

Cleanup seeks volunteers

Volunteers are being sought for the fourth annual South Belt Cleanup, set to take place Saturday, May 2, beginning at 8 a.m. at Beverly Hills Intermediate, located at 11111 Beamer. A joint project between the Knights of Columbus Council 9201 and the Sagemont Civic Club, the cleanup aims to clear debris from local thoroughfares encompassing a 6.25-square-mile area. 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. Volunteers who have not preregistered are asked to arrive early. For additional information or to register as a volunteer, contact event organizer Mike Work at mrwork2@att.net or 832-338-5156.

Lakes of Golfcrest to meet

Lake of Golfcrest HOA will hold its annual meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, April 13, at the Parker Williams Library, 10851 Scarsdale at Beamer, Room E. Lake of Golfcrest residents are encouraged to attend.

Commissioner holds meet

Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia invites the community to join him Saturday, April 18, for the Café with the Commissioner event at Las Haciendas Mexican Bar & Grill, 12933 Gulf Freeway, from 10 a.m. to noon. Residents can share their questions, ideas, compliments and concerns directly with the commissioner. Attendees are encouraged to RSVP by contacting Javier Frutos at 713-540-7827 or javier.frutos@pct2.hctx.net.

HPD's PIP to meet April 20

The Houston Police Department's Positive Interaction Program will meet at 6 p.m. Monday, April 20, at Grace Church, 14505 Gulf Freeway, classroom No. 103. Guest speaker to be announced. Begun in 1983, HPD's PIP involves police and community members working together for safer neighborhoods. PIP meetings typically take place the third Monday of each month. For additional information, contact HPD Officer C. Castillo at castillo@houstonpolice.org or 832-395-1777.

Shredding event planned

The South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce will host a shredding event Friday, April 10, Houston Methodist Hospital Clear Lake, 2020 E. NASA Parkway in Nassau Bay, from noon to 3 p.m. Sponsored by AMOCO Federal Credit Union, the free event will benefit the nonprofit Interfaith Caring Ministries.

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.

Artemis II crew makes history in lunar mission

1st manned voyage in 50+ years made possible by Ellington aerospace contributions

NASA made history this past week when its Artemis II mission became the first crewed lunar voyage in more than 50 years – a milestone made possible not only by the teams at Johnson Space Center, but by contributions from multiple organizations associated with Ellington Airport/Houston Spaceport's growing aerospace industry.

On Monday, April 6, the four-astronaut crew set yet another milestone, traveling 248,655 miles from Earth and surpassing the previous distance record held by Apollo 13. At its farthest point, Orion was to reach about 252,760 miles from Earth before looping back home.

The 10-day mission, launched April 1, sent astronauts Reid Wiseman, Victor Glover, Christina Koch and Jeremy Hansen on a journey around the Moon to test the Orion spacecraft's life-support, navigation and deep-space systems. NASA

officials said Artemis II is a critical step toward returning humans to the lunar surface later this decade.

"This is the first crewed test flight under NASA's Artemis program," NASA said in a statement. "The crew will fly aboard Orion around the Moon and back, testing the spacecraft's systems in a deep space environment."

Ellington Airport/Houston Spaceport
Ellington Airport/Houston Spaceport contributed significantly to the ongoing Artemis II mission and plays a crucial role in NASA's return to the Moon.

The former military base served as a training center for the mission's astronauts.

NASA's T-38 jet training operations, long based at Ellington, continue to serve as a core component of astronaut readiness. Members of the Artemis II crew trained extensively in Hous-

ton before launch, including aviation and systems preparation tied to Ellington-based operations.

Intuitive Machines

Ellington-based Intuitive Machines, also known as IM, also played a key role in the current mission.

IM made history February 2024 when its IM-1 mission successfully landed the Odysseus robotic lander on the Moon – the first U.S. lunar landing in more than half a century.

"This mission is a giant leap forward for humanity as we prepare to return to the Moon under Artemis," NASA Administrator Bill Nelson said at the time.

Just last month, NASA awarded Intuitive Machine a \$180 million grant to expand its lunar rover program.

San Jacinto College's EDGE Center

A key part of Intuitive Machines' success comes from contributions made by students at San Jacinto College's EDGE Center, located at Ellington Airport/Houston Spaceport.

In 2024, students at SJC's EDGE Center worked directly alongside Intuitive Machines engineers, contributing hands-on support to the

IM-1 lunar lander program.

In recognition of their efforts, a San Jacinto College seal featuring the names of all the students who contributed toward the project was placed aboard the Odysseus for its lunar landing.

The EDGE aerospace training facility has become a pipeline for technicians and specialists supporting Houston's commercial space industry.

The EDGE Center offers training in the following subjects:

- Aerospace manufacturing
- Composite materials
- Robotics and automation
- Spaceflight ground operations

These programs have helped build the workforce powering Houston's rapidly expanding lunar economy – one that now directly supports NASA's Artemis program.

Artemis II mission

Artemis II is designed to demonstrate the systems needed for long-duration human exploration beyond low Earth orbit. Goals of the mission include the following:

- Conduct a lunar flyby within roughly 4,000

Continued on Page 2

Lunar crew travels 250K miles



NASA's Artemis II crew made history this past week by becoming the first manned lunar mission in 50+ years. The four-astronaut crew is shown above April 6 celebrating as they reach the milestone of being 250,000 miles from Earth, beating the previous 248,654-mile record held by Apollo 13. The epic journey marks the first time a Black astronaut or a female astronaut have been on a lunar mission. Crew members shown are, left to right, Canadian astronaut Jeremy Hansen and NASA astronauts Christina Koch, Reid Wiseman and Victor Glover. See additional photos on Page 2. Photo courtesy of NASA

1 killed, 1 injured in strip club shooting

Incident marks 2nd fatal shooting at Gulf Freeway club

A man was killed and another wounded early Thursday, April 4, in a barrage of gunfire outside a strip club on the Gulf Freeway with a history of violence.

The identity of the deceased victim, a 33-year-old Hispanic male, was pending notification to family members by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences, at press time.

According to Houston Police Department officials, the shooting erupted around 5 a.m. in the parking lot of Paradise City, located at 12300 block of the Gulf Freeway near Fuqua, after a disturbance inside the club spilled outdoors.

As patrons gathered outside, at least one gunman opened fire toward the crowd, firing dozens of rounds of ammunition, according to police.

"When the officer arrives on scene, it's chaotic," said HPD Homicide Detective Kyle Heaverlo. "There's a large crowd of people and there are multiple victims on the ground."

One man was killed, and another man was grazed by a bullet. Investigators said both appeared to be innocent bystanders.

"He's just an innocent victim in all this, it's really sad," Heaverlo said, adding that neither man had been involved in the disturbance.

The scale of the gunfire stunned investigators. "There's like 60 to 70 shell casings," said Heaverlo.

A security guard also fired shots but was not believed to have struck anyone and was not considered a suspect. The shooters fled in a light-colored vehicle.

Previous fatal shooting

This wasn't the first fatal shooting to take place at the area gentleman's club. In 2020, a security guard shot and killed a 27-year-old man who had been escorted out earlier in the night. Police said the man returned to the entrance with a pistol, prompting the guard to open fire.

Investigators ruled the shooting self-defense, and no charges were filed against the guard.

Police seeking information

HPD detectives are reviewing surveillance footage and interviewing witnesses as they work to identify the suspects in Thursday's shooting.

According to witnesses, the suspect(s) appear to be Hispanic male(s) in the late teens or early 20s.

Anyone with information in this case is urged to contact the HPD Homicide Division at 713-308-3600 or speak anonymously to Crime Stoppers at 713-222-TIPS (8477).

Flight Museum to host Aviation Hall of Fame induction

3 distinguished aviators to be inducted at April 10 ceremony held at Ellington Airport

The Lone Star Flight Museum, 11551 Aerospace Ave. at Ellington Airport, will host the Texas Aviation Hall of Fame induction ceremony and luncheon Friday, April 10, beginning at 11:30 a.m.

The Class of 2026 inductees includes the following three aviators:

– **Bonnie Dunbar:** A NASA astronaut, aerospace and engineering leader, Dunbar has made significant contributions in human space flight.

– **John Dyer:** A U.S. Air Force Vietnam veteran, Dyer is an accomplished flight instructor and Federal Aviation Association Wright Brothers Master Flyer award recipient.

– **Meg Lonero (posthumously):** A city of Houston airport executive, Lonero was an aviation industry leader and accomplished pilot.

Lone Star Flight Museum Executive Officer Anna Hawley praised the inductees, saying each had made a significant impact in aviation history and to the future of the aerospace industry.

