Thursday, July 24, 2025

Email: mynews@southbeltleader.com

www.southbeltleader.com

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Leader seeks submissions

The South Belt-Ellington Leader encourages local schools, groups and individuals to continue sending story ideas and photos they'd like to see included in the newspaper. Submissions have declined following the death of Leader publisher Marie Flickinger in November. Contributions may be submitted to mynews@ southbeltleader.com.

Kirkwood to meet July 28

The Kirkwood Civic Club's monthly meeting will take place at 6:30 p.m. Monday, July 28, at the Sagemont Community Center, 11507 Hughes Road near Beltway 8. Meetings are typically held for the last Monday of the month. For additional information, call Kirkwood Civic Club President Ericka McCrutcheon at 281-

Coffee with the Constable

Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia will be at Donut Haven, 10802 Hughes Road at Beamer, from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. each Thursday morning as part of the weekly Coffee with the Constable series.

For additional information, call Sagemont Civic Club President Kay Barbour at 713-419-

Gulf Freeway closures set

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

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

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

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

New Covenant feeds needy

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

Freeway Manor to meet

Freeway Manor Civic Club will hold a meet ing at 7 p.m. Thursday, July 24, at Bible Way Church, 10120 Hartsook. Residents of Freeway Manor, Sun Valley and Gulfway Terrace are encouraged to attend.

Beltway closures planned

One outside lane of the eastbound Beltway 8 frontage road will be closed from Beamer to Hughes Road/Sabo from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays through Wednesday, Sept. 3.

One outside lane of the northbound Beltway 8 frontage road will be closed from Fairmont Parkway to Red Bluff in Pasadena continuously through Wednesday, Dec. 31.

One inside lane of the southbound Beltway 8 frontage road will be closed from Greenshadow to Red Bluff in Pasadena continuously through Wednesday, Dec. 31.

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

Hughes/Sabo closures set

At least one southbound lane on Hughes/ Sabo will be closed continuously at Beltway 8 until further notice.

Westbound Beltway 8 frontage roads may also be intermittently closed at Hughes/Sabo until further notice.

The closure is associated with an ongoing Houston Public Works project to replace a force water main at the intersection.

Sagemont to meet Aug. 5

The Sagemont Civic Club will hold a meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 5, at The Gardens, 12001 Beamer at Hughes. All Sagemont residents/homeowners are invited to attend. The meetings typically take place the first Tuesday of each month. For additional information, call Sagemont Civic Club President Kay Barbour at

Knights to sell barbecue

Knights of Columbus Council 9201 will host a barbecue fundraiser at St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church, located at 11011 Hall Road, Saturday, July 26, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, July 27, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Cost will be \$12 for a pulled-pork sandwich, cole slaw, chips and soft drink; and \$6 for sausage-on-a-stick. Proceeds will benefit the church's capital campaign.

Pasadena ISD votes to increase teacher pay

Starting salary now \$65K+; teachers with 5+ years to get \$5K hike

July 17.

approved pay raises for teachers and other staff, increasing the starting teacher salary to \$65,205.

This decision aims to improve recruitment and

Details

Teachers with 0-2 years experience will receive a \$1,500 pay increase. Educators who have been on the job for 3-4 Teachers with 5+ years experience will re-

ceive a \$5,000 pay increase. Other staff will receive a 2 percent midpoint

The Voice of Community-Minded People

While the exact impact on the district budget for these raises was not immediately available, a similar increase in 2021 cost Pasadena ISD approximately \$10 million.

Comparison to previous years

This raise represents a notable increase compared to previous years. In 2018-2019, the starting teacher salary was \$53,140, increasing to \$57,619 for the 2021-2022 school year. Comparison to other Texas cities

The new starting salary of \$65,205 puts Pasadena ISD ahead of the state average teacher salary, which was reported at \$58,887 in 2024. The pay rate, however, falls slightly below some

covering after being shot during a late-night ex-

change of gunfire near Hobby Airport Thursday,

According to HPD officials, Sgt. Paul George,

a 27-year veteran of the force assigned to the

Southeast Patrol Division, was responding to

a call about a suspicious person with a weap-

on around 11:35 p.m. near Almeda Genoa and

Burch, arrived at the scene, a male suspect im-

When George and fellow HPD sergeant, K.

as Deer Park ISD (\$70,300) and Dallas ISD (\$70,217).

Potential benefits

The district hopes this pay increase will help attract and retain high-quality educators, particularly in a competitive educational landscape. This could lead to a stronger workforce and ultimately benefit the students of Pasadena ISD, school officials said.

Blackhawk repairs continue



Construction continues on a Harris County Precinct 2 project make extensive street and sidewalk repairs on Blackhawk from Scarsdale to Beltway 8. According to county officials, all concrete street panels deemed defective will be replaced along the area thoroughfare, and all sidewalks will be extended from 4 to 6 feet wide. (Some areas currently without a sidewalk will have a new 6-foot sidewalk installed.) See related photo on Page 2.

Fleeing chase suspect killed by police

Suspect allegedly fired at officers during multiagency pursuit

along the Gulf Freeway from Bellfort to Galveston Island the morning of Wednesday, July 16, ended in the death of the fleeing suspect, who investigators said was firing shots at officers.

The chase involved law enforcement officers from Harris County Precinct 8 Constable Phil Sandlin's office, Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia's office, the Texas Department of Public Safety, the Galveston Police Department and the Galveston County Sheriff's

At a joint press conference, investigators said the incident began around 10:10 a.m. when a Pre-

A multiple-agency pursuit that led police cinct 2 deputy spotted a stolen vehicle near Bellfort and Broadway (in Houston) and attempted to conduct a traffic stop, but the driver refused to

> The pursuit traveled south down the Gulf Freeway at a high rate of speed, while the deputy called for backup. Investigators said that during the pursuit, the

suspect fired multiple shots at officers.

The chase came to a stop on Broadway (in

Galveston) near 54th Street.

As the armed suspect was exiting the vehicle, he was met with deadly force by law enforce-**Continued on Page 3**

mediately opened fire, striking George in the leg. "These are the types of scenes our officers Both officers immediately returned fire, hitting the suspect. come across on a daily basis," said Rodriguez.

HPD sergeant shot near Hobby Airport

Suspect also shot during exchange; both recovering in hospital

Emergency aid was administered on site, and both George and the suspect were transported to

a local hospital in stable condition.

The suspect, identified as Bobby Jose Alvara-

A Houston Police Department sergeant is redo, 36, has since been charged with two counts of aggravated assault of a peace officer in the 487th State District Court. Mayor John Whitmire issued a statement the

following morning, expressing gratitude that George's injuries were non-life-threatening. "This incident reminds us of the daily dan-

gers our officers face in service to our city," said Whitmire. "Their courage and dedication do not go unnoticed." This message was reinforced by HPD As-

sistant Chief Adrian Rodriguez, who wished George a speedy recovery.

"It is always unexpected what they are going to come across. This was a very quick scene and they had to respond quickly to respond to the Continued on Page 3

Local educator Caryl Wilson dies at 75

Wilson served as 2nd Clear Brook principal, 1st black in CCISD

Former Clear Brook Principal Dr. Caryl L. Wilson died in Pearland July 11 at the age of 75. Wilson served as principal of the area high school from 1997 until her retirement in 2008.

She made history as Clear Creek ISD's first African-American principal. She was the second principal to serve at the campus, succeeding the school's founding principal who served from its opening in 1992 until 1997. Clear Brook excelled during Wilson's 11-year

tenure, and under her leadership, the high school earned a "Recognized" rating from the Texas Education Agency – a prestigious a distinction that reflected her unwavering commitment to student achievement and staff development. Known for her deep compassion, Wilson

championed programs that supported underserved students and fostered a culture of inclusivity. Her tenure was marked by a steady rise in graduation rates, expanded AP course offerings and a renewed emphasis on teacher mentorship.

A lifelong learner, Wilson had a rich and varied educational background. A 1967 graduate of

Fidelity Manor High School Galena Park, Wilson was a member of the choir, Spanish club, student council, art club, future teachers group, honor society, drama club and Pantherette drill team. She served as senior class president and was named Ms. Fidelity at the campus in 1967.

Following graduation Wilson earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Spelman College in Atlanta in 1971. She majored in Spanish and mi-



Former Pct. 8 judge, civic leader dies

A longtime justice of the peace, Molly Maness Smith dies at 68

Peace Molly Essary Maness Smith died Tuesday, July 8, at the age of 68.

Born in Houston on Jan. 18, 1957, Smith was the fourth daughter of Dawson and Mary Essary, a family deeply rooted in Galena Park's history. A proud graduate of Galena Park High School, she went on to attend San Jacinto College, where she joined the San-Jans drill team and earned a scholarship to Texas A&M University, later completing her degree at University of Houston-Clear Lake.

Smith continued to have a close relationship with San Jacinto College throughout her career.

Her journey into public service began with Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Jim Fonteno's office, but it was in 1988 that Smith made her mark, winning a grassroots campaign to become justice of the peace for Harris County Precinct 8. Her victory – by just 100 votes out of

Former longtime Precinct 8 Justice of the 70,000 – was the beginning of a 20-year tenure that would touch thousands of lives. Smith was known for her compassionate ap-

proach to juvenile justice, pioneering efforts in truancy prevention and youth outreach. She balanced the law with humor and heart, often saying her courtroom was a place for second chances. Her work extended

beyond the bench, serving on numerous local Molly Maness Smith boards, including the



Pasadena and Deer Park chambers of commerce, Rotary Club, YMCA, Bridge Over Troubled Waters and Camp H-Town, among others.

Continued on Page 3

BellaVita Belles collect JFD donations

Residents donate supplies, clothes to local high school students

The women's group, the Belles, of the BellaVita over-55 community, are partnering this month with Dobie High School to collect donations for students.

Dobie Assistant Principal Laurie Calderaro presented the group with a list of needs. She explained that Dobie is a Title I school. To qualify for Title I, a school must be 40 percent from low-income families. School-related needs include glue sticks,

Scotch laminate sheets, dry eraser markers, all colors of Sharpies, paper towels, Kleenex, Clorex wipes and white construction paper. Also, they are collecting gray or black fleece

hoodies of all sizes, but extra large sizes are in high demand – even those going up to triple x. In addition, they will be collecting men's crew

A box has been placed in the BellaVita clubhouse to collect donations. Each month, the Belles adopt a different char-

ity. Last month, it helped the Three Little Pities animal rescue group. That drive was spearheaded by former Dobie

teacher Nancy Walker. This month the BellaVita Belles are also holding a silent auction to benefit the Dress for Success charity in conjunction with their annual Ladies' Night In event. Last year's auction raised more than \$2,000 in

cash for Dress for Success, a program to assist needy women reentering the workforce. They also collected handbags, scarfs and pantyhose.

At Easter, BellaVita residents put together gifts of candy-stuffed eggs and Easter-centric books for kindergarteners at Burnett Elementary. See related photo on Page 3.

