

### 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.

### Garcia holds school drive

Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia will host a back-to-school event Saturday, Aug. 2, at his local office at 10851 Scarsdale at Beamer, providing free backpacks and school supplies from 10:30 a.m. to noon (while supplies last). Students must be present to receive supplies; no exceptions will be made.

### Beverly Hills to meet Aug. 8

The Beverly Hills Civic Club will host a meeting Friday, Aug. 8, at the Beverly Hills Park community center, located at 10201 Kingspoint, from 10 to 11 a.m. All Beverly Hills residents are welcome to attend.

### JFD boosters hold car wash

The Dobie Football Booster Club will hold a car wash from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Aug. 2, in the Food Town parking lot at 10902 Scarsdale Boulevard at Beamer. This will mark the booster club's first fundraising event of the year. Minimum cost is a \$5 donation.

### 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 713-419-3545.

### Gulf Freeway closures set

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

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

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

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

### New Covenant feeds needy

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

### 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, Sept. 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 two 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.

### Ellington eRecycling set

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

Recycling electronics keeps potentially harmful materials, such as mercury, cadmium, lead and cathode ray tubes out of the waste stream and the environment. The collection events take place the second Saturday of each month. For additional information, visit www.houstonsolidwaste.org or call 311.

## Ruling leaves local school programs in limbo

### Funding rules may jeopardize SJC Promise, PISD ECHS programs

A recent federal court ruling has upended Texas' longstanding policy of offering in-state tuition to undocumented students, raising urgent questions about the future of local programs such as Pasadena ISD early College High School (ECHS) and San Jacinto College's Promise program.

#### What happened?

Last month, the U.S. Department of Justice filed a lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of Texas' "Dream Act," which had allowed undocumented students to access in-state tuition. Within hours, Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton joined the DOJ in a joint motion to block the law. U.S. District Judge Reed O'Connor – a former

Dobie student – issued a permanent injunction, effectively ending the policy.

"Ending this discriminatory and unAmerican provision is a major victory for Texas," Paxton said in a statement.

U.S. Attorney General Pam Bondi issued a similar statement.

"The Justice Department will relentlessly fight to vindicate federal law and ensure that U.S. citizens are not treated like second-class citizens anywhere in the country," said Bondi.

#### Local impact

San Jacinto College's Promise Scholarship is a last-dollar program that covers 100 percent of in-district tuition for students graduating from

local ISDs, including Pasadena ISD.

While the scholarship is not federally funded, students must complete a FAFSA or TASFA to qualify – forms that now require verification of lawful presence under the new federal interpretation.

This means undocumented students who previously qualified for Promise funding may now be excluded, even if they meet all other academic and residency requirements.

Civil rights leader Domingo Garcia, co-author of the original Texas DREAM Act, condemned the ruling, suggesting it was unAmerican and sacrilegious.

"Real Christians do not persecute defenseless children," said Garcia. "Real Americans defend everyone's right to an education."

#### Early College High School

Pasadena ISD operates five Early College High School campuses in partnership with San Jacinto College, allowing students to earn up to 60 college credit hours while completing high

school. Juniors and seniors attend classes on San Jac campuses, where federal funding and tuition classification now come into play.

While K-12 instruction remains protected under the Plyler v. Doe ruling, undocumented students may face barriers to enrolling in college-level courses this fall unless they can prove lawful presence.

#### What's next?

San Jacinto College is reviewing its admissions and scholarship protocols to comply with federal law, college officials said.

Pasadena ISD will continue offering ECHS programs but students seeking college credit should consult counselors regarding new documentation requirements.

The Promise Scholarship deadline was July 18 for Class of 2025 graduates.

For updates on SJC's Promise Scholarship, visit www.sanjac.edu/admissions.

For updates on Pasadena ISD's ECHS program, visit www.pasadenaisd.org/echhs.

## Former Big Apple demolished



The building that once housed the controversial Big Apple adult theater and newsstand was recently demolished on the Gulf Freeway near Edgemoor. While now fairly common in the area, the establishment was the first of its kind in the area and drew the ire of several South Belt community leaders in the early- to mid-1980s. The top photo shows the building as it stood in 1983 after suffering damage during Hurricane Alicia. Two years later, the Big Apple was destroyed in a suspicious fire. Despite being deemed as arson by investigators, no known arrests were made relating to the 1985 blaze. The business never reopened. In honor of the Leader's 50th anniversary, a series of photos and stories from 1985 about the business and the South Belt community's opposition to it are republished on Page 2 and Page 3.

## County: 2018 bond funds insufficient

### Planned projects may be shelved due to \$1.3B budget shortfall

Seven years after Harris County voters overwhelmingly approved a \$2.5 billion flood control bond in response to Hurricane Harvey's devastation, recent revelations have cast doubt on the county's ability to deliver on its promises.

A projected \$1.3 billion shortfall has emerged, threatening the completion of dozens of planned projects under the Harris County Flood Control District's 2018 bond referendum.

HCFCD Executive Director Dr. Tina Petersen acknowledged the challenges at a recent Commissioners Court meeting.

"We are not going to be able to do all the projects that people were promised, and that failure was built into the bond, and that's disappointing," said Petersen.

HCFCD officials attributed the shortfall to rising construction costs, inflation, and unmet ex-

pectations for federal and partner funding.

At a recent Commissioners Court meeting, County Judge Lina Hidalgo expressed concern over the revelations.

"It's very frustrating," said Hidalgo. "What ultimately becomes very clear now is, really, they can't possibly be done."

Despite the mounting criticism, HCFCD has pushed back against claims that the bond program is failing.

In a recent statement, HCFCD Chief External Affairs Officer Emily Woodell clarified that the \$1.3 billion figure was based on preliminary estimates for future phases of projects that extend beyond the original scope approved in 2018. She emphasized that the district has already secured over \$2.7 billion in partnerships, exceeding ini-

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## Garcia speaks on the state of Pct. 2

### County commissioner, others address Pct.2's present, future

On July 17, Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia addressed a packed ballroom of more than 700 attendees at the Hyatt Regency Baytown-Houston during the annual State of the Precinct luncheon.

Hosted in collaboration with five local chambers of commerce – including Clear Lake Area, Deer Park, La Porte-Bayshore, Pasadena and South Belt-Ellington – the event served as a platform for Garcia to reflect on the past year's accomplishments and outline his strategic vision for the future.

Garcia closed his remarks with a call to action. "Let's continue building a Precinct 2 that works for everyone – where opportunity, safety and community thrive together," said Garcia.

tutions, including San Jacinto College and Memorial Hermann, which were among the event's sponsors.

The luncheon wasn't just about policy; it was a vibrant networking opportunity, drawing civic leaders, business owners and residents eager to engage with the commissioner and each other. With sponsorships from organizations like Shell Federal Credit Union and Houston Carbon Capture and Storage Alliance, the event underscored the precinct's commitment to innovation and sustainability.

See related photo on Page 4.

## Man wanted in Redford murder arrested

### 2nd suspect already in custody for role in May murder

A week after being charged with capital murder for a shooting that took place this past May outside an apartment complex in 1400 block of Redford, a suspect has been arrested.

Javeon Washington, 18, was the second suspect to be charged in the crime, which took place May 15 at the complex located near Edgemoor and the Gulf Freeway.

Tyrell Robinson, 21, was already in custody for his role in the killing, being charged with murder in the 174th State District Court shortly after the fatal shooting.

The pair are accused of killing Jermon Williams, 20.



Javeon Washington

According to Houston Police Department officials, patrol officers responded to a shooting call at The Redford apartment complex at the above address around 2:35 a.m. and found a male suffering from gunshot wounds in the parking lot area. Paramedics pronounced him dead at the scene. Neighbors reported hearing gunshots before finding the male unresponsive.

Further investigation identified Robinson as a suspect in this incident. He was subsequently arrested and charged for his role in the crime. Additional investigation led to the identification of Washington as a suspect in this case and on July 9, he was charged with capital murder.

HPD's Southeast Patrol Division Crime Suppression Team arrested Washington Friday, July 25. Once dubbed by police as a "hot spot" for violent crime, this marked the first known fatal shooting to take place at The Redford in nearly two years.

## PISD open enrollment underway

### Out-of-district students may attend PISD schools tuition-free

Pasadena ISD has launched its open enrollment and student transfer application process for the upcoming 2025-2026 school year, inviting families both within and outside the district to explore new educational opportunities.

#### Who can apply?

Pasadena ISD welcomes the following:  
– Students new to the district.  
– Families who have moved within district boundaries.  
– Current students seeking to transfer to a different campus.  
– Pre-K applicants who turn 4 by Sept. 1.

#### Out-of-district students

As in previous recent school years, Pasadena ISD's 2025-2026 open enrollment program will allow students from neighboring areas outside district boundaries to attend Pasadena ISD schools tuition-free.

Open enrollment for out-of-district students is done on a limited basis, and potential students must meet certain criteria.

Families outside the district can submit a student transfer application through the open enrollment portal. Acceptance is typically based on available space at the requested campus and the student's academic, attendance and behavior re-

cords.

Once accepted, students must maintain satisfactory performance to remain eligible.

#### How to enroll

Enrollment is completed online.

#### Required documentation

To complete registration, families should prepare:

– Proof of residency: current utility bill (water, gas, electric, landline phone or cable).  
– Additional documents for new students:  
– Lease, rental agreement, deed or mortgage statement.

– Student's birth certificate (required for pre-K, kindergarten and students under 11).  
– Immunization records.

– Social Security card (requested).  
– Final report card or withdrawal documents from previous school.

– Custody documentation, if applicable.

Whether a student is new to the district or looking for a fresh start at a different campus, Pasadena ISD's open enrollment program offers a flexible path to quality education.

For additional information about Pasadena ISD's open enrollment program, visit www.pasadenaisd.org/enrollment.

