



South Belt-Ellington Leader

Serving South Belt since 1976

The Voice of Community-Minded People

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Knights hold fish fries

Knights of Columbus Council 9201 will hold a fish fry every Friday during Lent through Friday, March 22. Dinner will include fried fish, fries, hush puppies, coleslaw, corn on the cob and iced tea. Cost will be \$15 a plate. Dine in or take-out options will be available. The fish fries will be held at St. Luke The Evangelist Catholic Church, located at 11011 Hall Road, from 4 to 7 p.m.

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, Feb. 22, with another event happening the following Thursday, Feb. 29. For more information, call Sagemont Civic Club President Kay Barbour at 713-419-3545.

New Covenant feeds needy

New Covenant Christian Church, 10603 Blackhawk, distributes food the second and fourth Saturday of each month from noon to 1 p.m. or until supplies run out. The purpose is to provide food for community people in need. The next event is Feb. 24. For more information, call 281-484-4230.

Local COVID cases reported

The number of reported COVID-19 cases in ZIP has increased significantly this past week, while the figures have remained stagnant in South Belt's remaining two ZIP codes, according to Harris County health officials.

As of Tuesday, Feb. 20, there were 254 active cases in 77089, up 14 from the previous week. To date, 141 from the ZIP code have died from the disease, no increase from the previous week.

In ZIP code 77075, there were 16 active cases, up one from the previous week. To date, there have been 84 deaths in the ZIP code, no increase from the previous week.

In 77034, there were 12 active cases, no increase from the previous week. To date, 94 residents from ZIP code 77034 have died from the disease, no increase from the previous week.

According to Harris County Health officials, the vast majority of the fatalities suffered from pre-existing health issues. Statistics are updated daily and include numbers from within the Houston city limits and throughout Harris County. To view an interactive map, visit covid-harriscounty.hub.arcgis.com/pages/cumulative-data.

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 Boulevard to FM 519/Main Street daily from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and nightly from 8:30 p.m. to 5 a.m. until further notice.

The U-turn lane on the northbound Gulf Freeway frontage road (north to south) at FM-519/Main Street in La Marque will be closed until further notice.

The U-turn lane on the southbound Gulf Freeway frontage road (south to north) at FM-519/Main Street in La Marque will be closed until further notice.

The 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 8 closures planned

At least one northbound frontage road lane on Beltway 8 will be closed from Fairmont Parkway to Spencer Highway continuously until further notice. No detour will be needed but drivers should expect delays.

At least one southbound frontage road lane on Beltway 8 will be closed from SH 225 to Pasadena Boulevard continuously until further notice. No detour will be needed but drivers should expect delays.

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

Kirkwood to meet Feb. 26

The Kirkwood Civic Club's monthly meeting will take place 6:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 26, at the Sagemont Community Center, 11507 Hughes Road near Beltway 8.

Meetings are now scheduled for the last Monday of the month, rather than the last Thursday. For additional information, call Kirkwood Civic Club President Ericka McCutcheon at 281-989-9990.

SH 35 closure planned

At least one northbound lane and one southbound lane on SH 35/Telephone Road will be closed at Airport Boulevard daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. until further notice.

Sagemont to meet March 5

The Sagemont Civic Club will hold a meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 5, at The Gardens, located at 12001 Beamer at Hughes Road. All Sagemont residents/homeowners are invited to attend.

The meetings typically take place the first Tuesday of each month. For additional information, call Sagemont Civic Club President Kay Barbour at 713-419-3545.

Annual chamber gala to feature Whitmire

Newly elected mayor to tackle crime, address infrastructure

By James Bolen

Newly elected Houston Mayor John Whitmire will be the guest of honor at the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce's annual gala, set to take place Friday, March 8, at the Hope Village Event Center, 15403 Hope Village Road in Friendswood.

Having easily defeated U.S. Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee in a December runoff, Whitmire was sworn in last month as Houston's 63rd mayor, replacing term-limited Sylvester Turner who had served since 2016.

In a recent interview with the *Leader*, the new mayor addressed the potential hurdles his administration faces moving forward and what some of his top priorities will be as the city's chief executive.

"There's a lot of challenges, and our finances are strained," said Whitmire. "But, I want to make our city not only somewhere that people

want to work – but also somewhere that people want to live. I intend to improve the quality of life, and that starts with public safety."

The victim of an armed robbery himself, Whitmire said he plans to tackle violent crime in the city by prosecuting violent offenders sooner and by properly staffing the city's forensic lab.

Increased staffing and technological upgrades are also on the mayor's agenda.

"Public safety is my top priority," said Whitmire. "That doesn't mean just more officers on the street. That also means keeping up with the



John Whitmire

latest technology, such as license-plate readers." Whitmire said he further plans to step up the police department's traffic enforcement to detour violations such as speeding and road rage.

As one of his first major issues to tackle, as mayor, Whitmire said he plans to address the city's ongoing water billing problem, in which many residents have erroneously received exorbitant bills for inexplicable water usage.

"Don't get alarmed by exorbitant water bills,"

said Whitmire, who blamed faulty meters for much of the recent problems. "We're going to have a complete reform to address this problem that we inherited."

Plans call for making the system more user friendly for residents who experience billing issues and to have a real person available for assistance.

The mayor plans to also address the city's un-

Continued on Page 2

March 5 primary early voting underway

Early voting to continue through March 1

Early voting for the 2024 Democratic and Republican primary elections began Tuesday, Feb. 20, and will continue through Friday, March 1.

Several key positions are to be filled, including seats at the county, state and federal level.

Local races of particular importance to South Belt residents include the contests for Precinct 2 constable and justice of the peace.

Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia is seeking re-election. Democrat David Garza has filed to challenge Garcia for his party's nomination. No Republican candidates are seeking the position.

Harris County Precinct 2, Place 1 Justice of

the Peace Jo Ann Delgado is being challenged by Oscar Salazar Jr for the Democratic nomination. No Republicans filed to enter the race.

At the state level, Republican incumbent Dennis Paul has filed to maintain his House District 129 seat. Democrat Doug Peterson also filed to run for the seat.

Nearby early voting locations include the Harris County Scarsdale Annex, 10851 Scarsdale at Beamer; and the El Franco Lee Community Center, 9500 Hall Road near Beltway 8.

Voting hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. To see a complete list of polling locations and a sample ballot, visit harrisvotes.org.

Liquor store a repeat target of robbery

HPD: Store robbed at gunpoint 8 times in 16 months

The Spec's liquor store in the 10500 block of Pearland Parkway near Beltway 8 has been a repeat victim of armed robberies, with at least eight such crimes taking place there in just the last 16 months, according to Houston Police Department officials.

The last reported incident took place the afternoon of Saturday, Feb. 3.

During that robbery, the crooks fled in a vehicle traveling east on Beltway 8 before heading south on Beamer in front of the *Leader* office in

the 11500 block.

Investigators with HPD's Robbery Division contacted the *Leader* to obtain surveillance footage of the suspect's vehicle as it passed by the business's outside security cameras – a request the newspaper obliged.

Anyone with any information on any of these crimes is urged to contact the Houston Police Department Robbery Division at 713-308-0700 or speak anonymously with Crime Stoppers of Houston at 713-222-TIPS (8477).

Wave of house fires hits area



Emergency crews from the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department responded to a house fire Sunday, Feb. 18, on Riverbend Canyon Lane in the Riverstone Ranch subdivision. The blaze, which started on the home's roof, is believed to have been electrical in nature, SVFD officials said. The incident, however, remained under investigation at press time. No injuries were reported. The incident is one of at least five house fires in the South Belt community in the last two weeks. Photo by Colleen Lamb

Filing ends in local May 4 elections

CCISD, 1 MUDs, Road district to hold elections

The filing deadline for a place on the upcoming May 4 ballot in local school and MUD elections was Friday, Feb. 16, with all incumbents seeking re-election.

In the Clear Creek ISD election, District 4 incumbent Jeff Larson is being challenged by Albert Wittliff.

District 5 incumbent Jay Cunningham and At-Large Position A incumbent Jonathan Cottrell are both running unopposed.

For additional information on the Clear Creek ISD election, visit www.ccisd.net/elections.

Pasadena ISD will not hold an election this cycle.

In the Clear Brook City MUD election, candidate Yen Rabe filed to challenge incumbent Chris Clark, who currently serves as secretary.

Assistant Secretary David Flickinger and Vice

President Chuck Tylka are both running unopposed.

In the Sagemeadow MUD election, candidates Chuck Miracle and Rene Benavides filed to challenge incumbents David Montgomery and Glenn Williams. Unlike the Clear Brook City MUD, candidates in the Sagemeadow election don't challenge a specific incumbent, as the two open positions will go to the two candidates who receive the most votes. Montgomery currently serves as the district's secretary/treasurer, while Williams serves as assistant secretary/treasurer.

There will be no Kirkmont MUD election, as Vice President Lonnie Piquet and Assistant Vice President Jean Ann Williams are running unopposed.

Early voting will begin Monday, April 22, and continue through Tuesday, April 30.

