

### Chamber hosts gala March 8

Tickets are still available for the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce's annual gala, set to take place Friday, March 8, at the Hope Village Event Center, 15403 Hope Village Road in Friendswood. Newly elected Houston Mayor John Whitmire will be the featured guest of honor at the event. Titled "Let's Tickle the Ivories," this year's chamber gala will feature a two-hour performance from Two Tones Dueling Pianos and give attendees a chance to sing along to their favorite 70s, 80s and 90s tunes. For additional information or to purchase tickets, visit southbeltchamber.com/annual-gala.

### New Covenant feeds needy

New Covenant Christian Church, 10603 Blackhawk, distributes food the second and fourth Saturday of each month from noon to 1 p.m. or until supplies run out. The purpose is to provide food for community people in need. The next event is March 9. For additional information, call 281-484-4230.

### Knights hold weekly fish fries

Knights of Columbus Council 9201 will hold weekly fish fries each Friday during Lent through at St. Luke The Evangelist Catholic Church, 11011 Hall Road, from 4 to 7 p.m. March 22. Dinners will include fried fish, fries, hush puppies, coleslaw, corn on the cob and iced tea for \$15. Dine-in or take-out will be available. Desserts will also be available for purchase at the events, courtesy of Catholic Daughters Court 2292.

### Kirkmont to meet March 13

Kirkmont 1 HOA will hold a meeting at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 13, at the Kirkmont MUD Building, 10102 Blackhawk. Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia will be the guest speaker. All Kirkmont 1 residents are encouraged to attend.

### Knights to host blood drive

Knights of Columbus Council 9201 will host a blood drive Sunday, March 17, at St. Luke the Evangelist, located at 11011 Hall Road, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Appointments are preferred but not necessary. Donors must bring identification. For additional information or to schedule an appointment, visit www.commitforlife.org/donor/schedules/geo.

### Sageglen to meet March 18

The Sageglen Community Association will hold a homeowner meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, March 18, at the Sageglen Community Building, 11610 Sageyork. Guest speaker will be Harris County Precinct 2 Community Liaison Susana Castillo. All Sageglen residents are encouraged to attend. Refreshments will be served. For additional information, call 281-481-2160.

### Local COVID cases reported

The number of reported COVID-19 cases in the South Belt community remains roughly on par with the previous week, according to Harris County health officials.

As of Tuesday, March 5, there were 262 active cases in 77089, up three from the previous week. To date, 134 from the ZIP code have died from the disease. (Harris County had reported 141 deaths for the last several weeks.)

In ZIP code 77075, there were 12 active cases, down four from the previous week. To date, there have been 78 deaths in the ZIP code. (Harris County had reported 84 deaths for the last several weeks.)

In 77034, there were 9 active cases, down three from the previous week. To date, 94 residents from ZIP code 77034 have died from the disease, no increase from the previous week.

At press time, the reason behind the discrepancy in the number of reported deaths remained unclear.

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.arc.gis.com/pages/cumulative-data.

### Gulf Freeway closures set

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

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

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

### Beltway 8 closures planned

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

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

## Pasadena ISD recognizes local principals

### Dobie's Thomas, Morris' Lewallen named principals of the year

Streamers and cheer filled the hallways as Pasadena Independent School District (ISD) Superintendent Dr. DeeAnn Powell and other district administrators surprised Morris Middle School and J. Frank Dobie High School with the announcement of their 2024 elementary and secondary principals of the year.

Pasadena ISD selected Allison Lewallen of Morris Middle School and Dr. Jorly Thomas of J. Frank Dobie High School as the 2024 Elementary and Secondary Principal of the Year.

This honor reflects the impact these two leaders have made on their students, staff and community. Their dedication and commitment to maintaining high standards of education has led to strong ratings, state recogni-

tion and positive learning outcomes.

With Lewallen's leadership, Morris Middle School became an A rated school under the state's accountability system, has been named a "Schools to Watch" campus, won the CREST Award for their superb counseling program and was designated as a Model Professional Learning Community School.

"Lewallen exhibits a strong sense of responsibility in fulfilling her duties as a principal. She consistently demonstrates genuine care for her staff's well-being, fostering a positive and supportive work environment, and her leadership is characterized by empathy, understanding, and a proactive approach to addressing the needs and concerns of her school community," said Alyta Harrell, Pasadena ISD associate superintendent.

In his short time as Dobie High School Principal, Thomas has displayed the characteristics of a strong leader by offering support for all of those around him through the capacity of coaching,

mentoring and opportunities for faculty and students. He is known to take extra time to meet with his staff individually to hear their concerns and gives feedback on growth. Thomas has upheld Dobie's culture of excellence and most recently received the Texas CREST Award for their outstanding counseling program. Additionally, Thomas completed his doctorate in education in 2023.

"Dr. Jorly Thomas has a gift for inspiring individuals and helping them find their strengths to grow professionally. He is in tune with his students and has a true open-minded spirit about him. He is very strategic and approaches decision making by asking the right questions, creating a plan of action, and looking at the positive impact any initiative will have on the students

they serve," continued Harrell.

Nominations for the annual recognition are submitted every January from principals, district levels, executive directors, directors, specialists, managers, coordinators and the superintendent's cabinet members.

Later, a committee of principals who were previous honorees meet to make a final selection for the elementary and secondary principals of the year.

Lewallen and Thomas will go on to represent Pasadena ISD in the Region 4 Principal of the Year competition by the Texas Association of Secondary School Principals later this spring.

**Allison Lewallen, Morris Middle School**  
Morris Middle School's Lewallen brings a wealth of experience to her leadership position as she has spent her career working with at-risk students as a teacher, instructional specialist, assistant principal, and now principal. Lewallen believes in the power of a growth mindset, innovative thinking, and focusing on growth as a measure

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Allison Lewallen



Dr. Jorly Thomas

## Pasadena ISD honors Thomas



Pasadena ISD officials recently surprised Dobie High School Principal Dr. Jorly Thomas (center) at his campus to announce he had been selected the district's Secondary Principal of the Year. PISD administrators shown above with Thomas are, left to right, Associate Superintendent Alyta Harrell, Deputy Superintendent Toni Lopez, Superintendent Dr. DeeAnn Powell and Deputy Superintendent Troy McCarley. Not pictured is Morris Middle School Principal Allison Lewallen, who was selected the district's Elementary Principal of the Year.

## South Belt Cleanup set for April 6

### Volunteers to clean area roughly 6.25 miles

The second annual South Belt Cleanup is set to take place Saturday, April 6, beginning at 9 a.m. at Beverly Hills Intermediate.

Organizers are planning to clean an area covering approximately 6.25-square miles. 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.

A collaboration between the Sagemont Civic Club and Knights of Columbus Council 9201, the event has attracted a number of additional partners, including the City of Houston, Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia's office, Pasadena ISD, Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia's office and the

South Belt-Ellington Leader, as well as other elected officials and organizations.

Several other local groups and businesses are supporting the cleanup in a sponsorship capacity.

According to Sagemont Civic Club President Kay Barbour, tax-deductible donations are being sought to offset expenses.

Organizers are currently seeking volunteers. All supplies will be provided and lunch will be served by the Knights of Columbus following the event.

To sign up as a volunteer, visit forms.gle/SSfJNH9A2JfGGUts9.

For additional information on this year's South Belt Cleanup, visit www.facebook.com/events/245260951983130.

## City, firefighters reach historic deal

### Whitmire touts deal as campaign promise kept

The City of Houston and the Houston Professional Fire Fighters Association have reached a tentative agreement that will resolve all outstanding pay issues for Houston firefighters dating back to 2017.

The announcement comes just seven weeks into Mayor John Whitmire's term.

"A world-class city like Houston deserves a well-funded fire department to attract and retain talented individuals who are willing to risk their safety for us during our times of need," said Whitmire. "Houston's fire department should be at or near the top among the major cities in our state. This agreement resolves a long-festering pay dispute with firefighters, avoids further unnecessary litigation costs, and allows us to move forward together."

The mayor's sentiments reflect his views to assist and support all city departments and employees. Whitmire urges "all Houstonians to support every effort to fund public safety in Houston."

"During my campaign, I committed to Houstonians that I would resolve this issue beginning on my first day in office. I am pleased that we have reached this tentative agreement within the first two months. I will ask City Council members and all Houstonians to support this ar-

angement once final details are settled with our partners at the Houston Professional Fire Fighters Association."

Whitmire also noted that each side made important compromises to reach this agreement and thanked both parties for their efforts over the last two months.

Agreement on the amount owed to Houston firefighters for the eight years they have worked without a contract clears the path for the implementation of essential steps to actualize the mechanics of the deal. A subsequent announcement will provide detailed information on these additional steps.

"This is historic," said HPFFA President Patrick M. "Marty" Lancon. "Mayor Whitmire promised we would get this done by the end of February, and he has kept that promise. In just seven weeks, we have resolved a dispute the previous administration kicked down the road for eight years. It is amazing to witness what happens when leadership is unafraid to do the right thing."

On Jan. 3, just three days after taking office, Whitmire ordered the city legal department to end all pending litigation against Houston firefighters and initiate negotiations with HPFFA's

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## Primary election results tallied

### Multiple key races head to May runoff election

The results from the March 5 primary elections have been tabulated, with few surprises.

While many of Tuesday's races were predictably won by the incumbents, one notable exception was the contest for the position of Harris County district attorney, in which two-term Democratic incumbent Kim Ogg was trounced by challenger Sean Teare for her party's nomination. A one-time employee of Ogg's in the DA's office, Teare received 75 percent of the vote to his former boss's 25 percent. In November's general election, Teare will go on to face Republican opponent Dan Simons, who ran unopposed in Tuesday's primary.

