

Holiday closures set

South Belt-Ellington Leader
The Leader offices will be closed Friday, April 3, for the 2026 Easter holiday. Offices will reopen Monday, April 6, at 9 a.m. Potential news stories may be emailed to mynews@southbeltleader.com.

Clear Brook City MUD

The Clear Brook City MUD will be closed from 3 p.m. Thursday, April 2, through 8 a.m. Monday, April 6, in observance of the Easter holidays. For customer convenience, check or money order payments may be left in the drop box located on the drive-thru side of the building. No cash will be accepted in the drop box.

Clear Brook City MUD residents with Friday trash service will have normal pickup on Good Friday, April 3. All trash should be curbside no later than 6 a.m.

Sagemont to meet April 7

The Sagemont Civic Club will hold a meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 7, at The Gardens, 12001 Beamer at Hughes. All Sagemont residents/homeowners are invited to attend. The meetings typically take place the first Tuesday of each month. For additional information, call Sagemont Civic Club President Kay Barbour at 713-419-3545.

A separate meeting will be held prior to the Sagemont function from 6 to 7 p.m. by organizers of the annual South Belt Cleanup, set to take place Saturday, May 2. See related story on this page.

New Covenant feeds needy

Each month, New Covenant Christian Church, 10603 Blackhawk at Kirkfair, will have food distribution events the first and third Wednesday from 1 to 2 p.m. and the second and fourth Saturday of the month from noon to 1 p.m. or until supplies last. The purpose of the events is to provide food to people in need. For additional information, contact the church at 281-484-4230.

Coffee with the Constable

Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia will be at Donut Haven, 10802 Hughes Road at Beamer, from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. each Thursday morning as part of the weekly Coffee with the Constable series. For additional information, call Sagemont Civic Club President Kay Barbour at 713-419-3545.

Sageglen seeks assistant

The Sageglen Community Association is seeking a part-time administrative assistant (20 hours/week, Tuesday-Friday). Applicants should send resume to sageglen@sageglen.com.

Beltway closures planned

At least one northbound Beltway 8 frontage road lane will be closed from Spencer Highway to Greenshadow Drive continuously through 11:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31, 2026.

At least one southbound Beltway 8 frontage road lane will be closed from Pasadena Boulevard to Fairmont Parkway continuously through 11:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31, 2026.

At least one southbound Beltway 8 frontage road lane will be closed from SH-225 to Red Bluff Road continuously through 11:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31, 2026.

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

Ellington eRecycling set

The City of Houston Solid Waste Management Department's monthly electronic recycling event will take place Saturday, April 11, at the Neighborhood Recycling Center at Ellington Airport from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

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

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

Gulf Freeway closures set

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

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

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

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

Clear Creek ISD board election approaches

Candidate forum to be held April 6; no Pasadena ISD contests this election cycle

Clear Creek ISD voters will head to the polls Saturday, May 2, to decide who will fill two seats on the district's seven-member board.

To be decided are the District 2 and District 3 positions.

Incumbents from both districts have filed to maintain their positions.

The election comes as Clear Creek ISD continues to navigate enrollment shifts, budget pressures and statewide debates over public education funding and academic expectations. Trustees serve three-year terms and help set policy for one of the largest school districts in the Houston region.

Who is running?

– **District 2:** In the contest for the District 2 position, incumbent Jamieson Mackay is being challenged by Ernest A. Hallman II.

– **District 3:** Competing for the District 3 position are incumbent Arturo Sanchez and challenger Gabriel F. Gonzales II.

Who can vote?

The CCISD board of trustees uses single-member districts, meaning only residents who live within District 2 may vote in the District 2 race, and only residents who live within District 3 may vote in the District 3 race. Both districts are located east of the Gulf Freeway.

South Belt residents can confirm their district

using Clear Creek ISD's interactive boundary map at ccisd.net/elections/boundaries.

Important dates

– **Thursday, April 2:** Voter registration deadline

– **Monday, April 20:** First day of early voting

– **Tuesday, April 28:** Last day of early voting

– **Saturday, May 2:** Election Day

To register to vote, visit votetexas.gov.

Candidate forum

A public candidate forum will be held Monday, April 6, giving area residents a chance to hear from the candidates themselves.

Hosted by the Clear Creek Council of PTAs, the forum will take place at Space Center Intermediate, 17400 Saturn Lane, beginning at 6 p.m.

Early voting locations

Early voting will take place at the following locations:

– **Clear Creek ISD Education Support Center,** 2425 E. Main St., League City

– **Clear Creek ISD Learner Support Center,** 2903 Falcon Pass

Voters may cast a ballot at either of the locations, regardless of district boundary or county precinct.

For the latest updates on the 2026 Clear Creek ISD board of trustee election, visit ccisd.net/elections.

Pasadena ISD

Pasadena ISD will not hold an election this cycle.

Pasadena ISD trustees serve staggered four-year terms.

PISD's board elections are held in November of odd-numbered years, aligned with the general election cycle. The next Pasadena ISD board election will take place in November 2027.



Pct. 2, MUD celebrate Easter

Harris County Precinct 2 hosted its annual Easter egg hunt Saturday, March 28, at Clear Brook City MUD Park. Formerly held at El Franco Lee Park – ironically now located in Precinct 1 – the event has become a longstanding tradition in the South Belt community. Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia is shown to the left at the event with the Easter Bunny, who was available for photos. Other hosts of the event included Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia and Precinct 2 Justice of the Peace Jo Ann Delgado. See related photos on Page 3.

FBI, HPD seek bank robbery suspect

Frost Bank on Alameda Genoa robbed at gunpoint in January

The FBI Violent Crime Task Force and Houston Police Department Robbery Division are seeking the public's assistance in identifying a suspect accused of robbing the Frost Bank in the 9900 block of Alameda Genoa near Windmill Lakes Boulevard this past January.

Investigators have dubbed the crook the "Subzero Bandit" because of his lime-green ski mask and because the incident took place during the recent hard freeze.

Like a scene out of a Hollywood movie, investigators said the masked man entered the bank at 9:05 a.m. waving a handgun and demanding that everyone lay down on the ground. He then demanded cash from the bank teller, before fleeing

the establishment on foot with an undisclosed amount of money.

Investigators said the suspect fled through a neighboring subdivision.

The suspect is described as a Black male in his late 20s to early 40s, approximately 5 feet 7 inches tall with a thin build. In addition to the day-glow ski mask, investigators said he was wearing a dark-colored jacket, black pants, black shoes and white gloves during the robbery.

The FBI is offering a reward of up to \$25,000 for information leading to the arrest and/or conviction of the suspected bank robber. To submit a tip, call 1-800-CALL-FBI or visit tips.fbi.gov.



Surveillance footage of suspected bank robber

Scotty's Pub celebrates 15th anniversary

Scotty's Pub, located at 10943 Scarsdale near Beamer, celebrates a significant milestone this week, as it marks the 15th anniversary since the local watering hole opened its doors April 1, 2011.

Over the years, the locally owned pub has become more than a neighborhood spot – it has grown into a trusted gathering place for celebration, remembrance and community connection.

Since its opening, Scotty's Pub has hosted countless meaningful moments for residents in the surrounding area, including weddings, births, promotions, birthdays and family events. Just as importantly, the pub has also served as a place of comfort and support during times of loss, host-

ing memorial receptions and gatherings to honor friends, family members and neighbors, according to owners.

"We've always believed Scotty's was meant to be a place where people come together for the important moments in life – both happy and heartbreaking," said the owners of Scotty's Pub. "Being part of this community means showing up for all of it."

The pub's mission has been deeply personal from the start. In 2011, just before Scotty's opened its doors, the owners lost their mother, RoxAnn, whose influence helped shape the heart of the business. "Losing our mom just before

Annual cleanup seeks volunteers

Organizers to hold planning meeting April 7 at The Gardens

Organizers of the annual South Belt Cleanup – set to take place Saturday, May 2 – will hold a planning meeting Tuesday, April 7, at The Gardens, 12001 Beamer at Hughes, from 6 to 7 p.m. (The meeting will precede the monthly Sagemont Civic Club meeting.)

This will mark the second of such functions, with another being held this past month.

Now in its fourth year, the annual cleanup is a joint venture between Knights of Columbus Council 9201 and the Sagemont Civic Club. Additional partners include Pasadena ISD, Harris County Precinct 2, City of Houston Solid Waste department, Southeast Volunteer Fire Department, M & D (Ace) Hardware, Food Town, B&L Lock and Safe, the Leader and others.

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.

The thoroughfares encompass an area approximately 6.25-square miles in size.

Organizers are currently seeking volunteers. All supplies will be provided and lunch (hamburgers and hot dogs) will be served by the Knights of Columbus following the event. No open-toe shoes will be allowed. While volunteers are encouraged to register in advance, walk-ups will be welcomed.

The cleanup will begin at 8 a.m. at Beverly Hills Intermediate, located at 11111 Beamer. Volunteers who have not preregistered are asked to arrive early.

For additional information, to become a sponsor or to register as a volunteer, contact event organizer Mike Work at mrwork2@att.net or 832-338-5156.

Cárdenas named chair of national group

MHSH CEO to chair American College of Healthcare Executives

Noel J. Cárdenas, FACHE, senior vice president/CEO, Memorial Hermann Southeast and Pearland Hospitals, Houston, has assumed the office of Chair of the American College of Healthcare Executives.



Noel Cárdenas

Cárdenas was installed Saturday by ACHE's Council of Regents and succeeds the outgoing Chair, Michele K. Sutton, FACHE, president/CEO, North Oaks Health System, Hammond, La.

Board-certified in healthcare management as an ACHE Fellow, Cárdenas served as an ACHE governor from 2022 to 2025, the ACHE regent for Army from 2013 to 2015, and as president of the ACHE – Southeast Texas Chapter from 2020 to 2021. He also served on several ACHE committees.

Before assuming his current role in 2020, Cárdenas was vice president, Operations/COO, Memorial Hermann Northeast Hospital, Humble from 2015 to 2020. Prior to that, he served in the U.S. Army and Texas National Guard in the following roles: CEO/hospital commander, Reynolds Army Community Hospital, Fort Sill,

Okl., from 2013 to 2015; COO, Brooke Army Medical Center/Healthcare System, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, from 2010 to 2013; CEO/commander, 421st Multifunctional Medical Battalion, Wiesbaden, Germany, from 2008 to 2010; CEO/commander, Medical Task Force 421st Multifunctional Medical, Balad, Iraq, from 2008 to 2009; COO, Evans Army Community Hospital, Fort Carson, Colo., from 2006 to 2008; and COO, Raymond W. Bliss Army Health Center, Fort Huachuca, Ariz., from 2004 to 2006.

In addition to his service to ACHE, Cárdenas is a board member of the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership, Pearland Chamber of Commerce, Brazoria County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and Texas A&M University School of Public Health External Advisory Council.

