

MUD trash times may vary

Due to a major county construction project, trash collection times may vary in the coming weeks. Residents should have trash curbside no later than 6 a.m. Monday and Thursday, as collection crews will be working in coordination with construction crews and may arrive earlier than before. All Texas Pride Disposal trucks have cameras for verification. This will continue until the project's completion. A project of Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia, the massive undertaking will make street and traffic repairs to nearly 100 roads in the Clear Brook City MUD. Work has already begun in the Sagemeadow, Highland Meadow and Wood Meadow subdivisions. Work is currently underway in the Sageglen subdivision. Commuters are urged to avoid construction areas when possible.

Sagemont done for 2026

There will be no more Sagemont Civic Club meetings for the remainder of the year due to scheduling conflicts. Typically held the first Tuesday of the month, the October civic club meeting coincides with the 2026 National Night Out event (see related story on this page). Civic club officials encourage residents to visit the annual Precinct 2 NNO event being held at the Scarsdale County Annex at 10851 Scarsdale at Beamer. The November civic club meeting date falls on Election Day. Civic club leaders encourage residents to exercise their right to vote. December's meeting has been canceled due to the Christmas holidays. Meetings will resume in 2027, with the first function taking place Tuesday, Jan. 5.

Coffee with the Constable

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

Beltway closures planned

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

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

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

New Covenant feeds needy

Each month, New Covenant Christian Church, 10603 Blackhawk at Kirkfair, will have food distribution events the first and third Wednesday from Noon to 2 p.m. and the second and fourth Saturday of the month from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. or until supplies last. The purpose of the events is to provide food to people in need. For additional information, contact the church at 281-484-4230.

Ellington eRecycling set

The City of Houston Solid Waste Management Department's monthly electronic recycling event will take place Saturday, Oct. 10, at the Neighborhood Recycling Center at Ellington Airport from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

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

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

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

Gulf Freeway closures set

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

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

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

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

New congressional districts alter political landscape

Nov. 3 marks 1st general election under new maps; many residents now vote in new districts

Many South Belt voters may find themselves casting ballots in entirely new congressional districts this November, following a rare mid-decade redistricting plan pushed through the Legislature last year.

The reshuffling, driven by an unusual political intervention and followed by months of legal and procedural turmoil, has dramatically altered who represents the communities in the South Belt area and has intensified debate over how Texas draws its political lines.

Mid-cycle redistricting is almost unheard of in Texas, but in 2025 lawmakers reconvened to redraw the congressional map after pressure from President Donald Trump, who urged state Republicans to secure additional GOP-leaning seats ahead of the 2026 elections.

The resulting plan, known as Plan C2333, shifted district boundaries across the Houston region, including the South Belt, in ways that opponents say were designed to maximize Republican gains. Civil rights groups and Democratic lawmakers accused the mapmakers of "packing" minority voters into certain districts — particularly the newly expanded TX-18 — while strengthening suburban Republican dis-

tricts elsewhere.

The South Belt area had long been represented primarily by TX-22, TX-29 and TX-36. That balance has now been upended. TX-22 moved west into Fort Bend County, pulling away from Pearland and Friendswood, while TX-29 has shifted north of Loop 610, retreating from Pasadena and South Houston and consolidating itself into a more compact, inner-city Latino-majority district.

While the expanded TX 36 has absorbed much of the area's voting block, the departure of districts 22 and 29 has largely been filled by TX 18 and TX 9, districts new to most local voters.

TX-18's new prominence in the South Belt marks a significant change. Historically rooted in central Houston, the district was created in the 1970s to strengthen Black political representation and was first held by Barbara Jordan, one of the most influential figures in Texas political history. It was later represented for near-

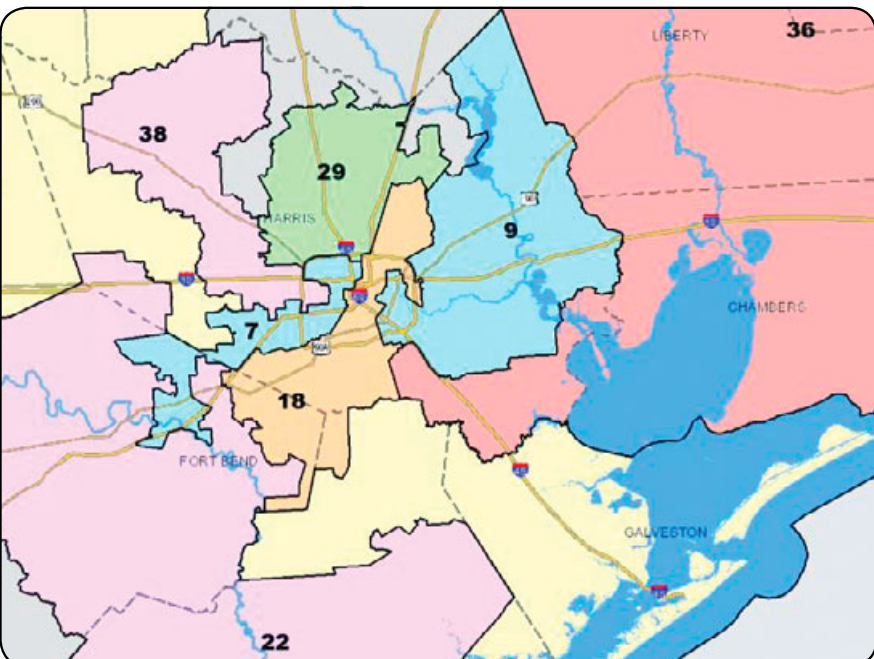
ly three decades by Sheila Jackson Lee, whose death in late 2024 triggered a special election.

Former Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner briefly succeeded her before his own passing in early 2025 led to yet another special election. Those back-to-back vacancies left TX-18 in a moment of transition just as lawmakers expanded its boundaries southward into communities it had never previously covered. The new lines pull in portions of Sunnyside, South Houston and neighborhoods near Beltway 8, increasing the district's Black and Latino population share and consolidating minority voters who were once dispersed across multiple districts.

Another dramatic development for South Belt voters is the arrival of TX-9. Once anchored firmly west of I-45 and stretching into Sugar Land, TX-9 has now been redrawn to the east side of the freeway, covering territory it had never touched before.

Continued on Page 3

New congressional maps take effect



Many local voters may find themselves voting in new congressional districts next month, following the controversial passage of last year's Plan C2333, a rare mid-decade redistricting plan launched by President Donald Trump in an effort to solidify Republican power by adding up to five GOP-leaning seats. House districts 22 and 29, which once encompassed much of the South Belt community, are no longer in the area, largely being absorbed by TX 18 and TX 9 — districts new to most local voters. Both with a rich history as minority voting blocks, districts 18 and 9 will now group South Belt voters with inner city ones rather than suburban ones. See related maps on Page 3.

Map courtesy of Texas Legislative Council

Pedestrian killed on Gulf Freeway

Freeway the site of 8 fatal pedestrian accidents in 1 year

A pedestrian was killed Saturday, Sept. 26, after being struck by a vehicle on the Gulf Freeway, a common spot for such fatalities over the past year.

According to Houston Police Department officials, the most recent incident took place around 9:15 p.m. in the 18600 block of the Gulf Freeway near El Dorado Boulevard when the driver of a gray Jeep struck a male pedestrian who was standing in the main lanes of traffic.

Houston Fire Department paramedics responded to the accident and pronounced the man dead at the scene.

The 50-year-old male driver of the Jeep remained at the scene, showed no signs of intoxication and was questioned and released without citation.

At press time, the identity of the male victim was pending notification to family members by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences.

The crash remained under investigation at press time.

Previous accidents

The Gulf Freeway has become a hot spot for fatal auto-pedestrian accidents over the past year, with at least eight known incidents taking place.

According to HPD statistics, the following fatalities took place along the Gulf Freeway over the past year:

- **Sept. 26, 2026:** A man standing in the northbound main lanes at the 18600 block of the Gulf Freeway was struck by a vehicle and killed.
- **Sept. 6, 2026:** A passenger exited a moving vehicle following an altercation at the 13500 block of the Gulf Freeway and was fatally struck by an oncoming Chevrolet Camaro after falling onto the main lanes.
- **June 29, 2026:** A pedestrian was struck and killed by a construction traffic control truck reversing during a roadway closure at the 13900 block of the Gulf Freeway.
- **June 1, 2026:** A pedestrian attempting to cross the exit ramp near Scott Street at the 3400 block of the Gulf Freeway was hit and killed by a Nissan Sentra.
- **April 27, 2026:** A Dodge Avenger struck and killed a pedestrian who was trying to cross the main southbound lanes at the 3500 block of the Gulf Freeway.
- **Feb. 24, 2026:** A female pedestrian crossing the moving traffic lanes of the service road at the 8700 block of the Gulf Freeway was struck by a Volkswagen Jetta.
- **Jan. 31, 2026:** After crashing into a retaining wall at the 18900 block of the Gulf Freeway, a driver standing outside his disabled Dodge Durango was struck and killed by a Chevrolet Silverado.
- **Sept. 17, 2025:** a male pedestrian was killed after being struck by a black Ford Fusion in the 15400 block of the Gulf Freeway service road at Dixie Farm Road/FM 1959.

Suspect arrested in 2023 shooting

Fatal shooting took place at birthday party near Monroe

Charges have been filed against a suspect arrested in the fatal shooting of a man and the wounding of a juvenile female back in 2023 in a subdivision near the Gulf Freeway and Monroe.

