

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.

Shredding event planned

The South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce will host a free shredding event Saturday, Sept. 13, from 9 a.m. until noon, or until the 10,000-pound truck is full. The event will take place at the new MOTU Stop truck stop at 12210 SH 3/Old Galveston Road near Ellington Airport. Document shredding is helpful at preventing identity theft, which has become one of the costliest crimes in the country in recent years. In addition to safely disposing of documents, the shredding event will feature free tacos and guests will have a chance to enter to win an iPad or AirPods Pros, as well as a \$75 gift basket from MOTU. Proceeds will go to the South Belt Community Foundation, which provides scholarships to graduating seniors in the area.

The event is being held in coordination with Houston District E City Council Member Fred Flickinger's office and will coincide with the City of Houston's monthly electronics recycling event, held across the street at 246 Loop Road. Recycling electronics keeps potentially harmful materials out of landfills and the environment. See related sidebar entry on this page. The shredding event is generously sponsored by MOTU, AMOCO Federal Credit Union, Houston District E, Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia and multiple local civic groups and HOAs.

HPD's PIP set for Sept. 15

The Houston Police Department's Positive Interaction Program will meet at 6 p.m. Monday, Sept. 15, at Grace Church, 14505 Gulf Freeway Classroom No. 103. Guest speaker to be announced.

Begun in 1983, HPD's PIP involves police and community members working together for safer neighborhoods. PIP meetings typically take place the third Monday of each month. For additional information, contact HPD Officer C. Castillo at castillo@houstonpolice.org or 832-395-1777.

Sageglen to meet Sept. 15

Sageglen Community Association will hold a homeowner meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 15, at the Sageglen Community Building, 11610 Sageglen. Light refreshments will be served. All Sageglen residents are encouraged to attend. For additional information, call 281-481-2160.

Dobie to hold open house

Dobie High School (main campus) will hold its open house Monday, Sept. 15, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. The event will provide parents an opportunity to meet teachers and support school organizations by purchasing spirit gear. The open house will also feature light performances from band and orchestra students. A food truck will be on site for refreshments.

Sagemeadow meets Sept. 18

Sagemeadow HOA will hold a meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 18, at The Gardens, 12001 Beamer at Hughes. This month's guest speaker will be FBI Agent Connor Hagan, FBI Community Outreach. Meetings are open to the public. All Sagemeadow residents are encouraged to attend. Meetings are typically held the third Thursday of each month. For additional information, visit www.sagemeadow.org.

Coffee with the Constable

Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia will be at Donut Haven, located at 10802 Hughes Road at Beamer, from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. each Thursday morning as part of the weekly Coffee with the Constable series. For additional information, call Sagemont Civic Club President Kay Barbour at 713-419-3545.

Ellington eRecycling set

The City of Houston Solid Waste Management Department's monthly electronic recycling event will take place Saturday, Sept. 13, at the Neighborhood Recycling Center at Ellington Airport from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

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

Items accepted are PCs, servers, keyboards, mice, laptops, game consoles, monitors, small kitchen appliances, memory chips, hubs and routers, printers, copiers, scanners, fax machines, projectors, rechargeable batteries, cable boxes, car batteries, telephones, cellphones, PDAs, tape drives, hard drives, cords, cables and cameras.

The collection events take place the second Saturday of the month. For more information, visit www.houstonwaste.org or call 311.

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.

Debate continues on county's 2026 budget

Faced with a looming budget, commissioners attempt to maintain services

With a looming deficit and rising political tensions, Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo has sounded the alarm over what she calls an "over-drafted debit card" as the county prepares its 2026 budget.

In recent press conferences, Hidalgo warned

of a \$200 million shortfall, attributing much of the strain to law enforcement pay raises approved by the Commissioners Court last year.

"In Harris County, we are way past the money we have," said Hidalgo. "Our debit card is on overdraft."

She emphasized that many of the county's rising costs – such as jail staffing and public health obligations – are statutory requirements, not discretionary spending. Compounding the issue, Harris Health faces a potential \$400 million loss in federal funding, threatening services at Ben Taub Hospital and other critical programs.

Hidalgo proposed a series of austerity measures, including selling county property, pausing contributions to the rainy day fund and shifting \$20 million in one-time federal funds to cover recurring services. However, she expressed skepticism that these proposals would gain majority support.

"Let's not cut \$100 million worth of services without asking whether people want those raises or whether they want to keep the services," she said, referring to the law enforcement pay hikes.

Opposing views

Commissioners on both sides of the aisle have pushed back on Hidalgo's framing of the crisis.

Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia, a fellow Democrat, has repeatedly suggested Hidalgo is being overly alarmist on the matter, calling her recent statements "misleading."

"The biggest frustration for me – one, misinformation, and secondly, the just outright false narrative that property taxes were going to be raised and that services are being cut," said Garcia.

Garcia emphasized that budget planning has been underway for months and that essential services will remain intact. The commissioner also pointed to specific cost-saving measures already in motion, such as reallocating clinical service expenses and upgrading pollution control labs to

avoid outsourcing.

"This is where experience and collaboration matter," said Garcia. "We've been working for eight months, not a few weeks, to find efficiencies and get things done together."

His remarks suggest confidence in the county's ability to manage the deficit without dramatic cuts or tax increases, contrasting with Hidalgo's more urgent tone.

Republican Precinct 3 Commissioner Tom Ramsey suggested that the county has a spending problem – not a revenue problem.

"Since 2019, we have increased tax revenues in Harris County \$750 million," said Ramsey. "We need to fund our core services, be it law enforcement, be it the courts, be it infrastructure, flooding, those sorts of things."

What's next?

The Harris County budget process is currently underway, with public hearings scheduled for early September. Commissioners will work department by department to identify savings and efficiencies. A final vote on the budget is expected later this month.

The proposed budget covers the fiscal year from Oct. 1, 2025, through Sept. 30, 2026. It includes funding for law enforcement pay parity, expansion of the District Attorney's Office, and increased flood control maintenance – all while attempting to preserve the county's credit rating.

As the debate continues, residents will have the opportunity to weigh in during public hearings. Whether the county can close its budget gap without cutting essential services – or raising taxes – remains to be seen.



Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia (right) joined the annual Pasadena Livestock Show & Rodeo Saturday, Sept. 6, kicking off the event's 76th year. Shown above with the constable are, left to right, Pasadena City Marshal Travis Richardson, Precinct 8 Lt. Chris Yetter and Precinct 8 Deputy Andrea Self. See related photos on Page 3.

Garcia joins rodeo parade

SJC to appoint Moon replacement

Board currently accepting applicants for Position 5 seat

The San Jacinto College Board of Trustees has announced the process to fill the Position 5 vacancy left by the July 4 death of longtime board member John Moon Jr.

The Board of Trustees will appoint a qualified individual to serve until the term expires in May 2027.

Those who wish to be considered for the San Jacinto Community College District Board of Trustees must meet all of the following requirements:

- Must have resided continuously in one of the independent school districts (Channelview, Deer Park, Galena Park, La Porte, Pasadena, and Sheldon) comprising the San Jacinto Community College District, six months prior to the last date on which the candidate could file to be listed on the ballot.
- Must have resided continuously in the state of Texas for 12 months immediately preceding the filing deadline.
- Must be a qualified registered voter.
- Must be 18 years or older.
- Must be a citizen of the United States.
- Must not be a convicted felon.
- Must be aware of the nepotism law.

– Must serve without compensation.

Must not have been determined mentally incompetent by a final judgment court.

"The San Jacinto College Board of Trustees plays a critical role in guiding the future of our institution and ensuring we remain focused on student success," said Dan Mims, chair of the board. "We are committed to selecting a dedicated leader who shares our values and will help continue the College's mission of serving our students and our communities."

The application for appointment and appointment timeline can be found on the San Jacinto College Board of Trustees website. The location for submitting an application in person or by mail is the San Jacinto Community College District Administration Building located at 4624 Fairmont Parkway, Suite 200, in Pasadena. Applications will be accepted during normal business hours, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Applications will also be accepted by email.

Elections for the San Jacinto College Board of Trustees occur every two years, in odd numbered years. The board is elected in numbered at-large positions, 1 through 7, and serve six-year terms.

San Jacinto's Laredo remembered

Scholarship established by family of longtime staff member

Two years ago, the South Belt community lost one of its most beloved educators with the passing of longtime San Jacinto College South faculty member Angela Marie Laredo.

In honor of her life and legacy, the Angela Marie Laredo Memorial Scholarship was established by her family, ensuring that her passion for education continues to uplift students for years to come.

A life devoted to education

Laredo was born Feb. 9, 1976, and spent her life deeply rooted in the Houston area. A proud third-generation native, she began her academic journey at San Jacinto College, earning her associate degree before continuing on to the University of Houston–Clear Lake for her bachelor's. But her connection to San Jacinto College didn't end with graduation – it blossomed into an 18-year career of service.

Laredo worked across several departments at the South campus, including Enrollment Services, the President's Office, and the Liberal Arts Division, where she supported the English, Communications, and Fine Arts departments. Her dedication earned her the Staff Excellence Award and the prestigious Monument Award,

both testaments to her integrity, generosity and unwavering commitment to students and colleagues.

Scholarship

Launched in 2023, the Angela Marie Laredo Memorial Scholarship is now in its third year. It was created to honor Laredo's belief in the transformative power of community college and her love for the arts and communication.

The following is a list of things prospective applicants need to know:

- Award Amount: \$1,000.
- Eligibility: Students pursuing degrees in Communications, Fine Arts, or Art & Design
- Minimum GPA: 2.75.
- Enrollment requirement: At least nine credit hours during the semester awarded.
- Preference: Given to students attending the South campus.
- Application deadline: Oct. 30, 2025.
- How to apply: Complete the General Application on San Jacinto College's Academic Works portal. Eligible students will be automatically considered.

Laredo's family hopes the scholarship will not only ease financial burdens but also inspire students to pursue their passions with the same joy and commitment Laredo brought to her work.

To learn more or apply, visit the Angela Marie Laredo Memorial Scholarship page at sjcd.academicworks.com/opportunities/20508.

Evening of Cuisine set for Sept. 18

Annual culinary event to feature nearly 30 area restaurants

The South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce is proud to present the 24th annual Evening of Cuisine, set to take place Thursday, Sept. 18, at the Lone Star Flight Museum, 11551 Aerospace Ave. at Ellington Airport.

This culinary extravaganza promises to be an unforgettable evening filled with delicious food, live music, exciting prizes and a robust sense of community spirit.

