



# South Belt-Ellington Leader

## Serving South Belt since 1976

The Voice of Community-Minded People

Thursday, May 4, 2023

Email: mynews@southbeltleader.com

www.southbeltleader.com

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### Heavy trash pickup set

City residents south of Fuqua will have heavy trash pickup Thursday, May 11 (second Thursday of the month). City residents north of Fuqua and west of the Gulf Freeway will have heavy trash pickup Friday, May 12 (second Friday of the month). May is for tree waste only. Due to staffing shortages associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, pickups may be delayed. For more information, visit [www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste](http://www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste) or call 311.

### Ellington e-recycling May 13

The City of Houston Solid Waste Management Department's monthly electronic recycling event will take place Saturday, May 13, at the Neighborhood Recycling Center at Ellington Airport from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Residents are encouraged to arrive early, however, as the event ends once trucks are full. Recycling electronics keeps potentially harmful materials, such as mercury, cadmium, lead and cathode ray tubes out of the waste stream and the environment.

Items accepted are PCs, servers, keyboards, mice, laptops, game consoles, monitors, small kitchen appliances, memory chips, hubs and routers, printers, copiers, scanners, fax machines, projectors, rechargeable batteries, cable boxes, car batteries, telephones, cellphones, PDAs, tape drives, hard drives, cords, cables and cameras. The collection events take place the second Saturday of each month. For additional information, visit [www.houstonwaste.org](http://www.houstonwaste.org) or call 311.

### Local COVID cases reported

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

As of Tuesday, May 2, there were 201 active cases in 77089, up one from the previous week. To date, 141 from the ZIP code have died from the disease, up three from the previous week.

In ZIP code 77075, there were 14 active cases, down five from the previous week. To date, there have been 82 deaths in the ZIP code, no increase from the previous week.

In 77034, there were 23 active cases, up two from the previous week. To date, 91 residents from ZIP code 77034 have died from the disease. (Harris County reported 92 deaths the previous week.)

According to Harris County officials, the vast majority of the fatalities suffered from pre-existing health issues.

Statistics are updated daily and include numbers from within the Houston city limits and throughout Harris County. To view an interactive map, visit [covid-harriscounty.hub.arc.gis.com/pages/cumulative-data](http://covid-harriscounty.hub.arc.gis.com/pages/cumulative-data).

### Gulf Freeway closures set

One northbound frontage road lane and one southbound frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway will be closed at Scarsdale Boulevard daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Monday, May 1, to make emergency repairs to low-hanging wires.

One northbound main lane and one southbound main lane on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from FM 518 to FM 517 in League City daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Saturday, Sept. 30.

One northbound main lane and one southbound main lane on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from FM 517 in League City to FM 2004/Camp Wallace Access Road in Dickinson/Texas City daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Saturday, Sept. 30.

One northbound main lane and one southbound main lane on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from FM 2004/Camp Wallace Access Road in Dickinson/Texas City to FM 519/Main Street in La Marque daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Saturday, Sept. 30.

One northbound main lane and one southbound main lane on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from FM 519/Main Street in La Marque to Sailfish Street in Hitchcock daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Saturday, Sept. 30.

One northbound main lane and one southbound main lane on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from Sailfish Street in Hitchcock to Galveston Causeway Bridge in Tiki Island daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Saturday, Sept. 30.

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

### Beltway closures planned

One southbound Beltway 8 frontage road lane from Spencer Highway to Fairmont Parkway will be closed continuously through 7 a.m. Monday, May 15.

One northbound Beltway 8 frontage road lane from Fairmont Parkway to Vista will be closed continuously through 7 a.m. Monday, May 15.

One southbound Beltway 8 frontage road lane from Genoa-Red Bluff to SH 3/Old Galveston will be closed continuously through 7 a.m. Monday, May 15.

## PISD inducts 2023 Hall of Fame athletes

### Multiple Dobie athletes among those inducted into prestigious group

By Al Carter

The emergence of the Pasadena ISD as a softball powerhouse 30 years ago was reflected in the exploits of two of the eight individuals selected for induction in the Pasadena ISD Athletics Hall of Fame.

The slate of 2023 Hall of Famers includes Rhonda Foster, who coached Dobie to state softball championships in 1995 and 1997; and Charla Moore, a 1997 Sam Rayburn High graduate who pitched the Lady Texans through two state playoff runs — one of which included a now legendary regional championship game against Foster's Lady Longhorns.

Foster, who took on a variety of coaching assignments at Dobie, also played an important role in grooming another new inductee, 1995 Dobie graduate Scott Lengefeld. Foster coached Lengefeld, her first cousin, in cross-country, a sport in which he qualified for the state meet in 1994 and 1995. Lengefeld went on to earn All-America honors at Texas A&M.

Other athletes chosen for induction were John Eddie Williams, Pasadena High, Class of 1972; Shane Nolen, Pasadena, Class of 1975; Steve Massey, Rayburn, Class of 1976; and Jeff Neal, South Houston High, Class of 1986.

The induction list also included one of the most prominent names in the Pasadena community — Ben Meador, the chief executive officer of Meador Staffing Services and the founder of the highly successful McDonald's Texas Invitational Basketball Tournament. Meador, a 1957 Pasadena graduate, will be inducted for "Meritorious Community Service."

For the fourth time, the Hall of Fame committee will honor a Pasadena ISD team, this time the 1981 Dobie track squad that won the state title under Hall of Fame coach John Bryan.

The inductees were honored at the Hall of Fame's spring banquet on April 20. For the second year in a row, the event was held at the Pasadena Convention Center.

The latest inductions represented a Hall of Fame reunion of two pairs of former high school teammates who went on to play together in college.

Nolen, whose contributions on the baseball diamond helped Pasadena High reach the state semifinals in 1974, followed his former Eagles teammate, Fritz Connally, into the Hall of Fame. Both went on to play at Baylor, where they helped lead the Bears to the school's first two College World Series berths.

Massey, a prized lineman and tight end for Sam Rayburn, later played alongside his Texans teammate, Hall of Famer Jimmy Johnson, at the University of Texas.

The two other football inductees took unusual routes to public prominence beyond their college playing days.

Neal played college ball at Howard Payne University and later turned his attention to powerlifting. After winning two world championships, he launched a public-speaking career for a Christian ministry organization that he founded.

Williams was a star lineman at Pasadena High in the early 1970s and a prized football recruit for Baylor. He gave up football to study law — and now ranks as one of the most prominent trial attorneys in the country.

### A closer look

#### 1981 Dobie Boys Track Team

Six months after coaching the Longhorn cross-country team to a state title, Bryan took his track squad to Austin and captured the state championship in dominating fashion. Dobie's title remains just the second state track crown ever won by a Pasadena ISD school. (Pasadena claimed the championship in 1957.)

Five different Longhorns placed in the top four in their respective events at the state meet. Hall of Famer Gawain Guy, who had won the

Continued on Page 4

### Pasadena ISD inducts athletes



Pasadena ISD recently inducted the 2023 members of the district's Athletics Hall of Fame. Inductees shown above at the April 20 celebration are, left to right, (front row) Paul Miller, Greg Johnson, Rhonda Foster, Mike McKinney, John Bryan, Gawain Guy, Sammy Shimfessel, Lawrence Mitchell, Hal Lundgren, (Hall of Fame committee), Dan Lovett (former master of ceremonies), (back row) Bill Brown (master of ceremonies), Shane Nolen, Charla Moore Crochet, Jeff Neal, Scott Lengefeld and Steve Massey. Miller, Johnson, McKinney, Bryan, Guy, Shimfessel and Mitchell were part of the 1981 Dobie track team honored at the banquet. Bryan served as the team's head coach and McKinney its assistant coach. Inductees not pictured are Ben Meador and John Eddie Williams. See related photos on Page 6.

### Emergency nuclear training underway

A large-scale, multi-agency nuclear incident training exercise in the southeast Houston and Harris County area began Monday, May 1, and will continue through Friday, May 5.

The training exercise will not pose any risk to area residents; the public does not need to be alarmed by training-related activity, including the presence of military personnel and aircraft and people in protective equipment.

The Department of Defense, the Department of Energy, the National Nuclear Security Administration, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Department of Homeland Security will conduct the exercise in several areas of southeast Houston and Harris County as part of a series of regularly scheduled U.S. government biannual exercises. Similar trainings have been conducted in various regions across the United States since 2012.

The general areas in which the training exercise will take place include from in and around NRG Park and SH 288 to SH 146 and

I-10 east to Highway 225 and in and around Ellington Field.

Several local and state law enforcement, fire, emergency management, and public health agencies will also be participating in the training, including the Harris County Sheriff's Office and the Houston Police Department.

Exercise participants will conduct operations in personal protective equipment to simulate realistic conditions. It will also include aircraft from federal and local law enforcement agencies.

The exercise is an opportunity for participating entities to practice and enhance operational readiness to respond in the event of a nuclear incident in the United States or overseas.

Due to the sensitive nature of the capabilities being implemented, neither the media nor the public is allowed to observe the training exercise.

Again, the training exercise will not pose any risk or interference to the public.

### Voters to decide school board races

Local voters on Saturday, May 6, will decide who will fill spots on multiple area school boards.

To be decided are races in Pasadena ISD, Clear Creek ISD and the San Jacinto College District.

All three Pasadena ISD incumbents will face challengers.

Position 5 incumbent Kenny Fernandez is being challenged by Larry Savala; Position 6 incumbent Marshall Kendrick will face opponents David Gonzales and Andy Garcia; and Position 7 incumbent Vickie Morgan will be challenged by Irene Tamayo and Jeff Snover.

For additional Pasadena ISD election information, visit [www.pasadenaisd.org/school\\_board/election\\_information](http://www.pasadenaisd.org/school_board/election_information).

Most South Belt residents will be ineligible to vote in the Clear Creek ISD election, as the District 2 and District 3 seats are out of the immediate area.

For additional Clear Creek ISD election information, visit [ccisd.net/elections](http://ccisd.net/elections).

In the San Jacinto College District, only one of two incumbents filed to maintain their position.

Continued on Page 2

### Houston Police seek robbery suspects

The Houston Police Department is seeking the public's assistance in identifying two suspects responsible for recent robberies in the South Belt area.

#### Blackhawk

Investigators are seeking the public's assistance in identifying two suspects responsible for an aggravated robbery Sunday, March 12, at a convenience store in the 9400 block of Blackhawk near Beltway 8.

According to HPD Robbery Division officials, two unknown males entered the store around 1:35

a.m. One of the suspects approached the counter while displaying a handgun and demanded the money from the register. The employee complied with the suspect's demands by giving them the money from the cash drawer. The suspects then fled the location in an unknown direction.

The first suspect was described as being a male of unknown race, medium complexion, wearing a black pullover, shorts, black socks and blue Crocs. The second suspect was described as a black male, wearing a black jacket and

Continued on Page 4

### Fleeing pedestrian struck on HOV lane

A pedestrian fleeing from police was critically injured around 6 p.m. Monday, May 1, after being struck by a vehicle in the HOV lane in the 12500 block of the Gulf Freeway near Fuqua.

According to Houston Police Department officials, officers responded to an assault disturbance call at the InTown Suites, and when they attempted to make contact with the suspect, he fled, leading officers on a foot chase. Officers pursued the suspect across the frontage lanes of traffic but halted the chase as the

male crossed the main lanes of traffic out of concern for their own safety.

The suspect successfully crossed the inbound main lanes of traffic, but when he got to the outbound HOV lane, he turned around to see if the police were still chasing him, and he was struck by a passing vehicle.

The 26-year-old male suspect was transported to the hospital in critical condition.

The female driver remained on the scene and was cooperative with police. The investigation was ongoing at press time.

### Cyclist killed in Bay Area accident

A cyclist died after being struck by a vehicle around 9:30 a.m. Sunday, April 23, in the 9500 block of Bay Area Boulevard.

According to officials with the Harris County Sheriff's Office, a male was riding his bicycle at the above address headed east when the driver of a white 2022 Chevrolet van failed to control his speed and struck the cyclist, causing serious injuries.

The victim was transported by paramedics to HCA Houston Healthcare Clear Lake, where he was later pronounced dead.

The driver of the van remained on the scene and was cooperative with investigators. He showed no signs of intoxication.

This case remains open and is under investigation by the Harris County Sheriff's Office Vehicular Crimes Division.

### Motorcycle thief arrested following pursuit

#### Suspect posed as potential buyer, then fled on bike

An alleged motorcycle thief was arrested around noon Monday, April 10, following a short police pursuit near Edgebrook and the Gulf Freeway.

Precinct 8 deputies Brinkley and Mitchell were conducting narcotic interdiction in the aforementioned area when Brinkley observed a motorcycle with no license plate traveling at a high rate of speed.

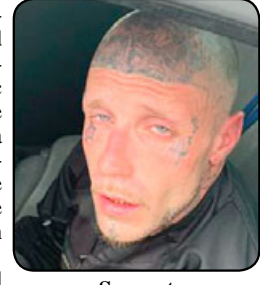
Mitchell activated his emergency lighting in attempt to initiate a traffic stop. The motorcycle failed to yield and accelerated to a high rate of speed. The motorcycle drove through a parking lot before exiting onto the Gulf Freeway service road and continued north weaving in and out of traffic. The suspect began driving the wrong

way on the service road and the pursuit was terminated.

