

Sagemont to meet Feb. 3

The Sagemont Civic Club will hold a meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 3, at The Gardens, 12001 Beamer at Hughes. All Sagemont residents/homeowners are invited to attend. The meetings typically take place the first Tuesday of each month. For additional information, call Sagemont Civic Club President Kay Barbour at 713-419-3545.

Knights sell barbecue

Knights of Columbus Council 9201 will host a barbecue fundraiser at St. Luke the Evangelist, located at 11011 Hall Road, Saturday, Jan. 31, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, Feb. 1, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cost will be \$12 for a chopped brisket sandwich, chips and soft drink; and \$10 for a smoked turkey leg. Saturday will be drive-thru only, while Sunday will be dine in or take out. Proceeds will benefit the church's capital campaign.

Coffee with the Constable

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

For additional information, call Sagemont Civic Club President Kay Barbour at 713-419-3545.

City to collect heavy trash

City residents living in the South Belt community south of Fuqua will have heavy trash pickup Thursday, Feb. 12 (second Thursday of the month). City residents north of Fuqua (and west of the Gulf Freeway) will have heavy trash pickup Friday, Feb. 13 (second Friday of the month). February is for junk waste but tree waste will also be accepted. Pickups may be delayed. For additional information, visit www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste or call 311.

Beltway closures planned

At least one northbound Beltway 8 frontage road lane will be closed from Spencer Highway to Greenshadow Drive continuously through 11:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31, 2026.

At least one southbound Beltway 8 frontage road lane will be closed from Pasadena Boulevard to Fairmont Parkway continuously through 11:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31, 2026.

At least one southbound Beltway 8 frontage road lane will be closed from SH-225 to Red Bluff Road continuously through 11:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31, 2026.

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

New Covenant feeds needy

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

Gulf Freeway closures set

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

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

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

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

Ellington eRecycling set

The City of Houston Solid Waste Management Department's monthly electronic recycling event will take place Saturday, Feb. 14, 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 each month. For additional information, visit www.houstonsolidwaste.org or call 311.

Dobie names 2026 Hall of Honor inductees

Now in 14th year, event to recognize 4 alumni, 2 faculty, 1 volunteer

Dobie High School will host its annual Hall of Honor induction ceremony at 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 20, in the school auditorium. The event is open to the public.

Now in its 14th year, the Hall of Honor recognizes graduates who have made significant contributions to the community and serve as role models for current and future students.

Four alumni, two former faculty members and one community volunteer will be recognized at this year's event.

The following is a list of the 2026 Hall of Honor inductees:

Capt. Larry Arcement, Jr. (Class of 1974)

Capt. Larry Hugh Arcement Jr., U.S. Navy, credits his formative years at J. Frank Dobie High School with shaping the academic rigor, musical discipline, and leadership foundation that defined his life. A dedicated trombonist under the mentorship of band director Bill Brawn, Larry learned teamwork and excellence — values he carries forward by continuing to perform today. His leadership path was solidified as an Eagle Scout



Larry Arcement

and through a four-year Navy ROTC scholarship at Texas A&M University, where he marched with the Fighting Texas Aggie Band, served as a Ross Volunteer, and earned a B.S. in Computing Science with a math minor, followed by advanced executive education at Ohio State University and the University of Virginia.

Commissioned into the U.S. Navy Supply Corps in 1978, Arcement began a distinguished 28-year naval career marked by global service and operational leadership. His first sea tour included critical supply and financial roles during deployments to the Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf, coinciding with major geopolitical events. He experienced firsthand the dangers of naval service, surviving a ship collision and supporting extended deployments across the Pacific and Asia, building early expertise in logistics under demanding conditions.

Subsequent assignments demonstrated increasing scope and impact. Arcement served as commissary store officer, where he established a retail marketing school to train regional personnel, and later as supply officer. Ashore, he led the NIS-TARS automation project at Naval Supply Center Oakland, modernizing warehouse operations. After completing his MBA in Operations Logistics and Marketing, he commanded Navy Resale operations in Puerto Rico and the Caribbean, where he played a pivotal role in Hurricane Hugo disaster

relief and base reconstruction efforts.

At the senior level, Arcement's leadership extended across the Atlantic Fleet, Navy Exchange Service Command, and multiple overseas installations. He concluded his naval career as commanding officer of the Navy Expeditionary Medical Support Command, overseeing globally pre-positioned expeditionary medical facilities and operational deployments in Kuwait and the Republic of Georgia.

Following retirement in 2006, Arcement continued his commitment to service as senior Naval Science instructor at York High School, mentoring NJROTC cadets in citizenship and leadership for seven years. His career is distinguished by numerous honors, including the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, five Meritorious Service Medals, the Navy Commendation Medal, and two Navy Achievement Medals — reflecting a legacy of exceptional service and enduring impact.

Laura Dominguez Chan (Class of 1985)

During her time at Dobie, Laura Dominguez Chan played tenor saxophone in the band, ran cross-country and track and field, and was a member of the National Honor Society. Her dedication to her studies earned her nicknames like "the curve killer," "All A's Avenger," and "The Brainiac" by her classmates. She fondly remembers marching band rehearsals and long runs with her cross-country teammates. After graduating from Dobie, Chan attended Stanford University, where she earned a bachelor's degree in sociology and

later completed a master's degree in counseling psychology at Santa Clara University.

Chan remained in California for an extensive career helping other people find meaningful professional paths. She served as a career coach at Stanford for more than three decades, starting as an outreach coordinator and rising to the role of associate dean of Stanford's Career Education Center.

During her time at Stanford, Chan co-created an original self-assessment tool called the Meaningful Work Kit that is used internationally with college students and professionals. Chan has also taught courses at Stanford's Integrative Learning Portfolio Lab and Menlo College, and she served on the advisory board of Stanford's El Centro Chicano y Latino.

Chan's lasting impact at Stanford was recognized with the prestigious Amy J. Blue Award, which is given to three Stanford staff annually for exceptional dedication. She was also recognized with the Stanford Associates designation for her alumni volunteer service. When she retired from Stanford in 2022, she was appointed as staff emerita. In 2023, Chan began a new chapter of her



Laura Chan

Continued on Page 4

PISD honors Powell

The Pasadena ISD board of trustees recently voted to name the school district's new administrative building in honor of former Superintendent DeeAnn Powell, who retired last year after serving PISD for more than three decades.

New PISD building named for Powell

School district's new admin building to honor former superintendent

Located on Mickey Gilley Boulevard near Fairmont Parkway and Beltway 8, the new \$26.5 million facility replaced the school district's aging building on Cherrybrook.

Opened just a year, the new administration building has already been recognized statewide for its architecture.

A needed replacement

For decades, Pasadena ISD staff worked out of a converted grocery store that later became a shopping mall — a structure plagued by mismatched foundations, failing infrastructure and persistent mold and moisture issues.

District leaders determined that renovating the old building would be more costly and less effective than constructing a new one, prompting the move toward a purpose-built headquarters.

Key facts

Size and layout: The new administration building occupies roughly 120,000 square feet of space across three stories.

Cost: The project carried an estimated value of \$26.5–\$27 million according to public construction records.

Departments housed: Human Resources, Tax Office, Police, Curriculum & Instruction, Student Services, Purchasing, Payroll, Accounting, Workers' Compensation and Grants all operate from the new facility.

Opening timeline: The building opened after years of planning and community debate, with construction plans published in 2021 and the facility completed and recognized by 2025.

Architectural recognition: The building was featured in the 2025 Exhibit of School Architecture, praised as "the heart of the district and a symbol of unity, progress and pride."

Structural features: The facility includes tilt-up concrete panels, suspended concrete floors, steel framing and modern finishes such as acoustical ceilings and resilient flooring.

Controversy

Construction of the new facility was not without its controversy, with multiple Latino groups opposing it, saying funds could be better spent elsewhere by the school district.

The issue was a hot topic during Pasadena ISD's 2021 and 2023 board elections.

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Leader concludes its 2025 Year in Review

The *Leader* continues its look back on 2025 with a list of some of the significant stories of the year. For highlights up to October, see the Jan. 22 edition of the *Leader*.

October

South Houston High School named its 2025 homecoming king and queen at the varsity football game against Alvin High School. Roy Gomez was crowned king, and Isabel Vasquez was crowned queen. The Trojans were defeated in the game, losing to Alvin 38-6.

Dobie High School crowned its 2025 homecoming king and queen at the varsity football game against South Houston High School. Ricardo Ramos was crowned king, and Esbeidy Fonseca was crowned queen. The Longhorns defeated the Trojans 48-14.

St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church held its Golden Jubilee Gala Saturday, Oct. 11, celebrating the parish's 50th anniversary. The event honored the church's elders and longtime members. The parish's 50th anniversary celebration also included a talent show (Oct. 17), Feast Day (Oct. 18) and a special Jubilee Mass (Oct. 19).

Longtime South Belt resident and community volunteer Gilbert Aguilar died Oct. 28 at the age of 93. For roughly 20 years, Aguilar provided English assistance to Spanish-speaking students and their immigrant parents. A retired U.S. Coast Guard officer, Aguilar was also active in Dobie's JROTC program. In 2013, Aguilar was inducted

into Dobie High School's recently created Hall of Honor for his community volunteer efforts. In 2000, Aguilar was named Pasadena ISD's Distinguished Citizen of the Year.

November

Votes from the Nov. 4 special elections were tabulated, with both races headed for a runoff. The 16-candidate contest for the 18th Congressional District seat vacated by the death of former Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner resulted in a runoff between candidates Amanda Edwards and Christian Meneffe. The 15-candidate race to fill Houston's citywide At-Large Position 4 seat vacated by Letitia Plummer, who previously stepped down to campaign for Harris County judge, resulted in a runoff between Alejandra Salinas and Dwight Boykins. Salinas went on to win a Dec. 13 runoff. The ultimate winner of the TX-18 contest will be determined by a Jan. 31 runoff.

Ken Howery, co-founder of PayPal and valedictorian of Dobie Class of 1994, was approved by the U.S. Senate to serve as U.S. ambassador to Denmark. A 2013 Dobie Hall of Honor inductee, Howery previously served as U.S. ambassador to Sweden.

Chad Burke was appointed by the San Jacinto College board of trustees to fill the Position 5 seat vacated by the death of John Moon Jr. the previous July. The president and CEO of the Economic Alliance Houston Port Region, Burke

will serve the remainder of Moon's unexpired six-year term, which runs through 2027.

December

Longtime South Belt community volunteer Seth Webb died following a bout with cancer. Webb served multiple terms as chair of the Sage-

meadow HOA and maintained the group's digital presence. Most recently, Webb had devoted much of his free time to the creation and development of the new South Belt Partnership, to which he was a founder and served as president.

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Chamber recognizes Leader



The *Leader* was recently named Business of the Quarter by the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce. Shown above at the *Leader* office are, left to right, Kendra Green, CBC MUD, office manager; Cecelia Ganje, CBC MUD, general manager; Stephanie Clawson, Houston Methodist Clear Lake Hospital; Reyna Lara-Laguna, Shell Federal Credit Union; Robert A. Whitley, Robert A. Whitley Attorney at Law; Lisa Holbrook, South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce, president; Rosa Graham, *Leader*; David Flickinger, *Leader*; Natalie Abarca, *Leader*; Nicole Rodriguez, *Leader*; Diddy Clark, *Leader*; Kenny Fernandez, National American Shipping Agencies; J. Aaron Knight, San Jacinto College; and Sarah Ferguson, HomeBank. *Leader* staff not shown are John Bechtie and James Bolen.

Photo by Anita Eakman

Candidate forum rescheduled

Due to inclement weather, the Precinct 2 justice of the peace candidate forum originally scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 27, has been postponed until Tuesday, Feb. 10, organizers said.

Hosted by the South-Belt Ellington Chamber of Commerce, the event will include candidates Jack Ezell and Oscar Salazar Jr. Incumbent Dolores Lozano has elected to not participate in the

forum.

The forum will be held at the San Jacinto College South campus, Marie Spence Flickinger Fine Arts Building. Networking/meet the candidates will begin at 6 p.m., with the forum taking place from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

For more information, visit www.southbelt-chamber.com.

In My Opinion

Rosas supports Salazar

To whom it may concern:

My name is Joel Rosas and I'm Writing in support of my best friend, Oscar Salazar, Jr., who is running for Harris County Justice Of The Peace Precinct 2 Place 2.

