

Happy New Year!

South Belt-Ellington Leader

Voice of Community-Minded People since 1976

Thursday, December 26, 2019

Email: mynews@southbeltleader.com

www.southbeltleader.com

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Holiday closings planned

South Belt-Ellington Leader

The Leader will be on a holiday schedule through Monday, Jan. 6. The last issue of 2019 will be on Thursday, Dec. 26, and the first issue of 2020 will be on Thursday, Jan. 9. There will be no Jan. 2 edition. Items for publication may be sent to mynews@southbeltleader.com. Emergencies may be directed to Leader publisher Marie Flickinger at 281-948-2714.

Clear Brook City MUD

The Clear Brook City Municipal Utility District offices will be closed Wednesday, Jan. 1, for New Year's Day. They will reopen on Thursday, Jan. 2, at 8 a.m. To avoid late fees, payments may be left in the drop box located on the drive-thru side of the building.

Residents living in Clear Brook City MUD who receive trash service on Tuesdays will have regular trash service pickup on Christmas Eve, Tuesday, Dec. 24. Residents living in Clear Brook City MUD who receive trash service on Tuesdays will also have regular trash service pickup on New Year's Eve, Tuesday, Dec. 31. All trash must be at curbside no later than 7 a.m. on the day of pickup.

Gulf Freeway closures set

At least one northbound and one southbound main lane and frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway from NASA Bypass/NASA Road 1 to SH 96/League City Parkway will be closed daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Tuesday, Dec. 31.

The northbound exit ramp on the Gulf Freeway at NASA Bypass/NASA Road 1 will be closed continuously through 5 a.m. Friday, Feb. 28, 2020.

Motorists wishing to access these intersections may exit using the exit to FM 518 and proceed on the northbound frontage road to the intersections or exit using the Bay Area Boulevard exit ramp, U-turn and head south to the NASA Bypass or FM 528.

The northbound exit ramp on the Gulf Freeway between SH 96/League City Parkway and FM 518 will be closed continuously through 9 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 31. Drivers traveling north on the main lanes will continue to NASA Road 1, exit, then U-turn and come back to FM 518.

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.

Beltway closures planned

At least one inside lane of the southbound Beltway 8 frontage road at Pine Avenue will be closed continuously through 5 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 5.

At least one inside lane of the southbound Beltway 8 frontage road at Pasadena Boulevard will be closed continuously through 5 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 15.

At least one alternate lane of the northbound and southbound Beltway 8 frontage roads will be closed from Vista to SH 225 daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Sunday, Dec. 22.

At least one alternate lane of the northbound and southbound Beltway 8 frontage roads will be closed from Vista to SH 225 nightly from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Sunday, Dec. 22.

Both northbound and southbound U-turn lanes at Beltway 8 and Vista will be closed continuously through Friday, Jan. 10.

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

Heavy trash to be picked up

City residents south of Fuqua will have heavy trash pickup Thursday, Jan. 9 (second Thursday of the month). City residents north of Fuqua and west of the Gulf Freeway will have heavy trash pickup on Friday, Jan. 10, (second Friday of the month). December is for tree waste only. For additional information, visit www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste or call 311.

Ellington e-recycling set

The City of Houston Solid Waste Management Department's monthly electronic recycling event will take place Saturday, Jan. 11, at the Neighborhood Recycling Center at Ellington Airport from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Recycling electronics keeps potentially harmful materials from damaging the environment. Items accepted are PCs, servers, keyboards, mice, laptops, game consoles, monitors, small kitchen appliances, memory chips, hubs and routers, printers, copiers, scanners, fax machines, projectors, rechargeable batteries, cable boxes, car batteries, telephones, cell phones, PDAs, tape drives, hard drives, cords, cables and cameras. For additional information, visit www.houstonsolidwaste.org or call 311.

Thompson relocation talks move forward

Discussions of possibly relocating the proposed future site of Thompson Intermediate are moving forward among officials from the

Pasadena Independent School District and other involved entities. The existing planned site, located on High-

land Meadows Drive in the Riverstone Ranch at Clear Creek subdivision, has been met with opposition from residents of both the Riverstone Ranch at Clear Creek and Green Tee Terrace subdivisions, the two neighborhoods which would border the new campus.

Riverstone Ranch at Clear Creek homeowners, led by resident Elizabeth Drake, contend the current proposed location presents a safety hazard, as it is to be located deep within the subdivision, with the school's only entrance being within a 90-plus-degree curve with limited sight of oncoming traffic in both directions. Drake said the new campus would also have a very narrow school frontage on Highland Meadows Drive, the only street adjoining the proposed property.

Green Tee Terrace homeowners further complain that the current proposed site of the campus would contribute additional traffic to their community. Despite Pasadena ISD not having the property rights to construct an entrance/exit onto Country Club Drive, which is currently designed to border the new campus on one side, some Green Tee Terrace residents are still concerned about parked vehicles and foot traffic.

Residents from both of the aforementioned subdivisions have met on multiple occasions to discuss the matter in attempts to resolve the issue. Representatives from Pasadena ISD, the City of Pearland and Meritage Homes, the company responsible for developing the Riverstone Ranch at Clear Creek subdivision, have also been involved in discussions.

Pasadena ISD officials and community leaders have proposed a possible land swap with Meritage representatives that might allow

the campus to be relocated on Hughes Road at Riverstone Falls Drive. Such a move, however, would likely cost the school district additional funds.

Drake said discussions with Meritage officials had left her optimistic. "Meritage will gladly meet with the City of Pearland and PISD to help resolve these issues and we are hopeful that a mutually beneficial agreement for all involved can be reached," a representative from Meritage recently wrote to Drake in an email.

