

South Belt-Ellington Leader

Serving South Belt since 1976



The Voice of Community-Minded People

Thursday, December 12, 2024

Email: mynews@southbeltleader.com

www.southbeltleader.com

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Leader seeks submissions

The *Leader* encourages locals schools, groups and individuals to continue sending story ideas and photos they'd like to see included in the newspaper. Submissions have declined following the death of *Leader* publisher Marie Flickinger last month. Contributions may be submitted to mynews@southbeltleader.com.

Santa visits Flight Museum

Lone Star Flight Museum, 11551 Aerospace Ave. adjacent to Ellington Airport, will offer photo opportunities with Santa Claus who will arrive on a vintage PT-17 Stearman airplane from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 14. Photos are included in regular admission. For additional information, visit lonestarflight.org/monthly-calendar-2.

Holiday market planned

The final of six South Belt holiday markets at The Gardens, 12001 Beamer, will take place Sunday, Dec. 15, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event will feature local vendor and yard sale booths and is open to the public. Booths start at \$10 each. For additional information, call or text Kay Barbour at 713-419-3545.

Booster club holds pop-up

Dobie High School's Football Booster Club is gearing up for its second annual holiday pop-up market, set to take place Saturday, Dec. 14, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the parking lot of Moore Elementary, 8880 Southbluff. Vendors are being sought for this event. Proceeds will go toward the football banquet in January. For additional information, email infodboosterclub@gmail.com or contact booster club President Maria Perez at 832-766-3049 or Vice President Samantha Hernandez at 832-652-7579.

St. Luke offers gift wrapping

St. Luke the Evangelist, 11011 Hall Road, is offering gift wrapping services, courtesy of its Youth Ministry, at the church's Education Building Saturday, Dec. 14, from noon to 8 p.m. Any size gifts welcomed to be wrapped for the donation of one's choice. Proceeds go toward the Brave and the Wilderness Retreat.

Gulf Freeway closures set

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

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

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

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

Beltway closures planned

Two northbound and two southbound Beltway 8 frontage road lanes will be closed at Fairmont Parkway daily from 4 a.m. to 4 p.m. until further notice. Significant delays are expected.

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

Coffee with the Constable

Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia will be at Donut Haven, 10802 Hughes, from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. each Thursday as part of the weekly Coffee with the Constable series. The next event will be Thursday, Dec. 12, with another event happening the following Thursday, Dec. 19. For more information, call Sagamont Civic Club President Kay Barbour at 713-419-3545.

Ellington eRecycling set

The City of Houston Solid Waste Management Department's monthly electronic recycling event will take place Saturday, Dec. 14, at the Neighborhood Recycling Center at Ellington Airport from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Recycling electronics keeps potentially harmful materials, such as mercury, cadmium, lead and cathode ray tubes out of the waste stream and the environment.

Items accepted are PCs, servers, keyboards, mice, laptops, game consoles, monitors, small kitchen appliances, memory chips, hubs and routers, printers, copiers, scanners, fax machines, projectors, rechargeable batteries, cable boxes, car batteries, telephones, cellphones, PDAs, tape drives, hard drives, cords, cables and cameras.

The collection events take place the second Saturday of each month. For additional information, visit www.houstonsolidwaste.org or call 311.

SJC celebrates Flickinger's 30 years of service

Community leaders, elected officials remember Leader publisher Marie Flickinger

Dozens of community leaders and elected officials gathered Tuesday, Dec. 3, at San Jacinto College, as the college celebrated the late Marie Flickinger's 30 years of service as a board member.

Flickinger having stepped down from the board last month, the event was originally planned as a retirement party but was later switched to a celebration of service after the *Leader* founder's unexpected death Nov. 11.

San Jacinto College Chancellor Brenda Hellyer remembered Flickinger fondly.

"Marie's dedication to San Jacinto College will leave a legacy," said Hellyer. "She genuinely

cared about the welfare of our students and employees, and she has helped make this institution what it is today. On behalf of the entire college community, I applaud her commitment and thank her for her nearly 30 years of selfless service to our institution."

During Flickinger's time at San Jac, the college graduated approximately 93,000 students, according to Hellyer – or roughly the population of Temple or about 67 percent of Pasadena's population.

First elected in 1995, Flickinger was the first woman to serve on the San Jacinto College board. Under her leadership, the college grew in

enrollment, added new campuses, unified as one college, increased its programs, simplified tuition and become one of the top 10 community colleges in the nation.

She was instrumental in the passage of bond referendums for the college, one in 2008 and one in 2015, providing essential funds for infrastructure, security and facility upgrades.

Flickinger earned multiple awards on the college's behalf, and the Marie Spence Flickinger Fine Arts Building on the San Jacinto College South campus is named in her honor.

"I thank Marie Flickinger for giving close to 30 years of service to San Jacinto College," said Dan Mims, San Jacinto College board of trustees member. "Marie's positive impact on our college is immeasurable and will continue to be felt for years to come. On a personal note, I thank Marie for her mentorship and friendship. Her presence on this board will be sincerely missed and I thank her for her tireless service."

In May 2010, the Flickinger Scholarship was established with the San Jacinto College Foundation to help students attend college. To date, the scholarship has assisted 59 students. Flickinger and her husband, David, have supported the Foundation throughout her tenure on the board as gala sponsors and Promise Partners.

Hellyer encouraged attendees to donate to the scholarship fund.

The following is a list of sentiments shared by community leaders about Flickinger:

Houston Mayor John Whitmire
"Known affectionately as the 'Mayor of South Belt,' Marie Flickinger embodied resilience, compassion, and a tenacious spirit. Whether leading efforts to rebuild after disasters, advocating for her community or personally lending a helping hand to neighbors in need, her impact transcended her titles, touching the lives of all who knew her.

"Her leadership extended beyond her profession, as she championed partnerships that strengthened the South Belt-Ellington community, mentored others in her field, and inspired civic engagement and public service as the foundation of community growth.

Marie Theresa Flickinger will be forever deeply cherished by many, and her influence will endure in the countless lives she has touched."

Whitmire joined Flickinger's son, Houston District E City Council Member Fred Flickinger, at Council to publicly recognize his mother. The mayor also joined the Flickinger family at the memorial Mass.

U.S. Sen. John Cornyn
A representative from U.S. Sen. John Cornyn's office read a letter from the senator, in which he referred to Flickinger as a "bulwark for the South Belt."

Continued on Page 2

Hellyer remembers Flickinger



Dozens of educators, elected officials and community leaders gathered at San Jacinto College Tuesday, Dec. 3, to celebrate former board member Marie Flickinger's 30 years of service. Originally planned as an retirement party for Flickinger, the event was changed to a celebration of service following Flickinger's unexpected Nov. 11 passing. San Jacinto College Chancellor Brenda Hellyer is shown above at the event. See additional photos on Page 3.

Leader Christmas program underway

Robb, Waugh again selflessly donate time to 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 42nd year, the drive is aimed at helping families in the immediate area by collecting food and gifts.

Participating in the program again this year is Stacey Waugh, daughter of active community member Sandy Robb. The volunteers have selflessly donated hours of their 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 52, went on to attend Stuchbery,

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."

The drive is unique to the mother-daughter team in the fact that donated goods go directly to help local residents.

"We want to help families in this area," Robb said. "This is our neighborhood."

For Waugh, it's all about spreading cheer. "I hope everybody has a wonderful Christmas," she said.

Robb is grateful for all the support received from the community.

"We'd like to thank everyone for making the toy drive such a success," Robb said.

Those wishing to donate items should visit the *Leader* office, located at 11555 Beamer, during normal business hours. Desired items include toys for children of all ages, nonperishable food items, paper products and cash. All gifts should be new and unwrapped.

For additional information, email mynews@southbeltleader.com.

Weather postpones Winter Wonderland

Hosted by CBCMUD, annual event now set for Dec. 22

The third annual Winter Wonderland event originally scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 8, was postponed due to weather.

Hosted each year by the Clear Brook City MUD, the event will now take place Sunday, Dec. 22, at the Clear Brook City MUD Building, 11911 Blackhawk, from 4 to 7 p.m.

The event will feature live music, games, free photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus and free hot cocoa and cookies while supplies last.

The event is free and open to the public. Guests are encouraged to bring one nonperishable can of food per person (pet or human food).

Arrest made in drive-by shooting

An arrest was made in the Dec. 1 drive-by shooting in the 10600 block of Kirkwren near Kirkfair and Blackhawk.

Following tips from the public, Allejeandria Holliday was apprehended at an apartment complex in the 16100 block of the North Freeway, where deputies from the Precinct 2 Special Operations Division were conducting surveillance.

Holliday was charged with deadly conduct for this incident and subsequently transported to the Harris County Jail.

An arrest warrant had been issued for Holliday the previous week but investigators did not publicly release the suspect's name out of fears of spooking her. Surveillance footage of the suspect in a hoodie made it difficult to determine her gender, leading many online to believe the shooter was a male. Precinct 2 investigators had originally posted the footage on social media in hopes of identifying the suspect. The department received a flood of responses, officials said.

Following the arrest, Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia took to social media to thank the public for the assistance in taking down this criminal.

"A special thanks to all the citizens that gave us information about this suspect who made it possible for a successful arrest," a post on Garcia's Facebook page read.



Allejeandria Holliday

Man killed in Alameda Genoa shooting

HPD seeking public's help in identifying suspect vehicle

A man was fatally shot inside his vehicle while at a gas station in the 11200 block of Alameda Genoa near the Genoa Post Office.

The identity of the victim, 45, was pending verification by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences at press time.

According to Houston Police Department officials, officers responded to a shooting at a Valero station at the above address after a man entered the store and told an employee he had been shot. Officers provided medical assistance until Houston Fire Department paramedics arrived and transported the victim to HCA Hous-



Suspect vehicle

ton Healthcare Clear Lake, where he was pronounced dead.

Further investigation determined the victim was shot while in his vehicle, which had multiple bullet strikes. Detectives learned an individual(s) in a burgundy Kia Optima might have information on the shooting.

At this time, there is no known motive or suspect(s). Anyone with information on the vehicle in this case (shown above) is urged to contact the HPD Homicide Division at 713-308-3600 or speak anonymously to Crime Stoppers of Houston at 713-222-TIPS (8477).



Suspect vehicle

PISD searches for new superintendent

Series of public meetings scheduled for Dec. 12

The Pasadena ISD board of trustees, with assistance from the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) Executive Search Services, will host a series of public meetings Thursday, Dec. 12, as part of the school district's search for a new superintendent to replace Dr. DeAnn Powell, who announced her retirement in October after serving PISD for more than three decades.

The schedule for the public meetings is as follows:

– **South Pasadena ISD:** Dobie High School Auditorium, 10220 Blackhawk; Thursday, Dec. 12, from 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

– **North Pasadena ISD:** Jackson Intermediate Teaching Theater, 1020 Thomas Ave. in Pasadena; Thursday, Dec. 12, from 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

– **Districtwide:** Pasadena ISD Administration

Building, 3920 Mickey Gilley Blvd. in Pasadena; Thursday, Dec. 12, from 7 – 8 p.m.