Plummer resigns to seek judge position

Several potential candidates eyeball Plummer's current Council seat

lly entered the race for Harris would seek re-

County Judge in the 2026 election, triggering a wave of political movement across the region. Plummer, who has represented At-Large Po-

sition 4 since 2020, announced her candidacy Tuesday, July 8, at Brock Park in northeast Houston, a location chosen to highlight her campaign's focus on flood control and infrastructure

At press time, it remained unclear if current

Houston City Council Member Letitia Plum- Harris County judge, Democrat Lina Hidalgo, press conference she will make her final decision

in the coming weeks. A trailblazing career

A native Houstonian, Plummer is a practicing dentist and the first Muslim woman elected to Houston City Council. She holds degrees from Spelman College and Baylor College of

Continued on Page 2



Grahams' grandson meets Astros

Rosa and Don Graham of Sageglen were delighted to watch their grandson, 10-year-old Lane Graham, participate in Kids Take the Field at the Astros' July 13 game. Astros outfielder Taylor Trammell is shown signing Lane's shirt in the outfield at Daikin Park before the first pitch. Rosa Graham is a longtime staff member of the South Belt-Ellington

In My Opinion

Liew shares NIH/ Medicaid concerns

I am a Dobie High School graduate (class of 2006) and, before that, a Beverly Hills Bear and Meador Mustang. This year, I was honored to be inducted into the Dobie Hall of Honor, I'm not only a product of the South Belt community, but a physician and National Institutes of Health (NIH)-funded scientist whose career was made possible by our Pasadena ISD schools.

I was the first in my family to attend college and then medical school. I started in a state-funded pre-kindergarten program and received support from English as a Second Language (ESL) and Gifted & Talented programs. My path to becoming a doctor, and later a researcher, was shaped by educators who believed in me.

I became a doctor to help people. I became a scientist so that my research could reach those beyond my clinic These dreams are now under threat.

My research is on knee arthritis, a condition that affects 15 million Americans but has no cure. After submitting multiple proposals and receiving intense critiques, I received a 5-year, \$800,000 NIH grant to support my work. Many smart colleagues leave research due to lack of funding and uncertainty over their

Now, the NIH budget has been slashed, and already-awarded grants have been canceled. The future of science is in danger. Fewer researchers will be able to work on treatments for arthritis, but also cancer and heart disease. These are conditions that affect people everywhere. No research funding means no new treatments.

I also care for patients as a rheumatologist (a specialist in bones and joints and diseases involving the immune system). I already see how expected Medicaid cuts are limiting patient access to important medications. These are drugs that help people manage their disease, stay employed, and care for their families. Costs can reach thousands per month. There are no cheap-

Budget cuts do not only affect Medicaid patients. They impact hospitals and clinics that serve everyone. Clinics and hospitals may lose staff or shut down. As doctors shift focus to patients who've lost coverage, they will have less time for oth-

This is my story: as a researcher, a physician, and a Dobie graduate who grew up in the South Belt area. When you hear the news, I hope you remember this. I hope you remember that this story is not about me. Cuts to scientific research affect everyone who might benefit from new medical treatments. Cuts to Medicaid affect everyone who relies on the healthcare system.

When you hear the news, consider calling or writing your representatives in government. Tell them you want scientific research to continue. Tell them the healthcare system needs continued support. Feel free to share this story, but also yours.

Jean Liew, MD MS Dobie High School, class of 2006

Bay Area Genealogy meets July 25

The Bay Area Genealogical Society General online meeting is set for 7 p.m. Friday, June 25, with guest speaker Thomas MacEntee presenting "After You're Gone: Future Proofing Your Genealogy Research." Has one ever considered what will happen to one's years of genealogy research once one is gone? Learn how to ensure that one's hard work carries on. Through a combination of planning, common sense and new technologies, a review on how to create an action plan for preserving one's genealogy research will be

MacEntee is a baby boomer with a love of punk rock music and art history who somehow "fell" into the technology industry almost 40 years ago, then left a lucrative IT career to pursue his love of family history and genealogy. Technology and historical research are opposites, but "tech people" like MacEntee are needed to guide today's genealogists through the maze of options so they can deploy the best apps and devices to break down research brick walls. MacEntee is an author, educator, advocate, entrepreneur and that "genealogy guy" who helps one accomplish their family history goals.

Details are posted on the Bay Area Genealogical Society website for this online meeting. Check out the other topics and links offered by BAGS, at www.TxBayAreaGen.org. For more information, email newsletter@TxBayAreaGen.org.

NASA Aglow Lighthouse meets July 26

NASA Aglow Lighthouse invites all to its meeting on Saturday, July 26, beginning at

10 a.m. at Praise Chapel, 18516 SH 3, Webster.

Bruce Klinger, who was born and raised in Houston by parents who were Assembly of God pastors, and who graduated from Texas A&M and began a 40-year career in Information Technology, will be the guest speaker. Recently retired, he and his wife, Teresa, began leading a Healing Life Group at a local church, teaching principles of divine healing and seeing God confirm his word with a demonstration of the Holy Spirit and power. Bring a friend to the meeting as NASA Aglow celebrates the presence of the Lord.

Garage sale extravaganza July 27

A garage sale extravaganza is to be held on Sunday, July 27, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. More than 100 families contributed clothes, baby clothes, linens, shoes, sports, baby items, toys, small kitchen appliances, electronics, etc. These treasures are displayed in a large air-conditioned space. There is convenient ample parking to assist with one's day of discovery sorting through loads of items. Cash and credit cards are welcome.

This one-day sale is located at Congregation Shaar Hashalom, 16020 El Camino Real, in Clear Lake City between Bay Area Blvd. and El Dorado Blvd. Congregation Shaar Hashalom is the Conservative Synagogue of the Clear Lake/Bay

Area serving the community since 1967. Guests are welcome to visit Friday and Saturday Shabbat services conducted by Rabbi Eitan Krul. Call the office register. The congregation is located at 16020 El Camino Real.

Local library events set

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

Bracewell Branch Library

Bracewell Library is at 9002 Kingspoint. Customers are encouraged to visit the building to browse, check out and return materials, use the computers and Wi-Fi, and check out holds. For information, visit https://houstonlibrary.org/. For online learning, visit https://houstonlibrary. org/online-learning-7556 or call 832-393-2580. Hours are Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Wednesdays, noon - 8 p.m.; Fridays, 1 - 5 p.m.; and Saturdays, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Bracewell is closed Sundays.

Thursday, July 24, 1 – 5 p.m. HPL get lit summer 2025.

Thursday, July 24, 2 – 3 p.m. Painting party with splash kids art. Registration required. Thursday, July 24, 3 – 4 p.m. Open lab computer help. Registration required.

Monday, July 28, 11 a.m. – noon. Open lab computer help. Registration required.

Wednesday, July 30, 3 – 4 p.m. Woven bookmarks. Registration required. al com/calendar/events

Book drop

The book drop is open. Library materials can be returned. The library continues to provide online resources to enjoy the library virtually. Large items such as FLIP kits or laptops should not be placed in the book drop, but taken inside.

Parker Williams Library

Parker Williams Library is open. Visit https://www.hcpl.net/reopening for reopening information or the main website at https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-li brary. The library will follow state and county guidelines for mask and social distancing.

The book drop is open. Social media links are Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary and Instagram.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary. The following events are scheduled for Parker Williams Library, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd.: Thursday, July 24, 10:15 – 10:45 a.m. Toddler time.

Thursday, July 24, 3-4 p.m. Paper plate bird. Friday, July 25, 1-3 p.m. Diamond painting club for adults. Registration required

Saturday, July 26, 10 a.m. – noon. Tai Chi.

Saturday, July 26, 10 a.m. – noon. 1at Cnt.

Saturday, July 26, 2 – 4 p.m. Book 2 movie club: Catching Fire.

Monday, July 28, 1 – 2:30 p.m. ESL conversation club. Registration required.

Monday, July 28, 4 – 5 p.m. Intro to sublimation demo craft: Fabric coasters.

Tuesday, July 29, 10:15 – 10:45 a.m. Babies 'n' books.

Wednesday, July 30, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Tai Chi.

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

Online services

– Use HCPL Wi-Fi service with HCPL's drive-up Wi-Fi. - Download e-books and audiobooks, stream movies, research and learn at www.hcpl.net.

Attend an HCPL program or story time online through Facebook or YouTube.

- Check an account to renew loans or request books, e-books, comics or graphic novels. Stream classic films, Indie cinema and award-winning documentaries on Kanopy.

- Listen to audiobooks through RBDigital or OverDrive.

Read along and play with picture books on TumbleBooks.

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

South Belt-Ellington Leader

The Voice of Community-Minded People

11555 Beamer

E-mail: mynews@southbeltleader.com David Flickinger, owner

281-481-5656

Alert from resident leads to arrest

A call from a concerned resident about a suspicious individual led to the arrest of a wanted man Monday, July 21, in the 18100 block of the Gulf Freeway near El Dorado Boulevard.

According to officials with Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia's office, deputies responded to a report that the individual was acting suspiciously behind a business located at the above address near Baybrook Mall. Upon their prompt ar-

rival, deputies observed the invididual in question to ual off the streets - thanks be homeless and offered to to the quick action of our

dent for their assistance

"Another wanted individ-

Garcia took to social media to thank the alert resi-

sued by Harris County Pre-

Eric Stone was safely

taken into custody for the

open warrants and trans-

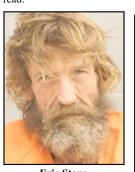
ported to the Harris County

cinct 8 Constable Phil San-

dlin's office.

which he declined to accept. of our community," a post Deputies proceeded to on Garcia's Facebook page identify the man; at which read. time, it was discovered that he had 14 open warrants is-

provide assistance to him, deputies and the vigilance



Pct. 2 deputies assist marshals

Local deputies help execute federal arrest warrant

recently assisted the U.S. Marshals Office execute a federal warrant in the 12000 block of Megan Woods located near Blackhawk and

At the request of the Marshals Office, deputies helped execute a federal probation violation warrant on 27-year-old Christian Vaca during the late morning hours of Tuesday July During the warrant ex-ecution, local deputies and

federal agents were able to successfully apprehend Vaca without incident. Precinct 2 officials took

to social media to celebrate the arrest. "Constable Garcia will

continue to utilize his resources to assist other agen-

Deputies with Jerry Gar- cies in taking criminals off sample of the results that cia, Harris County Precinct
2 Constable Jerry Garcia's constable's Facebook page together. Stay safe, God Special Operations Unit read. "This is just a small bless!"



