



South Belt-Ellington Leader

46 years of covering South Belt

The Voice of Community-Minded People since 1976

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Email: mynews@southbeltleader.com

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City Council approves redistricting maps

New boundaries will not take effect until January 2024

Houston City Council voted Oct. 12 to approve and adopt a redistricting plan that will establish new boundaries of single-member City Council districts effective January 2024.

Boundaries in the South Belt area will largely go unchanged, with the community still divided between District D, which encompasses all areas west of the Gulf Freeway, and District E, which includes all to the east.

District D is currently represented by Carolyn Evans-Shabazz, while District E is represented by Dave Martin.

The redistricting plan was developed based on 2020 Census data, redistricting criteria approved by City Council, public input as well as analysis by the Planning and Development Department, the city's demographer and the city's legal counsel.

Census 2020 data showed the distribution of population among current City Council districts is materially imbalanced, thus requiring redistricting to comply with the "one-person, one-vote" equal population principle established by the U.S. Constitution.

City Council undertook the process of redistricting in 2022 to establish new boundaries more than a year before the November 2023 General Election. This will allow prospective City Council candidates to verify residency eligibility to run in a single-member district before the November 2023 General Election filing period. The new district boundaries will be used for the purpose of electing District Council Members at the City General Election to be held Nov. 7, 2023, and will go into effect for terms of office beginning Jan. 2, 2024.

"Representation matters, and redistricting requires tough decisions that will affect our Council districts for the next 10 years. The law requires us to balance the populations of our Council districts and that is what we accomplished after much thoughtful discussion," said Mayor Sylvester Turner. "This is a complicated process with many moving parts, and I fully appreciate all the feedback we received from residents and civic groups, as well as the hard work from our redistricting experts and Planning Department employees."

Redistricting public engagement opportunities included one virtual meeting and 12 in-person town hall meetings, with at least one located in each Council District. Residents could submit questions, comments and alternative plans through an online portal and via email. The city held three public hearings in July and offered

Continued on Page 2

See questionnaire inside

See Page 3 of this issue for a questionnaire from candidates seeking the positions of Harris County judge and Precinct 2 commissioner.

Stuchbery, Thompson close

A transformer fire unexpectedly closed down Stuchbery Elementary and Thompson Intermediate Tuesday, Oct. 25. The school was expected to reopen the following day.

Local COVID cases decrease

The number of active COVID-19 cases in the South Belt community continues to drop, with all three local ZIP codes reporting decreases for the second consecutive week.

As of Tuesday, Oct. 25, there were 90 active cases in 77089, down 21 from the previous week. To date, 135 from the ZIP code have died from the disease. (Harris County reported 137 deaths the previous week.)

In ZIP code 77075, there were 55 active cases, down 32 from the previous week. To date, there have been 81 deaths in the ZIP code. (Harris County reported 83 deaths the previous week.)

In 77034, there were 64 active cases, down 20 from the previous week. To date, 92 residents from ZIP code 77034 have died from the disease, up three from the previous week.

Statistics are updated daily and include numbers from within the Houston city limits and throughout Harris County. To view an interactive map, visit covid-harriscounty.hub.arcgis.com/pages/cumulative-data.

Gulf Freeway closures set

At least one northbound main lane and one southbound main lane on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from FM 518 to FM 517 in League City daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. March 31.

Both the northbound entrance and southbound entrance ramps from FM 518 in League City will be completely closed until further notice. Motorists should use the entrance ramps from SH 96.

The northbound exit ramp to FM 517 in Dickinson will be completely closed until further notice. Motorists should use the northbound exit ramp to Holland/Hughes.

Two outside northbound frontage road lanes on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from West Medical Boulevard to Bay Area Boulevard daily from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. through Friday, May 5.

Church to host fall fest

Faith Missionary Baptist Church, 9850 Mango, will host its fall festival Saturday, Oct. 29, from 2 to 5 p.m. The event will feature games, a moonwalk, nachos, snow ones, popcorn, candy and prizes.

Sagemeadow hosts fall fest

Sagemeadow will host its first-ever Fall Festival Saturday, Nov. 5, at Sagemeadow Park, 11219 Sageyork, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event will commemorate Sagemeadow's 50th anniversary. It will feature food, games, contests, crafts, vendors and more.

Organizers are seeking local vendors who have seasonal crafts and items for sale. If interested, email events@sagemeadow.org. For more information, visit www.sagemeadow.org/1stfallfestival.

Community garage sale set

The Riverstone Ranch at Clear Creek subdivision will host a community garage sale Saturday, Nov. 12. For additional information, email rapackic@gmail.com.

Sagamont to meet Nov. 1

The Sagamont Civic Club will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 1, at The Gardens, 12001 Beamer at Hughes. All Sagamont residents/homeowners are invited to attend. Meetings are typically held the first Tuesday of the month.

Pop-Up Shop set for Nov. 6

The Gardens Pop-Up Shop will be held Sunday, Nov. 6, at the Gardens Houston, 12001 Beamer at Hughes, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Vendors will set up inside and outside the venue. The Gardens Pop-Up Shop is an opportunity for exhibitors, crafters and small businesses in the South Belt-Ellington and surrounding areas to sell and display merchandise and promote their services.

Booths include arts and crafts, jams and jellies, clothing, jewelry and many other custom and handmade items. Prepared food vendors such as barbecue, funnel cakes and other sweets will be on site. November will feature an additional Pop-Up Shop on Sunday, Nov. 20. For more information, contact Kay Barbour at 713-419-3545.

H-E-B honors veterans

H-E-B, 9828 Blackhawk at Beltway 8, will host a Veterans Day luncheon Friday, Nov. 11, from noon to 2 p.m. All veterans are welcome to attend.

St. Luke's to honor veterans

St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church, 11011 Hall Road, will hold its annual veterans blessing for all parishioners who have served in the U.S. armed forces at 11 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 5, at the rosary garden located on the church campus. For more information, call Joe Tristan at 713-249-2662.

1 car crashes into 2 houses



An alleged drunk driver ran into her own home the afternoon of Oct. 13 in the 9800 block of Sagebud in the Sagemeadow subdivision. Witnesses said the 36-year-old female driver had minutes earlier crashed into her neighbor's house across the street. According to Precinct 2 officials, the resident reversed from her driveway at a high rate of speed, crashing into her neighbor's house, before then accelerating forward at a high rate of speed, crashing into her own home. The uninjured driver was arrested on DWI charges, her third time making it a felony. Authorities said the woman was also driving without a license at the time of the accident. Photo by Dean Baier

Suspect ID'd in fatal hit-and-run

The previously unknown female driver involved in the fatal Sept. 26 hit-and-run crash that took place in the 9500 block of Clearwood Drive near Edgemoor and the Gulf Freeway, killing a pedestrian, has been identified and charged.



Chantay Saldana

The suspect, Chantay Solano-Saldana, 26, is charged with failure to stop and render aid in the 263rd State District Court. At press time, she was not in custody. A 2021 booking photo of Solano-Saldana is attached to this story.

She is wanted for her role in the death of Evelina Channel McKenzie, 37.

According to Houston Police Department officials, a black Dodge Charger was traveling south at a high rate of speed at the above address around 1:20 a.m. when the vehicle veered off the street and struck a light pole. The impact caused the Dodge to roll over and then strike the victim, a pedestrian.

Paramedics pronounced the victim dead at the scene. Witnesses told police they observed a female driver fleeing from the scene on foot.

Three passengers were inside the Dodge at the time of the crash. They told police they had just met the driver at a nightclub.

Officers detained the three for questioning. They were said to have been cooperative.

Anyone with information on the whereabouts of Solano-Saldana is urged to contact the Houston Police Department's Hit and Run Unit at 713-247-4072 or speak anonymously to Crime Stoppers of Houston at 713-222-TIPS (8477).

Dobie crowns king, queen



Dobie High School crowned its 2022 homecoming king and queen at its varsity football game against Sam Rayburn Friday, Oct. 21. Varsity football player Jalen Baldwin was crowned king, while Nya Sanford was crowned queen. The Longhorns were victorious over the Texans in the contest, winning the game 50-31. Photo by David Flickinger

Early voting currently underway

Early voting for the Nov. 8 general election is currently underway and will continue through Friday, Nov. 4. Races to be decided include governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, county judge, county commissioner and multiple state and federal representative positions.

In the race for governor, Republican incumbent Greg Abbott is being challenged by Democrat Beto O'Rourke. Also on the ballot are Libertarian candidate Mark Tippetts and Green candidate Delilah Barrios.

In the lieutenant governor contest, Republican incumbent Dan Patrick is being challenged by Democrat Mike Collier. Also on the ballot is Libertarian candidate Shanna Steele.

Competing for the position of attorney general are Republican incumbent Ken Paxton, Democrat Rochelle Mercedes Garza and Libertarian candidate Mark Ash.

In the race for U.S. House District 22, Republican incumbent Rep. Troy Nehls is being challenged by Democrat Jamie Kaye Jordan and Libertarian candidate Joseph LeBlanc.

In the race for U.S. House District 29, Democratic incumbent Sylvia Garcia is being challenged by Republican Robert Schafrank.

Competing to represent U.S. House District 36 are Republican incumbent Brian Babin and Democratic challenger Jon Haire.

In the contest to represent state House District 129, Republican incumbent Rep. Dennis Paul is be-

ing challenged by Democrat Kat Marvel.

In the race for Harris County judge, Democratic incumbent Lina Hidalgo is being challenged by Republican Alexandra del Moral Mealer. See related questionnaire on Page 3.

In the contest for Harris County Precinct 2 commissioner, Democratic incumbent Adrian Garcia is being challenged by Republican candidate Jack Morman, who formerly held the position prior to Garcia. See related questionnaire on Page 3. Continued on Page 2

Late bulletin

Jurors still deliberating

At press time, jurors continued to deliberate in the capital murder trial of A.J. Armstrong, accused of killing his mother, 1992 Dobie graduate Dawn Whitley Armstrong, and her husband, Antonio Armstrong, at the family's Bellaire-area home in 2016.

This marks the second murder trial for the son, only 16 at the time of the killings, as the first one in 2019 ended in a hung jury. Jurors reportedly returned a lengthy note to the court at the end of Tuesday's proceedings, but it was unclear at press time what it contained. The story has made international news, as Antonio Armstrong was once a star football player at Texas A&M University and briefly played in the NFL for the Miami Dolphins.

Children now offered updated booster

Moderna updated bivalent COVID-19 booster shots for children are now available at all Houston Health Department health centers and some multi-service centers.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention announced the expansion allowing the updated booster from Pfizer for children ages 5 through 11 years, and Moderna for children and adolescents ages 6 through 17.

The department will offer the Pfizer booster for children ages 5 and older once it receives a shipment of those doses.

"This is an important time for children and adults to get their vaccines and booster shots," said Dr. David Persse, chief medical officer for the City of Houston. "The increased protection will help against COVID-19 illness and death, especially as we start heading into winter and the Holiday season."

The updated vaccines add Omicron BA.4 and BA.5 protein components which help restore protection that has waned since the previous vac-

cination and target recent Omicron variants that are more transmissible and immune evading.

The department offers the shots at its four health centers and several of its multi-service centers. Doctors' offices, pharmacies and clinics also offer the vaccines and boosters.

Vaccinations at health department sites are free and do not require insurance or proof of residency.

Children may experience some side effects after receiving the booster including pain, swelling, and redness in the arm where the shot was given, fever, tiredness, headache, chills, muscle or joint pain and swollen lymph nodes.

HHD offers free COVID-19 testing that does not require insurance at several of its multi-service centers. Some department partner sites require insurance and ID for testing.

Visit houstonhealth.org or call the Houston Health Department call center at 832-393-4220 for information on vaccine locations and schedules.

Man killed in Gulf Freeway crash

A man was killed in a single-vehicle crash around 11:25 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 16, in the 13800 block of the Gulf Freeway service road near Scarsdale.

The identity of the male victim, 40, was pending verification by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences at press time.

According to Houston Police department officials, witnesses stated the male was driving

a silver Honda Accord south on the freeway at the above address and exited Scarsdale at a high rate of speed. The vehicle struck a raised median on the ramp and then a light pole.

Paramedics were called and pronounced the male dead at the scene.

No other vehicles or persons were involved in the crash. The investigation was ongoing at press time.

Woman murdered outside apartment

A 57-year-old woman was murdered outside her apartment around 11:25 p.m. Friday, Oct. 14, in the 10900 block of Tanner Park Court near Alameda Mall. The identity of the female victim was pending verification by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences at press time.

