

### Ellington eRecycling set

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

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

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, cell-phones, PDAs, tape drives, hard drives, cords, cables and cameras.

The collection events take place the second Saturday of each month.

For more information, visit [www.houston-solidwaste.org](http://www.houston-solidwaste.org) or call 311.

### Sagemeadow meets May 16

Sagemeadow subdivision's monthly HOA meeting will be held at The Gardens, 12001 Beamer Road on Thursday, May 16, at 7 p.m. This month's guest speaker will be posted on the website.

This and all meetings are open to the public and are scheduled on the third Thursday of each month. For the agenda or additional information, visit [www.sagemeadow.org](http://www.sagemeadow.org).

### Sageglen HOA meets May 20

The Sageglen Community Association will hold a homeowners meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, May 20, at the Community Building, 11610 Sageyork.

All Sageglen residents are urged to attend. Light refreshments will be served. For information, call 281-481-2160.

### Local COVID cases reported

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

As of Tuesday, May 7, there were 283 active cases in 77089, up four from the previous week. To date, 133 from the ZIP code have died from the disease, no increase from the previous week.

In ZIP code 77075, there were six active cases, no increase from the previous week. To date, there have been 83 deaths in the ZIP code, no increase from the previous week.

In 77034, there were six active cases, no change from the previous week.

To date, 93 residents from ZIP code 77034 have died from the disease, no increase from the previous week.

Statistics are updated weekly and include numbers from within the Houston city limits and throughout Harris County.

To view an interactive map, visit [covid-harriscounty.hub.arcgis.com/pages/cumulative-data](http://covid-harriscounty.hub.arcgis.com/pages/cumulative-data).

### Gulf Freeway closures set

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

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

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

The northbound Gulf Freeway exit ramp to SH 6/SH 146 in La Marque is closed permanently.

Traffic must exit FM 519 and U-turn. Traffic will merge onto the Gulf Freeway southbound main lanes at the next available entrance ramp.

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 8 closure planned

At least one eastbound frontage road lane on Beltway 8 will be closed at Hughes Road/Sabo continuously through 3 p.m. Saturday, May 25.

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

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

### Highway 3 closure

One northbound and one southbound lane of SH 3/Old Galveston Road will be closed from FM 646 to Clear Creek/Galveston County -Harris County line (near NASA Road 1) daily from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. through Friday, May 24 (excluding weekends).

One southbound lane of SH 3/Old Galveston Road will be closed from Idaho Street to Edgebrook Drive daily from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. through Friday, May 10.

## Election results in 1-vote win, need for runoff, incumbent wins

Results from the local May 4 elections have been tabulated with incumbents winning all races, when applicable.

### Clear Brook City MUD

In the Clear Brook City MUD election, incumbent Chris Clark narrowly defeated challenger Yen Rabe, beating her by only one vote. At the end of the count - which was observed by representatives from both candidates - Clark received 312 votes to Rabe's 311 votes.

### Sagemeadow MUD

In the Sagemeadow MUD election, incumbents David Montgomery and Glenn Williams will maintain their positions, defeating chal-

lengers Chuck Miracle and Rene Benavides.

Montgomery received 58 votes; Williams received 60 votes; Miracle received 46 votes; and Benavides received 37 votes.

In the Sagemeadow MUD contest, the two candidates who receive the most votes will assume the board positions, as the challengers do not run for a specific seat.

### Clear Creek ISD

In the In the Clear Creek ISD board election, District 4 incumbent Jeff Larson will maintain his position, defeating challenger Albert Wittliff. Larson received 723 votes to Wittliff's 603 votes.

### Harris County Appraisal District

In the contest to elect members to a newly created board to oversee the Harris County Appraisal District, longtime South Belt resident Ericka McCruteon was successful in her bid for the At-Large Place 3 position, receiving roughly twice as many votes as her closest competitor in the five-candidate race.

McCruteon received 22,231 votes; J. Bill received 2,852 votes; Amy Lacy received 11,097 votes; Mark V. Goloby received 6,180 votes; and Pelumi Adeleke received 11,466 votes.

In the race for the HCAD At-Large Place 1

seat, Kathy Blueford-Daniels was victorious, narrowly defeating opponent Bill R. Frazer.

Daniels received 27,406 votes; Frazer received 25,040 votes; and third candidate Ramsey Isa Ankar received 1,987 votes.

In the contest for the HCAD At-Large Place 2 position, Kyle Scott sailed to victory, receiving approximately twice as many votes as his closest competitor in the five-candidate race.

Scott received 25,258 votes; Melissa Noriega received 13,533 votes; Janice W. Hines received 9,072 votes; Austin Pooley received 3,508 votes; and Jevon German received 2,881 votes. All results remained unofficial until May 15.

## Sparks fly at city hall firefighters settlement meeting

Sparks flew Monday, May 6, following a press conference, in which newly elected Houston City Controller Chris Hollins criticized the proposed \$650 million backpay settlement between the city and firefighter's union, saying millions of dollars could have been saved by

simply giving Houston firefighters pay that was competitive with surrounding cities back when the impasse began in 2017.

"Our firefighters have to be paid competitively," Hollins said at the press conference. "If we're going to attract talent and retain talent go-

ing forward, we need to make sure that HFD, and the city as a whole, is a great place to work, and part of that includes fair compensation and competitive compensation for our team."

During Monday's briefing, Hollins stressed the need for the pay analysis be done on an hourly basis, rather than by annual salary, as HFD employees work fewer hours than firefighters in surrounding cities. According to Hollins, firefighters with the Houston Fire Department work approximately 47 hours a week on average, whereas firefighters in other metropolitan cities average around 55 hours per week.

"On a per-hour basis, we have been lower than our peers since the beginning of the impasse and I imagine well before that," Hollins said, noting that HFD firefighters currently make roughly 10 percent less than their coun-

terparts in Dallas, Fort Worth, Austin and San Antonio.

Such a hypothetical pay raise could have saved the city between \$3 million and \$3.5 million, compared to the \$650 million settlement currently on the table.

Hollins' announcement ruffled the feathers of newly elected Houston Mayor John Whitmire, who campaigned on the backpay issue and even took a short victory lap this past March when a tentative agreement was reached with the Houston Professional Fire Fighters Association (HPFFA).

In a fiery response, Whitmire suggested Hollins was ill-informed on the subject and referred to his new analysis as "Monday morning quarterbacking."

"I watched the controller's briefing regard-

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## SJC in top 20 for 5th time

San Jacinto College has been named as a semifinalist for the 2025 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence as recognized by the Aspen Institute. The \$1 million award is the nation's signature recognition of high achievement and performance among community colleges. This is five times in a row the college has received the honor. The 20 institutions recognized as semifinalists stand out among more than 1,000 community colleges nationwide as having high levels of

student success and comprehensive systems of student support, as well as equitable outcomes for black and Hispanic students and those from lower-income backgrounds. San Jacinto College is one of only two colleges in Texas to be named among the semifinalists.

"Being named a semifinalist for the Aspen Prize is a tremendous honor for San Jacinto College," said Dr. Brenda Hellyer, San Jacinto College Chan-

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## Ribbon-cutting set for new detention



A ribbon-cutting will be hosted by County Commissioner Adrian Garcia and Harris County Flood Control Monday, May 13, at 10 a.m. Built by the Harris County Flood Control District on property owned by the county, the South Shaver Stormwater Detention Basin will provide flood damage reduction benefits during heavy storms and mitigate impacts of future public city of Houston drainage projects as appropriate.

## So. Shaver basin ribbon-cutting May 13

Harris County Pct. 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia will host a ribbon-cutting Monday, May 13, for the new South Shaver Stormwater Detention Basin.

Built by the Harris County Flood Control District on property owned by the county, the South Shaver Stormwater Detention Basin will provide flood damage reduction benefits during heavy storms and to mitigate impacts of future public city of Houston drainage projects as appropriate.

The basin will be constructed on approximately 96 acres of land on the east side of Berry Bayou, north of South Shaver Road and west of Old Galveston Road. The stormwater detention basin project encompasses property located north of Hartsook Road and south of Wilson Memorial Park. Berry Bayou crosses through the middle of the project site.

As proposed, the basin will reduce the risk of flooding to neighborhoods downstream of the site by providing 420 acre-feet of stormwater storage and reduce the 100-year floodplain by 45 acres. The basin is designed to remove the 100-year floodplain from up to approximately 335 structures.

The roughly \$10 million project is part of the county's 2018 Bond Program. Work on the project

began in 2020. A series of virtual meetings were held during the design stage of the detention pond to receive public input.

The basin, which is measured in acre-feet, will provide approximately 420 acre-feet of stormwater detention storage or approximately 137 million gallons of stormwater. It will reduce the flood risk for properties downstream (which in this case is north) of the project area.

The Harris County Flood Control District also is supporting the efforts of the Precinct 2 commissioner's office to develop plans for proposed recreational trails that will be incorporated into the stormwater detention basin once construction of the basin is complete. These trails will connect to existing trails in Wilson Memorial Park.

The project design will protect four existing wetlands located on the Flood Control District's property. One of the wetlands will remain outside of the basin footprint, while the other three wetlands will remain in place within the basin.

A city's utility pipeline will remain intact along the west perimeter of the proposed basin and a new road will be constructed by the city of Houston to

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## Property value notices sent by HCAD

The Harris County Appraisal District has mailed property value notices to many residential, commercial and industrial property owners.

"This year we are seeing a return to the usual increases and decreases in property values instead of the extraordinary growth of the past two years," said Roland Altinger, chief appraiser. "We are seeing a large number of residential and commercial properties in Harris County decreasing in value this year. Residential properties are still in high demand and have gone up an average of about 2.5 percent in value, and commercial property values increased an average of 8 percent."

Altinger explained that the appraisal district is required by law to appraise all property at 100 percent of market value -- which is the price the property would sell for -- as of Jan. 1.

"The appraisal district tries to come as close to market value as we can with the data we have," Altinger said. "If the property owner does not think that value is correct, they should file an appeal and provide information in their protest meeting that could change the value."

To meet the deadlines set out in the Texas Property Tax Code, the appraisal district must use mass appraisal techniques to appraise the 1.9 million

parcels in Harris County, Altinger continued.

Specific information for residential and commercial property is below, and market area maps are available on the HCAD website at [www.head.org](http://www.head.org) under "Appraisal" and then "Reappraisal." Individual property values also are available at [www.head.org](http://www.head.org).

### Residential

The Harris County housing market took a breather this year after several years in a row of rapid appreciation. Sales slowed in 2023 and prices rose slightly because of higher interest rates and mortgage rates, which then allowed home inventory to inch upwards.

The sales volume for single family residential properties was 83,854 homes in 2023, which is a 12 percent decrease from the 95,302 homes sold in 2022, according to the Houston Association of Realtors (HAR). The county has hovered below a 3-month supply of homes for the past 6 years, which indicates a seller's market. A 4-to-6-month inventory of homes is considered a balanced market. The inventory of available homes has risen to 3.3 months of homes in January 2024 according to HAR, up from the 2.6 months of homes in January

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## Charges filed in fatal Bay Area shooting

Charges have been filed against a suspect arrested in the fatal shooting of a woman that took place about 2:50 p.m. on Wednesday, May 1, at an apartment complex in the 1600 block of Bay Area Boulevard near Saturn Lane.

The suspect Ruben Venavides Jr., 39, was charged with murder in the 182nd State District Court.

The identity of the female victim, 38, was pending verification by the Harris County Institute of

Forensic Sciences at press time.

According to Houston Police Department officials, patrol officers responded to a shooting at the University Green Apartments at the above address and found an unresponsive woman with gunshot wounds lying in the doorway of an apartment.

Houston Fire Department paramedics responded to the incident and pronounced the woman dead at the scene.

A male suspect, later identified as Venavides, was detained at the scene. A preliminary investigation determined the victim and Venavides got into an altercation that resulted in the shooting.



Ruben Venavides Jr.

## Constable arrests 4 for trespassing, 2 for drugs

Deputies with Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia's office on Friday, May 3, arrested four individuals for trespassing on a property on which an eviction had been executed.

Two of the four suspects arrested were found to also be in possession of a controlled substance. Precinct 2 evening shift deputies were dispatched to a residence in the 9800 block of Fuqua near Blackhawk after receiving reports of people entering a home after an eviction notice had been enforced.

