

Voice of Community-Minded People since 1976

April 1, 2010

E-mail: mynews@southbeltleader.com

www.southbeltleader.com

dready heavily congested during drop-off and

PISD Superintendent Kirk Lewis said this

Vol. 35, No. 9

Area Easter closings

South Belt-Ellington Leader The South Belt-Ellington Leader office will be closed Friday, April 2, in observance of Good Friday. Those submitting free items to be published on April 8, should do so by Thursday, April 1. E-mail items to mynews@ southbeltleader.com

Parker Williams Library

The library will be closed Friday, April 2, for Good Friday.

Clear Brook City MUD The offices of Clear Brook City MUD will be closed Friday, April 2, in observance of the Easter holiday. The office will reopen Monday. April 5, at 8 a.m. To avoid late fees, payments may be left in the drop box located on the drive-through window side of the building.

Dobie band parents meet

The Dobie Band Parent organization will meet Monday, April 5, at 7 p.m. in the band hall. All band parents are urged to attend.

Kindergarten Roundup set

Moore Elementary will hold its 2010-2011 Kindergarten Roundup Wednesday, April 7, from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. for those who have a child who will be entering kindergarten in the fall.

Parents will have the opportunity to meet the kindergarten teachers and learn about the school and kindergarten program. Students can visit the kindergarten classrooms, have story time and milk and cookies. For more information, call the school at 713-740-0656.

Frazier owls collect hats

Frazier Elementary will host its third annual Hats For Hope service project benefiting M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. The school will collect new hats with the tags still attached or monetary donations until May 7

All hats and money collected will be donated to M.D. Anderson cancer patients and the Patient Services Program. South Belt residents who know of someone who is undergoing cancer treatments, are asked to let the school know.

Those who would like to make or knit hats would be appreciated. For information, contact Rhonda Jacobs at 713-740-0560 or rjacobs@ basadenaisd.org.

Library events scheduled

The following events are scheduled for the Parker Williams Library, 10851 Scarsdale: The library will be closed Friday, April 2,

for Good Friday. On Saturday, April 3, Vietnamese storytime will include Reading Club at 9 a.m., followed by intermediate storytime at 11 a.m. and

beginner storytime at 1 p.m. The genealogy discussion group will meet at 2 p.m. on Monday, April 5.

AARP volunteers provide free income tax assistance each Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Arrive early to line up - only a limited number of people can be helped. Call the library for more information.

Movie Madness is Thursday, April 8, at 4 p.m. and will feature a movie about an astronaut from Earth who lands on a planet much like it. Call the library at 281-484-2036 for the title

Family storytime is Tuesday at 7 p.m. Preschooler storytime is Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. Toddler time is Thursday at 10 and 11:15 a.m.

BHI dance tickets on sale

Beverly Hills Intermediate 8th-Grade Dance tickets will be sold in the Commons area at the school April 15-16 from 7:30 to 8:15 a.m.

scheduled for April 15 - 17 The South Belt Spectacular Cookoff is set to held at El Franco Lee Park

take place Thursday, April 15, through Satur-Last year's function drew 86 cooking teams, day, April 17, at El Franco Lee Park, 9400 Hall despite inclement weather.

Annual South Belt cookoff

A silent auction is scheduled to take place Saturday afternoon.

At press time, however, there was a shortage of items to be auctioned, according to event organizer Linda Arnone.

For more information or to donate auction items, contact Arnone at 281-484-4325.

Leader seeks profile story leads

Beginning this week, the *South Belt-Elling-ton Leader* will feature a profile series on former J. Frank Dobie and Clear Brook high school attendees and residents entitled "Whatever happened to . .

Now in its 14th year, the annual event has been

held at Tom Bass Park the past three years due

to ongoing construction at its original El Franco

The event is the sole fundraiser for the annual

South Belt Fourth of July fireworks display also

The first of this series is featured on Page 6A of this issue.

If residents have any suggestions as to who should be featured in the series, send suggestions

to mynews@southbeltleader.com or contact the Leader office at 281-481-5656. When suggesting alumni for possible feature

in the Leader, include a small paragraph including background information on the person and a means by which he or she can be contacted.

Keep an eye on the paper in the upcoming weeks for the "Whatever happened to . . . " profile

A soldier surprises his stepdaughter

South Belt Elementary kindergarten student Celeste Cortez received an unexpected birthday gift Thursday, March 25, when her stepfather, U.S. Army Pfc. Kenneth Galan, paid her a surprise visit at school. The soldier had been stationed in Iraq since November. The child's mother, Jessica Cortez Galan (rear), accompanied her husband. The couple have two other children, Alyssia Cortez, 8, and Gabriel Cortez, 5. The event was also cov-

proposes opening new 8.5 center Students currently attending Dobie begin

pick-up times.

Pasadena Independent School District officials are proposing to open a new facility in the South Belt next fall to cater to would-be Dobie freshmen deemed not yet prepared for high school.

Tentatively to be located on Blackhawk between Dobie High School and Moore Elementary, the center would primarily house students from Thompson and Beverly Hills intermediates who have not passed their Texas Assessment of

Road.

Lee location.

Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) tests. Roughly 130 to 175 students are expected to attend the new facility, according to PISD spokeswoman Candace Ahlfinger.

To be constructed of temporary buildings, the '8.5 Academy" would not require the approval of the PISD board, as it is not technically a new campus.

A common concern of area residents is the possibility of added traffic, as Blackhawk is

problem may be solved by implementing a later start time for students attending the new center.

school day at 7:15 a.m., while Moore students have a 7:50 a.m. start time. It has been proposed that students at the new facility may begin as late as 8:20 a.m. to alleviate traffic.

Champion Easter egg hunters

Con Three South Belt youths were the lucky winners of the platinum eggs during the annual Easter egg hunt March 27 at El Franco Lee Park. The winners included, from left, Rene Zubieta, a fifth-grade student at Morris Fifth Grade Center, Diana Armenta, 18 months old and Diego Alvarez, a fourth-grade student at Moore Elementary. The event hosts included, left to right, (back row) Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Gary Freeman,

Harris Country Justice of the Peace Jo Ann Delgado and Harris County Precinct 1 Commissioner El Franco Lee. Hundreds of youths and snow cones. which included complimentary hot dogs, soft drinks and snow cones. Photo by John Bechtle

Casino Night slated for April 30

throughout the night.

d'oeuvres and a cash bar.

Caesar's Palace.

\$25 at the door.

The South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual Casino Night on Friday, April 30, at The Gardens, 12001 Beamer, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

The yearly event allows attendees to use fake money to gamble in Las Vegas-style games, such as blackjack, Let it Ride, roulette, baccarat, craps and poker, including Texas Hold 'em. A special "High Roller" section will also be available.

Winners will receive raffle tickets rather than cash, with drawings for prizes being held

281-481-5516 **H-E-B motorcycle ride to benefit** March of Dimes set for April 17

H-E-B Blackhawk and the March of Dimes ticipants. will hold a benefit motorcycle ride Saturday, April 17, beginning at 10:30 a.m.

Titled, Let's Roll for Babies, the ride will go from H-E-B, 9828 Blackhawk, to Freeport and back to H-E-B. Lunch will be provided to all par-

A donation of \$25 per bike will be required. Registration will take place from 8 to 10 a.m. Preregistration is already under way.

For more information, contact Juan Deleon or Donna Theriot at 713-991-2774.

Attendees will have a chance to win a trip for

The event will also feature music, hors

Tickets may be purchased at the chamber of-

fice, H-E-B Blackhawk and the South Belt-El-

lington Leader. Tickets are \$20 in advance and

For more information, call the chamber at

two to Las Vegas including a two-night stay at

This will be the last chance to purchase tickets. The dance will be held Saturday, May 8, from 7 until 11 p.m. at The Gardens, 12001 Beamer Road.

Tickets are \$30 and available by advance purchase only (cash only) and include dance admission, food, drinks and a class T-shirt. For more information, contact Jamie Troxlar at Jaymyrz@aol.com.

Easter celebration set

St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta in Houston, will hold Maundy Thursday, April 1, with a potluck dinner at 6 p.m. and a 7 p.m. worship with communion. On Good Friday, April 2, a Lenten/Easter

Cantata will be performed at 7:30 p.m. by the choir and chamber ensemble.

Easter Sunday Celebration will be held Sunday, April 4, at 10:30 a.m.

Tai chi at EFL Center

EFL Senior/Community Center, 9500 Hall Road, holds tai chi classes Mondays at 9:30 a.m. and Wednesdays at 1 p.m. at the center with Grandmaster Mike P. Glvnn. The classes are free for senior citizens age 50+. For information, call 281-464-9708 or 713-884-6742.

South Belt holds luau

South Belt Elementary will host a luau on Friday, April 9, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Dinner plates may be purchased in advance for \$6 per adult and \$3.50 per child. Plates purchased at the door will be \$7 per adult/\$4 per child. Presale forms are available at the school's front office.

ered by Channels 11 and 39. Photo by James Bolen

Shippey struggles to change existing Alzheimer's rules

Longtime South Belt resident Linda Shippey is on a mission to have the state's Silver Alert laws changed.

Last year, Shippey's husband, former Dobie swim coach Dennis Shippey, went missing while walking his dog in Pasadena and was found by hunters in Rosharon approximately 36 hours later and some 50 miles from where he disappeared. He was barely alive and placed into intensive care for three days.

The former coach, who suffers from Alzheimer's disease, was 63 at the time of the incident. Current state law, however, requires that a missing adult be at least 65 years old in order to issue a Silver Alert.

A Silver Alert is like the Amber Alert, but, instead of an alert for a lost child, is for a lost Alzheimer's victim. Once a Silver Alert has been issued, bulletins are posted on electronic billboards located along freeways and major thoroughfares.

Shippey is confident her husband would have been discovered earlier and in better health had such an alert been issued.

To help in her mission, Shippey traveled to Washington, D.C., last month to attend the Action Summit for Alzheimer's. The conference provided workshops and training to help individuals better understand the political process and how to bring about changes affecting those who suffer from Alzheimer's and their loved ones.

"My husband and the countless individuals diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimers are counting on someone to speak up for them," Shippey said.

In addition to lobbying state and federal lawmakers, Shippey is also in talks with local law enforcement officials to implement the Project Lifesaver program. In the program, those suffering from the debilitating disease are fitted with a bracelet that is fixed with a tracking device that can be traced by participating police agencies should a victim go missing.

