

St. Luke's to hold fish fry

Knights of Columbus Council 9201 will host its Lent Fish Fry Friday, March 3, from 4 to 7 p.m., at St. Luke's Catholic Church Social Hall, 11011 Hall Road, and via an outside drive-thru. Dinner includes fried fish, French fries, hush-puppies, ice tea and corn on the cob for \$15.

Kirkmont meets March 8

Kirkmont HOA will meet at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 8, at the Kirkmont MUD Building, 10102 Blackhawk. Homeowners and residents are urged to attend. The guest speaker will be Jimmy Sawyer, founder of Seniors Helping Seniors, along with deputies from Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia's office.

Cowboys/Cowgirls register

The Sagemont Cowboys and Cowgirls are registering area youths for their 2023 football season. Football players ages 5, 6 and 9 as of Aug. 1, 2023, may contact Denny Wranich Jr. at 713-876-1491, while drill/cheer girls ages 5 to 13 as of Aug. 1, 2023, may contact Jemyre Felton at 832-309-7133.

Mandatory JFD Cheer meet

A mandatory parent meeting for all students trying out for Dobie Cheer will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 2, 2023, in the school cafeteria. For additional information, email Amber Allan at aallan@pasadenaisd.org.

New Covenant event planned

New Covenant Christian Church, 10603 Blackhawk at Kirkfair, will host its 22nd Annual Walk-Jog-a-Thon Saturday, March 4, from 8 to 11 a.m. Benefiting the Willie V. Hahn Scholarship Fund, registration is \$25 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. For additional information, call 281-484-4230.

Local COVID cases reported

The number of active COVID-19 cases in the South Belt community climbed this past week, with increases reported in all three local ZIP codes in the area, particularly in 77089. As of Tuesday, Feb. 28, there were 92 active cases in 77089, up 43 from the previous week. To date, 139 from the ZIP code have died from the disease, up two from the previous week.

In ZIP code 77075, there were 20 active cases, up one from the previous week. To date, there have been 83 deaths in the ZIP code, up two from the previous week.

In 77034, there were 31 active cases, up two from the previous week. To date, 90 residents from ZIP code 77034 have died from the disease, no increase from the previous week.

This marked the first time in 10 weeks a COVID-related death was reported in the immediate South Belt community – the longest stretch since the first deaths were reported in August 2020.

According to Harris County 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 main lane and one southbound main lane on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from FM 518 to FM 517 in League City daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Friday, March 31.

Both the northbound entrance and southbound entrance ramps from FM 518 in League City will be completely closed until further notice. Motorists should use the entrance ramps from SH 96.

The northbound exit ramp to FM 517 in Dickinson will be completely closed until further notice. Motorists should use the northbound exit ramp to Holland/Hughes.

Two outside northbound frontage road lanes on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from West Medical Boulevard to Bay Area Boulevard daily from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. through Friday, May 5.

One middle northbound frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from NASA Bypass/NASA Road 1 to Bay Area Boulevard daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Monday, May 22. Two outside southbound lanes on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from Texas City Railroad to SH 6/SH 146 in La Marque nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. until further notice.

The northbound entrance ramps from both FM 519/Main Street and FM 1765/Texas Avenue in La Marque will be completely closed until further notice. Motorists should use the next available northbound entrance ramp.

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. through Friday, March 31. Significant delays are expected.

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

South Belt Stormwater Detention Basin to open

Located in former Southbend subdivision; basin to hold 500+ million gallons of water

Approximately 10 years in development, the South Belt Stormwater Detention Basin is set to open this week, according to Harris County Flood Control District officials.

This project is located on a 174-acre site on Mud Gully, near the intersection of Beamer Road and Dixie Farm Road/FM 1959 in the

Clear Creek watershed of southeast Harris County.

Phase 3, the final phase for the design and construction of the bond project to expand the South Belt Stormwater Detention Basin (HCFCD Unit A520-03-00), was substantially complete in fall 2022.

South Belt cleanup set for March 25

Local volunteers are organizing a cleanup of the South Belt community, set to take place Saturday, March 25, beginning at 9 a.m. at Beverly Hills Intermediate. (Rain-out date is April 15.)

A collaboration between the Knights of Columbus Council 9201 and the Sagemont Civic Club, the inaugural South Belt Cleanup has attracted a wide range of local supporters. Additional partners include Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia, Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia, City of Houston Department of Neighborhoods, City of Houston Solid Waste Department, state Rep. Mary Ann Perez, Southeast Volunteer Fire Department and the Leader. Sponsors include Pepsi and Los Niños Party Rental.

Beverly Hills Intermediate and Dobie High School will also be participating in the cleanup.

Event organizer and Knights of Columbus member Mike Work said he began working on the project after getting tired of seeing all the trash in the community, particularly along Beamer. To help

promote the event, Work reached out to Sagemont Civic Club President Kay Barber, who he discovered was already working on a similar endeavor. The two then joined forces to tackle the upcoming event.

Modeled after a previous long-running cleanup done by the Knights of Columbus around a decade ago, Work said he hopes the South Belt Cleanup will also become an annual event.

Volunteers will clean up from the Gulf Freeway to Blackhawk, east to west, and from Fuqua to FM 1959/Dixie Farm Road, north to south. Volunteers will not clean Dixie Farm Road out of safety concerns. Work said he is trying to get Harris County to clean up FM 1959/Dixie Farm Road.

Organizers are currently seeking volunteers. All volunteers must sign a waiver.

For additional information or to register as a volunteer, contact Work at mrwork2@att.net or 832-338-5156. Volunteers may also just show up before 9 a.m. and sign a waiver, Work said.

Stormwater detention basins reduce flooding risks and damages during heavy rain events by safely storing excess stormwater and slowly releasing it back to the creek when the threat of flooding has passed. The basin provides stormwater storage needed for mitigation of expected increases in stormwater flows resulting from channel conveyance improvements to Mud Gully (HCFCD Unit A120-00-00, also known as Beamer Ditch), Turkey Creek (HCFCD Unit 119-00-00), and other projects. The basin is designed to hold up to 1,550 acre-feet, or 505 million gallons, of stormwater.

In a cost-share partnership with Galveston County, Phase 1 of the South Belt Stormwater Detention Basin was completed in 2018, followed by Phase 2 completion in 2019.

The final phase of the South Belt Stormwater Detention Basin excavated more than 1.1 million cubic yards of material from the basin and removed 50,000 cubic yards from a nearby FM 1959 site where it had been mistakenly placed in the floodplain of Clear Creek in 2018. The Flood

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Meador named top area school

Children at Risk recognizes local campus

The Children at Risk organization recently recognized Meador Elementary as its top Gold Ribbon school in the Greater Houston area.

A Gold Ribbon school is characterized by the group as a campus that is "high-poverty, high-performing."

In order to qualify as a Gold Ribbon school, 75 percent or more of a campus's students must be classified as low-income, and the school must receive an A or B grade in Children At Risk annual school rankings. Meador recently received an A ranking from TEA, also.

The honor is in part thanks to the improvements made under the leadership of former Meador Principal Beverly Bolton, who retired

from the area campus this past year after serving 40 years with Pasadena ISD.

On Feb. 13, 2023, the top schools met at Carnegie VanGuard High School in downtown Houston to receive the awards at a press conference. For the past 18 years, Children At Risk has ranked Texas public schools to help parents, educators, and community members better understand how their local schools are performing.

Children at Risk ranks all eligible Texas elementary and middle schools across three domains (Student Achievement, Growth and Campus Performance), and all eligible Texas high schools across four domains (Student Achievement

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Meador named top area school



Meador Elementary was recently named the top Gold Ribbon school in the Greater Houston area by the nonprofit organization Children at Risk. Children at Risk President and CEO Dr. Robert Sanborn (second from right) is shown above at the area campus presented the honor to, left to right, Meador fourth-grade teacher Corin Culpepper, Meador Assistant Principal Kevin Fox and Meador fourth-grade teacher Mirta Reyna.

Pct. 2 makes 4 DWI arrests in 4 days

Deputies with Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia's office made multiple recent DWI arrests, apprehending four suspects in four days.

On Feb. 16, at approximately 11:45 a.m. Night Shift Deputies with Garcia's office responded to a two-car minor crash call in the 9600 block of Riverstone Ranch. During the crash investigation, one of the drivers involved in the accident displayed multiple signs of intoxication and was uncooperative with deputies when standard field sobriety tests were being conducted.

The driver was later arrested and booked into the Harris County Jail for driving while intoxicated



Joseph Correa

and interfering with the duties of a public officer. The driver was identified as 26-year-old Joseph Alexander Correa.

On Feb. 17, Toll Road deputies with Garcia's office responded to the 8000 block of the South Sam Houston Tollway East concerning a motor vehicle crash.

Upon deputies' arrival, the driver was identified as 28-year-old Avery Galindo, who displayed multiple signs of intoxication.

A series of standardized field sobriety tests were administered, and it was determined that she was intoxicated. Galindo was arrested

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Avery Galindo

Arrests made in December stabbing

Charges have been filed against two suspects arrested in the stabbing of a man that took place about 3:35 a.m. Dec. 22, at an apartment complex in the 10910 block of the Gulf Freeway near Edgebrook.

The suspects, Jack Dean Hairston, 37, and Justin Edmond Salton, 36, are charged with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon in the 208th State District Court.

The suspects are accused in the stabbing of Julio Rodriguez, 40.

According to Houston Police department officials, officers were dispatched to a cutting/stabbing call at the apartment complex at the above

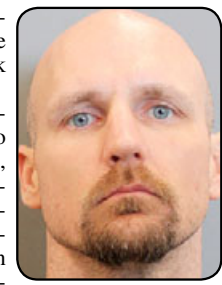


Justin Salton

address and found Rodriguez with multiple stab wounds to his back and torso area.

The officers also located a female, 37, who sustained swelling, bruising and other facial injuries. Paramedics transported Rodriguez to the hospital in critical but stable condition. The woman was also transported to a hospital for treatment of non-life-threatening injuries.

Further investigation led to the identities of the suspects as Hairston and Salton. Officers arrested Salton on Wednesday, Feb. 15, without incident. Hairston was taken into custody without incident on Jan. 18.



Jack Hairston

Leader looks back at area's 2022

The Leader continues its look back on 2022 with a list of some of the more significant stories of the year. For highlights up to Oct. 6, see the Feb. 23 edition of the Leader.

Oct. 6

A woman was killed in a hit-and-run crash that took place around 1:20 a.m. Monday, Sept. 26, in the 9500 block of Clearwood Drive near Edgebrook and the Gulf Freeway. According to Houston Police Department officials, a black Dodge Charger was traveling south at a high rate of speed at the above address when the vehicle veered off the street and struck a light pole. The impact caused the Dodge to roll over and then

strike the victim, a pedestrian. Paramedics pronounced Evelina McKenzie dead at the scene. Witnesses told police they observed a female driver fleeing from the scene on foot. Three passengers were inside the Dodge at the time of the crash. They told police they had just met the driver at a nightclub. Officers detained the three for questioning. They were said to have been cooperative. No immediate arrests were made.

