

South Belt-Ellington Leader

40 years of covering South Belt

Voice of Community-Minded People since 1976

Thursday, December 1, 2016

Email: mynews@southbeltleader.com

www.southbeltleader.com

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Christmas parade postponed

The Highland Meadow Christmas Light Parade has been rescheduled on Sunday, Dec. 4, to Sunday, Dec. 11. First-, second- and third-place prizes will be awarded for the best entries in adult and children categories. The event will begin at 6 p.m. For information, contact Rudy Alafa at 281-415-8003 or alafa20@yahoo.com.

Jingle Bell Jog at Melillo

Dixie Melillo Middle School will host Jingle Bell Jog Saturday, Dec. 3. The H-E-B sponsored event will be at the school, 9220 Hughes Road. Registration begins at 8 a.m., and the race starts at 8:30 a.m. The per-person entry is two nonperishable food items or one new unwrapped toy. Toys and food items will be donated to the *South Belt Leader's* Food and Toy Drive. For more information contact Michelle Rush at mrush@pasadenaisd.org or call 713-740-5260, ext. 72185.

Church hosts Cookie Walk

The Women's Club of St. Frances Cabrini invites the community to a Cookie Walk Sunday, Dec. 4, from 8 a.m. to noon in Francesca Hall, 10727 Hartsook. A large assortment of homemade holiday cookies will be sold by the pound. Come by and fill a container with cookies – the perfect gift for teachers, co-workers, friends and family.

Lariaettes host dance clinic

The J. Frank Dobie Lariaettes will hold the annual Winter Dance Clinic on Saturday, Dec. 10, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., with a parent show at 3 p.m. in the gym. The dance clinic is open to Pre-K through 12th grade and is a great opportunity to let a daughter or son spend a day dancing, playing games and doing crafts with the Lariaettes while parents go Christmas shopping. Lunch will be provided. Cost at the door is \$50, cash or money order only. Participants of the clinic will also have the opportunity to perform in the Lariaette Spring Show April 6-8, 2017. For additional information, contact Myrna Alanis at myrnaalanis@yahoo.com.

Genealogy group meets

The Parker Williams Genealogy Group meets Monday, Dec. 5, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the library at Scarsdale and Beamer. This group meets the first and third Mondays to discuss genealogy research. Meetings are free and open to anyone interested in tracing family history.

Beltway closures planned

The eastbound U-turn lane on the Beltway 8 frontage road at Beamer will be closed daily from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Thursday, Dec. 22.

The westbound U-turn lane on the Beltway 8 frontage road at Beamer will be closed continuously through midnight Thursday, Dec. 22. The closures will impact both eastbound and westbound frontage roads. The closures are associated with the ongoing project to widen Beltway 8 from Beamer to Highway 288 from two to four lanes in each direction.

Ashley Pointe contest set

The Ashley Pointe Homeowners Association will hold its annual Christmas light contest Sunday, Dec. 11. Judging will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Memorial bazaar planned

Pasadena Memorial High School, 4410 Crenshaw in Pasadena, will hold its Mighty Maverick Christmas Bazaar Saturday, Dec. 3, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The family event will include food, crafts, jewelry, on-site babysitting and pictures with Santa Claus.

Dobie choir holds concert

The Dobie High School Choir will hold a Christmas concert Friday, Dec. 9, and Saturday, Dec. 10, in the school auditorium, beginning at 7 p.m. each night.

Gulf Freeway closures set

At least one northbound and one southbound main lane and frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway from FM-1959/Dixie Farm Road to FM-528/NASA Road 1 will be closed daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Wednesday, Jan. 4. Alternate exit and entrance ramps will be closed.

All northbound and southbound main lanes on the Gulf Freeway from El Dorado Boulevard to Bay Area Boulevard will be closed overnight from 10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3, to 8 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 4. Detour: Southbound traffic will exit El Dorado Boulevard and continue to next entrance ramp; Northbound traffic will exit Bay Area Boulevard and continue to next entrance ramp.

There will be a total closure of the southbound exit ramp to FM-528/NASA Road 1 until further notice. Detour: Southbound main-lane traffic wanting to exit at FM 528/NASA Road 1 will have to exit at Bay Area Boulevard, go through the Bay Area Boulevard intersection and travel down the southbound frontage road to FM 528/NASA Rd 1.

Bill filed to curb property tax growth

After conducting eight hearings in seven cities and taking almost 50 hours of testimony that largely called for property tax relief, state Sen. Paul Bettencourt on Tuesday, Nov. 29, filed Senate Bill 2, the Texas Property Tax Reform and Relief Act of 2017, and released the Senate Select Committee on Property Tax Reform and Relief's interim report.

The bill was co-authored by Sens. Brandon Creighton, Kelly Hancock and Van Taylor.

The Select Committee was charged by Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick to study the property tax process, including the appraisal system, and to examine and develop options to reduce the tax burden on property owners.

"Texas taxpayers have been facing property tax bills that are increasing two and a half to three times faster than median household in-

come," said Bettencourt, chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Property Tax Reform and Relief. "Throughout Texas, in hearing after hearing, the Select Committee heard the same message loud and clear: Texans are asking for and deserve property tax relief. Whether it was homeowners testifying that they are unable to keep up with their property tax bills, small-business owners seeing their hard earned profits go out the window or even big businesses testifying that they are locating new plants and taking jobs out of Texas due to high property taxes, they are all saying that property taxes are rising too fast in Texas."

Average home property tax appraisals have risen 22-24 percent over two years in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, 20 percent in San Antonio over two years and 12 percent a year in Austin for

three straight years. In Harris County, average home property tax bills are up 36 percent in just three years.

"From a taxpayer winding up in handcuffs just for asking questions, to open collusion between a chief appraiser and appraisal review board chairman in a hearing, to protest hearings scheduled on July 3, the stories about what has actually been happening to taxpayers at appraisal districts across the state demand immediate changes in how taxpayers are treated," Bettencourt continued.

Under Bettencourt's proposal, city and county property tax increases of 4 percent or greater would automatically trigger elections in which voters could nix the planned tax hikes. Currently, if cities and counties raise taxes by 8 percent or more, residents can petition to hold an election on the tax rate. Under the proposal, the "roll back rate" is lowered to 4 percent, and the referendum is automatic.

The plan would not affect tax hikes by school districts, which make up the largest share of property taxes in the state.

The proposed bill is not without its critics.

The mayors of Austin, San Antonio, San Marcos and New Braunfels issued a joint statement attacking the plan, saying it would save their taxpayers little but would result in significant cuts to city services. For example, in Austin, the bill

would reduce property taxes by \$32.31 each year for the average homeowner and result in a \$15.4 million cut to the city budget.

"We should not risk police, fire fighting, EMS, parks, safety nets and transportation projects – all to save Austin homeowners only \$2.69 a month. It's risky and not real tax relief," Austin Mayor Steve Adler said in the statement. "If the Legislature really wants to help local taxpayers, it should better fund education because that's most of the Austin property tax bill."

The Select Committee's interim report contains several examples of poor practices around the state that have already been stopped due to the Select Committee's direct questioning of officials involved in the appraisal process. Senate Bill 2 contains substantial changes to appraisal district oversight so the best practices can be adhered to in every one of the county appraisal districts in Texas.

Bettencourt believes the proposal represents the best interests of taxpayers in the state.

"Fifty hours of public testimony has never been taken before in this manner, but the need for property tax relief is clear to Texas taxpayers who see their property tax bills rising faster than their paychecks year after year."

Senate Bill 2 and the full interim committee report can be viewed online at www.senate.tx.gov/ptaxrr.

Sullivan dedication set for Dec. 1



The Pasadena Independent School District will officially dedicate the new Nelda R. Sullivan Middle School in honor of the campus's namesake at a ceremony Thursday, Dec. 1, at 1112 Queens in Pasadena, beginning at 6:30 p.m. A retired businesswoman and longtime community volunteer, Sullivan has served on the PISD board of trustees for 23 years and currently serves as its president. The new campus is located on the site that once housed Queens Intermediate, where Sullivan's three children attended school. Sullivan is shown above with a family photo at the school before it was hung at the new campus. See related story on Page 3A. Photo by Reesha Brown

Leader holds annual Christmas drive

The holiday season is here, and once again it's time for the annual *South Belt-Ellington Leader* Christmas program.

Now in its 34th year, the program is aimed at helping area families in need.

The yearly drive began in 1982 when an anonymous man, now dubbed "The Good Samaritan," walked into the *Leader* office and delivered the makings of a turkey dinner. The stranger said his family had been given food when he was young and requested the staff forward the meal to a needy family in the community.

This charitable behavior continues today with several different local organizations taking part. Local schools that have participated in past programs include Atkinson, Moore, Stuchbery, South Belt and Frazier elementary schools; Melillo Middle School, Beverly Hills and Thompson Intermediate schools; and Dobie High School.

U.S. Marine Corps Reserves, American Legion Post 490 and Action Ministries have also donated items in previous years, as have many individuals from the community.

Desired items include toys for children of all

ages, nonperishable food items, paper products and cash. There is a particular need for gifts appropriate for older children and teens, such as clothing, sporting goods, makeup kits and gift cards. All gifts should be new and unwrapped.

Past recipients include single-parent families and families suffering from unemployment and incarceration. Many past beneficiaries have reciprocated and later donated items themselves.

A record number of families applied for assistance last year. That trend is expected to continue.

Applications for assistance are not being accepted at this time. See next week's *Leader* for additional information on how to apply for help.

All applicants must undergo a screening process to determine the family's need. This is done through various means, including verification from school nurses.

To qualify, one must be a South Belt area resident and possess one form of identification verifying their address.

Those wishing to donate items should visit the *Leader* office, 11555 Beamer.

2 officers injured in bizarre robbery

An attempted robbery at the Wendy's in the 10200 block of Alameda Genoa near the Gulf Freeway Monday, Nov. 28, escalated into a SWAT standoff that sent two Houston police officers to the hospital – neither at the hand of the suspect.

The incident began around 8:30 p.m. when an armed suspect entered the establishment in an apparent robbery attempt. The robbery quickly went awry, however, when all employees and customers fled the building upon seeing the suspect and called police.

When police arrived at the scene, the suspect turned the gun on himself, prompting a call to an HPD SWAT team, which subsequently surrounded the building.

While inside the building, the suspect fired multiple shots, but no one was injured. Police do not believe the suspect was firing at officers.

At some point, the suspect ran from the store through the police barricade and toward an adjacent abandoned bank building. Police reportedly held their fire because they no longer saw the man holding a weapon. The man, however, gained entry to the bank by firing his gun through a window.

Once inside the bank, the suspect again fired multiple shots. Again, police did not believe the

suspect was firing at officers.

According to investigators, an officer inadvertently discharged his shotgun, striking another officer. The gunfire reportedly frightened a K-9 unit, leading it to attack another officer.

Following the chaos, the suspect exited the bank and again put the gun to his head. The man reportedly pulled the trigger but had run out of bullets. At this time, a K-9 unit was released to subdue the suspect, who was apprehended without further incident.

The suspect, Brandon Ortiz, 22, of Freeway Manor, was charged with aggravated robbery with a deadly weapon in the 228th State District Court.

The two officers were taken to Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital to be treated for minor injuries.

All roads surrounding the event were closed for several hours.

As is customary in all incidents in which a Houston police officer discharges his weapon causing injury, this case is being investigated by HPD's Homicide and Internal Affairs divisions, as well as the Harris County District Attorney's Office.

The investigation was continuing at press time.

General election results broken down

Harris County Clerk Stan Stanart's office has released the full results from the Nov. 8 general election.

In the U.S. House District 22 race, 703 residents in Precinct 76 voted for Republican Pete Olson and 689 voted for Democrat Mark Gibson; 636 residents in Precinct 417 voted for Olson and 811 voted for Gibson; 409 residents in Precinct 475 voted for Olson and 596 voted for Gibson; 783 residents in Precinct 476 voted for Olson and 663 voted for Gibson; 1,724 residents in Precinct 537 voted for Olson and 632 voted for Gibson; 1,129 residents in Precinct 545 voted for Olson and 1,268 voted for Gibson; 1,581 residents in Precinct 654 voted for Olson and 1,399 voted for Gibson; 379 residents in Precinct 715 voted for Olson and 395 voted for Gibson; 563 residents in Precinct 762 voted for Olson and 616 voted for Gibson; 54 residents in Precinct 774 voted for Olson and 155 voted for Gibson; 726 residents in Precinct 842 voted for Olson and 1,045 voted for Gibson; and 258 residents in Precinct 996 voted for Olson and 200 voted for Gibson.

In U.S. House District 29 contest, 266 residents in Precinct 289 voted for Republican Julio Garza and 515 voted for Democrat Gene Green; 583 residents in Precinct 418 voted for Garza and 1,254 voted for Green; 922 residents in Precinct 536 voted for Garza and 1,967 voted for Green; and 823 residents in Precinct 755 voted for Garza and 1,688 voted for Green.

In the state House District 147 race, 609 residents in Precinct 418 voted for Republican Matt Murphy, 1,229 voted for Democrat Garnet Coleman and 59 voted for Green Party Brian M. Harrison; and 970 residents in Precinct 536 voted for Murphy, 1,952 voted for Coleman and 65 voted for Harrison.

In the race for Precinct 2 constable, 651 residents in Precinct 76 voted for Republican Daniel Vela and 739 voted for Democrat Chris Diaz; 294 residents in Precinct 289 voted for Vela and 493 voted for Diaz; 562 residents in Precinct 417 voted for Vela and 883 voted for Diaz; 597 residents

in Precinct 418 voted for Vela and 1,298 voted for Diaz; 381 residents in Precinct 475 voted for Vela and 626 voted for Diaz; 672 residents in Precinct 476 voted for Vela and 762 voted for Diaz; 936 residents in Precinct 536 voted for Vela and 2,068 voted for Diaz; 1,583 residents in Precinct 537 voted for Vela and 747 voted for Diaz; 963 residents in Precinct 545 voted for Vela and 1,419 voted for Diaz; 1,333 residents in Precinct 654 voted for Vela and 1,655 voted for Diaz; 512 residents in Precinct 762 voted for Vela and 670 voted for Diaz; 48 residents in Precinct 774 voted for Vela and 163 voted for Diaz; 658 residents in Precinct 842 voted for Vela and 1,125 voted for Diaz; and 216 residents in Precinct 996 voted for Vela and 240 voted for Diaz.