I first met Oscar in 1978 during our freshman year in high school. He had just moved to Pasadena from San Antonio and we were both working at McDonald's. We were part of the same team at McDonald's and Oscar already had the ability to work well with others. We became very good friends and after we graduated from high school, I was proud to see him go off to join the Marine Corps.

When Oscar returned after four years of service in the Marine Corps, he had an idea for starting his own business. Because he had such a drive to succeed, he began to work at Lyondell petrochemical, as an operator, while simultaneously working to build his new Kolache shop, Mornings Kolaches.

He always knew it would take a little while to become profitable as a business, and he wasn't afraid of the hardship working two jobs would cause. He worked for 13 years at Lyondell Petrochemical before deciding to leave the plant and just dedicating his time to running Mornings Kolaches. That decision worked out well for him. Mornings Kolaches has been a successful business in Harris County for over 35 years.

Oscar is a hard worker who sets high goals for himself. He accomplishes whatever he sets his mind to. I support him because he is a true die hard and a true friend. Failure is never an option. He never wants to just sit back and take it easy. I'm so proud of him for running for Justice Of The Peace, and I know he will serve the community with tireless hard work and dedication.

His community will be blessed to have him as their Justice Of The Peace. I will be supporting him, as he has always supported me over the years.

May God be with you, my friend.

Joel Rosas
Chief of Police
Brookside Village

Clear Creek Association of Retired Teachers

The Clear Creek Association of Retired Teachers (CCART) will hold its February meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 10. The meetings are held at the Bay Area Community Center, 5002 NASA Parkway, in Seabrook. The gathering will feature a presentation by Sharon Mitchiner on "Adopting Healthier Eating Patterns for Older Adults."

The meeting will start at 9:30 a.m. with a social gathering for coffee and cookies. The business meeting will begin at 10 a.m.

At the conclusion of the meeting, a fried/baked chicken lunch will be served. CCART will provide the chicken, and members are asked to bring a side, salad, or dessert to share. All Texas-retired school employees from the area are invited. Annual dues is \$50.

Church to hosts 25th annual Jog-Walk-a-Thon

The New Covenant Christian Church Usher's Ministry will host its 25th annual Jog-Walk-a-Thon on Saturday, March 7, 2026. The event begins at 8 a.m. at New Covenant Christian Church, 10603 Blackhawk Blvd.

Proceeds will benefit the Willie V. Hahn and Mary Coleman scholarship fund. Organizers hope to attract 200 participants and raise \$5,000.

On-site registration will be available the day of the event. Registration fees are \$25 for adults and \$5 for children ages 12 and under.

For more information, call 281-484-4230.

NASA plane crashes at Ellington



A NASA plane was forced to make an emergency landing at Ellington Airport Jan. 27 due to mechanical issues. No one was injured in the crash. Photo courtesy of KHOU

Sagemont Church hosts CaFEsito con Jesús



Sagemont Encuentro Christian women's group "CaFEsito con Jesús" (Coffee with Jesus) steps into the new year united in faith and sisterhood, proudly wearing their new shirts that reflect their shared commitment to Christ. CaFEsito con Jesús is a group of Spanish-speaking Christian women who gather every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. with a clear purpose: to seek God, grow deeper in his word, and support one another in a safe and welcoming space for women of all ages. Shown are, left to right, (front row) Graciela Sánchez, Carmen Villatoro, María Ramirez, Zenaida Torres, Josie Aguirre, Lillian Guerra, Teresa Ruiz, Clara Allen, Alicia Molina, (back row) Liliana Pando, Toni Villarreal, Isis Medina, Belibeth Bonilla, Karen Guzmán, Gladis cencio, Elena Baeza. Not pictured is Esme Paredes.

Local library events set

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

Bracewell Branch Library

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

Monday, Feb. 2, 10:15 – 11:15 a.m. Bring your family to storytime. Registration required.

Tuesday, Feb. 3, 4 – 5 p.m. Family craft adventure. 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, Jan. 29, 10:15 – 10:45 a.m. Toddler time.

Thursday, Jan. 29, 1 – 2 p.m. Libby app audio book club.

Friday, Jan. 30, 1 – 3 p.m. Diamond painting club. Registration required.

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

Monday, Feb. 2, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Tai Chi.

Tuesday, Feb. 3, 10:15 – 10:45 a.m. Babies and books.

Tuesday, Feb. 3, 10:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Personas que corren con libros: Club de lectura en Espanol.

Wednesday, Feb. 4, 5 – 6 p.m. Tax workshop with Sheba: "Claiming refundable tax credits."

Wednesday, Feb. 4, 6 – 7:30 p.m. Pathway to citizenship. Registration required.

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>.

City offers winter emergency tips

Residents encouraged to remember the the 4 Ps

In response to this past week's winter storm, city of Houston officials are offering tips to help residents stay safe in times of low temperatures.

The four Ps

During periods of extreme cold and/or winter weather, remember to protect the four Ps: People, Pets, Pipes and Plants:

People should dress warmly and in layers. Check on family, friends, and neighbors who may be susceptible to cold weather and/or not have access to housing and heating, including the elderly and those with special needs.

– Pets should be brought indoors or provided with a warm place to sleep.

– Pipes that run outside or under a house should be wrapped in pipe insulation to avoid cracks due to water freezing in them. Open kitchen and bathroom cabinets under your sinks to allow heat to enter them.

– Plants may need to be covered or brought inside to avoid frost damage.

Driving conditions

As with any type of precipitation, such as rain, sleet or snow, residents who are driving vehicles should take steps to protect themselves, including the following:

– Give themselves extra stopping distance. Wet conditions mean it takes longer for vehicles to come to a complete stop.

– Ensure windshield wipers are in good working condition before heading out on the road. When conditions are wet or dark, be sure to use headlights.

– Never use high beams in urban areas. Highway overpasses and bridges pose the highest risk of icing.

– Take extra precautions when driving over them.

– Slow down. Rain, sleet, and snow can limit visibility, giving drivers less time to recognize danger.

– Slowing down gives provides extra time to adjust to changing conditions.

Space heaters

Heating devices cause more than 100 fires in the City of Houston each year, resulting in numerous injuries and possible death. Citizens should always

keep in mind that: Space Heaters Need Space!

The Houston Fire Department recommends the following safety tips when using supplemental heating sources:

– Make sure you have a working smoke alarm.

– Never leave children unattended in a room with a space heater – Children knock over space heaters, especially if they are placed on top of wobbly tables or stools and near where the children play. Children may also stick paper or toys in the grates of the space heaters especially gas space heaters. The city had two reported fires in 2004 caused by children playing with space heaters.

– Keep all combustible materials, including yourself, at least three feet from the heater.

– Open face heaters should have a screen.

– Provide ventilation to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning.

Electric heater tips

– Never overload outlets or breakers.

– Don't use extension cords for the heater. If the cord is hot to the touch, turn off the heater and unplug it!

– Electric heaters perma-

nently installed in the wall or ceiling should have lint and dust removed regularly. Lint and dust will burn!

– For additional information on safely using space heaters, visit houstonfire.org.

Rental property tips

Landlords are obligated to maintain their rental properties to the minimum standards set by the Houston Housing Code of Ordinances (Sec. 10-363).

Heating equipment must be able to maintain a minimum inside temperature of 70 degrees Fahrenheit (measured three feet above the floor) when it is 20 degrees Fahrenheit outside. To report suspected violations, call 311.

Stay updated

For the latest forecast from the National Weather Service, visit weather.gov/houston.

Sign up for emergency notifications via AlertHouston: bit.ly/2zIPeNn.

Download a Disaster Preparedness Guide at bit.ly/2NmO8IZ and make a plan today.

For information on roadway conditions, visit houstontranstar.org or follow the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) on Twitter @TxDOTHouston.

Bernal sworn in



Constable Jerry Garcia (left) is shown above swearing in Deputy Bernal as the newest member of the Precinct 2 force.

Gomez named a Super Steer



Camila Gomez is a South Belt Elementary Super Steer for the month of December. Group photo was published in last weeks Leader with incorrect name.



South Belt Resident



Proudly Served

I served to protect our great country. Now I will serve to protect your rights!

OSCAR SALAZAR JR.
FOR JUSTICE OF THE PEACE,
PRECINCT 2 PLACE 2
Democratic Party Primary
Election day March 3, 2026
Early Voting Feb 17 to Feb 27

Pol. Adv. Paid for by Oscar Salazar, Jr.

Deaths

Hits 2 Holes In One."

He will be missed by those who loved him, and the many whose lives he touched. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, Jan. 31, 2026, at 11 a.m. at the First Presbyterian Church of Pasadena, 4647 Preston Ave., Pasadena, TX 77505.

Mary Ellen McDevitt Brennan



Mary Ellen McDevitt Brennan, beloved daughter of Thomas and Mary McDevitt, was born on Oct. 21, 1940, in Brooklyn, N.Y. She passed away peacefully on Jan. 21, 2026, at her home in Friendswood, surrounded by her loving family.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Ronald Orrin Brennan; and her daughter-in-law Catherine Holley Brennan.

Mary Ellen is survived by her children, Karen Jones and husband, Wade; Ronald Brennan, Jr.; Beth Anne Mullen; Vance Britt; and Terence Brennan and wife Tracy. She is also survived by her brother Thomas McDevitt of N.J.

She was the proud grandmother of Meagan Brennan, Michael Brennan and his wife, Jordan; David Brennan; Blake Mullen and his wife Kimberly; Bailey Anne Mullen; Mason Britt; Garrett Jones and his wife Melanie; Graham Jones and his wife Lauren; Harper Creech and her husband Tyson; and Colby Brennan. Her legacy continues through her eight great-grandchildren.

Mary Ellen and Ron moved to Friendswood in 1966 to raise their family and where she would reside for the next 60 years.

Mary Ellen was very active in the Democratic Party of Galveston County; serving as the chair for six years in the early 2000s. One of her greatest accomplishments was working hand-in-hand with Marie Flickinger to shut down Brio, a local toxic waste dump. She was also proud to work with Patty Gray and Lucille McGaskey to pass legislation concerning the regulation of the use of lead paint around children in Galveston County.

A woman of quiet strength and enduring grace, Mary Ellen found joy in gardening, reading and exploring new recipes. Above all, she cherished time spent with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, whose lives she enriched with love and laughter.

The family extends heartfelt gratitude to Mary Ellen's caretakers for their compassionate care during Mary Ellen's illness.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Planned Parenthood or a charity of choice.



ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST

Catholic Church
Rev. Douglas J. Guthrie, Pastor
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.

New Covenant Christian Church Day Care



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

281.481.2003
www.newcovenantchristianchurchhouston.com
10603 Blackhawk Blvd. Houston, Tx 77089
Blackhawk @ Kirkfair

Gibson Insurance



For all your insurance needs

Specializing in Auto, Home, Commercial, Life and Recreational Vehicle insurance for the South Belt Community since 1980.

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Now offering Motor Sports insurance
• Drag Racing • Circle Track • Road Racing

713-941-3221

Jeffrey@jeffreylgibsoninsurance.com



Knights of Columbus

January 31 & February 1
The Knights of Columbus will be selling BBQ Brisket Sandwiches Smoked Turkey Legs

Chopped Brisket sandwich, chips, and drink \$12

Smoked Turkey Leg \$10

Saturday - Drive-thru only
Sunday - Drive thru and Social Hall

St. Luke the Evangelist
Catholic Church
11011 Hall Rd.
Houston, TX 77089



SJC south showcases multimedia exhibition featuring Texas artists

San Jacinto College South Campus Gallery is proud to present Click Bait, a multimedia exhibition featuring ten artists from across Texas whose practices engage digital tools, emerging technologies, and contemporary modes of image-making. On view from Jan. 29 through March 7, 2026, the exhibition brings together work spanning photography, video, animation, and digitally driven fabrication processes through computer-aided design.

The artists included in Click Bait use technology not only as a tool, but as a subject—examining how digital systems shape perception, identity, labor, and value in an era dominated by screens, platforms, and algorithmic influence. These practices blur boundaries between the virtual and physical, the handmade and machine-assisted, and examines the contemporary creative process.

Click Bait features work by: Kalee Appleton, Melania Clemmons, Bryan Cope, Lina Dib, Ryan Goolsby, Timothy Harding, Zak Loyd, Paho Mann, Leigh Merrill, and Kris Pierce. Collectively, these artists represent a wide range of approaches to digital practice, from lens-based media and networked video to sculptural works fabricated through CNC routers and other computer-aided design processes.