While the Project Lifesaver program has been utilized throughout the country, talks with the Harris County Sheriff's Office have proved fruitless as of yet.

Shippey is currently seeking to enlist the help of others in the community.

"Most of you know someone who has Al-zheimer's," she said. "With Alzheimer's, there are no survivors. They need our help."

To aid in her efforts, Shippey has created a Web site.

For more information, visit www.shippeysil veralertchange.org.

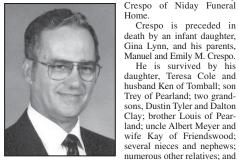
Comet discoverer visits SJCS



Famed astronomer, author and radio host, Dr. David Levy, recently presented a lecture at the San Jacinto South Marie Spence Flickinger Fine Art's Building. Levy is responsible for discovering 22 comets and writing more than 30 books. Shown above are, left to right, Levy and San Jacinto College board members Larry Wilson and Dr. Ruede Wheeler. See Photo by Jeannie Peng-Armao related story Page 2A.

Deaths

Manuel Crespo Jr.



"Manny" Crespo a host of friends. Jr., 73, died Tuesday, March 23, 2010. He was born April

and celebration of Crespo's 13, 1936, in Houston. life was held on Saturday. March 27, 2010, at St. Helen Crespo was a former longtime resident of Friendswood Catholic Church in Pearland. Rite of committal followed at and helped organize the auxiliary police force of the Forest Park Lawndale Cemewood Police Departtery in Houston. ment. He also worked in his

family's funeral home busi-Crespo, Patrick Crespo, Gary ness as well as other entre-Crespo, Freddy Salinas, Luis preneurial business ventures. He was a relative of Trey Pacheco, Gabriel Garza Shayne Stowe and Matt Crespo of Niday Funeral Schultz.

In lieu of flowers, the fam-Crespo is preceded in ily has requested memorials be made in Crespo's honor to St. Helen Catholic Church, www.sthelenchurch.org or to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105, www. stjude.org.

Humberto G. Castillo

Humberto G. Castillo, 51, died unexpectedly on Satur-day, March 27, 2010. He was A Mass of Resurrection

a South Belt resident. Castillo is survived by his sons, Cody Castillo and Tanner Castillo; parents Hum-berto and Rosa Castillo; sister Ani Frisa: niece Katherine Frisa; nephew Matthew Frisa; Pallbearers were Anthony and numerous uncles aunts

cousins and a host of friends. Castillo devoted countless hours offering support and advice for others with Crohn's

sease. A rosary was prayed at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 30, and the funeral service was held Wednesday, March 31, both at Niday Funeral Home. Interment followed at Woodlawn Cemetery. In lieu of usual remem-

tions in Castillo's name can tery

Colitis Foundation of Amer ica, 386 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10116, or online at www.ccfa.org.

be made to the Crohn's &

Hal Dean Freeman Hal Dean Freeman, 50

former South Belt resident. died Friday, March 26, 2010. He was born Oct. 19, 1959. Freeman is preceded in death by his father, Donald Freeman.

He is survived by his wife. Malinna Ann Freeman, sons Jacob Dean and Dustin Jared Freeman, mother Peggy Jean Freeman sisters Marsha Ball and husband David and Beverly Wolfe and husband Phillip, and a host of family and friends

A funeral service was held Tuesday, March 30, at Niday Funeral Home. Interment folbrances, memorial contribu- lowed at Forest Lawn Ceme-

Readers' Opinions Dekunder writes to thank Pete Olsen

We need to thank Congressman Pete

Olsen for his no vote. This health care will need to be funded for the most part with US government bonds that even China. India and Russia no longer have a strong desire to pur-

chase - that should tell us something as a country. We are on the brink of financial and economic disaster.

Joe Dekunder

Waits on funding space program

Thank you for headlining the "Fight continues over proposed NASA budget" article in the March 25th Leader. Many of us in our community have been sending our lawmakers letters requesting a logical look at terminating the Space Shuttle program right now. Here are my thoughts:

The 2011 budget reduces Space Operations by 20.5% from the 2010 lev-els. We are going to continue to operate the Space Station, but we are going to retire the Space Shuttle.

That is like completing the building of your house and dropping the insurance. The Station is just now being completed and starting to ramp up its science programs.

That is a very complicated piece of engineeering, made from very large

parts. If a small object hits a solar panel and destroys it, there will not be enough energy to run the Space Station the way it was designed to. Only the Space Shuttle can lift large pieces that the Station may need. Once it is wounded, it is like Humpty Dumpty!

Did you know that the products pro-duced on the Space Station cannot be safely brought back to earth, except by the Space Shuttle? Not much talk about that, except by the people who work on the downmass of the Station.

What is the use in creating it, if you cannot bring it home to be evaluated, tested, and used? You can't return these valuable on-orbit creations back to earth and slam them into the Earth's surface like the Russian return vehicles do, and expect to have something of value.

I don't know about you, but I cannot understand why we are about to lay off over 10,000 uniquely skilled jobs in Texas, Utah, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida, when the most important thing in our economy's recovery is the creation of jobs and putting people back to work. Once the Space Shuttle is retired, we

will have to pay the Russians lot\$ to get our own astronauts to our Space Station excuse me?

We need to keep the Space Shuttle operational through the life of the Station, and keep our crucial space skill base in

Thanks for listening....and hopefully helping keep this exceptional program alive by writing and calling our elected officials. Gary Waits

Astronomer Levy shares discoveries of six comets

San Jacinto College South recently enjoyed a lecture by astronomer Dr. David Levy. (See related photo Page 1A.) Levy shared his experi-

ence as a young boy interested in the night sky and how his love for astronomy endured throughout his years as an adolescent and well into his years in college, resulting in a career in astronomy. He discussed finding the first of his 22 comets and finding the Shoemaker-Levy

9, a comet that collided with Jupiter in 1994. The Emmywinning astronomer also incorporated the arts into his presentation, describing how some of the earliest English literature pieces explain the mysteries often sighted in the

night sky. After his presentation, attended by SJC Chancellor Dr. Brenda Hellyer, Levy autographed books for audience members.

Levy's visit was sponsored by the college's Lyceum Com-mittee, an organization that brings nationally renowned

speakers to San Jacinto College to help facilitate the educational process and build awareness concerning social or global subject matters.

San Jacinto College serves a diverse population of more than 27,000 students in over 140 degrees and certificates in university transfer and technical programs. The col-lege also serves the community through workforce training. Students come with various goals and aspirations. and the college is committed to their success.

For more information about San Jacinto College, visit www.sanjac.edu or call 281-998-6150.

Leader

obituary policy Obituaries submitted to the Leader are published free of charge. They are edited to conform to the Leader style.

EASTER SUNDAY AT LIFE CHURCH APRIL 4TH / 10:30 A.M. 9900 ALMEDA GENOA / LIFE.CC



JOIN US FOR EASTER AT SAGEMO Eight Opportunities for Worship This Weekend!

Saturday, April 3

6:00 pm Sagemont Blend (Blended Service) Auditorium

Sunday, April 4

6:30 am Sunrise Service The Cross

8:00 am Legacy (Traditional Service) Auditorium



SUNRISE AT THE CROSS





9:30 am Sagemont Blend (Blended Service) Auditorium Awaken (Contemporary Service) The Hall

11:00 am Sagemont Blend (Blended Service) Auditorium Awaken (Contemporary Service) The Hall

12:30 pm Awaken (Contemporary Service) The Hall

Easter Sunday, April 4 6:30 am

Our entire community is invited to come celebrate the resurrection of Christ as the sun rises on The Cross Easter Sunday morning. Join with Christians of all denominations in this special celebration service led by Senior Pastor Dr. John Morgan. Bring a lawn chair as no seating will be provided.

* Child care will be available during all services except the Sunrise Service and the 12:30 Awaken Service for children, birth - age three.





J. Frank Dobie Lariaettes win numerous drill awards in Gal



Lariaettes pictured with their awards are, left to right, (front row) Spirit Hoggard, Blanca Garza, Cassandra Velaquez, Caitlin Woods, Briana Harper, (back row) Tram To, Shanay LaCour, Tiana Wilson, Alaina Burns, Kayla Smith, Karena Duran, Aracely Perez, Shante McGill and Desiree Harvey. Photo submitted

The J. Frank Dobie Lariaettes drill team recently attended the American Dance/ Drill Team Competition in Galveston. After being at Moody Gardens all day and night and surviving a fire drill scare, the team walked away

with numerous awards. The military officers received a sweepstakes and Gussie Nell Davis award for scores of 90 and above on all routines.

The officers were also selected for judges awards on their Officer Jazz and Officer Lyrical, and were awarded best overall choreography.

The team received sweep stakes and Gussie Nell Davis Awards as well. They also received judges awards for all four team routines - Jazz, Pom, Modern and Hip Hop. In addition, they were se-

cal Ensembles both received Division 1 ratings, as did all

winners include: Ivette Ar-

Cessna, Tristana Guyote, Se nia Rubio, Elise Harper, Al- nalist, and finished as second yssa Loredo, Tiana Wilson, Feliss Goree, Kayla Smith runner-up. More than 390 soloists and Joanna Garza. Armenta competed over the weekend.

The Gardens Market Saturday, April 24th · 9:00am-5:00pm

Discover The Gardens Market. Southeast Houston's newest shopping venue! Our vendors have the highest quality of one of a kind gifts, unique jewelry and acces sories, all natural Bath & Body products, funky & fun children's clothing and many original works of art & handmade crafts.

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merchandise provides the perfect shopping experience.

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Apply now for this fabulous opportunity to sell your merchandise! Email us at

thegardensmarket@yahoo.com

for booth information.

