



South Belt-Ellington Leader

46 years of covering South Belt

The Voice of Community-Minded People since 1976

Christmas Edition 2022

Email: mynews@southbeltleader.com

www.southbeltleader.com

Vol. 47, No. 47

Holiday schedules set

South Belt-Ellington Leader

The Leader offices will be closed through Monday, Jan. 9, for the Christmas/New Year's Day holidays. Emergencies may be directed to Leader publisher Marie Flickinger at 281-948-2714.

Clear Brook City MUD

The Clear Brook City MUD offices will be closed Friday, Dec. 23, and Monday, Dec. 26, in celebration of the Christmas holiday. They will reopen Tuesday, Dec. 27, at 8 a.m. For customer convenience, check or money order payments may be left in the drop box located on the drive-thru side of the building. No cash will be accepted in the drop box.

The offices of Clear Brook City MUD will be closed Monday, Jan. 2, in observance of New Year's Day. They will reopen Tuesday, Jan. 3, at 8 a.m. For customer convenience, check or money order payments may be left in the drop box located on the drive-thru side of the building. No cash will be accepted in the drop box.

Residents living in Clear Brook City MUD receiving trash service on Fridays and Mondays will have regular trash service on Friday, Dec. 23 and Monday, Dec. 26.

Residents living in Clear Brook City MUD who receive trash service on Mondays will have regular trash service pickup on Monday, Jan. 2.

All trash must be at curbside no later than 6 a.m. on the day of pickup.

Sagemont to meet Jan. 3

The Sagemont Civic Club will hold a meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 3, at The Gardens, 12001 Beamer at Hughes Road. All Sagemont residents/homeowners are invited to attend. Meetings are typically scheduled for the first Tuesday of the month.

Local COVID cases reported

The number of active COVID-19 cases in the South Belt community remained roughly on par with the previous week, according to county health officials.

As of Tuesday, Dec. 20, there were 76 active cases in 77089, up two from the previous week. To date, 137 135 from the ZIP code have died from the disease, up two from the previous week.

In ZIP code 77075, there were 19 active cases, no increase from the previous week. To date, there have been 81 deaths in the ZIP code, no increase from the previous week. (Harris County reported 84 deaths two weeks ago.)

In 77034, there were 29 active cases, down three from the previous week. To date, 90 residents from ZIP code 77034 have died from the disease, up one from the previous week. (Harris County reported 91 deaths the previous week.)

According to Harris County officials, the vast majority of the fatalities suffered from pre-existing health issues.

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.

Kirkmont meeting canceled

The Kirkwood Civic Club will not have a December meeting due to the Christmas holidays. Normally scheduled for the last Thursday of the month, meetings will resume next month on Thursday, Jan. 26. For additional information, call Kirkwood Civic Club President Ericka McCrutecheon at 281-989-9990.

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. Friday, 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.

One middle northbound frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from NASA Bypass/NASA Road 1 to Bay Area Boulevard daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Monday, May 22. Two outside southbound lanes on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from Texas City Railroad to SH 6/SH 146 in La Marque nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. until further notice.

The northbound entrance ramps from both FM 519/Main Street and FM 1765/Texas Avenue in La Marque will be completely closed until further notice. Motorists should use the next available northbound entrance ramp.

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.

Leader's 40th annual Christmas drive a success!

Program provides assistance to roughly 40 area families

The Leader's annual Christmas program was a huge success, providing assistance to dozens of area families in need. Several local organizations, schools, businesses and residents stepped up to the plate, making this

year's drive one of the most successful in the event's history.

Approximately 40 families took part in this year's program.

Organizers noticed a marked increase this

year in participants who were caring for children other than their own. One recipient was caring for eight children, three from other families. Another resident was seeking assistance for six children under her care belonging to her nieces and nephews.

Local schools participating in this year's drive included Dobie High School, Beverly Hills Intermediate, Lewis Career and Technical High School, Melillo Middle School, Fra-

zier Elementary, Moore Elementary and South Belt Elementary.

Also contributing to this year's Christmas program were Ace Central Hardware, Winning Way Services and numerous individuals.

A group of residents with the Sagemont Civic Club, dubbed "Santa's Helpers," along with other residents, selflessly volunteered hours of their time organizing toys and food to make this year's event a success.

Leader's 40th annual



The Leader's 40th annual Christmas program was a huge success, providing assistance to dozens of families in the immediate South Belt area. In all, approximately 40 families received help this year, thanks to the generosity of local organizations, schools, businesses and residents. The annual toy and food drive is made possible through a team of volunteers who selflessly donate their time each year to ensure the event's success. Photo by Marie Flickinger

Driver, 19, arrested in fatal crash

Charges have been filed against a suspect arrested in a fatal crash that took place around 12:15 a.m. on Sunday, Dec. 11, in the 9500 block of Clearwood Street near Edgebrook and the Gulf Freeway.



Jose Vasquez

The suspect, Jose Martinez Vasquez, 19, was charged with intoxication manslaughter in the 263rd State District Court.

The identity of the female victim, 26, is pending verification by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences.

According to Houston Police Department officials, witnesses stated Vasquez was traveling north on Clearwood in a white Chevrolet Silverado pickup truck with another vehicle in front of him driving at the speed limit when he then passed the vehicle at a high rate of speed and struck a red Toyota Matrix making a left turn onto Tavenor Lane.

The Chevrolet and Toyota left the roadway and came to a rest against a fence.

Paramedics arrived at the crash and pronounced the driver of the Toyota dead at the scene.

Vasquez was detained and determined to be impaired.

He was subsequently arrested and charged for his role in the crash.

Fireworks sales cause confusion

Sell of products long prohibited in city limits

New Year's Eve is around the corner, and many South Belt residents are understandably confused as to the current regulations involving the sale and possession of fireworks.

Fireworks have long been forbidden within the city limits, and both Clear Brook City and Sagemeadow MUDs have entered into strategic partnership agreements with the City of Houston, prohibiting the practice.

Despite the partnerships, however, many South Belt residents may have noticed fireworks stands popping up this year in new locations where they haven't before.

According to Clear Brook City MUD Manager Chris Clark, this is because the district has grown since the strategic partnership agreement was drafted more than 20 years ago.

One such fireworks stand recently opened near the Riverstone Ranch subdivision (developed four years after the SPA, according to Clark) on Hughes Road directly across the street from Melillo Middle School.

A second new fireworks stand popped up near the corner of Beamer and Scarsdale near the Harris County Courthouse Annex.

Clark said he and other MUD officials were unaware of this second booth until it was brought to their attention by the Leader.

Clark said he believed this stand was located inside the district, and therefore, should be illegal. Clark, however, said it would be up to the Harris County Fire Marshal to shut the stand down, not the MUD.

Clark acknowledged, however, he was uncertain of the district's exact boundaries.

To illustrate how confusing the MUD boundaries are, the Leader routinely receives calls from fireworks dealers asking for clarification.

Clark said such precise maps detailing what is inside and outside the district would have to be obtained from the fire marshal or fire department.

At press time, Clear Brook City MUD Director of Operations Dean Baier told the Leader that all known fireworks stands in the area adhered to the city/MUD arrangement.

A second loophole in the Clear Brook City MUD's agreement with the city inadvertently allowed the sale of fireworks in the parking lot of Mount Olive Lutheran Church on Scarsdale, prompting extensive litigation from the Sagemont Civic Club.

In the end, the bench sided with the church, and sales are expected to resume on the property this holiday season.

The transport of fireworks along Beamer has been a confusing issue even among law enforcement, who in 2008, issued more than 30 citations in error to residents who were transporting legally purchased fireworks. Officers were unaware that while the northbound stretch of Beamer between Scarsdale and Dixie Farm Road fell under the city's ban, the southbound of the street did not. With the Leader's assistance, the tickets were

Continued on Page 2

Traffic stop leads to felony charges

A traffic stop led to multiple felony charges around 1 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2, in the 5900 block of Beltway 8 near Crenshaw.

The incident began when Precinct 8 Deputy Henderson initiated a traffic stop for a prohibited motor vehicle.

Upon making contact with the driver, Henderson detected a strong marijuana odor emitting from inside the vehicle.

Henderson conducted a probable cause-based search of the car and located a large amount of U.S. currency, 2.28 pounds of marijuana and a handgun.

A check of the serial number revealed the handgun was reported stolen through League City Police Department.

The driver, Christopher Paris, was charged with felony possession of marijuana and unlawful carry of a weapon.



FBI warns of seasonal holiday scams

The FBI offers the following tips to avoid being the target of scams this holiday season:

When shopping online during the holiday season – or any time of year – always be wary of deals that seem too good to be true. One should do their part to avoid becoming a scammer's next victim.

Every year, thousands of people become victims of holiday scams. Scammers can rob one of their hard-earned money, personal information and, at the very least, a festive mood.

The two most prevalent of these holiday scams are nondelivery and nonpayment crimes. In a nondelivery scam, a buyer pays for goods or services they find online, but those items are never received. Conversely, a nonpayment scam involves goods or services being shipped, but the seller is never paid.

According to the Internet Crime Complaint Center, nonpayment or nondelivery scams cost people more than \$276 million this year alone for the period up through October 2022. Credit card fraud accounted for another \$129 million in losses.

Similar scams to beware of this time of year are auction fraud, where a product is misrepresented on an auction site, and gift card fraud, when a seller asks one to pay with a prepaid card.

The IC3 receives a large volume of complaints in the early months of each year, suggesting a correlation with the previous holiday sea-

son's shopping scams.

"Make sure you do your homework when you're shopping this year," said FBI Special Agent in Charge Mike Nordwall. "In general, the types of scams we see do not change significantly. However, the techniques the scammers use and the methods of deploying these scams do change. By following a few simple tips and remaining vigilant, you can protect your information, your hard-earned money and enjoy a scam-free holiday season."

Tips to avoid holiday scams

Whether the buyer or the seller, there are a number of ways one can protect themselves – and their wallet.

Practice good cybersecurity hygiene

– Don't click any suspicious links or attachments in emails, on websites, or on social media. Phishing scams and similar crimes get one to click on links and give up personal information like one's name, password and bank account number. In some cases, one may unknowingly download malware to their device.

– Be especially wary if a company asks one to update their password or account information. One should look up the company's phone number on their own and call the company.