Two public receptions will accompany the exhibition. A weekday reception on Wednesday, Feb. 4, from 2 to 5 p.m. is designed to be accessible to students and San Jacinto College employees, while a closing reception on Saturday, March 7, from 2 to 5 p.m. invites community members to experience the exhibition over the weekend.

All events and exhibitions at the gallery are free and open to visitors of all ages.

Exhibition: Click Bait
Dates: Jan. 29 – March 7, 2026

Gallery hours: Monday – Thursday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Fridays by appointment only.

Location: San Jacinto College South Campus Gallery, Flickinger Fine Arts Center Building 15, Room 143 at 13735 Beamer Road.

For more information contact Bradly Brown, Art Professor / Gallery Curator, at bradly.brown@sjcd.edu or 281-484-1900 ext. 3893



Pasadena ISD's new administration building named in honor of former Superintendent DeeAnn Powell

Moore Elementary names STEM Fair winners

Moore recently held its STEM Fair and selected four third-grade students who will attend the district science fair.



Third-grader Erick Faisal-Cavazos



Third-grader Miriam Portillo



Third-grader Abigail Izaguirre



Third-grader Thiago Cruz

New Pasadena ISD building named for Powell

Former PISD Superintendent DeeAnn Powell retired in 2025 after serving district 3 decades

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Powell announced in October 2024 that she'd be retiring at the end of that year, prompting a nationwide search for her replacement.

Powell held many leadership positions over her 30-year career with Pasadena ISD. Before being named superintendent, Powell began her career as a history teacher at Jackson Intermediate and quickly advanced in leadership, serving as campus peer facilitator, assistant principal and principal. In 2005, Powell assumed the role of associate superintendent of Campus Development and later was asked to serve as deputy superintendent before making history as the first Pasadena ISD graduate and the first female to be appointed superintendent of Pasadena ISD in 2016.

As superintendent, her collaborative leadership style and unwavering commitment to student excellence has fostered a positive climate throughout Pasadena ISD, resulting in many district accomplishments. Just a few of these include the expansion of a districtwide full-day pre-K class at each elementary campus, a K-12 Dual Language program and the implementation of a nationally recognized Personalized Learning program.

Pasadena ISD has been recognized at the regional, state and national levels for academic excellence and support of the arts. Last year, Pasadena ISD graduated one of the largest group of Early College High School students in the state of Texas; was named a Model Professional Learning Community (PLC) District by Solution Tree; and was named a Texas Art Educators Association (TAEA) District of Distinction.

Along with excellence in the classroom, PISD's district Business Department has also been recognized for excellence in business practice by receiving a Superior Achievement rating on the Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST) consistently each year of Powell's tenure. Furthermore, Pasadena ISD joins only a handful of districts with the highest credit rating by Moody Investor Services.

Powell has been recognized often for her outstanding leadership during her career. In 2018, she was named a Hurricane Harvey Hero, leading the district and helping the South Belt and surrounding communities in the aftermath of the hurricane. She also received the 2018 Learning for Texas Award for Outstanding Support from a Superintendent for Professional Learning. In addition, as a member of the Team of Eight, Powell and the board of trustees were recognized as the Region 4 Board of the Year and selected as one of five Honor Boards recognized by TASA/TASB in 2019.

Powell holds an undergraduate degree in psychology and history from Sam Houston State University, a master's degree in educational management and a doctorate in educational leadership from the University of Houston-Clear Lake. She and her husband, Lance, a police detective with the Pasadena Police Department, call the South Belt home.

Together they have four children: Andrew and wife Mary; Mason and wife Lindsey; Dawson, Caitlyn; and two granddaughters, Abigail and Caroline. Andrew and Mason both serve in the U.S. military.

Cornerstone Learning Academy & Childcare LLC earns national NAEYC recognition

Cornerstone Learning Academy & Childcare LLC, located in Houston, has earned Recognition status through the NAEYC Early Learning Program Quality Assessment and Accreditation, a tiered system developed by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), the world's largest organization working on behalf of young children.

Recognition is a meaningful first milestone within NAEYC's Early Learning Program Quality Assessment and Accreditation system. It reflects that Cornerstone Learning Academy & Childcare LLC has demonstrated a strong foundation of policies and structures upon which a high-quality care and learning environment can be built. By submitting evidence for 40 document-based assessment items, Cornerstone Learning Academy & Childcare LLC has shown its alignment with key quality indicators. Recognition status is valid for one year, and programs that achieve this tier may apply immediately for full Accreditation status.

"We're proud to have earned Recognition from NAEYC, and to be acknowledged for the foundational practices we have in place that support young children and their families," said De'Angela Henry, director.

Cornerstone Learning Academy & Childcare LLC is a licensed child care center, located in South Belt, established in 2011. Cornerstone Learning Academy is committed to providing a warm, loving, and fun environment for children, while ensuring they receive superior childcare and learning fundamentals.

NAEYC's Recognition tier provides an opportunity for programs to engage in a structured quality journey. It supports programs in taking early and important steps toward full accreditation by using clear, research-informed assessment criteria and documentation expectations. This pathway ensures programs are on track for deeper, sustained quality-improvement.

"Earning Recognition is a meaningful accomplishment that reflects the time, intention, and effort of early learning programs committed to high-quality care," said NAEYC Director of Early Learning Program Kim Hodge. "Cornerstone Learning Academy & Childcare LLC has taken an important step forward in demonstrating their commitment to excellence and to the children and families they serve."

Leader concludes 2025 Year in Review

Continued from Page 1

The partnership was a joint venture that included several other local HOAs, including Clear Brook Meadows, Kirkwood, Lake of Golfcrest, Riverstone Ranch, Sageglen, Sagemeadow, Sagemont and Sagemont Park. The group had its inaugural meeting in March 2024, with a subsequent follow-up function in October of last year. Webb also played an instrumental role in the annual South Belt Cleanup.

Two students from Pasadena Memorial High School were arrested and charged with conspiracy to commit capital murder after investigators uncovered text messages suggesting plans for a mass shooting at the campus. Police arrested 18-year-old Emilio Lopez, an 11th-grader, along with an unnamed juvenile student in the 10th grade. The investigation began after another student reported seeing an online chat between the two suspects, in which they discussed guns, ammunition and carrying out acts of violence. The Pasadena ISD Police Department was assisted by the Pasadena Police Department and the U.S. Marshals Gulf Coast Violent Offenders and Fugitive Task Force. Following the scare, Pasadena ISD police maintained a heightened presence at the campus. This marked the third time in 2025 an event involving a gun – or a potential event in this case – had taken place at or near the Memorial campus. On Saturday, Feb. 1, 83-year-old suspect Dennis Erwin Brandl Jr. was arrested and charged with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon after allegedly firing a gun at a band event being held at the area high school. Investigators said Brandl, who had no connection to the school, suffered from mental issues and claimed to be in fear for his life at the time of the shooting. Roughly just one month later on Friday, Feb. 28, 19-year-old suspect Damian Alexander Saiz was arrested and charged with two counts of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon after allegedly shooting two Pasadena Memorial High School students during a fight after school near campus. Pasadena ISD officials said Saiz was a former Memorial student but he hadn't been enrolled since the 2022-2023 school year.

Early runoff voting extended

Extension needed due to winter poll closures

Due to severe winter weather that forced the closure of polling locations, early voting in the 18th Congressional District runoff election has been extended by a court order to ensure eligible voters have access to the ballot ahead of Election Day, Saturday, Jan. 31.

"The safety of voters, election workers, and staff was my top priority, and I am thankful conditions have improved so that we may resume voting operations," said Harris County Clerk Hudspeeth. "Only voters registered in Congressional District 18 can participate in this election."

Early voting in the special TX-18 runoff election was originally scheduled to end Tuesday, Jan. 27, but as a precautionary measure county officials canceled voting on Sunday, Jan. 25, and Monday, Jan. 26, in advance of the predicted winter storm. To make up for the missing days, additional early voting dates were added on Wednesday, Jan. 28, and Thursday, Jan. 29.

Set to take place Saturday, Jan. 31, the special runoff election will determine who will the 18th Congressional District seat that was vacated by former Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner, who died in March 2025 shortly after taking office.

Vying for that position are Harris County Attorney Christian Menefee and former Houston City Council Member Amanda Edwards.

A crowded field of 16 candidates competed in the Nov. 4 special election, but none reached the required 50 percent threshold to win outright. Menefee led the field with roughly 29 percent of the vote, while Edwards followed with nearly 26 percent.

Under Texas law, the top two finishers advance to a runoff when no candidate secures a majority. The winner will finish the remainder of Turner's term, which ends in January 2027.

While most South Belt residents will be ineligible to vote in the election, the TX-18 seat has long carried national significance and has been represented in the past by political heavyweights such as Mickey Leland, Barbara Jordan and Sheila Jackson Lee.

Early voting hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. For additional information on the Jan. 31 runoff election, to view a sample ballot or see a complete list of polling locations, visit www.harrisvotes.org.

Shaar Hashalom hosts Purim carnival

The Congregation Shaar Hashalom annual Community Purim Carnival is at 16020 El Camino Real, Houston, TX 77062 in Clear Lake City midway between El Dorado and Bay Area Blvd. on Sunday, March 1, from noon to 3 p.m.

The family-friendly carnival is for all ages with games, food, face painting, live petting zoo, bouncing structure, wall climbing, auctions and more. One can bring their kids, grandkids, friends' and neighbors' kids for fun, food and merriment.

Pre-sale tickets are available online at shaarhashalom.org. Activity tickets which include all the indoor and outdoor rides plus popcorn and cotton candy are \$10 and \$13 at the door. Meal tickets are \$12 online or \$14 at the door.

The Clear Lake Community Purim Carnival is a fundraising event. The entire community is invited to join in the fun, food, auctions and merriment.

Congregation Shaar Hashalom is the Conservative synagogue in the Bay Area. For information about religious services or activities, call 281-488-5861.

PASADENA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT					
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - GOVENMENTAL FUNDS					
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025					
Data Control Codes	General Fund	Debt Service Fund	Capital Projects Fund	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues:					
5700 Local, intermediate, and out-of-state	\$ 179,960,216	\$ 65,771,486	\$ 8,365,657	\$ 7,974,898	\$ 262,072,257
5800 State program revenues	309,302,753	9,372,612	-	4,134,586	\$ 322,809,951
5900 Federal program revenues	5,333,154	-	-	74,632,921	79,966,075
5020 Total Revenues:	494,596,123	75,144,098	8,365,657	86,742,405	664,848,283
Expenditures Current:					
0011 Instruction	298,147,966	-	-	37,389,530	335,537,496
0012 Instruction resources and media services	6,504,612	-	-	41,903	6,546,515
0013 Curriculum and instructional staff development	5,622,538	-	-	1,208,494	6,831,032
0021 Instructional leadership	7,099,791	-	-	1,543,498	8,643,289
0023 School leadership	38,383,215	-	-	957,772	39,340,987
0031 Guidance, counseling and evaluation services	24,016,896	-	-	6,838,937	30,855,833
0032 Social work services	177,871	-	-	403,611	581,482
0033 Health services	5,100,749	-	-	163,060	5,263,809
0034 Student transportation	17,974,492	-	2,183	388,337	18,365,012
0035 Food services	-	-	-	34,082,612	34,082,612
0036 Extracurricular activities	7,068,977	-	101,333	4,025,995	11,196,305
0041 General administration	13,262,794	-	-	2,984	13,265,778
0051 Facilities maintenance and operations	52,122,990	-	-	208,592	52,331,582
0052 Security and monitoring services	8,389,092	-	-	1,739,620	10,128,712
0053 Data processing services	12,432,117	-	2,922,010	6,475	15,360,602
0061 Community services	188,828	-	-	281,777	470,605
Debt Service:					
0071 Principal on long-term debt	2,632,581	31,290,000	-	1,046,251	34,968,832
0072 Interest on long-term debt	83,305	19,215,680	-	11,280	19,310,265
0073 Bond issuance costs and fees	-	19,324	-	-	19,324
Capital Outlay:					
0081 Facilities acquisition and construction	2,076,514	-	84,201,033	8,500	86,286,047
Intergovernmental:					
0093 Payments related to shared services arrangements	1,670,860	-	-	-	1,670,860
0095 Payments to Juvenile Justice Alt. Ed. Prgm.	56,095	-	-	-	56,095
0099 Other intergovernmental charges	1,726,486	-	-	-	1,726,486
6030 Total Expenditures:	504,738,769	50,525,004	87,226,559	90,349,228	732,839,560
1100 Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(10,142,646)	24,619,094	(78,860,902)	(3,606,823)	(67,991,277)
Other Financing Sources (Uses)					
7912 Sale of real or personal property	2,687,553	-	-	-	2,687,553
7913 Issuance of debt-leases	1,306,083	-	-	-	1,306,083
7915 Transfers in	-	-	1,053,620	238,226	1,291,846
7949 Issuance of debt - SBITAs	4,739,262	-	-	5,649,912	10,389,174
8911 Transfers out	(7,274,285)	-	-	(238,226)	(7,512,511)
7080 Total Other Financing Sources (Uses):	1,458,613	-	1,053,620	5,649,912	8,162,145
1200 Net change in fund balances	(8,684,033)	24,619,094	(77,807,282)	2,043,089	(59,829,132)
0100 Fund Balance - Beginning as Previously Reported	169,952,927	44,092,502	236,492,845	18,721,982	469,260,256
1300 Restatement	-	1,333,550	-	-	1,333,550
Fund Balance - Beginning as Restated	169,952,927	45,426,052	236,492,845	18,721,982	470,593,806
3000 Fund Balance - Ending	\$ 161,268,894	\$ 70,045,146	\$ 158,685,563	\$ 20,765,071	\$ 410,764,674

Dobie announces 2026 Hall of Honor inductees; ceremony set to take place Feb. 20

Continued from Page 1

career at Genentech, a biotechnology company where she serves as a coach to employees.