Upon arrival, deputies observed four individuals actively entering a property, in which an eviction was executed and a writ of re-entry was denied. Deputies detained four individuals and during a pat-down search for weapons, one in-

dividual was in possession of a white substance determined to be crack cocaine.

During an inventory search of one of the vehicles on scene, an Altoid tin was found in the trunk of the vehicle attached by magnets. The contents inside consisted of 1.4 grams of crack cocaine and 5 grams of crystal methamphetamine.

During the inventory search of the secondary vehicle on scene, deputies found 4 grams of Ketorolac, an anti-inflammatory, for which a prescription is needed.

The male suspects were taken into custody and were transported to Harris County Joint Processing Center, where they were booked into jail for felony possession of a controlled substance and criminal trespass.

## Enjoying St. Luke festival



Enjoying the St. Luke Catholic Church International Spring Festival held Saturday, May 4, are (left to right) Rosa Tovar, the Rev. Douglas Guthrie, Gilbert Ramos, Marlon Hulín, Anthony Zarate, Art Valdez and Richard Valdez. The event sponsored many activity booths and a variety of foods, drinks and entertainment. Photo by Marie Flickinger

# SJC again named in top 20 nationally

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 cellor. "It underscores our unwavering commitment to delivering exceptional education and fostering equitable outcomes for all our students. We know how important our work is to improving the quality of life in our community. I thank the Aspen Institute for this recognition and applaud all of our employees for their commitment to our work. I also thank our students for their dedication and resiliency in reaching their goals."

San Jacinto College continues to put student success first. The college has developed and implemented strategies to ensure students complete their certificates or degrees. By prioritizing student services such as onboarding, academic advising, financial aid advising, food pantries and mental health supports. Additionally, the college has launched a student database, which ensures that students create focused academic, career, and financial plans and are connected to resources to help them along their educational pathway.

In addition, the college has invested in professional development for student services staff focused on building intentional relationships with students and for full- and part-time faculty that emphasizes student engagement in the classroom and through online learning. Faculty and staff annually update program pathways from entry through bachelor's degrees so that students understand what courses are needed if they intend to transfer. The college's goal is that students complete degrees with no excess hours or loss of credits and transfer with junior status within their majors.

For students who choose San Jacinto College to earn a workforce certificate or degree, the college monitors labor market trends through the Texas Workforce Commission and develops programs using information from focus

groups and external economic and industry partners.

"Our workforce philosophy reflects our commitment to quality training, authentic learning, and curricula that emphasize critical thinking, professionalism, collaboration, and communication," said Dr. Laurel Williamson, San Jacinto College deputy chancellor and college president. "We maintain close relationships with the industries that drive our economy in this region to ensure we are providing a skilled workforce that meets the needs for our partners today and in the future. We listen first and then work collaboratively on solutions."

Through that process, San Jacinto College has launched innovative and necessary programs to help fill the workforce pipeline in our region. Some of these new programs include biomaterials and biotechnology, autonomous vehicle technician training, aerospace, and two new bachelor's degrees — cybersecurity and teaching (early childhood education). The college continues to expand existing programs as demand in the talent pipeline requires, ensuring curriculum and student experiences model career and workplace culture. It responds to state and federal emphasis on short-term and micro-credentials for workforce upskilling and reskilling and aligns credit and non-credit programs into seamless student pathways that lead to industry credentials, certificates, and degrees.

"Each of these colleges has demonstrated a sustained commitment to moving beyond enrollment and retention as the markers of student success to defining their success by whether the education they provide changes lives," said Joshua Wyner, executive director of the Aspen College Excellence Program. "These colleges understand that enrollment and graduation matter most when tied tightly to post-graduation success in

transferring for a bachelor's degree and in securing fulfilling, good-paying jobs and careers."

The Aspen Prize selection process began October 2023, when Aspen invited 150 community colleges to apply, based on data showing strong, improving, and equitable student outcomes in key areas such as retention, completion, and transfer. One hundred and eighteen colleges applied, and their applications went to a committee of 18 higher education experts who assessed each application based on extensive data and narrative answers to questions. Following interviews with leadership teams from applicants receiving top scores, 20 semifinalists were selected.

In June, the committee will narrow the field to 10 finalists. At that time, the Aspen Institute will collect additional information and data through multi-day in-person site visits, and then an independent jury will review the data and select the winner, which will be announced in spring 2025 in Washington, D.C.

The 20 semifinalists are Broward College, Georgia Highlands College, Kingsborough Community College, MiraCosta College, Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, Moorpark College, North Iowa Area Community College, Northeast Wisconsin Technical College, Northwest Iowa Community College, Northwest Vista College, San Jacinto College, Seminole State College of Florida, South Puget Sound Community College, Southwest Wisconsin Technical College, State Technical College of Missouri, Trinidad State College, Union College of Union County, NJ, Wallace State Community College-Hanceville, Western Technical College and William Rainey Harper College.

To read more about the Aspen prize and selection process, visit <https://higher.ed.aspeninstitute.org/aspen-prize/>.

# Death

## John Walko II



Stephen John Walko II was born on Dec. 11, 1978, in Houston. He was a loving father, son, brother, fiancée, cousin, uncle, great-uncle, and friend to anyone that was blessed to have met him or crossed his path in his life.

He passed away at the age of 45 peacefully in his sleep on April 8, 2024, and is rejoining with God as one of his angels, knowing a happiness all will experience one day when all will be rejoined with him in eternal happiness with God.

He lived the majority of his life on the south side of Houston in Sagemont.

He moved to Washington D.C. where he met Frannie Gold the love of his life before moving back to Texas with his family.

He is survived by his mother Pamela Walko, father Stephen Walko, brother Jonathan Walko, fiancée Frannie Gold and 7-year-old daughter Savannah.

Stephen went to school at Easthaven Baptist Elementary, Beverly Hills Intermediate and Dobie High School, Class of 1997.

He played football for Dobie as their punter and enjoyed the camaraderie of his teammates and playing very much. Stephen had a care-free spirit in life and never met a stranger. If he met one he would open up his heart, mind and soul to brighten one's day or help one in any way. He was always there to

put a smile on one's face and could brighten a room just by entering it.

Stephen had a beautiful, loving soul filled with kindness, humor, and a warm spirit that brightened the lives of others. He was an eternal optimist and always put a smile on the face of anyone he encountered or crossed his path. His goal and focus in life was to help others and would give his last dollar to anyone in need.

He was an avid sportsman and enjoyed playing football, foosball, frisbee golf, surfing and fishing.

He had a musical ear and loved to play guitar and harmonica. Stephen was mentally stimulated by science and physics, always investigating the whys and hows of the mysteries of the universe.

In addition to everything listed, he always put his family first, and began each day striving to be the best partner to Frannie and father to Savannah.

Stephen was called home way too soon and will be greatly missed by all.

He is survived by uncle Tommy Walko and wife Laura, cousins David and Thomas; uncle Richard Walko, cousins Melissa and her son T.J., Elizabeth Moore and her children Cyleah and Avery Russell, Katrina; cousins Nicholas Walko and wife Brittany and sons Tate, Tucker and daughter Tyler; uncle Skip Peters and wife Marsha, cousin Matthew and wife Claire; and uncle Chris Peters and wife Ronda, cousins Alex, Lexi, Joshua and Lilian.

## Genoa teachers honored



Genoa Elementary officials announced New Teacher of the Year, Esmeralda Mayorga (left), and her teacher of the year, coach Summer Bradley (right). Mayorga is a brand new pre-K teacher and was selected for adjusting to her new role effectively. The staff considers Bradley an absolute joy to have on campus as she coordinates so many activities for students and families.

# In My Opinion

## Metro has little effect on traffic

In 2019, I attended a community meeting where a Houston Metro representative spoke to campaign for its 2019 referendum to approve an additional \$3.5 billion of debt to expand Metro's footprint. The representative began her presentation by asking, "Who here enjoys sitting in traffic?" Most in the crowd moaned or shook their heads. She continued, "That's right. None of us do. That is why one needs to make sure the referendum is passed." Most in the crowd nodded in agreement.

What was implicit in the spokesperson's question, and was accepted by most in the audience, was the assumption that transit reduces traffic congestion. It is an assumption that is also widely accepted by the public.

In my survey on transit issues, the reason that respondents most frequently mentioned as the most important rationale to have a transit system was to reduce traffic congestion. And it seems intuitive that if we can bunch up a lot of people and put them on a bus or train, we would take those people off the roads and thereby reduce congestion. It is that intuition and the resulting assumption supported by the data?

In Houston, the answer is pretty simple. Transit has a negligible effect on traffic congestion here. That is readily apparent by looking at the percentage of daily trips that are made on transit. As I recently shared with you, Metro carries less than 1 percent of the daily trips made in the region.

If Metro were to go away or by some miracle, say, double its ridership, few in the region would notice any difference in traffic congestion. The conclusion is further supported when we look at transit's specific effects on

congestion. To start, at-grade transit is not "congestion free." Buses and trains using the same roadways as other vehicles contribute to overall congestion. And they do so disproportionately to other vehicles because of the size, difficulty in negotiating tight turns, and frequent stops. Think about the number of times time you have had to change lanes to go around a stopped bus. Also, buses in particular move very slowly. This FTA study found the average speed of a city bus was 8.8 mph.

It also overestimate the number of riders per transit vehicle. The typical city bus will carry about 50-60 people.

But according to the same FTA study, the average number of riders on a bus at any given time about nine. I suspect that average is even lower in Houston. All of us have passed virtually empty buses and trains.

So, transit does not "bunch up" as many people and get as many cars off the street as many assume. Also transit trips are not very long. The FTA study also found that the average bus trip is 3.7 miles and the average light rail trip is 5.2 miles. Since Houston is more spread out than most cities, our average is likely somewhat higher here.

But the reality is that most transit trips are relatively short, which further diminishes transit's effect on congestion, particularly in a large spread-out city. Finally, most of the traffic congestion that Houstonians face on a daily basis is on a freeway. However, only a small portion of Metro's service has any effect on freeway congestion. Its service is primarily concentrated on city streets not the freeways.

The only Metro service

that directly effects freeway traffic is its Park & Ride service. But the total daily ridership on the Park & Ride system is only about 16,000 according to TxDOT's traffic counts. Houston's Freeways move something over 2 million vehicles each day. So, moving only something like .1 percent (one-tenth of one percent) of the current freeway traffic has virtually no effect.

Certainly, there are some cities in the world that would be overwhelmed with traffic congestion without their transit systems. But those are very dense urban settings like Manhattan or Paris. However, all of those systems are grade separated. I am not aware of any at-grade system has ever been shown to have any significant impact on congestion.

And even in such cities, transit has not "solved" traffic congestion. If you don't believe that, I suggest you try to drive into Paris on one of its freeways at rush hour.

Still there are a few specific routes, at particular times of the day, that Metro probably does provide some congestion relief. One such area is around the Texas Medical Center.

Metro's year-end ridership report suggests that about 6,000 people who work at the TMC park in remote lots south of TMC, along the Metro's Red LRT and take the LRT to their jobs. Adding 6,000 more cars entering and leaving the TMC, especially during peak hours, would clearly make the already heavily congested area even worse.

However, offsetting that relief is that the LRT system has made a mess of traffic along Fannin. The LRT probably should have been elevated through the TMC

- Bill King

## Sparks fly at city hall meeting

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 ing the proposed settlement with Houston firefighters this morning," said Whitmire. "The comparative analysis the controller showed might

be new to him, but my administration had these and many more scenarios on hand when negotiating with the Houston Professional Firefighters Association. The controller used the term 'illustrative' to describe the scenarios; I call them 'academic.' The facts remain that the settlement before the court and, ultimately, the City Council is an alternative to a potential judgment issued after a lengthy trial or arbitration for past years. Monday morning quarterbacks may choose to ignore the fact that Texas law mandates firefighter pay to be based on private-sector compensation comparisons, not the public sector, but as mayor and lead negotiator, I cannot ignore that fact. It very well could have been a less costly deal to settle with the Houston Professional Firefighters Association but that is a conversation to have with the previous administration eight years ago. I was elected — among other things — to end this dispute, and this deal was the best available alternative to settle this long-running litigation with Houston firefighters."

