

MUD trash times may vary

Due to a major county construction project, trash collection times may vary in the coming weeks for Clear Brook City MUD residents, officials said. To ensure trash pickup, residents should have their trash curbside no later than 6 a.m. Mondays and Thursdays, as collection crews will be working in coordination with construction crews and may arrive earlier than they traditionally did. All Texas Pride Disposal trucks have cameras for verification. This will continue until the road improvement work is complete. Services will not be interrupted.

A project of Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia, the massive undertaking will make street and traffic repairs to nearly 100 roads in the Clear Brook City MUD. Work is being done in the Sageglen, Sagemeadow, Highland Meadow and Wood Meadow subdivisions. Many roads may be diverted or made a temporary one-way street. Drivers are urged to use caution and watch for detour signs. Commuters are urged to avoid construction areas when possible.

Freeway Manor to meet

Freeway Manor Civic Club will hold a meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 22, at One Movement Bible Church (Bible Way Church), 10120 Hartsook. Due to the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays, this will be the group's last meeting of the year. Typically held the fourth Thursday of the month, meetings will resume next year on Thursday, Jan. 28. Residents of Freeway Manor, Sun Valley and Gulfway Terrace are encouraged to attend. For additional information, visit www.FreewayManorCivicClub.com.

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.

Sagemont done for 2026

There will be no more Sagemont Civic Club meetings for the remainder of the year due to scheduling conflicts.

Typically held the first Tuesday of the month, the November civic club meeting date falls on Election Day. Civic club leaders encourage residents to exercise their right to vote.

December's meeting has been canceled due to the Christmas holidays. Meetings will resume in 2027, with the first function taking place Tuesday, Jan. 5.

New Covenant expands hours

New Covenant Christian Church, 10603 Blackhawk at Kirkfair, has expanded its food distribution hours. In its efforts to provide food to local people in need, the church will now have food distribution events the first and third Wednesday of the month from noon to 2 p.m. and the second and fourth Saturday of the month from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. or until supplies last. 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.

Kirkwood to meet Oct. 26

The Kirkwood Civic Club's monthly meeting will take place at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 26, at the Sagemont Community Center, 11507 Hughes Road near Beltway 8. Meetings are typically held for the last Monday of the month. For additional information, call Kirkwood Civic Club President Ericka McCutcheon at 281-989-9990.

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.

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.

Beverly Hills to meet Nov. 6

Beverly Hills Civic Club will host a meeting Friday, Nov. 6, at the Beverly Hills Park community center, located at 10201 Kingspoint Rd., from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. All Beverly Hills residents are welcome to attend.

South Belters celebrate fall, Halloween

Several local events planned to take place in the South Belt community

The autumn season is here, and several local organizations, schools and churches across the South Belt community have officially announced their public family events for the coming weeks.

From trunk-or-treat events to aviation adventures, residents have a variety of safe, family-friendly options to celebrate across the neighborhood.

The following is the schedule of publicly

announced fall and Halloween events taking place in the South Belt area for the 2026 season (in chronological order):

– **Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia (Saturday, Oct. 24):** Due to early voting, this year's Precinct 2 Trunk or Treat event has moved. This year's event will take place at San Jacinto College South, 13735 Beamer. Now in its fourth year, the event will take place from 4:30 to 7 p.m.

– **Lone Star Flight Museum (Saturday, Oct. 24):** The museum, located at 11551 Aerospace Ave., hosts its popular annual Halloween in the Hangar from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Children aged 10 and under who arrive in costume receive free admission. The aviation-themed celebration features trick-or-treating among historic aircraft, pumpkin catapult challenges, bat glider building, and pumpkin parachute drops.

– **CrossRoads UMC (Saturday, Oct. 24):** CrossRoads United Methodist Church, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd., will host a community Trunk or Treat from 6 to 8 p.m. Organizers invite families to enjoy an evening of candy, costumes, decorated vehicles and family activities. The event is open to the public.

– **Sagemont Church (Sunday, Oct. 25):** Sagemont Church, 11300 Beltway 8, will host its Fall Family Fun Night from 5 to 7 p.m. at the cross on campus at the church grounds. The event is free and open to the general public. It will feature a large Trunk-or-Treat, inflatables, food trucks and family giveaways.

– **H-E-B Blackhawk (Wednesday, Oct. 28):** In partnership with the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce, the H-E-B location at 9828 Blackhawk Blvd. will host its community Trunk or Treat event from 5 to 7 p.m., offering a safe outdoor trick-or-treating environment for local neighborhood children.

– **Melillo Middle School (Thursday, Oct. 29):** Dr. Dixie Melillo Middle School, located at 9220 Hughes Road, has officially scheduled

a public community Trunk or Treat from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

– **Atkinson Elementary (Friday, Oct. 30):** Atkinson Elementary, located at 9602 Kingspoint Road, is welcoming families to its annual Fall Festival from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. The campus event includes games, food and an "all you can play" activity wristband option.

– **Independence Park (Saturday, Oct. 31):** Just a short drive away, Independence Park, located at 3449 Pearland Parkway, will host its 15th annual Trick or Treat Trail on Halloween night from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Free and open to the public, the event will feature local businesses lining the trail to hand out treats, alongside food trucks and inflatables.

Changes and cancellations

Several traditional venues have altered their programming this year. San Jacinto College has consolidated its seasonal public activities to the North campus (hosting a Fall Fest on Oct. 30), meaning no public autumn festival will take place at the South campus this season.

Additionally, Space Center Houston is not running its Galaxy Frights weekend program this October, focusing instead on daytime STEM camps.

Due to ongoing space constraints, the Southeast Fire Department will also skip its historical community Halloween gathering.

In a break from tradition, there is no publicly listed trick-or-treat event at Almeda Mall scheduled for this year.

NASA to fly at annual airshow

Event to celebrate America's 250th anniversary

NASA will maintain a heavy presence at the 42nd annual Wings Over Houston Airshow, set for Oct. 31-Nov. 1 at Ellington Airport.

One of Houston's largest annual outdoor events, this year's show features a T-38 flyover demonstration, marking the first in-air appearance of a NASA T-38 jet at the airshow. Additional participation includes the Freedom 250 F-5 jet team and an MiG-29UB Fulcrum flown by NASA Administrator Jared Isaacman.

Isaacman created the five-jet Freedom 250 F-5 team to celebrate America's 250th birthday, and the jets sport a commemorative red, white and blue paint scheme. Isaacman will also fly an MiG-29UB, a two-seat trainer version of the Soviet-designed fighter, in a solo afterburner demonstration, then join the F-5s in a five-ship formation.

"Houston is Space City, and NASA aircraft have called Ellington home for decades," said Bill Roach, executive director of Wings Over Houston. "This year, our guests can experience that legacy up close, from the Freedom 250 jets roaring overhead to NASA aircraft they can walk right up to on the ramp. Clear Lake-area residents are seeing them fly over their homes and businesses, but not up this close."

On the ground, NASA will have a large presence on the show grounds, including a T-38 on static display and a 30-foot interactive. NASA's mobile exhibit delivers an im-

mersion multimedia experience highlighting Johnson Space Center's programs, and features high-resolution displays, hands-on activities, a spacesuit photo opportunity and a touchable Moon rock.

Ellington is home to NASA Johnson Space Center's aircraft operations, including the T-38 jets used for astronaut training, the WB-57 high-altitude research aircraft and the Gulfstream V research jet. The fleet also includes the Super Guppy, which carries oversized spacecraft hardware and is based at El Paso International Airport.

The U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds headline the event. Other performers include the United Airlines 777 demonstration; the U.S. Air Force C-17 Globemaster III, KC-46A Pegasus and KC-135 Stratotanker; Tora! Tora! Tora!; the RE/MAX Skydive Team; Shane McGillis Aerobatics; the NextGen Eagles aerobatic team; The Pink Jet; and a Vietnam Heritage Tribute led by the Collings Foundation's F-4D Phantom II, the world's only airworthy example.

Other special elements of this year's event include a drive-in-style show Friday, Oct. 30; the Legends & Heroes tent; and the Veterans Business Marketplace.

To learn more about ticket options, display aircraft, event attractions, travel accommodations, sponsorship or volunteer opportunities, visit www.wingsoverhouston.com.

Chamber holds Blingo event



Bingo met fashion Thursday, Oct. 8, as dozens joined together for the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce's second annual Designer Purse Blingo event at the Hope Village Event Center in Friendswood. Shown above reveling at the function are, left to right, Misty Jacobs (One Stop Tents & Events), Shannon McLemore (Home Bank), Nina Leal (One Stop Tents & Events), Sarah Ferguson (HomeBank) and Wendy Drapela (One Stop Tents & Events). See related photos on Page 2.

Photo by Bruce Summers

Early voting currently underway

City, county, state, federal races on Nov. 3 ballot

South Belt area residents can now cast their ballots as early voting is underway for the Nov. 3 general and special elections.

Early voting began Oct. 19 and continues through Friday, Oct. 30, giving voters nearly two weeks to vote before Election Day.

The Nov. 3 ballot includes contests for federal, state and county offices, as well as a Houston charter amendment that would address marijuana enforcement priorities and no-knock search warrants.

