



# South Belt-Ellington Leader

## 43 years of covering South Belt

Voice of Community-Minded People since 1976

Thursday, December 12, 2019

Email: mynews@southbeltleader.com

www.southbeltleader.com

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### Beltway ramp to close

The westbound entrance ramp from the Gulf Freeway to Beltway 8 will be closed in both directions from 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13, through 5 a.m. Monday, Dec. 16.

### Other closures

Two inside lanes of the northbound Beltway 8 frontage road will be closed at SH 3/Old Galveston Road daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Thursday, Dec. 12.

At least one outside lane of the southbound Beltway 8 frontage road will be closed at Genoa Red Bluff daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Tuesday, Dec. 17.

Both northbound and southbound U-turn lanes at Beltway 8 and Vista will be closed continuously through Friday, Jan. 10.

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

### Melillo hosts charity jog

Melillo Middle School, 9220 Hughes, will host its sixth annual Jingle Bell Jog at the school Saturday, Dec. 14. (The Leader incorrectly listed the date as Dec. 5 in last week's edition.) Aimed at helping local families in need, participants are asked to bring two nonperishables food items or one new unwrapped toy. All donations will go toward the Leader's annual Christmas drive. (See related story on this page.) Holiday dress is encouraged, and prizes will be awarded for best costumes. Registration will begin at 8 a.m., with the race starting at 8:30 a.m. For more information, call Kelly Jurek at 713-740-5260.

### Kirkwood Civic meets Dec. 12

The Kirkwood Civic Association has set its next meeting for Thursday, Dec. 12, instead of the regular date on the last Thursday of the month. The meeting will take place at 7 p.m. at the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce, 10500 Scarsdale. This will be a potluck Christmas dinner. For additional information, contact Ericka McCrutchen at 281-989-9990.

### Heavy trash pickup set

City residents south of Fuqua will have heavy trash pickup Thursday, Dec. 12, (second Thursday of the month). City residents north of Fuqua and west of the Gulf Freeway will have heavy trash pickup on Friday, Dec. 13, (second Friday of the month). December is for junk waste, but tree waste will also be accepted. For additional information, visit www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste.

### Gulf Freeway closures set

At least one northbound and one southbound main lane and frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway from NASA Bypass/NASA Road 1 to SH 96/League City Parkway will be closed daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Tuesday, Dec. 31.

The northbound exit ramp on the Gulf Freeway at NASA Bypass/NASA Road 1 will be closed continuously through 5 a.m. Friday, Feb. 28, 2020. Motorists wishing to access these intersections may exit using the exit to FM 518 and proceed on the northbound frontage road to the intersections or exit using the Bay Area Boulevard exit ramp, U-turn and head south to the NASA Bypass or FM 528.

The northbound exit ramp on the Gulf Freeway between SH 96/League City Parkway and FM 518 will be closed continuously through 9 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 31. Drivers traveling north on the main lanes will continue to NASA Road 1, exit, then U-turn and come back to FM 518.

The closures are associated with an ongoing construction project to widen the freeway from three to five lanes in each direction and the frontage roads from two to three lanes in each direction.

### PIP meeting canceled

The Houston Police Department's Positive Interaction Program (PIP) meeting for December has been canceled due to the Christmas holidays. The meetings will resume Jan. 21.

### Knights sell breakfast

Knights of Columbus Council 9201 will host a breakfast sale Dec. 15 in the social hall of St. Luke the Evangelist church, 11011 Hall Road. Breakfast will be served after the celebration of the 7:30 a.m. and 9:15 a.m. Masses. Plates will be sold for \$5, with menu items including bacon, sausage, scrambled eggs, chorizo and eggs, refried beans, pancakes, tortillas, and coffee and orange juice. Proceeds will help support St. Luke seminarians.

### Sageglen to judge lights

The Sageglen Community Association will hold its annual Christmas lights contest on Sunday, Dec. 15. Categories will include most colorful, best Christmas spirit, most elegant display and honorable mention. Judging will begin at 6 p.m.

### New Directions potluck set

The regular December meeting of the New Directions Singles group for ages 50 and older will be replaced with a special Christmas potluck and dance Friday, Dec. 20, at 6 p.m. The event is the regular venue, Webster Presbyterian Church, 201 W. NASA Parkway. Plan to wear festive attire and join the group. For more information, call Margarita at 832-715-9658.

# City runoff elections slated for Dec. 14

The City of Houston will hold runoffs Saturday, Dec. 14, for races not definitively decided in last month's general election.

In addition to the highly publicized mayoral contest, eligible voters will also weigh in on multiple City Council races, including that of District D, which encompasses much of the South Belt community.

Competing for the position of mayor are incumbent Sylvester Turner and challenger Tony Buzbee. Turner narrowly missed the 50-percent threshold needed to avoid a runoff in the Nov. 5 election, receiving 47 percent of the vote to Buzbee's 28 percent.

Also coming short in the mayoral election was current District D City Council Member Dwight Boykins, who will now be forced to relinquish his

post.

Vying to replace him are Carolyn Evans-Shabazz and Brad "Scarface" Jordan.

The Leader has officially endorsed Evans-Shabazz in the race. See editorial in the Dec. 5 edition of the newspaper.

South Belt residents will also have a chance to vote in five at-large City Council races, as they are citywide positions.

Competing for the At-Large Position 1 seat are Mike Knox and Raj Salhotra; vying for the At-Large Position 2 seat are Willie R. Davis and David W. Robinson; competing for the At-Large Position 3 seat are Janaeya Carmouche and Michael Kubosh; vying for the At-Large Position 4 seat are Anthony Dolcefino and Letitia Plummer; and competing for the At-Large Position 5 seat are Sallie

Alcorn and Eric Dick.

Unlike in previous elections, Harris County voters will be able to cast their ballots at any polling location located in the city limits, regardless of precinct. Approved this past March by Texas Secretary of State David Whitley, Harris County is now the sixth county in the state with a population of more than 100,000 to participate in the Countywide Polling Place Program.

Participation in the CPPP was pushed by new Harris County Clerk Diane Trautman, who campaigned on the issue.

Local Election Day polling locations include the Harris County Scarsdale Annex, Beverly Hills Intermediate School, Garfield Elementary School, Stuchbery Elementary School, Beverly Hills Community Center, San Jacinto College Fine Arts Center, Frazier Elementary School, Laura Welch Bush Elementary School, Parker Williams Library, El Franco Lee Community Center, Genoa Staff Development Center and Burnett Elementary School.

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

## Brewster killed in line of duty

Houston Police Department Sgt. Christopher Brewster, a former longtime South Belt resident, was killed in the line of duty Saturday, Dec. 7.

According to investigators, Brewster, 32, was responding to a domestic disturbance call around 5:45 p.m. in the 7400 block of Avenue L when a male suspect shot him multiple times. He was transported to Memorial Hermann-Texas Medical Center, where he was pronounced dead.

Assisting officers established a perimeter around the crime scene and were able to apprehend the suspect without further incident. Arturo Solis, 25, was charged with capital murder of a police officer in the 182nd State District Court.

A 2006 Dobie graduate, Brewster was in the Latin Club and played French horn in the Longhorn band. Following high school, Brewster attended San Jacinto College, the University of Houston and Blinn College, before earning a bachelor's degree in organizational leadership from Texas A&M University-Commerce. He was in the process of completing his master's degree.

A third-generation member of Sagemont Church, Brewster played guitar in the Student Ministry and Awaken contemporary worship service.

Brewster graduated from the Houston Police Department Academy in November 2010. In

his nine years of service, he was assigned to the Southeast Patrol Division, Gang Division and

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## Former resident brings joy to 1000s



Former South Belt resident Thi Nguyen recently hosted her third annual Christmas festival for local students, this year being held at Dobie High School Saturday, Dec. 7. An online toy blogger known to many as Princess T, Nguyen was inspired to host the yearly event after local residents helped her family following the May 2000 death of her sister Jennie Nguyen, pictured on the front page of the newspaper shown above. A doll in Nguyen's likeness is also shown above.

Photo by Marie Flickinger

## Nguyen hosts Christmas festival

Former South Belt resident Thi Nguyen, known to millions by her online toy-blogger persona Princess T, recently returned to the community to host her third annual Christmas festival for area children.

While the previous two events focused on just helping students from Burnett Elementary, this year's festival was held at Dobie and catered to children from all eight local elementary campuses that feed into the area high school (Atkinson, Burnett, Bush, Frazier, Meador, Moore, South Belt and Stuchbery).

The theme for this year's event was the North Pole. Past festivals included Winter Fest and Candyland.

A former Burnett student herself, Nguyen started the yearly event to bring joy to stu-

dents who were impacted by Hurricane Harvey.

The festival, however, has now grown to help families in need from throughout the South Belt community.

Nguyen solicited help from the campuses by asking administrators to invite 75 families from each of the eight local schools.

In all, 2,300 people RSVP'd to this year's event.

Nguyen - who later attended Thompson Intermediate and Dobie High School, graduating in 2007 - said she organized the event in honor of her sister, Jennie Nguyen (also a former Burnett student), who drowned near Galveston in May 2000 at the age of 7.

"Everything I did, I did for her," Nguyensaid.

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The third annual Christmas festival hosted by former South Belt resident Thi Nguyen, also known as Princess T, was a huge success Saturday, Dec. 7, with more than 2,000 in attendance at the event, held at Dobie High School. Nguyen said she intends to hold next year's event outdoors to avoid some of the congestion shown above. See additional photos on Page 6A and in next week's Leader.

Photo by Marie Flickinger

## House catches fire on Sageberry

A house caught fire Monday, Dec. 2, in the 11000 block of Sageberry.

According to Houston Fire Department officials, firefighters arrived at the scene around 10:15 p.m. to find light smoke coming from a one-story home, as the fire had been extinguished by a neighbor with a garden hose.

The initial blaze was in the wall of the house next to the electrical box. The house's curtains caught fire and melted the home's air conditioning vent.

The crews removed the Sheetrock to check for extension and used a fan to help remove the smoke from the home.

Inspectors determined the fire was electrical in nature and unintentional.

Approximately \$17,000 in damage was caused by the blaze, officials said. Around \$158,000 in property was saved.

No injuries were reported.

Firefighters from Stations 70 and 93 responded to this incident.

## Waugh participates in Leader drive

A chill is in the air, and the South Belt community is once again coming together to help those less fortunate by participating in the annual Leader Christmas program.

Now in its 37th year, the program is aimed at helping families in the immediate area by collecting food and gifts.

Participating in the drive again this year is Stacey Waugh, daughter of active community member Sandy Robb. The volunteer has selflessly donated hours of her free time to support this year's program.

"I think it's great," Waugh said of the program. "It helps the less fortunate."

This sentiment is shared by her mother.

"We've always been fortunate to have a nice Christmas," Robb said. "And it makes you feel good to help someone else have a nice Christmas who otherwise wouldn't."

Waugh, who was born with a rare birth defect known as cervical meningocele, has overcome many challenges of her own. At the time of Waugh's birth, doctors told her mother she would likely never be able to walk.

"We never took no for an answer," Robb said.

Waugh, now 47, went on to attend Stuchbery.

Continued on Page 4A

## Former resident Neil West dies at 89

Former longtime South Belt resident and active community leader Neil West died Saturday, Dec. 7, at the age of 89.

A successful professional in the oil and gas industry, West devoted much of his free time to local civic, religious and educational institutions, serving in numerous capacities. Among his

countless contributions to the community, West was instrumental in establishing the South Belt Security Alliance, the area's first security patrol.

Visitation services will be held from noon to 1 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13, at First United Methodist Church, 2314 N. Grand Blvd. in Pearland. See related obituary Page 2A.

## Candidate filing ends for 2020 elections

Filing for the March 3 federal, state and county primary elections ended Monday, Dec. 10.

Races relevant to the South Belt community include U.S. House District 22, state Senate District 11, state House District 129 and Harris County Precinct 2 Constable.

Republicans vying for the U.S. House District 22 seat being vacated by Pete Olson include Jon Camarillo, Douglas Haggard, Aaron Hermes, Greg Hill, Matt Hinton, Dan Matthews, Bangar Reddy, Kathaleen Wall and Joe Walz. Democrats competing for the position include Chris Fernandez, Nyanza Davis Moore, Carmine Petricco III, Sri Preston Kulkarni and Derrick Reed.

State Senate District 11 incumbent Larry Taylor is running unopposed on the Republican side.

Democrats competing for the nomination include Susan Criss and Margarita Ruiz Johnson.

In the state House District 129 race, Republican incumbent Dennis Paul and Democrat challenger Kayla Alix are both running unopposed in their respective parties.

In the race for the position of Harris County Precinct 2 Constable, incumbent Chris Diaz is being challenged by Democrats Jerry Garcia, George Goffney Jr. and Alberto "Bert" Rivera. Daniel Vela is the lone Republican candidate in the race.

Harris County Precinct 8 Constable Phil Sandlin and Harris County Precinct 2, Place 1 Justice of the Peace Jo Ann Delgado are both running unopposed.

## "Gas Can Man" sentenced to prison

On Monday, Dec. 2,



Garcia

the infamous local panhandler known as the "Gas Can Man" was found guilty of assaulting a peace officer and was sentenced to 2 years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. A second charge of evading arrest was dismissed.

The felony charge against the suspect, known to the state as Luz Alfred Garcia Jr., stemmed from an incident Wednesday, Oct. 16, near the intersection of the Gulf Freeway and Dixie Farm Road.

According to Harris County Precinct 8 Constable Phil Sandlin's office, a deputy responded to a call around 4 a.m. at the aforementioned address, where someone had complained about Garcia soliciting in the roadway. Upon his arrival at the scene, the deputy spotted Garcia laying on

the hood of the complainant's vehicle, striking the windshield with a closed fist.

The deputy attempted to detain the suspect, but he was noncompliant and tried to pull away. Garcia then became combative and elbowed the officer in the chest and chin area, before attempting to flee on foot. The deputy was able to catch the subject and use less-than-lethal force to gain control of the suspect. Additional deputies arrived at the scene and assisted placing Garcia into custody without further incident.

The incident came just 12 days after Garcia was previously arrested Friday, Oct. 4, near the Gulf Freeway and El Dorado for obstructing a roadway.

Both arrests were featured on local news outlets.

Garcia has become somewhat of a local celebrity in recent years in the South Belt community, as his Gas Can Man persona has become a hot topic on social media, with one Facebook page even being established to track his location and

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# In My Opinion

## Webb: committee qualities to expect

Last Saturday, homeowners in Sagemeadow exercised their right to cast a vote for a new member of the Sagemeadow Maintenance Committee. No matter what the tallied ballots report, there is one thing that is in the forefront of my mind. What are the qualities of a good committee? As mentioned in a previous article, communication is a key element to any organization. What I expect to highlight now, are a couple of other expectations we should have of our committee.