Guests will have the chance to savor tastings from 28 outstanding restaurants, each showcasing unique flavors – everything from zesty Cajun and Creole dishes to beloved Americana classics, crispy fried chicken, gourmet sandwiches, vibrant Tex-Mex options, exotic Brazilian bites, juicy burgers and mouthwatering desserts that will satisfy every sweet craving.

Participating restaurants include the following:

- Avenida Brazil
- Bakkhus Taverna
- BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse
- Chicken Salad Chick Pasadena
- Jerry Garcia, Harris County Constable Precinct 2
- Crazy Alan's Swamp Shack
- Dave & Buster's
- Dobie High School Culinary
- Fogo de Chão
- Jeremiah's Italian Ice
- Las Haciendas
- Luna's Mexican Restaurant-Friendswood
- MacAbaugh's Cafe & Catering

- McAlister's Deli
- Minuti Coffee
- Mixing House
- Mornings Kolaches
- P.F. Chang's
- Raising Cane's Baybrook
- Red Robin Gourmet Burgers
- Ryan's Smokehouse
- San Jacinto College Culinary Department
- Savannah Cafe & Bakery Webster
- Scrumptious Houston
- Shake Shack Baybrook
- Via 313 Pizza
- Walk Ons
- Whiskey Cake Kitchen & Bar Baybrook

The lively musical entertainment will be provided by Mike Krell from EventWise Productions. Throughout the night, attendees can also win door prizes. Raffle tickets for \$10.00 will also be available. Importantly, half of the proceeds from the raffle will benefit the South Belt Community Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that funds scholarships for graduating high school seniors in the area.

Don't miss out on this chance to support an incredible cause while enjoying the very best culinary delights the South Belt has to offer.

Tickets are now available. General admission is priced at \$40, while a VIP Early Entry Pass is \$60 and provides exclusive access starting at 5:15 p.m. To secure tickets, visit the chamber's website at www.southbeltchamber.com or scan the QR code.



The Leader and Sagemont Civic Club received multiple complaints from area residents Thursday, Sept. 4, about an American flag being removed from a Sagemont esplanade to make room for a garage sale sign. Many residents complained the action was disrespectful and a desecration to the flag, which was laid down on the ground.

Pct. 2 deputies track, recover trailer



Precinct 2 deputies recently responded to a stolen vehicle call, in which a trailer had been stolen. With assistance from the owner, who was able to track the trailer's location, deputies quickly and successfully recovered the stolen trailer. No suspects were in custody at press time, however, and the case remained under investigation.

AARP Webster sets meeting

AARP Webster Area Chapter 199 invites one to join them at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, Sept. 11, 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 program will be presented by Deann Luprete, licensed insurance broker, who will discuss and highlight details about Medicare and other valuable important senior information. The Sept. 11 social activity will be lunch from Raising Cane's. They are offering one a lunch of three chicken fingers, Cane's sauce, Texas toast, chips, drink and dessert. The cost is \$8. If one wasn't able to sign up at the Aug. 14 meeting, one can sign up before the Sept. 11 meeting which begins at 10 a.m.

AARP Chapter also organizes day trips for AARP Chapter 199 members by bus to local area points of interest at minimal cost. The next bus trip will be on Friday, Sept. 26, to The Railroad Museum in Galveston and will include a sack lunch from Rail Yard. Members may register and pay for this trip at the Sept. 11 monthly meeting. One must be a member of our Chapter 199 to participate in the 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.

NASA Aglow Lighthouse meets Sept. 27

NASA Aglow Lighthouse invites all to its meeting on Saturday, Sept. 27, beginning at 11 a.m. at Praise Chapel, 18516 Hwy 3, Webster.

Joan is well known as a trusted and highly respected Christian minister who ministers the Gospel of Jesus Christ with manifestations of supernatural signs and wonders in healing school sessions, miracle services, conferences and church meetings locally and all around the world.

Joan is considered a compassionate minister, dynamic teacher, an accomplished author of more than 31 books and has recorded teachings of how to pray for the sick to see them recover. She is an anointed healing evangelist with a sincere desire to see the Body of Christ set free in their bodies, minds, souls, spirits and finances.

Joan's approach and delivery enables her to connect with people from all walks of life being sensitive to the Holy Spirit under the anointing of Jesus. Joan speaks prophetically in the services, releasing personal and corporate prophetic ministry to those in attendance.

Beside all of her local and world-wide travels, she has been a guest on television and radio programs such as Sid Roth, Jim Bakker and Katie Souza. In Tomball, her ministry home base, she is the hostess of monthly conferences with well-known Christian ministers and on Sundays she has the "Hour of Power" and "Nights of Refreshing" meetings. She also presents on her very own show "Miracles Happens."

Joan and her husband, Kelley, live in northwest Houston. Together, they have four daughters, four sons, three sons-in-law and seven grandchildren.

Joan is the daughter of the late "Happy Hunters," Charles Frances Hunter.

Bring a friend to the meeting as NASA Aglow celebrates the presence of the Lord.

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 Kingsport. 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, Sept. 11, 4 – 5:30 p.m. Weekly English language classes. Registration required.

Monday, Sept. 15, 11 a.m. – noon. Open lab computer help. Registration required.

Tuesday, Sept. 16, 4 – 5 p.m. Board games at the library. Registration required

Tuesday, Sept. 16, 4 – 5 p.m. Get creative at Craft Lab. Registration required.

Wednesday, Sept. 17, 6 – 7 p.m. Pajama storytime. Registration required.

Wednesday, Sept. 17, 6 – 7:30 p.m. Conversational English classes. 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, Sept. 11, 10:15 a.m. – 10:45. Toddler time.

Saturday, Sept. 13, 10 a.m. – noon. Tai Chi.

Saturday, Sept. 13, 10 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. Vietnamese classes: topic conversation. Registration required.

Saturday, Sept. 13, 1:30 – 3 p.m. Book2Movie Club.

Monday, Sept. 15, 1 – 2:30 p.m. ESL conversation club. Registration required.

Monday, Sept. 15, 4 – 5:30 p.m. Sublimation orientation.

Monday, Sept. 15, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Tai Chi.

Tuesday, Sept. 16, 10:15 – 10:45 a.m. Babies 'n' books.

Wednesday, Sept. 17, 10:15 – 11:30 a.m. Personas que corren con libros, club de lectura.

Wednesday, Sept. 17, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. Roblox paper noob craft.

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

Online services

– Use HCPL Wi-Fi service with HCPL's drive-up Wi-Fi.

– Download e-books and audiobooks, stream movies, research and learn at www.hcpl.net.

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

– Check an account to renew loans or request books, e-books, comics or graphic novels.

– Stream classic films, indie cinema and award-winning documentaries on Kanopy.

– Listen to audiobooks through RBDigital or OverDrive.

– Read along and play with picture books on TumbleBooks.

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

South Belt-Ellington Leader

The Voice of Community-Minded People

11555 Beamer 281-481-5656

E-mail: mynews@southbeltleader.com

David Flickinger, owner

Elected officials share their words

Flickinger rejects \$315M proposed plan

Dear District E Residents,

In August, City Council approved the submission of a plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for how the City will allocate nearly \$315 million in federal disaster recovery funds from the Derecho storm and Hurricane Beryl last year. Council Members Huffman, Peck, and I co-authored a joint op-ed explaining our vote against the proposed plan. We submitted this to the Houston Chronicle for publishing, but they refused to do so. You can read what we wrote below:

Why we voted against the \$100 Million Home Repair Amendment

As Houston City Council Members, our responsibility is to make decisions that improve the quality of life and safety of Houstonians in the most responsible and fiscally prudent way possible. That's why, when faced with a \$315 million disaster recovery action plan, we could not support an amendment that would have redirected \$50 million away from critical disaster recovery tools and into additional home repair funding.

The amendment proposed raising home repair funding from \$50 million to \$100 million, split evenly between single-family and multi-family homes. While the intention was noble, the extra dollars would have come from the budget set aside for generators at essential city facilities. These generators power community centers, sewage lift stations, and police and fire stations—places that become lifelines when disaster strikes.

We are deeply sympathetic to Houstonians whose homes were damaged by storms. But we voted no for three key reasons:

Generators are vital for disaster recovery

When the power goes out, safety risks increase dramatically. Community centers must be able to provide shelter, and first responders need reliable facilities to do their jobs. We must continue to make sure that our water and wastewater plants have electricity to provide these services as well. A University of Houston Hobby School of Public Affairs survey found that 88% of registered voters in Harris County are concerned about outages lasting more than a day this summer. That is not an abstract fear—it is based on lived experience. For the first time, we have an opportunity to obtain generators, and cutting the funding jeopardizes public safety at the very moment Houstonians need it most.

The home repair program is inefficient

Currently, the program doesn't just fix storm damage—it often rebuilds entire homes. Instead of only fixing storm damage, the City pays for repairs needed in the rest of the house, whether the damage was due to a storm or not. What might begin as a small roof repair can become a complete home rebuild. This drives the average cost per home to about \$200,000, per Mayor Whitmire's office. For \$50 million in single family home repairs, that would mean that we are only able to assist approximately 250 homes. In a city of 2.3 million people, while incredibly impactful to the small number of people receiving the benefit, it is negligible for the rest of the population. With smarter policies, we could stretch these dollars further and help more people. Until those changes are made, pouring in more money only perpetuates inefficiency.

Furthermore, the multi-family housing aspect of this program is even more problematic. Multi-family housing essentially

means apartment complexes. While we must make sure that people have safe places to live, apartment complexes are businesses that almost without exception should have had insurance for protection. Businesses are crucial to our economy, and apartments are no exception; however, paying to essentially remodel an apartment complex with this money does not help prepare anyone for future storms.

The actual need is unclear

Damage estimates are made immediately after storms, but we are now more than a year out from the derecho and Hurricane Beryl. Many homeowners and multi-family owners have already completed repairs. Based on past storm data, the final need may be much lower than \$100 million. The City of Houston still has \$40 million in home repair funding from Winter Storm Uri that Houstonians can access for home damages that must be addressed as well. Scaling up to manage a program of this size could require additional staff and new systems—raising the risk of falling short on federal requirements and jeopardizing future HUD funding. We have already seen this exact scenario play out in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey. Although we know Mayor Whitmire and his administration will handle this process with care and accuracy, we do not know yet the scale on which we would need to increase this program in order meet the demands."

We continue to support Mayor Whitmire's commitment towards disaster recovery and response, and he and his team have done a phenomenal job in recent storms to make sure that Houstonians were cared for. He faced a difficult task in shaping this action plan, and we commend him for listening to residents who called for home repair assistance. His decision to shift \$50 million toward repairs—when the original plan had none—was a fair and thoughtful compromise. At this stage, however, \$100 million does not advance our goal of preparing Houston for disasters. Given the choice of repairing 250 homes and an indeterminate number of private apartment complexes versus addressing needs for 2.3 million people, we chose the latter.