As a part of that process of searching for a new superintendent, TASB search consultants would like to meet with various community groups to begin developing a profile of the leadership qualities desired in the new candidate.

All are welcome to attend any or all of the meetings. Each function is expected to last approximately one hour.

Community groups or individuals are encouraged to express what leadership qualities they seek in a new superintendent. All input is welcome and appreciated, Pasadena ISD officials said.

For additional information, contact Joan Jordan, secretary of the Pasadena ISD board of trustees, at 713-740-0243.

Grinch rides in Pct. 2 parade



Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia and fellow staff members recently took part in the annual South Houston Christmas parade, the Grinch and Cindy Lou Who leading the way in a golf cart. Shown above with the pair is Leslie McCaffrey.

In My Opinion

Soberson supports prison education

Access to higher education isn't just valuable for students in traditional classrooms; it's essential for those within Texas prisons, where it can reshape lives, boost public safety, and enhance economic growth.

Yet, a new report from Texas 2036 shows a stark 50% decline in incarcerated Texans enrolled in college programs—from 7,203 in 2011 to just 3,581 in 2022. This drop isn't for a lack of interest among inmates; it's due to limited educational capacity within the prison system.

Texas prisons house more than 134,000 individuals, and each year over 45,000 reenter society. Within three years, nearly half are rearrested, and 15-20% end up incarcerated again. But it doesn't have to be this way. Research shows that incarcerated people who participate in college programs are 41.5% less likely to return to prison. Expanding these programs could reduce recidivism rates and give the formerly incarcerated a path to stable, productive lives—a benefit that extends to their families and communities.

Employers are also more likely to hire those with postsecondary credentials: A national study found that employers are 42% more likely to hire someone who was incarcerated with a college credential over a GED. Access to education creates career pathways for those trying to rebuild their lives.

In Texas, incarcerated individuals bear the responsibility of paying for their education, with some federal and state aid available to qualified students. The good news is that this investment has been proven to pay dividends. A recent study found that for every dollar invested in prison-based college education, the return is estimated at \$1.61.

In April 2024, only 1,800 incarcerated students in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) were enrolled in college-level programs, while over 8,300 eligible individuals

remained on waitlists. The demand is clear, but the educational capacity in prisons is far too limited.

Community colleges are essential partners here. In 2022, they educated over 90% of incarcerated students in Texas. Thanks to recent federal reforms expanding Pell Grant eligibility for incarcerated students and the Texas Legislature's community college finance overhaul, there is now an opening to reach more of these students.

Texas legislators could take meaningful steps in the upcoming session to address these gaps. Strengthening oversight and coordination of prison education programs would be an important first step. TDCJ's primary education provider, Windham School District, could be given the authority to expand college-level programming. Community colleges could also be allowed to serve incarcerated students beyond their usual service areas, broadening access.

TDCJ could further improve data collection and sharing to measure educational outcomes and assess program effectiveness. Also, aligning TDCJ's education objectives with Texas' broader workforce goals under the "Building a Talent Strong Texas" plan could set measurable targets for educational attainment before incarcerated Texans reenter society.

Higher education offers incarcerated Texans the skills they need for successful reintegration into our communities and workforce, benefiting not only them but also their families and the state's economy.

Luis Soberson

Simon enjoys lights on area bridge

I have enjoyed the light out on the bridge. So colorful and bright. Many people enjoy them also. They talk about them and wonder how they will be changed. Very sad that there is someone who is annoyed by them. Please allow them to stay there. So many people will be happy.

Virginia Simon

Elected officials share their words

Senators' op-ed highlights mental health, school safety

U.S. Senators John Cornyn (R-TX), Thom Tillis (R-NC), and Susan Collins (R-ME) authored the following op-ed in Newsweek highlighting the mental health and school safety provisions included in the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, which was signed into law on June 25, 2022, to address specific concerns that have led to mass shootings.

No parent wants to send their child to school fearful for their safety, and no student ought to have to go to school and be afraid. But we sadly live in an increasingly challenging and charged environment for young people.

As Jonathan Haidt has brought to light in his recent book, *The Anxious Generation*, more teens are struggling with anxiety, depression, and other mental health challenges than ever before. And so, for far too many families, those fears have turned into a tragic reality.

Spurred by the devastating shooting at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas, Congress answered the call for more mental health resources and school safety measures by way of the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act. We were proud to champion this legislation, which was enacted in June 2022.

We crafted this landmark law with a simple purpose: to reduce violence and save lives. The law contains commonsense measures to improve how our schools address mental health, alongside targeted resources to help harden schools against violent threats.

Too often, adolescents with untreated mental health conditions become the very same perpetrators who commit acts of violence. For this reason, we crafted our law to ensure teachers and administrators are equipped with the tools to recognize when a student is experiencing a mental health crisis and, more importantly, connect them with the care they need before it's too late.

The Bipartisan Safer Communities Act made the largest investment in community-based mental health care in American history, from expanding the community behavioral health center model nationwide,

to increasing access to suicide prevention programs and crisis intervention.

This law addressed student mental health by expanding support services like early identification and providing the resources to help bring 14,000 additional mental health professionals into U.S. schools. To date, more than \$570 million in awards provided by the law have already gone to K-12 schools across America to bolster their mental health programs and personnel.

Our legislation paired these investments with school hardening provisions, including more than \$1 billion in grants to institute safety and security measures and hire additional school resource officers, on campuses nationwide.

Many schools have already received and put into action these grants for everything from safety film for exterior doors to video management systems and specialized radios to help school resource officers respond swiftly in an emergency.

Thousands of schools across the country have benefitted from the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act's provisions to make their learning environments safer and, in turn, more productive for the students, teachers, and administrators alike. In some instances, school safety measures like the ones supported by our law have literally saved lives.

According to law enforcement, more lives could have been lost on the devastating September day when an armed 14-year-old walked into Apalachee High School in Winder, Georgia, and killed four innocent people, had it not been for the school's alarm system that notified police of an emergency. We're proud of the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act and the impact it's had on our students and in our schools. We encourage each and every district to pursue the grants provided by this law as we work together to ensure children of all ages and walks of life can grow, learn, and thrive.

This is a law that has and will continue to save lives, and there's no better benchmark for success than that.

Wilson Lee Perry



Wilson Lee Perry, 81, died on Nov. 11, 2024. A native Houstonian, he graduated

Death

from Phillis Wheatley High School in 1961, and went on to serve in the Army during the war in Vietnam. As a proud Army veteran, he continued his service stateside in his everyday life through his commitment to family, community and God.

As a longtime member of Sagemont Church he served in many ways, including the bus ministry and in the children's center as a Sunday School teacher. He was also an avid league bowler, and enjoyed being social and learning about people. His heart was big, and his reach was wide.

Wilson leaves behind in his kindness, thoughtfulness, and compassion of others his

daughter Ursula Perry; and several other relatives and friends.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, Dec. 14, at 2 p.m., at Pevey Funeral Home, 12440 Beamer Road.

Leader obituary policy

Obituaries submitted to the Leader

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

Morris awards students of the month



Officials of Morris Middle School named their students of the month of November. Shown, left to right, are fifth-grader Story Masone, fifth-grader Antonio Aguirre, sixth-grader Alex Herrera and sixth-grader Deborah Cruz.

Community leaders remember Marie Flickinger

Continued from Page 1
Belt community" and a "trail-blazer, whose grit and determination will be remembered for generations to come."

U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz

A representative from U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz's office presented the Flickinger family a flag that had been flown at the U.S. Capitol in Flickinger's honor.

U.S. Rep. Sylvia Garcia

U.S. Rep. Sylvia Garcia entered Flickinger's name into the Congressional record Nov. 15, recognizing her in a one-minute presentation on the House floor, stating the following:

"Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Marie Flickinger, a remarkable woman who passed away this week after leading a life of excellence. A journalist and publisher by trade, Marie is perhaps best known for her work in her newspaper, the *Leader*, where she exposed the impact of toxic waste from a Pasadena plant at the Brio Superfund site, earning her the title of South Belt's own Erin Brockovich. Fighting for the people didn't stop in the pages of the *Leader*. She also became the first woman elected to the San Jacinto College District board

of trustees. Marie served for three decades, transforming the college into a place where students felt supported and where education was accessible to all. Marie led a life of honesty, integrity, and service, and despite her humble demeanor, she left an enormous legacy. Mr. Speaker, our hearts go out to the entire Flickinger family. May she rest in peace."

U.S. Rep. Brian Babin

U.S. Rep. Brian Babin entered a similar statement into the Congressional record, reading the following one-minute statement on the House floor:

"Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a longtime pillar of the southeast Houston community, Marie Flickinger, who passed away on Nov. 11, 2024. After becoming the first woman elected to the San Jacinto College District board of trustees in 1995, Marie served as chair from 2007 to 2013 and again from 2017 until her retirement on Nov. 4, 2024. She spent these nearly 30 years devoted to ensuring the institution's success, achieving numerous awards along the way. Many have referred to Marie as the honorary mayor of the South Belt, due to her

involvement in practically every aspect of the community."

State Sen. Myles Middleton

"We lost a great Texan. Marie Flickinger was a servant leader who did so much for the community, for small businesses and for students. Prayers for the Flickinger family in this difficult time."

Middleton passed a Senate resolution recognizing Flickinger's contributions. Other signatories to the resolution included Sen. Carol Alvarado, Rep. Mary Ann Perez, Rep. Dennis Paul, Rep. Briscoe Cain and Rep. Greg Bonnen.

State Rep. Mary Ann Perez

"We gather to honor the life and legacy of Marie Flickinger, an extraordinary individual who devoted her life to making our community a better place. She is deeply missed, but her memory will forever be celebrated. Thank you, Marie, for everything you gave to us."

Pasadena Mayor Jeff Wagner

Pasadena Mayor Jeff Wagner told attendees that Dec. 3 was proclaimed Marie Flickinger Day in the city of Pasadena.

County Commissioner Adrian Garcia

A representative from Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia's office also declared that Dec. 3 was proclaimed Marie Flickinger Day in Harris County.

Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia

"Marie was a staple of the South Belt community and was considered family to the constable's office. Marie's legacy will live on forever, and she will always be in this department's heart. It was truly an honor to have had the pleasure of knowing and working with Marie over the past several years, and she will forever be missed."

San Jacinto College Chancellor Brenda Hellyer

"Marie Flickinger was a devoted supporter of San Jacinto College. She was a champion for our students and community college students across the state. I am thankful and grateful for her nearly 30 years of service on the San Jacinto College Board of Trustees. I had the privilege of working with her my entire time here at San Jac, and I always knew her heart was driven by making the best decisions for the college, our students, and the taxpayers. She asked hard questions, listened to you, and was strategic. She was a mentor to me and was someone I asked to challenge me on ideas. And yes, she challenged me at times when I really didn't want her to. "Marie was passionate about her community and this entire region. You never knew what causes she was going to be involved with, but you always knew it would be about her trying to help others. You also knew she wasn't going to be deterred by 'no' or bureaucratic stops. She was a solutions-finder and a go-to person.