"We are excited to celebrate three accomplished aviators and their role in strengthening the aviation industry and Texas' undeniable impact in shaping the future of aerospace," said Hawley. "We are proud to induct this year's deserving individuals into the Texas Aviation Hall of Fame. Bonnie Dunbar, John Dyer and Meg Lonero represent stories of passion, determination and incredible accomplishment. We are proud to be the home of the hall of fame and celebrate the legacy of excellence in Texas aviation, and we are grateful for the support of our generous sponsors. It's going to be a great day."

The Texas Aviation Hall of Fame was established through a resolution by the 74th Texas Legislature and signed by then Gov. George W. Bush

to honor and recognize Texans and Texas companies or organizations that have made significant and lasting contributions to the advancement of aviation.

In 1997, the first class, which included Lloyd Bentsen, President George H.W. Bush, Beryl Erickson and Joe Kilgore was inducted. With the addition of the Class of 2026, the number of Texas Aviation Hall of Fame inductees has grown to 103.

Members of the Texas Aviation Hall of Fame are featured in one of four categories: Trailblazers & Explorers, Military Aviators, Leaders and Entrepreneurs & Innovators. The 2026 Texas Aviation Hall of Fame inductees join an impressive list of members including U.S. presidents Dwight D. Eisenhower and George W. Bush, the Doolittle Raiders, the Tuskegee Airmen, Bessie Coleman, Eileen Collins, Gene Cernan, Gene Kranz and many more.

Class of 2026 inductees

– **Bonnie J. Dunbar:** Dunbar has been serving on the Lone Star Flight Museum's board of directors since 2013. She is a former NASA astronaut and a recognized aerospace engineering leader. Dunbar was born on March 3, 1949, in Sunnyside, Wash. After receiving her bachelor's and master's degrees in ceramic engineering from the University of Washington, she earned a doctorate in Mechanical/Biomedical Engineering from the University of Houston in 1983.

Following positions with Boeing and Rockwell International Space Division building the Space Shuttle, Dunbar joined NASA as a payload officer and flight controller. She was selected as a NASA astronaut in 1980 and flew five Space Shuttle mis-

sions: STS-61A in 1985, STS-32 in 1990, STS-50 in 1992, STS-71 in 1995 and STS-89 in 1998. She logged more than 50 days in space. Dunbar later served as president and CEO of The Museum of Flight in Seattle, expanding aerospace education programs.

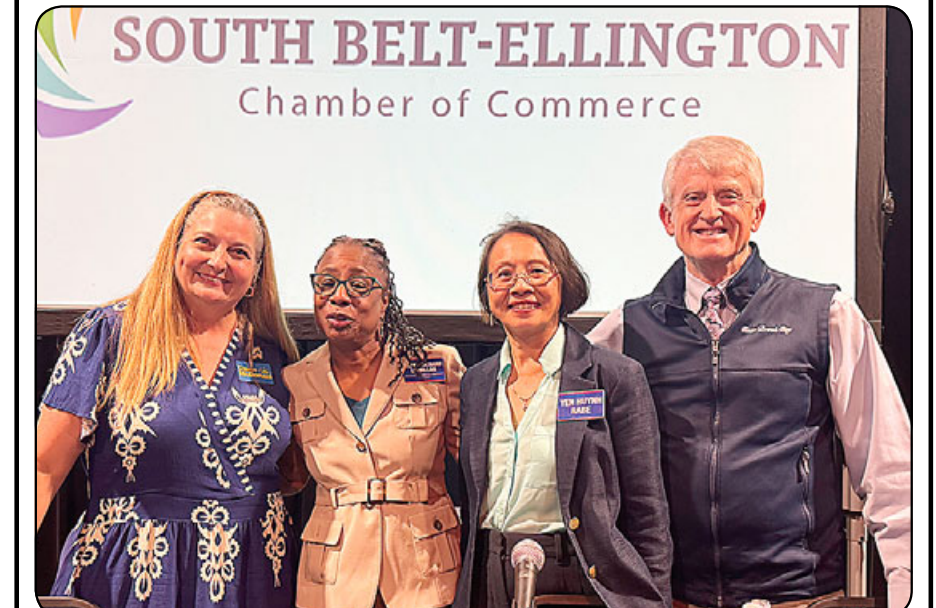
Dunbar is a professor of aerospace engineering at Texas A&M University. She has many honors for her contributions to human space flight and leadership in STEM education, including induction into the U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame, Living Legends of Aviation, the National Academy of En-

gineering, and the Texas Women's Hall of Fame. Dunbar is a longtime resident of Seabrook.

– **Capt. John Dyer:** Dyer was born in Atlanta in 1949. Inspired by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., he joined the U.S. Air Force Flight School after graduating from North Carolina A&T University in 1971. Dyer served as the top flight instructor and was the face of the U.S. Air Force recruiting efforts during the Vietnam War. As part of the 89th Airlift Wing, he flew high-ranking members of the U.S. government.

Continued on Page 2

Chamber hosts candidate forum



The South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce hosted a candidate forum Tuesday, March 31, for those seeking a position on the Clear Brook City MUD board of directors. To be determined on the May 2 ballot are the Position 4 and Position 5 seats. Shown above at the event are, left to right, Position 5 candidate Dawn McDonald, Position 4 candidate Karen Richards McMillan, Position 5 candidate Yen Rabe and Position 4 incumbent Jim Towey. Position 5 candidate Delfina (Fina) Govea did not attend the event. Position 5 incumbent Jim Bishop is not seeking re-election. Photo by David Flickinger

In My Opinion

Abernathy thanks Jacobson and O'Brien

I want to thank Malcom Jacobson for his response to Senator John Cornyn's remarks in the "In My Opinion" section of the South Belt-Ellington Leader on March 26, 2026. I do not agree with or support John Cornyn. Cornyn is Trump's lackey. The sooner he's gone, the better for all of us. Cornyn represents Trump, not Texans.

I also want to thank C H O'Brien for her remarks. The Save America Act supported by Cornyn is an attempt to disenfranchise voters, especially women voters. Don't change your name when you marry or you may have difficulties proving your citizenship when registering to vote. The GOP is afraid that women tend to vote Democratic so don't let them vote.

I didn't care that John Cornyn had an article in our local newspaper. It surprised me. He must be desperate for votes to come to the local level. He's for Trump as he emphasizes in his commercials which I mute. I'm not. We need someone who will represent Texans. Vote for James Talarico instead. I miss Marie Flickinger who stood up for this community.

Ann Abernathy,
Southbelt Resident

O'Brien advocates for term, election spending limits

I would like to comment on the fact that we don't seem to be able, or should I say willing to pay the TSA agents that are there to keep us safe while traveling. It's just not right. I would like to mention that I'm a VETERAN from the Viet Nam era, not a loser or a sucker due to my military service.

I find it very hard to believe that we are not paying the TSA agents. Forgive me, but we are all suckers, including me, since we keep voting for the same folks over and over from both parties.

The starting salary for a beginning TSA agent is between \$39,000 - \$45,000 per year. We allow OUR elected officials to use these folks as pawns in a no-win situation. Then we gripe when we have to wait for many hours trying to board our flight. I wonder how we can afford to pay the ICE

agents that seem to be trying to fill in at the airports, considering that we have to bring them in from other places, put them up in hotels, feed them, transport them around and transport them back to their home bases.

Where does that money come from? I also wonder how we can afford the "WAR" in IRAN? Given that it costs about 9/10ths of a billion dollars per day. Allow me to repeat that for any of you that may not be good with fractions. That is \$900,000,000 per day. It is known that one billion is 1,000 X 1,000,000, let those numbers roll around in your head for a moment; At \$900,000,000 per day, we could pay all 50,000 TSA scanning agents for a year after two and one half days (2.5) days of this war.

(50,000 agents at \$45,000 / agent / year.) Where does that money come from?

Ask yourself the following questions: (1) What is the current National debt? (2) What is the current GDP (Gross Domestic Product)? Answer: Debt is about \$39,000,000,000,000 (\$39 Trillion) and the GDP is about \$27,700,000,000,000 (\$27.7 Trillion). That doesn't seem so bad when you write out a trillion versus putting in all of the zeros. BTW: That amounts to about \$112,000 for every man, woman and child in America. (\$39 trillion / 349 million people) That is shameful. We, the people, have allowed this debt to grow over time. Shame on us. I have a friend that is worth a good sum of money that is so very proud that he will not be taxed on his Social Security. News-Flash: we can't afford any more of that kind of foolish spending! I guess that if gas is up by \$1.00 + per gallon, it won't cost more to transport groceries or anything else! So much for lowering prices on groceries & gas?