Because of recent congressional redistricting changes, election officials encourage voters to review their sample ballots and verify their voting districts before heading to the polls.

Several early voting locations convenient to South Belt area residents include the following sites:

– Harris County Marie Flickinger Adminis-

tration Building (former county annex), Library Meeting Room, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd., Suite 510

– El Franco Lee Community Center, Auditorium, 9500 Hall Road

– BakerRipley Pasadena Campus, Gym, 720 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena

– Freeman Branch Library, Meeting Room, 16616 Diana Lane

– University of Houston-Clear Lake, Bayou Building, University Drive

Voters may cast ballots at any Harris County early voting location regardless of their precinct.

A complete list of polling locations, sample ballots and additional election information is available at www.harrisvotes.com.

Election Day is Nov. 3, but voters wishing to avoid potential lines or scheduling conflicts have until Oct. 30 to take advantage of early voting.

Legislative candidates address voters

Bowen, Wittliff compete for 129 seat vacated by Dennis Paul

A full house turned out at the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership's Clear Lake headquarters Wednesday, Oct. 7, for a state House District 129 candidate forum hosted by the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce, along with the Pasadena and Clear Lake chambers of commerce.

Despite the event's 4:30 p.m. weekday start time, the room was packed with community leaders, business representatives, interested voters and several current and former elected officials eager to hear from Republican Scott Bowen and Democrat Albert Wittliff.

The race has attracted heightened attention because House District 129 is open for the first time in more than a decade following Dennis Paul's decision to seek election to Texas Senate District 11. Paul, who has represented the district since 2015, is running for the seat currently held by Mayes Middleton, who is pursuing the office of Texas attorney general. Middleton's bid was prompted by Attorney General Ken Paxton's decision to run for the U.S. Senate, creating a chain of openings that has reshaped Republican politics across southeast Texas.

House District 129 encompasses much of the Bay Area and Clear Lake region, including portions of Houston, Seabrook, Webster, League City and Friendswood. The district has been represented by Republicans for decades,

including former Rep. John Davis and, most recently, Dennis Paul.

The forum gave voters an opportunity to compare two candidates with sharply different backgrounds but a shared goal of becoming the district's next voice in Austin.

Bowen touts local roots

Bowen, a former Clear Creek ISD trustee, described himself as a lifelong resident of District 129 with deep ties to the community.

Bowen graduated from Clear Creek ISD schools, earned a chemical engineering degree from Texas A&M University and later completed an MBA at Rice University. He currently works as an engineer in Texas' energy sector.

Bowen's political involvement began as a volunteer on Dennis Paul's first legislative campaign. He later served as a Harris County Republican precinct chair and held several leadership positions within the local GOP. From 2019 to 2025, he served on the Clear Creek ISD board of trustees, where he campaigned for parental rights, fiscal responsibility, government transparency and lower tax rates.

Bowen told forum attendees he wants to focus on strengthening the economy, supporting schools, addressing rising insurance costs and continuing conservative governance in Austin.

Wittliff emphasizes military background

Continued on Page 4

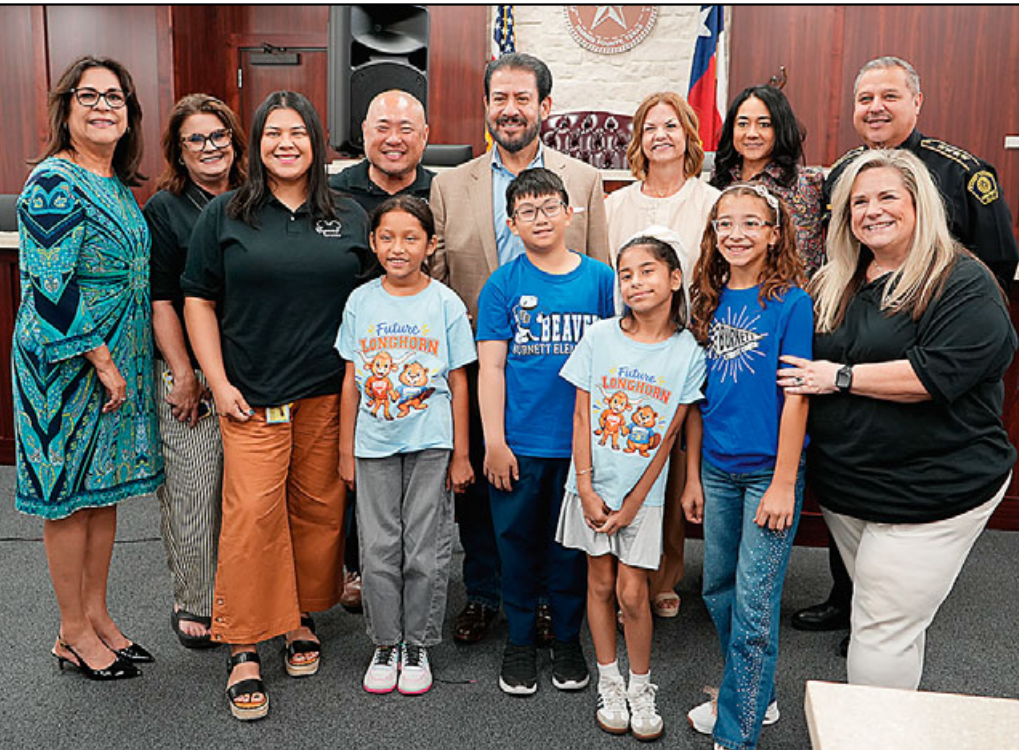
Beamer repairs underway



A Houston District D project is currently underway to make roadway improvements to Beamer north of Beltway 8. According to District D officials, scheduled work involves making mill and overlay improvements along the area thoroughfare from Beltway 8 to Fuqua. The endeavor is similar to another District D project that recently made such improvements on Beamer to the south between Dixie Farm Road to El Dorado Boulevard.

Photo by James Bolen

Burnett students attend Flickinger dedication



Burnett Elementary School Student Council members attended the dedication ceremony for the Marie Flickinger Administration Building, meeting community leaders and learning about the importance of leadership and service to the South Belt community. Left to right are (front row) Karina Diaz (counselor), student council members Elise

Barron, Anthony Hoang, Jaylynn Aviles, Lianna Rangel, Jessica Arnold (ESL teacher), (back row) Judge Jo Ann Delgado, Melissa Hickman (assistant principal), Jae Lee (principal), Commissioner Adrian Garcia, Dr. Toni Lopez (Pasadena ISD superintendent), Dr. Alyta Harrell (Pasadena ISD chief of schools) and Constable Jerry Garcia.

In My Opinion

King urges community to exercise early voting

Early voting for the November 3 election starts today. It will continue through October 30. Polling places are open every day from 7AM to 7PM except for Sunday, October 25, when they will open at noon.

You can vote at any one of sixty-eight early vote locations spread throughout the county. You can use this link, <https://www.harrisvotes.com/Voter/Whats-on-my-Ballot> to plan whom you want to vote for. If you are unfamiliar with using the voting machines, particularly how to insert and deposit your paper ballot-this is a link to a video on this site that will walk you through how to use it, <https://www.harrisvotes.com/Voter/Election-Information>.

Remember that you will need to show one of the photo IDs allowed by the State. Of course, your driver's license is acceptable.

I always strongly encourage people to vote early. It is almost always more convenient than voting on Election Day, and it is just too easy to get busy on Election Day and not get around to voting. Also, ignore any of the knuckleheads who tell you your vote will not be counted unless you vote on election day.

Sometimes you will find long lines at popular voting locations, like West Gray. If you run into that situation, you can use the voting location map on your phone to find another nearby location. So, be flexible about where you vote.

One last request. Please thank the election workers at the polls. They are paid very little for being at the polls for long hours. Our elections would not be possible without those who volunteer for this duty.

Bill King

Dobie fine arts presents the musical "Grease"

Dobie High School brings the beloved story to life with energetic cast ready to transport one back to Rydell High with "Grease," the musical. Performances run Nov. 5, 6 and 7 at 7 p.m. in the Dobie auditorium. Get tickets now to secure one's seat for an evening of entertainment that the whole family can enjoy. Tickets prices are students \$10 and adults \$15 (no cash). For ticket information, visit www.successfund.com/54vz.

Friendsgiving returns to South Belt/Ellington

The community is invited to gather for Friendsgiving on Tuesday, Nov. 24, at The Gardens Houston, 12001 Beamer Road. The Friendsgiving potluck luncheon will be held from noon to 2 p.m., with guests bringing a favorite dish to share. Luncheon attendees receive VIP access to the pre-Black Friday market from 9 a.m. to noon, before the market opens to the public from 2 to 5 p.m. Registration is now open for vendors and local businesses interested in participating in the pre-Black Friday market. Proceeds benefit the South Belt-Ellington Toy and Food Drive. For information, call or text Kay Barbour at 713-419-3545.

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/> 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.

The following events are scheduled for Bracewell Library:

Thursday, Oct. 22, 11 a.m. – noon. Senior social hour: It's all about connection. Registration required.

Thursday, Oct. 22, 4 – 5 p.m. Lego club. Registration required.

Saturday, Oct. 24, 2 – 4 p.m. Saturdays at HPL. Registration required.