All well-run organizations have a generally understood direction in which all members must work toward/agree. This can be found in the form of a publicly displayed mission/vision statement as well as assuring that all rules and operational guidelines are provided to each individual expected to abide by them. In a company, this step is often covered during the initial hire of an employee and is reiterated during regular training intervals. Since our direction is spelled out in our deed restrictions and by-laws, such information should be made available to every homeowner.

The availability of this information should start long before the closing sale of any home in Sagemeadow. It should also be re-iterated on a regular basis to remind all homeowners of their obligations. Not only should this be done through regular mailings (newsletters/annual statements, etc.) but also through technological means such as websites, social media, and email. Further, our committee should make every effort to ensure that each homeowner is aware of their obligations to our community. I believe that if we know what the rules are, we are more likely to follow them!

Another attribute we should expect from our committee is mutual trust. This trust should not only be between the members of the executive committee but also amongst all of its homeowners. To me, the latter is equally as important as the former because we should never assume that anyone wishes to violate the trust given them as a member of our community. How does that trust translate into everyday life? It is trusting that a resident that hasn't mowed their yard in some time, is aware of their obligation and is arranging to have it done soon. We must believe that the condition is only temporary; like being out of town for a prolonged period of time, or perhaps lawn equipment has failed them, or even if they are in the process of hiring a new landscaping company. Alternatively, a resident may be experiencing a more long-term need such as they are no longer physically able to mow their yard. Perhaps they cannot afford to repair existing equipment or hire a company. Only when it is demonstrated that the resident is willingly violating a clear restriction, should any administrative action be taken. Once you feel like you are being harassed, there is no longer a sense of trust between the committee and the resident. The resident's interaction with the committee becomes adversarial. In any situation, the best way to know what is going on is through immediate and open communications. By maintaining good communications, that trust can also be easily maintained.

Let's make the effort to be a better part of our community. Talk to your neighbors. Offer a helping hand. Be more active and aware of what our community is doing and needs. Respectfully hold our committee accountable. If there is something you don't think is right in our community, say something. Go to the monthly meetings, send an email, or make a phone call. Make your concerns heard. But, also remember that the committee is made up of our neighbors who are volunteering their time to serve us. Perhaps one day, you will decide to serve. When that time comes, how would you like to be treated?

Webb

**Jackson comments: justice of peace role**

I read there is a situation here in Texas wherein an elected Justice of the Peace allegedly refuses to conduct wedding ceremonies for same-sex weddings on religious grounds. Non-same sex wedding are okay, however. I believe her citing [religion] as a reason and justification for being able to decide which parts of her job she will do is a serious issue. And a mistake.

I understand that many may agree with her; some on similar religious grounds, others on some freedom of choice idea, others perhaps out of homophobic or some other emotional reason. And while all of these may seem subjectively valid and feel right at the moment, the end result of permitting her actions to be allowed, for the reasons she sighted, can have far reaching and negative consequences at some future time.

Let's think about some possible future examples of what could happen if those holding positions in government, education, healthcare, public service, etc. can decide to do – or not to do – something based on their particular religious beliefs, cultural background, political persuasion, fraternal origination, or whatever basis they choose to claim.

Let us try to imagine some hypothetical examples of a time when, on religious grounds: ... a civil servant can take it upon himself which documents are worth saving, or a soldier deciding which orders to obey. ... prayer is once again allowed in the schools but that prayer is of a different religious affiliation. ... a secular emergency room doctor can refuse to treat a Christian patient and instead refer him to a hospital of his same denomination. ... a fireman can decide whether or not to extinguish a fire in a particular house, or a policeman which criminal to arrest. ... The danger of supporting any such sub-

jective position today, and empowering people to justify that position, is that eventually different people who support opposing positions will come to power and then they may use these same inherited powers for their benefit and the detriment of others. Subjective laws are almost always a threat to the long term survival to an objective democracy.

To her, and others who are either elected or hired to serve the laws of the land yet are conflicted because of their Christian faith, perhaps a way to serve two masters can be found in Mark 12:17. "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's..."

Ed Jackson

**Publisher's note:** According to the county attorney's office, weddings are not part of the job of the justices of the peace, but an activity they choose to do.

## Congratulations go to Sagemeadow!

This past Saturday December 7, 2019, Sagemeadow property owners rallied an amazing turnout and voted to elect a director to the 3 member board of directors known as the Sagemeadow Maintenance Committee. Congratulations Sagemeadow!! Official results are supposed to be announced this evening at the 7:00 pm December 12th monthly meeting at the MUD building on Hall Road. If you read on, I will state my understanding of eligibility either to run for election or to vote.

As a side note, one thing I have often noticed in conversations with other Sagemeadow residents is confusion with regard to even being aware of the existence of a mandatory Sagemeadow homeowner's association. Partially contributing to the cause I believe, is the distinction between 2 to 3 Sagemeadow organizations. One of course is Sagemeadow Maintenance Committee which I will hereinafter refer to as SMC (our official HOA representation). Two is Sagemeadow Municipal Utility District 167 (water/sewer/trash service) who owns the MUD building on Hall Rd. The two are not associated in any way other than the fact that SMC happens to hold its monthly meetings at the MUD building. Number three (for our really long time residents) would be the Sagemeadow Civic Club which was a voluntary nonprofit organization formally established July 30, 1975 by Mr. William E. Kuhlmann and eventually dissolved back around late 1993. I wasn't a resident then, but I believe some of our earliest residents could even refer back to some of the old civic club monthly newsletters.

That being said, I will move on to the issue of eligibility should it ever come into question by anyone thinking of running and serving or voting. The original Sagemeadow Committee By-Laws recorded with Harris County some 40+ years ago included specific eligibility declarations regarding members, representatives, and/or voting rights with a phrase that reads "...in good standing...". The phrase is used to delineate the would be status of Sagemeadow property owners who either are or are not current in payment of their annual maintenance assessments. The distinction as declared was clearly intended to restrict membership, voting, and representative rights. As a layman, it is my understanding that a Texas state law supersedes anything in a HOA "dedicatory" instrument such as Bylaws, Restrictive Covenants, and policies that would have been written in the past and now contradict current state law. Texas laws have been amended more than a few times with regard to HOA's for various reasons well known to many. Here is a quote from current law. Seems pretty clear to me.

**Chapter 209. Texas Residential Property Owners Protection Act**  
**SEC. 209.00591. BOARD MEMBERSHIP.** (a) Except as provided by this section, a provision in a dedicatory instrument that restricts a property owner's right to run for a position on the board of the property owners' association is void.  
**"Sec. 209.00519. RIGHT TO VOTE.** (a) A provision in a dedicatory instrument that would disqualify a property owner from voting in a property owners' association election of board members or on any matter concerning the rights or responsibilities of the owner is void."

With regard to annual SMC maintenance dues, the stories of failed hard drives, lost records, lost checks, checks never cashed, and the inability to certify those records prior to SMC hiring Canady & Canady is well known. SMC hired Canady & Canady in late 2016 and they issued their first billing statement in January of 2017. They do not issue cumulative balances on their billing. I would be willing to bet that if every Sagemeadow owner were to call Canady & Canady today and ask for the status of their account, that as much as half would be told they have an outstanding balance, none of which has been nor can be certified.

Everyone should feel obliged to pay their annual dues and should do so. No one is saying otherwise. However if it were to be said that I am or you are delinquent from some bill purported to have not been paid say anywhere from 3+ years ago and years earlier, then C&C SMC needs to provide credible proof of non-payment or waive the balance. Most people are not going to hold canceled checks for that period of time and good luck getting it from your bank, because it's not gonna happen.

If they have credible proof and you ever sell your house, you can expect that to come out at closing. I have read and been told that we are \$500,000 to \$600,000 in cumulative arrears for unpaid maintenance dues. That money would have gone a long way toward paying a professional property management firm for years to come.

But all that being said, it does not take away your rights to vote or to run for office. Larry Bennett

## Christopher Charles Brewster



Christopher Charles Brewster, 32, of Houston, a

Houston police sergeant, was received into the arms of his Lord and Savior Dec. 7, 2019, after passing from injuries sustained in the line of duty.

He was born in Houston Aug. 14, 1987, one of four children born to Lewis and Cindy (Yongst) Brewster. He was the youngest and only brother to his big sisters Renee, Ashley and Lindsay. He grew up in the Sagemeadow area in South Houston, and completed a bachelor's degree in organizational leadership from Texas A&M University-Commerce.

Chris graduated from the Houston Police Department Academy in November 2010. In his nine years of service, he

was assigned to Southeast Patrol, Gang Division, and Major Offenders Division. He was promoted to sergeant in February 2019 and was assigned to Eastside Patrol. Chris was also in the process of completing his master's degree.

Chris was wed to his loving wife, Bethany Elise Brewster in 2014. They loved each other very much, and walked through life truly as best friends. Chris loved and served Bethany in a way that was a great testament to those around him. Chris was beloved by his friends, and meant the world to them. He was a man of strong character, and was always willing to help anyone in need. He was known

for his unique personality and sense of humor. He was truly one-of-a-kind.

Chris is survived by his wife of five years; and his best dog buddy Brienne.

He is also survived by his parents; and his sisters Renee (Brewster) Trager and husband Damon Trager and his niece and nephew Mya and Benett; Ashley (Brewster) Barrera and husband Carlos and his nephew Tomás; and Lindsay Brewster.

Services for Sgt. Brewster will be held with the visitation at Sagemont Church, located at 11300 S. Sam Houston Parkway E., Wednesday, Dec. 11, from 5 to 8 p.m.

The funeral service will be held Dec. 12 at 10 a.m. at Grace Church Houston, 14505 Gulf Freeway.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Assist The Officer Foundation – Houston, [www.assisttheofficer.com](http://www.assisttheofficer.com).

## Neil West



Neil West, 89, died Saturday, Dec. 7, 2019. He was born Aug. 15, 1930, to Neil and Polly West. He is survived by his wife Eloise of 63 years; daughters Diane Lester and Pamela Saxton; nine grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

He attended John H. Reagan High School in Houston and graduated in 1948. He attended the University of Houston 17 years from 1954-1971, with minors in (or the equivalent of) degrees in geology, petroleum engineering, math and political science.

Neil used his skills serving in the U.S. Navy from 1948-1952 and in the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey from 1952-1953. After this service, Neil worked at Sears (while attending UH, 1953-1956), then at Amoco as a draftsman, and an engineer-geologist from 1956-1983.

Choosing to be an independent consultant of oil and gas properties, he began this work in 1983. From 1996-2003, he had a retainer as a geologist for American Energy and for ZK Petroleum Company LLC

from 2003-2009. Neil became a consultant for Puffin Petroleum Ltd in 2009 and, subsequently held a retainer position for seven drilling explorations as a geologist for Maverick Drilling from 2009-2013.

Being active in his community, Neil was the founder of Gulf Palms Civic Club in 1959. He served as an election judge and committeeman from 1960 to 1980. He served as an officer and member of St. Stephen Presbyterian Church (1960-1990) and was a member of Pearland First United Methodist Church, beginning in 2000. He served as president of the Greater Houston Civic Council (1972-1974), chair of the Houston Mayoral Community Development Task Force (1974) and chair of the Kirkwood South Committee (1981-1998).

Neil was the founder and member of South Belt Civic Coalition (1983-1995) and the founder and director of the South Belt Security Alliance (1983-2005). Recognized for his active role in the community, Neil received a public service award from Deputy Chief Sam Nuchia of the Houston Police Department. In 1990 he was a member of Community Taking Control and Community Assistance group in 1990. He served as a member of the Brio Superfund panel and a member of the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce in the 1990s. Neil served as president of the South Belt AARP Chapter 4341 (1992-1993).

In 1992 he became the director of the annual South Belt Fourth of July parade and continued in this position until the last few years. He became a member of the Golfcrest Country Club in 1993, founded the Pasadena ISD fifth-grade anti-gang program (1995-1998), was a member of the Moore Elementary Campus Improvement team (1994-2001) and was an advisory director for Community State Bank (1995-1996).

Since Neil was interested in education, he became a member of the Pasadena ISD Education Committee (1995-1996), a member of continuing education at San Jacinto College (1996-1998), was a founding board member of the San Jacinto College Foundation (1996), treasurer of San Jacinto College Foundation (1997-2001, 2002-2007) and chair of several committees of the San Jacinto College Foundation (2001).

Being community-minded, Neil served as director of the Green Tee HOA (1999-2000, 2004), was a member of the Green Tee HOA Deed Restriction

Committee (2001-2002), member of the Renewal Community of Golfcrest Country Club (1999), a member of the House Committee of Golfcrest Country Club (1999, 2001 and 2007) and a board member of Golfcrest Country Club (2007).

Neil's love of the City of Pearland inspired him to be a member of the Pearland City Charter Commission (2001-2002), chair of Keep Pearland Beautiful Government Committee (2001-2005), advisory board member of Keep Pearland Beautiful (2002-2009) and board member of the Proposed Pearland Charity Hospital (2001-2005). He also served as a member of the Pearland Planning and Zoning Commission (2003-) and founder and member of Eyes of Pearland Code Enforcement Group (2005-). In 2005 Neil received the Citizen of the Year Award from South Belt Chamber of Commerce.

In 2007, being politically minded, Neil served as a Political Action Committee treasurer "for" city bond election, attended state American Planning Association Convention in Addison, Texas, was awarded the Texas State American Planning Association Planner of the Year (2007), attended the National American Planning Association Convention in Las Vegas (2008) and the 2008 Texas State American Planning Association Convention in El Paso, (February 2009). He became a member of the Mayor's Higher Education Committee in 2009.

His business ventures included being a member and part owner of Precision Exercise (2007-). His business interests included oil and gas, investments and consulting.

He was a member of Sports Car Club of America (1967-1987), of which he was Chief of Flagging and Communications for the Southwest Division. Neil attended the Race Drivers' Training Course in Road Atlanta in 1988 and built and prepared a 1963 Corvair Coupe for showing for Auto Concours. Neil won several major events and many other events in the Houston area. His hobbies included auto racing, sports, tennis and golf. He valued his postage stamps and Advanced Canadian collections.

The family will receive friends and family members noon to 1 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13, at First United Methodist Church, 2314 North Grand Blvd. in Pearland, followed by a memorial service.

To leave online condolences, visit [www.claytonfuneralhomes.com](http://www.claytonfuneralhomes.com).