We remain committed to supporting Houstonians in times of crisis. But we must do it in a way that is sustainable, efficient, and does not undermine other critical recovery tools."

Finally, I want District E residents to save the date for upcoming town hall meetings.

Clear Lake: Tuesday, Oct. 14, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at Space Center Houston, 1601 E NASA Pkwy Houston, Texas 77058.

Edgebrook: Tuesday, Oct. 21, from 5:30 to 8 p.m., at OneMovement Bible Church, 10120 Hartsook Street Houston, Texas 77034.

I have also extended invitations to several city departments, including Houston Public Works and Houston Parks and Recreation, as well as a range of community speakers and elected officials. In addition to various information tables for residents to peruse before the meetings begin. I look forward to everyone hearing these updates and addressing community questions, comments, and concerns. This is the perfect opportunity to engage with your community and have your questions answered. We hope you will join us. Please feel free to invite a neighbor, friend or colleague. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Sincerely,
Fred Flickinger

Multiple ongoing projects underway

Simultaneous construction on several area thoroughfares



Crews are replacing damaged road panels on Beamer near FM 1959/Dixie Farm Road. The Harris County project is just one of many simultaneously underway on thoroughfares in the South Belt community. Other ongoing efforts include projects on Blackhawk, Scarsdale, Fuqua, Sabo/Hughes

and Sageglen Drive. Not all are pessimistic about the simultaneous projects, however. "It's a good thing," said Clear Brook City MUD Director of Operations Dean Baier, suggesting the South Belt community will be better off for it in the long run.

Photo by James Bolen

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ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST

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Rev. Antonio Cisneros, Parochial Vicar

11011 Hall Rd.
(between Beamer & Blackhawk)
www.stlukesatholic.com

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil	5:30 p.m.
Sunday	8 a.m. and 10 a.m.*
Sunday	1 p.m. Misa en Español*
Monday, Wednesday & Friday	9 a.m.
Tuesday & Thursday	7 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions)
Thursday 7:45 to 8:30 p.m. Saturday 4 to 5 p.m.

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

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

Death

Kay Frances Morris



Kay Frances Morris (87) passed at home on Aug. 27, 2025. Kay was a giver, with a heart full of love, and will be missed deeply, but the family takes comfort in knowing she is resting in peace, and joining her husband, parents and other family members and friends in heaven.

Kay and her husband Brian Morris, along with children Debra, Jerry and Jimmy Morris moved to Sagemont in 1969, and lived there for 25 years until Tropical Storm Allison flooded their home. They moved to a nearby neighborhood where she lived the past 25 years. It was there a new generation filled her heart, as she helped care for her grandchildren, Jeremy, Chayse and Chanse Morris. They filled her heart with so much joy and pride, and she showered them with love. She was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother, who could always be relied upon to lend a helping hand,

any time, day or night. She gave everyone a sense of comfort and security.

Kay loved baking, and loved sharing her homemade treats with others. When it came to birthdays, she made them special. She loved a practical joke, and all experienced wind-up butterflies or something else flying out of a box while unwrapping. She loved celebrating birthdays and holidays. The family tradition of gathering at her house Christmas morning will be missed. It won't be the same without her big smile, house full of decorations, and the smell of fresh baked cinnamon rolls and homemade cookies.

Kay also enjoyed sewing, arts and crafts, painting ceramics, and creating cookbooks for family and friends. She was a great bowler, and she and Brian spent many years bowling at Mimosa and Armadillo lanes. She enjoyed playing volleyball and yard games, square dancing, reading, playing cards, gathering with family, playing the casino slot machines and reading. Kay was a huge sports fanatic, and watched practically any sport on TV. She was a huge fan of the Houston Astros, Oilers, Rockets, Texans and Cougars.

Kay was always there to support and cheer on her children and grandchildren at all their school concerts, sporting events, extracurricular activities, awards ceremonies, and at their community Little League games. She never hesitated volunteering support to teachers or for

school fundraisers and festivities. The family will miss her loving heart, friendship, big smile, advice and support and trust God will give comfort as they mourn her loss, knowing she is no longer tired or in pain. God saw she was suffering, took her in his arms and whispered, "Come to me." May she rest in peace.

Kay was preceded in death by her parents, Milton and Mable Craig; her husband; and her siblings Keith Craig, Zane Craig, Lyle Craig, Dwight Craig, Lennis Craig, Deloit Craig, Arlene Craig, Karen Craig Diehl and Roger Craig. Surviving Kay are her children Debra Morris, Jimmy Morris, Jerry (Sabina) Morris; grandchildren Jeremy, Chanse, and Chayse Morris; brother Bruce Craig, sister Coral (Koko) Craig Hughbanks; and many nieces and nephews.

The memorial service will be held at Peevey Funeral Home, Saturday, Sept. 20, at 2 p.m., with visitation one hour prior to the service.

Leader obituary policy

Obituaries submitted to the *Leader* are published free of charge. There must be a South Belt connection. Obituaries are edited to the *Leader* style.

Master Gardeners set September meetings

The following meetings have been set for September by Master Gardeners: Genoa Friendship Garden- Open Garden Day on Monday, Sept. 15, 8:30 a.m. – 11 a.m. Free tour of Genoa Friendship Gardens, 1210 Genoa Red Bluff Rd., Houston. Tour a variety of planting exhibits, meet, and talk with Harris County Master Gardeners visit txmg.org/hcmga.

Powerful Perennials by Harris County Master Gardeners on Tuesday, Sept. 16, 11 a.m. – noon. "Plant once, enjoy for years" garden stalwarts provide beauty, pollinator value, and easy care. Free Virtual Lecture hosted by Harris County Public Library via Facebook Live. No reservation required: facebook.com/harriscountypub/events.

Elected officials share their words

Senator Cornyn: We can't let China win the new space race

The architect of modern China, Deng Xiaoping, famously said, "Hide your strength and bide your time." Decades ago, the Chinese Communist Party opened the floodgates to foreign investment, allowing the country to build a competitive economy and formidable military. Now Americans watch as China's space ambitions accelerate at an alarming pace to establish a lunar base and put a man on the moon by 2030.

It doesn't take a rocket scientist to read the tea leaves: China wants to win and won't shy away from flouting the rules-based international order to do so. It's up to America to beat them.

Military experts have long said that space is the ultimate high ground. Those who control the final frontier control the future. The pursuit that began six decades ago as one small step for man and one giant leap for mankind has transformed into a quest that now reaches farther into the solar system.

As artificial intelligence and semiconductor manufacturing reshape the global economy, so shifts the geopolitical and threat landscape. To be a global superpower in the coming decades, a country must succeed in the fields of energy, biotechnology and chip manufacturing and design. These are the keys to winning the competitions of tomorrow. Today's battle for the moon and the eventual battle for Mars will prove crucial for accessing critical resources, securing intelligence and harnessing the potential of a multitrillion-dollar marketplace.

What does strategic competition with China in the 21st century look like? First, America must develop the tools for a long-term presence in low Earth orbit. The cutting-edge research being done in microgravity is fueling advancements in biotechnology and high-performing chips. In low Earth orbit, scientists can produce more uniform materials and purer fibers.

Biotech innovation also thrives in microgravity. A research project that may take years on Earth has the potential to be done in just weeks in low Earth orbit, and research there has already led to major breakthroughs in cancer-killing treatments, human tissue growth and new ways to combat cardiac disease and neurodegeneration.

The good news is Houston is already excelling in the LEO economy. Johnson Space Center is home to the Commercial Low Earth Orbit Development Program, putting the power of Texas' private space industry behind NASA's legacy of success.

And I will soon introduce legislation to advance microgravity research to ensure continued U.S. leadership in space innovation.

We also cannot overlook the national security imperative of LEO. Reportedly, 70% to 90% of the Pentagon's intelligence gathering comes from satellites orbiting just a few hundred miles from Earth. Failure to sustain our presence there would not only hamstring our defense capabilities but also open the door to malign interference, including from China.

A U.S. presence on the moon will also help meet future demand for energy and critical minerals. Helium-3, for instance, is a rare light isotope that can be used for high-quality MRI medical imaging, nuclear fusion reactors and quantum computing. This renewable resource, with mega reserves on the lunar surface, promises virtually unlimited possibilities.

Beijing has already begun exploring ways to extract it, from collecting samples from the dark side of the Moon to establishing a lunar south pole mission. They have even signaled intent to work with Russia to construct a new lunar base by 2035. If America doesn't take advantage of the moon's untapped resources, China will.

Finally, the United States must set our sights on Mars. President Trump has raised the urgency for America to plant the flag on the red planet and beyond. My Mission to MARS Act, which was signed into law as part of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, will position Houston's Johnson Space Center to lead on this front by modernizing the facility's human spaceflight infrastructure and bolstering its research capabilities.

The frontiers of space are vast and unknown, but one thing is certain: America must emerge as the victor. There is no doubt in my mind that Space City will play a central role in our nation's journey to the next frontier.

America must level up. The new Space Race has implications for our economy, the wars of the future and our competitive edge over our foreign adversaries.

We cannot and will not cede the celestial field to our adversaries. The stakes are too high. The cost of failure is too great. With China on our heels, America's economic and national security hinges on our ability to maintain U.S. leadership in space.

My message to President Xi Jinping is simple: America hung the moon. Come and take it.

Sen. John Cornyn

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Pasadena ISD joins annual trail ride



Pasadena ISD leaders took part in the annual Pasadena Livestock Show & Rodeo Trail Ride Saturday, Sept. 6, visiting several area campuses. Shown above participating in the ride are, left to right, Jesus Amaya (trail boss), Stephanie Miller (Bush Elementary, principal), Paola Gonzalez (PISD board member), Felicia Oliva (teacher), Maggie Mayes (teacher), Toni Lopez (superintendent), Yvonne Soto, Kenny Fernandez (board president) and Jim Dutton (2025 PLSR executive board president). See related photo on Page 1.

Roeders celebrate 60 years



Ralph and Carol Roeder are celebrating their 60th anniversary on Sept. 14, 2025. They had to flee from Hurricane Betsy which hit Louisiana and go to Biloxi, Miss. where they were married. Ralph has been retired for a few years and now loves making things that are unique and creative. Carol loves to make beautiful quilts, and



has volunteered in Sagmont Church Library for more than 50 years. Both love their children Michelle Roeder, Michael and Laura Roeder and Mark Roeder and especially love their grandchildren Matthew, Colton and Harper Roeder. Ralph and Carol also enjoy traveling, and spending time with family and extended family.