The suspect, Joshua Rodriguez, 20, was charged with murder in the 487th Criminal District Court.

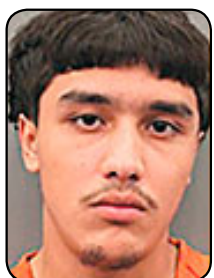
The victim is identified as Filiberto Puente, 67.

According to Houston Police Department officials, patrol officers responded to a shooting call around 1:20 a.m. Dec. 17, 2023, to find the victim unresponsive in the living room. He had suffered multiple gunshot wounds and was pronounced dead by responding Houston Fire Department paramedics.

A female juvenile suffered a non-life-threatening gunshot wound to the leg and was transported by paramedics to an area hospital where she was treated and later released.

A preliminary investigation determined a large group of people were attending a birthday party and, at some point, several attendees got into a physical fight that escalated into a shooting and resulted in the two victims being shot.

Further investigation developed Joshua Rodriguez as a suspect in this shooting. On Monday, Sept. 28, officers with the HPD East-side Patrol Division Crime Suppression Team arrested Rodriguez. He was subsequently charged for his role in this fatal shooting and booked into the Harris County jail.



Joshua Rodriguez

CCISD's Engle to retire – again

Superintendent serves district for 30+ years in multiple roles

Clear Creek ISD Superintendent Karen Engle announced she will retire next year, topping off a celebrated career with the local school district that spans more than three decades.

"Serving the students, families and employees of Clear Creek ISD has been one of the greatest privileges of my career," Engle said in a statement.

Engle originally retired from CCISD in December 2021. However, she was called out of retirement in July 2022 to step into the interim superintendent role to stabilize district operations. She stepped into the position following the unexpected departure of her predecessor, Eric Williams, who resigned amid intense public pushback and curriculum scrutiny from political groups.

The CCISD board of trustees permanently appointed Engle to the position in December 2022. In early 2024, the board issued an "outstanding" evaluation of her management and extended her contract.

Lifelong roots

Engle holds lifelong ties to the CCISD community. She grew up in the district, attending Clear Lake City Elementary and Webster Intermediate before graduating from Clear Lake High School. She later became a district parent and grandparent.

Engle launched her professional career in education in 1981 at Friendswood High School, where she taught government and economics. She later returned to her alma mater, Clear Lake High School, where she expanded her background by serving as an English teacher as well as the head swimming and water polo coach.

Engle holds advanced academic degrees from the following institutions:

- **Doctorate:** Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in educational administration from Bethel University
- **Master's degree:** Master of Arts in teaching from the University of Houston-Clear Lake
- **Bachelor's degree:** Bachelor of Arts in secondary education from Baylor University

During her time as superintendent, Engle oversaw several key district benchmarks, including the following:

- **Academic ratings:** The district maintained a "B" accountability rating from the Texas Education Agency (TEA), with all seven individual high school campuses receiving "A" ratings.
- **Financial management:** The district retained a "Superior Achievement" rating through Texas School FIRST metrics.
- **State recognition:** She was named the Texas PTA 2024 Superintendent of the Year.

The board of trustees expressed its appreciation for Engle's leadership.

"Dr. Engle has led with vision, compassion and a deep commitment to providing students a world-class education," said Clear Creek ISD Board President Jonathan Cottrell. "Her contributions have positively impacted thousands of students and staff. We thank her for extraordinary service and wish her well in her retirement."

Search for successor

According to district officials, Engle's retirement will officially take effect at the end of April 2027.

To select a successor, the board of trustees will initiate a formal executive search process:

- Under Texas state law, the board must publicly name a lone finalist and observe a mandatory 21-day statutory waiting period before approving the employment contract.
- The board expects to name the lone finalist by February or early March 2027 to ensure a smooth leadership transition before Engle's retirement in April.



Karen Engle

Work continues on Riverstone signal



After years of traffic studies, Harris County is moving forward with plans to install a new traffic signal on Blackhawk at Riverstone Ranch Drive. The new signal is aimed at reducing traffic congestion at the intersection, which has worsened with the recent expansion of the nearby Gateway Academy charter school. Plans also call for the removal of the three-way stop sign on Blackhawk at Hall Road, a move many community leaders fear will increase accidents among drivers used to habitually stopping at the at the longtime stop sign.

Photo by James Bolen

Thompson Intermediate announces 1st 6-weeks honor roll

Officials of Thompson Intermediate have announced the first six-weeks honor roll for the 2026-2027 school year.

Seventh grade

Ivoriana Claudine Adams, Aaren Angel Aguilar, Aurora Juliette Aguinaga, Adam Akyuz, Kaliyah Skii Allen, Nick Almaguer, Damian Orlando Alvarez, Jessie Jay Alvarez, Tyson Matthew Amos, Sheyla Elena Arredondo, Leila Itzel Arrieta, Efrain Roger Avilez, Javier Enrique Balanta, Chloe Ha-leigh-Jade Balbosa and Tomas Angel Banda.

Santiago Hesus Barrios, Giovanni Anthony Barron, Laila Alicia Batiste, Kamryn Michelle Biagas, Laila Isabella Bogany, Riley Madison Brown, Adrian Gabriel Cantu, Melody Marie Cantu, Michael Alexander Cardozo, Giovanni Carrasco, Penelope Ari Castellanos, Bella Sophia Castillo, Robin Castillo and Olivia Cavazos.

Danellie Cervantes, Luke

Octavious Lazaro Chacon, Alani Rae Chapa, Eliana Nomi Chavez, Ismael Chavez, John Froylan Chavez, Gael Antonio Claudio, Melanie Colunga, Pedro Contreras De La Rosa, Drayden Ja'kobi Copeland, Camila Alessandra Corpus, Brice Jordan Davis, Ava Lanette De Ochoa and Cielo Mariana Del Rio.

Jax Rylan Desoto, Yusuf Nayeem Doha, Artin Noah Doorford, King Rashard Dozier, Eli Noah Escobedo, Gabriel Romeo Espinoza, Christian Mauricio Flores, Geovanny Alexander Flores, Romeo Jose Flores, Vicente Tito Flores, Theodore Rey Franklin, Sofia Isabella Garcia Contreras and Amadeus Kevin Johannes Garcia.

Juliana Garcia, Miranda Isabella Garcia, Santiago Garza, Jesiah King Gilbert, David Isaih Gloria, Hector Miguel Gomez Alfaro, Gabriel Stephen Gonzales, Maribel Lucia Gonzales, Nolan Alexander Gonzales, Isabella Gonzalez, Luz Gonzalez,

Melinda Grace Gonzalez, Parker Ashton Gorman and Manuel Esteban Graciano.

Mia Sarai Guajardo, Alessandra Elena Gutierrez, Raul Gutierrez, Perla Judith Hernandez Sierra, Emma Rae Hernandez, Julian Eduardo Jr. Hernandez, Xavier Alejandro Hernandez, Jaylah Anahi Herrera, Jazzalynn Elena Herrera, Lauren Elise Hinojosa, Lam Thai Hoang, Dorianne Lee Hood and Hayden Elise Humphrey.

Rameen Hussain, Calvin Dat Tien Huynh, Caroline Sarah Jaime, Jaxon Dylan Jimenez, Natalie Jaylah Jimenez, Raul Jimenez, Niko Alexander Katsikes, Emma Rose Kelch, Andy Khanh Le, Jayden Quocbao Le, Alice Buttercup Leal, Tavarious Vonche Lett, Ashanti Aaliyah Estopin Lewis, Bethany Grace Lewis and Adamari Liliana Lopez.

Mia Elizabeth Lopez, Noah Gavin Lozolla, Laryssa Sanaa Lucas, Sofia Luna, Saniya Yvez Lungs, Leonardo Macias, Konnor Magana, Emma Elise Martinez, Joseph Anthony Mascorro, Alayla Yuri Mata, Logan Vincent Maycott, Christopher Floyd Melchor, Charee Lauren Mendoza, Dominic Mendoza and Ximena Mesta.

Payton V. Meyer, Norris Jackson Mitchell, Arianna Molina, Cherish Michelle Moore, Jorge Moreno, Mario Moreno, Anna Ngoc Nguyen, Ashley Tran Nguyen, Clint Khuongvy Nguyen, Emma Hong-An Nguyen, Emma Nicole Nguyen, July Nguyen, Khoi Hoang Nguyen, Quoc Thinh Nguyen, Tim Nguyen and Elijah Houston Nino.

Miah Isabella Nolasco, Nathan Gregory Nunez, Keila Angely Ochoa, Agnelia Khasoa Ochwilu, Lynden Paul Omoregie, Haven Gabriel Buan Orsua, Braylin Arturo Ortega, Elianni Consuelo Ortega, Thiago Ortiz Perez, Allison Nicole Ortiz, Angel Jafet Osorio Romero, Yanelly Irianna Oyola and Gabriella Ilene Padilla.

Rogelio Palomino, Hailey Vanessa Perez, Benjamin Pham, Jackson Nguyen Pham, Jaqueline Ngan Pham, Le'h'any Ezaveyah Phillips, Silvestre Pineda, Keenan Dara Ploucha, Landon Hansel Ponce, Pedro Abisai Portillo Romero, Zoe Jeanette Ramos, Madelyn Vera Rangel, Cesar Jeronimo Reyna, Joel Antonio Reyna and Lylah Viola Richards.