Charges were filed against a suspect arrested in the fatal shooting of one man and the wounding of another around 1:05 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 21, in the 1200 block of Redford near Edgebrook

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PISD implements new meal system

This week, Pasadena ISD began utilizing a new meal-payment system.

Effective March 1, Pasadena ISD began using SchoolCafe and updating its school meal-payment and application systems. School meal payments and school meal applications will now both be accessible on SchoolCafe.

Meals may be purchased with cash or by using

the online payment system, www.schoolcafe.com.

Students may prepay for meals (breakfast and lunch) on a weekly, biweekly, monthly, or on a semester basis. It is encouraged that students on a paid status or students who qualify for reduced price meals prepay; although, students may also pay on a daily basis in the serving line.

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MHSH hosts chili cook-off



Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital recently held a chili cook-off. Shown above at the event are, left to right, Noel Cardenas, MHSH vice president and CEO; Ezreal Garcia, South Belt Chamber of Commerce chair; Lisa Holbrook, chamber member; Raul Del Toro as "Buckin'" MHSH patient access representative; Alesia Caldwell Black, interim chamber director; Cyndy Butcher; Chris Clark, Clear Brook City MUD/chamber board member; and Rebecca Lilley, MHSH director of physicians/chamber board member.

In My Opinion

Barmore commends Al Carter, Leader

Nice article in the South Belt Leader today on page 8 about inductee John Eddie Williams.

Thank you Al Carter and Marie Flickinger. Keep selling those sponsorships and tickets. Thanks, **Bill Barmore**

Retiree Swan on PISD school board election

As a recent retiree and former employee of the PISD School District with over fifty years experience in teaching and administration, I feel amply qualified to speak out in favor of trustees Fernandez, Kendrick and Morgan for re-election in the upcoming school board election. These three people are a large part of the rock upon which our great district rests.

Their dedication to the students, parents and employees of the district have time and time again answered the call for honesty, fairness and success in our district. Always with the welfare of students in mind, they have worked diligently to make PISD a model other districts emulate.

As election date approaches, I urge you to vote for a group of people whose only agenda is "what's best for our students" and "how do we make it better".

Tom Swan

DeAnda shares his baseball thoughts

Good morning, my name is Jesus DeAnda. I am a resident of South Belt and would like to share my thoughts on the situation surrounding the baseball fields at El Franco.

I recently registered my 3 year old son to play baseball at El Franco. Originally, we were supposed to wait until he turned 4 because of rules regarding little league and their age requirements. However, to our pleasant surprise, we checked the website and found out he could indeed sign up for baseball at 3 years old. We signed him up, delighted because our little guy loves baseball. I was asked to volunteer as the head coach of the team, which I decided to do, so that I could be with my son in his first year. I was somewhat intimidated with the thought of having to coach a bunch of 3,4 and 5 year olds, but nonetheless excited to see all these kids have fun. The league has been extremely helpful and organized in making sure the coaches have what they need. Communication is extremely fast and the fields are very well kept. I was surprised how well run it has been.

The challenge of coaching these kiddos doesn't seem that daunting anymore, especially with the support of the other coaches and the league itself. Being my first time coaching and my sons first time playing, I was ignorant to the fact that there is a difference between Pony and Little League. It was disappointing to find out about all the drama surrounding the two leagues. I did some research of my own to learn about the differences between the two leagues, and it seems Pony is regarded as more competitive whereas Little League is more traditional and has more notoriety due to the Little League World Series.

Regardless of the difference, I just want to continue in a league that is as well run and as organized as the one that is currently at El Franco, which I believe is the Pony league. The kids come first and it should be about playing baseball and having fun, but at the same time the league should be well run and organized. It is unfortunate that there is now two different leagues competing for time on the fields. I believe the league with the most teams and players should have priority but ultimately that is not my decision to make.

I have read the articles in the Leader and noticed that hardly anything positive has been mentioned about the Pony League. My goal is to share how well run and organized it has been, and my current experience as a first timer. Thank you for your time and I hope this issue gets resolved soon.

Regards, **Jesus DeAnda**

Leader's comments

Publisher's opinion: First let me say I am glad to hear from a father who is a first-time coach. I will tell you frankly, the best part of the time my two boys were growing up was spent around Little League, and when they were older, Pony Colt. Both groups were available to them in the area.

Your enthusiasm is really neat. I am sure you, too, will have many great experiences with your kids and they will be much better off for your participation.

I am going to take advantage of your letter with an opportunity to share some background in an effort to show the big picture. Sometimes I enjoy disagreeing with people whose letters we print. Can't do that with you. There is almost nothing you said with which I would disagree.

My history with Southbelt (then called Sagemont Beverly Hills) youth baseball goes back more than 50 years. Our boys played Little League and when they got older, Pony Colt.

We made some wonderful lifelong friendships during this time.

This community has always been kid-oriented. We have always had adults willing to step up to the plate and do what is necessary for the kids to play.

It has been part of our entire life in South Belt. Last week a man named Charles Chassay was buried. He was my youngest's first coach. A great man who contributed much to the Johnson Space Program. His sons have grown up to also be good men. Who knows how much of that is partially a result of youth baseball.

What many in the community don't know is how hard those before them had to work so there would be a program here today. I understand that the fields are in good shape, and many volunteers are responsible for that. But I would like our readers to know some of the history that got us here.

Our first fields were just two, built at the end of Sagedowne near I-45, where the AutoNations dealership now stands.

Volunteers built the two fields and concession stand. Then in the mid-1970s we got word that the property we were using might be sold. So the league board members, mostly men, as they were just beginning to allow women on the board, began looking for a new home for Little League.

We ended up buying a portion of a rice field located on Dixie Farm Road, just west of the creek and the proposed Beamer Road. At that time Beamer Road was not put through. To get to the fields from Sagemont, Sagedadow or Sagedowne, one would have to drive to I-45, then to Dixie Road and west a couple of miles. The county saw no need for extending Beamer past Sagedowne as there was nothing on Scarsdale or Beamer, no hospital, no San Jac, etc., just fields.

Gratitudes is owed to the many volunteers who built our fantastic Dixie fields including, but not limited to the president, Bob Buchanan and president-elect, Alan Munz as well as Bob Miller, Charles Chassay, De Crawford, Milton Ditrick, Dennis Dusek, Jack Murphy, Richard Clark, Bubba Campies, John Williams, Bob Richmond, Leon Coe, Barry Christian, David Flickinger, Dan Muske and the list goes on and on. Way too many to mention. Apologies to all we are leaving out.

These guys were the real youth baseball heroes - did all the work for free, weren't reimbursed for working and worked day after day. They turned a very uneven rice farm into beautiful baseball fields. No help came from the city or county. Our dads did it all.

Many have passed on, some are still with us. To all those who built those great fields, we give our thanks.

A little over 10 years into our using the new fields, along came Brio. Vinyl chloride, the chemical you most frequently hear mentioned regarding the Ohio incident, was very prevalent at Brio. It is a very dangerous chemical. During the period our kids were playing there, a major chemical company was dumping vinyl chloride at Brio, not warning us, but warning Pemex in Mexico of the dangers of the chemical.

Much like the situation in Ohio, the government kept insisting there was no health threat. The city, county, state and federal health agencies all agreed.

Turned out the concerned mothers of kids in South Bend were right. There really was a health problem.

While I hated pushing to close the Little League fields, it was the right thing to do.

Jesus, I know you are aware many people are upset with me and my stand on Little League today, this is nothing compared to when I worked to shut down Little League fields, Weber Elementary, the Southbend subdivision and an incinerator that cost \$50 million to build. But we got it all done and it was the right thing to do. Amazingly the governmental agencies all finally ended up agreeing with us, acknowledging they were wrong.

Some of you reading this might find it interesting to know what changed parents' minds about closing the fields on Dixie. My son Davy combined 13 minutes of a conversation I taped with EPA officials and paired it with video we took at the Superfund adjacent to the ballpark. Little League scheduled a meeting of all the parents. We had between 280 to 380 people there. At the start of the meeting almost everyone wanted to keep the park going. After hearing and seeing the video, it was unanimous to leave.

Anyone interested in seeing the video that shut down the Dixie ball fields can view it on the South Belt Leader facebook page. I think it is especially interesting with what is going on in Ohio.

Again, we were in the position of needing a place to play. Some fields, including some that were behind the AMC theater were used temporarily.

The city and county purchased the land for what is today, the El Franco Lee Park. The reason for the purchase was mitigation of wetlands which were destroyed in building of Intercontinental Airport.

El Franco was our commissioner and at that time we called the park Hall Road park. Franco had polled the community asking what we wanted built there. The winner was an animal farm - not football, baseball, or soccer fields, but an animal farm.

I set up a meeting with baseball people and El Franco and we explained that if he were to redo the study, since we had lost the fields, then the outcome of the study would definitely change.

Franco took our word for it and agreed to Little League getting the property for baseball fields.

And that is how we got to where we are today. Franco's help on the park and many other things are why I worked with you and players should have priority.

I do not believe because one league, during one year with a tremendous amount of shenanigans has more players, the fields should be theirs.

At a meeting conducted by Rich Newell, head of the South Belt Sports Association, even Pony board members have acknowledged things were not done right by their organization.

In my opinion, and according to the contract signed by Johnny, many more people should have been included in the meeting. It should have been the member-

ship of spring '22. This would have been four or five times more people voting.

Johnny used the Little League hub for Pony registration through his connections as Little League president. Many parents have told me they thought they signed up for Little League. I understand some of them may now prefer Pony, but if fairness is important, sorry this is just not fair.

The signed contract stipulated if they left the Little League organization, the assets stayed with Little League. Johnny left Little League on Dec. 31, 2022, and on Jan. 11, 2023 withdrew \$150,000 in two bank transfers. This was only part of the funds taken out of the Little League account contrary to the signed contract.

When the bank realized the problem,

they immediately turned over all the records to the new Little League officials, but unfortunately the money had already been taken out of the account.

We may not have heard the last of this. In my mind, you can't benefit Johnny for doing things wrong.

It is time to do things fair to benefit the kids. That is the most important thing. This community has a great history of doing that in the past.

The kids just want to play, most don't care which group it is. We have many hard working volunteers on both sides doing what is right for the kids. That should be our goal.

Jesus, thanks for your comments.

Publisher, Marie Flickinger

Detention pond officially opens

Continued from Page 1

Control District bought the FM 1959 site in early 2020 so that the inappropriate fill could be removed, and the site could be investigated for additional stormwater storage benefits.