Know who one is buying from or selling to

– Check each website's URL to make sure it's legitimate and secure. A site one's buying

Continued on Page 2

Dobie Orchestra performs



Dobie Longhorn Orchestra is shown above performing a recent Christmas concert in the lobby of Methodist Hospital. The area high school also recently participated in the Leader's 40th annual Christ toy and food drive, which provided assistance to approximately 40 local families in need. See related story on this page.

Merry Christmas from Leader

Another year has passed, and the Leader staff would like to wish all readers a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Below is a poem written by Leader staff member Rosa Graham in advance of the Leader's annual Christmas party:

'Twas a week before Christmas
 When all at the Leader had been scurrying,
 Including Dave who just kept hurrying!
 A cruise, an anniversary, calendars to be done;
 And payroll was no fun!
 Special print jobs he had to check.
 Mr. Good Bar couldn't help—Dave was up to his neck!
 Then what to my wondering eyes should appear,
 But a red Mercedes in high gear!
 The steady driver so lively and quick,
 I knew it was Marie who had been sick.
 She'd been in the hospital, Died TWICE under care.
 THANK GOD she was back
 In her HOT OFFICE chair.
 She got right on her phone And called her staff.
 On Bo, on Natalie, on Luis, on Diddy;
 On Rosa, on Bobby, on Madisson and JB.
 To the top of the pages, Fill in all the gaps!
 Tell all South Belters Who's under wraps!
 Pct 2, the county judge and the commish—
 They can't just do as they wish!

They best behave and serve South Belt well or Marie and Bo ALL will tell!
 Faster than eagles Madisson's and Natalie's fingers flew,
 As Diddy renewed ads that were due!
 Some pages were run, JB was always the first one done.
 And Bo was waiting for breaking news and more,
 Before he could WALK OUT the door!
 Check the ads and all the jumps, too!
 Correct all misspellings and make sure everything's true!
 Pages were piling up on my desk!
 Seemed like scores of corrections,
 But I was up to the task!
 Deliver the Leader Luis, Donna and Francis; Marie's got our backs!
 Report all who take off with huge stacks!
 It's done! ANOTHER YEAR full of news!
 Now on to a party and rest we can all use.
 Oh, we love our Dave and Marie;
 Much work, but no fuss!
 Feliz Navidad, Merry Christmas and Happy 2023 from all of us!

Engle officially named new CCISD superintendent

Dr. Karen Engle was officially named to the Superintendent of Schools position for the Clear Creek Independent School District at the Dec. 12 board of trustees meeting. "She understands our culture of innovation and excellence and has the vision to guide us into the future," said Jay Cunningham, board president.

The board unanimously voted her to the position after naming her as the lone finalist at the November regular meeting. By law, the name of the lone finalist must be public for at least 21 days before a hire is official. "I've had time to reflect over the last few months and moving from student to superintendent of CCISD was something I never dreamed would happen," said Engle.

Engle is a product of the District, having attended Clear Lake City Elementary, Webster Intermediate and graduated from Clear Lake High. Her children have also graduated from CCISD, and she now has a grandchild attending school in the district. Her long list of professional accomplishments includes elementary principal, high school principal and assistant superintendent of secondary education for CCISD.

"The talented artist we saw here tonight made me think of a Vincent Van Gogh quote, 'For my part I know nothing with certainty, but the sight of the stars makes me dream,'" said Engle. "For me, the CCISD star represents the shining light of hope of education that our district has been for me personally and for thousands of students over the decades. I am excited to look ahead at what is possible for the next generation of Clear Creek ISD graduates."

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Death

Sandra McIntyre

Sandra Lee McIntyre, 69 years old of Deer Park died Dec. 8, 2022, following a 10-month battle with colon cancer. McIntyre was preceded in death by her father, Marvin Lee; also by her brother, Tommy Lee.

She is survived by her 100-year-old mother, Sue Lee; her three children,

Jamie, Holly and John McIntyre; and seven grandchildren. McIntyre was a longtime member of Sagemont Church and had a strong faith in God.

McIntyre worked for Laser Energy for 20+ years and loved her work family.

A special "thank you" from McIntyre's family is extended to Terri Lyn Friermood and Janet Rentz for being by her side these past few months.



Roberts recognizes students



A number of students have been newly recognized as Summer Challenge top winners at Fred Roberts Middle School. Shown above, left to right, are (front row) Joe Chavez, Ashton Wilson, Bill Tran, Alchemy Hernandez, (back row) Erin McBride (reading instructional coach), Alexander Williams, Abdulla Suleman, David Harris, Lyndsi Price (assistant principal), Jessica Tran, Adanely Viera and Lashondra Evans (math coach).



Roberts Middle School also hosted its spelling bee. After 11 rounds, sixth-grader Jessica Tran (front row, right) took first place and fifth-grader Sofia Castellano (front row, left) was named runner up. Shown in back row, left to right, are McBride, Karen Pena (assistant principal) and Steffanie Purucker (fifth-grade teacher and bee announcer).

FBI warns of holiday scams

Continued from Page 1

from should have hints in the web address. If it doesn't, don't enter one's information on that site.

- If one is purchasing from a company for the first time, do research and check reviews.
- Verify the legitimacy of a buyer or seller before moving forward with a purchase. If one is using an online marketplace or auction website, check their feedback rating. Be wary of buyers and sellers with mostly unfavorable feedback ratings or no ratings at all.
- Avoid sellers who act as authorized dealers or factory representatives of popular items in countries where there would be no such deals.
- Be wary of sellers who post an auction or advertisement as if they reside in the United States, then respond to questions by stating they are out of the country on business, family emergency, or similar reasons.
- Avoid buyers who request their purchase be shipped using a certain method to avoid customs or taxes inside another country.

Be careful how one pays

- Never wire money directly to a seller.
- Avoid paying for items with prepaid gift cards. In these scams, a seller will ask one to send them a gift card number and PIN. Instead of using that gift card for one's payment, the scammer will steal the funds, and one will never receive their item.
- Use a credit card when shopping online and check the statement regularly. If one sees a suspicious transaction, they should contact their credit card company to dispute the charge.

Monitor the shipping process

- Always get tracking numbers for items purchased online, so one can make sure they have been shipped and can follow the delivery process.
- Be suspect of any credit card purchases where the address of the cardholder does not match the shipping address when one is selling. Always receive the cardholder's authorization before shipping any products.

And remember: If it seems too good to be true, it probably is.

If one's been scammed

- Call one's credit card company or bank. Dispute any suspicious charges.
- Contact local law enforcement.
- Report the scam to the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center at www.ic3.gov.

Leader obituary policy

Obituaries submitted to the Leader are published free of charge. They are edited to conform to the Leader style.

Bay Area Jewelers WE BUY GOLD!

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In My Opinion

Hicks writes on selling animals in city limits

I saw this last weekend, but wasn't in position to call 311. Today, at 4pm I called 311. The operator sent me to HPD non-emergency. I waited on hold for 23 minutes and had to hang up.

I'm betting these people will be back to tomorrow. I think one has to have a license

to sell animals in Houston City Limits? Anyway, here are the pickups:

1. white GMC no front license selling black and white dogs
2. Red Ram license SGM6315
3. White chevy license FMF 5330
4. White Ford KHP8443 selling pugs (dogs).

I did not see any shade for any of the four. Between this ongoing situation and recycle pickup I'm about to call the TV people.

Liz Hicks

Local library events set

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

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.

Wishing everyone Happy Holidays!



Sageglen HOA

Left to right, top row, Sageglen Board of Directors: Sam Weeke, Dawn McDonald, Chuck Tylka, Margie Adams, & David Cino. Bottom row, Sageglen Staff: Anna Diaz, Brenda Chamblee & Natalie Ramirez.

The Sageglen office will be closed from Mon., Dec. 26, 2022 - Mon., Jan. 02, 2023 and reopen Tues. Jan. 03, 2023.

Fireworks sales cause confusion

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later dismissed.

Transporting fireworks - even in municipalities where their sale is prohibited - is easier now, however, thanks to a bill authored in 2013 by Lucio's son, Eddie Lucio III, who serves as a state representative in Brownsville. House Bill 1813 states it is now lawful in the state to transport the items, provided they are kept in a non-passenger area of the vehicle, such as a trunk or hatchback.

Should one still get charged with possession of fireworks within the city limits, fines can range anywhere from \$500 to \$2,000 for each individual item.

In 2007, the state raised the minimum age to purchase fireworks from 12 to 16. Parents of offending minors can also be fined, even if they are unaware their children are breaking the law.

Local subdivisions located within the city of Houston include Sagemont, Sagemont Park, Kirkwood, Genoa, Beverly Hills, Rainbow Valley, Eastridge Terrace, Sycamore Valley, Scarsdale and King's Place.

Subdivisions not within Houston city limits and under Harris County's control include Clear Brook Meadows, College Place, Riverstone Ranch, Woodmeadow I and II, Highland Meadow, Ashley Pointe, Blackhawk, Meadows of Clear Creek, Sagemeadow, Estates of Green Tee, Sageglen, Kirkmont and Kirkwood South.

The Bella Vita, Villa D'Este and Villa Verde subdivisions are located within the City of Pearland.

ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST
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Rev. Douglas J. Guthrie, Pastor
Rev. Kingsley Nwoko, Parochial Vicar
11011 Hall Rd.
(between Beamer & Blackhawk)
www.stlukesatholic.com

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.
Tuesday & Thursday	7 p.m.

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

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

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

New Covenant Christian Church



Day Care Christian Based Child Care

New Enrolling

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

281.481.2003

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The Voice of Community-Minded People

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MoodyGardens.org



In the spirit of kindness & good will, these local merchants and public servants wish you a Merry Christmas and a safe and healthy New Year!

Frazier Elementary 2nd-graders write to Santa

Second-grade students from Frazier Elementary School wrote the following letters to Santa Claus.