The DA race was hotly contested this year after Ogg ruffled many feathers in her own party last year when she criminally charged three of County Judge Lina Hidalgo's staffers for their alleged involvement in a bribery scheme, prompting Teare's well-funded campaign as a challenger. Confounding matters, Teare works for the law firm that represents Hidalgo's former chief of staff who was charged in the incident. While he is not directly involved in the case, Teare has said he sees no merit in it, despite it being independently investigated by the Texas Rangers. Teare had the support of both Hidalgo and Precinct 1 Commissioner Rodney Ellis in the race.

Conceding to Teare early into Tuesday evening, Ogg made headlines earlier in the day when she was unable to cast a ballot for herself in her own race after a polling mishap caused by Ogg's partner inadvertently voting under her name.

"In this instance, DA Ogg's partner must have not noticed that the information was not hers and proceeded to sign in under DA Ogg's name," Har-

ris County Clerk Teneshia Hudspeth said in a statement. "We believe this is the case because DA Ogg's partner signed her own name as confirmation."

Ogg was offered a provisional ballot but she declined, returning later in the day to cast her own ballot once the problem had been rectified.

In the race for Harris County Precinct 2 constable, Democratic incumbent Jerry Garcia will maintain his position, easily defeating party challenger David Garza. Garcia received 76 percent of the vote to Garza's 24 percent. No Republicans filed to enter the race.

Garcia's race was also controversial, as it too was openly opposed by a sitting county commissioner, this time Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia, who distributed multiple campaign flyers that showed a half-clothed constable draped in a Thin Blue Line flag.

In the contest for Harris County Precinct 2, Place 1 justice of the peace, Democratic incumbent Jo Ann Delgado will also keep her position after capably defeating her Democratic opponent Oscar Salazar Jr. Delgado received 71 percent of the vote to Salazar's 29 percent. No Republicans filed to run for the position.

In the 18th Congressional District race, Democratic incumbent U.S. Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee easily defeated challengers Amanda Edwards and Robert Slater for her party's nomination, receiving 60 percent of the vote. Edwards received 37 percent and Slater received 3 percent. Lee will face Republican opponent Lana Centonze in November's general election.

U.S. Rep. Sylvia Garcia (D), state Rep. Dennis Paul (R) and state Rep. Mary Ann Perez (D) all ran unopposed for their party's nomination.

## Historic lunar mission cut short

### Sideways landing hampered communications with Earth

A recent lunar mission associated with local company Intuitive Machines – the first of its kind in 50+ years – had to be cut short due to problems associated with the spacecraft's sideways landing, officials with the company and NASA announced at a press conference Tuesday, Feb. 27.

According to officials, the lander, named Odysseus, came in too fast for its landing, causing one of its six legs to catch the surface, causing it to tumble over. The spill caused the craft to land on its side, rather than upright as intended. Further, the awkward landing prevented the craft's antennas from facing the Earth and left the lander's solar panels closer to the surface than intended hampering communications.

Officials continued to collect data until the lander's power depleted Tuesday, about two-three days sooner than planned.

Despite the mission's technical difficulties, Intuitive Machines continued to release stunning photos of the mission, many reminiscent of the lunar landings of the 1960s.

Lunar missions have proven problematic for multiple countries, with Israel and Japan also both experiencing recent problems as well. Ironically, communications with a Japanese lander resumed unexpectedly this past week after having been discounted by researchers following another sideways landing.

NASA, which paid Intuitive Machines \$118 million to launch technical equipment aboard its craft, continued to collect data from the Odysseus through Wednesday, Feb. 28 – about two or three days earlier than hoped.

For additional information on the IM-1, Nova C mission, visit www.intuitivemachines.com/im-1.

## Temporary Scarsdale signal to alleviate expected traffic



A temporary traffic signal is being installed on Scarsdale at Bogey Way to alleviate added traffic that is expected due to a TxDOT bridge repair project on Country Club Drive at Clear Creek near FM 518/Broadway in Pearland. The temporary signal was installed at the request of Precinct 2 due to the anticipated traffic impact on the county road. At press time, it was unclear how long the bridge repair was expected to take to complete.

Photo by Marie Flickinger

# City, firefighters reach deal

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lawyer to resolve contract issues dating back to 2017.

"To say the last eight years have been an unrelenting nightmare for Houston firefighters, their families and Local 341 is an understatement," said Lantton.

"This accomplishment marks a significant step toward bringing closure and the start of rebuilding a fire department ravished by the inaction of the previous administration.

"There are no words to express what it means to be able to put the last eight years behind us."

## In My Opinion

### Brannen thankful for Hall of Honor

The J. Frank Dobie Hall of Honor ceremony on Feb. 23 was an outstanding event, and I am grateful to have been chosen as this year's faculty recipient. Thank you to all the people who congratulated me on my being inducted into this select group. I have been overwhelmed by all the nice comments from so many people. I have been touched to re-connect with Dobie students from as far back as 1968 when the school opened.

Thank you to all who came to the ceremony, especially those who came from out of state.

Everything about the event was perfect thanks to Lauren Calderaro, Dobie assistant principal who oversaw the event.

All of the activities were well-organized and meaningful. The culinary department provided tasty refreshments to end the festivities. An added bonus was the presentation of scholarship winners.

Teaching at Dobie was Utopian, and I will always be grateful I had the opportunity to teach so many smart, talented, athletic, students.

**Ann Brannen**

Editor's note: Contributions may be made to fund scholarship recipients to: Hall of Honor, c/o J. Frank Dobie High School, 10220 Blackhawk Blvd., Houston, TX 77089.

### Muecke seeks help for Berry Bayou

I need your help. I have been involved in the Berry Bayou upgrades for 18 years and now about to finish with the South Shaver detention pond off Hwy 3 and So Shaver.

I have lived in Freeway Manor, off Edgemoor for 64 years and experienced many floods. Several before me tried, but gave up or passed on. I stepped in by contacting then Commissioner Sylvia Garcia and also then State Representative Rick Noriega about our floods. Told them what needed to be done and start with meetings. They asked who, I told them and was told put the meeting together, let us know who and we will make sure they attend. I was mainly concerned with HCFCD ditch C-106-03 which flooded Edgemoor and many homes a number of times.

I was the Project Coordinator at the 9 meetings we held. Then Commissioner Morman attended and after asked who is all on your committee?

I said it is just I, but see the 60 people here tonight, they all know me and support me. He just said you run good meetings.

It ended up, two major ditches concrete lined, two small and now this large detention pond. About to finish. I have been contacting Commission Garcia and received a response to contact you.

I'M ASKING that the commissioner help us put a walking trail around pond #3. The form I was asked to fill out just does not meet how I operated.

So I would like you to use what I have written to get the Walking Trail added to Commissioner Garcia to do list. Walkers would really enjoy their walk and draw many. If need to we can either continue by email or by phone, my number is 713-946-1616. I have also contacted Ms Maria Bolanos, when completed lets have a big celebration as this has really helped reduce flooding and FEMA changed some area from AE to X. Millions of dollars spent. I hope to hear from you. Thanks

**James E. Muecke**  
Project Coordinator

### Gerald Maduzia



Gerald Maduzia, age 83, longtime resident of Beverly Hills, passed away peacefully Friday, March 1, 2024. He was born at Hermann Hospital in Houston, on Feb. 22, 1941, to John Bill and Dorothy Opal Zan Maduzia. Gerald graduated from St. Pius X High

School in 1960 and soon after enlisted in the United States Air Force where he served in the Air Force Security Services during the height of the Cold War until 1964. He began a 35-plus year career with Texaco in 1965, the majority of which was spent in information technology.

The greatest loves in his life were his beloved momma, Dorothy, and his beloved wife, Cheri, whom he devotedly loved without fail as well as his family, children and grandchildren. Pops or Paw Paw as he was affectionately known by his children and grandchildren had many interests and hobbies including history, photography (a camera was never far from his reach), fishing, gardening, grilling, working on his cars, home repairs, boxing and baseball (lifelong Astros fan). A fun, loving, kind and caring man, he never met a stranger

and had the best sense of humor. These and many other traits will live on through his children, grandchildren, extended family and friends.

Survivors include brother Johnny Maduzia and sister-in-law Jackie, sister-in-law Mary Maduzia, brother-in-law John Busic, sister-in-law Jo-Lynne Busic-Adams, children Geoffrey Maduzia and wife Valerie, Jeremy Maduzia and wife Vanessa, Mindy Gunn and husband Tim, grandchildren Hailey Maduzia, Peyton Maduzia, Matthew Maduzia, Luke Maduzia, Ryan Gunn and Evan Gunn as well as numerous cousins, nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his beloved wife Cheri Busic Maduzia; mother; father; sisters Dorothy Cross, Helen Maduzia, Martha Durham; brother Clifford Earl Maduzia; brother-in-law Jerry Busic; and sister-in-law Ronnie Busic.

# Deaths

A visitation for Gerald will be held Thursday, March 7, from 1 to 2 p.m. at Forest Park The Woodlands Funeral Home & Cemetery, 18000 Interstate 45 S., The Woodlands. A liturgy of the word will occur Thursday, March 7, from 2 to 3 p.m., at the same funeral home. A reception will occur Thursday, March 7, from 3 to 5 p.m., at Woodlands Funeral Home. Interment will occur at a later date.