Work continues on the Harris County project to make entire length of the project, with all portions of sidewalk

levard between Scarsdale and Beltway 8. Plans call \$2.7 million project is expected to cause intermittent for all defective road panels to be replaced along this road closures along Blackhawk. Drivers are urged to

Plummer resignation sparks political activity

Council member to challenge Hidalgo; Boykins, others eye Council seat

ics, Elections and Council City Council seat:

committees, including Eth-

Governance, and took lead-

ership roles in Budget and

and Regulatory and Neigh-

Boykins. "I'm running for

At-Large Position 4 because

our city needs leadership

that's bold, experienced and

safety and food deserts to

caring for our seniors and

neighborhood revitaliza-

he intends to address the

city's finances, enhance

public safety and make in-

frastructure improvements

that are both sustainable and

equitable across all commu-

nities. With his experience

and dedication to public ser-

vice, Boykins said he aims

to unite Houstonians around

shared goals and collabora-

that will enter this race that

can hit the ground running

on day one," said Boykins added. "Public service is

in my heart. I just couldn't

continue to sit on the side-

lines while our city faces so

sity and resides in the Third

Other Council candidates

in addition to Boykins have

already declared their intent

Several other contenders

A lifetime resident of

many pressing issues.

Ward community.

"I am the only candidate

tive efforts.

the Sagemont Civic Club - Houston, Boykins is a gradu-

championed social services ate of Texas Southern Univer-

If elected, Boykins said

"Serving the people of

street and sidewalk improvements on Blackhawk Bou-

stretch of the area thoroughfare, according to Precinct

2 officials. A 6-foot sidewalk will also be installed for the

ability to extreme weather Fiscal Affairs, Housing and

turbulent times, calling on a Houston has been the great-new kind of leadership that is est honor of my life," said

ty policy and criticized what ready to act on the challeng-

she described as inadequate es we face – from public

tion.

and budget constraints as Community Development individuals:

borhood Affairs.

Continued from Page 1

Why she's running

County's growing vulner-

key motivators for her cam-

tough and fair," Plummer said

for local control over coun-

responses from state and fed-

eral leaders during recent di-

Vacating her Council seat

Under Texas' "resign-to-

run" law, Plummer was re-

quired to step down from her

City Council post to pursue county office. Her resigna-

tion took effect immediately

upon her announcement, and

the city is expected to hold a

special election on Nov. 4 to

Boykins files for Council

declaration, former District

who represented the South

Belt community from 2013

to 2019, announced he would

seek Plummer's At-Large

Position 4 seat on City Coun-

During his tenure on City Council, Boykins – a

close ally of the Leader and

for seniors and youth, trans-

parent financial practices,

quality streets and sidewalks,

neighborhood beautification

and responsive public safe-

ty measures. He chaired key

D City Council Member.

Shortly after Plummer's

fill the vacancy.

She emphasized the need

at her recent announcement

These are uncertain and

Plummer cited Harris

Dr. Caryl Lynette Wilson



Dr. Caryl Lynette Carter the daughter of John and Jovce Carter. She was a 1967 gradu-

ate of Fidelity Manor High School. During her tenure there, she joined the choir, Spanish club, art club, was a member of future teachers, senior class president, a member of student council, the honor society, drama club, a Pantherette, and was also Ms. Fidelity - 1966-

She earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Spelman College in Atlanta, Ga. in 1971. She majored in Spanish and minored in secondary education. On Feb. 7, 1971, Jonetta

born and on Aug. 16, 1977, Kristi Michelle, her baby girl In 1987 she received her master's in education degree from the University of Hous-

served as assistant principal for curriculum and instruc-

Nicole, her first daughter was Smith went home to be with

Deaths

and retired from Clear Brook

direction of Wynn Funeral

Home were held Friday, July

18, 2025, at Hope Church in

Molly Essary

Maness Smith

Funeral services under the

High school in 2008.

following a tragic accident. From 1987-1990, she Molly lived a life full of love, service, generosity, and dedication to her family, friends, and community. Molly was Blackhawk construction underway born in Houston on Jan. 18,

1957, and was the fourth daughter of Dawson Herman Essary and Mary Emily Essary. She was preceded in death by her parents and grandparents, among the original founders of Galena Park and made their mark in church and

> Molly attended Galena Park High School follow-

> the Lord on July 8, 2025,

ing behind her impressive "YaYa" sisters Diana Kurten (Jimmy), Deborah Parrott (Mike) and Candy Sherbet (Joe). She later attended San Jacinto Community College where she became a member of the San-Jans marching drill team. Representing La Porte and Bayshore, she competed and won the opportunity to advance to the Miss Texas Contest and used her scholarship to attend Texas A&M as a behavioral science major. Molly completed her studies at the University of Houston-Clear Lake. In 1979 Molly married

Jimmie (Chip) Maness and they raised their three children Mary Kathryn (Katy) Maness-Kerbow, Lauren Winton (Ronny) and Jimmie (Rvan) Maness in Deer Park. Molly took great delight in her grandchildren, Katy's daughter Emily Ni-cole Cotton and son Easton James Kerbow and Candace's son Logan Ethington. She planned many trips for the family over the years, most recently a June trip to Nashville, Tenn. for a birthday celebration.

Molly became involved to run for Plummer's former mer Houston mayor, Parker government announced her candidacy in working for Pct. 2 Commis-Erica Lee Carter: sioner Jim Fonteno as a senior program coordinator. In 4 spot include the following daughter of the late Rep.

tion in Galena Park ISD. In 1989, she was accepted into 1988 she felt called to public office and she ran a true grass the doctoral program at the roots campaign as a Demo-University of Houston. In crat for the position of Pct. 1993, she was the principal of La Marque High School, 8 Justice of the Peace. Her opponent was the incumbent and in 1994, she was acceptjudge, a Republican attorney, and she won by 100 votes out of 70,000 cast. She changed ed into the Harvard summer institute at Harvard Graduate School of Education in Camparties to Republican shortly thereafter and was unopposed bridge, Mass. In June 1996, she graduated summa cum throughout her 20-year run laude from La Salle Univeras justice of the peace. Her sity in Mandeville, La. with passion was work in truancy and juvenile issues, and she a doctorate in philosophy in education. In June 1997 she balanced law with humor to was assigned as principal of impact thousands of lives. While raising a family and Clear Brook High School. She married Robert Roger Wilson on April 6, 2000, serving as judge, Molly made

time to serve on boards of most every civic organization in the community - Pasadena Chamber of Commerce, Deer Park Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Club as a Paul Harris Fellow, the YMCA, The Bridge Over Troubled Waters, the Pasadena and Deer Park education foundations and Camp H-Town. Additionally, she taught judges across the state of Texas as well as emceed and sang at the Hometown Opry.

Molly retired from the political arena in 2008 and entered her next phase in life as a funeral director. This too was a calling where she excelled and she ministered to people and families in their time of greatest need, bringing sustaining comfort and support during life's most difficult challenge.

In 2014 Molly married Carroll Smith and expanded her family to include his two sons W.C. and Brandon Smith, along with their wives Catherine and Erin, and their children Ashley and Lauren (W.C.) and Charlotte, Ethan, and Julia (Brandon) Smith. Their blended family includes five children and eight grandchildren. A proud claim of Molly's

was the privilege of having been baptized in the River Jordan in Israel some years ago. It was one of many memorable trips she enjoyed in her lifetime. Molly was always the one who lit up a room when she entered it, and she sang and danced her way through life leaving an impression all who crossed her path. Molly's extinguished light has dimmed our world. but her larger-than-life presence ensures she will live on in our hearts and memories. Friends are cordially in-

ily and celebrate memories of Molly during a visitation from 5 until 8 p.m. on the evening of Friday, July 25, at Geo. H. Lewis & Sons, 1010 Bering Drive in Houston. A funeral service is to be conducted at 11 a.m. on Saturday, July 26, in the Chapel at Pasadena First Baptist Church, 7500 Fairmont Parkway in Pasadena, where the Rev. Dr. Jon Redmond is to officiate. The family will gather for a private inurnment at a later

vited to gather with the fam-

Flowers in honor of Molly are encouraged or memorial contributions may be directed to The San Jacinto College

Leader obituary policy

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

7 p.m.



ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST Catholic Church Rev. Douglas J. Guthrie, Pastor Rev. Antonio Cisneros, Parochial Vicar

LITURGY SCHEDULE 5:30 p.m.

Sunday Sunday 1 p.m. Misa en Español* Monday, Wednesday & Friday

Thursday 7:45 to 8:30 p.m. Parish Office: 281-481-6816

Children's Faith Formation: 281-481-4251 Adult Faith Formation: 713-538-2862 All are welcome to come to worship and serve the Lord

Gibson Insurance

focusing on housing and food Harris County judge race and

currently 4 feet wide being extended 2 feet in width. The

Photo by James Bolen

Sheila Jackson Lee, Carter

go does not seek re-election.

Piney Point Village and for-

mer journalist.

- Warren Howell: a busi-

nessman focused on fiscal re-

enforcement veteran.

- Aliza Dutt: mayor of

- Oscar Gonzales: a law

For the latest updates on

who has filed to run in both the

the Houston At-Large Posi-

tion 4 City Council election in

2026, visit Texas Secretary of

State Jane Nelson's website at

voter/important-election-dates.

Alejandra Salinas: has stated she will run if in-

Houston attorney and cumbent Judge Lina Hidal-

has secured endorsements On the Republican side

use caution. See related photo on Page 1.

Potential candidates for June.

Plummer's At-Large Position

LGBTQ+ advocate, Salinas

from U.S. Rep. Sylvia Gar-

cia and Harris County Com-

workforce development and

profit executive, Nwabara is

County judge race heats up

Democratic primary field that

includes the following candi-

Plummer joins a crowded

Annise Parker: a for- shtml.

drainage improvements.

insecurity.

- Al Lloyd: a civic lead-

from South MacGregor,

- Obes Ńwabara: a non-

Lloyd is campaigning on form.

missioner Adrian Garcia.



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versary, the newspaper looks back at the construction of the local tollway from which the publication takes its name. After being delayed more than a decade, work on the local stretch of the beltway finally took place in the mid-90s. Construction of the entire 89-mile tollway, however, would not be complete until 2011. A young Eliza Paul, of the Texas Department of Transportation, is pictured below with the construction. Recently retired. Paul is the wife of state Rep. Dennis Paul, who currently represents much of the South Belt community. See additional photos commemorating the Leader's 50th anniversary in future editions, as the newspaper will continue to publish them throughout the remain-

Leader looks back at local Beltway 8 construction



Former Brook Principal Caryl Wilson dies

Wilson was 1st African American principal in Clear Creek ISD

nored in secondary educa-

In 1971, Wilson gave birth to her first daughter Jonetta again in 1977 to her second

daughter Kristi Michelle In 1987, she received her master's in education degree from the University of Hous-

Cambridge, Mass., studying at the Harvard Principals Academy.

Prior to becoming princiserved as assistant principal

From 1993-1996, Wilson served as principal of La son worked as an adjunct In 1996, Wilson earned a Marque High School, also Nicole, before giving birth Doctor of Philosophy in edu-making history as Texas City Houston-Clear Lake. cation from La Salle Univer- ISD's first African-American sity in Louisiana, graduating principal - and first female husband Robert Roger Wil-

From 1994 to 2001, Wilpal at Clear Brook, Wilson son served as district chair of son was held Friday, July 18, In 1994, Wilson was actor for Curriculum and Instructure Colleges and Schools (1994—See related obituary on this cepted into Harvard Gradution in Galena Park ISD, a 2001), overseeing accredity page...

ate School of Education in position she held from 1987- tation for multiple districts From 1997 to 2000, Wil-

In 2000, Wilson married

A funeral service for Wilthe Southern Association of at Hope Church in Pearland.