Outside of work, Chan served on the board of trustees for Menlo School, where her three children attended. Her faith is important to her, and she and her husband are involved in their local church. Chan recently celebrated her 40th Dobie reunion with classmates from the Class of '85. Reflecting on her journey, Chan is grateful to Dobie for providing the foundation of community and curiosity that sparked her lifelong passion to help others succeed.

Remi Yusuf (Class of 2002)

Remi Yusuf, a proud Houston native, is the founder of the Be A 9th Wonder. His early life was rooted in family, community, and a passion for sports — values that would guide his journey from stand-out athlete to global youth advocate. These foundations shaped his commitment to service and leadership, which continue to define his work today.



Remi Yusuf

Yusuf's athletic career began at Dobie High School, where he excelled as a three-year varsity letterman from 1999 to 2002. He earned three All-District selections, including District MVP, and played a pivotal role in leading the Longhorns to a District Championship, an Area Championship, and a rare Regional Quarterfinal appearance — an achievement reached by only a handful of teams in school history. His success at Dobie propelled him to Texas A&M University — Kingsville on a full basketball scholarship, where

he became one of the most accomplished players in program history.

At Texas A&M-Kingsville, Yusuf amassed 1,507 career points, becoming the 20th player in school history to surpass the 1,000-point milestone. After returning from injury, he earned Player of the Year MVP honors and led the Lone Star Conference in scoring, later receiving Preseason All-American recognition. He finished his collegiate career ranked among the top ten all time in points, assists, rebounds, steals, minutes played, field goals made and free throws. Alongside his athletic achievements, he earned a bachelor's degree in social work with minors in sociology and psychology, followed by a master's degree in educational administration and a principal certification.

Following college, Yusuf continued his basketball career professionally, participating in pre-draft workouts with the Houston Rockets before competing internationally in Colombia, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, South Korea and Slovakia. After retiring from professional play, he channeled his passion into service, founding the Be A 9th Wonder Foundation in honor of his younger sister, Mareca, who battled a rare lung disease until her passing at age 19. Inspired by her strength and the opportunities she never had the chance to experience, Yusuf built a mission centered on empowering youth — especially children with special needs and those from underserved communities. His foundation has expanded globally, offering free programs in the United States, Australia and soon, Europe.

Yusuf's impact has earned widespread recognition, including the proclamation of "Yusuf Yusuf Day" by the mayor of Houston in 2022. His honors include induction into the Texas A&M-Kingsville Basketball Hall of Fame, the Texas A&M Rising Star Award, the Distinguished Alumni Award and multiple community service accolades. As an author, educator, mentor and leader, Yusuf con-

tinues to embody the spirit of a Dobie Longhorn — excellence, resilience, and service. His life's work reflects a deep commitment to creating opportunities for young people and ensuring that every child feels supported, included, and empowered to reach their full potential.

Sgt. Major Alan Daigle (Class of 2005)

Sgt. Major B. Daigle's learned the value of discipline, teamwork, and shared purpose through music as a member of the Longhorn marching band. His involvement in the robotics club sparked an early fascination with mechanical systems and problem-solving, interests that would later align seamlessly with his military career. His continued engagement with the Longhorn alumni band reflects a lifelong connection to the school that helped shape him, a connection he still honors with pride and Longhorn spirit.



Alan Daigle

After graduating high school, Daigle enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in May 2005, beginning his journey at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego. He excelled at Assault Amphibian School, graduating as the honor graduate and earning the MOS of Amphibious Assault Vehicle Repairman (2141). Assigned to 2nd Assault Amphibian Battalion at Camp Lejeune, he advanced to corporal and sergeant while serving as maintainer and platoon maintenance chief, demonstrating early signs of the leadership trajectory that would define his career.

Daigle deployed to Iraq in October 2006 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom,

where he was wounded by an enemy improvised explosive device and awarded the Purple Heart. He returned to Iraq in 2008 with 1st Battalion, 9th Marines, continuing to serve with resilience and dedication. During this period, he also completed a bachelor's degree from Liberty University, strengthening the academic foundation that supported his commitment to lifelong service.

Across his Marine Corps career, Daigle has held a wide range of leadership and instructional roles, including assignments with Marine Corps Security Forces, inspector-instructor duty with 4th Assault Amphibian Battalion, and senior enlisted leadership positions within the Marine Corps Reserve. His service as a foreign security force adviser to the Jordanian Special Forces Group and his later roles as company first sergeant in multiple reconnaissance units highlight the depth of his operational and mentorship experience, underscoring his reputation for mission-focused leadership.

In 2023, Daigle was selected for promotion to Sergeant Major and now serves as the Command Senior Enlisted Leader for 3rd Force Reconnaissance Company, 4th Marine Division. His personal decorations — including the Purple Heart, multiple Navy Commendation and Achievement Medals, the Combat Action Ribbon, and numerous service awards — reflect a career marked by sacrifice, excellence, and unwavering commitment. Beyond his military achievements, he is a devoted husband to his wife Becky of nearly 19 years and a proud father to Jaxon and Aiden. For Daigle, being a Longhorn remains a defining part of his identity — a Yusuf-nder of the mentors, friendships, and values that shaped him and continue to guide his legacy of service.

Coach John Bryan (Faculty)

Coach John Bryan's story begins in Pasadena, where his love for athletics and education first took root. As a member of the 1958 Pasa-

dena High School football team that advanced to the state finals, he learned early the value of discipline, teamwork, and perseverance. He carried those lessons with him to Texas Lutheran College, earning a Bachelor of Science in history while playing football all four years. His commitment to learning and coaching deepened as he pursued a Master of Science in physical education from the University of Iowa, preparing him for a lifetime of shaping young athletes.

When Dobie High School opened its doors in 1968, Bryan was among the original faculty members, helping build the school's athletic identity from the ground up. He taught world history and physical education, eventually becoming the PE department head. On the field, he served as head JV football coach and varsity offensive line coach, contributing to the school's first district championship in 1973. His leadership extended beyond football as he took on the roles of head track and cross-country coach. He often recalled that at the 1969 district track meet, his team scored zero points — a moment that fueled his determination to build something stronger.

Bryan's determination paid off through years of steady development, high expectations, and relentless work ethic, culminating in 1980 and 1981 track team to state championships. Along the way, he coached three individual state champions, leaving a legacy of excellence that would define Dobie athletics for years to come. His impact was recognized across



John Bryan

the region, earning him induction into both the Gulf Coast Track Coaches Hall of Honor and the Pasadena Athletic Hall of Fame.

Bryan's achievements extended beyond trophies and titles. He was honored with the Texas High School Coaches Association Outstanding Achievement Award and named the National Federation of Interscholastic Coaches "Boys Cross Country Coach of the Year" for District 6. Even after retiring from coaching, he continued to support local athletics, serving on the PISD Athletic Hall of Fame committee and remaining a respected voice in the community.

At home, Bryan built a life grounded in family and education. He is married to a 30-year PISD veteran teacher, and together they raised two sons and now enjoy four grandchildren. Looking back, he often says that his years at Dobie were the most memorable of his career — especially the early South Belt days when the school was just beginning to take shape. He remains in touch with many former students, cherishing the relationships and memories formed over decades of teaching, coaching, and inspiring others.

Donna Branch (Faculty)

Donna Branch's career in Pasadena ISD stands as one of the district's most influential and enduring success stories, shaped by her talent, leadership, and unwavering commitment to students. Her journey began as a standout athlete at Sam Rayburn High School, where she excelled

in volleyball and javelin, earning recognition for her competitive spirit and natural athletic ability. She continued her athletic career at Texas A&M, further sharpening the discipline and drive that would later define her work as a coach and administrator.

Branch's transition into coaching marked the beginning of a legendary chapter in PISD athletics. At Dobie High School, she quickly became the most successful girls' athletics coach in district history. Her volleyball teams were known for their grit, teamwork, and consistent excellence, advancing to numerous playoff appearances, including deep runs into the regional finals. Her coaching style blended high expectations with genuine care, shaping not only skilled athletes but confident young women prepared for life beyond the court.

In 2003, Branch shifted her focus from coaching to educational leadership, retiring from the sidelines to become an assistant principal at Dobie High School. This transition allowed her to broaden her impact, supporting students and teachers across all areas of campus life. Her administrative leadership was marked by fairness, dedication, and a deep understanding of the student experience — qualities that made her a respected and trusted figure among colleagues, families, and the community.

Her contributions did not go unnoticed. In 2016, Branch was inducted into the Pasadena ISD Hall of Fame, a testament to her exceptional achievements and the lasting influence she had on the district's athletic programs. This honor reflected not only her coaching success but also her role in elevating girls' athletics and opening doors for future generations of student-athletes.

When Branch retired from Pasadena ISD in 2025 as the assistant athletic director, she closed the book on a remarkable career spanning decades of service, mentorship, and leadership. Her retirement marked the end of an era — one defined by excellence, integrity, and a profound commitment to young people. The



Donna Branch

in volleyball and javelin, earning recognition for her

legacy she leaves behind continues to shape PISD, living on in the countless students, athletes, and educators whose lives she touched along the way.

Seth Webb (Community volunteer)

Seth Webb built a life defined by service, humility, and unwavering dedication to others. After spending his childhood in Mt. Pleasant, Utah, he moved to Houston, where he would eventually plant deep roots with his wife, Kimberly Kay Webb, and their children, Travis Alexander and Kaitlyn Elisabeth in the South Belt community. Though proud of his professional accomplishments, Webb's greatest joy came from supporting his family and strengthening the community around him.



Seth Webb

Professionally, Webb spent more than two decades in the NASA and commercial aerospace industry, where he was admired for his leadership, curiosity, and meticulous attention to detail. His colleagues knew him as someone who constantly sought improvement — not for recognition, but because he believed deeply in doing things the right way. Even with the demands of such a high-level career, Webb always made time for the people and causes that mattered most, balancing work with a profound commitment to service.

Webb's volunteer work became one of the defining threads of his life. He poured countless hours into organizations that shaped the South Belt community, serving as chairman of the Sagemeadow HOA Board, director and vice president of the Sage-

meadow Utility District, and president and founder of the South Belt Community Partnership. His leadership extended into youth programs as well, where he served as Cubmaster for his son's Scout Pack and later as commissioner, committee chair, and assistant scoutmaster in Scouts BSA. His dedication to supporting students continued through his work with the J. Frank Dobie High School Band Parent Organization, where he served as president and corporate sponsorship lead. Webb never said the word "no," when asked to help Dobie. He would say, "Let me figure out how we make this happen," and then he always did.

His service didn't stop there. Webb played an active role in local traditions and civic events, serving as general chairman for the Pasadena Livestock Show and Rodeo Parade Committee and as a transportation committeeman with the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. Whether organizing community initiatives, supporting youth programs, or helping major events run smoothly, Webb approached every responsibility with integrity, kindness, and a genuine desire to uplift those around him. His efforts left a lasting impact on countless families, neighbors, and young people who benefited from his steady presence and generous spirit.