## Local library events set

### Bracewell Branch Library

The following events are scheduled for the Bracewell Branch Library, 9002 Kingspoint: Thursday, Dec. 12, 6 – 6:30 p.m., for tweens ages 9-12. Tween craft: Melty Snowman craft. Thursday, Dec. 12, 4:30 – 7:30 p.m. For families, young children, ages birth to 5 and children, ages 5-10. Special Christmas event: Santa at the library. Ho! Ho! Ho! He's here! Santa is coming to the Houston Public Library and is looking for the children's Christmas wish list. Parents are encouraged to bring a camera to capture the special event in pictures. Monday, Dec. 16, 10:15 a.m. – 4:45 p.m. Citizenship class. The classes cover the 100 civics questions and how to prepare for the citizenship interview. Other topics include the citizenship application and qualifications. Participation is by appointment only. Call the library to sign up. Tuesday, Dec. 17, 10:15 a.m. – 4:45 p.m. Citizenship class. Class participation is by appointment only. Call the library to sign up. Wednesday, Dec. 18, 10:15 a.m. – 4:45 p.m. Citizenship class. Participation is by appointment. Wednesday, Dec. 18, 10:30 a.m. – 11:15 p.m. Polliwug club, for preschoolers ages 3-5 years, toddlers ages 18-36 months. Polliwug Nature Club, this event is designed for little polliwugs to hop into nature by developing their nature knowledge and skills through a variety of books, songs, crafts, and hands on animal experiences brought to you by Harris Co. Precinct One. This is a special monthly series. Space is limited. Open to first 30 children. First come, first served.

For more information, call the library at 832-393-2580. Bracewell hours are: Thursday noon – 8 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 1 – 5 p.m.; Sunday, closed; Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

### Parker Williams Library

The following events are scheduled for the Parker Williams Library, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd.: Thursday, Dec. 12, 4 p.m. Little Women Christmas Tea Party, for adults and teens only. Join Meg, Jo, Beth and Amy in at a Christmas-themed afternoon tea party. In honor of the new "Little Women" movie releasing Dec. 25 and the 150th anniversary of the book, meet at the library to eat goodies while watching a classic version of the film. Guests will make old-fashioned handkerchief dolls and are encouraged to bring favorite Louisa May Alcott quotes or passages to share with the group. Attendees are also welcomed to dress in Christmas attire. Registration is required. Friday, Dec. 13, 7 p.m. "Nightmare Before Christmas," for ages 12 and older. There's a Friday the 13th in December...A nightmare before Christmas and an opportunity to meet at the library to watch Skeleton Jack and Halloweentown take over Christmas. Refreshments are provided by the Friends of the Parker Williams Library.

Monday, Dec. 16, 2 – 4 p.m. Genealogy group: The Parker Williams Genealogy Group is an informal group that meets the first and third Monday to discuss family history research (beginner to advanced). Meetings are free and open to anyone interested in tracing family history. Monday, Dec. 16, 6 p.m. Instant Pot Plant-Based Soups and Stews. It's the season for warm, cozy food, so get out the Instant Pot and come to the library to learn the basics of plant-based eating and the Instant Pot creams while making some scrumptious recipes. Included will be a healthy copy-cat twist on butternut gnocchii soup from a popular family restaurant. All participants will be able to taste what the food creations receive recipes to take home and. Register online to reserve a spot in this tasty class. Registration is required.

Monday, Dec. 16, 6 – 7:30 p.m. Magic: The Gathering Gameplay, a dueling card game from Wizards of the Coast, for ages 8 and older. For those wanting to learn, a staff member will be present for instruction. A special thank you is given to Strike Zone for the generous donation of Magic: The Gathering cards. For more information, visit <http://www.hcpl.net/sites/default/files/Feb-MTG-1.jpg>. Wednesday, Dec. 18, 6 – 8 p.m. STEM Time: Presents to Die For, for ages 7 and older. The holidays are a joyous time of the year, with presents, food and snugly weather. But there is a sinister side to the season. Many deck the halls with boughs of poison and have bad berries that decorate our homes. Learn about the dangerous decorations and bad botanicals that surround us during the season of joy.

Below are the programs that occur every week, unless the library is closed: Tuesday, Babytime laptop, 10:30 a.m. For babies from birth to 18 months, featuring a mother-baby laptime with fingerplays, songs and playtime. Wednesday, Preschool storytime, 10:30 a.m. For children, ages 3 to 5 years, storytime features stories, songs, fingerplays and a craft. Wednesday, 2 – 3 p.m.: Basic computer classes (Vietnamese). Learn mouse, keyboarding, basic internet skills and more at this weekly class in Vietnamese. Registration is requested. Thursday, Toddler storytime, 10:30 a.m. For toddlers from birth to 3 years, storytime features stories, songs, fingerplays and bubbles.

Saturday, Vietnamese learning time, for adults and children ages 8 and older. Classes begin at 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11:15 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. It's a great time to take a class to help with a skill for work, gain understanding of a topic or learn a language. There are many free classes available online at the library website or on the internet, through universities or other sources. Practice navigating the internet to learn about these, or sign up for one. For more information on these programs, speak with Loc Bui. For more information on all other programs, call the library at 832-927-7870. Library hours are: Thursday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Friday, 1 – 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.; Sunday, closed; Monday, 1 – 9 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; and Wednesday, 10 a.m. – 9 p.m.

## Elected officials share their words

### Cornyn: Impeachment impeding long to-do list

Recently, U.S. Sen. John Cornyn (R-TX) discussed the upcoming government funding deadline and other Senate priorities to be completed by the end of the year. Excerpts of Cornyn's floor remarks are below, and video can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mCVsJtCEAiQ&feature=youtu.be>.

"Over the summer we came to a bipartisan, bicameral agreement to guide the appropriations process and to hopefully eliminate this uncertainty going into the Christmas season."

"Unfortunately, our Democratic colleagues went back on their promise because of a disagreement over 0.3 percent of the federal budget."

"This roller coaster ride involving short-term spending bills puts us in a bad position, particularly for our military and other areas of the government that need certainty and to be able to make plans."

"We need to finish up the National Defense Authorization Act and get it to the

President's desk."

"Unfortunately, our Democratic colleagues in the House are trying to use this must-pass piece of legislation to leverage some of their liberal wish list."

"There's one other piece of legislation that I would hope we could deliver before we leave."

"Over the last few weeks I've been hearing rumors, which I hope are true, that a deal on the USMCA is very close."

"But with the House continuing its single-minded obsession to impeach the President, I hope this trade agreement doesn't fall victim to impeachment mania."

"We need to check these critical items off of Congress's to-do list in the next few weeks, the things that we can and should get done before the Christmas holidays, and I'm eager to get to work and to do my part. Our hope is that our friends on the other side of the aisle will join us in the same commitment."

## Rep. Olson Acts to Combat Illegal Robocalls

South Belt Congressman Pete Olson recently acted to help Americans push back on abuse from unwanted robocalls. Olson voted for S.151, the Telephone Robocall Abuse Criminal Enforcement and Deterrence (TRACED) Act will:

Implement a nationwide caller authentication system so consumers can again trust that the numbers they see on their caller ID is actually the person calling them.

Consumers will be able to block unlawful calls in a consistent and transparent way, at no extra charge.

The bill also makes sure that law enforcement and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) have the tools, information and incentives to go after robocallers that break the law.

For additional information on TRACED, visit <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th/congress/senate-bill/151>. For additional information on Locking Up Robocallers Act of 2019, visit <https://olson.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/mceachin-olson-lead-bipartisan-bill-introduced-to-crack-down-on-robocall>.

these criminals," Olson added.

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## Stuchbery celebrates spelling bee



Stuchbery Elementary recently held its annual spelling bee. Winners from each third- and fourth-grade class competed to award a school champion. Shown are, left to right, fourth-grader and runner-up Ivanka Chapa along with third-grader and school winner Jessica Tran. Tran will advance to compete at the district level.

## CrossRoads UMC hosts Christmas events

Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow! Join the community at CrossRoads United Methodist Church, located at 10030 Scarsdale Blvd., for The Chill on Friday, Dec. 13, at 6 p.m. The church will have 10,000 pounds of snow, a snow slide, Santa, hot cocoa and more! This event is free and will be sure to put one in the Christmas spirit.

The CrossRoads UMC Christmas Cantata will be presented Sunday, Dec. 15, at 6 p.m. This year's selection "Song of Joy" is a great way to get into the holiday spirit with its upbeat and joyous music.

The CrossRoads UMC Christmas service times are Tuesday, Dec. 24, contemporary at 5:30 p.m., traditional candlelight at 7 p.m., 11 p.m. candlelight; and Sunday, Dec. 22, servicio de nochebuena en español.

## Leader checks out social media

By Natalie Abarca  
 A member of ASHLEY POINTE SUBDIVISION Facebook group posted that they had witnessed an older white male who was riding a bike and stopped at a neighbor's house. The member states that the man was peering through the fence and

taking pictures. The member advised the man to ring the doorbell as taking pictures like that looked suspicious. The suspicious man assured the member that the reason for taking the pictures was because he was to do work on a sidewalk. The member spoke to their neighbors and

was told the man had no business there. The member stated that the man gave a name, but the member is not sure if it was Brian or Ryan Wilkerson. The man is described as a white male with facial hair and riding a light blue bike. The encounter happened on Daisy Wood Lane.

## South Belt-Ellington Leader

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# Longtime area landmark demolished

Many residents of the Clear Lake area have become disheartened with the recent demolition project of the historic West Mansion which began Thursday, Nov. 21.

Located in the heart of a 35,000-acre ranch in Clear Lake, the mansion was the realization of a dream of James Marion West, a lumber, oil and ranching tycoon, according to Preservation Texas.

The mansion held 45 rooms with fountains and marble floors. The mansion was constructed with large wood beams, imported tile and gold-leaf fixtures. Amenities included an eight-car garage, a barn, tennis courts and a swimming pool.

The original design was created in 1928 by Austrian-trained architect Joseph Finger who was hired by West and his wife Jessie Dudley to build an Italian Renaissance-style mansion of approximately 17,000 square feet. The home became one of the largest mansions in the Houston area.

Much of the ranch was sold by West to Humble Oil Company when oil was found on the property. Since the death of James West in 1941, the

mansion has been used by Humble Oil (1953), NASA Lunar Science Institute (1968), Exxon Corp. (1991) and Rice University (1992). In 1992 a 20-year deed amendment preventing the demolition of the mansion was signed.

In 1993, the home was named a Texas Historic Landmark and placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1994. The mansion was purchased by Rockets legend Hakeem Olajuwon in 2006, the same year that the Greater Houston Preservation Alliance placed it on its Endangered Buildings List.

The City of Pasadena has weighed in on the mansion's demolition.

Pasadena Mayor Jeff Wagner said in a Nov. 22 statement, "I am aware of and saddened to see the demolition of the West Mansion on E. NASA Parkway. Both our city permitting and legal departments have gone to great lengths to research the status of the private property, and unfortunately, the deed restrictions for historical designation lapsed back in 2014.

"To my understanding, none of the owners came forward in the time

since to have those designations or restrictions reinstated. Because of this and the other requirements met, the City of Pasadena was bound by law to grant the demolition permit to current owner, Olajuwon Farms, LLC, and the demolition company Cherry

Demolition.

"The state of Texas Constitution strongly protects the rights of property owners, and as much as we hate to see this piece of history razed, our hands were legally tied."

The land on which the mansion sat

may be divided for the purpose of being sold for development.

Much of the information for this article was obtained with permission from the private nonprofit organization Preservation Texas ([www.preservationtexas.org](http://www.preservationtexas.org)).



Above is the West Mansion as most have seen it; upper right photo shows the landmark that was recently demolished.

## KBP sets 76th production



Above are cast members of "Junie B in Jingle Bells Batman Smells," Emmerie Ricketts (left) as May and Delaney Cline as Junie B.

Kids' Backporch Productions Pearlard's Youth Theatre presents "Junie B in Jingle Bells Batman Smells." The play is based on the book "Junie B, First Grade: Jingle Bells Batman Smells! (P.S. So Does May)" by Barbara Park.

First-grader Junie B. Jones is super-excited about the upcoming holiday sing-along and Secret Santa gift exchange at her school. Too bad tattletale May keeps ruining all of Junie B.'s fun.

So when Junie B. draws May's name for Secret Santa, she comes up with the perfect plan to teach her nemesis a lesson! But will the Christmas spirit of peace and goodwill interfere before she can give you-know-who what she deserves?

This will be KBP's 76th production giving kids a "little taste of Broadway" since 2005.

The "Junie B in Jingle Bells Batman Smells" is directed by Stephen Hurst. This play written and adapted by Allison Gregory. "Junie B Jones in Jingle Bells Batman Smells" is produced by special arrangement with Play scripts, Inc. of New York, N.Y., [www.playscripts.com](http://www.playscripts.com).

Performances are Dec. 13 and 14 at 7 p.m. and Dec. 14 and 15 at 3 p.m. at Shadycrest Baptist Church - Family Center, 3214 Hamm Road, Pearlard. Ticket prices are \$15 for adults, \$12 seniors for 65 and older and \$9 for children and may be pre-purchased at [kidsbackporch.ticketleap.com](http://kidsbackporch.ticketleap.com) or at the door 30 minutes before curtain time.

For more information, visit [www.kidsbackporchproductions.org](http://www.kidsbackporchproductions.org).

## Moore presents first-grade Thanksgiving musical



Moore Elementary celebrated Thanksgiving with a first-grade Thanksgiving musical performance Tuesday, Nov. 19.

Shown in the photo above are, left to right, (front row) Layla Cisneros, Cayla Cartwright, Kayla Cabrera, Samuel Torres, Simon Nguyen, Aubrey Ramos, Logan Fritsch (middle row) Alfredo Gonzales, Subhan Khan, Joseph Lopez, Richard Perry, Phuog Nguyen, Aryanna Cortez (back row) first-grade teacher Cheryl Ivens, Adolfo Villarreal, Joshua Menahem, Adrian Sanchez, Elyssa Gutierrez, Aliyanna Machado, Emilie Zamora, Itzel Sorida and music teacher Sheryl Munn.

Shown left, wearing Early American garb, are, left to right, Rayah Semien, Jude Gutierrez, Jessie Beteta, Joshua Menahem and Adrian Castaneda.

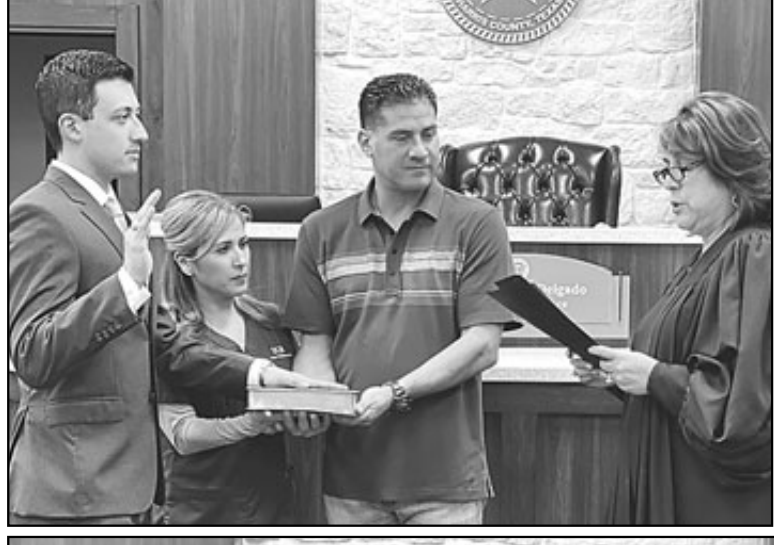
In the bottom left photo, portraying a turkey and a deer, are Mateo Alonso (left) and Alavaro Marron.