According to Houston Police Department officials, a witness reported hearing gunshots, opened the front door of his apartment and then observed

the victim, a family member, with multiple gunshot wounds. Paramedics responded and pronounced the woman dead at the scene.

At press time, there was no known suspect(s) or motive for the shooting. Anyone with information in this case is urged to contact the HPD Homicide Division at 713-308-3600 or speak anonymously with Crime Stoppers of Houston at 713-222-TIPS (8477).

Suspect charged in June murder

Charges have been filed against a suspect arrested in the fatal shooting of a man that took place this past June in the 8200 block of Swiss Lane near Alameda Genoa and Monroe.



Shane Henry

The suspect, Shane Henry, 20, is charged with capital murder in the 174th State District Court.

He is accused in the June 15 death of Anthony Merchant, 59.

According to Houston Police Department officials, officers were dispatched to a shooting call outside a residence at the above address and

found Merchant unresponsive in the street. He had suffered multiple gunshot wounds.

Paramedics transported Merchant to HCA Houston Healthcare Clear Lake, where he was pronounced dead. The unknown suspect(s) fled the scene before officers arrived.

Further investigation identified Henry as the suspect in this case. He was subsequently arrested and charged Wednesday, Oct. 12.

Detectives also learned Merchant was a family member of a man fatally shot at the same residence two nights earlier on June 13. The investigation into the June 13 fatal shooting is ongoing.

Anyone with information in this case is urged to contact the HPD Homicide Division at 713-308-3600 or Crime Stoppers at 713-222-TIPS (8477).

Early voting currently underway

Continued from Page 1
Also on the ballot are a \$1.2 billion county bond and a \$478 million city bond, and multiple local propositions. See last week's *Leader* for a complete breakdown of the two bonds.

The last day to apply for ballot by mail is Oct. 28 (received, not postmarked).
Nearby early voting locations include the Harris County Scarsdale Annex, 10851 Scarsdale, and El Franco Lee Community Center, 9500 Hall Road. Voting hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
For information or to see a complete list of polling locations and sample ballot, visit www.harrisvotes.com.

In My Opinion

Carraway gives good sound advice

Elizabeth Martinez just called to let me know she and her husband just went to the post office to mail their mail-in ballots. The postal clerk weighed the ballots and they required \$2.28 in postage for each ballot.
The clerk told them that quite a few ballots had been returned for insufficient postage. The ballot is extra long this election and can vary depending on your county/city/jurisdiction, etc.
I would recommend that if you are voting by mail that you weigh your ballot or have it weighed at the post office for postage required.

Linda Wolf

Carraway gives good sound advice

5+ years ago, Hurricane Harvey flooded this area. In the aftermath, we didn't notice the soil and grass missing from Sabo, Fuqua and Beamer esplanades.

City of Houston Parks and Recreation Dept. is responsible for these green spaces throughout the Houston city limits with budget consideration from City Council members.

After Harvey, Federal remediation funds may also have been available.

Please look at our area esplanades/green spaces (exception: unincorporated area residents pay thousands of dollars for landscaping and water annually).
But, Sabo, Fuqua and Beamer are dependent on City of Houston to keep our Green Space/Esplanades beautiful.

These 3 area thoroughfare esplanades need rehabilitation with soil and grass.

Please: Call 311 and get a request number to follow the job.

Contact: District D Councilperson Carolyn Evans-Shabazz; 832-393-3001. email to: districtd@houston.tx.gov

We have 5 At-large Councilpersons who represent the entire City of Houston
1. Mike Knox, 832-393-3014; Email: atlarge1@houston.tx.gov
2. David Robinson 832-393-3013. Email: atlarge2@houston.tx.gov
3. Michael Kubosh, 832-393-3005 Email: atlarge3@houston.tx.gov
4. Letitia Plummer, 832-393-3012 Email: atlarge4@houston.tx.gov
5. Sallie Alcorn, 832-393-3017 Email: atlarge5@houston.tx.gov

This remediation won't happen without your help. Squeaky wheels ...

Rosemary Carraway

Jackson writes on "4-letter words"

Election cycles always see an upswing of words and terms intentionally chosen by paid professionals to be said -and be repeated again and again- to sway the potential voter into voting for, or against, a particular person or position.

Fear is one four-letter word and Fact is another. While both convey information one is intended to work on emotions, and the other is directed toward reasoning. The differences between the two is important. Especially in the voting booth.

These same political consultants know that negative ads against an opponent are more likely to sway the voter in the way they want. Especially when their candidate has few strong points to brag about; always "If you can't talk up your guy, then talk down their guy." What a sad way to run an election.

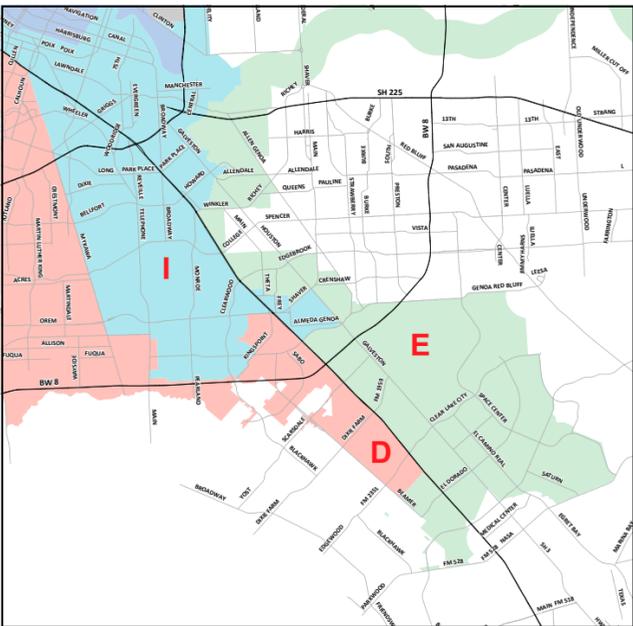
And these consultants use this knowledge to manipulate us, the voter, by preying on our fears of change and the unknown. They know we won't take the time to critically think about their latest PAC ad, their latest 'buzz-word' that is repeated by all the news sources we follow. They know we're too busy dealing with distractions at work, or home, or play, to fact check what we already choose to believe. After all, we already "know" our gut feeling is right. Right?
Whenever we read, hear, or see things we subconsciously react on built-in biases. These reactions are a result of lifelong conditioning. We seek and support those ideas, things, and people which agree with us. All those that make us feel good, and right, and safe about ourselves. Conversely, if any new information conflicts, or disagrees, with our preconceived notions then it must be wrong.

It's human nature, our animal instinct, to do this. Therefore, it takes something special to go inside and question our own beliefs. It takes serious gut-wrenching work to wonder if we are being honest in our beliefs or are we're just simply "going along to get along." It's said, "Change isn't easy," yet we do it all the time. When we want to. Or when we learn what we thought was right before is no longer right. So, when it suits or purpose we can change, and we do change.

Moreover, I believe there are also other four-letter words worth thinking about as we vote to choose those who represent us. Words like: Love or Hate; Help or Hurt; Give or Take; Harm or Heal; Fake or Real.

Perhaps these choices are no less important today as they were in 1776 when Thomas Paine said, "These are the times that try men's souls."
Ed Jackson

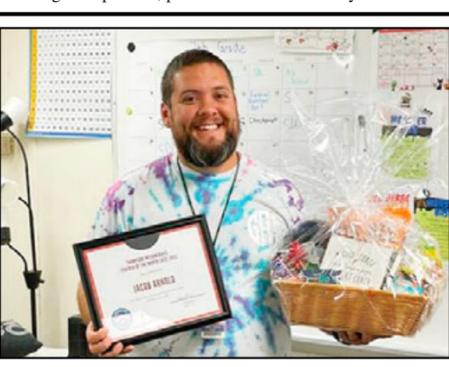
City of Houston releases new district maps



The City of Houston recently approved new district maps, which reportedly better reflect the city's demographics following the 2020 Census. The South Belt community will continue to be divided between Carolyn Evans-Shabazz's District D and Dave Martin's District E. The new maps will take effect January 2024.

City approves new district maps

Continued from Page 1
an extended public comment period. Residents were also invited to use a computer with specialized software in the Planning Department lobby to submit their own alternative redistricting plan.
Through the process, proposed plans and revisions were accessible to the public on the redistricting website.
The redistricting website (www.letstalkhouston.org/redistricting) has been updated to reflect approved revisions. Maps and voting precinct and demographic data tables may also be viewed at the site.



Thompson selects Teacher of the Month

Assistant football coach and special education teacher Jacob Arnold was voted on by faculty and administration for October Teacher of the Month for Thompson Intermediate.

Meet the legends from upcoming Wings Over Houston Airshow

Attendees at the upcoming Wings Over Houston Airshow, taking place at Ellington Airport on Oct. 29-30, will have the opportunity to meet notable guests from aviation and aerospace in the Legends and Heroes Tent prior to the headlining performances by the U.S. Navy Blue Angels. These flying aces, decorated war heroes, veterans and living legends of flight will be present to sign autographs and share stories.
"The Legends and Heroes Tent reflects the heart of the airshow as we exist to honor them and bring history to life," said Bill Roach, executive director of Wings Over Houston. "The sacrifices these individuals have made for our freedom have significantly contributed to the advancement of flight, not only in the sky, but also in space. It is a privilege to host them and provide a platform to share their stories and passion for their country." Special guests making appearances at the tent will be:
- Frank Emond: One of the last survivors of Pearl Harbor, he was aboard the battleship USS Pennsylvania on Dec. 7, 1941 and witnessed the Japanese attack. As the band played morning colors, he saw the first bomb drop and explode at a hangar on Ford Island. After seven years of playing the horn, Emond became a Navy band leader. He retired in 1968.
- Gene Kranz: Kranz is a well-known NASA figure for his time as flight director during Gemini and Apollo missions. He received numerous awards, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Richard Nixon on Apollo 13, and his designation as a Distinguished Member of the Senior Executive Service by President Ronald Reagan. After retirement, he served as a flight engineer on a B-17 "Flying Fortress," constructed an aerobatic biplane. In April 2000, he published his memoir about the space program, called "Failure Is Not an Option: Mission Control from Mercury to Apollo 13 and Beyond." His book was selected by the History Channel as the basis for a documentary.
- Graciela Tiscareño-Sato: Tiscareño-Sato is a graduate of the University of California at Berkeley, School of Environmental Design, where she earned a degree in Environmental Design/Architecture while completing the Aerospace Studies program as an AFROTC scholarship cadet. After Berkeley, she joined the active-duty Air Force and completed Undergraduate Navigator Training at Mather Air Force Base in Sacramento. During her military career, Graciela lived on or visited four continents and flew for thousands of hours. As an instructor, she taught GPS systems, navigation systems and more in the classroom and in the cockpit. She was one of very few women that served on the NATO Battlestaff in Vicenza, Italy during the conflict in Bosnia-Herzegovina.
She authored the award-winning entrepreneurship book "Latinovating: Green American Jobs and the Latinos Creating Them," which highlights Hispanic entrepreneurs in the green economy. She is the author of an Amazon bestselling bilingual children's book titled "Good Night Captain Mama/Buenas Noches Capitán Mamá," the first bilingual children's book about why mommies serve in the military. This book was honored at the American Library Association National Convention in the category of "Best Educational Children's Book - Bilingual." Since then, it's won awards in competitions among military writers, independent publishers and the prestigious Writers Digest Magazine. The second award-winning book in the series ("Captain Mama's Surprise") published in 2016, was reviewed in School Library Journal and featured in USA Today.
- SSGT George Truman Waters: Waters was just 21 years old when he was drafted. The trouble would follow him to the war where he served as a B-17 gunner. After flying 14 missions in 22 days, he was shot down on Feb. 22, 1944. His book, "No Thought for Tomorrow," details his experiences, including when he had to bail from the B-17 as it fell apart and crashed during combat. While he survived with a front-loader parachute he put on right before the flight, he would ultimately spend 15 months as a prisoner of war in Germany - where he was interrogated and walked over 600 miles across the Nazi-controlled country. Today, Waters - who also nearly died as a child from scarlet fever - believes "ignorance is bliss" and the secret to a long life is to "not dig too much, and when you're in a hole - stop digging." His wife, is Mavis, 101, who he married the week before the Pearl Harbor attack in 1941.
- Lt. Col. James Harvey III: Harvey is a retired United States Army Air Corps officer and former African-American fighter pilot with the 332nd Fighter Group's 99th Fighter Squadron, best known as the Tuskegee Airmen, "Red Tails," or among enemy German pilots, Schwartz Vogelmenschen ("black bird-men"). He is one of the 1007 documented Tuskegee Airmen pilots. He is best known as the first African-American USAF jet fighter combat pilot to fight in the Korean War. Harvey and his 332nd Fighter Group Weapons pilot team won the USAF's inaugural "Top Gun" competition in 1949. Harvey - along with every member of the Tuskegee Airmen - received the Congressional Gold Medal in 2006. He, along with Dr. Harold Brown, George Hardy, and fellow 1949 Top Gun winner Harry Stewart Jr., are among the last surviving members of the Tuskegee Airmen.
- Ralph Coleman Graham: Author of "12 Minutes: The Untold Story of the Ghost Plane at the Battle of the Bulge," Coleman tells the true, and riveting, story of divine intervention in one of WWII's most historic battles. Coleman, at the age of 18, volunteered 14 months before Pearl Harbor and the Declaration of War. His book conveys the horror and turmoil of the Battle with striking honesty and objectivity. The book excels as his examination of God's guiding hand in the affairs of man and an account of one particular celestial intervention that brought a crew of Americans home while thousands perished all around them.
Col. Joe McPhail: McPhail flew with the most successful Marine Fighting Squadron of 1945 was VMF-323, the "Death Rattlers." In just a few weeks, they shot down 124½ Japanese and counted a dozen Aces. McPhail downed a Zeke and, on April 12, 1945, while on patrol flying a F4U Corsair, shot down Ki-27 Nate. He is a decorated combat pilot veteran of the Korean War.
Capt. Don Smith: Finishing at the top of his class with the USAF Undergraduate Pilot Training in 1968, Smith's first assignment piloting the F-106 at Langley AFB, VA with the 48th Fighter-Interceptor Sq. But first to Perrin AFB, TX for F-102 school then on to Tyndall AFB, FL for F-106s. He served with the 57th FIS at Keflavik, Iceland flying F-102s to protect P-3s from Soviet bombers violating NATO airspace. Back to Tyndall AFB piloting F-101s, he oversaw test projects like the PQM-102 (drone). Don left active duty and joined the Texas Air National Guard at Ellington. After his military service he flew for Delta Airlines, becoming a senior check airman on the Boeing 777.
Sharon Caples McDougle:

Deaths

Margaret Mary Musachia



Dottie, Dominic and the Cantalamessa family moved from Chester, Pa. to Newark, New Jersey in July 1960. In early November 1961, while visiting family and friends in Chester, Margaret Mary was born on Nov. 2 at Sacred Heart Hospital.

When Margaret Mary was nine, the family moved to the South Belt area of Houston.

There she attended Stuchbery Elementary and Thompson Intermediate. While at Thompson she was a twirler and played flute in the band.

She graduated from Dobbie High in 1979. For a while she worked at the local Sear's Surplus store and attended Lamar University in Beaumont.

After graduation from San Jacinto College X-Ray Tech School, Margaret Mary worked at Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital for 34 years as an X-ray tech.

She loved working with the elderly and challenged patients.

Margaret Mary was preceded in death by her husband Steven Musachia. They lived in Bayou Vista where Steven enjoyed fishing, hunting, and barbecuing supported by Margaret Mary, even though hunting was not her thing.

She is survived by her parents Dottie and Dominic; her sister Mary Rose Burk; and brothers George (Mona) and Nick (Margie) Cantalamessa. She is also survived by nieces and

nephews Bridgid, Amanda and Matthew Burk and Kirby, Olivia, Alana, Elizabeth and David Cantalamessa; and great-nephews Levi and Oliver Burk.

She also will be especially missed by her loving dog Dove, who followed her every where she went.

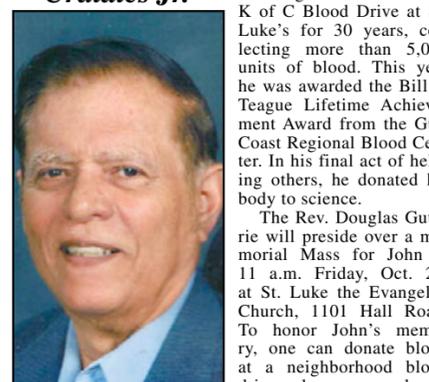
She was preceded in death by brother Joseph Cantalamessa.

Friends and especially her Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital co-workers are invited to attend her viewing at Peevey Funeral home, 12440 Beamer, from 5 to 8 p.m. on Nov. 3 with a rosary to be recited at 6:30 p.m.

A funeral Mass will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, Nov. 4 at St. Luke The Evangelist, 11011 Hall Road.

A reception at St. Luke's will follow interment at South Park East, 2160 Gulf Freeway, Webster.

John Manuel Urdiales Jr.



John Manuel Urdiales Jr. died Oct. 22, 2022, at age 85. He was born in Houston on Sept. 5, 1937, to John Manuel Urdiales Sr. and Julia Reyes Rodriguez Urdiales.

He is preceded in death by his parents and his brothers Richard and Stephen Urdiales.

In 1986 he married Eleanor Carol Bradley Urdiales who survives him. Other survivors include his sons John Manuel III, Jona Michael, and Alejandro Urdiales; his grandchildren Julia Megan Urdiales, Jaden Urdiales, Jacob Urdiales, and Sean Chavez; and his sis-

Leader obituary policy

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

Toastmasters seeking news members

The Young Professional Southeast Toastmasters club is seeking new members. They meet virtually every Monday at 6:30 p.m. Members will extend a warm welcome and envelop newcomers in a friendly atmosphere, where meetings are designed for members to practice communication and leadership skills. Join and learn how Toastmasters can help attendees find their voice and transform themselves. By unleashing potential some never-before thought they possessed, goals and dreams can be achieved. For information, visit this website to learn more about the club and how to attend a session virtually, <https://www.youngprofessionaltoastmasters.com>.

Local library events set

Bracewell Branch Library
Bracewell Library is located at 9002 Kingspoint. 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. Closed Sundays.
Tuesdays, 10:30 - 11 a.m. Outdoors storytime for all ages. Plan to enjoy a good story at Bracewell in the fresh outdoors, weather permitting.
Visit <https://houstonlibrary.org/learn-explore/library-events> for more library events.

Parker Williams Library
Parker Williams Library is located at 10851 Scarsdale Blvd. Visit the website at <https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library> or call 832-927-7870.
The book drop is open. No late fees will be charged during the library closure. Social media links are Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary and Instagram.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary.

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

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LITURGY SCHEDULE

(Modified during COVID-19)

Saturday Vigil	5:30 p.m.
Sunday	8 a.m. and 10 a.m.*
Sunday	1 p.m. Misa en Español*

*Also Available on Facebook Live

Monday, Wednesday & Friday	9 a.m.
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Thursday 7:45 to 8:30 p.m. Saturday 4 to 5 p.m.

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Potential Harris County officials answer *South Belt Leader* questionnaire

The *Leader* sent questionnaires to all candidates seeking the positions of Harris County judge and Precinct 2 commissioner. County judge candidates include Democratic incumbent Lina Hidalgo and Republican challenger Alexandra del Moral Mealer, while commissioner candidates include Democratic incumbent Adrian Garcia and Republican challenger Jack Morman. Of those, all but Hidalgo responded.

What makes you best qualified to serve the constituents of Harris County Precinct 2? (100 words or less)
I served successfully as the Commissioner of Precinct Two for eight years from 2011 until 2019. My experience, judgment, and character make me the most qualified to serve in this position again. I will focus on public safety and basic services that are no longer being provided sufficiently.

Do you have any political experience? (50 words or less)
I served as the Precinct Two Commissioner for two terms from 2011 until 2019.

What, if any, endorsements do you have? (50 words or less)
Every major law enforcement group, three constables, two former sheriffs, members of Congress and the Texas Legislature, two members of Commissioners Court, former Court members, local mayors, and community leaders. Complete list at www.electjackmorman.com

Do you have any direct ties to the South Belt community? (50 words or less)
Yes. I grew up in Deer Park. However, both my wife and I have many friends and family members in South Belt.

If elected, what would you do to improve the South Belt community? (50 words or less)
I would strive to unite the South Belt area. Currently South Belt is divided between two different com-

missioner precincts. I will advocate to include El Franco Lee Park into Precinct 2.

What one main project would you like to accomplish if elected? (100 words or less)
The improvement of public safety, better support for law enforcement and a return to the prioritization of fundamental services.

What do you see as the main role of Commissioners Court? (100 words or less)
Public safety, infrastructure, flood control, protecting and developing jobs, parks, community services to seniors and veterans, and stewardship of Harris Health.

What do you see as the biggest hurdle for Commissioners Court? (100 words or less)
A lack of focus and a lack of ability to work together because of the tactics of the Democratic majority.

In recent years, Commissioners Court has become more divided among party lines. What steps would you take to mend these divides? (100 words or less)
Unlike my opponent, I would be a focused, honest broker who understands both his duty to my precinct and the people of Harris County. I would be a leader focused on real results and not headlines, partisanship and bullying.

In August 2021, the Texas Supreme Court upheld Gov. Greg Abbott's ban on local mask mandates, overriding local municipalities that had - following CDC recommendations - put such mandates in place. Do you agree with this ruling? (100 words or less)
Yes.

Do you support a private business's right to refuse service to unvaccinated patrons? (100 words or less)
I support the rights of lo-

cal businesses to do as they see best.

Recent maps approved by the Democrat-led Commissioners Court effectively swapped the bulk of geographic areas in Precinct 3 and Precinct 4 - the two districts run by Republicans. Many viewed this as partisan and possible even vindictive. What are your thoughts on the measure? (100 words or less)
The Democrat majority on Commissioners Court, of which my opponent is a member, unjustly and unfairly gerrymandered the entire county for political gain. It was dishonest, unnecessary and left a lot of voters alienated.

The recent redistricting measure also now places the South Belt community in Precinct 2 rather than Precinct 1 but leaves El Franco Lee Park in Precinct 1, upsetting many community leaders. What are your thoughts on this? (100 words or less)
A new Commissioners Court should reconsider many of the horrible calls made during the redistricting. As I said above, I will do everything I can to unite South Belt, including El Franco Lee Park.

Constable funding has come under fire in recent years, as Precinct 2 and Precinct 8 - the two districts that patrol the South Belt community - receiving significantly less funding than their counterparts. Do you support measures to make funding equal for all precincts? (100 words or less)
I support equalization based on need and calls for service and the area covered. This should be a priority.

The Harris County criminal court system has become backlogged with tens of thousands of cases. What steps would you take to improve this? (100 words or less)
I have nearly four decades of public service experience in the areas of law enforcement, governance and legislation. I ran for County Commissioner in 2018 because I saw no one in county leadership in Precinct 2 working for the people. We have completely turned that around in the Precinct 2 office. Through my public service career and for the past three years as Commissioner, I have served those in our community who have been left behind or left without. I am working hard every day to make Precinct 2 safer and more affordable for all our families.

Do you have any political experience? (50 words or less)
I served on Houston City Council representing District H from 2004 to 2007. I was Mayor Pro Tem for part of my time on Council. I served as Harris County Sheriff from 2009 to 2015. I have served as Harris County Commissioner, Precinct 2, from 2019 to the present.

What, if any, endorsements do you have? (50 words or less)
Sheriff Ed Gonzalez, the Houston Chronicle, Texas Gulf Coast AFL-CIO, Area 5 Democrats, SEIU Texas, Harris County Tejano Democrats, Houston Black American Democrats, Harris County Young Democrats, Texas Democrats with Disabilities, Bay Area Democratic Movement, LGBTQ+ Political Caucus, Sierra Club, Planned Parenthood Texas Votes, Latino Labor Leadership Council of Southeast Texas and more.

Do you have any direct ties to the South Belt community? (50 words or less)
I am proud to have served the South Belt Community for a combined 10 years as Sheriff and County Commissioner, working to keep South Belt families safe and healthy and to help small business thrive. I recognize the importance of the growing unincorporated area of south Belt and that The Leader and the Chamber have done tremendous work in the community. I intend to stay very active there.

If elected, what would you do to improve the South Belt community? (50 words or less)
Flood improvement is one of my priorities. We completed an average of more than 1 million linear feet of ditch maintenance, and broke ground on numerous flood control projects, and continue to look for more revenue to finish projects that were supposed to be funded by the 2018 flood bond.

What one main project would you like to accomplish if elected? (100 words or less)

words or less)
Fix the criminal justice system and hold the judiciary accountable.

The current bail system has also come under fire in recent years, with opponents claiming dangerous criminals are routinely released on little to no bail, only to commit more crimes. What steps would you take to prevent this? (100 words or less)
We first need to elect judges that come to work and prioritize public safety over political games or anti-law enforcement positions.