Beyond his public service, Webb's personal passions helped shape the warmth and creativity he shared with others. He loved music — playing the violin and guitar and occasionally DJ'ing for family and friends. This love of music became a gift he passed on to his children, influencing their own interests and identities. Webb died of cancer in December. His wife, Kimberly, and their children, Travis and Kaitlyn, carry forward his legacy of compassion, community, and wholehearted dedication to others. His life stands as a testament to the difference one person can make when they choose to serve with purpose and heart.

Remember When

45 years ago (1981)

A concerted South Belt community effort brought a record number of voters to the Dobie polling place. Their efforts put three South Belt area residents on the Pasadena ISD Board of Trustees: John Elam, Rudy Schubert and Dr. B.J. Garner.

Dobie High School assistant head varsity football coach Don Cole announced his resignation.

The athletic director of Pasadena ISD said it was too soon to name replacements for the three football coaches who resigned from the district, although interviews had begun.

Heavy voter turnout in the Pasadena School District was a key factor in the J.D. Bruce-Dr. William Davison victory in the San Jacinto College Board of Regents election.

40 years ago (1986)

The U.S. Justice Department was expected to rest its case, alleging discriminatory practices in Pasadena Independent School District.

Repair of the overpass bridge at Dixie Farm Road was expected to begin and was to be completed in time for rush hour traffic the following Monday morning.

The new officers for the Pasadena ISD Board of Trustees were Harvey Turner, president; Vickie Morgan, vice president; John Elam, secretary; and Carmen Orozco, assistant secretary.

Vickie Morgan became the first woman in half a century elected to the PISD Board of Trustees by defeating 18-year incumbent Carl Schwartz, who was seeking his seventh term to the board.

Groundbreaking ceremonies for the Memorial Southeast Professional Building to be connected to Memorial Southeast Hospital, also under construction, took place.

35 years ago (1991)

Carmen Orozco was elected president of the Pasadena school board. Others elected were Denny Delafield as vice president, Vickie Morgan as secretary and Harvey Turner as assistant secretary.

Le Duc Nguyen, a 54-year-old market owner, was shot to death by three robbers. The three men were captured and charged with aggravated robbery.

Sageglenn resident Gordon Quisenberry drowned while

attempting to rescue a woman who was also drowning in Galveston Bay. According to a Coast Guard spokesman, a 41-foot Cigarette boat cartwheeling at a high rate of speed in choppy water. Quisenberry left his boat in an attempt to save the woman and her companion. No one was wearing a life jacket.

30 years ago (1996)

Dr. James Horton was named as the third chancellor in the 35-year history of San Jacinto College.

Sagamont Park's Eric Gene Reilly, 20, was sentenced to 27 years in prison after he entered a plea in the 185th District Court for the murder of Jimmy Dickson, who was killed during his 18th birthday party at his Green Tee home.

The *South Belt-Ellington Leader* was getting ready to celebrate its 20th anniversary. Formerly known as the *South Belt Press*, the newspaper was founded in February 1976 by two housewives, Marie Flickinger and Bobby Griffin.

Clear Brook senior Andrea Bahlo took first place in the 100-yard backstroke

at the state TISCA meet in Austin, after undergoing heart surgery only 11 days before the event.

25 years ago (2001)

Clear Creek Independent School District parents asked for the long-promised replacement for Weber Elementary.

The State Farm Insurance office of Skip Morse was robbed. The thieves escaped with a small amount of cash and a 23-year-old wedding ring from one of the two insurance reps who were in the office.

20 years ago (2006)

Neil West, longtime South Belt resident, was recognized as the Citizen of the Year at the 22nd annual South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce banquet. West was praised by Harris County Commissioner El Franco Lee for his contributions to the community.

Houston police were investigating the death of J.C. Iziah Smith, 21, whose body was found floating face down in Turkey Creek. Smith, of the 11700 block of Algonquin, was found by three men who were riding four-wheeled vehicles near

the 15100 block of the Gulf Freeway. The Harris County Medical Examiner's office declined to release the cause and manner of death pending further study.

Richard McKay, head librarian at San Jac College's Parker Williams Library, initiated a project to preserve previous issues of the *Leader* on microfilm for posterity.

Gaby de la Cruz, 13, a former Moore Elementary student, was diagnosed with a neurological condition which affected his brain.

A stolen vehicle was recovered after a brief chase through Sagamont. Precinct 2 Deputy Constable Sgt. Zerick Guinn chased the vehicle on Sageburrow, and when it failed to negotiate a turn, it crashed into the yard of a residence. Two juvenile occupants fled on foot but were quickly captured.

15 years ago (2011)

Two local churches announced changes in leadership. After serving as pastor at Kirkwood South Christian Church for six years, the Rev. David Fraser was set to leave at the end of February. The Rev. William "Bill" Newcomb left his position as

senior pastor at Cokesbury United Methodist Church, where he had served since June 2009.

Kevin Martinez took over as captain of the "C" shift of the Houston Fire Department's Station 70 on Beamer. A 1986 graduate of Dobie High School, Martinez was a 17-year veteran of the department.

Two Dobie students were selected to the TMEA All-State Ensembles during band auditions held at Alvin High School on Jan. 8. Erik Flores on contra-bass clarinet and Chance Morris on Bb clarinet went on to represent Dobie High School and the Pasadena Independent School District at the Texas Music Educators Convention in San Antonio.

A fatal shooting took place at 8600 Theta. Ernesto Saldizar, an 18-year-old from North Houston, suffered multiple gunshot wounds to the head and was pronounced dead at the scene. There was no known motive, and no immediate arrests were made.

Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital held an open house for its new

Esophageal Disease Center to treat reflux and other esophageal diseases.

10 years ago (2016)

Dr. DeeAnn Powell assumed the role of superintendent of the Pasadena Independent School District, replacing the outgoing Kirk Lewis. Powell began her career as an educator in 1991 when she joined the Jackson Intermediate staff as a history teacher. She was named the school's assistant principal in 1997 and principal in 2002. In 2005, she was named an associate superintendent of campus development for the district.

Houston city attorney Gene L. Locke was appointed to finish the late El Franco Lee's term as Precinct 1 Harris County commissioner. A longtime friend and counsel to Lee, Locke had previously served as city attorney from 1995-1998, general counsel to the Harris County-Houston Sports Authority and special counsel to the Metropolitan Transit Authority.

5 years ago (2021)

Longtime Pasadena ISD board member Fred Roberts announced he would not be seeking re-election after

serving for 28 years. Roberts was first elected to the board in 1993. He currently serves as its secretary. A Pasadena native, Roberts is a self-employed insurance consultant with nationwide clients. He attended Southwest Texas State University and is a member of NACE No. 114. A longtime member of Sagamont Church, Roberts is married to wife Vicki, a 1978 graduate of Dobie High School. They have four children, Zachary, Sara, Jacob and Jordan, who have all attended Pasadena schools, with three graduating from Pasadena ISD. In 2014, a Pasadena ISD middle school was named in Roberts' honor. During his tenure on the Pasadena ISD board, Roberts oversaw more than 56,000 students graduate. The annual South Belt Spectacular Cook-off has once again been canceled due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. This marked the second time in the event's 25-year history the function has been called off, as the 2020 cook-off was also canceled due to the coronavirus pandemic. In addition to COVID-19 scares, organizers said the rescheduled

Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo cook-off also played a role in the decision to cancel the event. Normally scheduled for February, this year's HLSR cook-off was postponed out of COVID-19 concerns until early May — when the South Belt event traditionally takes place. Organized by the South-east Volunteer Fire Department, the cook-off is the sole fundraiser for the annual South Belt fireworks display, which is also held at El Franco Lee Park.

1 year ago (2025)

The South Belt community was expected to experience a hard freeze at press time, with temperatures expected to drop into the lower 20s Tuesday, Jan. 21. The winter storm was also expected to bring between 3 and 5 inches of snowfall to the Houston area.

Dubbed Winter Storm Enzo by meteorologists, the storm was predicted to be one of the iciest in the state's history.

Both Pasadena ISD and Clear Creek ISD were closed Tuesday due to the icy conditions. (Monday was a school holiday in honor of Martin Luther King Jr.)

Both Hobby and Bush Intercontinental airports were closed Tuesday due to the frigid conditions.

Houston and Harris County opened dozens warming centers up to the public.

City and county courthouses were also closed due to the weather and all non-essential employees were told by officials to stay home.

Residents were urged to stay off streets unless it was an emergency and to practice safe heating practices.

City of Houston trash pickup was expected to be delayed by two days, Solid Waste officials announced Monday, Jan. 20. Local MUD collections were also delayed.

At press time, power loss was a major concern among officials. According to CenterPoint representatives, approximately 1,200 support crew were on standby in case of power restoration emergency.

Houston Mayor John Whitmire and public safety officials held a press conference Monday afternoon, warning of the storm's conditions and urging residents to be prepared and cautious.



BIRTHDAY GREETINGS FOR KARMA
Birthday wishes are sent Feb. 2 to **Karma Wright**, former *Leader* staffer, from her family, friends and staff at the *Leader*.

OWEN ENJOYS 17TH BIRTHDAY!
Owen Michael Flowers celebrates his 17th birthday on Tuesday, Feb. 3. Best wishes and lots of love, hugs and kisses are sent to **Owen** from big sister **Kennedy**, little sister **Evie**, parents **Stephen and Stacey (Hayes) Flowers**; grandparents **Robert and Janie Scarberry** (former longtime South Belt residents) and **Mike and Karen Flowers** of Dickinson; uncles **Tyler, Austin Scarberry, Joey, Wesley, Travis and Josh**; aunts **Jenny and Christine**; and cousins **Brayden, Baylee, Olivia, Jade, Lily, Sierra, Ryker, Connor, Jesse, Christopher and Mason**. **Owen's** mom is a 2005 Dobie High School graduate.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, LANE!
Happy 11th birthday to **Lane Warren Graham** on Feb. 4 from his grandparents, **Don and Rosa Graham** of Sageglenn and **Janis and Lane Howell** of Friendswood. **Lane** is a student in Clear Creek ISD and is active in basketball and baseball. He is a huge fan of UH basketball and the Houston Astros. His parents, **Esteban and Amy Graham**, are graduates of Clear Brook HS and are both employed by CCISD.

SCHOOL DAZE

The following personnel of the Pasadena ISD celebrate birthdays Jan. 29 through Feb. 4.

Atkinson Elementary
Sing a happy birthday song to **Stefhanie Covarrubias** Feb. 2.

Burnett Elementary
Send a birthday greeting Feb. 3 to **Jessica Arnold**.

Bush Elementary
Send a humorous birthday card Feb. 3 to **Edna Reyes**.

Genoa Elementary
Best wishes for a special birthday Jan. 29 are sent to **Francisca Tarango**. Light the birthday candles Feb. 2 for **Anita Thibodeaux**.

Meador Elementary
Kourtney Roopwah celebrates a birthday Jan. 31. Feb. 1 is the day for a fun celebration for **Kateri Angel-Williams**.

South Belt Elementary
Join in the birthday fun Jan. 30 with **Lauren Hughes**. Wishes for a happy birthday are sent to **Colleen Wilkinson** Feb. 4.

Melillo Middle School
Sing a happy birthday song to **Kelly Jurek** Jan. 31.

Beverly Hills Intermediate
Feb. 2 is the day for a celebration for **Cynthia Wright**. Send a birthday greeting Feb. 4

to **Melanie Thompson**.

Thompson Intermediate
Blow out the candles Jan. 31 for **Arnulfo Tovar**.

Dobie High
Elke Cerre celebrates a birthday Jan. 30. Be sure to have cake and ice cream Feb. 1 for **Frank Mora**. The day for a double-layer cake for **Garland Ganter** and **Veronica Oyervides** is Feb. 3. Feb. 4 is the day for a party for **Chasity Hall** and **Sandra Villarreal**.

FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS
Thursday, Jan. 29: **Stephanie Martinez-Hinton, Yvonne Moffitt, Margarito Rivera, Debra Dorn, Lauretta Massicott** and **Holly Conrad**, Friday, Jan. 30: **Bill Heavin, Karen Price, Kimberly Istre, Kristen Mata, Christine Cline** and **Amy Reichelderfer**; Saturday, Jan. 31: **Maria Olvera, Erica Bush, Veronica Tanguma-Mejia, Ernie Banks, Josh Keim, Angeles Rios, Maria Zuniga** and **Craig Thompson**; Sunday, Feb. 1: **Danice Oliver** and **Lee Terry**; Monday, Feb. 2: **Lisa Upshaw** and **John Scheschuk**; and Wednesday, Feb. 4: **Bobby Kramer** and **Deborah Carmona**.