Since the Reverend William A. Lawson Stormwater Detention Basin project required filling in a 50-foot-deep portion of the stormwater detention basin, the material excavated from the South Belt and FM 1959 sites were used for this purpose, resulting in a cost savings.

To further extend 2018 bond funding, the Reverend William A. Lawson Stormwater Detention Basin project was paired with the third phase of the South Belt Stormwater Detention Basin project for construction. These two stormwater detention basins complement, but are separate from the Clear Creek Federal Flood Risk Management Project.

In addition to Galveston County, Harris County also received financial assistance from the Clear Brook City MUD, which contributed funds to transform the detention basin into an area park for South Belt residents to utilize.

A ribbon-cutting for the official opening of the detention basin was scheduled to take place Thursday, March 2, to be hosted by Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia.

Milestones

Phase 3

- This final phase expanded the basin to include basin compartments south and east of the Phase 1 compartment. The basin can now hold up to 1,550 acre-feet, or 505 million gallons, of stormwater.

- Construction began in April 2020 and was substantially complete in fall 2022.

- Harris County Commissioners Court awarded a \$15.6 million construction contract to Sprint Sand & Clay LLC for Phase 3 of the basin project.

Phase 2

- This phase expanded the basin to include basin compartments south and west of the Phase 1 compartment.

- Construction began in November 2016 and was substantially complete in 2019.

- Harris County Commissioners Court awarded a \$15.78 million construction

contract to James Construction Group LLC for Phase 2 of the basin project.

- The project continued the partnership between Harris County Flood Control District and Galveston County.

Phase 1

- This phase included excavation of the basin compartment northeast of Beamer Ditch/Mud Gully.

- Construction began in late September 2014 and was complete in 2018.

- Harris County Commissioners Court awarded an approximately \$3.46 million construction contract to low bidder Trans-Global Solutions.

- The project was a partnership between the Harris County Flood Control District and Galveston County. Galveston County pledged up to \$10 million of total basin construction costs.

- Construction costs for Phase 1 were shared equally by the Flood Control District and Galveston County.

Quilt guild auction set for March 7

The Bay Area Quilt Guild will hold its annual auction Tuesday, March 7 at 7 p.m. at the Mount Olive Lutheran Church, 10310 Scarsdale. It is an opportunity to purchase many useful items that have been donated by the guild members. It is a lot of fun and offers a social opportunity to meet other members. For more information, contact 713-253-2521 or visit bayareaquiltguild.org.

Dominguezes celebrate birthdays



Happy Birthday to longtime Southbelt residents Yolanda Dominguez who celebrates her birthday March 2, and her husband Joe Dominguez who celebrates his birthday March 25. Birthday wishes are sent from their children Dr. Roland J. Dominguez; Capt. Richard A. Dominguez (USMC); Laura Dominguez Chan and friends. Their children all graduated from Dobie High School in PISD.

Local library events set

In case of storms or adverse weather, refer to library website for details.

Bracewell Branch Library

Bracewell Library is at 9002 Kingspoint. Customers are encouraged to visit the building to browse, check out and return materials, use the computers and Wi-Fi, and check out holds. For information, visit <https://houstonslibrary.org/>. For online learning, visit <https://houstonslibrary.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, March 2, 3 - 4 p.m. Open lab - computer class. Registration required.
Thursday, March 2, 4 - 5 p.m. Polliwog club. Registration required.
Monday, March 6, 3 - 4 p.m. Open lab - computer class. Registration required.
Wednesday, March 8, 6 - 7:30 p.m. English class: weather and environment. Registration required.
Visit <https://houstonslibrary.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.

Additional resources

The Houston Public Library has electronic resources, books, audiobooks, databases for research, tutoring, language learning, education and parent information for Texas residents with a library card. To get a card, visit the home page at www.houstonlibrary.org under Here's What's Happening. Click on Free Resources for All to access digital resources and access a link for a temporary card. Also, under Here's What's Happening, the card titled Online Resources for Kids accesses a Virtual Storytime provided on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 11 a.m. The archived storytimes are found on Facebook under Houston Public Library Virtual Storytimes. Another virtual program is Craft.

Houston Public Library's many free online resources and digital services are available 24/7 with a MY Link Library Card at www.houstonlibrary.org, including e-books and e-audiobooks, streaming TV, movie and music services, online classes and tutoring and databases. Until further notice, only electronic items (i.e. e-books, e-audio books, etc.) are eligible for holds and check-out. HPL has a collection of free e-books and audio books. Visit the catalog for previously requested hold selection may be in a digital format. Instructions on downloading the e-book or audio book are on the site.

Parker Williams Library

Parker Williams Library is open. 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, March 2, 10 - 11:30 a.m. Conversation club.
Thursday, March 2, 10:15 - 10:45 a.m. Toddler time.
Friday, March 3, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. AARP Tax aid.
Monday, March 6, 11:15 - 11:45 a.m. Family storytime.
Monday, March 6, 5 - 6 p.m. Adult craft: Celtic knots.
Tuesday, March 7, 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.
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Ann Elizabeth Dillard Evans



Ann Elizabeth Dillard Evans, 86 of Dickinson, passed away Feb. 7, 2023. She was born on Oct. 5, 1936, in Itta Bena, Miss. to Walter Wilson Dillard and Ellen Thomas Dillard. The family lived in South Belt for many years.

Ann was preceded in death by both parents; two sons, Kenneth Barton Evans Jr. and Scott Thomas Evans; brother, Walter Wilson Dillard Jr.; granddaughter, Abigail Renee Evans; and cousin, Katie Claire Ainsworth.

She leaves behind to cherish her memory, her loving husband, Kenneth Barton Evans Sr.; daughter, Kimberly Evans Johnson; son, John Michael Evans and his fiancé, Emily Bell; 15 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Ann attended Humphreys High School in Itta Bena where she was a cheerleader and crowned homecoming queen, graduating in 1954. Ann graduated from Millsaps in Jackson, with a Bachelor of Science in education and again was a cheerleader and crowned homecoming queen. She was truly adored by all.

She began her teaching career in Pensacola, Fla. where she met the love of her life, Kenneth Barton Evans, an officer in the U.S. Marine Corps.

They were married at the United Methodist Church in Itta Bena on June 27, 1959. While he flew helicopters in Vietnam and for President Lyndon B. Johnson, she became the mother to three sons and a daughter. All the while teaching elementary school, and raised them seemingly effortless, with her unique Southern grace.

She continued her education in Hawaii and University of Houston Clear Lake and received her master's in reading diagnostics. Ann retired after 25 years with Pasadena Independent School District. After retirement, she worked nine years at the Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program in Texas City as a reading specialist and diagnostician. Ann was the president of Dickinson's Garden Club, an active member of the Red Hatter's Society and a long-standing member of the First United Methodist Church of Dickinson, singing in the choir and playing the bells.

A memorial service was held Feb. 25 at Crowder Funeral Home, Dickinson.

Ramon A. Garcia



Ramon A. Garcia was born in Monterrey, Mexico Sept. 10, 1932 to Isabel Gerardo and Guadalupe Garcia. He emigrated to the United States in 1962. He died Feb. 18, 2023.

Ramon made his home in Houston, where he met his loving wife, Virginia Jean Castro.

They married in 1965, having five children. Ramon went into the construction business to support his growing family.

His work took him to various parts of Texas yet he remained close to his family. Ramon and Virginia were known within their community as very loving and caring people. He helped many, lifting them and putting them in a position to grow as individuals. He was respected by many for his generosity and willingness to help others.

Most important to him were his children. He taught them at an early age life lessons that would build their character and core values.

Ramon lost his loving wife in 2010. He continued to encourage and support his family in the absence of his wife. Ramon passed away at the age of 90. Ramon leaves behind seven children, Miguel Angel Garcia, Ramon Garcia Jr., Javier Garcia, Grace Marie Sanchez, Ger-

Deaths

ado (Jerry) Garcia, Mark Garcia and Javier Delgado, whom he raised as his own. He also leaves behind two siblings, his sister, Eulogia Martinez of Dallas, and a brother, Bernardo Garcia of Monterrey, Mexico. Ramon is also survived by daughters-in-law, Mary Garcia, Nora Garcia, Olga Garcia, Margret Garcia and his son-in-law David J. Sanchez. Ramon leaves behind his beloved grandchildren, great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

He treasured being outdoors and exploring new places. He took his children hiking from an early age and fostered in them a love of nature. He particularly loved Vermont's mountains, Pennsylvania's ridges and campgrounds, Texas sunsets, and majestic Gulf clouds. A master storyteller, he enjoyed basking in the sun or in the light of a campfire, nursing a whiskey and reminiscing about his many life experiences to the delight of his listeners. He especially enjoyed his torical re-enactment and was a member of the Texas Army where he made his own mock casins and used period-correct weaponry and clothing. He loved a good crossword puzzle, played Words with Friends with his children and grandchildren, and loved Wordle.

He had that rare and admirable quality that caused people of all walks of life to feel immediately at ease, welcomed, valued, and heard. He loved and accepted people as they were and was an encouragement to those fortunate enough to have met him. He was a man whose smile and laughter was contagious. He was an irreplaceable friend who practiced a degree of fierce independence and hard-headedness that allowed him to live the life he wanted, and did so right up until his last day.

Les is survived by his wife of 58 years, Jennifer Curtis; his sons and daughters, William Curtis, Sylvia Oblak, Sandra Curtis, David Curtis, Mary Curtis, and Carol Waters; his sons-in-law Brock Oblak and Charles Waters; his daughters-in-law Kim Curtis and Barbara Kellogg-Curtis; 10 grandchildren; numerous beloved nephews and nieces; and many old and dear friends.

Les was born Dec. 29, 1942, to Fred and Grace Curtis of Epping, N.H. He attended the University of Vermont, majored in languages, and was a member of the UVM hiking club and loved hiking Vermont and New Hampshire mountains. He accepted Christ as savior and was baptized in 1976. He and his family moved to Texas in 1979 where he worked for Texas

Ship Repair in human resources and for Custard Insurance as a claims adjuster. He and his family resided in the South Belt area from 1983-2006; some of the family continue to live and work in the area.

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Mind Trekkers set for March 9

San Jacinto College is hosting Mind Trekkers "Adventures in STEM" Family Night on Thursday, March 9, from 6 to 8 p.m., at the LyondellBasell Center for Petrochemical, Energy, and Technology on the San Jac Central campus.

During this free, family friendly event, participants will have access to more than 100 hands-on science experiments. Activities are geared toward participants of all ages.

"This is a terrific night for families, and a great way to motivate children to appreciate science, technology, math, and engineering," said Dr. Al-latia Harris, vice chancellor, strategic initiatives, workforce development, community relations and diversity. This event is free and open to the public. Spanish-speaking guides will be available. For information, contact Andrea.Vasquez@sjcd.edu.