Adriana Cortez's class
this year I would like a Go-Gle Pixel, fox squish mellow, Rock art, Robux -4,500, IP-hone 14, new IPade, mafic mix-ies, star slime, RainBow slime, pink and purple slime. **andrea**
I've been very good this year. I'm not struggling on math or fluency. One thing I want for Christmas that's not on my list is good luck. **Noah**
I've been rilly Good this Year I clind my room I did my homework so I want mack up heand Bands close shose stichie dry erase Bold and markers a i Pad 3D Pen my own class room splyise. **Aurora's**
Hi its AABAN and for chis-mas i want a iPhone 14 Pro Max a mion Robx 3 fet pool a ogile 2 I wel geev you 20 cookies Love, **AABAN**
I have been a good gril every day and my Brother to sometimes but can Me and my Brother get what we wish pless thank you so much ok are you ready noah p. wants a hou-verbod and a VR. I what some nre clous and anew boost slime Jurer. **Baily**
I want for Christmas is BeyNlade and Famaley and to see my dog one more time and to find my dog this Christmas. **Jeremiah**
I would like a MaKaup and slime. I want a girl nobuk and some pens. can I have head-pads. I would like some LoL-adolles. can i have some cloth-ing pluse. can i have a pennig bag. can i have papits ples. I want shoes. Braslits and negles. bog stufammles. **Mia**
I wut blablapi can I get Pokiemon. I do not wut enything es. **Keegan**
I would like makup and nails. a toy dog and popits slime. a dress. and bow. and hebpane girls noot book benbag. bord-games. painting. Clorfor peng-s. dogbook magnes boots. markers. suff annlies long hair srunchy shose lols carwymikg-crphone. brases nekles. dog sirt. doge shoes **Jordynne**
I want a sister this year. I ben a good boy this year. I what a iPhone -13, and I what ice -p. **JAVari**
I bin good this year I want the thing that I pick Last night on my mom phone on chrismas I hope I see it. **Ariana**
Hi it's memelanie G. and for chismas I want a barbuie dall and some crop tops and a pere of jeans with holes in them and two mini brands shopcins LoLs a pere of boots and two fluly slmies and one squishy maker and thats it by. **melanie**
can I have nerf gun for Christmas and wwe toy and more books. I want you to help my mom and dad and Harsson peas its tuff for them with three kids. can you peas help them. I will bo extra thors around the hous and help them. **Aiden**,
hello Santa, I what for I what a VR hendset and a iPhone 14 dut smol and. sum marcer and scechBook and 8 shes and Jesu. one nit gon. **Harper**
I love the hlday and I do my best and I and I Love my family by the way i'm ging to tell you that I Love Christmas. **Melanie**
I don't want presents i want collow I can help my bad Grill. think you. thry iSnores in swy-onareckmissanto. alchly I want a nrf gun sow I can shoot my littl druther. **Lucas**

of the poppy play time stufes, Rainbow Friends plushies and all the sonic characters in sonic movie except sonic **Xavier**
These are the things I want for Christmas: a medium lap-top, a tablet or IPos with an LED Keyboard, a starter You-tuber Kit, a baby cat, a kids Al-eva, a Ninetedo Switch, Hog-gy Wuggy, cat toys, and Kissy Missy, Rainbow Friend Plush-ies. I have been good all year by cleaning my room and helping my mom with my baby sister I really deserve these things. **Jamyal**
I would like a Xbox, vr, Mi-necraft Lego Set, dog toy, and a chapter book. I took care of my dog and helped my mom so I really deserve things. **Julian**
This is what I want for chris-mas: a puppy, a phone, a cat, a laptop, to go back to cheer, for people to come to my birthday party, board games, toys for a puppy and cat, a new jacket, a little sister, to go camping, a VR and a lot of colored pencils and markers. Please give me the things on my list. I know I was good all year. Please give me the things on my list. **Haley**
The things I want for chris-mas are a vr, a PS5, a some slime. I have gotten better since last year, so I really think I de-serve the things I want. **Noah**
These are the things I want for Christmas: A Laptop, an iP-hone 14, beanbag, and a ball. I have been good all year by cleaning my room. doing good in school, and cleaning after my self. **Gabriel**
These are the things I want for Christmas New shoes a big squishmallow, and Press on nails. I help my mom. I took care of my toys so I really de-serve these things! **Alina**
For Christmas I want a ape and 2 PS5 and glowing jacket and a Iphone 14 and a Air Force 1 and a new bat. I deserve these because I help my Grandma with my little brother. **Irvin**
These are the things I want for Christmas. A puppy, laptop, and Chalk. I have been good all year! I took care of my dogs and my birds. So I really want these things! **Esly**
These are the things I want for Christmas. a drone with a camera, a Lanky Box Plushy, and a Lanky Box Mystery Box. **Giovani**

These are the things I want for Christmas: A Baby yoda cup, a jump rope, a Baby Groot plushie, and a new bike. I deserve these these because I make my bed and I helped put the ornaments on the Christmas tree. **A'meLiya**
These are the things I want for Christmas: A cat, a laptop, and a baby sister. I have been good and I think I deserve these things! **Aiden**
These are the things I want for Christmas: A Nerf gun and a laptop. I have cleaned my room I have been good. **Anoir**
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this year for christmas I Want a Blue costume and a Green costume and a orange costume. I have been very Good Boy Because i been Doing chores Like cleening my room and the Living room so please can you Bring me the toys on my List merry christ-mas **Jeremiah!**
The year for Christmas I want a skatebrd, and a little white kite, and a little white puppy. I have been good to my family. I be kind to my sistr I gave her my fjit and my brudr and my friend to ples bring my evrg thing on my List merre Christmas **Isabella**
This year for chrismas I Want a little robot legebricks and book I been good all year I help wash the dishes and take out the trash and when my friends with setting up some thing. merry christmas **Steve**
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This year for christmas I want a phone a pupye and more toys. I have been a very good girl. After I eat I clean up and I help my Grandmol clean up. When I go some whaer I bring two toys for me and my cusin. Please bring me every thing on my List. Merry Christmas. **Adalin**
This year for Christmas I want a horse, and a sk wishe, and I want to go to jumping word. I have Been Good all year help my family by wash-ing dishes aNd I feed my Dog and I Do my homework Please Bring me my Presists meey christmas **Olivia**
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Dir senta I waite a Pet cas and I Love so muck simes and a Pet Dog. **Herlinda**
i bin god this ueer awfdet lbr pluches i wot kiwoxt i wot FN-HAQC **Jayden**
I wunt sheche toys I wunt sing mosteen toys I wunt Books **Jayce**
I hope yoo ar good to -I wood Like a Bike and a uma-ricin Home as wall that is it Thanks. lov **Elena**
I have bine good this year I want 1. a play house

These are the things I want for Christmas: A cat, a laptop, and a baby sister. I have been good and I think I deserve these things! **Aiden**
These are the things I want for Christmas: A Nerf gun and a laptop. I have cleaned my room I have been good. **Anoir**
Liana Luna's class
my mom is cistolmosdy dad made the tree all my Gift to the Grich DvD by Grich max push Geoitzn hot whees nang and slappy! Sonic shoty spem Jumo main huck. **Edgar**
Dear Sath I want laztagt. **Jayce**
I wife For womrte. ed slim a lot of slim ed lol dolls lol dolls haws ed a nwe bike. **Bella**
wwe Tiy's Hot wheels ABC ? **JuLian**
Dear Santa makeup. manicin, hairstradiner blowjriar. Lorwell. three friendship bracelets. Thank you for Prensets **Love**
Dear santa makeup. manicin. hair stradiner. blow dryer. LOL doll. three friend ship BraceLets. thank you for presents **Aliana**
i waNt a Game Fuor my nintendoswich And A cuntR-oLeR And thAts it. v Buks 1, 8, 000000, 00000 \$v **Aeden**
Dir senta I waite a Pet cas and I Love so muck simes and a Pet Dog. **Herlinda**
i bin god this ueer awfdet lbr pluches i wot kiwoxt i wot FN-HAQC **Jayden**
I wunt sheche toys I wunt sing mosteen toys I wunt Books **Jayce**
I hope yoo ar good to -I wood Like a Bike and a uma-ricin Home as wall that is it Thanks. lov **Elena**
I have bine good this year I want 1. a play house

2. a Barbey hoase with the icseres. **3. Jelrey.**
4. a new tladie. **5. mackup.**
6. a new BackPack **7. a havabord**
8. Pockimon **9. a PuPPy**
Love you **Alyssa**
Deidra Garza's class
this year for christmas I Want a Blue costume and a Green costume and a orange costume. I have been very Good Boy Because i been Doing chores Like cleening my room and the Living room so please can you Bring me the toys on my List merry christ-mas **Jeremiah!**
The year for Christmas I want a skatebrd, and a little white kite, and a little white puppy. I have been good to my family. I be kind to my sistr I gave her my fjit and my brudr and my friend to ples bring my evrg thing on my List merre Christmas **Isabella**
This year for chrismas I Want a little robot legebricks and book I been good all year I help wash the dishes and take out the trash and when my friends with setting up some thing. merry christmas **Steve**
For Christmas I want a 3d prithir and 1,000,000,000 Ro-Blox carD and lot of Legos. I have been good all year I let adarina Play whith me I bib the dishes help ben he was bleed-ing and. I gave him a bandaid. Please bring me everything on my list merry christmas!**Alex**
This year for Christmas I want a robux giftcard and a ve-buks giftcard and pulomus. I have been good all year. I have been doing chors I clean my bed and I wash the dishes and I want the clos. merry Christmas **Andrew**
This year for chistimas la tgeheck igpy pts ntt ghiddybe gte dd ybeb ey basketbml v I have been good gal hela melha mi ecouslau. **Hailie**
This year for chistmas I want a Pokeman Plashy, a 3d Pin, and a Playstahand. I have been a very good girl all year. I helped my mom clean her room and I helped my sister wash dishes and I helped my family cook dinnere. Please bring me everything on my List. Merry christmas. **Robry**

This year for christmas I want the new call of duty, please and books, so I can read and can I have 2,800 vbucks please. I have been good all year I help my family by helping my mom do laundry. I let my sister play my game and I get good grades on my test every week. Please bring me everthing on my list. Merry chrismas **Juan**
I clean the living room and washing the dishes and I gave my Friend a Phone please bring me everything on my list merry chrismas. This year for Christ-mase I want a Toy boat a Toy car and a Toy Train. **Emanuel**
This year for christmas I want a phone a pupye and more toys. I have been a very good girl. After I eat I clean up and I help my Grandmol clean up. When I go some whaer I bring two toys for me and my cusin. Please bring me every thing on my List. Merry Christmas. **Adalin**
This year for Christmas I want a horse, and a sk wishe, and I want to go to jumping word. I have Been Good all year help my family by wash-ing dishes aNd I feed my Dog and I Do my homework Please Bring me my Presists meey christmas **Olivia**
This year for christmas I want a play stash 5, a robux gift crard and a Pet simlitr x tresur. I have been good all year I help my brother with toys and I help my brother with getting food please bring everything on my list merry christmas **Liam**
I want a two hundred Rob-Box gift card and a iPhone four-Teen and a creep-r Plushie. I was good aT home i clean my room I share my Toys I as nice to my friend. Marry chrstmiss plz. give me all my sTuff on The List. **Trey**
This year for christmas I want a marie toys and mxcrie toys and plushys I have been good all year I Little sister I let her have my ead in my friend I Gave Him papers merry chit-mas **Julian**
This year for christmas i want a play stashin 5, and a huver Bord, and a necklacs. I have been good all year I helped my Granny clene the dishis and clene my mes afrt i eat and halpd my friend git up aft he fell pleas bring me evre thang on my List Merry chrismas

Burnett Elementary second-graders write wish-list letters to Santa

Second-grade students from Burnett Elementary School wrote the following letters to Santa Claus.