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Email anniversary, vacation, congratulations, etc., to mynews@southbeltleader.com with OTBF in the subject line by Friday noon for the next week's publication.

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SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

PISD Hall of Famer Allen dies

Pasadena ISD Athletics Hall of Fame member Bobby Allen, to be forever remembered as South Houston's High School first ever All-State football player, has died at the age of 78 following an extended battle with various health issues.

A member of the South Houston High School senior class of 1965, Alan and his wife, Janis, contributed greatly to various programs and facilities at South Houston High School over the years. The practice field at South Houston High School is named in Bobby Allen's honor. Allen is credited with being one of the key contributors when the South Houston Alumni Association was formed in 2011 as he helped toward the creation of the Hall of Honor Museum and other features.

JFD track to run at Kethans

The Dobie varsity boys' and girls' track and field teams will make their 2026 debut at Deer Park's long-running Kethan Relays Feb. 6 at Abshier Stadium, then six days later will co-host the Pasadena ISD's Brown Relays Feb. 12 at Auxiliary Stadium in Pasadena.

NJCAA Softball 2026 Preseason DI Poll

1. Northwest Florida State
2. Florida Southwestern State
3. Grayson
4. McLennan
5. Wallace State-Hanceville
6. Odessa
7. Paris
8. Indian River State
9. Trinity Valley
10. Gaston

NJCAA Baseball 2026 Preseason DI Poll

1. Salt Lake
2. Blinn
3. Florida Southwestern State
4. Walters State
5. Shelton State
6. McLennan
7. Weatherford
8. Florence-Darlington Tech
9. Central Florida
10. LSU-Eunice
18. San Jacinto

Rackley's Dobie squad, Clear Brook softball scrimmage

Both cooler and wet conditions have already played a role in hindering preseason softball scrimmages and workouts, but that hasn't kept programs from across the state from preparing for the approaching regular season openers.

Dobie's Feb. 9 regular season opener at Clear

Brook nearing by the day, the Longhorns have continued scrimmaging under the guidance of head coach Robin Rackley, as they go into action against Clear Falls Jan. 30. Dobie, an area playoff round qualifier a season ago, will then scrimmage at Angleton Feb. 3.

The Longhorns will



The majority of the postseason field in the 22-6A varsity boys' basketball race is set, but Dobie, including senior Desmond Etienne (13), remains intent on making a late-season push at continuing the season.



Sophomore Mykayla Mendez (32) has had a terrific debut season with the varsity squad, and she and her Dobie teammates are looking to close out the 2025-2026 season with momentum heading into the final stretch of games.

Photos by Donna Alsdorf

Hoops basketball teams push for postseason

Entering the stretch of the varsity basketball season, both the boys' and girls' squads from Clear Brook and Dobie find themselves on the outside looking in with just a few more opportunities remaining to turn the tide.

The biggest issue, simply put, is that the competition residing at the top of both 22-6A and 24-6A has been outstanding.

State-ranked Pearland has come away victorious in 24 of 26 overall games as of press time and has rolled its way to a 10-0 march in 22-6A play for first place.

At this point, the Oilers are all but assured a Division 1 playoff seed, while second-place Shad-

ow Creek (17-6, 9-1), also state-ranked, is second and likely headed for the D2 bracket.

Dawson, a winner of 18 overall games, has won eight of 10 contests in 22-6A for third place and is also likely postseason bound.

Realistically, there is just one postseason berth to be decided, with Pasadena Memorial the favorite.

The Dobie varsity boys went into action at Pasadena Memorial Jan. 27 after press time in must-win mode in terms of the standings at this point in the season.

The Mavericks, who defeated the Longhorns 60-51 in the first round of district play, went into the

game at 6-4, which placed them fourth in the district with essentially six games remaining.

The Longhorns have lost two games to third-place Dawson by a combined three points, 57-55 the first go-around at 49-48 just days ago.

Things are settled as far as the postseason in the 22-6A varsity girls' basketball race, with Dawson, Manvel and Shadow Creek all winners of 25 overall games or more, and fourth-place Pearland also advancing to the playoffs.

With five games to go in league play entering a home game against Memorial Jan. 27 after press time, the 3-8 Dobie girls were looking good to fin-

ish the season on a high note with Hailey Butler and Audrey Volper in their final seasons.

In the District 24-6A varsity boys' ranks, Clear Brook has won 20 overall games this season but is finding the going tough in league play.

A very talented Dickinson team went into a second-round matchup against Clear Lake undefeated and in first place at 7-0, with Clear Springs at 6-1.

Deer Park and Clear Lake were both 4-3 and tied for third place in the standings.

Clear Falls, which defeated the Wolverines in the first round of league play, was fifth at 3-4.

Clear Brook, which came away with wins over Brazoswood and Clear Creek in the first round of league play, was at 2-5.

Key contributors Cruz Calone, Abdiel Jiminez and Jace Walker are each in their final seasons and would love to lead a big second-half turn around.

Dobie, CB baseball line up scrimmages

The Dobie varsity baseball team, intent on making another deep post-season run in 2026 under the direction of longtime head coach Miguel Torres, will get things going in scrimmage action Jan. 31, going against a talented Summer Creek Bulldog program on the road.

Meanwhile, Kevin Macias is in his first preseason as the varsity baseball head coach at Clear Brook and will lead the Wolverines into scrimmage action, also Jan. 31, as the locals go against the defending Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools 5A state champion Lutheran South Pioneers.

Both Dobie and Clear Brook will continue to scrimmage throughout the early portion of February before opening the regular season mid-month.

The Longhorns will also scrimmage Clear Falls Feb. 2, Baytown Sterling Feb. 6 and La Porte Feb. 10, all on the road before hosting Clear Brook Feb. 13.

Dobie will open the regular season at Goose Creek Memorial Feb. 16,

complete with a 3:30 p.m. first pitch start.

As the Longhorns have done for many years now, the varsity group will attend the Laredo Border Olympics (Feb. 19-21) before hosting the Pasadena ISD Invitational (Feb. 26-28) and then attending the Gary Herrington Invitational in Baytown.

After going against Lutheran South to begin scrimmages, the Wolverines will host the La Porte Bulldogs in a scrimmage Feb. 2, then scrimmage at Pasadena Memorial Feb. 6 and at Fort Bend Travis before finishing at Dobie Feb. 13.

Clear Brook will host Pasadena Memorial to begin the regular season Feb. 16, beginning at 7 p.m.

Macias, a former player and assistant coach at Pearland High School, has the Wolverines entered in the Pearland invitational Feb. 19-21 before Brook hosts the Clear Creek ISD invitation-

al (Feb. 26-28) and then attending the same Gary Harrington invitational in Baytown to conclude tournament action.

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MLS



Dobie junior Persephone Soria has already proven to be one of the top talents in the Houston area and will once again be counted on to deliver in a big way offensively for the Longhorns this season.

Photo by a Gloria Wallace

Dickson wins at Nelson



Off to a strong start to her senior indoor season with the Texas A&M women's track and field team, Clear Brook graduate Camryn Dickson rolled to a victory at 23.24 seconds in the 200 to claim top honors at the Tad Nelson Invitational Jan. 24 at Texas A&M University. Dickson is coming off a junior season in which she finished as a first team All-American member of the Aggies' 4x100 and 4x400 relay teams and scored second team All-American honors in both the 100 and 200 sprints.

at 12-4 for second place in the district behind Pearland before sweeping 21-6A champion Ridge Point in the Division 1 bidistrict round and then falling to Clear Springs in the area around.

Clear Brook will continue scrimmage play Jan. 30 at Crosby and will then host Manvel for scrimmages Feb. 3. The Wolverines' final scrimmage comes Feb. 7 as the locals host HCYA. The Wolverines will open the regular season Feb. 9 against the Longhorns and then compete in the Feb. 12-14 CSE classic.

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Leader continues 2025 South Belt area sports year in review

This week the *Leader* offers its next-to-last installment of its annual Year in Review series for 2025, focusing on some of the most memorable sports events in the South Belt area. Here's to 2026 providing many more special moments for both individual athletes and their teams.

September 4
Dobie got contributions from across its roster while cruising past an undermanned Clear Brook squad to the tune of 65-6 at Clear Creek ISD Veterans Memorial Stadium in League City. Against the Wolverines in League City, Dobie got three rushing touch-

downs and a 15-yard touchdown catch-and-run from standout running back Da'Marcus Hodges as he got off to a terrific start and what figured to be the first of many as a featured weapon for the Longhorns. Adrian Taylor (38-yard touchdown run) and Tyler Owens (21-yard touch-

Academy varsity boys cross-country team competed in the Cooper Drag-on Invitational in Tomball, finishing eighth as a team among 11 overall entries. Host John Cooper dominated the event en route to the team championship, with Cooper's Jacob Bailey grabbing top overall gold medalist honors in the 3,200-meter event in a time of 9 minutes, 52.88 seconds.

Jeremy Gaitan was the Pioneers' top finisher as he was 18th at 10:38.23, while teammate Theron Ayala (11:05.50) and Sam Hergenrader (11:06.81) were 32nd and 33rd overall, respectively.

Case Noack was 36th for the Pioneers at 11:14.65, and the team's fifth and final official qualifier was Nicholas Pena, who placed 43rd in a time of 11:22.45.

The LSA varsity girls competed in the Division II bracket and also raced a 3,200-meter course, finishing seventh as a team. Jayde Barefield was 20th overall in a time of 14:43.60 to lead the Pioneers, and teammate Elisabeth Hergenrader posted a time of 15:00.24 to place 26th.

Carys Rodriguez was 28th at 15:03.61, and Becca Byrom was in the 36th spot as she clocked in at 15:24.95. Lutheran South's fifth official qualifier was Jemma Reikert as she placed 41st with a time of 15:44.40.

September 11

The Lutheran South Academy cross-country program had an exceptionally successful morning of things at the Kardias Christian Invitational, 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 Noack 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 Elisabeth 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.

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

quarterback Holt Teichman had 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 had also rushed for more than 100 yards through the first couple of games. Braeden Robinson was the team's top receiver.

Dobie's Rashaud Howard and the rest of the defense spent much of the evening chasing Klein speedsters Turbo Jordan and many more as the Klein 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 scored 136 points in two games, improved to 2-0 with the win over the Longhorns.

The University of St. Thomas men's cross-country team enjoyed a successful start to its season as the Celts 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.

September 18

Class of 2025 Dobie graduate Lauren Garza had already played a big role in the steady performance of the South-eastern Oklahoma State University women's cross-country program as she finished 19th overall in the Storm's fifth-place finish at the Aggie Duels in Lawton, Okla. to open the regular season.

Garza was top 20 in her collegiate debut and she finished at 19 minutes, 36.81 seconds.

A week later at the Incarnate Word Invitational in San Antonio, Garza helped her team to a seventh-place overall finish as she was 49th in a time of 19:47.9.

The season of the supertiebreaker continued for the Dobie varsity tennis as it fell 14-5 to Pearlard while missing out on opportunities to win as many as five of the matches during super tie breaker play.

While Longhorn head coach Manuel Moreno Jr. looks back at the missed chances, he knows it's all part of a continued learning experience for his young and inexperienced squad. "The kids continue to play hard and really give it their all out there on the court, and while we lost 19-0 to Shadow Creek, a lot of the matches were more competitive than they looked by the score," Moreno said.

"It was pretty much the same thing against Pearlard. We lost 14-5 overall but dropped five matches that went to a super tiebreaker. Maybe it's a stretch to think you could win all five of them, but if we would have, it would have swung the match in our favor. Losing those tight matches in super tie breakers has really been the theme of much of our season.

We have a young team, which obviously means a lot of these kids are playing varsity tennis for the first time. It all comes with experience."

September 25

With cross-country teams from across the state looking to streamline their operations in advance of district competitions in early October, a solid contingent of programs was in the mix as Dobie hosted its annual Longhorn Stampede Sept. 18.

Conroe Grand Oaks emerged as the team

champion in the varsity girls' division with a low of 75 points, followed by Friendswood, which came through with a low of 85 points. The Longhorn girls placed eighth, with 22-6A foes Pearlard and Alvin finishing ahead of them.