Leader checks out social media

By Natalie Abarca
A member of the Neighbor's app posted their Polaris RZR (ATV) was stolen near Blackhawk Boulevard and Alameda-Genoa Road. The incident occurred Thursday night, Feb. 23.

Pasadena Animal Shelter is in need of help. They only have 30 cages available at the Adoption Center to house dogs and they currently have 46 dogs in their care, while the number just keeps rising. They are in need of fosters and adopters as soon as possible. Their team has approved more than 350 foster applications within a month, but only about 100 have responded and only 10 potential fosters have come in to visit. If one is able to foster, apply at the following link: <https://www.pasadenatx.gov/FormCenter/Animal-Adoption-and-Foster-Applications-10/Foster-Application-68?fbclid=IwAR1IQ77XxgK21794A3AnVWGHhRY6ZCDkZJ5xdK0AKNKKagyKRCMT2N0E>

Their adoptable pets are listed at the link. One can select the shelter at <https://24petconnect.com> or <https://www.pasadenatx.gov/509/Deciding-to-Adopt>. The Adoption Center is open for visitation from 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday - Friday and 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. on Saturdays and is located at 5160 Burke Road, Pasadena, TX 77504. The phone number is 713-920-7942.

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Sunday 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.*
Sunday 1 p.m. Misa en Español*
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Tuesday & Thursday 7 p.m.
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Thursday 7:45 to 8:30 p.m. Saturday 4 to 5 p.m.

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

Genoa Elementary commemorates the 100th day of school



Shown celebrating the 100th day with 100 spots are teachers and students. (front row) Ellie Moreno, Arabela Mercado, Alice Tran, Theresa Nguyen, Beaufi Bro-



Shown above are "100-year-old" Genoa Elementary teachers, left to right, Lidia Lucero, Amy Shaw-Chilson, Amanda Callaway, and Julia Friedel celebrating the 100th day.



Leslie Lopez (left) and Aaron Long show off their 100th day poster.



Shown above are students celebrating 100 magical days of school, left to right, (front row) Bella Avendano, Alejandra Vazquez, (back row) Kimari Olivas, Angelina Maldonado, Gianna Barron, Elijah Carrasco and Owen Salazar.



Casey Moore (left) and Kourtney Turner decorated a 100th day poster. Behind them, left to right, Joselyn Robles, Ivana Gonzalez and Savanna Rodriguez also created their own poster.

Meador's Merida honored



Meador Elementary counselor Tara Merida was awarded the Counselors Reinforcing Excellence for Students in Texas (CREST) award sponsored by the Texas School Counselor Association, marking her fourth straight year to garner the honor. In accordance, Merida is recognized at the Advocacy Level, one of only six statewide counselors to hold the honor.

Clear Creek unveils academic calendar

The Clear Creek ISD board of trustees unanimously approved the 2023-2024 Academic Calendar during the regular meeting on Jan. 23, 2023. Calendar A has school beginning on Tuesday, Aug. 22, 2023, and ending on Friday, May 31, 2024. Of nearly 7,500 total votes, this calendar was the most popular amongst parents, staff and community members of the four drafts available. The District is continuing Instructional Planning days. These days allow teachers to plan lessons together based on the needs of their students and adjust as necessary. Early dismissal days will be announced at a later date and a Transition Day for incoming pre-K, kindergarten, sixth and ninth grade may be added.

Wolverines' computer science research shines at SEFH

Continuing from last weeks' spotlight of Clear Brook High School's spotlight in the Houston Science and Engineering Fair are two Wolverines, seniors Thao Nguyen and Bridget Huynh, with an explanation of their project and the thinking behind it. "We are seniors, and our full names are Thao Nguyen and Bridget Huynh. Our project is called Automated Scanner for Evaluating Code (ASEC). "When we first started the science fair, we knew we wanted to do a computer science project, but we had not yet formed a topic or project idea. While thinking of the science fair, we thought back to our times during online school and joked about our bad experience in computer science classes. We remembered the frustration of not being able to learn without the in-person interaction, and the number of times we failed to receive feedback on assignments we turned in. As a result, we struggled with learning, motivation, and engagement during our computer science class. "Inspired by artificial intelligence systems, we created the Automated Scanner for Evaluating Code to help address the problems we (as well as many other students) faced during COVID-19 and online school in an attempt to solve future problems of virtual learning. "Our program features two versions written in C#. One version is purposed for computer science students and allows them to use our program alongside their homework and activities as a checker (almost like a Grammarly, but for coding). Our program will automatically run the code inputted into our application and display the type of error, as well as the location of that error. "The purpose of this is to ensure students are learning to fix their common mistakes and receive instant feedback. However, for our other version, the teachers' version, similar to the student's version, have an additional feature that allows teachers to see every single mistake, the location of each mistake, and how many (in total) mistakes they made. "In addition, the amount of mistakes are totaled, weighed, taken out of 100, and displayed for the teacher(s) to see - all in the click of one 'run' button. In this way, teachers are able to quickly grade all of their

students, return feedback as soon as possible, and return to classrooms to focus on harnessing the students' ability to code. To ensure our program was applicable to computer science classrooms, we sent out a survey to students and teachers of computer science in the local Texas area. With 71 respondents, we randomly sampled 35 and recorded their results to find that more than half agreed with its purpose to increase learning and engagement in the classrooms. Based on our data, we also found our program to be highly efficient. "Our project took approximately three months of constant work to complete. Our research was completed in the first month, and the bulk of the project (our program) was completed in the following two months with our major concern regarding the ability to program an automated application. "We encountered many issues along the way, but with each other's support and a lot of research, we were able to find a way to establish ASEC. Our program is lacking in many ways and most limitations were due to the limited time available to complete this

project. Therefore, we plan to continue to update our program, and we hope to be able to reach out to regions beyond Texas for further development."



Clear Brook students Thao Nguyen (left) and Bridget Huynh presented their computer science project at SEFH.

PISD sets meal plan

Continued from Page 1
Prepayments are normally taken on Monday. The policy regarding the day when prepayments are made is a school's decision. Payments may also be made online at www.schoolcafe.com. The Pasadena Independent School District Nutrition Services will not accept personal checks. Specially marked food service envelopes are available for use by parents when sending money to the school. The envelope should be marked with the student's name, grade level, and the amount enclosed. Parents are strongly encouraged to continually monitor their child's meal account balance. When a student's meal account is depleted, the district will notify the parents via phone message and notices sent home with students. The student will be given a grace period of two days where lunches may be charged. If parents do not send payments for their outstanding account balance by the end of the grace period, students will be offered a courtesy meal and campus administration will then follow up with parents. A la Carte items may not be charged. **Meal prices**
Breakfast
- Breakfast is free to all students.
Lunch
- Reduced-price lunch \$0.40.
- Elementary/middle schools \$2.50.
- Intermediate schools \$2.75.
- High schools \$3.
Sign up
- Go to www.schoolcafe.com or download the mobile app.
- Create a free account and add student(s) using their school name/student ID.
- Add funds, view purchases and more. For additional information, contact the Child Nutrition Services Department at 713-740-0146.

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South Belt Elementary celebrates Math Spirit Week



Recently, South Belt Elementary teachers and students celebrated Math Spirit Week with themed dress-up days and various activities. The students and teacher shown above from South Belt Elementary celebrated Math Spirit Week by showing that math shapes their mind by engaging in productive struggles. Pictured above, left to right, are (front) Jessie Alvarez, Penelope Castellanos, Jose Tenorio, Dominic Mendoza and (back) Sarah Kloesel.



Shown above are South Belt Elementary's math superheroes, left to right, Mason Medina, Aliyah Bhakta, John Thomas and Travis Alba. These are students who have a positive disposition and math superpowers.



South Belt's "100-year-old students" shown are, left to right, Joseph Williams, Karsyn Cyres, Ezekiel Reyes and Gisani Kidd-Pattton.



Shown are South Belt's problem-solver mathletes, left to right, Mackenzie Watson (teacher), CJ Davis, Alex Hinojosa, Robin Castillo, Kinsley Elmore, Kennedy Watson and Hailee Walker.

Meador named top area school

Continued from Page 1
ment, Growth, and Campus Performance, and College Readiness). (Children At Risk) weighs these domains evenly to compute an overall average score for schools.
Each domain accounts for 33 percent of elementary and middle school rankings, and 25 percent of high school rankings. TEA also examines a school's achievement and growth, but weighs the better of these two scores at 70 percent with the other 30 percent calculated by measuring the campus's relative performance to other schools with similar demographics (similar to Children At Risk's Campus Performance metric).
By creating a more stringent measure of Texas's schools, Children At Risk ensures a system of accountability for TEA, and an additional advocacy tool for parents.

Driver arrested after striking multiple vehicles

A driver was arrested by Precinct 2 deputies on DWI charges Friday, Feb. 24, after allegedly striking several vehicles in the parking lot of McDonald's in the 12900 block of Astoria at the Gulf Freeway.
Deputies were dispatched to the scene around 8 p.m. to find the driver attempting to drive away on the vehicle's brake rotors. The driver, later identified as 29-year-old Stanley Escobar, was detained for safety reasons.
While detaining the driver, deputies observed several signs of intoxication, including the strong odor of an alcoholic beverage emitting from his person. A standardized field sobriety test was administered and further confirmed the suspicion of this driver being intoxicated.
The Harris County District Attorney's Office was contacted, and a misdemeanor charge of driving while intoxicated was accepted on the driver. Escobar was taken into custody and transported to the Harris County Jail, where he was booked without incident.