He received the Senior-Level Healthcare Executive Regent Award from ACHE in 2008 and 2023, as well as the Distinguished Service Award (2014) and the Exemplary Service Award (2016) through the ACHE Recognition Program. He also won an ACHE Governors Award in 2016.

As chair, Cárdenas begins the second part of a three-year term preceded by serving as chair-elect and followed by serving as immediate past chair.

About the American College of Healthcare Executives

Continue on Page 2

Trailer catches fire on beltway



A trailer being pulled by a FedEx delivery driver caught fire around 7 a.m. Tuesday, March 31, on the eastbound lanes of Beltway 8 between Beamer and Blackhawk. The trailer was just one of two being pulled by the driver. No one was injured during the incident. At press time, it was unclear what caused the fire. Photo by David Flickinger

In My Opinion

Vega cites law, calls for Garcia's resignation

On April 8, the Texas First Court of Appeals will hear oral arguments in a case that goes straight to the heart of honest government in Harris County. The county itself tried to have the case dismissed, hoping to sweep this issue under the rug, but the Court refused, making it clear that the law cannot be ignored. The question at the center of this fight is straightforward yet critical: Did Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia automatically resign under Texas law when he accepted a seat on the Gulf Coast Protection District board, a second taxing entity with overlapping authority over the very same residents he is supposed to represent? This isn't a political maneuver; it's about whether our laws and public trust mean anything at all in Harris County.

Texas law is clear. Article XVI, Section 40 of the Texas Constitution prohibits holding more than one civil office of emolument, and the long-standing common-law doctrine of incompatibility holds that acceptance of a conflicting office operates as an automatic resignation. If the law means what it says, Precinct 2's seat has been effectively vacant since 2023.

For nearly three years, the 1.2 million residents of Precinct 2 have been shortchanged. Across the full spectrum of our community, from every neighborhood and background, from all walks of life, families have paid in full but been left without the representation they deserve. Taxpayers have faced the real risk of double taxation and a lack of focused leadership on critical priorities like flood control, public safety, and infrastructure, all while one man divided his attention between two powerful boards.

I did not bring this fight for headlines or political advantage. As a U.S. Army veteran who swore an oath to defend the

Constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic, this is exactly what I am called to do right here in Harris County, our home. And as a pastor who has dedicated my life to serving families through my nonprofit, Justin's Well, I believe public office is a sacred trust. When that trust appears compromised by potential conflicts, someone must stand up. That is why we asked the Court to compel Harris County to acknowledge the vacancy and call a special election so voters can have full-time leadership for the remainder of the term.

This is not about one individual. It is about upholding the bedrock Texas principle that no official is above the Constitution. Automatic resignation upon accepting an incompatible office prevents divided loyalties and protects every taxpayer. Veterans who served this country expect honest government at home. Faith leaders who teach integrity deserve leaders who model it. And every family in Precinct 2, regardless of background, deserves a commissioner focused solely on safer streets, better flood protection, and efficient use of their hard-earned tax dollars.

The Court will hear the arguments on April 8. Whatever the outcome, the larger principle remains: Precinct 2 voters have a right to undivided representation. The current term runs through December 2026, but the time to demand accountability is now.

I am running to be that commissioner, a veteran who understands sacrifice, a pastor who believes strong values build strong neighborhoods, and an outsider committed to ending business as usual.

Before the Court speaks on April 8, voters deserve transparency. The Constitution demands it. Precinct 2 families have waited long enough.

Richard Vega
U.S. Army Veteran, Pastor, and
Republican Nominee for Harris County
Precinct 2 Commissioner

PISD students address SJC



Pasadena ISD dual credit students Caryme Molina (second from left) and Angel Chavez Gomez (right) recently addressed the National Assessment Governing Board during the meeting at San Jacinto College. Both seniors from Pasadena High School, the students gained college credits while still attending high school. A student-athlete, Molina will attend the University of Texas at El Paso, where she will study digital media while playing Division I volleyball. Gomez will graduate with an associate degree in mathematics from San Jacinto College before attending the University of Texas at Austin to study petroleum engineering. Shown above with the pair are SJC Chancellor Brenda Hellyer (left) and PISD Superintendent Dr. Toni Lopez.

Scotty's Pub celebrates its 15th anniversary

Continued from Page 1
The new patio allows us to do both." In addition, Scotty's is undergoing a remodeling project that includes fresh paint, improved lighting, flooring upgrades and new furniture. Guests will also notice a new drink menu featuring classic cocktails alongside expanded non-alcoholic options, as well as a refreshed food menu that blends customer favorites with new selections. A rewards program is also available to help guests save on future visits.

As Scotty's Pub celebrates 15 years, the milestone represents more than longevity. It reflects years of shared stories, community trust and a commitment to being there through life's highs and lows. "We're incredibly grateful," the owners said. "15 years later, we're still here because of the people who walk through our doors — and we don't take that for granted."

For details and future events, head to their website at www.scottyspubhouston.com.

Cárdenas Named Chair of ACHE

Continued from Page 1

The American College of Healthcare Executives is an international professional society of 53,000 healthcare executives who lead hospitals, healthcare systems and other healthcare organizations. ACHE's mission is to advance members and healthcare management excellence. ACHE offers its prestigious ACHE credential, signifying board certification in healthcare management. ACHE's established network of 75 chapters

provides access to networking, education and career development at the local level. In addition, ACHE is known for its magazine, Healthcare Executive, and its career development and public policy programs. Through such efforts, ACHE works toward its vision of being the preeminent professional society for leaders dedicated to improving health. The Foundation of the American College of Healthcare Executives was established to further advance

healthcare management excellence through education and research. The Foundation of ACHE is known for its educational programs — including the annual Congress on Healthcare Leadership, which draws nearly 7,000 participants — and groundbreaking research. Its publishing division, ACHE Learn, is one of the largest publishers of books and journals on health services management, including textbooks for college and university courses.

Intuitive Machines — a space technology, infrastructure and services leader headquartered near Ellington Airport — recently announced that NASA has awarded the company a \$180.4 million contract to deliver seven science and technology payloads, including an Australian Space Agency lunar rover and

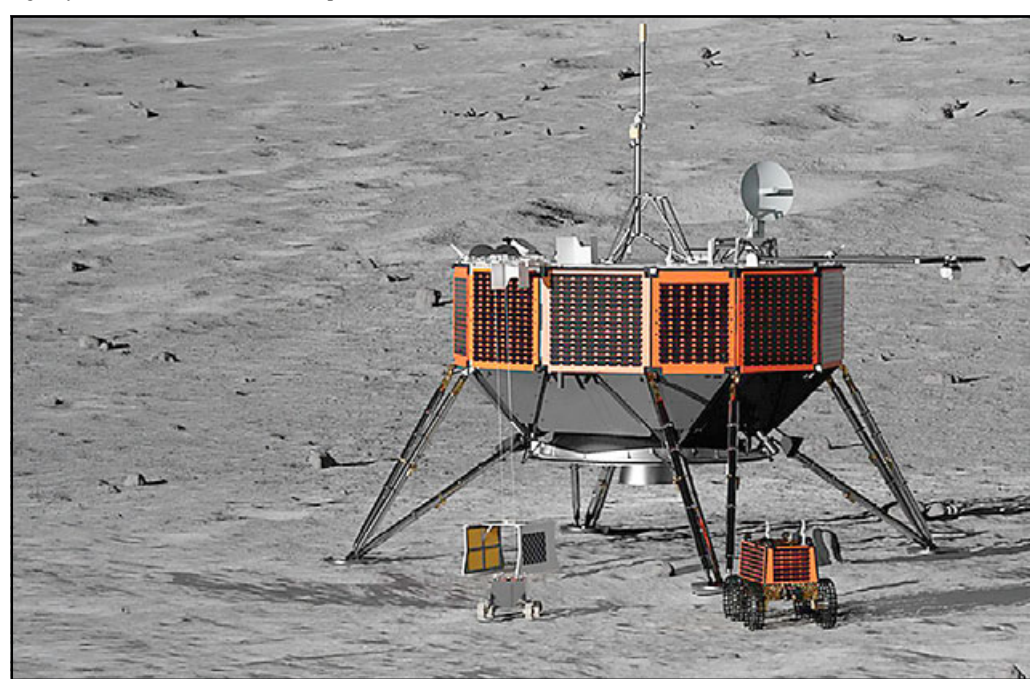
technologies from Blue Origin's Honeybee Robotics, to the Lunar South Pole Region. The company's space infrastructure, lunar landing system, Space Data Network (SDN) and autonomous surface operations capabilities will be used to support payload delivery. As part of NASA's Commercial Lunar Payload Services (CLPS) initiative, this award marks Intuitive Machines' fifth CLPS task order and the first to require a larger cargo class (Nova-D) lunar lander to deliver science and technology payloads and return valuable data while autonomously operating on the lunar surface. Additional commercial

payload mass is expected to be made available beyond the CLPS complement. Intuitive Machines has proven the performance of its scalable space infrastructure through its successful IM-1 and IM-2 missions, including the first commercial spacecraft to land and operate on the Moon and the southernmost lunar surface

operations ever achieved. The company is scheduled to incorporate lessons learned and build on this foundation with its upcoming IM-3, IM-4, and IM-5 flights, including the use of its SDN to provide the persistent connectivity required across the lunar surface and the broader space domain. "We believe our space infrastructure provides the scalability and flexibility needed to support an increased cadence of new Artemis missions and advance national objectives. This CLPS award accelerates our expansion efforts as we build, connect, and operate the systems powering that infrastructure," said Steve Altemus, CEO of Intuitive Machines. "We look forward to working closely with NASA to deliver mission success on IM-5 and to provide sustained operations and persistent connectivity in the cislunar environment and across the solar system."

The IM-5 mission will target Mons Malapert, a ridge near the Lunar South Pole that offers continuous Earth visibility, stable illumination conditions, and access to permanently shadowed regions. These characteristics make the site a compelling location for future communications, navigation, and surface infrastructure. IM-5 payloads include the following:

- Multifunctional Nanosensor Platform (MNP): A highly compact, sensitive chemical analysis instrument designed to advance understanding of plume surface interactions and their effects, informing the design of safer, more sustainable landing systems and surface operations in direct support of NASA's broader lunar exploration objectives. The MNP will be integrated into the Australian Space Agency's Lunar Rover.
- Lunar Vehicle Radiation Dosimeter system



Artistic rendering of Intuitive Machines' future lunar rover

Pasadena ISD fine arts sets April dates

Pasadena ISD has announced dates for the month of April fine arts performances. Melillo band spring concert — Thursday, April 9, 6-7 p.m., at Melillo cafeteria. High School band Var UIL concert and sight reading — April 9-10, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m., at Dobie High School. Intermediate orchestra PISD solo and ensemble — Saturday, April 11, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m., at Thompson Intermediate. High School Orchestra UIL solo and ensemble — Saturday, April 11, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m., at PMHS. Melillo band incoming fifth-grade instrument fitting night — Friday, April 17, 5-7

p.m., at Melillo cafeteria. Meador Elementary "Week of the Young Child" program — Friday, April 17, 8-9 a.m., at Meador cafeteria. Laura Bush Elementary second-grade program "Under the Sea" — Thursday, April 23, 7-8 p.m., at Bush cafeteria. Thompson dance spring show — Thursday, April 23, 6-7 p.m., at South Houston Intermediate cafeteria. Melillo band showcase and sound contest — Friday, April 24, 1-2 p.m., at Shadow Creek High School auditorium. Dobie dance Lariatete spring show — Friday, April 24, 7-9 p.m., Dobie auditorium.