A study of the county's contract constable program has been proposed to evaluate its efficacy. Do you support this measure? (100 words or less)
No. Such a study can be performed internally and without spending more on unnecessary and wasteful consultants who know nothing of Harris County, as my opponent has done.

What do you see as the main role of Commissioners Court? (100 words or less)
Each Harris County Commissioner is in charge of infrastructure, parks and outreach programs in their precinct. In addition, Commissioners set policies for the entire county and manage the budget for county departments and agencies. My focus has been on public safety, education, jobs, healthy families and flood protection. I am proud of the significant investment in public health I have championed, including real-time air quality monitors to protect families from toxins in our air, particularly during chemical emergencies. I am just getting started and want to continue this work to improve the lives of Precinct 2 residents.

What do you see as the biggest hurdle for Commissioners Court? (100 words or less)
More local control. We need the state government to quit playing politics and let us do our job. It's our job to keep our residents safe and provide services. Yet, the governor and the legislature have stripped us of the power to protect our residents from environmental hazards, flooded our communities with guns without background checks or required training, and choked off our ability to raise the revenue we need to do our job.

In recent years, Commissioners Court has become more divided among party lines. What steps would you take to mend these divides? (100 words or less)
We need to do all work together for the residents of Harris County. When I proposed the third straight property tax decrease for Harris County, I negotiated with our Republican commissioners to ensure that they would participate in a vote to set the tax rate and keep the county open. I was a leader in efforts to reach a compromise tax rate and budget during the current impasse. I secured a unanimous vote for the 10% minimum bail rule. I am willing to work with all my colleagues to provide the services our residents need and deserve.

In August 2021, the Texas Supreme Court upheld Gov. Greg Abbott's ban on local mask mandates, overriding local municipalities that had - following CDC recommendations - put such mandates in place. Do you agree with this ruling? (100 words or less)
No one knows a community better than the people who live and work there. As I said above, the state needs to allow local elected officials to do their jobs. Protecting our community from COVID is a public health issue, not a political issue. While mask mandates are not needed at this time, we need everyone to get their vaccines and booster shots. I am proud to have distributed thousands of vaccine doses to eligible seniors and essential workers.

Do you support a private business's right to refuse service to unvaccinated patrons? (100 words or less)
Yes. If a businessperson wants to protect his or her customers and staff, they have the right to refuse service to unvaccinated persons. We need to keep our businesses open to ensure our economy stays strong. They cannot stay open if staff has to quarantine when they are exposed to COVID or customers refuse to patronize them because they don't feel safe there. I worked to ensure that Harris County's forgivable loan program funds went to small businesses in Precinct 2 so they could stay open during the pandemic, keeping our economy going and ensuring jobs are not lost.

What one main project would you like to accomplish if elected? (100 words or less)

First among many priorities is increasing public safety. Law enforcement spending has INCREASED by 20% since I took office. Our public safety Investments are working. According to Texas Department of Public Safety data, Crime rates are down this year: murder is down 11.7%; aggravated assault is down 9.7%; rape is down 32.8%; and robbery is down 9.7%. I have championed Shot Spotter, a pilot project helping law enforcement determine where guns have been fired in Harris County so they can respond immediately. And I created VIPER, a task force that is rounding up violent persons with outstanding warrants.

Recent maps approved by the democrat-led Commissioners Court effectively swapped the bulk of geographic areas in Precinct 3 and Precinct 4 - the two districts run by Republicans. Many viewed this as partisan and possible even vindictive. What are your thoughts on the measure? (100 words or less)
I categorically reject those views. Populations are changing in Harris County. We are constitutionally bound to protect the principle of one person, one vote. In addition, boundaries for political entities should reflect the people who live in a community and not be concerned with which political party should win a particular seat.

The recent redistricting measure also now places the South Belt community in Precinct 2 rather than Precinct 1 but leaves El Franco Lee Park in Precinct 1, upsetting many community leaders. What are your thoughts on this? (100 words or less)
It's unfortunate that El Franco Lee Park was not put into Precinct 2 with the rest of the South Belt community. I will personally appeal to my colleague Commissioner Ellis to re-consider allowing the annual Barbeque Cook-Off to be held there. If unsuccessful, I will diligently work to find another location. I also commit to looking at the vacant, undeveloped county-owned property in South Belt for development into more green space in the community.

Constable funding has come under fire in recent years, as Precinct 2 and Precinct 8 - the two districts that patrol the South Belt community - receiving significantly less funding than their counterparts. Do you support measures to make funding equal for all precincts? (100 words or less)
Constable precincts should all receive the same basic funding. However, in areas of high crime and additional need, I would support additional funding until the crime rate there is reduced and community needs are met. As I pointed out above, improving public safety is one of my highest priorities, which I have worked on diligently the past three years. Constables are a major part of our public safety system and they need to have the resources to keep our communities safe.

The Harris County criminal court system has become backlogged with tens of thousands of cases. What steps would you take to improve this? (100 words or less)
I won Commissioners' approval to add additional funding for the District Attorney's Office and Pre-Trial Services to help with the county's backlog of non-violent criminal cases, which will free up the justice system to focus on violent crime. We approved the creation of a new criminal court and the hiring of three visiting judges to clear the backlog in our criminal court that is contributing to crime. Because of these and other initiatives, the overall felony court backlog is down by 23% and the overall misdemeanor court backlog is down by 26%. We are continuing to make substantial progress.

The current bail system has also come under fire in recent years, with opponents claiming dangerous criminals are routinely released on little to no bail, only to commit more crimes. What steps would you take to prevent this? (100 words or less)
Violent offenders should not be on our streets, period. Sadly, there is a lot of misinformation being spread for political purposes. Misdemeanor bail reform, which I support, is not connected to this crisis. Our judges are setting higher and higher bail amounts for violent offenders, but the bail bonds industry is giving higher and higher discounts to these offenders so they can get out of jail. We recently successfully advocated that the Bail Bond Board require a ten percent minimum on bond payments. We should make it more difficult for violent offenders to get out of jail.

A study of the county's contract constable program has been proposed to evaluate its efficacy. Do you support this measure? (100 words or less)
That proposal was withdrawn in 2019 and there are no plans for another study.

Office of Harris County Judge
Incumbent, Harris County Judge Lena Heldago's office said they would submit the questionnaire, but did not even when given additional time.

Alexandra del Moral Mealer

Age: 38
Occupation: Energy Investment Banker
Education: West Point, Harvard JD/MBA
Marital Status/Children: married with 2 kids

Why are you running for the position of county judge? (100 words or less)
I watched as petty crime in my neighborhood turned into violent crime and our local officials refused to even acknowledge the problem. When I launched my campaign public safety was my top priority, yet wasn't a priority for our County Judge. We have enough resources in Harris County to make every neighborhood safe, not just for my kids but for every kid in our community. The position of County Judge, along with the votes of the other Commissioners, has the power of the purse through our county budget over our jails, law enforcement, evidence processing, and our court system.

What makes you best qualified to serve the constituents of Harris County? (100 words or less)
I have a plan. It starts with more law enforcement working in our jails and patrolling our neighborhoods and I have committed to fund 1,000 additional law enforcement positions once in office. In addition, we know that the current backlog of cases is unacceptable and funding will be needed for additional prosecutors, evidence processing and courtroom hours to move and I am committed to providing the resources to make that happen. I have the ability to work across the aisle as long as our primary goal is addressing crime, my hyper-partisan opponent cannot do that.

What do you see as the main role(s) of county judge? (100 words or less)
The first and foremost responsibility of any local official is to protect the most vulnerable—our local leaders were failing in that responsibility so I stepped up and raised my hand.

Do you have any political experience? (50 words or less)
I have never sought elected office before however I do have experience dealing with burdensome government regulations, bureaucratic processes, and working with those with whom I may disagree.

What, if any, endorsements do you have? (50 words or less)
I have the endorsement of twenty law enforcement organizations, the Houston Chronicle, Mattress Mack, Houston news legend Dave Ward, among many others that can be found at alexandramealer.com/endorsements/

Do you have any direct ties to the South Belt community? (50 words or less)
I didn't prior to this campaign but after campaigning for more than a year I feel as though I have gotten to know and connected with nearly every community in our county including the South Belt.

Current County Judge Lina Hidalgo recently made headlines when three of her staffers were indicted on felony charges but retained their jobs while they await trial (one had already voluntarily stepped down). What are your feelings about this? (100 words or less)
It's a reflection on her leadership that three of her senior staffers felt comfortable enough with the behavior they displayed. What's worse is that she has kept one of the indicted staffers on as her Chief-of-staff. I believe people are innocent until proven guilty however if an employee who has access to sensitive informa-

tion and is in a position of authority is indicted, they should at least be put on leave until and unless they are cleared of any wrongdoing.

In recent years, Commissioners Court has become more divided among party lines. What steps would you take to mend these divides? (100 words or less)

Our priority on Commissioners Court will be public safety and as long as we are in agreement that that is the top priority, we will be able to work together. My obligation as Judge will be to residents above partisanship. Prior to Lina's administration, Harris County worked in a bipartisan fashion and didn't get bogged down in left vs. right. That's what I believe we need to be moving toward. Furthermore, I think there is an opportunity to work more efficiently with cities in the County and am very proud to have the support of many mayors within the county.

What do you see as the biggest hurdle for Harris County? (100 words or less)
The biggest issue facing Harris County is the lawlessness allowed to fester because Lina Hidalgo has starved the criminal justice system of much needed resources. To tackle this unprecedented rise in crime there is a funding element and a legal element. Starting on Day 1, I will file a motion dissolving the O'Donnell Consent Decree and propose a mission statement for a safer County; by day 30 we will have an interagency law enforcement summit, by day 60 we will fund 1,000 additional law enforcement to help with response times, deterrence, catching violent offenders, and making our jail safer.

What main goal would you like to accomplish if elected county judge? (50 words or less)
My main goal is to aggressively fund our entire criminal justice system which will expedite the court case backlog and close the revolving door at the county jail.

Recent maps approved by the democrat-led Commissioners Court effectively swapped the bulk of geographic areas in Precinct 3 and Precinct 4 - the two districts run by Republicans. Many viewed this as partisan and possible even vindictive. What are your thoughts on the measure? (100 words or less)
It was done to punish the Republican members of Commissioners Court and try to make their re-elections harder. But, while trying to punish their colleagues, the Democratic majority in effect disenfranchised millions of voters who selected their representation and had no say in the change. Taxpayers who were used to their representation, had connections within the office to help address neighborhood concerns, and some who were gearing up for the chance to cast their vote again had all of that stripped from them because of a decision made by a select few.

The recent redistricting measure also now places the South Belt community in Precinct 2 rather than Precinct 1 but leaves El Franco Lee Park in Precinct 1, upsetting many community leaders. What are your thoughts on this? (100 words or less)
Similar to above, I feel that the recent redistricting was done for political purposes rather than with the community in mind.

Constable funding has come under fire in recent years, as Precinct 2 and Precinct 8 - the two districts that patrol the South Belt community - receiving significantly less funding than their counterparts. Do you support measures to make funding equal for all precincts? (100 words or less)
I believe every resident deserves the same level of security regardless of what part of the county they live in. We need more policing not less.

A study of the county's contract constable program has been proposed to evaluate its efficacy. Do you support this measure? (100 words or less)
I have long been supportive of the contract deputy program.

For more voting info see story on Page 1



Jack Morman
Age: 44
Occupation: Attorney
Education: Graduate of Baylor University and the Baylor University Law School
Marital Status / Children: Married with a son and daughter. Jordan is 15. Trey

Adrian Garcia



Age: 61
Occupation: Harris County Commissioner, Precinct 2
Education: Houston Police Academy
Marital Status / Children: Married, 1 child

What makes you best qualified to serve the constituents of Harris County Precinct 2? (100 words or less)
I have nearly four decades of public service experience in the areas of law enforcement, governance and legislation. I ran for County Commissioner in 2018 because I saw no one in county leadership in Precinct 2 working for the people. We have completely turned that around in the Precinct 2 office. Through my public service career and for the past three years as Commissioner, I have served those in our community who have been left behind or left without. I am working hard every day to make Precinct 2 safer and more affordable for all our families.

Do you have any political experience? (50 words or less)
I served on Houston City Council representing District H from 2004 to 2007. I was Mayor Pro Tem for part of my time on Council. I served as Harris County Sheriff from 2009 to 2015. I have served as Harris County Commissioner, Precinct 2, from 2019 to the present.