Where does that money come from? Bottom line: We need TERM Limits and Election (\$\$) Spending Limits. We desperately need elected officials that represent us all, as a nation. No more career politicians that only want to line their own pockets. It is time that we, the people, each become informed as to whom will serve us best, regardless of party affiliation. ... Remember: Spending Limits and Term Limits. Don't forget to vote in midterms ...

Sincerely,
Jerry O'Brien -
long time resident.

Stunning images from Artemis II



A view of Earth taken by NASA astronaut and Artemis II Commander Reid Wiseman from one of the Orion spacecraft's windows after completing the translunar injection burn on April 2. The image features two auroras (top right and bottom left) and zodiacal light (bottom right) as the Earth eclipses the Sun. Photo courtesy of NASA



Earth captured through the Orion spacecraft window April 6 during the Artemis II crew's flyby of the Moon. A muted blue Earth with bright white clouds sets behind the cratered lunar surface. The dark portion of Earth is experiencing nighttime. On Earth's day side, swirling clouds are visible over the Australia and Oceania region. In the foreground, Ohm crater is shown on the lunar surface. Photo courtesy of NASA



Captured by the Artemis II crew during their lunar flyby on April 6, this image shows the moon fully eclipsing the Sun. The corona forms a glowing halo around the dark lunar disk, revealing details of the Sun's outer atmosphere typically hidden by its brightness. The faint glow of the nearside of the moon is visible in this image, having been illuminated by light reflected off the Earth. Photo courtesy of NASA

Walburga "Burgie" Clark



Walburga "Burgie" Clark, beloved mother, aunt and cousin passed away peacefully on Saturday, April 4, 2026. She was born Dec. 30,

Death

1929, in Woerrstadt, Germany to Heinrich and Katarina Hassinger.

She studied studio photography and was employed at a local studio.

Burgie met James F. Clark while he was stationed in Germany serving in the U.S. Air Force. They were married in 1960 and in 1964 their daughter, Diddy, was born.

In 1970 James retired and they moved to the United States, eventually settling in Sagement in the South Belt area in 1972.

Burgie worked for the Pasadena Independent School District in the cafeteria at Stuchbury Elementary and Moore Elementary.

She was a member of Sagement Church where on Tuesday mornings, she volunteered to prepare ma-

terials for youth in Sunday School. She also volunteered as a cook for Wednesday night suppers.

She is survived by her loving daughter, Diddy Clark and numerous family and friends.

A Celebration of Life will be held Saturday, April 18, 2026, at Peevey Funeral Home, 12440 Beamer Road. Viewing is at 3 p.m. and the service will start at 4 p.m.

Leader obituary policy

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

Artemis II goes around the moon

Incident marks 1st manned lunar mission in 50+ years

Continued from Page 1

miles of the Moon.

– Reach more than 250,000 miles from Earth

– Test Orion's life-support systems with crew aboard

– Lay the foundation for Artemis III, which aims to land astronauts on the lunar surface

Historic firsts

Artemis II marks several historic firsts, including the following milestones:

– First crewed lunar mission since Apollo 17 in 1972

– Christina Koch: first woman assigned to a lunar mission

– Victor Glover: first Black astronaut to fly to the Moon

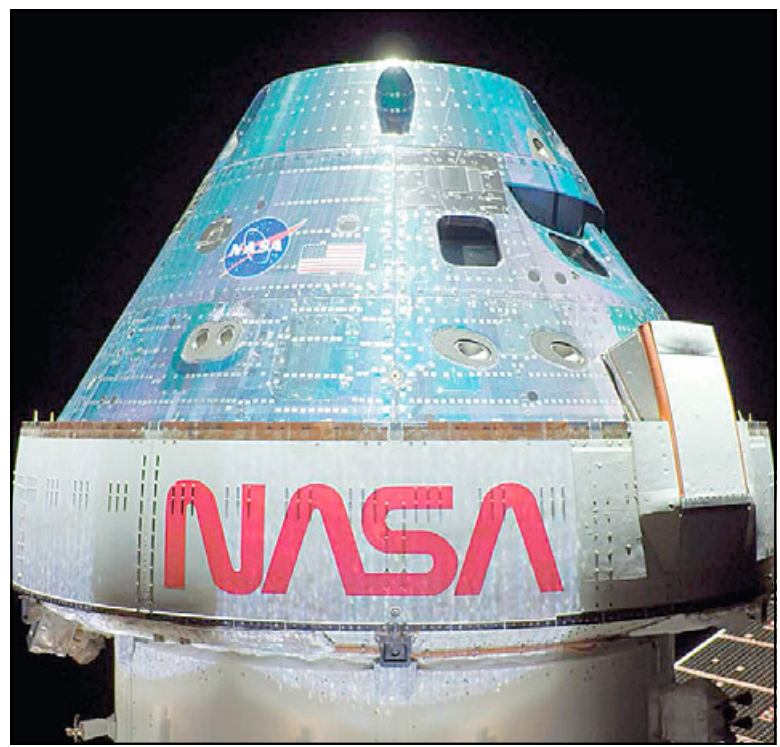
– Jeremy Hansen: first Canadian astronaut to travel to the Moon

What's next?

The crew will perform manual piloting tests, suit evaluations and spacecraft checkouts as they conduct their lunar flyby.

Artemis II will conclude with a Pacific Ocean splash-down on April 10, where recovery teams will retrieve the astronauts and return them to the USS John P. Murtha.

For the latest updates on the Artemis II mission, including photos from the test flight, visit www.nasa.gov/artemis-ii.



Orion snapped this high-resolution selfie in space with a camera mounted on one of its wings during an external inspection of the spacecraft on Day No. 2 of the Artemis II mission. Photo courtesy of NASA

Hall of Fame ceremony lands at Flight Museum

Legendary aviators to be recognized at Ellington April 10

Continued from Page 1

Dyer has logged more than 21,000 flight hours, which include flying for Continental Airlines and FedEx. He was a pioneer in the Ultralight movement. He retired from commercial aviation in 2009.

A lifetime member of the Experimental Aircraft Association and Organization of Black Aerospace Professionals, Dyer has remained deeply committed to aviation education and mentorship. In 2022, he received the prestigious Federal Aviation Administration Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award which recognizes 50 or more years of safe civil and military flying. On Nov. 15, 2025, the city of Houston proclaimed, "John Dyer Day," recognizing his achievements and contributions to the Houston community through aviation.

Dyer is also an accomplished jazz musician, avid golfer, and longtime resident of the Houston suburb of Spring.

– Margaret "Meg"

Lonero: Lonero was born in Omaha, Neb., in 1938. She moved to the Houston area in 1965 with her husband and son and began her aviation career. She earned both a bachelor's and master's degree in psychology from the University of Houston-Clear Lake. She later earned her pilot's license and held a seaplane rating for many years.

In the mid-1970s, Lonero became a founding partner of Clear Lake Aviation, a Houston area aviation and flight training operation. She later sold that business, became an Accredited Airport Executive, and built a 21-year career with Houston Airport System, the aviation department of the city of Houston.

Working in management roles at all three airports, Lonero served in Airport Operations and as manager at William P. Hobby Airport where she directed a \$227 million modernization program, construction of a new central concourse, improved

instrument landing capability, and coordinated federal security operations during major city events and government visits. She was also a manager at Ellington Airport and an assistant manager at George Bush Intercontinental Airport. Lonero retired in 2005 and died in 2015.

Recognized for her mentorship of college aviation students, Lonero received the Bessie Coleman Woman of the Year Award in 2006.

Sponsorship opportunities are still available and individual tickets for the event are now available for purchase. For questions about sponsorships or individual tickets, contact Sam Waters at 346-352-7678 or sam.waters@lonestarflight.org.

Public Notices

2026-2027 Pasadena ISD Public Notice for Private Non-Profit Schools

Pasadena Independent School District is preparing to submit its annual application seeking federal funding for school year 2026-2027 for Title I, II, III, and IV under Every Student Succeeds ACT (ESSA). Your Private Non-Profit School may be eligible to receive equitable services under these Federal Title programs. For information, contact Korina Isaguirre, Federal Compliance Liaison. Phone: 713-740-0225. Email: KIsaguirre@pasadenaisd.org. Deadline for application submission: Wednesday, April 22, 2026.