Pct. 2 deputies assist in warrant case

Investigation leads to multiple felony charges

Deputies with Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia's Special Operations Unit recently assisted the U.S. Marshals Service with a warrant investigation that led to multiple felony arrests. (See related photo on Page 2.)

The U.S. Marshals were seeking a suspect wanted on numerous felony charges, including aggravated robbery.

While monitoring several locations for this wanted suspect on the south side of Houston, deputies and marshals made contact at a residence where the suspect was said to be. While searching this residence, numerous firearms and narcotics were observed in plain view, with numerous other suspects found on the scene.

While deputies and marshals were still in the area, they observed the wanted suspect exiting a business across the street from the residence where they were still searching. The wanted suspect entered a vehicle with an unknown female and began to drive away at a rapid speed. Deputies immediately attempted to conduct a traffic stop, when the vehicle began to flee.

During this pursuit, the wanted suspect exited the vehicle and fled on foot while dropping a loaded firearm in the process. Ultimately, deputies caught the suspect and took him into custody without further incident.

During this investigation, the following indi-

viduals were arrested and charged from the evading vehicle:

– Alford Brown, 38: felony possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver, felony manufacturing/delivery of a controlled substance, felony aggravated robbery, felony possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and felony evading arrest.

– Alicia Thompson, 39: felony evading arrest. During this investigation, the following individuals were arrested and charged from the evading vehicle:

– Adrian Jackson, 35: felony possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver, felony possession of a controlled substance and felony possession of marijuana.

– Kendrick Auzenne, 31: felony possession of a controlled substance.

In all, deputies and marshals recovered numerous loaded firearms, cocaine, ecstasy and marijuana.

Garcia's office took to Facebook to celebrate the arrests.

"This investigation was a great collaboration between the U.S. Marshals and Constable Garcia's Special Operations Unit," a post on the constable's Facebook page read. "Numerous serious criminals were taken off the street without injury or incident. God bless and stay safe."

Area house catches fire



A rash of recent house fires has struck the South Belt community, with at least five such instances in the last two weeks. In at least two of the incidents, the victims were uninsured. The fire shown to the left took place Monday, Feb. 12, in the Southdown Trace subdivision located near Beltway 8 and the Gulf Freeway.

Houston police seek robbery suspect

Suspect accused of threatening store employee

The Houston Police Department's Robbery Division is seeking the public's assistance in identifying a suspect involved in an incident around 7:15 p.m. Monday, Jan. 29, at a cellphone store located in the 100 block of E. Edgebrook near SH 3/Old Galveston Road.

According to Houston Police Department officials, an unknown male entered the business and walked around for a minute before putting on a set of headphones. As the male began to walk to-

ward the exit, he was approached by a store employee.

The male suspect then reportedly physically threatened the employee, before walking out of the store with the unpaid merchandise. The suspect fled the store on foot in an unknown direction.

Anyone with any information on this suspect's identity is urged to contact the HPD Robbery Division at 713-308-0700.



Lining up for \$1 a gallon gas



Anita Eakman (left), office manager and Lisa Holbrook, executive director of the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce are shown here with Atul Jain, one of the chamber's newest members. Motu recently opened a new gas station at 12210 Old Galveston Road, across from Ellington Field. His grand opening caused quite a traffic jam down Old Galveston Road as he sold gasoline for \$1 a gallon. In this photo, the vehicles are lined up behind the trio. This reporter counted more than 60 vehicles waiting in line for the bargain gasoline.

In My Opinion

Kathrine Mize backs DA Kim Ogg

I hope the South Belt - Ellington Leader endorses Kim Ogg. I am shocked that her opponent has any support since he obviously has the fix in for Lina Hidalgo. He works for the lawyer defending Hidalgo's top three deputies on their criminal corruption charges. Hidalgo endorses him, and then he promises not to pursue the cases against Hidalgo's deputies. This takes us back to the bad old days. **Kathrine Mize Publisher's note:** You will be happy to see we did endorse her along with Judge Jo Ann Delgado and Constable Jerry Garcia.

Fernandez supports Judge Delgado

As the upcoming election for Justice of the Peace 2-1 quickly approaches (March 5), I encourage you to place your vote for Judge Jo Ann Delgado. Judge Delgado has proudly served our community for 23 years with grace and honor. She has been a champion when it comes to dealing with school-related issues within Pasadena ISD and neighboring school districts.

Judge Delgado is fair and well-respected within our community and throughout the state. When truancy cases come before her courts, she makes every effort to work with the families, the court liaison and the District Attorney's office to help find the best solution to get the student get back on track so they can ultimately meet their

graduation requirements. With respect to juvenile behavior, Jo Ann works with the students and families to get the assistance needed for the student such as; an assessment, decision making class, tobacco/vaping awareness class and anger management. Delgado's goal is to address the behavior so it will NOT be repeated and there is not a negative impact on the student's record.

Judge Jo Ann Delgado has a proven track record through her commitment to our youth, our community, and her 23 years as a servant to the district she lives and loves. I ask that you take time in the March 5 elections to place a vote for my friend and Justice of the Peace 2-1, Judge Jo Ann Delgado.

Art Lopez says keep Kim Ogg

Keep Kim Ogg vote for her we cannot have George Soros and Sean Teare running the DA office. If you think crime is bad now if they were to be elected and be five times worse.

This is for you guys that are independent or care about crime or u have Cross-over voters or Democrat friends..... If you care about crime and if you care about what's going around Harris county and the city of Houston and United States you probably should share this with your friends that are independent or republican or Democrats crime does not have a party keep KIM OGG as District Attorney. Please share this..

Publisher's Opinion

Vote – if you don't want Houston crime to greatly increase!

District attorney Kim Ogg has some very stiff competition. Her opponent, Sean Teare has strong backing from the county as both Commissioner Rodney Ellis and County Judge Hildalgo appear on his campaign poster.

I do understand that we have to have concern for our fellow man, even when they have done bad things. But I think recent history has shown that unless people get in trouble for breaking the law, law-breaking will continue to increase.

Teare apparently believes we should have a no cash bail system.

I can understand this in some very rare cases, but not as a matter of policy. I also understand that he believes the \$11 million dollar contract should not result in punishment for those involved in this scheme as there "really isn't a case there."

The Texas Rangers investigated. I believe them. Let the case go to trial and let a jury decide. I hope that Teare is working for the attorney representing the trio under investigation for the plot isn't being influenced by that fact. It is my understanding that he believes the case should be dropped..

\$11 million is a lot of taxpayer money to waste.

On to a simpler problem. Along with Kim Ogg running for re-election we have Justice of the Peace Jo Ann Delgado and Constable Jerry Garcia also running for re-election. Both of these people have done a great job for our community and we need to keep them.

Please consider voting for this trio who have a direct effect on the quality of our life in the community.

Marie Flickinger,
Publisher

The Bridge opens new kids facility

The Bridge announces the grand opening for a new facility for children from birth to 18 years of age.

The building is a one-of-a-kind, trauma-informed, and trauma-focused youth program.

The Bridge for Kids is a Texas childcare-licensed national association facility accredited for the education of young children that can serve 209 youngsters daily.

The program focuses solely on children who are survivors of domestic, sexual and community violence.

The new facility will:

- Double the current capacity and impact.
- Enable all children and youth programming and services in one centralized location, increasing effectiveness and efficiency.
- Provide state-of-the-art

sensory rooms, including calming, physical aggression release, art expression, music expression studio and textile fidget sensory rooms. One-on-one sessions and mini-group sessions will utilize these rooms.

• Allow TBOTW to increase adult capacity and services by repurposing space in current buildings.

• Provide age-appropriate, dedicated spaces for young children, pre-teens and teenagers to gather and engage.

• Host youth summits, career, and talent-focused workshops, and groups.

• Help break the generational cycle of violence.

The Bridge Over Troubled Waters has been a haven for survivors escaping domestic and sexual violence in Pasadena and the Greater Houston

area.

It is the sixth-largest domestic and sexual violence crisis center in Texas, serving thousands of men, women and children annually through an array of residential and nonresidential services, as well as community outreach and prevention and education programs.

The Bridge enables individuals to break cycles of violence and homelessness and rebuild their lives. Services address physical, mental and emotional needs. All services are free, confidential and offered bilingually.

The Bridge for Kids ribbon-cutting and press conference were held Feb. 13 at 3811 Allen-Genoa.

For details, visit The Bridge for Kids Grand Opening - The Bridge Over Troubled Waters (tbotw.org)

Elected officials share their words

Precinct 2 seeking partnerships By Commissioner Adrian Garcia

Applications for the 2024 Harris County Precinct 2 Partnership Projects are now open!

Commissioner Adrian Garcia is pleased to open proposals for his fifth annual partnership program for capital improvement and maintenance projects. The Pct. 2 Partnership Project looks to assist local entities such as cities, MUDs, Public Ports, TIRZ, Civic Clubs, Economic Development Corporations and Management Districts, with significant infrastructure projects.

In November 2022, voters in Harris County approved three bond propositions totaling \$1.2 billion. The bond package provides funding for public safety facilities, roads, drainage, transportation-relat-

ed program, parks, trails, and partnership projects. The bonds will finance eligible capital projects, including land, labor, materials and professional services. Since 2020, Harris County Pct. 2 has partnered on more than 49 CIP and drainage projects. The precinct committed to more than \$83 million dollars for sidewalk, road, drainage, hike, and bike trail improvement.