Leader Linda Mindiola, Capt. Aimee Cessna, Col. Ivette Armenta, Lt. Col. Libby Garza, Lt. Tristana Guyote, Party Girl Ashley Cantu, (second row) Camilla Contreras, Lisa Scott, Chaplain Senia Rubio, Deseray Figeroa, Crystal Cabriales, Inventory Megan Barker, Nicolette Baade, Asia Allen, Alyssa Loredo, (third row) Sandra Gonzalez, Joanna Garza, Katia Ceja, Paige Cavazos, Donna Hernandez, Elise Harper, Secretary Adriana Gutierrez, Victoria Gomez, President Cassie Murray, Feliss Goree, Jontay Warner, Jeannette Cruz, (fourth row) Clarissa Vega, Tessa Andrade, Katlyn



Make checks payable to: South Belt-Ellington Leader 11555 Beamer Road, Houston, TX 77089

After Hours: Use mail slot in ront of building facing Beamer. 281-481-5656



helpful hand is always appreciated. Curtis Halvorson, computer teacher and computer handyman extraordinaire, is the helpful hand at Stuchbery Elementary School in the Pasadena Independant School District. Halvorson teaches students in kindegarten through fourth grade everything from basic computer operation and games to how to make slide-shows and mov-ies using computers. Stuchbery front office staff say Halvorson is always willing to help with various com-puter troubles and staff questions on top of his duties as computer teacher. Halvorson used to be a kindergarten teacher until last school year when he became the computer teacher for Stuchbery. He has been with the school since August 2004. Photo submitted Photo submitted

Junior Optimists raise funds through Houston Dynamo

The South Houston Intermediate School Junior Optimist Club is asking for donations by way of the Houston Dynamo

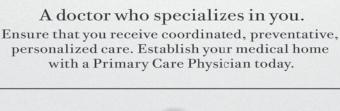
to assist their efforts to better their school and community. Tickets for the games on April 1, May 5, July 10, July 31,

Aug. 21 and Sept. 5 cost \$20, but if purchased online under the promotional code dynamo, \$10 of the ticket price will go back to the Junior Optimist Club. The Junior Optimist Club at South Houston Intermediate

uses the funds raised to assist with the costs associated with service projects and related fees.

The Junior Optimists are also accepting any cash donations to help with their cause. If interested, contact South Houston Intermediate School

at 713-740-0490.



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lected best overall presentation and best overall choreography. The Jazz Troupe and Lyri-

11 of the soloists. Division 1 solo award

menta, Libby Garza, Aimee



Attention Dobie, Clear Brook, Lutheran South, South Houston and all other Seniors!!!! **GET READY FOR THE BIG DAY! Stop by South Belt Graphics & Printing & order** your Graduation invitations today! Large variety to choose from & all at reasonable prices! 281-484-4337 • 11555 Beamer Rd.

Page 4, Section A, South Belt-Ellington Leader, Thursday, April 1, 2010

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CONGRATS TO DOBIE GUARD! Congratulations are sent to J. Frank Dobie Winterguard Director Brewster Petron, seniors Tyler Scarberry. Amber Gonzales Mattie Smith and Thomas Buenrostro, and the entire squad for their accomplishments throughout the 2009-2010 season. The team earned a second-place trophy in Scholastic AA Red Division at the TCGC State Competition held at Texas State University on March 27. They also placed third out of 32 squads in overall point scores. Congrats are sent from proud senior parents Jannie and Robert Scarberry, Debbie and Marcus Gonzales, DeAnn Smith and Felicia and Joey Buenrostro

WELCOME BABY HENRY

Henry James Gallagher was born Tues-day, March 9, 2010. He weighed 6 lbs., 12 oz., and stretched 20 inches in length. Welcoming Henry are proud parents Shana and Timothy J. Gallagher, grandparents Donna and Mike Richardson, Carmen Trevino and Tim Gallagher, great-grandparents Jan and the late Henry Nortman, Genny and Roland Rich and Trinidad Trevino. SCHOOL DAZE

The following personnel and staff members of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays April 1 through April 7. Burnett Elementary

On April 3, Herlinda Chapa and Judy Vazquez share a birthday. Celebrating a birthday April 7 is Bulah George.

Frazier Elementary

Erica Moreno is sent birthday greetings April 5.

Jessup Elementary Special birthday wishes are sent to **Claudia** Flores on April 4. A double birthday cel-ebration is set for Lisa Rogers and Marian Rayford April 7.

Meador Elementary Blow out the birthday candles for Mike Gill April 7.

Moore Elementary The day for a birthday cake for Diane Sanchez is April

Stuchbery Elementary Celebrating a birthday April 1 is Carlos **Torres** celebrates a birthday April 1. The day for a party for **Laurie Chmarney** is April 3.

Melillo Middle School On April 3, Julie John enjoys a birthday.

April 5 is the day for a birthday cake for Shade Fagbemi. Sharing a birthday April 6 are Charlotte Anthony and Misti Holmes. Morris Middle School

Wishes for a wonderful birthday are sent to Juanita Salinas April 1. A birthday is celebrated by Meghan Norton and Janet White April 2. Blow out the birthday candles for Linda Bowers on April 4.

Beverly Hills Intermediate Celebrating a birthday April 4 is Sandra Luna. Lashawn Simmons marks a birthday April 6.

Thompson Intermediate Angi Watkins enjoys a birthday April 1. Dobie High

Blow out the birthday candles on a double-layer cake for **Melissa Allen** and **Johnetta Roy** April 1. Double birthday wishes are sent to Bob Daugherty and Rosa Robinson April
B. Enjoying a birthday April 6 is Pam Salyer. LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS

Open mic night welcomes community

The public is invited to poetry events and sometime share and enjoy poetry, readparticipate by reading their ings and song at the univerown work. "It's a space for students

sity's free open mic night Thursday, April 8, from 5 to and community members to have a stage to recite their work," said Subramanian. 6:30 p.m., at University of Houston-Clear Lake's Cappuccino Bono, 2700 Bay Previous performances have Area Blvd. included short stories and

music. Time on stage is lim-Associate Professor of Social Work Stephen "Arch" ited to five minutes. Sorial Hold Assistant Profes-For more information, sor in Humanities Shreerekha call 281-283-3430 or e-mail Subramanian organize the subramanian@uhcl.edu

Mount Olive holds sale

Mount Olive Lutheran Church. 10310 Scarsdale Blvd., will have a plant and rummage sale on Friday April 9, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday, April 10, from 8 a.m. to noon. For more information, call the church at 281-922-5673.



Sunshine Children's World Christian Academy collected \$150 in coins over the last two weeks in February to help the earthquake survivors in Haiti. All proceeds will go directly to the American Red Cross, International Disaster Relief Fund. The Red Cross has helped more than 1.3 million people since the Jan. 12 earthquake and will continue to aid hundreds of thousands more. As the children learned, one person can make a difference. Pictured are only few of the children enrolled who helped raise the money. Shown are, left to education in the South Belt area.

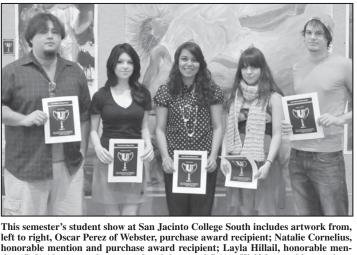
Dylan Jackson, Anthony Morin, Zachary Lee, Alena Morin, Desmond Olivier, (middle row) Nicholas Burback, Natalia Knight, Natalie Onozie, Kaleb Walker, Joseph Skinner, (back row) Seth Barber, Zachery Zepeda, Michael Onozie, Victoria Onozie, Allison Rangel, Alyssa Montemayor, Brooklynn Clemmons and Korrin Ballard. SCW Christian Academy provides school-age children from Pre-K 3 to fourth grade an Photo submitted

Remember

30 years ago (1980) The Pasadena Independent age at Burnett Elementary put regarding school boundhool District board voted to and rebid the job

reject bids to repair fire dam- meeting to receive public in- school libraries. Three unidentified men reportedly robbed a beauty





tion; Jade Abner, purchase award recipient; and Steven Wolf, honorable mention.





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Ribbon cutting ceremonies were held for the new Palmer Drug Abuse Program's South Belt office.

The Southeast Volunteer Fire Department reported they had responded to a record 26 calls in 25 days during March.

A farewell reception was Vic Johnson of King of Glory Lutheran Church. The Johnsons were moving to Dayton, Iowa, for a new assignment.

20 years ago (1990) Ribbon cutting ceremonies celebrated the opening of the Harris County Annex

on Scarsdale at Beamer. Friendswood Mayor Paul Schrader helped to form the Brio/DOP Leadership Group in an effort to answer community questions concern-ing the South Belt area toxic

waste dumps. filed against the owners and management of the Scarsdale Village Shopping Center for alleged breaches of contract. The South Belt Civic Coalition planned a public meeting to answer area residents' questions about water service and rates.

15 years ago (1995) dent School District called a ever would be removed from

The Texas Department of shop on Scarsdale. ransportation announced The League City City Transportation that construction on the Fuqua Park & Ride would

soon begin. South Belt optometrist Dr. B. J. Garner attended fighter pilot school at Kingsley Air Force Base in Oregon.

J. Frank Dobie students planned for the Rev. and Mrs. helped stuff several thousand eggs for the upcoming Easter egg hunt at El Franco Lee Park.

10 years ago (2000)

Patrol Sgt. Larry Petty was credited with the speedy apprehension of burglars who broke into a next-door neighbor's home.

> Dr. Allison Cambre, pastor of Cokesbury Methodist Church on Scarsdale, was Mayfield broke his femur in officially transferred to West University United Methodist Church.

Audra "Audi" Resendez, At least two suits were 19, was getting ready to com-ed by former tenants pete in the Miss Texas Pageant.

5 years ago (2005) After an undefeated sea-

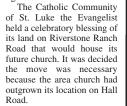
son, the Beverly Hills Intermediate School academic team continued to the National Academic League's national tournament

No decision had been announced by PISD whether The Clear Creek Indepen- the controversial book For-

Council voted to improve and expand Palomino Lane into a four-lane divided highway. Approval was needed in order to further the progress of CCISD's fourth high school. Toan Tran and Haley O'Neill were honored as outstanding male and female students at San Jacinto College South's annual student awards ceremony.

1 year ago (2009) Capt. Michael Mayfield, a former longtime Sagemeadow resident, was injured when two Houston Fire Department trucks collided at

Dunlavy and Westheimer while responding to a call. two spots, broke multiple ribs and suffered other minor injuries. He had a plate implanted in his wrist and screws installed in his elbow. Ten others were injured in the collision, including eight firefighters.



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Easter

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Mr. and Mrs. Ramiro Salinas

Cosmetology students represent Texas at national competition

Ten San Jacinto Col-Texas at the 46th annual lege cosmetology students National Leadership and will represent the state of Skills Conference June

> The students earned their top spots during the SkillsUSA state recent competition in San An-tonio, where they showcased talent in women's and men's hair styling, customer service, opening and closing ceremonies, pin design and job interviewing.