Pasadena ISD officials have met with Meritage representatives to discuss the matter, and PISD Associate Superintendent Alyta Harrell said she, too, is hopeful that all parties involved will reach a mutual agreement.

Current plans call relocating the Thompson campus to a piece of property already owned by the school district. The land was originally to be used for an 11th PISD intermediate campus, but other options were evaluated after Thompson suffered extensive damage during Hurricane Harvey.

Following the historic storm, Thompson students were temporarily housed at Beverly Hills Intermediate for five months, while school officials and an independent committee studied the issue. The first phase of design for the new campus was approved by the PISD board in December 2018, with GDP Group being awarded the \$37.5 million contract to construct the 178,000-square-foot facility.

The new campus, which will permanently replace the original Thompson campus on Sagedowne, is expected to open in August 2021.

Melillo donates to toy drive



Students and staff from Melillo Middle School once again donated toys and food to the Leader's annual Christmas drive. The donations were largely collected through the school's recent Jingle Bell Jog, held at the campus Saturday, Dec. 14. Shown above dropping off toys at the Leader office are, left to right, Melillo campus coaches Kelly Jurek, Jennifer Vann and Michelle Rush and Melillo Principal Diane Wheeler. Photo by Marie Flickinger

Leader remembers highlights of 2019

Another year has passed, and the Leader staff would like to reflect on the more significant stories of 2019. Due to space limitations, the year in review will be continued in the Jan. 9 edition. Section B includes the sports year in review.

Jan. 10

An ExxonMobil pipeline leak was discovered and repaired near Dobie High over the Christmas holidays. No students were on campus at the time of the incident. The source of the refined gasoline release was quickly detected, and students returned to class as scheduled on Wednesday, Jan. 9, without issue. The release, which was located in the green space in front of Dobie, was also near Moore Elementary and multiple area subdivisions, primarily Clear Brook Meadows. Air quality monitoring was conducted throughout the surrounding community to ensure resident safety. Full repairs took several months to complete.

Jan. 17

A man was fatally shot the morning of Sunday, Jan. 13, in the 110 block of East Edgebrook Drive. Frank Kelley was pronounced dead at the scene. According to police, officers responded to a person-down call at the above address and found the victim lying face down on the sidewalk near apartment building No. 8. Houston Fire De-

partment paramedics subsequently pronounced him deceased from gunshot wounds. No immediate arrests were made.

A man was shot during a robbery the evening of Thursday, Jan. 10, in the 11400 block of Sagecreek. The victim, Nestor Duenez, 18, told police he had arranged a meeting with someone he met on the software app OfferUp to sell them a TV and a pair of Air Jordan shoes. During the transaction, however, the buyer, a Hispanic male known only as King, produced a pistol and shot Duenez in the face and leg. No immediate arrests were made.

A driver was killed in an accident the night of Saturday, Jan. 12, in the 14100 block of the Gulf Freeway (between Scarsdale Boulevard and Astoria). Larry Cortez, 50, was pronounced dead at the scene. According to police, Cortez was driving a black Ford F-150 pickup truck south at the above address when he apparently lost control of the vehicle. The pickup truck spun around and struck a concrete pillar before stopping on the service road. No other individuals or vehicles were involved in this incident.

Jan. 24

The Pasadena Independent School District announced its 2019 Athletics Hall of Fame inductees. Former longtime resident Bill Newcomb and 2007 Dobie graduate Karima Christmas-Kelly were two of the six to be recognized. A 1956 graduate of Pasadena High School, Newcomb went on to be head football coach at South Houston High School and athletics director for Pasadena ISD, before retiring in 2004. A standout basketball player, Christmas-Kelly went on to play at the college level at Duke University and professionally with the Indiana Fever and the Dallas Wings. Other inductees included Paul Ratliff (Pasadena, Class of 1962, baseball), Wayne Adams (South Houston, Class of 1967, football/track), Don Key (Pasadena, Class of 1978, football) and James "Jimmy" McNeil (Pasadena, Class of 1947, football). An induction ceremony was held for the athletes April 13.

Jan. 31

A woman was arrested by the FBI for allegedly robbing half a dozen Houston-area banks - including two in the South Belt area - in just five days between Jan. 18 and Jan. 22. The suspect, Lores Clay, had originally been dubbed "the Hairy Heister" because of the colorful wigs she wore during the robberies. Targeted local banks included the Capital One Bank at 11408 Gulf Freeway near Almeda Genoa and the Bank of America located at 1127 Edgebrook near the Gulf Freeway.

Feb. 7

Deputies from the Special Operations Division of the Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's office seized a massive amount of methamphetamine following an undercover operation. Deputies confiscated 10 kilograms (22 pounds) of the contraband after a traffic stop around 11 p.m.

Is he supporting, himself or his cousin?



Despite spending \$1,000 to run for Harris County Precinct 2 constable, Jerry Garcia - who shares the same name as South Belt resident Lt. Jerry Garcia, who has been running as a candidate for most of this year -- has demonstrated little effort in actually campaigning for the position. A sign shown above at the candidate's listed address shows a campaign sign for his opponent, incumbent Chris Diaz - also Garcia's cousin by marriage. (See related story this page.)

Duplicate candidate name causes confusion in Pct. 2 constable race

A late filing in the Democratic March 2020 primary for the position of Harris County Precinct 2 constable is expected to cause confusion among many, as two candidates on the ballot will share the same name.

While longtime law enforcement officer Jerry Garcia has been actively campaigning for months for the Democratic nomination in the contest, a second candidate also named Jerry Garcia reportedly filed at the last minute to run for the position.