## Terry turns 100 years old!



Longtime South Belt resident Ann Sue Terry turned 100 Monday, July 28. The mother of local dentist, Dr. Douglas Terry, the centenarian celebrated with her son (right) at his office, along with assistant Melissa Nix. See related photo on Page 2. Photo by Chuck Tylka

# In My Opinion

## King: Poll indicates residents believe Harris County heading in wrong direction

A new poll from the Hobby School of Public Affairs at the University of Houston, finds that 57% of Harris County residents believe the county is headed in the wrong direction. I cannot recall a time when public sentiment about Harris County was this negative.

What's striking is that no demographic subgroup expressed a positive outlook. Democrats were evenly split at 50/50, while 57% of Independents and 68% of Republicans viewed the county as on the wrong track. Younger residents and men were slightly more dissatisfied than other groups.

Crime remains the top concern, identified as the most serious issue by 20% of respondents. That figure, while still leading, marks a notable decline compared to recent years. The cost of housing and rising property taxes followed, tied at 13%.

Other frequently cited issues included street conditions (11%), flooding (9%), and traffic congestion (7%), which is historically low for that category. Economic and racial inequality registered at 10% and 4%, respectively. Homelessness was mentioned by 7%, and a lack of adequate public transportation by 6%.

What stands out is how broadly dissatisfaction is spread. There is only a 14-point gap between the most and least cited problems. No single issue dominates. Instead, residents appear discontented across a wide range of concerns.

The picture became somewhat clearer when respondents were asked to list their top three concerns. Crime was again the leading concern at 45%, followed by poor street conditions at 39%, and flooding at 37%. High housing costs (33%) and property taxes (32%) rounded out the top five.

Housing costs and property taxes are, of course, closely linked. Many renters who cite high housing costs may not realize that rising property taxes often lead to higher rents. If we combine the housing-related responses in both questions,

they are well above any other issue. Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo appears to be bearing the brunt of the public dissatisfaction. Her net approval is just 4%, remarkably low given that Democrats dominate the county's partisan split. Other commissioners have significantly better approval ratings, though they remain relatively unknown to most voters. This is ironic, given that county judges have limited independent power. Most of the policies that have voters so cross are based on decisions made by the Commissioners. Hidalgo's highly publicized meltdowns during Commissioners Court meetings and her controversial international travel requests are likely contributing to her declining support.

All of this sets the stage for an interesting 2026 election cycle, when Hidalgo, along with Commissioners Adrian Garcia and Lesley Briones, will be up for reelection. Republicans made inroads in 2024, winning ten countywide races, despite Trump losing the County by about 85,000 votes (52-46). That cycle was largely driven by voter anger over judges releasing violent offenders on little or no bond. While that issue may have subsided somewhat, there have still been high-profile cases over the past two years that will likely resurface in campaign ads.

This new poll suggests Republicans may have another potent issue: the steep property tax hikes enacted by the Democratic majority on the Commissioners' Court. If Republicans can effectively link high property taxes to the broader issue of housing affordability, they may have a powerful one-two punch. With Governor Abbott likely entering his reelection campaign holding over \$100 million in campaign funds, Republicans will have the resources to dominate the cycle. Still, Trump is the omnipresent wild card. If his favorability continues to erode, as it has since his reelection, it could prove a drag on down-ballot races. The outcome of the 2026 Harris County elections will likely turn on whether voters are principally concerned about local issues or what is happening in Washington.

Bill King

## Backpack giveaway at Faith Missionary Baptist

Faith Missionary Baptist Church and Beta Eta, Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma of Texas, are having a Back-to-School Backpack Drive-Thru on Saturday, Aug. 2, from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. They will be giving out starter kit backpacks with school supplies, while supplies last. Faith Missionary Baptist Church is located at 9850 Mango.

## Kirkwood South Christian Church hosts VBS

All kids who have completed K-5th grade are invited to a free, one-day Vacation Bible School event titled "Yee Haw - Celebrating God's Greatest Gift." The event will be held on Saturday, Aug. 2, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., and is hosted by Kirkwood South Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), located at 10811 Kirkfair. Lunch will be provided. Registration is online at [kirkwoodsouthcc.org](http://kirkwoodsouthcc.org) or at the door.

## AARP Webster sets meeting

AARP Webster Area Chapter 199 invites one to join them at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 14, at the Bay Area Community Center, 5002 E. NASA Parkway, Seabrook 77586. They meet in the large building with the blue roof inside Clear Lake Park on the north side of NASA Parkway. One is invited to come to meetings and to enjoy coffee, cookies, and fellowship at 9:30 a.m. before the meeting starts at 10 a.m. Each month there is entertainment or a speaker on various topics of interest to seniors, followed by a social activity.

The speaker for this event will be professor Sharon Mitchiner - Nutrition Education, Texas A&M AgriLife Galveston County Office. The social event theme will be senior shenanigans. Plinko, a slot machine, bean bag toss and lots of other games will be played. There will be prizes for the winners.

AARP Chapter 199 is hosting a bus trip on Tuesday, Aug. 19. They will tour the Natural Museum of Funeral History. Lunch will be at Cracker Barrel. One may register for this trip at the Aug. 14 meeting. One must be a member of the chapter to participate in bus trips.

If one is interested in joining AARP Chapter 199, annual dues are \$8 per year per person. However, one must be a member of national AARP and show one's current national membership card to join any local chapter. AARP chapters are separately incorporated affiliates of AARP. For more information, contact President Veronica Stanford at 409-256-1195 or at [veronica\\_stfrd46@yahoo.com](mailto:veronica_stfrd46@yahoo.com).

## 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 31, 3 - 4 p.m. Open lab computer help. Registration required.  
 Thursday, July 31, 4 - 5 p.m. Bring your family to storytime. Registration required.  
 Monday, Aug. 4, 11 a.m. - noon. Open lab computer help. Registration required.  
 Tuesday, Aug. 5, 4 - 5 p.m. Board games at the library. Registration required.  
 Wednesday, Aug. 6, 4 - 6 p.m. Explore your library: Discover resources, programs and more. Registration required.  
 Visit <https://houstonlibrary.libcal.com/calendar/events> for more library events.

### Book drop

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

### Parker Williams Library

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

The book drop is open. Social media links are Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary and Instagram.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary.

The following events are scheduled for Parker Williams Library, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd.:  
 Thursday, July 31, 10:15 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. Toddler time.  
 Friday, Aug. 1, 1 - 3 p.m. Genealogy.  
 Friday, Aug. 1, 4 - 5:30 p.m. Maker craft: DIY buttons.  
 Saturday, Aug. 2, 10 a.m. - noon. Tai Chi.  
 Monday, Aug. 4, 1 - 2:30 p.m. ESL conversation club. Registration required.  
 Monday, Aug. 4, 4 - 5:30 p.m. Laser cutter orientation.  
 Tuesday, Aug. 5, 10:15 - 10:45 a.m. Babies 'n' books.  
 Wednesday, Aug. 6, 10 - 11 a.m. Senior coloring club.  
 Wednesday, Aug. 6, 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](http://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>.

# Leader looks back at Big Apple battle

Recently demolished property once the scourge of community

In honor of the Leader's 50th anniversary, the following articles on the South Belt community's battle against pornography and the Big Apple adult cinema, located on the east side of the Gulf Freeway between Edgewood and Airport Boulevard/College, are republished just as they appeared in the newspaper in September 1985. See related photos on Page 1 and Page 4. Photos courtesy of South Belt Houston Digital History Archive.



Located on the Gulf Freeway north Edgewood, the Big Apple adult theater was once a scourge of the South Belt community.

(Sept. 19, 1985)  
**Big Apple, church unlikely neighbors**

Not many people would consider a hurricane a blessing but Hurricane Alicia which struck two years ago last month did have at least one redeeming factor as far as the Rev. Leonard Driskell of the Sun Valley Church of Christ is concerned.

Due to damage, and a subsequent fire of unknown origins, one of his neighbors closed its business doors. That neighbor was the Big Apple, a pornographic bookstore and peepshow establishment.

No longer would the minister have to place "This is not parking for the Big Apple" signs on those select clientele using his parking lot. No longer would he be concerned that a lone man would expose himself to parishioners. No longer would pornographic materials be left on the church grounds and in the parking lot.

Now, his concerns have been re-awakened as the Big Apple is expecting to re-open within the next few weeks.

He finds himself in the same hopeless situation he experienced before, yet he has initiated another campaign to fight the Big Apple which he says is within 150 feet of church grounds. This campaign concerns getting legislation chartered to keep such establishments farther away. The present law reads there must be a least 1500 feet from the front door of establishments dealing in por-

nography to the front door of nearby churches. Because the church is located behind the site, the measurement from the Big Apple must be taken by walking around the block. Thus, the Big Apple operated legally.

Driskell wants the law changed to reach 1500 feet from property line to property line. He has already begun writing letters to state and local legislators. And God willing, he says someone will listen.

*Ed. note: This law was finally passed in the city of Houston in 1997. It endured more than a decade of legal challenges, however, before it could actually be enforced.*

(Sept. 19, 1985)  
**Local group blasts porno**

A group of South Belt residents representing different factions of the community appeared before the Houston City Council yesterday to express their concerns about the encroachment of pornographic establishments upon the area.

Mary Obenauf and Neil West, representing the South Belt Coalition, Kathy Cupp representing Sagemont Civic Club, and Santa Carnabucci, a long-time resident were among those that made presentations to this council.

"We're working hard to preserve the quality of our neighborhood," Obenauf told council members. "We don't want pornography in any way, shape or form in our area. We encourage the city to continue in its perseverance and we offer our help in whatever capacity necessary

to fight pornography in our area."

Carnabucci, a 25-year Beverly Hills resident said, "I have seen this community grow to what it is today and I don't want to see this pornography to start to grow with us."

"We realize the city is trying to do their jobs," Neil West said about the reason for the appearance "but we want to urge the city to keep pursuing these establishments on an ongoing basis."

West said the Coalition and he personally will do, "whatever it takes" to keep pornography out of the area. He said the Coalition is trying to use preventative measures so that it will not be faced with the task of running such an establishment out of the neighborhood.

**Targets**  
 "There seems to be a trend of these places locating in our area," he said. "Some of us are getting nervous, but the Coalition is well-equipped to deal with this issue. This is not a back-yard issue, but a community issue."