Out of the 17 San Jac students who competed the students, who spend in multiple categories, numerous hours after class 16 took home the gold, one student received silver, and four received the bronze medal. The conference attracts

more than 15,000 attendees each summer. Selection into the competition could land a student his or her first job out of college. "Employers call us re-

questing the students who more impressed with a have gone to SkillsUSA, group of students that we because of the knowledge 20-25 in Kansas City, Mo. they gain through this have traveled with and recompetition." said Dana ally look forward to taking Belt, cosmetology instruc-10 of these gold medaltor at San Jacinto College ists with us to nationals South. in June," said Freestone.

"They represented the col-Each spring, Belt and fellow cosmetology instructor Pandora Freestone spend extra time preparing their students for both the state and national conference. "It's a lot of long days and late nights for

numerous hours after class working on these skills. The leadership skills they develop throughout this experience are tremen-

dous. In fact, the San Jacinto College cosmetology team had more winners in leadership skills than any other division at the state competition this year.

lege in the most positive way possible, not just in their medals earned, but in their professionalism as well. SkillsUSA is a national nonprofit organization serving teachers and high

school and college students who are preparing for careers in trade, technical and skilled service occupations. The organization has 13,000 school chapters in 54 state and

territorial associations. For more information about San Jacinto College, visit www.sanjac.edu or call 281-998-6150.



Melinda Sanchez served as maid of honor, and the groom's sister, Elizabeth niro Salinas were united in marriage Tuesday, March 16, 2010, in a double-ring Rodriquez, was a member of

the house party. The bride is the daughter of Laura and Billy Lynch of The bride is a 2001 graduate of J. Frank Dobie High Sagemont and Jimmy and School and is employed with Oak Farms Houston.

The groom is a 2000 graduate of Pasadena High School and is employed with Airgas

Vegas, the couple reside in Pasadena. A reception for the couple is planned for April.

For more information,

Open Garden Day April 19

The public is invited to to be recycled to Open Gar-ir the working and demon- den Day, and the Master Gartour the working and demonstration gardens maintained deners will use them. by the Harris County Master For more infor Gardeners at Precinct 2 dur-ing Open Garden Day on mgap2.tamu.edu. visit the Web site at http://hc-Monday, April 19, from 9 to 10:30 a.m. at Genoa Friendship Garden, 1202 Genoa Red Bluff in Houston. The garden includes an extensive vegetable garden, fruit orchard, perennials, roses, herb and cactus gardens and two working greenhouses.

Ledbetter

ceremony in Las Vegas.

Brenda Ledbetter of Alvin.

Master Gardeners will be on hand to answer gardening questions during this free event. Children are welcome. but must be accompanied by an adult at all times Bring one-gallon or smal-

ler plastic plant pots and trays

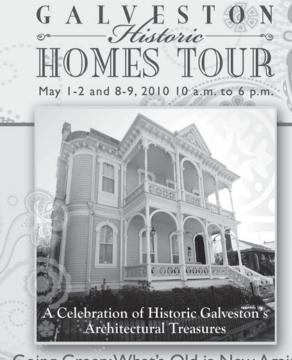
We have never been

seeks adjunct San Jacinto College will hold an **Adjunct Faculty Job Fair** on Saturday, April 17, 2010 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.,

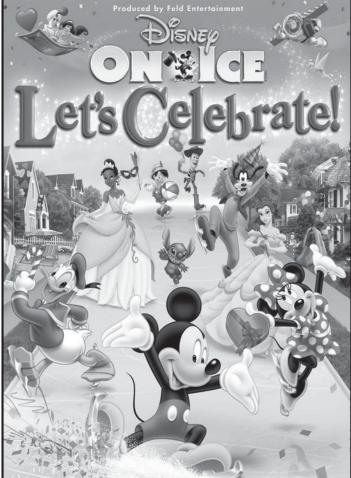
at the South campus Student Center Banquet Room, located at 13735 Beamer Road in Houston.

> Dress: Business casual. Bring paper copies of your résumé and transcripts. Positions available at all three campuses.

For more information about SAN JACINTO the job fair, visit www2.sanjac.edu/jobfair and follow the path to the online application



Going Green: What's Old is New Again For tickets and information go to:



The groom is the son of Tomasa Salinas and Ramiro Salinas Sr. of Pasadena. The bride was given in marriage by her stepfather. Dry Ice. After a honeymoon in Las She wore a strapless white chiffon gown with a chapel





San Jacinto College cosmetology students who will represent the state of Texas at the National Leadership and Skills Conference in Kansas City, Mo., are, left to right, (front row) Jillian Hammond of Angleton, Jessica Walsh of Houston, Breana Mieszanek of Dickinson, Daphne White of Nacogdoches, (back row) Cindy Hunt of Houston, Audrey Copponex of League City, Akia Buffington of Missouri City, Jonquil Wright of Friendswood, Samantha Foley of Pearland and Jaime Bagwell of Alvin. Submitted photo

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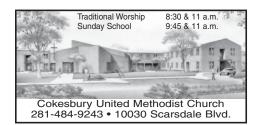
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Page 6, Section A, South Belt-Ellington Leader, Thursday, April 1, 2010

Easter

The

who is known.

Profile Series: Reed O'Connor

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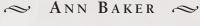


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By Matt Griesmyer ly, friends and neighbors to me while I was there," ing in Dallas as a federal lose touch after moving on O'Connor said. "I went tight-knit community that is the South from secondary education. Belt-Ellington area is un-It is for this reason that like any other community the Leader will present in Houston. Neighbors a series of profile pieces know each other, kids go spotlighting the achievemy teaching certificate. to school together and ments that have come to grow up playing sports or in the same clubs; it really graduates and attendees of high schools in the South is a community where one Belt area. ate school. can hardly go anywhere

"I have very fond memories as I sit here today, look-ing back," said federal Disand not run into someone The students who attend trict Judge Reed O'Connor, the area high schools have Dobie class of 1983. "South been preceded by many graduates, but unfortunate-Belt was a really nice place to grow up."

O'Connor grew up in my, have two daughters, the South Belt area, along Caitlin, 13, and Margaret, 9. Both daughters enjoy with his brothers John and playing basketball and softball and are very good Michael, as well as his sister, Kathleen. Until his eighth-grade year, he lived students. in Sagemont; in 1978 he and his family moved to Kirkwood South. He ata federal district judge has not been a smooth one. tended local schools until his passage into post-secondary education and beproblems on his way to vond in 1983. At Dobie, O'Connor some were more problematic than others

was the quarterback of the football team throughout his tenure, also playing on the freshman and sophomore basketball teams. Growing up he also played on the Sagemont Knights, the former area youth football team, as well as the local Little League baseball

team fondest memories of area outside of Washington, sports was when the Dobie D.C. Supporting his wife, football team advanced to O'Connor was able to get bidistrict playoffs his junior and senior years. He also recalled playing Little League football on the junior Knights football team ment. under Coach Rock Sawyer and having one of their games televised on a UHF channel.

"I didn't really know what I wanted to be when was in school at Dobie; I just knew I was going to college and hoped something would come

City park seeks area inspector

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department is looking for someone from the South Belt area to inspect Beverly Hills Park once a month. The department has issued a new program, designed to build a partnership between itself and concerned citizens.

The Certified Park Inspection program enlists the help of citizens in maintaining and protecting the natural assets that city parks provide. To be eligible, candi-

dates must adhere to guide-Candidates lines. must receive two hours of training, sign an agreement and liability waiver agreeing to inspect the park once a month for one year and

live near the park. Volunteers are recognized by members of city council and will receive a certificate of completion upon fulfilling their obligation. They help certify eir park as a quality park

district court judge, apinto college - the first year pointed in 2007 I went to Sam Houston What are his plans for State, then I went to Uni-

he met his future wife.

Texas all my life, having to

move to D.C. was tough,"

Currently, O'Connor's

wife works for Exxon Mo-

bil Corp. as an attorney,

ally, to his current appoint-

O'Connor said.

and has since 1990.

He and his wife, Tam-

the future? "Well, my current poversity of Houston and got sition carries a lifetime appointment," O'Connor Graduation from UH came in 1986, and in 1987 said. "I will just do what I O'Connor moved to graduam doing as best as I can until it is time to retire."

O'Connor continued to O'Connor maintains South Texas College of Law connections to the area by in downtown Houston, way of his brother Michael where he ended up getting who is currently stationed more than a degree in law as a jet engine mechanic at Ellington Field.

His other siblings also remain in close proximity to the South Belt area, with O'Connor's older brother, John, working as a safety instructor just out-side of Freeport, and his The road to becoming sister, Kathleen, working as an attorney in Houston. living close to Memorial Reed O'Connor has Park. O'Connor's mother, encountered bumps and Eileen "Star" O'Connor, is currently retired and passhis Dallas courtroom, and es the time traveling, visiting her children in the process. In 1994, O'Connor's "After having lived in father, George, died.

While the former South Belt resident has not lived in the area for quite some time, he does acknowledge reminiscing about his times around the area. "The difference be-

In 2002, they transtween where I live now ferred her to their office and South Belt is night One of O'Connor's in northern Virginia, just and day," O'Connor said. ndest memories of area outside of Washington, "Back then, wherever I went I ran into people that I knew, grew up with went to school with or was a temporary assignment within the Department of friends with. It was a re-Justice which led, eventually nice place to grow up. It is unfortunate that my daughters won't grow up As mentioned before, and experience a similar O'Connor is currently liv- environment.'



Former South Belt resident and Dobie graduate Reed O'Connor at his inves titure. Pictured are, left to right, Maggie, Tammy (behind Reed), Reed and Caitlin O'Connor. Reed is currently a federal district judge located in Dallas serving a lifetime appointment. Photo submitted

Hobby Lions Club to meet

Hobby Airport Lions Club will meet Wednesday, April 7, at noon at the Golden Corral at Fuqua and I-45. For more information, e-mail HobbyAirportLions@ gmail.com.

HCMGA presents landscape program

The Harris County Master Gardener Association's Green Thumb Gardening Series will present a program, WaterSmart Landscapes, Tuesday, April 13, from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the Bass Pro Shops, Highway 288 at the Sam Houston Tollway in Pearland. The lecture is free and open to the public. For more information on this event, visit the Web site at http://hcmgap2.tamu.edu.