In the Harris County tax assessor-collector contest, 744 residents in Precinct 76 voted for Republican Mike Sullivan and 647 voted for Democrat Ann Harris Bennett; 322 residents in Precinct 289 voted for Sullivan and 465 voted for Bennett; 663 residents in Precinct 417 voted for Sullivan and 785 voted for Bennett; 684 residents in Precinct 418 voted for Sullivan and 1,207 voted for Bennett; 432 residents in Precinct 475 voted for Sullivan and 581 voted for Bennett; 797 residents in Precinct 476 voted for Sullivan and 640 voted for Bennett; 1,128 residents in Precinct 536 voted for Sullivan and 1,890 voted for Bennett; 1,730 residents in Precinct 537 voted for Sullivan and 620 voted for Bennett; 1,137 residents in Precinct 539 voted for Sullivan and 1,255 voted for Bennett; 1,653 residents in Precinct 654 voted for Sullivan and 1,332 voted for Bennett; 392 residents in Precinct 715 voted for Sullivan and 377 voted for Bennett; 1,003 residents in Precinct 762 voted for Sullivan and 1,626 voted for Bennett; 578 residents in Precinct 762 voted for Sullivan and 606 voted for Bennett; 53 residents in Precinct 774 voted for Sullivan and 158 voted for Bennett; 766 residents in Precinct 842 voted for Sullivan and 1,010 voted for Bennett; and 268 residents in Precinct 996 voted for Sullivan and 190 voted for Bennett.



Boykins brings holiday cheer

Houston District D City Council Member Dwight Boykins selflessly donated his time doing lawn work for area seniors over the Thanksgiving holidays. Assisting the community's elderly has been a staple of Boykins' service during his tenure in office. The council member is shown to the left presenting a pumpkin pie to 92-year-old Sagemont resident Virginia Corrales after helping her with her lawn. Corrales was one of five residents Boykins assisted over the weekend.

Photo by Marie Flickinger

In My Opinion

Schindler explains Sagemont Maintenance

Read the article last week in the paper about Sagemont. That's a shame, and there is a 99% chance that it won't happen to us, because,

1. I pay for Carbonite back-up. Just in case of a computer crash.
2. I keep all the returned portions of everyone's bills when they pay, or in the absence of that I use the envelope they sent payment in. I record check #, amount and date on each one for each deposit as a hard copy.
3. I keep hardcopies of all requests from Title companies, date and time that I answered same.
4. I put all the files on a flash drive at years end, and that goes into a bankers box with all the hardcopies, deposits, bank statements, requests, checkstubs, etc.
5. Even without carbonite, I could always take the flash drive from last year and recreate this years from all the deposits and hard copies.
6. When someone wants, I can give them their check or money order #, date and amt paid anytime, in just about 2 hours, maybe less.
7. Title company and also residents requests are answered mostly in one day, very seldom 2 days.

So, planned precautions are paramount. Almost everything is done with a crosscheck to lessen mistakes, which are going to slip in from time to time, but haven't encountered anything that could not be fixed.

We have a total for all years of 248K owed to us, from outstanding unpaid. Take away about 20K from HCAD lots and that leaves about 228K.

Around 356 people owe \$300+ each. 490 people are unpaid for this year at this time. I expect another 100 to pay in December.

We've collected around 78K for this year, and leaving out HCAD lots still have about 46K due for this year. In perspective, if everyone paid for one year, that would be around \$88K a year.

The numbers sometime seem a little quirky, but that is because of late fees, and people paying "Partial Pay" that skews everything, because if someone pays \$100, that amount could be to take care of 2013 and 14, which means while they are being counted, the count is

for previous years and not the one Excel is tracking now. So, the number paid is more definitively seen in the bank deposit slips, which list each SMF number and amount paid, and between Excel and the deposits, the number paid can be a difference of 100 or more.

Thanks, **Julius Schindler**

Barrera notes dump truck traffic heavy

Hello to the fine folks of the *Leader!* I have been a resident of this area since I was 9 yrs old, alooong time! Here in the past few weeks I have noticed with the addition of the traffic of these dump trucks for the expansion of the beltway 8 project. Our roads have been taking a serious beating, as if they were not in bad enough shape as it is. These dump trucks loaded are probably an easy 15 to 20 tons of weight on our already devastated roads. Beamer road is not designed for this type of weight, and heavy traffic. As a result the entire community is going to suffer for this heavy construction traffic. SOMETHING needs to be done before our bad roads are causing more problems to our vehicles and more. Driving routes need to be changed for these trucks as well as speed limits. These trucks are paid by the load, meaning the more loads they deliver, the more they are paid. So speeds are high as well as traffic for these roads and the people who live and drive them daily. Can someone look into it and see if they are allowed on these roads, and if we can get them to pay for the cleanup of the roads as well as maintaining them. Not only for my family, but the folks of this neighborhood also. Thank you, **Raquel Barrera**

Publisher's note: This dirt is actually not from the Beltway 8 expansion, it is from the South Belt detention pond area which is being constructed in a section of the old Southbend subdivision. This is a Harris County Flood Control project which answers whether or not they are allowed on the roads. Actually, I am told the trucks being used are 45 ton. You are correct, both Blackhawk and Beamer Roads need care.

On a positive note, there is hope for other roads in the community. Good news is we should be able to get some of the roads repaired. Bad news is we are going to be under road construction for some time to come.

—**Marie Flickinger**

Santa Claus is Out Cold at PLT

Pasadena Little Theatre, Houston's oldest community theater in continuous operation continues its 62nd season, the *Something to Talk About* season, with *Santa Claus is Out Cold* by Judie Valentine, a delightful comedy. Hilarity ensues as Santa Claus is knocked out cold upon early arrival at the Carlton's house and John and Sunday matinees are to the evening delivering toys to all the children. PLT's presentation of *Santa Claus is Out Cold* features as director well-known actor, writer and director Judie Valentine, along with an outstanding cast. This production opens on Dec. 2 and continues weekends through Dec. 18. Friday and Saturday showtimes are 8 p.m., and Sunday matinees are at 3 p.m. Ticket prices are \$15 for adults and \$12 for students and seniors. There is one Thursday show on Dec. 15 that is the 2-for-\$20 show.

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



Rehearsing for Pasadena Little Theatre's Christmas Show, *Santa Claus is Out Cold*, are, left to right, (standing) Marla Miller, Lanier Young, Gregory R. Brown and (seated) Mike Cedro. Photo submitted

Local library events set

Parker Williams Library

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

- Thursday, Dec. 1, 4 p.m. Movie Madness, *Kubo and the Two Strings*, rated PG.
- Friday, Dec. 2, 2 p.m. Movie Time for Adults with the presentation of *My Man Godfrey*.
- Saturday, Dec. 3, 10:30 a.m. Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) presents the program Federal Contracting Certification for Small Business Owners.
- Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2:30 p.m. Computer Basics. Ask at the reference desk or phone the library for registration details.
- Wednesday, Dec. 7, 5 p.m. Building Life Skills: Laundry Basics (ages 7 and older)
- Wednesdays, Preschool storytime, 10:30 a.m.
- Thursdays, Toddler storytime, 10:30 a.m.
- Saturdays, Vietnamese Learning Time. Level 2 begins at 10 a.m. Level 1 begins at 11:15 a.m. Level 3 begins at 2:30 p.m. For more information on these programs, speak with Loc Bui.

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

Bracewell Branch Library

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

- Thursday, Dec. 1, 6 p.m. Visit with Santa; Holiday craft
 - Saturday, Dec. 3, 10:30 a.m. Computación Básica (Spanish Computer class)
 - Tuesday, Dec. 6, 10:30 a.m. Preschool storytime; 11:15 a.m. Storytime craft
 - Wednesday, Dec. 7, 10:30 a.m. Toddler storytime; 11 a.m. Toddler playtime
- For more information on these programs, call the library at 832-393-2580. All events are free and open to the public.

Bracewell hours are Sunday and Monday - Closed; Tuesday and Wednesday - 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Thursday - noon to 8 p.m.; Friday - 1 to 5 p.m.; and Saturday - 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Leader checks out social media

By Mary Doan

Members of the *Pets of Southbelt* Facebook page urge residents to report to the SPCA (which handles the county) or Houston Humane Society (which handles the city), if they suspect animal neglect or abuse. Members tell residents of the community that when witnessing an animal being abandoned, to get the license plate number and description of the vehicle. As soon as that information is obtained, one should render aid to the animal. Neighbors who leave animals to roam, should be reported to the SPCA at 713-869-7722 or to the Houston Humane Society at 713-433-6421. A man was caught on camera stealing packages off the porch of a home in

a neighborhood off Scarsdale Blvd. near I-45 in Clearview Village. The video shows the man backing his vehicle into the home's driveway; opening the trunk of the vehicle; walking up to the porch of the home; and taking the packages. For more information, the video may be viewed on multiple sites and South Belt Facebook pages such as *South Belt & Sagemont area crime alert*, *People of Sagemont and Southbelt This & That* Facebook page. Applications are now being accepted for the Career and Technical High School in the Pasadena Independent School District for the 2017-2018 school year. The deadline to complete an application is Sunday, Jan. 8. To

apply online, visit apply.cthsweb.com. Harris County Sheriff's deputy is seen on duty at the fuel center at Kroger by the Beltway 8 and Sabo. Officer asks for the South Belt community to contact The Kroger Co. to show their appreciation. For more information, visit the *South Belt & Sagemont area crime alert* Facebook Page or contact The Kroger Co. at 1-866-221-4141.

Deaths

Mildred Rose Landry Cox



Mildred Rose "Millie" Landry Cox, 92, died on Saturday, Nov. 26, 2016, due to complications from a recent fall. She was a longtime South Belt resident.

Millie was born on April 1, 1924, in Port Arthur, Texas, to the late Louis and Bertie Landry. She graduated from St. Mary Hospital School of Nursing in Port Arthur in 1945 and then worked at the hospital as head nurse in the maternity ward. She went on to work as an office nurse for a private doctor in Port Arthur.

Millie met Zeno M. Cox in 1941 on a blind date set up by her future sister-in-law, Ann Cox Graham. She and Zeno were married on March 3, 1946, and moved to Houston. Millie worked for one year as a surgical nurse at a clinic in Houston and then a short time as a surgical nurse at Pasadena General Hospital until her first child was born. She then devoted herself to being a fulltime homemaker, raising and taking care of her family.

She was actively involved with her three daughters' activities, especially Girl Scouts. She enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren and followed their activities with loving pride and joy. She was a longtime member of St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church and held strongly to her faith.

Millie is preceded in death by her husband of 54 years, Zeno M. Cox; her daughter, Melinda Kay Cox Walters; and her sister, Mary Helen Luquette.

She is survived by two daughters, Karen Cox Jones and husband Fred of Kingwood, and Barbara Cox Holt and husband Ron of Pearland; five grandchildren: Christine Holt Dewhirst and husband Eric of Aldie, Va., Michael Holt and wife Cynthia of Dallas, Matthew Walters and wife Kaitlyn of Deer Park, Heather Walters Flint and husband Jason of San Antonio, and Sean Walters of Denton; and five great-grandchildren: Savannah Walters, Samuel Holt, Abigail Holt, Ella Dewhirst and Allison Dewhirst.

Visitation will be from 9:45 a.m. until the time of service on Thursday, Dec. 1, 2016, at St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church, 10727 Hartsock Street in Houston.

The funeral service will begin at 11 a.m. with Deacon Freddy Ramirez officiating.

David Dorris



David Dorris, 60, of Friendswood, died on Friday, Nov. 25, 2016. He was born June 19, 1956, to Joan and Robert Dorris in Brownsville, Texas. He was a longtime South Belt resident.

David graduated from Brownsville High School in 1974 and went on to attend Southwest Texas State University. In 1981, he moved to Houston where he met and married his wife, Debbie.

David was an avid outdoorsman. He played golf, baseball and softball; water skied; raced jet skis; and rode motorcycles, 4-wheelers, dirt bikes and go-karts. He even taught cardio kickboxing for years. But as much as he enjoyed all those things, he was most happy when he was fishing or hunting. He was said to have a great sense of humor, a beautiful smile and a generous heart; and was ready to help out a neighbor in need.

David worked as an inside salesman for 25 years at Industrial Air Tool until he retired due to his disease. He began volunteering for Sagemont Church at the Lodge at Danbury and even recently found new joy in horseback riding.

David is preceded in death by his father, Robert Louis Dorris of Rio Frio, Texas.

Survivors include his wife of 32 years, Debbie; his mother, Joan Dorris of Rio Frio, Texas; brother Bill Dorris and wife Bonnie of Moses Lake, Wash.; brother Oren Dorris of Birney, Mont.; sister Robbi Munsinger and husband Frank of Leakey, Texas; nieces Miranda Hein and husband Aaron of Spo-

kane, Wash., Megan Dorris of Spokane, Wash., and Kasey Dorris of Columbus, Ohio; several aunts, uncles and cousins; and many friends.

A Celebration of Life service will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 1, 2016, at The Lodge at Danbury, 14011 County Road 602 in Danbury, Texas.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the AFTD foundation at www.theaftd.org or the Parkinson's Research Foundation at www.parkinson.org.

Paul David Dupont Sr.



Paul David Dupont Sr., 82, died on Monday, Nov. 28, 2016. He was born Oct. 26, 1934, in Philadelphia, Pa.

Paul lived in Houston and was a member of The Catholic Community of St. Luke the Evangelist. Paul always had time for family gatherings and loved to socialize with friends. He enjoyed golfing, reading and movies, but always put his family before himself.

Paul is preceded in death by his wife of 52 years, Dorothy; parents Mary Grimes and Raymond Henry Dupont; and brother Raymond Dupont Jr.

He is survived by his children: son Paul Jr. and wife Sheryl; daughters Claire Speck and husband Michael, Janice McGowen and husband Nick, and Kay Carlin and husband Adam; and 11 grandchildren.

Visitation will be from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1, 2016, at Niday Funeral Home-Beamer Chapel.