Speaking at the microphone below is Pilgrim Sophia Ibarra.



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## Delgado administers oath of attorney



On Nov. 27, Thomas Ray Trevino Jr. was administered his oath of attorney by Judge Jo Ann Delgado. Shown left, left to right, are Thomas Ray Trevino Jr. with proud parents Cristina and Thomas Ray Trevino, residents of Riverstone Ranch, and Delgado. Shown below, left to right, Delgado, grandmother Constable Silvia R. Trevino, Trevino Jr. and former Constable Victor Trevino celebrated the 2012 Dobie graduate who is a 2015 UT Fall grad, UH Law School grad (Spring 2019), sat for the state bar exam July 2019 and passed the bar November 2019.



## Firefighters battle area garage fire

Houston firefighters responded to a garage fire Saturday, Nov. 30, in the 10000 block of Kirkglenn.

According to Houston Fire Department officials, crews arrived on the scene at approximately 6 p.m. to find a detached garage behind a residence on fire, with flames coming through the roof.

The blaze was quickly extinguished.

Fire reportedly damaged the back fence, however, did not extend to the home.

Investigators said the homeowner had been barbecuing and left a grill unattended. The fire spread from the pit to the back of the garage, catching several items on fire.

Inspectors estimated damages at \$21,000. Roughly

\$19,000 in property was saved by firefighters, officials said. No injuries were reported.

Crews from fire stations 23, 61, 71, 52, 70, 36 and 93 responded to this incident.

## Hometown Heroes dancing

Everyone is welcome to free ballroom dances at Hometown Heroes Park Ballroom every Wednesday from 1 to 3:30 p.m.

Neva Schroder will play many rhythms to accommodate all levels of dance ability from beginner to advanced dancing. These Wednesday afternoon dances are not lessons. Free lessons are taught by Lewis and Betty Whistler on Tuesdays from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. For more information on ballroom lessons, call 832-517-5833. Dress comfortably and dance to have fun. It's a free City activity organized by volunteers, Bill and Neva Schroder. If more information is needed, email [neva@LetsDanceBallroom.org](mailto:neva@LetsDanceBallroom.org) or private message through Ballroom dancers of League City Facebook site.

League City requires an activity card for all the City activities. If one has questions about the activity card, call the front office desk at 281-554-1180.

## Bay Area Singles holds dance

The Bay Area Singles Club dance is Dec. 21, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. at VFW Lodge, Post 6378, 5204 Highway 3, Dickinson. All area singles are invited. Bring party snacks to share. The cost is \$8 for members and \$10 for nonmembers.

For more information, call 832-483-3257 or 832-477-6778.

## AARP seeks helpers for taxes

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide is looking for compassionate, friendly people to join local volunteers for the upcoming tax season. Tax-Aide makes it easier for older, low-income taxpayers to file their tax returns and get the credits and deductions they've earned. Volunteers provide free, in-person assistance in local neighborhoods at 5,000 sites across the country. Volunteers help prepare tax returns or serve in other ways, like organizing client paperwork, managing computer equipment, acting as interpreters, or making sure everything runs smoothly.

There's a role for everyone. Make a difference in your community. Become an AARP Foundation Tax-Aide volunteer. Visit [aarpfoundation.org/taxaide](http://aarpfoundation.org/taxaide).

## Crisis pregnancy center receives donation



Giving Tuesday had a special meaning for 100 Women Who Care - Clear Lake Bay Area as the final quarterly donation for 2019 in the amount \$6,500 was presented to Beltway 8 South Crisis Pregnancy Center. Their mission is to be a lifeline for women experiencing unplanned pregnancies and advocate for their unborn children. Equipped with just a small part-time staff and community volunteers this 501(c)(3) provides pregnancy guidance and spiritual support for more than 1,000 clients annually, truly making a difference one life at a time. For more information about Lifeline, visit [www.LifelineCPC.org](http://www.LifelineCPC.org). For information on 100 Women Who Care - Clear Lake Bay Area, visit [www.100wwcblba.org](http://www.100wwcblba.org). Shown above are, left to right, Linda Keogh, volunteer; 100WVC members Justine Powell and Cindy Sebald; Jean Killough, executive director of B8SCPC and Tracy Bush, also of 100WVC. Photo submitted

## Stuchbery announces Stallions On The Run program



Stuchbery's Stallions On The Run program encourages students to develop healthy lifestyles. Participants gain self-respect and confidence through setting and achieving individual goals. A celebratory 5K reflects their personal growth of increasing their mental and physical stamina in the sport of running. The program is for third- and fourth-grade boys and girls. The boys run after school two days a week the first half of the year. The girls will start the Stallions On The Run program during the second semester. Pictured are, left to right, (front row) Elijah Plummer, Bentley Starns, Jacob Ramirez, Luke Kearby, Ashton Wilson, Jacob Hernandez, (middle row) Damian Garza, Adrian Taylor, Branom LaReau, Liam Cruz Fiallo, Xavier Arizmen-dez, Ricardo Reynolds, (back row) Julius Segura, Nicholas Sandles and Prince Hubbard. Photo submitted

## Waugh works to help others enjoy Christmas

Continued from Page 1A  
Thompson and Dobie, as well as take courses at San Jacinto College and College of the Mainland.  
Waugh volunteers her time to work with children at the Sagemont Park Community Center. "She loves kids," Robb said. "That's her thing."  
Once again, Waugh collected aluminum cans to re-

## Brewster killed in line of duty

Continued from Page 1A  
Major Offenders Division. He was promoted to sergeant in February 2019 and was assigned to the Eastside Patrol Division.  
Brewster's family remembers him as a devoted servant on and off duty. "He had a service heart," his mother Cindy Brewster said. "He would do anything in the world for people. He loved people, and he died doing what he was called to do."  
Cindy Brewster finds solace in her son's faith. "His faith was very important to him," his mother said.  
"There's no doubt in my mind he's in the arms of Jesus. He was a man of God. He loved the Lord."  
Brewster's mom said Christmas was her son's favorite time of the year, noting that his fellow officers joked that he was whistling holiday tunes before Thanksgiving had even ended.  
The City of Houston shined blue lights at City Hall and other locations in Brewster's honor.  
"Sgt. Brewster was a shining example of relationship policing in the City of Houston," said Mayor Sylvester Turner. "His death is heartbreaking for his family and all citizens. By shining a blue light on city hall and other areas of Houston, we will also shine a light on Sgt. Brewster's service and sacrifice. I ask people to continue praying for his immediate family and for his law enforcement family."  
Sagemont Church canceled its normal Wednesday evening worship service Dec. 11 in order to host the family visitation.  
Brewster's funeral service will take place Thursday, Dec. 12, at Grace Church, 14505 Gulf Freeway, at 10 a.m. See related obituary Page 2A.

## Over The Back Fence by Alexis



**KENNEDY TURNS 12!**  
Kennedy Flowers turns 12 years old on Sunday, Dec. 15. Best wishes for a fantastic birthday are sent from brother Owen, sister Evie, parents Stephen and Stacey (Hayes) Flowers, grandparents Robert and Jannie Scarberry (former longtime South Belt residents), uncles Tyler Scarberry, Joey Hayes, and Austin and wife Tiffany and daughters Jade and Lily Scarberry; and aunt Jenny (Hayes) and husband Josh Laney, and children Brayden, Baylee and Olivia. Kennedy's mom is a Dobie girl.  
**HAPPY BIRTHDAY, JESSICA**  
Best wishes for a wonderful birthday Dec. 16 are sent to Jessica Escobar, daughter of Leader staffer Luis Escobar, from the South Belt Leader staff.  
**SCHOOL DAZE**  
The following personnel of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays Dec. 12 through Dec. 18.  
**Atkinson Elementary**  
Join in the birthday fun with Richard Whittaker Dec. 14.  
**Bush Elementary**  
Sing a happy birthday song to Jennifer Marquez Dec. 16.  
**Frazier Elementary**  
Elana Contreras enjoys a birthday Dec. 13. Light the birthday candles for Maria Vazquez Dec. 14. Send a special birthday greeting Dec. 15 to Kristina Ponce.  
**Genoa Elementary**  
Light the birthday candles Dec. 12 for Judi Rinehart.  
**Meador Elementary**  
Dec. 12 is the day for a double-layer cake for Filgia Norman and Vanessa Bristol. Enjoying a birthday Dec. 17 are Omega Pena and Katia Garcia. The day for a celebration for Jill Gifford is Dec. 18.  
**Moore Elementary**  
Blow out the birthday candles Dec. 15 for Bobbie Bashinski. Marie Alanis marks a birthday Dec. 18.  
**Stuchbery Elementary**  
Enjoy a slice of birthday cake Dec. 15 with Fani Agüero. Send a birthday greeting Dec. 16 to Kevin Albert.  
**Melillo Middle School**  
Sheri Richardson is wished a happy birthday Dec. 15.  
**Roberts Middle School**  
Dec. 12 is a day of celebration for Hector Del Rio. Sing a happy birthday song Dec. 13 to Mary Klein.  
**Beverly Hills Intermediate**  
Break out the balloons and party favors Dec. 15 for Juanita Carrera and Velia Grado-Gutierrez. Light the birthday candles for Geraldine Jones Dec. 18.  
**Dobie High**  
Enjoying a birthday Dec. 12 is Faryal Shaukat. Three cheers for a great birthday are sent Dec. 13 to Courtney Dixon, Philip Foster and Loan Peabody. Dec. 15 is the day for a birthday celebration for Matthew Park.  
**FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS**  
The Leader sends birthday wishes to friends who have a birthday. For those wanting a birthday mentioned in this section, send an email to [mynews@southbeltleader.com](mailto:mynews@southbeltleader.com) with "OTBF: Friends Celebrate Birthdays" in the subject line by Friday noon for the next week's publication.  
Thursday, Dec. 12: Carolyn Sternes-Ontiveros, Joe Lewis, David Rojas Sr., Pepper Lowe and Diane Lakits Black; Friday, Dec. 13: Ryan Tucker, Dustin Cochran and Mike Stacey; Saturday, Dec. 14: Pedro Gutierrez III, Kay Wood and Melissa Duncan; Sunday, Dec. 15: Cheryl Park, Ryan Rushing and Rita Tornaben; Monday, Dec. 16: Kamisha Dennis, Tamara Spencer and Adam Garcia Sr.; Tuesday, Dec. 17: Joy Warneke, Dawn Watkins-Swain and Jabari Dobson; and Wednesday, Dec. 18: Jackie Klayman, Damen Polleck, John O'Connor and Felicia Sharp.  
**LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS**  
Email birthday, anniversary, vacation congratulations, etc., to [mynews@southbeltleader.com](mailto:mynews@southbeltleader.com) with OTBF in the subject line by Friday noon for the next week's publication.

## Thompson announces students of the month



Thompson Intermediate School officials announced the students of the month for November. Teachers voted for one boy and one girl from each grade level as Student of the Month for exemplifying Thompson Pride by not only working hard and helping others, but also by doing the right thing, even when no one is looking. Recognized and shown above are, left to right, seventh-grader Omar Serna, eighth-grader Houston Banda, eighth-grader Samantha Arredondo and seventh-grader Brenda Gutierrez. Photo by Gina Garcia

## Thompson releases spelling bee winners



Thompson Intermediate School held its spelling bee Dec. 5. Shown are, left to right, runner-up Derek Rodriguez, Tanis Griffin, school principal, and first-place winner Y Tran. Tran will compete in the district spelling bee Feb. 11, 2020. Photo by Gina Garcia

## Remember When

**40 years ago (1979)**  
San Jacinto College district voters approved the college's \$35 million bond issue by a margin of more than three to one.  
For the third time in eight days, a business place in the 12000 block of Beamer was burglarized. Time Clock Sales was the latest victim.  
**35 years ago (1984)**  
Four employees of Archem, a chemical plant off Conklin, suffered injuries from a hydrogen gas explosion during a blending and processing procedure at the plastics plant.  
Charles R. Faulds, Superintendent of the Texas Department of Water Resources, attempted to assure South Bend residents that containment of ground and air by the defunct Brio refinery was not an acute threat to health or homes. Officials felt the health and environmental issues of the Brio refinery had been exaggerated.  
**30 years ago (1989)**  
Beginning with the fall college semester 1989, all students entering Texas colleges would be required to pass the state-mandated Texas Academic Skills Program tests before advancing beyond 60 semester hours.  
Precinct 1 County Commissioner El Franco Lee took his oath of office at a special ceremony held at the Family Law Building in Houston.  
**25 years ago (1994)**  
South Belt Leader readers donated enough turkey bucks to purchase 39 turkeys.  
Soccer and softball fields for San Jacinto College South had been put on hold because bids came in twice the projected cost.  
**20 years ago (1999)**  
The students at Frazier Elementary School raised more than \$1,000 which was donated to the South Belt-Ellington Leader's Christmas program to purchase toys for local youngsters.  
Winner for most beautiful residential home exterior in the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce's Christmas decorating contest was Kathy and Jimmie French of Kirkbend.  
**15 years ago (2004)**  
For the 22nd year, the Leader was sponsoring its annual Christmas toy and food program. Local schools and individuals donated items to help South Belt families that needed help during the Christmas season.  
An armed robber was arrested after she gave her name to a victim. The victim gave the female robber a ride to the Highland Meadow Village apartments at which time the robber displayed a weapon and demanded money.  
Former South Houston High School principal James "Jimmy" Barber, 73, died after an extended illness. Barber had worked in education for 38 years before retiring in 1991.  
Questions regarding the accuracy of Pasadena Independent School District's projection of new students were raised at a district board of trustees meeting. While projections from Omega Group suggested the district would gain nearly 2,400 students during the current school year, only 1,293 were realized. The higher numbers were the basis of the \$299.86 million bond election.  
**10 years ago (2009)**  
Annise Parker defeated Gene Locke in the runoff election to be Houston's next mayor, making national media headlines for becoming the first openly gay mayor of a major city in the United States. Parker, a former City Council member and city controller, received 52.8 percent of the vote to Locke's 47.2 percent.  
Ronald Green replaced Parker as city controller.  
South Belt resident Etheylene Milhouse died in an auto-pedestrian accident at the intersection of Beamer and Hall Road. Milhouse, 66, was crossing Beamer on foot when she was struck by a silver Nissan pickup that was traveling through the intersection. The driver had a green light and was not speeding, investigators said. Neither alcohol nor drugs were believed to have been involved. The driver was not ticketed.  
**5 years ago (2014)**  
The Kirkmont Section 1 Homeowners Association held an election at its annual meeting Dec. 10, with current board members Adam Mejia and Gina Shoemaker both running unopposed and retaining their positions. New board member Maria Trevino also ran unopposed and was successful in her bid for the position formerly held by Cesar Salinas, who stepped down the previous June.  
**1 year ago (2018)**  
State Rep. Carol Alvarado won the Dec. 11 special election to fill the state Senate District 6 seat being vacated by Sen. Sylvia Garcia, who was elected to Congress. Alvarado took home 50.4 percent of the vote, narrowly avoiding a runoff. State Rep. Ana Hernandez received 24.3 percent of the vote, narrowly edging out Republican Martha Fierro, who finished with 23.2 percent of the vote. Mia Mundy received 2.1 percent of the vote. Gov. Greg Abbott was then forced to call a second special election to fill the state House District 145 seat that Alvarado previously held.  
An armored car courier was robbed at gunpoint Monday, Dec. 10, at the Chase Bank at 10997 Scarsdale. The incident took place just after 11 a.m., as a Loomis courier was refilling an ATM at the local bank branch. One of two suspects allegedly fired shots during the robbery, prompting the courier to take cover. During the commotion, the courier reportedly dropped a money bag, which the thieves picked up. The suspects fled in a dark-colored SUV that FBI officials believe was driven by a third suspect. No immediate arrests were made.