Sophomore Aracely Alvarado again led Dobie to the finish line as she was sixth overall with a time of 19:17.7. Isaura Correa's time of 20:28.0 had her finishing 20th, and Aliyah Sanchez was 52nd with a time of 21:38.0. Mikayla Rodriguez was next as her time of 21:47.5 placed her 55th. Destiny Sidiropoulos clocked in at 23:29.5 for 100th place, and Christina Rodriguez was 118th with her time of 24:09.6.

Goose Creek Memorial was the overall team champion in the varsity boys' division with a low of 88 points, narrowly edging second-place Pearlard, which got its five combined finishers across the line in 94 spots.

The Longhorn boys have worked through some injury issues seemingly each week to this point. At less than full strength again in this one, Dobie placed seventh as a team as sophomore Jordan Roman led the way with a 16th-place finish at 16 minutes, 54.3 seconds as he returned to the lineup after a near season-long ankle injury as he begins to tune up for the postseason.

Senior Johan Villavicencio was 20th overall as he clocked in with a time of 17:00.5. Angel Montiel, another sophomore, was 40th-best with a finish of 17:40.2, and Jorge Rodriguez delivered a time of 17:44.7 for 50th place. Matthew Dunn was 57th at 17:57.6, and Gevin Vega clocked in at 18:18.8 for 76th place.

Quarterback Holt Teichman threw touchdown passes to Noah Harris and Cade Griffin as Lutheran South improved to 3-1 overall ahead of its annual homecoming celebration with a 23-7 road victory at Anahuac Sept. 19. Carson Rocha also returned an interception 42 yards for a touchdown as the Pioneers shut down Anahuac in the second half and won for the third time in four overall games.

The Lutheran South Academy cross-country program held a small three-program invite Sept. 20 at Challenger 7 Memorial Park in Webster as the varsity girls came away with a team victory in the 3,200-meter event, topping Bay Area Christian and Concordia Lutheran.

Kennedy Farrell of Bay Area Christian was the top overall medalist at 14 minutes, 9.59 seconds as she edged out Lutheran South's Elizaset Hergenrader, who was second overall at 14:14.05. The other finishers for the champion Lutheran South squad included senior Carys Rodriguez, who was fourth at 14:44.22, followed by sophomore Jocelyn Rodriguez, who posted a time of 15:09.18 for sixth place.

Junior Amy Campbell was seventh in a time of 15:17.67, and the Pioneers' fifth official qualifier was senior Lainie Ward, who clocked in at 15:23.00 for 10th place overall.

The varsity boys' division covered a 5K course as Fort Bend Christian emerged as the team champion, scoring a meet low of 27 points. Lutheran South Academy was second with 42.

Fort Bend Christian's Elijah Savage was the top overall medalist as he clocked in at 16:21.18. Lutheran South junior Jeremy Gaitan was third overall in a time of 17:37.71, and junior Theron Ayala was fifth with his time of 17:57.29.

The Pioneers' Sam Hergenrader placed 10th with his clocking of 18:20.57, and 12th place



Senior Jessica Moise (2) came up with more than 50 kills up front for Dobie as she did more than her part at the net. Heading into a match against Alvin Sept. 23 to close out the first half of league play, both the Longhorns and Yellowjackets were 3-4 for a fifth-place tie in the standings.

went to LSA's Brock Boessling, a sophomore, who finished at 18:33.73. Lutheran South's fifth official finisher was Nicholas Pena, who was 16th with a time of 18:39.98.

October 2

The Battle of the Beltway trophy safely in house for another year, the Dobie varsity football team could turn its attention to the remainder of the District 22-6A race. Dobie, now 2-2 overall this season and 1-1 in league play after defeating the Mavericks 41-21 Sept. 26 for the eighth consecutive time in the Battle of the Beltway series, will face a Shark squad that will be looking to bounce back from a 30-27 loss to Dawson, also Sept. 26.

Shadow Creek defeated Dobie 56-15 last season at Freedom Field. Through the first three weeks of the 22-6A season, Dawson and Pearlard, both Pearlard ISD programs, have jumped to the front with identical 3-0 starts.

Shadow Creek is 2-1, while the Longhorns are tied with Rayburn at 1-1. Da'Marcus Hodges came up with a career performance against the Mavericks in the Longhorns' victory this time around, scoring five touchdowns in all while rushing for 250 yards.

The Dobie varsity boys'

and girls' cross-country teams delivered a pair of third-place finishes at the Pasadena Memorial Stampede as programs from across the state continued to prepare for the upcoming district competitions.

At Memorial, Deer Park was the easy winner of the team championship in the varsity boys' division, scoring a low of 34 points as junior Evan Melendez was second overall in a time of 16 minutes, 25.03 seconds. Teammate Joaquin Escobar placed fourth in a time of 16:38.09.

The Longhorns were third behind Clear Falls as Johan Villavicencio came up with a season best of 16:44.86 for sixth place, and Jordan Roman was eighth as he finished at 16:53.80. Freshman Robert Pheister was 10th with his time of 17:03.20, while sophomore Jorge Rodriguez finished 18th in a time of 17:34.45.

Dobie's fifth official scorer was sophomore Gevin Vega as he clocked in at 18:16.77 for 37th place. Magnolia brought just one runner to the event, but Parker Starnes was the overall top medalist as the junior finished with a time of 16:01.95.

The Dobie girls were also third as a team as they collected 77 points. Junior Aracely Alvara

do was fourth and she clocked in at 19:13.74, and Isaura Correa, a senior, placed 17th with her time of 20:30.31. Junior Aliyah Sanchez was 23rd with a time of 21:07.25, and sophomore Mikayla Rodriguez finished 32nd in a time of 22:02.07. Destiny Sidiropoulos was in at 22:52.50 for 43rd place.

October 9

Dobie senior Marcus Jones returned the opening kickoff against Shadow Creek for 51 yards to set the Longhorns up with terrific field position. Later, he returned another kickoff 92 yards for a touchdown as he continued to be one of the most dynamic return men in the Houston area. Jones and the Longhorns went on to lose the game to the Sharks.

Chloe Estes. Dulce Mejia. Jordan De Robles. Kevin Do. Tiffany Nguyen. Those five seniors led the way for the Dobie varsity tennis team as the Longhorns successfully reached the postseason in 2025, finishing fourth before a bidistrict playoff round loss to No. 5 state-ranked Clements Oct. 6.

What makes the names of those five players especially significant is that they may very well go down as the final senior group to play for legend-
Continued on Page 8



Dobie senior linebacker Rashaud Howard (7) snatched up a tipped pass and raced 39 yards for a touchdown to highlight the Longhorns' stellar defensive performance against Clear Brook and a season-opening blowout win.

down run) also turned in solid debut performances at the varsity level on the offensive side of things.

Senior linebacker Rashaud Howard came up with a big play on the defensive side for the Longhorns as he tipped a pass over the middle to himself and returned it 39 yards for a touchdown as the Dobie defense turned in a stellar effort.

Aracely Alvarado, Isaura Correa and Aliyah Sanchez all finished within the top nine to help the Dobie varsity girls' cross-country team win the Red Division team championship at the Charlie Goehring Invitational at South Houston High School.

Dobie sophomore Cruz Jasso, already the reigning individual gold medalist from District 22-6A, continued to grow his star power in 2025 as he was first to the finish line in the Red Division in a time of 16 minutes, 23.30 seconds to win gold at the Goehring event.

Senior Johan Villavicencio turned in an impressive run of his own of 16:46.90 to finish third overall as he also led the Longhorns to second place overall as a team.

The group from Goose

Creek Memorial High School was dominant in the event to win the team crown on the boys' side of things.

In the girls' race, Hazel Vowell of Fort Bend Travis was the overall gold medalist as she finished at a time of 19 minutes, 18.50 seconds. Jadyn Acuna of Fort Bend Elkins was second at 19 50.50, while Alvarado, a junior, was third with her clocking of 19:59.30. Correa, a senior, placed fourth at a time of 20:39.80, and Sanchez, a junior, placed 9th in a time of 21:37.20.

Dobie's effort was completed as sophomore Michaela Rodriguez posted a time of 22:27.60 for 12th place, and Skyler Mendiola, a junior, was 18th in a time of 23:00.50. Destiny Sidiropoulos, a sophomore, took 28th in a time of 22:53.50.

Junior Alyssa Espinosa and senior Kylar Joseph were All-Tournament selections after leading the Longhorns to the championship match in the Division I bracket of Dobie's own Longhorn Labor Day Classic.

Lutheran South Academy came away with a season-opening road win, downing Houston Christian 35-9 Aug. 29 to get

its 2025 season off to a rousing start. Joshua Pippillion came up big for the Pioneers in the first quarter as he returned an interception 38 yards for a touchdown. It would prove to be the first of many big plays to come for the Pioneers.

Making his varsity starting debut at quarterback, Holt Teichman had a 34-yard touchdown pass to Braeden Robinson, and Cortez Taylor added a 36-yard scoring run down the middle as the Pioneers continually hit Houston Christian with big plays for scores.

Teichman passed for 206 yards and a pair of touchdowns while completing 15 of his 21 attempts, and Robinson added six catches for 108 yards in the season opening win. Teichman also ran for a touchdown. Noah Harris also caught a scoring pass from Teichman.

Defensively, Pippillion had a fumble recovery in addition to his interception return, and Cade Griffin had a pair of quarterback sacks. The LSA defense limited Houston Christian to 109 yards of offense in the game and forced three turnovers.

The Lutheran South



The Dobie varsity girls' cross-country team, including, from left, sophomore Destiny Sidiropoulos, juniors Aliyah Sanchez, Skyler Mendiola and Aracely Alvarado, senior Isaura Correa and sophomore Mikayla Rodriguez combined to win

the Red Division team championship at the Charlie Goehring Invitational at South Houston High School. Alvarado (third place overall), Correa and Sanchez earned top-nine finishes along the way.

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CALENDAR

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29
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 Hollan at 713-472-0565 for appointment. Tours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 30
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.
8 p.m. **Serenity Now Al-Anon Group** - meets at CrossRoads UMC Fridays, 8 - 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.
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 Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays.
8 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous** - meets at CrossRoads UMC Wednesday, Friday and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call 281-484-9243.
8 p.m. **Beverly Hills Sharers Group AA** - meets at CrossRoads UMC Wednesday, Friday and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Call 281-484-9243.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31
7:30 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - See Thursday's notice.
9:30 a.m. **Congregation Shaar Hashalom** - All services are live and Zoom online. For details on the 7 p.m. Friday night or the 9:30 a.m. Saturday service, Judaism classes, film series, and lunch with the rabbi, visit <https://www.shaarhashalom.org>.
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, FEBRUARY 2
5 p.m. **New Directions** - Age 55 and older meets the first and third Mondays for a potluck dinner with activities and/or guest speakers at 600 Hobbs Road, League City, TX 77573, (community room). For further information, call Jill at 646-489-4367.
6 p.m. **Scrabble Club #511** - Meets Monday at Denny's, 19212 Gulf Freeway. Join the fun and improve crossword skills. COVID-19 vaccination required. Email huff_reunion@juno.com for info.
7 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - St. Luke's Group, 12-Step Recovery, open meeting Mondays, 7 p.m. in the Education Bldg. in room 6, at 11011 Hall Road, 77089. For details, call Rita at 281-309-2801.
7 p.m. **TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)** - #0683 Friendswood chapter meets at the Friendswood Methodist Church, 110 N. Friendswood Dr. in the educational bldg., room 201. For information, call Lynette Ringrose at 832-858-4617 or Dorothy Pourteau at 713-875-8820.
7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - See Friday's notice.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3
7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - See Thursday's notice.
11:30 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - See Sunday's notice.
6:30 - 7:30 p.m. **Southeast Houston Toastmasters** - The Southeast Houston Toastmasters Club #05324194 meets virtually with the exception of the second and fourth Tuesdays (hybrid meeting) at sehouston.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.