The family would especially thank Gerald's caregiver, Connie Wagner, who cared for and loved on him the last three years. In lieu of flowers, the family asks friends to consider a donation in his memory to the Alzheimer's Association.

### Gwendolyn Cowley



Gwendolyn Irene Cowley, 85, was born on Sept. 20, 1938, in San Benito, and was called home to be with the Lord on Feb. 20 at home surrounded by her loving family.

Gwendolyn was a woman who embraced life with zest. She found joy in the simple pleasures:

- The delicate scent of yellow roses.

- The warmth of the Texas sun on her face.

- The laughter of loved ones gathered around the dinner table.

Her spirit was as vibrant as the lipstick she never left the house without a bold shade that matched her vivacity.

**The best peanut brittle**  
Gwendolyn was known for her culinary talents. Her peanut brittle was legendary—crunchy, sweet and utterly irresistible. Friends and family eagerly awaited each batch, savoring the delightful combination of flavors. It was, without a doubt, the best peanut brittle anyone had ever tasted.

**A fond farewell**  
As one bids farewell to Gwendolyn, a life well-lived, a heart well-loved and a soul that touched everyone fortunate enough to know her will be celebrated. May her memory continue to bloom like the yellow roses she adored.

Gwendolyn leaves behind to cherish and treasure her memories son, Daniel Smith and spouse Brande; daughter, Tanya Cowley; stepdaughter, Sandy Klepac; and spouse Fred Klepac; stepson, Loyd (Randy) Cowley and wife Marianne Cowley; grandchildren, Sierra Tuttoilmondo and spouse Clint, Karina Saenz and spouse Edward, Sylvia Rincon and spouse Edi, Lisa Routon, Joey Klepac, Tucker Kyle, Alice Parnell, Meghan Scott, Wyatt Parnee, Briley Scott and Carter Kyle; and six great-grandchildren, Skyler Tuttoilmondo, Trinity Tuttoilmondo, Elijah Rincon, Asher Saenz, Ezra Rincon and Malachai Saenz. Funeral services were held March 2 with interment at South Park Cemetery.

Rest in peace, Gwendolyn. The legacy lives on in the hearts of loving ones.

### Beverly Ann Williams

On Feb. 14, Beverly Ann Williams, beloved wife, sister, aunt, friend and devoted servant of the Lord, passed away in the Cottages at Clear Lake after a long courageous fight with Alzheimer's. Beverly was born in Terre Haute, to her mother, Helen Louise Atkinson, and father Robert Atkinson. The family moved to Texas as City in the early 60s where Beverly graduated from Texas City High in 1965.

After agreeing to take a government typing test, just to get out of high school for a day, Beverly did so well she was offered a secretarial position with NASA at the Johnson Space Center. Her first job was at Ellington Field where she typed draft deferments for newly hired engineers.

Whatever job she was given, Beverly did it with zeal and pride. She was especially proud of working with the scientists from the NASA Lunar Receiving Lab where she typed all the transfer paperwork necessary to send samples of the Apollo moon rocks around the world to researchers.

She also enjoyed a short, three-year stint in Las Cruces at the White Sands Test Facility in 1978 because she believed the climate would be better for her asthma. This is where she first met the future love of her life, Ronald Williams.

She moved back to JSC in 1981 to building 17 into a division that was dissolved after two years. In 1983, Beverly transferred to the planning office of the Center Operation Directorate's Facility Engineering Division as a secretary and administrative assistant.

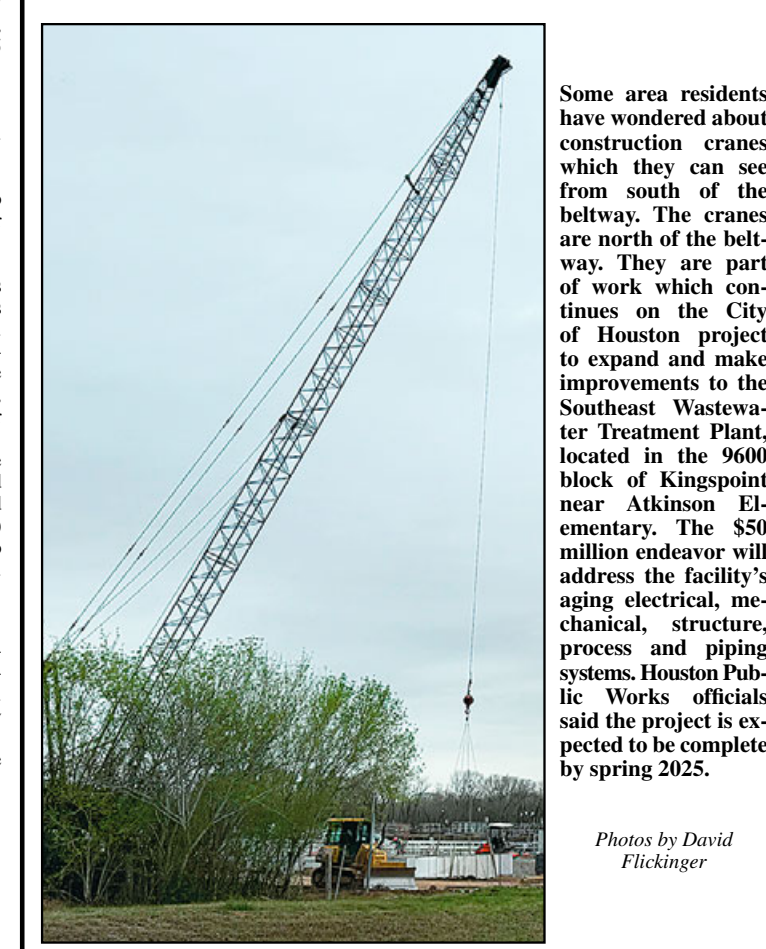
From there, Beverly worked her way up the ladder to the high GS-11 position of program analyst in the Office of Procurement, where she managed millions of dollars of construction funds. After an illustrious 38 years, Beverly retired from NASA on April 1, 2005.

When Beverly joined the Facility Engineering Division, she found that she was in the same organization as Ronald. After 12 years of being friends, sport teammates and confidants, Beverly and Ronald finally realized they were made for each other and got married on July 15, 1995. They were happily married for 28 years before the Lord called Beverly home.

## City sewage projects underway



Multiple major City of Houston wastewater projects are currently underway in the South Belt community. A force main project to divert flow from the Sagemont Lift Station near Sageglen and Sagedowne to the Southeast Wastewater Treatment Plant on Kingspoint is underway with an expected completion date of spring 2025. The \$23 million endeavor is responsible for partial closures of both Sageglen and Sagedowne streets, shown above.



Some area residents have wondered about construction cranes which they can see from south of the beltway. The cranes are north of the beltway. They are part of work which continues on the City of Houston project to expand and make improvements to the Southeast Wastewater Treatment Plant, located in the 9600 block of Kingspoint near Atkinson Elementary. The \$50 million endeavor will address the facility's aging electrical, mechanical, structure, process and piping systems. Houston Public Works officials said the project is expected to be complete by spring 2025.

Photos by David Flickinger

## Harris County Appraisal District mails property rendition forms

The Harris Central Appraisal District has begun the process of mailing personal property rendition forms to businesses known to have been operating in Harris County during 2023.

The appraisal district will continue offering its free rendition workshop sessions to help business owners complete the required personal property rendition forms before the April 15 filing deadline.

The district will conduct eight workshops between March 6 and April 15, four online virtual workshops and four in-person workshops at the appraisal district office. Registration is now open at [www.hcad.org](http://www.hcad.org) > Online Services > Rendition Workshops, with virtual and in-person workshop dates listed. No registration is needed for the in-person workshops.

Participants can sign up for an available 30-minute time slot to meet individually with appraisal district staff who will answer questions and provide one-on-one help completing the form. There is no charge to attend.

For those who own tangible personal property used to produce income, they must file a rendition with the Harris Central Appraisal District by April 15. A rendition is a report that lists all taxable personal property one owned or controlled on Jan. 1 of this year. Business personal property includes inventory and equipment used by a business such as furniture and fixtures, supplies, raw materials and business vehicles, vessels and aircraft.

"Those who attend these workshops will consult individually with appraisal district staff who will explain personal property taxation and rendition requirements, as well as answer questions about completing the rendition forms," said Roland Altinger, chief appraiser.

"These sessions have been very successful in the past and have helped business owners complete their renditions on the spot."

All business owners are required to file renditions whether or not they have received no-

tification. Businesses that fail to render or that render late are subject to a 10 percent tax penalty. Filing a fraudulent rendition carries a 50 percent penalty if found guilty.

State law permits business owners to obtain an automatic extension of the filing requirement by submitting a request in writing by the April 15 filing deadline. The extended deadline for such businesses would then be May 15.

For new businesses, or those that have not received a rendition, a rendition form is available on the appraisal district's website at [www.hcad.org](http://www.hcad.org) under the "Forms" tab along with information on the rules of the process or on the rendition workshops sign up page mentioned above.

Business owners with questions about the rendition requirements are encouraged to attend any of the workshop sessions. Contact the appraisal district's Information Center at 713-957-7800 or by a web form available at [www.hcad.org](http://www.hcad.org) > about > contact us > questions > information.

## 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://houstonlibrary.org/>. For online learning, visit <https://houstonlibrary.org/online-learning-7556> or call 832-393-2580. Hours are Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Wednesdays, noon - 8 p.m.; Fridays, 1 - 5 p.m.; and Saturdays, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Bracewell is closed Sundays.

Thursday, March 7, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. Family story time.

Thursday, March 7, 3 - 4 p.m. Open Lap - computer class. Registration required.