HPD Fox helicopter responded to the call and assisted deputies track the motorcycle. Mitchell was able to catch up to the motorcycle and reengage the pursuit. The suspect ultimately lost control of the motorcycle near Palestine Street and Pennsylvania Street and continued to flee on foot. Mitchell gave chase and located the suspect hiding under a parked vehicle.

The suspect was identified as 34-year-old Jason Paris Scott. A check of Scott's information revealed he was currently on probation. Deputies contacted the registered owner of the motorcycle who stated he was selling the motorcycle and met with a potential buyer (suspect). The suspect requested to test drive and fled on the motorcycle.

The Harris County District Attorney's Office was contacted and accepted felony charges for evading arrest/detention with vehicle and unauthorized use of vehicle. Scott was transported to the Harris County Joint Processing Center where his bonds were set at \$20,000 total.



Suspect

### Suspect arrested near school



Houston police arrested a suspect around 4 p.m. Tuesday, May 2, for allegedly squatting in a residence on Kirkhollow near Beamer. Officers reportedly had their weapons drawn on the suspect at a time when many students were walking home from nearby schools, including Beverly Hills Intermediate and Morris Middle School. The home's original occupants are deceased, according to police. Neighbor reportedly notified authorities about the suspect following reports he was littering from windows of the residence.

Photo by Marie Flickinger

# In My Opinion

## Phelan urges keep more qualified team

The challenges in public education are plentiful. Members of the Pasadena ISD school board should be active contributors to our community and knowledgeable about all of our school district. They must advocate for all students and staff as well as the entire PISD community.

As a lifelong citizen of the Pasadena community, parent of a PISD graduate and employee of the school district, there are none more qualified to serve our community on the school board as Marshall Kendrick, Vickie Morgan and Kenny Fernandez.

The facts of their success as school board members are clear and indisputable. The experiences and growth these three candidates have brought to PISD have led to years of continued success for Pasadena ISD.

Among the highlights for our school district are the above average percentage of high school graduates and the many opportunities our high school students have to set them up for success once they do graduate.

Our district is one of the largest providers for Personalized Learning in the country. Our students have college and career opportunities starting for them at early ages. Our parents also are provided opportunities to partner with each school along the way. It is the experience and deep knowledge of schools that make Kendrick, Morgan and Fernandez the clear choice for our school board.

Asadena ISD is a treasure in this community. Let's make sure we keep it that way by electing these three candidates. They support the students, parents, community and all employees to be successful and grow. Help continue the success in PISD!

**Diane Phelan**

## Hance seeks vote for San Jac board

A lifelong resident of Deer Park and Pasadena, I'm a graduate of Deer Park High School with honors. I attended San Jacinto College, where I was Vice President of Phi Theta Kappa, National Honor Society, and President of the Sophomore Class of 1968.

I went on to the University of Houston, where I earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics. I then went to work for Maintenance Engineering Corporation in 1971, and in 2003, bought the chemical division and named it MECO Inc. servicing the Gulf Coast water treatment needs with offices in Houston and New Orleans. I sold the company in 2017 and now serve as a consultant.

I have always been fond of and associated with San Jacinto College, having served on the Foundation Board, raising money for scholarships since 2007, and was the Foundations Board Chairman in 2010 and 2011. I also served as a Trustee for the college from 2011 to 2017.

As a highly motivated and experienced individual, I feel I can do another great job as a Trustee for the College with my business background, financial background, and love for the College. I am passionate about making a meaningful difference in our community, and if elected, I am committed to bringing a collaborative mindset

to the table. I believe in effective communication, integrity, and transparency. I am confident I will help the Board of Trustees make the best possible decisions for the San Jacinto College community.

**Brad Hance**

## Mattress Mack no stranger to area

Sunday the Houston Chronicle has a long article, on 3 pages, about Mattress Mack and what he has done for Houston and Harris County. Where he came from and all that he does for the community, Christmas donations, helps in disasters with his vehicles, helping people and organizations, supporting sports, a solid catholic and involved in politics.

One thing not mentioned, he visited Saint Frances Cabrini Catholic church. Do not remember the year but it had to be 30+ years ago. He was speaking at various places including churches. So I called, yes he answered the phone, and asked him to speak to our church. Sure, select a date, if I am available, and time and I will. Wife and I being involved in Men's and Womens club we selected a joint date. I went back and he was open, so told him how to find the church (before GPS) and I would meet him at the Culver road entrance. He showed up on time and as we drove to his parking spot he said tell me as much as you can about the church. I did. Walked into a large crowd and all applauded. He gave his talk and then talked to people. A lady came up and asked if he would visit with her husband, a WW II vet, blind and in a wheelchair. Forget his name. Went to Mack and asked him, he immediately stopped talking to those and went to this man. Took his hand, introduced himself and they talked shortly. I still remember the big smile this man had. That is Mattress Mack and the history of his visiting St. Frances.

**Jim Muecke**

**Publisher's note:** About that same time, Mack came out to the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce on multiple occasions. A special guy. **Marie Flickinger**, publisher

## Jones laments loss of old friend

I was so sad to see the obituary notice for Reene Hooper in the last *Southbelt Leader*. Many moons ago I worked with her at the food stamp office on Fuqua, but she quit there to move to other things. I didn't reconnect with until I started shopping at Tri Health Food Store. She knew everything about every supplement and vitamin Herman sold and was my go to person for advice as to what to take and what not to take. She will be greatly missed.

**Sandra Jones**

## Fred Roberts shares whom he supports

My answer to those who have asked whom I support for Pasadena ISD. School Board:

- 1. KENNY FERNANDEZ
- 2. MARSHALL KENDRICK
- 3. VICKI MORGAN

Sincerely,  
**Fred Roberts**  
PISD Trustee  
28 Yrs

# Publisher's Opinion

## Please vote, its critical for our community

Saturday, May 6 is the last time to vote in the Pasadena ISD and San Jac races. I cannot stress enough how very important the Pasadena race is. There is no doubt in my mind that this race could cost us the superintendent.

And what a fantastic superintendent she has been. In my nearly 50 years of working with (and sometimes against) the PISD district, I have never known a better superintendent.

It is a known fact that some on the board believe our superintendent and others should be replaced since they are not the "correct" race.

I believe what is most important for our

students is a superintendent who is good, honest, caring and a superior educator. DeeAnn is all of these. What race she is, is not near as important as the previously mentioned attributes.

Our district has done a tremendous job in educating students.

It does not take much time to vote. In the area one can vote Saturday at El Franco Lee Park, the annex at Scarsdale or the Jones Technical building at San Jac South.

Please take time to vote, it is critical. CCISD has an election, but it is for single-member districts which are not in our area.

**Marie Flickinger**  
Publisher

## Leader checks out social media

**By Natalie Abarca**  
A member of the Next-door app posted a video surveillance of three teenagers who came up to the member's door and kicked it so hard it caused the trim to break and damaged the wall. The member states their parents were in the house when it happened. When the mother screamed, the boys ran off. This happened Saturday, April 29, around 8 p.m. on

Sageroyal. If anyone has information, reach out to the homeowner. A case has been made.

A member of the Neighbor's app posted a video of an individual that is seen taking the member's Amazon package from their front door. The member states the package was taken just minutes after it was delivered. Another member commented they had the same issue.

The incident happened Monday, May 1, during the day near Sabo Road.

Another member of the same app posted a video of a woman that was seen sitting and waiting at the porch and then tried to open the member's home door.

The incident occurred Wednesday, April 26 near Astoria Boulevard between Blackhawk Boulevard and Beamer Road.

## Commissioners Court approves granting OSHA tax abatements

Harris County Commissioners Court approved the Department of Economic Equity and Opportunity's guidelines and criteria for granting tax abatements in reinvestment zones to increase and strengthen existing community benefits and worker protections. The policy, takes effect immediately and builds on changes made in 2020 to ensure competitive wages, access to affordable and quality health care, safety training and the encouragement of minority- and women-owned business enterprise participation. The changes include a clean energy provision that will align with Harris County's climate action priorities and foster innovations in renewable energy.

Commissioner Rodney Ellis, who led the creation of the Department of Economic Equity and Opportunity and advocated for community benefits in 2020, said the updates are significant for the region's future. "We have a responsibility to promote equitable economic growth and shared prosperity. When companies get a break, our communities should benefit, too," Ellis said.

"Additionally, our updated guidelines will incentivize businesses to reduce carbon emissions, develop technologies to address climate crisis, and help our region become a leader in sustainability." He said the updates will create job opportunities by ensuring at least 50 percent of new employees at the project location are Harris County residents. All full-time employees must be paid a fair wage and offered affordable health care plans. In addition,

incentivized projects must include a Fair Chance Hiring plan to provide job opportunities for people with a state criminal history.

The policy emphasizes the importance of safe work environments by ensuring contractors with Occupational Safety and Health Administration investigations or violations will not be allowed on incentivized projects. The policy prohibits contractors with outstanding wage theft claims or a recent history of wage theft. "We must incentivize safe jobs," Ellis said. "Texas is the deadliest state for construction workers, which is why we've mandated multilingual OSHA-10 and OSHA-30 safety training in the language that is best for construction workers and their supervisors to ensure safe work environments."

## Clothing drive to benefit Dobie reunion

Phil the Box clothing donation drive will take place May 19, 20 and 21, with the drop box located at Burleigh Chiropractic, 11700 Beamer Road, Houston 77089. Items that will be accepted are clothing, linens, towels, caps, hats, backpacks, wallets, purses and computer bags. All the proceeds will benefit J. Frank Dobie High School's 40-year reunion.

## Local library events set

**Bracewell Branch Library**  
In case of storms or adverse weather, refer to library website for details. Bracewell Library is located at 9002 Kingspoint. 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. Closed Sundays. Tuesdays, 10:30 - 11 a.m. Outdoors storytime for all ages. Plan to enjoy a good story at Bracewell in the fresh outdoors, weather permitting. Visit <https://houstonlibrary.org/learn-explore/library-events> for more library events.

**Parker Williams Library**  
Parker Williams Library is located at 10851 Scarsdale Blvd. Visit the website at <https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library> or call 832-927-7870. The book drop is open. No late fees will be charged during the library closure. Social media links are Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary and Instagram.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary.

**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 - Thursday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Friday, 1 - 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Closed Sundays. Visit <https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library> for details.

## Parker Williams releases May calendar

The Parker Williams Library has recently released its program schedule for May 2023.

Family Story Time is held Mondays at 11:15 a.m. and all ages are welcome.

Babies 'n' Books is held Tuesdays at 10:15 a.m., and is recommended for little ones aged 0-2.

Toddler Time is scheduled for Thursdays at 10:15 a.m. This is recommended for little ones aged 2-4.

The ESL Conversation Club is held every Thursday at 10 a.m. for those who are learning English and want the chance to hold conversations with native speakers and other students.

Vietnamese help service are scheduled at 10 a.m., Tuesday, May 9, 16, 23 and 30. Vietnamese speakers will assist attendees in filling out application forms pertaining to citizenship and Green card renewal as well

as provide job seeking tips. This is a free service. Please call or visit the library to make appointments.

Vietnamese basic computer classes are set for Tuesday at 11:00 a.m. on May 9, 16, 23 and 30. These classes are for Vietnamese speakers who want to enhance their computer skills and learn how to better use their laptop for daily life. Registration is required.

Join Loc Bui on Saturdays for Vietnamese Learning Time, for adults and kids aged eight years and older. Registration is required. The level one class for children is from 10 to 11:15 a.m. Level one for adults is from 11:15 a.m. to 12:45 p.m., Saturday May 6 and 13.

For more information about classes and to register, call or visit the library.

An adult craft group focused on creating paper

flower wreaths is scheduled for Monday, May 8, at 6 p.m. The public is encouraged to join in creating some fun spring décor with recycled materials. All the supplies will be provided.

A Dungeons and Dragons game session will be held Tuesday, May 9 and 23, at 3:30 p.m. D&D is a fantasy tabletop role-playing game (RPG) where the players create characters and form an adventuring party who explore fantasy worlds together as they embark on epic quests and level up in experience. Those interested in playing are encouraged to join the next session.

A community craft session, focused on DIY Mother's Day cards, is scheduled for Thursday, May 11, at 3 p.m. This card can be designed by kids or adults to make a nice gift for moms, aunts or grandmas. All materials are provided.

Tech Time is set for Wednesday, May 17, at 11 a.m. for those who need help installing an update, formatting a document, setting up an email, or just one-on-one technology help.

The Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage month Celebration is scheduled for Saturday, May 20, at 10 a.m. The public is encouraged to join in on the AAPI celebration. The celebration will include highlighting cultures in different Asian Pacific regions, tasting Asian snacks and a Q&A presented by native representatives in their national costumes. The craft is a DIY painted paper hand fan. Ones who attend have the opportunity to explore their creative talent to make a DIY gift to bring home (all materials are provided) following with lucky drawings and refreshments at the end of the event.

The Readers Rendezvous Book Club will be held Monday, May 22 at 6 p.m. for a discussion of "What Moves the Dead" by T. Kingfisher.