Admission is \$10. Intermediate band PISD solo and ensemble — Saturday, April 25, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., at Bondy Intermediate. Melillo Middle School choir performance — Saturday, April 25, 9-9:30 a.m., Grand Kids Festival in Galveston. Thompson dance spring show — Saturday, April 25, 7-9 p.m., at Dobie auditorium. Dobie dance Lariatete spring show — Saturday, April 25, 7-9 p.m., Dobie auditorium. Roberts Middle School band spring concert — Tuesday, April 28, 6-8 p.m., Roberts cafeteria.

Dobie band percussion concert — Tuesday, April 28, 7-8:30 p.m., at the Dobie auditorium. Roberts Middle School choir spring concert — Wednesday, April 29, 6-7 p.m., Roberts cafeteria. South Belt Elementary choir spring concert — Thursday, April 30, 6-7 p.m., at South Belt cafeteria. Melillo choir pop show — Thursday, April 30, 6-8 p.m., at Melillo cafeteria. Roberts Middle School orchestra spring concert — Thursday, April 30, 6-7 p.m., Roberts cafeteria. Morris spring band concert — Thursday, April 30, 7-8 p.m., at BHI.

Three scholarships created by UH-Clear Lake for new undergrads

The University of Houston-Clear Lake has created three new scholarships that broaden the university's ongoing efforts to make college affordable for students. The 3-Step Orientation Scholarships provide up to \$1,000 to eligible students who attend orientation and then complete advising requirements on time. Eligible students are newly admitted first-year and transfer undergrads starting in either summer or fall 2026. They also must enroll in at least six semester credit hours and maintain that enrollment through the official University Census Day when official enrollment counts for the semester are recorded. "The 3-Step Orientation Scholarships are designed to make the transition to UHCL more affordable, ac-

cessible, and impactful for our incoming students," said Tyler Hall, Director of Orientation and New Student Programs. "First-year and transfer students who complete their admission and enrollment requirements early build momentum before their first semester even begins, and these scholarships serve as an investment in their success from day one." UHCL continues to provide an excellent return on a student's investment, ranking 11th on the 2026 list of Best Value Colleges in Texas. Annual cost of attendance is \$10,018 for in-state students and \$26,698 for out-of-state students, and a total of more than \$26.6 million in financial aid was awarded in 2025. Nearly nine out of every 10 graduates either land a job or start

graduate school within a year of earning a UHCL undergraduate degree. As the name indicates, the scholarships are tied to UHCL's New Student Orientation programs that help students transition smoothly into college life. No formal scholarship application form is required. The scholarships are open to admitted students who fulfill the requirements for each: - Step 1: Orientation Launchpad Scholarship, \$250. Open to students who complete the mandatory Orientation Launchpad modules and submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by April 25. - Step 2: Admitted Student Day Scholarship, \$500. Open to students who ful-

fill the requirements of Step 1 plus register for and attend Admitted Students Day on April 25; clear any registration hold on their account; and meet with an academic advisor and enroll in at least 6 semester credit hours for either summer 2026 or fall 2026. - Step 3: New Student Orientation Scholarship, \$250. Open to students who fulfill the requirements of Step 1 plus submit their FAFSA; meet with their advisor and enroll in at least 6 credit hours; and attend either of UHCL's Orientation sessions on June 9 or June 26. For details about how to qualify for and obtain the 3-Step Orientation Scholarships, contact the Office of Financial Aid at uhcl_fao@uhcl.edu or 281-283-2480.

St. Luke's Guadalupanas host a fundraiser dinner

St. Luke the Evangelist's Asociacion Guadalupanas will be hosting a mole dinner fundraiser on Saturday, April 11, 2026, from 3:30 to 7 p.m. in the social hall, St. Luke Catholic Church, 11011 Hall Road. Dinner plates will sell for \$12 each and include two chicken legs smothered in Guadalupe-made mole sauce, Mexican rice and refried beans. Tickets can be purchased in advance by contacting Yvette Rodriguez at 832-528-6391. A limited number of tickets will also be available at the door. Everyone is welcome to join for food and fellowship.

AARP offers tax preparation service

The AARP Foundation Tax Aide program is now offering free tax preparation service where certified tax counselors will prepare your tax return and e-file the return for free. Anyone of any age especially those 50 years old or older who can't afford paid tax preparation can take advantage of the free tax preparation services offered by the AARP Foundation Tax Aide Program. For site location information, please see www.tx3d5.com/home/site.

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, April 2, 4 - 5 p.m. Living English lessons. Registration required. Monday, April 6, 10:15 - 11:15 a.m. Bring family to storytime. Registration required. Tuesday, April 7, 4 - 5 p.m. Join family STEM. Registration required. Wednesday, April 8, 6 - 7 p.m. Pajama storytime. 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.

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, April 2, 10:15 - 10:45 a.m. Toddler time. Monday, April 6, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. AARP free tax services. Monday, April 6, 1 - 2:30 p.m. ESL conversation club. Registration required. Monday, April 6, 4 - 5 p.m. Laser cutter orientation. Registration required. Monday, April 6, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Tai Chi. Tuesday, April 7, 10:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Personas que corren con libros: Club de lectura en Espanol. Tuesday, April 7, 10:15 - 10:45 a.m. Babies and books. Wednesday, April 8, 6 - 7:30 p.m. Pathway to citizenship. Registration required.

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

- After receiving notification that holds are ready for pickup, call 832-927-7870.
- Have a library card number and PIN handy.
- A pickup time and instructions will be given.
- Upon arriving, park in one of the two parking spots reserved for curbside holds.
- Be prepared to show a library card or other form of ID for verification.

Hours are Monday, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Friday, 1 - 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Visit <https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library> for details.

Online services

- Use HCPL Wi-Fi service with HCPL's drive-up Wi-Fi.
- Download e-books and audiobooks, stream movies, research and learn at www.hcpl.net.
- Attend an HCPL program or story time online through Facebook or YouTube.
- Check an account to renew loans or request books, e-books, comics or graphic novels.
- Stream classic films, indie cinema and award-winning documentaries on Kanopy.
- Listen to audiobooks through RBDigital or OverDrive.
- Read along and play with picture books on TumbleBooks.

Don't have an HCPL library card? Instant access can be obtained to all HCPL's digital materials and research tools with an iKnow Digital Access Card. Apply at <https://www.hcpl.net/services/iknow-card> for a HCPL card. For details, visit <https://www.hcpl.net>.

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The Voice of Community-Minded People

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Community participates in annual South Belt Easter Egg Hunt



Left to right, are (front row) first group of golden egg winners 5-year old Delani Sere-no, 9-year old Hannah Bazil, 5-year old Adelyn Chavez, 5-year old Camila Lazo, (back row) Precinct 2 and CBC MUD members Isla Cervelli, CBC General Manager Cecelia Ganje, HC Precinct 2 Community Liaison Javier Frutos, CBC board member Jim Towey, Precinct 2 Judge Jo Ann Delgado and Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia.



Shown are children and parents participating in the annual South Belt Easter egg hunt.



Pictured is the second group of golden egg winners and Precinct 2 and CBC MUD members. Left to right are, 2-year old Khai Castillo, HC Precinct 2 Community Liaison Javier Frutos, CBC General Manager Cecelia Ganje, CBC Board Member Jim Towey, Constable Jerry Garcia, Judge Jo Ann Delgado and 10-year old Michelle Rodriguez.



CBC General Manager Cecelia Ganje pictured with Judge Jo Ann Delgado sitting with the Easter Bunny.

Friends of PWBL seeks donations

The Friends of Parker Williams Branch Library would like to thank the South Belt community for their continuing support. The library is currently in need of new or gently used children's books, adult paperback novels (both fiction and nonfiction) and DVDs and CDs. Donations can be made during open hours at 10851 Scarsdale Blvd., suite 501.

HFD responds to house fire

Blaze caused by barbecue; no injuries reported

Houston firefighters responded to a house fire around 2:30 p.m. Sunday, March 22, in the 7700 block of Arrowhead Lane near Fuqua and Monroe.

According to Houston Fire Department officials, firefighters arrived on scene to find a detached residential garage on fire. A vehicle inside the garage was also on fire.

Crews made an attack on the fire which spread to the attic space of the home. The fire was controlled within 15 minutes, and Center-Point was notified to secure the utilities.

HFD Arson investigators were requested to determine the cause and origin of the fire. Investigators determined the fire was accidental in nature, caused by embers from a lit barbecue pit.

No injuries were reported. In all, 45 personnel responded to this incident, including firefighters from stations 27, 23, 26, 70, 36, 52, 61, 70, 24, Rescue 42 and Rehab 42.

County releases COVID study

Report analyzes data from 2020-2023

Harris County Public Health (HCPH) has released a new COVID-19 Response and Surveillance Report detailing the county's COVID-19 and long COVID trends from 2020 to 2023.

The report highlights continued declines in overall COVID-19 activity alongside a steady increase in long COVID cases, underscoring the ongoing need for public health monitoring, community awareness and supportive services.

From 2020-2023, Harris County reported 1,026,688 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 15,030 hospitalizations. Overall, COVID-19 indicators show a downward trend in recent years, even as federal pandemic-era reporting requirements for hospitalizations and emergency department visits ended in 2023 and 2024.

While COVID-19 cases have declined, long COVID continues to rise, affecting community members with respiratory, neurological, cardiovascular and other long-term symptoms. Long COVID often interferes with daily life and may require ongoing care.

Key findings
 - **Downward trend in COVID-19 activity:** COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations, and emergency department visits declined across Harris County in 2023-2025.

- **Hospitalization reporting changes:** Statewide hospitalization and emergency department COVID-19 reporting ended in May 2023, with hospital reporting following in April 2024, impacting future data availability.

- **Rising long COVID prevalence:** Long COVID counts continue to increase, reflecting persistent symptoms among community members and continued demand for long-term care, rehabilitation and support resources.

- **Improved data integration and dashboards:** The department is developing new tools to share accurate, accessible COVID-19 and long COVID data with community members, decision-makers, and community stakeholders.

- **Enhanced communication and outreach:** HCPH is expanding public information resources to help community members understand long COVID risks, identify symptoms and access available care and support.

Harris County Public Health continues to collaborate with local hospitals, city and county partners, and state and federal agencies to ensure accurate surveillance, equitable access to services, and coordinated response efforts.