Stanley Escobar

Leader looks back at area's 2022

Continued from Page 1
and the Gulf Freeway. Juan Juarez, 38, was pronounced dead at the scene. The other victim, 34, was expected to survive his wounds. The suspect, Justin Thomas, 31, was charged with capital murder. According to Houston Police Department officials, the two victims were inside an apartment at the above address when two black male suspects entered and shot the victims. The suspects took money and other items from the victims and fled the scene. A second suspect known simply as "Atlanta" was sought in connection to the shootings but no additional arrests had been made at press time.
Oct. 13
A man's body was found inside an apartment unit Monday, Oct. 3, in the 1300 block of Redford near Edgemoor and the Gulf Freeway. According to Houston Police Department officials, employees at the apartment complex at the above address noticed a foul odor and flies near the door of an apartment. Officers were called and gained entry to the apartment. During a search of the apartment, a male's decomposed body, later identified as Scott West, was found wrapped in blankets, inside a closet. No immediate arrests were made.
Oct. 20
The previously unknown female driver involved in the fatal Sept. 26 hit-and-run crash in the 9500 block of Clearwood Drive near Edgemoor and the Gulf Freeway, killing a pedestrian, was identified and charged. The suspect, Chantay Solano-Saldana, 26, was charged with failure to stop and render aid. She was charged for her role in the death of Evelina Chanel McKenzie, 37. No immediate arrests were made.
Oct. 27
A 57-year-old woman was murdered outside her apartment around 11:25 p.m. Friday, Oct. 14, in the 10900 block of Tanner Park Court near Almeda Mall. Shot multiple times, Yolanda Flores was pronounced dead at the scene. No immediate arrests were made.
A man was killed in a single-vehicle crash around 11:25 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 16, in the 13800 block of the Gulf Freeway service road near Scarsdale. Ramiro Garcia, 40, was pronounced dead at the scene.
Nov. 3
On Monday, Oct. 24, a man died from injuries incurred the previous day during a motorcycle crash in the 10500 block of Gulf Freeway at Edgemoor. Mario Martinez, 50, was operating a blue Suzuki motorcycle ceiving 71 percent of the vote with 44 precincts reporting at press time. No Republicans filed to run in the race.
A man was grazed in the head by a bullet the night of Thursday, Feb. 24, in a suspected drug deal gone bad near Scarsdale. The victim was discovered at the Chevron station in the 10800 block of Scarsdale at Beamer, but Precinct 2 authorities believe he was actually shot at an apartment complex on Algonquin. The man was transported to Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital in stable condition. No immediate arrests were made.
An area church caught fire the morning of Sunday, Feb. 13, in the 12700 block of Almeda Genoa near SH 3/Old Galveston Road. According to Houston Fire Department officials, firefighters were able to protect a portion of the church, as the fire was controlled and fully extinguished. The blaze caused an estimated \$200,000 in damage. Firefighters were able to save approximately \$800,000 in property. No injuries were reported.

San Jacinto College releases South, Central spring calendar

San Jac College officials released the schools calendar events for the month of March.
Through March 9 the exhibit "A Seemingly Organized Arrangement of Line, Shape, & Color" is located at the San Jacinto south campus gallery (\$15.143). It features three Houston artists who use traditional tools and techniques to create work that balances the line between art and design. The gallery is free and open to the public. Visit www.sanjac.edu/events/seemingly-organized-arrangement-line-shape-color for details.
Through March 21 the exhibit "Worlds Collide" is at the San Jacinto Central campus gallery (C4.119). This exhibit features digital media work from the graduate department at Lamar University. A presentation will also be held Wednesday, March 22 at noon. The event is free and open to the public. More information can be found at www.facebook.com/SJCCart.
The central campus spring concerts will be held March 10 to 31. The central campus music department will host their spring concert series at Corbin Hall (C5).
All concerts are free and open to the public. The Orpheus Concert will be March 10 at 3:30 p.m. The Colloquium Recital will be March 29 at 3:30 p.m. The Brass Studio Recital will be held March 31 at 3:30 p.m. Spring break is scheduled for March 13 through 19. The college will be closed from Monday, March 13 to Sunday, March 19. Normal business operations will resume Monday, March 20.

Pct. 2 makes 4 DWI arrests in 4 days

Continued from Page 1
and booked into Harris County Jail for driving while intoxicated.
On Feb. 18, Night Shift deputies with Garcia's office responded to the 11400 block of the Gulf Freeway concerning a male asleep behind the wheel of his vehicle.
Deputies were able to awaken the driver, at which time the driver displayed multiple signs of intoxication. Standardized field sobriety tests were administered, and it was determined that the driver was intoxicated.
The driver was safely arrested and booked into the Harris County Jail for driving while intoxicated.
On Feb. 19, Toll Road deputies with Garcia's office responded to a vehicle causing a traffic hazard in the 6200 block of the East Sam Houston Tollway South.
Upon making contact with the driver, deputies observed her display multiple signs of intoxication. Standard field sobriety tests were administered, and it was determined the driver was intoxicated.
The driver was safely arrested and booked into the Harris County Jail for driving while intoxicated.
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Charles Swait



Deborah Hargrave

Remember When

45 years ago (1978)
The Beverly Hills Civic Club was actively seeking the widening of Sabo Road to four lanes. The J. Frank Dobie boys' choir was one of four choirs chosen from Texas to sing at the American Choral Directors Association Convention in Lawton, Okla.
40 years ago (1983)
Members of Sagemont Baptist Church donated more than \$700,000 to the church in a special "Joining Hands for Victory" celebration.
The Southbend recreation center announced its planned opening. The center included a junior Olympic 25-meter swimming pool, tennis courts and a pavilion.
Harris County Flood Control approved plans for \$1 million in drainage projects for the Southpoint complex.
35 years ago (1988)
The Southbend MUD entered an agreement with Houston's wastewater department, which expected to lower the cost of sewer service to just over one-fourth what the district was then paying.
Precinct 2 Constable Paul McClure failed to win 50 percent of the vote in the Democratic primary, and therefore, faced a runoff with Galena Park police officer Gary Freeman.
30 years ago (1993)
Attorney James Moriarty reached an agreement with Southbend Properties Inc. to pay each of his 112 clients between \$20,000 and \$45,000 for their homes in the Southbend subdivision.
Workers for the Texas Highway Department started building a sound-abatement wall on the Kirkwood side of Beltway 8.
25 years ago (1998)
The Texas Workforce Commission's Skills Development Fund presented an \$857,532 check to San Jacinto College.
The Brio Site Task Force made public its target date for remediation of the Brio site. The task force projected planned remediation for Brio would last into 2003.
20 years ago (2003)
J. Frank Dobie and Clear Book high schools finished in the top two spots in the Greater Houston Area Junior Classical League Latin competition.
The Clear Creek Independent School District board of trustees called a \$337 million bond election.
15 years ago (2008)
Pasadena Independent School District superintendent Kirk Lewis received a doctorate in education leadership from Lamar University. Over the past two-and-one-half years, Lewis traveled to Beaumont every other weekend to attend the school, where he would have classes on Friday nights and all day Saturdays.
The FLY Dance group continued to soar, performing both locally and nationally. Originally called the Morris Fifth-Grade Dance Team, the troupe was formed in 2004 by physical education teacher Rhonda Valencia to participate in the school's annual Olympiad. The group specialized in hip-hop dancing. Valencia was aided by Kathy Wood, head of the professional touring FLY Dance Company.
The last day approached for potential candidates to file to run in local school and municipal utility district elections which were to be held in May.
Classrooms across Pasadena Independent School District received Emergency Preparedness Buckets through the Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools grant. The buckets contained various emergency items. In addition, teachers put their individual class rolls and emergency flip chart guidelines in the buckets.
Mohamed Haq, M.D., medical oncologist and medical director, was named Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital's 2007 Physician of the Year. Employee of the year was Blu Baillio, R.N., who worked in the hospital's post-anesthesia care unit.
10 years ago (2013)
Dobie High School finished in eighth place in the Texas Academic Decathlon held in El Paso. The Longhorns took third in the Super Quiz and garnered two individual first places. Tuan Phan took top honors for Dobie in honors science, while teammate Angel Garcia took first in varsity science. Garcia took second in varsity economics. Dobie students winning third-place were Sonia Bonavita, in varsity interview; Daniel Ta, in scholastic art; and Maria Ferreira, in scholastic social science.
5 years ago (2018)
Seven more students from the Pasadena Independent School District were apprehended this past week for making terroristic threats. The threats affected all levels of students, with defendants ranging from fifth grade to 12th grade. One female student from Shaw Middle School was arrested; two students from Thompson Intermediate were arrested; one student from Park View Intermediate was arrested; two students from Pasadena Memorial High School were arrested; and one student from Lewis Career and Technical Center was arrested. With the exception of the Lewis student, all of those charged were juveniles. All of the threats were made on social media sites, except for the Park View threat, which took place verbally at lunch. Such online threats had become a growing problem nationwide in the aftermath of the Parkland, Fla., shooting the previous month that left 17 dead and dozens more wounded.
A female suspect was arrested following a crash in the 18200 block of the Gulf Freeway near FM 2351 on Wednesday, Feb. 28, that left a woman and her child dead. Veronica Rivas, 20, was charged with two counts of intoxication manslaughter in the 351st State District Court. According to police, Rivas was driving a sport utility vehicle at a high rate of speed south on the frontage road just before 4 a.m. when she struck the rear of a vehicle driven by the female victim. Shayla Joseph and her 9-month old daughter were pronounced dead at the scene. Rivas and her female passenger sustained minor injuries and were transported to the hospital. Police said Rivas showed signs of intoxication at the time of the crash, and upon her release from the hospital, was taken to jail and subsequently charged. Tests determined Rivas had a blood alcohol level of 0.21, almost three times the legal limit of 0.08.
1 year ago (2022)
Votes from the March 1 primary elections, with most contests being chosen decisively, avoiding a May runoff. In the race to fill the state Senate District 11 seat being vacated by Sen. Larry Taylor, Mayes Middleton was able to avoid a runoff, handily defeating Republican challengers Bianca Gracia, Robin Armstrong and Bob Mitchell. No Democrats filed to run in the race. Democratic incumbent Adrian Garcia would also avoid an anticipated runoff in the contest for Harris County Precinct 2 commissioner, defeating challengers George Risner and Gary Harrison. On the Republican side of the aisle, a crowded field forced the Precinct 2 commissioner race to a runoff between former Precinct 2 Commissioner Jack Morman and Jerry Mouton. Morman went on to become the Republican candidate. In the contest to fill the Harris County Precinct 2, Place 2 justice of the peace position being vacated by Risner, Democratic candidate Dolores Lozano easily defeated LaRae McClure, receiving 71 percent of the vote with 44 precincts reporting at press time. No Republicans filed to run in the race.
A man was grazed in the head by a bullet the night of Thursday, Feb. 24, in a suspected drug deal gone bad near Scarsdale. The victim was discovered at the Chevron station in the 10800 block of Scarsdale at Beamer, but Precinct 2 authorities believe he was actually shot at an apartment complex on Algonquin. The man was transported to Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital in stable condition. No immediate arrests were made.
An area church caught fire the morning of Sunday, Feb. 13, in the 12700 block of Almeda Genoa near SH 3/Old Galveston Road. According to Houston Fire Department officials, firefighters were able to protect a portion of the church, as the fire was controlled and fully extinguished. The blaze caused an estimated \$200,000 in damage. Firefighters were able to save approximately \$800,000 in property. No injuries were reported.

Bulldog wins bee

Clear Creek ISD crowned Luke Nguyen, a sixth-grader from Brookside Intermediate, as the 2023 Spelling Bee Champion on February 11.
Nguyen won in the 20th round of the competition against 34 other students after correctly spelling the word "rictus." Mirelle Amalaman, a Greene Elementary fourth-grader, was the runner-up.
The next round of competition for Nguyen will be the 2023 Scripps Regional Spelling Bee hosted by Houston Community College on March 25. Top winners will then advance to the Scripps National Spelling Bee in May.