The month of May is poetry month. In light of this, the event Code Night with E is scheduled for Wednesday, May 24, at 6 p.m. Attendees will have the chance to make poems using ChatGPT. ChatGPT (Chat Generative Pre-trained Transformer) is an artificial intelligence (AI) chatbot developed by OpenAI and launched in November 2022. The AI model is trained to follow prompts and instructions then provide a detailed response.

# Deaths

## Janie Balderas



Janie Balderas, 74, passed away Wednesday, April 19, 2023, after a brief hospital stay. She was born Dec. 4, 1948, to Alejos (Alex) and Jesusa (Susie) Guillen of Port Lavaca.

She moved to the Beverly Hills/South Belt area in the early 1970s with her husband and two daughters and lived here ever since.

She is preceded in death by her husband Eleazar Balderas; her parents; brothers Alex and Sonny Guillen; and sisters Margie Delgado, Estella Garza, Mary Soloya and Annie Baez.

Survivors include her two daughters Brenda Balderas and fiancé Gil Castro of Pearland, Sandra Medina and son-in-law Nick Medina of Manvel; and three granddaughters Megan Medina, Jenna Medina and Audrey Medina. She also leaves behind two great-grandchildren Scarlett and Christopher Dominguez.

There will be a private family gathering as well as a celebration of life at a later date.

## Michael Joseph Ploch



Michael Joseph Ploch 73, gained his angel wings April 11, 2023, after a lengthy illness with his wife, Ginny, by his side. Mike, affectionately known as Shrek, Bear, Grandpa and Grandpa Bear was born in Corpus Christi Aug. 10, 1949, to Joseph and Nancy Ploch. He fought long and hard, with more spirit than any man to endure all the pain and suffering he went through, especially the last three years.

Mike proudly served his country during the Vietnam War in the Air Force from 1968 to 1974. He was honorably discharged from the Air Force on Aug. 7, 1974.

Mike received his bachelor's degree from the Univer-

sity of Houston and worked as an electrical engineer until his retirement. He enjoyed his family, fishing, tinkering, gardening and playing his video games. He had a wicked sense of humor and especially loved pranking folks - mostly his wife. He would rather laugh about things than get upset.

Mike is survived by his wife; daughters Christine Edwin, Jennifer Stagner (husband Phillip); and stepdaughters Lori Montelongo (husband John) and Kristie Rodriguez; his grandchildren Justin Stein (wife Kayla), Bianca Robles, Heather Stagner, Jacob, Alyssa, Joshua and Jaxon Montelongo; and his great-grandchildren Hayden, Skylar and Lucas Stein. He is also survived by his sisters Frances Teague (husband Dan), Mary McFarland (husband Tim); brothers Stephen and Richard Haltom; uncle and aunt Roby and Brenda Hanus; as well as many nieces and nephews. Lastly, by his faithful pups, Bean, Charlie and Millie, who stayed by his side and comforted him during his illness.

Mike is predeceased by his father Joseph Ploch, his mother Nancy Haltom and his stepfather Carl Haltom. The family wants to extend its heartfelt thanks for Mike's caretakers Johnny Ikott, Reju Thomas, Latoshia Sigler and Cheryl Marek from the Eyes of Hope; as well as Tonya Knight from First Light Home Care and to Belinda and Karen from Good Shepherd Hospice for all the love, care and support they gave Mike.

Visitation is Thursday, May 11, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the Chapel of the Gardens, 12001 Beamer. Burial is Friday, May 12, at 1 p.m. at the Houston National Cemetery, 10410 Veterans Memorial Drive. His wife expressed her thoughts "Rest in peace, Babe - fly high, until we are together again."

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations in his name to the annual South Belt Christmas Toy Drive c/o The South Belt Leader. For information, call 281-481-5656.

## CCART May meeting scheduled

The Clear Creek Association of Retired Teachers will hold its May meeting Tuesday, May 9. Featured speakers will be the superintendents from CCISD and Dickinson ISD. They will provide information about their districts both as a review of the current academic year and a look ahead to 2023-2024.

The social gathering is at 10 a.m. followed by the meeting at 10:30. CCART will provide an Italian lunch for members. A RSVP for the lunch is requested. All Texas-retired school employees from the area are invited. Annual dues are \$50.

## Election Day May 6

Continued from Page 1

Position 1 incumbent Erica Davis-Rouse is being challenged by Brad Hance.

Candidates Michelle Cantú-Wilson and Karen Wheeler-Hall are competing for the Position 2 seat currently held by Ruede Wheeler, who is not seeking re-election.

For more San Jacinto election info, visit [www.sanjac.edu/about-san-jac/board-trustees/election-information/board-election-may-2023](http://www.sanjac.edu/about-san-jac/board-trustees/election-information/board-election-may-2023).

The cities of Friendswood, South Houston and Pasadena will also hold simultaneous elections. The City of Pearland will hold a joint election with Brazoria County. Harris County voters may now cast their ballot at any polling location regardless of their precinct.

To see a list of polling locations, visit [www.harrisvotes.com](http://www.harrisvotes.com). Voting hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Advertisement for Wonder Waffel. Logo: DAS ORIGINAL Wonder Waffel AUS BERLIN. Address: 19028 Gulf Fwy • Friendswood • TX 77546. Website: [www.wonderwaffel.com](http://www.wonderwaffel.com). Offer: \$2.00 off any Wonder Waffel. With this ad only. Not valid with any other offer.

Advertisement for TONY'S PIZZA & GRINDERS. Logo: TONY'S PIZZA & GRINDERS. Offer: Now Serving Hershey's Ice Cream. Items: Cones, Milkshakes, Banana Splits, Caramel brownie delight. Address: 10330 Blackhawk, Suite E. Phone: 832-406-7045.

Advertisement for GALVESTON HISTORIC HOMES TOUR. Logo: GALVESTON HISTORIC HOMES TOUR. Text: 49th ANNUAL TOUR | May 6, 7, 13 & 14, 2023. Celebrating Galveston's architectural history through tours of privately owned homes. Tickets and info at [galvestonhistory.org](http://galvestonhistory.org). Logos: GALVESTON, The Daily News, THE TRUBE FOUNDATION, Martha Turner JIM ROSENFIELD, Sotheby's INTERNATIONAL REALTY, Moody Bank, SAND & SEA PROPERTIES, Joe Iremonte.

## Tornado disaster exemption due May 11

The Harris Central Appraisal District is reminding property owners who experienced damage to their property during the January tornado to apply for a temporary disaster exemption. "I want to remind everyone who had physical damage to their property in the January tornadoes that the deadline to apply for the temporary disaster exemption is May 11," said Roland Altinger, chief appraiser. "The exemption is available to help owners reduce their 2023 property taxes."

The Texas Tax Code allows qualified property that is at least 15 percent damaged by a disaster to receive a temporary exemption of a portion of the appraised value of the property. Qualified property includes real property such as homes and buildings, certain manufactured homes and tangible personal property used for the production of income for a business. The property owner must apply for the temporary exemption no later than 105 days after the governor declares a disaster area. Texas Governor Greg Abbott declared the state a disaster area on January 26 so the temporary disaster exemption application must be filed with the appraisal district no later than May 11.

The disaster application form can be found online at [www.head.org](http://www.head.org) under FORMS > ALL FORMS > General Information > Form

20-312, Temporary Exemption for Property Damaged by a Disaster. The form should be mailed to the address indicated on the form, which is Harris Central Appraisal District, Information and Assistance Division, P.O. Box 922012, Houston, Texas 77292-2012. For more information, contact HCAD's information center at 713-957-7800 or email [help@head.org](mailto:help@head.org).

The Parker Williams Library has recently released its program schedule for May 2023.

Family Story Time is held Mondays at 11:15 a.m. and all ages are welcome.

Babies 'n' Books is held Tuesdays at 10:15 a.m., and is recommended for little ones aged 0-2.

Toddler Time is scheduled for Thursdays at 10:15 a.m. This is recommended for little ones aged 2-4.

The ESL Conversation Club is held every Thursday at 10 a.m. for those who are learning English and want the chance to hold conversations with native speakers and other students.

Vietnamese help service are scheduled at 10 a.m., Tuesday, May 9, 16, 23 and 30. Vietnamese speakers will assist attendees in filling out application forms pertaining to citizenship and Green card renewal as well

as provide job seeking tips. This is a free service. Please call or visit the library to make appointments.

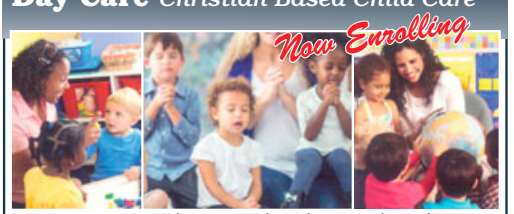
Vietnamese basic computer classes are set for Tuesday at 11:00 a.m. on May 9, 16, 23 and 30. These classes are for Vietnamese speakers who want to enhance their computer skills and learn how to better use their laptop for daily life. Registration is required.

Join Loc Bui on Saturdays for Vietnamese Learning Time, for adults and kids aged eight years and older. Registration is required. The level one class for children is from 10 to 11:15 a.m. Level one for adults is from 11:15 a.m. to 12:45 p.m., Saturday May 6 and 13.

For more information about classes and to register, call or visit the library.

An adult craft group focused on creating paper

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New Covenant Christian Church provides Christian based child care for the local community. Director Nedra Jackson and her staff are here to take perfect care of your children while you work.

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[www.newcovenantchristianchurchhouston.com](http://www.newcovenantchristianchurchhouston.com)  
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Advertisement for ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST Catholic Church. Logo: ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST Catholic Church. Address: 11011 Hall Rd. (between Beamer & Blackhawk) www.stlukescatholic.com. Liturgy Schedule: Saturday Vigil 5:30 p.m., Sunday 8 a.m. and 10 a.m., Monday 1 p.m. Misa en Español, Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9 a.m., Tuesday & Thursday 7 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.

Advertisement for On a Mission Craft Fair. Text: to build awareness of missions and support mission efforts. Items: Bags, Purses, Totes, Jewelry, Mosaics, Olivewood Bowls, Textiles, Clothing, Pop-up Cards, Stuffed Animals, African Art, Embroidery. St. Paul's Anglican Church. Address: 11456 Space Center Blvd., Houston 77059. Phone: 281-479-7285. Website: [stpauls-anglicanchurch.org](http://stpauls-anglicanchurch.org)

# South Houston High School announces honor roll for the fifth sixth-weeks grading period

South Houston High School officials recently named their honor roll students for the fifth six-weeks period of the 2022-2023 school year.

**Ninth grade**  
Melody Acosta, Za'nyiah Agee, Ariana Aguirre, Adalíz Alejandro, Ludvin Aleman Retana, Judit Almaguer, Abel Alvarez Recendiz, Santos Amescua, Danyel Anaya, Jose Angulo and Erik Arana.

Audel Arellano Duarte, Jefferson Argueta Argueta, Manuel Arredondo Garcia, Christopher Avila, Isabella Avila, Devon Barnwell, David Bartolo, Juan Becerra and Alan Bello.

Madison Bennette, Nevaeh Bernal, Christiani Bonilla, Isaiah Bonilla, Ronald Brown Toirac, Mia Caballero, Alejandro Castillo, Arellyn Castillo, Luis Castro, Katia Chavez, Tiana Costa and Emanuel Cruz Mont.

Andres Cruz, Efen Cruz, Kristal Delacruz, Samuel DeLeon, Hannah Eldreth, David Flores, Sean Flores, Gideon Fowler, Diego Franco Morales, Anthony Funez, Alejandro Galindo and Jacinto Gallego Cobo.

Joheli Garcia Gonzalez, Yoandri Garcia Gonzalez, Angel Garcia, Dayana Garcia, Chloe Gillespie, Jose Godoy, Arianna Gomez, Carlos Gomez, George Gonzalez Aguilera, Joel Gonzalez, Lestat Gonzalez and Raul Gonzalez.

Meagan Grays, Brianna Grimaldo, Sumayah Guadalupe, Gervyn Gutierrez Guillen, Ana Hernandez, Saleste Hernandez, Laura Hinojosa, Ann Hounmetin, Roman

Huerta, Janette Hurtado and Anthony Jaime Fraga.

Teyana Jenkins, Alexia Lacio-Wardrop, Averie Lallas, Anahi Ledesma, Axel Lopez Carbajal, Anahi Lule, Dayris Malasquez Montalvo, Tekayla Mann, Helen Mariadiaga Munoz, Diego Martinez, Dylan Martinez, Gerardo Martinez, Jonathan Martinez, Yair Martinez, Gensil Melgar Molina, Maximo Mendoza, Kinereth Meraz Zelaya, Beatriz Meza and Luis Miranda Escobar.

**10th grade**  
Dalilah Acosta, Agustín Aguilar, Jazlynn Aguilón, Carolina Alvarez, Kevin Alvarez, Anderson Amaya Urias, Annastasia Anowey, Jocelyn Aranda, Joshua Arriaga, Garita Barbosa, Aryanna Benitez, Jazmin Bocanegra and Reginald Brooks.