Bonnie Lewis' class
This year for christmas I want a hamster, LaPoP, and a bicycle. I should get a hamster because i get good grades. I helpmy grama cook. And i am nice and caring. Merry christmas.

America
This year for Christmas I want Robux from the oken squad. Rutn bell plush and a Nezukio. table case. Because I work hard. i do a lot of chores. i read a lot. i hope you have a merry christmas.

Jeannele
This year for christma i want books. opimus. and a claeNdar I do chores I do hoMrk. I share. merry christmas.

Matthew
This year for christmas I want A Puppy, Santa Pictur, And a horse. Becuse I work really really hard. and because I am a good kid and I love my family. Marry chistmas

Adaleena
This year for Christmas i wuet . New Shoes Goku toy. Goku Gamer. i, ma Nics to my mom and dad. i, ma. Nics to Amy.

Camron
This year cull stahns I want A bay cat. To baguy hot chetos. one book. I do the cors I work hard at school. Merry christmas

Isabella
This year for chrtma I want A bicycle, pc, and xbox. 3 I do chores I kle m room I do god in school. merry christmas

Antonio
This year for christmas I want nindido swich, pokomeon, and PS5. I helpP with chores i take out the trash and make breakfast in the morning i also help my mom meery christmas

Ernest
This year for christmas i want a xbox, Legoes and cow boy Pants and snenkers and shrtes m-l-b baesball cards

new handsets and pokemon cards.

Adriel
This year for chrissmss I want a magic Mixes, a 1000 robux card and a bike I have been good I helP PeIPol mery christmas

Brooklyn
This year for christmas I want a teddy bear, Jacket, and stich blanket. I work hard at home. I also am nice to my sister. merry christma

Mia
I want a xbox and Pokemon cardes and a I Phone 14 The resin I want This stufe is because I helP do chores and vakyou my home Merry christmas Santa!

Damir
This year for christmas I want a B17 tat is a moltol and can i get a noo a poche and a moltP5 ol mustung. I do chors ot hom and i Lrn is cool of duty. Second can I have a new Piano because my old Piano is broken from Last Christmas. Last I want Nike Shoe's because I Like to be Cool.

Isabella
This yong foy christmas I want a fey books and fjijs. I work hard ta school and at home. I am respsubl I b the Dishis. I hIPP my Dad and my mom. merry christmas.

Lisiahhol
This year for chrismt I wain many rabits spark of hope. boom buks and Mroy Rabrit Kiniohum I Plded with my baby brutr and i clen my tool at home.

Sebastian
I wut for christmas I want . I wut a PS5, a xBox, and lai FoL4. I Play with my sitt boys I dkros with my mom I hop my DaD I work hard at school merry christmas.

Romeo
This year for christmas I want for christmas vBuks and invesBclok and o hemowueg thos

ABEL
this Year for Christmas I want makeuP iPhone 14, and a Purse. I work hard at scool

and i help my mom. i was good. Merry christmas,

Zoe
Shannon Robert's class
I hope you are having fun making toys for Christmas. First, I would like an Avegers play set so my Avengers have a Place to live Next can I have a five nigts at feddey so I can make a pizzara? Third I would Like to own a flash fuge

Jeffery
How are you and the elves doing? I am so excited. Can I get a few things? First, can I have Robucks so I can play it. can I please have it and second can I have fabrics so I can sew. Last can I have a christmas dress so I can wear it?

Rosalie
How are your elves doing? good or bad? AnWay, first I would like to have a PS5 because I can learn to play call of duty. Second can I have a new Piano because my old Piano is broken from Last Christmas. Last I want Nike Shoe's because I Like to be Cool.

Sebastian
what are you The elves doing today? I am writing you a letter to tell you what I want for christmas First I would like a beanbag for my room so when I read a book I can sit on The beanbag. second I want a new animal rescue book so I can have the new one. Third, I need some new clothes to be fancy

Nateli
what are yu doing? I am writing you a lett to tell you what I want for Christmas First i would lake a monkey so thta I could play with it. Next, I can get a Lego SET-UP so I can BuLD STUFF Last, I want an XBOX so I can Play BaTman.

Calvon
How is your day? I want Money so I can by a PS5. I need a Phone. Santa can you get me an Xbox

Jose
I would like to tell you my

christmas list. I would like wobox, cpeedr, and pet spidr. I would be so happy if I could get all of these Thank you Santa!

Luca
I would like to tell you my Christmas list. I would like Legos, coco guttav and Coraline Doll. I would be so happy if I could get all of these. Thank you Santa!

Leo
I would like to tell you my Christmas list. I would like batman toy, meor robot, and spider man. I would get all of these. Thank you Santa!

Malay
How are you? I am doing a letter for you. first, I need clothes because I run out of them fast, because I go every where. second I want a piano because my other one broke I spilt water on it. Last I have to have a new jacker because my other one broke and the zipper fell off.

Addison
Merry Christmas santa. I hope you are ok. First, I want a lot of stich stuff because I love stich. second can I have a Hello kitty fed animal because I like Hello Kitty? Third, I want a toy barbie dall because I want to play with my cousin.

Julianna
I hope you are doing great and your elves are good. For Christmas, I would like a PS4 so I can play fortnite. Monkey so I can hav a Dirt Bike. a chane so I can Look good.

Jamarcus
I hope you have a nice day. first, I want a nllsan skylline rc blue car because I have fun with them. second, I want nlke shoe, blue whlte because I can run wllh them. Third I wanT ispderman flgure so I can wllh my Toys and have fun.

KriztoPher
I hope you are doing good. How about what I want for christmas. First, I want a Barbie because I want another one. second I want a Barbie house because my cousin has

one. third I want a baby bed because I want one. **Genesis**
I hope your doing good Santa. First, I want a googet-zoo chompy because my other one broke. Second I would like a Playstation. Third I am asking for all of the Fortnite seasons because I want to see what new things are in the game.

Jacob
I have you are feeling well. First, I want a vr so that I can play boxing. Then, I would like a microphone for my dad and I to sing. Last, I want a computer because I can play games on it.

Diego
I hope you are doing well. First, I want money to buy something a second, I would like to have a slime machine because I Like slime. Last, I wish you can come to my house to give me presents.

emma
I hope you are doing well. First, I want some money to get a new toy. Second I want to have a new bed to sleep all day on the weekend. I am going to the store to buy a gift for you. can I have a big toy to play a shark game?

Raul
I hope you are doing well. First I want some money because I want to be riche. Second I want a ifone 12 because for its fun. Third I want sum prasite because I want to opin the prasite.

Arden
I want a slime machine because I do not want my mom to waste money. I will like Roblox because I have 0 Roblox. I want a box of candy because I Love candy so much!

Helen
I hope you and your elves are well. First, I want a stich Teddy Bear because I can sleep with it. Second, I am asking for Slime because I can play with it. Third, I would like a crown because I can act like a princess. **Daisy**
I hope you are doing well. First, I want an iPhone 14 so I can play on it every day. Second, I would like airpods

and a fun christmas. Third, a room and a P,S5 an some sleep.

Navy
I hope you are doing great first, I want a new XboX controller because my other controller ise broken. second I would like money because my sisters tell me to have money and get v-bucks on fortnite. Last I am asking for a vr because i want to show my cousin that i have one.

mateo
This is my christmas list. First, I want a vr head set so when I get bored I can play Second, I want a remote control snake so I can have a snake agin. third I'm asking For pokemon plushies since there not real. I can still have them.

May
I want a computer because I want to play games. I need airpods to listen to my music. I want a PS5 to play ForT-niTe.

Adric
Are your elves good? This is a letter of what I want for christmas. First, I want an x-box so I can play games. second I need glow in the dark glasses so I can see in the dark. Third I want a toy infinity gauntlet so I can play with it.

Briceson
How are your and buddy doing? I am writing you a letter for what I want for Christmas. First I want a Naruto toy so I can play naruto with my friends. Second I need a new apartment because it's uncomfortable to sleep on the couch. Last I want a elf so Santa know Im Good

James
What are the reindeer's names and I want to know if you finishedn on the toys. First, I want an iPhone 14 Because I can Play Games on it, second, I want Pokemon card Third, I want a rock to add to my rock clection.

Raymond
When do you give us presents in the night? I want a puppy because it is soft and fluffy. I want a robot because it is cool. I like a christmas doll because I can sleep with it.

Iana
How are you doing? I am writing you a letter to tell you what I want for christmas. First I want a new book so I

can read it. Second can I have roblox then I can buy stuff on roblox. Last I would like a new toy doll so then I could have a tea Party!

PeneloPe
How are your elves doing? I am making a letter to you about what I want for christmas. First I would like a BorBievah. I want the mermaid because It is Fun. I can swim in The Pool and act like a mermaid.

Ariana
How is Your day? FiRst I Want a big teddy bear and can you Buy Me a dress and New shoes Please? can you Buy Me a Back Pack and New clothes? can you Buy Me a new PuPPy?

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Remember When

45 years ago (1977)
Public outcry prompted the removal of a stop sign which had been placed at the corner of the South Belt and the Gulf Freeway.

A reward was offered by Pasadena Independent School District officials for information leading to the arrests of vandals. Nearly \$6,000 in damage was done to a language lab at Dobie High School.

40 years ago (1982)
All Clear Creek School District seventh- and eighth-grade students in Galveston County would attend the new League City Intermediate School.

The Texas Assessment of Basic Skills test was adopted as the Pasadena school district's exit-level examination by trustees at the regular monthly meeting.