A similar statement was released by the firefighter's union, calling Hollins' remarks "uninformed, misleading and inaccurate." "The controller's remarks are not only inaccurate but also disrespectful to the dedicated men and women who serve our city with bravery and professionalism," said HPFFA President Patrick M. "Marty" Lancon. "While the controller plays politics and manipulates numbers, Houston firefighters work tirelessly, risking their lives to rescue

citizens from rising floodwaters. It is disappointing that an elected official would choose to undermine the hard work and sacrifice of Houston firefighters by spreading misinformation."

The HPFFA statement defended the tentative \$650 million agreement, saying it was the best path forward for all parties involved, including taxpayers.

"The proposed settlement is the result of extensive negotiations aimed at achieving a fair and equitable resolution for all parties involved, including taxpayers," the statement read. "It reflects the commitment of HPFFA and the city administration to finding a mutually beneficial solution. With the city facing the stark choice — settle or face potentially exorbitant court-imposed terms — Mayor John Whitmire prudently decided to negotiate with HPFFA. The proposed settlement resolves all outstanding pay issues dating back to 2017, brings Houston firefighter salaries closer to those paid in other large Texas cities, implements new incentives to improve firefighter recruitment and retention, and ensures fiscal responsibility."

Lancon said that while he is disappointed with the recent developments, it will not diminish the resolve of the HFD force.

"Houston firefighters stand ready to move forward and continue their vital work in service to the community," said Lancon. "We hope that the controller will reconsider his stance and cease his misguided efforts to derail the settlement."

## Local library events set

In case of storms or adverse weather, refer to library website for details.

### Bracewell Branch Library

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.

## So. Shaver basin ribbon-cutting May 13

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 provide access for maintenance of this pipeline, and provide access to the rear grounds of Milstead Middle School.

The existing Witt Road owned by the city of Houston is not currently maintained

and has been determined to be a safety hazard. To increase basin volume, the road will be removed and become part of the basin. The bridge which once connected Witt Road to Milstead Middle School has been secured and will be removed for safety reasons.

For more information on the South Shaver Stormwater Detention Basin, visit [www.hcfd.org/Activity/Projects/Sims-Bayou/C-10-South-Shaver-Stormwater-Detention-Basin](http://www.hcfd.org/Activity/Projects/Sims-Bayou/C-10-South-Shaver-Stormwater-Detention-Basin).

## HCAD mails property values

**Continued from Page 1**  
 2023. While inventory is increasing, it is still low, which, along with the higher interest rates, will continue to impact the issues of housing prices and affordability.

Homes in the lower price ranges saw minimal value increases, and in some cases even saw small decreases. Homes above \$450,000 had value increases of roughly 4 to 8 percent. However, 47 percent of homes in the county decreased in value, while only about 40 percent of all homes increased in value.

"Exemptions can provide relief for qualifying taxpayers by reducing taxable value and tax levies," Altinger said.

Residence homestead exemptions are the most common exemption and apply to most owner-occupied homes in Texas. Property owners should check their account online to make sure that all exemptions they are entitled to are in place. Commercial

supply of apartment units, occupancy and rental rates are flat. There is an oversupply of warehouse inventory, which is creating a slowing demand.

Office values increased 6.9 percent, while occupancy due to effects of the pandemic. Hotel/motel values increased 21.3 percent and retail sector continued to perform with values increasing 13.2 percent.

Property owners who receive their notices may begin the protest process immediately. The fastest and easiest way to file a protest is to use the district's online iFile program at [www.hcad.org/iFile-protest](http://www.hcad.org/iFile-protest). If one uses the owner's portal, their owners account is automatically connected to their iFile number. The owner's portal offers many advantages such as viewing one's HCAD documents, adding or removing property accounts and receiving a settlement offer online. One can easily create an account in the owners portal, although, you will need the iFile number on the upper right and center of the value notice.

The chief appraiser has an eight-minute video explaining value changes and steps that can be taken to reduce tax burden on the main page of HCAD's website at [www.hcad.org](http://www.hcad.org). There is a link to the value change maps in the announcement bar.



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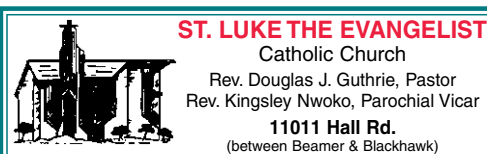
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LITURGY SCHEDULE		5:30 p.m.
Saturday Vigil		5:30 p.m.
Sunday	8 a.m. and 10 a.m.*	
Sunday	1 p.m. Misa en Español*	
Monday, Wednesday & Friday	9 a.m.	
Tuesday & Thursday	7 p.m.	
Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions)		
Thursday	7:45 to 8:30 p.m.	Saturday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

Parish Office: 281-481-6816  
 Children's Faith Formation: 281-481-2821  
 Adult Faith Formation: 713-538-2652  
*All are welcome to come to worship and serve the Lord in a spirit of love, sharing, and hope.*

## Moore Elementary names teachers of the year

Moore Elementary officials have announced the Teacher of the Year and First Year Teacher of the Year. Pictured at right is, Teacher of the Year music teacher Sheryl Munn. Shown below is First Year Teacher Of The Year, second-grade teacher Mia Reyna (center) with her students, left to right, Jacob Oveido, Katalina Contreras, Emma Rodriguez, Max Valles, Michael Castillo, Adrianna Portillo, Sophia Nguyen, Lexxa Martinez, Jenaya Perez, Memphis Alvarez, Karla Ramos, Isaac Valdez, Lance Gilbert and Ava Whitaker.



## CCART sets May meeting

The Clear Creek Association of Retired Teachers will hold its May meeting, on Tuesday, May 14. The meeting will be held at the Bay Area Community Center, 5002 NASA Parkway in Seabrook. The featured speakers will be the superintendents from CCISD and Dickinson ISD. They will provide information about the status of their districts as a review of the current academic year and a look ahead to 2024-2025.

The social gathering will start at 9:30 a.m. and be followed by the meeting at 10 a.m. At the close of the meeting, CCART will host an Italian lunch for members. The cost is \$5. RSVP for the luncheon.

All Texas retired school employees from the area are invited. Annual dues are \$50.

## Aglow sets meeting

NASA Aglow Light-house's second May meeting May 9, will be a celebration of Aglow's 50th anniversary and Mother's Day.

There will be a luncheon to welcome Carol Torrance, Aglow International's South Central regional director of Texas, Missouri and Oklahoma. She will be ministering on Thursday, May 9, at 10 a.m. at Praise Chapel, 18516 SH 3. Child care provided.

## April Aviators of the month



Fred Roberts Middle School announces their Aviators of the month for April. These students were chosen as the most well-rounded, meaning they exhibited many of the habits of success that were highlighted throughout the year; including empathy, execu-

tion function, relationship building, growth mindset, self-regulation and perseverance. Pictured are, left to right, fifth-graders Jaden Zapata, Leia Quintanilla, counselor Margaret Higham, sixth-graders Jacob Cabrera and Cincere Givens.

## Jessup publishes rolls

Jessup Elementary School officials have released the third nine-weeks honor roll, merit roll and perfect attendance roll for the 2023-2024 school year.

**Pre-K Perfect attendance**  
Ivy Cisna, Laila Irvine, Chloe Olvera, Victoria Pina Hurtado, Adelyn Sanchez, Erwyn Anthony Silva, Dawson Spiller and Elijah Tyro.

**Kindergarten Perfect attendance**  
Anderson Chavarria Alvarado, Analia Garza, Ryan Irvine, Liliana Jacobo, Diego Martinez, Xareni Mendez, Alexander Ramos, Fernando Sanchez, Jael Sosa and Arias Dylan Zavala.

**First grade Perfect attendance**  
Marcos Benavidez, Ezra

Brito Boijseauneau, Andrew Enciso, Anthony Garcia, Jaevion Gray, Hunter Harris, Mia Herrera, Misael Herrera, Amari Robertson, Ethan Vernal and Loany Xiloj-Puac.

**Second grade Perfect attendance**  
Mia Alvarado, Jayde Aranda, Brittany Arredondo Rivera, Mark Garcia, Martin Herrera, Heavenly Hodges, Daniel Lara Garcia, Amado Martinez, Sierra Mendez and Alexander Rodriguez.

**Third grade Perfect attendance**  
Josseline Argueta, Josefina Cano, Diana Conde, Aniyah Granadas, Paula Herrera, Angel David Martinez, Mariah Mosqueda, Anthony Navarrete, Ariadne Orihuela Salais, Jeraly Pacheco Lo-

pez, Masiah Rasmus, Patrick Reyes-Del Barrio, Luis Rivas Javier, Lisette Rodriguez, Dylan Serrato, Jayden Silverthorn, Saul Urbina and Allison Xiloj-Puac.

**Fourth grade Perfect attendance**  
Angel Hodges, Aylin Rodriguez, Sharon Araujo, Emily Moreira, Jayden Collier, Estevan Lopez, Maribel Molina and Wilmer Mejia.

**Fourth grade Honor roll**  
Sharon Araujo, Jose Cardenas Lopez, Lluvia Cruz, Fabian Hernandez, Genesis Hernandez, Israel Reyna, Collier Jayden and Oscar Gonzalez.

**Fourth grade Merit roll**  
Estevan Lopez, Camila Suarez and Victor Arizmendi.

## CCISD nationally recognized

The Clear Creek Independent School District has received the Best Communities for Music Education Award from the National Association of Music Merchants Foundation for its outstanding commitment to music education.

For 25 years, this designation is given to school districts nationwide for achieving the highest standards for providing music access and education to all

students. CCISD is one of 975 districts to receive this designation for 2024.

"We are honored to be recognized by the NAMM Foundation as a district that provides music excellence and top education for students," said CCISD Director of Visual and Performing Arts Greg Goodman. "This further acknowledges the outstanding work of our dedicated staff, students and parents and their commit-

ment to the arts."

In order for districts to qualify for the Best Communities designation, they answered detailed questions about funding, commitment to the music program, graduation requirements, staffing and access to music instruction.

Responses were verified by school officials and reviewed by The Music Research Institute at the University of Kansas.

## Dobie FFA calf scramble winners



Ninth-grader Kaleb Jones

Five students within the Dobie FFA caught calves in the calf scramble at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo 2024. These students were given a certificate to assist in purchasing a steer or heifer to raise for 2025 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. The students are to submit monthly reports to the HLSR and the scramble sponsor to update them on the progress of their animal throughout the year until the show year. Between Pasadena Livestock Show 2024 and Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo 2025, there is not one open cattle pen in the barn. Not pictured are Abrianna Carbajal and Julien Cano.



11th-grader Nayely Huynh



10th-grader Nathan Zavala

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# Dobie High School announces fifth six-weeks honor roll

Officials of Frank Dobie High School have announced the fifth six-weeks honor roll for 2023-2024 school year.

**Ninth grade**

Itzel Pamela Adame Novela, Aiden Lorenzo Aguilar, Steven Alexander Aguilar, Deacon Akinsola Akinloye, Jordan Renee Alanis, Vianka Ilyla Alanis, Reemas Abdelmajed Alazeh, Carlos Constanco Albarran, Ernesto Alcantar, Morgan Larae Alejo, Emilson Yosmani Alfaro Garcia, Isabella Hila Allen, Mayte Almanza, Nathalie Almanza and Hisham Mohamad Alsharaf.

Brooke Anne Anderson,

Sunisa Rosa Anderson, Kaileigh Olivia Antoine, Jaslyn Skye Arredondo, Kobe Arredondo, Maria Katalina Arredondo, Ramon Arredondo, Angelina Kacie Avila, Briana Banda Hernandez, Adelz Barahona, Arianna Aracely Bermudez, Vanessa Blanco, Daniel Blas and Adelle Bongsheri Bongfen.

Alexander Wesley Brock, Hadassah Burgett, Thomas Loraine Cabrera, Jasmine Diego Camil, Nicholas Lee Cantu, Roland Cardoza, Aaliyah Monae Carter, Alonah Renae Carter, Zoe Eilyn Castelan, Savannah Chloe Castillo, Britny

Cedillos, Lucas Lorenzo Cena, Barbara Alana Chapa, Genesis Pamela Chavez and Javier Chavez.

Elijah King Cisneros, Ashlyn Mariah Coleman, Lyla Marie Coleman, Khloe Camille Coronado, Andres Valentin Cortes, Leslie Maria Costa, Lyla Raquel Crake, Michael Dalia Creekmore, Jairo Josias Cruz Murrieta, Elyanna Rosalyn Cruz, John Minh Dang, Katelyn Dang, Nhi Thai Dang, Thuy Thanh Dang, Kiahna Alexis Davis, Aidan Michael De La Rosa and Stephanie Delgado.