Pasadena ISD to Host Informational Meeting

Pasadena ISD will hold two public meetings on May 7, 2026, to seek public comment on the need and the use of federal funds within Title I, II, III, and IV. The purpose of this meeting is to seek input on how the district can use funds to provide supplemental services and support for students, families, teachers, administrators, and other district staff. Meetings will be held at 9:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. at the Pasadena ISD Administration Building, 3920 Mickey Gilley Blvd. Pasadena, TX, 77505. For more information, contact the Pasadena ISD office at 713-740-0225.

Pasadena ISD organizará una reunión informativa

Pasadena ISD llevará a cabo dos reuniones públicas el 7 de mayo de 2026 para solicitar comentarios públicos sobre la necesidad y el uso de fondos federales en los Títulos I, II, III y IV. El propósito de esta reunión es obtener opiniones sobre cómo el distrito puede utilizar los fondos para proporcionar servicios complementarios y apoyar a estudiantes, familias, profesores, administradores y otros miembros del personal del distrito. Las reuniones se llevarán a cabo a las 9:30 a.m. y a las 5:30 p.m. en el edificio administrativo del Distrito Escolar de Pasadena, 3920 Mickey Gilley Blvd. Pasadena, TX, 77505. Para más información, comuníquese con la oficina del Pasadena ISD al 713-740-0225.

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Rev. Douglas J. Guthrie, Pastor
Rev. Antonio Cisneros, Parochial Vicar

11011 Hall Rd.
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www.stlukesatholic.com

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil	5:30 p.m.
Sunday	8 a.m. and 10 a.m.*
Sunday	1 p.m. Misa en Español*
Monday, Wednesday & Friday	9 a.m.
Tuesday & Thursday	7 p.m.
Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions)	
Thursday 7:45 to 8:30 p.m.	Saturday 4 to 5 p.m.

Parish Office: 281-481-6816
Children's Faith Formation: 281-481-4251
Adult Faith Formation: 713-538-2862

All are welcome to come to worship and serve the Lord in a spirit of love, sharing, and hope.

Wishing, Jireh Javier Frutos Jr. A very Happy Birthday On April 6, 2026

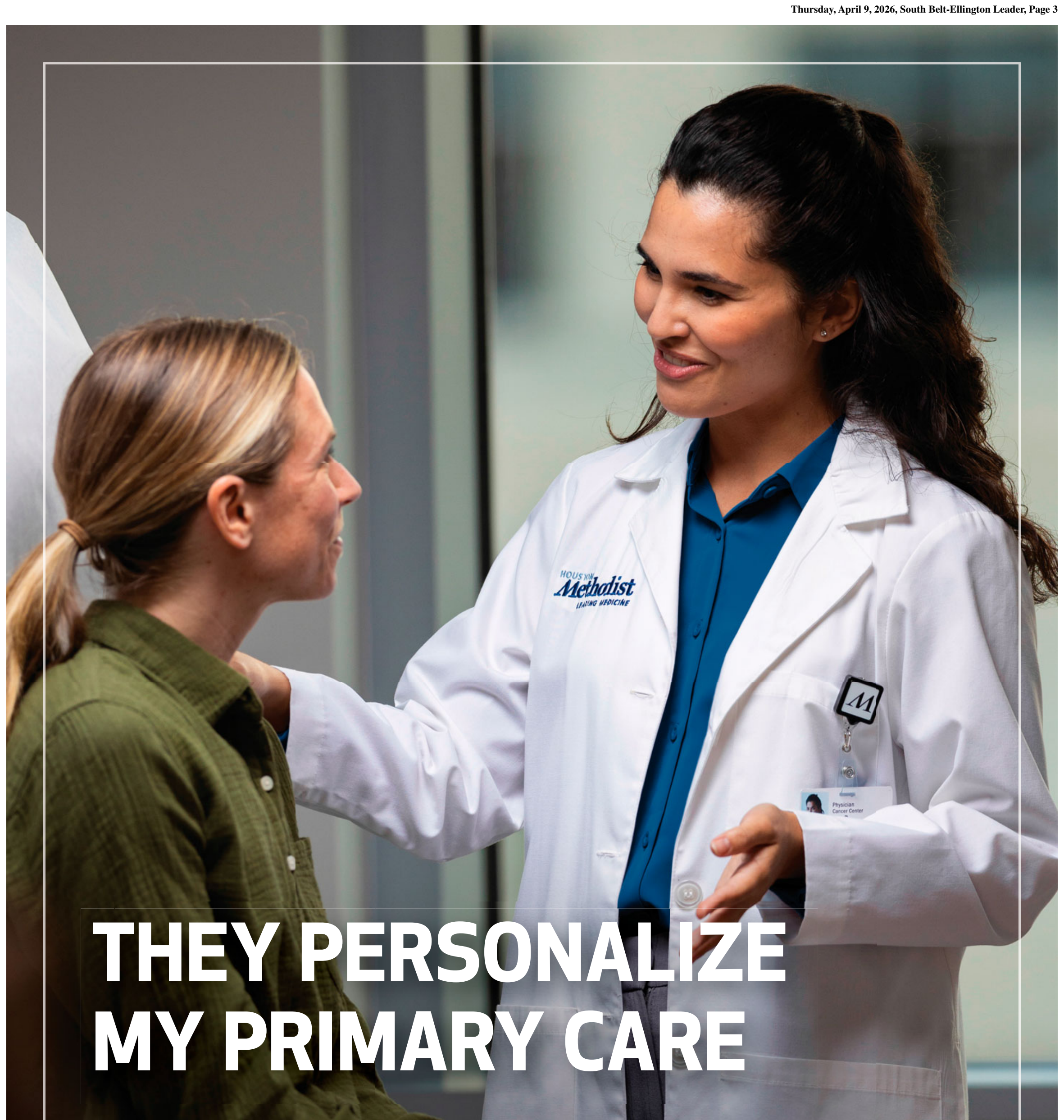
South Belt-Ellington Leader

The Voice of Community-Minded People

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E-mail: mynews@southbeltleader.com

David Flickinger, owner



THEY PERSONALIZE MY PRIMARY CARE

Your Houston Methodist primary care physician takes the time to get to know you and your unique goals. That's how we personalize your health care at one of more than 40 clinics throughout the Greater Houston area. And with same-day appointments, you can get the care you need, when you need it.

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Frazier Elementary announces mathematicians for the month of March

Frazier Elementary School officials have recently named the school's March mathematicians. These students were selected by their teachers for their improvement and outstanding mathematics work in the classroom.



First-graders (front row) Mikalea Yao, Jesme Gutierrez, (back row) Zoe Garcia and Zoey Garza



Kindergarten students Paola Moran, Ana Rosado Bradley, Riley Torres and Brave Lewis



Pre-K students Levi Hernandez and Jerribeth Castillo



Second-graders Iliana Garcia, Mia Lomeli, Joshua Dionne and Marbella Silva



Pre-K Sadie Rich

BSS Christian Peralez



Third-graders (front row) Alejandro Limon, Christopher Ruiz, (back row) Ford Kliesing and Allison Kennedy



Fourth-graders Izaiah Perez, Irvin Huzier, Hailey Gujardo and Kyser Booth



Able 1 Isiah Delgado

Able 1 Mila Chapa

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.

Remember When

50 years ago (1976)
County Commissioner Tom Bass attended the first Sagement-Beverly Hills Little League Carnival.

The 65-member Texas A&M Symphonic Band visited the Thompson Intermediate School Band.

45 years ago (1981)
A man and wife operating a registered daycare center out of their Beverly Hills home were arrested for sex crimes involving children.

A combination of increased rates and rezoning boosted flood insurance rates 600 percent over the previous year's rate for most residents of Wood Meadow.

40 years ago (1986)
Some 2,200 South Belt area residents received security services as a result of Harris County Municipal Districts 13's joining the South Belt Security Alliance.

San Jacinto College celebrated its 25th anniversary.

35 years ago (1991)
South Belt's future legacy as the home of the Brio toxic waste incinerator accelerated when a federal judge signed the Consent Decree. Judge David Hitter signed the agreement between the Potentially Responsible Parties, and the government denied intervention by Harris County and South Belt area groups requesting further studies.

A nationally known superfund expert said the South Belt area residents should push to have the Southbelt subdivision declared a new superfund site. Joel Hirschhorn, a 10-year chief investigator for the congressional Office of Technology Assessment, said it was obvious the neighborhood was both directly and indirectly affected by the Brio contamination and should work to have the area placed on the National Priorities List.

30 years ago (1996)
San Jacinto College's second chancellor, Thomas S. Sewell, died of heart failure.

Dobie Academic Decathlon team traveled to Atlanta to vie for the national title.