Primary targets for the group include the Follies Bergere which has been under considerable vice squad observation because of their advertisement of "Live Sex on Stage" and The Big Apple, which is expected to open within the next few weeks as a pornographic bookstore, complete with peep show booths. Vice Sergeant Bill Brown said the owners have yet to apply with the city for a permit to operate such an establishment.

Both business are located within minutes of the area, just off the Gulf Freeway.

Brown complimented the group for its action. "I'm sure the council is always interested in hearing from citizens," he said. "I encourage citizens to get in contact with not only their councilmen, but with all other elected officials so that the government can react to their concerns."

**Pornography Migrating**

Although West and other have expressed concerns that pornography seems to be migrating here from the north side of Houston, Brown said it is spread somewhat evenly throughout the city. Other facets in the community are aware of growing concern. Among them is the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce which is forming a committee to investigate the possible problem of pornographic infiltration.

District E Councilman Frank Mancuso commended the group for their efforts. "The general public has got to let it be known that we don't want this (pornography)," he said. "We have to let people know the east side of town can't be a haven for this type of activity."

Mancuso said the council continues to work with the city attorney and legal department to determine legal means to stop pornographic activities.

"I hope we'll be successful," he said. And, according to those concerned, residents here hope so, too.



The Big Apple adult theater is shown above in 1983 after being struck by a tornado during Hurricane Alicia. Two years later, the controversial business was destroyed by an unsolved fire. See related photos on Page 1 and Page 4.

The day after the above article appeared on the front page of the then-South Belt Leader, the Big Apple was torched. While the blaze was deemed arson by investigators, it was never determined who set the fire.

(Sept. 26, 1985)  
**Anti-porno efforts strengthening** (Sept. 26, 1985)

Form letters addressed to city, county and state elected officials will be given to attendees of a community meeting Tuesday night focusing on ridding the area of unwanted establishments dealing in pornography.

Attendees will not only be given the form letters but will be provided with mailing labels with addresses of 27 officials - 15 city, six county and six state.

According to Mary Obenauf, letters have been drafted according to action each body of legislators can take regarding the issue. Letters to city officials ask for changes in city ordinances to protect each neighborhood. The county-bound letters ask

simply for support, and letters to state legislators ask for enactment of legislation to "combat the problem."

"Our plan of action is to barrage our officials with letters demanding legislative enforcement to be strong," Obenauf said. "It is out attempt to see into the future, to attack long-range problems."

Speakers at the meeting sponsored by the South Belt Coalition will include the Rev. T.A. Pearson of Meadowbrook Baptist Church, Harris County Criminal Judge Jack "Pick" Pickren, and Marie Flickinger, representing the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce.

**Picketing porno**  
 Pearson and members of his congregation began on Sept. 12 picketing the Follies Bergere which has live sexual-related entertainment. Friday, Sept. 20, when the group appeared at the site, they witnessed the closing of the establishment. "One of the men in the act stopped one of our ladies and told her we could go home, because they were closing," Pearson said.

The next, Pearson watched as maintenance men dismantled lights and moved furniture from the building.

"They thought we'd give up," Pearson said, "but, we didn't."

Pearson's congregation had a victory party Saturday night. (Sept. 26, 1985)

**Big Apple spoiled**

While performers at Follies Bergere were packing up their possessions, firemen were returning from the site of the former Big Apple.

A building on the 11135 Gulf Freeway site that was being prepared for reopening of the adult bookstore was set

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# Terry celebrates a century



On Monday, July 28, longtime South Belt resident Ann Sue Terry turned 100 years old. Terry celebrated her milestone birthday at the office of her son, local dentist Dr. Douglas Terry. See related photo on Page 1. Photo by Chuck Tylka

# Complex catches fire

Fire near Hobby displaces 40 residents

A fire at an apartment complex near Hobby Airport displaced approximately 40 residents the night of Wednesday, July 23, in the 7900 block of Morley near Broadway.

According to officials with the Houston Fire Department, firefighters responded to the incident around 7:15 p.m. to find heavy smoke coming from the second story of the newly renovated complex. Firefighters determined the source of the smoke was a fast-moving fire that quickly spread from the complex's second-story units to the attic and then the roof.

HFD District Chief Michael Flanagan of Station 26 described the scene as "intense" and "challenging," noting that high winds and extreme heat made fighting the fire more difficult.

"We had heavy smoke showing from the second floor," said Flanagan. "It extended into the attic and burned the roof off the building." Six units suffered extensive damage directly caused by the fire, and all 16 units in the complex lost power from the incident. Two firefighters and two civilians suffered heat exhaustion but were treated on site and did not require hospitalization.

The Red Cross was called in to assist displaced residents, many of whom were left without shelter in the sweltering summer heat. At press time, the cause of the fire remained unclear. The incident remained under investigation by the Houston Fire Department's Arson Division at press time Tuesday, July 29.

# Bond projects unfunded

County faces \$1.3B shortfall

Continued from Page 1

insists that the equity framework - designed to prioritize historically underserved communities - has not been properly followed. Meanwhile, Precinct 3 Commissioner Tom Ramsey argues for an equal distribution of funds across all precincts. As residents in flood-prone neighborhoods demand answers, the county faces a critical juncture: how to reconcile voter expectations with fiscal realities, and how to ensure that the most vulnerable communities are not left behind.

For additional information on HCFCD's 2018 Bond Program, visit [www.hcfcd.org/2018-bond-program](http://www.hcfcd.org/2018-bond-program).

To read HCFCD's complete response to the recent revelations, visit [www.hcfcd.org/community/press-room](http://www.hcfcd.org/community/press-room).

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# Dobie FFA students participate in Deer Park Young Farmers Battleground Showdown



Dobie FFA students participated in the Deer Park Young Farmers Battleground Showdown on Saturday, July 19, and Sunday, July 20. Students who competed in the swine show, left to right, are Thalia Oddo (Class 9), Kiara Torres (Class 14), Elijah Garza (Class 11-placed second), Jennifer Tran (Class 7-placed second) and Kevin Rubio (Class 13).



Pictured is former Dobie FFA 2024-2025 president first in both rings A and B in the Hieffer American Hunter Stacy (left) and brother Luke Stacy who placed Breed Division.



Pictured above are the steer contestants. From, left to right, are second-place winner Julien Cano, third-place winner Abrianna Carbajal, second-place winner Mathew Trevino and third-place winner Jeremiah Griffin.

## Dobie cheerleaders attend UCA Home Camp



Four Pasadena ISD high schools attended a UCA Home Camp held at Dobie9 July 17-July 19. Camp ended with the announcement of the UCA All American picks. Dobie winners were from, left to right, (front row) Avery Mendiola (JV), Lexie Martinez, Linnea Fonseca, Madison Ramsey (JV), Deisy Meza (JV), (back row) Zadi Battarbee, Natalie Elkins, Vida Sosa, Arianna Burmudez, Cullen Ponder, Aubree Rodriguez, Yazlyn Brown and Bella Sherwood.



Dobie cheerleader Yazlyn Brown won the UCA camp jump off held at Dobie9. She will be a sophomore on Dobie Varsity cheer squad.



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## Louie takes part in Fill the Bus

Dobie's Louie (Lexie Martinez) participated in Pasadena ISD Fill the Bus with school supplies at Chick-fil-A in Pasadena on Saturday, July 26. All donations from the Fill the Bus event will be sent to the PISD warehouse, where teachers will have the opportunity to personally choose the grade-level items their students will need when school resumes in August.

## Golf cart drivers needed

Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital's unique volunteer program offers one the opportunity to explore new directions, develop skills, make friends and have fun. The hospital is seeking men and women of all backgrounds who find satisfaction in helping others - students, professionals, retirees, service-minded individuals - to transport their patients, staff and visitors to and from the hospital parking lots.

They ask that volunteers commit to volunteering one shift per week, Monday through Friday, 7:30 to 11:45 a.m. or 11:45 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Those interested must complete an application and interview, as well as a background and driving record check, orientation and training. The volunteer application can be found at [volunteer.memorialhermann.org](http://volunteer.memorialhermann.org).

For more information on volunteer opportunities at Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital, email [SEVolunteer.Services@memorialhermann.org](mailto:SEVolunteer.Services@memorialhermann.org).

## Thompson Intermediate cheerleaders win awards



Thompson Intermediate cheerleaders went to camp recently and came home with four certificates, three "All-Star" medals, the "Camp Favorite" award and top team dance. Thompson staff are very proud of their hard work and are very excited to see them cheer this year for the Thompson Lions. Shown are, left to right, (front row) London Rodriguez, Daniella Gonzales, Julissa Bonilla, Aliyah Alvarez, Nathalia Blanc Candelaria, Soraya Shah, coach Meagan Wisniewski, (back row) Jaselym Enriquez, Khloe Woodard, Isabella Squier, Bella Hernandez, Dora Campos, Brooklynn Reyes, Alicia Sypien, Demi Rose Gaitan, Aubrey Barajas and Xara Oddo.

## Murphy, Vasquez marry



Patrick and Kathy McKee Murphy of Friendswood, announce the marriage of their daughter, Molly Caitlin Murphy of Friendswood, to Alex Jordan Vasquez of Manvel, son of Sean Kennedy and Sandra Vasquez. Alex's father is from Texas City and his mother is from Santa Fe. The ceremony was held at Silver Sycamore in Pasadena, on Saturday, May 25, 2025. The bride attended Clear Lake Christian School for 13 years and graduated with a bachelor's degree from University of Houston-Clear Lake and sells commercial insurance for Lebaron and Carroll Insurance based out of Phoenix, Ariz. The groom graduated from Manvel High and works for Yokogawa Fluence Analytics. The bride's mother Kathy grew up in the South Belt area and was a Class of 1983 Dobie High School graduate.

## Garcia addresses Pct. 2



Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia delivered his annual State of the Precinct address Thursday, July 17. See related story on Page 1.

# Leader looks back on Big Apple battle

## Adult cinema on Gulf Freeway once scourge of South Belt community

Continued from Page 2

on fire Friday afternoon, said arson investigator Bruce Koger.