Monday, March 11, 11 a.m. - noon. Open Lap - computer class. Registration required.

Visit <https://houstonlibrary.libcal.com/calendar/events> for more library events.

### Book drop

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

### 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](http://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](http://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. Visit <https://www.hcpl.net/reopening> for reopening information or the main website at <https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library>. The library will follow state and county guidelines for mask and social distancing.

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

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

- Thursday, March 7, 10 - 11:30 a.m. Conversation club.
- Thursday, March 7, 2 - 4 p.m. Tech help.
- Friday, March 8, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. AARP Tax aid.
- Friday, March 8, 1 - 2 p.m. Genealogy.
- Monday, March 11, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. AARP Tax aid.
- Monday, March 11, 11:15 - 11:45 a.m. Family story time.
- Monday, March 11, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Silent book club.
- Tuesday, March 12, 10:15 - 10:45 a.m. Babies and books.
- Tuesday, March 12, 1 - 2 p.m. Citizenship 101.
- Wednesday, March 13, noon - 1 p.m. Community craft: Popsicle wall art.
- Wednesday, March 13, 2 - 3 p.m. Pop culture club.
- Wednesday, March 13, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Tai Chi.

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## South Belt-Ellington Leader

The Voice of Community-Minded People

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Davy & Marie Flickinger, owners

grandchildren participated and never missed the opportunity to support them. His grandchildren brought him immense joy and he loved spending time with them.

Rene enjoyed fishing, hosting big barbecues and hunting. A sports fanatic, he enjoyed watching his beloved Dallas Cowboys, the Houston Astros, the Houston Rockets and the University of Houston Cougars. Rene and Mary spent many nights watching games together. He had a great sense of humor and was known for his jokes and storytelling.

Rene is preceded in death by parents; brothers Silvano Flores and Ruben Flores; and sister, Aida Cano.

He is survived by his wife daughter Melissa and spouse Jeremy Tidwell and daughter Christina and spouse Terry Shaffer; his grandchildren, Rebecca Shaffer, Daniel Shaffer, and Ray Tidwell; and his brother, Manuel Flores. He is also survived by many other nieces, nephews and other loved family members.

A funeral mass will be on Saturday, March 16, at 11 a.m. at St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church, where he was a longtime parishioner. Interment will be held at a later date at Houston National Cemetery, where his military service and honorable life will be recognized.

### Morris Lee Murphy



Morris Lee Murphy, 83, of Houston, passed away on Thursday, Feb. 22. He was one of four children born to Ina Loftin Murphy and Levi Murphy on June 26, 1940, in Shepard. In 1950 his family moved to Livingston, and while attending Providence Baptist Church he came to know the Lord at the age of 10.

He attended Livingston High School where he was a member of the FFA, student council and was in the high school band where he played the baritone.

Graduating from high school in 1958, he enlisted in the military. He proudly served in the United States Air Force from 1958 to 1963. While in the service he was sent to Syracuse University where he learned to speak and interpret Russian. He was assigned to an intelligence unit and was stationed in Germany at the Berlin Wall. After his honorable discharge from the service, he moved to Houston and started work at Southwestern Bell/AT&T. After 37 years of work, he retired in May 2000.

He married the love of his life, Stella Gassiot, of Livingston, on Feb. 6, 1965. After settling in the South Belt area, they welcomed two daughters and enjoyed taking family vacations, spending time with friends and attending church. He had many hobbies, but his favorite was playing golf. In addition to being a proud father, he was also a proud grandfather to three grandchildren.

Morris is survived by daughters, Laura Murphy and Deberah Patterson; son-in-law Patrick Patterson; grandson, Brandon Patterson; granddaughters, Ashley and Caitlyn Patterson all from Houston; and sisters, Barbara Gage, of Spring and Betty Overstreet, of Livingston. He also is survived by many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his wife; his parents; and his stepfather, George Cherry, of Livingston.

A visitation is scheduled for Friday, March 8, from 6 to 8 p.m. The funeral is scheduled for March 9, at 3 p.m. at Peevey Funeral Home, 12440 Beamer Road.

All are welcome to attend and celebrate Morris' life. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Sagemont Church, Retssyn dome.org or MDAnderson Cancer Center.

### Rene Efrain Flores



Rene Efrain Flores, 80, of Pearland, went home to be with his heavenly father on Feb. 20. He was the youngest of five children born to Manuel and Faustina Flores on Aug. 25, 1943, in Mission.

He attended Raymondville High School in Raymondville. Upon graduation from high school in 1961, he enlisted in the military and proudly served in the United States Air Force from 1961-1965.

He married the love of his life, Mary Marroquin, Aug. 7, 1965, in Lasara. Their journey of love and partnership lasted 58 wonderful years. After settling in the Houston area, they welcomed two daughters and made a life filled with family and friends that brought them much happiness.

He loved taking his family on summer vacations, especially to the beautiful national parks the nation has to offer.

While raising his family, he worked at Schlumberger for 27 years. After retirement from Schlumberger, he worked for the Harris County Toll Authority.

In addition to being a proud father, Rene loved being a grandfather. One of his favorite roles he played in his life was being "Huelito" to his three grandchildren. He kept up with all the events in which his

## Leader obituary policy

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

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## PISD recognizes area principals

Continued from Page 1

for success. Throughout her career she has worked on developing this set of beliefs in her school community. The consistent focus on this vision, along with refinement of systematic processes focused on school growth, strengthened her campus teams and ensured equitable learner outcomes for all students.

During her tenure at Morris Middle School, Lewallen has been instrumental in fostering a collaborative environment that strongly emphasizes every student's holistic development and every staff member's unique value. Under her leadership Morris Middle School has been recognized as a Model Professional Learning Community (PLC) at Work Campus through innovative scheduling, a focus on professional development and the establishment of a cohesive staff.

Believing that character-building is an ongoing process rather than a final destination, Lewallen actively promotes virtues among her students through engaging community building activities, initiatives to boost school spirit and encouraging a sense of ownership and belonging within the school community.

Her campus efforts around teaching students social and emotional skills, has created a sense of belonging, and led to a continuous increase in positive behavior and provided student voice in various clubs and activities.

**Jorly Thomas, Dobbie High School**

Drawing on 25 years of education expertise, Thomas challenges the notion that talent is fixed. Instead, he emphasizes deliberate practice, feedback and continuous learning to unlock one's full potential. By nurturing curiosity and character skills, he positively impacts students' lives.

Thomas's educational journey began as a history teacher at North Shore High School in 1998. He later transitioned to a counselor at Spring ISD, where he worked with teenage fathers.

His career progressed to Lake Olympia Middle School in Fort Bend ISD, followed by roles as assistant principal at Beverly Hills Intermediate and J. Frank Dobbie High School before assuming the principalship of Fred Roberts Middle School. Gifted with the opportunity to build the school from the ground up, he established a foundation of trust, courage and empathy, shaping the school's culture and staff recruitment.

Guided by Thomas, Roberts Middle School earned recognition as a 2020 Texas Schools to Watch Campus for its academic achievements and improvement efforts. Roberts Middle School has earned several academic distinctions in student progress and growth under his guidance. His mentorship has propelled six of his administrative team members into principal and district leadership positions within Pasadena ISD.

Returning to Dobbie High

School as principal, Thomas continues championing excellence in Pasadena ISD. In addition to his educational leadership, he completed a doctorate in education in 2023. As a staunch advocate for public education, he participated in the Raise Your Hand Principals Advocacy Fellowship to advocate for Texas public schools. Thomas is committed to fostering a compassionate and nurturing environment in every school setting.

Proudly, Thomas writes a lesson of leadership, student behavior or self-improvement every weekend, a practice he has maintained for the last 10 years.

His passion lies in creating a culture of continuous learning and improvement.

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## Laura Bush students advance to PISD Science Fair



Laura Bush Elementary students are advancing to the Pasadena Independent School District Science Fair on March 19. Displaying their medals, left to right, are Adriel Velazquez, Mario Moreno, Santiago Garza (fourth-graders), Benjamin Varner and Anthony Contreras (third-graders).

## South Belt Steers celebrate Go Texan

First-graders from Anh Ton's class at South Belt Elementary dressed up in their western wear to show support for Go Texan days and the livestock show and rodeo. Shown left to right are El-Jireh Udamah, Christopher Herrera, Ayvah Rios, Abby Hernandez and Eli Sutton.



## CCISD Education Foundation seeks nominees for 2024 citizens

Nominations are now being accepted for annual awards for the 2024 Citizen of the Year, George B. Carlisle Distinguished Service, Distinguished Clear Creek Independent School District (CCISD) Alumni, Valor Award and Dennis Johnson Memorial Small Business Award.

Recipients are selected by the Clear Creek Education Foundation. The Citizen of the Year Award is given to honor an outstanding community member for their support of CCISD programs and activities. The nominees must have demonstrated a commitment to CCISD through volunteer efforts; contributed in ways that have benefited the entirety of CCISD; maintained a reputation across the CCISD community as an individual with high standards and dedication to excellence in public education; and voluntarily served the district, its students and patrons over an extended period of time.

The George B. Carlisle Distinguished Service Award is the highest award the foundation gives to a community member. The nominee must have made exceptional contributions to excellence in education; exemplifies public service and has served the district, the students, and patrons over an extended period of time.

The Distinguished Alumni Award is presented to a CCISD graduate who has excelled in their chosen profession and has made a significant contribution to their community. One grad-

from each high school can be honored each year. The Dennis Johnson Memorial Small Business Award, created in 2013, is the award the Clear Creek Education Foundation awards to a small business or franchise in recognition of its owner's exceptional contributions that have benefited the CCISD. Nominees should be widely known as a community leader dedicated to excellence in education and should have served the district, the students and families for a lengthy amount of time.