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# South Belt celebrates Christmas



The South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce held its annual Christmas party last week. Above, left to right, are Chris Clark, CBCMUD board member; Sally Mitchell, interim president/CEO South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce; and Dr. John Doyle, owner of Liberty Chiropractic. The top right photo shows Constable Chris Diaz (left) and Joe Saavedra, Pasadena ISD associate superintendent of campus development. Keeping the venue safe, shown in the photo at right, left to right, are Deputy Daniel Vasquez; Sgt. Robert Sanchez; Cecelia Ganje, Clear Brook City MUD; Sgt. Blanca Martinez; Sagemeadow resident Patrick Restivo; and Deputy Alvaro Rivas.



Photos by Marie Flickinger

# Future Thompson neighbors stay involved

Pasadena Independent School District's plans to move Thompson Intermediate have run into some complications and, consequently, residents near the proposed site have been involved. Concerns about the initial site caused PISD to look at a plan B. Area residents have stayed involved.

The neighbors of Riverstone Ranch Clear Creek and Green Tee have been working together with PISD and Meritage, the developer, since the City of Pearland's Special Joint Meeting July 15, regarding the location of the new Thompson Intermediate School. The following includes updates and requests for the City of Pearland.

1. Following the City of Pearland's Special Joint Meeting on July 15, to discuss the approval of the CUP, the residents of Riverstone Ranch Clear Creek and Green Tee joined together and started holding weekly meetings to address concerns and issues for the proposed location of a Pasadena ISD intermediate school on the Highland Meadows Drive property.
2. On Aug. 2, several Riverstone Ranch Clear Creek neighborhood leaders met with Pasadena ISD to discuss the concerns and issues with the planned location of a Pasadena ISD intermediate school on the property located on Highland Meadows Drive in Riverstone Ranch Clear Creek. They came to an agreement that the location of an intermediate school having 1,200 students at that property was a very bad plan with one single access less than 1000 feet located in the middle of a deep 90 degree S curve in a street in the back section of the neighborhood. They have also discussed a viable alternative solution, i.e., the swap of Pasadena ISD's property on Highland Meadows Drive with Meritage's property at the intersection of Hughes Road and Riverstone Falls Drive.
3. On Aug. 3, several Riverstone Ranch Clear Creek residents submitted letters to the President of Meritage to request that Meritage work with Pasadena ISD and the City of Pearland to swap Pasadena ISD's property on Highland Meadows Drive with Meritage's property at the intersection of Hughes Road and Riverstone Falls Drive.
4. On Aug. 4, the Riverstone Ranch Clear Creek and Green Tee residents made joint efforts known and shared the email to the President of Meritage with the City of Pearland Mayor and City Council Members.
5. Since the meeting on Aug. 2, Pasadena ISD has provided routine updates to the Riverstone Ranch Clear Creek neighborhood leaders shared their updates with the neighbors in Riverstone Ranch Clear Creek and Green Tee.
6. They are aware and informed of Meritage's efforts over the past months to work with Pasadena ISD to swap Pasadena ISD's property on Highland Meadows Drive with Meritage's property at the intersection of Hughes Road and Riverstone Falls Drive.
7. They applaud and appreciate Meritage's willingness and efforts to work with Pasadena ISD to make this possible, as it is in the best interest of the neighborhood walking children and parents, and the to/from school traffic consisting of vehicles and buses, to be at a safer location with faster police, fire, and medical emergency access with the school being located at the intersection of Hughes Road and Riverstone Falls Drive.
8. They understand that there is still work to be done to make this swap of properties official with contracts, agreements, permits, meetings, and the approval of the City of Pearland.
9. They are reaching out to the Pearland officials to ensure the City is informed of the good neighbor relationship with Pasadena ISD and Meritage. It is our request that the City of Pearland works diligently with Pasadena ISD and Meritage to make the swap of properties and the approval of the new school become a reality.
10. As this endeavor is well underway between Pasadena ISD and Meritage, the residents of Riverstone Ranch Clear Creek and Green Tee will now engage and monitor the City of Pearland's progress with the planning, zoning, permitting, meetings, and ultimate approval of the location of the intermediate school at the intersection of Hughes Road and Riverstone Falls Drive.
11. The residents of RRCC and Green Tee want to impress a sense of urgency and request that the City of Pearland fast track the planning, zoning, meetings, permitting, and approval of the new school, which is much needed.
12. The residents believe their attention and efforts to this will make the swap of properties and the location and approval of the new school a reality for the Thompson community.

The fast track planning, zoning, and permitting will be much appreciated, especially as it is definitely warranted for this new school.



Enjoying the festivities of the annual party were, left to right, Denise Burleigh, owner of Insurance for All Ages; David Matthews, Precinct 2 administrative aide to Chris Diaz; Sally Mitchell; and Barry Burleigh, owner of Burleigh Chiropractic.



Above, discussing everything pertaining to Christmas at the event are, left to right, Judy Harrison, former San Jacinto instructor; Mandi Bennett Niscavits, owner of the party caterer D'lish; Precinct 3 Lt. Jerry Garcia and wife Eli Garcia; and Cesar Martinez, senior pastor of CrossRoads UMC Church.



Meeting and greeting at the Christmas party are, left to right, Kenny Koncaba, Texan Bank CEO; Sgt. Blanca Martinez; Kristi Koncaba (Kenny's wife), Texan Bank president and COO; and Texas state Rep. Dennis Paul.

# Meador observes college week



Meador Elementary promoted College Week Nov. 11-15, by having students participate in various activities to gain career and college awareness. Shown top left are, left to right, (front row) second-graders Bella Salazar, Myrion Davis, Dary'n Thomas, Robert Mendoza (back row) principal Beverly Bolton, assistant principal Amy Clowers, school counselor Tara Merida. Shown top right are, left to right, first-grader Nathalie Mai, kindergartener Kevin Duran, second-grader Vance Smith and second-grader Lawrence Turner. Shown above are, left to right, pre-K class (first row) Axel De Ramon Vasquez, Juan Rivera, Iker Galvan, Nathaly Monge, Aiden Rosas, Brandon Villafana, (middle row) Abril Ledezma, Emily Muñoz, Zaid Garcia, Karl Busch, Renata Ledezma, Samuel Fuentes, (back row) Ruth Baranhona, Mateo Guillen, Milton Rodriguez, Marlen Briones, Elias Rodarte and Yareli Mosqueda. The young classmates made college pennants.

Photos by Tara Merida

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Worship Service • 9:00 a.m.	Mid-Week Service • 7:45 p.m.

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# "Gas Can Man" sentenced

Continued from Page 1A  
August 2017 for allegedly threatening the life of a law enforcement officer.

Precinct 8 Constable officials are hopeful the verdict brings closure for area residents.

"We have received countless calls from citizens about Mr. Garcia's antics over the last couple of years, and we hope this ruling brings some peace to the traveling public in the southeast area. We are pleased with this outcome and sincerely hope he learns a lesson from this," a post stated on the Facebook page of the Harris County Precinct 8 Constable's office.

Garcia has an extensive criminal record, including a previous felony charge in



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**Nguyen hosts Christmas festival**

Continued from Page 1A  
 "This project was all about her. I really do believe that Jennie is watching over us." Nguyen, who now splits her time between Houston and California, recalled that her younger sister would often get in trouble at school for sharing too much.  
 "She wouldn't get in trouble for fighting or stealing, she'd be giving away \$20 bills," Nguyen said. "If a 7-year-old can be that kind, why can't the rest of us? Everything I've learned in life, I learned from a 7-year-old."  
 When Jennie Nguyen died, the family relied on donations from the South Belt community to help pay for funeral costs, inspiring Thi Nguyen to repay the favor.  
 "I'm just giving back to the community for what they gave her," Nguyen said. "It's a cycle of giving back."  
 A team of volunteers known as Jennie's Angels as-

sisted Nguyen in organizing the event.  
 "Without them, it wouldn't be possible," Nguyen said. "It takes a village."  
 Nguyen also thanked her husband Bryan Nguyen, who put his own career as a pharmacist on hold to help with his wife's online business.  
 "Without my husband, it can't be done," Nguyen said. "He's been so, so supportive. I can't do it without him."  
 A group of student volunteers from Dobie spent several hours the night before this year's festival wrapping the thousands of toys that Nguyen had donated. (See photo Page 6A.)  
 "They worked like elves," Nguyen said.  
 In addition to the large selection of toys, Nguyen also provided synthetic snow, carnival games, a bounce house, a human-sized snow globe, a photo booth and an appear-

ance by Santa Claus as well as hamburgers, hot dogs and other snacks.  
 Nguyen also credits Dobie Principal Franklin Moses for his help with this year's event.  
 "He's an amazing man" Nguyen said. "Whatever we needed, we got."  
 Nguyen is already planning next year's festival.  
 "Wait until you see next year's event 'Grinchmas,'" Nguyen said, noting she hopes to expand the festival even more. "We live and we learn. We take what we've learned and act on it."  
 Nguyen is hopeful that some students will later reciprocate and give back themselves, as she has done.  
 "I hope that 15 or 20 years from now, a kid who was helped will give back," Nguyen said. "Just one. That's the takeaway from the event. If just one kid comes forward, I've done my job."

**Cheerleaders aid festival**



More than 2,000 people showed up at Dobie High School Saturday, Dec. 7, for the annual Christmas festival, hosted by former South Belt resident Thi Nguyen, also known by her online persona Princess T. Students from eight area elementary schools took part in the event, where they were treated to free gifts, games, food and more. Shown above at the event are varsity cheerleaders Emily Guzman (left) and Kemi Alade, dressed as the Lucy the Longhorn mascot, both of whom volunteered at the festival.  
 Photo submitted

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7:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass (English)

Wednesday, December 25 de diciembre

12:00 am Midnight Mass (English/Ingles)

10:00 am Multilingual Mass/Misa Multilingüe

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# SECTION B SPORTS & CLASSIFIED

## Summer Creek girls get past Dobie; Fwood stops Brook boys

A big 16-2 push in the second quarter was the difference as the state's No. 13 ranked varsity girls' basketball team, Summer Creek, got past Dobie 49-31 in a key District 22-6A battle Dec. 10 at Summer Creek.

The Lady Bulldogs, now 11-2 this season and the top-ranked team in Region III ranks via the

Texas Association of Basketball Coaches, opened up a 27-15 halftime lead and went on to win the game after Dobie had led 13-11 after the first eight minutes.

Summer Creek, the defending Region III champion, improved to 2-0 in league play with the key win after defeating Kingwood in its 22-6A opener

Dec. 6. Dobie, which had a bye Dec. 6, is now 9-5 overall this season and will take on Pasadena Friday, Dec. 13, in a series of games at Phillips Field House in Pasadena. The varsity game tips at 7 p.m.

The Clear Brook boys, meanwhile, entertained Friendswood in a nondistrict battle at Clear Brook Dec. 10, with the Mustangs emerging with a 48-43 win following a late push.

The Wolverines, who lost leading scorer Brandon Andrews to a leg injury in the first quarter, pushed through some adjustments following that to force a 31-31 tie at one point.

But Friendswood, formerly a district foe of the Wolverines, scored nine of the next 11 points from there to take a lead.

The Wolverines, now 8-5 overall, got within two possessions on a number

of occasions but could not close the gap.

Clear Brook is now headed to take on Fulshear Dec. 12 in the Royal ISD Varsity Basketball Invitational that runs through Dec. 14.

## Wolverines roll on; Dobie battles at Katy

Clear Brook proved to be one of the top varsity boys teams at the Carlisle/Krueger Classic Dec. 5-7, winning three of five games and pushing state-ranked Manvel to the brink in its final game to get to 8-4 overall this season.

Meanwhile, Dobie made its final tournament appearance before the all-important District 22-6A race, losing three of four at the Katy ISD Tiger Invitational, also Dec. 5-7.

For Dobie, the crux of Continued on Page 6B

## Dobie's Moreno nets Dedication Award at TTCA banquet

At right, Dobie tennis coach Manuel Moreno Jr. (right) was the recipient of the Loretta Hrcncir Dedication Award during the Texas Tennis Coaches Association's annual Convention and Awards Banquet Dec. 6 in Marble Falls, Texas. With nearly 40 years in the high school ranks, including stops at Galveston's O'Connell, Clear Lake and now Dobie high schools, Moreno has played a key role in the development of hundreds of players over the years. Moreno was named the Class 5A (now Class 6A) Coach of the Year in 2005 and in 2010 was awarded the first-ever Carey Caldwell Character Award. He is currently a TTCA regional director. Presenting Moreno the award in Marble Falls was Stanford University head men's tennis coach Paul Goldstein, who was the guest speaker at the awards banquet and the convention clinician.

Submitted photo



Senior guard Shannon Hayes (3) was one of three players with nine points, but the Longhorns fell to Dekaney in their finale at the Katy ISD Tiger Classic. The Longhorns will open District 22-6A play with a Dec. 13 game at Pasadena. Tipoff is 7 p.m. Photo by John Bechtle

**Dobie girls vs. Pasadena**  
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## High school soccer opens workouts

Do the Dobie varsity boys have it in them to claim a sixth straight district championship despite the increased pressure from Kingwood, Memorial and others?