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SECTION B SPORTS & CLASSIFIED

Four-year stay ends **Dobie's Mullan** resigns soccer post

"It's not about winning

"Yes, we will lose 11 se-

have plenty of talent coming

back. It's time to be more

Brian, is a player with the

Houston Dynamo profes-

sional soccer team, said she

Easter

Brunch

Mullan, whose husband,

available to my family."

varsity

Lady

3-2

Dobie's loss to Clear reaching the playoffs four Lake in the area round of straight seasons, the varsity girls' soccer "It's not abo playoffs has also brought an for me," Mullan said. end to head coach Kersten Mullan's career. niors to graduation, but we

Citing family reasons as the biggest part of her decishe is Mom to young sion sons Brady and Keegan – Mullan has stepped down after overseeing four of the best seasons in school history

Deno's

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Hours: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

will remain at Dobie in her role as an Advanced Place-The program was on the rise when Mullan took over ment English instructor. For prior to the 2007 season, and more on Mullan's resignathe Lady Longhorns thrived tion and future plans, see under Mullan's direction, Page 3B.

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base Meanwhile, Dobie suffered a 1-0 loss at Pearland as the Lady Oilers' Jessica Bowden earned the shut-Continued on Page 3B

At right, Clear Brook third baseman Mehgan Reyes fires to first base during the first inning against Alvin.

Lady Wolverines' soccer advances

Clear Brook's varsity in Deer Park. The other semifinal will pit defending soccer team has advanced Region III champion Clear to the Region III final four Lake against Seven Lakes. tournament for the first time The Region III championin school history.

Beth Stratton had a goal in the second half as Clear ship game will be Saturday. April 3, at Abshire Stadium. Brook and Fort Bend Austin A season ago, the Lady Wolverines made their way played to a 1-1 tie through to the regional semifinals regulation and a pair of 10-minute overtime sesbefore being eliminated. This season, playing for sions.

first-year head coach Jeff In the shootout that followed, the Lady Wolverines Brewer, the Lady Wolverscored two goals to just one for Fort Bend Austin, allowing the locals to keep playing in the Region III tournament

take on Kingwood in the Region III semifinals Friday, April 2, at Abshire Stadium in the regional quarters.

Dobie teams silenced

Dobie High School's rated at all," Dobie head varsity boys' and girls' soc- coach Kersten Mullan said. cer teams were eliminated during area round playoff action.

The Lady Longhorns saw their season come to an end as defending Region III champion Clear Lake (20-1-2) scored four second-half goals to come away with a 4-0 victory March 25 at Ga-

lena Park ISD Stadium. Dobie held its own in the first half, but when a couple of injuries knocked out several key players in the sec-

ond half, the Lady Falcons took control. "We knew Clear Lake was a talented team and they are by no means over-

Clear Brook vs. Kingwood Friday, April 2, 2:30 p.m., Abshire Stadium Clear Lake vs. Seven Lakes

Friday, April 2, noon, Abshire Stadium



Holiday affects sports schedule

As it annually does, the down Clear Creek for a sec-upcoming Good Friday ond time. holiday will alter the public

school athletics schedules. In observance of Good Friday, the respective athletics teams will be in competition Thursday, April 1. The varsity baseball teams at Dobie and Clear Brook had best not get

caught thinking about the holiday too soon. The Longhorns, who are 3-2 through five games, will play Sam Rayburn as both

teams continue to chase the leaders in 22-5A. The same goes for Clear

Brook, which has struggled early in District 24-5A play at 2-3. The Wolverines, aiming to close out the first half of district play, will take on Clear Springs at home.

On the softball field, Dobie faces a big game against Memorial in the 22-5A chase. In the first round of district play, Memorial handed Dobie a 1-0 loss. Meanwhile, Clear Brook

is leading District 24-5A after the first half of district action and will look to Regular scheduling re turns Tuesday, April 6.

Special April 1 action Brook baseball hosts Clear Springs Thursday, April 1, 7:30 p.m., Wolverine Field Dobie baseball hosts Sam Rayburn Thursday, April 1, 4 p.m., Dobie High School **Dobie softball vs. Memorial** Thursday, April 1, 6:30 p.m., PISD complex **Brook softball at Clear Creek** Thursday, April 1, 7:30 p.m., Lady Wildcat Field





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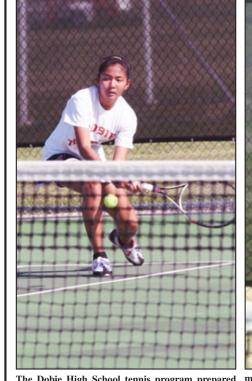


JFD netters ready as 22-5A tourney nears

fought with everything they had. We promised that if we were going to go down, we were going down at our best. I was proud of the team because we did that." Early in the second half,

an injury to midfielder Chelsea Deleon started a domino effect as the Lady Longhorns lost a couple of other key players. "Maybe the outcome

would have been the same, but we don't have the depth Lake has," Mullan said. "Losing Chelsea in the center-mid was tough All of Continued on Page 3B final round in a dramatic shootout.



The Dobie High School tennis program prepared for the upcoming District 22-5A championships by facing St. John's at the Longhorn courts March 30. Now, players such as Tina Le (above) and Martin Zuber (at right) will compete at the 22-5A tourna-



ment April 6-7 at Strawberry Park in Pasadena with hopes of making their way to the Region III tournament. Le will compete in the girls' singles draw, while Zuber will likely pair with Jisha Jose (not shown) in the mixed doubles. See Page 6B for details

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8-under Longhorns third at Santa Fe



The 8-under South Belt Longhorns played in the Santa Fe softball tournament, taking third place. Mem-

sica DeLaCerda, Juliette Aguirre, Alexsia Garcia Mikayla Gutierrez, Maritza Elizalde, Justice Maes bers of the team are, left to right, (front row) Abby Sophia Colmenares, (back row) coaches Jennifer Duran, Sarah Ahmad, Josee Rivas, (middle row) Jes- Chavez, Raquel Maes and Linda "Memaw" Harris.

Pasadena ISD intermediate track coming

field season is about to kick boys' and girls' divisions. into high gear at Auxiliary Stadium in Pasadena. Athletes will compete in

their specialty events dur-Teams and athletes from ing the four regular-season the district's 10 schools par-ticipated in a practice meet ing for the PISD champion-

Dobie hockey player lands coveted berth

each round, narrowing the

from the nine states that

Once there, Murray

The RMD Camp is held

Tyler Murray, a junior over the tryout weekend, and players were cut after at Dobie High School, was selected to advance to USA Hockey's Rocky Mountain field after each session. District Player Development Camp (RMD Camp) in May in Salt Lake City and is attended by players for the second year in a row.

Murray was selected as make up the Rocky Mounone of 24 players out of 80 tain District. who attended the Texas af- Once the filiate camp in Dallas March 20-21.

will go through a series of tryouts in hopes of be-All of the players in Mun ray's group have the same Hockey's National Hockey's Natio

Sports calendar

SOFTBALL

Thursday, April 1 Dobie varsity vs. Memorial, PISD complex, 6:30 Clear Brook varsity at Clear Creek, 7:30 Dobie JV vs. Memorial, PISD complex, 5:00 Clear Brook JV at Clear Creek, 6:00

Tuesday, April 6

Dobie varsity vs. South Houston, PISD complex, 6:30 Clear Brook varsity at Dickinson, 7:00 Dobie JV vs. South Houston, PISD complex, 5:00 Clear Brook JV at Dickinson, 5:30

Friday, April 9

Dobie varsity at Deer Park, 6:30 Clear Brook varsity hosts Brazoswood, 7:30 Dobie JV at Deer Park, 5:00 Clear Brook varsity hosts Brazoswood, 6:00

BASEBALL

Thursday, April 1 Dobie varsity hosts Sam Rayburn, Dobie, 4:00 Clear Brook varsity hosts Clear Springs, 7:00 Clear Brook JV at Clear Springs, 7:00 Dobie JV vs. S. Rayburn, PISD complex, 4:30 Dobie sophomores at Sam Rayburn, campus, 4:00 Clear Brook sophomores at Clear Springs. 4:30

The Pasadena Indepen- March 30 after press time, ships, which will be held dent School District's in- and now come four regular May 19-20. Only those athletes who ships, which will be held letes are ready for the track der way.

finish in the top six places Because Auxiliary Stadium is the host site for the of a respective event will qualify for the district championships. The track and field season represents the final chance for the schools to build their point totals toward the PISD Cup standings.

Currently, Beverly Hills has a slight edge over Bon-

During the district cham-pionship, the boys' and dy in the standings, but as girls' field events will be held May 19, with the runmany as seven schools have a realistic chance of grabbing the top spot. With that in mind, athning 20. events coming May

Intermediate track schedule

Thursday, April 15 – Boys' meet

Pasadena ISD

Wednesday, April 21 – Girls' meet

Wednesday, May 19

Championships, running events All events at Auxiliary Stadium, 5 p.m. Note: District championships will include only athletes who prequalify during regular season meets

Brook's Griffin, Baylor make women's Final Four

Allegiances in the South won the national crown in headed to San Antonio's 2005

Belt area were divided as the Duke Blue Devils and Griffin, now a junior Baylor Bears battled for a point guard, is no longer spot in the National Collethe prolific scorer she was giate Athletic Association's while playing for head Women's Basketball Final coach Pamela Carwford at Clear Brook. Four.

Instead, Griffin's job is In the end, Clear Brook fans of former Lady Wol- to get the basketball into the verines' star Kelli Griffin hands of the team's scorers, to get the basketball into the were cheering the loudest as including Griner, already a Baylor reeled off a late 13-2 freshman sensation at the run to down Duke 51-48 collegiate level. March 29 in the Memphis For much of the second Regional final. half, it appeared Duke was

Duke got 10 points and 12 rebounds from Dobie High School graduate Karima Christmas, but the Lady Bears' Brittney Griner, the nation's top high school recruit out of Aldine Nimitz High School last season, led the way for Baylor.

Griner, a 6-foot-8 post player who has already set an NCAA tournament record for blocked shots, hit the key bucket with 45 seconds to go as Baylor qualified for its second-ever Final Four. The Lady Bears

Kelli Griffin (right), a 2007 graduate of Clear Brook High School, is headed to the NCAA Women's Basketball Final Four along with her Baylor University teammates after the Lady defeated Duke Bears 51-48 March 29 in the Memphis Regional final. Griffin, a junior, is the Bears' starter at point guard. Against Duke, Griffin registered four assists to help her team advance. Baylor, 27-9 is now set to take on the tournament's No. 1 overall seed in the national semifinals April 4 at the Alamodome. Connecticut features star post player Tina Charles, but Baylor will counter with Brittney Griner, a freshman from Nimitz High School in Houston. Baylor Photography

Local sports news, notes

SJC men's hoops tryouts coming

The San Jacinto College men's basketball team will host open tryouts for the 2010-2011 team on Saturday, April 10, at 11 a.m. Tryouts will take place at Anders Gymnasium located on the Central campus at 8060 Spencer Highway in Pasadena. There is a \$20 processing fee for the tryouts, and participants should arrive at 10:30 a.m. Anyone interested in trying out for the team can register the day of the tryouts. Participants are required to sign a waiver before competing, and should dress appropriately. Questions about the open tryouts should be directed to head coach Scott Gernander at 281-476-1847 or assistant coach Scott R. Gernander at 281-476-1849.