The Valor Award is awarded to an individual, living or deceased, that through actions demonstrated unselfishness, dedication to protect others and has sacrificed for the well-being of others. The nominee must have made exceptional contributions that have benefited the Clear Creek Independent School District, is widely known as a community leader dedicated to excellence in education, and has served the district, the students and families for a lengthy period of time. This award can be awarded posthumously.

Last year recipients included Jill Reason for the George B. Carlisle Distinguished Service Award. The distinguished Alumni Award is presented to individuals who are CCISD alumni and are now accomplished professionals who support their community. These individuals include Brian Freedman, Clear Lake High School, 2000; Dr. Jeremy Holzabach, Clear Brook High School, 2002; Connor Tomkies, Clear Springs High

School, 2011; and Ross Wycoff, Clear Creek High School, 2003. Misty Ryan received the Valor Award; Carl Joiner received the Dennis Johnson Memorial Small Business Award. The 2023 CCISD Citizen of the Year was Dr. Laura Dupont. Nomination forms may be found on the Education Foundation website [www.ClearCreekEducation.com](http://www.ClearCreekEducation.com). The George B. Carlisle Distinguished Service Award is the

highest award the foundation gives to a community member. The nominee must have made exceptional contributions that have benefited the Clear Creek Independent School District; is widely known as a community leader dedicated to excellence in education; exemplifies public service, and has served the district, the students, and patrons over an extended period of time.

All nominations must be submitted by May 1. Nominations may be mailed to the Clear Education Foundation, P.O. Box 1631, League City, TX 77574 or emailed to [CCEF@ccisd.net](mailto:CCEF@ccisd.net). Awards will be presented at the Education Foundation Annual Awards Dinner on Saturday, Aug. 24 at the Lone Star Flight Museum.

### Coffee with the Constable

Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia will be at Donut Haven, 10802 Hughes, from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. each Thursday as part of the weekly Coffee with the Constable series. The next event will be Thursday, March 7, with another event happening the following Thursday, March 14. For more information, call Sagemont Civic Club President Kay Barbour at 713-419-3545.

## CBHS speech, debate advances to TFA State



Members of the Clear Brook Wolverines speech and debate team celebrate members advancing to the TFA State later this March. Shown above are (front row, left to right, Greg Stuart, Simran Lama, Maja Majid, Oaswa Khan, Ariella Calili, (back row) Khang Ngo, Gabe Torres, Stephen Wiggins, Isabelle Wills, Ayla Yoakum and Emily Joseph. Not pictured are Elaina Joseph and Misbah Aziz.

## Greg Stewart qualifies for nationals



Greg Stuart became the first member of the Clear Brook Wolverine speech and debate team to qualify for the Nationals to be held in West Des Moines in June. Shown above are (front row) Ariella Calili, senior, who advanced to the semifinal bracket; Isabelle Wills, senior, who walked away as the third alternative in Original Oratory; (back row) Greg Stuart, junior, who qualified for the national tournament and placed third overall in U.S. Extemporaneous Speaking; and Emily Joseph, sophomore, who ranked fourth overall.

# Remember When

### 45 years ago (1979)

Two South Belt area youths survived a harrowing speeding and shooting incident which resulted in the firing of one Harris County Sheriff's officer and the suspension of another.

The Dobbie tracksters set two records and placed at least one athlete in the top four in all but three of 18 events at the Brown Relays.

### 40 years ago (1984)

Clear Creek Independent School District trustees approved a recommendation to revise the grading system so that no grade below 70 would be passing.

The new officers of the Scarsdale Civic Association cracked down on deed restriction violations.

### 35 years ago (1989)

Six law enforcement agencies chased a suspect from South Belt to Texas City to Dickinson, traveling much of the way on the wrong side of the I-45 feeder road.

Dobbie High School's Academic Decathlon team finished 14th of 40 schools at the state competition in Austin.

### 30 years ago (1994)

A year of controversy surrounding the activities of Dobbie High School baseball coach Bruce Marshall came to an abrupt end when Marshall was relieved of his coaching duties by principal Jerry Speer.

San Jacinto College South's debate team came away from the 17th annual Barbara Jordan Invitational Tournament with several awards, including a sweepstakes trophy and the third-place debate trophy.

### 25 years ago (1999)

Officer David Criswell of South Belt received the Houston Police Department's Meritorious Service Award.

Dr. Joseph Kirkland joined San Jacinto College South as dean of instruction.

20 years ago (2004)

City Councilmember Addie Wiseman made some complimentary comments about Mayor Bill White during her speech at a Sagemont Civic Club meeting.

Service was restored to about 500 local homes and businesses which were without phone lines for at least a day

because a contractor working to repair a water leak cut an SBC cable.

Pasadena Independent School District's wetlands mitigation project for the new Dobbie High School was creating tension between PISD and Harris County Precinct 1.

In the Democratic Party primary election, incumbent Judge Jo Ann Delgado received 59 percent of the votes for justice of the peace Precinct 2, place 1, beating Sandra Woodard.

### 15 years ago (2009)

The body of former South Belt resident Susana De Jesus was found in the early morning in a tractor trailer near Reliant Stadium. Police were led to the body after questioning Nicholas-Michael Edwin Jean, who was arrested by authorities following a daylong man-

hunt after an attempted carjacking in Pearland that forced the closure of Magnolia Elementary and the lockdown of two other schools in the area.

State Sen. Mike Jackson introduced a bill that, if approved, would make Pearland part of San Jacinto College's service area. The action took place just hours after the Pearland Independent School District board unanimously passed a resolution in favor of the proposal.

City of Houston officials cut off all utilities at the Alameda Chateau apartments, located at 10802 Kingspoint, due to unsafe living conditions at the complex. The Public Works Department had recently disconnected the water at the complex because the owner, David Wise of San Diego, owed more than

\$80,000 in back water bills. Wise later paid the majority of the delinquent bills, but other conditions, such as faulty electrical wiring, mold and structural problems made the complex uninhabitable.

### 10 years ago (2014)

Harris County Justice of the Peace Jo Ann Delgado ruled on March 12, that the two pit bulls responsible for attacking Monica Garza on the South Belt Hike and Bike Trail the previous week be euthanized.

The 16-year-old mother accused of placing her newborn baby in a Windmill Lakes dumpster the previous month was arrested. The unnamed juvenile was charged March 6 with abandoning her child without intent to return, a second-degree felony under Texas law.

### 5 years ago (2019)

Christina Morales easily defeated Melissa Noriega in the March 5 special runoff election to select the state representative for House District 145. In the contest, which was to fill the seat being vacated by Rep. Carol Alvarado, Morales received 60.76 percent of the vote to Noriega's 39.24 percent. The race marked the latest in a string of elections triggered by former U.S. Rep. Gene Green's retirement from Congress the previous year.

Former state Sen. Sylvia Garcia won the race for Green's seat, leaving her state Senate seat vacant. Alvarado then claimed Garcia's former position in December, prompting a special election for her seat in the state House. Morales is the president of a Houston area East End funeral home.

The Pasadena Independent School District Police Department determined a social media rumor about a Beverly Hills Intermediate student planning to shoot up the school was a hoax. Beverly Hills Principal Stacey Barber told the *Leader* the rumors were 100 percent false and that the student in question is a model pupil with no disciplinary problems.

**1 year ago (2023)**  
This past week, Dobbie High School officials reported that a social media threat was made online against the school and that a glitch in the campus's new PA system caused an unplanned lockdown drill.  
Campus officials stressed in a letter to parents the two incidents were unrelated. The letter further stressed the need for students to speak out if they are aware of any potential threats to the school and the severity

of such crimes.  
Two Precinct 2 lieutenants with strong ties to the South Belt community were promoted to captain Monday, March 6, during a ceremony held by Constable Jerry Garcia.  
Capt. Zerick Guinn has served Harris County for 27 years. He's spent a total of 19 years with the Precinct 2 constable's office and served as the contract sergeant over the South Belt community from 2005 to 2012.  
Capt. Michael Kritzler has served Harris County for the last 18 years, with a total of 19 years in law enforcement. Kritzler has spent almost nine years total with the Precinct 2 constable's office, including serving as the contract sergeant over the South Belt from 2012 to 2016.  
This past week marked the first time in 10 weeks any COVID-related deaths were reported in the immediate South Belt community.

## Over The Back Fence by Natalie

### SIBLINGS CELEBRATE SAME BIRTHDAY

Special birthday hugs are sent to Robert "Austin" Scarberry (2007 Dobbie grad) Thursday, 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 Dobbie 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 Dobbie grad); sister Stacey (Hayes) Flowers (2005 Dobbie grad), husband Stephen and children Kennedy, Owen and Evie; and brother Tyler Scarberry (2010 Dobbie grad).

### ROBERT MARKS A BIRTHDAY

Robert Scarberry, retired longtime Dobbie auto collision repair teacher and former longtime South Belt resident, celebrates his birthday Saturday, March 9. Birthday wishes are sent from wife Jannie; children Jenny (Hayes) Laney and husband Josh, Joseph Hayes, Stacey (Hayes) Flowers and husband Stephen, Austin Scarberry and Tyler Scarberry; and grandchildren Brayden and Baylee Espinosa, Olivia Moreno, Jade and Lily Scarberry, and Kennedy, Owen and Evie Flowers.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY, DIDDY!