At press time, the second Jerry Garcia's name had yet to be listed on the Harris County Democratic Party's online list of 2020 candidates, but Harris County Precinct 2 constable Chris Diaz, the Democratic incumbent, confirmed to the Leader that the second candidate sharing the same name-sake was also seeking the position.

The first candidate named Jerry Garcia has been a career law enforcement officer, serving for more than 21 years, working in various positions for the Precinct 2, Precinct 3 and Precinct 5 constable offices throughout Harris County. He has been a South Belt resident for more than 23 years.

At press time, it was unclear what, if any, law enforcement experience the second candidate named Jerry Garcia had.

The inclusion of the second Garcia candidate will undoubtedly hurt the first Garcia candidate in the polls through name confusion, while simultaneously benefiting Diaz, by splitting the vote of the other Garcia candidate.

Confounding matters, the second Garcia is reportedly related to Diaz's wife Ana Diaz, who serves as mayor of Jacinto City.

Chris Diaz, however, denied having anything to do with the second Garcia candidate's late entry into the contest.

"I can't stop anyone from running," Chris Diaz told the Leader. "If someone wants to run, and they meet all the requirements, and they have the \$1,000 to file, they can run. There's nothing I can do."

Other Democrats running for the position include George Goffney Jr. and Alberto "Bert" Rivera. Daniel Vela is the lone Republican candidate in the race.

Feb. 14

The late Dr. B.J. Garner was honored as the South Belt Ellington Chamber of Commerce's Legacy recipient at the group's 35th annual gala, held Friday, Feb. 8. A longtime local optometrist, Garner was very active in the community, serving as a founding member of the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce and the former president of the Pasadena ISD board.

The Dobie High School Academic Decathlon team excelled at the regional tournament held in La Porte Feb. 8-9, taking home the top honor of first place in Region 5. The team then advanced to state finals in San Antonio in March, ranked number six in state. In early December, the team finished second place to Pasadena Memorial High School at the district competition but bounced back to win region by a narrow 100 points over Pearland High. Team members included Xochi Martinez, Hoang Le, Ulvi Baktashi, Cameron Tobias, Minh To, Gus Rodriguez, Fredy Orellana, Trang Vu and Osvaldo Escamilla. The team was under the leadership of coaches Bob Daugherty and Todd Gerles and science/math coach Thomas Etienne.

To be continued in the Jan. 9 edition

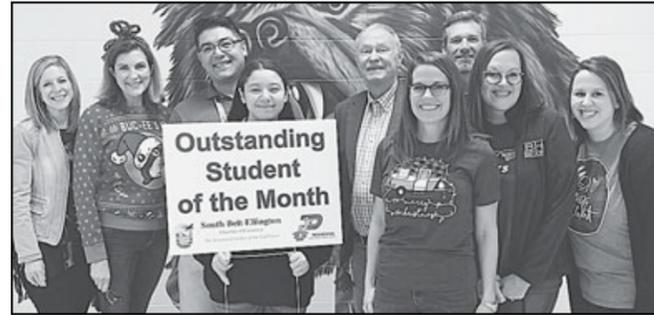
South Belt chamber honors outstanding students for November



Atkinson Elementary second-grader Leslie Serrant (holding sign) was named Outstanding Student of the Month. According to school officials, Leslie is a quiet student. She has a great heart and she is always willing to help other students. She always completes her assigned homework and is an outstanding student in all subject areas. She works very hard until she achieves success, then helps other students be successful. She is constantly setting a good example for her peers and the school community as a good citizen. Celebrating with her are, left to right, Lena Ortiz, principal; Lt. Jerry Garcia, Harris County constable candidate; Sandra Moreno Garcia (Leslie's mom); Barry Burleigh, Burleigh Chiropractic, Denise Burleigh, Insurance for All Ages Agency; Kathie Teuscher, teacher; and Regina Barnes, assistant principal.



Jessup Elementary first-grader Fernando Munoz (left of sign) is a great example to his peers. School officials appreciate and value his friendship and chose him to be the Outstanding Student of the Month because he is helpful in many ways, always taking the initiative. When it comes to assisting others, Munoz is the first to help. Looking to the future, he wants to be a lawyer to help those who are involved in car wrecks. Shown with him from left to right are, Dan Hoppie, chamber member and PISD executive director; Kenny Fernandez, chamber chair; Blanca Martinez, Fernando's mom; Michael Saperstein, manager of Parker Williams Library; and Ryan Pavone, Jessup principal.



The Beverly Hills Intermediate staff chose eighth-grader Sabrina Pector as Outstanding Student of the Month. She excels in academic subjects, is a core member of the Academic Pentathlon team, helps those around her, and works as a peer assistant in the SUCCESS Program in which she shows kindness, compassion and patience. She has a smile and kind words for everyone she meets and is simply a joy to be around. In addition, she is also an extremely talented musician. She is a member of the top performing band and is the best bassoonist in the region, earning first chair at the region band auditions as both a seventh- and an eighth-grader. She is constantly working to improve as a musician and is eager to learn more. Shown with her are Kristi Koncaba, president and COO of Texan Bank and chamber member; Rebecca Lilley, chamber chair-elect and director of physician resources, Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital; Grant Pector (Sabrina's father); Chris Clark, chamber board member; Stacey Barber, BHI principal; Travis Regner, assistant principal; Jennifer Teichelman, assistant principal; and Ashley Collier, assistant principal.



Burnett Elementary first-grader Emery Banda (left of sign) is a great student and plays well with everyone. According to school officials, she always tries her best and is a hard worker. She's an awesome friend who helps out whenever there is a need. She is currently helping a new student get acclimated with classroom routines, procedures, and is the new student's partner during stations and other activities. She was chosen to be the partner because she is knowledgeable and a great example for the new student. School officials are proud to nominate Emery Banda as the Outstanding Student of the Month, recognized by the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce. Celebrating with her were Lena Toole, teacher; Chris Clark; Kristi Koncaba; Rebecca Lilley; Jae Lee, principal; and Romona Dawson teacher.