JFD baseball boosters to meet

The Dobie High School baseball booster club will host a meeting Wednesday, April 7, at 7 p.m. in the athletics media room. All Dobie baseball parents are welcome to attend

Optimists Junior Open Tennis April 23-24

The Pasadena Optimists Junior Open tennis tournament is coming to the Strawberry Tennis Center April 23-24. Pasadena Independent School District students are encouraged to participate. Age divisions include boys' and girls' 14-under, 16-under and 18-under. Entry fee on or before April 3 is \$10 or \$15 thereafter. Deadline for entry is April 13. Participants may mail their entries to POJO, c/o Charlie Riggs, 1708 Ruella Lane, Pasadena, 77502. Matches will include eight-game pro sets, with no ad scoring. For information, call Riggs at 713-740-0330.

San Jacinto College soccer tryouts

The San Jacinto College men's soccer team will hold tryouts for the 2010-2011 season at the South campus soccer field, located at 13735 Beamer Road. Tryouts are open to high school seniors or recent graduates and college students. Participants are required to bring their own shin guards and are encouraged to bring water. Tryout times and dates include April 5, from 7 to 9 p.m., and April 30, from 7 to 9 p.m. For more information, call head coach David Santesteban at 281-922-3475 or direct email to David.Santesteban@sjcd.edu

UTPA lands SJC pair

Alamodome, the host site of the Final Four April 4 and April 6.

But Baylor, trailing 46-38 with 4 minutes, 59 seconds remaining, clamped down on defense and hit the big shots needed to come

away with the victory. Duke managed a lastsecond 3-point attempt, but the shot fell way short as the Bears (27-9) celebrated the victory. Baylor previously knocked off host seed Ten-

nessee in the Memphis Renecticut, the nation's No. gional semifinals. Christmas, who has one one of the most successful

year remaining at Duke, was programs in women's bas named to the Memphis Reketball history, will enter its gional all-tournament team. game against Baylor with Duke, the champions of the an undefeated mark Atlantic Coast Conference will be held April 4. Baylor finished the season at 30-6.

Griner, the most valuable player of the Memphis regional, Griffin and others will now head to San Antonio. Baylor's national semifi-

nal matchup is against Con-

8:30 p.m. Houston time on ESPN. Oklahoma meets Oklahoma meets Stanford at 6 p.m. in the other semifinal. The championship game is April 6 at 7:30 p.m. on ESPN. Sagemont-Beverly Hills

ranked team. Connecticut

The national semifinals

and Connecticut face off at

Little League Standings As of March 31 on league Web site Junior/Senior Division Team W Yankees 3 0 Braves 2 0 **Cardinals** 0 Rangers 0 Red Sox Astros **Diamond Backs** N **Major Division** W T Team 3 Astros 0 Blue Jays A **Cardinals** Braves Diamond Backs Rangers Yankees **Red Sox Minor Division** <u>Team</u> W T 2 0 Astros **Braves** 2 0 **Diamond Backs** 2 Rangers 2 0 Phillies 1 Blue Jays **Cardinals** Yankees Cubs 0 2 0 Red Sox 0 **PeeWee Division** <u>Team</u> T 0 **Diamond Backs** 2 Astros Cubs **Phillies** 1 1 **Tigers** 1 0 Rangers Yankees 0 Blue Jays 0

Machine Pitch Division

Team	W	L	T				
Red Sox	2	0	0				
Mets	2	0	0				
Cardinals	2	0	0				
Rangers	3	1	0				

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Wednesday, April 14 – Girls' meet Thursday, April 22 – Boys' meet

Wednesday, May 5 – Girls' meet Thursday, May 6 – Boys' meet

Wednesday, May 12 – Girls' meet Thursday, May 13 – Boys' meet

Championships, field events

Thursday, May 20

SJC women's hoops pair to UTPA

District 22-5A junior varsity track and field championships, there will be a two-week break in the intermediate school schedule. Each of the meets during the season are slated to begin at 5 p.m.

and field season to get un

Monday, April 5 Dobie JV hosts Pearland, PISD complex, 7:00 Clear Brook JV at Alvin, 7:00 Clear Brook sophomores at Alvin, 4:30

Tuesday, April 6

Dobie varsity at Pearland, campus, 4:00 Clear Brook varsity hosts Alvin, 7:30 Dobie sophomores host Pearland, Dobie, 4:00

Friday, April 9

Clear Brook varsity at Clear Creek, 7:30 Dobie varsity at Memorial, 4:00 Clear Brook JV hosts Clear Creek, 7:00 Clear Brook sophomores host Clear Creek, 4:30 Dobie sophomores host Memorial, Dobie, 4:00

Saturday, April 10 Dobie sophomores host Memorial, Dobie, noon

TENNIS Thursday, April 1 Dobie JV at Sunseri Classic, Galveston, TBA

Wednesday, April 7 Dobie varsity at 22-5A championships, Strawberry, 3 p.m.

Thursday, April 8 Dobie varsity at 22-5A championships, Strawberry, 8:30 a.m

TRACK AND FIELD Friday, April 2 Dobie varsity boys and girls at Clear Springs Relays, TBA

Saturday, April 3 Dobie varsity boys and girls at Clear Springs Relays, TBA



Ashley Watson (seated right) signed letters of intent to continue their education and basketball careers at the University of Texas-Pan American. Those with the pair at the signing included, left to right, San Jacinto College North athletic director Shawn Silman and women's basketball head coach Eric Taylor.

Photo by Rob Vanya, San Jacinto College marketing department

San Jacinto College	She played in 24 games,	Kangers	3	1
women's basketball players	and scored 79 points, aver-	Braves	2	1
Adanna Opara and Ashley	aging 3.3 points per game.		_	
Watson have signed letters	She made 15 of 22 shots	Diamond Backs	2	2
of intent to play basketball for the University of Texas-	from the field for an impres-	Cubs	1	2
Pan American, located in	sive 72 percent field accura- cy. Watson also grabbed 60	Cubs	1	4
Edinburg.	rebounds, and tallied 5 as-	Astros	0	2
Both sophomores will	sists, 21 blocked shots, and	Variation	0	
graduate from San Jacinto	7 steals.	Yankees	0	3
College in May. Both ex-	Opara will receive an as-	Blue Jays	0	3
celled as post players on	sociate degree in physical education from San Jacinto	0		
the 2009-2010 women's	T-Ball Division			
basketball team at the North	College in May and plans to	І-Баі	i Divis	ion
campus. Opara, a graduate of	study nursing at UTPA. Watson will receive an	Team	W	1
Alief Taylor High School,	associate degree in physical			
ranked among the Region	education from San Jacinto	Reds	4	l
XIV leaders in overall of-	College in May and plans	Yankees	4	1
fense.	to major in pre-medicine at		-	
She played in 29 games,	UTPĂ.	Diamond Backs	4	j
averaging 11 points per	Eric Taylor, head coach	Phillies	3	1
game. She made 133 of 268	of the women's basketball	Fnuttes	3	1
shots from the field for a 50	team, commended Opara	Cubs	3	2
percent field shooting accuracy.	and Watson as exemplary student-athletes.		•	
Opara ranked first in Re-	"Although the team	Bluejays	3	2
gion XIV in rebounding,	didn't win a lot of battles	Astros	2	2
with a total of 332 for an	on the court (11 wins while		_	
average of 11.4 per game.	the two students attended	Red Sox	2	2
She ranked second in the re-	the college), Ashley and	Braves	1	Ĵ
gion in blocked shots with	Adanna did win the war by	Draves	1	
84, an average of 2.9 per	earning an associate degree,	Rangers	1	Ĵ
game. Opara also tallied 31 assists and 26 steals for the	so they can go on to earn a	Mata	1	
season.	higher degree," Taylor said. "These are absolutely	Mets	1	Ĵ
Watson, who gradu-	two fabulous young ladies,	Cardinals	1	Ĵ
ated from Haughton High	and they will make UT-Pan			
School in Haughton, La.,	American proud, as they	White Sox	1	Ĵ
ranked high on the team's	did here at San Jacinto Col-	Tigers	0	2
statistical chart.	lege."	118013	v	~

JFD soccer programs knocked from playoffs

Continued from Page 1B the players gave it their all. But we lost a couple more in the second half, which really hurt us because the depth was depleted."

The toughest part of the outcome of the game was seeing the end of the line come for 11 seniors in the program, including Lariza Uribe, who was injured just prior to the start of the playoffs.

Yancy Moreno was exceptional in her final game, and four-year starter Ashlyn Leighton did everything she could in order to make the outcome different. Lake simply had too much power.

So it's the end of the line for 2010, and Dobie's var-sity girls' program will now proceed without Mullan, who resigned her role after the season (see below).

For 2011, the new head coach will inherit a solid base of talent, paced by leading scorer Tanya Polomares.

A sophomore, Palomares rebounded from a scary soccer playing accident last summer to give the team double digit goals.

Goalkeeper Jackie Baade started both playoff games as a freshman, and she is back.

The other players slated to return include Monika Rivera, Gabby Silva, Karen Treto, Loyce Gayo and Chelsea Williams.

Clements takes out JFD in the area round. In a matchup of two Admittedly disappoint-teams that advanced to the ed by the outcome, Dobie Admittedly disappoint-

Region III tournament last head coach Jesse Saavedra season, Clements got past said the Longhorns played the second half before the the Longhorns this time 2-1 a good game, but that the Rangers' Andy McDaniel

The Longhorns were in a 1-1 tie with Clements in

better.

Rangers were simply a little

Saavedra said. few plays here and there. We have nothing to be down about. It just didn't happen for us.' Saavedra has to watch several main cogs exit the program as seniors, including four-year letterman Walter Anoruo and Irving Garza, a three-year starter. players included Adrian Ramirez, Julian Romero, Raul Jimenez and Omar Luna Longhorns will welcome back a core group that includes Palma, fellow forward Carlos Ibarra, leading scorer Omar Arrequin, Jose Gonzalez and goalkeeper Jose Balvaneda. dra said.

zalez will return from an injury. In my mind, we should Dobie's Greta Salazar (19), defending against Clear Lake's Erin McLemore, is one of 11 seniors set to exit the program after being part of a successful run at the var-sity level that has included four straight playoff runs. GaryWPhotos.com best of them next season."