Diddy Clark celebrates a birthday Saturday, March 9. Best wishes are sent for a wonderful day from her family, friends and co-workers at the *Leader*.

### EVIE TURNSTEN!

Stacey (Hayes) and Stephen Flowers of League City celebrate the tenth birthday of their daughter, Evelyn "Evie" Faith Flowers, on Saturday, March 11. Proud grandparents are Jannie and Robert Scarberry, former longtime South Belt residents, and Karen and Mike Flowers of Dickinson. Sharing in the celebration are big sister Kennedy; big brother Owen; aunt Jenny (Hayes) Laney Scarberry; uncles Joseph Hayes and Austin and Tyler Scarberry; and cousins Brayden and Baylee Espinosa, Olivia Moreno and Jade and Lily Scarberry. Stacey is a 2005 Dobbie High School graduate.

### SCHOOL DAZE

The following personnel and staff of the South Belt Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays March 7 through March 13.

**Atkinson Elementary**  
Sing a verse of a happy birthday song March 11 to Donna Koonce.

**Frazier Elementary**  
Birthday greetings go out to Mary Noyola on March 13.

**Hancock Elementary**  
Blow out the candles March 7 for Lilly Cortez.

**Meador Elementary**  
Remember to wish Hannah Schaper a happy birthday March 11. Bring out the party favors and balloons for Marissa Nevarez March 13.

**Moore Elementary**  
On March 8, birthday wishes are sent

to Voncille Taylor. The day for a party for Guadalupe Hudson is March 9.

**Fred Roberts Middle School**  
Enjoying a special birthday March 10 is Alexis Gonzalez Hernandez.

**Thompson Intermediate**  
Birthday wishes go out to Elias Noguera March 7. Light the birthday candles March 9 for Alexandra Alvarado and Stephanie Paulin. Give a birthday shoutout March 12 to Elida Torres.

**Dobbie High**  
Celebrating a happy birthday March 7 is Heather Adams. Adrian Amador and Sandra Rodriguez share a birthday March 12.

### FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS

Thursday, March 7: Amber McMurrough, Susan Metger and Christopher Kennard; Friday, March 8: Diana Vela, Matt Anderson, Michelle Fuller and Mark Solis; Saturday, March 9: Cheryl Stell, Rudy Rivera, Leah Lister, Lance Botkin, Susan Zientek, Monte Long and Bo Richards; Sunday, March 10: Jim Daigle and Sheila Dill; Monday, March 11: Raquel Loya, Michael Martinez, Jesus Romero and Irma Manriquez; Tuesday, March 12: Debbie Clark, Maria Rojas, Debbie Johnson and Heather Murphy Burris; and Wednesday, March 13: Matthew Hanks, Heidi Delk, Shane Terry, Sharon Jobe, Max Hernandez and Becky Gilley.

### LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS

Email announcements to [mynews@southbeltleader.com](mailto:mynews@southbeltleader.com) with OTBF in the subject line or "OTBF: Friends Celebrate Birthdays" for a birthday by Friday noon for the next week's issue.

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# SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

## Longhorns win 10th straight 22-6A soccer championship



Alex Escobar (8) has used a run of goals of late to get to a team-leading 10 for the season as he and his teammates now shift their focus to the postseason. The 6A bidistrict round is slated to begin March 18-19. Dobie, a Region III finalist a season ago, will host the fourth seed out of District 21-6A.

**By John Bechtle**  
Sports Editor

Ten consecutive District 22-6A championships dating back to 2015. A league record of 112-7-16 over that span.

There is no disputing the idea that the Dobie boys' soccer program has been one of the state's best under the guidance of head coach Justo Manrique, now in his 11th season with the Longhorns.

Manrique warns that the streak of district championships will not last forever, but that time is not now.

With a 2-1 win over the Sam Rayburn Texans March 2 at Rayburn, the Longhorns clinched the program's 10th straight league crown and will begin the postseason later this month.

Kevin Dominguez assisted on both goals

from Alex Escobar as the Longhorns took down the Texans for their seventh straight win overall in getting to 10-1-0 in league play for 30 points.

Deer Park, Channelview and Rayburn are likely also headed to the postseason, with order of finish yet to be decided.

Escobar has used a late-season push to get to a team-leading 10 goals, while Dominguez has a team-best 11 assists.

Dobie won four playoff matches in 2023 to reach the Region III final against Seven Lakes. It remains to be seen just what is in store for these Longhorns in the postseason, but they cannot be discounted.

Taking their most rewarding win of the regular season, the Longhorns punished Channelview 4-0 Feb. 28 at Dobie, getting two goals from Escobar

and two assists from J.P. Rodriguez as well as a 10th overall shutout.

Coming away with a poor taste in their mouths for several reasons following a 2-1 loss against the Falcons in Channelview Feb. 2, the Longhorns responded with five straight wins heading into the rematch, then cruised past the Falcons to get within a single point of that 10th straight league title.

In addition to the work from Escobar and Rodriguez, the Longhorns also celebrated goals from Aleman and Arias as well as assists from Campero and Dominguez, the team leader with nine.

After closing out the regular season at home against South Houston March 5 after press time, the 22-6A champions will play at Klein Forest March 15 in a postseason tuneup.



Dobie varsity boys' soccer head coach Justo Manrique leads one of the state's most successful programs in the sport. The varsity squad now has won 10 straight 22-6A championships.

Photos by Gloria Wallace

## Dobie baseball sweeps past Pasadena ISD field

Defending District 22-6A varsity baseball champion Dobie is again set to ride its outstanding pitching staff into the all-important opening league series against Deer Park March 12 and March 14, with the Longhorns coming off a dominant series of games at the Pasadena ISD Invitational.

Abraham Martinez went five frames in a five-inning no-hitter gem over Galena Park Feb. 29

Continued on Page 6



At right, Junior Orozco has been just one of several offensive catalysts through two weeks as the Dobie varsity baseball team is out to a fast start. Following the Gary Herrington Classic March 7-9 in Baytown, the Longhorns will open District 22-6A play with a huge two-game set against the Deer Park Deer March 12 and March 14.

Photo by Gloria Wallace

## 22-6A Boys' Soccer Standings

| Teams       | W  | L | T | Pts. |
|-------------|----|---|---|------|
| Dobie       | 10 | 1 | 0 | 30   |
| Deer Park   | 6  | 3 | 1 | 19   |
| Channelview | 5  | 3 | 2 | 17   |
| Rayburn     | 4  | 2 | 4 | 16   |
| S. Houston  | 4  | 5 | 1 | 13   |
| Pasadena    | 2  | 7 | 1 | 7    |
| Memorial    | 0  | 9 | 1 | 1    |

## Longhorn softball focused on 22-6A

The Dobie varsity softball team has now shifted its sole focus on the race to the postseason with the tournament portion of the schedule now complete.

A 7-6 loss to host La-

mar Consolidated March 2 left the Longhorns with a pair of wins in four games, with the locals at 8-10 overall.

The locals did return to the Pasadena ISD Complex March 1, getting a 17-0 win over Pasadena to get to 1-1 in league play. Dobie, which went against Memorial March 5 after press time, will host Channelview March 8 at Dobie main. First pitch is at 4 p.m.

Against Pasadena, the Longhorns scored 11 first-inning runs and went on to close out the win in five innings over the Eagles.

Freshman Alexis Martinez had two hits, drove in three runs and scored twice in the game.

Khloe Coronado, also a freshman, scored a run and knocked in two runs, while sophomore Chloe Nunez knocked in a pair of runs and scored another as Dobie coasted to the win. See related photos on Page 6.

## Brook relay sets Bluebonnet record



Clear Brook came up with a meet record of 3 minutes, 33.58 seconds in the mixed 4x400 relay at the Texas A&M University-hosted Bluebonnet Invitational March 1 in College Station as, left to right, (front row) Jaylon Owens, Azayla Smith, (back row) Joshua Shelton and Jizzela Davis combined to win the event. Featuring more than 100 high school programs, the TAMU meet is one of the state's largest of the regular season. Individually, Shelton made the 400 final, where his time of 48.49 was good for fourth place. At 10.66, Owens grabbed a bronze medal in the 200 with a personal record of 21.06 and placed eighth in the 100 final in a time of 10.66. Smith was in at 57.56 for 23rd in the 400.

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## Gary Herrington Baseball March 7-9, Goose Creek ISD

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>JFD vs. Kingwood Park</b><br>March 7, noon<br>at Goose Creek Memorial | <b>CB vs. G.C. Memorial</b><br>March 7, 9:30 am.<br>at Goose Creek Memorial |
| <b>JFD vs. Pearland</b><br>March 8, 2:30 p.m.<br>at Barbers Hill         | <b>CB vs. Northbrook</b><br>March 8, 9:30 a.m.<br>at Baytown Lee            |
| <b>JFD vs. Barbers Hill</b><br>March 8, 7:15 p.m.<br>at Barbers Hill     | <b>CB vs. Texas City</b><br>March 8, 2:30 p.m.<br>at Baytown Lee            |
| <b>JFD vs. Manfield</b><br>March 9, 10 a.m.<br>at Baytown Lee            | <b>CB vs. Splendora</b><br>March 9, 10 a.m.<br>at Barbers Hill              |



Elisio Molina has added to an already deep pitching staff with solid performances for the Longhorns at the Laredo Border Olympics and the Pasadena ISD Invitational. Dobie went 4-0 at the PISD event.



Dobie's Kevin Pino (18) rounds third base to score a run against Galena Park as the Longhorns went on to go unbeaten at the Feb. 29 through March 2 Pasadena ISD tournament. The Longhorns start 22-6A play at Deer Park March 12.