County Commissioner Rodney Ellis

"I'm saddened to hear of the passing of Marie Flickinger, affectionately known as the 'Mayor of South Belt.' A proud activist, Marie exposed the dangers of the Brio Superfund site, driving the demolition of contaminated areas that affected local families. From founding the *South Belt-Ellington Leader* to championing the South Belt Stormwater Detention Basin, Marie worked to improve the

South Belt community until the very end. She will be missed."

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"Over the past few weeks, I have caught myself thinking about calling her about something, and then it hits me that she won't answer. Her passing leaves us heartbroken, as she will be greatly missed, but her legacy of service will live on for many years and decades to come, as will her personal impact on me."

SJC board member John Moon Jr.

San Jacinto College board member John Moon Jr. referred to Flickinger as a "great friend and a formidable foe." Moon recalled how it was his father John Moon Sr. who encouraged Flickinger to originally run for the San Jacinto College board and how 16 years later, it was Flickinger who encouraged himself to run for the SJC board.

SJC board member Erica Davis Rouse

San Jacinto College board member Erica Davis Rouse recalled how picking up the latest copy of the *Leader* each Thursday was a ritual for her growing up.

"For people in my generation, there was no Instagram; there was no Facebook; there was no TikTok. The *South Belt Leader* was our social media."

SJC faculty member Judy

"Marie was passionate about her community and this entire region. You never knew what causes she was going to be involved with, but you always knew it would be about her trying to help others. You also knew she wasn't going to be deterred by 'no' or bureaucratic stops. She was a solutions-finder and a go-to person.

Harrison

Longtime San Jacinto College faculty member Judy Harris recalled a quote Marie had told her many years ago that perfectly summed up her character, "Don't tell me not to burn the candle at both ends, tell me where to get more wax."

Harris also noted some of the annual events in the South Belt community that Flickinger was responsible for each year, such as the Fourth of July parade and fireworks show, the South Belt Spectacular Cook-off and the Christmas toy/food drive.

Rebecca Lilley, MHSH

Rebecca Lilley, Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital director of Physician Resources, called Flickinger an "advocate for the hospital." Lilley said Flickinger had been a friend who had been there for all her major ups and downs, including her marriage, divorce and the birth of her child.

Cheryl Bolen, former Leader writer/editor

Cheryl Bolen, local author and former *Leader* writer/editor, said Flickinger was a "dichotomy."

PISD Superintendent Dr. DeeAnn Powell

"Marie Flickinger was a

true champion for the South Belt community. I had the privilege of getting to know her when I became Superintendent of Schools for Pasadena ISD. We quickly bonded over our shared passion for supporting the children of Pasadena ISD, our love for family, and our collaborative efforts during Hurricane Harvey, where we provided the first shelter for those in need. Her ability to connect with the right people and navigate challenges was unparalleled, and she was instrumental in helping our district time after time. I will deeply miss our friendship, conversations, her steadfast support, and her unwavering dedication to making our community a source of pride for all."

Sagemont Civic Club President Kay Barbour

"Since starting the *South Belt Leader*, residents in the community have heard the name Marie Flickinger and I was no different. I initially knew of her because of her Brio connection and as the creator and editor of the *South Belt Leader*, which I dutifully picked up every Thursday. It wasn't until around 2017 that I truly came to know and love Marie and I'm honored to call her a dear friend. During the past five years, we grew closer and spent countless hours together working on community projects, gossiping, reminiscing and discussing life in general. Many of

these hours were unplanned. I would simply stop by her office and sit across from her at her desk and we'd talk for hours.

One of these times in the past year we were discussing suggestions made to her about retiring, her health and her need to slow down, travel and enjoy her life. She always dismissed the notion and on this day was no different. She sat straight up looked at me and said, say this when you speak of me one day. "This is what I want. This is what I've always wanted. I have done exactly what I've always wanted to do. This paper, this community. This is what I choose. It has been my choice and if I could choose anything, I would choose running this paper and working in this community."

"I suppose I dismissed her comment not wanting to think about the day I would be speaking of her instead of to her. Her legacy will continue to live on as the South Belt area continues to grow and thrive. Many people may not know what Marie has done for our community. Her long list of accomplishments and efforts could never fully be measured or understood. She never wanted any recognition so perhaps we should simply say that Marie is the silent pulse or heartbeat of our community and that will continue to beat strong for many, many years to come."

Genoa announces spelling bee winners



Genoa Elementary held their annual campus spelling bee, Friday, Nov. 22. More than 25 students participated in the event with two fourth-graders earning the champion status and runner-up status. Above, are spelling bee runner-up Sophia Guevara and (left) Adamaris Cuellar who will represent Genoa at the district spelling bee as Genoa's spelling bee champion. Photo by Lauren Davis

ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST
Catholic Church
Rev. Douglas J. Guthrie, Pastor
Rev. Antonio Cisneros, Parochial Vicar
11011 Hall Rd.
(between Beamer & Blackhawk)
www.stlukesatholic.com

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil	5:30 p.m.
Sunday	8 a.m. and 10 a.m.*
Sunday	1 p.m. Misa en Español*
Monday, Wednesday & Friday	9 a.m.
Tuesday & Thursday	7 p.m.
Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions)	
Thursday 7:45 to 8:30 p.m.	Saturday 4 to 5 p.m.

Parish Office: 281-481-6816
Children's Faith Formation: 281-481-4251
Adult Faith Formation: 713-538-2862
All are welcome to come to worship and serve the Lord in a spirit of love, sharing, and hope.

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Prodigal: Home is Colorblind
A Christian Drama

By: Oscar Salazar Jr. and Joel Beeson

Available online at Amazon and Barnes & Noble.

A new compelling and gripping story of love, forgiveness and redemption. *Prodigal is a story that you will not forget.*

Oscar Salazar Jr. is a South Belt resident, local business owner and aspires to be a Harris County Justice of the Peace.

Bracewell Library is at 9002 Kingsport. Customers are encouraged to visit the building to browse, check out and return materials, use the computers and Wi-Fi, and check out holds. For information, visit <https://houstonlibrary.org/>. For online learning, visit <https://houstonlibrary.org/online-learning-7556> or call 832-393-2580. Hours are Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Wednesdays, noon – 8 p.m.; Fridays, 1 – 5 p.m.; and Saturdays, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Bracewell is closed Sundays.

Thursday, Dec. 12, 3 – 4 p.m. Open lab-computer help.
Thursday, Dec. 12, 4 – 5 p.m. Family story time.
Monday, Dec. 16, 11 a.m. – noon Open lab-computer help.
Monday, Dec. 16, 4 – 5 p.m. Family story time.
Wednesday, Dec. 18, 5 – 6 p.m. Kids craft.
Visit <https://houstonlibrary.libcal.com/calendar/events> for more library events.

Book drop

The book drop is open. Library materials can be returned. The library continues to provide online resources to enjoy the library virtually. Large items such as FLIP kits or laptops should not be placed in the book drop, but taken inside.

Parker Williams Library

Parker Williams Library is open. Visit <https://www.hcpl.net/reopening> for reopening information or the main website at <https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library>. The library will follow state and county guidelines for mask and social distancing.

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

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

Thursday, Dec. 12, 10:15 – 10:45 a.m. Toddler time.
Thursday, Dec. 12, 2 – 4 p.m. Tech help.
Monday, Dec. 16, 1 – 2:30 p.m. Conversation club.
Monday, Dec. 16, 4 – 5:30 p.m. Cricut orientation.
Tuesday, Dec. 17, 10:15 – 10:45 a.m. Babies 'n' books.

Parker Williams "No-Contact Curbside Holds Pick-Up"

– After receiving notification that holds are ready for pickup, call 832-927-7870.
– Have a library card number and PIN handy.
– A pickup time and instructions will be given.
– Upon arriving, park in one of the two parking spots reserved for curbside holds.
– Be prepared to show a library card or other form of ID for verification.
Hours are Monday, 11 a.m. – 8 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Friday, 1 – 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Visit <https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library> for details.

Online services

– Use HCPL Wi-Fi service with HCPL's drive-up Wi-Fi.
– Download e-books and audiobooks, stream movies, research and learn at www.hcpl.net.
– Attend an HCPL program or story time online through Facebook or YouTube.
– Check an account to renew loans or request books, e-books, comics or graphic novels.
– Stream classic films, indie cinema and award-winning documentaries on Kanopy.
– Listen to audiobooks through RBDigital or OverDrive.
– Read along and play with picture books on TumbleBooks.
Don't have an HCPL library card? Instant access can be obtained to all HCPL's digital materials and research tools with an iKnow Digital Access Card. Apply at <https://www.hcpl.net/services/iknow-card> for a HCPL card. For details, visit <https://www.hcpl.net>.

Melillo places in rodeo art



Melillo Middle School students placed in the Pasadena Rodeo art competition. Pictured, left to right, are Jan Tekell (Melillo art director), Ethan Hernandez (first place), Thu Nguyen (second place) and Jennifer Saucedo (Melillo principal).

SJC honors Flickinger's 30 years of public service



Sagamont Church Associate Pastor Emory Gadd remembers his decades of friendship with Marie Flickinger, while SJC Chancellor Brenda Hellyer stands behind.



SJC board member Dan Mims recalled how Flickinger served as a mentor for him as a freshman.



PISD Superintendent Dr. DeeAnn Powell recalled Flickinger's heroic efforts during Hurricane Harvey.



SJC faculty member Judy Harris reminded attendees of all the local events Flickinger founded.

Genoa hosts 15th annual Turkey Trot



Genoa Elementary held their 15th annual campus Turkey Trot on Thursday, Nov. 21. Many current and former Genoa students and their families participated in the event. The overall winner of the evening, Archer Tuck, was given a turkey and lots of sides to enjoy with his family for the holidays. Pictured, left to right, are coach Summer Bradley, coach Lisette Kearns, Tuck and Kimberly Valverde. Photo by Tiffany Lee



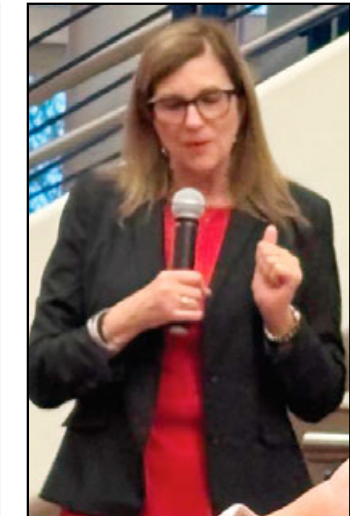
State Rep. Mary Ann Perez (left) and state Sen. Mayes Middleton each praised Flickinger for her efforts in the South Belt community and beyond.



Pasadena Mayor Jeff Wagner declared Dec. 3 Marie Flickinger Day in the city of Pasadena.