35 years ago (1987)
Utility use and costs in the Pasadena ISD dropped as much as 16 percent over a five-year period due to the district's energy management program.

Dr. Lloyd R. Ferguson, a Green Tee resident, was named to replace John Ward as the Clear Creek ISD superintendent.

30 years ago (1992)
The Dobie High School Academic Decathlon team won the Pasadena school district competition with 42,118 points and advanced to the regional competition. Clear Brook's Jerrold Smith, William Price and Andre Bruce were named

offensive newcomer of the year, most valuable player and defensive newcomer of the year respectively by the District 22-4A football coaches.

25 years ago (1997)
Attendees at a community meeting held at the Sage-meadow MUD building voted overwhelmingly to retain the Pony-Colt baseball program for the South Belt area.

Dr. Catherine O'Brien was nominated for the San Jacinto South campus's 1998 Piper Award.

20 years ago (2002)
Pasadena Independent School District was experiencing record-breaking housing growth, particularly in the South Belt area, according to Metrostudy housing projections submitted to the board of trustees.

Martha Jimenez died due to complications of leukemia leaving behind two children, Dobie students Sara and Javier.

15 years ago (2007)
Clear Creek Independent School District Superintendent Sandra Mossman stated she would officially retire following the Christmas break. She was the first female to hold the position and the only superintendent to be hired from within the district.

For the 15th consecutive year, Thompson Intermediate coach John Fowler encouraged his students to get into the spirit of the

holidays by donating food items to the *Leader* Christmas program. Fowler allowed his students to opt out of their six-weeks exams if they donated canned goods to the food drive.

The Pasadena Independent School District board of trustees voted to sell the district-owned property located in the 10800 block of Blackhawk near Dobie High School. Purchased by PISD in 2004, the district originally intended to use the property as a satellite transportation center for its buses. However, after facing strong opposition from many in the community and the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce, PISD Superintendent Kirk Lewis dropped the plan.

A city of Houston worker was killed and another injured when a car struck them at around 12:20 p.m. while they were removing debris from the 11600 block of Sabo. Harold Norwood, 44, and Larry Williams, also 44, were part of the work crew from the city's public works department. The two men were loading debris into the back of their city truck when a blue Toyota Camry approached the truck from behind, swerved to the right and hit them. The car continued and clipped the corner of the truck. Norwood died at the scene, while Williams was transported to Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital with multiple injuries,

including a broken back. According to city officials, the driver of the car was reportedly talking on a cellular phone at the time of the accident. The city truck was parked with flashers on, but no other form of warning device was behind the crew.

10 years ago (2012)
Gov. Rick Perry designated the special election date to fill the state Senate District 6 seat formerly held by the late Mario Gallegos. Vying for the position were Carol Alvarado, Sylvia Garcia (who eventually won the seat), Rodolfo "Rudy" Reyes, Dorothy Olmos, R.W. Bray, Joaquin Martinez, Susan Delgado and Maria Selva.

5 years ago (2017)
Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner served as the keynote speaker for the San Jacinto College fall 2017 commencement, held at Minute Maid Park on Sunday, Dec. 17.

Turner recounted the year Houston hosted the Super Bowl, survived Hurricane Harvey and celebrated the Astros as World Series champions.

Pasadena Independent School District Superintendent Dr. DeeAnn Powell was presented the Spirit of Community Award by the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce. The superintendent was honored for her service during Hurricane Harvey. Powell was instrumental in gaining access to Dobie

High School in order to use the campus as a temporary shelter during and following the storm. At its peak, the Dobie shelter housed roughly 1,350 evacuees. Powell was also responsible for setting up two smaller makeshift shelters at other PISD campuses.

1 year ago (2021)
San Jacinto College announced it would once again be offering free tuition to high school graduates in its taxing district. The move was made possible by a \$30 million donation from MacKenzie Scott, the former wife of Amazon founder Jeff Bezos. The San Jacinto College District includes six independent school districts, including Channelview ISD, Deer Park ISD, Galena Park ISD, La Porte ISD, Pasadena ISD and Sheldon ISD. Homeschool, private school and GED graduates in the district are also eligible. Clear Creek ISD is not located in the college's taxing district. The initiative is a last-dollar scholarship, meaning it kicks in only after all other grant and scholarship funding has been applied. Students must also maintain a 2.0 GPA and take 12 hours each fall and spring semester to remain eligible for the scholarship.

A pilot version of the program was launched the previous year but was limited to just Pasadena ISD graduates.



Over The Back Fence by Natalie



JACQUELYN CELEBRATES
Happy Birthday to Jacquelyn Wiess who celebrates her birthday Dec. 22.

The family can't wait to share another fun year of travel and adventure with her.

Much love from all her Texas family: husband, **Louie**; children **Heidi, Louie, Kara** and spouses; and grandchildren **Cody, Louie, Arianna, Ameila** and **Jence**. Many hugs and best wishes from all her friends in North Carolina.

DAVID CELEBRATES
David Flickinger is celebrating a birthday Dec. 22, wishes are sent from his wife **Marie**; sons **Fred** and wife **Leslie Flickinger** and **David** and wife **Ellie Flickinger**; granddaughters **Kimberly** and husband **Matt Lipina** and **Courtney** and children **Abigail, Jackson** and **Penelope**; granddaughter **Natalie** and husband **Jose Abarca** and their children **Kelvin Lopez** and **Noah, Elliana** and **Isabella Abarca**.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MARK
Best wishes for a wonderful birthday Dec. 24 are sent to **Mark Tinney**, Dobie grad Class of 2006, from Paula W. and all his friends.

SCHOOL DAZE
The following staff and personnel of the

Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays Dec. 22 through Dec. 28.

Atkinson Elementary
Blow out the candles for **Brittany Peralez** Dec. 28.

South Belt Elementary
Victoria Stelmach enjoys a birthday Dec. 22.

Roberts Middle School
Sing a happy birthday song Dec. 22 to **Citlali Guerrero**. Give a birthday shoutout Dec. 28 to **Amanda Castillo**.

Beverly Hills Intermediate
Sing a chorus of a happy birthday song to **Johna Moreland** on Dec. 22. Send a festive birthday greeting to **Katherine Wood** Dec. 25.

Thompson Intermediate
Dobie High
A double birthday celebration is in order Dec. 22 for **Susan Ayala** and **Cheryl Sanders**.

FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS
Thursday, Dec. 22: **Jennifer Bryant** and **Tiffany Wennerstrom**; Friday, Dec. 23: **Miguel Lopez, Sarah Smith** and **Holly Fielder**; Saturday, Dec. 24: **Lori Lee, James Perales, Tiffany McCullough** and **Kim McDonald**; Sunday, Dec. 25: **Jillena**

Mata, Jose Garza, Abby Skowron, Johnna Overstreet-Pierce and **Anita Griego**; Monday, Dec. 26: **Cindi Williams, David Parker, Dave Huston, Travis Sattiewhite, Pam Moore** and **Sam Ditta**; Tuesday, Dec. 27: **Rhonda Valdez, Jen Mintz, Ricky Stacey, Julia Argo, Laurel Chicas, Arthur Medina, Donna Shaw-McCullough** and **Stacey Donohue** and Wednesday, Dec. 28: **Mandy Philmon**.

LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS
Email announcements of anniversaries, vacations and graduations 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.

Library donations sought
The Friends of Parker Williams Branch Library group is seeking donated materials from the South Belt community.

Items sought include DVDs, CDs, gently used children's books and adult fiction.

Donations can be dropped off during regular library hours at 10851 Scarsdale Blvd.

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SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

Dobie girls', Clear Brook boys' basketball plan holiday play



The Dobie varsity girls' basketball team is looking forward to playing in the Aggieland Invitational Dec. 28-30 in College Station, where the Longhorns, including Jacque Giron (11), will face Pflugerville Hendrickson in a first-round game. Photo by Donna Alsdorf



The Clear Brook varsity boys' basketball team, including Zion Norl (5) is headed to the Allen ISD In-N-Out Burger Holiday Classic Dec. 27-29 as the Wolverines will face Frisco Heritage in a first-round game. Photo by Andy Tolbert

Southbelt Little League baseball sign-up is online through Jan. 6

The Southbelt Little League is currently accepting online registration for youths ages 3 through 16 for competition in the spring 2023 season at the league's facility at El Franco Lee Park. The registration fee is \$150 per player, in addition to a \$75 prepayment for the league's raffle ticket fundraiser. There is also a \$100 nonvolunteer fee due at registration. With registration, players receive a uniform consisting of a hat, belt, socks, pants and team jersey.

Those in the junior/senior leagues will be responsible for their own pants purchase. League officials have planned a 14-game schedule, with games currently slated to begin the week of February 20. The sign-up session online will run through Jan. 6, 2023, and late registration will cost more.

The divisions available include instructional T-ball (new 3s-5s) T-ball (experienced 5s-6s) coach pitch (7s-8s), peewee (all 9s, new 10s), minor (experienced 10s, 11s), major (all 12s), junior and senior (13s to 16s). For additional information about the league and to register, visit www.southbeltll.org.

SBGSA sets online sign-up until Dec. 31

The South Belt Girls Softball Association is continuing online registration for the 2023 spring season through Dec. 31. Regular registration is \$75 per player in addition to a \$65 fundraiser fee. The available age groups include 6-under, 8-under, 10-under, 12-under and 14 to 16-under. Late registration will be held Jan. 1 to Jan. 11 at a cost of \$85 per player in addition to a \$65 fundraiser fee, but team spots are not guaranteed. For registration details, visit www.southbeltsoftball.com. For an online response to specific questions about the registration process, direct email to southbeltgirlsoftball@live.com.