## Brook hoops' McLaurin recognized among District 24-6A's top players

Clear Brook junior Kamryn McLaurin scored top honors within the District 24-6A varsity girls' basketball ranks as she was named Defensive Player of the Year for the second straight season. McLaurin and teammates including Kim Hingle and Isabella Robbins were also first team All-District picks within the 24-6A ranks. Second-team selections included Galicia Bernard and Katelin Seymore. Senior Kasey Oliver was also an honorable mention selection. The Wolverines also had eight players honored for their outstanding work in the classroom, thus landing on the All-Academic Team within the league. Those players included Rezia Castillo, Jasmine Flores, Ryliegh Hackman, Hingle, McLaurin, Robbins and Seymore and Vy Vo.

## Vu, Hang win girls' doubles



Dobie freshmen Angelina Vu (left) and Vivian Hang came up big at the Longhorns' subvarsity event late last month, ultimately winning the consolation bracket of the girls' A doubles division.

## Dobie baseball strings wins together in tournament play

**Continued from Page 5**  
The Longhorns won 4-0. A day later, left-hander Aiden Sanchez tossed a six-inning no-hitter in a 5-1 win over Dickinson. Overall, Dobie went unbeaten at 4-0 in the three-day event and stood at 8-2-1 through week-two tournament play. Sophomores Cruz Torres and Aiden Sanchez handled the bulk of the starting pitching duties in 2023 as the Longhorns used an 11-game winning

streak in 22-6A play to win the championship at 11-1. Dobie has marked the opening series against the Deer as key to a repeat title bid, with the Deer hosting the March 12 opener at 7 p.m. The home-and-home series then shifts to Dobie main March 14, with a special 11 a.m. spring break start set. Torres and Sanchez, both juniors, have thrown the ball exceptionally well early on this season, and head coach Miguel Torres

no doubt knows he can also count on Martinez, Austin Gonzalez and others. Dobie opened the PISD tournament Feb. 29 with a 2-0 win over Heights as Gonzalez was efficient on the mound while earning his first win of the season. In the 4-0 win over Galena Park, Martinez fanned two during his five-inning no-hitter, and Juelz Martinez had a hit and scored twice. Junior Orozco was 2 for 2 with a run scored and a run driven in.

Sanchez took the hill March 1 against the Gators and basically controlled the game. In addition to his no-hitter, Sanchez doubled twice and drove in three runs, while Juelz Martinez scored twice. Both the Longhorns and Clear Brook will complete the tournament portion of the 2024 schedule by playing in Goose Creek ISD's Gary Herrington Battle By The Bay event March 7-9 in Baytown. The Longhorns will take on Kingwood Park

March 7 at Goose Creek Memorial High School in a noon start. On March 8, Dobie will go against defending Region III champion Pearland at 2:30 p.m., then challenge Barbers Hill at 7:15 p.m., both at Barbers Hill High School. Closing the event March 9, the Longhorns will face Mansfield in a 10 a.m. start at Baytown Lee High School. Clear Brook opens the event March 7 by challenging host Goose Creek Memorial at GCM High

School at 9:30 a.m. March 8 play has the Wolverines at Baytown Lee High School for a pair of games, including Northbrook at 9:30 a.m. and Texas City at 2:30 p.m. The Wolverines and Splendora go head-to-head March 9 at Barbers Hill High School. First pitch is at 10 a.m. The trip to the Herrington event will serve to end tournament play as the Wolverines and Longhorns focus on district competition.

## JFD tracksters excel at own Longhorn Relays

Deer Park varsity girls' and boys' varsity track and field teams cemented themselves as the front-runners within District 22-6A after big-time efforts at the Longhorn Relays Feb. 29 at Dobie main. With the 22-6A Championships set for Pasadena ISD's Auxiliary Stadium April 3-4, the Deer put together solid team efforts at Dobie to solidify its title contention moving forward. The Deer Park varsity girls collected 207 team points while outdistancing the rest of the field by a considerable margin. The Katy Jordan girls scored 171 points for second place, while Dobie's 87 points were third-best as junior Stacie Harris ac-

counted for 29. Harris accounted for 10 points each with 200 and long jump gold medal wins, while she also contributed to Dobie's 4x200 (win) and 4x100 relay (second) teams. In all, 52 of the Longhorns' 87 points came via the relays. In that 4x200 win for the Dobie girls, Harris combined with Izelliah Williams, Christina Rodriguez and Tailin Curtis for a time of 1 minute, 50.558 seconds. Dobie's 4x100 group crossed the finish line second behind the speed of Williams, Harris, Kylar Joseph and Curtis for a time of 51.847. The Longhorns were second in the 4x400 finale

with a time of 4:29.081 as it was Rodriguez teaming with Jessica Moise, Lillian Herte and Curtis. A regional qualifier a season ago in the long jump, Harris stayed unbeaten in the event this go-around as she went 16 feet, 11 1/4 inches for the top spot at Dobie. Victoria Arnsworth of Dobie was fourth at 15-4 3/4. In the 200, Harris picked up another gold medal for a time of 27.549. Joseph, meanwhile, was fifth in a time of 28.580. Joseph was the bronze medal winner in the high jump as she was successful at 5-0, and Curtis went 33-5 1/4 for fourth place in the triple jump. Dobie junior Lauren Garza, a state cross-coun-

try qualifier, made a start in the 1,600 and was in at 5:51.968 for fifth place. A deep and talented Deer Park squad won the varsity boys' team title with 166 points, with Dobie second with 137 points. The Longhorns scored 52 points combined in the three relays, winning the 4x200 for 20 points and getting 16 for second in both the 4x100 and 4x400. In the 4x200, Dobie's win came courtesy of a clocking of 1 minute, 30.725 seconds as the locals nipped Katy Jordan to score gold medals. The Longhorns' four-ome included Jaylon Broussard, Cameron Mathews, Marcus Jones and C.J. Richard. Dobie's silver medalist 4x100 relay squad included Ke'Lijah Jackson, Mathews, Jones and Titus Randle in a time of 43.282. Katy Jordan also won the 4x400 relay, with Dobie crossing the finish line in a time of 3:31.687 behind the efforts of Johan Villavencio, Tariq Riley, Richard and Broussard. Dobie's Riley was one of the standouts of the meet as he also won the 400 in a time of 52.126. Richard continued to be one of the area's top performers in the long jump as he was the gold medalist at 20 feet, 5 3/4 inches. He also earned second place in the triple jump, making his way to 41-10. Mathews was a gold med-

alist to lead the Longhorns in the 200 as he won at 22.744, with Jones fourth in a time of 23.537. Juan Booker, who won a silver medal for second place in the 100 at 11.311, took fifth in the 200 with his clocking of 23.650. Deer Park's Jacob Marichalar and Dobie's Roderick Drumgo were at 50-6 in the shot put, with Marachalar first on fewest tries and Drumgo second. At 130-4, Drumgo was third in the discus. Johan Villavencio contributed in a big way at the 800 middle distance as his clocking of 2:05.854 won a silver medal for second place, while teammate Christopher Lopez was in at 10:27.093 for sixth place in the 3,200 event.

## Longhorn softball continues in 22-6A



Alyssa Jones (9) has hit .368 with 14 hits to this point in the season as she has provided a youthful Dobie squad with senior leadership. Photos by Gloria Wallace



Natalie De Hoyos (15) and her Dobie teammates came up with a decisive win over Pasadena March 1 and will now focus solely on the 22-6A race moving forward.

## Dream Team wins 8-9 youth basketball championship



The South Belt-based Dream Team went unbeaten to win the City of Pasadena Youth Basketball League championship for the second straight season. Members of the team are, left to right, (front row) Kree Lyons, Jordan Alvarez, Jace Ramirez, (middle row) Jaiden Jackson, Jackson Miller, Erick Herrera, Kaptain Scott, Leeland Hollinquest, Kaleb Sherman, (back row) coaches Kellen Lyons and Kenneth Scott. The Dream Team in 2023 won the 7-8-year-old title.

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Estate of Vera K. Freeman (3 Units): household Items, boxes, bicycle. Joe L. Mendoza: household, lawn items and storage tubs. Joanne Y. Mata: mattress/box spring, kitchen table and chairs.