25 years ago (2001)
The Thompson Academic Team took a victory over Snowcrest Junior High of Weber County, Utah, with a score of 42-38 and advanced to the final four.

Five vehicles were removed from the water at Windmill Lakes. All vehicles had their windows down and keys in the ignition.

The one year anniversary of Jonathan Barrica's death was recognized with a Mass at St. Luke's Catholic Church.

County Commissioner El Franco Lee, Constable Gary Freeman and Judge Jo Ann Delgado sponsored an Easter egg hunt at El Franco Lee Park.

20 years ago (2006)
Kirk Lewis, acting superintendent of PISD, was named by the district's board of trustees as the sole finalist for the position of superintendent of schools.

Former House Majority Leader Tom DeLay decided

not to seek re-election. He said he intended to relocate to his property in Arlington, Va.

The International Festival was set to take place at San Jacinto College South.

The Thompson National Junior Honor Society traveled to Austin to tour the state Capitol, the Capitol Visitor's Center and the Bob Bullock Texas History Museum.

J. Frank Dobie's production of "The Sound of Music" was nominated for six Tommy Tune Awards by Theater Under The Stars.

15 years ago (2011)
City Council voted 12-3 to exempt area churches and schools from paying the Rebuild Houston drainage fees that voters approved the previous November. The exemptions would apply only to existing structures, as the fees would be required on all future expansions and new facilities.

A second arrest was made in the fatal shooting of David

Davila, who was killed at 11045 Fuqua. Alex Christopher Domez, 25, was charged with murder in the 177th Criminal District Court. Jorge Alaniz, 28, had been charged the previous month with Davila's murder. Police did not disclose which suspect was the triggerman.

10 years ago (2016)
The South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce and Clear Brook City Municipal Utility District hosted the inaugural South Belt Family Fun Event Saturday, April 9, at Clear Brook City Park. The event featured a fun run/walk, a disc jockey, line dancing, inflatables, games, multiple demonstrations and food trucks.

5 years ago (2021)
Dobie High School announced its 2021 Hall of Honor inductees, recognizing the achievements of five alumni and one faculty member. Student inductees included YouTube star T Nguyen, Class of 2007; ed-

ucation activist Erica Davis Rouse, Class of 1991; track star Gawain Guy, Class of 1981; and Col. William Smith, Class of 1970. Former Dobie English teacher Barry Harris, now deceased, was the lone faculty member inducted. The inductees were formally honored at a ceremony held at the school Saturday, April 24.

A man was fatally shot around 4 p.m. Friday, April 2, while driving a black 2008 Dodge Ram pickup truck south in the 13800 block of the Gulf Freeway near Scarsdale. Houston Fire Department paramedics pronounced Zeferino Baeza dead at the scene. Witnesses reported seeing a white sedan driving recklessly just prior to the crash. No immediate arrests were made.

1 year ago (2025)
An arrest has been made in the death of missing University of Houston-Clear Lake student Payas Deo,

whose body was found Saturday, March 1, in a field on Dumas Street near Alameda Genoa, located east of the Gulf Freeway near the Genoa Post Office.

According to Pasadena Police Department officials, Nickalous Ahmed Benjamin, 20, was arrested March 20 and charged with murder and tampering with a corpse. No additional details were available at press time.

Deo, 20, had been missing since Feb. 8 - roughly three weeks earlier before his body was discovered.

According to the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences, Deo's death was ruled a homicide, caused by a gunshot to the head and neck.

Houston Police Department officials said Deo's body was in an advanced stage of decomposition when discovered. At press time, it remained unclear when exactly Deo was killed.

Deo was last seen at his home in the Clear Lake area near Space Center Boulevard and Sunrise Lake Drive. The following day, his vehicle - a gray 2015 Toyota Camry - was found abandoned near the intersection of Allen Genoa Road and Smith Avenue in Pasadena.

According to Pasadena Police Department officials, the vehicle had a cracked window and blood on the front seat. Deo's shoes, which he usually wore, were found inside the car, leading investigators to believe he hadn't walked away from the vehicle. The car was examined by Pasadena PD for any possible evidence.

Volunteers from Texas EquuSearch assisted in the search for Deo. According to Texas EquuSearch officials, Deo's body was discovered roughly six miles from his home.

At press time, the motive remained unclear.

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Over The Back Fence by Nicole

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, SHEILA
Sheila Brantner, longtime South Belt resident, celebrates a birthday April 12. Birthday wishes are sent from daughter Amanda Brantner; twins Tiffany and Courtney Brantner; and friends. Sheila has contributed many hours to the community. She volunteers at her church and at the South Belt Leader Toy Drive.

SCHOOL DAZE
The following personnel and staff of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays April 9 through April 15.

Burnett Elementary
Send a happy birthday greeting April 11 to Jessica Rocha. Blow out the candles April 14 for Jennifer Russell.

Bush Elementary
April 12 is the day for a fun celebration for Laura Alcaraz. Jean Starkey celebrates a birthday April 13.

Frazier Elementary
A special birthday greeting is sent to Lupe Moreno April 11. Christina Ramirez celebrates a birthday April 12. Birthday wishes are sent to Aimee Shelton April 15.

Genoa Elementary
Join in the birthday celebration April 9

for Lisa Hance. Jazmin Culpepper enjoys a birthday April 15.

Hancock Elementary
Send a happy birthday wish April 10 to Rachel Purdom. Light the birthday candles April 11 for Arianna Yarbough. Send a humorous birthday card April 13 to Celeste Paul.

Moore Elementary
Send a birthday greeting April 9 to Maria Vega.

Melillo Middle School
Birthday greetings go out to Perla Silva April 10. Light the birthday candles April 13 for Melissa Martinez. The day for a cake for Carol Tekell is April 15.

Beverly Hills Intermediate
Send a happy birthday wish April 10 to Irene Malloy. April 11 is a day of celebration for Rene Nixon. The day for cake and ice cream with Jenny Hinojosa is April 13. Blow out birthday candles April 14 for Maria Robinson. Birthday greetings go out to Ashley Carr April 15.

Thompson Intermediate
Remember to wish Araceli Cavazos a happy birthday April 11.

Dobie High

Break out the balloons and party favors April 9 for Michael Sparks. April 14 is the day for a birthday celebration for Susan Buffalo. Light the candles April 15 for Alexandria Yerrington.

FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS
Thursday, April 9: Greg Black, Jennifer Pareya, Victoria Grissom, Yvonne Longoria and Keith Harrison; Friday, April 10: Mackie Caves, Jennifer Spray, Coby Bellamy, April Simmons, Kristina Konkaba, Traci Rothermund and Skip Fell; Saturday, April 11: Quinn Fox, Amanda Mancia, Dian Audas, Matt Black, Luke Ditta, Celina Monroe and Brandy Kennedy; Sunday, April 12: Elysia Thomas and Shelly Little; Monday, April 13: Derek Rudewig and Laura Townsend; Tuesday, April 14: Deanna Morales and Michael Morris; and Wednesday, April 15: Lorita Lynn Destin and Veronica Lopez.

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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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P02640 11/04

SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

Dobie boys' soccer cherishes unbeaten run

A 3-1 loss to Division 1 regional champion Atascocita stung for sure, but a 25-match run without a loss, complete with a district championship and three gut-check playoff wins, is enough to re-establish the Dobie boys' soccer program as a Region III power.



Yurem Garcia stepped in as a sophomore this season in the nets and was one of the top goalkeepers in the entire Houston area as he led a Dobie defense that allowed just nine goals during the regular season.

A look back at a terrific 2025-2026 season with an 18-1-7 record that began four full months prior will one day soon bring smiles to everyone associated with the program as well as a terrifically supportive Dobie fan base that grew louder with every postseason win.

December 1, 2025, was the first official day for soccer practices to begin across the state as the Longhorns, led by second-year head coach Josh Kluka, were intent on turning the page on a previous season that, albeit it brought a playoff berth, failed to meet program standards.

Scrimmages began as early as Dec. 12, with the first allowable day for the regular season to begin Dec. 29, all on the 2025 side of the calendar.

The Longhorns set the tone for a solid start to the season with three wins in San Antonio on the opening weekend, getting past Madison, Roosevelt and O'Connor by a combined 14-2 tally but then came home and played Dawson at home to a 1-1 draw in the district opener.

Dobie played to two more draws in the first half of district action but managed to lead the way in the standings at the midway point. Three consecutive tied games to open the second half of district play allowed Pearlard to slip past the Longhorns in the standings.

Then came the likely turning point in the season Feb. 24 as Julian Calderon scored a late goal in regulation to send the Longhorns to a 4-3 victory over the Oilers.