Jordan Buckner, Carlos Burgos Reyes, Reynaldo Cabrera, Benito Cadena, Michelle Cano, Yeison Carbajal, Gabriella Castaneda, Emiliano Castilleja, Adamari Castillo, Natalia Castillo, Selina Chamorro and Melanie Chaverria.

Da'Jonae Citizen, Lee Cleveland, Barbara Collazo, Perla Colmenero, Rosa Contreras, Victoria Contreras, Lester Cortes Varela, Nataly Coto-Chong, D'asia Criswell, Jeady Cruz, Bryan De Leon, Valerie Del Valle and Krystal Delgado.

Lorenzo Delgado, Nathan Diaz, Jesus Dimas, Elizabeth Erwin, Kayleen Erwin, Sharon Escalante, Kevin Espinal Lemus, Erick Estrada Guity, Dariana Fierro, Jennifer Flores, Ariana Franco, Kylie Gale, Isberry Garcia Romero and Briahna Garcia.

Carlos Garcia, Diego Garcia, Lupita Garcia, Xzavian Garcia, Rogelio Garibay, Tania

arez, Sarah Suarez, Kayleen Talley, Erendira Torres, Hayden Tran, Valery Trevino, Diego Valdes Legra, Isabel Vasquez, Amairani Vega, Bryan Velasquez Chavez, Joseph Velasquez Crisanto, Katherine Villalobos, Clarity Villanueva, Annette Zacarias Trevizo and Estrella Zavala.

**11th grade**  
Ana Herrera, Kaitlyn Houston, Kayren Houston, Rosa Huerta, Aniya Johnson, Marina Joya Campos, Edward Juarez, Navya Karunarathne, Angel Kelly, Norma Lazo Saucedo, Jennifer Leanos-Avina, Jayden Leos, Antonio Lopez, Jazmin Lopez, Juan Lopez and Felix Lozano.

Patricia Luna Argueta, Raquel Malbro, Edith Maldonado, Alonso Marquez, Brianna Martinez, Daniel Martinez, Eduardo Martinez, Joaquin Martinez, Ramiro Martinez, Raphael Martinez, Ricardo Martinez and William Martinez.

Pricilla Mendiola, Cindy Molina, Jonathan Morales, Kevin Morales, Miguel Moreno, Yazmine Moreno, Kiara Moya de la Rosa, Daniela Murcia Reyes, Gerald Muriilo, Camila Navarro Moran and Kimberly Negrete.

Kristi Nguyen, Leslie Oliveros, Danny Olmos, Vanessa Ortiz, Edgar Ortuno, Diego Osejo, Leonardo Otero Cuza, Ilian Pacheco Villafranca, Noah Parras, Kelly Patel, Alexis Paz, Christian Perez and Victoria Perrett.

Thien Pham, Jack Phu, Jo-

vanny Portillo, Valerie Portillo, Jovany Quezada, Felipe Quinteros-Amaya, Christy Ram, Camila Ramirez, Fatima Ramirez, Xiomara Ramirez, Caitlin Ramos, Tatyana Ramos and Hugo Rangel.

Roselyn Rangel, Inary Reyes, Yaneli Reyes, Cassandra Rivas, Jennifer Rivera, Chelsea Robertson, Mahia Rodriguez Agraz, Angel Rodriguez Castillo, Aldamaris Roman Tellez, Alexis Romero, Luis Rosales, Rosalinda Salazar and Anthony Salinas.

Deevanie Sanchez, Jeilyn Sanchez, Lindsey Sanchez, Jovante Sandles, Diego Santillan, Madison Scott, Irma Sosa Villafranca, Natalie Terrones, Alondra Torres, Xiomara Torres, Betzabet Trinidad Yeppez and Joaquin Vargas.

Jonathon Vargas, Maniah Velez, Ruby Vences, Pamela Viera, Damian Villa, Sairah Villalobos, Devon Whitaker, Courtney Wright, Marlen Zavala and Evelin Zavaleta.

**12th grade**  
Mikaela Acosta, Marjorie Aleman Retana, Jessica Alfaro, Elizabeth Almaguer, Christopher Almanza, David Alvarez Paz, Pedro Alvarez, Daniel Arias, Andrea Ayala, Jonathan Barrientos, Amy Becerra and Christopher Bowshier.

Ovidio Bustillo, Marisa Caballero, Ashley Cadena, Rosa Campos, Ashly Canales Arias, Gustavo Cano-Mercado, Jose Cardoza, Emily Castillo, Aaron Chavarria, Angelina Damian, Arlet Delgado, Paola Diaz Galvan and Xavier Diaz.

Abraham Escareno, Syntrel Evans, Everth Flores, Jayden

Flores, Jesus Flores, Natalie Flores, Manuel Gamboa, Aldo Garcia Loya, Abraham Garcia, Alexia Garcia, Naomy Garcia, Nathalie Garcia and Alexis Garza.

Emily Garza, Ethan Garza, Trynity Garza, Dahlila Gomez, Angel Gonzalez Torres, Nefertiti Guzman, Will'aysia Harris, Cristian Hernandez, Valeria Hernandez and Angela Herrera. Eliissa Herrera, Kayla Hughes, Ciara Jackson, Jose Labra, Kayleen Leal, Abril Leon, Stormy Lindsey, Carlos Lopez Montoya, Francisco Lopez Tejada, Daniela Maldonado, Genesis Marin, Judith Martinez and Kassandra Marti-

Raul Martinez, Ariana Mendoza, Josue Miranda, Edgar Najera, Aldo Navarro Moran, Iliana Olivarez, Anamaria Olvera, Emily Parra, Ryan Pham, Adrian Pineda, Eryn Ponce, Fernando Prunedo, Giselle Quintero, Kaylee Ramirez and Alan Ramos.

Joanna Ramos, Gerardo Reyes, Rosa Reyes, Maria Ri-

vera Robles, Kimberly Rivera, Stacie Rivera, Cheyenne Robertson, Karina Robledo, Josephine Robles, Silvio Rodriguez Suarez, Mansa Rogers, Carlos Roman, Victoria Romano and Monika Romero.

Natalie Salinas, Roselyn Sanchez, Axel Saucedo Estrada, Roselin Serna, Urva Shah, Jacob Sheppard-Rubio, Alan Solis, Adrian Soto, Chamia Starks, Bryanna Suarez and Laparis Thurman.

Mariela Urias-Sarmiento, Gabriel Valenzuela, Jamileth Vasquez, Noemi Vasquez, Daniel Vazquez, Oscar Vilchis, Angela Villafranco and David Villarreal.

**12th grade**  
Edith Acosta, Denisse Aguilar, Jamie Aguirre, Juan Alfonso, Nevaonna Alfred, Alejandra Arredondo, Steve Ayala, Nelson Banks, Samantha Beltran Gonzalez, Cristian Briegas, Jocelyn Caballero and Cristal Camacho Najera.

Isaac Camacho, Ariana Cantu, Ami Cardona, Daniel Carrillo, Angeles Chamorro

Hernandez, Daniel Chavez, Joseph Chavez, Cesar Conde, Diego Cortez, Monserrat Cruz Franco, Heidy Cruz, Brittany Leon, Hannian De Leon, Joseph Ferguson and Heidi Franco.

Danielle Fuentes, Manuel Galindo, Cesia Garcia Velasquez, Kimberly Garcia, Natalie Garza, Aimee Gomez, Angel Gomez, Nathalie Gomez, Diego Gonzalez, Xavier Gonzalez, Ashley Hernandez and Nicolas Hernandez.

Jeremiah Horton, Christina Houston, Tuan Huynh, Amy Jimenez, Jazlyn Jimenez, Jayden Johnson, Ashley Lara, Sindi Lemus Ruiz, Victor Lopez Morales, Aileen Lopez, Jesiel Lopez, Sonia Lopez, Joel Luque and Stephanie Maldonado.

Natalia Martinez, Angel Mejia Mercedes, Daisy Mendoza, Esmeralda Meza, Tomas Meza, Emily Millan, Alejandra Miranda, Maribel Montalvo, Abigail Morales, Nathanael Morales, Cristina Moreno and Brandon Muniz.

Brittany Muniz, Antonio Negrete, Rigoberto Orellana, Dominique Perez, Viet Pham, Saul Quintanilla, Santos Ramirez Garcia, Govany Ramirez, Janeth Ramirez and Maritza Ramirez.

Sebastian Ramirez, Jose Ramos, Juan Rangel, America Regan, Mauricio Reyes Chapa, Lilisbeth Rios Diaz, Angel Rivas, Diana Rivera, Alyssa Rodarte, Angel Rodriguez and Cesar Rodriguez.

Kathryn Rodriguez, Leslie Rodriguez, Karen Sagredo Galan, Jailyn Saldana, Leiby Sanchez Lopez, Nicolas Sanchez Ramirez, Destiny Sanchez, Ingrid Sanchez, Josue Saucedo Sorto and Shakia Scott.

Jeremiah Sheppard-Rubio, Mark Tabor, Olufunmilayo Talabi, Maybel Tinoco, Robert Torres, Zariya Turner, Andrea Valdez Alviso, Isaac Valdez Gonzalez, Alexandra Vazquez Garcia, Christian Vera, Hanson Vo, Demarcus Whitaker, Ariel Zamora, Cynthia Zavala and Josue Zuniga.

Sanchez, Natalie Soto, Sanaa Stephens, Kolby Stubblefield, Shelby Talavera and Genesis Tamez.

Jordyn Thomas, Dawson Tran, Kahlan Tran, Kathleen Tran, Tammy Tran, Yen Tran, Gabriel Trevino, Olivia Trevino, Omar Vega, Sophia Villarreal, Kiet Vo, Victoria Vu, Ethyn Ybarra and Candi Zuniga.

**Eighth grade**  
Janisleidis Aguila, Arlette Aguirre, Marianne Aiello, Vianka Alanis, Victor Alanis, Carlos Albarran, Kevin Alfaro, Nathalie Almanza, Aracely Alvarado, Brooke Anderson, Sunisa Anderson, Kobe Arredondo, Maria Arredondo, Roy Azeinge and Arianna Bermudez.

Qumaine Bernard, Vanessa Blanco, Charles Bruno, Jose Bucio, Hermallony Campos, Nicholas Cantu, Alonah Carter, Gabrielle Castilleja, Britny Cedillos, Lucas Cena, Ashlyn Coleman, Jordyn Cooper, Sebastian Cordova and Lenneth Cruz.

Katelin Dang, Angel Davis, Tahj Davis, Ashley De Arcos, Natalie De Paz, Aden Dejesus, Jonathan Diaz, Elizabeth Dinh, Matthew Dunn, Devin Duong, Kevin Duong, Joel Esparza and Ailey Espinoza.

Ruben Flores, Makayla Flowers, Diego Garcia, Jorge Garcia, Mauricio Garcia, Gerardo Garza, Valeria Garza, Orlando Gomez, Jadyñ Gonzalez, Marcos Gonzalez, Sarah Gonzalez and Wendy Guerrero Celay.

Jimena Gutierrez Verdin, Alan Hamlett, Aniya Harris, Madison Hayduke, Abigail Hernandez, Cleveland Hill, Kevin Hoang, Henry Hong, Hannah Hua, Maliah Jackson, Emma Jacob and Joshua Jamaica.

Ximena Jasso Moreno, Monica Jasso, Ka'mauri Johnson, Ashia Jones, Ariana Kainer, Nadia Kydonieffs, Anh Le, Huy Le, Vu Le, Adrienne Martinez, Serina Martinez, Molly Mata, Jayden Mayeux, Pretty

## Beverly Hills fifth six-weeks honor roll

Beverly Hills Intermediate officials recently released the honor roll lists for the fifth six-weeks period of the 2022-2023 school year.

**Seventh grade**  
Yaslin Acosta, Arie Adams, Lilah Aguayo, Rafael Alcalá, Daniel Alvarez, Giovannie Alvarez, Chloe Anderson, Andrea Arredondo, Joshua Barboza, Amiyah Barnes and Angelica Barragan.

Zadie Battarbee, Hailey Bonilla, Jahsi Burke, Darryl Campbell, Jaxson Canales, Javanni Capuchino, Damian Chavez, Ives Collazo Muniz, Alondra Cruz, Phi Dang, Genesis Darby and Anita Djato.

Ricky Doan, Jacqueline Enriquez, Emily Espinoza, Karla Fernandez, Mya Flores, Trinity Franks, Issabella Gaitan, Miguel Garcia, Ethan Guerrero, Damian Gutierrez, Rebekah Hale and Luna Hernandez.

Mia Hernandez, Natalia Hernandez, Ineke Hicks, Elizabeth Hinojosa, Huyen Hoang, Angela Huynh, Carden Huynh, Andrew Jaramillo Zamora, Cruz Jasso, Jason Jasso, Zaria Johnson and Nhu Le.

Alexander Limachi, Ava Lopez, Miguel Loredó, Ashley Ly, Emmery Lynn, Karely Maldonado, Diego Marban, Isaias Martinez, Hammad Martin, Kyndall McClain, Matthew Mellott, Julianna Mikulski, Janenish Muniz, Angel Myles and Ann Nguyen.

Cathy Nguyen, Jocelyn Nguyen, Johnny Nguyen, Justin Nguyen, Khai Nguyen, Lucas Nguyen, Steven Nguyen, Kendrick Norman, Avery Payne, Martin Peng and Luis Perez.