# CALENDAR

**THURSDAY, MARCH 7**  
7:30 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 either Pearland Chamber of Commerce, 6117 Broadway St., Pearland, or online on Zoom. See Pearland Chamber of Commerce calendar or call 281-485-3634.  
9 a.m. Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum - 204 S. Main, Pasadena. Call 713-472-0565 for tours of exhibits.  
9:30 a.m. NASA Aglow Community Light-house - 18516 Hwy. 3 in Webster. The public is welcome and encouraged to bring others. Call 281-910-1971 or visit [aglownet.org](http://aglownet.org).  
11:30 a.m. ABWA - Southeast Express Network - Meetings are held at Big Horn BBQ, 2300 Smith Ranch Road Pearland. Reservations appreciated. Visit [www.seenabwa.org](http://www.seenabwa.org).  
Noon AA - Imperfect Nooners Group, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or at <https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners>. Call 713-686-6300.  
6:30 p.m. Pearland Area Republican's Club - meets at VFW Post 7109 Pearland, 4202 W. Walnut St., Pearland. Email [pearlandarearepubclub@gmail.com](mailto:pearlandarearepubclub@gmail.com) or visit [www.facebook.com/PARCTX](http://www.facebook.com/PARCTX).  
7 p.m. Congregation Shaar Hashalom - free discussion about Judaism and religion in general at Sawa Restaurant and Grill, 16608 El Camino Real, Houston. Contact [socialaction@shaarhashalom.org](mailto:socialaction@shaarhashalom.org).  
**FRIDAY, MARCH 8**  
7:30 a.m. AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.  
7 p.m. NA - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2930 E. FM 518, Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit [www.hascona.com](http://www.hascona.com) or <https://nastuff.com/>.  
9 a.m. Congregation Shaar Hashalom - All services are live and on Zoom. For details regarding services, Judaism classes, film series and lunch with the Rabbi, 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 9**  
7:30 a.m. AA - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.  
9:30 a.m. Congregation Shaar Hashalom - All services are live and on Zoom. For details regarding services, Judaism classes, film series and lunch with the Rabbi, visit <https://www.shaarhashalom.org>.  
11 a.m. Al-Anon Meeting (Women Only, English) - For women affected by an addict. Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, Cornell Conference room #111. Call 281-487-8787 or visit <https://www.houstonalanon.org/>.  
1 p.m. St. Paul's Anglican Church - offers a knitting class. Call 281-479-7285 beforehand.  
**SUNDAY, MARCH 10**  
8 a.m./10:15 a.m. St. Paul's Anglican Church - has worship and Bible study programs at 11456 Space Center Blvd. (in back of a medical/retail community). Call 281-479-7285.  
2 p.m. Grief Support Group - Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy. 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 11**  
Noon AA - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday's noon notice.  
1:30 - 3 p.m. Hometown Heroes Dance - at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 E. League City Parkway. Volunteers teach dance lessons. Call 281-554-1180.  
6 p.m. Scrabble Club #511 - Meets at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua. Join in the fun and improve crossword skills. COVID-19 vaccination required. Email [huff\\_reunion@juno.com](mailto:huff_reunion@juno.com) for details.  
7 p.m. AA - St. Luke's 12 Step Recovery open meeting in the education Bldg. in room 4, at 11011 Hall Road Call 832-725-8479 or 281-309-2801.  
7 p.m. TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) - #0683 chapter meets at the 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 12**  
7:30 a.m. AA - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.  
10:00 a.m. CCART - Clear Creek Association of Retired Teachers meets at the Bay Area Community Center, 5002 NASA Parkway. Annual dues are \$50.  
10:30 a.m. Tri-County Republican Women -

General meetings are held at the Golfcrest Country Club, 2509 Country Club Dr. Exact cash or check requested for lunch (\$15). RSVP at [www.tricountyrvw.club/](http://www.tricountyrvw.club/) or call 832-250-8901.  
11:30 a.m. St. Paul's Anglican Church - See Sunday's notice.  
Noon AA - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday noon notice.  
6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Southeast Houston Toastmasters - Club #05324194 meets in-person at 10500 Scarsdale Blvd. (SB Chamber of Commerce). Visit [sehouston.toastmasterclubs.org](http://sehouston.toastmasterclubs.org) or call 832-722-9061.  
7 p.m. NA - See Friday's notice.  
**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13**  
7:30 a.m. AA - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.  
Noon AA - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday's notice.  
12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Hometown Heroes Humpday Dance - at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 E. League City Parkway. Casual ballroom dancing offered. Call 281-554-1180.  
**THURSDAY, MARCH 14**  
7:30 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 either Pearland Chamber of Commerce, 6117 Broadway St., Pearland, or online on Zoom. See Pearland Chamber of Commerce calendar or call 281-485-3634.  
9:30 a.m. NASA Aglow Community Light-house - 18516 Hwy. 3 in Webster. The public is welcome and encouraged to bring others. Call 281-910-1971 or visit [aglownet.org](http://aglownet.org).  
11:30 a.m. ABWA - Southeast Express Network - Meetings are held at Big Horn BBQ, 2300 Smith Ranch Road. Pearland. Reservations appreciated. Visit [www.seenabwa.org](http://www.seenabwa.org).  
Noon AA - Imperfect Nooners Group, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or at <https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners>. Call 713-686-6300.  
6:30 p.m. Pearland Area Republican's Club - meets at VFW Post 7109 Pearland, 4202 W. Walnut St., Pearland. Email [pearlandarearepubclub@gmail.com](mailto:pearlandarearepubclub@gmail.com) or visit [www.facebook.com/PARCTX](http://www.facebook.com/PARCTX).  
7 p.m. Congregation Shaar Hashalom - free discussion about Judaism and religion in general at Sawa Restaurant and Grill, 16608 El Camino Real, Houston. Contact [socialaction@shaarhashalom.org](mailto:socialaction@shaarhashalom.org).

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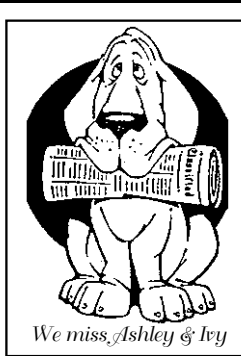
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Ulani Davis of Dobie (5) was a first team All-District pick as a player for the Longhorns and also earned All-Academic team honors for the 2023-2024 school year.



Dobie's Jadyn Johnson (22) had a terrific senior season for the Longhorns' varsity basketball team as she helped the locals to a 7-5 finish in District 22-6A this season. With Johnson on her way to a first team All-District nomination, she helped the Longhorns to third place in the standings and a bidistrict play-off berth. Johnson is also one of half a dozen Dobie players to earn All-Academic team honors.

**District 22-6A Basketball Girls' All-District Selections**

**Most Valuable Player**  
Gwendolyn McGrew, Memorial

**Offensive Player of the Year**  
Alyssa Campos, Deer Park

**Defensive Player of the Year**  
Cassandra Perez, Memorial

**Newcomer of the Year**  
Symone Johnson, Channelview

**Coach of the Year**  
Warren Brooks, Deer Park

**First-Team Honorees**

- Jadyn Johnson, Dobie
- Ulani Davis, Dobie
- Erin Goodson, Deer Park
- Jostlyn Soto, Deer Park
- Emily Ripley, Deer Park
- Caryme Molina, Pasadena
- Emily De La Garza, Pasadena
- Natalie Pineda, Memorial
- Tatyana Ramos, South Houston
- Kimari Mickell, Rayburn

**Second-Team Honorees**

- Audrey Volper, Dobie
- Ashlyn Coleman, Dobie
- Eleina Gonzalez, Channelview
- Jaynessa Gonzalez, Deer Park
- Kailey Sexton, Deer Park
- Tobie Addison, Deer Park
- Audrina Silva, Deer Park
- Amy Caballero, Pasadena
- Karina Castro, Memorial
- Emma Reeves, Memorial
- Breann Figgs, Sam Rayburn
- Yvette Gutierrez, Sam Rayburn
- Za'niyah Agege, South Houton

**Honorable Mention - Dobie**

- Dezire Lewis, Jr.
- MacKenna Houston, Sr.
- Jiarra Charles, Fr.
- Madison Stewart, Jr.

**All-Academic - Dobie**

- Blessing Akinloye
- Ulani Davis
- Jadyn Johnson
- Aniya Rodgers
- Shaniya Rodgers
- Madison Stewart

**Dobie girls tied atop 22-6A**



Alexandra Rodriguez (17) and her Dobie varsity girls' soccer teammates went into the regular season finale against South Houston March 5 after press time poised to take at least a share of first place. See the final outcome in the March 14 issue. Photo by Gloria Wallace

**JFD girls' soccer celebrates Senior Night**



The Dobie girls' soccer program celebrated Senior Night earlier this month as, left to right, Karley Goeman, Kyla Lobo, Arianna Borrego, Aylin Reyes, Kelly Flores, Nico Barr and Alexandra Rodriguez, were honored for their contributions over the past four seasons. Those seniors have collectively played a key role as the Longhorns have already won a program best-ever 15 total matches to this point. Dobie will host Sam Rayburn March 1, at Dobie main. Match time is 7:30 p.m.

**Smith, UH softball start hot**



Lutheran South Academy's Shelby Smith, now a graduate student at the University of Houston, put together a 5-0 record in the circle as she helped the Cougars' softball program to a 10-1 start to the 2024 season. Smith and her LSA teammates hoisted a state championship during her senior season in high school in 2019, and she went on to enjoy a stellar collegiate career at Seton Hall University before joining the Cougars through the transfer portal as she pursues master's degree studies. With an earned run average of 3.46 through a team-leading 26.1 innings early on, Smith was the winning pitcher of record in five of Houston's first 10 wins. Through March 4 play, the Cougars were 15-5 overall, while Smith was at 7-2 in the circle with a 3.62 earned run average. In 22 at-bats, Smith was also hitting .455.

**Dickson helps TAMU 4x400 to bronze at SECs**



The Texas A&M University women's 4x400 relay squad rallied to capture a bronze medal for third place at the conclusion of the Southeastern Conference Indoor Track and Field Championships Feb. 24 on the campus of the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville. The group, including, left to right, Jaydan Wood, Nissi Kabongo, Jermaisha Arnold and Camryn Dickson posted a time of 3 minutes, 28.77 seconds. Dickson, now a sophomore sprinter at Texas A&M, has made the Aggies' Top 10 All-Time Performers list at No. 10 in the 200 after posting a personal best of 23.01 seconds during the preliminaries Feb. 23 at the Southeastern Conference's Indoor Track and Field Championships on the campus of the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. Tenth overall in the 200, Dickson, a three-time state meet qualifier at Clear Brook, was also 13th at the 60-meter distance at 7.29. Dickson did not make the final qualifying spots in either event.

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