See below for additional information and a link to apply. Applications close Feb. 16. For general questions, contact Byron Acevedo, Senior Director of Engineering, at 713-875-9758 or via email through the following link: <https://www.hcp2.com/Projects/2024-Partner-ship-Projects>. We look forward to hearing from you.

Adrian Garcia

Commissioner Ellis endorses Teare By Commissioner Rodney Ellis

Precinct 1 Commissioner Rodney Ellis will hold a news conference to announce his endorsement of Democrat Sean Teare for District Attorney, Ellis, the second member of Harris County Commissioner's Court to endorse Teare after Lina Hidalgo, will share

his perspective on the importance of Teare's leadership and vision for the District Attorney's office.

The endorsement comes on the heels of Teare receiving a major endorsement from the Gulf Coast AFL-CIO (labor) recently.

Rodney Ellis

St. Luke's Catholic Daughters collect items

The Catholic Daughters at St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church, Court Mother of Unity #2292 collected monies from members as well as the Court leadership during the December 2023 meeting, enabling them to buy diapers

for the Texas Rally for Life "Mountain of Diapers" project held Jan. 27 in Austin.

With the money, the court purchased 24 large boxes of diapers, totaling 2,384 diapers, which were delivered to the steps of the Texas state capitol building on the big day.

According to Pat Smith, Texas CDA Legislature Chair, a total of 19,000 diapers were collected at the event, which will be donated to support participating pregnancy centers across Texas.

Hancock names Bison winners

Hancock Elementary officials have announced the second nine-weeks list of students selected to represent Bisons' Best.

Pre-k
Nathan Luna, Baileigh McCoy and Ailani Molgado.

Kindergarten

Ailani Rodriguez, Kamden Notoles, Clarissa Garcia and Melanie Melesio.

First grade
Aubrey Roberts, Achilles Martinez, Axel Alvarado and Carson Thomas.

Second grade
Matteo Reyes, Andrew Sanchez, Nahomy Orantes

and Isabelle Sanchez.

Third grade
Kamila Gonzalez, Kylie Villa, Aaron Espadin, Aparicio Turpeau and Tamia Jenkins.

Fourth grade
Kamila Figueroa, Alexa Guerra, Johnetta Harris and Mateo Lopez.

Mayor attacking problems

Continued from Page 1
predictable trash collection, which can often be delayed by several days, particularly on heavy trash collection dates.

Whitmire attributed the delays to a shortage of trucks and to a lack of manpower in the city's solid waste department, noting that some of the city's current employees are working 18 hours a day, six days a week.

The mayor pledged to find savings in the city's budget to address the delayed pickups.

While Whitmire said he plans to continue his predecessor's tradition of supporting the city's arts, he intends to do so in a way that is fiscally sound and responsible.

"Arts are important," said Whitmire. "It brings a quality

of life to many Houstonians, but there's a finite amount of money, and we need to spend it wisely."

A member of the state legislature for 50+ years prior to being elected mayor, Whitmire said his time in Austin will help him in his new role.

"I learned to work across the aisle," said Whitmire. "Don't personalize issues; just get things done."

Despite the multiple challenges, Whitmire is optimistic regarding the city's future and his time in office.

"I want to spend eight of my last years on this planet working toward what's best for Houston," said Whitmire.

Annual gala
Titled "Let's Tickle the Ivories," this year's chamber gala will feature a two-hour

performance from Two Tones Dueling Pianos and give attendees a chance to sing along to their favorite 70s, 80s and 90s tunes.

Both a citizen of the year a chamber member of the year will be announced at the event.

The event will also feature the swearing in of new chamber officers.

The last two chamber banquets have been canceled due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Sponsorship opportunities are available from \$500 to \$5,000.

To purchase tickets or to become a sponsor, visit southbeltchamber.com/annual-gala.

For additional information, call 281-481-5516 or email info@southbeltchamber.com.

Deaths

Lena Concetta Perry



Lena Concetta Perry, 84, passed away on Friday, Feb. 16, surrounded by her children and immediate family in her home. She was the widow of Bobby Lee Perry, with whom she shared 61 years of marriage.

Born in Galveston, on Oct. 26, 1939, she was the daughter of Leone Joseph Attanasio Sr. and Concetta Bennici Attanasio. She attended and graduated from Dominican Catholic School in Galveston.

She met her future husband, Bobby Lee Perry, in Galveston in 1957, and they were married in 1958. Together, Bob and Lena had five children: Concetta, Bobby, Angela, Jacqueline and Christopher. She was a devoted mother to her five children, and worked tirelessly to raise them well. Lena and her husband spent many years on the baseball field with their children. Bob was a coach, while Lena was a team mom.

In 1979, Bob and Lena opened Perry's Butcher Shop on Scarsdale Boulevard. Lena, along with her husband and children, worked at the butcher shop day in and day out. Through their teamwork, Lena and her family truly made a lasting impact on their community.

Lena was a fantastic cook, thanks to her Italian heritage and the teachings of her mother. She regularly hosted Thanksgiving and Christmas for her family in her home, and the meals were nothing short of heavenly. Her recipes have been passed on, and continue to put smiles on the faces of others to this day. Aside from the holidays, she hosted many parties at her home, all of which were so memorable. Lena's parties were full of great food, gorgeous decorations and loving memories.

Apart from cooking, Lena took interest in and had a great eye for interior design. She enjoyed remodeling and redecorating her home, paying close attention to detail. Her home, while always warm and inviting, was also full of beautiful and eye-catching pieces. She even contributed heavily to the designing of many of the earliest Perry's restaurant locations.

In true matriarchal fashion, Lena was the boss in any situation in which she was and was even jokingly nicknamed "the warden" by her husband Bob for this reason. Lena went above and beyond in absolutely everything she did; whether it was raising children, cooking fabulous meals, throwing elaborate parties or designing a space. As the matriarch of the family, she truly created a lasting legacy that will live on forever. For such a little lady, she was truly larger than life.

Lena is survived by her children Concetta Ligori, Bobby (Beth) Perry, Jacqueline (Brian) Blanchard and Christopher (Holly) Perry; her grandchildren Anthony (Mary Jo) Ligori, Nicholas (Jessica) Perry, Christopher (Lauren) Perry, Andrew (Mark) Perry, Zachary (Cheyenne) Perry, Patrick (Olivia) Blanchard, Cameron (Megan) Blanchard, Lauryn Blanchard, Alec Perry, Jake Perry and Jennifer (Armando) Ligori; her great-grandchildren Dominic Perry, Toni Ligori, Aidan Perry, Jacqueline Ligori, Sofia Ligori, Avery Perry, Colton Perry, Nolan Perry, Addison Close, Carson Perry, Bennett Perry, Everly Perry, Mason Perry, Wren Blanchard, Walker Perry, Colin Perry, Cassandra Loera, Debra Loera and Mateo Loera; her soon-to-be granddaughter Angela Blanchard; and her beloved caregivers, Olga Garza, Giselle Garza and Elizabeth Garza.

Lena was preceded in death by her husband; her daughter, Angela Marie Perry; her son-in-law, Terry Lee Ligori; her grandson, Michael Anthony Perry; her parents; and her siblings Paul Anthony Attanasio Sr., Norma Marie Attanasio and Leon Joseph Attanasio Jr.

A viewing will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 28, at 10 a.m., followed by a funeral Mass led by the Rev.

Dominic Pistoni at 11 a.m. at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 1302 Broadway, Galveston. The burial will take place following the service at Catholic Cemetery, 7801 Gulf Freeway. Finally, a reception will be held at Perry's Steakhouse & Grille, 700 Baybrook Mall Drive.

Flowers and contributions to The Alzheimer's Foundation are both welcome and greatly appreciated.

Frank Ramon Gonzalez



Frank Ramon Gonzalez, 82, of Pasadena, passed away Feb. 10, in Pasadena, after journeying well. He was born Jan. 31, 1942, to Francisco Toribio Gonzalez and Carmen Marichalar Gonzalez in Cerralvo, Nuevo Leon, Mexico.

He grew up in Baytown, and graduated from Robert E. Lee High School. He attended Lee Jr. College and graduated from the University of Houston with a Bachelor of Science in physical therapy.

He worked at the VA Hospital for more than 30 years and retired. He then worked at Park Plaza Hospital from which he retired in 2002.

He enjoyed spending time with his family and spoiling his grandsons.

The family raised their children in the South Belt area.

As a young adult, he loved staying active by playing tennis and lifting weights. He was a huge fan of anything Stallone or Muhammed Ali.

Fishing with his son, maintaining his garden and listening to music were his favorite pastimes.

Frank is survived by his wife, Gloria Gonzalez of Pasadena; son Marc Gonzalez (Cathy) and their son Matthew; daughter Kristina (Riley) Bowman and their son Westley Williams; sister Mary Antonia Gonzalez; and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Frank was preceded in death by his father, his mother, his sister Rosa Neli Rodriguez, his brother Andrew Gonzalez and his grandson Everett Williams.