7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - See Friday's notice.
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4
7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - See Thursday's notice.
Carmelites - a nondenominational senior citizen social group meeting at St. Bernadette Catholic Church, 15500 El Camino Real, in Clear Lake on the first and third Wednesdays for a time filled with fun, fellowship, lending library with books and puzzles, coffee and bingo. The meetings are open to those ages 55 and older, with no dues. Day trips and extended trips available. Deposits are now being taken for Poland. For details, call Marilyn at 713-444-6744.
Noon **AA - Imperfect Nooners**. See Friday's notice.
Noon **Ballroom Dancing** - casual ballroom dance, open to the public, held every Wednesday afternoon from 12:30 to 3 p.m. at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 East League City Parkway, League City. Everyone is welcome to come with or without a partner. The dance itself is free as music is provided by volunteer, Neva Schroder. The city requires an activity card for participants in all of the city's many activities. Call the park office 281-554-1180 for answers to any questions regarding the activity card. Visitors are welcome to walk in to observe or participate.
7 p.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - See Sunday's notice.
7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - See Friday's notice.
8 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous** - See Friday's notice.
8 p.m. **Beverly Hills Sharers Group AA** - See Friday's notice.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5
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 Hollan at 713-472-0565 for appointment. Tours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Clear Brook Varsity Softball Schedule

Jan. 30 at Crosby scrimmage 7 p.m.
Feb 3 Manvel scrimmage 6 p.m.
Feb 7 HCYA scrimmage 12:30 p.m.

Regular Season

Feb. 9 at Clear Brook 6 p.m.
Feb. 12-14 at CSE Classic TBA
Feb. 17 at Lutheran South 6 p.m.
Feb 19-21 Clear Creek ISD Classic TBA
Feb. 24 Episcopal 6 p.m.
Feb. 27 at Iowa Colony 6:30 p.m.
March 3 *at Clear Springs 6:30 p.m.
March 6 *Dickinson 6:45 p.m.
March 10 *at Deer Park 1 p.m.
March 13 *Clear Creek 6:30 p.m.
March 17 *at Clear Falls 6:30 p.m.
March 20 *at Clear Lake 6:30 p.m.
March 24 *Brazoswood 6:30 p.m.
March 27 *Clear Springs 6:30 p.m.
March 31 *at Dickinson 6:45 p.m.
April 2 *Deer Park 6:30 p.m.
April 7 *at Clear Creek 6:30 p.m.
April 10 *Clear Falls 6:30 p.m.
April 14 *Clear Lake 6:30 p.m.
April 17 *at Brazoswood 6:30 p.m.
*District 24-6A games

Clear Brook Varsity Baseball Schedule

Jan. 31 at Lutheran South scrimm. 11 a.m.
Feb. 2 La Porte scrimm. 4 p.m.
Feb. 6 at Pasadena Memorial scrimm. 3:30 p.m.
Feb. 9 at Fort Bend Travis scrimm. 4:30 p.m.
Feb. 13 at Dobie scrimm. 3:30 p.m.

Regular Season

Feb. 16 Pasadena Memorial 7 p.m.
Feb. 19-21 TBA
Feb. 23 at St. Thomas 6 p.m.
Feb. 26-28 at Clear Creek ISD Classic TBA
March 2 at Barbers Hill 6 p.m.
March 5-7 at Baytown Invitational TBA
March 10 *at Clear Springs 1 p.m.
March 13 *Clear Springs 1 p.m.
March 17 *Dickinson 6 p.m.
March 20 *Dickinson 6 p.m.
March 24 *at Deer Park 7 p.m.
March 27 *Deer Park 6 p.m.
March 31 *Clear Creek 6 p.m.
April 2 *at Clear Creek p.m.
April 7 *at Clear Falls 6 p.m.
April 10 *Clear Falls 6 p.m.
April 14 *Clear Lake 6 p.m.
April 17 *at Clear Lake 6 p.m.
April 21 *Brazoswood 6 p.m.
April 24 *at Brazoswood 7 p.m.
*District 24-6A games

Dobie Varsity Baseball Schedule

Jan. 31 at Summer Creek scrimm. 11 a.m.
Feb. 2 at Clear Falls scrimm. 4 p.m.
Feb. 6 at Baytown Sterling scrimm. 4 p.m.
Feb. 10 at La Porte scrimm. 4 p.m.
Feb. 13 Clear Brook scrimm. 3:30 p.m.

Regular Season

Feb. 16 at Goose Creek Memorial 3:30 p.m.
Feb. 19-21 at Laredo Border Olympics TBA
Feb. 26-28 at Pasadena ISD Classic TBA
March 3 *Dawson 4 p.m.
March 3-5 at Baytown Invitational TBA
March 6 *at Dawson 6 p.m.
March 14 *at Pasadena Memorial 11 a.m.
March 17 *Pasadena Memorial 4 p.m.
March 20 *Shadow Creek 4 p.m.
March 21 *at Shadow Creek 11 a.m.
March 24 *at Pearland 6 p.m.
March 27 *Pearland 4 p.m.
March 31 *South Houston 4 p.m.
April 2 *at South Houston 4 p.m.
April 7 *Sam Rayburn 4 p.m.
April 10 *at Sam Rayburn (Maguire) 4 p.m.
April 14 *Alvin 4 p.m.
April 17 *at Alvin 6 p.m.
April 21 *at Manvel 6 p.m.
April 24 *Manvel 4 p.m.
*District 22-6A games

Leader continues look back at South Belt’s 2025 memories in athletics

Continued from Page 6
ary Dobie head coach Manuel Moreno Jr., who continues to mull retirement. “I am really proud of the group overall this season,” Moreno said. “We knew coming into the season that we were going to be young and inexperienced and face some challenges against some of the tougher opponents that we play each season, but I really do feel like we improved each and every day out on the court. Perhaps a great example of the daily improvement came as Moreno said No. 2 boys’ singles player Logan Pham played his best singles match of the season against one of the area’s top players. Some of the match scores maybe don’t do a good job of indicating such, but a lot of the matches were closer than they appeared. We had a challenge with winning super tiebreakers throughout the year and I really feel like we could have won more matches had we come through in some of those situations. “Overall, I am just very proud to have coached these young men and women and look forward to seeing what they can do out there on the court this spring. It’s always sad to see the team tennis season come to a close, but I really feel like we represented Pasadena ISD well as the only team that made the playoffs for my school district, so we are excited to have once again carried the torch, if you will.” Lamar University volleyball standout Alexa Gonzalez last reached 1,000 career assists for the Cardinals as she has been the program’s primary ball distributor since her arrival on campus as a freshman prior to the 2024-2025 season. Gonzalez, a Class of 2024 Dobie High School graduate, currently has 444 assists through 19 matches as the Cardinals had gone 8-11 overall, including 1-3 in Southland Conference play. The Cardinals would be back in action Oct. 9 as they play at McNeese. Gonzalez is one of the top producing players in Dobie program history as she is among the leaders in assists and kills for her career. The Sagemont Cowboys and Cowgirls celebrated their annual homecoming week by honoring its 2025 court champions. The winners included the prince Bentley Banhart, princess Maya Solis, king Kevin Richardson and queen Anaya Hernandez. At 22-6 prior to play Oct. 7, the Lutheran South Academy varsity volleyball program had run out to a 4-0 record within the district as part of what has been a terrific regular season to this point.

Sophomore Addy Musgrove continued to lead the way in kills with 245 for the season, with another 232 coming from senior Aniston Collins. Sophomore Charlie Marsico led the way with digs at 277, followed by Musgrove with 174 and Collins with 132. Musgrove was the Pioneers’ assist leader with 377, followed by Collins with another 340. The Lutheran South Academy cross-country program competed at the St. John’s Maverick Ramble Oct. 4 at Spring Creek Park as the varsity boys’ team finished 13th in the 17-team field. In the 5,000-meter varsity boys’ division, Pioneer sophomore Jeremy Gaitan led the way as he was 42nd with a time of 17 minutes, 21.5 seconds. Theron Ayala of Lutheran South placed 60th at a time of 17:39.1, and teammate Sam Hergenrader placed 81st at 18:05.2. The Pioneers’ other official scorers included Nicholas Pena, 84th in a time of 18:11.2, and Brock Boessling, whose time of 18:41.3 placed him 99th overall.

October 16
Going scoreless in the second half, the Dobie varsity football program again found The Rig in Pearland to be a tough place to win as the undefeated Pearland Oilers continued their march toward a possible 22-6A championship with a 43-23 victory over the Longhorns Oct. 10. The Longhorns got a touchdown throw and catch from quarterback Jalen Miles to Nathaniel Belleville as well as a pair of field goals from Nathanael Campos to stay within striking range in the first half against Pearland but then went scoreless over the final 24 minutes while falling to 1-3 in league play. Dobie sophomore Jordan Roman was the varsity boys’ overall gold medalist as he captured the individual title at the District 22-6A Cross-Country Championships Oct. 9 at Dobie main. Posting a time of 16 minutes, 22.62 seconds over the 5,000-meter course, Roman out-distanced second-place finisher Nathaniel Hubenak of Manvel, who was second at 16:34.20. Bao Nguyen of Pasadena ISD’s Kirk Lewis Career and Technical High School was third. Dobie senior Johan Villavicencio was sixth overall in a time of 17:05.64 despite, in his own estimation, not running his best time, and sophomore Jorge Rodriguez just missed out on a top 10 spot, settling for 11th overall with his time of 17:13.99. Junior Aracely Alvarado of Dobie ran a terrific race at the 22-6A Championships to qualify for the regional competition and will now look to improve upon her time of 19 minutes, 14.90 seconds.

Lutheran South Academy’s Case Noack was crowned king and Leah Samour queen as the Pioneers hosted their annual homecoming celebration highlighted by the announcement of the homecoming court winners during half-time of LSA’s varsity football game versus St. John’s Sept. 26. Photo by Trish Thomas, Imaging Studios

Dobie graduate and current Lamar University sophomore volleyball setter Alexa Gonzalez was named the Setter of the Week in the Southland Conference after leading the Cardinals to a string of victories. With the Cardinals earning wins over Incarnate Word and Houston Christian to extend their winning streak to five matches, Gonzalez tallied 55 assists, two kills, two service aces and 17 digs. Victoria Rivera, a former two-time district Most Valuable Player during a star-studded varsity basketball career at Dobie, was set to begin her senior season at Georgetown University as the Hoyas opened the regular season Nov. 6 against Stonehill College at home at McDonough Arena. Rivera as a junior played in 30 games overall, including 27 starts and averaged 10.5 points per game to go with 3.2 rebounds per game.

October 30
A thorough 49-14 victory over Sam Rayburn had the Dobie varsity football team back to 500 at 4-4 heading into the most important two-week stretch of the 2025 season. The Texans moved the football just across mid field midway through the first quarter before Dobie linebacker Rashaud Howard forced a fumble that was recovered by teammate Orlando Gomez to give the Longhorns possession of the ball. The Longhorns proceeded to methodically move down the field to score the first points of the game as the Texans looked on. Dobie put together a 64-yard drive that consumed more than six minutes and the rest of the opening quarter before Adrian Taylor scored on a 3-yard touchdown run on the first play of the second quarter to give his team a 7-0 lead. Rayburn gained just four yards on its next possession and then snapped the ball over the punter’s head. A relatively short punt resulted in the Longhorns taking possession at the Texans’ 49. Hodges ran for 16 yards on the first play of the series and then ran up the gut for 26 more yards. Senior quarterback Titus Howard took a direct snap and ran 12 yards for the touchdown with eight minutes, 40 seconds to go in the second quarter as the locals took a 14-0 lead. The Dobie varsity cross-country program completed its 2025 season with a fourth straight appearance at the Region III Championships Oct. 20 at Kate Barr Ross Memorial Park in Huntsville. Sophomore Jordan Roman was the Longhorn boys’ top finisher as he was 47th overall in the 5,000-meter course in a time of 17 minutes 07.20 seconds. Senior Johan Villavicencio completed his solid cross-country career as he was 106th in a time of 18:10.60. The Longhorns’ other finishers included freshman Robert Pheister, 123rd in a time of 18:31.70; Jorge Rodriguez, who was 136th at 18:47.50; Wilfredo Chinchilla, 151st at 19:22.30 and Matthew Dunn, 172nd with his time of 20:07.20. In the varsity girls’ 5,000-meter event, Dobie junior Aracely Alvarado was 21st overall as she ran to the finish line in a time of 19:28.40.

Junior Aracely Alvarado of Dobie ran a terrific race at the 22-6A Championships to qualify for the regional competition and will now look to improve upon her time of 19 minutes, 14.90 seconds.

Lutheran South’s Noack, Samour crowned



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SBYSC continues registration

The South Belt Youth Soccer Club continues registration for the spring 2026 season, with U4 through U20 age divisions available to players at southbeltsoccer.org. Regular registration prices began Jan. 16, 2025. Players in the U4 through U8 divisions will pay \$95 at regular registration rate, while the fee is \$105 for the U9 and U10 divisions. The fee is \$115 for the U11 and U12 divisions. The U13 through U20 players may register for \$125 per player. Visit www.southbeltsoccer.org for additional details.

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