According to school officials at J. Frank Dobie High School, Outstanding Student of the Month Joseph Lukner (behind sign), eleventh-grader, is one of Dobie Main's top student athletes who has a heart for giving back to his community, not missing an opportunity to volunteer at Dobie. Among his many talents are directing early morning traffic for the South Belt 5K Run and serving cake after school for a reception. He has a strong presence on the Dobie campus and those who work with him believe he has a bright future, saying he makes Dobie a better place. Shown with Lukner are Lt. Jerry Garcia; Jennifer Haynes, counselor; Barry Burleigh; and Denise Burleigh.

In My Opinion

Tobias correct, Leader wrong

In every single email I sent, I said that it was the Dobie Academic Decathlon team that won first place at district competition. The debate team was never mentioned. Not once.

You totally blew it. In both the headline and the picture caption, you referred to them as the Dobie Debate team. Way to diminish the accomplishments of the academic decath-

lon team by giving all the credit to the Debate team. The article itself, which is verbatim the information their coach Bob Daugherty sent, also makes no mention of the Debate team. Did you even read the article before you made up the headline and photo caption?

Very disappointed in this effort.

Publisher's comment: All I can say is, you are so right. We did blow it, and are very sorry. We try, but sometimes mess up. We will do better next time.. So sorry!

Publisher,

Marie Flickinger

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A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE OF TEXAS
11911 BLACKHAWK BOULEVARD, HOUSTON, TEXAS 77089
OFFICE: 281-484-1562 FAX: 281-484-3533

December 18, 2019

SANITARY SEWER & MANHOLE REHABILITATION - EASEMENT ACCESS AND RESTORATION UPDATE

Clear Brook City MUD continues to work on old sewer lines and manhole rehabilitation in the Sageglen, Highland Meadow and Wood Meadow subdivisions. The District hired Nerie Construction to make those necessary upgrades. Areas affected by this work will be in our utility easement area which will be located in the front and backyards of homes. Digging will be required.

The District is working in our utility easement area for which the law does not allow for restoration of personal property. While this is a necessary part of the upgrades, the work area will be kept to a minimum. The District has chosen to require the contractor to give residents a notice 48 hours prior to the work beginning in their yard. This is not a requirement, however, the Board wanted to make certain that residents have an opportunity to safely remove personal items that may be obstructing the utility easement.

Items located in the utility easement of the backyard will need to be removed by the homeowner within the allotted 48 hour timeline so that the work may be begin in a timely fashion. Should the contractor have to remove any items, they will be set to the side in the yard and the District and contractor will bear **no responsibility** for any damage. The sole responsibility for restoration or replacement of items whether damaged or not will be the homeowners. Items to be removed include buildings, pools, hot tubs, swing sets, trees, shrubs, flower beds, decks, decorative items, mulch, etc.

The actual work to replace the sewer lines will take 3 - 5 working days to complete. Restoration of the yard will follow about 1 - 2 weeks behind the completion of the line and manhole work. Restoration by the contractor will consist of the return of the **existing** fence and sod **ONLY**. All other restoration which includes buildings, decks, trees, shrubs, flower beds, etc. will be the **sole responsibility of the resident**. Additionally, residents will be solely responsible for the watering of new sod to insure its survival. The total time from when the work begins to the completion of restoration at your residence should be approximately 3-4 weeks with weather permitting.

The District and contractor are working diligently to ensure open communication of project details, that residents experience no interruption in services, construction areas are left clear and free of debris and restoration of sod and existing fencing are completed within the estimated 4 week timeline - weather permitting. If you are experiencing slow moving sewer or a sewer back-up after the work is completed, call the District at 281-484-1562 or the contractor at 281-733-3388 immediately.

We appreciate your patience and cooperation during this time as we proactively work to provide affordable services to our residents.

Respectfully,
CLEAR BROOK CITY MUD



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5800 UVALDE ROAD
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77049

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The San Jacinto College District is committed to equal opportunity for all students, employees, and applicants without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, citizenship status, age, disability, pregnancy, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, genetic information, marital status, or veteran status in accordance with applicable federal and state laws. The following College official has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the College's non-discrimination policies: Vice Chancellor of Human Resources, 4624 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, TX 77504; 281-991-2659; Sandra.Ramirez@sjcd.edu.

South Belt Chamber of Commerce honors outstanding students for November



Thompson Intermediate eighth-grader Darien Valdez (holding sign) was chosen the Outstanding Student of the Month by school staff because he shows Lion Pride each day. He is enrolled in all Pre-AP classes and is a fantastic office assistant. He is known to be friendly, hardworking and always helpful to others. Valdez goes out of his way to make others feel important and is an absolute joy to have at Thompson. Celebrating with Valdez are Chris Clark, chamber board member; Kristi Koncaba, chamber member and president and COO of Texan Bank; Rebecca Lilley, chamber chair-elect and director of physician resources at Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital; Betty Minter, secretary; Tanis Griffin, principal; and Kandace McMullin, teacher.



Legrand Dudley is a 12th-grade criminal justice student at Dr. Kirk Lewis Career & Technical High School who intends to pursue a career in criminal psychology at Rice University. Legrand is one of 1100 students in the United States who was named a Quest Bridge Match student. These students receive a "full ride" to select colleges. Legrand matched with Rice University and will receive a scholarship valued over \$200,000. He enjoys researching the reasons people commit crimes and hopes to help others through his study of criminology. Congratulating Dudley above are Denise Burleigh; Kenny Fernandez; Barry Burleigh; Rhonda Parmer, PISD associate superintendent; Chris Clark; Steven Fleming, principal; Sgt. Blanca Martinez; Dan Hoppie; Jessica McCoy, assistant principal; Michael Saperstein; and Lt. Jerry Garcia.