The win over Pearlard catapulted the Longhorns to five overall victories in a row down the stretch as the locals were able to win the district championship with a 10-0-6 mark, 36 points in all.

It was not discussed much, but the Longhorns produced just the second-ever undefeated regular season in program history.

The 2023 team managed 24 wins and four ties without a loss before a regional final loss to eventual state champion Seven Lakes.

This year's team went a total of 25 matches without a loss before falling to Atascocita.

Kluka was clearly proud of his guys even as the Tasco loss brought disappointment. "Our guys believe in themselves and nearly every day will do whatever it takes as a team to come away with the victory," Kluka said.

"We beat Fort Bend Travis (2-0) and then played overtime matches against Clear Springs and Bellaire. I really think that extra playing time was a factor going into the match against the Atascocita. Our guys were worn down.

"That was quite a few extra minutes that we played in the previous two matches.

"We had an issue defending corner kicks and set pieces throughout pretty much the entire regular season, and it really came back to bite us against Atascocita. They scored their first goal off of a corner kick and also hit us with a set piece very early in the game for that 2-0 lead. We really worked on those scenarios in practice, but it didn't work out for us on that night."

Continued on Page 6



Second-year Longhorn varsity boys' soccer head coach Josh Kluka led his team to an unbeaten record during the regular season and then watched as his group produced victories in three thrilling playoff matches.

Longhorn softball squad keeps second place

The Dobie varsity softball team has held on to second place in the 22-6A standings despite a 6-3 loss to Pearlard April 2, which dropped the Longhorns to 9-3 in the standings.

JFD baseball sweeps past South Houston

As expected, the Dobie Longhorn varsity baseball team maintained their grip on second place and remained just a game behind first-place Pearlard following an 11-1 and 5-1 series sweep over the South Houston Trojans.

Hosting South Houston March 31, the Longhorns run-ruled the Trojans by that 11-1 score over five innings.

Taking a 1-0 lead after one inning, Dobie then plated four runs in the bottom of the second inning, scored twice more in the third and three more in the fourth before adding the necessary margin of victory in the bottom of the fifth inning.

Gio Ramirez tripled in the game and Alfredo Guerrero, Julian Ricks and Maximilian Torres doubled. Ramirez drove in two runs, as did Torres from the leadoff spot.

Isaiah Jones had two hits, scored a run and

Pearland, 13-0 at press time, has clinched the district championship and will advance to the postseason as the top seed in the 6A Division 1 bracket.

Dobie, 19-9 overall, took on South Houston after press time April 7 and will go up against Sam Rayburn April 10 at home before closing the regular season with a pair of crucial games.

The Longhorns will close out the regular season April 14 at Alvin before hosting Manvel April 17. Both Alvin and Manvel remain in the playoff chase along with Dawson, which currently sits fifth.

Dobie is bidding to advance to the postseason as the No. 2 seed in the Division 1 bracket.

The Longhorns won for the 19th time overall this season with a 17-7 home triumph over Shadow Creek March 31.

Scoring eight runs in the bottom of the first inning and three more in the bottom of the second, the Longhorns were able to close out the win in run-ruled fashion over five innings.

Alyna Rodriguez, Alex Martinez, Genesis Leal and Khloe Coronado all

smacked doubles for the Longhorns in the win. Rodriguez had two hits and drove in four runs in the game while Leal knocked in three runs and scored twice.

Maddi Campos had two hits, scored three runs and knocked in two more runs and Coronado had three hits and scored three runs.

In the 6-3 loss to Pearlard, Dobie watched visiting Pearlard build a 5-0 lead through four innings and trailed 6-1 before scoring twice in the bottom of the seventh.

Payton Shugart had four hits and drove in three runs to lead the Pearlard offense.

For the Longhorns, Persephone Soria had two hits, scored a run and drove in another run while Campos had two hits, scored a run and drove in a pair of runs. Campos also homered in the game.

22-6A track is ongoing

The District 22-6A varsity track and field championships got underway April 6 at Auxiliary Stadium in Pasadena with the field events the primary focus. The running preliminaries took place as well, with the running finals set for April 8, after press time.

The Longhorn varsity boys' and girls' programs have already qualified individuals for the 21-6A/22-6A area round. To qualify for the area round, athletes must first finish within the top four places at the district championships in either individual or relay race events. JFD sophomore Jordan Roman was the district champion in the 3,200 as he finished in the time of 9 minutes, 58.55 seconds. In the triple jump, D.K. Parker was the district champion with a leap of 47 feet, 3 inches, while teammate Da'Marcus Hodges advanced as the fourth-place finisher with a leap of 43-11. Kylar Joseph has advanced in the long jump after she was third with a top effort of 17-3 1/2, and Blessing Akinloye advanced as she was third in the shot put.

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Junior Eniko Sanchez has produced solidly both at the plate and in the field during her opportunities as she has played a key role in helping the Dobie varsity softball program to the runner-up position in the 22-6A standings.

Photo by Donna Aldorf

Volper, Butler to join Western Gulf-Nassau Bay basketball



Dobie varsity girls' basketball players Audrey Volper (left) and Hailey Butler (right) have signed to continue their playing careers collegiately at Western Gulf-Nassau Bay after agreeing to join the program. Volper was a 4-year varsity letter winner and was the top scorer in the program for much of that time while also leading the Longhorns in several other categories. She was a second team All-District selection at the end of her senior season at Dobie. Butler, who will continue competing with Volper at Western Gulf, was a solid inside presence for the Longhorn during the 2025-2026 season as she wound up collecting honorable mention All-District accolades.



Flag football to include Dobie

The Dobie girls' flag football teams will open their season April 11 at Alvin ISD's Freedom Field, with Dobie2 facing Alvin at 9 a.m. and Dobie1 going up against Rayburn at 10 a.m.

Back at Freedom Field April 18, Dobie1 will face Pasadena Memorial at 10 a.m., with Dobie2 going head-to-head with Shadow Creek, also at 10 a.m.

April 25 action at Freedom Field has Dobie1 going against Iowa Colony at 9 a.m., followed by Dobie2 taking on Pasadena at 10 a.m.

Veterans Stadium in Pasadena will host May 2 play, with Dobie2 and Manvel going up against

one another at 10 a.m. At 11 a.m., Dobie1 will play with Brazoswood. The district tournament is set for May 9, 11 a.m., with final scheduling details to come at a later date.

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Dobie boys' soccer playoff run ends at Atascocita

Continued from Page 5

"Credit to Atascocita as they came out aggressively and put us in a 2-0 hole basically two minutes into the match.

"We had a potential goal taken away on an offside late in the first half. If it was truly offside, it was a tremendous call by the official because it was so close.

"If we had gotten that goal right there and cut it to 2-1 going into halftime, who knows what might have happened."

As it stood, Atascocita was able to come out in the second half and get a third goal that basically wrapped it up for them. Atascocita went on to reach the 6A Division I state championship match.

"It was truly a tough way to end the season, but I don't know that a loss in any kind of way is a good one when you get down to the regional final.

"Honestly, I don't think we realized that we had not lost a match until very late in the season.

"We were all focused on going out there and doing what we had to do to win basically every Tuesday and Friday. For this group to put together an

undefeated record is truly special. This group as a whole deserves to go into the record book as one of the best in program history.

"As a coach I can truly say that they gave me everything they had, this season. The toughest part for all of us is not being together as a group out there on the practice and game fields.

"We were out there giving it our best since December 1 and really even before that in the weight room and so forth in preparation for the season.

"I'm sure with more time, we will all grow to truly appreciate and be proud of what we put together this season.

"At this very moment, it still stings that we weren't able to keep it going. As for the seniors, I want to thank each and every one of them for the effort and contributions that they made to this program.

"As for the guys returning, they already know what the expectations are and I'm sure that as a group we all fully intend to bounce back and keep this thing rolling in the direction that we have set for ourselves.

"These guys showed that resiliency each and every day out there on the field. Just like every other program, we had our share of issues with injuries and other off field issues.

"But by and large, the guys were able to adjust and stay focused on going out there and playing our brand of soccer.

"It is especially gratifying to know that this group, led by our seniors, was able to get back on track and put Dobie back on that soccer map among the elite programs."

While the Longhorns are due to return plenty of talent heading into the off season, the program will lose its share of senior standouts.

Each of the seniors, Kluka pointed out, played a huge role not only throughout the regular season but also during the memorable postseason run.

Those Dobie Longhorn seniors set to exit the program now include Axel Gonzalez, Randy Obah, Maico Bonilla, Jezreel Remales, Angel Hernandez, Allen Campos, Julian Calderon, Yurriel Sierra, Sergio de la Torre and Pavel Gonzalez.