The funeral Mass will be at 11 a.m. Friday, Dec. 2, at St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church. Interment will follow at SouthPark Cemetery.

Holiday celebration, tree lighting Dec. 2

The 97th Annual Mayor's Holiday Celebration and Tree Lighting presented by Reliant, an NRG Company, on Friday, Dec. 2, in downtown Houston. The event is a holiday tradition of music, Santa, fireworks and family fun. It will take place in Hermann Square at City Hall from 6 to 8 p.m., and is free and open to the public.

The public is invited to bring a new, unwrapped toy to the Salvation Army booth at the Mayor's Holiday Celebration to help make the holidays

brighter for a child in need this season. Everyone who brings a toy will receive a light-up Santa hat from Reliant. The annual toy drive benefits the Salvation Army Greater Houston Area Command.

Public parking is available in the Theater District. For more event information, visit <http://www.houstontx.gov/mayorsholiday/>.

Follow on social media for any changes and updates: @MayorsEvents and www.facebook.com/HoustonSpecialEvents.

November, December Aviators



Fred Roberts Middle School named its November and December Aviators of the Month. Students are selected for Aviator of the Month by their teachers for exhibiting outstanding behavior, strong work ethic and positive character traits. Aviators of the Month are, left to right, Andrew Do (sixth grade), Angelisa Hernandez (sixth grade), Gissette Martinez (fifth grade) and Nicholas Crosson (fifth grade). Photo by Emily Cruz

Business Women meet Jan. 12

South East Express Network of the American Business Women's Association will welcome their speaker, Thesia Jenkins, on Thursday, Jan. 12, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Spring Creek Barbeque (private meeting room), 9005 Broadway (FM 518) in Pearland.

Jenkins is a performance improvement expert who teaches BOLD steps toward big improvements in organizational culture and professional development. In her career spanning more than 20 years, Jenkins has become a sought-after speaker and trainer on the topics of emotional intelligence, cultural competence, communication and women's issues.

This is certain to be a highly educational and informative presentation. Jenkins will provide steps for professional success. Professionals throughout the community are invited to attend. A \$20 fee will cover a meal and the meeting. RSVP by Tuesday, Jan. 10, at www.SEEN-ABWA.org.

Meador holds Turkey Bowl 2016



Meador Elementary School staff recently participated in their annual Turkey Bowling contest. Staff members used frozen turkeys instead of bowling balls in this fun team building activity. The winning team members each got to take home a turkey. Pictured are this year's Turkey Bowl champs, left to right, (front row) Melisa Hinojosa, Tara Merida, Jill Gifford, (back row) Beverly Bolton (Meador Elementary principal), Heather Cline, Amanda Johns, Joycelyn Woodard, Genoveva Arrona, Chantay Hill and Jason Watson. Photo by Tara Merida

Thompson hosts 1st Veterans Day program

By Jada Sawyer

George A. Thompson hosted its first annual Veterans Day program on Friday, Nov. 11, 2016. An invitation was created by eighth-grade student Brissa Garza, and distributed to students, faculty and community members who served our country in various branches. The program was hosted by Thompson's Fine Arts department.

After the Veterans Day Ceremony, the administration, staff and eighth-grade students agreed that the program was a remarkable success. The orchestra di-

rector, Mark Varian, commented, "This is a great way to thank the people who have given time out of their lives to keep our country the way it is. It is especially important for young people to experience this and to see their family sitting and being recognized." During the program, veterans were asked to stand and be recognized when their song was played. After the program, veterans and family members attended a special breakfast in the school library.

Two of Thompson's veterans, Stefanie Tang and Edward Ashmawee, also

answered a few questions about their service. According to Tang, the reason she joined the Air Force is "because many people told me I couldn't. They said I wasn't strong enough. I wanted to do something that others were too scared to do. I wanted to prove a point that I could do anything I set my mind to. I didn't want a mediocre life, I wanted an honorable life where my actions made a difference. I wanted a job where I could be of service to the greater good of something bigger than myself." Additionally, Ashmawee served his country in the

United States Army. He said, "I learned to appreciate our great country after a few assignments overseas. What I saw and had the privilege to experience gave me a different perspective of our great country and the opportunities it creates for everyone."

The Veterans Day program is a new tradition at Thompson and they are looking forward to next year's program. A special thank you goes to George Martin, James Smith, Mark Varian, Gina Gibson, and Dr. Melissa Allen for making the first Veterans Day program a huge success.



Joseph L. Thomas, 3rd Vice Commander, American Legion Post 521, speaks to students at Thompson. Thomas is one of several veterans who spoke and answered questions during the program.



Edward Ashmawee and Stefanie Tang are two of Thompson's veterans. Photos by Andrea Gonzalez, Thompson eighth-grade yearbook student



Pictured are veteran Dorothy Joseph and Tashjae McCann.

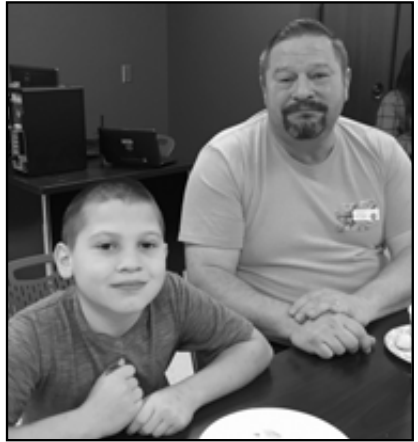
Veterans Day at Roberts MS

On Friday, Nov. 11, Fred Roberts Middle School hosted its second Annual Veterans Day Breakfast and Program. Colors were presented by the award-winning Sam Rayburn High School JROTC, followed by a performance by the RMS choir and orchestra. Pasadena ISD Officer James Boggs spoke to students about his time serving our country as well as his continued service as a police officer. The program was concluded with a performance of *Echo Taps* by trumpet players from the Aviator Band.

Photos submitted



Left to right are Wauneka Andrade, Andy Andrade and veteran Keanu Andrade.



Cody Szydlo is pictured with his father, veteran Randy Szydlo.



Veterans pictured are, left to right (front row) Lee Garcia, Luis Ramirez, Tito Arroyo, Amanda Frank, Jacob Sanchez, Jesse Alvarado, Jerry Duarte, Randy Szydlo, (back row) Officer James Boggs, Emerald Carrillo, Corey Smith, Eddie Reynolds, Max Diaz and Armando Martinez.

Students attend World Affairs luncheon



On Nov. 16, a group of Lutheran South Academy juniors and seniors, accompanied by staff members, attended a World Affairs of Greater Houston luncheon in collaboration with Bracewell LLP on the topic EU-NATO Cooperation and Looming Regional Threat. The speaker was John Lenczowski, founder and president of the Institute of World Politics, an independent graduate school of national security, intelligence, and international affairs. Lenczowski talked on addressing the growing in-

formation warfare directed by Russia, China, and ISIS. He also spoke on the future efforts of the EU and NATO, and whether they can be unified politically and militarily. Pictured left to right, (front row) Tara Ruth, Serena Everett, Morgan Bates, LSA Head of School Sheila Psencik, Mark Giugliano, (back row) Kelsey Roebelen, Rachel Bivens, Grace Psencik, LSA history teacher Archie Buchman, John Lenczowski and Thomas Modica.

Photo submitted

Frazier Elementary collects food for the needy



Frazier Elementary students and their families helped make the school's Can Do Thanksgiving Food Drive a great success. About 778 pounds of food was collected this year, beating the total of 551 pounds from last year. Student Council representatives and their sponsors, Chelsey DuPont and Brooke DuPont collected the food from the pods each morning. Boy Scout Pack

773 contributed to the collection this year. Pictured are, left to right, Frazier Student Council Representatives Andre Espinosa, Ariana Alaniz, Anabel Rodriguez, Juliana Perez, Dimas Gonzalez, Nicholas Soza, Mariah Medina, Adam Aguilar, Ariel Merkerson and Grace Arriola.

Photo by Susan Blue

BAHEP to honor Sen. Taylor with Quasar Award

Since 1994, the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership has begun each year by throwing a really big party for 600 to 700 of its closest friends.

They arrive at the event dressed in their finest attire



Sen. Larry Taylor

looking forward to an evening of camaraderie, great food and entertainment. However, this is by no means just any old party.

It's BAHEP's annual Quasar Award Banquet, one of the most anticipated events of the year in Bay Area Houston.

The Quasar Award honors an outstanding elected official or business leader who, through his or her actions and leadership, has demonstrated a strong and continual effort to support the business foundations of the greater Bay Area Houston communities. The recipient's actions must have gone above and beyond to promote the economic development of the region and the fulfillment of the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership's objectives to recruit, retain and expand primary jobs in the region.

Bob Mitchell, BAHEP president, stated, "We are very pleased to announce that Texas State Sen. Larry Taylor will be the recipient of the 2017 Quasar Award. For many years, Sen. Taylor has been heavily invested in issues that safeguard our homes and businesses and add immeasurably to our quality of life.

Historically, these become huge economic drivers by creating stability and attracting companies and jobs to the region."

Taylor a native Texan
A native Texan, Taylor attended Baylor University where he received his B.B.A. in 1982. He and his wife, Kerri, are the proud parents of three adult children and a granddaughter, Lila.

Taylor owns Truman Taylor Insurance Agency in Friendswood, Texas, an independent agency started by his father more than 50 years ago.

Taylor serves as the chairman of the Senate Public Education Committee and as a member of the Senate Finance, Business and Commerce and Intergovernmental Relations Committees. Before his election to the Texas Senate in 2012, he served five terms in the Texas House of Representatives.

The senator represents Texas Senate District 11 comprised of portions of Brazoria, Galveston, and Harris counties.

Upon learning of Taylor's selection as the 2017 Quasar Award honoree, Texas Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick commented, "I congratulate Sen. Larry Taylor for receiving the 2017 Quasar Award for his com-

mitment and support of the greater Bay Area Houston business communities. He is a dedicated legislator who puts his community and his constituents first. When I appointed Sen. Taylor as Senate Education chair, I knew he had the determination to fight to make sure Texas school children have every opportunity to succeed. Sen. Taylor is a great public servant and the Bay Area is lucky to have him."

Dr. William A. Staples, president of the University of Houston - Clear Lake, added to the accolades stating, "Sen. Larry Taylor is most deserving of the 2017 Quasar Award due to his exceptional leadership and service to Bay Area Houston.

"As a 10-year member of the Texas House of Representatives and his four years in the Texas Senate, Sen. Taylor has been in key leadership roles including serving as chair of the Senate Education Committee as well as serving on the Senate Finance, Business and Commerce, and Intergovernmental Relations Committees. He has also been directly involved in critical issues for Bay Area Houston by serving on committees focused on a coastal barrier system, Texas ports, and windstorm insurance. As a businessman/legislator, Sen. Taylor understands the need for business, education and government to work together to advance the economic development and quality of life of Bay Area Houston. He understands and supports the mission of BAHEP."

Quasar Award honorees

The 2017 Quasar Award Banquet will be held on Feb. 3 at South Shore Harbour Resort and Conference Center. Previous recipients of the coveted award are: Texas Gov. Ann Richards, 1994; U.S. Rep. Tom DeLay, 1995; U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, 1996; U.S. Rep. Nick Lampson, 1997; NASA Johnson Space Center Director George W.S. Abbey, 1998; Harris County Judge Robert Eckels and Galveston County Judge Jim Yarbrough, 1999; Robert L. Moody Sr., 2000; Houston Mayor Lee P. Brown, 2001; Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Jim Fonteno, 2002; House Majority Leader Tom DeLay, 2003; Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Sylvia R. Garcia, 2004; Dr. John Stobo, president of the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, 2005; Houston Mayor Bill White, 2006; NASA Administrator Dr. Michael Griffin, 2007; Dr. William A. Staples, president of the University of Houston-Clear Lake, 2008; Mike Coats, director of NASA Johnson Space Center, 2009; Texas State Rep. Craig Eiland, 2010; U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, 2011; U.S. Sen. John Cornyn, 2012; Fred B. Griffin, owner and co-chairman, Griffin Partners, 2013; Dr. Renu Khator, chancellor, University of Houston System, and president, University of Houston, 2014; Dr. Bill Merrell, the George P. Mitchell '40 chair in Marine Sciences at Texas A&M University at Galveston and president of Merrell Historic Properties, Inc., 2015; and Dr. Greg Smith, superintendent, Clear Creek Independent School District, 2016.

Bebee's mother receives artwork



Sabina Bebee (center), mother of Robert Bebee, displays artwork raffled off by the Robert Bebee Foundation, which was then donated back to her. Raised in the South Belt area, firefighter and EMT Robert Bebee worked 11 years for the Houston Fire Department and 6 years for the Jersey Village Fire Department. Bebee was one of four firefighters who died battling a 5-alarm motel fire in Southwest Houston on May 31, 2013. The artist is Dave Jesser of Suda Metals in Pasadena. Bebee felt the need to travel to several of the local fire stations to thank the firefighters for their service to the community. Firefighters from Beamer's House Station 70 pictured with Bebee are, left to right, Guadalupe Perez, Captain Kevin Martinez, Kenneth Wilson, Juan Ibarra and District Chief Joe Boening.

Photo submitted

Sullivan dedication set for Dec. 1

Nelda R. Sullivan Middle School invites students, parents and community members to join together for its campus dedication celebration, Thursday, Dec. 1, at 6:30 p.m. at 1112 Queens Road in Pasadena.

The campus, made possible through community support of the 2011 school bond, was named after longtime Pasadena Independent School District board member Nelda Sullivan.

Sullivan, a retired businesswoman and volunteer in the community, has served the district as a member of the PISD Board of Trustees for 23 years.

The campus is located on the site that once housed Queens Intermediate. It is also the same location where Sullivan's children attended school.

Sullivan is honored she can now share her legacy with future generations.

"It is such an honor knowing that this school

will open to a new generation of children in the Queens community," Sullivan said. "I know that my mother and husband [Charles] would be so proud to know that our family legacy will live on through this school."

The 125,000-square-foot facility opened its doors to more than 650 students in fall 2016 and accommodates students from L.F. Smith, South Shaver and Williams Elementary Schools.