With all due respect to state-ranked Kingwood and Atascocita, can the

Dobie varsity girls position themselves for a late-season run with an eye on yet another play-

off berth? Can the Clear Brook varsity boys' and girls' teams find a way to reach the postseason while

emerging from two of the toughest top-to-bottom districts in Region III? Continued on Page 3B



At right, Dobie senior Taiya Mitchell (11) is back for her final season as the Lady Longhorns look to make some noise in District 22-6A this season despite the presence of state-ranked Kingwood and Atascocita. Dobie will scrimmage against Alvin Dec. 28 and open the regular season Jan. 2 at the Waller Classic. Photo by John Bechtle

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## JFDers await picks Atascocita loss means AD next

North Shore's 76-49 victory over Atascocita in the Class 6A Division I Region III championship game has opened the door for 22-5A all district football picks to be released. The 22-6A coaching panel met Dec. 10 to decide among the top players across the league. In recent seasons, coaches from all sports have decided to withhold all-district selections until each of the qualifying squads from said district have been eliminated from playoff consideration. As for North Shore,

the Mustangs have now won 13 consecutive games since dropping its 2019 opener to Katy. In pursuit of its second straight state title, the Mustangs will face Lake Travis Dec. 14 in the state semifinals. The other 6A Division I finalists are Duncanville and Rockwall. In 2018, North Shore defeated Lake Travis 51-10 in the state semifinals and then downed Duncanville 41-36 for the title with the help of a last-second Hail Mary touchdown play. See the all district picks in the Dec. 19 issue.

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# Sports news, notes

## Youth baseball camp at Deer Park

The 2019 Deer Park Holiday Baseball camp will be held Dec. 30-31 at Deer Park High School North Campus, 601 8th St., in Deer Park.

The camp is for children ages 6 to 13 and is a skill-specific camp. There will be three sessions, with the first and second coming Monday, Dec. 30. The 9 a.m. to noon session will focus on the basic mechanics of the hitting swing. Hitters will be filmed during this session.

The second session, 1 to 4 p.m., will focus on the advanced aspects of hitting. Hitters will view their film during this session with an instructor.

Session three is Tuesday, Dec. 31st from 9 a.m. to noon and is a defensive session. Campers will choose among pitching, infield or outfield play.

The camp will be conducted by Chris Rupp, head baseball coach at Deer Park High School. The remainder of the staff will be comprised of collegiate and high school coaches.

The cost of the camp is \$50 per session. Campers choosing to attend all 3 sessions will receive a \$25 discount, for a total cost of \$125. For registration information, call 713-231-6009.

## Former Brook coach Sylestine dies

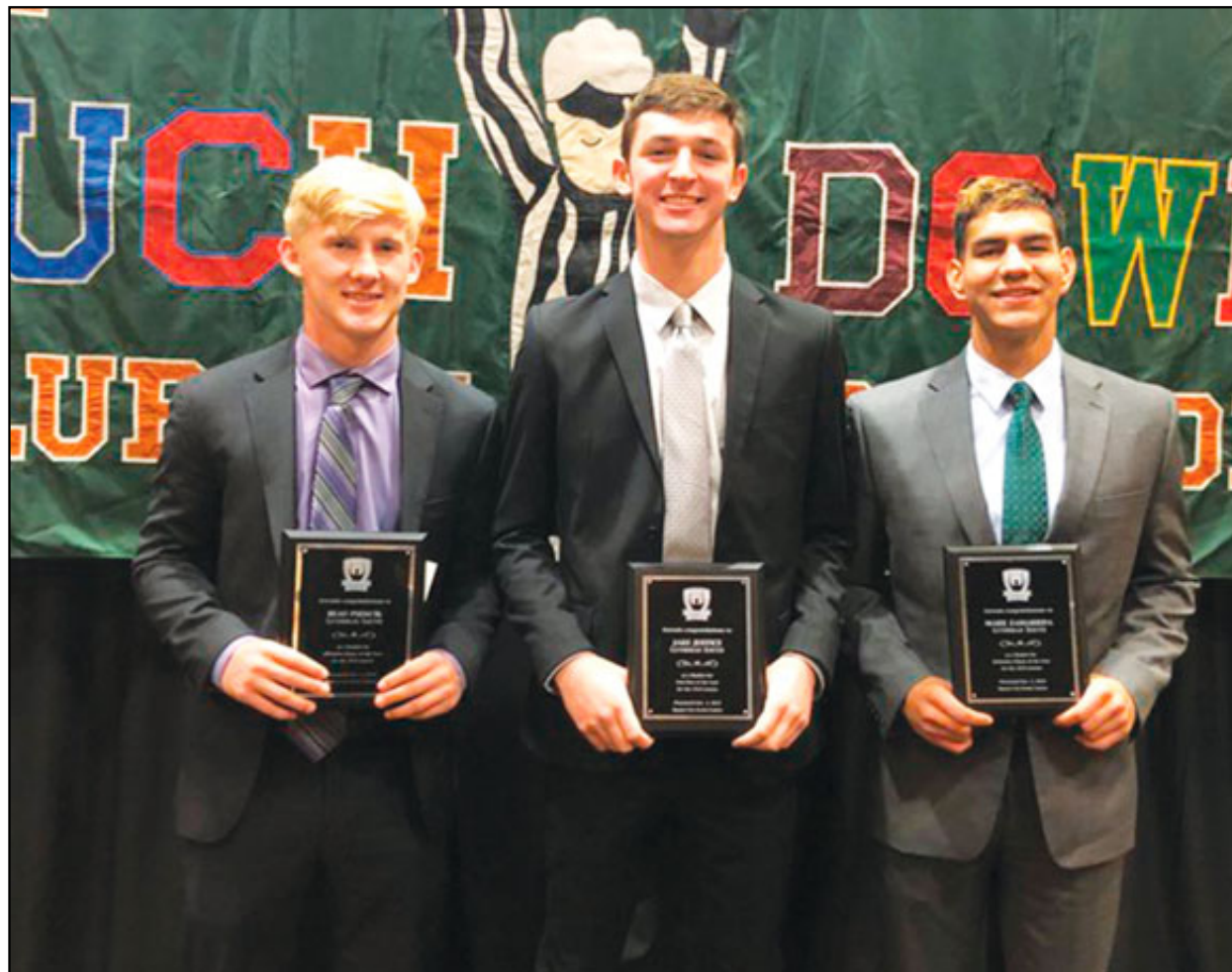
Boyd Sylestine, the first-ever varsity boys' basketball coach at Clear Brook High School, died Dec. 2 at the age of 87.

In a coaching career that spanned 38 years, Sylestine was first a basketball assistant coach at both Clear Creek and Clear Lake high schools before becoming the head boys' basketball coach at Clear Brook when the school opened for the 1988-1989 school year. Sylestine and his wife Patty, were married for 65 years.

## SBGSA seeking coaches

The South Belt Girls Softball Association is seeking volunteer coaches for the 2020 spring season in the 6U, 8U and 14U divisions. No experience in necessary, and team equipment is provided by the league. For more details about coaching opportunities or player registration, call SBGSA player agent Adriana Estrada at 832-891-3579.

# Houston TD Club considers LSA football trio



The Touchdown Club of Houston considered three Lutheran South Academy football players for postseason honors during the TD club's eighth annual Private School Awards Dinner earlier this month. From left, Pioneer running back Beau Pscenk was a finalist for Offensive Player of the Year, while

Jake Justice (center) was considered for the Iron Man Award for his play on both sides of the football. Mark Zamarippa (right) was a finalist for the Defensive Player of the Year Award. The three players were key to Lutheran South's 9-3 season, which included reaching the second round of the playoffs.

# Sports Calendar

Thursday, Dec. 12 through Saturday, Dec. 14  
Brook varsity boys at Royal tourn., TBA

## Friday, Dec. 13

Dobie varsity boys at Pasadena, 7:00  
Dobie varsity girls vs. Pasadena, Phillips, 7:00  
Brook varsity girls at Alief Hastings, 7:00  
Dobie JV girls vs. Pasadena, Phillips, 5:30  
Dobie JV boys at Pasadena, 5:30  
Brook JV girls at Alief Hastings, 5:30  
Dobie sophomore boys at Pasadena, 5:30  
Dobie freshman A girls vs. Pasadena, Phillips, 4:00  
Dobie freshman A boys at Pasadena, 4:00  
Brook freshman A girls at Alief Hastings, 4:00  
Dobie freshman B boys at Pasadena, 4:00

## Monday, Dec. 16

Brook varsity boys at Goose Creek Memorial, 7:00  
Brook JV boys at Goose Creek Memorial, 5:30  
Brook sophomore boys at Goose Creek Memorial, 5:30  
Brook freshman A boys at Goose Creek Memorial, 4:00  
Brook freshman B boys at Goose Creek Memorial, 4:00

## Tuesday, Dec. 17

Dobie varsity girls at Humble, 7:00  
Dobie varsity boys host Humble, 7:00  
Brook varsity boys host Friendswood, 7:00  
Brook varsity girls host Clear Creek, 7:00  
Dobie JV girls at Humble, 5:30  
Dobie JV boys host Humble, 5:30  
Brook JV boys host Friendswood, 5:30  
Dobie sophomore boys host Humble, 5:30  
Brook sophomore boys host Friendswood, 5:30  
Brook freshman A girls host Clear Creek, 4:00  
Brook freshman A boys host Friendswood, 4:00  
Dobie freshman A boys host Humble, 4:00  
Dobie freshman A girls at Humble, 4:00  
Brook freshman B boys host Friendswood, 4:00  
Dobie freshman B boys host Humble, 4:00

## Wednesday, Dec. 18

Beverly Hills 8A boys at Jackson, 5:30  
Beverly Hills 8B boys at Jackson, 4:30  
Beverly Hills 7A boys at Jackson, 5:30  
Beverly Hills 7B boys at Jackson, 4:30  
Beverly Hills 8A girls host Jackson, 5:30  
Beverly Hills 8B girls host Jackson, 4:30  
Beverly Hills 7A girls host Jackson, 5:30  
Beverly Hills 7B girls host Jackson, 4:30  
Thompson 8A boys at San Jacinto, 5:30  
Thompson 8B boys at San Jacinto, 4:30  
Thompson 7A boys at San Jacinto, 5:30  
Thompson 7B boys at San Jacinto, 4:30  
Thompson 8A girls host San Jacinto, 5:30  
Thompson 8B girls host San Jacinto, 4:30  
Thompson 7A girls host San Jacinto, 5:30  
Thompson 7B girls host San Jacinto, 4:30

## Friday, Dec. 20

Dobie varsity boys at Kingwood, 7:00  
Brook varsity boys host F.B. Austin, 7:00  
Dobie varsity girls host Kingwood, 7:00  
Brook varsity girls at Clear Falls, 7:00  
Brook JV boys host F.B. Austin, 5:30  
Brook JV girls at Clear Falls, 5:30  
Dobie JV girls host Kingwood, 5:30  
Dobie JV boys at Kingwood, 5:30  
Dobie sophomore boys at Kingwood, 5:30  
Brook sophomore boys host F.B. Austin, 5:30  
Dobie freshman A boys at Kingwood, 4:00  
Brook freshman A girls at Clear Falls, 4:00  
Dobie freshman A girls host Kingwood, 4:00  
Dobie freshman B boys at Kingwood, 4:00

# Swing Queens 6U wins Alvin softball



The 6-under Swing Queens of the South Belt Girls Coaches Association successfully closed out the 2019 fall season by taking first place in the Santa Fe Toys For Tots Round Robin in Alvin. Members of the Swing Queens are, left to right, (front row) Shannon Logan, Sophia Paz, Kinley Brister, Isabelle Gutierrez, Audryna St. Romain, (middle row) Isabella Granados, Miranda Coronado, Brianna Quiroga, Arianna Quiroga, Ava Castro, Sydney Logan, (back row) assistant coach Manuel Coronado, head coach Pedro Gutierrez and assistant coach Armando Quiroga.

# Lockwood grabs All-American bid



Former Clear Brook volleyball star Jordan Lockwood (center), fresh off helping Navarro College to the National Junior College Athletic Association Division I national championship, was named a first team All-American after logging 397 kills this season and being named the Most Valuable Player of the Division I national tournament.

# Lajaunie tennis takes in rackets

Founders of the Darren Lajaunie Memorial Scholarship Fund are teaming with the Harry Taylor Tennis Center and Pasadena Primary Care, 3915 Spencer Highway.

Visit the Darren Lajaunie Tennis Scholarships page on Facebook to gather additional information about the racket drive or to learn more on how to assist with the Lajaunie scholarship fund moving forward.

In order to arrange the pickup of a donated racket, call the Lajaunie Memorial Tennis Scholarship office at 281-480-6933.

All donated rackets will be restrung and then given to junior tennis players as they learn the ins and outs of tennis at either the Harry Taylor Tennis Center or at their respective Pasadena ISD school campus.

## Brook girls' hoops now 12-8

Clear Springs is the team to beat in the District 24-6A varsity girls' basketball race for now, but the Clear Brook bunch is threatening to make a move as the league battle nears.

Despite a 64-54 loss at Katy Dec. 10 in non-district action, the Lady

# Brook's Ferguson second at Bay Oaks



Clear Brook varsity girls' golfer Jessica Ferguson fired an 83 to place second overall among a field of 58 golfers at the Bay Oaks Invitational Dec. 9. According to Lady Wolverines' coach Todd Burrows, Ferguson has played exceptionally well to this point and could be in line for sub 80 rounds at district with an eye toward reaching regionals. Brook junior Avery Perez has also excelled and could see big things ahead on the links. Burrows is also working with three freshmen at the varsity level.

# Brook's Newsome is TGCA all-state pick

At right, Clear Brook volleyball star Kailin Newsome has been named an all-state selection by the Texas Girls Coaches Association after capping her career by leading the Lady Wolverines to their first-ever district championship. Along the way, Newsome established new school records for both kills in a career and kills in a single season. A four-year varsity letterwinner, she was also named the Most Valuable Player in the 24-6A ranks after guiding Clear Brook to an 11-1 record in league play. Last month, she signed a letter of intent to continue her education and playing career at Southeastern Louisiana University in Hammond, La., where she plans to play both indoor and beach volleyball for the Lions.



# High school soccer set to get underway

**Continued from Page 1B**  
 The 2019 season was not kind to Clear Brook in varsity girls' or boys' play, but this is a new season, and there are more opportunities on the way.  
 Three Clear Creek ISD programs, including champion Clear Springs, second place Clear Falls and fourth-place Clear Creek made the playoffs a season ago along with Alvin on the girls' side, and the Lady Wolverines are looking to make headway in 2020.  
 At Dobie, the boys' team has been the best in District 22-6A for five years now.  
 Despite an area round playoff loss to Strake Jesuit in a shootout last season, the Longhorns are the champions of the district until proven otherwise.  
 The Lady Longhorns, meanwhile, have defender Taiya Mitchell back for her final season and look to improve upon last season's third-place district finish and subsequent first round playoff loss.



# Former Gator Soularie draws MLB.com lauds

Alerick Soularie, who played high school baseball at Atascocita and then played as a freshman at San Jacinto College, is currently at No. 69 in MLB.com's 2020 list of draftable players. As a sophomore at the University of Tennessee, Soularie was third in the Southeastern Conference in both hitting (.357) and slugging percentage (.602). He and the Vols have already begun pre-season work toward 2020.



At right, Dobie sophomore Isaac Cortez benefited greatly from being at the varsity level in 2019 as a first-year high school player, and for 2020, he just may be one of the key scoring options as the Longhorns transition in that phase.