What, if any, endorsements do you have? (50 words or less)
Sheriff Ed Gonzalez, the Houston Chronicle, Texas Gulf Coast AFL-CIO, Area 5 Democrats, SEIU Texas, Harris County Tejano Democrats, Houston Black American Democrats, Harris County Young Democrats, Texas Democrats with Disabilities, Bay Area Democratic Movement, LGBTQ+ Political Caucus, Sierra Club, Planned Parenthood Texas Votes, Latino Labor Leadership Council of Southeast Texas and more.

Do you have any direct ties to the South Belt community? (50 words or less)
I am proud to have served the South Belt Community for a combined 10 years as Sheriff and County Commissioner, working to keep South Belt families safe and healthy and to help small business thrive. I recognize the importance of the growing unincorporated area of south Belt and that The Leader and the Chamber have done tremendous work in the community. I intend to stay very active there.

If elected, what would you do to improve the South Belt community? (50 words or less)
Flood improvement is one of my priorities. We completed an average of more than 1 million linear feet of ditch maintenance, and broke ground on numerous flood control projects, and continue to look for more revenue to finish projects that were supposed to be funded by the 2018 flood bond.

What one main project would you like to accomplish if elected? (100 words or less)

Genealogical program Oct. 28

On Oct. 28, at 7 p.m., there will be an online meeting for the Bay Area Genealogical Society of Houston. Details will be posted on the Bay Area Genealogical Society website. Check out the topics and links to access meetings on BAGS website at www.TxBayAreaGen.org.

Shera Broussard LaPoint will be the presenter on the topic of Law enforcement use of genetic genealogy. For more information either call Kim at 281-992-2636 or email newsletter@TxBayAreaGen.org.

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VOTE

South Belt recognizes October Super Steers



South Belt Elementary faculty have selected this month's Super Steers. Chosen by their teachers, these students were recognized based on their ability to display kindness, the character trait of the month for October. Photographed above are, left to right, (first row) Stephen Arevalo, Xavier Puente, Kymora Tair, Olivia Mendoza, Monserrat Gongora, Mekhala Caballero, Gabriella Varhese, Kailee Wilson, Zay'lah Saylor, (second row) Liam Gonzales, Aubree Martinez, Josiah Babalola, Avery Pavlock, Alex Rodriguez, Darien Jackson, (third row) Faith Cavazos, Charlize Nunez, Isidro Garcia, Lorelei Cabrera, Luke Spillars, (fourth row) Anna Nguyen, Emmanuel Thomas, Natalia Gallegos, Arianna Molina, Gabriella Padilla, Jessie Alvarez, (fifth row) Isabella Vega, Claudette Reyna, Zayan Jafri, Rahim Jafri, Angel Davila, Isabella Cruz and Tristan Vigil. Not pictured are Sebastian Rodriguez, Al'ena Foxx, Jordyn Lasker, Sherry Franco, Desiree Vasquez, Carlie Rangel and Avery Thomas.

Photo by Lakitha Thomas, counselor

New technology transforms campus security

Technology on college campuses is becoming much more than just adding more computer labs and Smart Boards. University of Houston-Clear Lake is elevating campus safety by using advanced technology that can help police officers respond virtually immediately to situations ranging from an active shooter to a weather alert, or from a medical emergency to a simple burst pipe or broken window.

UH-Clear Lake Chief of Police Russell Miller is implementing the use of SafeZone, a unified safety and communications service from CriticalArc. The service, which can be downloaded onto any smart-phone, allows campus security to respond to any safety risk as soon as they occur.

"The unique feature about SafeZone is that UHCL Police can 'see' you only when you interact with the app," Miller said. "You will do a one-time sign-in, and then you can just use it as you need to."

Miller explained that the UHCL campus was mapped out on the app and when someone opts in, they can zoom in very closely as needed in an emergency, or if you're simply wanting someone to know where you are. He said students could benefit most from the app's "check-in" button.

"Let's say you're working alone in a lab and it's late, and you'd like someone to know where you are," he said. "Simply check in. Press the button and someone in our dispatch will see you pop up on a screen. You'll get a

call and you can just say, 'I'm here.' And dispatch will say they can see you, and that's all there is to it."

He added that no one can be "seen" on the app unless they opt in. "When you no longer need us to know where you are, you can just opt out by pushing the button," he said. "You go off our screen at that moment."

SafeZone has many features, including an option to send texts if speaking isn't possible, and an option to send photos. Officers in the field can see the text stream, even if they did not see the initial outreach. This real-time information can empower those directly affected with vital details and a lifeline.

"There's an emergency button, but if you accidentally push it, there's a 10-second

delay before it actually goes through, so you can push it again and it stops the call," he said.

"For me, this will be really helpful, because we often study till very late at the Rec and Wellness Center. I live off campus and I have a bike," said Disha Kapoor, a freshman fitness and human performance major.

"We don't know who to call if something happens, so this helps me get out of the threat if something happens."

Miller has been introducing and demonstrating the use of SafeZone to student groups and orgs, and faculty and staff groups around campus. To request a personal demonstration of SafeZone to your group, contact Chief Miller at PoliceChief@UHCL.Edu.

Meador faculty awarded platinum



The Meador Elementary PE teachers and principal were recently recognized for receiving the platinum level of the Excellence and Wellness Award for the 2021-2022 school year.

This is a district award granted to schools who excel in coordinated school health and wellness efforts.

The award is aligned with the Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child model and the PISD wellness policy.

Shown from left to right with their Excellence and Wellness Award are Malorie Ehrlich (coach), Jennifer Chavez (principal) and Stephanie Bounds (coach).

Laura Bush releases perfect attendees

The following Laura Bush Elementary students were awarded perfect attendance for the first nine weeks of this school year.

pre-K
Kysen Barker, Aldo Cornejo, Peggy Le, Ed Martinez, Skylar Miller, Justin Nguyen, Arlo Reyes and

Ethan Vu.

Kindergarten
Max Castillo, Jon Chavez, Isabella Cuellar, Heather De La Cruz, Randy De La Cruz and Victoria De Ochoa. Morgan Faith, Gavin Faz, Jermaine Flores, Luke Ingalls, Ahtziri Leon and Allyson Martinez. Christian Martinez, Chris Nguyen, Hung Phan, Kennel Rodriguez and Vanessa Vu.

First grade
Kyri Addison, Vincent Cena, Othon Duran, Sophia Jimenez, Mason Karsten, Ivan Martinez and Darren Nguyen.

Lariaette of the Week



Dobie color guard's Lariaette of the Week for Oct. 21 is senior Emilee Sulak.

Second grade
Michael Garza, Kensi Hernandez, Remy Knight, Ian Monterrubio, Liliana Reyna and Zarielys Torres.

Third grade
Eli Bermudez, Mathew

Fourth grade
Juliana Avila, Joel Garza, Rouis Ong and Nevecha Reyna. Alayna Rice, Giselle Solares and Jancarlo Tejada.

Fifth grade
Katherine Lemus, Ray Martinez, Clarisse Melo, Mya Miller and Mario Moreno. Dylan Nguyen, Kylie Ponce, Tammy Ramclan, Isabella Rodriguez and Francisco Serrano. Zailsey Torres, Karim Vargas, Adriel Velazquez and Elyanna Wells.

Sixth grade
Larissa Castillo, Liana Castillo and Sophia Castellon. Elizabeth Chavez, Maverick Clark, Leonel Cuellar, Jacob Elizondo, Sebastian Fabian and Veronica Galan. Santiago Garza, America Jasso, Raul Jimenez, Aubrey Jimenez and Mia Langellier.

Seventh grade
Katherine Lemus, Ray Martinez, Clarisse Melo, Mya Miller and Mario Moreno. Dylan Nguyen, Kylie Ponce, Tammy Ramclan, Isabella Rodriguez and Francisco Serrano. Zailsey Torres, Karim Vargas, Adriel Velazquez and Elyanna Wells.

Eighth grade
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Ninth grade
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Tenth grade
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Eleventh grade
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Twelfth grade
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Senior
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Wolverine debate triumphs, best in district

The Clear Brook debate team once again won big in a recent tournament in Atascocita, this being their first time attending this specific speech and debate tournament. The novice contingent came out strong and saw two of their

members - Stephen Wiggins and Victoria Constanza - make it to the semifinal round of Novice Extemporaneous Speaking. Meanwhile, the freshman member Alim Merchant fought his way to the finals bracket in Novice Lincoln

Douglas Debate and walked away with a second place finish. The varsity team racked up the team's next five state qualified members to bring the team's total to eight. The World Schools Debate team of

Ava Soza, Gabriel Torres and Daniela Paul came in at third place which garnered them their last four points needed. Informative Speaker Safa Prasla placed second while Aqsa Babar placed third in Original Oratory - both wins

which helped these young ladies seize the brass ring. Fellow Informative Speakers, Jasmine Tran and Hareem Tariq placed first and third respectively which earned Jasmine her first six points this year while Hareem's win catapulted her to nine points.



Shown above are the dominating debate Wolverines from left to right, Aqsa Babar, Hareem Tariq, Daniela Paul, Ava Soza, Gabriel Torres, Alim Merchant, Jasmine Tran, Stephen Wiggins, Victoria Constanza and Abiha Altaf.

In addition to these wins, Ayla Yoakum placed fourth in her specialty event, Program of Oral Interpretation which netted her two additional points, culminating in eight points, to date, while fellow speaker Abiha Altaf took on her latest challenge in Domestic Extemporaneous Speaking where she placed fifth, earning her the first two points of the season.

These wins resulted in the team ending the month of their October travels with eight state qualifiers, the best in Clear Creek ISD. The team now moves on to preparing to host their own meet at Clear Brook on Nov. 4 and 5.

For more information about Clear Brook Speech and Debate, follow the team at www.wolverinedebate.com.

PISD Fine Arts states November dates

Pasadena ISD has announced dates for its November fine arts performances.

- High School choir regional auditions, Monday, Nov. 7, 4-9 p.m., at Goose Creek Memorial High School.
- Thompson Intermediate Band, Monday, Nov. 7, 6:30-8 p.m., at Dobie High School.
- Dobie High School Steel and Jazz band - night at the movies concert, Wednesday, Nov. 9, 7-8:30 p.m., in the auditorium.
- Thompson Intermediate band - Veteran's day program, Friday, Nov. 11, 9-10 a.m., in the Thompson outside gym.
- Stuchberry Elementary - second grade Veteran's day program, Friday, Nov. 11, 9-9:45 a.m., in the cafeteria.
- Atkinson Elementary - second grade fall program, Thursday, Nov. 17, 5:30-6:30 p.m., in the cafeteria.
- Moore Elementary - fourth grade musical "Forever Christmas", Thursday, Nov. 29, 6-6:45 p.m., in the cafeteria.
- Dobie High School dance - winter showcase, Thursday, Nov. 29, 6-7 p.m., in the main gym.
- Dobie High School Orchestra - freshman holiday concert, Thursday, Nov. 29, 7-8:30 p.m., in the main auditorium.

Remember When

45 years ago (1977)
Sherril Whitnah was crowned homecoming queen for J. Frank Dobie High School.

Two local teens, Danny Crow and Mark Goolsby escaped a terrible accident with only minor bumps and bruises. The teens were driving on Beamer when a truck in front of them raised a lot of dust. The next thing the teens saw was a motorcycle coming right at them and when they swerved to miss it they flipped upside down and landed in the Beamer ditch.

40 years ago (1982)
An unoccupied 1972 Chevy coupe was pulled from the Sagehen Community Association swimming pool after passersby noticed the car at the bottom of the pool.

Approximately 900 people attended a meeting discussing the Cosmopolitan Lady Spa. The spa owed as much as \$183,000 to a contractor and as little as \$525 to most of the people at the meeting.

Harris County Sheriff's deputies were investigating reports of four home burglaries in Woodmeadow.

35 years ago (1987)
A temporary section of Beltway 8 from 2.5 miles south of Fairmont to Texas Highway 3 opened.

The Clear Creek Independent School District board of trustees named Jerry Somersford principal of Clear Brook High School.

30 years ago (1992)
One Thompson Intermediate student and two Dobie High School students were expelled for weapons violations involving guns.

Candy Curtis, Wendy Schultz, Lori Coska, Kyle Smith, Corey Cephus and Richard Flores were announced as Dobie's homecoming court.

25 years ago (1997)
Sarah Hughes was named Merit Scholarship semifinalist. Ethan Block was named National Hispanic Scholar semifinalist and Mileton Jolivet as National Black Scholar semifinalist. At Clear Brook, Leah Hernandez and Shiyama Mudali were named semifinalists.

Debbie Thomas was hired as the new executive director of the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce.