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Brook girls' hoops to test Meadows lineup at Duncanville

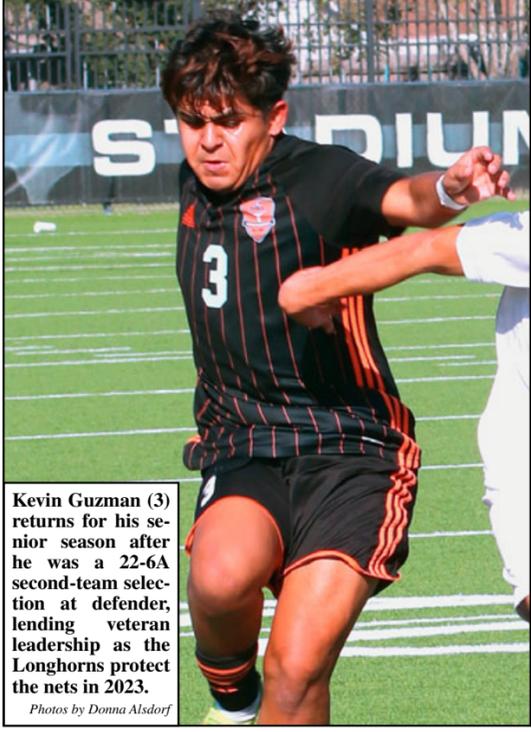
Region III finalist Pearl and Clear Brook will represent the Houston area at the prestigious Sandra Meadows Classic varsity girls basketball tournament Dec. 28-30 in Duncanville. At 16-1 as of press time, Pearl and Clear Brook occupies the top spot in the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches Class 6A state girls' rankings. The full field of teams includes Amarillo Palo Duro, Bartlett (Tenn.), Bishop Lynch, Briarcrest Christian, Captain Shreve (La.), Clear Brook, Coffeyville Heritage, Conway (Ark.), host Duncanville, Fayetteville (Ark.), Fayetteville (Tenn.), Frisco Liberty, Hardin-Jefferson, Harvard-Westlake (Calif.), Highland Park, LaVega, John Paul II, Little Rock North (Ark.), Marion (Ark.), McEachern (Ga.), McKinney North, Mesquite Horn, Midlothian, Parkway (La.), Plano, Red Oak, Sacshe, Saginaw, Vista Ridge and Walker (La.). Clear Brook, the 24-6A champion from a season ago and an area playoff round squad, will take on Bartlett in a Dec. 28 first round contest. In 2021, Bartlett was fourth overall in the tournament while Duncanville defeated Conway for the title. Sandra Meadows led the Duncanville program for 25 years, beginning in 1968. She won four state titles with the Pantherettes, collected 134 straight team wins at one point and had more than 900 victories in her career. Clear Brook is playing in the event for the first time in program history. Head coach Mileka Loydrake says her team will readily accept the challenge. "We are proud to be invited to take part in such a prestigious, first class tournament," Loydrake said. "It's one of the best collections of talented programs that you'll see in one place. The event has such a rich history, and we look forward to representing Clear Brook. "I believe you improve by going against the best. This event certainly represents that." Defending 24-6A champion Clear Brook kept the good times rolling to start league play in 2022-2023, crushing Clear Falls and Brazoswood as sophomore Chardel Terrell led things in the scoring column. Coming off an unbeaten run a season ago to win the program's first-ever Class 6A crown at 12-0, Clear Brook got a game-high 14 points each from Terrell and Galicia Bernard in beating Clear Falls 69-28. In a 72-27 win over Brazoswood, Terrell had 16 points and Bella Robbins added 14 more as the Wolverines kept the wins coming. Sophomore Kamryn McLaurin had 13 points against Brazoswood to go with 12 against Clear Falls. She continues to lead the Wolverines' balanced scoring attack at 12 points per game.

TASCO Region III rankings tout Dobie boys No. 4

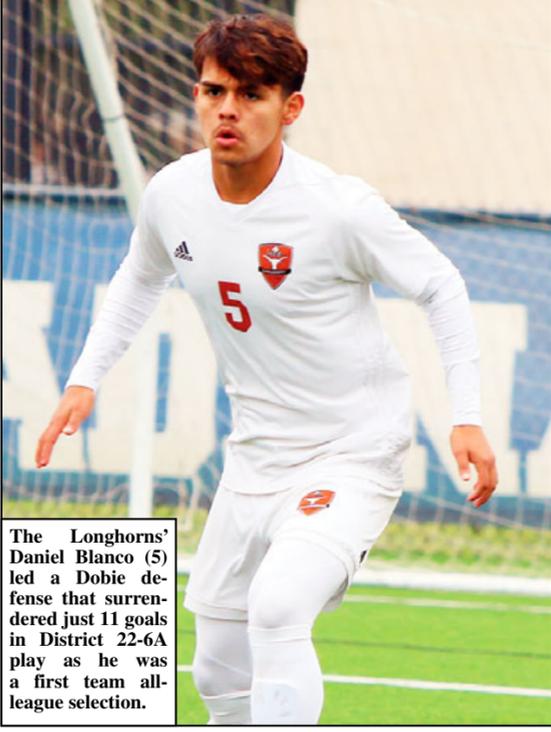
The Dobie varsity boys' program again holds one of the top Region III preseason rankings as the Texas Association of Soccer Coaches has presented its boys' and girls' frontrunners as the 2023 regular season nears. Dobie, looking for a ninth straight district title this season, is coming off an area round playoff appearance. For 2023, TASCO has Seven Lakes atop Region III with Elsik second, Tompkins third and the Longhorns fourth. The rest of the Region III boys' top 10 includes Cinco Ranch at No. 5, Ridge Point sixth and Deer Park seventh, followed by eighth-ranked Katy Jordan, Cy-Creek at No. 9 and Humble at No. 10. Of interest in the Region III girls' top 10 is Beaumont West Brook at No. 7, No. 9 Kingwood

- ### TASCO Rankings Region III Boys
1. Seven Lakes
 2. Alief Elsik
 3. Katy Tompkins
 4. Dobie
 5. Cinco Ranch
 6. Ridge Point
 7. Deer Park
 8. Katy Jordan
 9. Cypress Creek
 10. Humble

- ### TASCO Rankings Region III Girls
1. Ridge Point
 2. Seven Lakes
 3. Katy Tompkins
 4. Houston Memorial
 5. Stratford
 6. Katy Jordan
 7. West Brook
 8. Cypress Fairbanks
 9. Kingwood
 10. Atascocita



Kevin Guzman (3) returns for his senior season after he was a 22-6A second-team selection at defender, leading veteran leadership as the Longhorns protect the nets in 2023. Photos by Donna Alsdorf



The Longhorns' Daniel Blanco (5) led a Dobie defense that surrendered just 11 goals in District 22-6A play as he was a first team all-league selection.

Y-in-R starts

The Leader's annual year-in-review starts on Page 6. For more details on the area's exciting sports results this year, see the Dec. 29 issue as the memories unfold.

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Leader looks back at memorable 2022 sports year that was

January

It was another season, another Pearland ISD Cup title as the Dobie Longhorns' varsity boys' soccer team continued its dominance of the event.

Dobie scored wins over Dulles (5-0), Goose Creek Memorial (3-1) and Heights (3-0) to claim top honors as junior forward Jordi Garcia had four assists and a goal in the early going, getting the locals to 3-0-1 to start the season.

In a 3-1 win over GCM, Isaac Cortez, Garcia and Ronaldo Guzman found the net as the Longhorns won a second pool play contest before waiting out a lightning delay and then easing past Heights Jan. 8 for the crown.

The Longhorns then cruised to three more wins at the Humble Showcase Jan. 13-15, scoring eight goals and allowing none as the defense and keepers Eris Acosta and Diego Torres dazzled.

In Humble, the Longhorns' overall talent was showcased as they beat Cypress Lakes and Aldine by identical 2-0 scores before wrapping up the event with a 4-0 defeat of San Antonio Roosevelt.

Jordi Garcia and Miguel Bazaldua scored on assists from Ronaldo Guzman and Victor Hernandez. Acosta went the distance in the nets for the shutout in the opener against Cy-Ridge.

In the win over Aldine, Garcia and Hernandez had goals, and Isaac Cortez had an assist. Acosta and Torres combined in goal for the win.

Hernandez and Guzman both had goals and assists, and Garcia and Robert Villatoro also scored in the 4-0 blanking of Roosevelt. Deiby Cortez had an assist and Torres went the 80 minutes in the net for the victory.

The top two varsity boys' soccer teams in 22-6A from 2021 met to begin league play in 2022, with the Longhorns beginning their district title defense with a 2-1 victory at Veterans Stadium.

Deiby Cortez and Victor Hernandez scored goals for the Longhorns on assists by Alex Escobar and Juan Lopez. On Jan. 31 against Pasadena, the Longhorns got a goal from Jordi Garcia in soggy conditions at Veterans Stadium, outlasting the Eagles 1-0 for three points and the win.

Netminders Diego Torres and Eris Acosta combined for the shutout in the nets as the defending league champions started off strong.

Dobie Class of 2019 graduate Taylor Pleasants added another star-studded moment to her illustrious softball career as she

was named to the USA Softball Women's National Team, which eventually won the crown at the World Games in July in Birmingham, Ala.

Pleasants first attended the USA Softball four-day, by-invitation tryout Jan. 2-6 in Vero Beach, Fla. before she and 17 other players from around the nation earned team berths.

Pleasants, now a fourth-year junior shortstop at Louisiana State University, has two years of competitive eligibility remaining due to the 2020 pandemic-waiver season.

As for 2023, LSU and Pleasants will open the regular season Feb. 10-12 as the Tigers host the LSU Invitational.

Pleasants is a career .317 hitter with 30 doubles, 29 home runs and 118 runs batted in. She was an All-Southeastern Conference second-team selection following the 2022 campaign.

The Clear Brook girls' have to be delivering one of the best stories region-wide with a 23-4 mark, including a 5-0 run to first place in the District 24-6A standings with remaining first-half battles against Clear Falls and 12-time defending league champion Clear Springs.

On Jan. 8, Alyssa Berry had 15 points and Ja'Delle Major added 12 as the Lady Wolverines routed Dickinson 64-43 at home to stay perfect in league play.

One of the finest seasons in program history rolls on for the Clear Brook varsity girls' basketball team, with the locals getting just a win away from a share of the District 24-6A championship.

Freshman Rezia Castillo had a game-high 23 points and Amanda Benjamin ripped down 12 rebounds as state-ranked Clear Brook won its 14th straight game Jan. 22, downing Clear Falls 71-55.

A 54-41 victory and league sweep over Clear Creek set off a series of celebrations not seen or felt in more than 15 years at Clear Brook High School, yet the newly crowned District 24-6A champion Lady Wolverines were far from satisfied this varsity basketball season as they chased their first Class 6A unbeaten season in program history.

Lauren Ferguson set a pair of school records and the Lutheran South Academy boys' 200 medley relay squad scored another program record as the Pioneers' aquatics program excelled at the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools regional swim championships Jan. 22 at the University

of Houston.