PMHS crowns homecoming king, queen



Pasadena Memorial High School named its 2025 homecoming king and queen before the varsity football game Thursday, Sept. 4, at Pasadena Memorial Stadium. Jair Araujo was crowned king, and Kamila Hernandez was crowned queen. The Mavericks were narrowly defeated by New Caney 21-20. Photo by Annette Vela, PMHS

Bob Garner, keeper of the Edgebrook flame, named 2025 Ainsworth Spirit Award winner

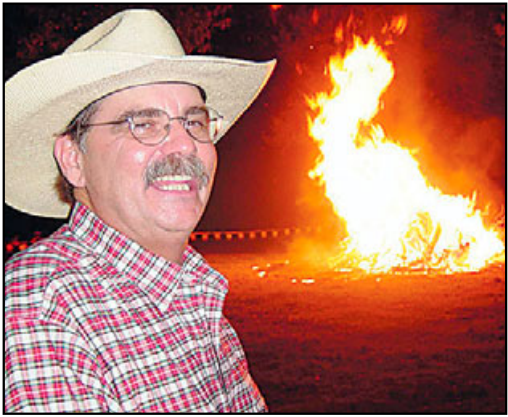
Bob Garner never expected to become ringmaster for 20 years' worth of P.T. Barnum-style reunions of people he went to school with at South Houston High. But he never expected his first call for a Trojans get-together would attract 10 times the number he was expecting.

That was in 2004. A rancher, business entrepreneur and proud member of South Houston's Class of 1971, Garner put out the call to his circle of former schoolmates that he was planning an "Edgebrook Reunion" at his spread outside Hempstead. "Edgebrook," of course, refers to the main traffic artery that cuts through the heart of South Hous-

ton High's attendance zone. Anyone who grew up on or around Edgebrook was welcome to come. It was all word-of-mouth. And Garner expected about three dozen to attend.

More than 300 show up Most were South Houston graduates from the mid-1960s to the mid-1970s. Ancient Trojans to be sure. Since 2004, Garner has hosted a ranch-style reunion nearly every year – and in three different rural locations.

For his tireless efforts to keep Trojans connected, Garner has been named the recipient of the David A. Ainsworth Alumni Spirit Award for 2025.



The Ainsworth Award is presented annually to a South Houston alumnus who makes significant contributions to alumni-related endeavors. The award is named after its first recipient, David Ainsworth, a member of the Class of 1968 who helped build social media connections for his class and other South Houston alumni. Ainsworth succumbed to cancer in 2013.

Garner will be presented with the Ainsworth Award during Homecoming festivities on Sept. 26 at the school. The campus will open to alumni and their guests at 9 a.m. that day with several activities planned, including tours of the campus and the Hall of History campus museum.

A ceremony for this year's class of Hall of Honor inductees will begin at 11:30 a.m. in the Reinartz Center on campus. The presentation of the Ainsworth Award will be made during that ceremony.



SOUTH BELT-ELLINGTON

Chamber of Commerce

Evening of Cuisine

6-8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 18

at the Lone Star Flight Museum

A delightful culinary event designed to tantalize your taste buds. From savory appetizers to sumptuous main courses and indulgent sweets, this event promises a memorable dining experience.

Advance tickets \$40. \$45 at the door. Kids 4-12 are \$10. Kids under 4 years old are free. VIP tickets are \$60 (VIP entry at 5:15 p.m.). Scan the QR code below for more information.

Participating Restaurants

Avenida Brazil	Fogo de Chão	Ryan's Smokehouse
Bakkhus Taverna	Jeremiah's Italian Ice	San Jacinto College Culinary Department
BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse	Las Haciendas	Savannah Cafe & Bakery Webster
Chicken Salad Chick Pasadena	Luna's Mexican	Scrumptious Houston
Jerry Garcia, Harris County Constable Pct. 2	Restaurant Friendswood	Shake Shack
Crazy Alan's Swamp Shack	McAlister's Deli	Baybrook
Dave & Buster's	Minuti Coffee	Via 313 Pizza
Dobie High School Culinary	Mixing House	Walk Ons
	Mornings Kolaches	Whiskey Cake Kitchen & Bar
	P.F. Chang's	Baybrook
	Raising Cane's	
	Baybrook	
	Red Robin Gourmet Burgers	

More information available at <https://southbeltchamber.com/evening-of-cuisine-2025>





Pct. 2 participates in trail ride



Deputies with Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia's office took part in the annual Pasadena Livestock Show & Rodeo Trail Ride Saturday, Sept. 6, visiting several local Pasadena ISD schools. Longtime Precinct 2 Deputy Vance Britt (right) is shown above with trail riders Anthony Cruz and Tony Coto. See related photo on Page 1.

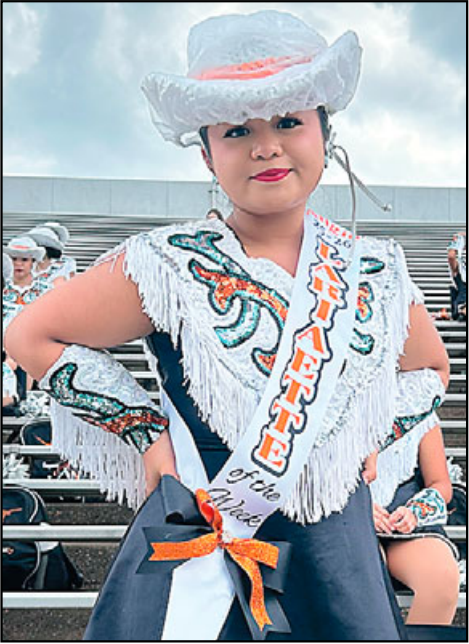


CBHS students take on a new debate season

Clear Brook speakers and debaters recently returned from their first meet of the year which was held at Clear Lake High School. At the end of two days, the World Schools Debate team comprised of Alaina Van, Alim Merchant and Kendrick Toennies bested their opponent in finals on a 2-1 panel decision to take first place and earn their first six points toward their state qualifying goal. Extemporaneous speakers Khang Ngo, Emily Joseph and Elaina Joseph walked away winners with first, second and sixth-place finishes respectively earning six, four and one points in that same order. Heading up this effort was Kelyn Tran, an Informative Speaker and team senior who placed third and earned three points followed by Eman Ahmed in Program of Oral Interpretation who earned four points by placing second and Sara Sijo who placed second and earned four points as well in Dramatic Interpretation. All of these wins catapulted the team to second place over Sweepstakes finish. To find out more information about the team, visit their website, at www.wolverinedebate.com.

Left to right, are (front row) Ahmed, Sijo, Tran, (back row) Toennies, Emily Joseph, Elaina Joseph and Ngo.

Lariaette of the Week, Sept. 6



The J. Frank Dobie Lariaette of the week of Sept. 6 is senior Angie Munoz, a second-year line member.

BATP hosts scavenger hunt

On Saturday, Sept. 27, 2025, Bay Area Turning Point (BATP) is hosting its first-ever E-Race Domestic Violence Scavenger Hunt, presented by MOTU. The event begins at Chicken N Pickle – Webster with check-in at 11:30 a.m., the hunt at noon, and an after-party at 3 p.m.

The scavenger hunt is sending teams racing all across Bay Area Houston (from Pasadena to League City) to complete creative challenges, visit local businesses and earn points — all while raising funds to support survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Highlights include:

- Prizes for teams with the most points and the most funds raised.
- Community adventure stops hosted by local businesses and sponsors to highlight their businesses while raising awareness.
- An after-party with food, music, dancing, a silent auction and more.

Domestic violence is on the rise in Harris County, and the need for services is greater than ever. Proceeds from this event directly support BATP's emergency shelter, 24-hour crisis hotline, counseling, advocacy and children's programs.

One can find event details and registration at <https://www.bayareaturningpoint.org/annual-event/>.

Harris County offers tips to prevent childhood obesity

September marks National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month

September is National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month, and Harris County Public Health (HCPH) is reminding families that small, healthy choices, like eating nutritious foods and staying active, can make a big difference in children's lives.

Nearly one in five children and adolescents in the United States is affected by obesity, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Obesity is generally defined as having a body mass index (BMI) at or above the 95th percentile for a child or teen's age and sex. Childhood obesity not only

puts young people at risk for chronic conditions such as type 2 diabetes, asthma, sleep apnea, and heart disease, but it also impacts mental health, self-esteem, social relationships and academic performance.

Data also shows that obesity affects some groups more than others, including adolescents, Hispanic and non-Hispanic black children, and children in families with lower incomes. These differences reflect the impact of inequities and community conditions that influence health. Some of the percentages are as follows:

- Hispanic children: 26.2 percent.
- Non-Hispanic Black children: 24.8 percent.
- Non-Hispanic white children: 16.6 percent.
- Non-Hispanic Asian children: 9.0 percent.

Among U.S. girls, obesity prevalence was highest among non-Hispanic black girls: 30.8 percent.

Among U.S. boys, obesity prevalence was highest among Hispanic boys: 29.3 percent.

To help families reduce the risk of childhood obesity, HCPH recommends the following healthy habits:

- Be active: Aim for at least 60 minutes of play or

physical activity most days of the week.

- Activities like running, biking, or dancing help strengthen bones and muscles while reducing the risk of chronic disease.

– Eat healthy: Build meals with fruits, vegetables, whole grains and lean proteins. Offer healthy snacks and limit sugary drinks and processed foods.

– Limit screen time: Reduce TV, video games and device use, especially before bed. Encourage outdoor play instead.

- Focus on health, not weight: Model positive attitudes about food and activi-

ty without emphasizing body size.

- Get enough sleep: Children and teens need more sleep than adults, and lack of rest is linked to weight gain and less activity.

HCPH works year-round to support healthier futures for Harris County families through programs such as:

- Nutrition and Physical Activity (NPA) Program: Empowers and educates community members on ways to eat healthier and increase physical activity to help maintain a healthy weight. The NPA program provides a variety of fun, evidence-based sessions for every age group. Local schools and organizations can inquire about these sessions and schedule one at their location by emailing nutritionPHS@phs.hctx.net or calling 713-274-5711.
- Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP) - Designed to help individuals at risk make sustainable lifestyle changes. The DPP provides participants with education on healthy eating, physical activity, and behavior changes to reduce their risk of developing type 2 diabetes.
- Through support and guidance from trained lifestyle coaches, community members can take proactive

steps toward better health and well-being. For more information, email dpp@phs.hctx.net or call 713-274-7167.

Special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants and children (WIC) provides nutrition support and education for pregnant and breastfeeding women and families with children younger than 5. Visit hctx.org/WIC to learn more and see if one's family qualifies.