SJC board member John Moon Jr. stands in front of a display highlighting Flickinger's Brio contributions.



Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital's Rebecca Lilley called Flickinger a "friend" and "advocate."

BHI Bears donate food to Christmas program



Beverly Hills Intermediate Bears donated food to be used for the 42nd annual South Belt Leader Christmas program. Shown, left to right, are Beverly Principal Ashley Collier, Lupita Batres, Abby Gonzales, Brandy Knust, Jen Read Carpio, Timothy Craige, Jae'lyn Archer, Alan Montano, Iker Gonzalez Perez, Joseph Nguyen, Leo Moran, Ricardo Garcia Jr., Israel Lizama, Caleb Navarro, Jonathan Fonseca, Johnny Fernandez and Ashely Dolen. Photo by Berenice Mejia

Fred Roberts celebrates Veterans Day



Fred Roberts Middle School hosted their annual Veterans Day community event on Nov. 8. Veterans enjoyed a breakfast, as well as performances by the school band, choir and orchestra. Additionally they enjoyed a speech from their guest speaker, former Air Force pilot and current PISD reading coordinator, Brandi Johnson. Shown, left to right, are counselors Mike Evans and Crissy Higham; assistant principal Karen Pena; guest speaker Johnson; principal Lali Guerrero; assistant principal David Blevins; and math coach Melissa Jimenez.

What goes **UP,** must come **DOWN.**

Stray bullets **CAN KILL.**

If you hear celebratory gunfire:

- Call 911
- Notify Crime Stoppers Anonymously at **713-222-TIPS**

South Houston High School announces second six-weeks honor roll

Officials of Thompson Intermediate have announced the second six-weeks honor roll for the 2024-2025 school year.

Ninth grade
Kailyn Marie Aceves, Evanesence Aguirre Mejia, Adam Eloy Aguirre, Isis Sagrario Almendarez, Kaylee Danahy Arceo, Bruce Avila, Chloe Marie Barnes, Harmony Giselle Blakely, Zaykawon Deon Bonner, Samantha Briegas, Nicole Bustamante, Andrew Isaiiah Caballero, Ashley Giselle Calderon, Eduardo Calderon, Giezi Eldai Cantillano Pavaon, Jason Manuel Cantillano, Alessa Juliet Cantu and Arturo Carrillo.

Kevin Alexander Chaires, Hailey Marylee Chaver, Adriana Marlene Chavez, D'andre Malik Coleman, Priscilla Jannette Corona, Joseph Cortez, Ma'kayla Averi Davis, Jose Fernando Escobar Escobar, Moises Escobar, Adriana Yaquelein Espericueta, Daniel Roberto Fernandez, Christopher Flores, Kamila Franco, Arielle May Fuentes, Fatma Julysa Garcia Figueroa, Christian Alberto Garcia Ortega, Hennesi Maryem Garcia, Jancarlo Garcia, Jazlyn Skye Garcia and Marioantonio Garcia.

Yarexy Garza Santos, Lorenzo Garza, Josias Aldahir Gonzalez Flores, Julian Gonzalez, Julio Xavier Guerrero, Karla Gutierrez Reyes, Nevaeh Alyssa Gutierrez, Desiree Lee Hamblin, Giselle Hernandez, Michelle Hernandez, Natalia Nevaeh Herrera, Mia Sky Hinojosa, Karen Infante Guzman, Ja'korey Angel Jones, Sariah Aubre Juarez, Julissa Leah Jurado and Bella Isabel Larin.

Catherine An-Vui' Le, Ivan Claudio Lemus, Juan Alberto Lopez, Jordan Maddox Lorenz, Alexandra Loyola, Jayden Madrigal, Fabian Alejandro Marciano Pineda, Isabella Marquez, Allison Michelle Martinez Vasquez, Neyra Alisse Martinez, Jose Maria Mejia, Saoirse Reina Molina, Alexa Montemayor, Thania Abigail Morales, Sa'myra Janae Mourland, Anna T.

Nguyen, Nicholas Bao-Tristan Nguyen, Jasmin Sofia Nunez Xiloi, Julian Alexander Nunez and Elisha Abigail Olivares.
Haylee Brianna Owens, Jacqueline Penaloza, Aaron Josue Perez, Arnez Raydeon Perry, Britney Perry, Oscar Angel Peterson, Nathan Pickney, Thomas Felipe Pino Garcia, Dairaly Pruneda, Ekiwelin Yazmin Ramirez Corea, Tania Ramirez, Christopher Gael Rangel, Elias Josue Realejo Morataya, Carlos Johan Reyes Rodriguez, Itzel Rodriguez Castillo, Brytzia Rodriguez, Danna Paola Rodriguez, Samantha Rodriguez, Samuel Valeriano Rodriguez, Yaritza Rodriguez, Kristen Rosaes Vasquez and Angel Xavier Salas.

Aniaya La'shay Sayles Brooks, Giselle Rachel Smith, Jesus Daniel Solis, Johana Sosa Miranda, Jerroni Charlie James Taylor, Joshua Tejada, Alexander Benito Torres, Ifechukwudeni Amechi Uwaka, Angela Guadalupe Valladares, Ashley Vilchis, Adam Villacorta, Alexander Bryan Vivier, Aubrii Isabella Yanez, Sofia Yezep Almanza, Daniel Alexander Zelaya Hernandez and Lilian Idaly Zermeno.

10th grade
Jesus Alejandro Aguilera Arana, Andrew M. Alexander, Alexis Michelle Allen, Ariana Alvarado, Melany Mishell Alvarez Borrayo, Emanuel Elizandro Amaya-Urias, Marelin Andrade, Gabriella Ngozi Anowey, Jocelyn Lynette Arealva, Yeison Joel Argueta Carranza, Cherish Ifunanya Armstrong-Ekezie, Delilah Sannise Bailey and Sergio Jeronimo Barreto Ramirez.

Eric Oswaldo Beltran, Josue Enrique Benavidez, Kevin Arnel Binguimai, Ricardo Antonio Bravo, Sebastian Bravo, Alina Marie Campos, Elizabeth Campuzano, Alexia Cantu, Jazelle Nevaeh Cardona, Allison Marieth Castro Bonilla, Katia Valeria Ceron Guevara, Britany Cerritos, Diana Guadalupe Chavez Casillas, Damian Angel Chavez, Jonathan Chavez, Marlen Mila-

gros Colmenero, Daniela Sarai Coreas Rivas, Angelie Serenity Corona and Adamaris Cruz.
Ivan Cruz, Madeson Ann Davis, Camila Victoria Del Villar Ramirez, Jeisel Jhoany De las Salinas, Evanie Ruby Diaz, Samantha Elias, Abigail Aniah Escobar, Ana Jazmin Flores, Natalie Victoria Flores, De Aiziah Nicole Foster, Emerson Xavier Funes, Aiden Seth Garcia, Fernanda Garcia, Mariana Humberto Garcia, Wendy Garcia, Rafael Garcia, Jazlyn Rose German, Anthony Joseph Gomez, Alyssa Nicole Gonzalez Rodriguez, Karen Haydee Gonzalez, Melissa Alejandra Gonzalez-Moz, Rafael Angel Guerra, Diego Alexis Guillen, Gracie Leeanne Gusman and Alessandara Guzman.

Ruben Isaias Hernandez Zavala, Cynthia Hernandez, Laysha Sidney Hernandez, Stephanie Ann Hernandez, Juan Daniel Hinojosa, Anne Tresor Houmetin, Giselle Alessandara Ibarra, Lizeth Infante Guzman, Enrique Izaguirre, Johana Iveth Jaime Fraga, Yasmine Simone Joseph, Alexander Juarez, Luis Guillermo Labrador Lucena, Karla Azucena Leiva Torres, Oscar Alexander Lemus, Keilani Licon, Camila Lisseth Loera, Yael Josef Lopez Pineda, Adamari Edith Lopez and Diana Lopez.

Jonathan Lopez, Michelle Marie Lopez, Sara Lopez, Nicholas Anthony Majano, Roman Dario Mar, Emily Lizeth Mares, Gladis Yosselin Marquez Rodriguez, Jesus Antonio Martinez Delgado, Andrea Aalizah Martinez, Angela Nicole Martinez, Fabian Martinez, Jaime Adam Maya, Esteban Mendietta, Arturo Mendoza, Chelsea Menezes, Jan Carlos Menjivar Murillo, Mario Rene Menjivar, Francisco Manuel Meza, Jose Angel Meza, Osiel Mojica Zeferino and Vanessa Montenegro.

Andrea Regina Mizhelle Montero Avila, Belen Morales, Priscilla Moreno, Xavier Alexander Muhammad, Dylan Emiliano Munoz Garcia, Sonia Gabriela Murcia Reyes, Emely Rose Orduno, Divanny

Alexandra Orellana, Cleidy Lisbet Ortiz Gomez, Elmer Alexander Padilla, Jesus Javier Palomec, Ernesto Alexander Palomo Medina and Jacob Abraham Pena.

Santiago Alexander Perez Campos, Jasmin Estefania Perez, Isaac De Jesus Pomier Gutierrez, Alexander Portillo, Judah Jacob Nathaniel Quesada, Abigail Lynn Ramirez, Jeremy Anthony Ramsey, Mariana Reboloso, Yamilet Reyes, Amy Belen Rivera Jimenez, Mario Alberto Rivera, Mauricio Robles, Dante Maximiliano Rocha, Jonathon Roy Rocha, Cecilia Rodriguez, Christian Jaime Rodriguez, Nancy Carolina Ruano, My'shayla Denise Russell, Marilynn Diana Salazar, Aaron Guadalupe Salinas, Monica Ruby Sanchez, Alexander Julian Sandoval, Jose Cruz Santoyo, Azul Serato, Aniaya Liana Spacek, Kate Xochitl Tello, Carolina Torres Barron, Sofia Torres, Dahlilah Helen Tovar, Ricardo Dario Vargas, Natalie Ariel Vasquez and Hanna Vasquez.

Jayleen Ximena Villarreal, Cynthia Villeda, Nevaeh Marie Wash, Brayden Louis Watkins, Melody Rae-Ann Weand, Aaliyah Rasique Williams, Vivian Zamarrapa, Uriah Amari Zamora, Somary Itzel Zavala and Melanie Aide Zendejo.

11th grade
Melody Ajanae Acosta, Za'niyah Jerschelle Agee, Mariely Isabel Aguirre, Adalitz Alejandro, Jozeph Andrew Alejo, Ludvin Alejandro Aleman Retana, Annabelle Almaguer, Jocelyn Desiree Alvarez, Jose Alberto Angulo, Erik Josue Arana, Audel Arellano Duarte, Yefferson Eliseo Argueta Argueta, Manuel Arredondo Garcia and Christopher Harold Avila.