## Pasadena ISD Girls' Intermediate Basketball

8A Records	Div.			Overall		
Division 1	W	L	T	W	L	T
Miller	1	0	0	3	0	0
Southmore	1	0	0	2	1	0
San Jacinto	0	0	0	2	1	0
Thompson	0	1	0	2	1	0
South Houston	0	1	0	0	3	0

**Game Scores**  
 Miller 38, Thompson 34  
 San Jacinto 45, Jackson 5  
 Southmore 25, South Houston 21

Division 2	W	L	T	W	L	T
Queens	1	0	0	2	1	0
Beverly Hills	1	0	0	1	2	0
Jackson	0	0	0	1	2	0
Park View	0	1	0	1	2	0
Bondy	0	1	0	1	2	0

**Game Scores**  
 Beverly Hills 43, Bondy 41  
 Queens 37, Park View 18

8B Records	Div.			Overall		
Division 1	W	L	T	W	L	T
Thompson	1	0	0	3	0	0
Southmore	1	0	0	2	1	0
San Jacinto	0	0	0	2	1	0
South Houston	0	1	0	2	1	0
Miller	0	1	0	1	2	0

**Game Scores**  
 Southmore 19, South Houston 11  
 Thompson 32, Miller 14  
 San Jacinto 14, Jackson 4

Division 2	W	L	T	W	L	T
Park View	1	0	0	3	0	0
Bondy	1	0	0	2	1	0
Jackson	0	0	0	0	3	0
Beverly Hills	0	1	0	0	3	0
Queens	0	1	0	0	3	0

**Game Scores**  
 Park View 31, Queens 9  
 Bondy 34, Beverly Hills 5

## Pasadena ISD Girls' Intermediate Basketball

7A Records	Div.			Overall		
Division 1	W	L	T	W	L	T
Thompson	1	0	0	3	0	0
South Houston	1	0	0	3	0	0
San Jacinto	0	0	0	3	0	0
Southmore	0	1	0	1	2	0
Miller	0	1	0	0	3	0

**Game Scores**  
 San Jacinto 40, Jackson 11  
 Thompson 41, Miller 8  
 South Houston 49, Southmore 8

Division 2	W	L	T	W	L	T
Bondy	1	0	0	2	1	0
Park View	1	0	0	2	1	0
Jackson	0	0	0	0	3	0
Beverly Hills	0	1	0	1	2	0
Queens	0	1	0	0	3	0

**Game Scores**  
 Bondy 36, Beverly Hills 23  
 Park View 14, Queens 12

7B Records	Div.			Overall		
Division 1	W	L	T	W	L	T
Thompson	1	0	0	3	0	0
South Houston	1	0	0	3	0	0
San Jacinto	0	0	0	2	1	0
Miller	0	1	0	1	2	0
Southmore	0	1	0	1	2	0

**Game Scores**  
 Thompson 37, Miller 3  
 South Houston 22, Southmore 20  
 San Jacinto 14, Jackson 6

Division 2	W	L	T	W	L	T
Bondy	1	0	0	2	1	0
Queens	1	0	0	1	2	0
Jackson	0	0	0	0	3	0
Beverly Hills	0	1	0	2	1	0
Park View	0	1	0	0	3	0

**Game Scores**  
 Queens 23, Park View 12  
 Bondy 25, Beverly Hills 6

## Pioneer FB earns AS, AD honors

Lutheran South Academy running back Beau Pscenk capped his stellar career with the Pioneers, earning Texas Association of Private and Parochial 5A Division II all state honors Dec. 10 in Waco.  
 Fellow seniors Jake Justice, at receiver, and linebacker Mark Zamarippa were second team all-state honorees, and Justice made the honorable mention all-state list for his play at defensive end.  
 The three were key cogs in a 9-3 season.

**LSA all-district**  
 Having completed a highly-successful 9-3 overall football season that included a trip to the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools second playoff round, several Lutheran South Academy players were recognized with various all-district accolades for their play during the 2019 season.  
 Pscenk, Jake Justice and Zamarippa, all Touch-down Club of Houston postseason award finalists, headed the Pioneers' 5A Division II first team honorees.  
 LSA place-kicker Nick Hatch and offensive line  
**Continued on Page 6B**

## Brook girls playing well

**Continued from Page 2B**  
 After that tough first day, the Lady Wolverines crushed Leander by a 62-26 count and then got another win by a 59-35 score over Concordia Lutheran.  
 In its final game of the tournament, head coach Brandon Hudson's team handled Boyd easily, winning 56-34 to get its 12th win.  
 Clear Brook will play at Alief Hastings Dec. 13. District 24-6A play begins Dec. 17 as the Lady Wolverines host the Clear Creek Lady Wildcats.

## Pasadena ISD Boys' Intermediate Basketball

8A Records	Div.			Overall		
Division 1	W	L	T	W	L	T
Thompson	1	0	0	3	0	0
South Houston	1	0	0	3	0	0
San Jacinto	0	0	0	2	1	0
Miller	0	1	0	2	1	0
Southmore	0	1	0	2	1	0

**Game Scores**  
 San Jacinto 52, Jackson 23  
 Thompson 70, Miller 22  
 South Houston 67, Southmore 29

Division 2	W	L	T	W	L	T
Beverly Hills	1	0	0	3	0	0
Queens	1	0	0	1	2	0
Jackson	0	0	0	0	3	0
Bondy	0	1	0	1	2	0
Park View	0	1	0	0	3	0

**Game Scores**  
 Beverly Hills 56, Bondy 18  
 Queens 54, Park View 17

8B Records	Div.			Overall		
Division 1	W	L	T	W	L	T
Thompson	1	0	0	3	0	0
South Houston	1	0	0	3	0	0
San Jacinto	0	0	0	2	1	0
Southmore	0	1	0	1	2	0
Miller	0	1	0	1	2	0

**Game Scores**  
 Thompson 36, Miller 20  
 South Houston 35, Southmore 26  
 San Jacinto 56, Jackson 17

Division 2	W	L	T	W	L	T
Beverly Hills	1	0	0	3	0	0
Queens	1	0	0	1	2	0
Jackson	0	0	0	0	3	0
Bondy	0	1	0	1	2	0
Park View	0	1	0	0	3	0

**Game Scores**  
 Beverly Hills 40, Bondy 39  
 Queens 24, Park View 23

## Pasadena ISD Boys' Intermediate Basketball

7A Records	Div.			Overall		
Division 1	W	L	T	W	L	T
Thompson	1	0	0	3	0	0
South Houston	1	0	0	3	0	0
San Jacinto	0	0	0	2	1	0
Miller	0	1	0	1	2	0
Southmore	0	1	0	1	2	0

**Game Scores**  
 San Jacinto 39, Jackson 17  
 Thompson 55, Miller 36  
 South Houston 63, Southmore 38

Division 2	W	L	T	W	L	T
Beverly Hills	1	0	0	3	0	0
Queens	1	0	0	1	2	0
Jackson	0	0	0	1	2	0
Park View	0	1	0	0	3	0
Bondy	0	1	0	1	2	0

**Game Scores**  
 Beverly Hills 59, Bondy 11  
 Queens 45, Park View 11

7B Records	Div.			Overall		
Division 1	W	L	T	W	L	T
Thompson	1	0	0	3	0	0
Southmore	1	0	0	2	1	0
San Jacinto	0	0	0	2	1	0
Miller	0	1	0	1	2	0
South Houston	0	1	0	1	2	0

**Game Scores**  
 San Jacinto 29, Jackson 2  
 Thompson 49, Miller 11  
 Southmore 33, South Houston 16

Division 2	W	L	T	W	L	T
Bondy	1	0	0	2	1	0
Park View	1	0	0	1	2	0
Jackson	0	0	0	0	3	0
Beverly Hills	0	1	0	2	1	0
Queens	0	1	0	1	2	0

**Game Scores**  
 Bondy 22, Beverly Hills 15  
 Park View 26, Queens 21

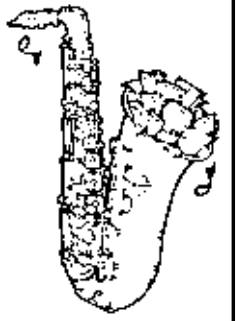
# CALENDAR

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12**  
 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.  
 7:30 a.m.  
**Rotary Club of Pearland** - Meets Thursdays at 7:30 a.m. at Allendale's Kitchen & Cocktails, 5010 Broadway St., in Pearland. Variety of speakers. For information, call 281-900-7257 or email nalix@texascitizensbank.com.  
 9:30 a.m.  
**NASA Aglow Community Lighthouse** - Second Thursday of the month, 9:30 a.m., Praise Chapel, 18516 Hwy. 3 in Webster. The public is welcome and encouraged to bring others. For details, call 281-910-1971 or visit aglownet.org.  
 10 a.m.  
**Fun Bunch** - for senior citizens, ages 55 and older, meets the second Thursday of each month at 10 a.m. at the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce, 10500 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call Ronn Canon at 281-610-8999 or the chamber at 281-481-5516.  
**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email at jpochnsr@aol.com 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.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 3525 Broadway, Pearland. For details, call

713-686-6300.  
 7 p.m.  
**Kirkwood Civic Association** meets at the South Belt Chamber of Commerce, 10500 Scarsdale (new location), Dec. 12 instead of the last Thursday in December. For more information, call Ericka McCrutchon at 281-989-9990.  
 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 Sawa Restaurant and Grill, 16608 El Camino Real. This is the conservative synagogue in the Bay Area. For details, contact the 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 713-661-4200.  
**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13**  
 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 or email the director at jpochnsr@aol.com for details.  
 7 p.m.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com.  
 8 p.m.  
**Serenity Now Al-Anon Group** - meets at CrossRoads UMC Fridays, 8 to 9 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Family members and friends of problem drinkers/

addicts share, learn Al-Anon principles, that they are not alone, and discover choices available. For details, call 281-484-9243.  
**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14**  
 7:30 a.m.  
**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.  
 11 a.m.  
**Al-Anon Meeting (Women Only, English)** - For women affected by an addict. Saturdays, 11 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, Cornell Conference room #111. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.  
 1 p.m.  
**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - Open games Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at jpochnsr@aol.com for details.  
 8 p.m.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** - meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call 281-484-9243.  
**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15**  
 1 p.m.  
**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - Open games Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at jpochnsr@aol.com for details.  
 2 p.m.  
**Grief Support Group** - For adults who have lost a loved one. Meets Sundays, except Mother's Day, Easter and Christmas, 2 to 3:15 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena. For details, call 281-487-8787.  
 5:30 p.m.  
**Celebrate Recovery** - A faith-based 12-Step Program,

Sundays, 5:30 p.m., in the Chapel at Life Church, 9900 Alameda Genoa. Call 713-419-2635 for details or to RSVP for child care.  
 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.  
**MONDAY, DECEMBER 16**  
 10 a.m.  
**Al-Anon Deer Park** - Mondays, 10 - 11 a.m. Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P Street, Deer Park. Enter through back of church. Call 409-454-5720 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 or email jpochnsr@aol.com for details.  
 11:30 a.m.  
**Overeaters Anonymous Deer Park** - 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P Street, Deer Park. Enter through Fellowship Hall in back of church. Call 409-454-5720 for details, or drop in.  
 Noon  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 3525 Broadway, Pearland. For details, call 713-686-6300.  
 2 p.m.  
**Genealogy Group** - The Parker Williams Genealogy group meets from 2 - 4 p.m. on the first and third Mondays at the Parker Williams Library, Beamer at Scarsdale. The public is invited to attend. For details, email Liz Hicks at erootrot@usa.net.  
 6 p.m.  
**Scrabble Club #511** - Meets Monday at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua. Come, improve crossword playing skills. Call 281-488-2923 for details.  
**Continued on Page 4B**



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**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](http://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!

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## CALENDAR


Continued from Page 3B  
**MONDAY, DECEMBER 16**  
 6:30 p.m.  
**Toastmasters** - The Young Professionals Southeast Toastmasters Club #05324194 meets Mondays, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m., at the South Belt Chamber of Commerce, 10500 Scarsdale Blvd., next to the fire station. For details, call Karen Nunn at 832-722-9061 or Carolyn Carmichael at 832-372-3565 or visit <https://youngprofessionalstoastmasters.com/>.  
 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](http://www.crisishotline.org) or call 832-416-1177.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit [www.hascona.com](http://www.hascona.com).  
 7 p.m.  
**The Clear Lake Gem and Mineral Society** - Meets the third Monday at Clear Lake Park Bldg., 5001 NASA Pkwy., Seabrook. Presenters explore topics such as fossils, planetary geology, mineralogy, lapidary, jewelry making, fossil and mineral collecting. Field trips to Texas collecting sites and surrounding states. Door prizes. Free parking. For details, visit [www.clgms.org](http://www.clgms.org).  
**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 sessions for non-members. Everyone is welcome. For details, contact 281-488-5861 or [csh@shaarhashalom.org](mailto:csh@shaarhashalom.org).  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Saint Luke's 12 Step Recovery, open meeting Mondays, 7:30 p.m. in the Education Bldg., 11011 Hall Rd., For details, call Jesse at 832-725-8479 or Rita at 281-309-2801.  
**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17**  
 7 a.m.  
**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 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, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at [jpochnsr@aol.com](mailto:jpochnsr@aol.com) for details.  
 Noon  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 3525 Broadway, Pearland. For details, call 713-686-6300.  
 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.  
**Free dance lessons** - taught by Lewis and Betty Whistler (35 years of experience) at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 E League City Parkway, on Tuesdays. Bringing a partner is not required. There is a different dance focus monthly. For details, call Betty at 832-517-5833. For questions about League City's activity card, call the park office at 281-554-1180.  
 1:30 p.m.  
**TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)** - #1530 meets at the Sagemont Park Community Center, 11507 Hughes Rd., For details, call Jeanette Sumrall at 713-946-3713.  
 2 p.m.  
**The National Active and Retired Federal Employees** - NARFE Chapter 941 meets the third Tuesday, El Franco Lee Park Community Center, 9500 Hall Rd. Visitors welcome. For details, call Roy at 713-734-1461 or EFL Center at 281-464-9708. No meeting in Aug.  
**Clear Lake Bridge Club Lab Class** - Tuesday, 2 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. For details/classes, contact Dr. Glandorf at [drglanford@sbcglobal.net](mailto:drglanford@sbcglobal.net) or 281-488-6318.  
 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 building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit [www.hascona.com](http://www.hascona.com).  
**Positive Interaction Program** - meets the third Tuesday, 7 p.m., at Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital, 11800 Astoria, first floor staff meeting room. PIP is police and citizens working together making neighborhoods safer. Bring a friend. For information, call Officer Richard Buitron at 281-218-3900.  
**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18**  
 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.  
**Carmelites** - a nondenominational senior citizen social group that meets at St. Bernadette Catholic Church, 15500 El Camino Real, in Clear Lake on the first and third Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. for a time filled with fun, fellowship, lending library, coffee and bingo. The meetings are open to those ages 50 and older, with no dues. Day trips and extended trips are available. Deposits are being taken for Black Hills, Badlands and Legends of the West in South Dakota, July 15-21, 2020; and a Hawaiian Cruise on the Pride of America/Norwegian Cruise Line, Nov. 7-14 2020. For additional information, call Marilyn 713-444-6744.  
 9:30 a.m.  
**The Community Club** - meets monthly on the third Wednesday at Golden Corral, 4021 Spencer Hwy., in Pasadena. Social time is 9:30 a.m.; meeting is at 10 a.m. The club is a charitable organization of women helping the Salvation Army feed and care for homebound elderly/disabled people, children and the homeless, providing scholarships for Bridge Over Troubled Water clients. Day trips may be scheduled, followed by a guest speaker/program with fellowship and lunch. New members and guests are invited. For details, email [Jmopry@yahoo.com](mailto:Jmopry@yahoo.com).  
 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 or email the director at [jpochnsr@aol.com](mailto:jpochnsr@aol.com) for details.  
 11:30 a.m.  
**Houston Hobby Airport Lions Club** - meets monthly, first and third Wednesday, Golden Corral, 4021 Spencer Hwy., Pasadena. December may be an exception. For information, email Teresa Dover at [doverbookkeeper@aol.com](mailto:doverbookkeeper@aol.com).  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 3525 Broadway, Pearland. For details, call 713-686-6300.  
 1 - 3:30 p.m.  
**Hometown Heroes Park** - has Hump Day Dance to practice ballroom dances (not lessons) in a casual environment. A variety of rhythms are played from entry to advanced dancing levels at 1001 E. League City Pkwy. League City nonresidents must purchase activity card (see Tuesday 12:30 p.m. dance for details). Help is available to assist learning dance moves. For details information on the activity card, call the city at 281-554-1180.  
 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 building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit [www.hascona.com](http://www.hascona.com).  
**Bay Area Turning Point Crisis Intervention** - Call 281-286-2525 (24-hour crisis hotline) for confidential domestic violence/sexual abuse support for women. Visit [www.bayareaturningpoint.org](http://www.bayareaturningpoint.org) for details.  
 8 p.m.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** - meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call 281-484-9243.