HCPH encourages community members, healthcare providers and community leaders to stay informed and work together to support prevention, early detection, and recovery from both COVID-19 and long COVID. The COVID report isn't about reshaping the pandemic. It's about accountability, preparedness, and documenting the capacity built that now supports measles response, TB investigations and other public health priorities. If lessons learned and outcomes aren't captured now, institutional memory will be lost and there's a risk of repeating preventable gaps during the next emergency.

To read the full COVID-19 Response and Surveillance Report, visit publichealth.harriscountytx.gov/Media/Reports.

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MEMORIAL HERMANN

Frazier Owls participate in Pasadena ISD UIL competition



Frazier Elementary School students recently competed and placed first in the 2026 Pasadena ISD UIL competition. Left to right, are (front row) McKenzie Schutz, Jeyko de Hoyos, Humberto Chapa, Adam Aguilar, Christopher Vargas, Cheyenne Mijares, Santiago Moreno, Nathan Manzano, coach Cathy Silas, (back row) principal Kris Ponce, coach Patricia Perez, assistant principal Isaac Romero, Irvin Huizar, Josephine Mata, Anasofia Martinez, Ava Hernandez, Ali Ben Hadj Salem, Caleb Martinez, Arian Garcia and coach Chris Baldauf. Photo submitted

NASA awards Ellington-based Intuitive Machines

Continued from Page 2

(LVRad): A suite of four radiation detectors designed to quantify the radiation environment on the lunar surface and assess its potential impacts on human-related activities on the moon.

– NASA's Laser Retroreflector Array (LRA): A small device that reflects laser beams transmitted by Moon orbiters or landing spacecraft to help determine their orbit position or navigate to the surface.

– Stereo Cameras for Lunar Plume Surface Studies (SCALPSS): A stereo imaging system that captures high resolution imagery of plume surface interactions during descent and landing.

– Sanctuary: A passive time capsule payload containing sapphire discs that preserve examples of humanity's achievements.

– Mass Spectrometer Observing Lunar Operations (MSolo): A quadrupole mass spectrometer that characterizes the lunar exosphere and monitors volatile species.

Near InfraRed Volatiles Spectrometer System (NIR-VSS): A modular instrument suite used to detect and map

volatiles and analyze regolith composition.

The IM-5 lander also will carry the Honeybee Robotics next-generation lunar rover, which will host the NIRVSS instrument suite. Honeybee Robotics, a Blue Origin company, develops advanced robotic systems, rovers, and mechanisms for missions to the moon, Mars and other planetary bodies. Honeybee may also provide other capabilities, such as sampling, sensing, robotics, and autonomy, that will enhance surface

exploration.

About Intuitive Machines

Intuitive Machines is a leading space infrastructure company that builds spacecraft, connects networks, and operates infrastructure-as-a-service for commercial, civil, and national security customers.

With a proven track record across the space domain, the company, through organic growth and portfolio expansion, has built over 300 spacecraft, delivered over 260 kilograms of payload to the lunar surface, and provided precision navigation expertise that has guided spacecraft across our solar system.

These capabilities form an integrated Built-Connect-Operate infrastructure service company, enabling customers to achieve mission and campaign outcomes through a single prime solution. Intuitive Machines' technology has been demonstrated across the space domain and is engineered to support the next century of opportunity in space.

AARP Webster sets meeting

AARP Webster Area Chapter 199 is welcoming one to join them at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday April 9, at the Bay Area Community Center, 5002 E. NASA Parkway, Seabrook 77586. They meet in the large building with the blue roof inside Clear Lake Park on the north side of NASA Parkway. One is invited to come to meetings and to enjoy coffee, cookies and fellowship at 9:30 a.m. before the meeting starts at 10 a.m. Each month there is entertainment or a speaker on various topics of interest to seniors, followed by a social activity.

The program on April 9 will address balance and fall prevention. There will be no social event.

AARP Chapter 199 is hosting a bus trip on Tuesday, April 28. They will tour Butler Longhorn Museum, Kemah. The Butler Longhorn Museum is a cultural institution dedicated to preserving the history of the Texas Longhorn and the region's heritage through art, artifacts and educational exhibits. Trip price is \$12 or veterans with ID \$9. Lunch will be at the Cuban Cafe. One may register for this trip at the April 9 chapter meeting. One must be a member of Chapter 199 to participate in bus trips.

If one is interested in joining AARP Chapter 199, annual dues are \$8 per year per person. However, one must be a member of national AARP and show one's current national membership card to join any local chapter. AARP Chapters are separately incorporated affiliates of AARP. For more information, contact President Veronica Stanford at 409-256-1195 or at veronica_stfrd46@yahoo.

SJC launches new AI foundations advanced technical certificate

San Jacinto College is expanding its workforce-focused technology offerings with the launch of a new Artificial Intelligence foundations advanced technical certificate, designed to help professionals gain practical, industry-relevant AI skills applicable across a wide range of fields.

The certificate is intended for individuals who already hold an associate degree or higher and are seeking to upskill in artificial intelligence concepts and applications. The program provides foundational instruction in AI principles, data governance, ethical considerations, and real-world implementation, with coursework that emphasizes hands-on learning and industry alignment.

"As artificial intelligence becomes embedded in nearly every industry, it's critical that professionals understand not only how AI works, but how to apply it responsibly and effectively," said Rizwan Virani, senior director of cybersecurity programs at San Jacinto College. "This certificate equips students with practical knowledge they can immediately bring back to their organizations, whether they're working in cybersecurity, business operations, or strategic decision-making."

Coursework within the certificate covers topics such as the foundations of artificial intelligence, data governance for AI systems, AI applications in cybersecurity, policy and compliance considerations and the operationalization of AI solutions in organizational settings. Students also explore ethical and legal implications, including privacy, bias, and governance.

For more information about the Artificial Intelligence foundations advanced technical certificate and other technology programs at San Jacinto College, visit sanjac.edu.

Local youth take the stage in "Murder by Indecision"

Pearland area audiences are in for an evening of mystery, comedy and impressive young talent as Kids' Backporch Productions presents "Murder by Indecision," a witty and engaging theatrical production by Daniel O'Donnell.

This family-friendly show features a cast of local youth actors who bring humor and suspense to life in a fast-paced whodunit filled with quirky characters and unexpected twists. Known for fostering creativity and confidence in young performers, Kids' Backporch Productions continues its tradition of delivering entertaining, high-quality community theater.

Performances will be held at Shadycrest Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, located at 3017 Yost Blvd. in Pearland. Showtimes are: Friday, April 10 – 7 p.m. Saturday, April 11 – 2 and 7 p.m. Sunday, April 12 – 2 p.m.

Tickets are priced at \$10 for children (18 and under), \$15 for adults, and \$12 for seniors (65+), making this an outing for families, friends and theater lovers of all ages.

Support local youth involved in a mystery that will keep one guessing and laughing until the very end.

For more information and tickets, visit www.kidsbackporchproductions.org.



Cast members shown are, left to right, (front row) Thomas Guy, Zachary Schmid, Charlie Schmid, Skylar Nguyen, JJ McDowell, Phoenix Zimmer, Addyson Johnson, Raley Perez, (back row) Lorely Cerda, Natalia Peña, Pyka Bliss, Delila Hess, Nolan Eubanks, Adaline Hess, Alivia Perkins, Ella Rougeau and Sophie Hannah.

Remember When

50 years ago (1976)
A slated \$193 million bond issue for several improvements to the South Belt area went to the polls.

The annual wheelchair basketball game was battled between the Ex-Servicemen's Club at San Jacinto College and the Houston-based Easy Riders.

45 years ago (1981)
Final plans for a foot bridge to connect the Wood Meadow subdivision with Stuchbery Elementary were discussed at the site of the proposed bridge.

The Clear Creek Independent School district's board of education set a date to receive bids for the new intermediate school to be constructed in League City.

40 years ago (1986)
Hobby Airport's \$10 million Express Auto Park directly across from Hobby Airport opened with 1,450 parking spaces.

A new teacher career ladder appeals process was adopted and was followed during appeals concerning placement for the 1985-86 school year in the Pasadena school district.

35 years ago (1991)
Although a Southbend health study had not stopped, 90 percent of the 40 people working the survey moved or were in the process of moving from the subdivision after seeing the preliminary results.

Sagamont-Beverly Hills Little League celebrated its 25th year in affiliation with Little League baseball.

30 years ago (1996)
Dobie 1992 graduate Amber Brannen was crowned queen of the 69th Texas Re-lays.

Auto theft and auto burglary led crime statistics for Houston District 12 for the six-month period from September through February.

25 years ago (2001)
Thompson academic team advanced to "elite eight" in the nationals.

The Leader released a special edition featuring eight new subdivisions in the South Belt area.

South Belt's triplets, Brooke, Blake and Britanny Montross, 5, children of Miriam and Walter (Monty) Montross, were the first set of triplets to play on the same baseball team in remembered history of the league.

South Belt resident Verlin Fox was presented with NASA's Silver Snoopy Award.

Cadet Daniel Edward Murphy, 20, of the Air Force Academy was killed in a one-vehicle accident while home on vacation.

20 years ago (2006)
A fatal shooting of a home invasion suspect was referred to a Harris County grand jury.

Thompson Intermediate was the site of much confusion after several incidents resulted in punishment for all students. Conflicting reports indicated between 18 and 63 students were involved and resulted in many students protesting the punishment by arriving late to their classes.

Local schools were preparing for the upcoming Jori Zemel bone cancer walk. The weekend included live music, rock climbing, moonwalks, sporting events for children, face painting, food and a memorial tribute.

The Dobie drama department presented its UIL one-act play, "Peter Pan," at Dobie High School March 16-19.

15 years ago (2011)
Three more arrests were made in connection to a string of home burglaries that police say could date back at least two years. Jesus Garcia, 18; Chris Munoz, 18; and Antoine Pham, 19, were all apprehended. Garcia was charged with possession of stolen merchandise. Munoz was charged with burglary of a habitation, and Pham was charged with hindering apprehension. The arrests brought the total number of charges to eight in connection with the area burglaries. All were former or current Dobie students.

Three separate arrests were made that involved sex crimes that occurred in the South Belt area. Russell Evans Carver, 52, a Beverly Hills resident, was arrested for allegedly having inappropriate sexual contact with a 16-year-old girl from Michigan whom he met online.

The director of the Dobie High School orchestra, Benjamin Childress, was charged with online solicitation of a minor. The victim, a 15-year-old boy, was reportedly from outside the school district.

Gerson Alejandro Bonilla, 18, was sentenced for secretly taking photos of a gym employee by placing a cell phone camera underneath the stall in the men's restroom of the Fitness Connection on the Gulf Freeway near Fuqua.

10 years ago (2016)
Approximately 200 business and community leaders, as well as numerous elected officials gathered March 30 as the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce held its 32nd annual installation banquet. Newly elected Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner was the featured speaker at the event.