For additional information about HCPH programs, services, and health resources to support healthier futures for children and families, visit hctx.org or call 832-927-7350.

Remember When

45 years ago (1980)

The annual Pasadena Rodeo was set to begin. Numerous entertainers including Eddy Raven were scheduled to perform.

Several Southeast Volunteer firemen suffered from heat and smoke inhalation while fighting a fire at a Kirkwood South residence. The owners were not at home when the fire started. The cause of the fire was undetermined at press time.

City of Houston police were investigating the case of a 25-year-old woman who was abducted from a 7-11 store near her apartment in the Glenbrook Valley area by four men who brought her to Blackhawk Boulevard and sexually assaulted her.

The Texas Education Agency recognized Meador Elementary School's physical education program as one of the best in the state by including Meador in its Physical Fitness Demonstration Center Program for Texas Schools.

40 years ago (1985)

A group of South Belt residents representing different

factions of the community appeared before the Houston City Council to express their concerns about the encroachment of pornographic establishments upon the area.

The Brio Task Force held a public meeting at Weber Elementary to announce additional water testing at and near the abandoned refinery site at 2501 Dixie Farm Road and to provide results of the most recent testings to area residents.

An economic and demographic profile of the South Belt area presented to the board of the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce predicted a population growth rate of 31 percent from 1980 to 1990. The previous decade saw a population increase of 89 percent.

A Sagmont resident woke up to an unpleasant surprise when it was discovered that during the night someone had removed 24 of 25 crotons from the yard.

35 years ago (1990)

Designs for the proposed bridge on Sageglen to cross the drainage ditch in Scars-

dale was set to be submitted to the Houston traffic department. The project would go out for contracts in April with construction to begin during the summer of 1991. Building the bridge would open access from Hughes Road through to Scarsdale Boulevard.

One man was killed and another injured as they attempted car repairs on the shoulder of the 15100 block of the Gulf Freeway.

30 years ago (1995)

Two teenagers were charged with five felonies for daytime burglaries that occurred in Sageglen and Sagameadow between Sept. 9 and Sept. 19. The two were arrested, and the majority of the stolen merchandise was recovered. The 17-year-old suspect resided in the South Belt area, and the 16-year-old resided on El Camino Real but attended Clear Brook High School.

Lighting hits severely damaged Houston Lighting & Power capabilities in the area with Dobie High School students and staff suffering the most with no air conditioning.

Pasadena Independent School District trustees voted to lower the tax rate by 2 cents – a 1.36 percent decrease. This was the first time in 20 years taxes had decreased.

25 years ago (2000)

Justice for Jonathan, the organization founded by Jon-

athan Barrica's father Jaime, sponsored a garage sale and tennis tournament.

San Jacinto College District reported record-breaking registration for the fall semester.

Pasadena school district enrollment increased by more than 700 students.

20 years ago (2005)

PISD officials were working on a program called Expectation Graduation. This program would help determine why such a high percentage of students did not finish high school. Although the Texas Education Agency reported that 82.8 percent of students in Texas graduated, the Manhattan Institute for Policy Research's data revealed that the graduation rate for the class of 2001 was only 68 percent statewide.

More than 500 students displaced after Hurricane Katrina were enrolled in PISD schools. South Belt area campuses absorbed almost 200 new students.

15 years ago (2010)

Deputy Lance Willis arrested Glenn Biagas on charges of trespassing and assaulting a peace officer. The incident began when Willis spotted Biagas in a parking lot in the 10900 block of Scarsdale. Aware that Biagas had just been released from jail for distributing hate mail in the same parking lot the pre-

vious June, Willis told the suspect he had to leave the property. Rather than leave, Biagas, who was drinking a beer at the time, charged and attacked the deputy. A fight ensued, and Biagas reportedly punched Willis multiple times in the ribs. Biagas, 26, was subsequently apprehended and taken into custody.

10 years ago (2015)

The Rev. John Morgan, pastor of Sagmont Church, and renowned local attorney John Eddie Williams were inducted into Pasadena High School's Wall of Honor. Morgan established what would later become Sagmont Church in 1966. His original congregation consisted of 16 members. He is also well known for his "Financial Freedom" seminars, as well as seminar recordings and his book under the same title, all of which have reached more than a million people. Morgan has served on numerous boards ranging from the chairman of trustees at Houston Baptist University to president of the Texas Baptist Pastor's Conference. In 2005, he was awarded the Distinguished Alumnus Award from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Morgan attended Kruse Elementary and Jackson Intermediate before enrolling at Pasadena High. He continued his education at Baylor University and

Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He earned his doctorate from Southwest Baptist University.

The founding partner of the Williams Kherkher law firm, John Williams, gained national stature as the lead counselor for the state of Texas in a landmark case against tobacco companies in 1995. The case eventually resulted in a \$17.3 billion settlement – at that point the largest legal settlement in American history. Williams' firm specializes in mass torts and pharmaceutical litigation. Williams played football at Baylor and graduated with a business degree. Passing up the chance for a corporate career, he decided to study law. He graduated first in his class at the Baylor School of Law and served as editor-in-chief of the Baylor Law Review. In 2002, he was honored by his alma mater as Baylor Lawyer of the Year. Ten years later, Williams was named Baylor's Alumnus of the Year for 2012-13.

5 years ago (2020)

Pasadena ISD was one of only two school districts in the state of Texas to be recognized as a Model Professional Learning Community at Work. Only 24 school districts throughout the country and Canada were selected for this prestigious honor.

Frank Braden, former Dobie principal, died Sept. 14 at

the age of 86. Braden served as principal of Dobie from 1979 to 1986, at which time he was promoted to the position of Pasadena ISD assistant superintendent. In addition to serving as principal at Dobie, Braden also served as principal at Thompson Intermediate from 1972 until 1974. Previous to that, Braden served as assistant principal at Beverly Hills Intermediate. Braden graduated with his Bachelor of Science from Texas A&M University in 1959 and received his ME from the University of Houston in 1963. In 1959, he began his career in PISD as a teacher and a counselor at San Jacinto Intermediate.

In 1964 he was transferred to Beverly Hills and then served as assistant principal at Pasadena High from 1969 until 1972, when he became Thompson's principal. Braden also served as PISD director of transportation from 1974 until coming to Dobie in 1979. Braden served as Dobie's second principal, replacing Allen Sory, who served as Dobie's first principal.

1 year ago (2024)

The Pasadena Livestock Show & Rodeo launched its 75th anniversary season, with events taking place from Friday, Sept. 13, through Sunday, Sept. 29, at the Pasadena Convention Center and Municipal Fairgrounds.

Serve Your Community, Shape Our Future

Applications are being accepted through **Friday, September 26** to fill **Position 5** on the **San Jacinto College Board of Trustees**.



APPLY NOW!

Scan the QR code to apply or call 281-998-6100.

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Over The Back Fence by Nicole

DAVID ENJOYS A BIRTHDAY
Former South Belt resident **David Griffin**, is wished a happy birthday Sept. 13 from his wife **Angela**; sons **Robert** and **Kenney Griffin**; sister **Tracy** and husband **Jim Giles**, sons **Cody Giles**, **Aaron** and wife **Ashley Giles** and children **Jaxson** and **Jace**, daughter **Kristen**; and friends in the South Belt area.

SCHOOL DAZE
The following staff of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays Sept. 11 through Sept. 17.

Atkinson Elementary
Send a birthday greeting Sept. 12 to **Claudia Hernandez**.

Burnett Elementary
Sing a happy birthday song to **Marlene Balderas** Sept. 11. Remember to wish **Kathy Monford** a happy birthday Sept. 16.

Bush Elementary
Blow out the candles on a birthday cake for **Nidia Lozoya** Sept. 15.

Frazier Elementary
Light the birthday candles for **Olga Uresti** Sept. 16.

Genoa Elementary
Give a birthday shoutout Sept. 13 to **Denise Olson**. Light the birthday candles Sept. 15 for **Amy Shaw**.

Hancock Elementary
Sept. 14 is the day for a fun celebration for **Elizabeth Slaughter**.

Meador Elementary
Birthday wishes go out to **Adriana Medina**

Sept. 13. **Maria Rutherford** is sent a special birthday greeting Sept. 14.

Moore Elementary
The day for a birthday gift for **Adelita Moreno** is Sept. 15.

South Belt Elementary
Break out the balloons and birthday cake Sept. 14 for **Maryann Albert** and **Traci Medina**.

Stuchbery Elementary
The day for birthday cake and ice cream for **Lauren Keith** is Sept. 12. Blow out the birthday candles Sept. 13 for **Jennifer Marshall** and **Benjamin Robertson**. **Laura Longoria** celebrates a birthday Sept. 16.

Melillo Middle School
Heidi Eberhardt is sent a special birthday greeting Sept. 13.

Beverly Hills Intermediate
Blow out the birthday candles for **Jennifer Ciurca** Sept. 11.

Thompson Intermediate
Birthday greetings go out to **Arianna Ibarra** and **Pamela Garcia** Sept. 14.

Dobie High
Break out the birthday balloons and party favors Sept. 11 for **Shenitra Glosson** and **Larochelle Traylor**. Light the birthday candles on Sept. 13 for **Jennifer Bland** and **Erika Garcia**. Blow out the birthday candles for a four-star celebration Sept. 14 for **Rodney Pannell** and **Leslie Flores**. Birthday greetings go out to **Ryan Peel** Sept. 15. **Daisy Rodriguez** celebrates a birthday Sept.

Sept. 16. Send birthday wishes Sept. 17 to **Patricia Johnson**.

FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS
Thursday, Sept. 11: **Kyle Patterson**, **Amber Edwards**, **Sherrie Hosek-Vandament**, **Phillip Ford** and **Dan Sciba**. Friday, Sept. 12: **Tracy Cavazos-Garcia**, **Rhoda Mohr**, **Christian Muñoz** and **Jessica Moore**; Saturday, Sept. 13: **Matthew Koska**, **Michelle Perez**, **Holly Kopoulos**, **Lisa Clinton**, **Joe Sanchez** and **Kathryn Nguyen-Maldonado**; Sunday, Sept. 14: **Michele Guerrero**, **Eric Brown**, **Elaine Baker**, **Jacob Lacadou**, **Julie Lakota**, **Tom Golightly**, **Michael York**, **Dolph Larson**, **Kristi Okwuonu** and **Mark Husband**; Monday, Sept. 15: **Dawnella Woods**, **Jackie Williams**, **Patricia Jones**, **Crystal McGoldrich**, **Kristi Ortiz**, **David Young**, **Shawn Black** and **Michelle Poole**; Tuesday, Sept. 16: **Peter Hoth**, **Kairy Barkley**, **Jorge Sanchez**, **Mark Wilson**, **Brandy Rogers**, **Claude Van Court**, **Angela Starr**, **Anna Aranova** and **Melissa Norman**; and Wednesday, Sept. 17: **Michael Nevills**, **Fauna Santos**, **Alice Mireles**, **Xavier Sustaita**, **Jose Ochoa**, **Reggie Godbolt**, **Sandy Muse**, **Dean Konrad**, **Letty Lopez**, **Tracy Dukes**, **Sandra Sankey** and **Tara Johnston**.

LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS
For birthdays, "Friends Celebrate Birthdays" or announcements email to mynews@southbeltleader.com with OTBF in the subject line by Friday noon for the next week's publication.

Redeeming the Captives

A 25th Anniversary Celebration
Presented by Less Than The Least Ministries)

Thursday, October 9, 2025
Doors Open: 6:00 PM | Dinner Served: 6:30 PM
Sagmont Church
1300 \$ Sam Houston Parkway E, Houston, TX 77047

- Live Music by 2 Made New
- Special Message from Pastor Levi Skipper
- Enjoy a hearty meal of roast chicken sausages, and a vegetarian option

Tickets:
\$35 per person
\$125 for a block of four

Every donation made at the event includes a free thank-you gift from our Redemption Collection!

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SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

22-6A gauntlet begins as Longhorns host tough Dawson Eagles

The most competitive head-to-head matchup to open District 22-6A play will involve Dobie as the Longhorns host the Dawson Eagles Sept. 12 at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena, with the winner likely to have an early advantage in the race to the postseason.

Both programs will enter the key matchup at 1-1, with Dawson hoping to use the momentum created by a second week win over Elkins while the Longhorns will look to bounce back from a 61- 28 loss to Klein.

Dawson defeated the Longhorns in 2024 to start league play and looked to have a postseason berth secured before Dobie pulled off a remarkable rally and the final minute of play to not only defeat Manvel but also create enough of a point differential in the win to bounce the Eagles from playoff consideration via tiebreaker.

Whether or not the Eagles use last season's

disappointment as motivation and this one is really beside the point. The key for both teams will be to secure a victory by any means necessary on the football field.

Dawson quarterback Luke Brown has played a key role through two weeks this season as he has given the Eagles a very impressive passing attack with which the Longhorns will have to deal. Eric Mosley has been Dawson's top performer in

the running game.

The Longhorns will counter with a run-heavy attack fronted by senior Da'Marcus Hodges, who has scored seven touchdowns through the first two weeks of the regular season. Sophomore Adrian Taylor also has scored twice in the run game.

Josiah McFarland and Calvin Wesley are the big recipients from passes from Brown in the season-opening loss to Bridgeland.

Statistically, Dobie's Da'Marcus Hodges has been one of the most productive players within district 22-6A through two games as he is third league-wide in rushing with 233 yards, scoring six touchdowns on the ground while averaging nearly 8 yards per carry.

Taylor, who made the switch to offense just this season, has also averaged nearly eight yards per tote as he has rushed for 119 yards and a pair of touchdowns through the first two games.

Junior quarterback Jalen Miles has completed 11 of 21 throws for 144 yards and a touchdown to Hodges through the air.

Tyson Riley has been the Longhorns' leading tackler with 14 total stops, while Desmond Talib has 13. Nathan Zavala is tied for second in the league with four quarterback hurries as he has consistently applied pressure.

The Longhorns' two defensive interceptions this season belong to Lorenzo Aguirre and Rashaud Howard, who took his pickoff into the end zone for a touchdown against Clear Brook.

Cedric Gillespie and Talib have both forced

fumbles. Hodges leads the district in scoring overall by a wide margin through two games with his seven touchdowns as well as a two-point conversion run.

Things obviously got away from the Longhorns early on against Klein, but

Dobie head coach Danny Fitzmorris believes his team will rebound and be ready to go against Dawson.

"We have a tough football team, and a group of guys that plays together and really is out there bat-

tlng for one another each and every week," Fitzmorris said.

"It's really all about us. We don't concern ourselves with what the opponent is doing but instead focus on what we need to do to be successful. It's

about executing the fundamentals and going out there and performing those fundamentals as close to 100 percent as possible.

"We had some missed assignments against Klein and some other things that we just didn't take care of. But to their credit, they're a great football team. Against Dawson, we just

have to take care of our business, handle our game plan and go out there and get a win.

"Our guys have been out there working hard on the field, and I know the results are going to come quickly for us. It all starts with Dawson, and we're excited."

Continued on Page 6



Dobie sophomore running back Adrian Taylor (9) has been a nice addition to the Longhorns' offensive backfield and will certainly be looking to make a difference against Dawson Sept. 12.



Tyson Riley (31), Dobie's leading tackler through two games, pursues Klein quarterback Grant Stratta (1) in the first half of the Bearkats' win over the Longhorns. Dobie will now turn its attention to district play.

LSA boys win at Kardia invite

The Lutheran South Academy cross-country program had an exceptionally successful morning of things at the Kardia Christian Invitational Sept. 6, as the varsity boys' team captured the team championship and the varsity girls' squad placed third. Jeremy Gaitan led the way for the Pioneer boys as he was sixth overall, closely followed by Theron Ayala, who was seventh. Case Noak was 11th for Lutheran South, and teammate Sam Hergenrader was 12th. Nick Pena placed 14th to wrap up the top five official finishers for the Pioneers. In the girls' division, Jayde Barefield led the way for LSA as she was 13th, and Elizabeth Hergenrader placed 15th as the two helped their team to that third-place finish. The Pioneers' junior varsity girls placed first as Lillian Flores was 15th overall in the individual standings. The junior varsity boys for LSA saw Aaron Blasdel place eighth, while Keaton Herrin was 11th.

Pioneer football opens with wins

The Lutheran South varsity football team is out of the gate at 2-0 following a 38-17 home win over Hyde Park as the Pioneers prepare to take on a very talented John Cooper program.

Senior quarterback Holt Teichman has completed 22 of 35 overall passes for 281 yards and three touchdowns through a pair of victories. Sophomore Cortez Taylor leads the team in rushing with 237 yards, including an 86-yard touchdown run against Hyde Park. Cade Griffin has also rushed for more than 100 yards through the first couple of games. Braeden Robinson is the team's top receiver.

McDonald's hoops seeks college interns

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Dobie tennis nets three victories ahead of Pearland test

The goal all along has been to be playing its best tennis during the most important part of the season, and that's precisely what the Dobie varsity tennis team has been doing of late as it looks to secure an eventual postseason berth within the 22-6A ranks.

Dobie coach Manuel Moreno Jr. acknowledged in the preseason that his 2025 group was as young and varsity-level inexperienced as any of his teams over the previous several years, but the veteran head coach still felt like getting plenty of match experience in August would help pre-

pare the group for success once league play began.

The Longhorns were winless for quite some time, and even opened 22-6A action with a loss to defending league champion Dawson. But the locals came away with victories over George Ranch and then Dickinson in the Remembering ACT Tournament.

Dobie also handled Pasadena Memorial in a 14-4 league match to continue its decades-long dominance within the PISD ranks.

Dobie took on Shadow Creek Sept. 9 after press time, and while Moreno

admitted that defeating the Sharks would be difficult, he was confident his group was well-positioned for a run the rest of the way.

Dulce Mejia and Chloe Estes have excelled at the top of the girls' singles and doubles brackets for much of the season, and Moreno has also been very pleased with the play of Vivian Hang as well as Mia Nguyen and Angela Vu. On the boys' side of things, Trjah Smith and Logan Pham have excelled of late to keep the Longhorns competitive.

"The kids have really worked hard all season,

but when you don't see the results in the way of victories, sometimes they can get frustrated with themselves and each other," Moreno said.

"But to their credit, the kids have hung in there and continued to play solid tennis. It's all about winning the big points when the opportunity presents itself, and we have been doing a much better job of that lately.

"I never want to concede anything. We lost to Dawson but I still believe we can finish with a high seed heading into the playoffs. We have to get to the playoffs first, of course, but the win over Memorial was big as we continued to show our dominance within Pasadena ISD.

"I don't think we have lost a match within our school district since 2012, so that's something to continue to be proud about. We just have to keep working hard and give ourselves a chance to win these matches. The match coming up against Pearland is going to be very tough, but I have faith in our kids to be able to come through and get a victory."



Alyssa Goree (3) sets a ball for teammate Kylar Joseph (4) earlier this season. While there is still plenty of work to be done within district play, the Longhorns have improved to 10-9 overall following a 19-25, 23-25, 25-15, 25-16, 15-7 comeback-win over Pasadena Memorial in a marathon match. Goree leads the team and assists with 144, while Joseph is the team leader in kills with 95.

Dobie hosts Dawson Sept. 12, 7 p.m. PISD Veterans

Dawson (1-1) The Eagles will open district play at 1-1 after defeating Fort Bend Elkins by a 38-17 count after losing to Bridgeland in the opening week. Quarterback Luke Brown figures to give Dawson a big edge in the passing game as he has been the league leader through the air in the district early on. Running back Eric Mosley has also gotten off to a solid start. Dawson defeated the Longhorns a season ago but watched as JFD landed a playoff berth via tiebreaker, therefore eliminating the Eagles.

Dobie (1-1) The Longhorns lean heavily on a running game featuring senior Da'Marcus Hodges, who has found the end zone seven times through the first two weeks of the regular season. Sophomore Adrian Taylor has also run well in the early going. The Dobie defense surrendered several big plays to Klein in a Week 2 loss and will have to eliminate some of those against the Eagles.