Axel Gonzalez (21) came up with big play after big play as he was particularly key to the Longhorns' postseason run after returning to health late in the season.



Senior Allen Campos was nothing short of sensational in his final season with the Longhorns. His hat trick in the third round of the postseason against Bellaire in overtime helped JFD reach the regional final.

Ravens get even for season, winning six of eight in R14

Combining a suddenly resurgent offense with steady pitching in the circle, the San Jacinto College softball program has fought its way back to even on the season at 22-22 overall, which has included six victories in eight overall conference games.

The Ravens hosted Angelina in a pair of games April 8 after press time and will host Galveston College April 11 on the South campus.

There is plenty of softball yet to be played within the Region 14 ranks, but the Ravens have to feel good about their recent run of success following a bit of an up-and-down start to the season.

San Jacinto College went into the series against Angelina having won four straight games.

The Ravens swept past Baton Rouge in a nonconference set March 28, winning 9-1-1 and 9-0, with both games shortened due to rain.

Ary Garcia led the way offensively in the opener and she had a pair of hits, scored a run and drove in three runs.

Alyssa Terry, a Clear Brook graduate, was 2 for

Upcoming Softball Ravens host Galveston April 11, 2 p.m.

2 in the game with two runs scored and another run driven in, while Jisalle Salinas had a pair of sacrifice flies in the game.

Maddie Perez scored three runs, and Kam Deleon had a big day in the leadoff spot as she had a hit, scored a run and knocked in another run.

In the circle, Kaelin Hicks was the winner as she tossed four innings of one-hit softball.

In the second game, a 9-0 victory for the Ravens, the locals scored three runs each in the third, fourth and sixth innings to coast to the win.

Perez was the catalyst as she knocked in six runs and scored three times, with Garcia also knocking in three runs. Perez slammed the pair of three-run homers and Garcia had a three-run homer of her own to lead the way.

Winning pitcher Audrey Diercks was efficient in the circle and she allowed two hits and struck

out one over six shutout innings.

Playing at Coastal Bend April 1, the Ravens got to 22-22 overall for the season with 8-0 and 9-1 victories. Perez, a sophomore, has been a big-time performer throughout the season to this point for the Ravens.

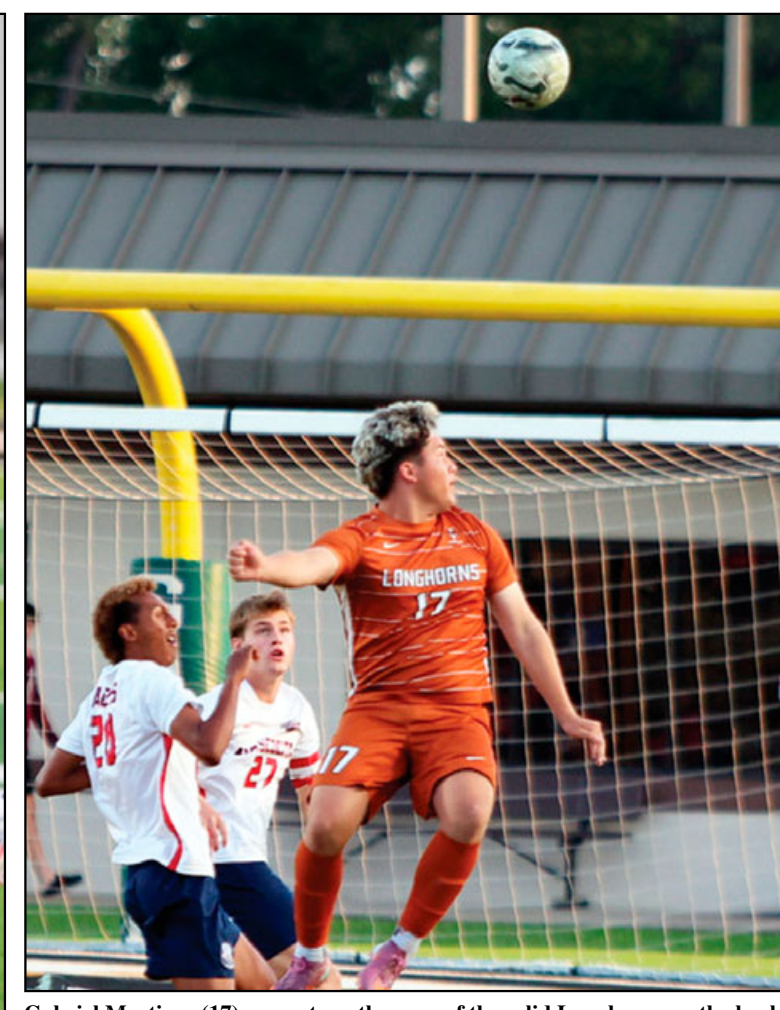
She leads the team with 60 hits and 41 runs driven in while hitting .488. Garcia has 38 overall hits, has driven in 34 runs and has hit .376.

Freshman Mia Ortega has 30 runs driven and a batting average of .344, and Deleon has hit .330 and knocked in 20 runs. Terry has played in 40 games overall and hit .361 while driving in 17 runs.

Hicks has been far and away the top pitcher to this point in the season as she has produced an 8-6 record to go with a 3.15 earned run average. Vanessa Valdez is 3-2, and Diercks is 3-4.



Sophomore Cruz Jasso (7) has already contributed two years of solid play at the varsity level for the Longhorns and will be a big factor in what the program does on the field over the next two seasons.



Gabriel Martinez (17) was yet another one of the solid Longhorns on the backside as Dobie surrendered single-digit goals during the regular season while going undefeated. Martinez continued his strong play in the postseason as the Longhorns advanced to the regional final.



San Jacinto College veteran head coach Kelly Saenz watched as the Ravens had a few ups and downs early in the season before rebounding to a 22-22 overall record, including six wins in eight overall conference games.



The Dobie varsity boys' track team watched three seniors finish their careers in the throws at the district championships with, from left, Cedric Gillespie, Leudy Matos and Nathaniel Belleville all competing.



The Dobie girls' 4x200 relay squad finished the season strong with a victory at the Trojan Relays and will look to advance in the postseason. The foursome includes, from left, Kylar Joseph, Daisha Jackson, Vizion Jones and Aniya Menefee.



Seniors Blessing Akinloye (left) and Jordan Johnson finished the regular season on a high note with medals at the Trojan invitational, and Akinloye has advanced to the area championships in the shot put after finishing third at district at 33 feet, 5 inches.



Junior Terrence Goldwire of Dobie was bidding to reach the area around in the long jump but instead finished his season sixth with a distance of 20 feet, 4 inches. Teammate Da'Marcus Hodges advanced as he was second at 22-0.

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CALENDAR

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.
 9 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/imperfectnooners>. 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 Al-Anon Group** - meets at CrossRoads UMC Fridays, 8 to 9 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Family members and friends of problem drinkers/addicts share, learn Al-Anon principles, that they are not alone, and discover choices available. For details, call 281-484-9243.
 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.
 8 a.m./10:15 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - has worship Tuesday at 11:30 a.m., Wednesday at 7 p.m. (Bible study, Book of Revelation, at 6 p.m.) and Sunday at 8 a.m. and 10:15 a.m., 11456 Space Center Blvd. (in back of a medical/retail community). For details, call 281-479-7285 and leave a message, or stop by.
 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 13
 Noon **AA - Imperfect Nooners**. See Friday's notice.
 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 14
 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 15
 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**. See Friday's notice.
 Noon **Ballroom Dancing** - A ballroom dance group welcomes visitors every Wednesday to enjoy free dancing from noon to 3 p.m. at Hometown Heroes Park Ballroom, 1001 East League City Parkway, League City. Everyone is welcome to enjoy dancing to a selection of CD music provided by DJ Neva Schroder and guest DJs. This weekly dance does not include lessons. Free lessons are taught by Jerry Sanford at the same location on Mondays from 1:30 to 3 p.m. While these opportunities are free and provided by volunteers, the park system requires participants to register and get an activity card for all park activities. For more information about the activity card, ask at the front desk or call 281-554-1180.
 6 p.m./7 p.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - See Sunday's notice.
 7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)**. See Friday's notice.
 7 p.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - See Sunday'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 16
 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.

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Cope, former Wolverine coordinator, garnered exceptional career successes

By John Bechtle
Sports Editor

Former longtime Clear Brook High School varsity football defensive coordinator Darryl Cope died last October, and as spring football practices are about to begin across the area for programs that have chosen to participate, I wanted to take this opportunity to share a bit about not only Cope's career but specifically his achievements with a Wolverine program that was simply elite for much of his stay there.