Monday, Oct. 26, 10:15 – 11:15 a.m. Bring family to storytime. Registration required.

Tuesday, Oct. 27, 4 – 5 p.m. Family craft adventure. Registration required.

Wednesday, Oct. 28, 6 – 7 p.m. Unplug for a night of family fun. 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 at 10851 Scarsdale Blvd. Customers are encouraged to visit the building to browse, check out and return materials, use the computers and Wi-Fi, and check out holds. 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 more information. One can also visit social media links are Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary and Instagram.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary.

The following events are scheduled for Parker Williams Library:

Thursday, Oct. 22, 10:15 – 10:45 a.m. Toddler time.

Saturday, Oct. 24, 10:15 a.m. – noon. Tai Chi.

Saturday, Oct. 24, 1 – 2:30 p.m. Korean language music class. Registration required.

Monday, Oct. 26, 1 – 2:30 p.m. Basic computer classes with Harris County universal services. Registration required.

Monday, Oct. 26, 1 – 2 p.m. ESL classes (various levels).

Wednesday, Oct. 28, 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Tai Chi.

Wednesday, Oct. 28, 6 – 7:30 p.m. Pathway to citizenship. Registration required.

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 additional information, visit www.hcpl.net.

Erika Sabine Schupbach Meyer



Erika Sabine Schupbach Meyer passed away peacefully on Oct. 12, 2026, at the age of 91.

Erika was born on May 23, 1935, in Germany to Robert and Martha Schupbach. Proud of her Swiss heritage, she returned with her family to Switzerland in 1945, where she would spend her formative years.

It was in Switzerland that Erika met Erhard Meyer, the man she would marry and with whom she would build a life filled with family, adventure and memo-

ries. Before their marriage, Erika and Erhard embarked on an unforgettable journey through Africa, traveling and hiking through several countries, including Morocco. Among their many adventures was an occasion when Erhard suffered heatstroke and was helped by members of a local community. Erika loved recounting the stories of their travels, memories that remained dear to her throughout her life.

In 1962, Erika and Erhard immigrated to the United States, where they raised their family both in Garden Villas and Sagemont. They established a new chapter in their lives while maintaining their connection to their Swiss heritage.

Erika worked for Foley's for ten years before retiring. Prior to Foley's, she also worked at Houston ISD as a cafeteria cashier.

Above all, Erika was a mother. She was an independent woman who approached life in her own way. She loved music and dancing, enjoyed playing the accordion and had a special appreciation for plants and gardening. Her yard was a reflection of the pride she took in her surroundings, meticulously maintained and cared for.

Erika was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; and her son, Dieter Meyer.

She is survived by her son, Daniel Meyer; her daughter, Irene, and her husband, John Crabb; daughter-in-law Pamela Wilson Meyer; and her grandchildren Taylor Cook and her partner Anna Foulds, Alyssa Meyer Schoenfeld and her husband Cain and Travis Cook; along with extended family.

Erika's life and the memories she created will remain with those who knew and loved her.

Service arrangements will be announced at a later date.

Roger Nasher Rivers

Roger Nasher Rivers, passed away peacefully into the arms of Jesus his savior on Oct. 10, 2026, at Avir Nursing Home in Pasadena at the age of 90.

Born October 1935 in Rochester, N.Y., Roger was the youngest son of the late John and Bessie (nee Daw-



ley) Rivers.

After the passing of his mother in 1983, with whom he lived in Rochester, he moved to Houston where he lived with his sister and brother-in-law. He was a loving caregiver to his late brother-in-law, N.K. Shankar and younger sister, Diana Shankar. Roger was a dependable, jovial and gentle soul. He loved Jesus, his family, friends, McDonalds coffee, Whataburger, Cheddar's fried fish dinners and anything sweet. He enjoyed watching sermons, reading scripture, playing the piano and singing hymns.

Roger served his country after enlisting in the Navy in 1953. He was honorably discharged in 1956 and went

on to hold several different jobs. He especially enjoyed delivering Dannon Yogurt to locals stores in the Rochester area in the late 70s.

Roger had seven siblings and was preceded in death by his older brothers Frank Rivers, Robert Rivers, and by older sisters Geraldine Harrold and Gloria Haig.

He is survived by his older brother John Rivers, younger sisters Diana Shankar and Cheryl (Ron) Rucker; and by numerous nieces; nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews. He will be greatly missed by his family and friends.

A military burial and service will be held later in October at the Houston National Cemetery.

Leader obituary policy

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

Chamber of Commerce hosts 2nd annual Designer Purse Blingo event



Pasadena ISD staff shown above are, left to right, Dr. Alyta Harrell, associate superintendent; Traci Powell, executive director for academic achievement; and Dr. Toni Lopez, superintendent. See related photo on Page 1.



Summers Photography was named Business of the Quarter. Shown above are, left to right, Quinzell Washington, Kenny Fernandez, Bruce Summers, Andrew Salem, Noble Alix Jr. and Brandon Brooks.



Celebrity waiter Christian Bionat (San Jacinto College) works for his tips as part of a fundraiser for the chamber's annual scholarship fund. For his part, Bionat received a \$100 Perry's Steakhouse gift card. In all, \$3,800 was raised.

Stuchbery names honor roll, merit roll

Officials of Stuchbery Elementary School have announced the first nine-weeks honor roll and merit roll for the 2026-2027 school year.

Third grade Honor roll

Jade Garrett, Valentina Rodriguez, Aliah Rosaes, Ivan Velazquez and Dixon Jodway.

Merit roll

Cassidy Baines, Jordan

Brown, Tamara Kamau, Luke Oliva, Dylan Contretas, Kezia Gomez, Sofia Martinez and Gianna Vidal.

Fourth grade Honor roll

Sebastian Dominguez and Izzabella Ross.

Merit roll

Xander Torres, Andrew Enriquez, Athena Carrera, Itzae Ramirez and Autumn Jones.



ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST
Catholic Church
Rev. Douglas J. Guthrie, Pastor
Rev. Antonio Cisneros, Parochial Vicar
11011 Hall Rd.
(between Beamer & Blackhawk)
www.stlukes catholic.com

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil	5:30 p.m.
Sunday	8 a.m. and 10 a.m.
Sunday	12:30 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
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 Christian Based Child Care
Now Enrolling



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

Deaths

Before their marriage, Erika and Erhard embarked on an unforgettable journey through Africa, traveling and hiking through several countries, including Morocco. Among their many adventures was an occasion when Erhard suffered heatstroke and was helped by members of a local community. Erika loved recounting the stories of their travels, memories that remained dear to her throughout her life.

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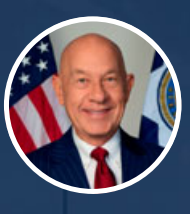


At left, from left to right are (front row) Shannon McLemore, Barbara Bagwell, Jenny Taylor, Karen Keesler, (back row) Nina Leal, Ashley Stringer, Sarah Ferguson, Christian Bionat, Wendy Drapela, Misty Jacobs and Kenny Fernandez.

ADRIAN'S REPORT CARD

- ✓ Cut property taxes for seniors & disabled people 6 of the last 7 years
- ✓ Deployed mobile health care units to deliver affordable healthcare
- ✓ Added hundreds of houses and apartments families can afford
- ✓ Started VIPER Task Force to take violent offenders off our streets
- ✓ Secured half a billion dollars to prevent flooding
- ✓ Cleared more than six million linear feet of drainage ditches
- ✓ Installed air pollution monitors to protect and inform residents

COMMISSIONER ADRIAN GARCIA DELIVERS
**ADRIAN GARCIA**
COMMISSIONER
HARRIS COUNTY PRECINCT 2

**Houston, Get Ready to Vote. Elections Matter.**
– Mayor John Whitmire

EARLY VOTING: OCTOBER 19-30
Monday-Saturday: 7 AM – 7 PM
Sunday: 12 PM – 7 PM

ELECTION DAY: NOVEMBER 3
Polls Open From: 7 AM – 7 PM

Coalition Partners:

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MORE INFORMATION AT: VoteHouston.org, HarrisVotes.com, & FortBendCountyTX.gov



Chambers, BAHEP host state House District 129 candidate forum

Bowen, Wittliff compete for legislative seat being vacated by longtime Rep. Dennis Paul



Candidates shown above are Republican Scott Bowen (right) Democrat Albert Wittliff.

Continued from Page 1

Wittliff presented a resume built around federal service and public safety. A native Texan, Wittliff attended George Washington University and earned a master's degree in conflict analysis and resolution from George Mason University. His career included service with the U.S. State Department's Diplomatic Security Service, where he worked on criminal investigations, embassy security operations and assignments protecting senior American officials.

Wittliff later joined Homeland Security Investigations and served on Houston's Joint Terrorism Task Force. He also participated in disaster-response efforts following hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria.

At the forum, Wittliff emphasized problem-solving, infrastructure resilience, public safety and flood mitigation. He argued that his experience handling complex security challenges and emergency situations would prepare him to work across differences and deliver practical solutions for constituents.

Open seat draws attention

The District 129 contest has attracted significant local attention because open legislative seats are relatively rare in the Bay Area.