Gabriella Rivas, Ayden Lamont Robertson, Ava Renae Rodriguez, Emily Joyce Rodriguez, Evan Eleno Rodriguez, Ivan Orlando Rodriguez, Jose Rodrigo Rodriguez, Sean Alexander Rodriguez, Savanna Lee Rodriguez, Dylan Mateo Romero, Jackelynn Romero, Liam Cristiano Royal and Andrew Oziel Salinas.

Evelyn Grace Sanchez, Hector Sanchez, Jorge Osvaldo Sanchez, Christopher A. Saucedo, Gatlin Ray Gunner Sears, Yuriana Sierra,

Aydan Joel Silva, Lynnee Cheany Srun, Luke Daniel Stephens, Jillyna Kacie Stewart, Raymond Strong, Taylor Michael Sweat, Karen Tan, Caleb Matteo Tapia and Peyton Nicole Taylor.

Jose Santiago Tenorio, Emmanuel Samuel Thomas, Michael Edward Thomas, Nevaeh Journee Thomas, Derek Eli Thompson Nieto, Keiden Yadiel Torres Burgos, Adeline Juliette Torres, Lucas Alexander Torres, Han Yen Tran, Thuong Ngoc Tran, Timothy Ky Thien Tran, Xavier Iboro Hogan Udomah, Emilie Umanzor and Zoraya Frances Vargas.

Carlos Velazquez, Isabella Genevieve Villarreal, Victoria Jean Villatoro, Eva Luna Villegas, Jacob Ly Vu, Blake Alexander White, Nicholas Frank Wiseborn Williams, Mckenna Leigh Work, Cassidy Leeann Wright, Sigi Jacoby Yanez, Aaliyah Gwendolyn Young, Catalina Zavala and Esther Shi Zhou.

Eighth grade

Martin Daniel Acosta, Alfonso Martin Aguilar, Lucas Xavier Aguilar, Ava Danae Ahmad, Usman Kamran Al-eem, Mahim Ashaun Alexander, Tristan Kaleb Alvarez, Austine James Arce, Jocelyn Clara Arredondo Diosdado, Samantha Olea Arriola, Emery Gray Banda, Allison Michelle Barahona and Aubrey Daniella Barajas.

Yahir Barron, Ava Devine Benard, Natalia Celeste Benardcourt, Nathalia Blanc Candelaria, Jordan M'kai Bland, Christie Alexa Bradley, Madilyn Rose Briso, Aubrey Rene Brown, Noah James Canales, Torrie Lorraine Caniff, Long Le Bao Cao, Leilyn Crysthal Castillo Munoz, Ava Rae Castro, Victoria Chapa and Cullen Nguyen Chau.

Alezea Alia Chavez, Nathan Myles Chavez, Gabriella Marie Christensen, Jovani King Cisneros, Quelwin Seth Alberto Colangoy, Miranda Star Coronado, Isabelle Marie Covarrubias, Sofia Crow Tascon, Isabella Audrey Cruz, Angel Marquez Davila, Keityn Jamel Davis, Kason Kane Dillard, Benedict Duncan and Angel Maleah Dunning.

Andrew Son Duong, Naomieu Kieu-Nga Duong, Aliana Edna-Renee Duresseau, Sarah Olivia Elliff, Alexander Brody Escobedo, Alexia Fernandez, Camila Fernandez, Natalia Lizbeth Flores, Neveah Isabella Flores, Sophia Marcella Franklin, Ta'kiera Ann Franklin, Zuleigh Berniece Gaona, Gabriel Angel Garcia and Anabel Alejandra Gomez.

Jacob Gabino Gomez, Jacob Joseph Leo Gonzales, Adalynn Gonzalez, Mae Elizabeth Green, Mariana Guajardo, Adelyn Faith Guilen, Jude Michael Gutierrez, Mia Amairany Gutierrez, Olivia Ann Gutierrez, Gael Hernandez, Kelsey Emma Hernandez, Julian Alejandro Herrera, Kourtney Marie Hinojosa and Eleora Zafora Hunt.

Luke Maceli Irizarry, Zayan Ali Jafri, Paulette Jimenez, Charlotte Laurel Kearbey, Camila Mar Licon, Allyson Marie Limon, Joseph Alexander Lopez, Miguel Angel Lopez, Soraya Yvonne Lungs, Aliyanna Belen Machado, Gabriel Alejandro Martinez, Adalynn Faith McMullin, Presley Paige McMurry and Mariah

Key club, UNICEF members give back to Moore



Dobie High School Key club members and UNICEF members donated school supplies such as backpacks, notebooks, pencils, markers, paper, etc. to Moore Elementary on Wednesday Sept. 30. Shown members are, left to right, (front row) Michelle Nguyen, Clara Ngo, Ingrid Contreras, (back row) Scott Davis, Ashley Evans, Sheyla Le, Annalise Chavez, Nicolas Rangel and Matthew Dunn. Key club sponsors who are not pictured are Kareem Solomon and Angela Cruz.

Photo submitted

MUD construction resumes



Construction recently resumed on the Sagemeadow MUD building, located on Hall Road at Blackhawk, after being dormant for several weeks. MUD officials said the work is needed to upgrade the 50-year-old building's aging infrastructure, as well as to provide additional security for staff members.

Photo by James Bolen

Walking Tours Houston launches 3rd season

Walking Tours Houston is kicking off its third season of free walking tours of downtown Houston, held every Saturday and Sunday.

Founded by Houston native John Gu, the tour explores the stories behind downtown's historic buildings, modern skyline and growing collection of street art. It's a relaxed way for newcomers, visitors and longtime Houstonians alike to discover a side of the city many drive past every day. On Sundays, the tour is also offered in Spanish, led by Sergio Velasco, an experienced guide from Mexico City.

"Houstonians often tell me they've lived here for years and never really explored downtown," said Gu. "Now they have a chance."

New congressional districts alter local political landscape

Nov. 3 marks 1st general election since rare mid-decade redistricting process

Continued from Page 1

Represented for two decades by Al Green, TX-9 has long been a heavily Democratic, majority-minority district. Green, a well-known figure in Houston politics and civil rights circles, built his career on advocacy for housing, consumer protection and minority representation.

While TX-9 previously had no role in the South Belt, its new boundaries now overlap with communities east of I-45, making it a significant new force in the area's political identity.

TX-36, traditionally centered on Baytown, Chambers County, and the upper Gulf Coast, has extended westward to absorb Pasadena, Ellington Field, Friendswood and League City. These additions bring in more white suburban families and petrochemical workers, reinforcing the district's Republican lean and giving it a more suburban-industrial profile than in past cycles.

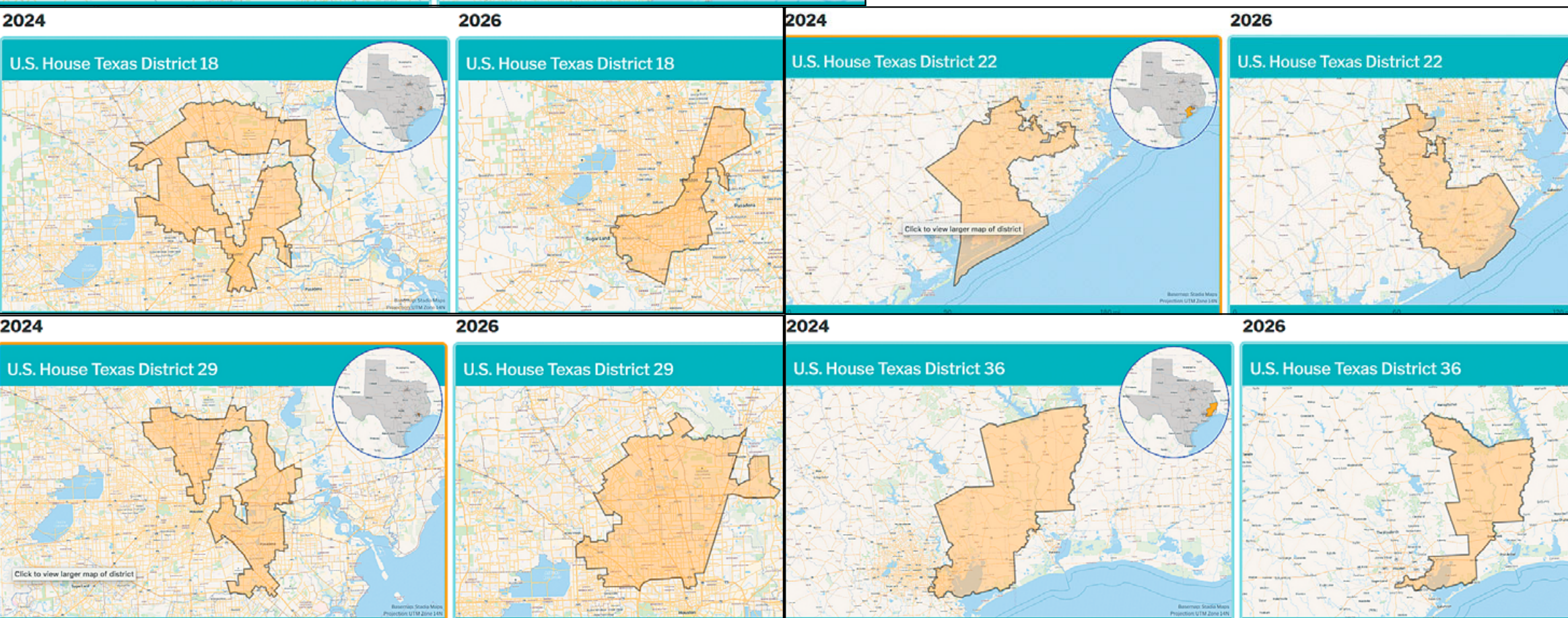
The path to adopting the new map was contentious. Texas Democrats staged a dramatic walkout in August 2025, leaving the state to deny Republicans a quorum and temporarily blocking passage of the plan. Their protest echoed earlier quorum-breaking tactics used during voting rights battles.