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Over The Back Fence by Natalie

BIRTHDAY WISHES FOR YOLANDA
Best wishes for a happy birthday March 2 are sent to **Consuelo Yolanda Dominguez** from sons **Dr. Roland J. Dominguez, and Capt. Richard A. Dominguez (USMC)**; daughter **Laura Dominguez Chan**, Associate Dean of Career Development at Stanford University; as well as 11 grandchildren and three great-grand-children. Yolanda's teaching career includes Stuchbery, Frazier and Jessup elementaries in PISD. All three children are Dobie graduates.
SIBLINGS CELEBRATE SAME BIRTHDAY
Special birthday hugs are sent to **Robert "Austin" Scarberry** (2007 Dobie grad) Tuesday, March 7, from his daughters **Jade and Lily Scarberry**. Austin served his country in the U.S. Coast Guard. His sister, **Jenny (Hayes) Laney** (1997 Dobie grad), also has a birthday March 7. Hugs and kisses are sent from Jenny's husband **Josh Laney** and children **Brayden, Baylee and Olivia**. Best wishes for a great birthday are sent to both from proud parents **Robert and Jannie Scarberry**, former longtime South Belt residents; brother **Joseph Hayes** (2000 Dobie grad); sister **Stacey (Hayes) Flowers** (2005 Dobie grad), husband **Stephen** and children **Kennedy, Owen and Evie**; and brother **Tyler Scarberry** (2010 Dobie grad).
SCHOOL DAZE
The following personnel and staff of the South Belt Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays March 2 through March 8.
Atkinson Elementary
Eveling Olivera celebrates a birthday March 5.
Bush Elementary
The day for a birthday gift for **Marilynn Beltran** is March 4.
Meador Elementary
Blow out the birthday candles March 2 for **Connie Aviles**.
South Belt Elementary
Break out the balloons and party favors for the March 3 birthday of **Charita McKibbin**.
Stuchbery Elementary
Marking a birthday March 6 is **Melissa Cardenas**.
Melillo Middle School
Best wishes for a happy birthday March 2 are sent to **Maria Gonzalez**. Break out the cake and ice cream March 3 for **Desiree Ram**. Birthday wishes are sent March 4 to **Raven Lowe**.

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SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

Dobie tracksters earn medals at Maverick Underdog

The Dobie girls' track and field team scored big in the relays to highlight the schools' performance at the Mavericks Underdog Relays, hosted by Pasadena Memorial Feb. 23 at Auxiliary Stadium in Pasadena.

Dobie crossed the finish line at 50.76 in the 4x100 to nip La Porte, with Camille Steens, Mia Sanchez, Tailin Curtis and Stacie Harris running for the locals.

La Porte turned the tables in the 4x200, winning with Dobie second in a time of 1:49.40. That

Dobie foursome included Sophia Perez, Sanchez, Bre'yanna Williams and Steens.

La Porte also won the 4x400, but Dobie's time of 4:17.10 was second for a silver medal as Ashley Dunn, Harris, Perez and Chistina Rodriguez

teamed for the Longhorns. Individually, Harris was the gold medalist in the long jump, making her way to 17 feet, 2 inches and was in for a silver medal at 12.79 in the 100.

Also in the long jump, Dobie sophomore Williams placed sixth at 15.4

1/4. Chloye Matthews, like Harris a sophomore, was eighth in the same 100 event at 13.50.

It was Sanchez for silver in the 200 as she delivered a finish of 27.48, with Matthews sixth in a time of 28.33.

The Longhorns also

scored well in the 400, with Dunn in at 1:03.43 for second place and another silver medal for her team.

In the same event, Ashlee Garcia placed fourth in a time of 1:04.77, and the freshman Rodriguez came up with a time of 1:06.09 for eighth place.

In a time of 2:28.64, Garcia was fourth overall in the 800.

Garza was third in the 1600 in a time of 5:54.07, with Lobo seventh in a time of 6:02.37.

An effort of 32-6 was fourth-best in the triple jump for Curtis, with Perez seventh at 30-0.

Senior Nya Sanford finished at 1:04.97 for sixth in the 300 hurdles.

At 53.91 in the 400, Dobie junior Ariel Cortez

Continued on Page 6

Longhorn softball quickly earns nine victories

Nine wins over the first two weeks of the regular season, including four over the three days at the Haynie Classic Feb. 23-25, gave the Dobie varsity softball team plenty

of momentum entering the 22-6A opener Feb. 28 against Deer Park after press time.

While the pitching has been solid, Dobie has produced at a high level offensively early on, with

four different players hitting .500 or better, including Sandra Quiroz (.576), Bella Perez (.568), Emily Delgado (.556) and Marisa Perla (.512), who also led the locals in runs batted in with 12.

Aiming at a fifth straight regular season of 20 or more wins, Dobie is easily on track entering play at the Friendswood Invitational March 2-4, with the locals taking on the host Lady Mustangs March 2 at 8 a.m.

The Longhorns will also face Clear Brook at 10 a.m. on March 2 before playing Clear Springs (8 a.m.) and Katy (10 a.m.) on March 3.

Dobie will return for the remainder of 22-6A play March 4 at 4 p.m. at the Pasadena ISD Complex, taking on Pasadena.

Beating a Bridgeland team that entered play at 10-1-1 to wrap up three days of tournament play during the Haynie Classic Feb. 25, Dobie scored a 7-3 win over the Bears at Dobie to complete a 4-1-1 run over the three days.

Sandra Quiroz, who led Dobie with a .576 average over two weeks, went 3 for 3 against Bridgeland and scored twice while driving in a run. Amaya Corona drove in two runs, with Miriam Castillo had two hits and scored a run.

Freshman Vanessa De La Fuente allowed eight hits and three earned runs

over six innings to get the victory for Dobie, which stood at 9-3-1.

over six innings to get the victory for Dobie, which stood at 9-3-1.

In early action on the final day Feb. 25, Dobie played Corpus Christi Veterans Memorial to a 1-1 tie over eight frames. Alyssa Jones drove in Dobie's lone run, and De La Fuente struck out seven over 4 2/3 innings in relief.

In the second of two games Feb. 24, the Longhorns downed Tuloaso Midway 2-1 with two runs to walk it off in the bottom of the fifth inning. Jones and Quiroz drove in runs.

Continued on Page 6



At left, freshman Vanessa De La Fuente (27) capitalized on her pitching opportunities over the first two weeks of the season, going 4-1 overall with a 1.28 earned run average. She earned the win over Bridgeland Feb. 25 with six solid frames.

Photo by Donna Alsdorf

Brook's Thompson lands another discus gold

Senior thrower Kennedy Thompson came up with a personal record of 134 feet, 7 1/2 inches as she highlighted the Clear Brook girls' performance at the Sam Mosely Relays Feb. 25 at Humble ISD's Turner Stadium.

On the track, the Wolverines' top finish came in the 4x400 relay as the locals took bronze for third place at 4 minutes, 00.19 seconds.

Event winner Summer Creek (3:52.27) and second-place Atascocita (3:54.19) both went well under four minutes.

At 49.41, the Wolverines were eighth in the 4x100 relay. Pairing her gold medal win in the discus, Thompson went 34-11 in the shot put for sixth place.

Junior Azayla Smith clocked in at 2:22.82 for seventh place at the 800 distance. Jizzale Davis, a junior, was eighth in the 200 in a time of 25.83, and Rachael Penn's time of 1:02.39 placed her ninth.

The Clear Brook boys' team challenged a talented field at the Shadow Creek/Manvel Invitational.

Senior Raymond Felton used a time of 11.12 seconds on his way to fourth place in the 100, and junior Jaylon Owens of Clear Brook was fourth in the 200 with his time of 21.10.

Junior Joseph Trevino posted a time of 10:07.71 for fifth place in the 3200, and his time of 4:44.63 was good for 10th place at the 1600 distance.

Sophomore Phong Le was 10th in the 300 hurdles in a time of 45.63. The Wolverines were in at 1:28.59 for third place in the 4x200, with the locals' 4x100 group in for fourth place in a time of 42.35.

Darwin Bolden of Clear Brook was the top sophomore finisher in the discus as his toss of 128-3 was good for 10th place.

Sophomore Phong Le was 10th in the 300 hurdles in a time of 45.63. The Wolverines were in at 1:28.59 for third place in the 4x200, with the locals' 4x100 group in for fourth place in a time of 42.35.

Darwin Bolden of Clear Brook was the top sophomore finisher in the discus as his toss of 128-3 was good for 10th place.

Longhorns still hold 22-6A soccer edge



Working his way around Deer Park's Ashtin Baxter (2), Dobie's Jordi Garcia takes aim on the opposing goal. As the 22-6A varsity boys' soccer race enters the final week, the Longhorns still lead in the standings. See more on Page 6.

Photo by Donna Alsdorf



Dobie sophomore track and field standout Stacie Harris continued her impressive season to this point, winning a gold medal in the long jump at the Maverick Underdog Relays Feb. 23 at Auxiliary Stadium in Pasadena and taking part in the Longhorns' 4x100 relay win. She was also second in the 100.

Dobie softball at Friendswood invite
March 2-3
 March 2: vs. Friendswood, 8 a.m.
 March 2: vs. Clear Brook, 10 a.m.
 March 3: vs. Clear Springs, 8 a.m.
 March 3: vs. Katy, 10 a.m.

Dobie vs. Pasadena
 March 3, PISD Complex, 6 p.m.

Dobie vs. Pasadena Memorial
 March 7, PISD Complex, 4 p.m.