Atkinson, South Belt, South Houston and Turner elementary were named Honor Roll Schools for the 2015 school year by the Educational Results Partnership and the Institute for Productivity in Education. The Honor Roll is a national program that highlights student achievements, particularly among economically disadvantaged school communities.

5 years ago (2021)
More than 120 concerned residents showed up at Me-lillo Middle School Friday, March 26, to attend a public meeting hosted by state Rep. Dennis Paul on the future of the controversial charter school in the Riverstone Ranch subdivision. Despite the widespread interest in the meeting, however, attendees left with few questions answered since representatives of the school refused to attend. To be built on a nine-acre site on Riverstone Ranch Road at Kirksage, the Elite College Prep Academy – Riverstone, a branch of Houston Gateway Academy, had remained half-constructed for several years, causing complaints from residents who view the property as an eyesore. The campus had been the target of multiple criminal investigations. In April 2019, Houston Gateway Superintendent Richard Garza, along with an IT tech from the campus, was indicted on multiple federal charges, accused of stealing more than \$250,000 from the school. The school had also been the target of multiple civil suits for lack of payment. The school hired a new contractor to reportedly complete construction of the area campus.

The Texas Department of State Health Services announced that as of Monday, March 29, all adults in Texas were now eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine. The state's Expert Vaccine Allocation Panel recommended opening vaccinations to everyone who fell under the Food and Drug Administration emergency use authorizations to protect as many Texans as possible.

1 year ago (2025)
Construction of St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church's future Riverstone Ranch campus moved forward after being placed on pause for more than a decade.

Plans call for the area parish to break ground next month on its new Family Life Center, after the city of Pearland approved the building's permits.

Funding for the facility's construction was made possible by a \$10 million loan from the archdiocese. Cost of the new Family Life Center – which will serve as a multipurpose building for the church – is estimated at approximately \$11 million.

St. Luke parishioners have contributed the remaining \$1 million as part of the church's Capital Campaign.

Founded in 1975, the groundbreaking will coincide with St. Luke the Evangelist's 50th anniversary. The parish had reached out to the archdiocese for assistance once before in 2019 but plans were put on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Plans were further delayed later by the winter freeze in 2021 and Hurricane Beryl in 2024, church officials said.

This marks the first significant activity at the Riverstone site in more than 10 years, with the campus's first building to be constructed – a 10,000-square-foot structure dubbed the Cenacle Learning Center – officially christened May 24, 2014, by Bishop George A. Sheltz, auxiliary bishop for the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston.

The groundbreaking for that building was held Dec. 12, 2012. (A groundbreaking scheduled for Sept. 1, 2012, was postponed due to heavy rains.) The Pearland property, however, had been acquired approximately a decade earlier.

Church officials said the Cenacle Learning Center currently serves as a meeting/multipurpose space but will eventually be designated as the Adult Ministry building once the entire campus has been completed.

St. Luke officials said the move was necessary to accommodate growth and because the church's original Hall Road facilities are aging.

Located across the street from South Belt Elementary and the new Thompson Intermediate campus, the St. Luke Riverstone site occupies roughly 20 acres of land, compared to the church's current five at its Hall Road campus.

According to St. Luke officials, once construction of the new Family Life Center is complete, the church will be able to completely move from its existing Hall Road campus.

Plans call for the new Pearland site to eventually feature five buildings, including an education center, a social hall, youth center, administration building and church.

A groundbreaking on the new Family Life Center was scheduled to take place at noon Saturday, April 5.

Public Notice

LEGAL NOTICE

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage Permit (MB) with a Food and Beverage Certificate (FB) by Posadas Group LLC dba Taqueria La Norteña, to be located at 14455 Cullen Blvd. Suite A 104 Houston, Harris County, Texas. Manager of said corporation is Miguel Posada.

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Over The Back Fence by Nicole

ELLIANA TURNS 9!
Happy birthday wishes are sent April 4 to Elliana Abarca who turns nine years old from parents Natalie and Jose Abarca; brothers Kelvin Lopez and Noah Abarca and sister Isabella and husband Sebastian Delgado; niece Esme; grandparents David and Ellie Flickinger; and great-grandparent David Flickinger.

SCHOOL DAZE
The following personnel and staff of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays April 2 through April 8.

Atkinson Elementary
April 2 is a day of birthday celebration for Melissa Chapman.

Burnett Elementary
Light the birthday candles on a cake for Erica Cantu April 8.

Frazier Elementary
Sing a happy birthday song to Isaac Romero April 3. Birthday wishes go out to Felicia Olivares April 5.

Genoa Elementary
Birthday wishes go out to Livinia Johnson April 2.

Meador Elementary
Break out the cake and ice cream April 6 for Loreno Lucio's birthday.

Stuchbery Elementary
Remember to wish Patti Roe a wonderful birthday April 3. Sing a happy birthday song to Alyssa Keim April 5. Light the birthday candles April 6 for Javier Guerra. Robin Salinas celebrates a birthday April 8.

Melillo Middle School
Blow out the candles April 6 for Genesis Torres.

Beverly Hills Intermediate
April 8 is the day for a fun celebration for Laura Dossman.

Thompson Intermediate
Break out the balloons and party favors for James Washington April 6.

Dobie High
Warm birthday greetings are sent to Clarence McNeill for his birthday April 2. Saul Blair, William Daugherty and Yuronda Richardson celebrate a birthday April 3. Give a birthday shoutout April 4 to Jessica Castillo. Cheers for a happy birthday are sent to Anyssa Arispe and Lorena Calderon April 8.

FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS
Wednesday, April 2: Raven Brooks, Minerva Segovia, Stephen Hooper, Mona Valerio, Suzette Corona, Yvette Cheatwood, Cathy White, Edward Gish and Lisa Bourque; Thursday, April 3: Erika Saavedra, Lillian Lee, Aimee Salazar-Arroyo, Maria Keim and Sharon Rhoads; Friday, April 4: Debbie Pitre, Monika Sandridge, Jenn Copeland, Wendy Banh Nguyen, Travis Doe and Katie Burns; Saturday, April 5: Chris Gehringer, Davis Borsché, Jennifer Smith, Teri Polluck, Debbie Trelle, Cindy Russell and Don Adam; Sunday, April 6: Carol Barber, Jason Weston, Lena West and Jerry Devila; Monday, April 7: Deborah Belmarez, Larry Higgs and Jeff White; and Tuesday, April 8: Adriel Rodriguez, Alexander Restrepo and Ruth Scotton.

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

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SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

JFD boys' soccer makes D1 state quarterfinals

The Dobie varsity boys' soccer team took on Atascocita March 31 after press time in the Class 6A Division 1 regional championship match at Galena Park ISD Stadium, with the winner set to advance to the state semifinals.

Both Dobie in Atascocita had to go the extra mile in the regional semifinals in order to advance.

Longhorn senior Allen Campos completed a brilliant three-goal night as he scored off a rebound with about five minutes to play in overtime as his team outlasted Bellaire 5-4 March 27 at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena.

On the same night, Atascocita of District 23-6A and Seven Lakes played to a 1-1 tie through overtime and went to penalty kicks before the Eagles advanced through a 4-2 advantage after the sudden death session.

What a ride it has been for Dobie, which first shut out Fort Bend Travis 2-0 before getting past Clear Springs in overtime 4-2 and again needing extra time to take down an exceptionally talented

Bellaire program. "I realize that I have been using the word 're-

silient' basically since day one of the season," Dobie head coach Josh

Kluka said. "But with this group, resiliency is what has car-

ried us through this point. "These guys are willing to do whatever it takes

to get a win. They simply refuse to go down, and it is that resiliency and ab-

solute desire to come out on top that has us where
Continued on Page 8



Allen Campos (10) of Dobie wound up with three goals scored in the game against Bellaire as he helped the Longhorns advance to the 6A Division 1 regional final following a 5-4 victory over the Cardinals March 27 at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena.

Photos by Donna Alsdorf



Dobie's Julian Calderon Vargas (8) battles for position and control of the ball against a Bellaire defender in the first half of the 6A Division 1 regional quarterfinal matchup between the Longhorns and the Cardinals March 27 at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena. Dobie emerged with a 5-4 victory in the match to advance.

Canales a state champ



Dobie sophomore Jaxson Canales captured a state powerlifting championship March 27 in Abilene, producing a total weight of 985 pounds over three best lifts in the 123-pound body weight class. Canales had lifts of 360 pounds in the squat, 225 in the dead lift and 400 in the deadlift to edge Comal Pieper's Ryan Lopez by 10 pounds for the state crown.

Dobie sprints into 22-6A Championships

Snagging a pair of team championships at the regular season finale Trojan Relays hosted by South Houston High School March 27, the Dobie track and field programs will enter the District 22-6A Championships April 6-8 at Auxiliary Stadium in Pasadena with plenty of confidence.

Both varsity squads were dominant at South Houston, particularly controlling things in the relays on the way to a pair of team wins.

On the girls' side of things, the Longhorns swept gold medals in each of the three relays while piling up 60 team points, and captured gold in eight different events overall. Senior Kylar Joseph won

gold medals in the 100 as well as the triple jump and was also second in the long jump.

Blessing Okinloye was the gold medalist in the shot put, and Savannah Jones was the champion of the high jump. Daisha Jackson was also the gold medalist of the 200.

In the 4x100 relay, the Longhorns managed to get to the line first at 49.70 seconds, just ahead of Goose Creek Memorial, which was in at 50.13.

Dobie easily won the gold medal in the 4x200 relay at 1:42.11, with Santa Fe second in a time of 1:48.88. Dobie closed out a dominating performance at the meet by winning the 4x400 relay, clocking in at 4:14.11.

22-6A Track Finals

April 6 through 8
Auxiliary Stadium

Joseph's victory in the 100 came at a time of 12.56, and she cleared 34 feet, 7 inches for the gold medal in the triple jump.

Teammate Vizion Jones, a freshman, was a bronze medalist as she was third at 32-7. In the long jump Goose Creek Memorial's Kalya Titus was the winner at 17-11, reaching the mark in fewest attempts.

Joseph also made her way to the 17-11 mark for

the silver medal. In the quick 200, Jackson, a junior, was the gold medalist as she clocked in at 25.86.

Titus was also the gold medalist in the 400, with Dobie's Christina Rodriguez in for a silver medal at 1:03.49.

Dobie junior Tiara Charles placed third for a bronze medal in a time of 1:03.59, and Longhorn freshman Amber Corpeno clocked in at 1:04.35 for fifth place in the event.

The Longhorns also excelled in the distance running events, with junior Aracely Alvarado registering a time of 2:34.13 for second place in the 800. Teammate Isaura Correa, a senior, captured a bronze medal for third place at a time of 2:34.86.

Aliyah Sanchez, a sophomore placed sixth for the Longhorns in a time of 2:48.72. Lila Davis, a senior, was sixth in the 300
Continued on Page 8



Sophomore Jaylen Aguilar continued what has been a perfect run in District 22-6A play as he improved a 4-0 on the mound, helping the Longhorns to a 6-2 home win over previously unbeaten Pearland March 27. The Longhorns are 6-2 midway through league action.