Fleeing chase suspect killed by police

Suspect allegedly opened fire on police during 30-minute pursuit

A 20-year Pct. 8 justice of the peace, Smith leaves lasting legacy

In 2014, she married Car- River Jordan and visited all

Continued from Page 1 ment. At press time, it was unclear which agency(s) had

Authorities stressed that the investigation remains able to publicly discuss any active and that further de- details of the event while the 30 minutes, investigators tails, including the suspect's identity and motive, will be Kayla Allen, first assistant for released pending autopsy results and next-of-kin notification. The Harris County

Continued from Page 1

a new calling as a funeral di-

Precinct 8 Constable's office with assistance from the Galveston Police Department.

"At this time, we are uninvestigation is pending," trict Attorney's Office, said at Wednesday's media briefing.

is leading the investigation, down in Galveston between the risks involved in high-51st and 56th streets for several hours as investigators processed the scene.

the Galveston County Dis- cers were injured during the dence.

The incident has sparked ry at press time.

Broadway was closed renewed discussions about speed pursuits and the proforce. Law enforcement offi-The pursuit lasted about cials stated that more details would be released following

No law enforcement offi- era footage and forensic evi-

SJC launches training program to support space-based pharmaceutical recovery

San Jacinto College is tech company, Rhodium Science and marks a major on biotechnology training ter to meet growing demand workforce training through step toward building a com-Fomer Judge Molly Maness Smith dies a new partnership with In- mercial pipeline for spacetuitive Machines to develop based medication developa biopharmaceutical materi- ment. al handling program, which prepares technicians to safely manage pharmaceuticals developed by San Jacin- biomanufacturing," said Dr. next-generation industries,' returned from space. This to College in collaboration Christopher Wild, assistant donations to the San Jacinto initiative will support Intui-W.C. and Brandon held for Smith Saturday, July College Foundation in honor tive Machines' Earth Reentry Program; building on its align with the unique regulapartnership with America's tory and technical demands. San Jac's robust biotech- Earth return vehicle to deliv-

Designed from the ground with Intuitive Machines and

tion in the southern U.S. "With our NIBRT-certi- Park this summer, a first-of- received and transferred for

the Houston Spaceport, San Jacinto College is uniquely yond. positioned to lead the development of the workforce

vice chancellor and vice other industry partners to president of Biotechnology. This initiative builds on

for bioprocessing professionals across Texas and be-

"San Jacinto College understands what it takes up, the curriculum will be needed for space-enabled to prepare a workforce for said Justin Kugler, senior director of Business Development at Intuitive Machines. "As we develop a precision The training will be built to nology program, which in-NIBRT (National Institute cludes a biomanufacturing rials, San Jacinto College is 80 students have completfor Bioprocessing Research technology associate degree training the technicians who Training) standards, and certificates. As the pro- will help ensure those sciwith the College being the gram expands, the College entific payloads—developed only NIBRT-certified institu- will open a new Center for by companies like Rhodi-Biotechnology at Generation um Scientific—are safely

use. We believe their role is essential to making orbital ly viable, connecting what's made in space to what's needed on Earth

This partnership continues a long-standing relationship with Intuitive Machines, dating back to 2019, and complements a Texas Space Commission-funded project to develop a fullscale ground prototype return vehicle. Approximately ed the College's composite manufacturing technician course and approximately 25 percent of those have gone on to worked at Intuitive Ma-

rector, offering comfort and Smith. 26, at First Baptist Church in An extensive traveler, Pasadena, with visitation the See re Smith was baptized in the evening before at Geo. H. this page. care to families during their See related obituary on first commercial space bio-Houston public libraries to host back-to-school giveaways

A funeral service will be

the buzz of Back-to-School, fore attending. Visit https:// Houston Public Library (HPL) calendar.houstonlibrary.org/ is celebrating throughout the calendar/events?t=d&q=Backmonth of August. On Saturday, to-School&cid=15272& and easy language learning for Aug. 9, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., HPL libraries across the city tions. are reconnecting with families. educators and students.

Libraries will offer fun activities, giveaways and hands- books. Attendees will learn on demonstrations of HPL's most popular tools. Staff will be available to answer questions and help visitors discover resources tailored to their lections. specific educational goals. Families are encouraged to and homework help available find Back-to-School events

As the city comes alive with near them and register becal=15272&inc=0 for loca-

> explore tools that go beyond about:

MYLink Library Cards HPL's digital and physical coles. Students and teachers can - Brainfuse - live tutoring

online seven days a week.

10330 Blackhawk, Ste. E Houston, TX 77089 832-406-7045 Hours: **Tue - Sun:** 11 AM - 9 PM

After retiring from the roll Smith, expanding her

bench in 2008, Smith found family to include his two

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July 27, 2025 10am - 3pm

Choice of: Chips and Choice of Drink \$12 Sausage on a Stick \$6

- Libby - instant access to and tips for using the library thousands of e-books and e-au-throughout the year. diobooks.

over 70 world languages.

- LEARNINGLink - an in- cess throughout the academic in hand. novative initiative designed to

access library services for free with just a school ID number.

Library of Things – borrow more than books, including musical instruments, games,

To help families prepare, HPL has created a Back-to-School Resource Guide, available now at houstonlibrary. org/back-to-school. The guide recommended reading lists, geant and we wish him well."

"Whether your child is en- Mango Languages – fun tering kindergarten, navigating middle school, preparing for high school, or embarking on TECHLink - creative their college journey, Houston Back-to-School with HPL tech spaces for everything a one-stop opportunity to from music production to 3D Public Library offers creative and impactful back-to-school resources to guide their suc-

lies up for MyLink Cards and highlight the library's wide ar ray of free services." Join and step into the new

school year with confidence, curiosity and one's library card

dy Gaw, library director. "Our

friendly and knowledgeable

staff are eager to sign fami-

- MYLink Library Cards bridge the gap between educative and easy access to all of the card teachers can be strictly and physical cole.

Suspect also shot during exchange

Continued from Page 1

suspect firing at them. Our prayers and thoughts are with the sergeant that is recovering in the hospital right now. We know that these guys work hard out here day in and day out to protect the citizens of Houston on a daily basis. We hope for a includes links to digital tools, speedy recovery from our ser-

investigation by HPD's Special Investigations Unit, the Internal Affairs Division and the Harris County District Attorney's Office, as is standard protocol for

This marked the second officer-involved shooting in just two days. See related story on

Belles donate to drive



BellaVita resident Gerry Bartlett deposits hoodies she bought for Dobie High School students in the box at the BellaVita clubhouse. Another donor left a case of paper towels. The drive continues through the month of July. See related story on Page 1. Photo by Cheryl Bolen



Email iromero@pasadenaisd.org or csilas@pasadenaisd.org with questions

PTOROBERTFRAZIER@GMAIL.COM

Write "Pickleball" in the note/message

Dobie FFA students participate in Stars & Stripes Prospect Show; Small-Town Showdown



Dobie High School FFA students recently participated in the Stars & Pictured students are, left to right, Isaac Martinez, Elijah Cisneros, Jer-Stripes Prospect Show that was held on Saturday, July 5, in La Porte. emiah Griffin, Vianka Alanis and Jenna Molina.



Dobie High School FFA students participated in the of four), Vianka Alanis (Class 4 - placed second out of nine

Small-Town Showdown Prospect Show Friday, July 11, in competitors) and Jeremiah Griffin Class 7- placed fourth Rosenberg. Shown are, left to right, Isaac Martinez Class out of six. Alanis and Molina went to Grand Drive. Grif-7- placed fifth out of six), Elijah Cisneros (Class 7- placed sixth out of six), Jenna Molina (Class 8- placed second out Drive Showmanship award.



Pictured with her animal is Vianka Alanis who represented Dobie and placed third in Shown is Dobie FFA student Naylely Huynh who won first in her class and fourth overall in Dobie High School FFA student, Keyli Vanhouten-Guerrero recently participated in Rosenher class in the Stars & Stripes Prospect Show in La Porte.



Small-Town Showdown in Rosenberg.



berg's Small-Town Showdown placing fifth in her class.

Remember When

45 years ago (1980)

endent districtwide property reap-praisal, which began in the spring, was complete, and all property owners had been notified of whopping offenders. increases in the value of their property. The largest increases in appraisal were of property in the South Belt

A female murder victim found in the sandpit behind Beverly Hills in mid-July had been identified as that of a Houston woman.

heavy rains, but it was reported that it did not touch down or cause any damage. 20-cent across-the-

board increase in PISD lunch prices was approved by trustees during a recent board meeting. Effective for of passenger shuttle service. the 1980-1981 school year. lunch prices were set at 95¢ for elementary, \$1.05 for intermediate, and \$1.15 for high school students.

40 years ago (1985) Arthur Hardy, registrar at

San Jacinto College South, retired after more than 20 teaching and administrative roles. Joining the San Jacinto system in 1963, two years after the college originated, Hardy taught business courses such as bookkeeping, data processing and accounting. He became the South campus registrar in 1982. Directors of

Sagemont Park Community Improvement Association told a quarterly gathering of the membership they were waiting to get responses from a recent questionnaire before decisions could be made. The most significant question on the questionnaire was on raising the annual maintenance fee from the then-\$10 a year to \$30 a

18-year-old male An drowned in a swimming pool accident at Windmill

Lakes The Clear Creek Independent School District board reaffirmed its policy of assigning students 20 days in the Alternative Learning Center for possessing or be ing under the influence of alcohol, drugs or any injurious substance while at a school function. At that time, the

state recommended a sentence of 10 days for first ferred its shuttle service School District's offenders, but CCISD opted from William P. Hobby Airto continue with the 20-day sentence rather than have it appear the district was be coming more lenient with

35 Years ago (1990) Harris County Sheriff's Department detectives conmurder of South Belt resi-

phorwood in early July. In order to meet rising of \$14 per month. A tornado was sighted in demands for personnel, Pasthe South Belt area during adena ISD board members

> Development of Ellington Field took another step for \$20 the first week in Au- City voted against honoring The two men used a pump Men's Club in the 12300 forward with the addition gust in the school's activity the permit previously ap-

ate 100 new teaching posi-

Continental Express transport to Ellington to accommodate the majority of cus-

notified they would have to convert to surface water by the end of the year, so resinvestigate the idents would expect an increase in their bill because dent Carrie Renea Stovall, Houston owned the water. 27, who was stabbed to Once the conversion took death in her home on Camplace, homeowners would receive increases in excess

30 years ago (1995) Neighbors were encour-

25, from 7 to 9 p.m.

were scheduled to be sold sue was made after League robberies within two hours. pened at the Lounge Plaza center. Application forms, proved by the city's planning tions in the South Belt, Clear near Fuqua. Witnesses re-

which required a parent's and zoning commission. signature, were made available in the main office of the school.