At 2 minutes, 6.71 seconds, Ferguson was the regional champion in the 200 free while re-establishing a school record.

In the 500 free, a time of 5:39.16 gave Ferguson the regional win and another school mark as she led her girls' team to fourth place.

As for the Pioneer boys, a school record fell in the 200 medley relay as Bucknell signed Chase Ferguson teamed with Elliott Miles, David Hensley and Tristan Haver for a time of 1:41.29 and the regional championship.

The Lutheran South boys won the regional championship with a big team effort, led by Ferguson and Hensley, who also won a pair of individual events each.

The Lutheran South Academy swim team standouts then qualified to compete at the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools Division II State Championships Feb. 8 at the North East ISD Aquatics Center in San Antonio.

LSA's state qualifiers on the boys' side included Chase Ferguson (200 IM relay, 200 free relay, 100 free and 100 back); Tristan Haver (200 IM relay, 200 free relay, 50 free and 100 free); David Hensley (200 IM relay, 400 free relay, 200 free and 500 free); Luke LeBlanc (200 free relay, 400 free relay, 50 free and 100 back); Elliot Miles (200 IM relay, 400 free relay, 200 IM and 100 breast); and Hunter Nolen (400 free relay, 100 Fly, 200 free, 100 breast and 400 free relay).

The Lutheran South girls' state qualifiers were Rylee Dean (200 free relay, 400 free relay and 50 free); Erin Donnelly (200 free relay); Lauren Ferguson (400 free relay, 200 free and 500 free); Katie Hergenrader (400 free relay); Audrey Pfeiffer (200 free relay and 400 free relay); and Haleigh Pham (200 free relay).

Powerhouse San Jacinto College secured Prep Baseball Report's No. 1 ranking within the National Junior College Athletic Association's Division I field of talent prior to the start of the 2022 regular season.

February

Finishing clutch with eight straight wins, the Dobie varsity girls' basketball team repeated as champion and top playoff seed out of District 22-6A following a 35-29 win at Deer Park Feb. 4.

Senior standout Victoria Rivera scored 12 points and had nine rebounds and Jacquie Giron had 10 points as the Lady Longhorns earned their second straight league title at 10-

1. The Dobie varsity boys' basketball team won the District 22-6A championship and entered the bidistrict playoffs as the league's top seed.

At 9-0 entering action against Pasadena Memorial Feb. 8, the Longhorns had secured no worse than a first-place tie, with only the Mavericks (6-3) capable of forcing a tie.

The Longhorns kept the good times rolling with a 61-58 victory over Deer Park Feb. 4. The win gave the Longhorns a season sweep of the Deer.

Dating back to the 1981-1982 season when the Longhorns were 16-0 in league play and 30-6 overall, the varsity boys' basketball program had lost two or more district games each season since.

While the Longhorns were set to lock up the District 22-6A crown, the defending District 24-6A champion Clear Brook Wolverines seem destined to surrender their throne to Dickinson.

A 70-64 win in the second half of league play vaulted the Gators into the top spot with three games remaining for the leaders.

The Wolverines, 27-5 overall and 7-2 in 24-6A play as of Feb. 7, caught a break as Clear Creek

scored an upset win over Clear Falls, leaving the Knights in the third spot at 6-3.

In the end, Falls defeated Clear Brook on the final night of the regular season to secure the No. 2 playoff seed.

On the day of the big announcement, it was much ado about nothing.

The University Interscholastic League's biannual athletic district realignment covering the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 school years brought no change where Pasadena ISD and Clear Creek ISD officials were concerned.

The District 22-6A ranks beginning this school year still include the five Pasadena ISD schools as well as Channelview and Deer Park, while 24-6A still consists of the five Clear Creek ISD schools in addition to Brazoswood and Dickinson.

For school district athletic officials, it was as simple as reshuffling the order of league games and going to lunch. It's not quite as simple of course, but one can catch the drift.

For Dobie and Deer Park, it was a chance to continue a district rivalry that has existed since the 70s.

The two schools have

already tussled back and forth for 22-6A championships in almost every team sport last school year and this, so the tradition continues.

The same can be said for the 24-6A ranks, where Clear Brook and the other CCISD schools go against Dickinson for playoff positioning, with Brazoswood a threat in a handful of sports as well.

As for first round bidistrict playoff matchups, the 22-6A qualifiers go against a 21-6A lineup that will include United and West Brook of Beaumont ISD, North Shore of Galena Park ISD, Humble ISD programs Atascocita, Humble, Kingwood and Shadow Creek, as well as Sheldon ISD's C.E. King.

Rebounding from three losses to open the season, the San Jacinto College softball team won three of four games during the weather-abbreviated Island Invitational at the Pasadena Girls Softball Association complex.

In a 9-4 win over Jones College Feb. 5, San Jac's Tanece Tyson homered as part of a two-hit game, drove in three runs and scored twice.

Emily Garcia, meanwhile, drove in another three runs to support winning pitcher Daryn Grams,



Dobie freshman Stacie Harris made an impressive high school debut at the Brown Relays Feb. 11, anchoring the Lady Longhorns' 4x100 relay win and taking second in the long jump.

squad captured the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools Division II state championship Feb. 11 in San Antonio as Chase Ferguson and David Hensley led the way with individual golds.

Ferguson's win came in the 100 back, and he also claimed silver for second place in the 100 free.

Hensley, for his part, earned his crown in the 500 free and grabbed a third-place bronze in the 200 free.

Each of the Pioneers' three relay groups brought home medals during the event, including a pair of silvers and a bronze.

Ferguson and Hensley teamed with Tristan Haver and Elliott Miles for the silver in the 200 medley relay, and it was Ferguson, Luke LeBlanc, Hunter Nolen and Miles for silver in the 400 free relay.

The Pioneers took the bronze in the 200 free relay behind the efforts of Haver, Hensley, LeBlanc and Nolen.

Miles contributed individually with fourth in the 200 IM and fifth in the 100 breast, while LeBlanc finished sixth in the 100 back and 10th in the 50 free.

Haver took seventh in the 100 free and ninth statewide in the 50 free.

LSA's Lauren Ferguson earned two individual bronze medals – the 200 and 500 frees – to guide the girls' squad to a seventh-place finish.

The girls' 400 free relay of Rylee Dean, Ferguson, Katie Hergenrader and Audrey Pfeiffer took sixth, with Pfeiffer, Haleigh Pham, Erin Donnelly and Dean seventh in the 200 free relay.

The girls' 400 free relay of Rylee Dean, Ferguson, Katie Hergenrader and Audrey Pfeiffer took sixth, with Pfeiffer, Haleigh Pham, Erin Donnelly and Dean seventh in the 200 free relay.

The Lutheran South Academy boys' swimming

Overcoming a first-round loss to Deer Park, seven-time running 22-6A champion Dobie led the varsity boys' soccer standings heading into the second half of play.

Finishing the first half with wins over Rayburn and South Houston, the 4-1-1 Longhorns got on a roll after the lone loss.

The Dobie girls' squad was looking up at leader Deer Park in the 22-6A standings, but went against South Houston Feb. 15 with a 3-1-1 mark.

The Lady Longhorns wound up with a 2-2 tie against Rayburn Feb. 11 at Veterans Stadium.

As for the Dobie boys, the locals finished off the first half of league play in strong fashion.

With six games remaining, the Longhorns had a league-best 13 points, one point ahead of second-place Deer Park.

In a Feb. 14 win over South Houston at Veterans Stadium, Victor Hernandez had two goals and two assists as the Longhorns scored a 4-1 win. Ronaldo Guzman had a pair of goals and an assist.

In the win over Rayburn, Guzman tallied twice and Alex Escobar and Jordi Garcia also found the net. Emerson Saravia, Garcia and Kevin Guzman notched assists.

Kevin Berneathy was named the new varsity football head coach at La Porte High School, bringing a quick end to a widely successful four-year stay at Dobie.

A former La Porte football staff assistant coach, Berneathy gained the necessary approval of the LPISD Board of Trustees

Feb. 17, signaling the start of his tenure with the Bulldogs.

Berneathy had days before informed both the Dobie administration and players and coaches within the school of his intention to move on.

La Porte thus hired its third head football coach in four years. Anthony Renfro was there in 2019 and 2020 before returning to his roots at Clear Springs. Jackson Tarr lasted one season with the Bulldogs in 2021.

District champions Clear Brook and Dobie both saw their 2021-2022 varsity girls' basketball seasons come to a sudden end Feb. 17 following area round playoff losses.

The Lady Wolverines, undefeated champions of District 24-6A and a bidistrict playoff winner over Alief Hastings, held a second-half lead over North Shore before the Lady Mustangs forced overtime.

In the extra session, North Shore made the big shots when it mattered most, ending Clear Brook's season at 31-5 with a 68-62 overtime victory at Pasadena Memorial High School.

At Clear Springs High School, Dobie rolled out to a 17-1 lead after eight minutes and led 22-8 at halftime. But Shadow Creek, co-champion of District 23-6A, stormed back in the second half to win 43-38.

So while North Shore and Shadow Creek advanced to the Region III sweet 16 quarterfinal round, Clear Brook and Dobie now bid adieu to terrific senior classes.



Dylan Jackson (1) helped lead the Dobie varsity boys' basketball team to a 12-0 finish in the District 22-6A race as the Longhorns went unbeaten for the first time in decades under the guidance of head coach Franklin Paul.

who threw three no-hit innings and was aided by a four-run fifth inning.

In a 5-2 win over Odesa later in the day, Maggie Childs homered and drove in three, while Tyson had her second homer of the day and knocked in a pair of runs.

Coyote pitcher Christin Haygood struck out eight over a seven-inning complete game for the win.

On Feb. 6, the locals split a pair of games with Mississippi Gulf Coast, winning 12-4 before suffering a 4-3 loss.

In the 12-4 win, Maddy Bailey smacked a solo homer and scored twice. Childs drove in three runs and Tabby Burnett sent two more runs home as Haygood pitched five frames for the win.

Despite the 4-3 loss in the finale, Bailey had three hits and Childs had two runs as the locals slipped to 3-4 overall.

Thompson Intermediate's seventh-grade A girls' basketball team captured third place at the Pasadena Independent School District's postseason tournament to complete a great season for the program.

Members of the Lady Lions' team included Brianna Chapa, Allison Walker, Khloe Coronado, Melissa Tzintzun, Izelliah Williams, Alexis Martinez, Genesis Leal, Persephone Soria and Alena Moya.