Toryn Provost, Andrew Quinteros, Harsh Rana, Bree Rennett, Elisa Reyes, Rubi Reyes, Je'licia Rivet, Alyssa Rodriguez, Dayra Rojas, Kailani Rudd, Davien Sanni-Thomas and Emiliano Servin.

Kamari Sherman, Bella Sherwood, Destiny Sidropoulos, Harrison Solorzano

McCoy, Grace Menahem, Yamin Mendez and Emma Mendiola.

Nadia Mondragon, Ethan Mora, Ashley Moreno, Charleston Nash, Joshua Negron, Alissa Nguyen Hoang, Duy Nguyen, Hieu Nguyen, Jocelyn Nguyen, Kelvin Nguyen, Linh Nguyen, Mark Nguyen and Minh Nguyen.

Vincent Nguyen, Jeremiah O'neal, Aidan Ojeda Obregon, Estefani Orellana Ramirez, Joseph Oviedo, Luciano Padilla, Nathan Paredes, Kaitlyn Pecina, Nevaeh Perez, Truc Pham, Vincent Pham, Savannah Pichardo and Andrew Posey.

Emely Quijano, Amelie Ramirez, Fabian Ramirez, Brandon Ray, Cecilia Reyna, Adelyn Rincon, Marco Rin-

con, Melvin Rivas, Ismael Rodriguez Marquez, Tatiana Rodriguez and Isaias Ruiz.

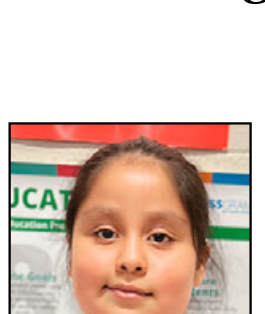
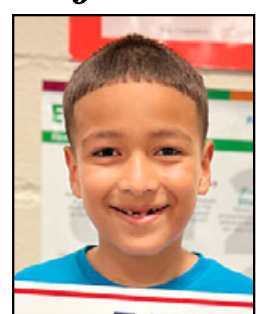
Daniel Salamanca, Mariah Santana, Ava Saucedo, Noah Serna, David Shaffner, De-shaun Singleton, Jacob Solis, Jonathan Solis, Alina Sosa, Jayden Starkes, Nehemiah Stepney, Jennifer Tan, Han Tat and Eva Taylor.

Marlee Tillman, Tiffani Tillman, Ja-nasia Tompkins, Miriam Torres De Leon, Ximena Torres-Zuniga, Daniel Tran, Kaylie Tran, Alex Truong and Tuyet Truong.

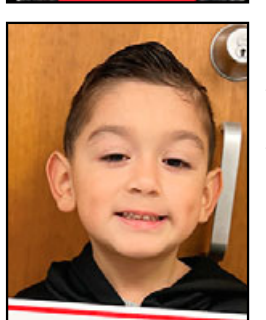
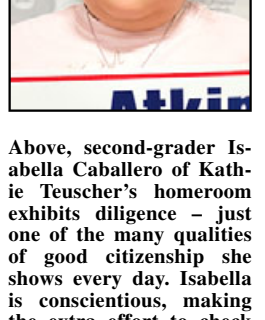
Thomas Turruartes, Cynthia Vagliente, Ruben Vasquez, Julian Villaseñor, Tina Vo, Minh Vu, Christopher Wickliff, Courtney Williams, Amaya Wilson and Lily Yam.

## Students of the Month recognized at Atkinson

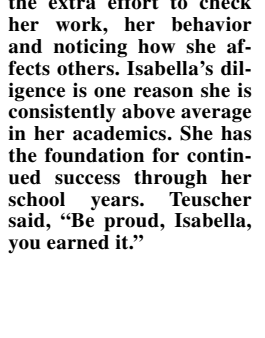
Atkinson Elementary officials recently awarded their exemplary students and commented on their work for the month of April. At right, first-grader Adrian Sigaran of Sheri Graham's homeroom has worked diligently in all that he does, and it shows in both his academics and behavior. He is always motivated and has a smile on his face. Graham related, "Keep up the great work, Adrian."



At right, third-grader Max Scott of Prachi Bhatt's class has been so persistent in making an effort in every task and that has shown in his performance records. He has always been working hard and given his best. Bhatt said, "So proud of you, Max."



At right, kindergarten Alexa Ibarra of Ludi Perez's homeroom is a student that always shows a good example of diligence in the classroom. She is always persistent and hard-working, that means not quitting even when the work requires more effort than expected. She works hard and carefully. Perez commented, "Keep up the good work, Alexa."



At left, third-grader Adrian Manzanarez of Ashley Armenta's class is constantly giving 100 percent and is very determined. He can miss one question on a test and will still go out of his way to see how he can improve. Adrian is very sweet and always willing to help his classmates. He shows responsibility by turning in his work on time and showing up to school every day with a ready-to-learn attitude. Armenta commented, "You are doing a fantastic job Adrian!"

At left, pre-K student Alejandro Donado of Maria Hubley's homeroom works carefully and consistently in class. He understands that practicing will help him improve. He is kind and sets a good example for others.

At left, fourth-grader Maddox Sanchez of Tulu Sarkar's homeroom is a remarkable student. His friends relate to him as a reliable and responsible person. He looks out for his classmates, and they trust him and seek him out in times of need. He is kind, compassionate, honest and charming. He helps with good, level-headed advice and his easygoing demeanor makes him approachable to others.



# MENTAL ILLNESS IS NOT A CRIME

In partnership with The Harris Center and law enforcement, the District Attorney's Office ensured 4,000+ mentally ill, non-violent offenders received mental health treatment instead of going to jail.

If someone you know is experiencing a mental health crisis, please call Harris Center for Mental Health at **1-713-970-7000**



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## Fred Roberts Middle School celebrates with fun run

The Fred Roberts Middle School faculty recently hosted a fun run for all the student population who exhibited good behavior for the past several weeks of school. This included students receiving three or less lunch detentions, spent no time suspended, both in and out of school and had not been sent to the guidance counselor. These students purchased their own tickets, as well as concessions along the routes. The two courses of the run, one for fifth-graders and one for sixth-graders, included color stations through which they could run. "They had a great time socializing, enjoying treats, and getting doused with colored powder," said Crissy Higham.



Shown above, left to right, are students Donald Graham, Courtney Holmes, James Cruz, Journee Taylor, Araya Moses, Josselyn Perez (fifth-grade teacher) and Ryan Gourley.



Above are Adrian Edwards and teachers Marissa Arispe and Krystal Herrera.



Smiling at right for the camera are fun run participants, left to right, Crissy Higham (counselor), Lenalee Alvarez and Olivia Webb.

## PISD inducts Hall of Fame athletes

**Continued from Page 1**  
state cross-country title the previous fall, led the Dobbie contingent by winning the gold medal in the 1,600 meters. Paul Miller took silver in the pole vault. Lawrence Mitchell, in the 100 meters; Sammy Shimmfessel, in the 800; and Greg Johnson, in the 3,200, all claimed fourth-place finishes.

**Rhonda Foster, Dobbie Coach, 1983-2007**  
Foster's versatility as a coach was matched only by her success. All told, she coached six different sports in her 25 years at Dobbie – four for girls and two for boys. In addition to her state softball titles in 1995 and 1997, she guided three boys' teams and one girls' team to state cross-country meets.

Two of her runners won state titles: Raz Bowman, who took the 800 meters in 1998, and Brian McKinstry, who claimed the cross-country title in 2001. Still, softball provided Foster with a lasting legacy. With Christa Williams on the mound, her 1995 team went 35-0. Two years later, she guided a team that had finished third in district to another state crown. She stands as the only coach in Pasadena ISD history to win two state titles in the same sport.

**Scott Lengefeld, Dobbie, Class of 1995**  
Lengefeld left a championship imprint in three sports in high school – and it's hard to say which was more impressive. Twice he won the district country-country title and twice finished in the top 15 at the state meet. In track, he claimed district laurels in the 1,600-

and 3,200-meter runs both his junior and senior years. In baseball he started at either shortstop or second base for three straight playoff-qualifying teams – the last of which, in 1995, saw the Longhorns reach the regional finals.

At A&M, Lengefeld emerged as one of the top three-sport runners in the Big 12. As a senior, he finished fourth at the conference cross-country meet and then 14th at the NCAA meet to earn All-America designation. In both indoor and outdoor track, he etched his name in the Aggie record book, winning Big 12 gold in the 10,000-meter indoor run as a senior. His school record in the outdoor 10,000 still stands.

**John Eddie Williams, Pasadena, Class of 1972**  
After earning statewide recognition as an Eagles lineman, Williams seemed to be on his way to a rewarding college football career. Then the law got in the way. Law school, that is.

A two-time all-district selection, he became a part of the first Baylor University recruiting class assembled by Grant Teaff, who would go on to win more games than any football coach in school history. But after two years of opening holes for running backs, Williams said goodbye to football and fixed his gaze on the law.

Williams also ranks as one of Baylor's biggest benefactors. The playing field at the school's new stadium is named in his honor.

**Shane Nolen, Pasadena, Class of 1975**  
Nolen earned eight letters in three sports at Pasadena. His performance in a 1974 baseball playoff against Milby is something veteran fans in the community still talk about. In an 11-inning, regional finals thriller, Nolen hurled a complete game, striking out 10.

Then, with the game still scoreless in the bottom of the 11th, the Eagles junior belted a game-winning home run. The victory helped propel Pasadena to the state tournament.

At Baylor, Nolen earned All-Southwest Conference honors as a freshman and junior. In 1977 and 1978, he teamed with Connally to help lead Baylor to the school's first two College World Series berths.

**Steve Massey, Rayburn, Class of 1976**  
Regarded as one of the Pasadena ISD's most prized defensive line recruits, Massey went on to play in three bowl games for UT while helping the Longhorns maintain their reputation, earned throughout the 1960s and 1970s, as one of the best defensive teams in college football.

consecutive World Powerlifting Championships. Then, in 2000, he established Team Impact Ministries, an evangelical organization providing inspirational speakers to churches and schools around the country and internationally.

**Charla Moore, Rayburn, Class of 1997**  
A four-year letter-winner at Rayburn, Moore was named All-Greater Houston three times while posting a phenomenal career earned run average of 0.72. As a sophomore, she went head-to-head with Dobbie ace Christa Williams, another Pasadena ISD Hall of Famer, in the regional semifinals. The Lady Longhorns, coached by Rhonda Foster, won 1-0 in a 19-inning classic in which both Moore and Williams went the distance.

Moore (now Charla Crochet) went on to pitch four years at the University of Texas, where she remains one of the school's career ERA leaders.

**Meritorious Community Service – Ben Meador, Pasadena, Class of 1957**  
A three-sport athlete in high school, Meador has never lost his fondness for sneakers and whistles. Long an icon in the Pasadena business community, Meador has built a record of support for Pasadena ISD activities, both academic and athletic, that few can rival.

Foremost among his contributions is the McDonald's Texas Invitational Basketball Tournament, which he founded in 1999. The tournament, one of the largest preseason basketball events in the nation, has brought in nearly \$3 million since its inception, with most of the proceeds going to the Pasadena ISD Education Foundation. Meador served as tournament chairman from 2003 to 2015.

Meador, now semi-retired, maintains his position as chairman and CEO of Meador Staffing Services, which maintains offices in Clear Lake, Deer Park, Pearland, The Woodlands and a corporate office in Pasadena. He was recognized by the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce as Pasadena's Citizen of the Year in 1991. In 2000, he was named a Distinguished Alumnus by the Pasadena ISD.

**Jeff Neal, South Houston, Class of 1986**  
Undersized and largely overlooked, Neal blossomed on the gridiron at Howard Payne, where he earned All-America honors and was later inducted into the school's Sports Hall of Fame. He spent five seasons in pro football but found his niche in powerlifting. In 1993, while a member of the Houston Oilers practice squad, he was honored as the NFL's "Strongest Man."

In 1998 and 1999, Neal won

to different areas in the store. While one of the males was talking to an employee (in an attempt to distract her), the second male grabbed several expensive eyeglasses.

An employee attempted to stop the suspect as he fled the store and a brief struggle ensued. The suspect was able to break away from the employee and both suspects fled the scene in an unknown direction.

To see a video of the incident, visit [fb.watch/k6zysMUKVO](http://fb.watch/k6zysMUKVO).

Information leading to the charging and/or arrest of any felony suspects may result in a cash payment up to \$5,000.

To remain anonymous, tipsters must directly contact Crime Stoppers of Houston by calling 713-222-TIPS (8477), submitting an online tip at [www.crime-stoppers.org](http://www.crime-stoppers.org) or through the Crime Stoppers mobile app.



Baybrook Mall suspects

## HPD seeks robbery suspects



Blackhawk suspects

**Continued from Page 1**  
light-colored pants. To see a video of the incident, visit [fb.watch/k6zyRNdSN9](http://fb.watch/k6zyRNdSN9). Information leading to the charging and/or arrest of any felony suspects may result in a cash payment up to \$5,000. To remain anonymous, tipsters must directly contact Crime Stoppers of Houston by calling 713-222-TIPS (8477), submitting an online tip at [www.crime-stoppers.org](http://www.crime-stoppers.org) or through the Crime Stoppers mobile app.