Dobie baseball takes down Pearland 6-2

Getting a solid pitching performance from the duo of starter Jaylen Aguilar and closer Abraham Martinez, the Dobie varsity baseball team delivered league-leading Pearland its first loss, 6-2, March 27 at Dobie as the Longhorns sent a message along the way.

In what has become a four-team race to the post-season, the Longhorns have reached the midway point of the season at 6-2, including 15-6 overall, with a pair of two-game sets coming against both South Houston and Sam Rayburn.

Dobie will then face a crucial four-game stretch

against Alvin and Manvel to close out the regular season.

After Aguilar pushed his district record to a perfect 4-0 mark with five solid innings against the Oilers, scattering six hits and allowing two earned runs while striking out eight, Martinez closed the deal as he allowed three hits but no runs over the final two frames.

Offensively, Julian and Ricks tripled and doubled in the game, driving in a pair of runs and scoring another.

Geo Ramirez tripled in a pair of runs, and Aguilar had two hits, knocked in a
Continued on Page 8



The Dobie girls' 4x400 relay foursome was just one of the many top-performing in a long list of those coming from the team champion Longhorns at the

Trojan Relays. From left, Tiara Charles, Christina Rodriguez, Amber Corpeno and Maleiyah Hoop combined to win gold medals in the meet finale.

March 27 lifts Longhorns as special athletics day

March 27, 2026, will go down as the best day of the school year within the Dobie athletics department as the Longhorns delivered an array of memorable performances.

Longhorn sophomore powerlifter Jaxson Canales won a state championship in Abilene in the 123-pound division.

Closer to home, the Dobie varsity boys' soccer team defeated Bellaire 5-4 in a thrilling overtime match to qualify for the regional final match.

On the main campus, the Longhorn varsity baseball team defeated Pearland for the first time in several seasons, getting a solid pitching perfor-

mance from both Jaylen Aguilar and Abraham Martinez as well as timely hitting to defeat the Oilers, who were previously unbeaten in district play, by a 6-2 count.

Not far from the baseball field, the Longhorn varsity softball program continued its domination of Pasadena Memorial, winning the Battle of the Beltway series two games to none by downing the Mavericks 9-4 after scoring seven runs over the first two innings.

At the South Houston Trojan Relays, the Dobie varsity boys' and girls' programs both scored team championships at the event with a number of

personal best performances along the way, allowing the Dobie program as a whole, to enter the district championships just days from now with plenty of confidence.

What a day it was for the Longhorns as both individual athletes and teams gave their best in honor of Dobie High School.

There are still plenty of opportunities this season for the Longhorns to deliver in a big way for their school as the spring tennis, track and field, baseball and softball programs are still in action. Still, March 27 is likely to be unmatched in terms of overall single-day results.

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Pasadena ISD will induct 2026 class of all-time athletics legends April 9

Pasadena ISD is set to honor six of its all-time sports greats at the 2026 Athletics Hall of Fame induction ceremony is held at Phillips Field House in Pasadena April 9 at 6 p.m. Jim "Mattress Mac" McIngvale, owner of Gallery Furniture in Houston, will be the Master of Ceremony. The six inductees for 2026 include three athletes with ties to Dobie, including former long-time aquatics head coach Dennis Shippey, Class of 2003 graduate and two-sport star Lionel Dotson Jr. and Keith Kveton, a 1977 Dobie graduate who starred on the football field and later played at Rice University. Additionally, Andrew Gonzalez of Sam Rayburn High School basketball stardom will be inducted along with Amy Williams Stewart, a star distance runner for the Texans.

Al Carter, a 1970 South Houston High School graduate, is also set to be inducted into the sports journalism category, the first member of the specially designated

field. During the special evening, the district will also award academic scholarships to several deserving students from a choice of the five high schools - Dobie, Pasadena Memorial, Pasadena, Sam Rayburn and South Houston. The Athletics Hall of Fame scholarship will be given to one male and one female student who perform well in the classroom, exhibit exemplary character and excel in their chosen athletics program.

The Bert Coan Memorial Scholarship, named in honor of Eagles' legend Bert Coan, a football, basketball and track and field star, will be awarded to a deserving student. There will also be an Athletic Trainer Scholarship, given to aspiring athletics trainers who have demonstrated passion and commitment to their field of sports medicine. The Robert Avery Memorial Scholarship, honoring the legacy of longtime Pasadena Citizen sports editor Robert Avery, recognizes a talented student pursuing journalism, broadcasting, public relations, digital media or a related field. As for the six inductees, Carter will be the Hall of Fame's initial representative in the first-year sports journalism category. A former reporter and sports columnist for the Houston Chronicle, the Dallas Morning News and other major daily newspapers in both Texas and Oklahoma, Carter's career spanned three decades. He is the recipient of numerous national and regional writing awards, has made frequent appearances on television and radio shows and also has had a number of his articles published in national sports magazines and books. While a student at South Houston High School, Carter wrote for the student newspaper and earned awards as a senior, certainly predicting his eventual success in the industry. Once his legendary writing career was complete, Carter also taught U.S. History at South Houston High School and spent several

years within the communications department at Pasadena ISD. Dotson was a legendary performer on the football field for the Longhorns. But he also stood out on the basketball court. Earning first-team All-District status in both sports both as a junior and senior, Dotson played collegiately at the University of Arizona and was named a second team All-Pac 10 performer as a senior. He hit his stride as a senior at Arizona, registering 50 tackles and a team best 6.5 sacks as he was a second team all-conference honoree. Following his collegiate career, Dotson was a seventh-round draft choice of the Miami Dolphins and played five seasons in the National Football League. Gonzalez, quite simply, is regarded as the greatest varsity boys' basketball player in Sam Rayburn program history. During his senior year with the Texans in 2007, Gonzalez averaged 25 points and 10 rebounds per game, earning district Most Valuable Player honors along the way. He continued to be quite a talented scorer for two seasons at San Jacinto College, and then went on to average 21 points per game over two seasons at Houston Baptist University (now Houston Christian). A first team All-Great West Conference selection during both his junior and senior seasons with the Huskies, Gonzalez still ranks third in scoring in HBU program history. Kveton, a 1977 Dobie graduate, was a first team All-Greater Houston selection during the 1976 season with the Longhorns. He went on to

letter in football all four years at Rice University, where he played center and was a co-captain for the Owls during his final season. He was a UPI All-Southwest Conference second team selection as a senior. Shippey, the longtime aquatics head coach at Dobie High School, dedicated decades of his life to young swimmers in the South Belt area. He served as the leader of the Dobie program from 1976 until his retirement in 2004 and for a time served as the aquatics coordinator for the Pasadena ISD. During his career at Dobie, Shippey produced numerous individual champions as well as a district championship team. Shippey was also quite a swimmer in his own right. In 2005, he was named an All-American swimmer by the United States Masters Swimming and is one of the few swimmers in the country to be honored as an All-American at all three levels, including high school, college in the Masters program. Shippey was an All-State champion at Daventport West High School in Iowa and went on to earn NAIA All America honors at Eastern New Mexico University. He also served in Vietnam with the 101st Airborne Division. Shippey died on Aug. 31, 2011, from complications of early onset dementia. He was 65. As a testament to both his achievements and contributions to the district, the Pasadena ISD Aquatic Center is named in his honor. Amy Williams Stewart, a 1995 Rayburn graduate, was a cross-coun-

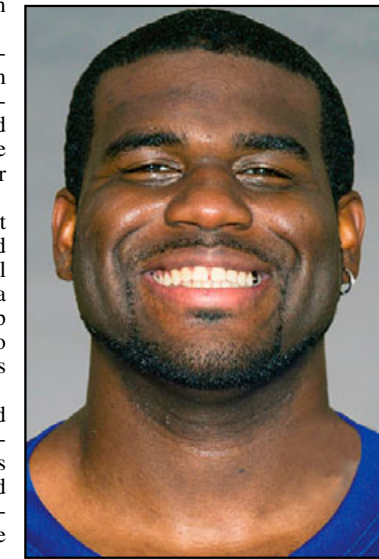
try and track and field star for four years under the guidance of coach Joan Walker Propp, who is also a Pasadena ISD Athletics Hall of Fame inductee. Williams Stewart was a three-time high school regional qualifier and also reached the state meet in 1992. On the track, she was a four-time regional qual-

ifier in the 800 and as a senior placed fifth at the state meet in Austin with a time of 2 minutes, 16.04 seconds. She went on to compete collegiately at Stephen F. Austin, lettering for three seasons with the Lumberjacks. She was also named to the Southland Conference Commissioner's List for

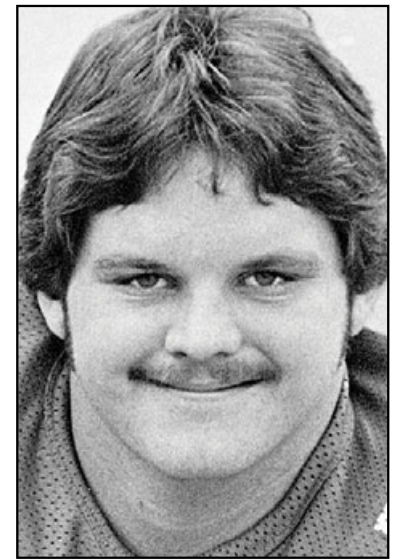
academics three times. As an adult, she qualified for the Boston Marathon in both 2005 and 2006. The longtime track and field head coach at Hudson High School, William Stewart has produced 17 district team champions and 10 of her previous teams have reached the Class 4A state championship meet.



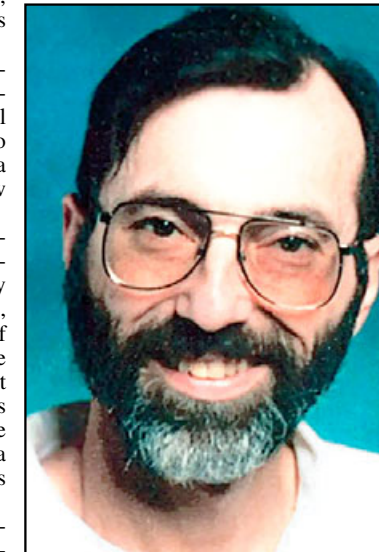
Andrew Gonzalez, a 2007 Sam Rayburn High School graduate, was a prolific scorer who today still ranks third all-time on the scoring list within the Houston Baptist University men's basketball program. The institution is now known as Houston Christian University.