Alicia Ysabella Diaz, Eliza-

beth Taman Dinh, Linkin Duc Dinh, Devin Luc Ky Duong, Paige Kieu-Tien Duong, Alisha Isabella Escobar, Anita Chisom Esonwune, Joel Esparza, Ailey Isabella Espinoza, Alana Jade Espinoza, Alyssa Paola Espinoza, Maximus Aaden Esqueda and Delilah Sarahi Evans.

Alina Iman Farooq, James Edward Fortson, Xavi Leonardo Galvan, Daniel Eduardo Garcia Zepeda, Diego Leonel Garcia, Jonathan Edgar Garcia, Mauricio Garcia, Samuel Garcia, Ayden Daniel Garza, Diego Leo Garza, Gerardo Garza, Valeria Lizette Garza,

Kaylah Christina Cooper Gibson, Romeo Rehan Gill and Lorainne Michel Gomez Mercedes.

Orlando Gomez, Roberto Daniel Gomez, Aracely Gonzalez, Ezequiel Uriel Gonzalez, Jadyñ Xavier Gonzalez, Jose Alfredo Gonzalez, Marcos Gonzalez, Marissa Gonzalez-Velez, Christian Jordan Gracia, Taylor Almira Gray, Caela Ne' Vach Griffin, Angelina Marie Guajardo, Alfredo Jose Guerrero, Lawrence Isaihua Guerrero and Jaylyn Abigail Guevara.

Alina Gul, Saaimah Gul, Araceli Ramirez Gutierrez,

Skye Chanel Guzman, Hung Chan Hang, Vivian Vy Kha Hang, Muzna Hasan, Warren Demarcus Hawkins, Camila Esmeralda Hernandez, Edward Anthony Hernandez, Kingston Chase Hernandez, Oscar Sonny Hernandez and Sofia Grace Hernandez.

Aubrie Cissel Herrera-Renteria, Cleveland Quinn Hill, Prince Royamold Hill, Kevin Hoang, Chelsea Tram Ngoc Hua, Hannah Hua, Jaxon Lee Humphrey, Issac Ibarra, Dasha Gabrielle Jackson, Emma Grace Jacob, Cameryn Emil James, Ximena Jaso Moreno, Ariana Nicole Kainer, Jack Ryan Kearbey, Marina Martha Kostikoglou and Duy Thai Lam.

Amaya Katherine Langliller, Anthony Tran Le, Hau Duc Le, Huy Minh Le, Huy Xuan Le, Sheyla Yen Vi Le, Genesis Adriana Leal, Hayden Rose Limas, Lauren Rae Liscano, Sebastian Isaias Lizama, Jennifer Michelle Lopez Carrasco, Andrea Lizbeth Lopez, Angel Israel Lopez, Esther Bella Lopez, Aubrey June Lugo and Allyson Bella Marquez.

Laila Monique Martin, Adrienne Marie Martinez, Alexis Rosemary Martinez, Jorge Jesus Martinez, Miah Rose Martinez, Serina Michelle Martinez, Molly Marie Mata, Jonathan Bassem Maximus, Jayden Joe Mayeux, Pretty Armande McCoy, Kacey Nevaeh Mcdonald, Adlin Leah Mena, Grace Bracha Menahem, Yasmin Cassie Mendez, Emma Alyssa Mendiola and Mohammad Aneeq Mian.

Karen Adriana Mier, Jillian Denise Mikulski, McKenzie Lynn Milburn, Damon Anthony Miles, Dylan Ashton Mohwinkel, Jenna Michelle Molina, Morgan Olivia Mommie, Evan Mason Mora, Abigail Valeria Morales Godoy, Ashley Moreno, Samuel Max Moreno, De Yanih Donray Moses, Charlestone Ean Nash, Zainab Naveed, Joshua Isaih Negron, Clara Thiemy Ngo, Alissa Nguyen Hoang and Anh Van Nguyen.

Cody Minh Nguyen, Dennis Nhat Tien Nguyen, Duy George Nguyen, Hayly Quynh Vy Nguyen, Hieu Trung Nguyen, Jocelyn Thy Nguyen, Kelvin Thanh Nguyen, Khanh Hoang Kim Nguyen, Linh Phuong Nguyen, Mark Thien Nguyen, Minh Hong Nguyen, Nicholas Trieu Khang Nguyen, Quan Vu Le Nguyen and Quynh Thien Nguyen.

Toby Tang Nguyen, Tuan Tran Anh Nguyen, Vincent Viet Nguyen, Ijeoma Claudia Nmezi, Louisa Safor Obah, Lilly Irene Oliva, Estefani Alexandra Orellana Ramirez, Jezabell Angela Orellana, Nathaniel Padilla, Cayden Len Patton, Celeste Elizabeth Perez, Geovanny Guadalupe Perez, Nevaeh Celeste Perez and Michael Dylan Pettis.

Jonny Dat Pham, Queana Ngoc Pham, Truc Thanh Pham, Vincent Pham, Vy Thi Thanh Pham, Savannah Jade Pichardo, Natahila Guadalupe Pineda Castro, Cullen Dwayne Ponder, Andrew Lee Posey, Jathan Damarcus Price, Yamileth Anai Ramales, Amelie Eletteite Ramirez, Fabian Jesiah Ramirez and Melanie Jade Ramirez.

## Moore Elementary performs at district music festival



Moore Elementary Festival Choir students sang in the Pasadena ISD districtwide music festival on Thursday, March 7, at the Phillips Gym in Pasadena. Pictured are, left to right, (first row) Ivan Aguayo, Zahriah Garza, Arian Arellano, Max Mondragon, Emilia Saldano, Jorge Moreno, (second row) Leyda Guerrero, Elijah Martinez, Mariana Contreras, Antonio Aguirre, Alexia Lozano, (third row) Delilah Bosler, Lisa Marie Cardenas, Dulce Manriquez, Calvin Tran, Story Mason, Konnor Magana, (fourth row) Sheryl Munn (choir director), Michael Jon Reyes, Elyssa Gutierrez, Luke Chacon, Giovanni Hernandez, Natalia Ventura, Elena Martinez, (fifth row) Olivia Vela, Emily Torres, Emilie Zamora, Richard Perry and Andrea Jimenez.

# Remember When

**45 years ago (1979)**

Norma Dickey, eighth-grade reading teacher at Beverly Hills Intermediate School, was named Teacher of the Year for the intermediate level in the Pasadena Independent School District.

The utility district board for the subdivisions of Sageglen and Woodmeadow (MUD 13) was asked to provide sewer and water facilities for a proposed apartment complex.

**40 years ago (1984)**

Eastridge Terrace residents called the authorities to report a 400-pound Bengal tiger in a fenced-in yard on Caffrey. The owner of the tiger, which was impounded, was visiting friends on the way to Dallas. The owner was charged with a Class C misdemeanor and fined \$200.

choir performing hits and standards from the past century, from swing to rock 'n' roll.

TCI-Warner Cable company was being sued for \$5,000 for unauthorized use of water from the Clear Brook City Municipal Utility District. The action stemmed from the cable company representatives making unauthorized use of water from the fire hydrants (flush valves) while the cable company was doing maintenance work on lines throughout the South Belt area.

**20 years ago (2004)**

Houston city councilmembers Addie Wiseman and Shelley Sekula-Gibbs appeared at a town hall meeting at The Gardens to urge support for Proposition One which was to be decided in a special city-wide election. The proposition would authorize the city to opt out of a Texas constitutional amendment forcing cities to adopt pension obligations regardless of deficit impact.

Candidates Chris Brooks and Vickie Morgan responded to questions from the *Leader* regarding the upcoming Pasadena Independent School District election.

Two suspects were convicted after an investigation regarding checks stolen from South Belt residents' mailboxes. They had been arrested approximately one year earlier but had been able to stall their trials.

Charges of intoxicated manslaughter were filed against an Alvin man after he was involved in a fatal traffic accident on Dixie Farm Road. The victim was also from Alvin.

**15 years ago (2009)**

Park Manor of South Belt resident Juanita Williams turned 101.

The results from the local board elections were tallied. In the race to fill the Pasadena Independent School District seat formerly held by Carmen Orozco, Mariselle Quijano-Lerma was victorious over Neel McGovern. Incumbent Nelda Sullivan held on to her seat, defeating Terry Robinson and Randy Smith. Incumbent Fred Roberts ran unopposed for his seat.

In the race to fill the Clear Creek Independent School District At-Large A seat vacated by Ralph Parr, Charles

Pond was victorious, defeating Andrea Wilson, Uma Monttravadi, Trent Martin, Wanda Roubeau and Walt Champion. Incumbents Stuart Stromeyer and Dee Scott ran unopposed and maintained their seats.

In the hotly contested race to fill the seat on the San Jacinto College board of trustees, John Moon Jr. defeated Corey McKay. Board members Ben Meador, Dan Mims and Wayne Slovacek ran unopposed. Meador filled the seat vacated last year by J.D. Bruce, who retired after 27 years of service. Moon filled Meador's former seat.

Deputy Dwayne Pacifico from the Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's office was honored by the Houston 100 Club with a life-saving award. Pacifico was responsible for saving the life of Precinct 2 Chief Deputy James Biehunko. Police work ran in Pacifico's family, as his father, James Pacifico, was a longtime deputy for the Harris County Sheriff's Office.

**10 years ago (2014)**

Clear Brook High School and Clear Horizons Early College High School were two of

four Clear Creek Independent School District campuses to be named among the best in the country in a list released by US News & World Report. Clear Lake High School and Clear Springs High School also performed well in the report.

**5 years ago (2019)**

Former Thompson Intermediate Principal E.J. Ritchey died Sunday, April 28, at the age of 89. Ritchey retired in January 1989, after serving 33 years with the Pasadena Independent School District, 15 as Thompson principal.

Former South Belt resident Jesika Taylor was found murdered in an apartment in Alvin on Wednesday, May 1. Taylor's husband, Brandon Garrett, was arrested in connection to the crime. The couple had reportedly been involved in a domestic disturbance call two days before her body was found.

**1 year ago (2023)**

A man was found shot to death around 12:30 a.m. Sunday, May 7, outside Bombshells Restaurant & Bar, located in the 12800 block of the Gulf Freeway at Fuqua. Jaime Torres, 26, was found unre-

sponsive, shot multiple times. Prior to the incident, the victim had been kicked out of the restaurant for being too aggressive, investigators said. According to the victim's friends, his vehicle, a black Chevrolet Silverado pickup truck, was missing following the incident. The establishment had a long history of violent crime and fatal shootings.

The election results from the local May 6 school board elections have been calculated, with all three Pasadena ISD incumbents maintaining their seats. In the Position 5 contest, incumbent Kenny Fernandez handily defeated challenger Larry Savala, taking home 65 percent of the vote. Position 6 incumbent Marshall Kendrick narrowly defeated challenger Andy Garcia, winning 53 percent of the vote. In the race for the Position 7 seat, incumbent Vickie Morgan was also successful in her bid for re-election, receiving 55 percent of the vote to Irene Tamayo's 38 percent and Jeff Snover's 6 percent. Morgan received 3,054 total votes, Tamayo received 2,067 votes and Snover received 341.

**10th grade**

Aubrey Nevaeh Adler, Anderson Manuel Aguilar, Lorenzo Armando Aguirre, Kayla Joan Akinfenwa, Blessing Abiola Akinloye, Aurea Alessandria Alcorta, Trinity Truitt Alford, Jalynn Cole Alif, Jaiden James Alvarez, Angel Manuel Amador, Montserrat Amaya Fernandez, Paloma Arguello-Contreras and Karla Magdalena Arqueta De Leon.

Hussai Arias, Avian Alexander Arredondo, Jasmine Giselle Arreola, Kendall Rae Ashworth, Lahnay Aileen Avendano, Isabella Grace Avila, Ivan Emmanuel Ayala, Mikayla Amerie Bain, Kaitlyn Alexandria Baines, Blue Jakob Banda, Piper Fallon Battarbee, Nathaniel Ryan Belleville, Suheylye Isabella Belman, Salah Ben Achour and Ethan Jordan Blandon.