Bush Elementary kindergartener Romeo Flores (left of sign) was chosen Student of the Month. Staff members know Flores to always arrive at school with a positive attitude and a smiling face. His teachers have enjoyed watching him work to become a better student as he improves on reading and writing daily. Flores also takes personal responsibility to ensure the classroom environment is a positive place for learning. He encourages other students and is always quick to complete helpful jobs including picking up trash and stacking chairs. His classmates see him as a role model, and his teachers look forward to his continued development into a classroom leader. Celebrating with Flores are, left to right, Kenny Fernandez, Sgt. Blanca Martinez, Maria Vives, assistant principal; Mike Saperstein; and Dan Hoppie.



When Meador Elementary staff think of a model student, third-grader Cecilia Anthony comes to mind. They know her to be an all-around amazing student. She is kind, honest and respectful to not only her teachers and classmates, but also to anyone with whom she interacts. Anthony always has a smile on her face, and is ready to lend that smile and kindness to others. She works hard at setting and achieving her goals which makes her responsible for her own learning on a day-to-day basis. Anthony truly is an outstanding student and her teachers are thankful they have her as a student. Enjoying the moment with her are Kasie Hedge, teacher; Kenny Fernandez, Beverly Bolton, principal; Sgt. Blanca Martinez; Michael Saperstein; and Dan Hoppie.



Frazier Elementary third-grader Gabriel Sanchez is so kind, helpful, and hard working according to school officials who love having him in class. Congratulating him are, left to right, Alyta Harrell; Rebecca Lilley; Wendy Wiseburn, principal; Maria Soria (Sanchez' mom); Kristi Koncaba; and Chris Clark.



Morris Middle School fifth-grader Hermallony Campos (holding sign) is a very hard worker, according to school officials and deserves the Outstanding Student of the Month. She arrives at school early or stays late to fully participate in any club and gives her "all" to any task she's assigned. She always greets teachers and students with a smile and kind words. Recognizing Campos in her moment of honor are, left to right, Allison Lewallen, principal; Kenny Fernandez, chamber board chair and Pasadena ISD board member; Esther Campos (Hermallony's mom); Michael Saperstein, Parker Williams Library manager; Adilmer Campos (Hermallony's dad); Courtney Oliver, teacher; Dan Hoppie, chamber member and Pasadena ISD executive director; and Sgt. Blanca Martinez, Harris County Precinct 2 deputy.



According to Fred Roberts Middle School officials, fifth-grader Ruben Tejada (holding sign) is a hard worker who uses his time wisely and was selected Outstanding Student of the Month. When he wants extra help, he studies tutorials during ACE homework period. He persists in getting information he needs. He is known to be always willing to be helpful and is kind to others, noted for his friendly conversations. He respects his teachers and is part of the Roberts' Robotics Team. Honoring him in the photo above are Alyta Harrell, associate superintendent of campus development; DeRonda Preston, school counselor; Emily Ontiveros, counselor; Kristi Koncaba; Rebecca Lilley; Chris Clark; Citlali Guerrero, Fred Roberts assistant principal; and Rebecca Dietz, assistant principal.



Johnny Nguyen (holding sign) is a Stuchbery fourth-grader who was recognized for his continual positive attitude toward peers, teachers and tasks. He is always willing to put in the extra time and effort to make sure his assignments are completed on time with 100 percent effort. He is respectful toward peers by making sure to include everyone with his warm smile and positive comments. Responsible and respectful are two words that describe why Johnny is a great role model for other students and is being honored as the Outstanding student of the Month. He truly exemplifies the STALLION WAY. Sharing the moment with Nguyen are, left to right, Chris Clark; Rebecca Lilley; Kristi Koncaba; Jean DeLeon, teacher; Kris Wallis, assistant principal; and Jose Hernandez, principal.



At Moore Elementary, kindergartener Julian Vo (holding sign) was selected to be the Outstanding Student of the Month because he is a great student who is always willing to help out in any way he can. School officials note that he is dependable in any situation and a good friend to all. Honoring Vo are, left to right, Denise Burleigh; Toni Lopez, Pasadena ISD associate superintendent; Ann Settlow, teacher; DeeDee Pitts, assistant principal; Jill Lacamu, principal; Barry Burleigh; and Lt. Jerry Garcia.



According to Genoa Elementary officials, Leslie Saucedo (holding sign) is an all-around outstanding student, earning her the title Outstanding Student of the Month. Her academics and behavior are both amazing and she is also a great friend to her peers. The staff congratulated her for doing a great job. Honoring her are, left to right, Sgt. Blanca Martinez; Dan Hoppie; Michael Saperstein; Tiffany Bennett, principal; and Kenny Fernandez.



South Belt Elementary school officials say second-grader Daniella Gonzales (holding sign) has earned the title Outstanding Student of the Month because she is an amazing student and works hard in both math and reading. She is always respectful and helpful to everyone around her, and willing to go the extra mile in everything she does. Honoring her are, left to right, Lt. Jerry Garcia, candidate for Harris County constable; Barry Burleigh, Burleigh Chiropractic; Denise Burleigh, Insurance for All Ages; Candy Howard, South Belt principal; and Kami Brown, teacher.