No one was injured in the fire which caused about \$12,000 in damages and there are no suspects at this time, said arson investigator K.T. Kerr.

The original building was destroyed two years ago by a tornado and subsequent fire which was determined by investigators as arson, Kerr said.

A meager crowd gathered at San Jacinto College Tuesday night to hear eight community leaders express their views of pornography and their suggestions on how to rid the area of "such unsavory establishments."

The crowd of 50 applauded as City Councilman Frank Mancuso told them, "We have to let them (pornographic establishments) know that we won't have this form of lowlife in our community."

Mancuso praised the efforts of the Rev. Tony Pearson, pastor of Meadowbrook Baptist Church, and his congregation for picketing the Follies Bergere. Nine days after picketing started, the business which advertised "live sex on stage" closed its doors.

"We've learned that there's power in numbers," Mancuso said. "We've made a good start. We've found out the right way, the legal way, to rid our community of these places -- see that they don't make money."

Pearson also spoke at the meeting, using the opportunity to insult Mayor Kathy Whitmire's stance on the issue. "We have a mayor that doesn't understand family," he said.

Pearson, who said he was "appalled" by the lack of community response to the issue said, "It's time we set our standards and hold our own feet to the fire."

Pat Wakefield, president of the Houston Federation of Decency shared literature with the group and asked them to seek the attention of legislators in fighting what is "not a victimless crime."

sored by the South Belt Coalition. President Mary Obenauf said she was disappointed with the turnout, and encouraged other community residents who feel strongly about the elimination of pornography become active in

the group's efforts. "Resident response will turn any issue around," she said.

She added in response to Pearson's statement about the current mayor that the Coalition is a non-partisan community organization that

endorses no political candidates. "We can only deal with the issues," she said.

Chris Clark, chairman of the newly formed Community Quality Control Committee chaired the meeting and passed out form letters to

state, county, and city elected officials appealing for their support in abolishing pornography.

He encouraged interested parties to attend the next City Council meeting Oct. 9 to voice their views.

Another public meeting has been planned for Friday, Oct. 18. At Tuesday's meeting it was announced the next meeting would be Tuesday, Oct. 15, but due to conflicts the meeting date was changed.

## Hurricane Alicia strikes controversial theater



The building that once housed the controversial Big Apple adult theater on the Gulf Freeway near Edgebrook was recently leveled by demolition crews. Although the business has been closed for approximately 40 years, it was once deemed a scourge of the South Belt and opposed by several community leaders, who saw the pornographic establishment as unfit for the burgeoning family area. The former building is shown above after being damaged by a tornado associated with Hurricane Alicia in 1983. The business was destroyed by a suspicious fire two years later. Photo courtesy of South Belt Houston Digital History Archive. See related photos on Page 1 and Page 2.

# Remember When

### 45 years ago (1980)

A hazardous waste disposal site was being proposed adjacent to Ellington Air Force Base by Gulf Coast Waste Disposal Authority. GCWDA officials announced they had made permit application for the 200-acre site bounded by Ellington, State Highway 3, and the proposed Beltway 8 near Genoa-Red Bluff Road. The facility was expected to cost approximately \$67 million and would incorporate the use of a rotary kiln and, at that time, a relatively new process of detoxification known as Stablex.

The four-lane divided highway from the Gulf Freeway to Beamer Road on Fuqua opened, and local merchants celebrated with a variety of sales offered in a special section of the Leader. Local fans of Astros pitcher J.R. Richard collected signatures on a get-well card to be delivered to the star's Sageglen home after his release from the hospital.

An electrical fire left several businesses in the Kroger shopping center with little or no electricity. The fire occurred in a trough located at the rear of the building which housed a bundle of electrical wires.

### 40 years ago (1985)

Petitions requesting flashing lights at local school zones and improvements to Hall Road from Kingspoint to Telephone were to be given to El Franco Lee, county commissioner for Precinct 1, at a meeting of the South Belt Civic Coalition. More than 2,000 signatures were secured on the petitions.

In an effort to clean up a 2.4 mile eyesore along the city-county line, Harris County Precinct 1 officials offered to make improvements and maintain a portion of Hall Road between Telephone and Kingspoint. A \$10,000 lawsuit filed by South Belt Security Alliance against Southeast Security was dropped, according to South Belt Security Alliance spokesman Neil West.

The Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League All-Star team won two games to advance into the semifinals of the Little League State Tournament in Waco.

### 35 Years ago (1990)

First-time drug users or students in possession of nar-

cotics would no longer face mandatory expulsion from Pasadena ISD schools. Board members voted to change that portion of the Discipline Management Plan and relevant section in the student handbook.

As a method of introducing South Belt area residents to the vast amount of local health services, the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce was making plans to host Health Fair '90 with booths set up at Alameda Mall.

South Belt area residents Melissa Atkinson and Manada Whalen, members of the West University softball team, received first-place trophies in the Spring-Klein Invitational 12-and-under Softball Tournament. Both also received Most Valuable Player awards for their efforts throughout the event.

### 30 years ago (1995)

Dobie's Jennifer Richardson, 15, won the Glamour Girl Model Search Contest (teen division) hosted by Page Parkes Center of Modeling and Glamour Shots of

Houston.

It was announced that the 1991 Clear Brook High School graduate who was serving a life sentence in Bangladesh for drug smuggling, would be released. At a board meeting, Pasadena ISD trustees approved a tougher discipline management plan. The plan was in compliance with Senate Bill 1, which called for mandatory removal from campus of students who commit serious offenses.

### 25 years ago (2000)

Heather Ogilvie, a 1996 Dobie graduate and Sageglen resident, relinquished her crown after serving one year as Miss Texas. During her reign, Ogilvie represented Texas at the national level at the Miss USA Pageant, placing 12th.

During a meeting of the

Clear Brook City Municipal Utility District, the board toured the new subdivision of Clear Brook Meadows, located just off Blackhawk Boulevard.

A public hearing was set for a proposed apartment complex, slated to be a 250-unit multifamily residential development, to be constructed in the Highland Meadow subdivision.

### 20 years ago (2005)

Both PISD and CCISD had the "recognized" statuses reduced to "acceptable" after students took the more rigorous Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills tests.

Kristi LaMell was named principal of Clear Brook High School. LaMell replaced Michael Kreis who was principal for only one year.

The 147th Texas Air National Guard received orders to deploy to Iraq in support of the war on terror.

A fatal traffic accident occurred on the Gulf Freeway at the Scarsdale exit. The driver of a late-model Mustang took the exit at the last minute

then spun out of control. A 25-year-old male passenger in the car was killed instantly.

South Belt parents were anticipating the annual tax-free shopping weekend for back-to-school clothing items.

### 15 years ago (2010)

The Southeast Volunteer Fire Department responded to three separate blazes that officials believed were caused by a serial arsonist. The latest of the three incidents occurred at St. Luke the Evangelist church, where a paper dumpster was ignited.

Two days earlier, firefighters responded to a grass fire near the right-of-way lane on Beltway 8 near Blackhawk that SVFD Chief Chuck Tylka said was started with gasoline. A few days prior, a guitar was set on fire on Hall Road near El Franco Lee Park. Again, Tylka said an accelerant, such as gasoline, was used to initiate the blaze.

According to Tylka, all three incidents occurred around midnight. Given the proximity in time and location, Tylka believed all of the incidents

were related. No immediate arrests were made.

### 10 years ago (2015)

A 2-year-old boy drowned in a swimming pool Aug. 3 in the 11200 block of Sagehill near Hughes Road. Emergency crews responded to the scene to find someone attempting to perform CPR on the child. Efforts to revive him were unsuccessful and Mason Craft was pronounced dead at the scene. The incident was ruled accidental, and no charges were filed.

Houston District D City Council Member Dwight Boykins hosted the second annual 'Swingin' for Seniors golf tournament at Hermann Park Golf Course. Proceeds benefited Boykins' Senior Assistance Fund that helped District D senior citizens make needed home repairs.

### 5 years ago (2020)

With the Dobie Class of 2020 graduation taking place Thursday, July 30, the area high school officially ended its most unique year on record. Pasadena ISD students were on spring break in mid-March when the on-

going COVID-19 pandemic first made its local presence known, forcing area schools to close as a safety precaution. As the virus continued to spread, students never returned to their physical campuses, forced to instead learn virtually from home.

Longtime South Belt resident and member of the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department Karen Smith died from COVID-19. In addition to volunteering with the fire department, Smith also worked as a nurse for more than three decades, 22 of which were with the Medical Clinic of Houston. Smith left behind her husband Harvey and children Meghan and Christopher.

### 1 year ago (2024)

Houston Mayor John Whitmire appointed both a new fire chief and police chief to head the city's respective departments. Whitmire appointed Thomas Muñoz as the chief of the Houston Fire Department. Muñoz, who retired from HFD as an assistant chief, most recently served as the city's emergency management coordinator and the acting director for the Mayor's Office of Public Safety and Homeland Security. Muñoz is a member of FEMA's National Advisory Council and has more than 29 years of experience as a first responder and emergency manager. During his 24 years with the Houston Fire Department, Muñoz oversaw Homeland Security, Public Affairs and HAZMAT. Muñoz completed the Executive Leadership and Management Certification from the University of Notre Dame Mendoza School of Business and is a Homeland Security Executive Leadership Program graduate from the Naval Postgraduate School. He also completed the Component National Security Course at the National Defense University in Washington, D.C. After retiring from HFD, he served as the emergency manager and Homeland Security Director for Texas City before rejoining the city of Houston as emergency management coordinator with the Office of Emergency Management. Muñoz also retired as commander from the U.S. Coast Guard (Reserve) after 21 years of service. While in the

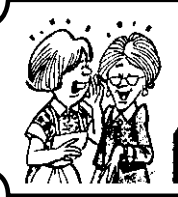
my, Diaz was assigned to the Katy Highway Patrol Office as a DPS Trooper. In 2001, he was promoted to the Narcotics Division of the State Police stationed in Houston. During his seven years as a narcotics sergeant, Diaz was assigned to the Harris County Organized Crime Task Force, HPD, ATF, DEA and the FBI. In 2008, Diaz was appointed a Texas Ranger and served briefly in Rio Grande City until returning to the Houston office. He was assigned as the Public Corruption Ranger for Company A (Greater Houston area) for more than 10 years, working on various high-profile public corruption investigations. Diaz was assigned to the FBI Public Corruption Border Task Force as a Task Force officer and maintains top-secret clearance. Diaz earned a Bachelor of Science in criminal justice from the University of Houston Downtown (100 Club Scholarship Recipient) and a Master of Science in criminology from Lamar University. He is a 263rd FBI National Academy and FBI Texas Command College graduate. Diaz also graduated from the Northwestern University Center for Public Safety, School of Police Staff and Command in 2024 and enrolled in the University of Houston Certified Public Manager Program starting in 2025. He is also a member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police and Texas Police Chief's Association and has more than 7,000 Law Enforcement (TCOLE) training hours. Diaz replaces Larry J. Satterwhite, who has served as acting police chief since May 2024. Satterwhite has accepted a new assignment as director of the Mayor's Office of Public Safety and Homeland Security.