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UHCL sets Dec. 11 graduation

Nearly 1,200 University of Houston-Clear Lake Hawks are receiving diplomas in two ceremonies on Dec. 11 in NRG Arena at 1 NRG Park, Houston. At noon, more than 520 students will graduate from the College of Education and College of Science and Engineering. At 5 p.m., nearly 650 students will graduate from the College of Business and the College of Human Sciences and Humanities.

Students participating in the ceremonies include about 1,000 fall graduates and about 200 summer graduates. Of these, 626 are undergrads, 546 will receive their master's degrees and 11 will be conferred doctorates.

Commencement speakers are UHCL alumni Evelyn C. Miralles and Kenneth R. Kocaba. Miralles, principal engineer/innovator and business-technology strategist for NASA contractor CACI International, will speak at the noon ceremony. Kocaba, CEO of Houston-based Texan Bank, will speak at the 5 p.m. ceremony.

Miralles was recently chosen as "one of the most

Continued on Page 4A

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A Comedy written and directed by Judie Valentine

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UHCL graduation Dec. 11

Continued from Page 3A inspirational women in the world" for 2016 by the BBC, which each year profiles 100 influential women in its programming.

For more than 24 years, Miralles has dedicated her career to the advancement of human spaceflight and virtual-reality technology, training astronauts in Johnson Space Center's Virtual Reality Laboratory at Johnson Space Center.

Named one of CNET en Español's 20 most influential Latinos in technology for 2015, she lends her experience and knowledge to the field of virtual reality on a national level.

Before joining Texas Bank in 2011, Koncaba served as chairman, CEO and president of Family Bancorp Inc., and its subsidiary bank, now known as Vantage Bank of Texas.

His career in banking has included serving as director, president and chief operating officer at both FC Holdings Inc. and its subsidiary bank, First Community Bank, N.A., in Houston and chairman and CEO of San Antonio National Bank.

From 2012-2015, Koncaba served as co-founder and manager of Friendswood Energy Genco LLC.

Also, he has served as founding director and CEO of Friendswood Capital Corp. since 2010 as well as

director of ICON Wellness Center since 2012.

Guests do not need tickets to attend the commencement ceremony, and students may invite as many guests as they like. Seating for guests will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

A total of 1,455 UHCL students completed degree programs in summer and fall sessions, with 1,183 participating in the ceremonies.

Graduating students are also invited to Soaring Hawks Celebration, a social event from 6 to 8 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 9. The event will feature a photo booth, refreshments and the chance to celebrate with university alumni, faculty and leaders, including UHCL President William A. Staples. Soaring Hawks Celebration is free, but tickets are required and may be picked up from the Office of Development and Alumni Relations, Capt. Wendell M. Wilson Office of Veteran Services and Office of Student Life.

Soaring Hawks Celebration will be on the UH-Clear Lake campus at Bayou Building, Atrium II, 2700 Bay Area Blvd. For more information on Soaring Hawks Celebration, contact the Office of Development and Alumni Relations, 281-283-2021 or alumni@uhcl.edu.

To find out more about commencement, visit www.uhcl.edu/commencement.

Judaism and Religion in General: Free monthly open discussions

Congregation Shaar Hashalom's Rabbi Stuart Fedorow will host free, open to the public, weekly discussions.

Sessions are held the second Thursday of every month at Victor's, 1425 NASA Pkwy., in Houston (next to McDonald's) at 7 p.m.

Anyone can join the discussion and bring questions, thoughts and opinions to share with everyone

present. Congregation Shaar Hashalom is located at 16020 El Camino Real in Houston, and is the conservative synagogue in the Bay Area.

The entire community is invited to attend.

For additional information, contact the synagogue office at 281-488-5861 or email at cs@shaarhashalom.org.

Over The Back Fence by Alexis

CRYSTAL CELEBRATES A BIRTHDAY

Greetings for a wonderful birthday are sent to **Crystal Saucedo** Dec. 4 from friends and the *South Belt Leader* staff.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, FRANCES!

Frances Valigura celebrates a birthday Dec. 5. Best wishes are sent from husband **Carl**, children **David** and wife **Katha Valigura**, **Donna** and husband **Gary Whitted**, **Deborah Lea Tindall**, and **Carl Wayne** and wife **LuAnn Valigura**. Their 13 grandchildren and great-grandchildren wish their beloved **MeMaw** the happiest of all birthdays with many more to come.

SCHOOL DAZE

The following personnel and staff members of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays Dec. 1 through Dec. 7.

Atkinson Elementary
Send a happy birthday greeting to **Erica Salazar** Dec. 2.

Burnett Elementary
Robert Hughes is sent a birthday greeting Dec. 5. Send a birthday greeting Dec. 6 to **Mary Davitt**.

Frazier Elementary
Pam Williams enjoys a birthday Dec. 2.

Meador Elementary
Dec. 7 is the day for a cake for **Janet Armenta**.

Moore Elementary
Blow out the birthday candles Dec. 1 for **Rita Reyes**.

South Belt Elementary
Blow out the birthday candles for **Kristi Vinzant** Dec. 7.

Melillo Middle School
Best wishes for a wonderful birthday Dec. 2 to **Jamie Torres**. **Norma Castillo** marks a birthday Dec. 5.

Roberts Middle School
Sing a happy birthday song to **Carmen Castelan** as she celebrates a birthday Dec. 2. **Jorly Thomas** enjoys a birthday Dec. 5.

Beverly Hills Intermediate
Dec. 5 is the day for a party for **Tracy King**.

Thompson Intermediate
Maria Pena enjoys a birthday Dec. 2. The day for a party for **Sally Thacker** is Dec. 3. Send a humorous birthday card Dec. 5 to **Cynthia Mills**.

Dobie High
Sonja Mull and **Glenda Sanchez** share a birthday Dec. 1. A special birthday is celebrated Dec. 3 by **Robert Beynaerts** and **Eric Huysman**. Blow out the candles Dec. 4 on a birthday cake for **Megan Lambert**. Wishes for a wonderful birthday are sent to **Donna Branch** Dec. 6. The day for a party for **Patricia Landrum** is Dec. 7.

FACEBOOK FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS

The *Leader* sends happy birthday wishes to its Facebook friends who celebrate a birthday this week:

Thursday, Dec. 1: **Jessica Bowlin**, **Miles West**, **Damon Griffin**, **Kim Middleton** and **Melissa Ray**; Friday, Dec. 2: **Lenae Fowler** and **Aaron Herridge**; Saturday, Dec. 3: **Gaskill Sigsbee**, **Kyle Smith**, **Timothy Hardcastle** and **Allison Bobby**; Sunday, Dec. 4: **Jackie Britton**, **Suzanne McGinnis**, **Nick Barnett**, **Nick Medina**, **David Miles**, **Mary Elliott** and **George Mejica**; Monday, Dec. 5: **Shawn Sims**, **Jose Lozano**, **G.C. Coppens**, **Angela Domokos**, **Mandi Gulledge**, **Angelita Negrete**, **Anna Cavazos-Cantu**, **Suzanne Pollock** and **Craig Williams**; Tuesday, Dec. 6: **Natalie Saucedo**, **Brandie Phillips-Bostick** and **Billie Benson**; and Wednesday, Dec. 7: **Matt Adams**, **James Jaeger**, **Stacie Jaeger-Roundy**, **Amber Clark**, **Edna Elizalde**, **Tim Allen**, **Holly Rhodes** and **Bill Hanson**.

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

Frazier kindergarten celebrates with Thanksgiving feast

Frazier Elementary kindergartners have a lot for which to be thankful, so they celebrated with a feast on Thursday, Nov. 17. The Kindergarten Feast is an annual event. The students made pilgrim, Indian and turkey costumes, and the parents donated food and helped decorate. The students shared thoughts about things for which they are thankful, and then the pilgrims, Indians and turkeys performed a family dance together.

Photos submitted



Clockwise from left are Benjamin Carter, Alyssa Valdivia, Emma Gurusquieta, Julius Enriquez, Zion Taylor, teacher Emily Siscoe, Jordan Garcia and Ella Donaldson.



Alexis Ramos and her mother, Casey Ramos



Cruz Castillo and his mother, Roxanne Castillo



Roger Pererira and his mother, Stephanie Alderson

Remember When

40 years ago (1976)

Contrary to what local residents believed, Ellington Air Force Base was not closed. In fact, 900 full-time and hundreds of part-time employees were working at the base.

A rash of burglaries hit the South Belt area, including: nighttime burglaries with no one home, nighttime burglaries while residents were watching TV, and one daytime robbery on the corner of Sagealef and Beamer Road.

35 years ago (1981)

Gene Branscome Investments was constructing a 244-unit apartment complex at the Southpoint project located near Fuqua and the Gulf Freeway.

The McAllister family of the Sagemont townhouses spent Thanksgiving sorting through belongings trying to determine losses from a burglary which occurred while they were out of town.

30 years ago (1986)

More than 6,000 people attended the community preview of the new Memorial Southeast Hospital.

After a Kirkwood burglary, William Christopher, 53, was sentenced to life in prison for his 22nd conviction.

25 years ago (1991)

The Pasadena Independent School District had the second lowest tax rate in the county and spent less per student than any other district.

Christine Nguyen was one of two Clear Creek Independent School District seniors along with 700 students nationally who won achievement awards in

writing from the National Council of Teachers of English.

20 years ago (1996)

Sagemont Park's Doan Nguyen and her two passengers were transported to Ben Taub Hospital's trauma center following a traffic accident on Beltway 8 at Beamer where Nguyen's Cadillac collided with a dump truck.

A chancellor search committee presented the names of three candidates to the San Jacinto College District Board of Regents beginning the second and final stage in filling the college district's highest post.

The Clear Brook High School varsity football team had a 31-14 win over Jasper in the Region III semifinals.

Clear Brook's tennis coach, Genie Kilpatrick, was selected as 4A State Tennis Coach of the Year.

Thompson Intermediate eighth-grader Brandon Beebe won the logo design competition initiated by local businessman Chris Romero. The winning logo was to be featured on his company's business cards, work apparel and vehicles through the Houston area.

15 years ago (2001)

Kingwood businesswoman Addie Wiseman defeated retired Clear Lake chemical engineer Bernard Maristany for the Houston City Council District E seat. Wiseman won 57 percent to 43 percent.

Dr. Caryl Wilson, principal of Clear Brook High School, was named the Region IV High School Principal of the Year by the Regional Texas Association of Secondary School Principals.

10 years ago (2006)

While homes in Sagemont and Kirkmont were being bought out through a federal program because of flooding problems, a new apartment complex was being built less than one mile away. The new complex was allowed to use drainage plans that had been drawn approximately 10 years prior and did not require a detention pond.

To allow the sale of fireworks or not to allow was the major discussion at a Sagemeadow MUD meeting. Some owners of fireworks stands urged the MUD not to enter into an agreement with the city of Houston which would keep fireworks from being sold along county portions of Hall and Beamer roads.

At a competition in San Antonio, the Clear Brook High School marching band ranked 19th out of the top 32 bands in the state.

5 years ago (2011)

A local deputy from Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Gary L. Freeman's office was relieved of his duties over allegations that he sexually assaulted a woman on Thanksgiving. The incident reportedly took place at an apartment complex while the deputy was working off-duty.

The fatal shooting of a man allegedly trying to break into a car in the 10900 block of Gulf Valley was to be referred to a Harris County grand jury to determine if charges would be filed in the case. Nicolas Sanchez, 25, suffered a single gunshot wound and was pronounced dead at the scene.

1 year ago (2015)

A deputy from the Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's office opened fire on a suspect who repeatedly rammed his patrol car during a pursuit near the Sageglen subdivision. The incident began when Deputy Julian Garza attempted to stop a blue Chevrolet truck in the 10100 block of Scarsdale for having a defective license plate light. Rather than pull over, however, the suspect abruptly stopped and put the truck into reverse, striking Garza's patrol vehicle. The suspect then went forward and reversed again, striking Garza's car a second time. Garza attempted to elude the driver by putting his own vehicle into reverse, but the suspect pulled forward and made a U-turn, striking Garza head on, knocking his car onto the grassy median. In fear of his life, Garza pulled his service weapon and shot at the suspect's vehicle three times from inside his patrol vehicle before the suspect drove off, heading east on Scarsdale in the westbound lanes. The suspect then turned north on Beamer in the southbound lanes, as Garza gave pursuit. Garza followed the suspect's vehicle onto Sagerock, where he spotted it rolling unattended in the 10800 block. The deputy then struck the suspect's vehicle twice - once from behind and then from the passenger side - to bring it to a stop. After verifying the suspect had bailed from the vehicle, Garza was told by tow truck drivers the suspect was seen at the townhouses next door running through the parking

lot. Garza tracked the suspect down and was able to apprehend him without further incident. Officers from the Houston Police Department arrived shortly after to assist Garza in the arrest. Houston police advised Garza the suspect, identified as Luis Robles, was wanted by HPD for a burglary of a habitation at his parents' residence earlier that evening in the Beverly Hills subdivision. The truck the suspect was driving had also reportedly been stolen from his parents. Robles, 22, was charged with assault on a police officer and evading in Harris County, then charged with burglary of a habitation by Houston police. Robles had not been seen by his parents in more than seven years and was thought to be homeless. No injuries were reported.

CCISD seeks science-minded volunteers

The Clear Creek Independent School District is looking for science-minded volunteers to help judge the district's annual Science and Engineering Fair.

Each year, students from 26 elementary schools, 10 intermediate schools and seven high schools in CCISD work diligently to complete an independent research topic of their own choosing. The students compete at their individual school for the opportunity to advance to the CCISD District Science and Engineering Fair. Projects from about 800 students are then evaluated by teams of judges to be selected as Grand Award winners or place winners.

To properly evaluate this huge number of projects and to provide effective feedback to students, about 60 elementary school judges

and 120 secondary judges are required.

Professionals, volunteers and retired residents in the community are called upon Jan. 9 to examine projects, interview students (secondary division only) and collaborate with their fellow judges to determine the place winners in each category. "Many of our judges have participated for years," said Elementary Science Coordinator Anne Mangas Smith. "It's an opportunity to connect with and support the scientists of tomorrow."

To sign up to be a Science and Engineering Fair judge, complete the online judge's form. Anyone having questions or difficulty registering, visit the district's Science and Engineering Fair website or email Elizabeth Nixon at enixon@ccisd.net.