After four seasons, Mullan ready to embrace family

By John Bechtle Sports Editor

Kersten Mullan treated the Dobie High School varsity girls' soccer program like family over the past four seasons, a period of time that will go down as for them," Mullan said. one of the program's most successful runs

said.

Now, it's time for Mullan to take care of her real familv, which includes husband Brian and young sons Brady and Keagan. Mullan formally an-

I began this thought process nounced her decision to around midseason this year, hand over the reins of the and I know it's time.' program shortly after the When the Mullans arady Longhorns were derived in the Houston area in feated in the area playoffs,

4-0 against Clear Lake. But for Mullan, the decision had been made weeks earlier. And as hard as it is to relinquish not only a role but a responsibility she con-siders dear, it's the right decision

Brian Mullan, a professional soccer player with the Houston Dynamo, began the 2010 season with his team a week ago. Prior to that, it was Brian

Mullan as well as Kersten's parents who handled a good portion of the parenting responsibilities while Kersten guided Dobie through the soccer season.

After four years of that trend playing out, it is time for Mom to give something back to her family.

Mullan plans to remain at Dobie in her role as an Advanced Placement English instructor. But being a soccer coach, which also includes leading the offseason program, has become too much

The fact that Mullan's departure coincides with the departure of 11 senior playcarried no weight It is simply the right time to step aside.

who started in this program order for Brian to play for with me four years ago are the Dynamo, a franchise going to graduate," Mullan that had been based in San Jose, Kersten had only ex-"This decision has every-

pected to teach English at thing to do with my family Dobie. and my desire to be there But Mullan's arrival came at a time when then February and March when "As a mother, when you varsity girls' coach Jesse start to consider all of the Saavedra desired to become the varsity boys' coach. A at Dobie and Brian is gone. time that you aren't there, especially when your chilmere mention of her high dren are young like mine school coaching experience (Brady is 5, Keagan 2), you in California was enough for have to take a look at things. Dobie to make the trade.

The move has worked out well for both programs. Saavedra has guided a oncestruggling boys' program to three playoff berths in four

years. Mullan, meanwhile, led the Lady Longhorns to lan will indeed take some come varsity members. four playoff berths. great memories with her. "As a professional soccer She happened upon a Dobie

player, Brian travels a lot," program that was already Mullan explained. "There have been a lot of times in deliver the current group of my parents have to come with us while I coach stay

"If I felt like there was a way that I could continue to coach but still do right by my family, I would. It's just not going to happen. "We do have 11 seniors,

and you graduate a new group of seniors every year. "Às a coach, you are always going to feel like you are leaving players behind, but I just feel like this is

fortunate to see the growth and development of these the right time to make a change.' particular concern young ladies over the past Of to Mullan is that she pours four years. 100 percent of herself into

everything she does. She believes she is more valuable in Dobie's English classrooms than she is on the field, and she certainly knows her family deserves more of her time.

"I would love to be a terrific mom, a terrific English teacher and a terrific soccer coach, but right now I don't think I'm excelling at anything

"I love teaching, and I still want to do that. Brian's career as a soccer player is always unpredictable, but he wants to continue to play as long as he feels good.

"Hopefully, his career will continue in Houston. Right now, that's the plan. We have enjoyed our time here.

At left, Mullan (in hat) chats with then Dobie senior player Taylor Jeleon late in the 200 season. Mullan missed a good portion of the season while preparing for the birth of her son Keagan.

A]

At right, Dobie's Ariel Romano (16), battles for control of the ball against Victoria Samscored his second goal of ple of Clear Lake (19) the game. Dobie earned a breakaway moments later during the first half of play. In the area round with freshman Pedro Mares of the playoffs against leading the way but were turned away at the net. defending Region III champion Clear Lake, "Looking at the film, we the Lady Longhorns played a great soccer game," forced a scoreless first half with solid defense "Clements is a very before the Lady Falcons good team, and it was one gathered themselves for of those games where the a 4-0 victory. It was the outcome was decided by a

So now, like Mullan,

The team's other senior

For the 2011 season the

"It's always tough losing

excelling and was about to

It's been a journey Mul-

lan has enjoyed immensely.

She missed a good portion

of the 2008 season while

preparing to give birth to

Keagan, but she was there

during the playoffs to pro-

vide support. There have

been dinners, team activi-

ties and so forth that have

delivered priceless memo-

"I cannot complain one bit about the senior class,"

Mullan said. "I have been

"In addition to that, I

seniors.

ries

third straight appearance in the area playoff round for Dobie, which finished third in the District 22-5A standings this season.

GaryWPhotos.com

At right, Walter Anorou (white uniform) battles Deer Park's Phillip Blake during a District 22-5A game earlier this season. Anorou was a four-year varsity letterman for the Longhorns, who made three playoff appearances during his stay. Anorou played both as a defender and midfielder during his players, but we are going to come back strong," Saave-defensive presence. Anorou was one of the leaders "We have two freshmen of the 2009 team that went at forward, and Jose Gon- all the way to the Region III semifinals, and the 2010 team beat Channelbe able to score with the view to climb to the area round. GarvWPhotos.com

there before."

decision.

and

But those same players

has taken from her family to

commitment Mullan





Softball races at midway point

out victory. The Lady Oilfense and pitching to take that led to the game's lone care of the rest. run.

Bowden tossed a threewhich took command of the District 22-5A race at 7-0 at the midway point.

Dobie sophomore pitch- ning streak.

The Lady Longhorns while slipping to 5-2 in the standings with the loss, breaking a five-game win-

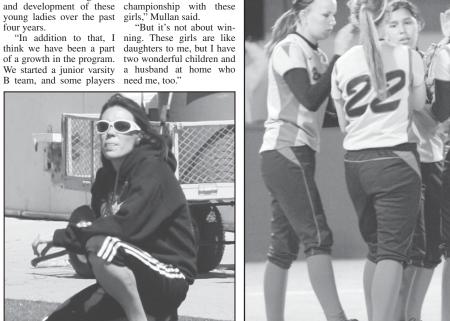
morial beat Dobie 1-0 in the At Clear Brook, the Lady Wolverines could not climb all of the way out of its early 3-0 hole as Alvin forced a tie atop the standings with Brook at 6-1. Pitcher Emma

Napoli took the loss



Dobie now faces a cru-





give to the Dobie program. She feels comfortable with the move. "It's tough, and man would I have loved to have continued and won a state

also understand the time hit shutout for Pearland, made two errors in the game





"I would hate for anyone to think it's about winning. or the fact that 11 players



In four great seasons at Dobie, head coach Kersten each season. She stepped down shortly after the 2010 Photos by John Bechtle season.

From left, Clear Brook pitcher Brandi Holaday, Katie Bschof (22), Mehgan Reyes Mullan guided the Lady Longhorns to a playoff seed in Stephanie Gonzalez (4) and Bridgette Begle meet in the circle before the top of the third inning in the Lady Wolverines' 3-2 loss to Alvin March 30 at Clear Brook. Photo by John Bechtle

THURSDAY, APRIL 1

AA Meeting – "Breakfast With Bill each Monday through Friday. from 7 to 8 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Room 114. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in. Noon

Houston Area Parkinson Society - Free water exercise from noon to 1 p.m. at Clear Lake Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd. in Webster. Visit www.hapsonline.org for a list of services offered.

Al-Anon - Meets every Thursday from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Room 111. For information, call 281-487-8787.

6:30 p.m.

St. Luke The Evangelist Catholic Church Tutoring - St. Luke's offers tutoring classes Tuesdays from 7 to 9 p.m. and Thursdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the church located at 11011 Hall Road For more information, call 281-484-1397 or e-mail ice pavlicek@ vahoo com

Diabetes Support Group – A support group for young adults with diabetes. All subjects are open for discussion: new technologies, research advances, fears, phobias, dating and other personal mat ters. Meets the first Thursday of each month at 1315 St. Joseph Parkway #1705, Medical Place One. Contact Dan Steiner, CDE, at 713-756-8536 for more information.

7 p.m. **The Bay Area Writers League** – Meets the first Thursday of each month at Barnes and Noble at Bay Area Boulevard and the Gulf Freeway. Newcomers are welcome.

8:30 p.m.

Alcoholics Anonymous – Alcohol problems? AA meetings are held Thursdays from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m., and Sundays and Tuesdays from 8 to 9 p.m. at St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta Street. For information, call 713-204-2481.

FRIDAY APRIL 2

AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" each Monday through Friday, from 7 to 8 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Room 114. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.

Free Line Dance Class - The Friendswood Senior Citizen Program offers free line dancing classes. The class is held at the activity building, located at 416 Morningside. All area senior citizens, 55 or older, are invited. Previous experience not required. For more information, call 281-482-8441.

Noon

Moving Forward Women's Adult Children Anonymous – The ACA group meets Fridays at noon at the Up The Street Club in Webster, 508 Nasa Parkway, in room 4, ACA is a 12-step program of hope, healing and recovery for people who grew up in alcoholic or dysfunctional homes. For more information, call 281-286-1431.

SATURDAY, APRIL 3

6 p.m.

Frontier Squares – Meets to square dance at the Westminster Academy at 670 E. Medical Center Blvd. in Webster. Refreshments provided. For more information, contact Gina Sherman at 281-554-5675 or visit www.frontiersquares.com

SUNDAY, APRIL 4

2 p.m.

2 p.m. **Grief Support Group** – For any adult who has lost a loved one. Meets every Sunday, except Mother's Day, Easter and Christmas from 2 to 3:15 p.m. at First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway. For more information, call 281-487-8787.

3 p.m.

Pasadena Little Theatre - Closing performance for The Octette Bridge Club by P.J. Barry will be at 3 p.m. at Pasadena Little Theatre, 4318 Allen-Genoa Road. Kathy Woods is the director.

Reservations available online at www.pasadenalittletheatre.org or call 713-941-1758.

DAR

8 p.m Alcoholics Anonymous - Alcohol problems? AA meetings are held Sundays and Tuesdays from 8 to 9 p.m. and Thursdays from

from 7 to 8 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Room 114. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.

Houston Area Parkinson Society – Free exercise and speech therapy from 9 to 10:30 a.m. at Clear Lake Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster. Visit www.hapsonline.org for a complete list of services offered.