Send a humorous birthday card Aug. 5 to Samantha Balderaz.

**FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS**  
Thursday, July 31: Robert Gentry, David Freeman, Felix Garcia, Jim Waltz and Ashley Glover; Friday, Aug. 1: Gabriel Diaz, Andrew Burks, Denny Wranch Sr., Ryan Hanzelka, Jo Lyday and Scott Bishop; Saturday, Aug. 2: Mayra Elizabeth, Patricia Lynn Krivik, Ana Acosta, Juanita Herrera, Terry Barclay and Donna Northrup; Sunday, Aug. 3: Angela James-Farrar, Joaquin Jimenez, Jennifer Pena-Zuniga and Gina Valdez; Monday, Aug. 4: Beth Fawcett, Monica Salazar, Donna Taylor, Kristen Sorenson, Diana Polus, Kevin Baker, Michele Cutrer and Robin Wach; Tuesday, Aug. 5: Edna Peña, Wendy Phillips, Karen Owen, Lillie Alvarez, Deanna Goodlet and Shaun Stanton; and Wednesday, Aug. 6: Renita Walker, David Perry, Kenneth Brown and Jeff Weber.

### LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS

Email anniversary, vacation and information on other events to mynews@southbeltleader.com with OTBF in the subject line by Friday noon for the next week's issue.



## Over The Back Fence by Nicole

### SCHOOL DAZE

The following staff of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays July 31 through August 6.

#### Atkinson Elementary

Sing a happy birthday song to Stacy Fontenot Aug. 1. Light the birthday candles Aug. 5 for Sagrario Cazares Vazquez.

#### Burnett Elementary

Send a humorous birthday card Aug. 4 to Kathleen Hinski. Send birthday greetings Aug. 5 to Maria Amaya and Clarissa Castillo.

#### Bush Elementary

Mariela Ramos celebrates a birthday Aug. 6.

#### Frazier Elementary

Greetings to a wonderful birthday are sent to Shannon Davis Aug. 2. Sing a happy birthday song to Luisa Lewis Aug. 5.

#### Hancock Elementary

Send a birthday greeting Aug. 5 to Mirtha Arredondo. Light the birthday candles Aug. 6 for Melissa Cavazos.

#### Meador Elementary

Send a happy birthday wish Aug. 1 to Angel Rodriguez. Aug. 2 is the day for a fun celebration for Jessica Garcia-Ramos.

### Moore Elementary

Patricia Valdez celebrates a birthday Aug. 6.

### South Belt Elementary

Jacquelyn Anderson is wished a happy birthday Aug. 5.

### Melillo Middle School

The day to send a birthday greeting to Norberta Mercado is Aug. 2. Remember to wish Joann Canales a happy birthday Aug. 3. Melissa Torres celebrates a birthday Aug. 4.

### Beverly Hills Intermediate

Sing a happy birthday song Aug. 2 to Shasta Williams. The day for birthday fun for Arnold Agrella is Aug. 3.

### Thompson Intermediate

Enjoy a triple-layer birthday cake with Patricia Tabarez, Bob Boyes and Thuy Nguyen on Aug. 1. Send a birthday greeting Aug. 3 to Daniela Uribe.

### Dobie High

Happy birthday wishes are sent to Bo Li July 31. Birthday greetings are sent to Franco Veletzuy Aug. 1. Blow out the candles Aug. 2 for Maria Mathews. The day for Sherrie Kent, Alecia Lawson and Leah Walker to celebrate with ice cream and a triple-layer birthday cake is Aug. 3.

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# SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

## Dobie coaching legend Moreno Jr. is a TTCA Hall of Fame inductee

"Ladies and gentlemen, please welcome Texas Tennis Coaches Association Hall of Famer Manuel Moreno Jr."

Perhaps those aren't the exact words that Moreno will hear come Dec. 12, at the TTCA's Wilson Hall of Fame and Coach of the Year Banquet at Horseshoe Bay Resort when he is officially inducted into the state's premiere youth coaching organization.

But regardless of the exact words heard that day, it will be a pinnacle moment of sorts for Moreno, who this year begins his 44th season overall in the high school coaching ranks, including 27 of those at Dobie High School.

Reaching the Hall of Fame in any sport is not something that any reasonably thinking coach endeavors to achieve at the beginning of his or her career.

All those years ago when Moreno was first a star tennis player at Galveston's O'Connell High School and then a pretty darn good player at Lamar University in Beaumont, Moreno could have never imagined that he would reap the type of personal and public rewards and awards in addition to lifetime memories that he has collected while coaching at a variety of levels in youth tennis.

Moreno has many times

said that he got the coaching bug first from legendary O'Connell head coach Vince Stiglich Jr., now deceased, and then Ron Westbrook, a legendary figure in his own right for his achievements with the Lamar Cardinal program in Beaumont.

Both men instilled in Moreno the belief that he, too, possessed the qualities and skill set necessary to be a leader of young men and women in the game of tennis.

Moreno had to have experienced the time of his life when he first spent 13 seasons as head coach and his alma mater, O'Connell High School, in Galveston. Moreno served for 13 years as head coach at Galveston O'Connell, winning the boys' state team title and girls' state team runner-up in 1981, while coaching the state winning boy (Terry Siller) and runner-up girl (Suzanne Schwab), both in singles.

In 1990, Moreno's boys' doubles team (John Bannister/Kevin Kampe) captured the state doubles crown.

Moreno and his family have been lifetime residents on the island, and there's little doubt that leading the once prestigious O'Connor program was a highlight in and of itself.

Moreno was for three seasons a coach at Clear Lake High School, ultimately guiding three individual state tournament performers before taking over at Dobie prior to the 1998-1999 season.

He has said before that

he only intended to stay at Dobie for one, maybe a couple of seasons, yet here he is nearly three decades later still wearing the burnt orange of the Longhorns and doing it proudly.

Perhaps the Longhorns have never delivered state tournament quality performers on the court, but Moreno says he appreciates the qualities and family-oriented values of the majority of the players he has coached.

That, in addition to the overwhelming support of the program that he says the Longhorns received under the leadership umbrella of former principal Steve Jamail, himself once an assistant coach at O'Connell, have combined to keep the Moreno in a Longhorn polo all these years despite more than one or two opportunities to coach elsewhere along the way.

Moreno has collected many accolades over the years, that's typically what career coaches who are worth their salt are able to do at various points during their careers.

In 2005, Moreno was honored by the TTCA as its Class 5A Coach of the Year and in February for the second time in his career was honored as the USA -Texas Lloyd Sessions Educational Merit Award winner.

Also this summer, Moreno was recognized within the pages of *Racquet Sports Industry* magazine as one of the top High School coaches in the country.

Yet even Moreno admits reaching the TTCA Hall of Fame is the ultimate.

Continued on Page 8

## 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.

The Longhorns will scrimmage three times during the opening week of workouts before starting the regular season Aug. 12 at home against Baytown Sterling at Dobie main. Dobie will wrap up the first week of play with a series of road matches at Goose Creek Memorial Aug. 15.

## 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-age groups.

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.

Visit [www.southbeltsoccer.org](http://www.southbeltsoccer.org) and click on the registration fall 2025 tab to get started on registration details.

## SBGSA has fall ball registration

The South Belt Girls Softball Association has opened fall ball registration now through Aug. 1 for competition within the 6-under through 16-under divisions at a cost of \$100 per player. The league is also registering a 4-under division at \$40 per player. Visit <https://southbeltssoftball.sportngin.com/register/form/973485104> to get started or visit the league's Facebook page at South Belt Girls Softball Association-SBGSA.



Jordan Johnson (16) returns to the court for the Dobie varsity volleyball team as the preseason gets started Aug. 1 in preparation for the regular season that starts Aug. 12. Johnson and the Lady Longhorns will host Baytown Sterling Aug. 12 at Dobie main beginning at 6 p.m.



Dobie tennis coach Manuel Moreno Jr. has been elected into the Texas Tennis Coaches Association Hall of Fame and will be officially enshrined in December.

## Dobie Girls' Singles Ladder

1. Dulce Mejia (captain)
2. Chloe Estes (captain)
3. Angelica Vu
4. Tiffany Nguyen
5. Vivian Hang
6. Mia Nguyen

## Girls' Doubles

1. Dulce Mejia/Chloe Estes
2. Angelica Vu/Mia Nguyen
3. Vivian Hang/Tiffany Nguyen

## Dobie Boys' Singles Ladder

1. Jordan De Robles (captain)
2. Logan Pham
3. Kevin Do
4. Trajahn Smith
5. Adrian Garza
6. Brayden Rojas

## Boys' Doubles

1. Jordan De Robles/Logan Pham
2. Trajahn Smith/Kevin Do
3. Brayden Rojas/Adrian Garza

## Longhorn team tennis starts anew

By John Bechtle Sports Editor

Team captains Dulce Mejia, Chloe Estes and Jordan De Robles have already stepped in to lead the way in preseason workouts as the both young and inexperienced Dobie varsity team tennis squad prepares to open the regular season on the road at San Marcos July 31.