Ballroom dancing classes set

The public is welcome and encouraged to attend ballroom dance practices every Wednesday from 1 to 3:30 p.m. at Hometown Heroes Park Ballroom, 1001 East League City Pkwy. in League City.

The dance lessons will continue through the upcoming holidays. About 40 to 60 people regularly attend. Current age range of attendees is from age 17 to 93.

Recorded music is played by Neva Schroder. All rhythms played at any ballroom dance are played at this practice dance.

It's casual, comfortable and has a beautiful floating hardwood floor.

Teachers are available to assist, if asked, to teach a new move; or practice independently without interruption. For more information, call Schroder at 417-838-2204.

The Hump Day dance is free itself, but League City requires nonresidents to purchase an activity card or a day pass. The park office can answer questions regarding an activity card at 281-554-1180.

Hadassah hosts holiday bazaar

Kinneret Hadassah will host its 10th annual Holiday Gift Bazaar, where local vendors will present a wide selection of gift items for the upcoming holidays and other occasions.

The event will take place on Sunday, Dec. 4, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Congregation Shaar Hashalom, 16020 El Camino Real in Houston. The community is invited.

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Santa Claus is Out Cold!
By Judie Valentine

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San Jac Certified: Veteran student edition

Natashia Tyler on gratitude, appreciation and rediscovering design

Natashia Tyler says that serving in the U.S. Army was one of the best decisions she ever made. Deciding to enroll at San Jacinto College was another.

"Before I joined the military I attended a university," said Tyler. "I was going to school for the wrong things, and I think that's why I didn't finish; I was just looking at certain industries and their paychecks, but deep down I knew I would just be doing a job as opposed to enjoying a career."

Gratitude and appreciation are two things on which Tyler reflects about her time in the Army. While working as a transportation operator driving troops and supplies to their destinations, Tyler also served on funeral detail.

It was this assignment where Tyler says she experienced the most gratitude. "To be able to fold and present the American flag to these families and listen to their stories makes you beyond grateful. It's a different type of appreciation. People genuinely express their gratitude for your service when they know you're a veteran and in those moments, you know that you matter."

After separating from the military in 2010, Tyler worked as a chef and was later employed at a local post office, but had to resign after the physical toll it took on her with a knee injury she suffered while in the Army. Tyler had begun the process of starting her own photography and graphic design



business, so in 2015 she decided to return to school in order to help advance her design and business skills.

"I decided to pursue a general studies degree because it will allow me to be flexible with my business goals," said Tyler. "I'm open to any kind of design challenge because that also allows me to learn as I create. I used to design things for friends a long time ago, and other small projects here and there, but it never occurred to me until now that this was my passion all along. Now it's time to embrace it and see where it takes me."

Tyler also adds that the San Jacinto College veteran centers have had a major impact on her student success. "The veteran center is definitely one of the best resources on campus. If there's a question or issue I need help with that they may not have the answer to at that moment, they always follow up with me with the answer or an update. Advising in the veteran centers is also unique because the veteran educational planners take the time to go through your degree plan and provide insight into what your workload may be. They're familiar with your work and family situations, so they make sure you don't overload yourself as you plan classes each semester."

San Jacinto College has been named a Military Friendly School by Victory Media, Inc., six times. The national list highlights the top 20 percent of colleges, universities, and trade schools in the country that are doing the most to embrace America's service members, veterans and their spouses. In addition to the quality education, caliber of faculty and affordable tuition, Tyler says there's also a sense of personalization at San Jacinto College that's hard to find elsewhere.

"Coming from a university experience, it's a totally different world here. Being in a setting where you are encouraged to engage with your professors helps you become more successful as a student. The atmosphere at San Jacinto College is so much more welcoming, and it gives you the drive and motivation to accomplish whatever you set your mind to."

For more information on veteran student services at San Jacinto College, visit sanjac.edu/veterans.

Fun at Meador McTeacher's Night

Meador recently partnered with the McDonald's on Fuqua and I-45 to host Meador McTeacher's Night. Meador staff volunteered to work a three-hour shift to help serve Meador families and supporters. McDonald's donated 15 percent of total sales to Meador Elementary and 5 percent to the Pasadena Education Foundation. More than 250 "no homework" passes were handed out to students who attended Meador McTeacher's Night.

Photos by Tara Merida



Principal Beverly Bolton works the cash register along with Counselor Tara Merida and kindergarten student Azul Pineda.



Second-grade teacher Genoveva Arrona helps out at the drive-thru window.



Staff members from Meador who participated in McTeacher's Night pictured are, left to right, Hamilton, Beverly Bolton, Johanna James, Connie Daumas, (back row) Heidi Gritzewsky, Tara Merida, Kim Cowan and Heather Cline.

Roberts MS's first McTeacher's Night

On Tuesday, Nov. 15, Roberts Middle School teachers participated in its first McTeacher's Night at McDonald's, on Genoa Red Bluff and Beltway 8, in which students saw their teachers

taking orders, making fries, and flipping burgers. This event serves as a fundraiser for the campus and the Pasadena Education Foundation.

Photos by Adriana Robinson



Math teacher Hector Del Rio prepares sandwiches with a smile.



Counselor Emily Cruz has flashbacks of her first job making fries.



ABLE teacher Denise Gourley took drive-thru orders without a single mistake!



Sandra Palma handled fries like a professional, even in her high heels!

St. Luke Early Childhood Center collects for needy

The St. Luke Early Childhood Center had its annual Thanksgiving Feast on Nov. 18. Instead of the usual requirement to bring a dish to share, each family brought an item to donate to needy children. The ECC adopted a preschool, Search's House of Tiny Treasures (HTT), a preschool for children who typically reside in shelters or in other housing programs. Regardless of their living situations, the children at HTT are just like the kids at the ECC. Participating in a donation drive allowed students at the ECC to understand what helping and spreading love looks like. The donations were delivered to HTT on Nov. 22.



Pictured with the donations at ECC are, left to right, Hannah Richardson, (back row) Holly Barber-Gatlin, Ana DeLaPena, Ciera White and Zöey Gatlin.

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Tuesday & Thursday		7:00 p.m.

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Sunday School • 9:30 a.m.	Mid-Week Service • 7:45 p.m.
Worship Service • 10:45 a.m.	

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South Belt Elementary holds Thanksgiving feast



Anh Ton's first-grade students at South Belt Elementary recently held a Thanksgiving Feast. Students learned about the Colonial Americans' history and how their first Thanksgiving feast came about. Students experienced the foods that the pilgrims ate during the first Thanksgiving feast. Pictured are, front to back, (left side) Ava Morin, Adrian Garza, Jaylen Hill, Isaiiah Machado, Lorenzo Sanders, Julian Phillips, Connor Sidney, Trent Edwards, Jordyn Rodriguez, (right side) Adam Cid, Teyonna Beason, Alynna Gonzales, Haden Walker, Jasmin Hernandez, Liliana Salazar and Aja Breaux. *Photo submitted*

Wohleb presents Eagle Scout Project



Jake Wohleb presented Ashley Pointe HOA with a flagpole he installed for his Eagle Scout Project on Nov. 12. Pictured above are, left to right, (front row) Jake Wohleb, Jacob Lastovica, Scout Master Ben Hernandez, (back row) Kyle Mamitag, Jeremy Tajonera, Grant Wilhelm and Benjamin Hernandez. *Photos submitted*



Saluting the flags

Eagle Scout project gives Ashley Pointe flagpole

By Mary Doan

Jake Wohleb presented the Ashley Pointe Homeowner Association with a flagpole he installed at Ashley Pointe's Aquatic Center for his Eagle Scout Project on Saturday, Nov. 12.

Wohleb a junior at Clear Brook High School of Clear Creek Independent School District, has been a boy scout for nine years and is working his way up to becoming an Eagle Scout in pack 0692.

To become an Eagle Scout, Wohleb must complete 20 merit patches, hold leadership positions within the troop and as a final step, complete a project that benefits the community.

Wohleb wanted to present a flagpole to the Ashley Pointe Homeowner Association so that other organizations, such as the summer swim league in which Wohleb participates, the Sharks, can use it while they use the Ashley Pointe Aquatic Center facility.

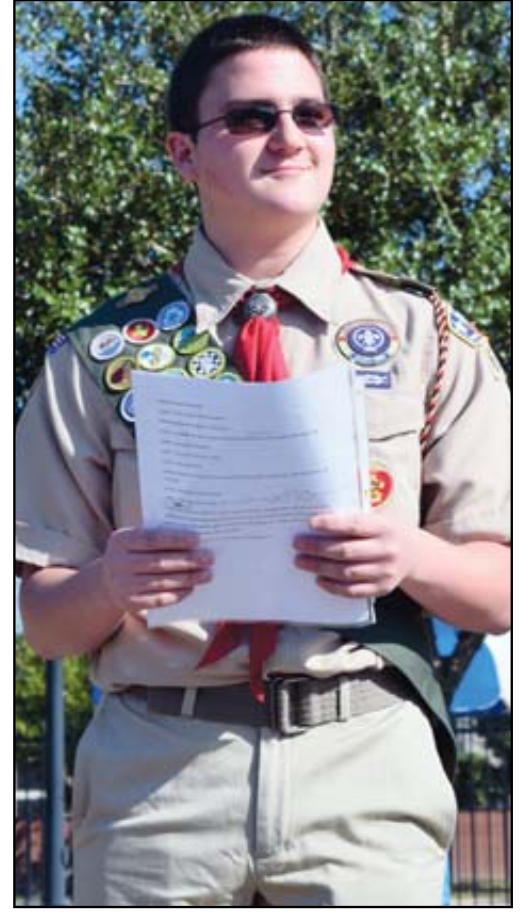
"I wanted to install

a flagpole because we always say the national anthem before our swim meets and we never had a flagpole to place the flag on. We would normally hold the flag ourselves as we said the national anthem, but now we can place the flag onto the flagpole. I wanted to install the flagpole because it shows the patriotism within the community," Wohleb said.

The Boy Scouts of America is designed to develop character, citizenship, fitness and leadership skills.

"I enjoy being a boy scout because it gave me experience on how to be a leader and helped me give back to the community," said Wohleb.

Pack meetings are held every Monday from 7 to 8 p.m. in the social hall at St. Luke the Evangelist Church, 11011 Hall Road. For more information on how to join and become a boy scout, visit texaspack692.scoutland.com or email the cubmaster, Charles Lind, at clindjr@sbcglobal.net.



Jake Wohleb

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Trans enjoy trip to France, Italy

Long and Marie Tran of Riverstone Ranch and 44 other members of Vietnamese Martyrs Catholic Church were led by their priest, Vu Thanh, on a pilgrimage to Paris and Rome Nov. 5-17. On Wednesday, Nov 16, the group left the hotel at 6 a.m. in order to get good seats in St. Peter's Square. Marie was only a few feet away from Pope Francis when his car drove by twice. The Trans were amazed to see the Vatican and say they felt very blessed to have had the opportunity.



In front of a church in Lisieux



The Eiffel Tower at night (left) and in the daylight



In front of a church in Lourdes



Avignon, the oldest town in France



The 14 Stations of the Cross in Lourdes



Pisa, home of the famous Leaning Tower



Inside Michelangelo's original museum



Florence



Directly above: Inside the Vatican Museum



Above, right: In St. Peter's Square on Nov. 15 to visit the Vatican



At right: In St. Peter's Square in the early morning of Nov. 16 to see Pope Francis

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Event is Sat., Dec. 3 JFD football program hosts farewell contest

To help raise funds for costs associated with the upcoming Dobie High School football banquet, the program's booster club will host the first-ever Farewell to Seniors Flag Football Game and Barbecue Showdown. The event will be held Saturday, Dec. 3, from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Longhorns' varsity practice field.

Game participation
Continued on Page 6B

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Cypress Ridge's ground game ends Brook's season

The Clear Brook Wolverines' varsity football run is complete, but what memories it provided.

Along the way, these Wolverines played in a game No. 13 for just the fifth time in program history, dating back to the varsity debut 1990 season.

The team also had the fortune of playing two of its three games in NRG Stadium, home of the Houston Texans.

This time, in the 6A Division II, Region III

semifinals, the Wolverines found Cypress Ridge to be too much.

The Rams went just 4-6 a season ago to miss the postseason, but things have turned around for the now 11-2 team.

Trelon Smith came into the big game with more than 1,900 yards rushing this season, but it was Alex Jacobs with 210 yards on 18 carries and Tyson Williams' three rushing touchdowns that hurt most in this one. Smith had 80

yards on 17 carries before leaving the game in the second quarter due to a foot injury.

Cypress Ridge built a quick 21-0 lead, only to see the Wolverines pull back to within 21-14 with a pair of scores late in the second quarter.

But Jacobs blasted off on a 78-yard touchdown dash to lead off the third quarter affairs, and the Rams went on to win 49-14.

Cypress Ridge will now

face Cinco Ranch in the 6A Division II regional final Dec. 3, at TDECU Stadium. Game time is 1 p.m.

Cinco Ranch defeated Friendswood 35-7 in the other semifinal, with Friendswood star quarterback Tyler Page, a Southern Methodist University commit, leaving the game with a serious ankle injury on the Mustangs' first play from scrimmage.

Brook perhaps not done
Though it's all over now, it could be just the start of

something special at 4607 FM 2351.

The glory days of Clear Brook football, first realized during a five year span from 1994 through 1998 that saw the Wolverines go a combined 42-12-1, delivering Division I football prospects across the country.

Those previous Brook teams put together a long string of success because a solid coaching staff led a surge of athletic talent. That just might be in place

for head coach Mike Allison and his current staff.

Quarterback Jaizac Garcia, who threw for nearly 2,300 yards and 30 touchdowns against just six interceptions, will return.

Jarrett Smith, son of former Wolverine standout J.J. Smith, rushed for more than 1,700 yards and 15 touchdowns this season. Receiver Caleb Chapman,

with 64 catches for 1,049 yards and 17 touchdowns, is, like Garcia and Smith, just a junior. The Wolverines also have M.J. Milton on offense, as well as a slew of talented defenders returning.

Against Cypress Ridge, Smith ran for a 57-yard touchdown and Garcia went to Chapman for 12 yards and a score.