**Baybrook Mall**  
Investigators are seeking the public's assistance in identifying two suspects responsible for a robbery, which occurred Wednesday, Jan. 11, at an eye-wear store at Baybrook Mall. According to HPD Robbery Division officials, as the two unknown males entered the store, they separat-

## Remember When

**45 years ago (1978)**  
The Honorable Henry Schuble retained his appointed seat as judge in District 245 by taking approximately 62 percent of the vote against challenger Jesse Shivers.

Texas International Airline discontinued all flights from Hobby to Dallas-Fort Worth.

**40 years ago (1983)**  
The City of Houston's parks department withdrew a request to the City Council for \$10,000 for improvements to the Sagemont pool. The parks department purchased a new filter system and pump for the pool out of its maintenance budget.

Dobbie's Lawrence Mitchell ran to a second-place finish in the 100-meter dash at the Region III-5A meet and qualified for the state meet.

**35 years ago (1988)**  
The South Belt-Ellington Leader was one of six businesses to be honored by the Southeast Economic Development Council of Harris County (SEED) at its first awards banquet.

The Southbend Homeowners Association chose not to endorse the efforts of a local citizens group working to increase the amount of clean-up the Environmental Protection Agency had outlined for the Brio toxic waste dump.

**30 years ago (1993)**  
The 34-year-old stepfather of a 10-year-old boy accidentally shot to death by his 14-year-old brother posted bond after being charged with misdemeanor possession of marijuana and failure to keep firearms from a minor.

A ceremony was held at the Dixie Oil Processing Superfund site, adjacent to the Brio site, to celebrate the successful remediation of the site.

**25 years ago (1998)**  
Debbie Cox, Debbie Thomas, Beth Williams, Jannis Hempling, Dolores Bohmler, Katie Stokes and Mike Stokes helped in beautifying the South Belt area with the assistance of Houston Beautiful, with the support of the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce. They collected 200 bags of trash throughout the community.

Residents of the South Belt area were encouraged to err on the side of caution when mailing checks, as several residents were the victim of mail theft.

**20 years ago (2003)**

The \$337 million Clear Creek Independent School District bond was defeated.

The Surface Transportation Board gave its approval to the San Jacinto Rail Limited application for construction of a proposed 7.1 mile rail line and to all proposed routes submitted by the rail company.

**15 years ago (2008)**  
A story in the Leader regarding the enforcement of speed zones on the Sagemont portion of Blackhawk prompted action by local authorities, with both the constable's office and the sheriff's department beefing up patrols along the area street. A common complaint was that the street should have a higher speed limit than 30 mph since it had become a major thoroughfare. The average vehicle speed on the street was 32.26 mph. Another common complaint was vehicles parking on Blackhawk, thus impeding the flow of traffic.

The Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston announced

its intention to close Mount Carmel High School at the end of the 2007-2008 school year.

A driver was killed in a single-vehicle accident at the intersection of I-45 and Beltway 8. Gregorio DeJesus, 38, was traveling at a high rate of speed on the northbound service road at roughly 2:45 a.m. when he lost control of his vehicle and struck a bridge support. DeJesus' car, a brand new Corvette, subsequently landed on its roof and caught fire, trapping the driver inside. Witnesses tried to come to the driver's aid, but heat from the flames kept them at bay. DeJesus, a Friendswood resident, was pronounced dead at the scene.

Two men were arrested by deputies from the Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's Office. Deputies spotted two males at the service station at Scarsdale and I-45 who fit the description of a complainant who said two men had banged on her vehicle and tried to enter it in

the 12000 block of Scarsdale. While questioning the men, a second complainant approached the deputies and said that the suspects had attempted to rob him earlier in the evening and had punched him multiple times in the face. The first complainant also positively identified one of the men. Eddie Olivera, 18, was arrested and charged with robbery. Rico Cadrial, 17, was arrested for having an outstanding warrant.

**10 years ago (2013)**  
An unknown male suspect kicked in the front door of an apartment at the Cabo San Lucas apartment complex on the Gulf Freeway and demanded money from Evan Butler, 25. When he did not comply, Butler was fatally shot, and the suspect fled the scene. No immediate arrests were made.

The 17th annual South Belt Spectacular Cookoff was a success, setting records for the number of teams, volunteers and attendees. More than 10,000 tickets were sold

to the event, which is the sole fundraiser for the annual South Belt Fourth of July fireworks show.

**5 years ago (2018)**  
Former South Belt resident Jonathan Carter went out with a bang during his last deployment as commander of the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Legare, leading a massive drug bust that yielded 12 tons of cocaine and one ton of marijuana. According to Coast Guard officials, the contraband was worth an estimated \$390 million in wholesale value. The drugs were seized in international waters off the coasts of Mexico and Central and South America during 17 separate interdictions. Aiding the Legare were USCG cutters Reliance, Harriet Lane, Decisive, Steadfast and Dependable. U.S. agencies involved in the operation included the Department of Defense, the Department of Justice and the Department of Homeland Security. The Coast Guard was assisted by vessels from

the Canadian Navy, along with intelligence from the Mexican government.

The Clear Brook High School indoor percussion group earned the title of 2018 Scholastic Open Class Gold Medalists at the Winter Guard International World Championships in Dayton, Ohio. This was the highest honor achievable for the drumline of 34 students and Director Dusty Norris. Their performance, titled "Set in Stone" and set to an original composition by Bryan Harmsen, earned a final score of 96.538, which secured their No. 1 spot against 14 other drumlines from around the world. Team members included Josh Williams, Sarah Bertram, David Pugh, Thomas Ku, Cormac Cupples, Andrew Medina, Alan Nguyen, Redding Vasquetelles, Justin Perez, Elijah Salazar, Dinithi Jayasinghe, Andrew Ku, Davis Wadle, Carson Breaux, Jared Shamburger, Sean Hill, Phattarapol Lertchaisirikul, Allen Mathew, Ryan Johnson, Abbey Fos-

sati, Gabe Landestoy, Megan Nguyen, Chase Collum, Sarah Pugh, Kaden Gauntt, Josh Stafford, Alex Arrieta, Joseph Otto, Maya Townsend, Claire Romero, Alyssa Cisneros, Megan Ellis, Kameron Sharp, Ethan Treadway, Keoni Cunningham, Brad Hughes, Dusty Norris, Bryan Harmsen, Don Click, Erik Yates and Mark Fennell.

**1 year ago (2022)**  
Precinct 8 District Patrol deputies assisted with a multiagency narcotics investigation that resulted in the seizure of 603 pounds of marijuana, 1 kilo of cocaine, 2.65 pounds of methamphetamine and 1.4 pounds of heroin. Several weapons were also seized. This case was conducted over a 24-hour period that involved deputies from three different shifts.

For the eighth consecutive year, students from Dobbie High School qualified for the state UIL Speech and Debate competition. Qualifying students included Jordan Leahmah, 10th grade; Yarezi Martinez, ninth grade; Valeria Arredondo, 10th grade; Malia Curry, 12th grade; Lexi Martinez, 12th grade; and Jocelyn Floyd, 11th grade.



## Over The Back Fence by Natalie

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY, STACEY!**  
Happy birthday wishes are sent to long-time South Belt resident Stacey Waugh who enjoys a birthday May 4 from her mother Sandy Robb, friends and the Leader staff. She and her mother have volunteered for the Leader Christmas program for years, giving many hours of time during the holiday. She also donates money to the program by collecting aluminum cans throughout the year.

**FRED AND LESLIE MARK 28 YEARS**  
Best wishes are sent to Fred and Leslie Flickinger who celebrate 28 years of marriage May 7 from daughters Kimberly and husband Matt Lipina and Courtney and husband Chris Durham and children Abigail, Jackson and Penelope; Leslie's mother Olive Falkowski; Fred's mom and dad Marie and David Flickinger; and brother Davy and wife Ellie Flickinger.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY, BRITTNEY!**  
Best wishes to former Leader staff member, Brittney Cubos, who celebrates her birthday May 7 from her parents Claudia (former Leader staffer) and Erik Cubos, her family members and friends.

**OLIVE CELEBRATES A BIRTHDAY**  
Special birthday wishes are sent May 10, for a wonderful birthday to Olive Falkowski from her daughter Leslie Flickinger and husband Fred; granddaughter Kimberly Lipina and husband Matt; granddaughters Courtney Durham and husband Chris;

great-grandchildren Abigail, Jackson and Penelope Durham; Marie and husband David Flickinger; David (Leader president) and wife Ellie Flickinger.

**SCHOOL DAZE**  
The following staff of the Pasadena ISD celebrate birthdays May 4 through May 10.

**Atkinson Elementary**  
Magdy Canales celebrates a birthday May 4. Martha Lerma enjoys a birthday May 9.

**Burnett Elementary**  
May 4 is the day to send Daren Dibble a birthday greeting.

**Bush Elementary**  
Nicolette Martinez marks a birthday May 9.

**Frazier Elementary**  
Remember to wish India Kemp a happy birthday May 8.

**Meador Elementary**  
Best wishes for a happy birthday are sent May 4 to Paulina Rivas-Lopez.

**Moore Elementary**  
The day for a birthday party for Traci Marr and Beth Anne Mullen is May 6. Break out the balloons and ice party favors for Yvonne Ixcoy May 9.

**Meillio Middle School**  
May 6 is a day for a birthday cake for Sandra Vann. Break open the balloons and party favors May 7 for Jorge Palomares.

**Stuchbery Elementary**  
Send a birthday greeting May 9 to Cheryl

Lewis.

**Beverly Hills Intermediate**  
Stephanie Gonzalez celebrates a birthday May 10.

**Thompson Intermediate**  
Enjoying a birthday May 4 is Kelli Moneyhun. Birthday wishes go out to Heather Nielson May 6. Lynette Montes and Becky Morrison enjoy a double-layer cake May 7. Krystal LaReau celebrates a birthday May 9.

**Dobbie High**  
Break out the party favors May 7 for Jesse Lopez. Light the candles May 9 for Jordan Evans.

**FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS**  
Thursday, May 4: Scott Siscoe and Tamara Fisher; Friday, May 5: Tori French, Alice Wright, Pat Becker and Amanda Zamora; Saturday, May 6: Patrick Ermis, Roni Gonzales and Erin Hill; Sunday, May 7: Ted Heinrich, Josh Garza, Stephanie Salazar and Jenn Verchiens; Monday, May 8: Christopher Barber, Tiffany Robbins, Julie Kutra and Sara Muller; Tuesday, May 9: Tiana Jaime-Perez, Freedom Groebner, Ronny Carker and Bubba Barnett; and Wednesday, May 10: Becky Lopez, Kathy Vingoe and Angela Ojeda.

**LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS**  
Email announcements of anniversaries, congratulations, events etc., to [mynews@southbeltleader.com](mailto:mynews@southbeltleader.com) with OTBF in the subject line by Friday noon for the next week's issue.

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# SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

## Brook baseball takes share of 24-6A crown

Winning seven of eight games down the closing stretch, the Clear Brook varsity baseball team forced a three-way tie for the District 24-6A championship along with Clear Springs and Clear Falls at 8-4.

As the dust has settled, the Wolverines will now take on third-seeded Strake Jesuit of District 23-6A as the Class 6A bidistrict playoffs run May 4-6.

Jesuit went 10-4 while competing in a loaded 23-6A field that included league champion Pearland (14-0) and runner-up Alvin (11-3).

Clear Brook at one time was 3-3 midway through the 24-6A race and seemingly just looking to get to the postseason.

But head coach Gene Flores' team used two-game sweeps of Clear Creek and Dickinson along with a split with Clear Springs to force a

## 22-6A champion Dobie starts playoff baseball series

**By John Bechtle Sports Editor**

The celebration is long since over and the joy of winning the District 22-6A championship has been tempered for now as the Dobie varsity baseball team prepares to take on Beaumont West Brook in the bidistrict playoff round May 4 and May 6.

The two programs will vie in a best-of-three series at neutral

site Baytown Lee High School, with the Bruins, the fourth seed out of District 21-6A, the home team

**Continued on Page 8**

**At right, sophomore left-hander Aiden Sanchez (11) will almost certainly draw a start as 22-6A champion Dobie goes against Beaumont West Brook in the bidistrict playoff round starting May 4.**

*Photo by Donna Alsdorf*



## Bidistrict Baseball

**Dobie vs. West Brook**

**Best-of-Three Series**

**Game 1: May 4, 7 p.m.**

**Game 2: May 6, 4 p.m.**

**Game 3: If necessary, May 6, 30 minutes after Game 2.**

**All games at Baytown Lee High School**

## Bidistrict Baseball

**Brook vs. Strake Jesuit**

**Best-of-Three Series**

**Game 1: May 4, at Brook, 6:30 p.m.**

**Game 2: May 5, at Strake, 6:30 p.m.**

**Game 3: May 6, at Strake, 2 p.m.**

**(Game 3, if necessary)**

## Thompson to throw at state; others end run at regionals

Senior Kennedy Thompson of Clear Brook is set to represent her school at the University Interscholastic League's Class 6A State Track and Field Championships May 13 in Austin.