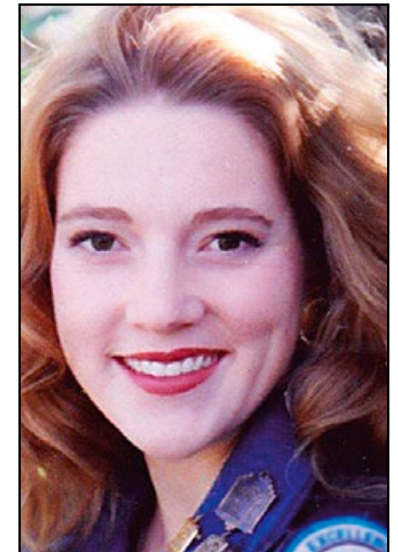
Lionel Dotson Jr.



Keith Kveton



Dennis Shippey



Amy Williams Stewart

Carter will join Pasadena ISD Athletics Hall of Fame as first into sports journalism category

The very young Al Carter certainly could not have realized it at the time, but he was putting the building blocks in place for what would become an exceptionally successful decades-long career as a prominent sports writer and sports editor for several of the state's major newspaper publications, including both the former Houston Post and the Houston Chronicle. Carter and his siblings moved quite often in the 50s and 60s within the South Houston area, but even the movement and occasional chaos around the house never deterred the young Carter from following his passions. He had a newspaper delivery route in Arlington Heights, and freely admits that he would often run the risk of being late on some of his deliveries as he was busy absorbing the information within the newspaper itself. He first grew a love for baseball after seeing

legendary Pittsburgh Pirates player and 10-time All-Star Bill Mazeroski run wild on the bases on television. With an extra cent here or there, Carter at a very young age began purchasing wax paper packages of Topps baseball cards, with which he would study the statistical information of each player, including their hometowns, height and sometimes weight, and of course the year-by-year performance of the players as provided via the people at Topps. Carter began writing his own score cards and box scores as he watched the ball games on television or listened on the radio. He then would frequently check his information against that of what he saw in each of the newspapers on a daily basis to verify accuracy, most often ensuring himself that what he had written down was in fact the correct statistical information.

The baseball card collecting for Carter became such a passion that he eventually put together a massive haul of complete Topps sets spanning from 1956 all the way through 1990, eventually selling them off to a single purchaser for quite the hefty price. He used the financial windfall to help put each of his children, Jonathan, Benjamin and Jessica, through college. Each of the three Carter siblings to Mary and Al Carter, have gone on to develop their own highly successful careers. Carter was not particularly on board with becoming the very first member of the Pasadena ISD's newly created sports media wing of the Athletics Hall of Fame, but there is truly no one else deserving of the honor. A 1970 graduate of South Houston High School, Carter said he initially got into journalism as a clever way to follow along with a girl

on whom he had a crush. Despite his relative inexperience to news writing, Carter clearly was ahead of his time. He taught himself to write by being a voracious reader of any and all materials that he could get his hands on, and simply put, had a knack for spinning a terrific tale for print. In an age in the newspaper industry where sports writers were both revered and counted on as the primary source for both local and national sports information, Carter was one of the best that this state has ever read. Following his time at South Houston High School, Carter attended San Jacinto College, where he studied under the guidance of both John Bolen and Sally Stanford, two influential people who encouraged him to get into journalism full time. Carter went on to join the newspaper at the University of Texas, which regularly won awards as

the nation's top collegiate newspaper. Following graduation, he was off and running as part of a career that spanned several decades. He covered high school sports and he also followed both the Texas Longhorns and Texas Aggies on as part of his regular beat. He covered the Houston Oilers, and many of the Houston sports franchises as member as a member of the Houston Post and then the Houston Chronicle. Carter later became a sports editor and did everything he could to usher in future generations of young journalists. Sensing a shift in the journalism business, which included either the downsizing or complete elimination of sports departments, Carter retired from sports riding and taught U.S. history at South Houston High School for several years. He also joined the communications department within Pasadena

ISD for several years before retiring for mourning a paycheck. Even in retirement, Carter has lent plenty of hours to numerous interests, including both the South Houston Hall of Honor as well as the PISD Athletics Hall of Fame, of which he is a board member. When his sons were playing baseball at Dobie High School, Carter was responsible in large part for bringing media guides to the annual program, which included both single-season and career achievements for individual players as well as teams. How he tracked down all of that pertinent information is anyone's guess, but Carter is nothing if not thorough and driven to complete any project he takes on. "Of course it is a great honor to join the Hall of Fame in a school district where I was raised," Carter said. "I knew nothing about this area when I was a child. I bought baseball cards at the lo-

cal 7-Eleven that was very near Genoa Elementary, and South Houston High School itself is very much the same as it was today as when I attended. "This area, or at least the surrounding neighborhoods, have always been home to us. I don't know that I particularly deserve to be the first one

inducted into the sports media portion of the Hall of Fame, but it is truly a great honor." Given the state of how today's news and media is delivered, Carter may in fact be on the very short list of media representatives in the future in terms of the Hall of Fame.

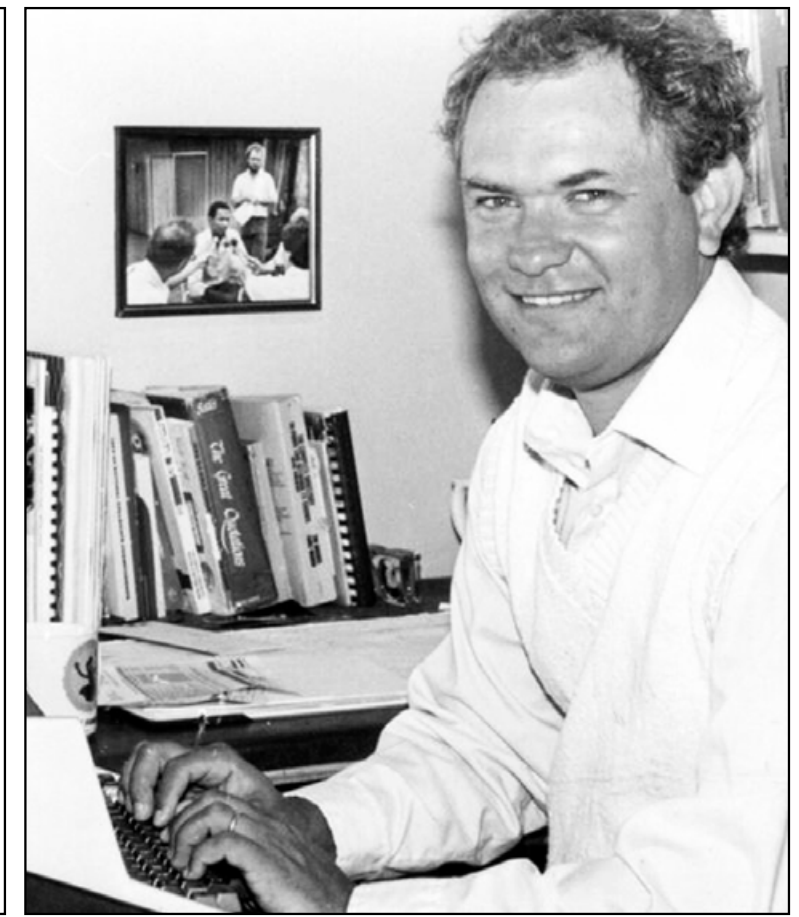
But, he surely is deserved of being the very first representative of what was once a large part of the lives of people across this country. Carter has all of the awards. He's achieved plenty in his life, and now he can call himself a Pasadena ISD Athletics hall of famer.



Al Carter (left) is shown with his wife, Mary, as they visited Veterans Stadium in Pasadena for his induction into the South Houston High School Hall of Honor in 2014. Al Carter is a 1970 South Houston High School graduate.



At left, Houston Oilers' head coach Jack Pardee (left) chats with Houston Post sports reporter Al Carter in 1991. Pardee had been the longtime head coach of the Houston Cougars before taking the reins of the Oilers. At right, Carter spent many, many days and nights strumming the typewriter from his home desk on Sage-river. Carter, who for three decades was one of the most popular sports reporters and columnist within the state, will join the Pasadena ISD Athletics Hall of Fame Class of 2026 inductees as he will be the first member of the newly created sports journalism section of the hall.



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THURSDAY, APRIL 2
 7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill," Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., and Saturday at 7:30 a.m., Hope Community United Methodist Church, 2838 Lily St. Call 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit <https://aahouston.org/meetings/>.
 7:30 a.m. **Rotary Club of Pearland** - Check website for time and location <https://pearlandrotary.com/events/calendar> or call 832-293-9860.
 9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - Exhibits include dioramas, a turn-of-the-century doctor's office and an old-time kitchen. Open Tues. - Sat., 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., 204 S. Main, Pasadena. Call Karen Hollon at 713-472-0565 for appointment. Tours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 3
 7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
 9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** See Thursday's notice.
 Noon **Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group**, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or at <https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners>. Call 713-686-6300 for more information. Meets Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
 7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA**, open meeting, 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com or <https://nastuff.com/>. Meets Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.
 8 p.m. **Serenity Now AI-Anon Group** - meets at CrossRoads UMC Fridays, 8 to 9 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Family members and friends of problem drinkers/addicts share, learn AI-Anon principles, that they are not alone, and discover choices available. For details, call 281-484-9243.
 8 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous** - meets at CrossRoads UMC Wednesday, Friday and Sunday, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call 281-484-9243.
 8 p.m. **Beverly Hills Sharers Group AA** - meets at CrossRoads UMC Wednesday, Friday and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Call 281-484-9243.

SATURDAY, APRIL 4
 7:30 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
 9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - See Thursday's notice.

SUNDAY, APRIL 5
 8 a.m./10:15 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - has worship Tuesday at 11:30 a.m., Wednesday at 7 p.m. (Bible study,

trim, edge, trim shrubs, flower beds, planting new grass, mulching, tree cutting, and more. Competitive rates. Free estimates. Good reference. Call Ruben Vela @ 346-577-3347. 4-16

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5:30 p.m. **Celebrate Recovery** - A faith-based 12-Step program, in the Life Kids Chapel at Life Church, 5125 Preston Ave. Pasadena, TX 77505. Call 713-419-2635 for details.
 8 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous** See Friday's notice.
 8 p.m. **Beverly Hills Sharers Group AA** - See Friday's notice.

MONDAY, APRIL 6
 5 p.m. **New Directions** - Age 55 and older meets the first and third Mondays for a potluck dinner with activities and/or guest speakers at 600 Hobbs Road, League City, TX 77573, (community room). For further information, call Jill at 646-489-4367.
 6 p.m. **Scrabble Club #511** - Meets Monday at Denny's, 19212 Gulf Freeway. Join the fun and improve crossword skills. COVID-19 vaccination required. Email huff_reunion@juno.com for info.
 7 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - St. Luke's Group, 12-Step Recovery, open meeting Mondays, 7 p.m. in the Education Bldg. in room 6, at 11011 Hall Road, 77089. For details, call Rita at 281-309-2801.
 7 p.m. **TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)** - #0683 Friendswood chapter meets at the Friendswood Methodist Church, 110 N. Friendswood Dr. in the educational bldg., room 201. For information, call Lynette Ringrose at 832-858-4617 or Dorothy Pourteau at 713-875-8820.
 7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - See Friday's notice.