Brook boys highlight Carlisle/Krueger

The five Clear Creek ISD varsity boys' basketball programs - including Clear Brook - highlight the field as the Carlisle/Krueger Classic plays out Dec. 1-3 at various CCISD campuses.

Clear Brook, which captured the Division I Bronze bracket championship at the Nov. 17-19 Texas Invitational, will take on Alief Hastings and North Forest in Dec. 1 pool play action before moving on to bracket play Dec. 2-3.

The Carlisle/Krueger Classic championship game will be held Saturday, Dec. 3, at Krueger Field House on the Clear Lake High School campus.

All Dec. 2-3 bracket play games will take place at gymnasiums based at Clear Lake High School.

Each bronze (Clear Lake High School main gymnasium), silver (Clear Lake Ninth Grade Center) and gold bracket championship games (Krueger Field House) will tip off at 6 p.m.

Pool A is headed by North Shore, with Brook leading pool B. Pool C is paced by Hitchcock, with Manvel leading pool D. Houston Sterling paces pool E, and Clear Falls heads Pool F, La Marque paces Pool G and Clear Lake highlights Pool H.

The majority of the

2016 tournament field of 24 teams took part in the playoffs last season, including Class 4A Region III champion La Marque, which finished



Herman Johnson (2) and his Clear Brook varsity boys' basketball teammates will try to bag their second bracket championship in as many tournaments at the Carlisle/Krueger Classic Dec. 1-3 with the Clear Creek ISD ranks.

Gadd wins FB selection honor

The long wait is finally over for Emory Gadd, who has held a variety of roles during his decades-long stay in the South Belt community.

The longtime Sagemont Church employee, now an associate pastor, has worked many a Friday night over the years as Dobie's official sideline statistician.

He has also for many years participated in the South Belt-Ellington Leader's annual high school football game selection contest. Gadd had never won first-place all alone...until now.

The way the playoff schedule worked out in the regional semifinal round Nov. 25-26, Gadd had to wait until Westfield closed out Beaumont West Brook the afternoon of Nov. 26 to claim the official win at 103-36 over 14 weeks.

Eli Tanksley, a multi-time winner of the contest, finished tied for second with Troy Leland at 101-38. The contest officially ends when either Dobie or Clear Brook is eliminated from the playoffs.

Gadd had perhaps for several years been working at a disadvantage.

Because of his loyalty to the Dobie football program, he has never picked against the Longhorns in a game. He simply won't do it, while others in the contest are not afraid to pick perhaps North Shore to defeat Dobie.

It's all in the past now, as Gadd has hoisted the winner's plaque for the first time. He and Tanksley battled back and forth for the lead for much of the year.

Finally, in week 13, Gadd took a one-game lead, and then had to sweat

out the results as he and Tanksley chose different winners in five playoff tilts.

With a one-game lead in hand, Gadd told the Leader he hadn't elected to pick against Tanksley in five different playoff games. Yet to him, this playoff season had been a bit odd.

"That first week of the playoffs, you really didn't see too many blowout games, and then during the second week and this third week, the scores were out of whack," Gadd said.

"I truly expected some of these third-week playoff games to be tighter. Many of them were not, but you've got young adolescents out there on the field and anything can happen."

Continued on Page 2B

at 33-9. Other postseason qualifiers include Brook, Clear Creek, Clear

Continued on Page 3B

Dec. 1 Action

Brook boys vs. Alief Hastings
Clear Lake H.S., 9th Grade Center
Tipoff 10:30 a.m.

Brook boys vs. North Forest
Clear Lake H.S., 9th Grade Center
Tipoff 7:30 p.m.

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Wilson, Jackson lift UMHB FB

A pair of Dobie High School graduates helped Mary Hardin-Baylor's football team keep alive its dream of winning an NCAA Division III national championship. Defensive back Reggie Wilson and quarterback Blake Jackson, both stand-out performers for the Cru all season, stepped up again as UMHB got past Linfield College 27-10 in a second-round playoff match up Nov. 26, in Belton.

Wilson's interception in the first quarter led to Jackson's first touchdown pass of the game, and the Cru defense came up big time and time again to lead UMHB to the Division III National Semifinals for the ninth time in 19 seasons.

The Cru, now 12-0 this season, will host Wheaton College (11-1) in a semi-final match up Saturday, Dec. 3, back in Belton.

Against Linfield, the Cru got an early touch-

down pass from Jackson to T.J. Josey, who led the way with four grabs for a career-high 180 yards in the game. Jackson had just the one touchdown pass, but had 256 yards through the air and another 58 yards and a touchdown on the ground.

Linfield College, of McMinnville, OR, finished the season at 9-2.

UMHB moved to 2-0 in the regular season with a huge 66-27 victory over Linfield Sept. 17.

Sunday, Dec. 4

Dobie softball to host Dodge Ball

The Dobie High School softball program will host its second annual Game of Throws Dodgeball tournament Sunday, Dec. 4, at the school.

Ten-person teams of high school-aged competitors, five boys and five girls per team, may register for \$10 per player. Each team will compete in a minimum of four games in the tournament.

Awards will be presented to the overall champion as well as to the choice for Best Uniform.

The event will begin at 8:30 a.m., and run throughout much of the day. The school's concession stand will have a variety of food and refreshment options available for purchase.

The softball program utilizes funds raised during the tournament to support costs associated with the school's teams during the school year.

Sports Calendar

BASKETBALL

Thursday, Dec. 1
 Brook varsity boys at Krueger/Carlisle Classic, TBA
 Brook varsity girls at Peggy Whitley Invit., TBA
 Dobie varsity boys at Katy/Nike Invit., TBA
 Brook JV boys at Alief ISD tourn., TBA
 Brook JV girls at Spring Branch tourn., TBA
 Dobie sophomore boys host PISD tourn., TBA
 Brook freshman A at Humble ISD tourn., TBA
 Brook freshman A girls at Deer Park tourn., TBA
 Dobie freshman B boys at Pasadena Mem. tourn., TBA

Friday, Dec. 2

Brook varsity boys at Krueger/Carlisle Classic, TBA
 Brook varsity girls at Peggy Whitley Invit., TBA
 Dobie varsity boys at Katy/Nike Invit., TBA
 Brook JV boys at Alief ISD tourn., TBA
 Dobie JV boys at South Houston tourn., TBA
 Brook JV girls at Spring Branch tourn., TBA
 Dobie sophomore boys host PISD tourn., TBA
 Brook freshman A at Humble ISD tourn., TBA
 Brook freshman A girls at Deer Park tourn., TBA
 Dobie freshman B boys at Pasadena Mem. tourn., TBA

Saturday, Dec. 3

Brook varsity boys at Krueger/Carlisle Classic, TBA
 Brook varsity girls at Peggy Whitley Invit., TBA
 Dobie varsity boys at Katy/Nike Invit., TBA
 Brook JV boys at Alief ISD tourn., TBA
 Dobie JV boys at South Houston tourn., TBA
 Brook JV girls at Spring Branch tourn., TBA
 Dobie sophomore boys host PISD tourn., TBA
 Brook freshman A at Humble ISD tourn., TBA
 Brook freshman A girls at Deer Park tourn., TBA
 Dobie freshman B boys at Pasadena Mem. tourn., TBA

Monday, Dec. 5

Thompson 8th Dark girls at Beverly Hills, 5:00
 Thompson 8th Light girls at Beverly Hills, 6:15
 Thompson 7th Dark girls at Beverly Hills, 5:00
 Thompson 7th Light girls at Beverly Hills, 6:15
 Thompson 8th Dark boys vs. Beverly Hills, Dobie, 5:00
 Thompson 8th Light boys vs. Beverly Hills, Dobie, 6:15
 Thompson 7th Dark boys vs. Beverly Hills, Dobie, 5:00
 Thompson 7th Light boys vs. Beverly Hills, Dobie, 6:15

Tuesday, Dec. 6

Dobie varsity girls at Dawson, 7:00
 Brook varsity girls host The Woodlands, 7:00
 Dobie varsity boys host Dawson, 7:00
 Dobie JV boys host Dawson, 5:30
 Brook JV girls host The Woodlands, 5:30
 Dobie JV girls at Dawson, 5:30
 Dobie sophomore boys hosts Dawson, 5:30
 Dobie freshman A girls at Dawson, 4:00
 Brook freshman A girls host The Woodlands, 4:00
 Dobie freshman A boys host Dawson, 4:00

Friday, Dec. 9

Dobie varsity girls at La Porte, 7:00
 Brook varsity girls at Alvin, 7:00
 Dobie varsity boys at Pearland, 7:00
 Dobie JV boys at Pearland, 5:30
 Brook JV girls at Alvin, 5:30
 Brook varsity boys at Galveston Ball, 7:00
 Brook JV boys at Galveston Ball, 5:30
 Dobie JV girls at La Porte, 5:30
 Brook sophomore boys at Galveston Ball, 5:30
 Dobie sophomore boys at Pearland, 5:30
 Brook freshman A boys at Galveston Ball, 4:00
 Dobie freshman A girls at La Porte, 4:00
 Brook freshman A girls at Alvin, 4:00
 Dobie freshman A boys at Pearland, 4:00
 Brook freshman B boys at Galveston Ball, 4:00

Tuesday, Dec. 13

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

South Belt football predictions	Troy Leland	John Bechtle	Eli Tanksley	Toni Muse	Emory Gadd	Debbie Vaughn
Cypress Ridge 49 Clear Brook 14	Cypress Ridge	Brook	Cypress Ridge	Cypress Ridge	Cypress Ridge	Brook
North Shore 20 Katy 17	North Shore	Katy	Katy	Katy	Katy	Katy
Atascocita 28 Houston Lamar 27	Lamar	Atascocita	Lamar	Atascocita	Atascocita	Atascocita
Westfield 44 Beaumont West Brook 7	Westfield	Westfield	BWB	BWB	Westfield	BWB
Woodlands 52 Austin Bowie 31	Woodlands	Woodlands	Woodlands	Woodlands	Woodlands	Woodlands
Cinco Ranch 34 Friendswood 7	Friendswood	Friendswood	Friendswood	Friendswood	Friendswood	Friendswood
Klein Collins 56 Tyler John Tyler 14	Klein Collins	TJT	Klein Collins	Klein Collins	TJT	Klein Collins
Temple 39 Port Arthur Memorial 7	PAM	PAM	PAM	PAM	Temple	PAM
Fort Bend Marshall 28 A&M Consolidated 21	AMC	FBM	AMC	FBM	AMC	FBM
Manvel 47 Cedar Park 35	Manvel	Manvel	Manvel	Manvel	Cedar Park	Manvel
This week's record	6-4	5-5	4-6	6-4	5-5	5-5
Season record	101-38	93-66	101-38	93-66	103-36	95-44

Area's heavy hitters back at Whitley Classic

One of the area's most talent-rich varsity girls' basketball events will play out for the 59th annual time as the Peggy Whitley Classic hits Clear Springs High School Dec. 1-3 in League City.

Defending tournament champion North Shore,

which got 46 points from current senior Chasity Patterson in an easy 69-44 Whitley tournament finale last season, is back to go at it again but will once more face stiff competition.

Houston area ranked programs such as host Clear Springs, Cy-Woods,

Hightower, Pearland, Atascocita and Galveston Ball are also in the field. Double-elimination bracket play will begin Dec. 1, and the tournament championship game will be played out Dec. 3 at Clear Springs High School.

A tournament of this

magnitude represents the last great chance for elite teams to face off against one another prior to the start of district play.

Come playoff time, many of the teams currently in the Whitley field could be vying for regional supremacy.

At right, North Shore senior and University of Texas basketball commit Chasity Patterson will bring plenty of star power to the Clear Creek ISD's 59th Annual Peggy Whitley Invitational Dec. 1-3 at Clear Springs High School in League City. Patterson, a four-year starter at North Shore, has increased her scoring average each season since becoming a starter in her first-ever high school game as a freshman. In three seasons prior to 2016-2017, Patterson had already landed at No. 1 on the Lady Mustangs' all-time scoring list. At the 2015 Peggy Whitley Classic, North Shore defeated Clear Springs in the semifinals and then scored a championship victory over Cy-Woods by a 69-44 count as tournament Most Valuable Player Patterson scored 46 points. This season, North Shore could tangle with Springs, Cy-Woods, Hightower, Pearland and others in the tournament mix.

Photo by John Bechtle



Hoops roundup: Lady Horns win two

It won't be long and these high school basketball games will count for much more.

District play in girls' action is right around the corner, and the boys will get going with league play soon after. With that in mind, area teams are doing their very best to round into form at just the right time.

Of late, both the varsity boys' and girls' teams at Clear Brook and Dobie have been playing well.

Brook boys top Dobie
 Using a big fourth-quarter run, the Clear Brook varsity boys overcame a fourth-quarter deficit to get past Dobie 58-49 Nov. 29, at Wolverine Gymnasium.

Dobie won the third quarter 16-8 and led 44-39 entering the final eight minutes, but the Wolverines got going on the defensive end and stormed back for the nine-point win.

Dobie's Royce Hunter scored a game-high 14 points, but it was his lowest output of the season after averaging right at 27 per game through the team's first six outings.

The Longhorns, who were six of 18 from 3-point land, also got 13 points from Jonathan Cooper.

As usual, the Wolverines were led by David Azore with 13 points, and Spencer Schneider added 11 more.

That win helped the Wolverines bounce back from a 60-53 loss to Dawson Nov. 26. With the win over Dobie, Clear Brook enters the Carlisle/Krueger Classic Dec. 1-3 at Clear Lake High School's Ninth Grade Center at 4-3.

Dobie boys edge Lake
 So the Longhorns lost to Clear Brook, but Dobie did come up with an exhilarating win over Clear Lake Nov. 23 at the Hoopsgiving Invitational at Texas Southern University.

Hunter had 26 points and 10 rebounds as the Longhorns downed Lake 66-64, with Cooper adding 16 points. D.J. Garrett made four of seven 3-point tries on his way to 14 points.

Ajare Sanni guided Clear Lake's scoring efforts with 32 points.

JFD girls win two straight
 Dobie's varsity girls' team also has reasons to feel good about its chances in District 22-6A play, having come up with a pair of solid wins of late.