Despite the delay, Republicans eventually pushed the map through on party-line votes in both chambers.

Civil rights groups quickly filed lawsuits, arguing that the redraw unlawfully diluted the voting strength of Black and Latino Texans. A three-judge federal panel initially blocked the map, ordering Texas to use the prior boundaries for 2026.

But Gov. Greg Abbott appealed directly to the U.S. Supreme Court, which in December 2025 issued a 6-3 decision staying the injunction. By spring 2026, the Court formally cleared the new map to be used in the 2026 elections.

The demographic consequences are significant. TX-18's electorate is now more heavily African American and Latino, reflecting its southward expansion. TX-36's boundaries pull



A rare mid-decade redistricting plan has many South Belt voters casting their ballots in new congressional districts, often ones with different demographics and objectives than their previous ones. Maps courtesy of Ballotpedia

Dobie Cheerleaders flaunt homecoming mums



Dobie High School varsity cheer team showed off their elaborate homecoming mums at Dobie's homecoming game on Thursday, Sept. 24, against Alvin Shadow Creek. Pictured left to right, are (front row) captain and homecoming queen Arianna Bermudez, Maylene Rodriguez, Bella Sherwood, Aubree Rodriguez, (middle row) Mikayla Gonzalez, Alyssa Rodriguez, Vida Sosa, Arielle Martinez, Alyana Montes, (back row) Natalie Elkins, Avery Mendiola, Deisy Meza, Kallie Troxlar, Nyla Richardson, Gabriella Franklin and Yaszlyn Brown.

Fred Roberts rewards Aviators of the month



Fred Roberts Middle School recognized students who were awarded Aviator of the Month certificates for September. These students were recognized for having a positive attitude. Left to right, are Jonathan Jordan, Julian Nava, Kendra Prado Tenorio, Principal Lali Guerrero, Steve Vu, Rebecca Leal and Sebastian Alonso.

Photo submitted

BHI names 1st 6-weeks honor roll

Officials of Beverly Hills Intermediate have announced the first six-weeks honor roll for the 2025-2026 school year.

Seventh grade

Faith Isabel Adame, Eduardo Alessandro Aguilera, Antonio Aguirre, Isabella Sophia Alvarez, Sofia Marisol Alvarez, Arian Gotti Arellano, Scarlett Reagan Arrambide, Ja'prince Vashwan Ashton, Frank Daniel Aviles, Daphne Isabel Barron, Logan Barron, Alex Nathaniel Bell, Eli Jose Bermudez and Justin Gael Bermudez.

Arturo Aiden Betancourt, Krisna Pereira Blacknall, Delilah Darling Bosler, Mia Elizabeth Bounds, Autumn Nikole Brown, Ella Michelle Brown, Larry Bruce Buell, Alfonso Caballero, Bethany Del Rosario Cabrales, Michael James Calderas, Roselyn Calderon, Noemi Cecilia Camacho, Husai Canales, Allison Ceballos, Noah Lorenzo Chapa and Elizabeth Marie Chavez.

Daniel Alexander Chavez-Calix, Genesis Monserrat Chirinos, Leilah Isabella Cisneros, Carlos Contreras, Mariana Teresa Contreras, Nathaly Lizeth Cortez, Patriot Amyre Cotton, Scarlett Cruz, Abraham De Leon, Daniel Del Valle Arreguin, Dalia Zulama Del Valle-Valadez, Abel Jasper Dominguez, Ximena Durades Gordales and Brandon Caleb Enamorado Hernandez.

Aaron Christopher English, Cameron Noah Escobar, Evelyn Desiree Falcon, Ayden Marquise Farris, London Jamie Ferguson, Ariella Lani Flores, Debanhi Flores, Ivan Flores, Ricky Tomas Flores, Joseph James Francis, Genesis Gabriella Fuentes, Aralynn Garcia, Christopher Daniel Gomez, Mia Christabelle Gonzales-Session and Edgar Gonzalez.

Jamila Gordillo-Catalan, Katelyn Guardiola, Leyda Danai Guerrero, Noah Guerrero, Braylon Paul Gutierrez, Jesse Gutierrez, Jaycob Jared Guzman, Harlem Gamal Hendricks, Bryanna Alexa Hernandez Sandoval, Jase Anthony Hernandez, Matthew Hernandez, Cadence Anne-Marie Hicks, Chastity Eve Hicks, Juliana Rebecca Hinojos and Alexander Jafet Huerta.

Dillian Huerta, Vance Earl Jackson, Patricia Andrea Jimenez Hernandez, Chace Ja'von Jones, Keyden Edward Jones, Kingston Jonah Kelly, Noah Steven Kerr, Jacob Alessandro Lainez, Melissa Vianney Lara Vallejo, Calvin Kiet Le, Karter Josiah Lewis, O'quinn Clodell Lockett, Olyvia Claire Lockett, Sophia Nguyen Mai and Ramiro Ignacio Mandujano.

Dulce Janira Manriquez-Zapata, Jamariyen Jermaine Manuel, Emma Penelope Martin-Maldonado, Austin Jase Martinez, Elijah Daniel Martinez, Zane Matthew Martinez, Story Elizabeth Masone, Bra'nyah Jade McKenzie, Leonardo Nelson Medina, Alma Janey Mendez, Issa Lizeth Meza Espinoza, Skylar Akrista Moore and Leyla Lita Morales.

Ava Nicole Moreno, Zoe Nicole Moreno, Aiden Jordan Mosqueda, Samantha Araceli Moya, Janessa Joanne Murray, Charlie Nam Nguyen, Dylan Phuoc Nguyen, Grace Hong An Nguyen, Jason Pham Nguyen, Julia Lan Thao Nguyen, Louis Dat Nguyen, Quynh Phuong Nguyen, Sebastian Nguyen, Sophia Quynh Nguyen, Tran Cat Tuong Nguyen and Jace Carson Nickerson.

Annie Hoang Ninh, Jazmin Nunez, Skyler Evanz Olander, Jordan Raylin Ortiz, Sebastian Palma, Nicole Penaloza, Richard Elliot Perry, Angelina Anh Thu Pham, Gia Linh Pham, Thea Yen Pham, Kylie Jade Ponce, Rene Roger Quinteros, Gael Alexander Ramirez Villanueva, Lauren Reed, Isabella Reyes, Reign Reyes, Lilyanna Christina Reyna and Kingston Carey Richardson.

Isabella Marie Rico, Nathan Abisai Rios, Zoey Dominique Robledo, Emiliano Rodriguez-Sotelo, Aniya Yvette Roland, Araceli Patricia Salas, Emiliano Alonso Saldana, Adrian Salgado, Tyrie Dwayne Salter, Jaylyn Arianna Sanchez, Augustine Luke Solis, Mario Lee Stafford, Camila Alexa Suarez, Maliyah Shelly Sykes, Kairi Michonne Texada and Emily Reese Torres.

Jimena Torres, Calvin Bao Tran, Olivia Tran, Almira Denise Turner, Zander Robert Urrabazo, Joshua Nathaniel Varner, Matthew Vasquez, Mateo Vasquez, Aubrey Renee Veal, Lucas Noah Vega, Olivia Johanna Vela, Ana Victoria Villarreal Correa, Doan Thuc Vo, Tien Cam Vo, Ava Jewel Williams, Ava'ilise Kylee-Corsha Williams, Ezry Lynn Zuniga and Aime Monserrat Zuniga-Ferrufino.

Eighth grade

Tina A., Samantha Nicole Acevedo, Emiliano Javier Aguirre, Edwin Yusef Alvarez, Juan Carlos Armenta, Angelina Avila, Scia Danabe Barahona Martinez, Abigail Barcenos, Oscar Bryan Barreira, Rafe Raziel Benitez, Kassandra Nicole Berruete, Jessie Xavier Beteta, Alexa Dallana Bonilla, Liliana Amanda Bonilla and Skylar Anita Bowie-Simien.

Daiera Danyiah Brown, Karina Elizabeth Cabrera, Victoria Rose Calderon, Giselle Stella Cammack

Alegria, Camilo Cano, Emma Rose Cantu, Ava Deshawna Carter, Zoe Thuy Carter, Adrian Armando Maximus Castaneda, Sophia Cavazos, Sang Thanh Chau, David Khang Chavez and Sophia Yamileth Chayeb.

Aizzell De Los Angeles Chirinos Guevara, Yana Carmen Cleckley, Citlalli Celeste Comejo Lule, Brandon Covarrubias Rodriguez, Debora Victoria Cruz Avelar, Ryan De La Garza Rodriguez, Nathaniel Ivann Delgado, Kennedy Denise Dickerson, Ngoc Chau Long Dinh, Harrison Manh Do, Maximus C. Doan and Nhat Minh Doan.

Jace Jose Enriquez, Benjamin Alexander Esparza, Delilah Nevaeh Esparza, Mabel Fonseca, Cambrey Madelyn Fuentes, Kylie Marie Gamez, Arleth Vianey Garcia, Eliana Lexi Garcia, Matthew Aiden Garcia, Michael Jadyen Garcia, Emily Alejandra Garza, Isaiah Sabdiel Garza, Ka'lia Geona Gill, Carlina Rose Gonzales and Genesis Marie Gonzales.