Dobie's Kori Pounds scored three times for a hat trick as she led the Lady Longhorns to their third win in four district games for a stronghold on second place behind unbeaten Deer Park.

The Lady Longhorns lost a 3-0 game to Deer Park Feb. 4 at Abshier Stadium in Deer Park. At 3-1-0, the Lady Longhorns started well with three wins.

The Dobie varsity girls' basketball team moved on to the area playoff round for the second time in four seasons, setting up a battle with District 23-6A runner-up Shadow Creek.

Holding Atascocita to 12 second-half points, 22-6A champion Dobie got past Atascocita by a 40-27 count Feb. 14 at the Barbers Hill ISD Athletic Complex.

Keke Robinson had nine points to go with eight from Jacquie Giron as Dobie, a winner of 10 consecutive games, moved to 18-11 overall.

Izzy Padilla won gold in the 1,600 run and Natalie Onozie matched her with a win in the long jump to lead the Lady Longhorns' track and field team to a third-place overall finish at the Brown Relays Feb. 11 at Auxiliary Stadium.

The long-standing Pasadena ISD meet featured four girls' teams from PISD, La Porte, Deer Park, Elkins, Channelview, Galveston Ball and Clear Lake.

La Porte tallied 184 points in a strong performance for the team championship while Deer Park had 167 for second place ahead of Dobie, which scored 112 points.

The same 10 boys' programs convened on the boys' side and also included Alief Taylor, with Clear Lake rolling to 197 points and the team crown. Dobie's 71 points were fourth-best.

The Lutheran South Academy boys' swimming

At right, Dobie's Kori Pounds (17) scored three times for a hat trick as she led the Lady Longhorns to their third win in four district games for a stronghold on second place behind unbeaten Deer Park. The Lady Longhorns lost a 3-0 game to Deer Park Feb. 4 at Abshier Stadium in Deer Park. Pounds went on to earn first team All-District honors for the season as she helped guide the Longhorns to second place overall in the district standings. Dobie was 10-6-5 overall, including 7-1-4 in District 22-6A action to grab the No. 2 playoff seed out of the league. In the bidistrict playoff round, the Longhorns battled Kingwood to the end before a 1-0 loss.



2022 was another great season for Dobie graduate and current Louisiana State University shortstop Taylor Pleasants as she starred with the USA Softball Women's National Team and also helped the Tigers to the NCAA Temple Regional while earning second team All-Southeastern Conference honors.

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CALENDAR

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22
7 a.m. AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill," at Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 713-686-6300 or visit https://aahouston.org/meetings/.
8 p.m. AA - 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.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23
7 a.m. AA - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
7 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2930 E. Broadway, Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). Call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com or https://nastuff.com/.
7 p.m. Congregation Shaar Hashalom - All services are live and on Zoom. For details visit https://www.shaarhashalom.org.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24
12-2 p.m. Food Drive - New Covenant Christian Church hosts food drive at 10603 Blackhawk Blvd, Houston. Call 281-484-4230.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25
8 a.m./10:15 a.m. St. Paul's Anglican Church - worship at 11456 Space Center Blvd (in back of medical/retail community). Call 281-479-7285.
8 p.m. AA - See Friday's notice.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 26
Noon AA - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday noon notice.
6 p.m. Scrabble Club #511 - Meets at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua. Call 281-488-2923 for details.
7 p.m. AA - St. Luke's Group, 12 Step Recovery, open meeting Mondays, in the Education Bldg. Room 4, 11011 Hall Rd., 77089. Call 832-725-8479 or 281-309-2801.
7 p.m. NA - See Friday's notice.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27
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.
7 p.m. NA - See Friday's notice.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28
7 a.m. AA - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
Noon AA - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday noon 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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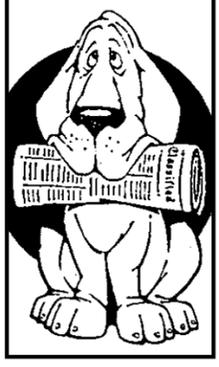
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Dobie High School baseball program donates gifts to Leader's annual Christmas program



The Dobie High School baseball program donated gifts to the *Leader's* annual Christmas program. Some wore Christmas attire and the group scrimmaged on the field. Those taking part in the festive fun included, left to right, (front row) A.J. Hernandez, Juelz Martínez, Jordan Peralez, J.R. Orozco, Daniel Delgado, Kevin Pino, Diego Ríos, Isiah Correa, Fabián Rodríguez, Giovanni Ramirez, Robert Salinas (back row) Matthew Torres, Ricky Postel, Angel Molina, Kaleb Arredondo, Julián Valencia, Miguel Mercedes, Joseph Salazar, Johan DeLaPaz, Derek Rodríguez, Steven Ovie-do, Angel Garcia, Connor Mohwinkel, Ian Johnson, Michael Montano, Eduardo Loera, Jayden Rios, Steven Umazor, Avian Arredondo, Abraham Garcia, Nicholas Sepulveda, Ethan Gomez, Kaleb Munerlyn, Donny Cantu, Ricardo Ramos, Cruz Torres, Tristan McKissick and Gavin Carrillo.

Melillo students win food donation contest



Students from Melillo Middle School in Kayne Schafroth's homeroom won the food and toy challenge by collecting the most items for the *Leader's* annual Christmas program. Shown are, left to right, (first row) Carissa Cortez, Zaire Zavala, Jesse Deleon, Abby Palma, (second row) Hannah Harmouche, Artemio Ortiz, Chloe Maycott, Nathaniel Musquiz, Lila Collazos, Maddox Martinez, (third row) Kayne Schafroth, Allison Hua, Mikayla Gonzalez, Nathaniel Gansit, Robert Pheister, Mia Gonzalez, Gael Diaz, Ethan Nguyen, (fourth row) Blake Turnipseed, Osama Abdallah, Jesse Martinez, Samuel Alexander, Kelvin Wiley and Grayson Riley.

Melillo supports Christmas program



Students and staff members at Melillo Middle School once again pulled through for the *Leader's* annual Christmas drive, donating hundreds of toys to the program. The yearly program has grown somewhat dependent on the generosity of local schools to help provide for the dozens of area families seeking assistance. Melillo staff members shown above delivering toys are, left to right, Michelle Rush, Principal Diana Wheeler and Megan Medina. Photo by Marie Flickinger

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2nd-grade Moore students write Santa

Continued from Page 3

Maria Vega's class continued

This Christmas I want
 1. A Electric scooter.
 2. A moweped.
 I have been good all year. I have cleand my room without my perents telling me

Anaya
 This year for christmas:
 1. Luka 15 air jordan black and red
 2. Jordan socks.
 I think I should get these things because I help around with chores. I Played with my baby brother. merry christmas to my whole family.

Ruben
 can you try to get me:
 1. two pink woketokys
 2. Iphone Pro 14. I am good some time bad comes over me I also try my best at school. Merry christmas

Makayla
 For christmas I want:
 1 I Phone 14 I want slime
 2 clothe and shoes toys
 I have been a good girl this year I helped my mom and dad do chores around the house. merry christmas!

MiKaYla
 Santa for this christmas I want a new bike. I want 5 Lizards. I been okay I cleaned my room without my Parents asking me. merry christmas. XOXO

Romeo
 This year I want:
 1. Baseball stuff.
 2. Nintend switch game
 I have been good all year Please bring me the baseball stuff and the nintendo swich game merry christmas.

Damian
 What I want is: A
 1. 2 pollypockets.
 2. A tortia blanket.
 I should get it because I clean my room. I help my mom so she can cook and I help her clean. Merry christmas!

Daisy
 This year for christmas I want:
 1. All of the charzars
 2. I want a iPad

This year I have been good to my dad and mom. I help around the house. If i get my gifts i will share my iPad with my mom. Howl

Oliver
 This christmas I want:
 1. truck
 2. Niaga turtes
 I have been a good boy. I help my mom and I do my chores. I will also enjoy my toys.

Yadiel
 This is what i want for christmas:
 1. a phone
 2. a mystery box
 I have been good all year. I have help clen the house.

Reece
 All I want for Chistmas is:
 1. PS5
 2 XBOX series x
 I have been wanting it all my life. And I have been good this year. If I get my gifts I will share it.

Ethan
 What I want for a christmas is:
 iPad:
 soccerball:
 I have been good all year. Please bring do this.

Henry
Sara Saxon's class
 I want black Poke mon cards, ear Pods, flip phone, dog, baby brothr I helped my dad take out the thrash.

Gianni
 Is year I been good baseball Glove and a goose Bumps and Books. I been good this year I do my work when my dad tells me. Merry christmas

Trey
 For chrismis i whant. ai castle crashers blueknigt, and a shin godzilla I have been a good student this year i did not touch ash i cleaned my room.

Jamie
 This christmas I want you to bring me:
 1. ww tickets
 2. Averde stuff
 3. goldfish
 I have been good I take out the trash help my mom fix my bed. Help my mom I hope you have a marry christmas!

Caleb
 A pack of stickers, A teddy, comfortable new clothing. I have tried to be a good girl all year! And I have been helping with papers to pass out, and I've helped people 4 when they fell down. MER-RY CHRISTMAS

Ayden
 This chrism this is what i want. 1. slime 2. tights 3. tr I have been relly good girl this year i have been good for passing out the notebooks. And i have been relly good in scoohl year.

Leyay
 This christmas. I been good: and that's why I want presents PLEASE christmas list

Evan
 This Cristmas, I want to bring me:
 1. fossil dig kit 2. book of prehistoric sharks 3. mosasuarus and melgodon toy 4. bucket of fish toys. I have been very good! I cleaned up my living room. I helped dad. I hope you give me gifts.

Benjamin
 This christmas, I want four things please: Narwhal and Jelly books (10 or more),

Jazlyn
 For christmas I want you to Bring me a Phone, and a color by Number books, and Legos. I have been a good kid this year! I helped when my mom tells me to do my home work I do my home work I hope you have a merry christmas.

Abigail
 For Christmas I want you to bring me barbie doll house, A gabby's doll house, A real puppy. Have a merry christmas.

Sofia
 This christmas I have been a good and I want a monster truck, a soccerball and another finger skate board. I have been a good boy. I share with my sister. I hope you have a merry christmas!
 wat I want for christmas I want duid i od gm and books and serino and girl ht vook my chores and I have doon nicw to my sister I think it is ervthem

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