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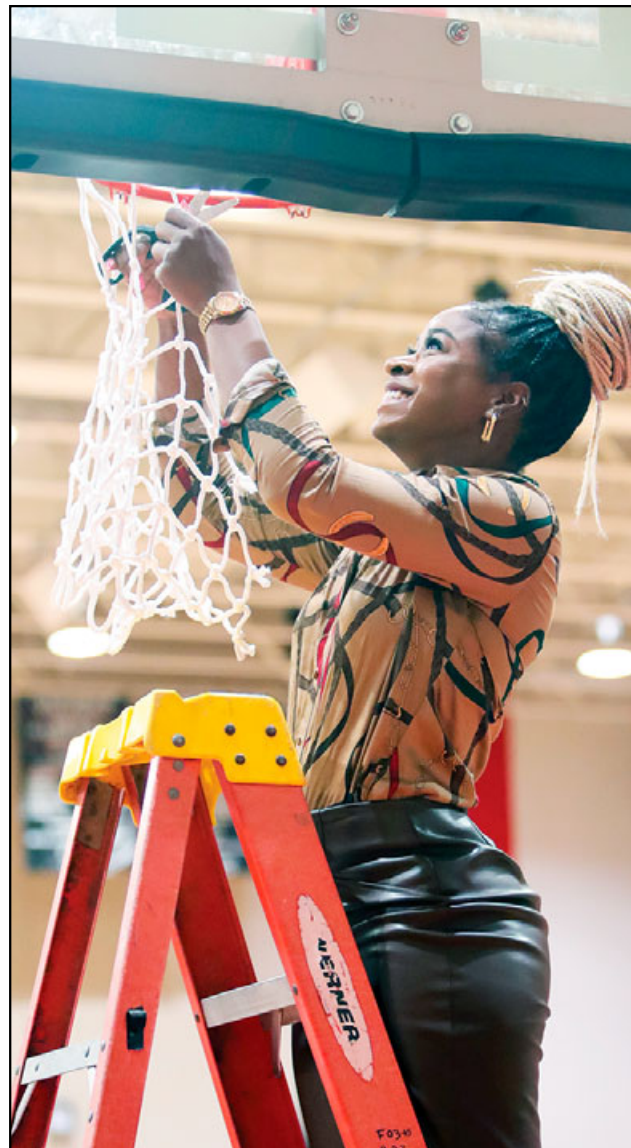
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Pearland edges Brook in regional quarterfinal basketball



Kamryn McLaurin (4) is one of three sophomores who led the two-time undefeated District 24-6A Clear Brook varsity girls' basketball champions to a 26-9 overall record and a regional quarterfinal playoff berth. McLaurin finished at a team-best 12.8 points per game.



First-year head coach Mileka Loydrake and her Clear Brook girls' basketball program cut down the nets following a second consecutive undefeated District 24-6A championship, and the team's run to the regional quarterfinal playoff round represented a program best at the Class 6A level. Photos by Andy Tolbert

Vipers' 10-under softball undefeated at DP



The 10-under Vipers of the South Belt Girls Softball Association won seven straight games to win the Sweetheart Invitational in Deer Park, outscoring the opposition by a combined 43-5. Members of the team are, left to right, (front row) Jesselyn Vargas, Olivia Gutierrez, Victoria Del Angel, Dori Hood, Abigail Orozco, Janelle Augurson, (middle row) Patricia Longoria, Victoria Perez, Kelsie Bolling, Amber Saldana, Olivia Bailey, (back row) assistant coaches Robert Bolling, Jessie Vargas, Johnny Orozco, Cesar Longoria and head coach Daniel Del Angel.

Dobie boys' soccer eyes another 22-6A crown

Another District 22-6A championship remained in reach for the Dobie varsity boys' soccer program entering play at Channelview Feb. 28 after press time.

The Longhorns, standing at 16-0-3 after a 9-0 win over Memorial Feb. 24 at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena, led the league standings by two points

over second-place Pasadena, with the two teams having played to a pair of 1-1 draws against one another.

Against Memorial, eight different Longhorns scored goals, with Alex Escobar's pair of goals leading the way.

Other Longhorns with goals scored in the game included Andres Her-

nandez, Kevin Guzman, Jeferson Aleman, J.P. Rodriguez, Miguel Azua, Robert Villatoro and Victor Hernandez. Guzman, Hernandez and Rodriguez had two assists, and Geo Arango and Mauricio Leal combined for the shutout in the nets.

The Longhorns will close the 22-6A portion of the schedule March 3 at

San Jacinto College South campus with a 7 p.m. contest against Sam Rayburn.

Dobie will then cele-

brate Senior Night March 7, in the finale against South Houston at 5:30 p.m. at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena.

22-6A Boys' Soccer Standings Prior to Feb. 28 Play

Teams	W	L	T	Pts.
Dobie	7	0	2	23
Pasadena	6	0	3	21
Rayburn	4	2	2	14
Channelview	2	4	2	8
S. Houston	2	6	1	7
Memorial	1	6	2	5
Deer Park	0	4	4	4



Natalie DeHoyos (15), one of several freshmen playing key roles for Dobie this season, makes a catch in the outfield against Foster Feb. 23 at Dobie. DeHoyos hit .333 with 11 hits and five runs batted in through 13 games. Photo by Donna Alsdorf

JFD softball squad captures four wins

Continued from Page 5 and starter Marisa Perla and De La Fuente combined in the circle.

Perla steps up

Perla was the best hitter on the field in an early game Feb. 24 as she led Dobie to a 6-5 win over Chavez.

Doubling and tripling as part of a three-hit game, Perla drove in two runs and scored twice. Emily Delgado scored twice and also knocked in two runs, and Quiroz tripled.

Freshman Chloe Nunez earned the pitching win, going five frames and allowing two earned runs while striking out five. Freshman Vanessa De

La Fuente worked the final inning for the save.

Rally downs HCYA

Dobie scored a pair of runs in the bottom of the seventh inning to walk off HCYA 7-6 in the early-morning opener of the Haynie event at Dobie High School in the first of two games Feb. 23.

Foster starts fast

Richmond Foster built a 5-0 lead over Dobie through two frames and went on to win 5-4 over six frames in an afternoon game Feb. 23.

Bella Perez singled in a pair of runs, but Dobie was otherwise limited to four hits, all singles, in the game.



Victor Hernandez (7) had a goal against Memorial Feb. 24 in a 9-0 victory and shares the team lead 16 goals as the Longhorns (16-0-3) aim to close out with another District 22-6A championship. Photo by Donna Alsdorf

JFD track scores big at Mavericks' invite

Continued from Page 5 found himself fourth.

Senior Derrick Woodley was sixth in the 100 at 11.63, with freshman Marcus Jones seventh in a time

of 11.71.

Damian Rosas placed ninth in the 800 at 2:09.61, and at 10:37.61, sophomore Chris was 10th in the 3200.

The Dobie boys were fourth overall in a pair of relays, clocking in at 43.65 in the 4x100 and posting a 4x400 time of 3:41.82.

A throw of 126 feet, 11

inches placed Dobie junior Rodrick Drumgo eighth in the discus.

Dobie is now set to compete in the Hanna Relays in Dickinson.



The Dobie varsity girls were first to the finish line in the 4x100 as, from left, Camille Steens, Mia Sanchez, Tailin Curtis and Stacie Harfor gold medal in the 4x100 as, from left, Camille Steens, Mia Sanchez, Tailin Curtis and Stacie Harfor teamed for the locals.

Jackson impresses with XFL's Seattle Sea Dragons



Dobie Class of 2011 graduate Blake Jackson has been a solid contributor through two weeks for the Seattle Sea Dragons. A former star quarterback at Dobie and then at Mary Hardin-Baylor, Jackson has made his money professionally at receiver. While the Sea Dragons lost their opening two games of the XFL season by a combined six

points, Jackson totalled 13 catches for 77 yards and returned one kickoff for 18 yards. A three-year starter at quarterback for Dobie, Jackson led the 2010 team to a district title and went on to win Most Valuable Player honors while leading Mary Hardin-Baylor to a national crown.

Seattle Sea Dragons photo

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7 a.m. AA - "Breakfast With Bill," Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 713-686-6300 or visit https://aahouston.org/meetings/.
7:30 a.m. Rotary Club of Pearland - Meets at 6117 Broadway St., Pearland, or on Zoom. See Pearland Chamber of Commerce calendar or call 281-485-3634.
Noon AA - Imperfect Nooners Group, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or at https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners. Call 713-686-6300.
FRIDAY, MARCH 3
7 a.m. AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
7 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2930 E. FM 518, Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). Call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com or https://nastuff.com/.
7 p.m. Congregation Shaar Hashalom - All services are live and on Zoom. For details visit https://www.shaarhashalom.org.
8 p.m. Serenity Now Al-Anon Group - meets at CrossRoads UMC, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Family members and friends of problem drinkers/addicts share and discover choices available. Call 281-484-9243.
8 p.m. AA - meets at CrossRoads UMC, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Call 281-484-9243.
SATURDAY, MARCH 4
7:30 a.m. AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
9:30 a.m. Congregation Shaar Hashalom - See Friday's notice.
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 or visit https://www.houstonalanon.org/.

1 p.m. St. Paul's Anglican Church - offers a knitting class. Call 281-479-7285 prior to coming.
SUNDAY, MARCH 5
8 a.m./10:15 a.m. St. Paul's Anglican Church - worship at 11456 Space Center Blvd. (in back of a medical/retail community). Call 281-479-7285.
2 p.m. Grief Support Group - Meets at Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena. 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.
8 p.m. AA - See Friday's notice.
MONDAY, MARCH 6
9 a.m. Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum - Exhibits include dioramas, a turn-of-the-century doctor's office and an old-time kitchen. 204 S. Main, Pasadena. Call Karen Hollon 713-472-0565 for appointment. Tours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Noon AA - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday noon notice.
1:30 - 3 p.m. Hometown Heroes Dance - at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 E. League City Parkway. Volunteers teach lessons with a different dance rhythm each month. Call 281-554-1180.
6 p.m. New Directions Singles - Age 55 and older meets at Webster Presbyterian Church, 201 W. NASA Parkway. Call 832-715-9658.
6 p.m. Scrabble Club #511 - Meets Monday at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua. Call 281-488-2923.
7 p.m. AA - St. Luke's Group, 12-Step Recovery, open meeting in the Education Bldg. in room 4, at 11011 Hall Rd., 77089. Call 832-725-8479 or 281-309-2801.
7 p.m. TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) - #0683 chapter meets at the Friendswood Methodist Church, 110 N Friendswood Dr. in the educational bldg., room 201. Call 832-858-4617 or 713-875-8820.
7 p.m. NA - See Friday's notice.
TUESDAY, MARCH 7
7 a.m. AA - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
9 a.m. Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum - See Monday's notice.
11:30 a.m. St. Paul's Anglican Church - See Sunday's notice.
11:30 a.m. Local NARFE Meeting - National Association of Retired Federal Employees, Chapter 1321, meets at Clear Lake Community Center, 5001 NASA Pkwy. Lunch is \$6.
Noon AA - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday noon notice.
6:30 p.m. Bay Area Quilt Guild - Meets at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, 10310 Scarsdale Blvd. Fellowship at 6:30 p.m.; program at 7 p.m. Visit www.FaceBook.com/BayAreaQuiltGuild or call 713-253-2521. Visitors may attend two meetings free.
6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Southeast Houston Toastmasters - Southeast Houston Toastmasters Club #05324194 meets virtually. Visit southeasthouston.toastmasterclub.org or call 281-467-1880.
7 p.m. NA - See Friday's notice.
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8
7 a.m. AA - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
9:30 a.m. Carmelites - a nondenominational senior citizen social group meeting at St. Bernadette Catholic Church, 15500 El Camino Real. Call 713-444-6744.
9:30 a.m. Young at Heart Senior Club - Meets at Covenant United Methodist Church, 7900 Fuqua. Call 832-298-9480.
Noon AA - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday's noon notice.
12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Hometown Heroes Humpday Dance - See Monday's notice.
7 p.m. St. Paul's Anglican Church - See Monday's notice.
7 p.m. NA - See Friday's notice.
8 p.m. AA - See Friday's notice.