Veteran Longhorn leader Manuel Moreno Jr., who will begin his 27th overall season at Dobie as the school's longest ever tenured head coach, is now a legend of the sport as he got the call earlier last month to join the

prestigious Texas Tennis Coaches Association Hall of Fame at its induction ceremony in December.

As he opens a new school year at Dobie, Moreno hopes plenty of match experience, with as many as 30 head-to-head team tennis duels scheduled, will ultimately make a difference as the locals pursue another post-season berth in what will be a challenging 22-6A race.

"In terms of true varsity competition, we are probably as inexperienced as we have been in many years," Moreno said. "Dulce Mejia and

Chloe Estes were full-time players in the girls line up last season, and Angelina Vu played about half the season with us.

"On the boys' side, Jordan De Robles has played the varsity level but the rest of the guys are new to the top six.

"We don't have a lot of experience in terms of varsity team tennis, but we also don't have the depth that we are accustomed to.

"Right now, we are really going to be asking the smaller group of players to step up in a big way for us. But one thing we can always count on is that these kids will go out there and

give it their all and do whatever they can to help us be successful.

"They enjoy being around each other, and they love playing the game of tennis. My job is to put them in the best position to be successful and to make sure that they have a little bit of fun along the way. The rest of it will play out on the court."

Just as the true measure of a Hall of Fame coach like Moreno is not always scored merely by win and loss totals, successful programs or individual teams should not always be measured merely by district championships.

Moreno began his run at Dobie just prior to the turn of the century. He had been part of plenty of district championship squads both at Galveston's O'Connell High School as well as Clear Lake High School previous to his arrival first on Beamer and now on Blackhawk.

The Longhorns are not famous for district championships. Yet Moreno's teams have consistently been the best among the

Continued on Page 6



Dobie team tennis captains, from left, Dulce Mejia, Chloe Estes and Jordan De Robles, review the match lineup sheets for the opening week of the Longhorns' season, which begins with a road trip to take on San Marcos, New Braunfels Canyon and Smithson Valley. The locals will then return home for a long stretch of matches as part of a busy month of August.

Dobie hosts Clear Falls Aug. 5, 3 p.m.

Dobie hosts Baytown Sterling Aug. 7, 3 p.m.

Dobie hosts Atascocita Aug. 8, 3 p.m.

Dobie at Katy Aug. 6, 3:30 p.m.

Dobie hosts Clear Creek Aug. 8, 9 a.m.

Dobie at Friendswood Aug. 9, 4 p.m.

# Eagles again rep Pasadena ISD in tough 11-5A Div. 1; La Porte, Angleton lead selections

Those few high school football fans who believe a drop in classification is the quickest ticket to better results on the playing fields might want to visit the Pasadena High School athletic offices.

The Eagles, who for decades struggled to gain much postseason footing in the class 6A ranks on the varsity football field, dropped into District 11-5A Division 1 prior to the 2024 campaign thanks to the University Interscholastic League's biannual realignment, only to finish at 1-9 overall, including a 0-7 run through league play. So much for a drop in classification.

As luck would have it, Pasadena, the largest school via enrollment in 11-5A, found itself going against a league that includes current regional powers Angleton and La Porte in addition to Crosby, Friendswood, Kingwood Park, Kempner and Porter.

Angleton wound up putting together a 13-2 overall run that ended with a trip to the state semifinals.

La Porte, led by former Dobie head coach Kevin Berneathy, went 10-4 on the way to the regional finals before a loss to Angleton.

While Angleton and La Porte were the only

two programs in the district that finished with an overall record of better than .500, things will be just as challenging within the league for 2025 as the Eagles will again face a tough task while representing the Pasadena ISD ranks.

Angleton, which fell one game short of a state championship game berth, will return eight starters on offense and four more on defense in a bid to take things a bit further in 2025.

The Wildcats will feature Bryce Duron at quarterback after he threw for nearly 2,000 yards and 29 touchdowns while rushing for another 300 yards and eight touchdowns in 2025.

A four-year varsity starter, Duron will have plenty of help on offense as receiver Kaleb Jammer, a relative of former NFL standout Quentin Jammer, returns from injury in anticipation of a huge season on the outside.

Defensively, the Wildcats are led by talented defensive end Brynden Mack, who had 15 tackles for loss a season ago, including nine quarterback sacks and is *Dave Campbell's Texas Football* magazine's preseason choice as defensive Most Valuable Player in the district.

Jammer was the defensive Newcomer of the Year a

season ago and should only add to Angleton's strength on the defensive side.

As for La Porte, Berneathy's bunch brings back sophomore running back Sean Simon, who *Campbell's* rates as the preseason offensive Most Valuable Player in the district.

Receiver Peyton Smith has terrific abilities on the outside when the Bulldogs choose to throw the football, and there is plenty

of talent across the board as La Porte will debut in its new stadium Aug. 29 against Deer Park.

*Campbell's* has Friendswood ranked third in the district in terms of the postseason, with Crosby fourth.

Among those expected to try to elevate themselves in the playoff contention, there's Kingwood Park, Porter, Kempner and then Pasadena.

At Pasadena, veteran head coach David Zapien

will return eight starters on offense and five more on defense.

Quarterback Shaun Aguirre was the starter as a freshman and should only improve, while running back Corrian Davis is also expected to deliver big results for the Eagles.

Local sports fans can still get a look at the Eagles as they continue to play their home games at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena.

## Dave Campbell's Texas Football 22-6A District 11-5A Div. 1

### Preseason Defensive MVP

**Brynden Mack, Angleton, end**

### Preseason Offensive MVP

**Sean Simon, La Porte, running back**

### Projected Order of Finish

- |                         |                           |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. La Porte Bulldogs    | 5. Kingwood Park Panthers |
| 2. Angleton Wildcats    | 6. Porter Spartans        |
| 3. Friendswood Mustangs | 7. Kempner Cougars        |
| 4. Crosby Cougars       | 8. Pasadena Eagles        |

## JFD tennis has busy schedule

Continued from Page 5

four playoff berths in the five within Pasadena ISD and have a long string of postseason berths.

It may indeed be as big a challenge as ever for the Longhorns to keep that postseason streak alive in 2025, but it won't be for lack of hard work out on the court and team support from the baselines.

The Longhorns will play 16 nondistrict matchups prior to taking on the defending district champion Dawson Eagles on the road Aug. 26.

Dobie will also go against Memorial, Pearland and Shadow Creek early on in league play as the team's overall outlook at the postseason should be decided early.

"I've never been one to just settle for second place or in this case one of the

that's all I can ask for."

After opening the regular season July 31 at San Marcos, the Longhorns will continue their team building road trip Aug. 1, going up against New Braunfels Canyon in the morning and then Smithson Valley in the afternoon.

Dobie will return home the first week of August and play six matches over the course of five days, including challenges against Katy, Baytown Sterling, Clear Creek, Atascocita and Friendswood. The locals will play at neighboring Clear Brook Aug. 12.

It's all part of a busy opening month to the season, which includes the 22-6A opener at Dawson Aug. 26. From there, the district race will consume the schedule.

"But realistically we understand that Dawson is one of the top programs in the region and we also have tough matches against Pearland and Shadow Creek.

"The key has been and always will be winning the big points in matches where you have a chance to steal a game or a set," Moreno said.

"Hopefully with all of the matches that we are going to play prior to district, the kids will get a good feel for what it takes to come through in the big moments.

"I know our kids are excited to get started and to give it everything they have out there on the court, as their head coach,

## Sagemont Cowboys 2025 Schedule

- Aug. 16 at Pearland Texans
  - Aug. 23 Texas City Stingrays
  - Aug. 30 at La Porte Texans
  - Sept. 6 League City 49ers
  - Sept. 13 at Pasadena Panthers
  - Sept. 27 Hitchcock Red Raiders
  - Oct. 4 Magnolia Park Sharks (HC)
  - Oct. 11 at Dickinson Gators
  - Oct. 18 Manvel Texans
  - Oct. 25 Pearland Patriots (HC) Homecoming
- Home games played at El Franco Lee Park  
 Opening Kickoff times: Peewee 8 a.m., Freshmen 9 a.m., Sophomores 11 a.m., Juniors 1 p.m., Seniors 3 p.m.

## Cowboys recognize Fitzmorris scholarship honorees

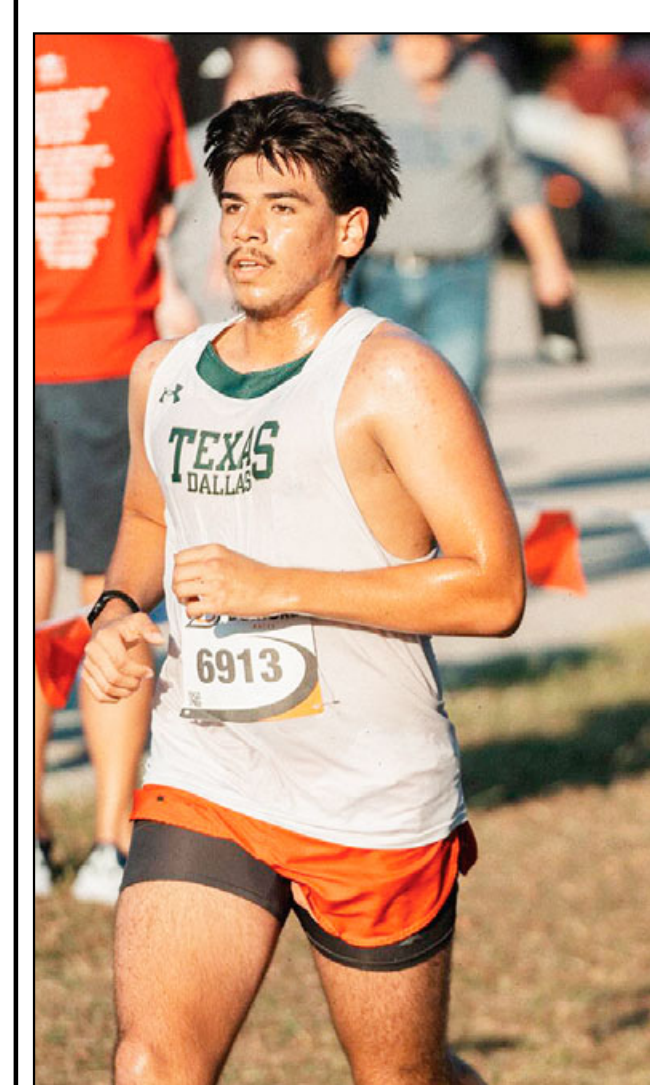


Dobie Class of 2025 graduate and soon-to-be Texas Tech Red Raider Hunter Stacy (third from left) was one of three recipients of the Sagemont Cowboys/Mary Beth and Tom Fitzmorris Memorial Scholarship award and will begin his collegiate studies in agricultural communications in Lubbock beginning next month. Stacy played five seasons with the Cowboys and then went on to excel on the varsity football field at Dobie for two seasons, including the 2024 season as a team captain. Also part of the school's FFA program, Stacy served as the program's president last school year. He was joined at the scholarship presentation by longtime Sagemont Cowboys' team officials, from left, Denny Wranich Jr., Albert Pantoja and Denny Wranich Sr.