Delilah Gizabelle Guadiana, Paula Sabine Guevara-Gonzalez, Sofia Guzman, Sophie Renee Guzman, Aubrey Mia Haywood, Karelly Noemi Hernandez, Valerie Hernandez, Alex Iram Herrera, Axel Ivan Herrera, Chase Hicks, Alayah Madison Holmes, Yanelly Itzel Hurtado, Elianna Renae Hurtas and Tran Bao Nhu Huynh.

Kimberly Jazmin Ibarra Lopez, Briseidy Ibarra, Bryan Jaime, Violeta Jasso, Alaina Janelle King, Aranza Jose Labrador Lucena, Thienkim Hoang Le, Bryce Lee-Jones, Breneisha Lynn Leonard, Isabella Sofia Llanas, Luis Felipe Lopez De La cruz, Ginhaya Dennise Lopez Herrera, Gael Lopez, Nathalie Sang-Nhi Mai and Roel Maldonado.

Alvaro Andres Marron, Joselyn Adelene Martinez, Madeline Michelle Martinez, Valerie Martinez, Paige Mae McMullen, Allen Junior Mejia, Joshua Raphael Menahem, Brenda Yamileth Mendez, Emma Mendoza, Ky'anta Sherman Mims, Danyzea Marshoun Mitchell, Vivian

Iliana Montano and Savannah Julianne Morales.

Mary Delia Morris, Kyleigh Eugenia Myree, Quan Minh Ngo, An Thanh Nguyen, Cayden Le Nguyen, Cindy Tran Nguyen, Jenny Quang Nguyen, Le Minh Thu Nguyen, Nicholas Dinh Minh Nhat Nguyen, Thi Kim Phuong Nguyen, Tommy Dac Nguyen, Tyler Le Nguyen, Savannah Lynn Olivervides and Rouis-Rich Bacay Ong.

Gissele Ortega Garcia, Emmy Reyna Ortiz, Kattalina Palacio Rodriguez, Trenton Perignon Palomino, Manrique Jeremiah Pena, Isabella Perez, Nicholas Sebastian Perez, Xavier Rene Pesina, Tung Thanh Pham, Nancy Thi Phan, Chan Dat Phu, Mikaela Anai Portillo, Ashley Samantha Quijada and Ximena Alejandra Ramirez Caraza.

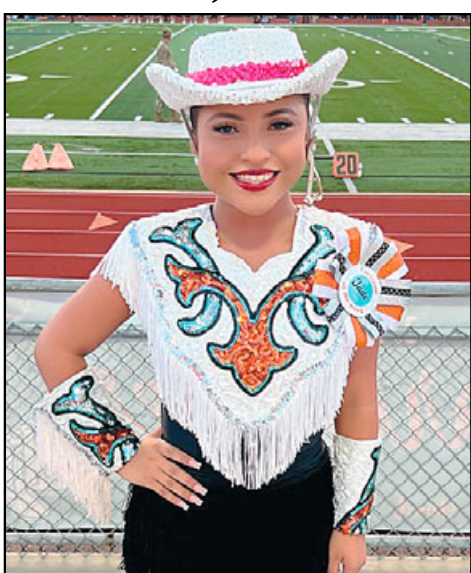
Libby Lynn Ramirez, Isaias Gabriel Regalado Orellano, Gabriella Rose Renteria, Lyla Alyson Resendez, Carlos Gabriel Reyes, Robert Anthony Reyna, Alayna Noel Rice, Alyssa Mary Rios, Dalilah Alys Rios, Aldo Daniel Rivera, Louis Rodgers, Jose Noel Rodriguez-Marquez, Esmi Reina Romero, Ozzie Cru Romero and Alexandra Saavedra.

Maddox Sanchez, Vanity Daniel Sanchez-Basaldua, Sean Santiago, Aleida Verence Segovia, Everett Matthew John Short, Itzel Ariadne Sordania, Amira Sophia Sosa, Jancarlo Tejada, Brianna Torres, Khloe Minh-Phuong Tran, Seraphina Hong Tran, Zachary Adam Urrabazo, Daniella Nicole Valdez and Alejandro Vargas Mejia.

Aniyah Priscilla Vargas, Brian Vasquez, Rosalynn Amaris Vega, Sofia Vega, Dyland Velasquez, Viviana Villa, Isabella Villalobos, Ariel Jayde Villanueva, Adolfo Villarreal, Adrian Villarreal, Caleb Villarreal, Brayden Minh Vo, Rooney Vu, A'maya Faye White, Zakiya A'nae White, Janelle Jayda Whitfield and Joel James Williams.

Spencer Charles Williams, Javona Cardella Willis and Ayleen Gianely Zavala.

Lariaette of the Week, Oct. 2



The J. Frank Dobie Lariaette of the Week ending Oct. 2, is sophomore Jade Rodriguez, a first-year member.

Remember When

50 years ago (1976)

Home burglaries in Sagemeadow had the Sagemeadow Maintenance Committee seriously considering hiring a security patrol for that area. Officials with the maintenance committee said they would probably hire off-duty law enforcement officers, perhaps sheriff's deputies, who had jurisdiction in the Sagemeadow area.

Easy availability and use of drugs at popular teen hangouts, referred to as game rooms, was considered a serious problem by local authorities, some area residents and operators of the game rooms. Past officers of the Sagemont Civic Club were attempting to reactivate the club which had become inactive several years earlier because of lack of interest.

45 years ago (1981)

Frank Braden, Thompson Intermediate's first principal, visited the school to celebrate its 10th anniversary.

Stanley Baskin, attorney for the Pasadena Independent School District, swore in Ed Enderby and Lee Oliver as district deputies. They would carry weapons for their safety in the event they were called to investigate schools at night.

40 years ago (1986)

Ellington-based Grumman Corporation moved a unit of its systems division from New York to Houston.

South Belt resident George Baylis was chosen as the executive vice president of the South East Harris County Economic Development Council.

35 years ago (1991)

A 32-year-old woman left her home in the 10400 block of Sagestar for an early morning workout and was shot by her husband, who thought she was a car thief. She was in stable condition after being flown to Hermann Hospital by helicopter ambulance for a gunshot wound to the head.

J. Frank Dobie High School students Laura Kertz, Massoud Javadi, Scott Seago, Pamela Thacker, Vin Vuong,

Adam Watts and Melanie Boatman were all named National Merit Semifinalists.

More than 1,600 students who were members of the C.H.I.C.K.E.N. Club were issued T-shirts and were encouraged to wear them every Wednesday to send an anti-drug message. The Cool, Honest, Intelligent, Clear-headed, Keen, Energetic and Not Interested In Drugs Club was open to fourth- and fifth-graders at eight PISD schools.

30 years ago (1996)
Daniel Ray Middleton, 18, his sister Ladonna Middleton, 14, and his 6-month-old son Justin Ray were all killed when the teen's car plowed into the back of a street sweeper on the beltway.

San Jacinto College board of regents voted to maintain the district's property tax rate at 11 cents per \$100 valuation.

25 years ago (2001)

Former South Belt resident Huey Meaux, 72, was denied parole for the fourth time by the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles.

The J. Frank Dobie homecoming court was announced. Candidates were Lauren DuChemin, Tiffany Collins and Sara Cestero for queen, and Brian McKinstry, Matthew Bergeron and Lynwood Simpson for king.

Construction began on a new five-lane bridge over the Gulf Freeway at Dixie Farm Road. The project was expected to be completed near the end of the year 2002.

20 years ago (2006)

The early stages of work on additions to Dobie High School were underway, PISD officials said. The expansion would give an additional 500-student capacity to the 4-year-old facility.

A 15-year-old Dobie freshman was arrested in connection with an incident of indecent exposure which occurred at Frazier Elementary.

PISD received a Superior Achievement rating under Texas' Schools FIRST (Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas) for the fourth consecutive year. This was achieved after earning a perfect score by passing all 21 state indicators.

Although Mayor Bill White and Houston police department officials repeatedly said that HPD has no sanctuary policy, changes were announced that would alter the way officers question persons who have been arrested. Officers were still restricted from asking the immigration status of a person not under arrest. However, all arrested persons would be asked whether they were U.S. citizens.

15 years ago (2011)

A Silver Alert was issued for South Belt resident Lillian High, 82, who hadn't been seen since the previous Sunday. High, who resided in the Arlington Heights subdivision, was reported missing after she failed to show up for work at the Chase Bank at Beltway 8 and the Gulf Freeway, where she had been a teller for 20 years. She remained missing at press time.

10 years ago (2016)

A man was found fatally shot in a vehicle parked in the parking lot of a townhouse complex at 12220 Beamer near Hughes Road the evening of Wednesday, Sept. 28. Houston police responded to the incident to find Herbert Davis multiple times. His vehicle was reportedly still running. Davis, 31, was pronounced dead at the scene. No immediate arrests were made.

5 years ago (2021)

Five people were arrested the night of Sunday, Oct. 3, during what police described as a "street takeover" at the intersection of Dixie Farm Road and Beamer. According to officials from the Houston Police Department, officers responded to the incident at approximately 9 p.m. to find that a group of drivers had completely blocked off the intersection by parking their vehicles and leaving them unoccupied, allowing other drivers to do donuts and perform other stunts. As police arrived at the scene, the drivers in the parked cars attempted to run to their vehicles and flee but were detained instead. At least one participant posted a video of the takeover to YouTube.