Second-grader Sofia Ochoa (holding sign) takes CHARGE (Communicates positively, Helps each other, Achieves goals, Respect others, Give the best, Explore opportunities) each and every day. She arrives at school prepared to give her best and to be a leader within the classroom. Ochoa is always ready to lend a helping hand to her classmates and teachers. She fully embodies the true spirit of a Thomas Hancock Bison at all times and the Hancock staff are so proud of her success this year. Joining Ochoa in celebrating the moment are Dan Hoppie; Kenny Fernandez; Jackie Ochoa (mom); Sgt. Blanca Martinez; Veronica Sandoval, principal; and Michael Saperstein.



Fifth-grader Evan Taylor (holding sign, left) was chosen as a Melillo Middle School's Outstanding Student of the Month because he is a very considerate and hardworking student. He shows respect to both teachers and his peers. He consistently does well on his schoolwork and often helps others. He is very clever and comes up with some funny jokes, too! Mia Mata (holding sign, right), a sixth-grade student at Melillo, demonstrates great leadership qualities and serves as a role model for her peers and was also chosen Outstanding Student of the Month by school officials. She has two older sisters and one younger brother and her favorite subject is math. Mata's favorite vacation spot is Destin, Fla., where she plans to spend more time while on summer vacation. She exhibits outstanding character through her kindness, trustworthiness, responsibility and faithfulness by helping to create a positive school environment. She is attentive in her efforts toward hard work and learning. Her favorite event at Melillo has been Monster Mash, an event that helps raise Komen funds for a great cause. Mata hopes to become a veterinarian in the future. Joining the students on this day of recognition are, left to right, Lilliana Monita, Melillo counselor; Denise Burleigh; Barry Burleigh; Diane Wheeler, Melillo principal; Jacqueline Carmona, counselor; Jennifer Saucedo, assistant principal; Lt. Jerry Garcia; and Toni Lopez.



Dobie9 staff commended Outstanding Student of the Month Emmanuel Cervantes Anguiano (holding sign) with the following comments: "By Nov. 4 Emmanuel Cervantes Anguiano had finished all PFA's for World Geography. We made the decision to place him in AP Human Geography. By November 14th he had mastered all PFA in Human Geography. He is dedicated in his school work, and continues to achieve his very best in class." - Rosa Qarini "This student has already finished Connect World Geography for the year and is now tackling AP Human. Great kid. Great behavior." - Chad Kearbey "Determination, perseverance and high achievement! Emmanuel has completed ALL Biology content and ALL World Geography and ALL AP Human Geo content!!!! He is now studying for the AP test for both Human Geo and Biology!!! I feel like we have unearthed a gem in this student! Very proud of him!" - Amanda Langston. "Student showed an eagerness to master all of his assessments." - Michael Alexander. Shown above honoring Anguiano are Toni Lopez; Denise Burleigh; Michael VanEssen, Dobie9 principal; Barry Burleigh; and Michael Saperstein.

Melillo students write resolutions

Melillo Middle School students share their New Year's Resolutions.

Elizabeth Soto's Fifth-grade English, language arts and reading classes
My New Year's Resolution is to pass 5th grade.

-Arianna Serna
My New Year's Resolution is to get better at volleyball.
-Alyssa Espinoza
My New Year's Resolution is to get passing grades.
-Christopher Covarrubias
My New Year's Resolution is to learn Spanish.

-Leah Mena
My New Year's Resolution is to be Advance in Volleyball.
-Sophia Saucedo
My New Year's Resolution is to lose some weight.
-Anthony Lainez
My New Year's Resolution is to learn to speak French.

-Nicolas Rangel
My new Year's Resolution is to do better in school and make my momma proud.
-Taylor Jordan
My New Year's Resolution is to speak fluent Vietnamese and learn how to write it with all the accents on the correct letter.

-Katie Tran
My New Year's Resolution is to practice new songs and read chapter books.
-Adam Guerra
My new year's resolution is to get good grades
-Joseph Gonzales
My New Year's Resolution is to get better at Social Studies.

-Karen Mier
My New Year's Resolution is to get better grades
-Destiny Killingsworth
My new year's resolution is to get better grades and get better at gymnastics
-Lauren Soto
My New Year's resolution is to read more and speak better Spanish.

-Gisselle Santos
My new year's resolution is to have a longer lasting lizard.
-Nelson Rodriguez
My New Year's resolution is to get better grades.
-Anthony Le
My New Year's Resolution is to get a better conduct.

-Ezequiel Gonzalez
My New Year's Resolution is to be a better person.
-Brianna Huesca
My New Year's Resolution is to get my grades up.
-Genesis Leal
My New Year's Resolution is to be healthy.

-Aidan De La Rosa
My New Year's Resolution is to not get conduct marks
-Steven Aguilar
My New Year's Resolution is to think positive thoughts.
-Stephanie Delgado
My New Year's Resolution is to be good at art.

-Joe Perez
My New Year's Resolution is to practice harder at everything I do.
-Mia Creekmore
My New Year's Resolution is to try to lose some weight.

-Huy Le
My New Year's Resolution is read and draw more.
-Jeremy Rangel
My New Year's Resolution is to draw more.
-Adelle Bongfen
My New Year's Resolution is to fix my garden.

-Delilah Evans
My New Year's Resolution is to eat healthier.
-Marina Kostikoglou
My New Year's Resolution is help my family with money.
-Dayana Aguilar
My New Year's Resolution is to make better choices in school.

-Jayden Castro
My New Year's Resolution is to get better grades at school.
-Nina Truong
My New Year's Resolution is to get fit.
-Samantha Trevino
My New Year's Resolution is to get fit and to be nicer.

-Morgan Momie
My New Year's Resolution is to get faster at running and do well at school.
-Justin Nguyen
My New Year's Resolution is to be taller.