Tanner Van Bo, Brince' Lashawn Bolton, Alexis Bonilla, Diana Abigail Bonilla, Jordyn Aniya Brown, Megan Van Bui, Hailey Elizabeth Butler, Isabella Nicole Byron, Victoria Isabella Caballero, Julian Alejandro Calderon Vargas, Allen Elias Campos, Kylie Lauren Campos, Nicole Alexis Campos, Anthony Cancel and Ashley Valeria Cantarero.

Julissa Cantu, Amber Le Cao, Sophia Carbalaj, Sofia Careaga, Amirah Janae Carraway, Daniel Carrera, Steffani Grace Carrington-Casimir, Kimberly Abigail Castillo, Mikayla Jewel Castillo, Ramon Lucas Ceja, Ayden Lillian Carol Chambliss, Joel Nicolas Chapa, Alonzo Pernell Chapman, Elena Grace Charles and Kimberly Estefani Chavarria Gonzalez.

Daniel Enrique Chavez, Jaslynn Grace Chavez, Kaily Leann Chavira, Zenaida Yelenn Cisneros, Rodriana Denise Cole, David Nicolas Contreras, Isaura Isabel Correa, Aubree Jaida Idajiah Creeks, Cecilia Alejandra Cruz, Hailey Sunshine Cubos, Aidan Lee Dang, Bao Ngoc Tran Dang, Christina Dang, Kevin Dang, Arianna Yasmina Davidson

and Jordan Lt De Robles.

Daphney Ayannah Deleon, Marissa Alize Deleon, Josselyn Maria Delgado, Julie Delgado, Aiden Diaz, An Ngoc Thien Do, Hayden Thu Do, Kevin Thien Do, Anthony Xavier Dominguez, David Godwin Ekong, Diego Esparza, Chloe Delilah Estes, Cooper James Estes and Kamillah Estrada.

Cheyenne Nicole Evans, Daisy Jaslene Evans, Norman Esteban Fabian Alba, Oliver Leonardo Fabian Guzman, Christopher Eugene Flint, Gavin Adam Flores, Valentin Eloy Flores, Savannah Georgia Flores-Lewis, Esbeydi Guadalupe Fonseca, Linnea Elle Fonseca, Dilan Dimnyuy Fonyuy and Ozziel Eutimio Fuentes.

Lexi Victoria Galindo, Reynold Galvan, David Garcia, Edward Matthew Garcia, Julietta De Jesus Garcia, Madison Lynn Garcia, Alyria Aivee Garcia-Garza, David Garza, Emily Evgenia Golenko, Adam Gabriel Gonzales, Nathaniel Ray Gonzales, Olivia Cecilia Gonzales, Frank Gonzales-Adame and Alexia Natalie Gonzalez.

Isaiiah Gonzalez, Miranda Sofia Gonzalez, Pavel Emilian Gonzalez, Ryleigh Hannah Gonzalez, Massiah Cynthia Gordon, Daniela Guerrero, Abel Baldomero Gutierrez, Abigail Aleina Gutierrez, Hao The Ha, Ky'aziah Ky'lee Haymon, Kiara Alessandra Henderson Salazar, Harrison Julian Henderson, Jonathan Pierce Henton and Ashley Hernandez.

Luis Felipe Hernandez, Michael Hernandez, Olivia Ester Hernandez, Christopher Hernandez-Chavarria, Himabelli Herrera Conde, London Eve Herrera, Morgan Alexandria Hill, Zein Al Abdeen Hjouj, Nhat Thuy Trieu Ho, Trinity Thy Hoang, Alexander Xavier Hofstetter, Trinh Ngoc Huynh, Ami Lynn Johnson and Davion Cortez Johnson.

Jordan Patricia Johnson, Maya Christine Johnson, Siah Mackenzie Johnson, Lauren Nichole Jones, Edsel Esequiel Juarez, Reigne Sadaie' Knox-on, Isabella Marie Labra, Cadyn Trevon Lagrone, Keyla Montserrat Lara Villanueva, Mabeline Stheysi Lazo, Alex Anh Le, Danton Coppell Le, Nathan-Cuong Huy Le, Richard Le, San Le and Janiel Omar Lebron Delgado.

Kevin Leon, Elena Lome-li, Santiago Lopez, Francia Aganit Luengo Montano, Ilana Raquel Luna, Kristin Bre'ann Madise, Abraham Ismael Martinez, Xavier Martinez, Ty William Mata, Hania Martin, Leully Alexander Matos, Katherine Elizabeth Matute, Tristan Michael McKissick, Dulce Mejia Hernandez, Isaac Orlando Mendez, Kiara Lynn Merkerson and Mehreen Mortaza Mir.

Jessica Chelsey Moise, Vladimir Alexander Mondragon, Simon Montemayor, Briana Michelle Mora, Hector Morales, Jazliyah Kyla Moreno, Steven Morillo Rodriguez, Anthony Ives Moustambani Mandje, Jacoby Austin Muniz, Cynthia Itzel Munoz Hernandez, Marley Jade Munoz, Addison Elizabeth Murdock, Jawad Naser and Heidi Marcelle Wouapi Nganou.

Tommy Minh Ngoc, Andrew Huynh Nguyen, Chloe Bao-Nhu Nguyen, Cj Ho Nguyen, Dan The Nguyen, Diana Ngoc Nguyen, Gia Vy Nguyen, Hannah Anh Nguyen, Hoang Phu Nguyen, Linh Phuong Nguyen, Mary Ngoc Nguyen, Matthew Hien Nguyen, Minh Tuan Nguyen, Nghan Thi Kim Nguyen, Nhan Thu Nguyen and Rosalynn Nguyen.

Thu Hoang Anh Ninh, Thalia Evangelina Oddo, Kamillah L. Oliva, Jonathan Carlos Orellana Sarmiento, Edgar Ariel Orozco, Awele Favour Ngozi Marvelous Ogochukwu Ozieh, Tanya Jolynn Palomino, Elijah Verik Parker, Amairani Zoe Pena, Isabella Daniella Pena, Jesus Roberto Perez and Max Aaron Perez.

Stephany Perez, Lindsey Angelli Perrett, Don Nhat Pham, Hannah Pham, Thi Minh Ngoc Pham, Cynthia Pineda, Jazmin Elizabeth Pineda, Ademay Shai Pol, Wilson Alexander Ponce, Daniel Humberto Puente, Brianna Caroline Puga, Sofia Sabir Qureshi, Jezreel Aaron Ramales and Joaquin Eleazar Ramirez.

Daniel Jeremy Ramos, Ricardo Damian Ramos, Yvette Ramos, Tity Lynn Emmette Randle, Jaylyn Loany Riqueno Ortiz, Kaitlyn Renee Resendez, Destiny Jovanna Reyes, Sebastian Noel Rincon, Jose Fidencio Rivas, Aileen Yaneli Rivera, Camron Latrell Robertson, Luis Fernando Rocha, Sebastian Suyay Rodriguez Sanchez and Ariana Sarai Rodriguez.

Vincent James Rodriguez, Genesis Roman, Eduardo Salazar, Anthony Salguero, Aaron Sanchez, Julius James Sanchez, Jennifer Sanmiguel, Alejandro Saucedo, Navem Ray'ann Scott, Jannelle Nicole Segueda, Nicholasa Sepulveda, Dayana Serano, Allon Michael Seymore,

Kevin Lladimir Velasquez, Armando Silas Vergara, Amy Lisbeth Villegas Magana, Joseph Almond Vivier, Thu Kim Vo, Audrey Deziree Volper, Bao Hoang-Gia Vu, Leon Vu, Zoey Vuong, Clayton Elijah Washington, Malakai Scott West, Olivia Lauren Wheeler, Xandria Aly Williams, Keadyn Jaye Chayse Woodard, Tai'mya Del'shaun Woods, Kelsey Yvette Ann Word, Yuliana Michelle Zambardo, Christopher Oliver Zarate Moreno and Mya Tiara Zermeno.

**11th grade**

Evangelina Cate Adam, Juliana Lysette Aguirre, Rigoberto Alanis, Ashley Tirsia Al-dreite, Manal Kamran Aleem Azeneth Al Aleman, Casey Marina Islem, Geovanny Alexis Alfaro, Rachel Alonso, Sophia Michelle Alonzo, Abigail Miranda Alvarez, Khnum Atun-Ra Amos, Artemio Jesus Andaya, Aysjha Sevin Anderson, Bryan Wayne Anderson and Emma Raye Arizmendi.

Taylor Voneya Armstrong-Forniss, Kaleb Arredondo, Ashley Sofia Barahona, Oscar Barajas, Valerie Barre-ra, Josselyn Victoria Bautista, Perla Saldana Bazan, Christopher Sharod Bellamy, Joselyn Gisele Benitez, Loriana Betancourt Mejia, Didiene Christelle Boijseauneau and David Francisco Bonilla.

Diego Javier Bonilla, Maurice Cornelius Bryant, Kaylie Bui, Stephanie Phuong Bui, Vince Bui, Briana America Cabrales, Rosette Lily Calvil-lo, Kailce Christien Canales, Emily Jade Cano, Donny Cantu, Sydney Le Cao, Bernice Cardoza, Edward Gary Carter, Jada Nicole Castaneda and Eugenia Fernanda Caudillo-Fernandez.

Paris Dominique Cervantes, Victor Manuel Chapa, Danielle Annaya Chenier, Kobi Armani Conaway, Avangelina Ilana Cosse, Adriel Ruben Cruz, Kimberly Ayla Cumpian, Kendall Jade David, Ulani D'or Davis, Galilea Briseyda De La Garza, Jihan Delapaz and Anthony Thien Dinh.

Kristin Thi Do, Vyvy Tuyet Huynh Do, Jocelyn Denise Dominguez, Tyree Le Drumgo, Kirsten Kieu My Duong, Jhosuar Noel Duran Hernandez, Samuel Itzhak Errasti, Andre Benoit Espinosa, Bethany Alessandra Espinoza, Bryce Damain Evans, Alexa Iris Fernandez, Viviana Solei Fernandez, Benjamin Jonathan Flores and Jose Luis Flores.

Lindzey Rebecca Flores, Peyton Dawn Fontenot, Ruby Kernyuy Fonyuy, Gabriel Edgar Fuldgado, Melody Alexander Galdamez, Jenny Samantha Gallardo, Freddy Gallegos Michael Gama, Elina Arianne Gamez, Angel Gabriel Garcia, Elizabeth Christine Garcia, Julianne Amanda Garcia and Noah Garcia, Brianna Garza.

Debani Garza, Jenna Marie Garza, Lauren Gabriele Garza, Max Roland Garza, Viviana Esperanza Garza, Tomas Gomez Silva, Alexandra Michelle Gomez, Jesus Angel Gomez, Priscilla Gomez, Victoria Miranda Gomez, Alfonso Eloy Gonzales-Adame, Christian Gonzalez, Dayanara Heidi Gonzalez and Dimas Gonzalez.

Jacqueline Gonzalez, Jayla Solei Gonzalez, Lizette Gonzalez, Marcus Fleming Goree, Ke'myra Evone Green, Emily Nicole Grimaldo, Isabella Guajardo, Jonathan Guerra Chacon, Mhairie Zeanne Bernardino Gutierrez, Jacob Guzman, Kianna Nicole Harris, Stacie Micheala Harris, Zorie Laron Harris and Camille Kristian Corinne Haynes.

Emily Johanna Henriquez, De'leah Sanaa Henry, Ashley Hernandez, Deseree Delayla Hernandez, Isabella Dolores Hernandez, Kevin Hernandez, Leonel De Jesus Hernandez, Lillian Rose Herte, Juan Armando Hinojosa Vasquez, Ruben Elijah Hinojosa and Valerie Nicole Hinojosa.

Sophia Thien My Ho, Lena Quynh-Anh Hoang, Miah Markelle Hypolite, Kdrianna Adabella Denise Idowu, Jalissa Lejoyce Irvin, Laila Elena Jack, Heaven Noel Jackson, Nia Leighann Jackson, Joelle Josette Jenell Jagdeo, Melanice Carolina Jaramillo Zamora

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

**ENJOY YOUR BIRTHDAY, JOHN!**

Wishes for a fantastic birthday are sent to **South Belt Leader** staff member **John Bechtle** May 11, from his family, friends and the *Leader* staff. He has been the sports editor of the *Leader* for many years and is greatly appreciated by his co-workers!

**SCHOOL DAZE**

The following staff of the Pasadena ISD celebrate birthdays May 9 through May 15.