Republicans have held the district for decades, with former Rep. John Davis serving before Paul succeeded him in 2015.

The winner in November will be the district's first new state representative in more than a decade and will arrive in Austin as southeast Texas faces issues ranging from coastal insurance costs and transportation funding to public education and continued economic growth tied to the region's aerospace, energy and maritime industries.

Early voting

Early voting is currently underway and will continue through Friday, Oct. 30. See related story on Page 1.

Cowgirls of the week



The SageMont Cowboys recently announced the Cowgirls of the week. Left to right, are Mini of the Week Parker Jones-Butler, Cheerleader of the Week Laila Jackson and Dancer of the Week Jazelle Jones.

Stuchbery names September students of the month



Stuchbery Elementary School has recognized the students of the month for September. These students were chosen by their teachers for exhibiting the character trait *respect*. Left to right, are (first row) Mia Quintanilla, Izel Juarez Torres, Allison Hernandez, Naylah Cantu, Draya Brown, Kayla Hernandez, Elena Diaz, Marleigh LeBlanc, (second row) counselor Alyssa Valdez, Zakiyah Collins, Neven Citizen, Simon Vu, Liam Mendez, Danyela Rico, John Blanco, Principal Jose Hernandez, E'Teallion Williams, (third row) Trey Brown, Vannya Hernandez, Victor Luviano, Everly McMullin, (fourth row) Julian Villeda, Dixon Jodway, Giovanni Velasco, Ariana Arrieta, Cassidy Baines, (fifth row) Dakota Conaway, Izzabella Ross, Lola Delesma and Valentina Aguirre.

Dobie names honor roll students

Continued from Page 3

Isaiah Alexander Romero, Achilles Jose Rostro, Xavier Rubalcava, Analay Hili-ana Rubio, Christopher Isaac Rubio, Alison Giselle Ruiz, Azalia Sarai Ruiz, My'shaya Denise Russell, Audrey Lizette Salazar, Jordan Anthony Salazar and Matthew Ethan Salazar.

Samantha Isabella Salazar, Sury Thais Salgado Gonzalez, Isaac Elias Salinas, Isaac Noe Salinas, Adrian Jesus Sanchez, Adrian Joel Sanchez, Alexander Isaiah Sanchez, Carlos Sanchez, Eduardo Sanchez, Eniko Leann Sanchez, Jonathan Sanchez, Manuel Ray Sanchez, Maria Michelle Santana and Gisselle Dominique Santos.

Sophia Adela Saucedo, Zaire Marie Scott, Kianni Marie Senegal, Noah Sebastian Serna, David Serrano, Julian Silva, Trjah Pierre Smith, Franklin Son-ay, Persephone Olivia Soria, Alejandro Sosa, Alina Esmeralda Sosa, Karla Valeria Sosa, Jayden Kindell Bar- rington Starkes, Malachi Joel Staten-Murray and Kaeylee Faith-Louise Stockton.

Chloe Starr Sudderth, Briana Karolee Sullivan, Jasmine Bea Tandog Sunga, Kendra Tamez, Han Gia Tat, Eva Marie Taylor, Isidro Tello, Aiden Robert Teran, Germaine Thibodeaux, Daria Diadra Thomas, Nolen Carter Thomas, Samaya Kar-rien Thomas, Taylor Bre'nee Thomas, Dezae' Mae Rosha Thompson and Marlee Jordan Tillman.

Jacob Santiago Torres Te- jada, Delonnie Yitzel Torres, Jaylyn Mariah Torres, Xi- mena Torres-Zuniga, Anne Nhu Tran, Daniel Tran, Huy Quang Tran, Kaylie Tuyet- Nhi Tran, Phuc Sang Tran, Sandra Elaine Trevino, Rey Trinidad, Alex Gia Truong, Mai Que Truong, Nina Truong, Thomas James Tur- riuabartes and Dennis Mauri- cio Umanzor.

Arlaine Loraine Valdez De Jesus, Jeremy Asher Va- lencia, Madalyn Jaylene Valle, Alan Daniel Vallejo, Aiden James Vara, Xavi- er Andrew Vargas, Cristian Velazquez, Susan Velazquez, Brooklyn Rose Veltman, Melanie Guadalupe Vigil, Lilianna Kareli Vilches, Julian Villanor, Adrian Alberto Villatoro and Madison Ana- lyze Villatoro.

Stephany Lizbeth Vil- latoro, Hau Minh Vo, Tina Huynh Vo, Alex Vouffo, An- gelina Kim Vu, Minh Cong Vu, Aniyah Elizabeth Walk- er, Dre'shawn Dennis Lee Walters, Antoine Lauret Wheaton, Courtney Geo- gianna Williams, Jacla Elle Williams, Amaya Jacaena Duenas Wilson, Mohammad Ismail Mohammad Zaid, Xamira Evellett Zambrano and Isaac Michael Zamora.

Remember When

50 years ago (1976)

A Beverly Hills Civic Club meeting was the scene of a heated debate as candidates for local offices expressed their positions. Bob Gam- mage, Dr. Ron Paul, Gene Jones and Walter Kieth dis- cussed equal rights, gun con- trol, more severe penalties for criminals and decreased gov- ernment spending.

A meeting was held to re- activate the Sageplum on consecutive Wednesdays.

An unknown man pulled a gun on four Dobie students as they were driving home from school. They reported that he tried to race them in their Pon- tiac GTO and when they re- fused, he displayed a weapon and pointed it at each of them.

The SageMont Houston Fire Department responded to five ambulance calls and five fire-related calls during a one- week period.

A Beverly Hills couple were sentenced to prison after being convicted of sexually abusing children. The chil- dren stayed in the day care facility they operated out of their home. The four children who testified, an 8-year-old girl and three boys ages 10, 12 and 15, were from the same family.

40 years ago (1986)

The Pasadena Independent School District board of trust- ees passed an 8-cent tax hike bringing the tax rate to 99 cents per \$100 of valuation. The increase was partly due to decreased property values in the district causing a shortfall in revenues.

The development of a two-story professional office building across from San Ja- cinto College was in jeop- ardy amid rumors of a U.S. Department of Justice in- vestigation. The investigation involved investment schemes that surrounded state and local officials, including former state Rep. Bill Caraway. At the time, Caraway was the CEO of The Intertec Financial Group.

35 years ago (1991)

University of Texas offi- cials were publicly voicing opposition to the Environ- mental Protection Agency's plans for excavation and in- cineration of toxic chemicals adjacent to the Southbend subdivision.

Actor Ed Begley Jr. visited the South Belt area and spent most of one day touring the Brio site.

30 years ago (1996)

The South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce set as its No. 1 goal for the up- coming year to work toward the removal of the abandoned Southbend homes and unfinished Beamer Towers building on Beamer.

Concerns over a 17-year- old Dobie dropout resulted in a personal meeting between Kirkwood South residents and Constable Gary Freeman.

The student, who had report- edly started a white supremacist group, was accused, along with some of his friends, of various threats of violence in- cluding burning homes.

Crews from the city of Houston put an end to per- sistent odors in Scarsdale after a ruptured sewer pipe was repaired.

25 years ago (2001)

Dobie senior athletes Tiffa- ny Collins and Matt Bergeron were named homecoming queen and king at Dobie High School.

The National Merit Schol- arship Corporation announced the names of semifinalists. Students from Clear Brook were William Boehm, Andrew Kinzler and Michael Plan- te. For Dobie, the National Merit Commended Students were John Barnett and Naqvi Masooma. National Hispanic Scholars were: Caesar Car- dona, Manuel Tellez, Sarah Velasquez and David Ochoa (honorable mention). Dobie's Graylon Wells was awarded the classification of National Academic Achievement.

20 years ago (2006)

Based on legislation passed by the special session held by Texas lawmakers, PISD re- duced its overall tax rate to \$1.69 per \$100 valuation.

CCISD's tax rate for 2006 was \$1.33 for maintenance and operations, and \$0.30 for interest and sinking.

The San Jacinto College board of regents voted not to increase the tax rate.

None of the three South Belt Municipal Utility Districts increased the tax rate for 2006.

In the wake of flooding Oct. 16, many South Belt resi- dents had vehicles towed from the Shell station on Scarsdale at Interstate 45.

San Jacinto College South celebrated the receipt of a \$514,614 grant from the Tex- as Workforce Commission.

15 years ago (2011)

Rebecca De La Garza, 26, a former physical education teacher at Thompson Inter- mediate School, was charged with two counts of sexual as- sault of a child and two counts of improper relationship with a 14-year-old student. Accord- ing to investigators, De La Garza's relationship with the girl began in the fall of 2010 and lasted approximately eight months. During the re- lationship, the two reportedly had sex in the coach's office and the girls' locker room sev- eral times.

10 years ago (2016)

Joyce Abbey was named the Clear Creek Independent School District's 2016 Citizen of the Year. A graduate from Clear Creek High School, Abbey is a well-known advocate for the advancement of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) programming in public educa- tion.

5 years ago (2021)

Two fatal shootings took place at the same apartment complex near Edgebrook and the Gulf Freeway within four days of each other. The first incident took place Friday, Oct. 8, in the 10900 block of Nathaniel. The victim was identified as Xavier Hender- son, 28. The second shooting involved 24-year-old victim Sedrick Jones, who lived at the same complex. No im- mediate arrests were made in either shooting.