Thompson, the two-time 24-6A discus champion and future Mississippi College student-athlete, was second in the discus at the Region III Championships April 29 at Turner Stadium in Humble.

Seven Lakes' Janey Campbell was the Region III champion with a throw of 145 feet, while Thompson's personal record of 138-6 was second for a silver and the second of two automatic state invitations.

Trina Hubert of Cy-Fair won the bronze medal for third place with a top throw of 135-6.

Dobie sophomore Stacie Harris went 17-2 1/2 in the long jump as she completed a stellar season with an eighth-place finish at regionals.

The Wolverines' 4x400 relay team including

Azayla Smith, Julia Hudson, Ja'Delle Major and Jizzale Davis posted a seventh-best time of 3:56.76 in the prelims to reach the final and then wound up eighth in that final in a time of 4:01.77.

Davis, a junior, also made a strong bid for a state berth as she took fifth at 24.45 seconds in the 200. In the prelims, Davis reached the final by coming up with a clocking of 24.98.

Wolverine freshman Joshua Shelton entered the Region III meet as the District 24-6A and 23-6A/24-6A area gold medalist in the 400 and was aiming to keep the train rolling to Austin.

In the end, Shelton delivered a time of 50.89 for sixth place at the 400 distance.

Clear Brook's Trey Felton put a wrap on his highly successful career with the Wolverines at regionals as he competed in the 200 as an individual and was also part of the program's 4x200 relay squad.

Felton, a University of Tennessee-Martin signee, was 11th in a time of 22.50 as he concluded his sprint career with the Wolverines.

As for the Wolverines' school record-holding 4x200 relay squad of Felton, Joshua Akinola, Jaylon Owens and Kartier Johnson, that foursome came up with a time of 1 minute, 28.01 seconds for fourth place in the final.

In addition to Harris, the Dobie girls also had decorated cross-country and track and field star Ashlee Garcia competing in the 800 as she placed 10th overall with a clocking of 2:26.79.

Dobie's Jovanni Avila reached the regional meet at the 800 distance and placed 15th in his final race of the season in a time of 2:04.49.

Demarcus Hodges, Marcus Jones, Derrick Woodley and Jeremiah Davis combined in the 4x100 relay for Dobie at regionals and placed 14th in a time of 42.80 to conclude a fine season.



## Thompson makes state in discus

At left, Seven Lakes' Janey Campbell (center) won the Region III girls' discus championship with a throw of 145 feet while Clear Brook's Kennedy Thompson (left) was second with a personal record of 138-6 as both qualified for the May 13 University Interscholastic League's State Track and Field Championships at the University of Texas in Austin. At right in photo, Trina Hubert of Cy-Fair won the bronze medal for third place with a top throw of 135-6.

## Pioneer tracksters off to state meet

Regional long jump champion Ben Hughes and Marcus Gaitan, the regional gold medalist in the 800, will headline Lutheran South Academy's appearance at the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools 5A State Track and Field Championships at Waco Midway High School.

As has been the case in recent years, the Pioneers put together a terrific team performance on both the boys' and girls' sides of things at the TAPPS South Regional in San Marcos.

Athletes in the relay and individual events were pushing for top-four regional finishes, which came with a state meet qualification.

Lutheran South's Marcus Gaitan and his brother, Matthew Gaitan went stride for stride in the 800 for the gold. Marcus Gaitan was the regional champion and gold medalist at 1 minute, 57.37 seconds, with Matthew Gaitan second for a silver medal in a time of 1:57.78.

Hughes, also a junior, was the regional champion in the long jump with a best of 21 feet, 4 inches as he moved on to the state meet.

A time of 16.26 in the 110 hurdles pushed the junior on to state after a second-place finish at regionals, and Wilson Klein cleared 13 feet for second place at regionals and a state invite.

Junior Kris St. Clair is on his way to state in both throws after a terrific day at regionals. St. Clair was second for a silver medal at 133 in the discus, while his best of 43-5 1/2 earned St. Clair fourth in the shot.

Senior Rachel Bell, the school record holder in the discus and a state medalist a season ago, returns to state in her final season as she was second at regionals with a toss of 122-5, and senior Alma Martin also reached state as she went 10-0 in the pole vault for regional silver.

Noack will join St. Clair in the hunt for a state medal in the discus after he qualified for the big meet at 132-6 for

**Continued on Page 8**

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## Summer Creek softball outlasts JFD

A 5-2 win in the deciding third game was enough to lift Summer Creek past Dobie in the bidistrict softball round as the two programs concluded a long evening of action April 29 at Humble High School.

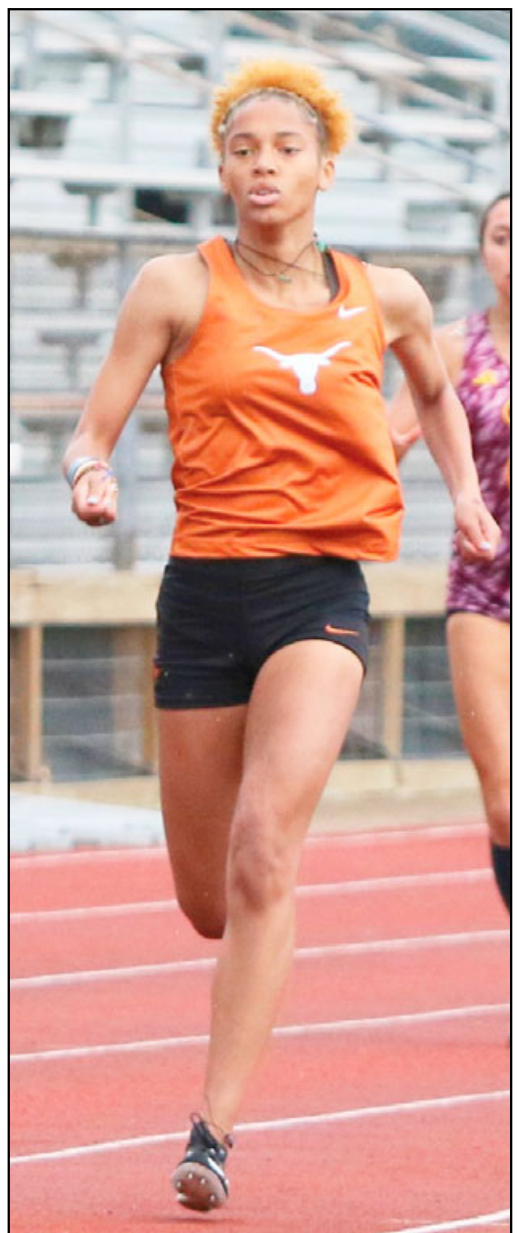
Going head-to-head in the opening round of the postseason for the second straight year, second-seeded Dobie of 22-6A and Summer Creek, the No. 3 seed from 21-6A went the distance before the Bulldogs repeated as a bidistrict champion.

Dobie got home runs from Sandra Quiroz and Marisa Perla to beat Summer Creek 13-8 in the series opener, a game that began April 28 at the Pasadena ISD Complex but had to be completed April

29 in Humble due to rain. Senior Bella Perez had a pair of doubles and drove in four runs, and a six-run bottom of the fifth inning was the difference as Dobie overcame early Summer Creek leads of 3-0 and 5-3.

Needing one win in two tries after the completion of game one in Humble proved to be elusive for Dobie, though, as Summer Creek first evened the series with a 9-3 win and then claimed the best-of-three series with a 5-2 decision in the clincher.

Summer Creek built a 6-1 lead through four



Stacie Harris of Dobie concluded a stellar sophomore season as she was 10th in the Region III long jump competition April 29 at Turner Stadium in Humble, soaring to the 17 feet, 2 1/2 inch mark.

*Photo by Donna Alsdorf*



Dobie senior Marisa Perla (11) was the best offensive player on the field in the bidistrict softball series against Summer Creek, hitting .750 (9 for 12) with four doubles and a home run. The four-year standout also drove in five runs as she capped her high school career in style despite the series loss to the Bulldogs.

*Photo by Donna Alsdorf*

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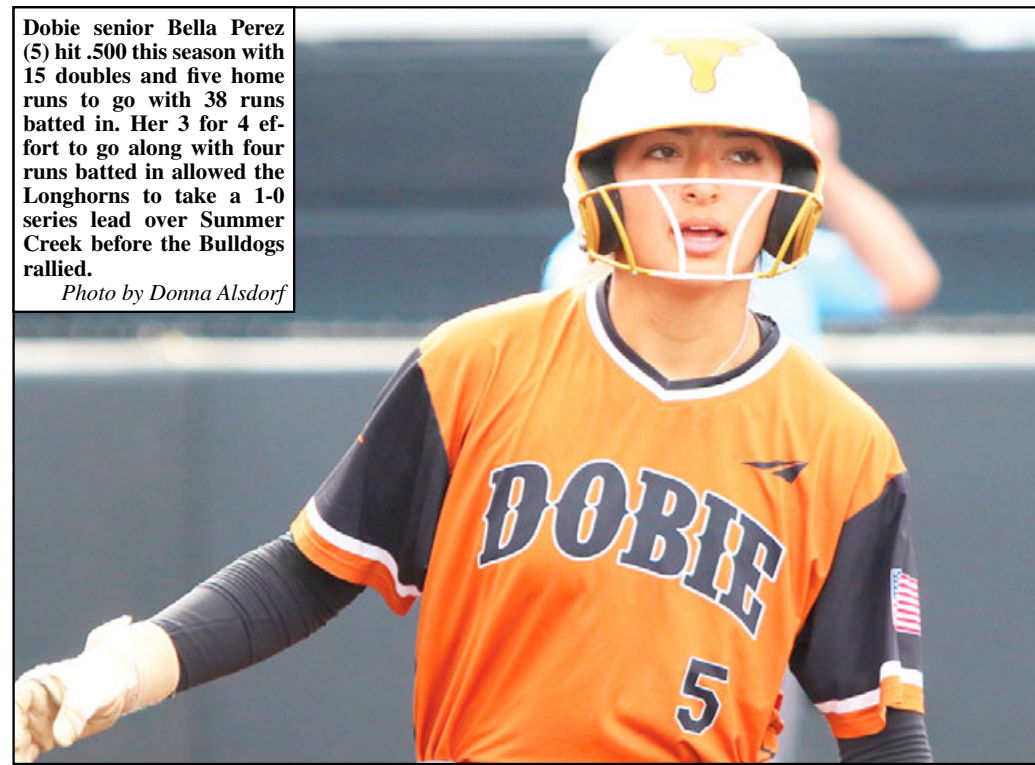
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Dobie senior Bella Perez (5) hit .500 this season with 15 doubles and five home runs to go with 38 runs batted in. Her 3 for 4 effort to go along with four runs batted in allowed the Longhorns to take a 1-0 series lead over Summer Creek before the Bulldogs rallied.

Photo by Donna Alsdorf



# Dobie drops decisive bidistrict playoff to Summer Creek

Continued from Page 5  
round as senior Hailey Akers scored twice and scored three runs in the game. Summer Creek senior pitcher Miranda Pena struck out 16 in the clincher to help her team advance.

After homering in the series opener, Dobie's Perla, a Texas Southern University signee, was 4 for 4 in her final game with the Longhorns. She had three doubles in the game to give her 25 extra-base hits for the 2023 season.

A four-year varsity standout, Perla drove in 42 runs as a senior to give her more than 110 for her career and hit .544 overall this season. In the three games against Summer Creek, Perla was 9 for 12 over-

all with five runs batted in, four doubles and a home run. Summer Creek advances to the area round to face 2022 Region III finalist Pearland while Dobie's season has ended at 21-12-1.

run. Summer Creek advances to the area round to face 2022 Region III finalist Pearland while Dobie's season has ended at 21-12-1.



Sophomore Leslie Sarduy (1) has started more than 60 games over two seasons at second base and will return in 2024 as one of the Longhorns' most experienced players.



Senior Claire Ramirez (27), who drove in two runs against Summer Creek in the middle game, has signed to play at San Jacinto College beginning this fall.

Photos by Donna Alsdorf

## Vipers 10-under softball completes dominant 20-0 season



The Vipers 10-under team from the South Belt Girls Softball Association wrapped up the spring season undefeated at 20-0, putting together five different 4-0 championship trophy runs at local tournaments during the spring season. Above, the Vipers celebrated after winning the crown at the SBGSA's Trophy Hunt Invitational. Members of the team are, left to right, (first row) Ab-

igail Orozco, Kelsie Bolling, (second row) Patricia Longoria, Olivia Gutierrez, Victoria Del Angel, (third row) Janelle Agurson, Victoria Perez, Amber Saldana, Olivia Bailey, Jesselyn Vargas, (fourth row) assistant coach Jessie Vargas, head coach Daniel Del Angel and assistant coaches Cesar Longoria, Johnny Orozco and Robert Bolling.