Sara Noemi Baleradas, Devon Ameena Barnwell, Alan Jael Bello, Liliana Crysztal Benavides, Isaac Cameron Berrospez, Zaid Betancourt, Christiani Ronaldo Bonilla, Jayneria Kniree Brown, Mia Giselle Caballero, Jesse Camacho, Ricardo Cano, Alejandro

Castillo, Arelyn Castillo, Keisy Juliza Castro, Luis Fernando Castro, Angeleyne Cervantes and Sonia Chavez Ortega.

Katia Chavez, Tiana Nicole Costa, Andres Cruz, Efrén Cruz, Lyannet Carolina De La Torre, Kristal Anahi Delacruz, Melanie Yathziri Diaz Tamayo, Heneisis Elena Duarte Luna, Nicole Escobar, Guillermo Edmundo Flores, Gideon Mekhi Fowler, Diego Alejandro Franco Morales, Anthony Dario Funez, Alejandro Galindo, Alonso Gabriel Garcia Martinez, Andy Garcia, Angel Edriana Garcia, Dayana Guadalupe Garcia and Lizzy Garcia.

Vanessa Garza Gutierrez, Jaslynn Lineth Garza, Mia Janelle Garza, Chloe Anese Gillespie, Ladarius Lamont Glover, Jose Rodrigo Godoy, Carlos Elias Gomez, Roy Angelo Gomez, George Jesus Gonzalez Agulla, Diana Guadalupe Gonzalez, Joel Gonzalez, Raul Ivan Gonzalez, Meagan Danielle Grays, Brianna Gisel Grimaldo, Sumayah Alure Guadalupe and Moises Hernandez.

Saleste Faith Hernandez, Dayanis Araceli Hinojosa, Ann Precieuse Houmetin, Roman Huerta, Janette Hurtado, Mariela Angelica Ico Ojom, Anthony Bryan Jaime Fraga, Mayra Jaime Jaime, Teyana La'nay Jenkins, Marcus Anthony Kern, Averie Renae Lasalle, Anahi Ledesma, Axel Javier Lopez Carbajal, Ivan Lopez, Jaqueline Lopez, Jennifer Lopez, Anahi Lule and Evonny Madrigal.

Helen Marisol Maradiaga Munoz, Dylan Alessandor Marquez, Diego Guadalupe Martinez, Dylan Martinez, Gerardo Martinez, Mariana Martinez, Yair Martinez, Amanda Marie Medina, Maximo Christopher Mendoza, Kinereth Grissel Meraz Zelaya, Beatriz Victoria Meza, Adam Ray Mize, Valeria Montenegro, Isai Emanuel Morales, Juan Jesus Morales, Nelsy Jackelin Munoz Quintanilla, Keyvin Adrian Ochoa Ace, Arianda Madeliis Ortiz, Madelaine Samantha Palma, Ria T. Pandya,

Noelia Berenice Pardo, Andrea Veronica Patino, Jayden Alexander Pena, Annaly Itzel Perez, Alexa Paola Pineda, Gabriela Estefany Portillo, Michel Azucena Prado Cabrera and Ernesto Quiroz.
Johana Ramirez, Maretzi Yamilet Ramirez, Reggie Habib Rangel Quinones, Alexis Omar Rangel, Cesar Gerardo Rasso, German Daniel Realejo Morataya, Yasmine Reyes, Martha Julia Reyes-Lechado, Stefany Valeria Rivera Valdez, Brianna Giselle Rodriguez, Valerie Rodriguez, Alexia Giselle Romero, Jade Ruiz, Sundos Ibrahim Mohamad Saad Aldin, Evelyn Faith Sainz and Yamilette Salinas.

Freddy David Sanchez Lopez, Sheryl Fernanda Sanchez Ortiz, Christian Gerardo Sanchez, Scott Blake Santana, Alexandra Santiago, Sophia Saceda, Gabriel Serrato, Vanessa Sierra, Andrea Nicole Silva, Eric Silva, Julio Alberto Soledad Rivera, Grace Elizabeth Sorto, Jhonatan Elias Sorto Sorto and Kayla Marie Suarez.

Sarah Suarez, Filiberto Isaias Tamayo, Erendira Dayanara Torres, Hayden Tinh Tran, Valery Trevino, Joseph Anthony Urdiales, Vanessa Vargas, Isabel Celeste Vasquez, Jayden Adonias Vasquez, Xander Ray Vasquez, Bryan Steve Velasquez Chavez, Jayden Alexander Victoria, Katherine Sophia Villalobos, Jamarion Titan Darryl Williams, Markevia D'nea Willis, Annethe Valleira Zacarias Trevizo, Luis Gerardo Zacarias Trevizo and Estrella Zavala.

12th grade
Benjamin Josue Acosta, Dalilah Acosta, Agustin Jaime Aguilar, Isaela Monique Aguilar, Elijah Rey Aguilar-Zamora, Ghissel Danae Arguro Toapanta, Omar Alfaro, Angel Alvarado Cardial, Jose Jared Alvarez Escobar, Carolina Alvarez, Kevin Excel Alvarez, Anderson Jose Amaya Urias, Emilio Anaya, Annastasia Chiamaka Anowey, Jose Guadalupe Aragon, Jocelyn Maree

Aranda, Maria Fernanda Barboza Castro, Yamilet Beceril and Ariyana Benitez.
Jazmin Bocanegra, Suany Jissel Bonilla Acosta, Alyssa Ann Bowshier, Tre'sean D'marquus Braziel, Jordan Corey Buckner, Carlos Rodery Burgos Reyes, Terrell Burroughs, Reynaldo Cabrera, Benito Cadena, Christopher Eduardo Calderon, Michelle Cano, Ramiro Alejandro Cardenas, Kimberly Beth Carrizales, Emiliano Castellia, Adamari Castillo, Natalia Castillo and Eladio Cervantes.

Selina Marisol Chamorro, Melanie Estrella Chaveria, Da'jonae Latrice Citizen, Perla Elizabeth Colmenero, Rosa Contreras, Victoria Raengel Contreras, Ivan Eleazar Coronel, Juan Manuel Cortes, Nataly Coto-Chong, Kevin Charles Cox, Jeady Cruz, Mayra America De La Torre, Valerie Del Valle, Krystal Delgado, Lorenzo Delgado, Luis Santos Diaz, Valeria Danahe Duran Iracheta, Ailen Sarahi Duran and Elizabeth Marie Erwin.

Kayleen Lupe Erwin, Aaron Alexander Escareno, Kevin Jared Espinal Lemus, Erick Javier Estrada Guity, Edna Michelle Fernandez, Andres Flores, Jennifer Flores, Ariana Franco, Kylie Kamoura Gale, Joheli Emmanuel Garcia Gonzalez, Isbery Abigail Garcia Romero, Cesia Marai Garcia Velasquez, Briahna Lynkeffer Sherrie Garcia, Brittany Yamilette Garcia, Joey Lopez Garcia, Lupita Garcia, Michelle Garcia and Xzavian Garcia.

Alinna Zenett Garza, Brizeida Yaris Garza, Giselle Alexis Garza, Isabella Garza, Mia Jazmin Gaytan, Deborah Deabush Getu, Maribel Gomez Camero, Fabian Gomez Pegueros, Cecilia Regina Gomez, Christopher Joel Gomez, Freddie Gonzales, Diana Lee Gracia, Yenny Granados, Aldo Guajardo, Amy Marie Guerra, Cynthia Azul Guerrero and David Emmanuel Guevara.
Debanhy Alizdey Guil-

len, Karina Lorraine Guillen, David Daniel Guzman, Jade Marie Guzman, Rayne Marie Hale, Perla Berenice Hernandez Luna, Alexia Hernandez, Idania Nohemi Hernandez, Jason Hernandez, Joselyn Hernandez, Kendy Denisse Hernandez, Ana Cecilia Herrera, Kaitlyn Elizabeth Houston, Rosa Maria Huerta, Thanh Truc Huynh and Aniya Cyann Johnson.

Marina Gissell Joya Campos, Adrian Juarez, Edward Steve Juarez, Yatana Michelle Landin, Jennifer Arlyn Leanos-Avina, Kamren Jade Linsey, Cecilia Yesica Lopez Gonzalez, Antonio Rodriguez Lopez, Jazmin Lopez, Juan Ramon Lopez, Patricia Nohemy Luna Argueta, Zariah Amori Madison, Carol Marie Magana, Raquel Janae Malbro, Alonso Marquez, Amanda Mae Martinez and Brianna Elyssa Martinez.

Cymora Giselle Martinez, Daniel Vladimir Martinez, Eduardo Isaias Martinez, Emely Martinez, Giselle Victoria Martinez, Joanith Yasirthe Martinez, Leonila Martinez, Ramiro Martinez, Raphael J Martinez, William Darwin Martinez, Ximena Rosalia Martinez, Brandon Lewis Mayberry, Robert Mckinney, Martin Medina Guerrero, Adrian Medina, Joseph Samuel Miranda, Cecilia Abigail Molina, Cindy Giselle Molina, Miguel Sanchez Montano, Adriana Montemayor, Javier Isaias Montenegro, Xavier Geovanni Montes Garcia, and Sonia Stefany Morales Cordon.

George Nicholas Morales, Jonathan Jahaziel Morales, Kevin Alexis Morales, Miguel Angel Moreno, Yazmine Danjelie Moreno, Kiara Rochel Moya De La Rosa, Daphne Moya, Dayana Moya, Paulina Moyeda Gonzalez, Morayma Idalely Munoz, Guadalupe Nicole Murillo Galloso, Gerald Yahir Murillo, Kimberly Negrete, Kristi Ngoc Nguyen, Leslie Catherine Oliveros and Eric Sebastian Orellana.
Jeremiah Louis Orta, Di-

ego Sebastian Osejo, Leonardo Otero Cuza, Fanny Brigeth Palma, Shannon Merie Palma, Noah Emmanuel Zamudio Parras, Kelly Kamleshkumar Patel, Jair Patino, Kesly Pedraza, Christopher Jovanny Pena, Christian Alberto Perez, Yazmin Itzel Perez, Edwin Joel Perla, Thien Phuc Pham, Isabel Pinedo, Jovan Enrique Portillo, Valerie Michelle Portillo, Quindell Isaiiah Potts, Jonathan Quezada, Jovany Quezada and Felipe Quinteros-Amaya.

Christy Chris Ram, Camila Yumalai Ramirez, Tyler Ethan Ramirez, Xiomara Sophia Ramirez, Caitlin Iyana Ramos, Jason Ramos, Tatyana Reyzel Ramos, Alina Marie Rangel, Hugo Sebastian Rangel, Roselyn Rangel, Abigail Retiz, Davian Revuelta, Inary Monserrat Reyes, Yaneli Reyes, Sergio Valente Reyna, Joselin Jamileth Rios, Cassandra Rivas, Angelina Marie Rivera and Chelsea Jane Robertson.

Allison Robles, Emma Nayeli Robles, Jonathan Rocha, Kevin Emanuel Rodriguez Alanis, Angel Oziel Rodriguez Castillo, Dayanara Rodriguez, Elizabeth Rodriguez, Giovany Rodriguez, Aldamaris Roman Tellez, Luis Angel Rosaes, Emily Rubalcava, Julio Cesar Sanchez Mendiola, Daisy Sanchez, Deevanie Gizzelle Sanchez, Jeilyn Sanchez and Diego Fabian Santillan.