A man was fatally shot Sunday, Oct. 17, in the 9900 block of Bessemer. Adrian Delarosa was pronounced dead at the scene after being shot multiple times in a drive- by shooting at the above ad- dress. No immediate arrests were made.

1 year ago (2025)

A DWI suspect was arrest- ed Tuesday, Oct. 7, following a three-vehicle crash at Beam- er and Beltway 8.

According to officials with Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia's of- fice, deputies responded to the accident and believed that one of the drivers involved - later determined to be Blake A. Brown - was intoxicated. Re- sponding deputies said Brown displayed multiple signs of impairment, and a Standard- ized Field Sobriety Test was performed on the driver.

The test determined that Brown was in fact intoxicated, and he was subsequently arrested on charges of driving while intoxicated.

According to Precinct 2 of- ficials, a passenger in Brown's vehicle - later identified as Emanuella Dimauero - provided deputies with a false name and date of birth. After further questioning, Dimauero ad- mitted she gave false information in an attempt to avoid a possible warrant she thought she had.

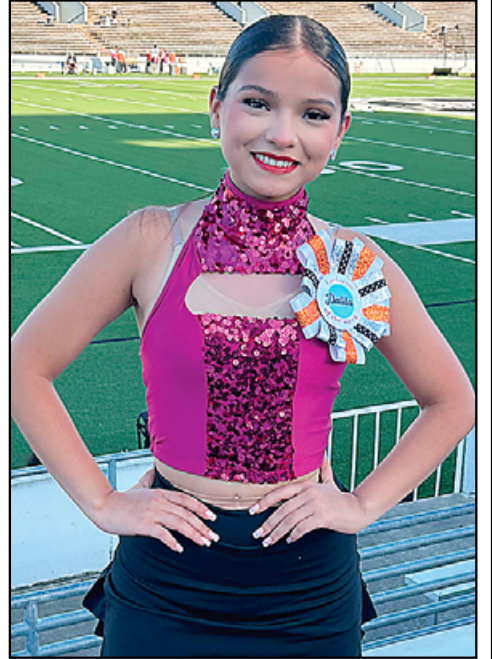
The Harris County District Attorney's Office was contact- ed and accepted a charge of failure to identify on Dimauero.

Garcia took to social media to celebrate the arrest.

"A big thank you to our deputies for their continued efforts to keep our community and roadways safe," the con- stable posted on his Facebook page.

At press time, it was un- clear if anyone was injured in the crash.

Lariaette of the Week, Oct. 15



The J. Frank Dobie Lariaette of the Week recognized Oct. 15 was junior Dalila Chapa, a first-year member.

Over The Back Fence by Nicole

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, SANDRA!

South Belt resident and longtime business owner **Sandra Yandell** celebrates a birthday Friday, Oct. 23. She is wished a wonderful day from her family, community members and from friends at the *South Belt Leader*.

FRED CELEBRATES A BIRTHDAY

Fred Flickinger celebrates a memora- ble birthday Oct. 23. Wishes for a wonder- ful day are sent by wife **Leslie Flickinger**; daughter **Kimberly** and husband **Matt** and child **William Lipino**; daughter **Courtney** and children, **Abigail**, **Jackson Penelope Durham**; brother **David** (*Leader* president), wife **Ellie Flickinger**, and their daughter, **Natalie** and her husband **Jose Abarca** and children **Kelvin Lopez**, **Noah**, **Elliana Abarca** and **Isabella Delgado**; and father **David Flickinger**.

PENELOPE TURNS 7!

Best wishes for a happy birthday Friday, Oct. 23, are sent to **Penelope Durham** who celebrates her seventh birthday from parents **Courtney** and **Chris Durham**, sister **Abigail** and brother **Jackson**; aunt **Kimberly Lipino** and husband **Matt** and child **William Lipino**; grandparents **Fred** and **Leslie Flickinger**; great-grandmother **Olive Falkowski**; great-grandfather **John Fairchild**; great-grandfather **David Flickinger**; and great-uncle **David Flickinger** (*Leader* presi- dent) and his wife **Ellie**.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, ALEXIS!

Special wishes are sent to **Alexis Lochner** (former *Leader* staffer) who enjoys a birthday Tuesday, Oct. 27, from daughters **Nicole Manning** and **Jessica LeBlanc**; sons **Dan Sorensen** and **Joshua David** and wife **Tamra**; and grandchildren **Breanna** and **Andrew Manning**, **Dira Torres** and husband **Jesus**, **Danny Sorensen** and **Michaela**, **Judaea** and **Rhett LeBlanc**.

TYLER CELEBRATES A BIRTHDAY

Happy birthday wishes are sent to **Tyler Scarberry** who enjoys a birthday Oct. 28. Lots of love is sent from parents **Jannie and Robert Scarberry** (former longtime South Belt residents); sister **Jenny (Hayes) Laney**, husband **Josh** and children **Brayden**, **Baylee** and **Olivia**; sister **Stacey (Hayes) Flowers**, husband **Stephen** and children **Kennedy**, **Owen** and **Evie**; brother **Joey Hayes**; and brother **Austin Scarberry** and daughters **Jade** and **Lily**. Tyler is a 2010 Dobie High School graduate.

SCHOOL DAZE

The following staff of the Pasadena Inde- pendent School District celebrate birthdays Oct. 22 through Oct. 28.

Burnett Elementary

Sing a happy birthday song to **Isabel Martinez** Oct. 26.

Bush Elementary

Amanda Maldonado is wished a happy birthday Oct. 26.

Frazier Elementary

The day for a cake for **Deidra Garza** is Oct. 27. Send a birthday greeting Oct. 28 to **Maria Martinez**.

Genoa Elementary

Light the birthday candles Oct. 22 on a cake for **Cassy Horton**. Send a happy birth- day wish Oct. 25 to **Kelly Friend**.

Hancock Elementary

Blow out the birthday candles for **Jesse Luna** Oct. 27. October 28 is the day for a party for **Jacqueline Ochoa** and **Erica Reyna**.

Moore Elementary

Blow out the birthday candles for **George Robeson** Oct. 23.

South Belt Elementary

Send a birthday greeting Oct. 24 to **Cristal Canales**. **Rachel Day** and **Rey Martinez** enjoys a happy birthday Oct. 26. The day for a party for **Tiffani Ashby** is Oct. 28.

Stuchbery Elementary

Cara Wilson celebrates a birthday Oct. 22.

Remember to wish **Vincent Duong** a happy birthday Oct. 26.

Melillo Middle School

Join in the birthday fun Oct. 24 for **Stephen Rios**. Send a happy birthday wish Oct. 25 to **Melissa Brookland**. Sing a happy birthday song to **Braeden Christen** on Oct. 28.

Beverly Hills Intermediate

Tiffany Irvin enjoys a birthday Oct. 24. Give a birthday shoutout Oct. 26 for **Gerardo Nunez**.

Thompson Intermediate

Send birthday greetings to **Denise Medina** Oct. 24. **Tanis Griffin**, principal, and **Aaron Kutra** celebrate with a double-layer cake Oct. 25.

Dobie High

The day for a party for **Ashley Moore** is Oct. 26.

FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS

Thursday, Oct. 22: **Craig Tyler**, **Jamie Nevarez**, **Stacey Glass**, **Kimberly Gale** and **Jonny Heitman**; Friday, Oct. 23: **Mike Jimenez**, **Jennifer Garcia**, **Kelly Kasselman**, **Johnny Smithers**, **Melissa Guerrero**, **Ruben Salazar**, **Rosanna Luna** and **Janna Horst**; Saturday, Oct. 24: **Stacey Lindsey**, **Tyra Chopra**, **Rolf Michelson**, **Barry Fuller**, **Marilyn Ramirez**; Sunday, Oct. 25: **Kim Clardy**, **Sybil Scott**, **Chloe Cantu** and **Michael Crawford**; Monday, Oct. 26: **Laurel Robertson**, **Crystal Ramirez**; **Missy Locklear**, **Autumn Prater**, **Sandy Hinson** and **Arturo Fernandez**; Tuesday, Oct. 27: **Rose Garcia**, **Jose Estrada**, **James Burkart**, **Mario Stewart**, **Troy McMullen** and **Kelly Pritchett**; and Wednesday, Oct. 28: **Steve Barbosa**, **Lynda Lake** and **Joanne Juren**.

LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS

Email announcements to mynews@south beltleader.com with OTBF in the subject line by Friday noon for the next week's publication. For birthdays, type "OTBF: Friends Celebrate Birthdays" in the subject line.

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SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

Longhorn boys deliver cross-country championship

Jordan Roman is once again a district champion and his Longhorn bunch has recaptured a league team championship as the JFD varsity boys' cross-country team dominated the District 19-6A Championships Oct. 14 at Dobie main.

Roman, solidly adding his name to the all-time greats within the program, became a district champion for the second straight season as he was first to the finish line in the 5,000 meter varsity event in a time of 15 minutes, 41.20 seconds.

Junior teammate Cruz Jasso, who himself has collected several top over-all medalist performances this season, was second in the event with a clocking of 16:14.70. Isaac Rodas of Manvel was third in a time of 16:31.80.