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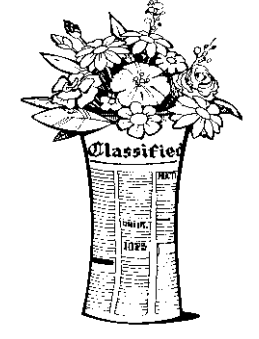
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Dobie baseball wins four of six

The Dobie varsity baseball program will head into the Pasadena ISD Invitational March 2-4 at Dobie with plenty of momentum after winning four of six games in the opening week of the 2023 campaign. The Longhorns are set to take on Baytown Sterling and Alief Taylor in back-to-back contests March 2 before going against Heights and Westbury March 3.

set to take on Baytown Sterling and Alief Taylor in back-to-back contests March 2 before going against Heights and Westbury March 3.

Pasadena ISD programs South Houston and Pasadena Memorial will host campus games while Pasadena and Rayburn will host games at Maguire Field in Pasadena.

Falls downs Dobie
The Clear Falls Knights, coming off a 29-win season that included an area round playoff berth in 2022, downed the Longhorns 13-3 Feb. 27 in five frames, scoring five runs in the first inning.

At the Laredo Border Olympics, the Longhorns won three games to complete a successful three-day performance.

The Longhorns split a pair of games Feb. 23, besting United 7-2 before coming up short against Leander, 5-2.

The Longhorns topped Davenport 9-3 and cruised past Alice 14-4 for a pair of wins on March 24.

On March 25, Dobie completed play at the tournament by falling to Edinburg, 5-4.

Pasadena ISD Invite

All games played at Dobie main

Dobie hosts Baytown Sterling
March 2, 12:30 p.m.

Dobie hosts Alief Taylor
March 2, 3 p.m.

Dobie hosts Heights
March 3, 3 p.m.

Dobie hosts Westbury
March 4, 12:30 p.m.

So, Reyes champs at Fling



Dobie's Pitou So (left) and Amalia Reyes won the Spring Fling Tennis Invitational's "tournament" division mixed doubles championship in Corpus Christi, beating a Kingsville High School pairing the final, 6-1, 6-4.

Coaching royalty chips in at Brown Relays



More than 200 combined years of coaching and track and field expertise was on hand at the Feb. 10 Pasadena ISD Brown Relays at Auxiliary Stadium, including, left to right, (seated) Charlie Goehring, (standing) Don Jones, Bill Willis, Tom Joy and John Fowler. Goehring is a member of the PISD Athletics Hall of Fame. Both Willis and Fowler were staff members at Thompson Intermediate during their careers that spanned multiple decades.

San Jacinto College continues tough stretch

At 12-5, defending Region XIV softball champion San Jacinto College is continuing to round into form as the JUCO race to the conference title nears.

The locals used a six-run third inning to down Indian Hills in five innings in the Oxford tournament opener Feb. 23 as Izzy Farmer knocked in three runs and Christin Haygood allowed no earned runs with five strikeouts.

Chloe Foster, Kiren Diaz and Emma Garcia, the 1-2-3 hitters in the Ravens' lineup, each drove in three runs, as did Ella Casas. Kyrie Hernandez smacked a solo homer, and Dobie graduate Leslie Longoria doubled and scored a run.

The locals lost a 4-1 decision to Dothan-Wallace as Arianna Wright had a

solo homer for San Jacinto's lone run. Longoria added two singles.

The following day, the locals lost a 2-1 game to Wallace State in eight innings.

The Darren Lajaunie Scholarship Fund Tennis Tournament will celebrate its 12th year with an exciting new format for 2023 that includes three doubles jamboree mixer events as organizers continue to raise funds for youth tennis and graduating senior class educational scholarships.

As the sponsorship efforts start for 2023, various sponsorship levels are available to individuals or businesses at DLTennisScholarships.com, where the "Be A Sponsor" tab may then be selected.

nings but then came back to defeat Central Alabama 4-3, also in eight innings.

Wright doubled in San Jacinto's lone run against Wallace State, while

Wright, Hernandez, Maci Beam and Tabby Bailey knocked in runs against Central Alabama.

Haygood struck out 11 over the eight innings to

get the win over Central Alabama.

San Jacinto College continues nonconference tournament play in Georgia March 3-4.

Lajaunie tennis welcomes players

For students applying for the tennis camp and college scholarships on the same site, deadline for submissions is April 7, 2023.

The scholarships will be awarded to all honorees in the latter part of April. Dobie seniors who wish to apply for the college scholarships may do so by visiting the Lajaunie website or by picking up a packet in the school's counseling office.

The deadline for Dobie senior scholarship submissions is April 6, 2023.

The scholarship fund is named in honor of Lajaunie, a Dobie High School graduate and lifelong tennis enthusiast who died in 2011 after a lengthy cancer battle.

Over the years, the fund has provided dozens of youth tennis scholarships and college education scholarships to deserving players.

The three jamboree series events will be held at the Harry Taylor Tennis Center in Pasadena, with as many as 60 players (30 doubles teams) competing during the April 29, Aug. 19 and Dec. 2 events.

Individual players who would like to register without a predetermined playing partner will be paired with another player prior to the start of the first of the three jamborees.

Players/teams will earn points for performance during each jamboree segment, with an emphasis placed on competing in each of the three three-hour Saturday events.

The first segment - April 29 - will include a fun-filled April Fools theme. Players may register for play at DLTennisScholarships.com.

Rugged Sam Rayburn lineman Massey was a game changer with Texans' "D"

Editor's Note: The following is the third of nine weekly features recognizing the Class of 2023 Pasadena ISD Athletics Hall of Fame inductees.

In the March 9 issue of the *Leader*, South Houston High School's Jeff Neal will be featured for his talents on the football field.

By Al Carter
PISD Hall of Fame
Energized by their dominance of Southwest

Conference football under legendary coach Darrell Royal, the Texas Longhorns in the late 1970s harvested a fair share of Pasadena ISD athletes into their ranks.

Among them were Dobie quarterback Randy McEachern, Sam Rayburn fullback Jimmy Johnson and South Houston center Wes Hubert.

The defensive plumb in that group was another Rayburn grad -

Steve Massey, a rugged, quick-footed lineman who helped the Longhorns maintain a reputation for Royal's brand of defensive excellence.

Massey, a 1976 Rayburn graduate, will be one of eight individuals inducted into the Pasadena ISD Athletics Hall of Fame at a gala banquet on April 20 at the Pasadena Convention Center. Dobie High's 1981 state championship track team will also be

honored. A member of Royal's final UT recruiting class, Massey shook off injuries early in his college career to letter over three seasons, from 1978 to 1980, and play in three bowl games.

As a junior in 1979, he helped the Longhorns earn the No. 1 ranking among the nation's defensive units.

Selected as one of four team captains his senior season, he recorded a career high for tackles.

Still, it was a high school game in 1975 that provided Massey with one of his most important football milestones.

Ranked as a Top 30 recruit and a prep All-American before the start of his senior season at Rayburn, Massey proved his mettle in a head-to-head battle with Hubert.

Although South Houston won the game, Massey battled the South Houston center on even terms.

The season ended with Massey, who also played tight end, earning first-team All-Greater Houston honors, all-district laurels for the second straight year and special mention as the district's outstanding lineman. He was tabbed "Super All-State" by one magazine.

Massey and Hubert. They signed both.

Massey was redshirted during Royal's final season as head coach in 1976. Injuries held him back in 1977, the debut season for Fred Akers.

He chipped in a dozen tackles and two sacks for a UT team that went unbeaten during the regular season before losing to Notre Dame in the Cotton Bowl. Massey missed the game with a wrist injury.

His breakthrough came in 1978. Rated as UT's quickest defensive lineman, Massey registered nine sacks, the fourth-highest on the team, and 49 tackles for a team that walloped Maryland 42-0 in the Sun Bowl.

As a junior, he returned with the Longhorns to the Sun Bowl, the trip ending with a loss to Washington.

The Longhorns went 7-5 his senior season, losing to North Carolina in the Bluebonnet Bowl in Houston.

Still, Massey posted a career-best 70 tackles with five sacks during his final campaign. His teammates honored him with awards for team spirit and team leadership.

Massey and his wife, Dee Dee, now split time between their home in Fort Worth and their ranch in Llano County.

Massey maintains business interests in a family-owned pipe distribution company and in beef distribution.

For details on tickets and event information, contact Kathy Richardson at the Pasadena ISD Education Foundation office; by phone, 713-740-0034, by email, KRichardson@pasadenaisd.org.



Following a star-studded career on the football field at Sam Rayburn High School, Steve Massey played at the University of Texas. He will be part of the Pasadena ISD Athletics Hall of Fame 2023 class of inductees next month.

Wolverines to host CCISD baseball

Clear Brook began play at the February 23-25 David Anzaldua Memorial Classic in La Porte with a 7-5 win over Second Baptist but then lost three

straight and tied another to complete a 2-3-1 opening week.

The Wolverines downed Pasadena Memorial 5-3 in the regular season opener

Feb. 20 before heading to La Porte.

At La Porte during the first week of the 2023 season, the Wolverines played Flower Mound Marcus to a 1-1 tie to wrap things up for both programs March 25 as Wolverine starter Jose Luccioni allowed just three hits over six shutout frames before Marcus tied the game at 1-1 with a run in the top of the seventh inning.

Brook's Nicholas Gillilan knocked in the Wolverines' run in the top of the sixth inning.

On Feb. 24, the Wolverines lost a pair of games, including a 7-6 walkoff loss to Kinkaid. In the opener, the Stratford Spartans beat Clear Brook 6-1.

Against Kinkaid, the

Wolverines enjoyed a six-run inning but lost in the final stages.

Next up, the Wolverines will host a talented field, including Hebron, Bellaire, Atascocita, Brenham and Kingwood, all at Clear Brook over three days at the Clear Creek ISD Invitational March 2-4.

The Wolverines celebrated Senior Night Feb. 29 with a tidy 5-1 win over St. Thomas as Francisco Leija was the star on the mound for the locals.

Leija went the distance, completing the seven innings on just 89 pitches. Bwhile scattering four hits and walking one.

Fanning seven in the game, Leija also had a hit as five different Wolverines drove in runs.

Clear Creek ISD Invite

Clear Brook hosts Brenham
March 2, 12:30 p.m.

Clear Brook hosts Hebron
March 2, 5:30 p.m.

Clear Brook hosts Bellaire
March 3, 12:30 p.m.

Clear Brook hosts Atascocita
March 3, 5:30 p.m.

Clear Brook hosts Kingwood
March 4, 10 a.m.

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