**Atkinson Elementary**

**Martha Lerma** enjoys a birthday May 9. **Kimberly Grzesiek** celebrates a birthday May 13.

**Bush Elementary**

**Nicolette Martinez** marks a birthday May 9. Send a birthday greeting May 12 to **Andrew Duron**.

**Frazier Elementary**

Remember to wish **Isabel Tabarez** a happy

birthday May 9. Birthday wishes go out to **Amanda Hooper** and **Jill Westfall** May 13.

**Genoa Elementary**

Join the double-fun celebration May 14 with **Lauren Davis** and **Tiffany Bennett**, Genoa principal. Sing a chorus of a happy birthday song May 15 to **Meshia Horn**.

**Hancock Elementary**

Birthday greetings go out to **Sandy Garza** May 15.

**Moore Elementary**

Break out the balloons and ice party favors for **Yvonne Ixcoy** May 9. May 10 is the day for a fun celebration for **Nancy Avila**. Blow out the candles May 14 on a special cake for **Krystal Lam**.

**South Belt Elementary**

Blow out the candles May 10 for **Miranda Rodriguez**.

**Stuchbery Elementary**

Send a birthday greeting May 9 to **Cheryl Lewis**. Break out the balloons and party favors for a happy birthday May 15 for **Rosanna Ibarra**.

**Melillo Middle School**

Light the candles for **Kathleen Ingersoll** May 12. Birthday greetings go out to **Rebecca Castaneda** May 13. May 14 is the day for a celebration for **Tara Clark**. **Rebecca Darby** celebrates a birthday May 15.

**Beverly Hills Intermediate**

**Stephanie Gonzalez** celebrates a birthday May 10. Enjoying a birthday May 15 is **Jamika Lasker**.

**Thompson Intermediate**

**Krystal LaReau** celebrates a birthday May 9.

**Dobie High**

Light the candles May 9 for **Jordan Evans**. Send a humorous birthday card May 11 to **Steven Mayo**. Give a birthday shoutout May 12 to **James Reed**. May 13 is the day to send a gift to **William Malpass**.

**FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS**

Thursday, May 9: **Tiana Jaime-Perez**, **Freedom Groebner**, **Ronny Carker** and **Bubba Bannett**; Friday, May 10: **Becky Lopez**, **Kathy Vingoe** and **Angela Ojeda**; Saturday, May 11: **Tyson Dillard**, **Leslie Fair** and **George King**; Sunday, May 12: **Jennifer Main**, **Raymond Massey**, **Jennifer Ashe** and **Sophie Harrison**; Monday, May 13: **Lexi Salinas**, **Norma Torres**, **Karen Kerr**, **Douglas Mikel** and **Faith Roberts**; Tuesday, May 14: **Chris Escalera** and **Bianca Perez**; and Wednesday, May 15: **Melissa Rios-Gutierrez** and **Roland Lejeune**.

**LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS**

Email announcements of anniversaries, congratulations, events etc., to mynews@southbeltleader.com with OTBF in the subject line by Friday noon for the next week's issue.



**Over The Back Fence by Natalie**

A former truck driver for JOC Oil, who took part in alleged off-site dumping of toxic waste, changed his story about where the dumping occurred.

**30 years ago (1994)**

A 15-year-old Sageglen resident was arrested at Clear Brook High School in connection with the murder of a 67-year-old female and the shooting of her niece, 56, in an apparently random robbery at their home.

A long-sought-after school zone on Fuqua was posted near Beverly Hills Intermediate.

**25 years ago (1999)**

Dr. Michael Stokes organized more than 150 volunteers to help clean up the community. The annual event was sponsored by the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce.

The San Jacinto College Home Education Partnership recognized 64 outstanding home school students during the first Home School Awards Banquet.

The J. Frank Dobie High School Choral Department presented its spring show, "Singin' and Swingin'." The show featured members of the

**Continued on Page 6**

# SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

## Dobie baseball sweeps past Summer Creek; Pearland next in area round

Dobie is set to take on defending 6A state finalist Pearland in an area round baseball playoff matchup after both programs swept past their opponents in the opening round as the state postseason opened.

The Longhorns, who have now reached the area round in consecutive seasons, dispatched Summer Creek 10-4 in the opener

May 3 at Summer Creek, then shut out the Bulldogs 3-0 a day later at Maguire Field in Pasadena.

Pearland, the 23-6A champion, handed Clear Brook 6-2 and 4-0 defeats to advance, taking out the Wolverines in the opening round for a second straight season.

With much of the region dodging rain, there were

scrambles to find suitable dry fields on which to play.

The start of the series delayed a day, the Longhorns and Bulldogs got going at Summer Creek May 3 as junior right-hander Cruz Torres was solid in his start for the locals.

With Torres allowing

### Area Playoff Baseball May 9-11

#### Dobie vs. Pearland

Game 1: May 9, 4 p.m. at Maguire

Game 2: May 10, 6 p.m. at Pearland

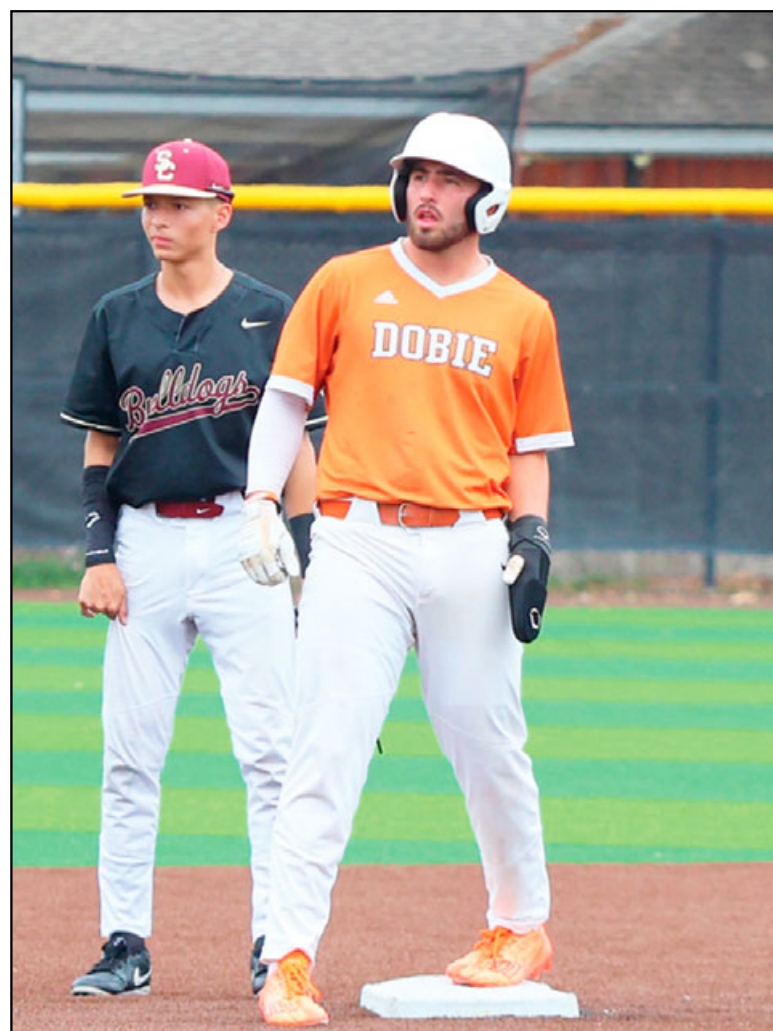
\*Game 3: May 11, 1 p.m. at Clear Brook

\*If necessary

Continued on Page 6



Dobie junior left-hander Aiden Sanchez tossed six shutout frames as the Longhorns closed out Summer Creek 3-0 May 4 at Maguire Field in Pasadena, with the locals reaching the second round of the playoffs for the second straight season. The Longhorns will now face the Pearland Oilers in the area round May 9-11, with the opening series game May 9 at Maguire Field, at 4 p.m. Pearland, the defending Region III champion, downed Clear Brook in the first round.



Above, Dobie's A.J. Hernandez (right) drove in six runs in all in the Longhorns' bidistrict baseball series win over the Summer Creek Bulldogs.

At left, Dobie outfielder Juelz Martinez (31) had a solid bidistrict baseball playoff series against Summer Creek and will look to do more against Pearland in the area round as the two programs go head-to-head.

Photos by Donna Alsdorf

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## San Jacinto College softball meets Galveston for title

Host San Jacinto College was set to take on Galveston May 7 after press time to determine the Region 14 Postseason Softball Tournament championship, with the winner qualifying for the national tournament.

Host San Jacinto College finished as co-champion of the South Division

and was a No. 2 seed, taking down Bossier Parish 3-1 as part of a full day of opening round play in the double-elimination event May 4.

In 2023, it was Bossier Parish that eliminated the Ravens for the Mid-South B spot, keeping the locals from making a third straight appearance at na-

tionals.

As for this season, the Ravens were alone atop the South Division standings before losing a pair of games at Galveston on the final day of the regular season, with the Whitecaps thus tying San Jacinto College as co-champions of the South at 18-6 apiece.

Galveston was the top seed from the South Division and defeated Tyler.

Both the winner's bracket champion and the eventual loser's bracket winner will advance to the National Junior College Athletic Association's Division I National Championships.

San Jacinto College,

40-22 overall this season, entered the postseason with a .372 team batting average. Shortstop Arriana Wright, an All-American in 2023, led the way at .503 with 15 home runs and 69 runs batted in.

Sophomore Kiren Diaz was hitting .415, with freshman teammate Madison Carr at .407.

Local fans got a chance to see Dobie graduate Karlie Barba in action with her Galveston College teammates.

Barba currently ranks fifth nationally with 25 homers this season and has 36 for her career.

Barba was hitting .430 for the Whitecaps entering the postseason.

## Lutheran South boys' track wins TAPPS 5A crown

In a final push for the ages, the Lutheran South Academy boys' team captured the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools 5A State Track and Field Championship May 3-4 at Waco Midway High School.

The capper came as the Pioneers' 4x400 relay squad took third place for a bronze medal and 12

crucial team points in the meet's final event, thereby posting 107 points to surpass Fort Bend Christian (105.5) and Liberty Christian (102).

With a time of 3 minutes, 27.41 seconds, Case Noack, Corey Griffith, Matthew Gaitan and Marcus Gaitan teamed for third place and a bronze medal in the 4x400 to bring the

Pioneers the state title.

Matthew Gaitan was the 5A gold medalist at the 800 distance at 1:57.06, and Marcus Gaitan's time of 1:57.64 won him a silver medal for second place. A time of 2:00.14 placed Jeremy Gaitan fifth.

Day-one field events proved to be equally valuable to Lutheran South as

seniors Wilson Klein (pole vault) and Kris St. Clair (discus) won individual state championships.

Klein cleared 13 feet for his gold medal in the pole vault, while St. Clair won his gold with a discus throw of 142-3.

LSA's Cole Noack was sixth in the discus at 125-0. St. Clair threw the shot 46-6 for seventh in the

shot.

Elsewhere in the running events, Matthew Gaitan claimed bronze in the 1,600 with a time of 4:22.38. A time of 4:22.95 placed Lutheran South's Reid Toner fourth in the event.

A time of 1:31.24 delivered by the team of Rhet Laverne, Ben Hughes, Klein and Leblanc brought

fourth place in the 4x200 relay. In a time of 43.85, Klein, Weber, Leblanc and Hughes teamed for fifth in the 4x100 relay.

Jonah Weber missed out on a medal in the 200, but scored with his fourth-place clocking of 22.978, with teammate John Leblanc sixth in a time of 22.980.

Hughes went 43-10 3/4 for fifth in the triple jump, and a time of 42.60 placed Case Noack sixth in the 300 hurdles.

Continued on Page 6

A true team effort was needed as the Lutheran South Academy boys' team won the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools 5A State Track and Field Championship May 3-4 in Waco. At left, Matthew Gaitan (right) was the 5A gold medalist at the 800 distance at 1 minute, 57.06 seconds, and Marcus Gaitan's (center) time of 1:57.64 won him a silver medal for second place. A time of 2:00.14 placed Jeremy Gaitan (right) fifth in the event. Matthew and Marcus Gaitan will continue their education and running careers at Rice University beginning this fall. Seniors Wilson Klein (pole vault) and Kris St. Clair (discus) won individual state championships. Klein cleared 13 feet for his gold medal in the pole vault, while St. Clair won his gold with a discus throw of 142-3.