In the team standings, the Longhorns were truly dominant, posting a low of 47 points. Brazoswood

was second with 73, followed by Pearland as each of those three teams qualified for regionals.

The top 10 individual competitors not affiliated with a regional team qualifier will also advance to regionals.

Also for the Longhorns, sophomore Robert Pheister was seventh with a time of 16:52.30, and sophomore teammate Jaden Moron clocked in at 17:16.90 for 15th place.

Dobie's fifth official qualifier was Jorge Rodriguez as the junior was 22nd with a time of 17:41.30. Ruben Flores made the top 25 as he was 25th with a clocking of 17:44.50.

Senior Matthew Dunn also competed for the Longhorns, placing 46th with a time of 19:03.90.

A pair of Dobie varsity girls' runners are also headed to regionals. In the 5,000-meter varsity girls' event, Jannie Cardenas of Manvel was the overall gold medalist in a time of 18:24.40, followed by her sister, Jessica Cardenas, in at 18:31.10.

For Dobie, senior Aracely Alvarado is headed back to regionals for the second straight season as she was fifth overall for the time of 19:52.30.

Freshman Sofia Charles of Dobie, one of the athletes who clearly represents the future of the program, will also head to regionals after she was seventh in a time of 20:16.80. Also for Dobie, freshman Cecilia Bogany was 20th with a clocking at 22:12.30.

Dobie freshman Marley Manriquez was 28th in a time of 22:30, while Maria Arredondo, a senior, was

30th in a time of 22:43.90. Longhorn sophomore Esmeralda Martinez was just one spot back and she was 31st with a time of 23:06.80.

Junior Destiny Sid-iropoulos finished her outstanding season as she was 37th at a time of 23:33.20.

Brazoswood was the overall team champion with a low of 50, followed by Pearland with 70 and Shadow Creek at 75. Dobie was fourth, with its top five finishers collecting a total of 90.

Several JFD runners also competed well in the 3,200-meter junior varsity race, led by freshman Kobe Rodriguez, who clocked in at 15:09.80 for 14th place.

Teammate Ivane Morales was 15th and she clocked in at 15:11.10. Others running for the Longhorns included 24th place Ava Flores, a sophomore, who was in at 15:41.10.

Sophomore Andrea Arredondo placed 26th in a time with 15:50.10, and Aliscia Garza-Becerra, a junior, placed 29th in a time of 16:03.90. Freshman Evelyn Arzate was 31st at 16:07.80. Other finishers included Mia Bautista, 33rd in a time of 16:09.80, Alexis Van Houton 34th at 16:13.50, and Sophia Torres, a junior, 37th at 16:28.90.

Continued on Page 8



The Dobie varsity boys cross-country program captured the District 19-6A team championship with a terrific performance in the meet Oct. 14 at Dobie main. Members of the team include, left to right, (seated) Cruz Jasso, Robert Pheister, (standing) coach Stephen Cross, Jaden Moron, Matthew Dunn, Jordan Roman, Ruben Flores, Jorge Rodriguez and coach Mo Hickman. The Longhorns have now won district championships in two of the last three seasons and will advance to the Region 3 championships later this month in Huntsville. Roman was the individual gold medalist in the championship run, while Jasso was the silver medalist.

Longhorns to meet Mavericks in beltway clash

The annual Battle of the Beltway varsity football series matching Dobie and the Pasadena Memorial Mavericks has been one-sided for quite some time. Following a 41-21 victory over the Mavericks a season ago, the Longhorns hoisted the series championship trophy for the eighth consecutive time.

To put things in perspective, current Memorial senior football players were in the fourth grade the last time the Mavericks were winners over the Longhorns. Fast forward to now, which is all that really matters, and the Mavericks certainly have to feel as though their chances to turn the tide on the locals is now. Following a 21-7 home loss to Dawson Oct. 15 at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena, the Longhorns have slipped to 2-5 overall this season, including just 1-4 in District 19-6A competition.

Meanwhile, Pasadena Memorial has played eight games total to this point, putting together a 4-4 overall record to go with 3-3 in district action. While it still may require a bit of luck down the stretch, the Mavericks remain in contention for a playoff berth but will have to overcome the Longhorns to get there.

Pearland and Shadow Creek certainly appear to have postseason qualifications squared away, while both Manvel and Dawson also appear to be in great shape. But Pasadena Memorial, which has put together four victories despite giving up more than 240 yards rushing per game, is still in the mix.

Dobie, which missed out on the playoffs a season ago, entered 2026 determined to change its fortunes but have found the going to be tough since a season opening victory over Clear Springs.

With the exception of a 42-point explosion in a win over Sam Rayburn, the Longhorns have had trouble generating points on the scoreboard. What

***Battle of the Beltway
Dobie
at Pas. Memorial
Oct. 23, 7 p.m.
PISD Veterans Stadium***

has transpired has been a two-win season to this point that the locals likely did not see coming.

But, much as the Mavericks have done in the past, the Longhorns are now in position to play the role of spoiler. As slim as the playoff chances may be for the Mavericks, a loss to the Longhorns will certainly end all hopes for Memorial.

The Longhorns went 5-5 overall in 2025 and were absent from the postseason but did score a 41-21 victory over the Mavericks in the Beltway series.

It was the eighth consecutive win in the series overall for the Longhorns, so it is easy to see why the

Mavericks feel as though this particular matchup presents a golden opportunity to take over bragging rights in a matchup that has been one-sided for the better part of a decade.

At 1-4 overall in 19-6A play and sitting seventh in the standings, the Longhorns realistically understand that their postseason chances are gone. However, the players know that they can make a big difference in limiting the chances of the Mavericks at this point.

Pearland, Shadow Creek, Dawson and Manvel are currently the most likely postseason representatives, but Memorial is 3-3 in league

Continued on Page 8



A trio of sophomores from Clear Brook High School, from left, Emily Harrell, Xiomara Vasquez and Olivia Guillen, excelled at the District 18-6A cross-country championships and should leave the Wolverines in great shape moving forward as a program.

Brook sophomore trio excels

Xiomara Vasquez led the way for the Clear Brook varsity girls cross-country trio at the 18-6A Championships as she placed 13th overall, narrowly missing an opportunity to advance to regionals as the season came to a close for the locals.

In the 5,000-meter varsity girls race within 18-6A, Deer Park squeezed past both Clear Creek and Clear Falls in a tight finish in the team standings as all three groups advanced to regionals. Deer Park posted a low of 50 points, followed by 58 for Clear Creek and 79 for Clear Falls.

Individually, Clear Falls' freshman Madison Coleman was the overall gold medalist by a solid margin as she cracked the 19-minute mark, finishing at 18:56.76.

Clear Springs junior Sophia Hernandez was second at 19:19.98, followed by

MTI to host 3-Point contest

The McDonald's Texas Invitational is inviting former alumni, players, weekend warriors or simply thrill-seekers to take part in the tournament's inaugural 3-Point contest to be held Nov. 21 at Phillips Field House in Pasadena during the final day of the tournament. Participants 18 years of age and older are invited to take part for an entry fee of \$25. The contest winner will be awarded a \$500 cash prize, courtesy of the Pasadena ISD Athletics Hall of Fame. To learn more about the contest or to enter, visit www.texasinvitational.com.

BHI to host basketball tryouts

The Beverly Hills Intermediate boys' coaching staff will host basketball tryouts Oct. 28 and Oct. 30 on campus, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. each day. Participants must have a current athletic physical on file and must have completed the appropriate RankOne online forms in order to be eligible to participate.

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JFD grad honored at Richland

SOPHOMORE DAY

Dobie Class of 2025 graduate Hope Ortiz, who excelled both on the varsity volleyball court and the tennis court for the Longhorns, was recognized as an outgoing sophomore member of the Richland College Thunderduck volleyball program earlier this month. Ortiz signed with the Richland program out of high school and has been a steady contributor for the program over the last two seasons.

LSA elects homecoming queen, king

At right, Lutheran South Academy celebrated its 2026 homecoming festivities filled with an entire week of activities on campus. The big week for the Pioneers culminated with a 49-0 victory on the varsity football field against St. Pius X as LSA improved to 7-1 overall this season. During halftime, the king and queen winners were announced as a pair of multisport athletes were recognized. The queen is varsity cheerleader and track and field standout Reed Brenner, while the king is football and track and field competitor Rhet Laverne. On the football field, Lutheran South will continue its season with a big game against Concordia Lutheran on the road Oct. 23, beginning at 7 p.m.