20 years ago (2002)
The Pasadena Independent

School District purchased the former Rolloc Shutters property at Blackhawk and Kirkfair. PISD planned for the facility structure to become a satellite transportation facility.

Dobie seniors Brandt Smith and Shannon Valley were both named National Merit semifinalists as a result of their scores on the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship qualifying test during their junior year. In addition, five students were named commended students in the Merit

Program. Farhad Dokhani, Francine Lai, Zainab Naqvi, Khoa Nguyen and Sheila Scott were recognized for their academic performance.

15 years ago (2007)
Devin McNeil James pleaded not guilty to two counts of manslaughter. In July, James was involved in an automobile accident that claimed the life of Cynthia Riojas, who was eight months pregnant. Her child was delivered by an emergency Caesarean section, but died soon after. Police say James was

street racing, but he denied the accusation.

A demolition crew began using cutting torches to disassemble the long-standing water tower on Scarsdale Boulevard. Built in 1985, the structure stood 150 feet high, held 500,000 gallons of water and originally cost \$500,000 to build. The MUD which was responsible for the tower and its upkeep had natural gas standby power that could operate sewage stations in a time of emergency.

The debate over the construction of low-income apartments in the area continued with Chris Clark, Fred Roberts and Marie Flickinger appearing before Houston City Council. Although originally allotted only three minutes each, Clark, Roberts and Flickinger spent more than an hour discussing the issue with the council and Mayor Bill White.

South Belters celebrated Halloween with such festivities as a haunted house hosted by the Sagement Cowboys, a Halloween carnival at the

Southeast Volunteer Fire Department, a children's fall festival at San Jacinto College and a Trunk or Treat celebration at Easthaven Baptist Church.

10 years ago (2012)
The South Belt community was plagued by a string of roughly 20 home burglaries. Affected subdivisions included Kirkmont, Kirkwood South, Sagement and Sagemeadow. Police said the suspects first knocked on the victims' door or rang the bell to determine if anyone was home. If no one answered, they allegedly kicked the front door in. When a resident did answer the door, they reportedly asked for someone by name, then left, saying they had the wrong address.

5 years ago (2017)
The J. Frank Dobie homecoming king and queen were announced at the Longhorns game against the South Houston Trojans. Sebastian Rodriguez Leal was crowned king, and Aleida Gonzalez was crowned queen. The Longhorns were defeated in the game, losing 34-7 to the Trojans.

1 year ago (2021)
Deputies with the Harris County Precinct 2 Special Operations Unit recently made a prostitution arrest at a business posing as a massage parlor in the 10900 block of Scarsdale. Police were alerted to the business, located in a strip center at Beamer, by an area resident who noticed suspicious activity at the storefront while dining at the nearby Papagayo's Mexican Bar & Grill.

A man was fatally shot Tuesday, Oct. 19, in the 9800 block of Ledge. Patrick Fotos was pronounced dead at the scene after being shot multiple times. No immediate arrests were made.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY, ALEXIS!
Special wishes are sent to Alexis Lochner (former Leader staffer) who enjoys a birthday Thursday, Oct. 27, from sister Marie and husband David Flickinger; daughters Nicole Manning and Jessica LeBlanc and husband Michael; sons Dan Sorensen and Joshua David and wife Tamra; grandchildren Breanna and Andrew Manning, Dira and Danny Sorensen and Michaela, Judaea and Rhett LeBlanc.

Frazier Elementary
Send a birthday greeting Oct. 28 to Maria Martinez. Light the birthday candles for Gracie Puente Oct. 30. Give a birthday shout-out Nov. 1 to Jacqueline Cuello.

Moore Elementary
Remember to wish Donna Huemme a happy birthday Oct. 29.

South Belt Elementary
The day for a party for Tiffani Thomason is Oct. 28. Send a birthday greeting Nov. 2 to Lisa Dupla-Barboza.

Roberts Middle School
Steffanie Purucker celebrates a birthday Oct. 29. Light the birthday candles Nov. 1 for Gesina Martin.

Beverly Hills Intermediate
Dominique Thomas enjoys a birthday Oct. 28.

Thompson Intermediate
Send birthday greetings to Angelina Davila Oct. 27.

Dobie High
On Oct. 27, birthday wishes are sent to Kelly Hancock. Joshua Lyons enjoys a birthday Oct. 28. Break out the balloons and birthday cake Oct. 30 for Leslie Barcelona. Enjoy a triple-layer birthday cake with Lauren

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Over The Back Fence by Natalie



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SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

JFD runners finish at regionals

The District 22-6A champion Dobie varsity girls' cross-country delivered its best all-around performance at regionals in years, placing 10th in the final 6A Region III scoring Oct. 24 in Huntsville.

The top-performing individual athletes from the region's Class 2A through Class 6A ranks gathered at Kate Barr Ross Park in Huntsville as state berths were on the line.

In the 6A girls' division, Pearland High School junior Maddie Peters continued her remarkable 2022 season, winning the regional title by more than 32 seconds at 17 minutes, 47.80 seconds.

The Kingwood girls were dominant in the team standings, posting a low of 47 to easily outdistance

second-place Stratford (90), with Tompkins and George Ranch also qualifying for state.

Dobie senior Ashlee Garcia, who won the gold medal as the top individual finisher at the District 22-6A Championships, closed her standout career at regionals as her time of 20:15.20 was 26th-best.

Junior Kyla Lobo, who will return in 2023 to lead the Longhorns, wound up 43rd with a time of 21:06.50 as she ran stride for stride down the stretch with teammate Isela Munoz.

Munoz closed her career at regionals as she was 44th overall in a time of 21:08.20.

Sophomore Lauren Garza posted a time of 22:36.90 for 93rd, and will join Lobo as top returnees

for the Dobie girls. Senior Ashley Dunn also finished her run with the Dobie program as she was in at 24:14.90 for 128th place.

Making its long-awaited return to regionals as a team, the Longhorn varsity boys were 22nd in Huntsville.

The Longhorns' top individual finisher was junior Simon Sepulveda as he finished at 18:38.60 for 112th place.

A time of 18:46.40 placed Dobie junior Jose Munoz in the 119th spot, and teammate Jovanni Avila closed out his career as he placed 126th in a time of 19:02.70.

At 19:25.10, Longhorn junior Francisco Dunn was 140th at regionals, and the Dobie squad also had sophomore Chris Lopez in at 19:27.10 for

143rd place. In a time of 19:41.60, Dobie junior Damian Rosas was 149th overall, while junior Pedro Acevedo posted a time of 20:04.50 for 157th place.

South Houston senior Jeremiah Horton was 86th overall as he finished at 18:00.90.

At right, Dobie's Ashlee Garcia (left) and Kyla Lobo finished first and second, respectively, at the District 22-6A Championships as the program won its third straight league team title. At regionals Oct. 24 in Huntsville, Dobie was 10th as a team as Garcia closed her career with a 26th place finish. Lobo, a junior, was 43rd in the varsity girls' standings.



CB's Trevino is 32nd



Clear Brook High School junior Joseph Trevino placed 32nd overall at the Class 6A Region III Cross-Country Championships Oct. 24 at Kate Barr Ross Park in Huntsville as the top athletes and programs from the region challenged a tough 5,000-meter course. Trevino was in at 16 minutes, 53.10 seconds to close out his season. The 24-6A champion Brazoswood boys were fifth at regionals.

Longhorns look to secure fifth straight playoff berth

By John Bechtle Sports Editor

Plenty will be riding on the outcome as Dobie and South Houston meet Oct.

28 at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena as the District 22-6A varsity football race goes down to the wire.

Dobie, which moved to

3-2 in league play following a 50-31 win over Sam Rayburn Oct. 21, simply needs a win over the Trojans to secure a Class 6A

Division I playoff bracket seeding.

The Trojans, meanwhile, need a win of 13 points or better against

Dobie and then could really help themselves with a win over Deer Park Nov. 4.

The short of it is, despite a 4-5 overall mark entering its final game of the regular season, Dobie can secure a fifth straight playoff berth.

Should the Longhorns advance, they will travel to face the Oct. 28 North Shore/Atascocita winner in the bidistrict playoff round Nov. 10-12.

Mathews goes wild
Longhorn sophomore Cameron Mathews continued his breakout season, scoring five touchdowns and piling up 260 yards rushing along the way to

lead the Longhorns to a 50-31 homecoming victory over Sam Rayburn Oct. 21 at Veterans Stadium.

On the roster for a handful of games as a freshman in 2021, Mathews has become one of District 22-6A's most explosive offensive players while sharing the load with Raynard Hall and Jalen Baldwin.

With his huge night against the Texans, Mathews has rushed for 1,017 yards and 11 touchdowns through his team's nine games.

Baldwin, who was crowned as Dobie's homecoming king at halftime, sat out of the game action against Sam Rayburn,

with the Longhorns leaning on Mathews and Hall.

Hall had a 3-yard touchdown run with five minutes remaining in the first half and had well over 100 yards rushing in the game before exiting in the third quarter with a lower leg injury.

As for Mathews, the Texans simply had no answer as how to slow the game breaker.

Rayburn opened the game with an impressive 14-play, 75-yard drive as quarterback Esteban Nava flipped a 25-yard scoring pass to sophomore Jeremiah Vela for a 6-0 lead midway through the first quarter.

Dobie's first possession began in favorable territory at the Longhorn 45, and Mathews went four yards on first down and 51 more for the touchdown a play

Continued on Page 6



Dobie vs. South Houston Fri., Oct. 28, 7 p.m. PISD Veterans Stadium

At left, Dobie junior offensive lineman Evan Jordan (74) pancakes several Sam Rayburn defenders, including Michael Espinosa (6) and Frankie Cruz (33) as he clears the way to the end zone for sophomore running back Cameron Mathews (2), who rushed for 260 yards and five touchdowns against the Texans in a 50-31 win for the Longhorns Oct. 21 at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena. Mathews eclipsed the 1,000-yard barrier (1,017) and has scored 11 rushing touchdowns with one regular season game to play.

Photo by Donna Alsdorf

Gaitans guide LSA boys' cross-country team championship

Juniors Marcus and Matthew Gaitan led the Lutheran South varsity boys' team to the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools 5A District 5 cross-country championship Oct. 19 at The Woodlands Christian Academy and will now take aim at the state championships.

Dominant all season, the Gaitans helped guide the Pioneers to the team win with a low of 53 for its five qualifiers, edging runner-up St. John, which

had 55. Marcus Gaitan was the boys' gold medalist as he conquered the 5,000-meter course in a time of 16 minutes, 14.17 seconds.

Second Baptist's Christopher Hobbs was the silver medalist (16:26.55), and Matthew Gaitan was third for the bronze medal with his time of 16:30.42.

At 18:22.67, Pioneers' junior Tristan Haver was 12th overall, and senior Nathan Mendoza wound up 17th with his clocking of 18:49.70.

LSA's fifth official scorer was senior Lucas Wells, 20th with his time of 18:53.22.

The Pioneers were also represented by junior Nathan Robert (27th at 19:42.24), freshman Sam Hergenrader (28th at 19:51.07), junior Noah Robert (29th at 19:54.39), junior Jett Strack (37th at 20:31.55), sophomore Ryan Jackson (43rd at 20:59.30), junior James Anthony (47th at 21:25.82), junior Colton Leinkuehler (49th

at 21:29.49), sophomore Manuel Diaz (53rd at 21:47.10), freshman Johan George (62nd at 23:25.30), junior Silas Garrabrant (65th at 24:10.30), junior Evan Riekert (67th at 24:34.49) and freshman Davis Newstead (68th at 24:39.64).

Four freshmen and a sophomore were the LSA varsity girls' top five scorers as the Pioneers were fourth overall in the team standings.

Freshman Elisabeth Hergenrader paced LSA

as her time of 14:07.16 was 16th best, while freshman Jemma Riekert was in at 14:23.452 for 20th place.

At 14:26.61, the Pioneers' Lanie Ward was 21st, and sophomore Madison Van Wie was 24th af-

ter clocking in at 14:44.45. LSA's fifth official scorer was freshman Madeleine Richards, who was 27th in a time of 15:29.09.

The LSA varsity girls were also represented by freshman Becca Byrom (28th at 15:22.39) and sophomores Sophie DeOre (44th at 16:55.21) and Emma Wells (45th at 16:56.22). The LSA girls finished strong and will look ahead to 2023.