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BAFL Weekly Standings

Peewee Division			
Team	W	L	T
Pearland Texans	4	0	0
Wildcats	4	0	0
49ers	3	0	0
Cardinals	3	0	0
Panthers	3	1	0
LP Texans	3	1	0
Eagles	2	2	0
Patriots	2	2	0
Red Raiders	2	2	0
Manvel Texans	2	2	0
Braves	1	3	0
Cowboys	1	3	0
Buccaneers	1	1	0
Longhorns	0	3	0
Sharks	0	3	0
Gators	0	4	0
Stingrays	0	4	0

Freshman Division			
Team	W	L	T
49ers	4	0	0
Panthers	4	0	0
Red Raiders	4	0	0
Patriots	3	1	0
Manvel Texans	3	1	0
Wildcats	3	1	0
Cowboys	2	2	0
Eagles	2	2	0
Pearland Texans	2	2	0
Cardinals	2	1	0
Stingrays	1	3	0
LP Texans	1	3	0
Buccaneers	1	2	0
Longhorns	1	3	0
Sharks	0	3	0
Braves	0	4	0
Gators	0	4	0

Sophomore Division			
Team	W	L	T
Cowboys	4	0	0
Manvel Texans	4	0	0
Buccaneers	3	0	0
Red Raiders	3	1	0
49ers	2	2	0
Braves	2	2	0
Gators	2	2	0
Patriots	2	2	0
Stingrays	2	2	0
Wildcats	2	2	0
Pearland Texans	1	2	1
Sharks	1	1	1
Eagles	1	3	0
Cardinals	1	2	0
Longhorns	1	2	0
Panthers	0	4	0
LP Texans	0	4	0

Junior Division			
Team	W	L	T
Wildcats	4	0	0
Buccaneers	3	0	0
49ers	3	1	0
Red Raiders	3	1	0
Manvel Texans	3	1	0
Cowboys	2	2	0
Gators	2	2	0
Panthers	2	2	0
Patriots	2	2	0
LP Texans	2	2	0
Sharks	2	1	0
Eagles	1	3	0
Stingrays	1	3	0
Pearland Texans	1	3	0
Cardinals	1	2	0
Longhorns	0	3	0
Braves	0	4	0

Senior Division			
Team	W	L	T
LP Texans	4	0	0
Buccaneers	3	0	0
Gators	3	1	0
Red Raiders	3	1	0
Pearland Texans	3	1	0
Wildcats	3	1	0
49ers	2	2	0
Cowboys	2	2	0
Sharks	2	0	0
Eagles	1	3	0
Panthers	1	3	0
Longhorns	1	2	0
Manvel Texans	1	2	0
Cardinals	1	1	0
Braves	0	4	0
Patriots	0	4	0
Stingrays	0	3	0

BAFL Week 4
49ers PW 14
Cowboys 0
49ers 21
Cowboys' Fr. 20
Cowboys' Soph. 18
49ers 6
49ers Jrs. 20
Cowboys 6
Cowboys 13
49ers Srs. 0
BAFL Week 5
Cowboys' Peewee at Panthers, 8 a.m.
Cowboys' Freshmen at Panthers, 9 a.m.
Cowboys' Sophs.s at Panthers, 11 a.m.
Cowboys' Juniors at Panthers, 1 p.m.
Cowboys' Seniors at Panthers, 3 p.m.

South Belt football predictions					
Dobie hosts Dawson	Dobie	Dobie	Dawson	Dobie	Dawson
Clear Brook at Goose Creek Memorial	GCM	GCM	GCM	GCM	GCM
Clear Creek hosts Channelview	Channelview	Channelview	Clear Creek	Clear Creek	Channelview
Clear Falls at Cypress Falls	Clear Falls	Clear Falls	Cy Falls	Clear Falls	Clear Falls
Clear Springs hosts Houston Lamar	Clear Springs	Clear Springs	Lamar	Lamar	Lamar
North Shore at Westfield	North Shore	North Shore	North Shore	North Shore	North Shore
Atascocita hosts Westlake	Westlake	Atascocita	Atascocita	Atascocita	Atascocita
CE King hosts Dekaney	CEK	CEK	CEK	CEK	CEK
Deer Park at Barbers Hill	Barbers Hill	Barbers Hill	Barbers Hill	Deer Park	Barbers Hill
Bridgeland at Ridge Point	Ridge Point	Ridge Point	Ridge Point	Ridge Point	Ridge Point
Last Week's Results	8-2	7-3	8-2	6-4	9-1
Season record	14-6	14-6	13-7	14-6	16-4

Longhorns aim to bounce back from Klein loss against Dawson

Continued from Page 5
Klein used a quick strike offense to hit the Longhorns with three big touchdown plays in the first quarter, and converted three separate two-point conversion plays to build a 24-0 lead.
Coming off a 75-20 victory over Conroe Oak Ridge in Week 1 action, the Bearkats wasted little time in getting going against Dobie as Edward Kelly Jr. took a direct

snap and raced 36 yards into the end zone at the 10:38 mark of the first quarter. Kelly then burst into the end zone for the conversion run as Klein led 8-0.
Bearkat receiver Turbo Jordan took the ball on the end-around and dashed 52 yards into the end zone with 5:56 to go in the opening quarter, and Kendrick Brown converted the two-point run as Klein upped the advantage

to 16-0.
The Bearkats then produced a third touchdown in as many drives as Kelly again found the end zone, this time from 75 yards out on the first play of the drive.
Kain Bollen then was on the receiving end of the two-point conversion pass for a 24-0 Klein edge with 2:22 remaining in the first quarter.
The Longhorns got on the scoreboard early in the

second quarter as Hodges took the ball on a toss over the left side for an 11-yard scoring run. The conversion kick failed, but the locals were on the scoreboard at 24-6.
It would take Klein just 14 seconds to extend the lead once again as Jordan opened the ensuing possession with a 58-yard scoring burst. Kelly scored on the conversion run as the Bearkats extended their lead to 32-6 at 9:53

of the second quarter.
Dobie came up with a big play of its own as quarterback Jalen Miles threw a 34-yard completion to Nolen Thomas deep in Klein territory, and Hodges paid it off with a 2-yard rushing touchdown. Hodges scored the two-pointer to get Dobie within 32-14.
Kelly hit the Longhorns for a 47-yard scoring run early in the third quarter and Hodges answered with

his third score of the night, this one from 11 yards out as the score was 40-22. Klein went on to have three insurance scores late in the game to give itself 136 points to start the season, and most importantly, a pair of victories.
Dobie sophomore running back Adrian Taylor had an 8-yard scoring-run with just over a minute to play to close the scoring at 61-28.
It's early, but the Long-

horns' 2024 and 2025 have mirrored each other to this point as the locals have delivered consecutive blowout wins of Clear Brook but have also twice been handled rather easily by Klein.
Dobie fell to Dawson in last year's 22-6A opener at The Nest in Pearland, so the locals would obviously love to change the narrative and get ahead of things early on in the race.
Teams across 22-6A can start anew.



At left, Dobie's Rashaud Howard (7) and the rest of the Dobie defense spent much of the evening chasing Klein speedsters Turbo Jordan (3) and many more as the Bearkats scored the first 24 points of the game and went on to defeat the Longhorns 61- 28 Sept. 6 at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena. The Bearkats, who have scored 136 points in two games, improved to 2-0 with the win over the Longhorns, who are now 1-1 heading into district play against Dawson Sept. 12. At right, Dobie senior running back Da'Marcus Hodges (1), touted as the Longhorns' go-to guy on offense this season, has certainly been impressive through the early going as he has rushed for 233 yards on just 30 carries and produced seven overall touchdowns. Hodges and his teammates open District 22-6A action against Dawson Sept. 12 at Pasadena ISD Veterans Stadium
Photos by David Flickinger



Cowboys take on League City as BAFL season intensifies in Week 4 action



Lathan Picquet (26) of the Sagemont Cowboys sophomore team has helped lead a terrific rushing attack on offense as the locals have won four straight games to open the 2025 season.



Stafford Jones Jr. (2) and his Sagemont Cowboys freshman teammates put together a terrific effort against the League City 49ers Sept. 6 but a conversion point was the difference as the locals fell 21-20 to the 49ers.



The Cowboys' sophomore Jacob Gutierrez (43) wrestles down a League City 49er ball carrier during Sagemont's 18-6 victory Sept. 6 at Denny Wranich Sr. Field as the Cowboys stayed unbeaten at 4-0.

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CALENDAR

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11
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.
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12
7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** See Thursday's notice.
Noon **Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group**. 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or at <https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners>. Call 713-686-6300 for more information. Meets Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA**, open meeting, 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com or <https://nastuff.com/>. Meets Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.
8 p.m. **Serenity Now Al-Anon Group** - meets at CrossRoads UMC Fridays, 8 to 9 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Family members and friends of problem drinkers/addicts share, learn Al-Anon principles, that they are not alone, and discover choices available. For details, call 281-484-9243.
8 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous** - meets at Cross Roads UMC Wednesday, Friday and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call 281-484-9243.
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13
7:30 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - See Thursday's notice.
9:30 a.m. **Congregation Shaar Hashalom** - All services are live and Zoom online. For details on the 7 p.m. Friday night or the 9:30 a.m. Saturday service, Judaism class-

es, film series, and lunch with the rabbi, visit <https://www.shaarhashalom.org>.
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14
8 a.m./ 10:15 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - has worship Tuesday at 11:30 a.m., Wednesday at 7 p.m. (Bible study, Book of Revelation, at 6 p.m.) and Sunday at 8 a.m. and 10:15 a.m., 11456 Space Center Blvd. (in back of a medical/retail community). For details, call 281-479-7285 and leave a message, or stop by.
5:30 p.m. **Celebrate Recovery** - A faith-based 12-Step program, in the Life Kids Chapel at Life Church, 5125 Preston Ave. Pasadena, TX 77505. Call 713-419-2635 for details.
8 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous** See Friday's notice.
8 p.m. **Beverly Hills Sharers Group AA**. See Friday's notice.
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15
Noon **Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group**. See Friday's notice.
5 p.m. - **New Directions Singles Social Group** is a singles group for those 55+. Meetings are the first and third Monday held in the community room at Maplewood Crossing, 600 Hobbs Road, League City. There will a potluck dinner and may include group activities. For further information, call Carol at 281-508-1663. See Facebook page: New Directions Singles Social Group.
6 p.m. **Scrabble Club #511** - Meets Monday at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua. Join the fun and improve crossword skills. COVID-19 vaccination required. Email huff_reunion@juno.com for info.
7 p.m. **TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)** - #0683 Friendswood chapter meets at 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.
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - St. Luke's 12-Step Recovery, open meeting Mondays, in the Education Bldg. in room 4, 11011 Hall Rd. For details, call Jesse at 832-725-8479 or Rita at 281-309-2801.
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16
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.
7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)**. See

Friday's notice.
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17
7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - See Thursday's notice.
6 p.m./ 7 p.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - See Sunday's notice.
Noon **Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group**. See Friday's notice.
Noon **Ballroom Dancing** - A ballroom dance group welcomes visitors every Wednesday to enjoy free dancing from noon to 3 p.m. at Hometown Heroes Park Ballroom, 1001 East League City Parkway, League City. Everyone is welcome to enjoy dancing to a selection of CD music provided by DJ Neva Schroder and guest DJs. This weekly dance does not include lessons. Free lessons are taught by Jerry Sanford at the same location on Mondays from 1:30 to 3 p.m. While these opportunities are free and provided by volunteers, the park system requires participants to register and get an activity card for all park activities. For more information about the activity card, ask at the front desk or call 281-554-1180.
6:30 - 7:30 p.m. **Southeast Houston Toastmasters** - The Southeast Houston Toastmasters Club #05324194 meets virtually with the exception of the second and fourth Tuesdays (hybrid meeting) at seahouston.toastmastersclubs.org. In-person address 10500 Scarsdale Blvd. (SB Chamber of Commerce). Visit the website or call Karen Nunn at 832-722-9061 for information.
8 p.m. **Beverly Hills Sharers Group AA**. See Friday's notice.
7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)**. See Friday's notice.
8 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous**. See Friday's notice.
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18
7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill," Monday through Saturday at 7:30 a.m. Hope Community United Methodist Church, 2838 Lily St. Call 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit <https://aahouston.org/meetings/>.
7:30 a.m. **Rotary Club of Pearland** - Check website for time and location <https://pearlandrotary.com/events/calendar> or call 832-293-9860.
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - Exhibits include dioramas, a turn-of-the-century doctor's office and an old-time kitchen. Open Tues. - Sat., 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., 204 S. Main, Pasadena. Call Karen Hollon at 713-472-0565 for appointment. Tours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.