Jonathan Yahir Saucedo, Katie Solano, Leonardo Solis, Camron Jarrell Taylor, Natalie Terrones, Jakeya Nashae Toliver, Alexandra Ly Torres, Journey Nichole Amayah Traylor, Betzabet Trinidad Yezep, Joaquin Vargas, Jonathon Alonzo Vargas, Maniah Janay Velez, Ruby Vences, Pamela Melina Viera, Sairah Ivania Villalobos, Annalisa Villarreal, Mariah Nicole Vizeaino, Courtney Claire Wright, Michael Andres Yezep, Yeira Arlyn Zavallja Garcia, Raul Esteban Zermeno and Ruby Maritza Zuviri.

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Remember When

45 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.

40 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 Southend 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.

35 Years ago (1989)
Beginning the fall college semester 1989, all students entering Texas colleges were going to 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.

30 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.

25 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.

Winners for most beautiful residential home exterior in the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce's Christmas decorating contest were Kathy and Jimmie French of Kirkbend.

20 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 af-

ter an extended illness. Barber had worked in education for 38 years before retiring in 1991.

Questions regarding the accuracy of PISD'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.

15 years ago (2009)
Annisie 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.

10 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.

5 years ago (2019)
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. A 2006 Dobie graduate, 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 Major Offenders Division. He was promoted to sergeant in February 2019 and was assigned to the Eastside Patrol Division. Arturo Solis 25, was charged with capital murder of a police officer in the crime.

Over The Back Fence by Natalie



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, KENNEDY!
Kennedy Flowers celebrates a birthday Sunday, Dec. 15. Best wishes for a fantastic birthday are sent from brother Owen; sister Evie; parents Stephen and Stacy (Hayes) Flowers; grandparents Robert and Jannie Scarberry (former longtime South Belt residents); uncles Tyler Scarberry, Joey Hayes, and Austin 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 grad.

Send a birthday greeting Dec. 12 to **Judi Rinehart**. The day for cake and ice cream for **Lucy Ibarra** is Dec. 13. Light the birthday candles Dec. 16 for **Tiffany Lee**. Send a nice birthday greeting Dec. 18 to **Maria Villarreal**.

Meador Elementary
Send birthday wishes to **Katia Garcia** Dec. 17. The day for a celebration for **Jill Gifford** is Dec. 18.

Moore Elementary
Light the birthday candles Dec. 15 for **Bobbie Bashinski**. **Helen Alanis** marks a birthday Dec. 18.

South Belt Elementary
Dec. 17 is the day for a celebration for **Alyssa Heuer**. Dec. 18 is the day for a party for **Jasmine Olvera**.

Stuchbery Elementary
Send a birthday greeting Dec. 16 to **Albert Kevin**.

Melillo Middle School
Sing a happy birthday song to **Karla Gutierrez** Dec. 12. Remember to wish **Sheri Richardson** a happy birthday Dec. 15.

Beverly Hills Intermediate
Dec. 15 is the day for a party for **Velia Grado-Gutierrez**.

Thompson Intermediate
Remember to wish **Alicia Ruiz** a happy birthday Dec. 12. Light the candles Dec. 16 for **Kassandra Tabarez**. Send a nice birthday greeting Dec. 18 to **Karla Chavez**.

Dobie High
Hector Del Rio and **Faryal Shaukat** celebrate a birthday Dec. 12. The day for a triple-layer cake for **Joseph Duda**, **Juan Ramos** and **Ashley Whitaker** is Dec. 17. A double-fun day is planned Dec. 18 for **Enrique Cordova** and **Kareem Salomon**.

FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS
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 Monday, Dec. 18: **Jackie Klayman**, **Damen Polleck**, **John O'Connor** and **Felicia Sharp**.

LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS
Email announcements of anniversaries, vacations and graduations to mynews@southbeltleader.com with OTBF in the subject line by Friday noon for the next week's publication.

SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

22-6A volleyball's best earn All-District honors

The University Interscholastic League could not have imagined setting up a more competitive district within the Region III ranks, but that's exactly what transpired within District 22-6A as each of the league's eventual play-off qualifiers won at least 30 overall matches during the 2024-2025 varsity volleyball season.

It all had to make for some point-counterpoint conversations within the league's head coaches as they gathered to select the individual specialty award winners and All-District honorees following the end of the regular season.

From a talent standpoint both individually and team-wise, the 22-6A

ranks provided one of the deepest groups of postseason competitors anywhere within the region.

Pearland won the district title at 15-1 and delivered a 40-6 overall record, while runner-up Dawson wound up at 14-2 in league play and went 32-11 overall.

Third-place Shadow Creek won 35 overall matches, was 13-3 in district action and reached the Division 2 regional semifinals before a loss to Stratford. Manvel, the fourth-place team out of 22-6A, went 30-14 overall.

Senior middle blocker Kimanni Rugley of Pearland was named the Most Valuable Player in 22-6A as she delivered 125 kills over 49 sets played in league action while leading the Oilers to the championship.

Rugley averaged 2.6 kills per set and added 36 blocks, 22 digs and 15 service aces to her resume.

Shadow Creek senior outside hitter Mackenzie Collins was named the Offensive Player of the Year as she came through with 212 kills in 51 total sets

played within league play as part of a dominant final season for the Sharks. Collins also added 88 digs and 21 service aces.

Jenna Thedford of Dawson, a junior defensive specialist/libero, was recognized as the Defensive Player of the Year in the 22-6A field as she had 269 digs and 48 assists.

Blocker of the Year honor went to Kennedy Proctor of Shadow Creek as the sophomore middle blocker controlled the net with 44 total blocks over 50 sets played within 22-6A.

The league's coaches awarded Manvel senior Kenedy Massie with the Setter of the Year award as she had 424 assists to go with 121 digs and 64 kills. Shadow Creek junior setter Bella Law was named the Newcomer of the Year as she had 539 assists, 176 digs and 43 service aces as part of a tremendous season with the Sharks.

Lauren Leth of Dawson was named the Coach of the Year within District 22-6A as she guided the Mavericks to a 10-6 district finish.



Mia Campos (9) of Dobie had an outstanding senior season for the Longhorns and she earned 22-6A second team accolades following a season that included 96 kills and 126 digs over 50 total sets within league play. Campos was also honored as an All Academic Team student-athlete. See more details on Page 6.

Volper has big night



Junior Audrey Volper (1) has led the Dobie varsity girls' basketball team in scoring this season and will no doubt be counted on to continue her strong run as she and her team turn their primary focus to the remainder of the 22-6A race.

At left, Dobie senior Adalee Garcia (10) was named to the 22-6A All-District second team as she posted 62 kills and 29 digs across 54 total sets for the Longhorns. She was also honored as a member of the district's All-Academic Team.

Photos by Gloria Wallace

Hightower wins Carlisle/Krueger boys' basketball classic

Knocking off state-ranked College Park to begin an impressive run of four straight victories over three days, Fort Bend Hightower emerged as the gold bracket champion of Clear Creek ISD's prestigious Carlisle/ Krueger Classic Nov. 7, eventual-

ly nipping San Antonio Johnson 36-33 in the finale at Carlisle Field House.

The Hurricanes, now 8-5 overall this season with district play either underway or set to soon begin across the state, actually opened the event with a 9-point loss to host

Clear Creek on the opening day of the event.

From there, the Hurricanes responded with a 77-64 victory over College Park to reach the gold bracket of the event.

Hightower downed Clear Lake a day later by a 76-59 count, then reached the championship game courtesy of a 59-52 victory over Fort Bend Kempner in the semifinals.

Johnson, now 13-7 to this point in the schedule, traveled to League City and proceeded to score



At right, Abdiel Jimenez (2) has consistently come up with big nights in the scoring column for the Clear Brook varsity boys' basketball team and figures to play a key role as 24-6A play opens Dec. 17. He helped the Wolverines win a pair of games at the Carlisle/Krueger Classic.

four straight victories en route to the gold medal championship game.

Johnson defeated Langham Creek and then Clements via overtime in pool play, then took down Clear Falls and Iowa Colony to reach the championship final.

In the Carlisle/ Krueger silver bracket, Clements took home the big trophy with an impressive 78-54 with over College Park. As for the event's bronze bracket, Langham Creek emerged as the champion with a 56-49 victory over

Houston Memorial.

As for the four host Clear Creek ISD programs, Clear Springs did not attend, it was a mixed bag of results along the way.

Clear Brook came into the tournament as winners of eight of their first 11 games this season but suffered a 48-46 to Kempner as Abdiel Jimenez and Christian Brown scored 11 points apiece.

Later in the day, the Wolverines bounced back with a 55-44 win over Texas City as Jace Walker led the way with 19 points.

The victory qualified the Wolverines for the silver bracket trophy round, and the locals got to 10-4 overall this season as they opened the day with a 63-44 win over Dulles.

Brown had 15 points, Jimenez added 14 and Walker chipped in with 11 as the Wolverines were feeling good about themselves heading into the silver bracket semifinals.

However, Clear Brook was handled 74-56 courtesy of College Park in the semifinals and then fell 70-51 to Fort Bend Bush in the third-place game to wrap up a 2-3 three-day run at the event.

Clear Falls sent a bit of a message to the rest of the field within the 24-6A ranks, getting to 8-4 overall this season following a 60-55 triumph over Clear Lake to win the consolation championship in the Carlisle/Krueger gold bracket. The Knights also defeated Clear Creek 53-44 in the event.

Clear Creek, even at 8-8 this season, followed its impressive victory over Hightower in the tournament opener by

also downing Fort Bend Bush (43-41) and Cypress Ridge (53-47) but then losing to Iowa Colony and Clear Falls in gold bracket play, both Dec. 7.

Clear Lake, now a winner of 11 of 17 overall games to start the season, went 3-2 in the event but scored a very impressive 76-46 win over Dawson along the way.

Clear Brook will host George Ranch in a final nondistrict tune-up Dec. 12.

Continued on Page 8

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Carlisle/Krueger Classic Trophies

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Hightower 36, S.A. Johnson 33

Silver Division
Clements 78, College Park 54

Bronze Bracket
Langham Creek 56, Hou. Memorial 49

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Cowboys' Jones an MVP

Kurt Dunmore Jr. of the League City 49ers (left) and Sagemont Cowboys' star Stafford Jones were honored during a break in the action at Rice University as the Bay Area Football League's 2024 co-Most Valuable Player Award winners in the pee-wee division. Dunmore was also named the game's Most Valuable as the 49ers went on to win the BAFL Super Bowl 48 title, having defeated the Cowboys in the conference finals.