**TAPPS State Cross-Country
Monday, Oct. 31
Waco, Texas
Midway High School**

Dobie volleyball to playoffs; Alexa earns 1,000 assists

The Dobie varsity volleyball team finished the regular season with three straight wins to wrap up the No. 3 playoff seed out of District 22-6A and will prepare for the start of the bidistrict playoffs Nov. 1. The Longhorns won eight of 12 district games and wound up 20-18 overall over the course of the regular season to grab third place behind champion Deer Park (12-0) and Pasadena Memorial (8-4). During the Longhorns' sweep of Sam Rayburn Oct. 18, junior Alexa Gonzalez (11) collected her 1,000th career assist amidst what has been a terrific all-around statistical season for the second-year standout. Gonzalez also leads her team in kills entering the postseason, with nearly 500 assists and 500 kills for 2022.



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Wolverines return to action Oct. 28

At right, the Clear Brook varsity football team will honor its seniors as part of Senior Night Oct. 28 at Challenger Stadium in Webster as the Wolverines take on the Clear Springs Chargers in a 7 p.m. kickoff. Brook receiver Christian Wright (81) will be one of the honorees as the Wolverines look for their second straight win this season. Wright has 10 catches for 110 yards and a touchdown through eight games this season. Clear Brook will close out the regular season by facing the Dickinson Gators Nov. 4 at Sam Vitanza Stadium in Dickinson.

Photo by Madison Taylor Duke

Brook vs. Springs
Oct. 28, 7 p.m.
Challenger Stadium



South Belt football predictions

	 John Bechtle	 Emory Gadd	 Troy Leland	 Stephen Sutton	 Debbie Vaughn
Dobie vs. South Houston	Dobie	Dobie	Dobie	Dobie	Dobie
Clear Brook vs. Clear Springs	Springs	Springs	Springs	Springs	Springs
Beaumont United vs. Beaumont West Brook	BWB	BWB	United	United	United
North Shore at Atascocita	Atascocita	North Shore	Atascocita	North Shore	Atascocita
Humble vs. Kingwood	Humble	Kingwood	Kingwood	Kingwood	Kingwood
Summer Creek at C.E. King	CEK	Summer Creek	Summer Creek	CEK	Summer Creek
Clear Lake vs. Clear Falls	Falls	Falls	Falls	Falls	Falls
La Porte at Crosby	La Porte	La Porte	Crosby	La Porte	Crosby
Barbers Hill at Port Arthur Memorial	PAM	PAM	PAM	PAM	PAM
Santa Fe at Texas City	Texas City	Texas City	Texas City	Texas City	Texas City
Last Week's Results	4-6	7-3	7-3	6-4	8-2
Season record	50-30	55-25	63-17	53-27	66-14

Mathews, Dobie run past Rayburn

Continued from Page 5
later as the Longhorns went up 7-6 just 54 seconds later.
Dobie's Rodrick Drumbo helped slow the Texans with a sack late in the first quarter. Hall then picked up 45 yards on three carries, and Mathews went 7 yards for the touchdown.
Following Mathews' two-point run, the Texans found themselves down

15-6 but bounced back. Another 14-play, 75-yard drive resulted in a 2-yard scoring run by the Texans' Phillip Hernandez at the 8:03 mark of the second quarter.
Hall added his 3-yard touchdown run for a 22-12 Longhorn lead with 5 minutes remaining in the half, but back came the Texans. Poised with a chance to pay off a third 75-yard

drive of the half, Rayburn found itself with a fourth-down try from inside the Dobie 1-yard line with 10 ticks left in the half.
That's when Dobie senior linebacker Nigel Hill made a huge play, stuffing Nava for a 2-yard loss as the Texans came up empty.
The Texans managed to wrestle Mathews out of bounds after a 50-yard run

to end the first half, but Mathews bounced back with separate scoring runs of 2 yards and another for 39 yards and a score on the jet sweep in the second half.
Davion Lyons turned in a 62-yard touchdown burst as Dobie hit the 50-point mark for the third time this season.
Now, it's time to wrap up a playoff berth.



Dobie junior Derrick Kelley (12) pursues Sam Rayburn quarterback Esteban Nava during second-half action of the Longhorns' 50-31 win to culminate homecoming week for the Longhorns Oct. 21 at PISD's Veterans Stadium in Pasadena. Kelley now has 76 total tackles this season, sharing the team lead with Dempsey Spears. Dobie is 5-4 overall in 2022, including 3-2 in 22-6A play.
Photo by Donna Alsdorf

Thompson girls' volleyball completes great district run

At right, the Thompson Intermediate eighth-grade A volleyball team completed an undefeated season and placed first in the Pasadena ISD tournament. The Lady Lions defeated Queens, Parkview and Miller in the tournament to complete its title run undefeated at 7-0 in the regular season in addition to three tournament wins. Members of the team are, left to right, (front row) Brianna Chapa, Kaylee Robles, coach Amanda Carroll, Sophia Saucedo, Allison Walker, (back row) Alyssa Goree, Alexis Martinez, Unesty Williams, Alyssa Espinoza, Genesis Leal and Miah Martinez.



The seventh-grade A Lady Lions volleyball team completed an undefeated regular season and placed second in the Pasadena ISD tournament as the locals defeated Parkview and Bondy before slipping to Miller. Members of the team are, left to right, (front row) Emme Mejia, Savannah Tellez, Aja Breaux, Aly Garza, (back row) coach James MacGregor, Liliana Salazar, Maley-Hoop, Emily Nazario, Yosselin Banegas, Aliah Garner, Lexi Rodriguez and coach Kaylyn Harlan.

Bay Area Football League 2022
Divisional Quarterfinal Playoff Round Oct. 29
Cowboys' seniors vs. Pasadena Panthers, 11 a.m.
at Alvin's Bob Briscoe Park, 3215 Hwy. 35, 77511
Cowboys' juniors vs. Pearland Patriots, 9 a.m.
at 5525 Ave. O, Santa Fe, 77510
Cowboys' sophomores vs. Bay Area Buccaneers, 1 p.m.
at Pearland Dad's Club, 6614 Fite Road, 77584

Freshman Div. Standings			
Team	W	L	T
Angleton	10	0	0
League City	10	0	0
Pearland Pats	9	1	0
Southeast	8	2	0
Hitchcock	8	2	0
Bay Area	7	3	0
La Porte	7	3	0
Pearland Texans	5	5	0
Brazosport	5	5	0
Magnolia Park	5	5	0
Pasadena	4	5	1
North Shore	4	6	0
Sagmont	3	6	1
Barbers Hill	3	7	0
East End	2	8	0
Alvin	2	8	0
Santa Fe	1	9	0
Manvel	1	9	0
Southbelt	0	10	0

Sophomore Div. Standings			
Team	W	L	T
Hitchcock	10	0	0
Pearland Patriots	9	1	0
Sagmont	9	1	0
League City	8	2	0
Magnolia Park	8	2	0
Bay Area	7	3	0
La Porte	7	3	0
Angleton	6	4	0
Pearland Texans	5	5	0
Alvin	5	5	0
Brazosport	4	6	0
Barbers Hill	4	6	0
Southeast	4	6	0
Manvel	3	7	0
Pasadena	2	8	0
North Shore	2	8	0
Southbelt	1	8	1
East End	0	9	1
Santa Fe	0	10	0

Junior Div. Standings			
Team	W	L	T
Pearland Pats	10	0	0
League City	10	0	0
Pearland Texans	9	1	0
Barbers Hill	8	2	0
Brazosport	7	3	0
Manvel	7	3	0
Hitchcock	6	4	0
Magnolia Park	6	4	0
Sagmont	6	4	0
Angleton	5	5	0
Alvin	5	5	0
Bay Area	4	6	0
Pasadena	3	6	0
Santa Fe	3	7	0
East End	2	8	0
Southeast	2	8	0
Southbelt	0	10	0
La Porte	0	10	0
North Shore	0	10	0

Senior Div. Standings			
Team	W	L	T
Magnolia Park	10	0	0
Hitchcock	10	0	0
League City	8	2	0
Pasadena	8	2	0
East End	7	3	0
Manvel	7	3	0
Barbers Hill	7	3	0
Sagmont	7	3	0
Southeast	6	4	0
Pearland Patriots	6	4	0
Alvin	5	5	0
Bay Area	3	7	0
Angleton	3	7	0
La Porte	3	7	0
Brazosport	2	8	0
Santa Fe	1	9	0
Southbelt	1	9	0
Pearland Texans	0	10	0
North Shore	0	10	0

PeeWee Div. Standings			
Team	W	L	T
Pearland Pats	10	0	0
League City	10	0	0
Bay Area	9	1	0
Hitchcock	8	2	0
Angleton	8	2	0
La Porte	8	2	0
Pasadena	6	4	0
Sagmont	6	4	0
Barbers Hill	5	5	0
Alvin	4	6	0
Manvel	4	6	0
Brazosport	4	6	0
Santa Fe	4	6	0
Magnolia Park	4	6	0
Pearland Texans	2	8	0
East End	2	8	0
Southeast	1	9	0
Southbelt	0	10	0
North Shore	0	10	0

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CALENDAR

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20

7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill," 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 713-686-6300 or visit <https://aahouston.org/meetings/>.

7:30 a.m. **Rotary Club of Pearland** - Meets at 6117 Broadway St., Pearland, or on Zoom (attendee preference). See Pearland Chamber of Commerce website calendar or call 281-485-3634.

Noon **Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or at <https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners>. Call 713-686-6300.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21

7 a.m. **AA** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.

1 - 3 p.m. **Parker Williams Genealogy Group** - meets at the library, Beamer at Scarsdale. Email Liz Hicks at erootot@usa.net for details.

3:30 - 6:30 p.m. **Bay Area Singles Club** - monthly dance at 5204 Hwy. 3, in Dickinson. Call 281-470-2750 or 281-337-3112.

7 p.m. **Congregation Shaar Hashalom** - All services are live and Zoom online. For details visit <https://www.shaarhashalom.org>.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2930 E. Broadway, Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com or <https://nastuff.com/>.

8 p.m. **Serenity Now Al-Anon Group** - meets at CrossRoads UMC, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Call 281-484-9243.

8 p.m. **AA** - meets at CrossRoads UMC, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Call 281-484-9243.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22

7:30 a.m. **AA** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.

9:30 a.m. **Congregation Shaar Hashalom** - See Friday's notice.

11 a.m. **Al-Anon Meeting (Women Only, English)** - meets at 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, Cornell Conference room #111.

Call 281-487-8787 or visit <https://www.houstonalanon.org/>.

1 p.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - offers a knitting class. Call 281-479-7285 prior to coming.

Jam-3:30/ Bands-6:30 p.m. **Bay Area Bluegrass Association** - music show and jam session at Webster Civic Center, 311 Pennsylvania Ave. Visit <http://www.bayareabluegrass.org>.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

8 a.m./ 10:15 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - has worship at 11456 Space Center Blvd. Call 281-479-7285.

2 p.m. **Grief Support Group** - Meets at Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena. Call 281-487-8787.

5:30 p.m. **Celebrate Recovery** - A faith-based 12-Step program, at 9900 Alameda Genoa. Call 713-419-2635.

8 p.m. **AA** - See Friday's notice.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 24

10 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - 204 S. Main, Pasadena. Call 713-472-0565 for appointment and details.

10:30 a.m. **TRIAD** - Meets at 1700 East Thomas St., in Pasadena. Call 713-477-0175.

Noon **AA** - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday's noon notice.

1:30 - 3 p.m. **Hometown Heroes Dance** - at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 E. League City Parkway. Call 281-554-1180.

5 p.m. **New Directions Singles** - meets at 201 W. NASA Parkway. Call Grant at 281-814-4750.

6 p.m. **Scrabble Club #511** - Meets at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua. COVID-19 vaccination required. Call 281-488-2923.

6:30 - 7:30 p.m. **Toastmasters** - The Young Professionals Southeast Toastmasters Club #05324194 meets virtually <https://youngprofessionalsoastmasters.com/>. Visit the website or call Fatimah Jones, club president, at 281-467-1880.

7 p.m. **TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)** - Meets at 110 N Friendswood Dr. in the

educational bldg, room 201. Call Lynette Ringrose 832-858-4617 or Dorothy Pourteau 713-875-8820.

7 p.m. **NA** - Vigilance Group, see Friday's notice.

7 p.m. **AA** - St. Luke's 12 Step Recovery, open meeting in the Education Bldg, room 4, 11011 Hall Rd., Call Jesse at 832-725-8479 or Rita at 281-309-2801.

7 p.m. **The Clear Lake Gem and Mineral Society** - Meets at 5001 NASA Pkwy., Seabrook. For details, visit www.clgms.org.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25

7 a.m. **AA** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.

10 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - See Monday's notice.

11:30 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - see Sunday's notice.

Noon **AA** - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday noon notice.