Noon

Free Exercise Class - Basic low impact aerobic classes on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at noon at the Sagemont Community Center, 11507 Hughes Road. Registration is required. For more information, call Beatrice at 281-922-2343.

6 p.m

Scrabble Club #511 - Meets every Monday at the IHOP on Fugua from 6 to 9 p.m. All who enjoy the game or want to learn to play are invited to join. For more information, call 281-488-2923.

6:30 p.m.

New Directions Singles Club – The New Directions Singles Club has moved its time and location from St. Paul's Catholic Church, Nassau Bay, to Webster Presbyterian Church, 201 West NASA Parkway in Webster. Meetings are held every Monday evening beginning at 6:30 p.m. This organization was created as a social support outlet for 50+ widowed, divorced and never married indi-

viduals. In addition to the regular meeting, a potluck dinner is held on the first and third Mondays. Call 713-340-2354 for information. **Civil Air Patrol Meeting** – Weekly at Ellington Field in the Civil Air Patrol Building. Call 281-484-1352 and leave a message for more information.

7 p.m. Grief Support Group – "Friends Helping Friends" meets every Monday from 7 to 8:15 p.m. at Clear Lake Rehab Hospital, 655 E Medical Center Blvd. in Webster. Those who have lost a spouse or other loved one are invited to participate. For information, call Betty Flynn at 281-474-3430 or Diana Kawalec at 281-334-1033.

TUESDAY, APRIL 6

7 a.m. AA Meeting – "Breakfast With Bill" each Monday through Friday. from 7 to 8 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Room 114. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.

11:30 a.m.

Local NARFE Meeting - The National Association of Retired Federal Employees, Chapter 1321, meets the first Tuesday of each month in the Clear Lake Community Center, 5001 NASA Parkway. A meal will be available for \$6. For more information, call Bob Mitchell at 281-333-2881.

Noon

Free Exercise Class - Basic low impact aerobic classes on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at noon at the Sagemont Community Center, 11507 Hughes Road. Registration is required. For more information, call Beatrice at 281-922-2343.

1 p.m.

Trailmixers - Meets the first Tuesday of the month at the Luby's Cafeteria on Fugua. Former and current employees of J. Frank Dobie High School are welcome for lunch and conversation

Continued on Page 4B

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8:30 to 9:30 p.m. at St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta Street. For information, call 713-204-2481.

MONDAY, APRIL 5

7 a.m. AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" each Monday through Friday.

Leader Reader Ads 25 Words - \$8 • 3 Weeks \$22 Business - 25 Words - \$10 • 3 Weeks \$27



Leader Reader Ads

25 Words - \$8 • 3 Weeks \$22

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Thursday, April 1, 2010, South Belt-Ellington Leader, Section B, Page 5

Leader Reader Ads 25 Words for \$8 • 3 Weeks for \$22



Varsity baseball races Longhorns, Wolverines facing uphill battles

quite midway through the district baseball lost two straight following a races, the varsity teams at Clear Brook and Dobie are already facing uphill battles 30 at Maguire Field, is also 2-3 with a pair of big games while trying to keep pace remaining in the first half of with the playoff contend-22-5A action.

Clear Brook lost 4-2 to The Longhorns lost 7-6 Clear Lake March 26 to fall back to 1-3 in the 24-5A March 26 as La Porte's standings. Kendrick Fortunately, the Wolveron a single in the eighth inines erased a late 1-0 deficit ning.

at Galveston with five runs Coming back against over the final two frames to Pasadena, the Longhorns defeat the Tors 5-1 March

30. So at 2-3, the Wolverines are looking to close out to register

the first half of district play with games against Clear Springs April 1 and Alvin April 6.

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which defeated Clear Creek 9-2 March 30, is in first place at 5-0, while Clear Creek Blackhawk.

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ing down third place, and more about the program the Wolverines are looking may visit the team's Web to play catchup within the site at www.sbast.com.

built a 4-0 lead on the Eagles tied the game. Long- the flyball to left field. The Dobie, which has now strength of two-run hom- horn reliever Chad Tapper ers by Joseph Gutierrez and 5-4 loss to Pasadena March Deron Waines. open the inning, and a sac-Mike Medina started on rifice bunt and two-out, RBI

the mound for the Longsingle knotted the game at horns and pitched well, but 4-4 the Eagles chipped away batsman, a walk and a pair Perkins scored of sacrifice flies.

After a sacrifice bunt, the Waines lost the handle on can't happen.

go-ahead run scored on the walked the leadoff hitter to play.

For Dobie head coach Miguel Torres, there are no secrets to the team's issues. "We have to come In the sixth inning, Do- through with more key hits adena was able to do that From a pitching perspective. we cannot walk the lead-off

counts.

are those two-play combi-

nations that will be taking

the court during the two-day District 22-5A tennis

at the Strawberry Tennis

Dobie will have en-

divisions, including boys'

Center in Pasadena.

The Dobie Longhorns' and girls' singles, boys' and us." Of the five divisions, rsity tennis team hopes girls' doubles and mixed Moreno will pay particular arsity tennis team hopes to be seeing double next doubles coach Manuel week, and it has noth-Head ing to do with the effects

Moreno Jr. expects his of the recent high pollen singles players to perform well, but expects the team's The kind of doubles the big successes to be seen on the doubles courts. Longhorns are referring to

"Over the years, especially in the spring, we have had the majority of our success in doubles play," championships April 7-8 Moreno said. "Even during the fall team tennis season, a lot of times our duels come down to being able to win

tries in each of the five key doubles matches. This spring, it's no different for

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round matches are April 8, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

be surprised to see both of them in the final. In terms attention to the mixed douof getting somebody to rebles field. gionals, the mixed doubles

District 22-5A tennis championships set;

Longhorns' netters hope to see doubles

There, Martin Zuber and Jisha Jose will make up one of the combinations, while Philip Cao will team with Heather Jung as well.

player Tina Le will play Both teams have had a a lead role in that division great deal of success this along with Tiffany Duong. In the boys' singles, No. 1 player Jonathan Taylor spring. At Corpus Christi earlier this spring, Zuber and Jose defeated Cao and will be involved along Jung in the final in three with teammate Alex Gary sets.

"Both of those teams our most improved playshould get a high seeding er on the girls' side of at district, and I wouldn't things," Moreno said. "She

> of the top six and is now No. 1. "Jonathan has also done a good job of using his height and being more aggressive. He's really

was once at the lower end

is probably our strongest

area in terms of matchups

Elsewhere, top singles

"Tina Le is probably

against other schools."

picked up his game." In girls' doubles, the Lady Longhorns will feature one pairing of Nirali Desai and Sonali Patel and another of Myle Phan and

Kathy Tran. Dobie's boys' doubles team will likely include Jack Nguyen and Tony Tieu as one pair and Phillip Nguyen and Travis Dao as another.

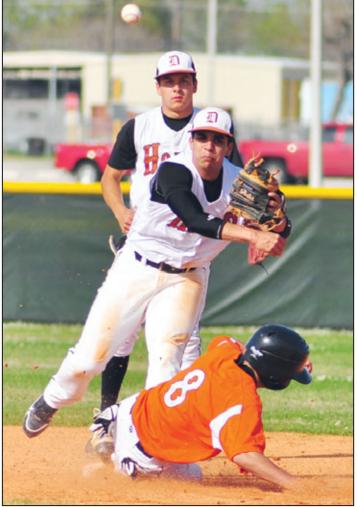
Moreno expects Le to play well, but he warns she will have to go up against Memorial's Leah Smith and Maria Hernandez of Pearland. "A lot of these divisions come down to which players compete in the various divisions,' Moreno said.

"A player can only play in one division, so it will boil down to who falls where. We have to play really well in the singles, and we could have some break throughs

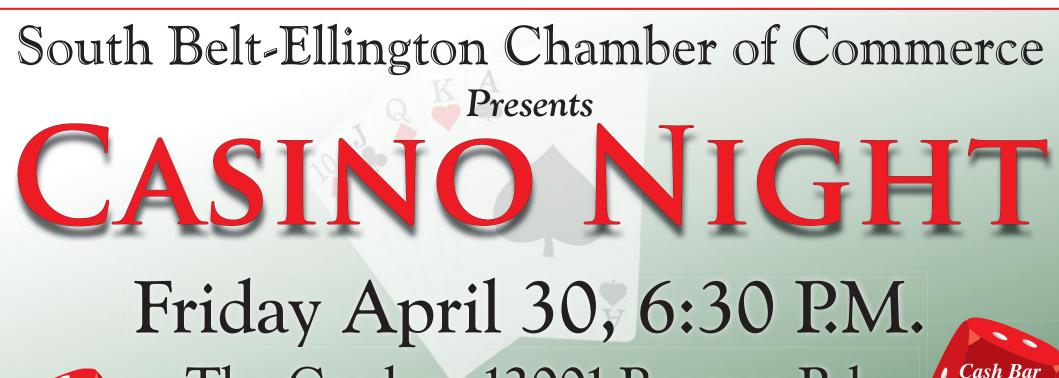
"As far as the doubles are concerned, that's going to be where we have a chance. During our great six year or so run here, we have had a great deal of success. especially in the doubles."

On April 7, the first and Sonali Patel (above) will join Nirali Desai as one of Dobie's doubles combinations quarterfinal rounds will beat the District 22-5A tennis championships, set for April 7-8 at Strawberry Park in Pasadena. The first two rounds are April 7, beginning at 3 p.m. Semifinal and final gin at 3 p.m. The semfinals and finals begin April 8 at 8:30 a.m

Photo by John Bechtle



Dobie's Marcelo Martinez (center) retires La Porte baserunner Joshua Vidales on a double play try and fires toward first base during La Porte's 7-6 win in eight innings over the Longhorns March 26 at Dobie. The Longhorns trailed 4-1 in the game after three innings but rallied, only to see the Bulldogs take the victory late. In the background is Dobie shortstop Aris Adame. GaryWPhotos.com



with three runs in the fourth bie's second reliever, Em- in games," Torres said. "Pasto La Porte in eight innings inning, using a double, a hit mitt Pitts, walked an Eagles' batter to open the inning. Dobie went to the fifth Eagles caught a break when batters of innings. It just

inning up 4-3 before the

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Brazoswood.

is 4-1. Clear Lake is hold-

The South Belt Area Swim Team Sharks will host registration Tuesday, April 20 through Thursday, April 22 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Ashley Pointe pool on

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