25 years ago (2000) City of Houston officials

South Belt area munic- urged a voluntary reduction ipal utility districts were in water consumption due to urged a voluntary reduction kidnapping and sexual as- CCISD was the second chest and leg. The victim in water consumption due to sault. Ruiz worked in the sex largest school district in the was transported to a nearby drought conditions.

Jason Wilson, a 16-yearold Dobie junior, was found dead in his Scarsdale home. Clint Eastwood, James

Garner, Tommy Lee Jones, Donald Sutherland and Marcia Gay Harden attended AMC Gulf Pointe's screening of Space Cowboys. 20 years ago (2005)

Concerned that the openagreed to hire approximately aged to participate in Na-250 new employees and cre-tional Night Out Tuesday, high school was in jeopardy, Two

While off duty, South

Belt resident Heidi Ruiz, who was also a Houston pendent man wanted on suspicion of had seen surveillance photos countability system. Of the of him. She called the information in, and the suspect

was arrested. Deputies from Precinct 2 Constable Gary Freeman's office were busy investigatin Highland Meadow and a rated Exemplary or Recog- vid Cino. home invasion in Kirkwood nized

Two 17-year-old men. CCISD trustees voted to sue one a Beverly Hills resident, Dobie Parking stickers League City. The decision to were arrested for four armed strip club. The incident hap- ity at the time of his retire-.410 shotgun to rob gas sta- block of the Gulf Freeway

Lake and Pearland areas. 15 years ago (2010)

The Clear Creek Inde-Police officer, recognized a achieved the state's high- with a pistol and shot the rating of Exemplary. crimes division of HPD and state to reach this level since hospital, where he later died. recognized the man after she Texas implemented the acdistrict's 41 campuses, 32 ident Chuck Tylka retired schools were Exemplary, eight schools were Recognized, and one campus was after serving 45+ years with Academically Acceptable. All CCISD high schools and ing a pipe bomb explosion elementary schools were longtime SVFD member Da-

10 years ago (2015)

A man died July 24 afshot inside a local ter being

the suspect had an alterca- primary organizer. tion earlier in the evening School District The suspect later returned victim multiple times in the 5 years ago (2020)

Longtime South Belt resas chief of the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department the organization, 12 as chief. was replaced with

While not an original ment officials, patrol offi- charged. member of the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department, Tylka ranked third in senior ment, behind only founding members Ed Baker and Jerry

An active member of the South Belt community, Tylka also served on the boards of the Clear Brook City MUD and Sageglen HOA, where he continued to serve. Tylka would also continue his work with the annual South Belt Spectacular

ported that the victim and Cook-off, of which he was a cers responded to a request 1 year ago (2024) filed

Charges were against a suspect arrested in the fatal shooting of a man that took place around 12:25 a.m. Sunday, July 28, outside the Fiesta grocery store in the 1100 block of Edgebrook near the Gulf Freeway. The suspect, Julian Giovanni Vazquez, 24, was charged with murder in the 209th State District Court. The identity of the victim, was not immediately made available. According to Houston Police Depart-

for assistance from Houston Fire Department emergency personnel at a parking lot at the above address. Paramedman in the front passenger seat of a vehicle. He had suffered a gunshot wound and was pronounced dead at the scene A male identified as Vazquez, was detained at the scene. Vazquez told investigators he was with the victim and admitted to his role in the shooting. The Harris County District Attorney's Office was contacted, and Vasquez was subsequently



Over The Back Fence by Nicole

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, JOSE! Greetings for a happy birthday July 25 are

sent to .lose Abarca from his wife Natalie. children Kelvin Lopez, Noah and Elliana Abarca and Isabella Delgado and husband Sebastian; granddaughter Esme Delgado; mother-in-law Ellie Flickinger and her husband David Flickinger (Leader president); grandparent David Flickinger; and friends and staff at the Leader

KENNY MARKS A BIRTHDAY

Break out the balloons and party favors for Kenny Fernandez who celebrates a birthday July 26. He is active in the community as a local businessman, president/ CEO at North American Shipping Agencies and chairman of the South Belt-Ellington

IRVINES ENJOY ANNIVERSARY! Wishes for a happy anniversary July 26 are sent to Steven and Rebecca (Heeth) Irvine from Rebecca's father Richard Heeth, a longtime Kirkwood reside

TORI CELEBRATES A BIRTHDAY Special birthday wishes are sent July 28 to former South Belt resident and Dobie High School graduate Tori Mask from friends and the Leader staff. She currently posts a blog about the history of the South Belt area on http://southbelthouston.blogspot.com/.

SCHOOL DAZE The following staff of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays July 24 through July 30.

Burnett Elementary Happy birthday wishes are sent to Elizabeth Jimenez July 25. Bush Elementary

Sing a happy birthday song to Rubi Contreras July 25

Genoa Elementary Keyla Ortiz celebrates a birthday July

26. Send a nice birthday greeting July 27 to Alexa Chavez. Join in the birthday celebration July 28 for Lisette Kearns. Hancock Elementary

On July 24, birthday wishes are sent to Claudia Perez. Greetings for a wonderful birthday are sent to Victor Aguilar July 27. South Belt Elementary

Bring out a triple cake and ice cream July 26 to Hortencia Armenta, Marie Goree and Sara Simmons. Marking a birthday July 27 is Selena Saldana. The day to send a birthday greeting to Lakita Thomas is July 28.

Stuchbery Elementary Light the birthday candles July 26 for Veronica Silva. Send a happy birthday wish July 28 to Linda Bravo. Best wishes for a special birthday July 29 are sent to Susan

Brady. Melillo Middle School Sing a happy birthday song July 30 to Yvette Castillo **Beverly Hills Intermediate**

Curtis Tucker enjoys a birthday July 26. Thompson Intermediate Happy birthday wishes are sent to Richard Roberson July 27. Blow out the candles July 28 for Angelina Herrera.

Dobie High Break out the balloons and party favors

for the July 24 birthday celebration of Cam Luong. Birthday greetings are sent to Rowena Hickman July 25. The day for birthday fun for **Lyndsi Price** is July 27. Light the candles July 29 for Monique Smalls. Send a happy birthday wish July 30 to Angela Badon

FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS Thursday, July 24: Richard Schreier, Montoya Wilturner, Connie Alberti, Richard Golenko and Pete Ortiz; Friday, July 25: Kelly Jones, Stephanie Gutierrez, Cherie Cundiff, Mario Rodriguez and Brodie Riner Jr.; Saturday July 26: Kenneth Sublett, Magda Adams, Debra Patterson, Kendrick Woods, Jenny Batson, Terrie Nichols, Kenny Fernandez, Eric Madsen, Gina D'Orazio and Elizabeth Bazan; Sunday, July 27: Lydia Garcia, Joanne Mata and Sean Kean; Monday, July 28: Ariana Mena, Alyssa Chambers, Tori Mask, Dana Milburn and Sandy Nelson; Tuesday, July 29: Codie Salyer, Linda Brisbay, Gina Trevino, Donielle Taverner, Albert Perez and Tiffany Barras; and Wednesday, July 30: Donald Rogers, Anne Hyma, Danielle Mendoza and Christine

LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS

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

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P02640

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11/04

SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

Dobie VB to blend experience with talented newcomers in '25

Several key returnees 10 seniors the season be- we can put together." will join forces with a tal- fore," Sexton recalled. ented group of newcomers showcase much-improved 2025 season.

run of things resulted in a 12-22 overall record for veteran head coach Dawn included a 6-10 march through the 22-6A ranks for fifth place.

Pearland, the 2024 league champion, produced 40 overall victories a season ago and seems primed for another solid push this season.

With the other three playoff participants, Shadow Creek, Dawson and Manvel also returning from seasons of 30 or more overall victories, Dobie and the other programs within the league will have to make a major push to close the divide, but Sexton is excited about the potential of the 2025 "A year ago at this time,

we were faced with a ton of inexperience at the var-

as the Dobie varsity vol- sity volleyball 101 in a lot more than 100 kills each leyball program expects to of ways given the lack of have graduated, but seexperience, but we made niors Jessica Moise, Jorresults for the upcoming the best of it and I really dan Johnson, Kylar Joseph feel like we played at an and junior Alyssa Espino-A rebuild of a 2024 improved level as the sea- sa all had 70 or more kills son progressed.

the overall strength of the play up front in a hurry. Sexton's program, which district and do the best

"As for us, we are in a much better competitive Rackley appears primed position heading into the to step in at setter for the season. I'm excited about Longhorns, and junior the potential of this group, Alyssa Goree played the and I'm ready to see what

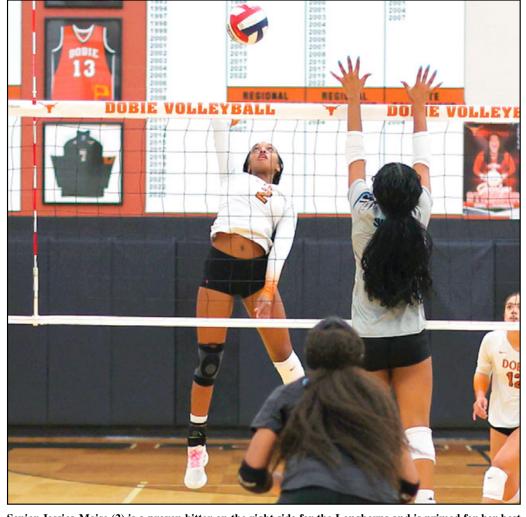
Three players who led 'We were back to var- the way a season ago with in 2024 and should be able "You have to embrace to continue very strong

Sexton also lists junior you can to push through. Mahoganii Davis as a The Houston area is load- newcomer who very well ed with talented programs, could deliver an immediand that's not going to ate boost along the front

Sophomore

Volleyball first week

JFD hosts **Baytown Sterling** Aug. 12, 6 p.m. JFD at G.C. Memorial Aug. 15, 6 p.m.



Senior Jessica Moise (2) is a proven hitter on the right side for the Longhorns and is primed for her best

Dobie VB plans returnee camp

Dobie varsity volleyball coach Dawn Sexton and her staff are excited to serve up a summer camp aimed at helping incoming freshmen as well as returnees within the volleyball program get a jump start on the upcoming 2025 season.

Players ages 14 through 18 are encouraged to attend the Longhorns' July 28-30 camp, to be held at Dobie main at \$60 per participant. Incoming sophomores, juniors and seniors will attend the camp from 9 a.m. to noon, while incoming freshmen will attend from 1 to 4 p.m.

Visit the Dobie High School website issued link at https://square.link/u/5GddvXYw to register.

JFD volleyball tryouts Aug. 1-2

Dobie varsity girls' volleyball head coach Dawn Sexton and her staff will host 2025 tryouts Aug. 1-2 on the main campus. Incoming freshmen will try out from 9 a.m. to noon, with sophomores, juniors and seniors then trying out from 1 to 4 p.m. both days. All players looking to attend the tryouts must have their current Pasadena ISD athletics physical as well as all of their Rank One forms completed.