The Lady Longhorns dumped Dulles Nov. 21, after press time, edging past the Lady Vikings 45-

Tourney play Dec. 1-3

Dobie boys at Katy ISD Nike Classic, TBA

Brook girls at Whitley Classic, see Page 3B

Brook boys at CCISD Classic, see Page 3B

42 as the locals continued to play well after a strong showing at the McDonald's Texas Invitational.

Moving ahead to November 29, the Lady Longhorns crushed host Clements, 56-31, scoring their most lopsided win of the season.

Dobie now has what figures to be a tough non-district game Dec. 6 at Dawson. The locals then begin District 22-6A action Dec. 9 at La Porte.

Brook girls off to CCISD
 While preparing for the

Continued from Page 1B
 As for insistence on picking Dobie each week to win regardless of what team is favored, Gadd is unwavering.

Gadd has been on the Dobie sidelines as the statistician for 33 years now, and he plans to operate in that role as long as his health and schedule allow.

He is aware of the facts. Dobie experienced some down years in the mid 2000s, and the varsity team has not won in the playoffs since 2004. Doesn't matter to Gadd.

"On game days sometimes I give the pregame sermon, and I'm out there on the field with those players and those coaches wearing the team colors," Gadd said.

"I'll take my lumps from time to time, but I can't go out there and be among my guys on that field with the thought of knowing I picked against them. I've just never wanted for things to go like that."

Over the years, Gadd has come close to victory. He tied for first place with former Clear Brook football booster club president Darrell Northen one year, and he has been in the running other times.

Still, Roy Shifflett is the contest's all-time leading winner, and Tanksley has had several wins in recent years. Debbie Vaughn, who took over for former C&D Burger Shop owner Joe Craddock after he passed away, won the con-

Gadd's late-season push brings first contest win

test in her debut season, leading wire-to-wire in doing so.

A season ago, Tanksley and Vaughn tied for

the lead, and Gadd was there to congratulate them. Now, his name will go on the winner's plaque.

"I really appreciated

this year and the way the contest was so exciting to the very end," Gadd said.

"As long as I'm breathing, I want to be doing

this contest. It was a great year. I am thrilled to win. Some of the games are coin flips. Guess I won my fair share."



With back-to-back nondistrict wins over Dulles and Clements, Taja Tillman (10) and the Dobie varsity girls' basketball team is building confidence with the 22-A opener Dec. 9 at La Porte approaching.



It has finally happened. For the first time in the history of the South Belt-Ellington Leader's annual high school football game winner selection contest, Emory Gadd, associate pastor at Sagemont Church and a longtime Dobie High School varsity football sideline statistician, has claimed victory. Putting together a postseason run of his own, Gadd took the

lead during week 13 in the playoffs and held off Eli Tanksley and a late-charging Troy Leland to claim his first-ever solo win. Those congratulating Gadd on his win included, (left to right, seated) Toni Muse, Debbie Vaughn, (standing) Leland, Leader sports editor John Bechtle and Tanksley. Of note, the contest is for fun, and no real money was exchanged.

CCISD boys', girls' hoops classics to display area's top talent

2016 Clear Creek ISD Carlisle/Krueger Classic

Dec. 1 Pools A and B at Clear Lake Ninth Grade Center: North Shore vs. Pasadena Memorial, 9 a.m.; Clear Brook vs. Alief Hastings, 10:30 a.m.; Pasadena Memorial vs. Texas City, 2 p.m.; Alief Hastings vs. North Forest, 3:30 p.m.; North Shore vs. Texas City, 6 p.m.; Clear Brook vs. North Forest, 7:30 p.m.

Dec. 1 Pools C and D at Clear Lake Main Gymnasium: Aldine Nimitz vs. Hitchcock, 9 a.m.; Clear Creek vs. Clements, 10:30 a.m.; Hitchcock vs. Pasadena, 2 p.m.; Clements vs. Manvel, 3:30 p.m.; Aldine Nimitz vs. Pasadena, 6 p.m.; Clear Creek vs. Manvel, 7:30 p.m.

Dec. 1 Pools E and F at Clear Falls High School: Cypress Falls vs. South Houston, 9 a.m.; Clear Falls vs. Galveston Ball, 10:30 a.m.; South Houston vs. Houston Sterling, 2 p.m.; Galveston Ball vs. P.A. Memorial, 3:30 p.m.; Cypress Falls vs. Houston Sterling, 6 p.m.; Clear Falls vs. Port Arthur Memorial, 7:30 p.m.

Dec. 1 Pools G and H at Krueger Field House: Clear Springs vs. La Marque, 9 a.m.; Milby vs. Clear Lake, 10:30 a.m.; La Marque vs. Tuloso Midway, 2 p.m.; Brennan vs. Clear Lake, 3:30 p.m.; Clear Springs vs. Tuloso Midway, 6 p.m.; Brennan vs. Milby, 7:30 p.m.

Continued from Page 1B
ling, Nimitz, North Shore, Port Arthur Memorial, South Houston and Texas City.

Clear Brook won the tournament title four seasons ago and could be looking to make another push for the crown, but tough play awaits.

San Jacinto BB starts out 9-0 in early going

A 9-0 start to the regular season just may have the San Jacinto College men's basketball team in line to garner a little bit more respect nationally.

The Ravens went unranked in the National Junior College Athletic Association's initial pre-season poll in Division I play.

But San Jac has done nothing but turn heads since the opening of the season. The nine wins includes a 95-88 victory over No. 1 ranked Northwest Florida State during a tournament.

The NJCAA is scheduled to release the first regular-season rankings Dec. 6, and the Ravens are sure to be given some credit for the results delivered to this point.

Head coach Scott R. Germander has watched his crew get the job done night after night with a true team effort.

Sophomore Jordan Duffy has led the team in scoring at 20.6 points per night, while fellow sophomore Corey Davis is at 17.3 points per game. Tay Hady is third among Raven scorers at 11.6 points per outing.

Kabir Mohammed has given the locals 8.7 points and a team-high 8.6 rebounds per game, and South Houston High School graduate Elton Dyer has started all nine games, giving the locals a lift in all phases of the game.

It was difficult to tell early on just what would shake out this season at the Central campus, what with college's board of directors unanimously voting just days into the basketball season to eliminate men's and women's basketball, volleyball and soccer by 2018.

But this team has been able to look past that news and come up with big effort after big effort on the court.

Now it's time for Region XIV action as the Ravens begin the chase for a championship. The team went up against Navarro Nov. 30, after press time.

San Jacinto College has two other remaining conference games before much of the nation takes a break for the holiday season.

The crux of Region XIV action will then begin in early January as the Ravens look to continue their hot start.

2016 Clear Creek ISD Peggy Whitley Classic

All games at Clear Springs High School, League City

Dec. 1 Gymnasium 1 Bracket Schedule: North Shore vs. Brazoswood, 9 a.m.; Magnolia West vs. Clear Falls, 10:30 a.m.; George Ranch vs. Clear Creek; Clear Springs vs. Willis.

Dec. 1 Gymnasium 2 Bracket Schedule: Clear Brook vs. Ridge Point, 9 a.m.; Hightower vs. Deer Park, 10:30 a.m.; Cy-Fair vs. Pearland, noon; Waco Midway vs. Clear Lake, 1:30 p.m.

Dec. 1 Gymnasium 3 Bracket Schedule: Klein Oak vs. La Porte, 9 a.m.; Goose Creek Memorial vs. Galveston Ball, 10:30 a.m.; Atascocita vs. Dawson, noon; Pasadena Memorial vs. Cy-Woods, 1:30 p.m.

Dec. 3 Trophy Finals both in Gymnasium 1: Consolation final, 10:30 a.m.; Championship final, 1:30 a.m.

Participating Teams: Atascocita, Brazoswood, Clear Brook, Clear Creek, Clear Falls, Clear Lake, Clear Springs, Cy-Fair, Cy-Woods, Dawson, Deer Park, Galveston Ball, George Ranch, Goose Creek Memorial, Hightower, Klein Oak, La Porte, North Shore, Magnolia West, Pasadena Memorial, Pearland, Ridge Point, Waco Midway and Willis.

Pasadena ISD

Intermediate Girls' Hoops

Through Nov. 14 games

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

Game Scores

Bondy 32, Beverly Hills 6
Miller 25, Southmore 16
Jackson 33, Park View 12
San Jacinto 32, Queens 27
Thompson 49, South Houston 33

Zone B	W	L	T	W	L	T
	Thompson	0	0	0	1	0
Bondy	0	0	0	1	0	0
Miller	0	0	0	1	0	0
Jackson	0	0	0	1	0	0
Queens	0	0	0	0	1	0

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

Game Scores

Bondy 36, Beverly Hills 9
Southmore 25, Miller 18
Jackson 22, Park View 8
Queens 7, San Jacinto 5
Thompson 31, South Houston 7

Zone B	W	L	T	W	L	T
	Thompson	0	0	0	1	0
Bondy	0	0	0	1	0	0
Queens	0	0	0	1	0	0
Jackson	0	0	0	1	0	0
Miller	0	0	0	0	1	0

Pasadena ISD

Intermediate Girls' Hoops

Through Nov. 14 games

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

Game Scores

Bondy 39, Beverly Hills 29
Miller 24, Southmore 14
Jackson 35, Park View 24
Queens 40, San Jacinto 11
Thompson 35, South Houston 12

Zone B	W	L	T	W	L	T
	Thompson	0	0	0	1	0
Bondy	0	0	0	1	0	0
Queens	0	0	0	1	0	0
Miller	0	0	0	1	0	0
Jackson	0	0	0	1	0	0

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

Game Scores

Thompson 32, South Houston 7
Bondy 36, Beverly Hills 10
Miller 26, Southmore 16
San Jacinto 25, Queens 4
Jackson 20, Park View 19

Zone B	W	L	T	W	L	T
	Thompson	0	0	0	1	0
Bondy	0	0	0	1	0	0
Miller	0	0	0	1	0	0
Jackson	0	0	0	1	0	0
Queens	0	0	0	0	1	0

Pasadena ISD

Intermediate Boys' Hoops

Through Nov. 14 games

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

Game Scores

Thompson 47, South Houston 25
Southmore 58, Miller 33
Park View 40, Jackson 24
San Jacinto 55, Queens 32
Bondy 47, Beverly Hills 45

Zone B	W	L	T	W	L	T
	Thompson	0	0	0	1	0
Bondy	0	0	0	1	0	0
Queens	0	0	0	0	1	0
Miller	0	0	0	0	1	0
Jackson	0	0	0	0	1	0

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

Game Scores

Bondy 40, Beverly Hills 38
Miller 34, Southmore 26
Park View 36, Jackson 26
San Jacinto 56, Queens 13
Thompson 47, South Houston 17

Zone B	W	L	T	W	L	T
	Thompson	0	0	0	1	0
Bondy	0	0	0	1	0	0
Miller	0	0	0	1	0	0
Queens	0	0	0	0	1	0
Jackson	0	0	0	0	1	0

Pasadena ISD

Intermediate Boys' Hoops

Through Nov. 14 games

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

Game Scores

Bondy 49, Beverly Hills 27
Southmore 36, Miller 30
Park View 48, Jackson 32
San Jacinto 30, Queens 7
Thompson 51, South Houston 17

Zone B	W	L	T	W	L	T
	Thompson	0	0	0	1	0
Bondy	0	0	0	1	0	0
Queens	0	0	0	0	1	0
Miller	0	0	0	0	1	0
Jackson	0	0	0	0	1	0

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

Game Scores

Thompson 42, South Houston 10
Beverly Hills 23, Bondy 22
Park View 39, Jackson 24
San Jacinto 52, Queens 9
Southmore 22, Miller 20

Zone B	W	L	T	W	L	T
	Thompson	0	0	0	1	0
Bondy	0	0	0	0	1	0
Miller	0	0	0	0	1	0
Queens	0	0	0	0	1	0
Jackson	0	0	0	0	1	0

CALENDAR

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1

AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.
Clear Lake Bridge Club - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. Call 713-856-1611.
CrossRoads UMC - Invites everyone to the Thursday night service beginning with a light meal and fellowship at 6 p.m. followed by a praise, worship and prayer service at 7 p.m. Directly afterward both pastors lead a Bible study in both English and Spanish. Everyone is welcome to join! 10030 Scarsdale Blvd.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Women's Group, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-856-1611.
Al-Anon (English) - Support for family and friends of alcoholics/addicts, 7 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, room 215. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.
Alateen - Support for teens, friends and family members of alcoholics/addicts, 7 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, room 208. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.
The Bay Area Writers League - Meets the first Thursday monthly, Barnes and Noble, 1029 W. Bay Area Blvd., 7 p.m. Newcomers welcome.
Alcoholics Anonymous - Alcohol problems? Meets Thursdays, 8:30 to 9:30 p.m., and Sundays and Tuesdays, 8 to 9 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For details, call 713-204-2481.

St. For details, call 713-204-2481.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2

AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.
Clear Lake Bridge Club - Open games Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - West End Group, noon, Shepherd of the Heart United Methodist Church, 12005 County Rd. 39, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.
Un Dia a la Vez Alanon Group (Spanish) - Support for family/friends of alcoholics/addicts. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, room 215, First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2245 N. Main St., Pearland.
Serenity Now Al-Anon Group - meets at CrossRoads UMC Fridays, 8 to 9 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Family members and friends of problem drinkers/addicts share, learn Al-Anon principles, that they are not alone, and discover choices available. For details, call 281-484-9243.
Alcoholics Anonymous - "Breakfast with Bill", Saturdays, 7:30 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.
Free community exercise - offered Saturdays by certified personal trainer and "Brains and Balance" specialist Lisa Maki for active adults age 60 and older, who value mental acuity and physical stability. Age 59 and younger are wel-

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VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT



The Southeast VFD needs you!

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

South Belt-Ellington Leader

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South Belt-Ellington Leader
 11555 Beamer Road, Houston, TX 77089

After Hours: Use mail slot in front of building facing Beamer.