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# Area round baseball pits Dobie against state finalist

**Continued from Page 5**  
 three hits and three earned runs over five innings, the offense came through with plenty of run support as Hernandez homered and

triple, driving in four runs.  
 Martinez also homered, Joiner drove in a pair of runs and Isaiah Jones had three hits and scored three

runs.  
 In the series clincher at Maguire, junior left-hander Aiden Sanchez blanked the Bulldogs over six innings while scatter-

ing six hits, and Abraham Martinez earned the save as he finished it off in the top of the seventh inning.  
 A.J. Hernandez drove in a pair of runs, Will Join-

er III knocked in another and Juelz Martinez went 2 for 4 with a run scored. Summer Creek finished the regular season with a 14-17 record.



Abraham Martinez came on in the top of the seventh inning May 4 in the bidistrict series clincher and earned the save against Summer Creek as the Longhorns took a 3-0 win. Dobie won the first game of the series 10-4 May 2 at Summer Creek.



Dobie varsity baseball head coach Miguel Torres has now guided the Longhorns to consecutive area round playoff appearances. The Longhorns will go against Pearland.

At right, the San Jacinto College softball team, including outfielder Maci Beam, (55) went into action May 7 after press time against Galveston College as the two teams looked to punch their tickets to the National Junior College Athletic Association national tournament later this month. San Jacinto College and Galveston College tied for the South Division title during the regular season.



Below, San Jacinto College head softball coach Kelly Saenz (left) confers with Maggie Evans at third base during a game earlier this season. The Ravens played for the Region 14 postseason tournament title as of press time May 7.

# Dobie fifth six-weeks honor roll named

**Continued from Page 4**  
 ra, Marvin Antonio Jerezano, Tiara Marie Johnson, Willard Lee Joiner, Jake Raymond Joslin and Angie Yorleni Juarez Romero.  
 Suri Sarahi Juarez, Samantha Renee Kaiser, Iakovos-Panagiotis Kostikoglou, Maher M Kothiya, Yocelyn Michelle Lagos, Kayla Tien Nhi Lam, Jaylon Ro Lasker, Nathan Le, Karyme Alejandra Leal, Dominick Christopher Leija, Dezire Leche Lewis and Isabella Alayna Liceaga.

Matthew Quiroz.  
 Robert Trebor Ramirez, Matthew Noah Rangel, Abrianna Elyse Reynolds, Angel Danielle Rhodes, David Adrian Rios, Diego Esteban Rios, Jayden Alexander Rios, Juleny Rivera, Danae' Siarah Robinson, Hilda Isabel Robles, Melanie Robles, Aniya Joyce Rodgers, Shaniya Lanell Rodgers, Barbara Pamela Rodriguez Salas, Angelina Rodriguez and Christopher Rodriguez.  
 Derek Rodriguez, Emily Nicole Rodriguez, Sydney Krystal Rodriguez, April Ariana Rodriguez-Orellana, Caleb Jarmice Romar, Christopher Romero, Alex Cipriano Rostro, Milly Salas, Carlos Salazar, Jocelyn Clemintina Salazar, Joseph Isaiha Salazar, Justin Daniel Salazar, Luis Salazar, Valerie Gisselle Salinas, Jose Alberto Sanchez Calderon, Ashley Sarahi Sanchez and Evelyn Sanchez.

Araujo, Victoria Antonette Arnsworth, Cassius Aiden Arredondo Zuniga, Valeria Alessandra Arredondo and Michelle Avalos.  
 Kevin Alexander Ayala, Houston Jakob Banda, Rosalyn Wahasit Barber, Leonardo Gabriel Barron Watson, Destiny Raquel Baskin, Nancy Maribel Bazaldua, Aria Jolie Below, Alize Marie Berruete, Jayla Dora Betancourt, Katharina Bleith Ramirez, Jaydon Dominic Bonilla, Johncarlos Bonilla and Arianna Sarai Borrego.  
 Raine Adrian Boyette, Alan Huy Bui, Jimmy Mai Bui, Alyssa Jolie Burgess, Brooklynn Raleigh Bush, Diego Camacho, Jorge Alfredo Camacho, Tayshawn D'wayne Campbell, Kayden Daniel Campos, Jill Yvette Canales, Ariel Jezelle Cano, Christopher Eric Cardenas, Juan Pablo Carson and Marcus Deon Carter.

Viridiana Guzman, Ayesha Hasan, Edward James Hernandez, Ethan Cross Hernandez, Evelyn Giselle Hernandez, Jazmin Marie Hernandez, Jonathan Gabriel Hernandez, Madeleine Alyza Hernandez, Kalen Johnathan Hicks, Trenton Thang Ho, Kasie Hoang, Minh Duc Hoang and Malachi Anthony Hobbs.  
 Zara Melania Hobson, Vincent Matthew Holcomb, Kaleigh Lynn Hughes, Kiana Simone Hunter, Eric Dinh Huynh, Steven Hieu Huynh, Zainab Imran, Muhammad Mujtaba Iqbal, Jaylah Teaira Jnobaptiste, A'kaylah Lachelle Johnson, Danija Yvonne Johnson, Jady Christina Johnson, Makayla Sudario Johnson, Shalini Rhnea Johnson, Tackira Monae Johnson and Alyssa Leanne Jones.

der Ortiz, Ashlyn Jade Otero, Adrian Pantoja, Abigail Rose Bayang Panza, Audrey Anna Paredes, Prasiddhi Pawani, Sabrina Elise Pector and Brianna Nicole Pedraza.  
 Mary Grace Venant Pelekamoyo, Jazmin Guadalupe Perez, Belle Alexandria Perridon, Andrew Nhat Pham, Kim Pham, Linda Pham, Loan Leena Nhu Pham, Annie Bui Phan, Ricardo Jose Pichardo, De'shoun Tre'lynn Pleasant, Sophia Danielle Posey and Haley Louise Precella.  
 Valeria Quiroz, Hania Sabir Qureshi, Aimee Janay Ramos, Arianna Mariah Ramos, Gael Antonio Ramos, Angelina Janelle Rapalo, Fernando Renteria, Randy Danniell Reyes Chicas, Aylin Aymed Reyes, Emily Reyes, Joel Sebastian Reyes and Arizneli Elisa Rivera.

Christopher Eduardo Lopez, Gabriel Borromeo Lopez, Pablo Isai Lopez, Sebastian Lopez, Valeria Lopez, Alexa Loredo, Dereon Niar Giovanni Lowe, Mia Jaqueline Lozano, Tatianna Zhaley Luna, Kate Magana, Bobby Maldonado, Gil Matthew Manzano, Leyla Mirayah Martinez, Naomi Martinez and Priscilla Grace Martinez.  
 Rubi Citlaly Martinez, Samuel Eliseo Martinez, Yazmin Frances Mata-Garcia, Chloey Charlyze Matthews, Aeriona Denise McCann, Zaniya Renee McClain, Kiana Thi McCombs, Alexander Marcelo Medina, Leilani Mejia Lozano, Jose Francisco Mejia, Kevin Rafael Mejia, Joy Emanuella Menahem, Cristian Elias Mendez, Daniela Paola Mendoza, Miguel Alejandro Mercedes and Lucius Aden Monarez.

Heidi Dinora Sanchez, Isabella Rose Sanchez, Keltia Nicole Sanchez, Yahir Eugenio Sanchez, Rheema Esi Sika Sanni-Thomas, Rebecca Santana, Omar Enrique Santos Fuentes, Leslie Ann Sarduy, Lizbeth Serrano, Austin Silva, Daniel Silva, Mariangela Silva, Layne Joseph Skelton, Mckenzie Grace Smith and Pitou So.  
 Nicholas Michael Soza, Paris Nicole Spencer, Madison Savannah Stewart, Jocelyn Alyssa Stringer, Cindy Su, Isabel Alexa Suarez, Tristan Gervacio Sudario, Jason Ta, Olivia Dolores Tamez, Jada Sirota Tayong, Jazmine Marie Teissonniere, Julian Marshall Thomas, Lionel Thomas and Leonard Daniel Thumann.  
 Dayra Guadalupe Torres Zuniga, Aracely Alicia Torres, Cruz Frederick Torres, Jennifer Alyssa Torres, Loi Nguyen Tran, Nolan Le Tran, Philip Tran, Thi Ho Tran, Olivia Dolores Tamez, Jada Sirota Tayong, Jazmine Marie Teissonniere, Julian Marshall Thomas, Lionel Thomas and Leonard Daniel Thumann.

Maxwell Antonio Cash, Maya Giselle Castellano, Elianny Mari Castillo, Julian Cavazos, Linh Cat Chung, Leonardo Cobos, Camryn Ann Collins, Shamara Denise Collins, Braulio David Colon Ortiz, Christopher Noe Contreras, Roberto Diego Corona, Ariel Alberto Cortez Amaya, Amyiah Re'shae Cotton, Ashley Marie Cruz, Aleah Ashanty Cuellar, Aislynn Diana Curtis Brooks, Madison Mae Andres Cuyo, Pham Huynh Tram Dang, Isaac Toan Song Dao, Daniel Rodney De La Rosa, Melanie De La Rosa, Andrew Jacob Deleon, Azalea Rain Deleon, Danielle Alicia Deleon, Maximiliano Rey Delgado, Richard David Diaz, Anna Thy Dinh, Diavio Angel Dominguez, Francisco Dunn and Vivian Ngan Duong.  
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Scott Alexander Kay, Blake Austin King, Sebastian Alexander King, Derrick Ray Knowles, Cancio Giovanni Knox-Limbacker, Quynh Nhat Ky, Emely Yulissa Lazo, Andy Le, Raehael Yvan Le, Tommy Le, Jordan Christiana Leahman, Naima Nickiah Leblanc, Angel Josue Limachi and Kyla Aileen Lobo.  
 Alejandro Lopez, Jonathan Nathaniel Lopez, Joshua Jeremiah Lopez, Trinity Belen Lopez, David Lozoya, Stephen Mark Lukner, Kaleb Joel Luna, Victoria Marie Luna, Han My Ly, Jennifer Ly, Julie Ann Machado, Aidan Jacob Maldonado, Hailey Blue Maldonado, Jazlyn Iris Maldonado and Cesar Antonio Martinez.  
 Daisy Juliet Martinez, Gabriel Javier Martinez, Frida Mejia, Darianny Mercedez, Matthew Nicholas Merlos, Shaina Monee Miles, Seth Michael Miller, Matison Amiyah Mitchell, Roselynn Molina, Frida Miranda Monreal, Jesus Elias Montano Barba, Michael Anthony Montano and Alexa Morales Acosta.

Jackie Rochin, Ja'kayla Diamond Cherry Rock-Butler, Daniel Adrian Rodriguez, Jeovany Jayr Rodriguez, Sophia Rose Rodriguez, Hailey Elena Rojas, Itzel Romero, Jacob Daniel Romero, Christian Ryan Jamelle Roundtree, Melania Madison Marie Salazar, Valerie Amber Salazar, Emily Salinas, Gustavo Ricardo Salinas, Adrian Jesus Sanchez, Aliyah Nicole Sanchez, Angelina Love Sanchez, Jalyssa Jamil Sanchez and Jacklyn Cristina Santos.  
 Alyson Renee Schwausch, Isabel Celeste Segovia, Madelyn Grace Sepulveda, Anna Serpas, Malcolm Joseph Sherwood, Sahalley Silva, Allisyn Hope Sockwell, Eric Gerardo Solis, Nicolas Ruben Soto, Vinh Quoc Ta, Malaiika Zandile Tapela, Maximo Alejandro Tapia, Hermynie Taylor, Kenton Dat Thai, Thuan Diec Thai, Kyler Matthew Thomas, Ke'asia Sue Thomas-Miller and Leonel Torres.  
 Leyla Evelyn Torres, Valeria Nichole Torres, Dulce Maria Torres-Padilla, Evelyn Linh Tran, Jimmy Tran, Kayla Mai-Trinh Tran, Kyle Minh-Dung Ngo Tran, Nghia Tran, Ngoc Bao Tran, Thomas Hoang Tran, Y Thien Tran, Eliana Macayla Trevino, Hannah Gia Truong, Blaine Anthony Turner, Jaeden Zachary Tyler, Abigail Margaux Unica, Fernando Valenzuela-Garcia and Julissa Vega.  
 Jasmin Carolina Villeda, Yihyen Vahan Visuet, Jimmy Vo, Mai Anh Tran Vu, Misa Tam-Nhu Vu, Glory Dongmo Vouffo, Dillan Son Vu, Hallie Hoa Vu, Iveen Bao Phi Vu, Joseph Nguyen Vu, Mathew Quoc Vu, Mia Kim Vu, Teresa Ngoc Vu, Thomas Hoang Vu, Trang Yen-Thuy Vu, Linh Nhat Khanh Vuong and Jalee'a Marie Walker.  
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 Giovanni Nunez, Aleena Ruby Nunez-Lozano, Alfredo Angel Ochoa Galicia, Brenda Anahi Ochoa Guillen, Dominic Ryan Ortiz, Hope Noelle Ortiz, Henry Alexander Pacheco-Moreno, Angel Alexander Padilla, Felicity Naomi Padilla, Angelina Castillo Paquinto and Nikolas Alexander Pelaez.  
 Diana Linda Pena, Santino Augustine Perez Bautista, Adam Everett Perez, Cassandra Michelle Perez, Reyna Daniela Perez, Julianne Le Pham, Michelle Pham, Khanh Kaitlyn Kieu Phan, Tony Phan, Jamare Travon Philbert, Uriel Onesimo Polito, Madison Victoria Puente, Samantha Pulido, Tracy Tran Quach, Rocio Elizabeth Quintero and Jaden

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## CB's Ecord chooses Schreiner men's soccer

At right, Clear Brook senior Tristan Ecord (seated) will continue his education and men's soccer career at Schreiner University in Kerrville after signing a letter of intent with the Mountaineers. Those with Ecord at the signing included, left to right, Wolverine coaches Christopher Gillis, Erica Alexander and Chelsea Pratt. Ecord also ran cross-country at Clear Brook.