Two fatal auto-pedestrian crashes took place within blocks of each other in a

two-day period near Edgemoor and the Gulf Freeway. The first accident took place about 8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 2, in the 9200 block of Clearwood Drive, while the second crash occurred around 2 a.m. Monday, Oct. 4, in the 10700 block of the Gulf Freeway. In both cases, the drivers stayed at the scene and showed no signs on intoxication. No charges were immediately filed in either case.

1 year ago (2025)

South Houston High School named its 2025 homecoming king and queen at the varsity football game against Alvin High School Thursday, Sept. 25, at Pasadena Memorial Stadium. Roy Gomez was crowned king, and Isabel Vasquez was crowned queen. The Trojans were defeated in the game, losing to Alvin 38-6.



Over The Back Fence by Nicole

NATALIE AND JOSE CELEBRATE 13TH

Best wishes for an enjoyable 13th wedding anniversary Oct. 12 are sent to Natalie and Jose Abarca from children Kelvin Lopez, Noah and Eliana Abarca and Isabella Delgado and husband Sebastian and their children Esme and Emiliano Delgado; mom Ellie Flickinger and husband David; and grandparents David Flickinger and Kina Reyes.

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO CATHERINE

Dr. Catherine O'Brien is wished a happy birthday Sunday, Oct. 13, from family, friends and the Leader staff. She is currently teaching at a local university.

SCHOOL DAZE

The following staff of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays Oct. 8 through Oct. 14.

Atkinson Elementary

The day for cake and ice cream for Elizabeth Eckols is Oct. 9. Send a happy birthday wish Oct. 12 to Sabrina Ruffanier. Light the birthday candles for Karen O'Connor Oct. 14.

Burnett Elementary

Join in the birthday fun Oct. 13 with Denise Ngo. The day for a party for April Cerda is Oct. 14.

Frazier Elementary

Light the candles on a birthday cake for Lauren Izygon Oct. 8.

Genoa Elementary

Share a slice of birthday cake Oct. 8 with Norma Sierra. Belinda Wiese celebrates a birthday Oct. 14.

Hancock Elementary

The day to celebrate with cake and ice cream for Anahi Ayala is Oct. 10.

Stuchbery Elementary

Alexandra Trevino enjoys a happy birthday Oct. 9. Break out the balloons and party favors for Isamar Garcia on her birthday Oct. 13.

Beverly Hills Intermediate

Send a humorous birthday greeting Oct. 10 to Stephanie Davis.

Thompson Intermediate

Sing a happy birthday song to Cassandra Perry Oct. 14.

Dobie High

Light the birthday candles Oct. 9 for Oscar

Garcia. Chanda Taylor is wished a happy birthday Oct. 12.

FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS

Thursday, Oct. 8: Courtney George, Lisa Stephens, Charles Young and Sandy Twyman; Friday, Oct. 9: Robert Caballero, Vicki Talton, Denny Wranch Jr., Mary Guerrero and Dolores Bordovsky; Saturday, Oct. 10: Patty Wheeler, Clayton Bichm, Cheryl Randall, Joel Miller, Jesse Guerra, Manny Carrillo and Gloria Sanchez; Sunday, Oct. 11: Samantha Mendoza, Katina Decker, Roberta Tomkins and Michelle Manzanales; Monday, Oct. 12: Christy Chapman, Vikki Kaufman and Laura Garcia; Tuesday, Oct. 13: Cathy Rex and Mark Chassay; and Wednesday, Oct. 14: Kristy Hall, Karen O'Connor, Tammy Fort, Nick Kafarella, Michele Rodriguez, Jason Warren and Richard Flores.

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

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11/04

SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

Following surprising loss to Brazoswood, Dobie football regroups on its bye week

A bye week and the schedule just may prove to come at the right time for a Dobie varsity football program that suddenly finds itself well out of postseason consideration with four games remaining on the schedule.

The Longhorns began the regular season with an impressive victory over Clear Springs but have suddenly dropped

four of five games since that time. At Brazoswood Oct. 2, the Buccaneers got a pair of field goals from Kersh Parker and a huge interception return for a touchdown from Kallum

Higgins on the way to a bit of a stunning 13-3 victory over the Longhorns at Hopper Field.

Brazoswood, which will now take on Dawson in its next game on a quest to remain in postseason consideration, improved to 2-2 in district play while the Longhorns slipped to 1-4 overall and 1-3 in 19-6A action.

Getting into the red zone just before halftime with a chance to, at the very least, put points on the board in a 6-0 deficit at the time, the Longhorns instead found themselves two scores down after Higgins' big play for the Bucs.

The Longhorns got a field goal from Nathaniel Campos in the second half, but were able to mount little else offensively in the loss.

With Pearland and Shadow Creek comfortably at the top of the standings and Dawson not far behind, it appears that the push for a postseason berth will come down to Dawson, Brazoswood and Dobie as those three teams play each other down the stretch. The Longhorns will host Dawson Oct. 15

at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena. Needless to say, the Longhorns will be in must-win mode each time out moving forward following the bye week in the schedule.

The Longhorns entered the season with as many as 10 newcomers on the defensive side of the football. Overall, the roster is heavy with newcomers. However, the locals could have never envisioned scoring just five total points over two games within district play.

Junior running back Adrian Taylor remains one of the top rushers in the league, but the Longhorns have not been able to generate much else on the offensive side of the football.

Turnovers have come at inopportune times along the way, but now the locals must find a way to put everything together over the final stretch of games. After taking on Dawson, JFD will clash with Pasadena Memorial with the Battle of the Beltway trophy on the line. But first, Dobie will have a chance to enhance its postseason opportunities with a win over the Eagles.

Continued on Page 8



Despite a loss to Shadow Creek, senior setter Leah Hernandez eclipsed 500 career assists. Hernandez began her career at Sam Rayburn and transferred to Dobie prior to this season. Needless to say, she has added quite a bit to the Longhorns' attack.



Senior and co-captain Alyssa Espinoza (1) has reached several individual career milestones this season and has played at a very high level both last season and in 2026. Now, she is looking to finish strong down the stretch. Photos by Donna Alsdorf

Sexton wins 500th; JFD VB is fifth

Given the overall top heavy strength of the 19-6A varsity volleyball alignment, the JFD group just may fall short of its goal of reaching the postseason.

However, with five remaining matches in the regular season heading into action Oct. 6 after press time, it truly has been a memorable season for several individuals as well as the entire squad.

The postseason will ultimately show just how strong this district will pan out to be in 2026, but there is no doubt that Dawson has dominated the field well on the way to a district championship.

The Eagles as of press time were 11-0 for the top spot to go with a 26-11 overall record. Pearland and Shadow Creek were second at 8-2 each, with Manvel solidly in fourth place at 7-3.

All four of the top playoff-contending teams have won at least 20 overall matches this season.

At present, Dawson and Pearland will head to the 6A Division 1 postseason bracket, with Shadow Creek and Manvel destined for the Division 2 field. The Longhorns, 5-6 in league play and 17-18 overall, were in fifth place as of press time.

As for the individual achievements delivered by the locals, head coach Dawn Sexton reached 500-career match victories as the Longhorns defeated Sam Rayburn Sept. 29 in straight sets.

Sexton for many years was the head coach at North Shore before taking over at Dobie and has enjoyed a stellar stay with the Longhorns.

Later in the week despite a loss to Shadow Creek, senior setter Leah Hernandez eclipsed 500 career assists.

Hernandez has proven to be a solid contributor for the Longhorns in 2026 after transferring over from Sam Rayburn High School. She has combined with junior setter Riese Rackley to give the Longhorns a solid position group.

Whether or not the Longhorns eventually reach the postseason, this 2026 campaign will likely go down rewarding on so many levels. Granted, the overall strength of the district both last season and now has made it challenging to advance to the playoffs, but Dobie has positioned itself well in both campaigns and still could

19-6A Varsity Volleyball

	District	Overall
Dawson	11-0	26-11
Pearland	8-2	22-13
Shadow Creek	8-2	22-12
Manvel	7-3	20-16
Dobie	5-6	17-18
Alvin	3-7	13-16
Brazoswood	3-7	11-12
Memorial	1-8	7-21
Rayburn	0-11	2-15

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Dobie varsity head football coach Danny Fitzmorris has seen his group score just five points in its last two games and will now oversee an important bye week as the Longhorns prepare to host Dawson Oct. 15 at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena. Photo by Gloria Wallace

Jasso wins at Texas City to lead JFD runners

Junior Cruz Jasso continued his remarkable cross-country season, leading the way for the Longhorns as he was the overall individual gold medalist at the Texas City October Classic at Bay Street Park in Texas City.

Inching closer to the Oct. 14 district championships at Dobie main, the Longhorns kept up the pace with a another solid effort at Texas City.

Jasso, quite simply, has been as impressive as any individual competitor in the region to this point.

Getting off to a fast start in the 5,000-meter varsity boys' event at Texas City, Jasso was the first to the line in a time of 16 minutes, 34.1 seconds.

Benjamin Canchola of Iowa Colony was a distant second with his clocking of 16:47.0.

Elsewhere for the Longhorns, Junior Jordan Roman, who will definitely be counted on for a ter-

rific effort at the upcoming 19-6A Championships, captured a top-10 finish as he was 10th with the time of 17:18.6.

Longhorn sophomore Jaden Moron was terrific in this event, placing 26th overall with his time of 17:51.6, and Angel Montiel was in at 18:31.6 for 49th place.