SBYSC still accepting players

The South Belt Youth Soccer Club has opened registration for the fall 2025 season as registration continues and league officials plan practices.

Registration fees include \$125 per player for the under 4- through under 8-age groups, \$145 per player for the under 9- and under 10-age groups, \$165 per player for the under 11- and under 12-age groups and \$185 per player for the under 13- through under 20-

The league will provide uniform items such as shirt, shorts and socks, while parents are required to provide shin guards, soccer cleats and a soccer ball

Visitwwwsouthbeltsoccer.org and click on the registration fall 2025 tab to get started on registra-

Campbell's outlines District 22-6A football chase

11 as public high school fect 8-0 run through 22-6A state kick off preseason football workouts ahead of ing second at 7-1. opening weekend, which arrives Aug. 28-30.

bell's Texas Football annual Dawson being bumped out magazine has considered both results from the 2024 breaker. season as well as forecasts from more than 1,500 statewide programs to preview how the respective district races will play out.

the District 22-6A mix has defending league champion Shadow Creek and runner-up Pearland again going head-to-head Oct. 24 at The Rig in Pearland for the championship.

workout on the field.

and volleyball preseason plans.

JFD FB plans freshman camp

announced plans for the annual Longhorn incoming

freshman Head Start Camp, which will be held July

28-30, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. each day on the main

campus. Any Class of 2029 incoming freshman plan-

ning to participate in the football program is invited

to take part in the voluntary preseason camp, which

is a great way to get an early look at the football oper

ation while getting accustomed to preseason football

BHI sets athletic details

continue strength and conditioning workouts July 15-

17 and July 20-24 before looking ahead to football

The staff will host a one-day basketball and soc

cer camp July 28 from 10 a.m. to noon. The Beverly

Hills football and volleyball camps will be held sep-

Under the guidance of head football coach Joseph

For the Bear girls' athletes, eighth-grade volley-

Peterson, the Bears will begin preseason football

practice Aug. 14, which is also the first day of school

ball tryouts will also be held that day. Seventh-grade

volleyball tryouts will be held Aug. 15. Both tryouts

SBGSA has fall ball registration

competition within the 6-under through 16-under

divisions at a cost of \$100 per player. The league is

The South Belt Girls Softball Association has opened fall ball registration now through Aug. 1 for

will be held after school from 3:30 to 6 p.m.

arately July 29-31, from 10 a.m. to noon.

The Beverly Hills Intermediate athletic staff will

The Dobie High School varsity football staff has

the Oilers eventually finish-

Prior to things getting three-way tie for third place the Division 2 postseason underway, *Dave Camp*- at 5-3, with the Eagles bracket. of the postseason via tie-

has flip-flopped Pearland preseason Offensive Most and Shadow Creek in the first two spots, with Manvel third and Dawson fourth. Campbell's peer into For the second straight season in this alignment, Dobie has been placed in the fifth

South Houston, Pasadena Memorial, Alvin and Sam Rayburn will then look to battle for bragging The Sharks used a 41-27 rights in the bottom half of victory a season ago over the standings, according to

programs from across the for the league crown, with true, Pearland and Dawson up preseason Defensive would head to the 6A Division I playoff bracket, with ors. Manyel Dobie and Shadow Creek and Manyel Dawson wound up in a representing the league in committed to play colle-

> Individually, Campbell's has selected explosive Shadow Creek wide re-For 2025, Campbell's ceiver Chris Stewart as the Valuable Player, while dis-

> > Da'Marcus Hodges, at right, was the Newcomer of the Year in District 22-6A as a sophomore in 2023 and got off to a fast start a season ago with a big game against Clear Brook and others but wound up having his season cut short due to injury. Now in his final season, Hodges is poised to have his opportunity to be the featured running back for the Longhorns as they look to secure another postseason berth. Below. Dobie varsity football head coach Danny Fitzmorris and his staff have had the benefit of a full offseason to reload the roster in an effort to keep up the pace in a 22-6A field that will once again be extremely tough to navigate. After defeating Manvel in the regular season finale in 2024 to reach the postseason, the Longhorns reasonably understand that it very well could come down to the rematch against the Mavericks this season to determine playoff posi-

Photos by Gloria Wallace

If the predictions hold Jaylen Stewart has picked Most Valuable Player hon-

Chris Stewart, who has amazing 15 touchdowns.

Texas, is coming off of a including 10 quarterback Longhorns on the outside iunior season in which he sacks. Stewart had original looking in for the second has 60 catches for more ly committed to Oklahoma straight year, yet head than 900 yards and an State, but announced via his coach Danny Fitzmorris' X site June 15 that he now As for Jaylen Stewart, plans to attend Illinois.

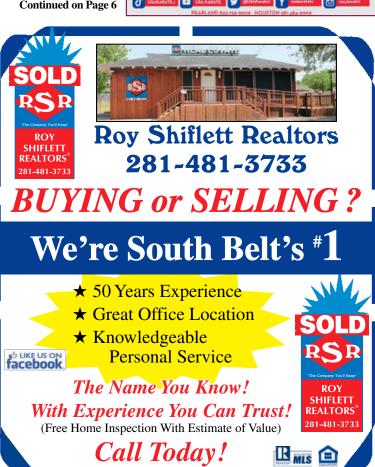
program will look to prove the doubters wrong. For those wondering,

Manvel will host Dobie Nov. 7 to close out the regular season in a matchup that is sure to have post season implications. See Page 6 for a further breakdown of the expectations of each of the nine varsity football programs in District 22-6A.

Continued on Page 6











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beginning at 8 a.m.

also registering a 4-under division at \$40 per player. Visit https://southbeltsoftball.sportngin.com/

register/form/973485104 to get started or visit the league's Facebook page at South Belt Girls Softball Association-SBGSA.

JFD grad Jackson hosts FB camp The single-day Blake Jackson Football Camp returns to Dobie High School July 26 as the former Longhorn varsity football standout will host youths ages 7 to 14 for a morning of football instruction from 9 a.m. to noon on the main campus. The fee to attend the camp is \$50 per participant. A former Sagemont Cowboys player, Jackson, was first a star player at Beverly Hills Intermediate and then a Dobie High School graduate, is currently a United Football League receiver with the St Louis Blackhawks. A three-year starter at quarterback for the Longhorns. Jackson helped lead the program to a district championship in 2010 before graduating in 2011. He went on to star at Mary Hardin-Baylor, also at quarterback before transitioning to receiver professionally. To register for the camp, visit www.sportsprepusa.org Preregistration will also be held the day of the camp

Dave Campbell's Texas Football chooses Pearland to lead 22-6A field

Pearland play that brought a second-place finish)

As the top seed from 1 postseason bracket, the Oilers shut out Fort Bend Travis 38-0 before a 28-17 loss to Atascocita in the area round.

With dynamic playmakers returning on both distinction as preseason favorite in 22-6A from the folks at Dave Campbell's.

Oilers as Campbell's preseason for 1,661 yards and 21 Credit to give Pearland a championship) (9-3 overall during the choice for the top offen- touchdowns overall in 2024 season, including sive player in the district, 2024. a 7-1 push within $22\text{-}6\tilde{A}$ the Oilers have their own dez, once a Thompson Samuels features even and Jonathan Henton are the league in the Division Intermediate Lion who is more speed at receiver. a Pasadena ISD track and field record holder.

Now entering his final season with Pearland, the team's top returnees. Hernandez has formed a connection with returning starting quarterback Defensive Most Valuable sides of the football and Jake Westmoreland as the Player Jaylen Stewart will ing Shadow Creek for the 13 returning starters in all, two connected for nearly lead the way for the Oil-title Pearland has earned the 1,100 yards and 15 touchers. downs a season ago.

Westmoreland can eas- defensive linemen, Stewily forge a claim as the top art has committed to Illi- an 8-0 run in 22-6A play While Chris Stewart of returning signal caller in nois and joins highly-re-

Royce Swan and Ryan big play machine in the Miller are options in the kins joins Amari Wilks up form of Jordan Hernan- backfield, and Kaleb front, and Ezekile Alkair 2 postseason.

front for the Oilers, Colby

Defensively,

Campbell's

Rao and Nick Howard are Dave preseason

One of the city's top

couple of big names on that side of the football.

Lineman DeMarco Jenkey returnees in the back-Along the offensive field of the defense.

Pearland is all but assured a postseason berth and would represent the district in the Division 1 bracket. For the Oilers, it's all a matter of unseat-

Shadow Creek Sharks (9-2 overall during the 2024 season, including

Continued from Page 5 Shadow Creek wound up the league after he passed cruited linebacker Joseph that delivered the league and had more than 900 victory after winning last the way up front, includ- for a second

The Sharks suffered a

by University of Texas swer. commit Chris Stewart. paves the way to high exfor a Shadow Creek program that has delivered an overall record of 29-5 over the previous three seasons.

his 60 overall last season looks for a second straight offensive lineman to lead maintain their dominance

yards receiving.

Under the direction of surprising 31-28 loss to second-year head coach the outside, the Sharks Fort Bend Elkins in the Tyrone Green, the Sharks will be looking for ways first round of the Division entered the offseason with to strike with the big play postseason. a vacancy at quarterback, at any point in a game. The return of six start- but Carter Stewart, the Fellow receiver Inno ers on offense as well as younger brother of Chris Beauchamp also has big six more on defense, led Stewart, could be the an-time skills on the outside

pectations again in 2025 back a season ago had 42 top option in the back- ents. tackles, could very well field. be in line to be the start-Stewart had 15 touch- talizing regular season backfield. Shadow Creek down receptions among opener as Summer Creek also has three returning is, first, can in the Sharks first round of the playoffs

year's match up 42-0.

for Shadow Creek, and

er under center for the yards and 13 touchdowns, no trouble making its way Sharks as they take on giving Shadow Creek an Summer Creek in a tan- explosive option in the again in 2025.

ing Dominick Lee, De-With Chris Stewart on marcus West and Caleb Buford.

On the defensive side of the football, Carter Stewart leads the way in the secondary and linebacker should he indeed play there, and Tommy Baker (78 tackles, includ-Carter Stewart, who as running back Triston Wiling 15 for loss) and Jarone a sophomore defensive lis could be the Sharks' Bell are also big play tal-

> eld. Should health prevail, In 2024, Willis had 766 Shadow Creek will have to the postseason once

> > All this to be decided

season in 22-6A and repeat as champions. From there, just how far can this former 5A state champion program advance in the postseason?

Manvel (6-6 overall a season ago, including 5-3 in league

play) Manvel emerged along with Dobie in a three-way tie for third place and advanced to the Division 2 playoff bracket despite a loss to the Longhorns in the season finale.