A memorial service to celebrate the life of this incredible husband, brother, uncle, and friend was held Thursday, Feb. 15, at Connect Community Church in Pasadena.

Rodney Jay Pfister



Rodney Jay Pfister, born on March 1, 1955, in Houston, passed away peacefully on Feb. 7, in his hometown.

Rodney was a lifelong resident of Sagemont and a graduate of J. Frank Dobie High School, Class of 1973. He completed his Associate of Arts in mathematics from San Jacinto College and his Bachelor of Science in mechanical technology from the University of Houston.

Rodney was also a journeyman pipefitter. He worked in the operations maintenance industry for nearly 40 years at Pan Am Airlines, Honeywell and more than 20 years at Johnson Controls on various projects, including time at NASA's Johnson Space Center. There he contributed his talents and expertise supporting mission critical operations. Rodney was fortunate enough to retire early in 2016.

Beyond his career, Rodney had a passion for the outdoors that was instilled in him by his father. Rodney was an avid fisherman, spending his summers in Cameron, La. and fished all over the world. He was also a lifelong hunter and spent his entire life hunting with close friends and family on family property in College Station.

Rodney was preceded in death by his parents, Stuart and Juanita Pfister and is survived by his beloved son, Drew Pfister; daughter-in-law Abby Pfister; and grandson SJ Pfister.

He is also remembered fondly by his siblings Pamela Bratcher, Becki Quartaro and John Pfister; and long-term girlfriend Shirley Foster.

Family and friends are invited to pay their respects

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New Covenant Christian Church

Day Care Christian Based Child Care



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281.481.2003

www.newcovenantchristianchurchhouston.com

10603 Blackhawk Blvd. Houston, Tx 77089

Blackhawk @ Kirkfair

ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST Catholic Church

Rev. Douglas J. Guthrie, Pastor

Rev. Kingsley Nwoko, 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.*

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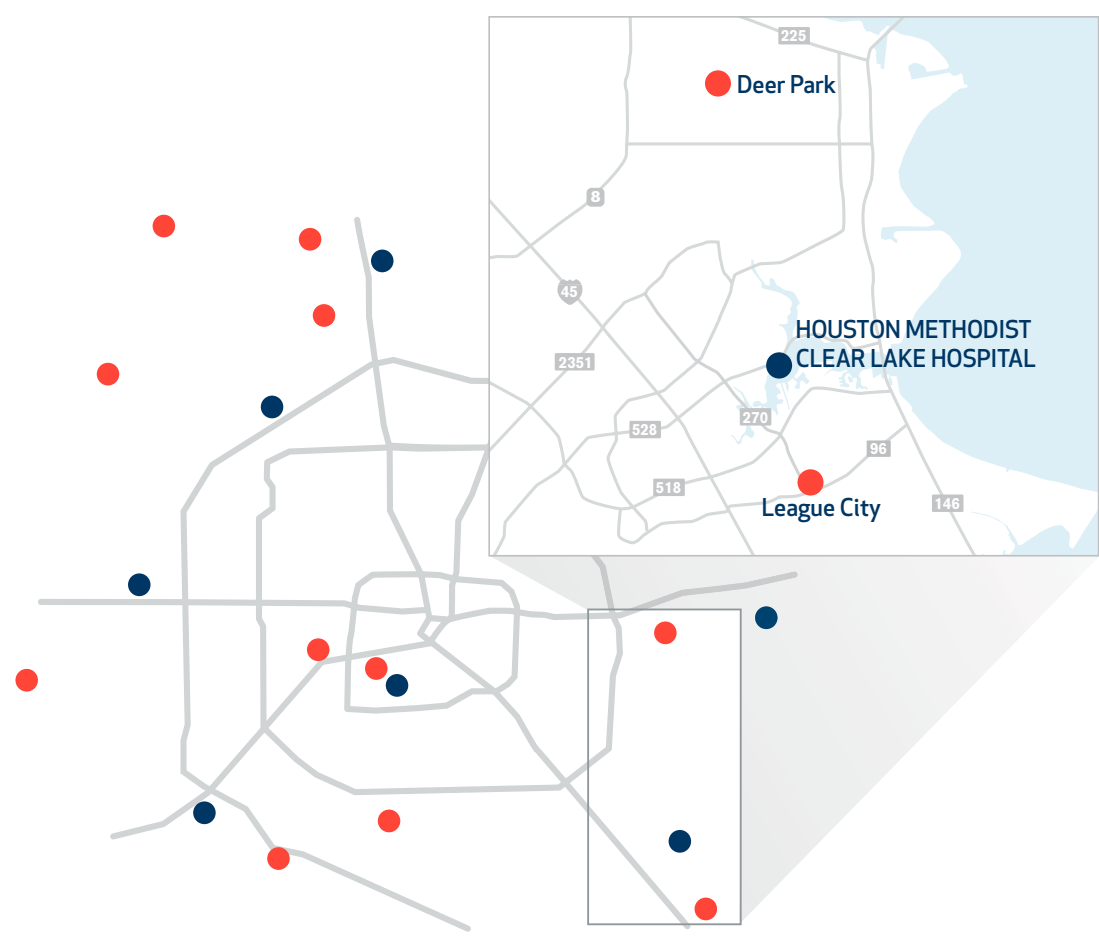
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Remember When

45 years ago (1979)

The South Belt area had been approved for a new elementary school to be built on Hall Road, in the Pasadena Independent School District. Frank Braden was officially named the new principal of J. Frank Dobie High School.

40 years (1984)

Trustees of the Pasadena Independent School District approved a plan to purchase 168 computers for instructional use throughout the district. House Bill 26 was expected to mandate the use of instructional computers throughout the

state.

Bo Beaty was re-elected chief of the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department.

35 years ago (1989)

Deciding he had finally put in his "100 percent," Thompson Intermediate School Principal E.J. Ritchey changed the

direction of his commitment to community service and announced his retirement from public education.

At least 15 burglaries in the South Belt area were cleared through the efforts of deputies from Precinct 2 Constable Gary Freeman's office.

30 years ago (1994)

Thompson Intermediate School's academic games team beat Beverly Hills Intermediate's team to win the district championship.

Clear Brook High School athletes Audrey Gregory, Paul Vining, Andrea Bahlo, Mary

Crouch and Satsuki Sokol qualified for the UIL state swimming and diving meet.

25 years ago (1999)

Councilman Rob Todd announced that the City Council Aviation Committee approved plans to enter into a 30-year agreement with SkyComm Technologies Inc. to lease 304,920 square feet of land at Ellington Field for expansion of its telecommunications business.

Clear Brook High School senior Jamal Smith signed a scholarship agreement to play football for the University of Southwest Louisiana.

20 years ago (2004)

The body of a male was found outside the gate of the home at 10407 Kirkshire in the Sagemont Park subdivision. According to Houston Police Department officials, he was thought to be one of four suspects in an attempted home invasion at 10411 Kirklane the previous night. Officials reported that there was an exchange of gunfire between the homeowner and the suspects outside the Kirklane home. The suspect died from gunshot wounds to his hand and chest while he was running from the scene.

An anonymous source alerted the *Leader* to a Drug Enforcement Agency drug raid on Colt Canyon at Chimney Trail in the Riverstone Ranch subdivision.

15 years ago (2009)

Mayor Bill White was guest of honor at a banquet celebrating the 25th anniversary of the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce. Several other elected officials attended the

event, as did board members from San Jacinto College and the Pasadena Independent School District and representatives from several local civic groups. Mike Newkham, unit director of the Blackhawk H-E-B, was named the Chamber Member of the Year.

Longtime Dobie basketball coach Scott Talton died while working on his family home in Pasadena. He joined the Dobie High School faculty and coaching staff prior to the 1979-80 school year. He had retired at the age of 59 following the 2007-2008 school year after winning his 500th career varsity game.

A house in the 10200 block of Olentangy near Kingspoint Road caught fire. The fire, which engulfed the entire house, was so intense it took several units from the Houston Fire Department to extinguish it. Fortunately, no one was injured, as the home's residents were able to escape through the back door of the house.

10 years ago (2014)

A newborn baby boy was found in a dumpster by a maintenance worker at the Reserve at Windmill Lakes apartment complex in the 9900 block of Windmill Lakes Boulevard. The child, who still had his umbilical cord attached, was only about 4 or 5 hours old when he was found. The mother, a 16-year-old student at South Houston High School, reportedly didn't know she was pregnant until she had the child in her aunt's bathtub. She said she cut the umbilical cord herself but thought the infant was born dead, prompting her to dispose of him in the dumpster. No charges were immediately filed.

5 years ago (2019)
Former Dobie student Jeremy Richardson was named the

Pasadena Independent School District's secondary principal of the year for his service at Pasadena Memorial High School. A 1995 Dobie graduate, Richardson has served the students of Pasadena ISD for 18 years. He returned to his alma mater in 2002 to teach world geography and government, while also coaching football, soccer and golf. In 2009, he assumed the role of assistant principal at Memorial until the conclusion of the 2015-2016 school year. Since then, he has served students at Pasadena Memorial as the school's principal. Lindsey Lesniewski of Gardens Elementary was named PISD's elementary principal of the year.