2 p.m. **The National Active and Retired Federal Employees** - NARFE Chapter 941 meets at 9500 Hall Rd. Call Roy at 713-734-1461 or EFL Center at 281-464-9708.

7 p.m. **Houston Skyscraper Shadows Civic Club** - meets at 7900 Fuqua. Contact Cathy at houstonsskyscrapershadows.org or call 713-332-6294.

7 p.m. **NA** - see Friday's notice.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26

7 a.m. **AA** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.

9:30 a.m. **Carmelites** - meets at 15500 El Camino Real, Clear Lake Call Marilyn at 713-444-6744 for details.

10 a.m. **The Community Club** - meets at 5824 Spencer Highway, Pasadena. Email Jmproy@yahoo.com.

Noon **AA** - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday noon notice.

12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. **Hometown Heroes Humpday Dance** - See Monday's notice.

7 p.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - See Sunday's notice.

7 p.m. **NA** - See Friday's notice..

8 p.m. **AA** - See Friday's notice..

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Atkinson Elementary PPK winners compete at district level

The Atkinson Elementary physical education staff honored its Punt, Pass and Kick grade level winners ahead of the Pasadena ISD districtwide competition that was held earlier this month at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena. The Eagles' winners included, left to right, third-grade winners Arabella Gonzalez, Jason Gamboa and fourth-grade winners Tommy Hill and Melanie Mandujano.



Dobie 12, Dobie Exes 7

- Boys' Doubles
- 1) William Ho/Ryan Le (D) def. Sean Lam/Donny Tran, 8-5.
 - 2) Kevin Nguyen/Lil' Tommy Nguyen (E) def. David Caballero/Thang Tran, 8-0.
 - 3) Kenny Duong/Dylan Ta (E) def. Diego Flores/Nolan Tran, 8-6.

- Girls' Doubles
- 1) Ashley Huynh/Hailey Maldonado (D) def. Kristi Morales/Katherine Nguyen, 8-3.
 - 2) Tiffany Tran/Natalie Vo (D) def. Van Le/Tina Nguyen, 8-1.
 - 3) Amalia Reyes/Kayla Tran (D) def. Jennifer Ho/Megan Rodriguez, 8-6.

- Mixed Doubles
- 1) Leslie Figueroa/Pitou So (D) def. Tracy Tran/Piseth So, 8-5.

- Boys' Singles
- 1) Dat Bui (E) def. William Ho, 8-2.
 - 2) Sean Lam (E) def. Thang Tran, 8-2.
 - 3) Kevin Nguyen (E) def. Nolan Tran, 8-1.
 - 4) Lil' Tommy Nguyen (E) def. Diego Flores, 9-8 (7-5).
 - 5) Taylor Nguyen (E) def. David Caballero, 8-2.
 - 6) Pitou So (D) def. Dylan Ta, 9-8 (7-5).

- Girls' Singles
- 1) Hailey Maldonado (D) def. Katherine Nguyen, 8-3.
 - 2) Tiffany Tran (D) def. Megan Rodriguez, 9-7.
 - 3) Natalie Vo (D) def. Kristi Morales, 9-8 (8-6).
 - 4) Ashley Huynh (D) def. Melanie Thompson, 8-3.
 - 5) Kayla Tran (D) def. Erica Hay, 8-6.
 - 6) Leslie Figueroa (D) def. Ivette Alba, 8-2.



Current players in the Dobie tennis program mingled with some of their pals from the past during the Longhorns' exes matches earlier this month, including, left to right, Erica Hay (2021), Megan Rodriguez (2022), Jennifer Ho (2021), Tiffany Tran (2023), Natalie Vo (2023) and Kristi Morales (2020).



Members of the Class of 2012 had a great visit with head coach Manuel Moreno Jr. (rear) as they were part of the varsity tennis program's exes matches earlier this month. Members of the class in attendance included, Van Le, Melanie Thompson, Ivette Alba, Andy Van and Tina Nguyen.

McDonald's Texas Invitational
Nov. 17-19, 10 locations
www.texasinvitational.com

USTA honors Moreno of JFD tennis

As the United States Tennis Association celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15, the group also recognized those in the Hispanic community whose dedication to the sport as USTA volunteers helps to keep tennis growing strong.

There are more than 350 national volunteers from all 17 USTA sections, and the group highlighted longtime Dobie High School tennis coach Manuel Moreno Jr.

In this installment, Moreno reflected on what tennis means to him.

"Tennis has been so good to me. It's created many great opportunities over all of these years. It all started when I was 13, when my mom got me involved in the sport. In fact, she made me my first pair of white tennis shorts.

"I attended a summer tennis program offered in the Galveston, Texas public parks. I've lived in Galveston all of my 66 years; I'm a BOI —'born on the island.'"

"When I started tennis, I didn't think much of the sport. I was into baseball and other team sports. But once I went out there and realized it really challenged me, I started getting hooked. That's when I met my high school tennis instructor, Vince Stiglich, Jr., and it was his infectious passion for the sport that made me fall in love with tennis—a passion I carry to this day.

"Coach Stiglich convinced me that I could get a scholarship to college if I worked at the sport, and that's what I did, first for two years at Navarro College in Corsicana, Texas (where we were nationally ranked for both years), then at Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas.

"I played at Lamar for two years, then as an assistant tennis coach there for two more years, working for coach Ron Wesbrooks.

"Now, I'm into my 39th year as a high school tennis coach, and 41st year coaching overall. After college, I went back to O'Connell High School in Galveston for 13 years, then to Clear Lake High School for two years, and now, this is my 24th year at J. Frank Dobie High School in Houston, where I coach varsity, junior varsity and freshman teams.

"I run no-cut programs and I've had as many as 100 kids on my teams. I really believe that if a student wants to represent their school, they should have every chance to do so. That's where you'll find the diamonds in the rough. (Of note: Moreno received the Starfish Award in 2014 for his work with no-cut high school tennis.)

"But also, remember that Galveston Parks & Rec summer program I took part in when I was a teenager? After my senior year in high school, I helped Coach Stiglich run that—and this year, I just finished my 49th year with that program!

"Also, with the help of the City of Galveston, my high school has hosted one of the largest, if not THE largest, high school tennis tournament in Texas—the popular Beachcomber Classic, now in its 35th year.

"I've been honored to have been named, eight years ago, to the first-ever USTA National High School Committee, which I'm still a part of.

"All of us on the committee are very involved in high school tennis, and if I might add, we all very much miss our late chair, Laurie Martin, and the passion she brought to promoting and improving high school tennis.

"I've also been on the USTA Texas High School Committee for the last six years, and I'm involved in the Texas Tennis Coaches Association, most recently as a regional vice president in the Houston area.

"In 2020, I was honored to receive the USTA Texas Lloyd Sessions Educational Merit Award, given to coaches in junior tennis. (Of note: Moreno has also received the TTCA's Class 5A (now 6A) High School Coach of the Year (2005); the Carey Caldwell Character Award (2010); the Loretta Hrcirc Dedication Award (2019); and was the first recipient of the Holly Ford Sportsmanship Award in 2020.)

"One of the most amazing times for me was in 2002, when I was one of the coaches selected to travel to Paris for a week for the U.S. vs. France Davis Cup semifinal to help chaperone 240 kids that Jim "Mattress Mack" McIngvale sponsored.

"Then there was the time, many years ago, I played in the Lipton Tea mixed doubles tournament, and my partner Suzanne Schwab and I advanced to the national tournament in Jacksonville—and we got to be in a national TV commercial with Stan Smith and Bob Lutz promoting Sawgrass Resort.

"Tennis has been such a key in my life, and I have so many people to thank for helping me along this journey. I was a shy kid, and the sport helped me open up, as I'm sure my mother probably

suspected it would.

"I learned how to play the sport from Coach Stiglich. From Coach Wesbrooks at Lamar, I also learned so much about family and its importance in creating the person I am today.

"It continues to be a pleasure working with the USTA Texas and national staffs to promote not only tennis, but also the opportunities for Hispanics and everyone in our diverse society.

"And of course, with my own family—my wife, son

and daughter—I'm so thankful for their support, and even involvement, in tennis.

"In fact, nothing makes me prouder than to see my son, Mitchell, who is now an assistant tennis coach—at a rival high school!

"He is truly following in my footsteps, already directing a toy-raising Christmas season tournament in Galveston—"Toys for a Claus"—for the last five years, benefiting the island's Ronald McDonald House on an annual basis since 2017."

USTA Honoree Manuel Moreno Jr. (right) with Class of 2012 graduate and former Dobie tennis player Melanie Thompson at the program's reunion earlier this month.



Wings Over Houston heroes recognized

Continued from Page 2

McDougle joined the NASA family working in the Space Shuttle Crew Escape Equipment (CEE) department. She was the first African-American to join the CEE team as a suit technician and was responsible for processing the orange launch/entry suit assemblies worn by astronauts.

McDougle is regarded as a "modern day hidden figure." Everyone knows Dr. Mae Jemison was the first African-American woman to go to space—but many don't know an African American woman, with her own list of firsts, "suited her up."

McDougle was Jemison's suit tech for her historic mission aboard Space Shuttle Endeavour. McDougle became crew chief making her the first woman and first African-American CEE crew chief. She was responsible for leading a team of technicians to suit up astronaut crews.

She had the honor of leading the only all-woman suit tech crew. She was recognized with the astronaut "Silver Snoopy" award, and the coveted Women of Color in Flight award.

McDougle is an Air Force veteran. She was an aerospace physiology specialist responsible for training, suiting up, and strapping in the SR-71 and U-2 reconnaissance pilots. She also worked with the hypobaric and hyperbaric chambers.

Lila Holley: Holley is a multi-award-winning, best-selling author, Army veteran, and founder of Camouflaged Sisters.

She uses her books and real-life lessons to help service members maneuver through the emotional battlefield of transitioning from the military, take ownership of stories, and heal using the power of storytelling.

The Camouflaged Sisters anthology series consists of eight published books sharing inspirational stories of 130 courageous military women.

The books cover leadership, mentorship, sisterhood,

challenges, combat surviving military sexual assault, toxic leadership, PTSD and surviving domestic violence.

Ashley Booker-Knight: Booker-Knight served in the United States Army for 10 years achieving the highest rank of SSG.

She served with great allegiance in locations such as Heidelberg, Germany, Iraq, Hawaii and Fort Hood. She served as a passionate quarter-master soldier 92Y30.

She is a published author and a positive life influencer. She walks by faith and is known for executing missions beyond fear.

Michael Lynn Graham: Graham graduated from Athens High in Athens, Texas in 1965 as a proud and eager Homet. He attended Henderson County Jr. College through 1967.

At the height of the Vietnam War he volunteered to serve in the U.S. Navy. His boot camp was in Great Lakes, where he became a seaman apprentice. His first orders were to report aboard the USS John W. Weeks, a Fletcher Class destroyer.

His next promotion was to boatswain mate in the first division. His shakedown cruise was to Guantanamo Bay, prior to sailing to Vietnam in 1969. His ship's duty was to protect the aircraft carriers which were conducting air strikes on the Vietnam.

They also stationed on the gun line to fire spot shots ashore for the troops in the country. His duty in Vietnam was completed in nine months upon returning to Norfolk, Va.

His next deployment was aboard the USS Gearing destroyer DD710 out of Groton, Conn. He sailed to the Mediterranean area to cruise ports in Italy and Spain where he trained reserves until honorably discharged in 1971.

After his service he had a career in plant operations and insurance sales while raising his family in Palestine, Texas. Upon retirement he spends his time with family and playing golf with his 99-yr-old father,

a veteran of WWII.

William "Buzz" Barron: Barron's book, "Crew Chief, 'be he ne'er so vile,'" provides more than a glimpse into what it took to maintain, service, launch, and recover the workhorse of the air war up north.

His story is more than just what it was like to be a crew chief; it is about growing up, it is about life. He presents his story with great detail in the vernacular of his native language—Texan!

His writing is full of earnest passion, humility and empathy, sprinkled with subtle humor and some out right passages of out loud laughter.

Master Sgt. Wes Fields: Fields is a 24-year service and a combat veteran. He earned 62 decorations and awards while serving in the United States Air Force as an aerial

gunner on the AC-130H Spectre Gunship assigned to the United States Air Force Special Operations Command. He participated in numerous special operation missions throughout the world.

In addition to the demonstrations by the U.S. Navy Blue Angels and the U.S. Air Force F-16 Viper Demo Team this year's event will also include performances by the Houston's U.S. Coast Guard Air Station, TORA! TORA! TORA!, Debby Rihn-Harvey, RE/MAX Skydive Team, and Extreme Flight With Patrick McAlee.

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

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