I spoke with Daryl's widow, Judith Cope, just after the new year started. She shared that it was a variety of conditions that contributed to her husband's death at the age of 76.

He had been retired for quite some time, but what a run it was for the Copes along the way. Daryl and Judith met while attending high school together in Oklahoma and were married in 1967.

Darryl spent some time working at a sporting goods store but always knew that he wanted to get into coaching to be closer to athletics.

He coached at Vernon Junior High, Travis Middle School, Temple, Center, Tyler John Tyler and Odesa before coming to the Houston area to join the La Marque Cougars.

I still remember during my first stop at the *Leader*, sitting at my desk one day and taking a phone call from Becky Straty. She was a secretary at Clear Brook High School and asked me if I had any interest in covering the new startup high school, which was due to open in 1988-89.

That first year, the Wolverines put together a really good junior varsity season under the direction of head coach Jim Hatfield, who had by then hired Cope as his first defensive coordinator.

The staff also included Bill Caraway, Bill Daws at some point, James "Smitty" Smith, Ed Farrington, and several others. Hatfield, who previous to landing the head coaching job at Clear Brook, had been a longtime assistant coach himself.

had come over from Clear Creek High School after a three-year run there.

Simply put, Hatfield was the calming influence at Clear Brook. I recall going over to visit Hatfield at his rather smallish office in back where the facilities weren't nearly as fulfilled as they are today.

Hatfield occupied an office that was longer than it was wide, big enough for a desk and a long couch that he had for visitors like myself.

I would go over there frequently to discuss the Wolverines, who went on to win in a big way under the guidance of Hatfield and others, including coach Cope.

It's just the way that it goes these days that head coaches both get most of the credit for victories and most of the blame for losses. Hatfield was rightfully inducted into the Clear Creek ISD Hall of Honor last fall after he won 80 career games from 1988 through 2000.

But if Hatfield were alive today, he would tell you that the success of the program was due in large part also to the hard work and determination of those assistant coaches, Darryl Cope included.

Coach Cope could be fiery. I remember one instance in which I mentioned that I would be heading over to Clear Lake High School to visit with head coach Larry Haynes.

Cope quickly explained to me, using more than just a couple expletives, of what I needed to tell Haynes leading up to the matchup between the Wolverines and the Falcons later that season.

Needless to say, I did not pass on the message to Haynes. I tell the story more to point out that Cope was exceptionally passionate about his role as a coach. Forget about the fact that he spent most of his career as an assistant coach.

The bottom line is Darryl Cope made a positive difference in the lives of generations of student-athletes. He left Clear Brook in 2020, Judith says primarily because it was time to move on after he did not receive the promotion to head

coach, which instead went to Smith.

Cope went down to Galveston Ball to work alongside head coach Paul Lanier, and also returned briefly to La Marque. He volunteered in retirement at Clear Creek and Clear Falls, two places where his son, Destry, was also a defensive staff member.

Destry Cope and his brother Wes both followed in the footsteps of their father and have had successful coaching careers in their own right.

Judith Cope told me that every step along the way provided plenty of special moments, but that their time with the Wolverines at Clear Brook particularly stood out.

"Daryl told me in the last year of his life that I could have married somebody else, but that I would not have had as much fun," Judith Cope said.

"We did have some terrific times. I really had a lot of fun being the wife of a football coach and experiencing all of those ups and downs with the various programs and being out there at the football field on Friday nights, I wouldn't change any part of it.

"I know that Darrell was particularly honored to have been able to work within so many terrific programs. That's all he ever really wanted to do was coach football, and he got a chance to do that for a long, long time.

"I know he would truly appreciate any recognition that comes his way."

The current Clear Brook program has seen its share of challenges in recent years as other programs across the Houston area have experienced a solid level of growth and talent come into their respective programs.

Meanwhile, Clear Brook currently is one of the smaller schools in the class 6A ranks per enrollment.

But make no mistake, when the school opened in 1988 it was Hatfield, Cope, Smitty, Daws and others who made things happen.

And let's not forget athletic trainer Willy Kyle, who had been a longtime athletic trainer within the Clear Creek ISD ranks before coming over to Clear Brook to join Hatfield.

Kyle was the first trainer that I knew of that had introduced pickle juice as an alternative to fighting cramps and dehydration. In my mind, Kyle was ahead of his time.

It was a wild time over there at Clear Brook, let me tell you. There are plenty of stories that shall remain untold, yet are plenty true.

The bottom line is Darryl Cope was part of a tremendous run of success both at Brook and at several other programs both across the state and in the Houston area. His contributions shall not be forgotten.

Eagles run Get Fit Jog

Atkinson Elementary third- and fourth-grade students stood out during the Pasadena ISD's annual Get Fit Jog program, which called for the district's students to jog 40 miles or more during the school year to be eligible for the districtwide Get Fit Jog final race at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena March 21. The third-grade and fourth-grade course was just more than a mile. Those competing for Atkinson Elementary included, left to right, (front row) Jacob Escamilla, Josue Fajardo, Clarissa Chavez, Max Ramirez, Belle Nguyen, Esmeralda Saucedo, (middle row) David Alfaro, Jesus Villanueva, Jose Alvarenga, Mia Saucedo, (back row) Daniel Carmona, Jayden DeLos-Santos, Lilliana Phillips, Mathews Mendez and Daniel Chavez.



In the third-grade boys' Get Fit Jog race hosted by Pasadena ISD, Jose Alvarenga of Atkinson finished second.



In Pasadena ISD's fourth-grade boys' Get Fit Jog race, Atkinson's Max Ramirez finished second.



In the PISD's fourth-grade girls' Get Fit Jog race, Atkinson's Esmeralda Saucedo finished 28th.

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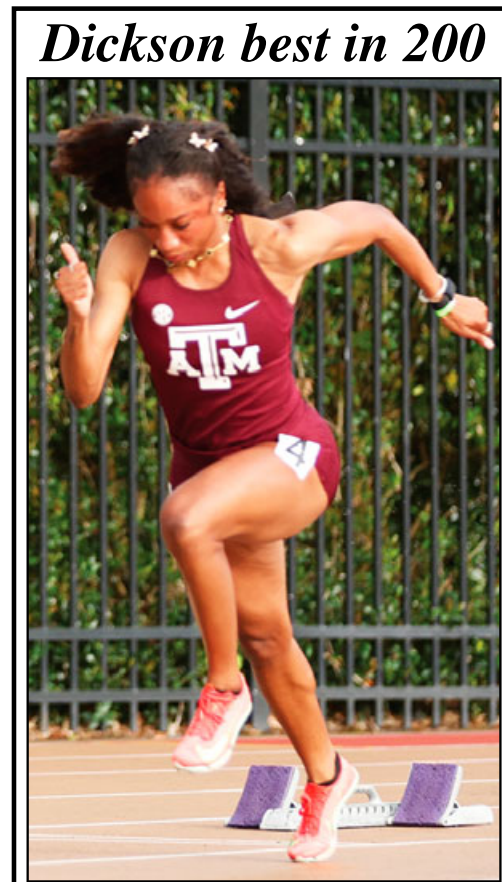
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Davis runs well early on

At left, UT-Rio Grande Valley sophomore sprinter Jiz-zale Davis is already off to a strong start during the outdoor season as she was third with a time of 24.01 seconds in the 200 and 10th in the 100 at 11.95 seconds at the Wes Kittley Invitational at Abilene Christian late last month. Davis, a Clear Brook High School graduate, has already built a strong resume through the early portion of her career with the Vaqueros in the sprints as well as the 4x100 relay. The outdoor season for UT Rio Grande Valley continues April 11 as the team attends the Cactus Cup at Kingsville and then competes in the Bryan Clay Invitational in Azusa, California.



Dickson best in 200

Texas A&M senior Camryn Dickson delivered the fastest time in the nation at 22.69 seconds to win the 200 at the Battle on the Bayou at LSU and has gotten off to a strong start so far in the outdoor season for the Aggies. Dickson, a 2022 Clear Brook High School graduate, has put together quite a standout career at A&M to this point and is clearly looking to finish strong.

LSA boys' golf is second at Second Baptist



The Lutheran South Academy boys golf team are, left to right, Garrett Waddell, Ryan Ehlinger, Max Milton, Jarrett Kingsolver, Q Phelps and Landon Loring, finished second at the Second Baptist Invitational at Quail Valley Golf Club. Members of the team

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8:00 a.m.

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