A suspect accused in the fatal stabbing of a man at a bus stop in the 9900 block of Alameda Genoa on Nov. 17, 2018, was arrested Monday Feb. 18. Edward Charles Hill, 37, was charged with murder in the 178th State District Court for his role in the death of Jamal Brown Jr., 26.

1 year ago (2023)

An Apple watch inside a stolen vehicle led Precinct 2 deputies to the missing vehicle Wednesday, Feb. 15.

According to Precinct 2 officials, the vehicle was stolen around 11 a.m. from a residence in the 11500 block

of Grapewood. Utilizing the stolen Apple watch and local FLOCK cameras, deputies were able to track the missing vehicle to a motel located in the 12000 block of Beltway 8 at the Gulf Freeway.

Precinct 2 Investigators were able to confirm 43-year-old Erick Dopp as the suspect through the victim's home surveillance footage. Dopp was charged with felony unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and felony theft of a motor vehicle charges.

Clear Brook City MUD residents will likely soon see a rate increase on their monthly statements.

Beginning next month, the minimum bill for residents serviced by the local municipal utility district will be \$91.14.

Clear Brook City MUD officials said the increase is necessary due to increased costs on their end associated with COVID and inflation. Such increases include a 20 percent hike from the city's Southeast Water Plant, a 12 percent increase in city sewer costs, a 10 percent spike in county constable costs, a 55 percent increase in fire and ambulance costs from the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department and a nearly 30 percent hike in its trash collection contract.

Over The Back Fence by Natalie

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, YOLANDA!

Happy Birthday to Yolanda Vallejo De Leon who celebrates her day Feb. 24 from Rosa Graham. They have been friends for 55 years. Yolanda is a retired Pasadena ISD teacher, a longtime resident of Sagemont and an active member of St. Luke the Evangelist.

JIM ENJOYS A 90TH BIRTHDAY

Birthdays greetings are sent Feb. 25 from family and friends to Jim Muecke, an Edgemoor area resident active with community volunteer work on road and drainage projects who turns 90 years old.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, CAROLYN!

Special birthday wishes for long time South Belt resident Carolyn Friend who marks a birthday Feb. 26. She is active in Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court Mother of Unity #2292.

BIRTHDAY WISHES FOR JANIS

Happy birthday wishes are sent Feb. 27 to Janis Wright from the Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court Mother of Unity #2292 and the South Belt Leader staff.

SCHOOL DAZE

The following staff and personnel of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays Feb. 22 through Feb. 28.

Atkinson Elementary

Birthday wishes go to Lilian Moreno Feb. 24.

Frazier Elementary

Enjoying a birthday Feb. 22 is Destiny Sanchez. Greetings for a wonderful birthday are

sent to Maria Munoz Feb. 27. Andrea Eguia celebrates a birthday Feb. 28.

Genoa Elementary

Celebrating a special birthday Feb. 22 is Rosa Silva. Maria Duran celebrates her birthday Feb. 27. Enjoying a birthday Feb. 28 is Julia Friedel.

Hancock Elementary

Give a birthday shoutout Feb. 24 to Bianca De Leon and Olga Gonzales.

Meador Elementary

Cake and ice cream are in order Feb. 24 for Nadya Munoz. Celebrating a birthday Feb. 28 is Linda Tije.

Moore Elementary

Sharing a double-layer birthday cake Feb. 24 is Cindy Montemayor and Krystal Garza.

South Belt Elementary

Nancy Hernandez has a birthday Feb. 22.

Stuchbery Elementary

Blow out the birthday candles Feb. 28 for Alexandra Whited.

Fred Roberts Middle School

Break out the birthday balloons and party favors Feb. 23 for Tincy Varghese and Jessica McDaniel. Randall Sanchez celebrates a birthday Feb. 26. Light the birthday candles Feb. 28 for Gladys Segura.

Melillo Middle School

Angelica Banda's birthday is February 25.

Beverly Hills Intermediate

Blow out the birthday candles on a dou-

ble-layer cake Feb. 23 for Joseph Fee and Quan Nguyen. Michael Arroyo and Gary Warner celebrate a birthday Feb. 25. Alicia Jackson Ngala celebrates a birthday Feb. 27.

Thompson Intermediate

Blow out the birthday candles Feb. 24 for Kristin Cortese. Brenda Umanzor celebrates a birthday Feb. 27.

Dobie High

Join in the birthday fun Feb. 22 with Lori Sims. Break out party favors and balloons Feb. 24 for Kevin Berneathy. Sharing a birthday Feb. 25 are Kha Nguyen and Derek Rochelle. Greetings for a wonderful birthday are sent Feb. 27 to Rachel Rodriguez. The day for birthday cake and ice cream for Shay Woodruff is Feb. 28.

FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS

Thursday, Feb. 22: Gerald Maduzia; Friday, Feb. 23: Mark Roberts, David Adkins, Brian Groff, Tonya Abel, Angie Abel, Charlese Richard, James Spence and Liz Cantu; Saturday, Feb. 24: Andrew Belmarez, Ken Moore, L.A. Dalton and Rebecca Cappello. Sunday, Feb. 25: Frank Acosta, Carla Burbach, Kayla Ferrell, Rene Hernandez, Kobe Ruiz-Estrada and Luciana Serrano; Monday, Feb. 26: Jimi Cebulla, Leah Williamson and Mark West; Tuesday, Feb. 27: Sarah Tremont, Cindy Banhart, Miguel Villarreal and Beth Northrup; and Wednesday, Feb. 28: Jessica Shannon, Rudy Peralez and James Myers.

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Larry Buell advances



Laura Bush Elementary is proud to announce fourth-grader Larry Buell placed second in the elementary level of Pasadena ISD's spelling bee. His coach was Rubi Contreras. On Feb. 13, at South Houston High School, he placed fifth in the second round of the spelling bee which included students up to eighth grade.

Garcia offers vets course

Commissioner Adrian Garcia announced a mental health first-aid course orientated for veterans. This training will equip individuals with valuable skills and knowledge to effectively support their fellow veterans who may be experiencing mental health challenges. This class will cover relevance, risk factors, applying the action plan A.L.G.E.E. and will offer mental health resources. The mental first-aid course will be Wednesday, March 20, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Registration is required at pc12safetydepartment@pc12hctx.net.

January Aviators awarded



Fred Roberts Middle School January Aviators of the month were awarded for their growth mindset. These students embrace challenges, persist in the face of setbacks, learn from their mistakes, and find inspiration in the success of others. Shown, left to right, are Liam Torok, Madylyn Perez, Lali Guerrero (principal), Abedal Abed-brabbo, Hanna Avalos-Arrue and Crissy Higham (counselor).

AARP plans March 14 meeting

AARP Webster Area Chapter 199 welcomes everyone to join them at 10 a.m. Thursday, March 14, at the Bay Area Community Center, 5002 E. NASA Parkway, Seabrook. The meeting will be held in the large building with the blue roof inside Clear Lake Park on the north side of NASA Parkway. Everyone is invited to come to the meetings and to enjoy coffee, cookies, and fellowship at 9:30 a.m. before the meeting starts at 10 a.m. Each month, there will be entertainment or a speaker on various topics of interest to seniors, followed by a social activity. The third annual Derby Days will be the social event for the March 14 meeting. Is everyone ready to ride, partners? Six volunteers are needed to ride stick horses and the rest of the members will be placing bets. So, bring quarters and be prepared for a fun time. What is a horse race without ice cream? Donna Orozco with Amada Senior Care will be the ice cream sponsor for the sun-

dae bar. This AARP chapter also organizes day trips for AARP Chapter 199 members by bus to local area points of interest at minimal cost. The next bus trip will be Friday, March 22, when the members will tour the Chappell Hill Historical Museum. Lunch will be at Chappell Hill Deli and Bakery. If time permits after lunch, members will go to the Blue Bell Creameries for ice cream. One may register for this trip at the March 14 AARP meeting. One must be a member of the local chapter to participate in chapter bus trips. If anyone is interested in joining AARP chapter 199, annual dues are \$8 per year per person. However, one must be a member of national AARP and show one's current national membership card to join any local chapter. AARP chapters are separately incorporated affiliates of AARP. For information, contact President Veronica Stanford, at 409-256-1195 or at veronica_stfrd46@yahoo.com.

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SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

Defending champions fortify lead in 22-6A boys' soccer race

The defense came through with a third shut-out effort, Alex Escobar scored a pair of goals and first-place Dobie delivered a statement-like 2-0 win over host Deer Park Feb. 17 in Deer Park. Time will tell if the

Longhorns return to Abshier Stadium in Deer Park for the Region III final four in April, but the locals, who also got assists from J.P. Rodriguez and Kevin Dominguez in the win, made themselves at home to open the second half of league play.

Manrique will no doubt continue to remind his guys that the title chase isn't over until the point standings say such, but to this point the Longhorns have come up big often.

Now at 6-1-0 to top District 22-6A with 18 points, the Longhorns lengthened their lead in the standing by beating the second-place Deer for a second time in league play. Deer Park, which had 13 points at the start of play Feb. 20 after press time.