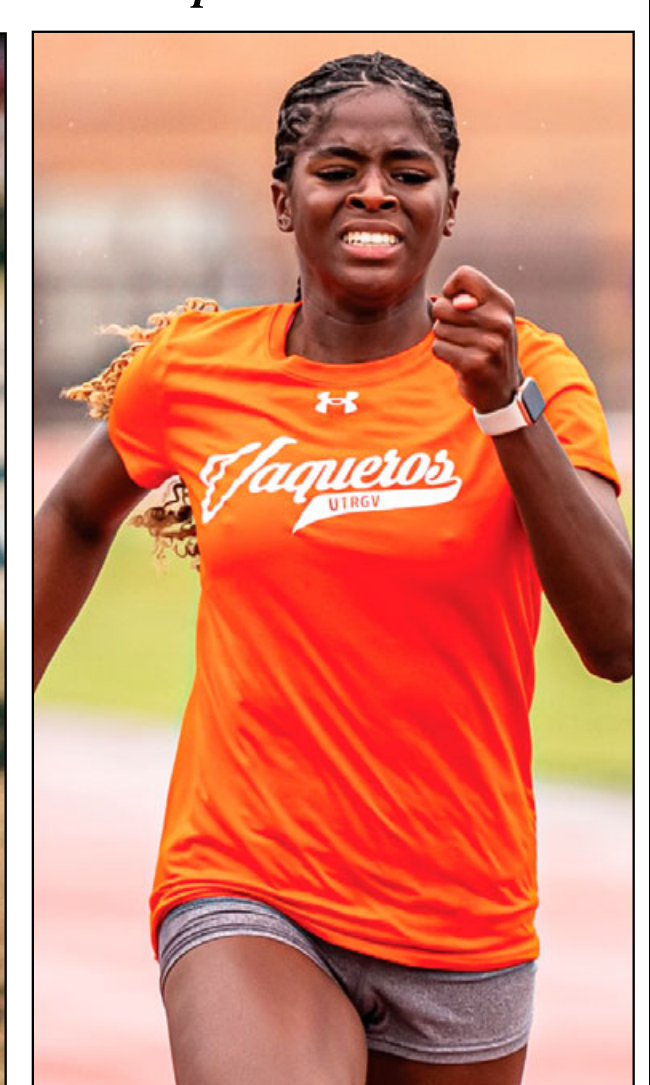


The Sagemont Cowboys/Cowgirls honored a pair of longtime members of the organization with the Mary Beth and Tom Fitzmorris Memorial Scholarships late last month at El Franco Lee Park. Jonathan Carter was a member of the Sagemont Cowboys for seven seasons, where he played wide receiver and in the defensive secondary. After the family moved from the South Belt area, Carter attended East Chambers High School where he played football and participated in debate, drama/theater, and served on the student council. Carter also earned his associate degree and this fall will be attending the University of Houston, where he will start his journey to law school. Madison Ford was a member of the Cowboys' organization for seven years, where she served as a junior division coach, equipment director and concession worker. She attended Pearland High School, where she participated in FFA, holding an officer's position, sang in the Oiler choir and was a member of the golf team. She will attend Stephen F. Austin University and plans to study agriculture education, specializing in agricultural mechanics. Those at the scholarship presentation included, left to right, Cowboys' athletic director Denny Wranich Jr., Carter, Cowboys' president Denny Wranich Sr., Ford and Madison Ford's mother, Crystal Ford, who serves as the Cowboys' secretary.

## Trevino excels with UT-Dallas Davis sparkles with UTRGV



Clear Brook High School Class of 2024 graduate and current UT-Dallas distance runner Matthew Trevino was one of 193 student-athletes within the Comets' athletic programs who achieved Academic All-American Southwest Conference honors for the 2024-25 academic year. To be eligible for the award, a student-athlete must have been in attendance and completed at least one academic year (two consecutive semesters) at the certifying institution. In addition, they must have a 3.0 cumulative grade point average based on a 4.0 scale as certified at the conclusion of the academic semester in which the ASC sport championship is held. Honorees must also be a letter winner in the season to be eligible.



Clear Brook Class of 2024 graduate Jizzale Davis started off strong and stayed consistent during her freshman season with the UT Rio Grande Valley women's track and field program. Davis was the 200-meter dash runner-up at the Southland Conference outdoor meet and took fourth in the 100 as well as the 4x100-meter relay with teammates. At the conference meet, she ran a 200 PR of 23.53 seconds, taking the No. 2 spot in program history and securing herself the opportunity to run at the 2025 USATF U-20 Championships. This was the third consecutive year UTRGV has had at least one student-athlete qualify for the national event.

## Bay Area Football League Field Locations

- Alvin Raiders: Briscoe Park, 3625 Briscoe St., Alvin, TX 77511.
- Angleton Wildcats: Old Wildcat Stadium, 1 Wildcat Dr., Angleton, TX 77515.
- Bay Area Buccaneers: Lutheran South Academy, 12555 Ryewater Dr., Houston, TX 77089.
- Brazosport Longhorns: Freeport Intermediate School, 1815 W 4th St., Freeport, TX 77541.
- Dickinson Gators: McAdams Jr. High, 11415 Hughes Road, Dickinson, TX 77539.
- East End Eagles: Gragg Park, 6200 Wheeler St., Houston, TX 77023.
- Hitchcock Red Raiders: Hitchcock High School, 6629 FM 2004, Hitchcock, TX 77563.
- La Porte Texans: Baker 6th Grade Campus, 9800 Spencer Hwy., La Porte, TX 77571.
- League City 49ers: Chester L Davis Sportsplex, 1251 Texas 96, League City, TX 77573.
- Magnolia Park Sharks: Mason Park, 341 S 75th, Houston, TX 77023.
- Manvel Texans: Manvel Jr High, 19601 Hwy. 6, Manvel, TX 77578.
- Pasadena Panthers: Memorial High School, 4410 Crenshaw Road, Pasadena, TX 77504.
- Pearland Patriots: Dad's Club, 6614 Fite Road, Pearland, TX 77584.
- Pearland Texans: Pressner Stadium, 2413 Old Alvin Road, Pearland, TX 77581.
- SE Houston Wildcats: St Stephen Church, 2209 Theta St., Houston, TX 77034.
- Sagemont Cowboys: El Franco Lee Park, 9400 Hall Road, Houston, TX 77089.
- Texas City Stingrays: Carlos Garza, 3300 Magnolia Ave., Texas City, TX 77590.

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# CALENDAR

**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://aahouston.org/meetings/>.  
 7:30 a.m. **Rotary Club of Pearland** - Check website for time and location <https://pearlandrotary.com/events/calendar> or call 832-293-9860.  
 9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - Exhibits include dioramas, a turn-of-the-century doctor's office and an old-time kitchen. Open Tues. - Sat., 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., 204 S. Main, Pasadena. Call Karen Hollon at 713-472-0565 for appointment. Tours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

8 p.m. **Serenity Now Al-Anon Group** - meets at CrossRoads UMC Fridays, 8 to 9 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Family members and friends of problem drinkers/addicts share, learn Al-Anon principles, that they are not alone, and discover choices available. For details, call 281-484-9243.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** - meets at CrossRoads UMC Wednesday, Friday and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call 281-484-9243.  
 8 p.m. **Beverly Hills Sharers Group AA** - meets at CrossRoads UMC, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Call 281-484-9243.  
**SUNDAY, AUGUST 3**  
 8 a.m./10:15 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - has worship Tuesday at 11:30 a.m., Wednesday at 7 p.m. (Bible study, Book of Revelation, at 6 p.m.) and Sunday at 8 a.m. and 10:15 a.m., 11456 Space Center Blvd. (in back of a medical/retail community). For details, call 281-479-7285 and leave a message, or stop by.  
 5:30 p.m. **Celebrate Recovery** - A faith-based 12-Step program, in the Life Kids Chapel at Life Church, 5125 Preston Ave. Pasadena, TX 77505. Call 713-419-2635 for details.  
 8 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous** See Friday's notice.  
 8 p.m. **Beverly Hills Sharers Group AA** - meets at CrossRoads UMC, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Call 281-484-9243.

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6**  
 7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.  
 9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - See Thursday's notice.  
**Carmelites** - a nondenominational senior citizen social group meeting at St. Bernadette Catholic Church, 15500 El Camino Real, in Clear Lake on the first and third Wednesdays for a time filled with fun, fellowship, lending library with books and puzzles, coffee and bingo. The meetings are open to those ages 55 and older, with no dues. Day trips and extended trips available. Deposits are now being taken for Poland. For details, call Marilyn at 713-444-6744.  
**Noon Ballroom Dancing** - A ballroom dance group welcomes visitors every Wednesday to enjoy free dancing from 12:30 to 3 p.m. at Hometown Heroes Park Ballroom, 1001 E. League City Parkway, League City. Everyone is welcome to enjoy dancing to a selection of CD music provided by DJ Neva Schroeder and guest DJs. This weekly dance does not include lessons. Free lessons are taught by Jerry Sanford at the same location on Mondays from 1:30 to 3 p.m. While these opportunities are free and provided by volunteers, the park system requires participants to register and get an activity card for all park activities. For more information about the activity card, one may ask at the front desk or call 281-554-1180.  
 7 p.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - See Sunday's notice.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - See Friday's notice.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** - See Friday's notice.  
 8 p.m. **Beverly Hills Sharers Group AA** - meets at CrossRoads UMC, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Call 281-484-9243.