Manyel beat Fort Bend Hightower 23-15 in the **Continued on Page 8**

Dave Campbell's Texas Football 22-6A Preseason Defensive MVP

Jaylen Stewart, Pearland, rush lineman

22-6A Preseason Offensive MVP

Chris Stewart, Shadow Creek, receiver

Projected Order of Finish

- 1. Pearland (Div. I)
- 2. Shadow Creek (Div. II)
- 3. Manvel (Div. II)
- 4. Dawson (Div. I)
- 5. Dobie
- 6. Memorial
- 7. South Houston
- 8. Alvin
- 9. Rayburn



Senior Desmond Talib (10) has proven play making ability as an All-District Dobie senior offensive lineman Camron Robertson (64) returns in 2025 to lead an expecaliber linebacker for the Longhorns and plans to transition to the safety spot



rienced group up front as the Longhorns will look to clear the way in the running game

Deer Park

Fri., Aug. 29 La Porte Bulldog, 7 p.m.

Fri., Sept. 5 Woodlands Abshier, 7 p.m.

Fri., *Sept.* 12 Barbers Hill Barbers Hill, 7 p.m.

Fri., Sept. 19 *Clear Falls Abshier, 7 p.m.

Thurs., Sept. 25 *at Clear Creek Challenger, 7 p.m.

Fri., Oct. 3 *Clear Brook Abshier, 7 p.m.

Fri., Oct. 17 *at Clear Lake Challenger, 7 p.m.

Fri., Oct. 24 *Brazoswood Abshier, 7 p.m.

2025 Clear Creek ISD/24-6A Varsity Football Schedule Announced

<u>Clear Brook</u>	Clear Creek	Clear Falls	<u>Clear Lake</u>	Clear Springs	Brazoswood	Dickinson	
Fri., Aug. 29 Dobie Veterans, 7 p.m.	Thurs., Aug. 28 at Kingwood Turner, 6 p.m.	Fri., Aug. 29 Hightower Challenger, 7 p.m.	Fri., Aug. 29 at Angleton Wildcat, 7 p.m.	Fri., Aug. 29 at Ridge Point Hall, 7 p.m.	Fri., Aug. 29 at Santa Fe Indian, 7 p.m.	Sat., Aug. 30 at Katy Legacy, 7 p.m.	
	F	ege., · F		, · F ·····		g,, · F	
Fri., Sept. 5	Fri., Sept. 5	Sat., Sept. 6	Thurs., Sept. 4	Fri., Sept. 5	Fri., Sept. 5	Fri., Sept. 5	
Eisenhower	Shadow Creek	at George Ranch	Cypress Woods	at Houston Heights	Angleton	C.E. King	
Veterans, 7 p.m.	Challenger, 7 p.m.	Traylor, 5 p.m.	Challenger, 6 p.m.	Delmar, 7 p.m.	Hopper, 7 p.m.	Vitanza, 7 p.m.	
Thurs., Sept. 11	Fri., Sept. 12	Thurs., Sept. 11	Sat., Sept. 13	Fri., Sept. 12	Fri., Sept. 12	Fri., Sept. 12	
at G.C. Memorial	Channelview	at Cypress Falls	at Kingwood Park	Hou. Lamar	at Seguin	at Cy-Fair	
Stallworth, 7 p.m.	Veterans, 7 p.m.	Pridgeon, 6:30 p.m.	Turner, 6 p.m.	Challenger, 7 p.m.	Ricebird, 7 p.m.	Pridgeon, 7 p.m.	В
Fri, Sept. 19	Fri., Sept. 19	Fri., Sept. 19	Fri., Sept. 19	Fri., Sept. 19	Fri., Sept. 19	Fri., Sept. 19	
*at Clear Springs	*at Dickinson	*at Deer Park	*at Brazoswood	*Clear Brook	* Clear Lake	*Clear Creek	
Challenger, 7 p.m	Vitanza, 7 p.m.	Abshier, 7 p.m.	Hopper, 7 p.m. Fri.,	Challenger, 7 p.m.	Hopper, 6 p.m.	Vitanza, 7 p.m.	
Fri., Sept. 26	Thurs., Sept. 25	Thurs., Sept. 25	Fri., Sept. 26	Fri., Sept. 26	Thurs., Sept. 25	Fri., Sept. 26	
*Dickinson	*Deer Park	*Brazoswood (HC)	*Clear Springs (HC)	*at Clear Lake	*at Clear Falls	*at Clear Brook	
Veterans, 7 p.m.	Challenger, 6 p.m.	Veterans, 7 p.m.	Challenger, 7 p.m.	Challenger, 7 p.m.	Veterans, 7 p.m.	Veterans, 7 p.m.	(
Fri., Oct. 3	Fri., Oct. 3	Fri., Oct. 3	Fri., Oct. 3	Thurs., Oct. 2	Thurs., Oct. 2	Fri., Oct. 3	
*at Deer Park	*at Clear Falls	*Clear Creek	*Dickinson	* Brazoswood	*at Clear Springs	*at Clear Lake	
Abshier, 7 p.m.	Veterans, 7 p.m.	Veterans, 7 p.m.	Challenger, 7 p.m.	Challenger, 7 p.m.	Challenger, 6 p.m.	Challenger, 7 p.m.	
Thurs., Oct. 16	Thurs., Oct. 16	Fri., Oct. 17	Fri., Oct. 17	Fri., Oct. 17	Fri., Oct. 17	Fri., Oct. 17	
*Clear Creek	*at Clear Brook	*at Clear Springs	*Deer Park	*Clear Falls	*Dickinson	*at Brazoswood	
Challenger, 6 p.m.	Challenger, 6 p.m.	Challenger, 7 p.m.	Veterans, 7 p.m.	Challenger, 7 p.m.	Hopper, 7 p.m.	Hopper, 7 p.m.	(
Fri., Oct. 24	Fri., Oct. 24	Fri., Oct. 24	Fri., Oct. 24	Fri., Oct. 24	Fri., Oct. 24	Fri., Oct. 24	
*at Clear Falls	*Clear Lake (HC)	*Clear Brook	*at Clear Creek	*at Dickinson	*at Deer Park	*Clear Springs	
Challenger, 7 p.m.	Veterans, 7 p.m.	Challenger, 7 p.m.	Veterans, 7 p.m.	Vitanza, 7 p.m.	Abshier, 7 p.m.	Vitanza, 7 p.m.	

Fri., Oct. 31 *Clear Lake Veterans, 6 p.m. Fri., Nov. 7

*24-6A games

Hopper, 7 p.m. Fri., Nov. 7 *Brazoswood (H) *Clear Springs Challenger, 7 p.m. Veterans, 7 p.m.

Fri., Oct. 31

*at Brazoswood

*24-6A games

Thurs., Nov. 6 *Clear Lake Challenger, 6 p.m.

Fri., Oct. 31

*at Dickinson

Vitanza, 7 p.m.

*24-6A games

Fri., Oct. 31 *Clear Brook Veterans, 7 p.m. Thurs., Nov. 6 *at Clear Falls

Challenger, 6 p.m.

*24-6A games

Fri., Oct. 31 Deer Park Challenger, 7 p.m. Fri., Nov. 7

*at Clear Creek

Veterans, 7 p.m.

*24-6A games

Hopper, 7 p.m. Fri., Nov. 7

Challenger, 7 p.m.

*24-6A games

Fri., Oct. 31

*Clear Creek

*at Clear Brook

Vitanza, 7 p.m. *Fri.*, *Nov.* 7

*24-6A games

Fri., Oct. 31 *Clear Falls

Fri., Oct. 31 *at Clear Springs Challenger, 7 p.m.

Fri., Nov. 7 *at Deer Park *Dickinson Abshier, 7 p.m. Abshier, 7 p.m.

*24-6A games

information. Participants will be limited to 10, so call soon if you want to be included.

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CALENDAR

THURSDAY, JULY 24

Saturday at 7:30 a.m. Hope Community United Methodist Church, 2838 Lily St. Call 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit https://aahous ton.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. a.m. Pasadena Heritage Park and

Museum - Exhibits include dioramas, a turn-of-the-century doctor's office and an old-time kitchen. Open Tues. - Sat., 9 a.m. 4 p.m., 204 S. Main, Pasadena. Call Karen Hollon at 713-472-0565 for appointment. Tours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. FRIDAY, JULY 25

7:30 a.m. AA Meeting – "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
7 p.m. NA – Vigilance Group of NA, open

meeting, 2930 E. FM 518, Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit www.has cona.com or https://nastuff.com/

7 p.m. Congregation Shaar Hashalom -All services are live and on Zoom. For details regarding services or Judaism classes, visit https://www.shaarhashalom.org. 8 p.m. Serenity Now Al-Anon Group

meets at CrossRoads UMC 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Family members and friends of problem drinkers/addicts share and discover choices available. Call 281-484-9243.

8 p.m. Beverly Hills Sharers Group AA - meets at CrossRoads UMC, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Call 281-484-9243. **SATURDAY, JULY 26**

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.

SUNDAY, JULY 27 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 Cen-7 a.m. AA Meeting – "Breakfast With Bill," ter 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 faithbased 12-Step program, at the Life Recovery Church, 5215 Preston Ave., Pasadena TX, 77505. Call 713-419-2635 for details. 8 p.m. Beverly Hills Sharers Group AA meets at CrossRoads UMC, 10030
 Scarsdale Blvd. Call 281-484-9243.

5 p.m. New Directions – Age 55 and older meets the first and third Mondays for a potluck dinner with activities and/or guest speakers at 600 Hobbs Road, League City, TX 77573, (community room). For further information, call Jill at 646-489-4367. 6 p.m. Scrabble Club #511 - Meets

MONDAY, JULY 28

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 Road. For details, call Rita at 281-309-2801. TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Chapter #0683 Friendswood 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 at 713-875-8820. 7 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - See

Friday's notice.

TUESDAY, JULY 29
7:30 a.m. AA Meeting – "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.

Noon AA - Imperfect Nooners. 1:30 - 3 o.m. 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or at https://aahouston.org/meetings/imper fect-nooners. Call 713-686-6300.

Noon 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 cardholders attend free. Call 281-554-1180 for details.

p.m. Scrabble Club #511 - Meets at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua. Join in the fun and improve crossword skills. COVID-19 vaccination required. Email huff_reunion@juno.

7 p.m. AA - St. Luke's 12 Step Recovin room 4, at 11011 Hall Rd. Call 832-725-8479 or 281-309-2801 7 p.m. TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)

 #0683 chapter meets at the Methodist Church, 110 N. Friendswood Dr. in the educational bldg., room 201. Call 832-858-4617 or 713-875-8820. 7 p.m. NA - Vigilance Group of NA, open

meeting, 2930 E. FM 518, Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit www. hascona.com or https://nastuff.com/.

7 a.m. **AA Meeting** – "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice. 9 a.m. Pasadena Heritage Park and

WEDNESDAY, JULY 30

Museum – See Thursday's notice. Noon 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 cardholders attend free. Call 281-554-1180 for details.

7 p.m. St. Paul's Anglican Church - See Sunday's notice. 7 p.m. NA - Vigilance Group of NA, open

meeting, 2930 E. FM 518, Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit www.has cona.com or https://nastuff.com/

8 p.m. Beverly Hills Sharers Group AA meets at CrossRoads UMC, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Call 281-484-9243. THURSDAY, JULY 31

7 a.m. AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill," Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., and Saturday at 7:30 a.m. Hope Community United Methodist Church, 2838 Lily St. Call 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit https://aahous ton.org/meetings/.

