboard at the 6:08 mark of the first quarter on a 23-yard field goal from Nathaniel Campos.

After Alvin punted the ball away on its next possession, it didn't take long for the Longhorns to extend their lead.

The locals drove 73 yards in short order as

At left, Dobie's David Agyemang (11) and Desmond Talib (10) try to get a handle on the football after a big hit by Agyemang forced the ball loose against Alvin. Both players have been forceful disruptors on the defensive side of the football for the Longhorns throughout the season. Agyemang has proven to be one of the Longhorns' top performers on the defensive side of things as he is tied for the league lead with seven quarterback sacks and leads the district in quarterback hurries by a considerable margin, with 29 overall. Dobie's Nathan Zavala has five sacks and 24 quarterback hurries.

Photo by David Flickinger

junior quarterback Oscar Hernandez found Nolen Thomas wide open down the left hash for 26 yards and a touchdown. Just like that, the Longhorns led 10-0.

The Yellowjackets then put together a successful drive of their own as quarterback Anthony DeSanto kept the ball from 1 yard out for a touchdown at the 8:18 mark of the second quarter as the lead was trimmed to 10-7.

From there, the Longhorns would put together four unanswered touchdowns the rest of the way to cruise to the easy win.

It was Taylor doing the work on the first play of Dobie's ensuing drive as he dashed 75 yards down

the left side line for his eighth touchdown of the season, producing a 16-7 lead in a hurry.

With 41 seconds left in the first half, Marcus Jones took the pitch and dashed into the end zone from 9 yards away. Hodges scored on the two-point conversion run as the Longhorns took a 24-7 advantage into halftime.

Jones again used his breakout talents in the kick return game to stun Alvin to open the second half as he returned the kickoff 39 yards to give his team possession at the Yellowjacket 47-yard line.

Two plays later, Hernandez and Jones connected on easily the most brilliant passing touchdown

play of the season for the Longhorns as Hernandez put a ball right on Jones from 40 yards out as JFD took a 31-7 advantage over Alvin with 10:50 to go in the third quarter.

With 4:04 remaining in the third quarter, Hodges put a capper on an easy win as he used a spin move to break free down the right sideline for 22 yards and a score as the Longhorns rolled to the victory.

Yes, it was a game the Longhorns were supposed to win and they did. With now a three-game win streak going heading into the finale at Manvel, all that matters is getting a win over the Mavericks to move on to the postseason.



Unbeaten Dickinson seeks 10-0 run in finale; will host Deer Park for 24-6A championship

Dickinson, out to a 9-0 run for the first time since the 2014 season, is assured a Class 6A Division 1 football playoff spot and will look to close out a perfect regular season by traveling to take on Deer Park Nov. 7 at Abshier Stadium.

The winner will be the 24-6A champion and will secure the top seed in the Division 1 bracket.

The Gators got to 9-0 by putting up a 51-17 victory over Clear Falls on Halloween night at Sam Vitanza Stadium in Dickinson.

The Gators led 14-10 after a quarter of play but then used a 28-point second quarter to seize control of the game en route to what became an easy victory.

To this point, Dickinson has scored 471 points through its nine victories while allowing just 154. Head coach John Snelson's team has scored no fewer than 45 points in any of its six district victories to this point.

Dickinson running back Malachi Gamble very well could be on his way to repeating as the Most Valuable Player in the district, but there is little doubt as to the importance of junior quarterback Lorenzo Aguirre.

A full-time starter this

season after sharing the role in 2024, Aguirre has simply been lights out for much of the season.

Against Clear Falls, he completed 17 of 27 attempts for 217 yards and four scores.

In that pivotal second quarter, Aguirre first found Braden Glover for a 21-yard touchdown pass to give the Gators a 21-10 lead and then fired a 14-yard scoring pass to Kaileb Peterson.

Ahead 28-10 senior quarterback Isaac Ramirez highlighted his senior night with a 28-yard touchdown pass to Ja'Marion Payne as the Gators rolled to a 42-10 edge at halftime.

Clear Falls, headed to the postseason in the 6A Division 2 bracket despite the loss, saw quarterback Kayden Barker complete 14 of 26 throws for 179 yards and a score. He was also intercepted once.

Chase Rahmen led the way with five receptions for 76 yards.

Dickinson out-gained the Knights in total yardage by a 556 to 265 count.

On the same night at Clear Creek ISD's Veterans Memorial Stadium in League City, host Clear Springs pulled out a last-minute 14-13 victory over visiting Deer Park.

Clear Springs, which will advance to the postseason, traveled 91 yards in six plays with just over 2 minutes to play in the game.

Quarterback Kody Rosas threw a 17-yard scoring pass to Gavin Bickham with 1:05 to play as the Chargers came away with a stunning 14-13 vic-

tory over the Deer.