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 1**  
 7:30 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.  
 9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** See Thursday's notice.  
**Noon Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group.** 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or at <https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners>. Call 713-686-6300 for more information. Meets Monday, Wednesday and Friday.  
 7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit [www.hascona.com](http://www.hascona.com) or <https://nastuff.com/>. Meets Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.  
 8 p.m. **Serenity Now Al-Anon Group** - meets at CrossRoads UMC Fridays, 8 to 9 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Family members and friends of problem drinkers/addicts share, learn Al-Anon principles, that they are not alone, and discover choices available. For details, call 281-484-9243.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** - meets at CrossRoads UMC Wednesday, Friday and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call 281-484-9243.  
 8 p.m. **Beverly Hills Sharers Group AA** - meets at CrossRoads UMC, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Call 281-484-9243.

**MONDAY, AUGUST 4**  
 5 p.m. **New Directions** - Age 55 and older meets the first and third Mondays for a potluck dinner with activities and/or guest speakers at 600 Hobbs Road, League City, TX 77573, (community room). For further information, call Jill at 646-489-4367.  
 6 p.m. **Scrabble Club #511** - Meets Monday at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua. Join in the fun and improve crossword skills. COVID-19 vaccination required. Email [huff\\_reunion@juno.com](mailto: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, 77089. For details, call Rita at 281-309-2801.  
**TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)** - #0683 Friendswood chapter meets at the Friendswood Methodist Church, 110 N. Friendswood Dr. in the educational bldg., room 201. For information, call Lynette Ringrose at 832-858-4617 or Dorothy Pourteau at 713-875-8820.  
 7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - See Friday's notice.

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 5**  
 7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.  
 9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - See Thursday's notice.  
 11:30 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - See Sunday's notice.  
 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. **Southeast Houston Toastmasters** - The Southeast Houston

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 2**  
 7:30 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.  
 9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** See Thursday's notice.  
**Noon Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group.** 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or at <https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners>. Call 713-686-6300 for more information. Meets Monday, Wednesday and Friday.  
 7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit [www.hascona.com](http://www.hascona.com) or <https://nastuff.com/>. Meets Monday, Tues-

day, Wednesday and Friday.  
 8 p.m. **Serenity Now Al-Anon Group** - meets at CrossRoads UMC Fridays, 8 to 9 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Family members and friends of problem drinkers/addicts share, learn Al-Anon principles, that they are not alone, and discover choices available. For details, call 281-484-9243.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** - meets at CrossRoads UMC Wednesday, Friday and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call 281-484-9243.  
 8 p.m. **Beverly Hills Sharers Group AA** - meets at CrossRoads UMC, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Call 281-484-9243.  
**SUNDAY, AUGUST 3**  
 8 a.m./10:15 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - has worship Tuesday at 11:30 a.m., Wednesday at 7 p.m. (Bible study, Book of Revelation, at 6 p.m.) and Sunday at 8 a.m. and 10:15 a.m., 11456 Space Center Blvd. (in back of a medical/retail community). For details, call 281-479-7285 and leave a message, or stop by.  
 5:30 p.m. **Celebrate Recovery** - A faith-based 12-Step program, in the Life Kids Chapel at Life Church, 5125 Preston Ave. Pasadena, TX 77505. Call 713-419-2635 for details.  
 8 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous** See Friday's notice.  
 8 p.m. **Beverly Hills Sharers Group AA** - meets at CrossRoads UMC, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Call 281-484-9243.

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

## Advertise in the 2025 Pasadena I.S.D. Football Programs

The cost of an ad is for all varsity home games played by the five Pasadena I.S.D. schools. (J. Frank Dobie, Pasadena, Pasadena Memorial, Sam Rayburn and South Houston) The price also includes any/all playoff games.

**Advertising Layout and Submission**  
 Free typesetting and layout included. Advertisers may submit artwork as a high resolution (300 dpi) pdf, tiff or jpg. On black and white ads advertisers may use black ink only.

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Full Page (7.5" x 10")	\$1,700	\$1,950
1/2 Page (7.5" x 4.8")	\$1100	\$1,300
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Sponsor (7.5" x 2.5")	\$1,500	\$1,700
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## Longhorn football program anticipates Aug. 11 start toward 2025



Senior Marcus Jones (3) has proven to be a big-play performer for the Longhorns in the return game and now figures to get a much larger opportunity during the 2025 season as the Dobie coaching staff plans to use his speed and elusiveness as part of the offense. Dobie begins preseason workouts Aug. 11.



The Longhorns' Rashaud Howard (27) was a key player on the defensive side a season ago and will be counted on for much more of the same and then some during his senior season in 2025. The Longhorns will open the regular season Aug. 29 at Clear Brook.

## Clear Brook High School 2025 Varsity Volleyball Schedule

Aug. 8	at Pearland scrimmage	9 a.m.
Aug. 9	at Clear Falls scrimmage	9 a.m.
Aug. 12	St. Agnes	5:30 p.m.
Aug. 14-16	at Pearland Invitational	TBA
Aug. 19	Goose Creek Memorial	5:30 p.m.
Aug. 21/23	at Dickinson tournament	TBA
Aug. 22	at Bellaire	5:30 p.m.
Aug. 26	at Friendswood	5:30 p.m.
Aug. 29	Cy-Falls	5:30 p.m.
Sept. 3	North Shore	5:30 p.m.
Sept. 6	Clear Creek ISD invitational	TBA
Sept. 9	*at Brazoswood	6 p.m.
Sept. 12	*at Clear Springs	6 p.m.
Sept. 16	*Dickinson	6 p.m.
Sept. 19	*at Deer Park	5:30 p.m.
Sept. 23	*Clear Creek	6 p.m.
Sept. 26	*at Clear Falls	4:15 p.m.
Sept. 30	*at Clear Lake	6 p.m.
Oct. 3	*Brazoswood	6 p.m.
Oct. 7	*Clear Springs	6 p.m.
Oct. 9	*at Dickinson	6 p.m.
Oct. 14	*Deer Park	6 p.m.
Oct. 17	*at Clear Creek	6 p.m.
Oct. 21	*Clear Falls	6 p.m.
Oct. 24	*Clear Lake	6 p.m.

\*22-6A games

### BHI sets athletic details

The Beverly Hills Intermediate athletic staff is looking ahead to football and volleyball preseason plans.

Under the guidance of head football coach Joseph Peterson, the Bears will host a pair of equipment pickup dates for football players. On Aug. 5, players may pick up their gear from 2 to 3:30 p.m., or get it handled Aug. 7, from 3 to 4 p.m..

The Bears will begin preseason football practice Aug. 14, which is also the first day of school.

For the Bear girls' athletes, eighth-grade volleyball tryouts will also be held that day. Seventh-grade volleyball tryouts will be held Aug. 15. Both tryouts will be held after school from 3:30 to 6 p.m. There will also be team practices held Aug. 16, with seventh grade going from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m., and 8th grade going from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

## Moreno earns prestigious honor

Continued from Page 5  
mate honor that he could have ever imagined, it's the many hundreds of young student athletes and tennis players who he is coached over the years who deserve the majority of the credit.

There's simply no way that he could take all of his students, both past and present, with him to the induction ceremony in a few months.

Yet, Moreno promises he will have many of them in mind then and well into the future, with retirement certainly closer than further away.

"All of the credit should go to the kids," Moreno said. "I'm here because of all of the hard work, dedication and willingness of the student athletes who work hard and out of the classroom each and every year.

"All I do is put them in the best position to be successful that I know how, and let the rest fall into place.

"Ultimately, it's the players who determined the ultimate success of a program. I truly believe we have had an exceptionally successful program at Dobie High School.

"The overwhelming majority of our players have gone on to be very successful out there in the world in professions other than tennis, a lot of them stay in touch with me, and I truly appreciate the friendships that I have had over my lifetime."

Moreno is not on the doorstep of Hall of Fame status due to his win-loss record. While there are generations of former Dobie students who still recall their time within their second family, the Longhorn tennis program, as some of the best of their lives, the Dobie program has never really reached huge prominence within

the region. Students from neighboring Clear Creek ISD, for example, have better access to youth training at a variety of tennis clubs in the Clear Lake area as well as an intermediate school program within the district that is far more developmental in nature than anything provided within Pasadena ISD.

Conversely, student athletes at Dobie, more often than not, show up with far less experience in the sport but yet have a desire to learn a sport that is so dear to Moreno's heart.

Long a believer in the no-cut stipulation, meaning that if a student athlete desires to play tennis, regardless of his or her ability on the court, they have a spot in Moreno's program.

He will work with students, develop them to the best of their abilities, and usually by the time they walk across that graduation stage, they are far better off for the experience of having played tennis within Moreno's program both as young people ready to experience the next chapters in life and also having had some fun on the tennis court.

Make no mistake, Moreno is a bit of a perfectionist. He's meticulous and thorough. Also an exceptionally talented sports writer in his own right, Moreno has promoted the successes of some of the region's top performers while writing for his hometown Galveston Daily News for decades.

He also has far more than 50 years now guided the city of Galveston Parks and Recreation department's free of charge youth tennis program.

Just as he was given the opportunity to let tennis give him a career path that he could have never imagined at the time, he has continually promoted the future of tennis. He says he would not do anything differently.

"Tennis has obviously provided myself and my family with a lot of great opportunities all these years," Moreno said.

"I have been the recipient of a lot of great honors, and truthfully, entering the TTCA Hall of Fame will be the icing on the cake for me, but the credit goes to my family for allowing me to put in all the hours over these years and then to the kids themselves for believing in our program over the years and putting in all the hard work that they have."

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