TUESDAY, APRIL 7
 7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
 9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - See Thursday's notice.
 11:30 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - See Sunday's notice.
 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. **Southeast Houston Toastmasters** - The Southeast Houston Toastmasters Club #05324194 meets virtually with the exception of the second and fourth Tuesdays (hybrid meeting) at sehouston.toastmastersclubs.org. In-person address 10500 Scarsdale Blvd. (SB Chamber of Commerce). Visit the website or call Karen Nunn at 832-722-9061 for information.
 7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** -

See Friday's notice.
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8
 7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
 9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - See Thursday's notice.
Carmelites - a nondenominational senior citizen social group meeting at St. Bernadette Catholic Church, 15500 El Camino Real, in Clear Lake on the first and third Wednesdays for a time filled with fun, fellowship, lending library with books and puzzles, coffee and bingo. The meetings are open to those ages 55 and older, with no dues. Day trips and extended trips available. Deposits are now being taken for Poland. For details, call Marilyn at 713-444-6744.
 Noon **AA - Imperfect Nooners**. See Friday's notice.
 Noon **Ballroom Dancing** - casual ballroom dance, open to the public, held every Wednesday afternoon from 12:30 to 3 p.m. at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 East League City Parkway, League City. Everyone is welcome to come with or without a partner. The dance itself is free as music is provided by volunteer, Neva Schroder. The city requires an activity card for participants in all of the city's many activities. Call the park office 281-554-1180 for answers to any questions regarding the activity card. Visitors are welcome to walk in to observe or participate.
 7 p.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - See Sunday's notice.
 7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - See Friday's notice.
 8 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous** - See Friday's notice.
 8 p.m. **Beverly Hills Sharers Group AA** - See Friday's notice.

THURSDAY, APRIL 9
 7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill," Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., and Saturday at 7:30 a.m. Hope Community United Methodist Church, 2838 Lily St. Call 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit <https://aahouston.org/meetings/>.
 7:30 a.m. **Rotary Club of Pearland** - Check website for time and location <https://pearlandrotary.com/events/calendar> or call 832-293-9860.
 9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - Exhibits include dioramas, a turn-of-the-century doctor's office and an old-time kitchen. Open Tues. - Sat., 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., 204 S. Main, Pasadena. Call Karen Hollon at 713-472-0565 for appointment. Tours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Dobie softball maintains its edge for second place

Continuing its dominance of Pasadena Memorial in recent years, the Dobie varsity softball program maintained supremacy in the Battle of the Beltway between the two programs with a 9-4 victory over the Mavericks March 27 at Dobie main.

Pushing its overall record to 18-8 and 8-2 for second place within District 22-6A, the Longhorns scored seven runs over the first two innings and pounded out 16 hits overall in the game.

Gabby Ramirez had three hits and drove in a pair of runs. Khloe Coronado also had three hits, scored two runs and knocked in a pair of runs.

Eniko Sanchez had two hits and drove in three runs, and destiny Sidropoulos had two hits in the game as well.

Mya Andrepont came through with a stellar performance in relief, pitching 3 1/3 innings against the Mavericks, allowing

a single hit and no earned runs to earn the victory. With the win, the Longhorns remained in second place, just ahead of

both Manvel and Alvin. Pearland continues to lead the district with a 10-0 record as of press time.

Upcoming Softball

Dobie hosts Pearland
April 2, 4 p.m.

Dobie baseballers get past Oilers 6-2

Continued from Page 5 6-2, with both Manvel and Alvin just a game back.

In the opener between Pearland and Dobie March 24, Pearland scored three runs in the bottom of the fifth inning and three more in the bottom of the sixth inning to take an 8-1 lead.

Dobie scored three runs in the top of the seventh inning to pull closer before the Oilers closed out the win. Dobie registered just four hits in the game.

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Maddi Campos has provided a big bat in the middle of Dobie's lineup as the varsity softball team won eight of 10 district games prior to March 30 play.

Photos by Donna Alsdorf



Freshman Mya Andrepont came through with a stellar performance in relief, pitching 3 1/3 innings against the Mavericks, allowing a single hit and no earned runs to earn the victory in a 9-4 Dobie win.

Dobie tracksters enter 22-6A championships on a roll

Continued from Page 5 hurdles in a time of 54.99, with Taylor Kingston seventh and Lauren Taylor eighth.

Jones and teammate Aniya Menefee were the lone competitors in the high jump. Jones was the gold medalist at 5-2, with Menefee clearing 5-0 for second place.

Akinloye threw the shot 34-7 for the gold medal, with Jordan Johnson second for a bronze medal

with a toss of 32-9. Akinloye was also fifth in the discus with a throw of 81-1 1/2.

The Longhorns were able to capture first place in the boys' division, winning gold medals in the 4x100 relay as well as the 4x200 relay.

In the 4x400 relay finale, the Longhorns were third for a bronze medal to claim 56 team points all together. Individually, the Longhorns excelled in

winning the team championship to close out the regular season.

The Longhorns made their way to the finish line at 42.37 seconds in the 4x100 relay for the gold medal, and also delivered a gold medal performance in the 4x200 relay at a time of 1:29.75.

Santa Fe claimed the win in the 4x400 at 3:29.45, but the Longhorns were not far behind as they were second at a

time of 3:29.59.

Dobie junior Terrence Goldwire was the gold medalist with a long jump at 21-3 1/2, with teammate Da'Marcus Hodges second at 21-2. D.K. Parker was fourth in the event as he made his way to the 20-3 1/2 mark.

Parker was easily the gold medalist in the triple jump as he posted a distance of 47-10 1/2, with Hodges second for a silver medal at 45-2.

Longhorn senior Clayton Washington was fourth in the event and he was in at 40-8 1/2. Dobie junior Kendrick Ramos also continued his solid season in the pole vault as he cleared 11-0.

Senior Nathan Belleville was the gold medalist in the shot put at 45-0, and teammate Cedric Gillespie wound up fourth with a mark of 42-3 1/2.

As for the discus, Gillespie was the silver

medalist with a throw of 125-2. Teammate Leudy Matos was third for the bronze medal with a throw of 113-11.

In other events, JFD senior Titus Randle produced a bronze medal in the 100 at 11.23. At the 200 distance, Longhorn sophomore Tyler Owens produced a time of 23.49 for sixth place.

Johan Villavicencio was the silver medalist at the 400 distance as he clocked in at 51.30, with teammate Rychous Wilson fifth and 53.97 and Ruben Vasquez of Dobie in at 53.97 for

sixth place.

Jordan Roman was third for a bronze medal in the 800, clocking in at 2:07.31, and Mathew Dunn, a junior, wound up sixth as he turned in a time of 2:08.38. The Longhorns' Angel Montiel, and Robert Pheister, a freshman, competed in the 1,600. Montiel placed fourth at 5:02.28, with Pfister sixth in a time of 5:06.11.

Montiel also finished the 3,200 in a time of 10:55.90, with Pheister's time of 10:56.94 good for fifth place.



At left, left to right, Tyler Owens, Da'Marcus Hodges, Adrian Tyler and Titus Randle joined forces in the 4x100 relay at South Houston for the win as the Dobie boys scored 203 points overall in the regular season finale. The Longhorns are now preparing for the 22-6A championships April 6 and April 8 at Auxiliary Stadium in Pasadena.

At right, Daisha Jackson and her teammates also captured the team championship at South Houston and will now match their talents against the other 22-6A programs in Pasadena.



Dobie senior Titus Randle was just one of many top-three medalists at South Houston, with the JFD boys winning their third team championship this track and field season.

Brook girls' track runs at PV event

The Clear Brook varsity girls' track and field team made one last run of things before the District 24-6A Championships April 7 and April 10 at Challenger Stadium in Webster.

Competing at the prestigious Prairie View Relays in Houston, Olivia Guillen produced the Wolverines' top overall finish as she was eighth in the 3,200, clocking in at 12 minutes, 48.68 seconds.

Freshman teammate Emily Harrell was 12th in the same event, finishing at 13:02.23.

Senior Patty Barnes ran exceptionally well in the 800 as the senior was ninth with a clocking of 2:27.31.

Freshman Xiomara Vasquez placed 12th and she was in at 2:28.67, and fellow freshman Mackenzie Watson wound up 19th with a time of 2:31.45.

In the 1,600, Guillen's

time of 5:57.25 placed her 11th, with Vasquez a spot back, 12th with a time of 5:57.45. Harrell was 18th in the event as she finished at 6:09.31.

Clear Brook combined Barnes and Kyra Freeman along with Hope Taylor and Kennedy Bolden in the 4x400 relay as the group was 13th in a time of 4:17.45.

The Wolverine boys' throwers were in action at the Trojan Relays at South Houston High School.

Alex Graun was the gold medalist in the discus as he came up with a top throw of 142 feet, 3 inches. Teammate Montez Hadnot placed fourth with a toss of 111-1. In the shot put, Clear Brook's Kenneth Christian was third for a bronze medal with a throw of 43-8, and Graun wound up fifth with a throw of 41-0.

JFD boys' soccer takes down Bellaire, advances

Continued from Page 5 it is the seniors that have really stepped up and provided a boost.

"That, and the abso-

lutely terrific support that we have gotten with three home playoff matches. The community has re-

ally gotten behind us and shown us that they are here to see us be successful and to cheer us on.

"It was so loud in the game against Bellaire that you really couldn't hear yourself think or communicate with the guys out there on the field. But that's the terrific part about it — that we were able to get that type of support."

Campos got the Longhorns going early with a goal five minutes into play for a 1-0 Longhorn lead. Bellaire responded fairly quickly with the equalizer before Campos and Angel Hernandez registered goals to give the Longhorns a 3-1 lead. Bellaire inched closer with a goal before halftime as Dobie led 3-2 at the break.

Cruz Jasso scored in the second half to give the Longhorns a 4-2 lead, but the Cardinals kept charging and eventually forced a 4-4 tie at the end of regulation. The two teams went scoreless in the initial 10-minute overtime segment before the Longhorns went ahead with five minutes remaining.

Devin Umanzor fired a shot that ricocheted off the right post, and Campos was able to punch in the eventual game winner just in front of the Bellaire

keeper. Kluka earned his third Gatorade bath of the post-season as the Longhorns

advanced to the regional final for the first time since 2023.

This current 2026 group

is trying to reach the state semifinals for the first time since the 2017 Longhorns made it that far.



Klevin Bonilla Velasquez (22) and his Dobie teammates have won three post-season matches and are a victory away from reaching the state semifinals in the 6A Division 1 varsity boys' soccer bracket.



Sergio De La Torre of Dobie (11) battled a Cardinal defender while passing a header forward during the 6A Division 1 area around playoff matchup against Bellaire. The two teams were tied at 4-4 at the end of regulation before the Longhorns advanced with a late goal.

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