Clear Springs has now qualified for the postseason in 16 consecutive seasons.

Dickinson and Deer Park will represent 24-6A in the Division 1 playoff bracket, while Clear Springs and Clear Falls are headed for the Division 2 bracket.



Expected to be the focal point on offense this season for the Longhorns, senior running back Da'Marcus Hodges has come through in a huge way as he currently leads the district in rushing with 1,261 yards while averaging just over 9 yards per tote.

Photo by David Flickinger

Pioneer boys' cross-country is fourth at TAPPS state



The LSA varsity boys' cross-country team placed fourth at the TAPPS 5A state championships in Waco. Those competing for the Pioneers included, left to right, coach Theron Jenkins, Aya-

la, Sam Hergenrader, Reid Toner, Gabe Diaz, Geraldo Salazar, Nicholas Pena, Case Noack, Caleb Robert, Yohan George and Brock Boessling. Ayala was eighth overall individually.

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CALENDAR

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.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7
7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill," See Thursday's notice.
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** See Thursday's notice.
Noon **Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - **Imperfect Nooners Group**, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or at https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners. Call 713-686-6300 for more information. Meets Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com or https://nastuff.com/. Meets Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.
8 p.m. **Serenity Now Al-Anon Group** - meets at CrossRoads UMC Fridays, 8 to 9 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Family members and friends of problem drinkers/addicts share, learn Al-Anon principles, that they are not alone, and discover choices available. For details, call 281-484-9243.
8 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous** - meets at CrossRoads UMC Wednesday, Friday and Sunday, 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 8
7:30 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill," See Thursday's notice.
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - See Thursday's notice.
9:30 a.m. **Congregation Shaar Hashalom** - See Friday's notice.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9
8 a.m./ 10:15 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - has worship Tuesday at 11:30 a.m., Wednesday at 7 p.m. (Bible study, Book of Revelation, at 6 p.m.) and Sunday at 8 a.m. and 10:15 a.m., 11456 Space Center Blvd. (in back of a medical/retail community). For details, call 281-479-7285 and

leave a message, or stop by.
5:30 p.m. **Celebrate Recovery** - A faith-based 12-Step program, in the Life Kids Chapel at Life Church, 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 10
Noon **Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - **Imperfect Nooners Group** - See Friday's notice.
6 p.m. **Scrabble Club #511** - Meets Monday at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua. Join in the fun and improve crossword skills. COVID-19 vaccination required. Email huff_reunion@juno.com 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 11
10 a.m. Join Wise Owls on every second and fourth Tuesday of the month. For companionship and games at United Methodist Church, 12501 Palmsprings Drive. Call Shirley at 713-449-9959.
7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill," See Thursday's notice.
10 a.m. **CCART** - The Clear Creek Association of Retired Teachers meets the second Tuesday, monthly, Sept.-May, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., Bay Area Community Center, 5002 NASA Parkway in Seabrook near Landolt Pavilion. 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 the second Tuesday, except June and July, Golfcrest Country Club, 2509 Country Club Dr., Pearland. Lunch available for \$20. Exact cash or a check requested. To RSVP, visit www.tricountyrw.club/.
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 seahouston.toastmastersclubs.org. In-person address, 10500 Scarsdale Blvd.

(SB Chamber of Commerce). Visit the web-site or call Karen Nunn, at 832-722-9061 for information.
7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - See Friday's notice.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12
Noon **Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - **Imperfect Nooners Group** - See Friday's notice.
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 E. 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 **Ballroom Dancing** - A ballroom dance group welcomes visitors every Wednesday to enjoy free dancing from 12:30 to 3 p.m. at Hometown Heroes Park Ballroom, 1001 East League City Parkway, League City. Everyone is welcome to enjoy dancing to a selection of CD music provided by DJ Neva Schroder and guest DJs. This weekly dance does not include lessons. Free lessons are taught by Jerry Sanford at the same location on Mondays from 1:30 to 3 p.m. While these opportunities are free and provided by volunteers, the park system requires participants to register and get an activity card for all park activities. For more information about the activity card, one may ask at the front desk or call 281-554-1180.
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 13
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.

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McDonald’s basketball 32-program girls’ lineup loaded

Continued from Page 5

The McDonald’s Texas Invitational boys’ break down of teams gets plenty of attention, and rightfully so.

But the tournament also boasts perhaps the most talented 32-team field of varsity girls’ programs anywhere in the state, particularly early in the season.

The Texas Association of Basketball Coaches has Fort Worth Boswell ranked No. 1 in the Class 6A poll to open the regular season, and Boswell is in attendance at the McDonald’s event and is in the same pool as No. 23 state-ranked San Antonio

Brennan.