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**South Belt-Ellington Leader**  
**Leader Reader Ads**      **Deadline: Noon Tuesday**  
 Personal: 25 Words - \$8 • 3 Weeks \$21  
 Business: 25 Words - \$10 • 3 Weeks \$27  
 no changes, no refunds  
 Ads Are Not Taken Over The Phone  
 Make checks payable to:  
**South Belt-Ellington Leader**  
 11555 Beamer Road, Houston, TX 77089  
**281-481-5656**  
 After Hours: Use mail slot in front of building facing Beamer.

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

**Need Help Finding Your Dream Home?**  
  
**Let the Leader Classifieds Be Your Guide!**

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 Have a happy and safe  
**Holiday Season**  
 with family and friends!  
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**Dobie senior Sirron Ward (11) and his teammates are off to a 4-8 start through the vast majority of nondistrict play, with the locals looking to start District 22-6A play with a win as they play at Pasadena Dec. 13. Pasadena has won four of nine games to begin the season.**  
Photo by John Bechtle

## Brook, Dobie boys navigate tourney time

**Continued from Page 1B** nondistrict action is now complete, with the locals looking to get off on the right foot against Pasadena Dec. 13, at Pasadena.

A season ago, the Eagles made things rough for the Longhorns, winning both games in league play and ultimately finishing ahead of Dobie in the district standings.

But this is a new season, and the Longhorns have every reason to believe a run to the playoffs can be made.

**Katy invite proves tough**  
The Longhorns got going well at the Katy ISD Tiger Classic, dumping Seven Lakes 54-44 as Juan Robinson continued his strong play with a team-high 20 points and seven rebounds.

Dobie's leading scorer this season, Marquice Scott had 10 points as the locals used an 18-8 third-quarter edge to grab the win.

Later in the day, Klein Collins came out with a 22-11 first quarter, leading to a 64-55 win as the Longhorns were sent to the silver bracket. Scott led the way with 21 points.

Dobie then lost 88-62 to Cy-Creek and 54-37 to Dekaney to end play in the event.

Scott had 14 points for Dobie, which also got 11 from Jaylon Jackson against Cy-Creek.

Clear Brook opened the Carlisle/Krueger Classic in a big way, hammering

Kempner 55-30 and then taking down Lake Creek 43-40 to reach the gold bracket division of the tournament.

In the opener Dec. 6, the Wolverines were overpowered by Fort Bend Bush as the Broncos cruised to an easy 53-38 victory to advance.

In a battle between District 24-6A foes, the Wolverines played to their pace and came up with a big 78-73 victory over Clear Springs to move on in the tournament.

Turning to Manvel, now the No. 7 ranked team in the Class 5A ranks according to the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches, the Wolverines took the Mustangs to the brink before dropping a 55-53 decision.

Summer Creek, now the No. 2 ranked squad in the TABC boys' rankings, defeated Fort Bend Bush 67-60 in the Carlisle/Krueger championship.

During high school play, Hedrick became Clear Brook's all-time leading scorer under then head coach Rick Sickmillier.

Once his collegiate career began, Hedrick switched to defense.

Per the release: One of the most veteran USL Championship players of all time is coming back to FC Tulsa.

Defender Cyprian Hedrick will return to the club for the 2020 season, pending league and federation approval.

"I'm excited to be a small part of the big changes happening with soccer here in Tulsa," said Hedrick.

"I can't wait to get to work with my teammates to give this city a team they want to get behind and support."

The center back from Cameroon in Central Africa is entering his eighth season in the league and is in the record books for his durability, sitting at 15th all time with 166 regular season USL championship matches played.

His 13,854 league minutes come in at 10th all time since league records started being kept in 2013, Hedrick's rookie season.

Last season, Hedrick proved that durability in his first season in Tulsa, playing every minute of his 33 appearances and missing just a single match due to yellow card suspension.

His 2,970 minutes led the team last season as Cyprian wore the captain's armband in all 33 of his matches.

"With any team, it is

important that you have players that understand your principles, said FC Tulsa head coach Michael Nsien.

"Cyprian not only understands my expectations of the team and the players, he is approaching 170 games in this league, and he knows how to compete at this level successfully."

He had five sacks. Hatch, a sophomore, made good on 40 of 46 extra-point tries this season and also converted each of his three field goal tries.

Degollado paced an offensive line that allowed the Pioneers to produce more than 4,500 yards this season, including just more than 380 per game.

The Pioneers' second team all-district choices included two more offensive linemen as well as two defensive backs.

Luke Harrison, the team's starter at quarterback, was also a second teamer after throwing for nearly 2,200 yards and 31 touchdowns.

Harrison also rushed for seven more scores as a dual-threat signal-caller.

Sophomore running back Syr Bailey stepped in this season and added punch to the team's ground game with 840 yards rushing and 10 scores. He averaged nearly eight yards per attempt

and also caught 11 passes.

LSA offensive linemen Nikko Modica and Jason Bradshaw were elected to the second team, as were defensive backs Easton Brenner and Cade Goldstraw.

Four LSA defensive players, including defensive linemen Nate Dobson and Austin Dean as well as linebackers Kaleb Hicks and Thatcher Hahhad, were honorable mention list picks.

Phoenix, Hedrick played for OKC Energy FC from 2014-2016, making the playoffs twice including the Conference Finals in 2015. After three seasons in Oklahoma City, Hedrick went to San Antonio for the 2017 and 2018 seasons.

Hedrick joins forward Marlon dos Santos Prazeres and midfielder Cristhian Altamirano as players announced to FC Tulsa's 2020 roster.

Following one season in

re-signed with FC Tulsa for the 2020 season. He consistently been a top defender as a professional player in his eighth season now. Hedrick this month

FC Tulsa photo

# Lutheran South football players score all district

**Continued from Page 1B** man Gabriel Degollado were also named to the first team.

Pscencik saw his brilliant career come to a close after the second-round playoff loss, but what a career it was.

In 2019, Pscencik scored 15 touchdowns and rushed for nearly 1,000 yards while also catching 29 passes for 571 yards and another nine scores. He also delivered big in the return

game, for instance taking the opening kickoff to the season.

Justice, the team's leading receiver in 2018 and now in 2019, had 44 grabs for 812 yards and 11 touchdowns.

On defense, Justice excelled from his linebacking spot with 51 tackles in all, including a team-high six sacks of the quarterback.

Zamarippa led the Pioneers with 97 total tackles, including 67 solo stops.

Hedrick entering eighth season

## FC Tulsa brings back former Brook star

**Editor's Note:** The following release was delivered via Twitter Dec. 9 after FC Tulsa re-signed Clear Brook High School graduate and former San Jacinto College standout Cyp Hedrick for the upcoming 2020 United Soccer League campaign.

During high school play, Hedrick became Clear Brook's all-time leading scorer under then head coach Rick Sickmillier.

Once his collegiate career began, Hedrick switched to defense.

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"I can't wait to get to work with my teammates to give this city a team they want to get behind and support."

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Following one season in

re-signed with FC Tulsa for the 2020 season. He consistently been a top defender as a professional player in his eighth season now. Hedrick this month

FC Tulsa photo



**Clear Brook has benefited from balanced scoring this season, with Jordan Baker (above) as a solid contributor. Now at 8-5 overall, the Wolverines are headed to the Royal ISD varsity tournament.**



**A big-time scorer at Clear Brook, Cyp Hedrick has consistently been a top defender as a professional player in his eighth season now. Hedrick this month**  
FC Tulsa photo

Dobie Longhorns Varsity Boys' Soccer		
Date	Opponent	Time
Dec. 28	at Alvin scrimm.	(noon)
Jan. 2-4	at PISD Cup	(TBA)
Jan. 9-11	at Austin tourn.	(TBA)
Jan. 15	Aldine MacArthur (V)	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 20	*Summer Creek (V)	(5:30 p.m.)
Jan. 25	*Pasadena (V)	(noon)
Jan. 28	*Humble (SJC)	(7:30 p.m.)
Jan. 31	*at Kingwood (V)	(7:30 p.m.)
Feb. 4	*Atascocita (V)	(5:30 p.m.)
Feb. 7	*Sam Rayburn (V)	(5:30)
Feb. 11	*South Houston (V)	(7:30 p.m.)
Feb. 15	*Memorial (V)	(2 p.m.)
Feb. 21	*at Summer Creek	(7:30.m.)
Feb. 24	*Pasadena (V)	(5:30 p.m.)
Feb. 28	*at Humble	(7:30 p.m.)
March 3	*Kingwood (SJC)	(7:30 p.m.)
March 6	*at Atascocita	(7:30 p.m.)
March 9	*Sam Rayburn (V)	(6 p.m.)
March 16	*South Houston (V)	(8:30 p.m.)
March 21	*Memorial (V)	(10 a.m.)
* District 22-6A matches		
(V) Veterans Stadium, Pasadena		
(T) Turner Stadium, Humble		

Dobie Longhorns Varsity Girls' Soccer		
Date	Opponent	Time
Dec. 28	at Alvin scrimm.	(noon)
Jan. 2-4	at Waller Classic	(TBA)
Jan. 9-11	at Port Neches tourn.	(TBA)
Jan. 21	*at Summer Creek	(7:30 p.m.)
Jan. 24	*Pasadena (V)	(5:30 p.m.)
Jan. 28	*at Humble (T)	(7:30 p.m.)
Jan. 31	*Kingwood (V)	(8:30 p.m.)
Feb. 4	*at Atascocita	(7:30 p.m.)
Feb. 8	*Sam Rayburn (V)	(noon)
Feb. 10	*South Houston (V)	(5:30 p.m.)
Feb. 14	*Memorial (SJC)	(7:30 p.m.)
Feb. 22	*Summer Creek (V)	(10 a.m.)
Feb. 25	*Pasadena (V)	(7:30 p.m.)
Feb. 28	*Humble (V)	(8:30 p.m.)
March 3	*at Kingwood	(7:30 p.m.)
March 6	*Atascocita (SJC)	(7:30 p.m.)
March 9	*Sam Rayburn (V)	(2 p.m.)
March 16	*South Houston (V)	(2:30 p.m.)
March 21	*Memorial (V)	(4 p.m.)
* District 22-6A matches		
(V) Veterans Stadium, Pasadena		
(T) Turner Stadium, Humble		
(SCJ) San Jacinto College South, Beamer		

Brook Wolverines Varsity Boys' Soccer		
Date	Opponent	Time
Dec. 13	Pas. Memorial scrimm.	(5:30 p.m.)
Dec. 19	Strake Jesuit scrimm.	(5 p.m.)
Dec. 31	at Dawson scrimm.	(noon)
Jan. 3	at Scarborough	(2 p.m.)
Jan. 7	at C.E. King	(7:30 p.m.)
Jan. 9-11	at Clear Creek ISD tourn.	TBA
Jan. 14	Texas City	(7:30 p.m.)
Jan. 16	at Katy Mojo	(TBA)
Jan. 21	at Dayton	(5:30 p.m.)
Jan. 24	*at Clear Creek	(7:30 p.m.)
Jan. 28	*Clear Falls	(7:30 p.m.)
Jan. 31	*Clear Springs	(7:30 p.m.)
Feb. 7	*Dickinson (CCS)	(7:30 p.m.)
Feb. 11	*Alvin	(7:30 p.m.)
Feb. 14	*Clear Lake	(7:30 p.m.)
Feb. 18	*Clear Creek	(7:30 p.m.)
Feb. 21	*at Clear Falls	(7:30 p.m.)
Feb. 25	*at Clear Springs	(7:30 p.m.)
March 5	*at Dickinson	(7:30 p.m.)
March 17	*at Alvin	(7:30 p.m.)
March 20	*at Clear Lake	(7:30 p.m.)
* District 24-6A matches		
(V) Challenger Stadium, Webster		

Brook Wolverines Varsity Girls' Soccer		
Date	Opponent	Time
Jan. 9-11	at I-10 Shootout	(TBA)
Jan. 16-18	at Clear Creek ISD tourn.	TBA
Jan. 24	*Clear Creek	(7:30 p.m.)
Jan. 28	*at Clear Falls	(7:30 p.m.)
Jan. 31	*at Clear Springs	(7:30 p.m.)
Feb. 7	*at Dickinson	(7:30 p.m.)
Feb. 11	*at Alvin	(7:30 p.m.)
Feb. 14	*at Clear Lake	(7:30 p.m.)
Feb. 18	*at Clear Creek	(7:30 p.m.)
Feb. 21	*Clear Falls	(7:30 p.m.)
Feb. 25	*Clear Springs	(7:30 p.m.)
March 5	*Dickinson	(7:30 p.m.)
March 17	*Alvin	(7:30 p.m.)
March 20	*Clear Lake	(7:30 p.m.)
* District 24-6A matches		
(V) Challenger Stadium, Webster		