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BAFL Weekly Standings

Peewee Division			
Team	W	L	T
Hurricanes	9	0	0
Wildcats	9	0	0
Braves	7	2	0
Red Raiders	7	2	0
Buccaneers	6	3	0
Manvel Texans	6	3	0
Panthers	6	3	0
Chargers	5	4	0
Pearland Texans	4	4	1
49ers	4	5	0
Cowboys	3	5	1
Gators	3	6	0
Stingrays	3	6	0
Sharks	3	6	0
Patriots	2	7	0
La Porte Texans	2	7	0
Longhorns	1	8	0
Eagles	0	9	0

Freshman Division			
Team	W	L	T
49ers	9	0	0
Manvel Texans	8	1	0
Stingrays	8	1	0
Patriots	7	2	0
Red Raiders	7	2	0
Pearland Texans	6	3	0
Eagles	5	4	0
Hurricanes	5	4	0
Panthers	5	4	0
Wildcats	5	4	0
Buccaneers	4	5	0
Chargers	4	5	0
Cowboys	2	7	0
Sharks	2	7	0
Longhorns	2	7	0
Gators	1	8	0
Braves	0	9	0
La Porte Texans	0	9	0

Sophomore Division			
Team	W	L	T
Red Raiders	9	0	0
49ers	8	1	0
Manvel Texans	8	1	0
Panthers	7	1	1
Chargers	6	3	0
Gators	6	3	0
Wildcats	6	3	0
Stingrays	5	3	1
Hurricanes	5	4	0
Pearland Texans	5	4	0
Buccaneers	4	5	0
Eagles	4	5	0
Sharks	3	6	0
Braves	2	7	0
La Porte Texans	1	8	0
Patriots	1	8	0
Cowboys	0	9	0
Longhorns	0	9	0

Junior Division			
Team	W	L	T
Buccaneers	9	0	0
Manvel Texans	9	0	0
49ers	7	2	0
Cowboys	7	2	0
Stingrays	7	2	0
Red Raiders	6	3	0
Chargers	6	3	0
Braves	5	4	0
Gators	4	5	0
Hurricanes	4	5	0
Panthers	4	5	0
Sharks	4	5	0
Wildcats	3	6	0
Eagles	2	7	0
Pearland Texans	2	7	0
Patriots	1	8	0
La Porte Texans	1	8	0
Longhorns	0	9	0

Senior Division			
Team	W	L	T
Gators	8	1	0
La Porte Texans	8	1	0
Pearland Texans	8	1	0
49ers	7	2	0
Buccaneers	6	3	0
Sharks	6	3	0
Manvel Texans	6	3	0
Patriots	5	4	0
Wildcats	5	4	0
Hurricanes	4	5	0
Eagles	4	5	0
Red Raiders	4	5	0
Stingrays	4	5	0
Chargers	3	6	0
Cowboys	1	8	0
Longhorns	1	8	0
Braves	0	9	0
Panthers	0	9	0

BAFL Week 10

- Cowboys’ PW 34 Panthers 39
- Cowboys’ Fr. 2 Panthers 13
- Cowboys’ Soph. 0 Panthers 50
- Cowboys’ Jr. 50 Panthers 0
- Cowboys’ Sr. 43 Panthers 0

BAFL Week 11

- Cowboys’ Peewee at Patriots, 8 a.m.
- Cowboys’ Freshmen at Patriots, 9:30 a.m.
- Cowboys’ Sophomores at Patriots, 11:30 a.m.
- Cowboys’ Juniors at Patriots, 1:30 p.m.
- Cowboys’ Seniors at Patriots, 3:30 p.m.

South Belt football predictions				
	John Bechtle	Emory Gadd	Stephen Sutton	Debbie Vaughn
	Dobie at Pasadena Memorial	Dobie	Dobie	Dobie
	Deer Park at Dickinson	Dickinson	Deer Park	Dickinson
	CE King at North Shore	North Shore	North Shore	North Shore
	Clear Brook at Clear Springs	Clear Springs	Clear Springs	Clear Springs
	Clear Falls at Clear Creek	Clear Falls	Clear Falls	Clear Falls
	Houston Lamar at Houston Memorial	Houston Memorial	Houston Memorial	Houston Memorial
	Beaumont United at La Porte	La Porte	La Porte	La Porte
	Baytown Sterling at Port Arthur Memorial	Port Arthur Memorial	Port Arthur Memorial	Port Arthur Memorial
Friendswood at Angleton	Angleton	Angleton	Angleton	Angleton
Victoria East at Pasadena	Victoria East	Victoria East	Victoria East	Victoria East
Last Week’s Results	7-3	7-3	7-3	7-3
Season record	59-21	63-17	58-22	59-21

Deer Park
at Dickinson
Oct. 23, 7 p.m.
Sam Vitanza Stadium

One of the most anticipated matchups of the regular season across the entire region will play out in Dickinson as the undefeated Deer Park Deer visit the Gators in what will likely determine the eventual District 18-6A champion and Division 1 top playoff seed. The Gators started this season at 0-3 while taking on three bonafide postseason heavyweights but have since reeled off four consecutive victories in district play. In Oct. 16 action, the Gators outlasted previously-unbeaten Barbers Hill on the road by a 55-42 count. Senior quarterback Lorenzo Aguirre has been one of the top performers at his position certainly over the last month, and the Gators made just enough stops on defense against the Eagles to secure the win. As for the Deer, head coach Austin Flynn's group is 7-0 following a 38-14 victory over Clear Creek Oct. 16 and will take its perfect record into action against the defending league (former 24-6A) champions. Speaking of quarterbacks, Deer signal-caller Haden Lafrenz has been everything the Deer could have asked for this season and more. Against Clear Creek, the Deer did what they had to do to keep pace at the top of the district. Now, it all comes down to a battle against the powerhouse Gators.

Clear Falls at
Clear Creek
Oct. 23, 7 p.m.
CCISD Veterans

Host Clear Creek has produced just a single victory in seven total outings this season but has an opportunity to put the Knights further behind in the race to the postseason. Clear Falls is 3-4 overall and slipped to 2-2 in league play following a tough 17-13 loss to Clear Springs in its most recent outing. While Clear Springs now has the inside track on the second of two available Division 2 playoff berths, Falls will look to get back on a positive note before finishing the season with games against Dickinson and Deer Park to close out the regular season.

Barbers Hill at
Clear Lake
Oct. 22, 6:30 p.m.
CCISD Challenger

Visiting Barbers Hill took its first loss of the season against Dickinson in its most recent outing, surrendering 55 points to the Gators but should be able to get back on track against a Clear Lake team that is 3-4 overall this season, including just 1-3 in district action. Barbers Hill has scored at least 38 points in each of its games this season and should have plenty of offense with which to utilize as it deals with the Falcons. However, the Falcons should come into the game with plenty of confidence after delivering a 50-34 defeat of Clear Brook in its previous game. Barbers Hill, despite the loss to Deer Park, still holds the best possible opportunity to be the top seed in the Division 2 playoff bracket down the stretch.

Clear Brook at
Clear Springs
Oct. 23, 7 p.m.
CCISD Challenger

Visiting Clear Brook opened the season with a last-second field goal victory over Houston Madison but has been able to put together little since that win. At 1-6 overall, the Wolverines will be looking to take a little bit of steam out of the Chargers, who scored a huge victory over Clear Falls in what was likely a head-to-head battle for a playoff berth. The Chargers had lost consecutive games to Dickinson and Deer Park but then returned from a bye week to score a huge win over the Knights. Clear Springs will go against Clear Lake after the Brook game and will then close the regular season at home against Barbers Hill.

JFD volleyball closes regular season against Alvin Oct. 23



Clear Brook Wolverines Varsity Boys Basketball		
Date	Opponent	Time
Nov. 7	at Pas. Memorial scrimmage	9 a.m.
Nov. 10	host scrimmage	4 p.m.
Nov. 13	Pasadena Memorial	7 p.m.
Nov. 17	at Bellaire	7:30 p.m.
Nov. 19-21	at Southwest ISD tourn.	TBA
Nov. 24	at Dobie	noon
Dec. 1	Galveston Ball	7 p.m.
Dec. 3-5	at Carlisle-Krueger Classic	TBA
Dec. 8	Fulshear	7 p.m.
Dec. 11	Alvin	7 p.m.
Dec. 15	Houston Memorial	7 p.m.
Dec. 18	*Barbers Hill	5 p.m.
Dec. 22	*at Clear Lake	1 p.m.
Dec. 29-30	at Leander Glen Classic	TBA
Jan. 5	*Clear Springs	7 p.m.
Jan. 8	*at Clear Creek	7 p.m.
Jan. 12	*Dickinson	7 p.m.
Jan. 15	*Deer Park	7 p.m.
Jan. 19	*at Clear Falls	7 p.m.
Jan. 22	*Barbers Hill	7 p.m.
Jan. 26	*Clear Lake	7 p.m.
Jan. 29	*at Clear Springs	7 p.m.
Feb. 2	*Clear Creek at	7 p.m.
Feb. 5	*Dickinson	7 p.m.
Feb. 9	*at Deer Park	7 p.m.
Feb. 12	*Clear Falls	7 p.m.
* District 18-6A game		