Summer Creek, which lost a pair of tight games in bracket play a season ago and did not win a trophy at the McDonald’s event, bounced back to win the 6A Division 1 state championship and returns this season as a heavy tournament favorite.

Pearland Dawson, which the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches ranks 15th in the 6A poll to open the season, is in the same McDonald’s pool along with Barbers Hill, which is No. 8 in class 5A.

Converse Judson defeated Pearland in 2024 to win the MTI Division 1 gold bracket champion-

ship on the girls’ side of things, and both of those programs return this season to see where they stack up.

The 16-team Division 1 girls’ bracket includes Barbers Hill, Hardin Jefferson, Dawson and San Antonio Brandeis in pool A, while pool B includes Pearland, San Antonio Clark, Seven Lakes and Summer Creek.

Pool C includes Fort Worth Boswell, Iowa Colony, San Antonio Brennan and Houston Memorial. Pool D is comprised of Aledo, Alief Taylor, Converse Judson and Cypress Creek.

The five programs within Pasadena ISD are included in the girls’ Division 2 bracket. In pool A, Clear Springs is joined by Friendswood, George Ranch and Pasadena Memorial.

Corpus Christi Veterans Memorial, Cypress Lakes, Pasadena and South Houston make up pool B. Pool C includes Deer Park, Kempner, Klein Oak and Dobie.

Pool D includes Clear Lake, Houston Westside Katy Taylor and Sam Rayburn.

The Division 1 gold bracket championship game is set for Nov. 22 at 2 Phillips Field House, beginning at 3 p.m.

The girls’ Division 1 silver bracket championship game will be played at Sam Rayburn High School Nov. 22, also at 3 p.m.

As for the Division 2 gold bracket championship game, that one is scheduled for Nov. 22 at 3 p.m., at Dobie9.

The Division 2 silver bracket championship game will be played at Pasadena High School Nov. 22 at 1:30 p.m.

Dobie takes on Deer

Park Nov. 20 at Phillips Field House, then hosts Klein Oak at Dobie main at 4:30 p.m.

The Longhorns conclude pool play by hosting Kempner Nov. 21 at 1:30 p.m., also at the Dobie main campus.



Delaney Arredondo (25) of Converse Judson and A’zyua Blair (2) guided their respective teams to the McDonald’s Texas Invitational Division 1 gold bracket championship game a season ago and certainly plan to lead their teams back to the trophy round this season at the event.

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MTI Players to Watch

Boys’ Class of 2026

- Isaiah Ward, San Antonio Brennan
- Donovan Criss, San Antonio Brennan
- Talon Todd, San Antonio Brennan
- Zayson Salanoa, Atascocita
- Adam Boyd, Atascocita
- Trey Hall, North Crowley
- Maleek Simeus, Pearland Dawson
- Jalon Brown, Pearland Dawson
- Wesley Wake, Barbers Hill
- William Mitchell, J. J. Pearce

Boys’ Class of 2027

- Isaak Hayes, North Crowley
- Chase Richardson, Friendswood
- Christian Brown, Clear Brook
- Jacob Padilla, San Antonio Brennan
- Parker Bolden, Lewisville Hebron
- Keshav Vijaykumar, Friendswood
- Xavier Muhammad, So. Houston
- Damarcus Sloan, North Shore
- Aiden Martin, San Antonio Brennan
- Chris Williams, Stratford
- TroyNelle Belle, Dickinson
- Jamil Adelagun, Katy Paetow

Girls’ Class of 2026

- Bella Flemings, San Antonio Brennan
- Salena Carrasco, Bosworth
- Kennedy Simpson, Summer Creek
- Delaney Arredondo, Converse Judson
- Aubrey Hampton, Cy Creek
- Cora Bennett, Converse Judson
- Mariyah Dickson, Cy Creek
- Janea Walls, San Antonio Brennan
- Draden Moss, Sp. Br. Memorial
- Madison Carlton, Seven Lakes
- Samyra Blount, Iowa Colony
- Kendall Ford, Pearland Dawson
- Journey Lovett, Pearland Dawson
- Mekennah Alexis, Cy Lakes
- Amyah Hall, Summer Creek
- Autumn LeCompte, Barbers Hill

Girls’ Class of 2027

- Addison Martin, Summer Creek
- Eryn Roberts, Iowa Colony
- Shiloh Grays, Pearland
- Kay’Len Alexander, Summer Creek
- Erin Newsom, Summer Creek
- Faith Etienne, Pearland Dawson
- Sydney Durrah, Boswell
- Seleste Massey, Boswell
- Kenadie Francis, Iowa Colony
- Lazariah Perry, CC. Veterans Mem.
- Clarah Obenofunde, Klein Oak
- Genesis Obania, George Ranch
- Brooklynn Roberson, Barbers Hill
- Maci Mote, Klein Oak