7:30 a.m. Rotary Club of Pearland Check website for time and location https://pearlandrotary.com/events/calendar or call

9 a.m. Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum - Exhibits include dioramas, a turn-of-the-century doctor's office and an old-time kitchen. Open Tues. - Sat., 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., 204 S. Main, Pasadena. Call Karen Hollon at 713-472-0565 for appointment. Tours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

The cost of an ad is for all varsity home games played by the five Pasadena I.S.D.

Dave Campbell's Texas Football has Longhorns on outside looking in overall in 2024, including tackles in 2024 and will options in the backfield to the playoff path will in- ble running back/defensive Branch and Alex Flores Moore as well as Turtle

Continued from Page 6

back Cam Renfro to guide clude top receiver Antoine than 17 points) Wilder as well as running back Kenneth Malone-

Running backs Xaiden Brown, Acee Johnson get looks as the Mavericks core of Josiah McFarland game to Ridge Point) hope to be a step or two and Corey Brown. stronger on the offensive side this season. Drake Jones and Emile White will lead the way along the

Defensively, Manvel is led by Karnell James in George will look to chip in Noah Abela. along the defensive front along with Amir Bowers. have just six returnees entering the preseason.

Renfro passed for more touchdowns, and also rushed for another nine touchdowns as he returns on that side of the football. as one of the most explo-Memorial's Logan John-

but then was defeated 5-3 in league play, defeat- have to step up in a big spell Hodges. handily by Summer Creek. ed Dobie head-to-head but way to lead the Eagles on The Mavericks made was subsequently elim- the defensive side. the playoffs a season ago inated via tiebreaker on

> four players on offense and son finale that resulted in a as an All-District performanother four on defense but playoff berth in head coach er in the return game and should be able to get things Danny Fitzmorris' first sea- now figures to have a much done through the air with son. The locals then lost a bigger role offensively as a

Quarterback Brown figures to take over under center for the Eagles, and running back Evan offensive line for the Mav- DeLucia figures to get year starter at quarterback.

quite a few carries as well. The offensive line is led by Carter Caesar, and the the secondary as well as Eagles also figure to have by Ju'Von Smith. Dallas a secret weapon in kicker

and Brown can both play six more on defense. The Mavericks will have to in the defensive secondovercome the fact that they ary, and linebacker Bryson Hodges is the former New- linebacker and make plays the defensive secondary, and was off to a strong start linebacker Julius Sanchez. than 1,700 yards and 21 and linebacker James Hig- as a junior at running back gins is also looking for his before injuries slowed him fensive front expected to opportunity to contribute a bit.

sive run-pass signal callers es for 760 yards and four horns' go-to guy in the while Rashaud Howard in the district along with touchdowns a season ago, backfield as he will get and Clayton Washington and McFarland was an plenty of opportunities. are also among those ready outstanding playmaker **Dawson Eagles** (6-4 as well. Wilturner had 34 jah Jackson are among the

and will look to quarter- the final day of the regular Longhorns went 6-5 over- quarterback in four seaseason after the Longhorns all in 2024, including a 5-3 sons.. The Longhorns also an offense that will also in- downed Manvel by more run through league play expect big things from rethat included a victory over ceiver Marcus Jones, who The Eagles return just Manvel in a thrilling sea- has earned rave reviews play) and Eric Mosley will also the outstanding receiver 49-16 Division 1 playoff playmaker.

> The offseason goals in-Luke cluded replacing most of to come through in a big ciding on yet another first Achilles Rostro, Leudy The Longhorns, desig-

nated as Team 57 by Fitzmorris to signify the number of seasons that Dobie the pass rush and overall has played varsity football, defensive front looks, but return five players on the all-league performer Des-Defensively, McFarland offensive side of things and mond Talib is making the

Da'Marcus Senior Flynn is also a playmaker. comer of the Year from his immediately for the Long-Dylan Wilturner is solid in sophomore season in 2023 horns along with fellow

Brown had 60 catch- Hodges will be the Long- pie and Dario Rodriguez, Adrian Taylor and Ke'li- to contribute in a hurry.

Dobie Longhorns (The Longhorns' fourth starting take care of business be-field.

Dobie is counting on its experienced offensive line the offensive production way, with returnees includfrom 2024 as well as de- ing Camron Robertson, Matos and Alonzo Chap-

> Defensively, Dobie will have a new look as far as move to safety, and James Fortune looks to step in at

Linemen along the decontribute include Nathan Heading into 2025, Zavala, Cedric Gilles-

clude a positive result at back, and Jacobi Mayberry can all make plays. Senior Titus Randle Manvel in the season fi- can also help out a receiver very well could be the nale, but the locals plan to or in the defensive back-rial's top tackler a season

The Trojans are now under the direction of forprogram's head coach the play) previous six seasons, took over as athletic director morial's defensive coordiwithin Pasadena ISD.

The Trojans will return

seven players on defense and another six on offense Mavericks look to improve as they look to make a move up the standings in delivered just the one dis- first-year head coach Matt 2025. Leading the way is junior tight end/defensive lineman Xavier Muhammad, also a standout basketball player who is drawing Division 1 interest on the gridiron.

Quarterback Baker is also back for his 1,500 yards and 18 total touchdowns through the air

Receiver/defensive back Tyren Brewster is another with Landon Johnson. playmaker along with Dion

South Houston will have cluding 10 for loss at line-**South Houston Tro-** the benefit of continuity on backer, and Roy Powell is a jans (3-7 overall in 2024, its side with Mayberry in solid tackler in the middle including 3-5 in district charge, and the team could as well as he had 46 stops put pressure on several pro- in 2024. grams within the district.

Memorial Mavericks able to slow down the ofmer defensive coordinator (Produced a 3-7 overall refenses of some of the prov-Lamont Mayberry after cord in 2024, including one en playoff contenders will also a guy who should be the decades and continue Patrick Longstreet, the win in eight tries in league

> nator previously, has been named interim head coach for the 2025 season as the upon a season in 2024 that

a proven dual threat quar- to win more games within terback who passed for the district after being the 1,240 yards and 12 touch- defensive coordinator at downs a season ago to go Shadow Creek. Bass is an with 1,288 yards rushing Alvin High School grad-

second season under center nation of players to supple- first postseason berth in gridiron to represent the after producing more than ment Johnson's talent was 20 years. Alvin figures to school. one of the off-season goals be strong up front as Jacob for the Mavericks. Arturo Baez will team with Jacobi and on the ground in 2024. Aguilera is an option in the Small and Ethan McCor-

Johnson, an athletic player they have plenty of op- front for the Trojans who can tions at receiver as Joseph handle a variety of roles. Castillo, Jayden Arispe, Dobie very well knows Jadon Buckner is a capa- DeShawn Branch, Delton

Aguilera was Memoago with 88 total stops, in-

In this district, being be the big focus for any of the teams aiming at the Colton Freeman, Me-postseason this go-around.

Alvin Yellowjackets (3-7 overall in 2024, including 2-8 in 22-6A play) The Yellowjackets have

gone through the majority of the offseason with quickly. Bass in charge as he looks Junior Logan Johnson is to get Alvin in a position Finding the right combi- the Yellowjackets to their

lize running backs Keegan game.

of making plays on the out- up front.

Alvin's defense will be safety Kash Powledge is able to make plays in the secondary.

There's no doubt that Alvin will have a tough hill to climb in this district, but having Bass in lowjackets improve fairly

Sam Rayburn Texans (2-8 overall in 2024, in-

cluding 0-8 in league play) The Texans have had a hard time collecting victo- reach the postseason. ries in recent seasons, but veteran head coach Sergio Gonzalez and his staff La'Kee and five more touchdowns. uate and will look to lead regularly deliver a very sons now, and the Longcompetitive group on the

plenty of experience at their disposal with a total offensive backfield along mick to give the Yellow of 19 returning starters, jackets three solid per- including 10 on offense. The Mavericks believe formers along the offensive Malachi Rivas is back at quarterback, and Javier Es-Alvin will run the flex trada and Daniel Saucedo bone offense and will uti- are ready to help in the run

Orozco. Tight end Brayden time playmaking ability on Wright will also help out either side of the football, up front, and receiver and offensive lineman Dar-Hayden Perkins is capable rell Randall leads the way

As is the case in almost every one of the eight disled by Jaren Casas, who tricts that are part ofthe had 45 tackles a season ago Region 3 field in the 6A as well as fellow lineback- classification, there are er Will Mauerhan. Free some programs that have stood the test of time over to show success. 2025 will be no different.

When realignment was announced prior to last season, programs within Pasadena ISD, including Dobie, charge should help the Yel- understood well what the road ahead entailed. The Longhorns fought from behind for much of the season but then came away with one of the biggest victories in program history to

Dobie for sure has been the class of the Pasadena ISD ranks for many seahorns will once again look to display their skill on the field against not only the The Texans will have other three Pasadena ISD programs but also Alvin in positioning themselves to reach the postseason again. As for the other Pasadena ISD programs and Alvin, it will take a monumental effort to reach the postseason, but anything is possi-

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for increased opportunities during the 2025 season. Photo by Gloria Wallace Volleyball preseason comes Aug.

Continued from Page 5

spot well in 2024.

First-time varsity starters will lead the way along most programs, Dobie in- a series of scrimmages just the back row, as Sexton cluded, on August 12. mentioned junior Allison Walker and sophomore have the benefit of nine ing Baytown Sterling Aug. Ally Garza as well as se- days of workouts leadnior Ava Herrera among ing into the 2025 opener the players expected to at home against Baytown chip in.

Most importantly, Sexcellent. Everyone is pushand wants what is best for the team.

ever, the "good vibe" feel for a team in any sport can be a hit or miss proposition, but Sexton has witnessed an entire offseason of outstanding team building, including successful runs in the spring and summer league seasons.

The entire state will now benefit from a longer preseason of preparation courtesy of the University Interscholastic League. For the previous decade or more, high school volleyball programs had a maximum seven workout/

scrimmage days at their

disposal prior to the start of the regular season.

Now, the preseason will Shore. begin Aug. 1, with the reg-The Longhorns will also ular season opening for host Pasadena Aug. 11 for

Sterling.

ton said the chemistry with four programs scrimmag-Aug. 8. A day later, Do-Perhaps more so than Houston Lamar and North his death in 2018.

ahead of the start of the In short, Dobie will now regular season. After host-12, Dobie will visit Goose

Creek Memorial Aug. 15.

The Dobie freshman program will close out the first Dobie will be one of week of the regular season by hosting the annual Barry this particular group is ex- ing at all levels, with Daw- Harris Invitational Aug. 16, son and Summer Creek as honoring Harris, the former ing in the same direction well as host Friendswood, longtime Dobie educator who supported generations bie will host Angleton, of Dobie athletes prior to

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