The Longhorns hosted Pasadena Feb. 20 and will play at last-place Memorial Feb. 23 at 7:30 p.m. A pair of wins would give the Longhorns a tight grip

on what could be a 10th consecutive 22-6A championship. Dobie ran into some tough luck in its lone league loss to Channelview back on Feb. 2 but has since responded with the three shutout wins while improving to 10-2-2 overall.

Escobar, the top returning scorer from a season ago during the Longhorns' march to the Region III championship match, now leads the way in goals scored with six and has added four assists. Jefferson Aleman has five goals, while Dominguez has three goals and a team-best seven assists.

Following the loss at Channelview to open the February portion of the schedule, Dobie head coach Justo Manrique

Dobie boys' soccer at Memorial
Feb. 23, 7:30 p.m.

Dobie boys' soccer hosts Channelview
Feb. 27, 7:30 p.m.



Dobie netters medal at Wesbrooks invite

It's one of the program's favorite annual tournaments to attend, so it's only natural that the Dobie varsity tennis lineup would shine bright at the Lamar University Ron Wesbrooks Invitational.

Turning in what Longhorn head coach Manuel Moreno Jr. said was likely the best he'd seen in many years of attendance for the locals, the Longhorns brought home four gold medals and numerous oth-

er solid finishes following the Feb. 9-10 event in Beaumont. Leena Pham and Kayla Tran won the girls' A doubles champions while Diego Flores and Nestor Garza were the boys' A

doubles champions. The boys' B doubles title went to Dobie's Rigoberto Alaniz and Tre Ramirez, with Leslie Figueroa also winning the girls' B singles championship.

The Dobie pairing of Amalia Reyes and Pitou So won the mixed A doubles title, and Vyvy Do and Vince Bui were second in the mixed B doubles division. Hailey Maldonado was crowned the winner in the girls' A singles consolation bracket.



The Dobie varsity tennis team had a terrific showing at the Lamar University Ron Wesbrooks Invitational earlier this month, winning a slew of top honors. Members of the team are, left to right, (front row)

Vince Bui, Vyvy Do, (middle row) Kayla Tran, Leena Pham, Hailey Maldonado, Leslie Figueroa, Amalia Reyes, (back row) Diego Flores, Nestor Garza, Tre Ramirez, Rigoberto Alaniz and Pitou So.

Dobie softball builds momentum

The Dobie varsity softball team will have a pair of wins to build on entering play Feb. 22 to start the Haynie Spirit event against Shadow Creek at Dobie.

After facing Shadow Creek at 9 a.m., Dobie will host Waller at 11 a.m., both at Dobie main.

On Feb. 23, Dobie will host Katy at 9 a.m., then face Fulshear at 1 p.m. On the final day, Feb. 24, the Longhorns will host Cy Woods at 9 a.m., then finish the event against Brazoswood at 1 p.m.

Defeating San Antonio Lee 7-3 and then taking out China Spring 5-4 on the final day, Dobie left College Station with momentum despite an overall 3-4 start to the season.

Against Lee, the Longhorns got two runs driven in by Viviana Fernandez, while Karyme Leal, Aidan Johnson and Leslie Sardy also knocked in runs. A pair of three-run innings did the trick offensively.

In the circle, sophomore Chloe Nunez allowed four hits and one earned run over five frames to get the win. In the 5-4 victory over China Spring, freshman Persephone Soria was 3 for 3 with two runs scored and two runs batted in, while Fernandez and Johnson also drove in runs.

Dobie scored three runs in the first inning and led 5-1 entering the fifth, then survived a three-run frame by China Spring to grab the win.

Vanessa de la Fuente got the win in the circle as the locals closed the three-

day event with a pair of wins. On the opening day of the event Feb. 15, the Longhorns lost by an 8-7 count to Southwest and then downed Clear Creek 8-2.

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Pasadena ISD Athletics Hall of Fame to welcome 2024 inductees

By John Bechtle
Sports Editor

The rich history of Pasadena ISD athletics and its athletes will be celebrated for a 10th anniversary evening as the district's Athletics Hall of Fame will induct 10 members as part of its 2024 class, this time March 6 at the Pasadena Convention Center as the fun begins at 6 p.m.

The inductees will first attend a VIP reception March 6 from 4 to 5 p.m. at the PISD Athletics Hall of Fame Museum, located at 2906 Dabney St., before joining the attendees at the Pasadena Convention Center. Individual tickets are \$75 each and are available by calling Kathy Richardson at 713-740-0246. A portion of event proceeds go toward supporting student academic scholarships.

Athletics Hall of Fame officials have again lined up one of the Houston area sports scene's most recognizable names as its emcee. Randy McIlvoy, a four-time Emmy Award-winning sports director/anchor from NBC affiliate KPRC Channel 2 in Houston, will lead the evening's festivities. The athletes include a pair of legends from Dobie High School, including star softball and volleyball player Amanda Nguyen Westman, who went on to build herself a decorated softball career at Army; as well as football player Matt Wingo, who later became an All-Southwest Conference linebacker at Texas Tech University.

Chris Tremie, a stand-out catcher at South Houston, is part of the 2024 class, as is three-sport Trojan star Donnie Brogna and a trio of Pasadena High School legends, including Carl Feazle (football, track), Billy Hale (football, baseball) and football player Ruben Martinez. The class of 2024 includes a pair of multisport head coaches who dedicated parts of four decades of their lives in the district, including Al Campo Sr. and Joan Walker Propp. South Houston's Wesley Speights also joins the 2024 class as the hall's first-ever sports medicine/athletic trainer inducted. Since the hall of fame's founding in 2012, induc-

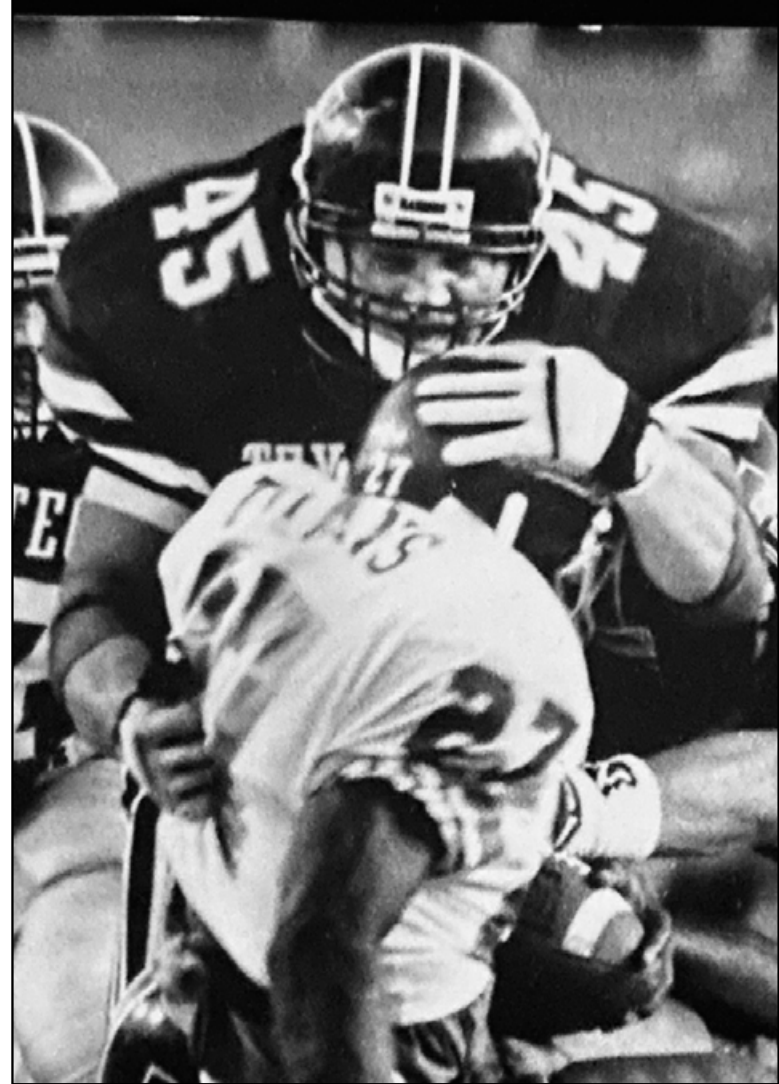
tions began in 2014 and have included 10 classes, 65 in all including this year. As for the 10 inductees for 2024: Brogna is a 1968 graduate of South Houston High School who starred in three different sports, leading the Trojans to their first-ever playoff appearance in 1967 as the team's quarterback. The following spring, just prior to his high school graduation, Brogna qualified for the state track and field meet in the pole. Brogna topped his career in athletics as a pitcher/outfielder at Rice University. Feazle, known as the "Pride of Pasadena" for his talents on the football field, was a class of 1941 graduate of Pasadena High School. He is now the earliest high school graduate to be inducted into the hall of fame. Feazle in 1940 led the Eagles to the regional championship game, considered the pinnacle of the sport at that time, scoring 173 of Pasadena's 253 total points that season.