-Christian Carter
My New Year's Resolution is to get all A in my classes and become a better athlete.
-Emmanuel Vasquez
My New Year's Resolutions to hit my first home run.
-Julian Ricks
My New Year's Resolution is to be a better person by respecting people, caring for people, and to not blame or put all my worries on my loved ones for unacceptable acts I have done.

-Vivian Hang
My New Year's Resolution is to get good in school, so my parents can give me free time and I can use my free time to watch videos.
-Duy Lam
My New Year's Resolution is to play more sports and get perfect grades.

-Anne Tran
My New Year's Resolution is to drink more water.
-Persephone Soria
Alice Wong's 5th Grade ELAR Classes
My New Year's resolution

is to get better at drawing by practicing in my free time. -
Maranda Sample
My New Year's Resolution is to get straight A's and eat healthier.

-Aubree Rodriguez
My New Year's resolution is to play less video games.
-Deshawn Williams
My New Year's resolution is to get smarter next year.
-Corey Shular
My New Year's resolution is to work hard and make my schoolwork neater.

-Jordan Alanis
My New Year's resolution is to get better in school.
-Alexis Martinez
My New Year's resolution is to give up soda for the New Year and to not eat as much junk food.
-Nolan Hua
My New Year's resolution is to pass the STAAR test.

-Lexi Walker
My New Year's resolution is to try to be in more sports and be more active.
-Dezirae Hall
My New Year's resolution is to get a hairline and get all A+'s.

-Everett Garza
My New Year's resolution is to raise enough money to get a hamster for myself.
-Taylor Lastik
My New Year's resolution is to get an A in math.
-Chancellor Conley
My New Year's resolution is to try to do good on the STAAR test.

-Jeremy Jaso
My New Year's Resolution is to be more grateful of what my parents give me.
-Ana Reyes
My New Year's resolution is to get grounded and get all A's.
-Romeo Gill
My New Year's resolution is to be happier.

-Manuel Olvera
My New Year's resolution is to work harder in school for good grades.
-Hayly Nguyen
My New Year's resolution is to get a BTS jacket and try to draw a perfect circle.
-Christiane Simpson
My New Year's resolution is to not get bad grades, try different foods and to drink more water.

-Natahlia Pineda
My New Year's Resolution is to not eat as much Whataburger and to not get in trouble at school and at home.
-Matthew Gaynor
My New Year's resolution is to eat healthier, get good grades and get smarter.
-Jordan Parga
My New Year's resolution is to stop annoying VSCO girls.

Morris writes resolutions

Morris Middle School students share their New Year's Resolutions for 2020.

Lauren Caplen's Class
I want to practice and improve my basketball skills.
-Kevin Martinez
I want to practice basketball.
-E'trell O'Bryant
I want to practice and get better at drawing.

-Charles Bruno
Stephanie White's Class
To be better in cheerleading.
-Pretty McCoy
To get 90's on my tests.
-Devin Duong
To try harder to get smarter.
-Sophia Moya
To start playing soccer again.

-Jayden Mayeux
To get verified on Tik Tok.
-Jacob Chavez
Laura Nelson's Class
New Year Resolution is make an A+.
-Yohan Santiago
New Year Resolution is to make it to Level 5 in gymnastics.

-Anjaly Perez
New Year Resolution is to get more brain cells.
-Jimmy Canales
New Year Resolution is to get rich.
-Landon Martinez
New Year Resolution is to pass 5th grade.

-Felipe Villa
New Year Resolution is to get straight As.
-Schneider Araujo
New Year Resolution is to learn how to do a kickflip.
-Cayden Patton
New Year Resolution is to be a better daughter.

-Emely Quijano
New Year Resolution is to be more responsible with my brother.
-Melanie Colindre
New Year Resolution is to get straight As.
-Connor Maciel
New Year Resolution is to be a famous author.

-Joshua Cerda
Heather Smith's Class
To drink more water.
-Michael Martinez
To read more.
-Mikalal Tramble
To get all A's.
-Keira Hammond
To eat more fruit.
-Jordyn Cooper
I want to write more.

-Malisa St. Julien
Sonia Bonavita's Class
New Year's resolutions are....
To save money to buy some-

-Leslie Costa
My New Year's resolution is to make good grades before 6th grade.

-Jyllian White
My New Year's resolution is to eat healthier and learn more to get good grades.
-Cody Nguyen
My New Year's resolution is to work out, to take more care of the environment and do good this year on all of my school work.

-Madeline Medina
My New Year's resolution is to practice volleyball every Saturday, so that I get better.
-Alyssa Goree
My New Year's resolution is to eat more fruit and to lose weight and play soccer.
-Jacari Rice
My New Year's resolution is to exercise daily.

-Ariel Gallegos
My New Year's resolution is to be more active and to get over a 90% on 6 tests.
-Prince Hill
My New Year's resolution is to be healthier by exercising more by running 30 minutes a day.

-Ethan Mora
My New Year's resolution is to run 50 miles in one year.
-Trae Hernandez
My New Year's resolution is to exercise daily, to eat healthier, and to get one hundred on the STAAR tests.
-Nathaniel Padilla
My New Year's resolution is don't stay up late.

-Uriah Deleon
My New Year's resolution is to try new vegetables and have my room cleaned so I don't get in trouble.
-Eric Ortega
My New Year's Resolution is to help people.

-Jacob Lopez
My New Year's Resolution is to help the homeless.
-Carlos Delgado
My New Year's Resolution is to make good grades this year.
-Isaac Zamora
My New Year's Resolution is to help my mom with laundry.

-Matthew Salazar
My New Year's Resolution is to study more for my class and music.
-Eder Torres
My New Year's Resolution is to
-Amelie Ramirez
My New Year's Resolution is to work hard in school.