Dobie's fifth official qualifier was Ruben Flores as the senior finished at 18:38.1 for 55th place overall. Also competing for the Longhorns was Matthew Dunn as his time of 19:08.3 placed him 87th.

Deer Park was the easy overall team champion with a low of 44 points, followed by Langham Creek with 113 and Dobie third with 125. Of note, standout Longhorn runner Robert Pheister did not compete in this one.

In the 5,000-meter varsity girls' division, Dobie once again ran into district

competitor Manvel.

The Cardenas sisters finished 1-2 in this one, with Jessica Cardenas the overall gold medalist in the time of 19:39.1, followed by Jannie Cardenas second at 19:41.4.

Dobie senior Aracely Alvarado put together another terrific run as part of her final season as she was seventh in a time of 20:58.5, with freshman teammate Sofia Charles ninth in a time of 21:05.8.

Clear Brook sophomore Xiomara Vasquez, who has crafted a remarkable season for herself, was 10th in the event with a time of 21:08.4.

Dobie's Cecilia Bog-

any, who was the overall gold medalist a week ago in the junior varsity division at South Houston, finished 40th this week at the varsity level as the freshman earned a clocking of 23:04.5.

Marley Manriquez, who was second to Boga-

ny last week at the junior varsity level, finished at 23:25.6 for 48th place.

Clear Brook went back-to-back later in the final standings as a pair of sophomores ran well for the Wolverines.

Emily Harrell's time of 23:56.5 was 58th, followed by a time of 23:59.94 for Olivia Guillen (59th).

Junior Destiny Sid-iropoulos finished 62nd in a time of 24:04.9, and Maria Arredondo, a senior, wound up at 24:44.0 for 72nd place.

Also running for the Longhorns was Esmeralda Martinez as the sophomore was 80th with a time of 25:18.2.

In the final team standings, Tomball Memorial was the leader with 68, followed by a second-place Deer Park with 78. Of note, Dobie was sixth at 139, with fellow

district competitor Manvel seventh at 157 as both of those programs should figure prominently in the team standings at the 19-6A Championships just days away.

Dobie also ran at the junior varsity level, with those athletes also competing on a 5,000-meter course. Josue Rodriguez, a Longhorn sophomore, was terrific as his time of 18:51.9 was fifth overall, followed by junior teammate Gevin Vega, who was seventh with a time of 18:54.4.

Clear Brook junior Chance Winger came up with a season-best clocking of 19:13.9 for 17th place. Back to Dobie, junior Bernardo Perez was 21st overall as he finished in a time of 19:22.5. Also for Brook in the event, Continued on Page 6

Sagemont crowns winners



The Sagemont Cowboys and Cowgirls celebrated an exciting homecoming week, which culminated with the crowning of king and queen winners Oct. 3 at El Franco Lee Park. The respective winners included, left to right, (front row) prince Tommy Alvarez, princess I'zanah Mata, (back row) king C.J. DeLeon and queen Mia Morales.



Junior Jordan Roman, who will definitely be counted on for a terrific effort at the upcoming 19-6A Championships, captured a top-10 finish as he was 10th with the time of 17 minutes, 18.6 seconds at Texas City.

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BAFL Weekly Standings

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

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

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

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

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

BAFL Week 8

Cowboys’ PW 36
Eagles 0

Cowboys’ Fr. 14
Eagles 20

Cowboys’ Soph. 12
Eagles 34

Cowboys’ Jrs. 59
Eagles 0

Cowboys’ Srs. 33
Eagles 48

BAFL Week 9

Cowboys’ Peewee
at Buccaneers,
8 a.m.

Cowboys’ Freshmen
at Buccaneers,
9:30 a.m.

Cowboys’
Sophomores at
Buccaneers,
11:30 a.m.

Cowboys’ Juniors
at Buccaneers,
1:30 p.m.

Cowboys’ Seniors
at Buccaneers,
3:30 p.m.

South Belt
football
predictions

Crosby at Kingwood	Kingwood	Crosby	Kingwood	Kingwood
North Shore at Summer Creek	North Shore	North Shore	North Shore	North Shore
George Ranch at Bridgeland	Bridgeland	Bridgeland	Bridgeland	Bridgeland
Fulshear at Cypress Ranch	Fulshear	Fulshear	Cypress Ranch	Cypress Ranch
Victoria East at South Houston	Victoria East	Victoria East	Victoria East	Victoria East
Baytown Sterling at Beaumont Westbrook	Beaumont Westbrook	Beaumont Westbrook	Beaumont Westbrook	Beaumont Westbrook
Port Arthur Memorial at La Porte	Port Arthur Memorial	Port Arthur Memorial	La Porte	Port Arthur Memorial
New Caney at Galveston Ball	New Caney	Galveston Ball	Galveston Ball	New Caney
Beaumont United at Goose Creek Memorial	Goose Creek Memorial	Beaumont United	Beaumont United	Beaumont United
Randle at Iowa Colony	Randle	Randle	Randle	Randle
Last Week’s Results	6-4	8-2	7-3	8-2
Season record	46-14	49-11	43-17	44-16



John Bechtle



Emory Gadd



Stephen Sutton



Debbie Vaughn

‘Sark’ visits Veterans Stadium



University of Texas head football coach Steve “Sark” Sarkisian was in town Oct. 7 at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena to watch Class of 2026 Longhorn commit Landen Williams-Callis and his top-ranked Randle program take on South Houston. Sarkisian posed for a photo with Pasadena ISD assistant athletic director Astin Haggerty (left) and athletic director Patrick Longstreet.



During a visit to Veterans Stadium in Pasadena, University of Texas football coach Sarkisian (center) took time out to meet the sons of Pasadena ISD athletic director Patrick Longstreet, including Grayson (left) and Easton Longstreet.



Landen Williams-Callis is bidding to become the state’s all-time leading rusher. Randle went on to win the game in a big way over the Trojans and are still unbeaten to this point in the season as Williams-Callis has continued to be one of the more explosive talents across the state.

Leaders in 18-6A football continue strong play

The Oct. 8-10 week of the high school football season will feature a bye within the District 18-6A ranks, and it may come at a perfect time given the fantastic finish that likely lies ahead at the top of the standings.

Who can stop the high-powered offenses of Barbers Hill and Deer Park? In the end, will any team be able to match up well with a defending league champion Dickinson team that has come alive with the start of district action?

At the end of the regular season, which programs among Clear Falls, Clear Springs and Clear Lake will be left standing for the final playoff spot in the Division II bracket? Each of these questions will be answered as part of a final month of the regular season that begins Oct. 15-17.

At the moment, undefeated Barbers Hill and Deer Park have both been outstanding to this point in the season while getting to 6-0.

The Eagles, who far and away have been one of the state’s most impressive programs while making the first-year jump in classification, simply rolled past Clear Brook in their latest action.

Taking on a struggling Wolverine program Oct. 7 at Challenger Columbia Stadium in Webster, the Eagles produced a thorough 78-12 win to stay perfect at 6-0.

A night later in Deer Park, the host Deer also stayed undefeated following a 38-21 victory over the Clear Springs Chargers.

Now that the Dickinson Gators have reached league play, the wins have come rather easily. In its latest victory, Dickinson got off to a sloppy start by its standards yet produced a 49-6 victory over Clear Creek to move to 3-0.

Quarterback Lorenzo Aguirre completed 16 of 24 passes for 191 yards in the game. Running back Tavin Gomez rushed for 97 yards and the Gators were able to roll to the victory.

In one of the biggest games of the 18-16A schedule, Dickinson will travel to Barbers Hill Oct. 16, to take on a red-hot Eagles’ squad.

At this point there is little doubt that Barbers Hill has created quite a star within the revamped 18-6A ranks. Quarterback Luke Babin has consistently performed as one of the top signal callers in the Houston area.

The Oct. 16 matchup between the Eagles and

Dickinson could very well be for the district championship. Then again, undefeated Deer Park might have something to say about that. At 6-0 to this point in the schedule, the Deer should be in pretty good shape against Clear Creek Oct. 16 and will then head into a game

against Dickinson that will carry huge implications moving forward.

The performance of Barbers Hill certainly has made life on the football field tougher for the likes of Clear Springs and Clear Falls as one or the other program is likely to miss out on the postseason.

District 18-6A Oct. 16 Action

Deer Park hosts
Clear Creek
Oct. 16, 7 p.m. at Abshier Stadium

Clear Falls hosts
Clear Falls Springs
Oct. 16, 7 p.m.
at Challenger Columbia

Barbers Hill hosts
Dickinson
Oct. 16, 7 p.m. at Eagle Stadium

Clear Brook hosts
Clear Lake
Oct. 16, 7 p.m. at CCISD Veterans

Longhorn cross-country finishing strong

Continued from Page 5

junior Timothy Jackson put together a season-best time of 19:51.1 for 31st place, and sophomore teammate Izayah Durden had a personal best time of 19:53.4 for 32nd place.

The Longhorns’ Wil-

fredo Chinchilla was 38th overall with a clocking of 19:59.7.

In the 2-mile girls’ junior varsity race, Dobie sophomore Andrea Arredondo led the way for her team as she was 23rd at 14.9.0.

Teammate Kobee Rodriguez, a freshman, placed 40th as she was in at 15:09.0, with Aliscia Garza-Becerra 44th in a time of 15:16.3. Sophomore Ava Flores of Dobie took 49th place with a time of 15:24.4.

Clear Brook freshman Andrea Pando took 54th place with a time of 15:30.2, followed by Sophia Torres of Dobie with a time of 15:32.0 for 55th place, and Brook freshman Janelsi Baltazar 56th with her time of 15:32.4.