The standout gridiron star played one season at Texas A&M University in the fall of 1941 before joining the Navy. Feazle, who died in 2006, served his country at Pearl Harbor for the duration of the war. Of note, Feazle's wife, Madelon, who died in 2001, was a longtime educator in the Pasadena ISD. Hale, a 1960 graduate of Pasadena High School, made a name for himself as a football/baseball star with the Eagles before a stellar career at Rice University as a shortstop. Hale also turned in a terrific career with the Owls' football program, playing wing back and defensive back during his collegiate stay. Another Pasadena High School graduate, Martinez, rushed for nearly 3,700 yards and 34 total touchdowns over his 1994 and 1995 varsity football seasons before he donned his cap and gown as a proud Eagle class of 1996 graduate. It was Martinez's talents as a baseball player that saw him play a season at Wharton College in 1997. Nguyen was a four-year varsity standout at Dobie from 2007 through 2010 under current head coach Robin Rackley and was an all-state nominee before taking her talents to West Point as a member of the Army Black Knights. After playing second base at Dobie, Nguyen transitioned to the outfield at Army and was an All-Patriot League first team selection during each of her four seasons. Playing a key role for

multiple NCAA postseason tournament-qualifying teams, Nguyen's name is a prominent one in the Army softball record book, and she is a member of the Patriot League's All-Quarter Century Team. Tremie, a 1988 South Houston graduate, starred as the Trojans reached the 5A Region III finals before a loss to Clear Lake just weeks prior to graduation. A four-year collegiate starter while attending the University of Houston, Tremie signed with the Chicago White Sox organization and had a brief stay at the big league level. Professionally, Tremie has enjoyed a long-standing coaching/coordinator career with several MLB franchises and is currently a minor league field coordinator with the Cincinnati Reds. Wingo, a 1987 graduate of Dobie High School, was a two-time All-South-

west Conference selection as a linebacker at Texas Tech University and last fall was inducted into the Red Raiders' Hall of Fame. Wingo still ranks sixth all-time in career tackles at Texas Tech with 385. Campo and Propp not only turned out dozens of standout teams and individuals during their careers but also rank among the district's longest-tenured members as an educator/coach. Propp coached for 34 years in PISD, including 26 of those at Sam Rayburn, where her varsity girls' cross-country teams won three district titles and where she regularly turned out state meet qualifiers in both cross-country and in girls' track and field. Campo, a 1958 Pasadena High School graduate, who was an accomplished football and baseball

player at Pasadena High School and later the University of Houston, made a successful jump into the coaching ranks in the mid-1960s. In 1974, he took the baseball coaching head job at Rayburn and produced three district champs in 12 years - including a 1985 squad that reached the state finals. Campo is a 1958 Pasadena graduate. He later served as head football coach at South Houston High School. The list of new inductees also includes the first to be honored in a new category: Sports Medicine. Wesley Speights, whose roots as a sports trainer go back to his school days at South Houston Intermediate, went on to become one of the leading sports therapists in the state. A 1972 South Houston graduate, he spent 54 years in the profession before retiring in 2019.



Matt Wingo, a 1987 graduate of Dobie High School, was a two-time All-Southwest Conference selection as a linebacker at Texas Tech University. He still ranks sixth all-time in career tackles at Texas Tech with 385.



The Pasadena ISD Athletics Hall of Fame Class of 2024 includes, left to right, (top row) Al Campo Sr., a 1958 Pasadena High School graduate; Joan Walker Propp, who coached cross-country and track and field in the district for 34 years; Class of 1941 Pasadena High School graduate David Feazle; Class of 1968 South Houston High School graduate Donnie Brogna; Billy Hale, a 1960 Pasadena High School graduate; (bottom row) Wesley Speights of South Houston High School; Class of 1987 Dobie High School graduate Matt Wingo; Chris Tremie, a Class of 1988 South Houston High School graduate; Class of 1996 Pasadena High School graduate Ruben Martinez; and Amanda Nguyen, a Class of 2010 Dobie High School graduate. PISD's Athletics Hall of Fame officials have again lined up one of the Houston area sports scene's most recognizable names as its emcee. Randy McIlvoy, a four-time Emmy Award-winning sports director/anchor from NBC affiliate KPRC Channel 2 in Houston, will lead the evening's festivities.

Dobie boys' hoops last locals still playing

Continued from Page 5
defeated Clear Lake on the final night of the regular season to get to 6-6 in league play, good for the fourth and final playoff seed. The Wolverines saw freshman Christian Brown finish a solid first season with a flurry of points, going for 29 in a 55-44 win over Clear Falls and then pumping in 22 more in a 66-41 win over Brazoswood in the finale.

Zion Norl, one of three seniors playing in their high school finale, led the way with 24 points and had 56 points in his final three games on the strength of 13 of 17 shooting from 3-point range. On the girls' side of things, the Wolverines saw their season come to an end as Shadow Creek took a 57-44 win over the locals in the bidistrict round. The Wolverines were 15-17 overall.

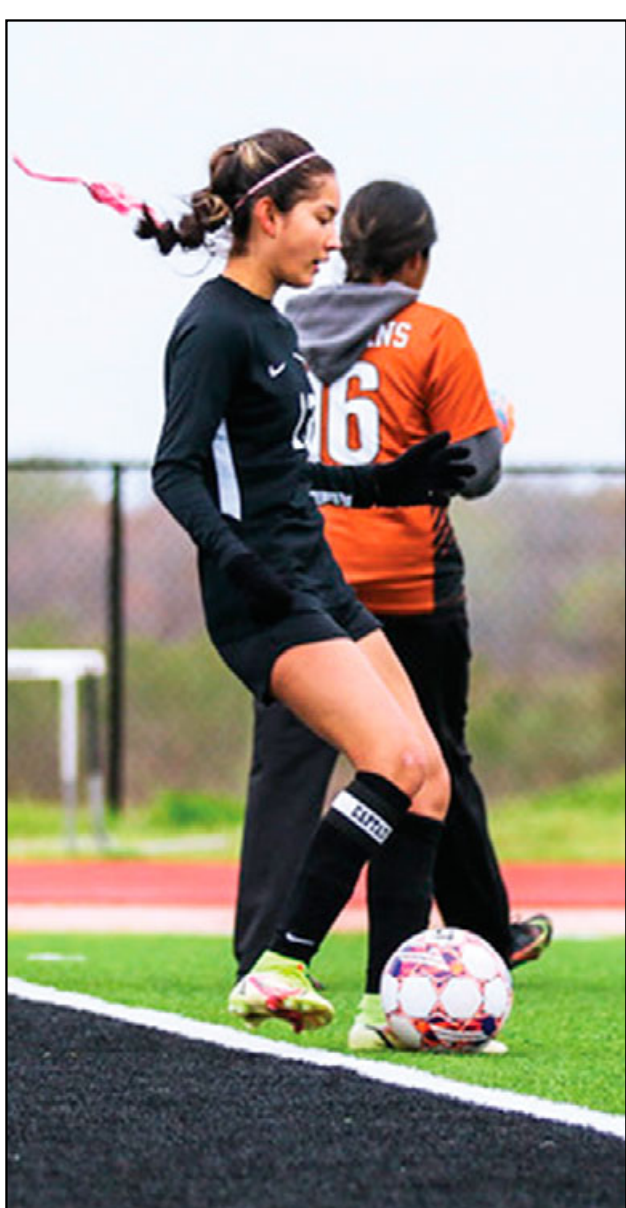
With Deer Park set to join the existing 24-6A field of programs beginning next school year, things will only get more challenging for the Wolverines. But Brown will lead a lengthy list of returnees on the boys' side. For the Brook girls, two-time District 24-6A Most Valuable Player Rezia Castillo should return for her senior season after missing 2023-2024 following knee surgery.

Of note, with Deer Park joining 24-6A, former Clear Brook varsity girls' head coach Warren Brooks hasn't lost a league game in three full seasons. Guiding Clear Brook to a 12-0 league championships in 2021-2022, Brooks took over the Deer Park program and has since led the Deer to consecutive unbeaten 12-0 title runs in 22-6A. Now, the Deer will shift to 24-6A.



Dobie senior Julio Cisneros (10) went up against Pasadena's Michael Mathews (30) during the Longhorns' 72-69 win over the Eagles Feb. 13 in the regular season finale for both teams. With the win, the Longhorns entered the postseason at 21-12 overall, including an 8-4 record in District 22-6A play that earned the Longhorns the No. 3 playoff seed. Dobie went against Beaumont United Feb. 20 after press time.

Dobie girls' soccer to challenge for first place



At 5-1-1 in league play heading into a match at Pasadena Feb. 20 after press time, the Dobie varsity girls' soccer team was aiming at hosting Memorial Feb. 23 at Dobie main with first place in the standings at stake. A 1-0 victory over Deer Park Feb. 17 at home gave the Longhorns a first-ever series sweep of the Deer as Sofia Rodriguez (above, with ball) scored the game-winner in the second half and keeper Mia Campos (at right, denying a shot against Deer Park) came up big while earning the shutout. There are still key matches ahead, but first-year head coach Theresa Kamara is pleased with the way her team has been able to ex-

ecute. "We want to keep the ball on the ground, keep it moving and not let the ball slow down," Kamara said. "Playing as a true team has been big for us, but to be honest we have quite a bit of talent. Of course, there has been ups and downs, but these girls have worked hard to get here. I sometimes feel like I was handed a gold mine when I came in. They just needed someone to believe in them." At 14-3-2 overall, Dobie is in the midst of one of its best-ever seasons but still must finish the regular season strong prior to the start of the playoffs. With the sweep of Deer Park, the locals are in a good spot.