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SHHS's 1975 "Junkyard Dogs" to be honored

On 50th Anniversary of Record-Breaking Season

South Houston High's 1975 "Junkyard Dogs," the winningest football team in school history, will be honored during the 50th anniversary of their milestone season during homecoming activities at the school on Friday, Sept. 26.

Fifty years ago this fall, Coach Ray Cleckler's Junkyard Dogs became the first team in Pasadena ISD history to win all 10 of its regular-season games. That 10-0 distinction remained unmatched among district schools until Dobie High went 10-0 in 1999.

A dozen or more members of the 1975 team plan to attend a recognition ceremony during the open house portion of homecoming. The reception will be part of the Alumni Association's annual Hall of Honor induction ceremony over the lunch hour.

Two alumni and two former faculty members will be inducted during the gathering -- as will the late Wilton Thibodeaux, South Houston's chief custodian from 1974 to 2001. Thibodeaux will be the first member of the school's support staff to be inducted into the faculty and staff portion of the Hall of Honor.

The two new alumni inductees are the late Danny Morgan, Class of 1961, a celebrated fashion designer once dubbed Galveston's "Mr. Mardi Gras" for his contributions to the annual city gala; and Amy Ashby-Pike, Class of 1972, who served nearly 50 years as a full-time Pasadena ISD teacher and special needs facilitator.

The two former teachers chosen for induction are Annetta Schomber, founder and longtime director of the school's 'Jannettes dance team, and Madge Wilson Crumpler, deceased, who directed both the school's journalism department and cheerleader activities over a 13-year span.

A third alumni honoree, Debbie Yerkes Drury-Tyrone, Class of 1974, will have her induction deferred to 2026 because of travel plans that will take her out of the country during September. Drury-Tyrone is an advertising and marketing entrepreneur who has been lauded as one of Houston's foremost female business leaders.

The "Junkyard Dogs" became part of the campus lexicon in the fall of 1975 when the Trojans opened the season with a state top-10 ranking and swept their regular-season slate of games.

After five victories to open the season, the Trojans were due to play Clear Lake. The Clear Lake coach was asked by a reporter before the game about South Houston.

"The city," he said, "is nothing but a bunch of junkyards, ice houses and used car lots."

The Trojans won 34-13 and the "junkyard" label stuck -- for several years, in fact.

"Everyone knows that was a special year," says Lori Regelbrugge Ray, a Class of 1976 senior and head cheerleader that fall.

These guys worked together, worked hard and had a great season. And that 'Junkyard Dog' theme really brought our class together."

The team produced three All-Greater Houston selections that fall: wide receiver Billy Foster, quarterback Jeff Corley and center Wes Hubert, who went on to stardom with the Texas Longhorns.

Hubert plans to attend, as does Bill Newcomb, an assistant coach on the 1975 team. Newcomb, who went to become South Houston's head coach in 1981, is the only surviving member of Cleckler's coaching staff.

The 1975 Trojans went to win their first playoff game before falling in the second round and finishing with an 11-1 mark. No other South Houston team has ever won more than eight games in a season.

The campus will open at 9 a.m. on Friday, Sept. 26, with numerous activities planned. Tours of the campus and tours of the Hall of History Museum will be held. The school will host a hot dog lunch on the patio beginning at 10:30 a.m.

A reception for Hall of Honor inductees will start at 11 a.m. with the "Junkyard Dogs" ceremony and the formal induction ceremony set to begin at 11:30 a.m.

There is no charge for any of the activities. And there is no charge for the annual Homecoming Mixer to be held at Studie's Restaurant on Spencer Hwy. from 4 to 6 p.m. Free snacks and beverages (beer and wine) will be served.

The homecoming game, as well as the homecoming pep rally, will be held the day before -- Thursday, Sept. 25. To accommodate the odd schedule, a partial open house will be held that day starting at noon and will conclude with the pep rally at 1:45 p.m.

Kickoff for the homecoming game is 6 p.m. on Sept. 25. The Trojans will face Alvin at Memorial Stadium.

Gators continue to shine in 24-6A football

District 24-6A play doesn't begin for another week, but there's little doubt that the Dickinson Gators certainly have proven that they very well could be the varsity football team to beat for the championship when it all begins.

Overcoming a 33 first-half points from C.E. King, Dickinson saw Kenneth Hightower block a Panther punt with just over two minutes to play in a tie game before Jamarion Payne's one-yard rumble into the end zone capped a wild 47-40 victory over the Panthers in Dickinson.

Combined with a Week 1 victory over Katy, the Gators, who will take on Cy-Fair on the road Sept. 12, have bounced out of the gate at 2-0 with a pair of wins over bonafide postseason contenders.

While Malachi Gamble was the big man against Katy the week prior, Dickinson quarterback Lorenzo Aguirre proved to be the difference against the Panthers as he passed for 368 yards.

Receiver Braden Glover led the way with 10 receptions for 106 yards, and Kaileb Peterson caught two more touchdown passes to give him four through the first two weeks of the regular season.

Clear Springs, which no doubt has designs on challenging the Gators for the eventual 24-6A title, earned their first win of the season at Delmar Stadium in Houston, after defeating the Heights Bulldogs 17-14.

Quarterback Cody Rojas had a 12-yard keeper for a touchdown in the first half and Chase Williams turned in a 30-yard touchdown run early in the third quarter for a 14-7 lead over the Bulldogs.

A muffed punt snap set the Chargers up in positive territory later in the third quarter as Clayton Smith nailed a 36-yard field goal for a 17-7 lead, and the Chargers were able to hang on from there despite a spectacular punt return touchdown from the Heights.

With designs on playing good defense until their relatively new group of offensive guys come together, the Chargers did their part on the defensive side of things, holding the Heights to only 116 yards total and six first downs.

Now 1-1 during the early part of the season, the Chargers will look to pick up another victory as they host Houston Lamar Sept. 12 at Challenger Columbia Stadium in Webster. Houston Lamar has started the season at 0-2.

Elsewhere within the district, Clear Falls got into a shootout with George Ranch and emerged with a 44-30 victory, while the rest of the district experienced a tough go of things in the second week of play.

Shadow Creek easily handled Clear Creek 39-0, while Angleton produced 75 points in a 75-21 win over Brazoswood. The Woodlands went back and forth with Deer Park before heading home with a 30-20 victory, and Cypress Woods easily handled Clear Lake to the tune of 59-14.

Aldine Eisenhower kept Clear Brook winless with a 27-18 victory. Dickinson is the lone remaining unbeaten team in the district, while Brazoswood, Clear Falls and Clear Springs are all 1-1. Four teams in the district are still looking for their first victory.

Among the statistical leaders, Gamble of Dickinson has rushed for 248 yards as he looks to lead the league in rushing for the second consecutive year. Julian Diaz is second in 24-6A rushing with 209 yards. Kyden Barker of Clear Falls, a transfer quarterback from Galveston Ball, leads the league in passing yards with 613, while Aguirre of Dickinson has passed for 591 yards and seven touchdowns through two games. With Aguirre off to a hot start, Peterson has been a big beneficiary on the receiving end as he has 311 receiving yards to go with four touchdowns. Zach Greer of Clear Falls leads the way in total receptions with 14 and has 291 yards receiving and a touchdown.



Deer Park quarterback Haden Lafrenz has passed for more than 300 yards and three touchdowns this season through a pair of games and is also third in 24-6A in rushing with 153 yards and this touchdown run against The Woodlands.

LeBlanc, Ortiz reunite on VB court

Two Dobie volleyball graduates and former varsity volleyball standouts went against one another along with their respective collegiate programs as Naima LeBlanc (left) and Hope Ortiz reunited on the court. LeBlanc, a class of 2025 Dobie graduate, is now at Hill College while Ortiz is in her freshman season at Richland College in Dallas. Hill went on to sweep past Richland in straight sets.



JFD's Lopez starts well for Celts

The University of St. Thomas men's cross-country team enjoyed a successful start to its season as the cells delivered an impressive performance at the Southwestern University invitational in Georgetown. Along the way, Dobie Class of 2025 graduate Chris Lopez contributed to St. Thomas's outstanding performance as he placed 20th overall in a time of 16 minutes, 22.43 seconds. Lopez was a key contributor to the Longhorn's success over his four seasons at Dobie.



Pasadena Memorial hosts Manvel

Sept. 11, 6:30 p.m.
Veterans Stadium

Dobie hosts Dawson

Sept. 12, 7 p.m.
Veterans Stadium

Shadow Creek hosts Alvin

Sept. 12, 7 p.m.
Freedom Field

Pearland hosts Rayburn

Sept. 12, 7 p.m.
The Rig

Clear Falls at Cy-Falls

Sept. 11, 6 p.m.
CFISD Stadium

Clear Brook at GC Memorial

Sept. 11, 6 p.m.
Stallworth Stadium

Dickinson at Cy-Fair

Sept. 12, 7 p.m.
CFISD Stadium

Channelview at Clear Creek

Sept. 12, 7 p.m.
Veterans Stadium

Lamar at Clear Springs

Sept. 12, 7 p.m.
Challenger Stadium

Deer Park at Barbers Hill

Sept. 12, 7 p.m.
Eagle Stadium

Brazoswood at Seguin

Sept. 12, 7 p.m.
Matador Stadium



Lutheran South sophomore volleyball standout Addy Musgrove was selected to the FAST Private School Classic All-Tournament team after she led the Pioneers to the championship match with an outstanding performance in the three-day event. Lutheran South has gone 15-5 overall to this point in the season as Musgrove has averaged a team-high 3.1 kills per set and also leads the team with 49 overall aces. Musgrove is also tops among the LSA players with more than 230 assists as of press time.

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