Dobie Longhorns Varsity Boys Basketball		
Date	Opponent	Time
Nov. 7	Home scrimmage	TBA
Nov. 10	Home scrimmage	TBA
Nov. 13	at Clear Lake	7 p.m.
Nov. 16	Katy Tompkins	7 p.m.
Nov. 19-21	at McDonald’s Invitational	TBA
Nov. 24	Clear Brook	noon
Dec. 1	at Fort Bend Austin	7 p.m.
Dec. 4	at Cypress Creek	7 p.m.
Dec. 8	*at Shadow Creek	7 p.m.
Dec. 11	*Brazoswood	7 p.m.
Dec. 18	*at Dawson	7 p.m.
Dec. 22	*Pasadena Memorial	1 p.m.
Dec. 28-29	at BISD Holiday Classic	TBA
Jan. 2	*at Manvel	1 p.m.
Jan. 6	*Alvin	7:00 p.m.
Jan. 9 *	Pearland	1 p.m.
Jan. 13	*at Sam Rayburn	7 p.m.
Jan. 16	*Shadow Creek	1 p.m.
Jan. 19	*at Brazoswood	7 p.m.
Jan. 26	*Dawson	7 p.m.
Jan. 29	*at Pasadena Memorial	7 p.m.
Feb. 2	*Manvel	7 p.m.
Feb. 5	*at Alvin	7 p.m.
Feb. 9	*at Pearland	7 p.m.
Feb. 12	*Sam Rayburn	7 p.m.
*District 19-6A game		

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CALENDAR

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22

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

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23

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

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24

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** - See Friday's notice.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

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, at the Life Recovery Church, 5215 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, OCTOBER 26

Noon **Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group**. See Friday's notice.
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. For details, call Rita at 281-309-2801.
7 p.m. **TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)** - Chapter #0683 Friendswood meets at the Friendswood Methodist Church, 110 N. Friendswood Dr. in the educational bldg., room 201. For information, call Lynette Ringrose at 832-858-4617 or Dorothy Pourteau at 713-875-8820.
7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - See Friday's notice.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27

7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - See Thursday's notice.
10 a.m. Join Wise Owls on every second and fourth Tuesday of the month. For companionship and games at, United Methodist Church, 12501 Palmsprings Dr. in Houston. Call Shirley at 713-449-9959.
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 and in-person at 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, OCTOBER 28

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 **Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group**. 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, OCTOBER 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.
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Longhorns aim to continue beltway series success

Continued from Page 5
play for fifth place and could still advance. However a loss to the Longhorns would essentially eliminate Memorial from postseason consideration. Offensively, both Memorial and Dobie are in the bottom portion in the district in terms of total yards per game.

In addition, the Mavericks surrender more than 415 yards per game defensively, which could present plenty of opportunities for the Longhorns, particularly in the run game as the Mavericks have surrendered 1,900 yards on the ground through eight games.

Senior quarterback Landon Johnson represents a huge portion of the Maverick offense as he has passed for 722 yards and five touchdowns, while receiver Dyson Godbolt-Carr is one of the leading receivers in the league with 38 receptions to go with 30 more receptions from Memorial's Joseph Castillo, who leads the team with five touchdown receptions. Godbolt-Carr is second in the district with 38 total receptions.

With South Houston and Pasadena now competing at the Class 5A level, the Pasadena ISD ranks have only Dobie, Memorial and Sam Rayburn remaining at the state's highest level. This has contributed to the match-up between the Longhorns and the Mavericks becoming the most heated rivalry in terms of school district supremacy.

Memorial enjoyed quite a bit of success in the series when the school initially opened, but the Longhorns have clearly been the district's top program for quite some time. The Longhorns have indeed struggled this season to this point with its 2-5 overall record. And with one of the stated goals of the season being the retention of the Battle of the Beltway trophy, as the visiting Longhorns fans

sit on the visitors' side of Veterans Memorial Stadium, the Longhorns can achieve one of their goals for 2026. This season represents a great opportunity for the Mavericks to end a post-season drought. Memorial has not advanced to the postseason since 2023, but a victory over Dobie could enhance this program's chances this season.



At left, Dobie defensive end James Fortson III (36) rushes upfield against the Dawson Eagles Oct. 15 at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena as the Longhorns went up against a nemesis in District 19-6A action trailing Fortson on the play is Ezekial West.

At right, Longhorn senior receiver Nolen Thomas (13) eyes the football in the air well going against the Dawson Eagles and defensive back Corey Brown (4) during action Oct. 15 at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena. Dawson built a lead in the second half and went on to defeat the Longhorns 21-7 in a key 19-6A matchup. JFD fell to 2-5 overall with the defeat, including 1-4 in league action.

Photos by Gloria Wallace



Ballard continues senior season at Ottawa

At right, Dobie graduate Jeremiah Ballard celebrated senior night along with his Ottawa University-Arizona teammates as the Spirit scored a big victory on the football field. The Spirit subsequently went on to defeat Arizona Christian 39-0 Oct. 17 to improve to 5-2 overall this season, including 4-1 in Sooner Athletic Conference play. Ballard, a stand-out performer with the Longhorns during the 2020 district championship football season, has played at both UTEP and Tulsa on the gridiron previous to joining Ottawa University-Arizona for his graduate senior season.

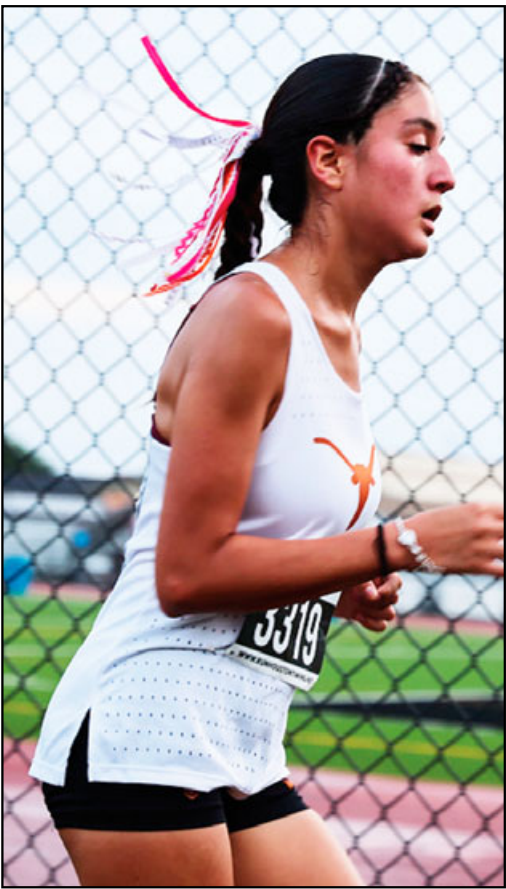


Cross-country runners excel

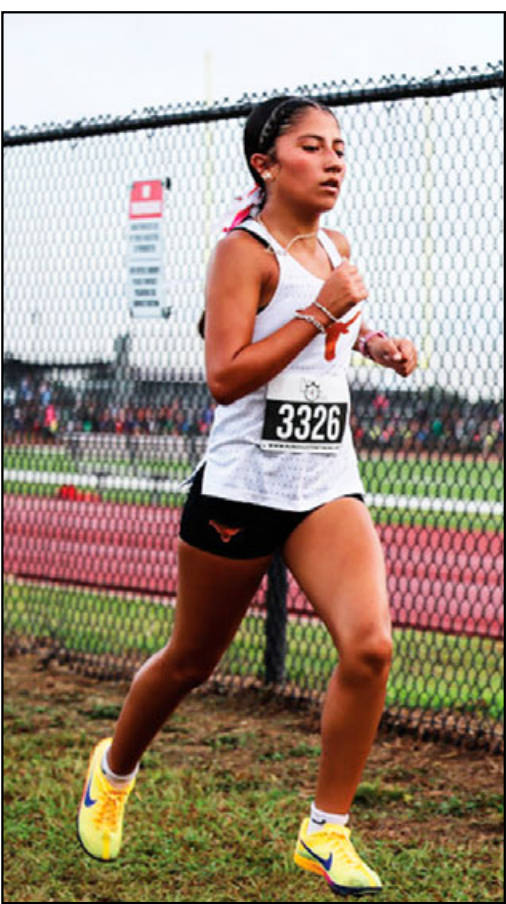
Continued from Page 5
In the 5,000-meter junior varsity boys' race, Longhorn junior Gevin Vega was the overall gold medalist as he was first to the tape in a time of 18:20.10.

Also for the Longhorns, senior Wilfredo Chinchilla clocked in at 19:13.10 for 11th place, and sophomore Josue Rodriguez was 13th as he finished at a time of 19:17.10.

Angel Montiel of Dobie put together a time of 20:10.30 for 22nd place, and sophomore Josiah Wilkins placed 25th, in at 20:28.70. Junior Kobe Magana was in at 20:40.20 for 27th place.



Aracely Alvarado arrived at Dobie High School in fall 2023 from Beverly Hills Intermediate with plenty of promise, and has since consistently delivered on that promise and has now qualified for Class 6A regional cross-country competition in each of the past two seasons. This time around, Alvarado advanced to the district 19-6A championships, finishing with a time of 19 minutes, 52.30 seconds at the 5,000-meter distance. She thus has extended her illustrious career for at least another round as she closes out what has been a tremendous run of things.



JFD freshman Sofia Charles was one of the top competitors last season in the Pasadena ISD ranks while competing for Thompson Intermediate and has made the quick adjustment to the high school level in 2026. Consistently finishing among the top competitors in each of the Longhorns' regular season competitions, Charles continued her terrific freshman season as she qualified for regionals, placing seventh in a time of 20 minutes, 16.80 seconds. Much like teammate Aracely Alvarado has done, Charles figures to be a prominent performer for the Longhorns for seasons to come.

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