Dobie varsity boys’ runners Angel Montiel (left) and Matthew Dunn certainly figure to play important roles down the stretch as the Longhorns look

to recapture the district championship Oct. 14 at Dobie main. Both runners ran terrific races at Texas City.

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CALENDAR

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8
7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill," Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., and Saturday at 7:30 a.m. Hope Community United Methodist Church, 2838 Lily St. Call 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit <https://aahouston.org/meetings/>.
7:30 a.m. **Rotary Club of Pearland** - Check website for time and location <https://pearlandrotary.com/events/calendar> or call 832-293-9860.
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - Exhibits include dioramas, a turn-of-the-century doctor's office and an old-time kitchen. Open Tues. - Sat., 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., 204 S. Main, Pasadena. Call Karen Hollon at 713-472-0565 for appointment. Tours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

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

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10
7:30 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - See Thursday's notice.
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11
8 a.m./10:15 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - has worship Tuesday at 11:30

a.m., Wednesday at 7 p.m. (Bible study, Book of Revelation, at 6 p.m.) and Sunday at 8 a.m. and 10:15 a.m., 11456 Space Center Blvd. (in back of a medical/retail community). For details, call 281-479-7285 and leave a message, or stop by.
5:30 p.m. **Celebrate Recovery** - A faith-based 12-Step program, in the Life Kids Chapel at Life Church, 5125 Preston Ave. Pasadena, TX 77505. Call 713-419-2635 for details.
8 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous** See Friday's notice.
8 p.m. **Beverly Hills Sharers Group AA** - See Friday's notice.
MONDAY, OCTOBER 12
Noon **AA - Imperfect Nooners**. See Friday's notice.
5 p.m. **New Directions** - Age 55 and older meets the first and third Mondays for a potluck dinner with activities and/or guest speakers at 600 Hobbs Road, League City, TX 77573, (community room). For further information, call Jill at 646-489-4367.
6 p.m. **Scrabble Club #511** - Meets Monday at Denny's, 19212 Gulf Freeway. Join the fun and improve crossword skills. COVID-19 vaccination required. Email huff_reunion@juno.com for info.
7 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - St. Luke's Group, 12-Step Recovery, open meeting Mondays, 7 p.m. in the Education Bldg. in room 6, at 11011 Hall Road, 77089. For details, call Rita at 281-309-2801.
7 p.m. **TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)** - #0683 Friendswood chapter meets at the Friendswood Methodist Church, 110 N. Friendswood Dr. in the educational bldg., room 201. For information, call Lynette Ringrose at 832-858-4617 or Dorothy Pourteau at 713-875-8820.
7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - See Friday's notice.
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13
7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - See Thursday's notice.
11:30 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - See Sunday's notice.
6:30 - 7:30 p.m. **Southeast Houston Toastmasters** - The Southeast Houston Toastmasters Club #05324194 meets virtually with the exception of the second and fourth Tuesdays (hybrid meeting) at sehouston.toastmastersclubs.org. In-person address 10500 Scarsdale Blvd. (SB Chamber of Commerce). Visit the website or call Karen Nunn at 832-722-9061 for information.
7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - See

Friday's notice.
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14
7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - See Thursday's notice.
Carmelites - a nondenominational senior citizen social group meeting at St. Bernadette Catholic Church, 15500 E. Camino Real, in Clear Lake on the first and third Wednesdays for a time filled with fun, fellowship, lending library with books and puzzles, coffee and bingo. The meetings are open to those ages 55 and older, with no dues. Day trips and extended trips available. Deposits are now being taken for Poland. For details, call Marilyn at 713-444-6744.
Noon **AA - Imperfect Nooners**. See Friday's notice.
Noon **Ballroom Dancing** - casual ballroom dance, open to the public, held every Wednesday afternoon from 12:30 to 3 p.m. at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 East League City Parkway, League City. Everyone is welcome to come with or without a partner. The dance itself is free as music is provided by volunteer, Neva Schroder. The city requires an activity card for participants in all of the city's many activities. Call the park office at 281-554-1180 for answers to any questions regarding the activity card. Visitors are welcome to walk in to observe or participate.
7 p.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - See Sunday's notice.
7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - See Friday's notice.
8 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous** - See Friday's notice.
8 p.m. **Beverly Hills Sharers Group AA** - See Friday's notice.
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15
7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill," Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., and Saturday at 7:30 a.m. Hope Community United Methodist Church, 2838 Lily St. Call 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit <https://aahouston.org/meetings/>.
7:30 a.m. **Rotary Club of Pearland** - Check website for time and location <https://pearlandrotary.com/events/calendar> or call 832-293-9860.
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - Exhibits include dioramas, a turn-of-the-century doctor's office and an old-time kitchen. Open Tues. - Sat., 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., 204 S. Main, Pasadena. Call Karen Hollon at 713-472-0565 for appointment. Tours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

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Dobie volleyball program celebrates as head coach Sexton collects career match victory No. 500

At right, the Dobie varsity volleyball program and several players from the subvarsity programs celebrated along with varsity head coach Dawn Sexton after she collected career victory No. 500 as the locals defeated Sam Rayburn. Dobie got the win to hang on to fifth place in the District 19-6A standings with a handful of matches to go in the regular season. During this special season for the Longhorns, Sexton and several of the varsity players have reached career milestones. Members of the group in the celebration included, left to right, (front row) Riley Perez, Lilliana Guerra, Emily Martinez, Chelsea Garza, Naomi Corona, Sa'mori Williams, coach Dawn Sexton, Aly Garza, Allison Walker, Madeleine Medina, (back row) Emmerly Lynn, Liliana Salazar, Alyssa Espinoza, Brianna Huesca, Neriah LeBlanc, Mahoganii Dav, Kailani Rudd, Kaylee Robles, Eniko Sanchez, Jaila Bandy, Leah Hernandez, Riese Rackley, Maddison Campos and Alyssa Goree.



Bears capture Athlete of the Week honors



The Beverly Hills Intermediate eighth-grade boys' athletics Athlete of the Week for the week ending Oct. 2 was Tommy Nguyen.



The Beverly Hills Intermediate eighth-grade girls' athletics Athlete of the Week for the week ending Oct. 2 was Breneisha Leonard.



The Beverly Hills Intermediate seventh-grade boys' athletics Athlete of the Week for the week ending Oct. 2 was O'Quinn Lockett.



The Beverly Hills Intermediate seventh-grade girls' athletics Athlete of the Week for the week ending Oct. 2 was Olyvia Lockett.

Longhorn football slips in game at Brazoswood

Continued from Page 5 within league play, the At 2-4 overall and 1-3 Longhorns will be in must-



Dobie junior running back J'Mier Gasaway (21) and his teammates will regroup during a bye week before returning to action against the Dawson Eagles Oct. 15 at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena. Photo by Gloria Wallace.

win territory when they return to action at home at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena Oct. 15 against the Dawson Eagles. The locals will then finish with games against Pasadena Memorial, at home against Manvel and then at Alvin to close out the season Nov. 6. Whether the Longhorns are in the running for a postseason berth heading to Alvin or playing the role of spoiler down the stretch will likely be determined over the next couple of weeks. While the Longhorns will have a bye week coming up, Brazoswood will have a chance to strengthen its postseason resume with a game against Dawson. Meanwhile, the Eagles can take a large step toward a playoff berth of their own with wins over

the Buccaneers and then the Longhorns. The overall strength of Class 6A football in the region, and across the state for that matter, is real. The Longhorns reached the playoffs in 2024 courtesy of a huge victory at home over Manvel in the season finale as they won a tiebreaker over Dawson to reach the postseason. Last season, however, Manvel turned the tables and kept the Longhorns, who finished at 5-5 overall, from reaching their goal. Things appear to be much more urgent at this point with the Longhorns holding a 1-3 district record with three games remaining, but there is little doubt that this group will bounce back down the stretch and put the best version of themselves out on the field.

JFD volleyball milestones

Continued from Page 5 Senior Alyssa Espinoza also reached several career marks late last month as she achieved 500 career kills and 100 career digs in the victory over Sam Rayburn. At the end of August, junior setter Riese Rackley reached 500 career assists while teammate Aly

Garza reached 500 career digs. Espinoza and senior Brianna Huesca are co-captains of a 19-player group that includes nine seniors overall, with as many as 10 players who are at the varsity level this year set to return in 2027 and beyond as more growth is expected.



Dobie junior Aly Garza is one of several players who has reached career milestones this season for the Longhorn varsity volleyball team, which stands at 5-6 in district play. Photos by Donna Alsdorf



Senior Allison Walker has continued to deliver outstanding play during her final season with the Longhorns.

JFD cross-country runners reunite



Three Dobie graduates had a chance to catch up in Fayetteville earlier this month as J.C. Carpio (left), now an assistant coach at St Thomas, was joined by current Celts' runner Chris Lopez (center) and Arkansas-Little Rock freshman Johan Villavicencio.



A pair of cross-country runners who contributed heavily to the success of the Dobie program before their graduation in 2025 included Chris Lopez (left) and Lauren Garza. Lopez, now a sophomore at St. Thomas University in Houston, competed in the 8K event in Fayetteville, collecting a time of 25 minutes, 59.4 seconds for 75th place overall. Garza is a freshman competitor at Southeastern Oklahoma State University. She competed with the Storm at the Chili Pepper Harter Habanero 5K in Fayetteville, Ark., finishing the event in 19:22.4.

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