Photo by Donna Alsdorf

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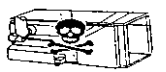
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CALENDAR

Thursday February 22

7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill," Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., and Saturday at 7:30 a.m., Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit https://aahouston.org/meetings/.

7:30 a.m. **Rotary Club of Pearland** - Meets Thursdays at either at Pearland Chamber of Commerce, 6117 Broadway St., Pearland, or online on Zoom (attendee preference). See Pearland Chamber of Commerce website (calendar) or call 281-485-3634.

Noon Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or at https://aahouston.org/meet/!imperfect-nooners. Call 713-686-6300 for more information. Meets Mondays - Thursdays.

Friday February 23

7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.

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. 1 - 3 p.m. **Parker Williams Genealogy Group** - meets the first and third Fridays monthly at the library, Beamer at Scarsdale, 1-3 p.m. 3:30 - 6:30 p.m. **Bay Area Singles Club** - monthly dance, 3:30-6:30 p.m., at the VFW Lodge Post 6378, 5204 Hwy. 3, in Dickinson. Bring party snacks to share. Cost is \$8 for members and \$10 for nonmembers. For information, call 281-470-2750 or 281-337-3112.

7 p.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.

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 Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

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 February 24

7:30 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." 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.

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

Jam-3:30/ Bands-6:30 p.m.

Bay Area Bluegrass Association - bluegrass music show and jam session at Webster Civic Center, 311 Pennsylvania Ave. on the third Saturday (except December). Pickers may come early. For details, visit http://www.bayareabluegrass.org

Lynn Holbrook: lynnholbrook@gmail.com
Rick Kirkland: crk5820@msn.com

Sunday February 25

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.

2 p.m. **Grief Support Group** - For adults who have lost a loved one. Meets Sunday, except Mother's Day, Easter and Christmas, 2 to 3:15 p.m., Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena. For details, call 713-944-9186.

5:30 p.m. **Celebrate Recovery** - A faith-based 12-Step program, in the Life Kids Chapel at Life Church, 9900 Alameda Genoa. Call 713-419-2635 for details.

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

Monday February 26

Noon Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday's noon notice.

1:30 - 3:30 p.m. **Hometown Heroes Dance** - at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 E. League City Parkway, is now open. Volunteers Jerry and Edith Sanford teach lessons Mondays with a different dance rhythm each month. Park activity card holders attend free. Call 281-554-1180 for details.

5 p.m. **New Directions Singles** - Age 55 and older meets the first and third Mondays for a potluck dinner with activities and/or guest speakers at Webster Presbyterian Church, 201 W. NASA Parkway. For further information

please call Jill at 646-489-4367.

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 details.

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 Ringrose 832-858-4617 or Dorothy Pourteau 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-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 February 27

7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.

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. 11:30 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.

Noon **Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday noon notice.

2 p.m. **Local NARFE Meeting** - NARFE Chapter 941 meets the third Tuesday, El Franco Lee Park Community Center, 9500 Hall Rd. Visitors welcome. For details, call Roy at 713-734-1461 or EFL Center at 281-464-9708. No meeting in Aug. 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.toastmastersclub.org. In-person address 10500 Scarsdale Blvd (SB Chamber of Commerce). Visit the website or call Karen Nunn, at (832) 722-9061 for information. call 346-970-3507 for details.

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Thompson finishes indoors



Clear Brook High School graduate Kennedy Thompson is off to a strong start to her collegiate track and field career at Mississippi College, taking sixth place in the weight throw and 11th in the shot at the Gulf South Conference Indoor Championships. She threw the weight 45 feet, 8.50 inches for a season and personal best and finished at 35-4.75 in the shot. The Choc-taws will now prepare for the start of the outdoor season next month.

Brook Varsity Baseball Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Feb. 19	Pas. Memorial	6:30 p.m.
Feb. 22-24	at Anzaldua Invit. (La Porte)	TBA
Feb. 26	at St. Thomas	6:30 p.m.
Feb. 29-		
March 2	Clear Creek ISD Invit.	TBA
March 4	at Barbers Hill	6 p.m.
March 7-9	Goose Creek ISD Invit.	TBA
March 12	*Clear Falls	1 p.m.
March 15	*at Clear Falls	1 p.m.
March 19	*at Brazoswood	7 p.m.
March 22	*Brazoswood	6 p.m.
March 26	*Clear Lake	6 p.m.
March 28	*at Clear Lake	6 p.m.
April 2	*at Clear Creek	6 p.m.
April 5	*Clear Creek	6 p.m.
April 9	Galena Park	6 p.m.
April 12	at Texas City	5 p.m.
April 16	*Clear Springs	6 p.m.
April 19	*at Clear Springs	6 p.m.
April 23	*at Dickinson	6 p.m.
April 26	*Dickinson	6 p.m.
*District 24-6A games		

Dobie Varsity Baseball Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Feb. 19	at G.C. Memorial	3:30 p.m.
Feb. 22-24	at Laredo Border Olympics	TBA
Feb. 27	Clear Falls	3 p.m.
Feb. 29-		
March 2	Pasadena ISD Invit.	TBA
March 4	at Dawson	7 p.m.
March 7-9	Goose Creek ISD Invit.	TBA
March 12	*at Deer Park	7 p.m.
March 14	*Deer Park	11 a.m.
March 19	*Pasadena	4 p.m.
March 22	*Pasadena (at Maguire)	6 p.m.
March 26	*at Memorial	4 p.m.
March 28	*Memorial	4 p.m.
April 2	*Channelview	4 p.m.
April 5	*at Channelview	6 p.m.
April 9	*Rayburn (at Maguire)	6 p.m.
April 12	*Rayburn	4 p.m.
April 16	*South Houston	4 p.m.
April 19	*at South Houston	4 p.m.
April 22	Episcopal (at Maguire)	6 p.m.
*District 22-6A games		

San Jacinto College softball eyes bounce-back after tough stretch



The San Jacinto College softball program won nine of 10 games at one point to improve to 10-4 overall but then dropped three of four games, surrendering double-digit runs in each. Above, Kristina Nash has settled in as one of the Ravens' top pitching options early on, while freshman first baseman Angelina



Morales (1) has hit .341 with a home run and 13 runs batted in through 18 games. San Jacinto College is 11-7 to this point in the season and is aiming to solidify the lineup and pitching staff prior to the start of conference play March 13 against Galveston.

Campero chooses Kingsville



Dobie senior place-kicker Daniel Campero will continue his education and playing career at the University of Texas A&M-Kingsville after signing a letter of intent with the Javelinas. At left is Dobie varsity football head coach Demond Stafford. Over the 2022 and 2023 regular seasons, Campero was a combined 69 of 71 on conversion kicks and made five of five field goal tries. He also handled the Longhorns' punting duties both seasons.

Dobie football trio signs collegiately



Dobie varsity football standouts, from left, Ethan Nguyen (University of Arkansas at Monticello), Dempsey Spears II (Sul Ross State) and Derrick Kelley (Lamar University) made their collegiate football decisions official as they signed letters of intent earlier this month. Nguyen, who caught, threw and ran for touchdowns during a terrific senior season, is set to join the Boll Weevils of the NCAA Division II's Great American Conference. Spears, the leading tackler in the District 22-6A

LSA's Ferguson medals

Junior Lauren Ferguson starred for the Lutheran South Academy group at the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools Division II State Swimming and Diving Championships, grabbing two medals. In both the girls' and boys' 200 medley relays. Taryn Blatt, Ferguson and Haleigh Pham, all juniors, were joined by freshman Parker McNutt for a time of 2:24.89 in the event.

That same foursome was 10th in the 200 freestyle relay at 2:06.60 to round out the season. The Lutheran South Academy boys' 200 medley foursome, including freshmen Cody Oubre, Liam McGough and Ashton Eichberger as well as sophomore Luiz Ordaz, were in at 2:17.35.

Ferguson was the runner-up in the 5A girls' 500 freestyle event, taking second place and a silver medal at 5 minutes, 28.37 seconds. In the 200 free, Ferguson's time of 2:01.52 was good for third place and a bronze medal. The Pioneers were 11th

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Jackson joins UFL startup



The eight-franchise United Football League will debut March 30 as Dobie High School Class of 2012 graduate Blake Jackson will play for the St. Louis Battlehawks. Jackson guided Dobie to the District 22-5A championship in 2010 as the team's starting quarterback and also won a national championship at Mary Hardin-Baylor as the team's quarterback and has since played receiver in the professional ranks. In 2023, Jackson, who will be 30 years old on March 7, had 45 catches for 440 yards and two touchdowns while playing for the XFL's Seattle Sea Dragons. St. Louis will visit the Michigan Panthers March 30 at Ford Field in Detroit. The game will air at 3 p.m. in Houston on Fox.