## Pioneers medal at state

**Continued from Page 5**  
 The Lutheran South Academy girls' team took 10th place in the final team standings.  
 Cassidy Pfeiffer's time of 17.46 was sixth in the 100 hurdles, with Lydia Ward eighth at 17.68.  
 Alma Martin cleared 10-0 for fourth in the pole vault, with teammate Lanie Ward at 9-6 for fifth place.  
 Makynna Robbins took fourth place in both the discus (111-1) and the shot (36-5 1/2).  
 In the final event of the meet, the 4x400 relay, LSA was sixth in a time of 4:14.21 as the foursome included Mia Fulton, Elli Stoeckel, Anna Schepmann and Lydia Ward.



## CCEF hosts ninth annual TopGolf event

It was a hole-in-one success for CCISD teachers and students. More than \$40,000 was raised at the Clear Creek Education Foundation Ninth Annual CCISD Alumni and Friends TopGolf Tournament April 18.  
 The tournament hosted many community members and business owners around the area, to enjoy an afternoon of fun, fellowship and prizes.  
 In addition to sponsor-

ships and teams, CCEF had five items and experiences all donated and featured in a silent auction in which guests could bid.  
 All money raised from the tournament will go toward supporting innovative programs in the Clear Creek Independent School District.  
 "We are so appreciative of our sponsors, in-kind donors, the CCEF board and all the participants for continuing to support the students and teachers of CCISD," said event chair Ashley Goodhue.  
 "Special thanks to Enlace Jewelry, Oh What Fun Selfie and DJ Dolla Bill for creating such a fun atmosphere."  
 Winners of the tournament were South Land Title. This event would not have been possible without the support of all the generous sponsors.  
 The event was planned by a 14-person volunteer committee that included the work of Chairperson Ashley Goodhue; CCEF Executive Director Jennifer Garcia; CCEF Community Marketing and Events Manager Michele Thomas; and committee members CCEF Chairperson Melinda Mintz, Jenny McCorkle, JP Morris, Chris Rylant, Shannon Bennett, Kris Sturgul, Glencora Rodgers, Cipriano Romero, Heidi Reigel, Colin Rickard and Sean Doyle.

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# CALENDAR

**THURSDAY, MAY 9**  
7 a.m. AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill," Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., and Saturday at 7:30 a.m. Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit https://aahouston.org/meetings/  
7:30 a.m. Rotary Club of Pearland - Check website for time and location https://pearlandrotary.com/events/calendar or call (832) 293-9860.  
9 a.m. Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum - Exhibits include dioramas, a turn-of-the-century doctor's office and an old-time kitchen. Open Tues. - Sat., 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., 204 S. Main, Pasadena. Call Karen Hollon 713-472-0565 for appointment. Tours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
9:30 a.m. NASA Aglow Community Light-house - Second Thursday of the month, 9:30 a.m., Praise Chapel, 18516 Hwy. 3 in Webster. The public is welcome and encouraged to bring others. For details, call 281-910-1971 or visit aglownet.org.  
11:30 a.m. ABWA - Southeast Express Network - American Business Women's Association-South American Business Women's Association - Meetings are held January - November on the second Thursday of the month at Big Horn BBQ, 2300 Smith Ranch Rd., Pearland, TX 77584. Lunch is 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. (\$20 cash or check). Includes networking with professional business women and guest speakers. Women of all ages/occupations invited. Bring business cards. Reservations appreciated. Visit www.seen-abwa.org.  
6:30 p.m. Pearland Area Republican's Club - meets monthly on the second Thursday (except June, July and December) at VFW Post 7109 Pearland, 4202 W Walnut St., Pearland. For details, email pearlandarearepublicanclub@gmail.com or visit www.facebook.com/PARTX.  
**FRIDAY, MAY 10**  
7:30 a.m. AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.  
9 a.m. Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum See Thursday's notice.  
Noon Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or at https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners. Call 713-686-6300 for more information. Meets Monday, Wednesday and Friday.  
7 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com or https://nastuff.com/. Meets Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.  
8 p.m. Serenity Now Al-Anon Group - meets at CrossRoads UMC Friday, 8 to 9 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Family members and friends of problem drinkers/addicts share, learn Al-Anon principles, that they are not alone, and discover choices available. For details, call 281-484-9243.  
Alcoholics Anonymous - meets at CrossRoads UMC Wednesday, Friday and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call 281-484-9243.  
**SATURDAY, MAY 11**  
7:30 a.m. AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.  
9 a.m. Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum See Thursday's notice.  
9:30 a.m. Congregation Shaar Hashalom - All services are live and Zoom online. For details on the 7 p.m. Friday night or the 9:30 a.m. Saturday service, Judaism classes, film series, and lunch with the Rabbi, visit https://www.shaarhashalom.org.  
1 p.m. St. Paul's Anglican Church - offers a knitting class, Saturdays 1 p.m. Call 281-479-7285 prior to coming.  
**SUNDAY, MAY 12**  
8 a.m./ 10:15 a.m. St. Paul's Anglican Church - has worship Tuesday at 11:30 a.m., Wednesday at 7 p.m. (Bible study, Book of Revelation, at 6 p.m.) and Sunday at 8 a.m. and 10:15 a.m., 11456 Space Center Blvd. (in back of a medical/retail community). For details, call 281-479-7285 and leave a message, or stop by.  
5:30 p.m. Celebrate Recovery - A faith-based 12-Step program, in the Life Kids Chapel at Life Church, 9900 Alameda Genoa. Call 713-419-2635 for details.  
8 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous See Friday's notice.  
**MONDAY, MAY 13**  
Noon Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) See Friday's notice.  
12:30 - 3 p.m. Ballroom Dancing - at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 E. League City Parkway, League City, 77573, is open. Neva and Bill Schroder coordinate Wednesday sessions for casual ballroom dancing (not dance lessons). Park activity card holders attend free. Call 281-554-1180 for details.  
6 p.m. Scrabble Club #511 - Meets Monday at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua. Join in the fun and improve crossword skills. COVID-19 vaccination required. Email huff\_reunion@juno.com for details.  
7 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - St. Luke's Group, 12-Step Recovery, open meeting Mondays, 7 p.m. in the Education Bldg. in room 6, at 11011 Hall Rd., 77089. For details, call Rita at 281-309-2801.  
TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) - #0683 Friendswood chapter meets at the Friendswood Methodist Church, 110 N. Friendswood Dr. in the educational bldg., room 201. For information, call Lynette Ringrose 832-858-4617 or Dorothy Pourteau 713-875-8820.  
7 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous (NA) See Friday's notice.  
**TUESDAY, MAY 14**  
7 a.m. AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.  
10:00 a.m. CCART - The Clear Creek Association of Retired Teachers meets the second Tuesday, monthly, Sept.-May, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., Bay Area Community Center, 5002 NASA Parkway in Seabrook near Landolt Pavilion. Texas-retired school employees from surrounding school districts welcome. Annual dues are \$50.

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### Brook's Norl to Midland U



Wolverines' All-District varsity boys' basketball player Zion Norl (left) will continue his education and playing career at Midland University in Fremont, Neb., after signing a letter of intent with the Warriors' National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics program. At right is Clear Brook varsity boys' basketball head coach Nathan Janak.

### CB's Trevino to run at UTD



Clear Brook standout distance runner Joseph Trevino (seated) will continue his education and running career at the University of Texas at Dallas after signing a letter of intent with the Comets. Those with Trevino at the signing included, left to right, (standing) Clear Brook coaches Erica Alexander, Christopher Gillis, Nathan Janak and Chelsea Pratt. Trevino also played two seasons with the Wolverines' varsity basketball program and will now focus on cross-country and track and field with the Comets. On the education front, Trevino intends to major in business. UTD is an NCAA Division III program competing within the American Southwest Conference. Beginning in the 2025-2026 academic year, all 15 of UTD's men's and women's sponsored varsity sports are tentatively scheduled to move to Division II and compete within the Lone Star Conference.

### Dobie's Leblanc picks Lee VB



Dobie senior volleyball player Naima Leblanc will continue her education and playing career at Lee College in Baytown after signing a letter of intent with the Rebels. Over two varsity seasons at Dobie, Leblanc had 389 kills and helped the Longhorns to 32 regular-season wins in 2023, the most in program history. She was a first team All-District honoree as a player and also was part of the 22-6A All-Academic list honoring her work in the classroom.

### Haygood thrives at UT-Tyler



Former San Jacinto College softball standout Christin Haygood, who was a two-time Pitcher of the Year in Region 14 for the 2022 and 2023 seasons, has been named the Newcomer of the Year in the Lone Star Conference as a member of the UT-Tyler Patriots. Haygood to this point has gone 14-0 as a starting pitcher with a 1.63 earned run average. UT-Tyler, 46-7 overall this season and ranked third in the latest National Fastpitch Coaches Association Division II Top 25 Coaches Poll, will begin NCAA Division II regional tournament play May 9.

### Moreno meets Davis Cup legend



A trip to New York City gave Dobie tennis coach Manuel Moreno Jr. (left) the opportunity to meet International Tennis Hall of Fame member Charlie Pasarell, who as a professional won 23 singles championships on grass, clay, and hard court – defeating several all-time great players – and 30 doubles titles. While major trophies eluded him, he was a quarterfinalist at both Wimbledon (1976) and the U.S. National Championships (1965) and made concerted, third-round runs at the Australian Open (1976, 1977) and French Open (1973).

### Pioneer softball legend will join coaching staff



Former Lutheran South Academy softball star Shelby Smith will join the Pioneer coaching staff next spring as an assistant/pitching coach along with head coach Nicole Andrade. Smith, who helped LSA win a state title during her senior season, was a multi-time All-Conference performer at Seton Hall and is currently playing as a graduate student at the University of Houston.

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**Brook girls' hoops camp**

Clear Brook varsity girls' basketball head coach Mileka Loydrake and her staff will host the 2024 Wolverines' Youth Basketball Camp June 4-5 at the high school. Students entering the third through sixth grades as of the 2024-2025 school year will attend the Elementary camp from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. each day and receive both team and individual instruction in all phases of the game. The Elite camp will include students entering the seventh through ninth grades from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cost of each camp is \$65. Register no later than May 31 to ensure a camp T-shirt. To register, follow the Clear Brook girls' basketball program on Instagram at @BrookGBB or on X at @CBHSLadyBball.

**McLaurin competes at state**

Clear Brook junior high jumper Kamryn McLaurin closed out her record setting high jump season as she took ninth in the high jump at 5 feet, 2 inches at the 6A State Championships May 4 at the University of Texas at Austin. McLaurin qualified for the state meet after she cleared 5-8 at the Region III Championships, winning a bronze medal along the way.

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