## Dobie subvarsity netters excel at 22-6A championships

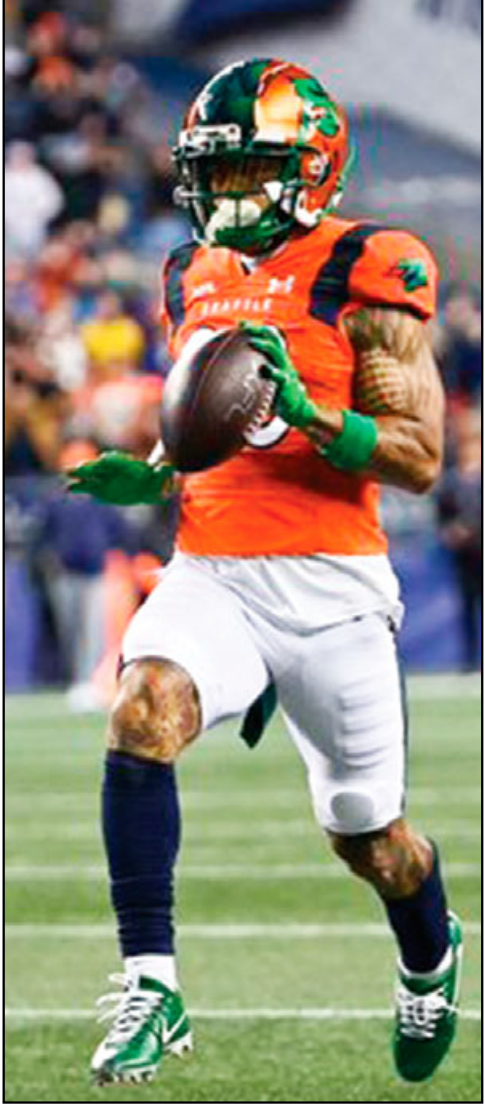


Dobie freshman division tennis players, from left, Hayden Do and Chloe Estes, placed third in the girls' doubles bracket April 27 at the District 22-6A Spring Championships while teammate Tiffany Nguyen (right), captured third place in the girls' singles bracket as the Longhorns completed a successful season.



Dobie junior varsity division tennis players Abigail Panza (left) and Pitou So were both runner-up finishers and silver medalists at the District 22-6A Spring Championships as they concluded a solid season on the courts for the Longhorns.

## Jackson excels with Seattle



Blake Jackson, a Class of 2011 Dobie graduate, ended what was a solid season for him individually and for his NFL team, the Seattle Sea Dragons. Despite Seattle's 37-21 loss to the DC Defenders in the conference title game April 30, Jackson had five catches for 49 yards and the Sea Dragons finished 7-4 overall. For the 2023 campaign, Jackson had 51 grabs for 489 yards and a pair of touchdowns. Jackson led Dobie to the 2010 district championship and then guided Mary Hardin-Baylor to an NCAA Division III national championship at quarterback and has shifted to receiver at several professional stops.



At left, Sam Rayburn softball great Charla Moore (right) is shown with Pasadena ISD Athletics Hall of Fame chairperson Bill Barmore during her induction into the prestigious group of legends at the 2023 event April 20 at the Pasadena Convention Center. Moore, a 1997 high school graduate, was a three-time All-Greater Houston pick as a left-hander pitcher and had a career earned run average of 0.72. At right, South Houston assistant principal Joseph Horton performed the national anthem prior to the start of the hall of fame induction ceremony. See related story on Page 1.



At left, Jeff Neal, a football star and Class of 1986 graduate at South Houston High School (right) is shown with Pasadena ISD Athletics Hall of Fame chairperson Bill Barmore during his induction into the PISD Athletics Hall of Fame. Neal played in the National Football League for several seasons and was also a world-known powerlifter. At right, athletics hall of fame Class of 2023 inductee Shane Nolen (right), a standout pitcher at Pasadena, earned eight letters in three different varsity sports with the Eagles. A 1975 high school graduate, Nolen also later starred with the Baylor University baseball program.



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## CALENDAR

**THURSDAY, MAY 4**  
7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill," Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 713-686-6300 or visit https://aahouston.org/meetings/.  
7:30 a.m. **Rotary Club of Pearland** - Meets at either Pearland Chamber of Commerce, 6117 Broadway St., Pearland, or on Zoom. See Pearland Chamber of Commerce website or call 281-485-3634.  
Noon **AA** - Imperfect Nooners Group, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or at https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners. Call 713-686-6300.

**FRIDAY, MAY 5**  
7 a.m. **AA** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.  
7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2930 E. FM 518, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). Call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com or https://nastuff.com/.  
7 p.m. **Congregation Shaar Hashalom** - All services are live and on Zoom. For details on services, Judaism classes, film series, and lunch with the Rabbi, visit https://www.shaarhashalom.org.  
8 p.m. **Serenity Now Al-Anon Group** - meets at CrossRoads UMC, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Family members and friends of problem drinkers/addicts share and discover choices available. Call 281-484-9243.  
8 p.m. **AA** - meets at CrossRoads UMC, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Call 281-484-9243.

**SATURDAY, MAY 6**  
7:30 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.  
9:30 a.m. **Congregation Shaar Hashalom** - See Friday's notice.  
11 a.m. **Al-Anon Meeting (Women Only, English)** - For women affected by an addict.

Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, Cornell Conference room #111. Call 281-487-8787 or visit https://www.houstonalananon.org/.  
1 p.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - offers a knitting class. Call 281-479-7285 prior to coming.  
**SUNDAY, MAY 7**  
8 a.m./ 10:15 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - worship at 11456 Space Center Blvd. (in back of a medical/retail community). Call 281-479-7285 or stop by.  
2 p.m. **Grief Support Group** - Meets at Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena. Call 713-944-9186.  
5:30 p.m. **Celebrate Recovery** - A faith-based 12-Step program, in the Life Kids Chapel at Life Church, 9900 Alameda Genoa. Call 713-419-2635.  
8 p.m. **AA** - See Friday's notice.

**MONDAY, MAY 8**  
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - Exhibits include dioramas, a turn-of-the-century doctor's office and an old-time kitchen. Call Karen Hollon, 713-472-0565 for tours.  
Noon **AA** - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday noon notice.  
1:30 - 3 p.m. **Hometown Heroes Dance** - at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 E. League City Parkway. Volunteers teach dance lessons. Call 281-554-1180.  
6 p.m. **Scrabble Club #511** - Meets at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua. Join in the fun and improve crossword skills. COVID-19 vaccination required. Call 281-488-2923.  
7 p.m. **AA** - St. Luke's Group, 12-Step Recovery, open meeting in the Education Bldg. in room 4, at 11011 Hall Rd. Call 832-725-8479 or 281-309-2801.  
7 p.m. **TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)** - #0683 chapter meets at the Friendswood Methodist Church, 110 N Friendswood Dr. in

the educational bldg., room 201. Call 832-858-4617 or 713-875-8820.  
7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - See Friday's notice.

**TUESDAY, MAY 9**  
7 a.m. **AA** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.  
10:00 a.m. **CCART** - The Clear Creek Association of Retired Teachers meets at the Bay Area Community Center, 5002 NASA Parkway.  
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - See Monday's notice.  
10:30 a.m. **Tri County Republican Women** - General meeting held at the Golfcrest Country Club, 2509 Country Club Dr. Lunch available for \$15. Exact cash or a check requested. To RSVP, visit www.tricountyrw.club/ or call 832-250-8901.  
11:30 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - See Sunday's notice.  
Noon **AA** - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday noon notice.  
6:30 - 7:30 p.m. **Southeast Houston Toastmasters** - Club #05324194 meets in-person at 10500 Scarsdale Blvd (SB Chamber of Commerce). Visit the website or call 832-722-9061.  
7 p.m. **NA** - See Friday's notice.

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 10**  
7 a.m. **AA** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.  
Noon **AA** - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday notice.  
12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. **Hometown Heroes Humpday Dance** - at Hometown Heroes Park. Casual ballroom dancing offered. Call 281-554-1180.  
7 p.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - See Sunday's notice.  
7 p.m. **NA** - See Friday's notice.  
8 p.m. **AA** - See Friday's notice.

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## Carolina Panthers sign Brook grad Milton Jr.



Mark "M.J." Milton Jr., a Class of 2018 Clear Brook High School graduate, has signed with the Carolina Panthers as an undrafted free agent at cornerback following the 2023 NFL Draft. At Baylor, Milton appeared in nearly 50 career games for the Bears. In 2022, Milton made 11 starts as a redshirt senior and was an All Big 12 Coaches honorable mention and a 2022 All-Academic Big 12 honoree.

# Clear Brook baseball intent on continuing success as playoffs dawn

**Continued from Page 5**  
 tie for the title.  
 Beginning with the 24-6A championship run in 2021, the Wolverines have now made the playoffs three straight seasons.  
 Flores, in his 14th season as head coach at Clear Brook and 17th overall within the program, is obviously extremely proud of this particular run.  
 The Wolverines as a whole do not feature a lineup of thumpers – this group scored the fewest runs in league play as any previous of the three playoff teams.

Instead, this team wins with pitching and defense. Francisco Leija blanked Dickinson 2-0 on three hits while punching out seven in the finale that allowed the Wolverines to earn a piece of the title.  
 Leija's gem turned heads for sure, but it's simply more of what the Wolverines have been doing since being stuck in neutral at 3-3 prior to a two-game series with Clear Creek.  
 In that first game against the Wildcats April 4, Leija allowed one earned run over six frames and Chris

Maldonado delivered the walk-off sacrifice fly as Adrian Maldonado scored in the bottom of the seventh inning for a 2-1 win.  
 Shifting ahead to April 6, Trenton Flores, Logan Sariga and Leija all drove in two runs each as Clear Brook scored a team district-best nine runs in a 9-0 win to get to 5-3 in District 24-6A play.  
 Santiago Leija went the distance in that one, needing just 97 pitches to blank the Wildcats on three hits while fanning five.  
 Next came the bye week as the Wolverines first beat Conroe 7-0 and then nipped Texas City 2-1. Maldonado and Trenton Flores both doubled and drove in two, and Gene Flores utilized five different pitchers.  
 Against the Stingarees, five different pitchers again took to the mound while allowing just three hits in the 2-1 win.  
 In the opener of a key two-game set with Clear Springs April 18, Brook fell 6-2 as the Chargers snapped the locals' five-game winning streak.  
 But the Wolverines proved clutch in the rematch, taking a 6-2 win of their own to move to 6-4 and all but assure a playoff berth.  
 In the win over Clear Springs, Ismail Hatamleh and Francisco Leija drove in two runs apiece and Santiago Leija and Tyler Gaudet combined to allow two hits in all.  
 Sariga and Maldonado drove in two runs each and four different pitchers held Dickinson down in an 11-1 win April 25 before a 2-0 shutout victory capped the run as Francisco Leija starred.  
 "This group scrapes and claws and does whatever it takes to get a win," Flores said.  
 "We pitch it and we play defense. On the offensive side, we try to put together enough to get the win."  
 "We meshed some newcomers with some veterans from the get-go and came together as a group. It's rewarding to have it all work out. In all, we won seven of eight down the stretch. That's how you get it done."  
 There are no guarantees in the postseason. The 2021 Clear Brook league champion lost in the bidistrict round to Pearland.  
 "You have to resist the temptation to do anything different as a staff," Gene Flores said.  
 "At the end of the day you need to stick with what got you here. Strake Jesuit is a talented group. We are going to give them our best."  
 "I haven't even looked at the potential area round matchup, and that's by design. We are at our best when we are focusing on the now and taking care of the little things. The focus is Strake Jesuit."

## 22-6A baseball champ Dobie to face Bruins

**Continued from Page 5**  
 sheet on a pinch hitter who maybe has had five at-bats all season, but I believe in being prepared for every scenario. Seeds are out the window at this point.  
 "The last time we won district, we lost to Channelview in a one-game playoff. In 2019, we were the fourth seed and beat La Porte, which had won the district title."  
 Sophomore pitchers Cruz Torres and Aiden Sanchez have handled the bulk of the mound duty to this point, while several players including Omar Serna, Junior Orozco, Daniel Delgado, Ian Johnson, Gavin Carrillo and more have paced the offense.  
 Torres and his group will stick to the same formula that has led to 20-plus wins to this point. "We will focus on each individual game and do what we need in order to win," he said.

## SBGSA's Oilers take championship at Deer Park Bash



The 8-under Oilers of the South Belt Girls Softball Association went unbeaten to win the championship at the Deer Park End of the Season Bash. Members of the team are, left to right, (front row) Maria Esquivel, Jasmine Martinez, Monterra Villa, Arianna Correa, Sophia Morales, Rylee Flores, (middle row) Rosmar Jimenez, Adrianna Guzman, Sophia Vasquez, Adrianna Limon, Torryn Casiano, Ava Rodriguez, (back row) head coach Pete Guzman and assistant coaches Rene Rodriguez, Fernando Martinez and Jose Ramirez.

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## Pioneer track to state

**Continued from Page 5**  
 third place at regionals.  
 In the final of the three relays of the day at regionals, the Pioneers were third for a state berth at 3:29.53 as juniors Jonah Weber, Cole Noack, Nathan Robert and Matthew

Gaitan teamed.  
 Seniors Blaine Birkelbach, Jacob Howard and Jaylin Lowery teamed with sophomore John LeBlanc as the 4x100 relay unit advanced to state as a fourth-place regional finisher at 44.0.

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