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

GARAGE SALE
 11514 OLIVE WOOD COURT Fri & Sat, Dec. 2

& 3, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. (weather permitting). Moving Sale. Tools, recliner, lawn mower, table saw, bar stools - nice & well cared for!!
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 CLASS-A DRIVERS: 10 to 12 day schedules. Only \$10.00/wk for Group Health! www.getmehome.com Call Tony or Leslie: 855-582-4456
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CALENDAR

Continued from Page 3B

MONDAY, DECEMBER 5

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

New Directions Singles - Age 60 and older meets for a potluck dinner with guest speakers, 6 p.m., at Webster Presbyterian Church, 201 W. NASA Pkwy. For details, call Margarita at 832-715-9658.
Scrabble Club #511 - Meets Monday at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua. Come, improve crossword playing skills. Call 281-488-2923 for details.
 6:30 p.m.

Pearland Overeaters Anonymous HOW Meeting - Monday at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 2535 E. Broadway, Pearland. Use door near recycling bins. For details, call 713-865-3668 or visit www.oahouston.org.
 7 p.m.

Survivors of Suicide Support Group - gives coping skills in a non-threatening environment to adults who have lost a loved one to suicide. For details email Lynneannh@yahoo.com or visit www.crisishotline.org.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For information, call 713-856-1611.
Friends Helping Friends Grief Support Group - meets Mondays, Kindred Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster, 7 to 8:15 p.m., in the Team Conference Room. Anyone who's lost a loved one is welcome. Free. For information, call Mrs. Barry Craven at 281-486-4241 or R. Sanchez at 281-337-4365.
 7:30 p.m.

Congregation Shaar Hashalom - Israeli Folk Dancing on Monday, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m., 16020 El Camino Real, 77062. \$4/session or \$35/10 sessions for CSH members and \$5/session or \$45/10 session for nonmembers. Everyone is welcome. For information, contact 281-488-5861 or csh@shaarhashalom.org.
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Saint Luke's Group, 12 Step Recovery, open meeting Mondays, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Education Bldg., 11011 Hall Rd., 77089. For details, call Russell at 832-483-6715.
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6
 7 a.m.

AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.
 9:30 a.m.
Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum - Exhibits include dioramas, a turn-of-the-century doctor's office and an old-time kitchen. Tuesday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., 204 S. Main, Pasadena. For details, call 713-472-0565.
 10 a.m.

Clear Lake Bridge Club - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.
 11:30 a.m.

Local NARFE Meeting - National Association of Retired Federal Employees, Chapter 1321, meets the first Tuesday at Clear Lake Community Center, 5001 NASA Pkwy. Lunch is \$6. For information, call Bob Mitchell at 281-333-2881.
 Noon

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.
Rotary Club of Pearland - Meets Tuesdays, noon, Golfcrest Country Club, 2509 Country Club Dr., Pearland. Lunch is \$15. Variety of speakers. For details, call 281-900-7257 or visit nalix@texascitizensbank.com.
 1 p.m.

Trailmixers - Meets the first Tuesday at Luby's, 11595 Fuqua. Former and current employees of J. Frank Dobie High School are welcome.
 1:30 p.m.

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) - #1530 meets at the Sagemont Park Community Center, 11507 Hughes Rd., 1:30 p.m. For information, call Jeanette Sumrall at 713-946-3713.
 2 p.m.

Clear Lake Bridge Club Lab Class - Sunday and Tuesday, 2 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. For details or classes, contact Dr. Glandorf at drglanford@sbcglobal.net or call 281-488-6318.
 6 p.m.

Un Dia a la Vez Alanon Group (Spanish) - Support for family of alcoholics/addicts. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, room 215, First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena. Call 281-487-8787.
 6:30 p.m.

Bay Area Quilt Guild - Meets the first Tuesday, Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, 10310 Scarsdale Blvd. Fellowship is at 6:30 p.m.; meeting/program begins at 7 p.m. Visit www.Facebook.com/BayAreaQuiltGuild.
 7 p.m.

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

Alcoholics Anonymous - Alcohol problems? Meets Thursdays, 8:30 to 9:30 p.m., and Sundays and Tuesdays, 8 to 9 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For details, call 713-204-2481.
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7
 7 a.m.

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

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

Houston Hobby Airport Lions Club - meets monthly, first and third Wednesday, noon, Golden Corral, 4021 Spencer Hwy., Pasadena. December may be an exception. For information, call Monica Montoya at 281-794-5531.
American Business Women's Association Bay Area Vision Chapter - Meets at Bon Appetit Cafe, 18027 Point Lookout Dr., 77058, monthly, first

Wednesday, noon to 1:30 p.m. Professional speaker often present. For details, contact Christie O'Rear at christieorear@gmail.com.
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.
 1 p.m.

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

Un Dia a la Vez Alanon Group (Spanish) - Support for family/friends of alcoholics/addicts. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, room 215, First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.
Alzheimer's Support Group - meets the first Wednesday, classrooms 3 and 4 (third floor), Bayshore Medical Center, 4000 Spencer Hwy., Pasadena. For information, call 713-944-4782 or 713-266-6400. Free.
 7 p.m.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church-youth bldg. For information, call 713-856-1611.
Bay Area Turning Point Crisis Intervention - Call 281-286-2525 (24-hour crisis hotline) for confidential domestic violence/sexual abuse support group for women. Visit www.bayareaturningpoint.org for information.
 8 p.m.

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

AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.
 9:30 a.m.

NASA Aglow Community Lighthouse - Second Thursday of the month, 9:30 a.m., Praise Chapel, 18516 Hwy. 3 in Webster. Public welcome and encouraged to bring others. For details, call 281-910-1971.
 10 a.m.

Clear Lake Bridge Club - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 for details.
 11:30 a.m.

ABWA - Southeast Express Network - American Business Women's Association-South meets the second Thursday, Spring Creek Barbeque, 9005 Broadway (FM 518), Pearland. Lunch is 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. (\$20). Includes networking with professional business women and guest speaker. Women of all ages/occupations invited. Bring business cards. Reservations appreciated. Visit www.seen-abwa.org.
 Noon

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.
 6 - 8 p.m.

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

Congregation Shaar Hashalom's - Rabbi Stuart Federow hosts free discussions on Judaism and religion in general, open to the public, second Thursdays, at Victor's, 1425 NASA Pkwy., (next to "space" McDonald's). This is the Conservative synagogue in the Bay Area. For details, contact the Synagogue office at 281-488-5861 or at csh@shaarhashalom.org.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Women's Group, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-856-1611.
Al-Anon (English) - Support for family and friends of alcoholics/addicts, 7 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, room 215. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.
Alateen - Support for teens, friends and family members of alcoholics/addicts, 7 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, room 208. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.
 8:30 p.m.

Alcoholics Anonymous - Alcohol problems? Meets Thursdays, 8:30 to 9:30 p.m., and Sundays and Tuesdays, 8 to 9 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For details, call 713-204-2481.

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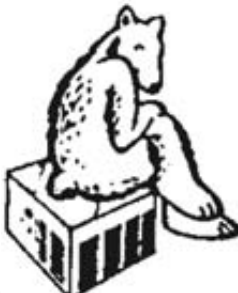
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McDonald's Texas Invitational names Azore, other stars all-tourney

Having led their respective teams to Division I boys' and girls' Gold bracket championships, Westfield's Jase Febres and Duncanville's Zay Green were named the overall Most Valuable Players at the McDonald's Texas Invitational Basketball Tournament.

Febres led the way as the Mustangs defeated Allen 61-54 in the Division I boys' gold bracket championship game Nov. 19, at Phillips Field House. Febres had 21 points in the Mustangs' win over Allen. Earlier, Green was the star as Duncanville won the Division I Gold bracket girls' title, downing Clear Springs 61-48. Green scored all of her 11 points in the second half as Duncanville eased past Springs.

Four other boys' players, including Duncanville's Darius McNeill, Cam Christon of Allen, Fort Bend Bush's William Chavis and Javen Hedgeman of Pearland were first-team boys' selections. Christon had 16 points to lead Allen in the championship game.

Dobie's Royce Hunter, who scored 137 points over five games, including 45 in the Longhorns' opener against McKinney, was not listed among the all-tournament picks. He helped Dobie to third place in the boys' Division II Gold bracket.

Clear Brook's David Azore was among the picks in the boys' Division I bronze bracket as he led the way to the Wolverines' win of the title game in that bronze bracket, 72-66 over Converse Judson. Chasity Patterson of North Shore, the Lady Mustangs' all-time leading scorer and a University of Texas commit, was named to the girls' Division I Silver bracket squad.

Fabian White, who guided Atascocita to back-to-back Division I gold bracket title games in 2014 and 2015, was named to the Division I Silver bracket all-tournament squad. White has signed to attend the University of Houston men's basketball program next fall.

The McDonald's Invitational annually boasts 48 boys' and 32 girls' teams competing at 10 locales over three days.

McDonald's Texas Invitational All-Tournament Selections

McDonald's Texas Invitational All-Tournament Selections

- Most Valuable Player**
Jase Febres, Westfield
- All Tournament-Overall**
Darius McNeill, Westfield
Cam Christon, Allen
William Chavis, F.B. Bush
Javen Hedgeman, Pearland

- Boys' Silver Division 1**
Fabian White, Atascocita
Quentin Grimes, College Park
Miles McDougal, Duncanville
Jordon Myers, N. Crowley

- Boys' Bronze Division 1**
David Azore, Clear Brook
Jonathon Reyes, SA Clark
Karl Nicholas, Dawson
Shelby Adams, Judson

- Boys' Gold Division 2**
Kevin Dawson, Humble
Preston Enloe, Hebron

- Girls' Gold Division 2**
Most Valuable Player
Zay Green, Duncanville

- All Tournament-Overall**
Aniya Thomas, Duncanville
Dymond Gladney, Clear Springs
DiDi Richards, Cy Ranch

- Girls' Silver Division 1**
Chasity Patterson, North Shore
Brooke Bigott, Seven Lakes

- Girls' Bronze Division 2**
Corthisa Elias, Clear Falls

- Girls' Gold Division 2**
Salina Ali, SA John Jay
Jurnee President, N. Crowley

- Girls' Silver Division 2**
Jazmine Saucedo, E.P. Eastwood



SJC's Ramos earns NJCAA all-tourney

At left, San Jacinto College sophomore forward/wing Ricardo Ramos was named to the National Junior College Athletic Association's Division I National Championships All-Tournament team after leading the Coyotes to the national semifinals before a 2-0 loss to eventual champion Tyler. Ramos, from the Hammersmith Academy in London, England, had a goal and an assist at the national championships earlier this month. Meanwhile, the Coyotes finished at No. 13 overall in the final NJCAA national rankings.

Photo by Andrea Vasquez



Clear Brook senior forward David Azore guided Clear Brook to a trio of victories and a boys' Division I Bronze bracket championship at the McDonald's Texas Invitational, leading to Azore landing an all-tournament selection. A three-year starter at Clear Brook, Azore was also a 2015 all-tournament pick at the same event.

Photo by John Bechtle

Dobie FB to host senior day

Continued from Page 1B tickets will be \$12 the day of the game, and spectator tickets will be \$2. Flag football game participants may purchase tickets during megalunch at Dobie for \$10 each.

Members of the booster club will be on hand Dec. 3 selling chopped beef sandwich, chips and soft drink combinations for \$5 each.

All Dobie football players (freshman through senior), senior parents and coaches are invited to participate in the flag football game.

All proceeds from the game/barbecue sale will be used to cover costs associated with the football banquet, to be held next spring.

The varsity football program will graduate more than 40 seniors next

May, and some of the funds raised will also go toward academic scholarships presented to deserving candidates.

Those interested in assisting members of the Dobie football booster club with game day activities may contact booster club representative Chrystal Sulak at 713-240-7894, or direct email to her at chrystal_sulak@hotmail.com.

Farewell To Seniors Flag Football Showdown

Where: Dobie H.S., 1 to 5 p.m.

When: Saturday, Dec. 3

Why: Dobie booster club event will sell barbecue and game tickets to support senior football banquet.

Former San Jacinto College soccer star Seoane now headed to United Soccer League's Fury

By Amanda Fenwick
 SJC Marketing

Former San Jacinto College men's soccer player Sito Seoane has signed with the Ottawa Fury of the United Soccer League.

Seoane spent the last two years playing in the Iceland Premier League, with IBV in 2015 and Fylkir Reykjavik FC in 2016, where he scored 16 goals in 44 appearances.

Ottawa head coach Paul Dalglish coached Seoane

during the 2013 season as a member of the Austin Aztex, his first as a professional after leading San Jac to the national semifinals.

That year, the Aztex captured the USL's PDL championship. In 18 games in Austin, Seoane notched nine goals and four assists, leading the club to its first championship.

The 27-year-old forward is thrilled to be back in North America and aims to help the Ottawa

team have success in the 2017 season.

"I am very excited and I can't wait for next season to start," he said.

"I've heard and seen really good things about the organization and about the fan base, and that's really important for a player.

"The decision was easy for me because Paul is the coach and I already worked for him, so I know he can get the best out of me."

Seoane grew up in La Coruña, Spain and started his youth career in his hometown, playing for Montañeros, Maravillas, Eiris and Laracha.

In 2013, he moved to

the United States to play at San Jacinto College, where he earned first team All-American honors both years and led the nation in scoring as a sophomore.

That also earned him a nomination for the National Player of the Year award.

In his two seasons with San Jac, Seoane scored 46 goals and added 25 assists in 37 games.

He earned a tryout with the Houston Dynamo in 2014, which was followed by a move to Southern New Hampshire University where he earned his bachelor's degree in business communications be-

fore moving to Iceland, where he spent the last two years.

"Sito is a similar player to Carl Haworth, and he represents the right player profile for me and the way I want our team to play," said Dalglish.

"He's a high-tempo, high-energy player that plays angry — meaning that he consistently shows a desire to win the ball back.

"Sito also has an ability to score goals, so he's going to be a great addition for our squad."

To view a highlight reel of Seoane, visit the Ottawa Fury FC website at www.ottawafuryfc.com.

At right, Sito Seoane (11) plays a ball forward during his two-year stay with the San Jacinto College men's soccer team (2013-2014). Over those two years, Seoane posted 46 goals and 25 assists in 37 overall games, and was a first team All-American selection during his sophomore season, having led SJC to the national tournament. The now 27-year-old player has signed to play with the Ottawa Fury of the United Soccer League beginning next season.

Photo by Andrea Vasquez



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