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District 22-6A Volleyball Superlatives

Coach of the Year

Lauren Leth, Dawson

Most Valuable Player

Kimanni Rugley, Pearland, Sr. (MB)

Offensive Player of the Year

Mackenzie Collins, Shadow Creek, Sr. (OH)

Blocker of the Year

Kennedy Proctor, Shadow Creek, Soph. (MB)

Defensive Player of the Year

Jenna Thedford, Dawson, Jr. (DS/L)

Setter of the Year

Kenedy Massie, Manvel, Sr. (S)

Newcomer of the Year

Bella Law, Shadow Creek, Jr. (S)

First Team 22-6A Selections

Avery Koonsen, Pearland, Jr. (OH/DS)

Emily Brock, Pearland, Sr. (S)

Aaryn Brown, Pearland, Soph. (MB)

Adrienne Enriquez, Pearland, Sr. (Libero)

Britney Solomon, Pearland, Soph. (OH)

Cora Wolford, Pearland, Sr. (S)

Kendra Denoon, Memorial, Sr. (LS)

Brooklynn Morris, Alvin, Sr. (OH)

Nevada English, Manvel, Jr. (OH/RS)

Kennedy Jones, Dawson, Sr. (RS)

Sloan Ranney, Dawson, Jr. (OH)

Emmarie McFarland, Dawson, Sr., (OH)

Taylor Ranney, Dawson, Jr. (S)

Keaton Points, Dawson, Jr. (MB)

Aspen Brown, Shadow Creek, Soph. (RS)

Lauryn Wiley, Shadow Creek, Jr. (Libero)

Tamarria Mitchell, Shadow Creek, Soph. (OH)

Second Team 22-6A Selections

Kelly Kelsik, Shadow Creek, Sr. (DS)

Payton Ashley, Alvin, Jr. (MB)

Mackenzie La Chuisa, Pearland, Sr. (RS)

Maddie Dement, Pearland, Sr. (DS)

Gizzel Gutierrez, South Houston, Sr. (Libero)

Kenzie Fernandez, Memorial, Jr. (S)

Aleah Garza, Rayburn, Jr. (Libero)

Adalee Garcia, Dobie, Sr. (MB)

Mia Campos, Dobie, Sr. (OH)

Sami Guikema, Manvel, Jr. (DS/Libero)

Kaycee Pennie, Manvel, Jr. (MB)

Rylan Lily, Manvel, Sr. (DS/Libero)

Keegan St. Junious, Manvel, Sr. (DS/Libero)

Cynthia Daniels, Manvel, Jr. (MB)

Kadia Jackson, Manvel, Jr. (OH/RS)

Emerson Chang, Manvel, Jr. (DS/Libero)

Julia Wright, Dawson, Jr. (MB)

Isabella Tijerina, Dawson, Jr. (DS)

Marley Ifems, Dawson, Soph. (OH)

Honorable Mention - Dobie

Julie Aguirre, Sr. (OH)

Hope Ortiz, Sr. (Libero)

Kaylie Bui, Sr. (S)

Dobie volleyball players earn All-Academic Team accolades

The District 22-6A varsity volleyball coaches recognized their student-athletes for their outstanding work in the classroom, nominating players for the All-Academic Team, which is representative of the players scoring a grade average of 90 or above for the first grading period of the 2024-2025 school year. Dobie's representatives included:

*Kaylie Bui
Hope Ortiz
Jocelyn Stringer
Miah Hypolite
Andrea Garcia*

*Leslie Sarduy
Julie Aguirre
Mia Campos
Jordan Johnson
Jessica Moise*

*Kylar Joseph
Alyssa Espinoza
Persephone Soria
Alyssa Goree*

New era in JFD boys' soccer starts with Kluka in charge

A new era within the Dobie boys' soccer program actually began about four months ago with the start of the current 2024-2025 school year, and now the Longhorns are mere hours away from testing

their abilities against players in a different color jersey as the start of the pre-season is here. While the program's current streak of 10 consecutive district championships has not been forgotten, it's as good as any to start fresh as first-year head coach Josh Kluka has inherited a

roster with limited varsity experience and possibly even less scoring production. Still, Kluka and the Longhorns will enter the 2025 season with the exceptionally high hopes even if the process of getting to the eventual goal take some time.

"We are definitely in a better space than we were say four months ago," Kluka said.

"We are all a lot more familiar with one another, and I certainly have a better idea of the abilities of a lot of these guys. We have also had a chance to implement a lot of things in terms of how I would like to do things out on the field with this group.

"At this point, it's all about going out there and going up against somebody else to gauge where we are as a program versus where we aim to be.

With preseason appearances at The Woodlands Classic as well as a star-studded tournament in Lake Travis, the Longhorns are not shying away from going again some of the very best talent in the state.

As is the case with most programs, the Longhorns' top goal is to be prepared for the District 22-6A schedule, and of course, a few wins in the tournaments will go a long way toward building confidence within the group.

"This is a hardworking group of guys," Kluka said. "I've enjoyed working with them, and I really feel like we're going to go out there and do some really good things on the soccer field. There's a tradition within this program, there's no doubt, and this season we aim to go out there and add to it.

"I know the guys are excited to get going with the matches now that the time is here."



Sophomore Gabriel Martinez (18) will be a key returnee after a terrific 2024 debut season with the Longhorns that saw Martinez named the 22-6A Newcomer of the Year as well as a 22-6A first team All-District selection.

Dobie Boys' Soccer 2024-2025 Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Dec. 13	Pasadena scrimm.	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 18	at Atascocita scrimm.	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 20	at Klein Forest scrimmage	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 2-4	at The Woodlands tourn.	
Jan. 2	Klein Collins	2 p.m.
Jan. 3	New Braunfels	4 p.m.
Jan. 4	The Woodlands	3 p.m.
Jan. 9-11	at Lake Travis tourn.	
Jan. 9	Laredo United	6 p.m.
Jan. 10	S.A. Johnson	9 a.m.
Jan. 11	Lake Travis	2 p.m.
Jan. 14	*at Dawson	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 21	*Memorial	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 24	*at Shadow Creek	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 29	*at Pearland	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 1	*at South Houston	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 4	*Sam Rayburn	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 7	*at Alvin	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 11	*Manvel	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 14	*Dawson	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 22	*at Memorial	noon
Feb. 25	*Shadow Creek	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 28	*at Pearland	7:30 p.m.
March 4	*South Houston	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 7	*at Sam Rayburn	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 11	*Alvin	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 14	*at Manvel	7:30 p.m.
*22-6A matches		
Home matches at Dobie main		

Dobie girls' soccer will debut under new head coach Jurek

The Dobie girls' soccer program will begin the preseason Dec. 13, taking on former 22-6A nemesis Deer Park in a scrimmage round of matches at Abshier Stadium in Deer Park as Longhorns' first-year head coach Kyle Jurek makes his debut with the program

The Longhorns captured a co-district championship in 2024 and will be aiming high as the 2024-2025 season gets underway. After taking on Deer Park, Dobie will scrimmage at Baytown Sterling

Dec. 17, then host the annual alumni game Dec. 20 at Dobie main.

The regular season gets started Dec. 30 as Longhorns play at Clear Creek with the varsity match coming at noon. Dobie will then play in the Iowa Colony Invitational as the new year kicks off, going against Texas City and Dickinson as well as Alief Elsik. Dobie will also take on Elsik

in a one-on-one match Jan. 7, 2025 at Dobie main. A 1997 Dobie graduate, Jurek played varsity soccer with the Longhorns as a student-athlete.

Professionally, Jurek spent 10 years as an assistant at Pasadena Memorial before becoming the head coach of the girls' program at Alvin for the previous two seasons up to now.

Returning junior Kamilah Estrada had a dozen goals and she was also a first team All-District pick after last season.

Dobie should also be strong in the net with the return of first team All-District keeper Mia Campos, a senior who also excelled on the volleyball court for the Longhorns as a second team all-league selection.

Jurek has several other key returnees available for a variety of roles as the Longhorns prepare for a realigned 22-6A field of competitors that will be headlined by Pearland and Dawson.

Memorial was also the co-district champion along with Dobie a season ago and figures to compete for a playoff spot.

Pearland won 19 matches a season ago on the way to the regional semifinals before a loss to Seven Lakes, while Dawson was 16-5-2 following a first-round playoff loss to Brazoswood.

Of note, with the University Interscholastic League shifting to separate Division 1 and Division 2 postseason brackets, Dobie and Pearland are the largest schools by enrollment within 22-6A and would play in the Division 1 bracket come playoff time.



Returning junior Kamila Estrada had a dozen goals and she was also a first team All-District pick after last season and will provide a scoring threat for the Dobie varsity girls' soccer team.

Dobie Girls' Soccer 2024-2025 Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Dec. 13	at Deer Park scrimm.	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 17	at Bay. Sterling scrimm.	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 20	Alumni game Dobie main	5 p.m.
Dec. 30	at Clear Creek	noon
Jan. 2-4	at Iowa Colony tourn.	
Jan. 2	Texas City	11 a.m.
Jan. 2	Dickinson	5 p.m.
Jan. 3	Alief Elsik	1 p.m.
Jan. 4	Trophy game	TBA
Jan. 7	Alief Elsik	7 p.m.
Jan. 14	*Dawson	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 21	*at Memorial	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 24	*Shadow Creek	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 28	*at Pearland	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 31	*South Houston	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 4	*at Sam Rayburn	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 7	*Alvin	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 11	*at Manvel	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 14	*at Dawson	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 21	*Memorial	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 25	*at Shadow Creek	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 28	*Pearland	7:30 p.m.
March 4	*at South Houston	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 7	*Sam Rayburn	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 11	*at Alvin	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 14	*Manvel	7:30 p.m.
*22-6A matches		
Home matches at Dobie main		

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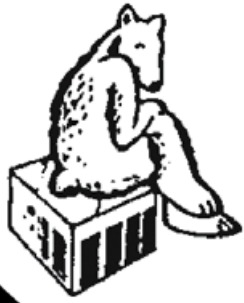
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PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Public Sale
This property is being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. Sale to be held online at www.bid13.com. Facility is Boat and Camper Storage, Inc. located at 9021 Alameda Genoa Rd. Houston, TX, 77075. Bidding will open (12/26/24 8 a.m.) and Conclude (1/2/25 10 a.m.)

Cleanup deposit is required. Seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale. Unit items sold as-is to highest bidder. Property includes the contents of spaces of the following tenant:

Mary Ann Lyons: furniture, household items, home decor and miscellaneous.

Notice of Public Sale
Sale of property to satisfy a landlord's lien. Sale to be held online at www.SelfStorageAuction.com Home Free Storage located at 12450 Beamer Rd Houston, TX 77089 Bidding will open (12/21/24 5:30 AM) and conclude (12/29/24 10:00 PM)

Cleanup deposit is required. The seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale. Unit items sold as-is to highest cash bidder. Property includes the contents of the space of the following tenant:

Shanikka S. Jones: (Unit A): Household items, furniture and 3 flat panel televisions; and (Unit B): Chest freezer, boxes and clothes

Notice of Public Sale
This property is being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. Sale to be held online at www.bid13.com. Facility is Boat and Camper Storage, Inc. located at 9021 Alameda Genoa Rd. Houston, TX, 77075. Bidding will open (12/13/24 8 a.m.) and Conclude (12/19/24 10 a.m.)

Cleanup deposit is required. Seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale. Unit items sold as-is to highest bidder. Property includes the contents of spaces of the following tenants:

Isaac Poole: 1984 Wild Travel Trailer (VIN#1ED1L2128E4024396).

John E. Sanders: 1976 Bayliner (Serial#BLBX36 CA0576) with outboard motor (Serial#J0007181).

Tommy Thompson: 1998 SUZU Motorcycle (VIN# JS1GR7DA7W2101415), tires with rims and misc.

Robert A. Andrade: 1994 Starcraft Boat (TX-9594HD) outboard motor (parts only) and misc.

Brandon S. Foster: 1977 Tital Boat (VIN# TTD00182M77F) with outboard motor (Johnson 70HP - model #70573E) parts only and misc.

Brian D. Neuman: 1985 Seacraft (TX7836ZV) with 1978 Evinrude Motor (Serial#E0801541), 1985 Yamaha Motor (Serial# 6E5UL700397) and misc.

Michael Roberts: 2013 Audi (VIN#WAU1FAFR1DA000853).

Francisco Marron: ladder, metal fencing, large meat smokers on shop built trailers, motors, motor lift, Large BBQ pit on trailer (no tags), and misc.

CALENDAR

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12
7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill," Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., and Saturday at 7:30 a.m. Hope Community United Methodist Church, 2838 Lily St. Call 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit https://aahouston.org/meetings/.

7:30 a.m. **Rotary Club of Pearland** - Check website for time and location https://pearlandrotary.com/events/calendar or call 832-293-9860.

9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - Exhibits include dioramas, a turn-of-the-century doctor's office and an old-time kitchen. Open Tues. - Sat., 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., 204 S. Main, Pasadena. Call Karen Hollon 713-472-0565 for appointment. Tours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

9:30 a.m. **NASA Aglow Community Light-house** - 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.

11:30 a.m. **ABWA - Southeast Express Network** - American Business Women's Association-South American Business Women's Association - Meetings are held January - November on the second Thursday of the month at Big Horn BBQ, 2300 Smith Ranch Rd., Pearland, TX 77584. Lunch is 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. (\$20 cash or check). Includes networking with professional business women and guest speakers. Women of all ages/occupations invited. Bring business cards. Reservations appreciated. Visit www.seen-abwa.org.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13
7:30 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** See Thursday's notice.
Noon **Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or at https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners. Call 713-686-6300 for more information. Meets Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com or https://nastuff.com/. Meets Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.
8 p.m. **Serenity Now Al-Anon Group** - meets at CrossRoads UMC Fridays, 8 to 9 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Family members and friends of problem drinkers/addicts share, learn Al-Anon principles, that they are not alone, and discover choices available. For details, call 281-484-9243.
Alcoholics Anonymous - meets at CrossRoads UMC Wednesday, Friday and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call 281-484-9243.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14
7:30 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** See Thursday's notice.
9:30 a.m. **Congregation Shaar Hashalom** - All services are live and Zoom online. For details on the 7 p.m. Friday night or the 9:30 a.m. Saturday service, Judaism classes, film series, and lunch with the Rabbi, visit https://www.shaarhashalom.org.
1 p.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - offers a knitting class, Saturdays 1 p.m. Call 281-479-7285 prior to coming.
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15
8 a.m./10:15 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - has worship Tuesday at 11:30 a.m., Wednesday at 7 p.m. (Bible study, Book of Revelation, at 6 p.m.) and Sunday at 8 a.m. and 10:15 a.m., 11456 Space Center Blvd. (in back of a medical/retail community). For details, call 281-479-7285 and leave a message, or stop by.
5:30 p.m. **Celebrate Recovery** - A faith-based 12-Step program, in the Life Kids Chapel at Life Church, 5125 Preston Ave. Pasadena, TX 77505. Call 713-419-2635 for details.
8 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous** - See Friday's notice.
MONDAY, DECEMBER 16
Noon **Ballroom Dancing** - A ballroom dance group welcomes visitors every Wednesday to enjoy free dancing from noon to 3 p.m. at Hometown Heroes Park Ballroom, 1001 East League City Parkway, League City. Everyone is welcome to enjoy dancing to a selection of CD music provided by DJ Neva Schroder and guest DJs. This weekly dance does not include lessons. Free lessons are taught by Jerry Sanford at the same location on Mondays from 1:30 to 3 p.m. While these opportunities are free and provided by volunteers, the park system requires participants to register and get an activity card for all park activities. For more information about the activity card, ask at the front desk or call 281-554-1180.
5 p.m. - **New Directions Singles Social Group** is a singles group for those 55+. Meetings are the first and third Monday held in the community room at Maplewood Crossing, 600 Hobbs Road, League City. There will be a potluck dinner and may include group activities. For further information, call Carol at 281-508-1663. See their Facebook page: New Directions Singles Social Group.
6 p.m. **Scrabble Club #511** - Meets Monday at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua. Join the fun and improve crossword skills. COVID-19 vaccination required. Email huff_reunion@juno.com for info.
7 p.m. **TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)** - #0683 Friendswood chapter meets at Friendswood Methodist Church, 110 N. Friendswood Dr. in the educational bldg., room 201. For information, call Lynette Ringuere at 832-858-4617 or Dorothy Pourteau

at 713-875-8820.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group, open meeting, 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com or https://nastuff.com/. Meets Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - St. Luke's 12-Step Recovery, open meeting Mondays, in the Education Bldg. in room 4, 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." See Thursday's notice.
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - See Thursday's notice.
11:30 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - See Sunday's notice.
6:30 - 7:30 p.m. **Southeast Houston Toastmasters** - The Southeast Houston Toastmasters Club #05324194 meets virtually with the exception of the second and fourth Tuesdays (hybrid meeting) at sehouston.toastmastersclubs.org. In-person address 10500 Scarsdale Blvd. (SB Chamber of Commerce). Visit the website or call Karen Nunn at 832-722-9061 for information.
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18
7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - See Thursday's notice.
Noon **Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners. 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or at https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners. Call 713-686-6300 for more information. Meets Mondays - Fridays.
12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. **Ballroom Dancing** - See Monday's notice.
7 p.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - See Sunday's notice.
Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - See Friday's notice.
8 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous** - See Friday's notice.
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19
7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill," Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., and Saturday at 7:30 a.m. Hope Community United Methodist Church, 2838 Lily St. Call 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit https://aahouston.org/meetings/.

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Carlisle/Krueger hoops challenging

Continued from Page 5 Dec. 20. 13 before traveling to Deer Park Dec. 17 in the district 24-6A opener for both programs. The Wolverines will then host Clear Creek

Chargers appear to have emerged as a frontrunner at least until further notice with 12 wins in 15 games, while Clear Lake and Clear Brook both have double-digit wins. Clear Falls and Deer Park both have eight victories, and Dickinson is seemingly always in the running.



Clear Brook's Logan Sariga (20) has been the glue guy in the lineup for his team to this point in the season, providing a little bit of everything as the Wolverines won 10 of their first 16 overall games.

At right, Clear Brook High School graduate Kailin Newsome closed out her outstanding collegiate volleyball career as she collected 281 kills and 256 digs as a senior graduate student at Mississippi State University this fall. The Bulldogs finished the regular season at 11-14 overall, including 5-11 in Southeastern Conference play. Newsome, the all-time kills leader with the Wolverines with 2,053 for her prep career, played the majority of her college career at Southeastern Louisiana, where she earned All-Conference accolades each season. She also spent the 2021 season at Wichita State University. Newsome joined Mississippi State through the transfer portal for her graduate senior season and delivered more than 1,350 kills over five seasons in the NCAA ranks. She and her sister, Jaden Newsome, who ranks 13th overall in Iowa State University history with 1,709 assists, are two of the most successful collegiate volleyball players to come out of the Clear Brook program.

Newsome closes VB career



Rivera leads Georgetown's win



Dobie graduate and current Georgetown University women's basketball player Victoria Rivera (3) delivered perhaps the most exciting moment of her collegiate basketball career to date as her 35-foot 3-point make with less than a second remaining on the clock provided the difference in the Hoyas' 55-53 victory over the Richmond Spiders Nov. 4 at the Robins Center in Richmond, Va. Georgetown improved to 5-3 on the season while handing Richmond its first defeat of the season along the way. Rivera, who through eight games this season is enjoying far and away her finest offensive season with the Hoyas, had 12 points in the game, including the game winner. A two-time District 22-6A Most Valuable Player while at Dobie, Rivera has matched a career best 19-point scoring output on three different occasions this season so far for Georgetown. Second on the team in total minutes played at nearly 34 per game, Rivera leads the Hoyas by a wide margin with 24 3-pointers made on 52 total attempts for a .462 shooting percentage from deep. Overall, Rivera is at 12.8 points per game, which is second only to leading scorer Kelsey Ransom, who is averaging 20.5 points per game.

JFD golfers stand out



Dobie golfer Martin Peng (left), making quite a splash as a freshman with the Longhorns, tied with two other players for lowest score of 78 in the Pearland Varsity Golf Tournament Dec. 2. Tiebreakers placed Peng third among medalists, and Dobie junior Evan Amezcua placed seventh with a score of 81.

Youth netters support Toys for a Claus fundraiser on island




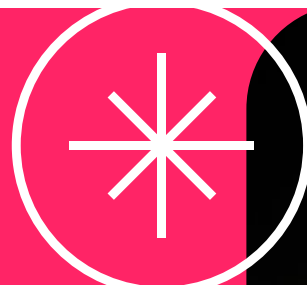
Tournament organizer/director Mitchell Moreno (left) joined trophy winners of the 8th annual Toys for a Claus tennis tournament at the Menard Park Scoggins-Stiglich Courts in Galveston. The toy-drive-themed event, founded by Moreno, an island native, has become a fun-filled way for netters to kick off the holiday season. This year, the full-bracket 16-team event helped raise 50 new toys for the Ronald McDonald House of Galveston. With Moreno, left to right are, consolation champions Hugo Garza and Brayden Rojas, Houston; champions Evan Werner and Jeff Dubrow, Galveston; runners-up Angelina Vu and Diego Flores, Houston; and third-place finishers Dulce Mejia and Jordan De Robles, Houston. Photo by Manuel Moreno Jr.

SBGSA continues signup
The South Belt Girls Softball Association is continuing online registration at www.southbeltsoftball.com as league officials plan for the eventual start to the 2025 spring season at El Franco Lee Park. Youths looking to participate in the league's U4 developmental age group may do so for \$40 per player. Those planning to compete in the U6 through U16 divisions may do so for \$120 per player. Registration will continue through Jan. 10, 2025, yet League officials note that the respective divisions usually fill up quickly, followed by waiting lists for select spots. To avoid the waiting lists, officials encourage players and their families to register online as soon as possible.

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