-Sheridan Brooks
My New Year's Resolution is to help my family.
-Robbie Delgado
My New Year's Resolution is to be nice.
-Kaleb Jones
My New Year's Resolution is to not be single and be nice.

-Sydney Sandles
My New Year's Resolution is to be a better person.
-Emily Juarez
Make more friends.
-Jur'Nee Brewster
New Year's resolutions are...
To not get mad.
To save money to buy a new BB gun and toys.
To eat healthy.

-Joey Gonzalez
New Year's resolutions are...
I will be a great person.
I will be a great student.
I will make a lot of new friends.
-Jarvis Scott
New Year's resolutions are...
To help my family be kind to one another.
Make good grades.
Not 'talk back' to teachers.
-Gracie Vasquez

-Benjamin Chacon
New Year's resolutions are...
To help my mom every Monday by cleaning her room.
To spend more time with my family.
Go to every birthday party I'm invited to.
-De'Norey Miller
New Year's resolutions are...
I will pass all of my math tests.
To exercise every day.

thing fun and spend money on my family.
Will drink more water. Will help others when they need help. For example, if someone is upset, I will ask them what is wrong.
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Pasadena Mayor, John Ray Harrison, was sworn in as judge of the 113th Civil District Court.

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Sagmont residents prepared for a massive cleanup. They were asked to get rid of old furniture, appliances, building materials or any heavy trash items. The cleanup was coordinated by the Sagmont Civic Club and the city.
Construction of Beltway 8 between Fairmont Parkway and I-45 south was to begin soon.

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Precinct 1 County Commissioner El Franco Lee was sworn into office at a special ceremony held at the Family Law Building.
Former Dobie student Steve Cummings was put on the Toronto Blue Jay's 40-man roster.

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The remaining residents of the Southend subdivision found out that their water rates would climb by approximately 500 percent - from \$10 for the first 1,000 gallons to \$45 for 8,000 gallons.
Gallery Furniture's Jim "Mattress Mac" McIngvale delivered his "Stay in School and Say No to Drugs" talk to

eight-graders who attended career day at San Jacinto College South.
20 years ago (1999)
Beamer, the 14-year-old Dalmatian mascot for Houston Fire Station 70, died.
A five-vehicle accident at the corner of Sabo and Fuqua left no one seriously injured.
5 years ago (2014)
Meador Elementary celebrated its 50th anniversary with a reception attended by

My New Year's resolution is to make good grades. I'm going to study more, pay more attention and try my best. I'm going to make good grades so I can do good in college.

-Courtlyn Fletcher
My New Year's resolution is to be nicer or to try and get more friends.
-Kingston Hernandez
My New Year's Resolution is to make better grades and have zero conduct marks.
-Sheyla Le
My New Year's resolution is to spend more time with my family.

-Nikolai Miranda
My New Year's resolution is to get higher grades in school.
-Elizabeth Dinh
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-Mariyah Usher
Kristin Konzelman's fifth grade ELAR classes
My New Year's Resolution is to get better grades.

-Sandra Trevino
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-Emily Juarez

Over The Back Fence by Alexis

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO BURGIE
Happy birthday wishes are sent to **Burgie Clark** from her daughter **Diddy Clark** as she celebrates a birthday Monday, Dec. 30.
BILL CELEBRATES A BIRTHDAY
Best wishes are sent to **Bill King**, local businessman and former mayoral candidate, who celebrates a birthday Dec. 29, from friends and the *Leader* staff.

BEST WISHES TO BETH
Wishes for a great celebration Jan. 3 are sent to **Beth Williams** from her family, friends and the staff at the *South Belt Leader*.
BO ENJOYS A BIRTHDAY
Best wishes to *Leader* staffer **Bo Bolen** who celebrates a birthday Tuesday, Jan. 7, from friends and the staff at the *South Belt Leader*.

SCHOOL DAZE
The following personnel of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays Dec. 26 through Jan. 8.
Atkinson Elementary
Sing a happy birthday song to **Elizabeth Roehl** Dec. 29. Join in the birthday fun with **Terri Salazar** Jan. 3. Birthday greetings are sent to **Pamela Valdez** Jan. 8.

Burnett Elementary
Shannon Roberts celebrates a birthday Dec. 28. Sing a chorus of a birthday song to **Jessica Leon** Dec. 29. **Valiala Gregory** starts off the year right with a birthday on Jan. 1. Light the birthday candles Jan. 3 for **Dalacie Henderson**. **Maria Nunez** enjoys a birthday Jan. 4. Send a birthday greeting Jan. 6 to **Carlota Ramirez**.

Bush Elementary
Jessica Wedgeworth enjoys a birthday Dec. 30. The day for a party for **Maria Hurtado** is Jan. 5.
Frazier Elementary
Light the birthday candles Dec. 26 for **Katie Belus**. **Bonny Teflos** marks a birthday Jan. 5. Light the birthday candles Jan. 8 for **Christine Grazioli**.

Genoa Elementary
Send a happy birthday greeting Dec. 27 to **Maria Duran**. Join in the birthday fun Jan. 2 with **Claudia Alatorre**. **Nancy Torres** marks

a birthday Jan. 5.
Meador Elementary
The day for a celebration for **Sarah Rankin** is Dec. 26. **Evangelina Calderon** enjoys a birthday Dec. 28. The day for a double celebration for **Cheryl Caudill** is Jan. 6.
Moore Elementary
Blow out the birthday candles for **Brittany Jaramillo** Dec. 28.

South Belt Elementary
Enjoying a Dec. 26 birthday is **Amy Batson**. Starting off the new year right is **Marcy Pittman** with a birthday Jan. 1. Light the birthday candles for **Renato Lu** Jan. 2. Send a birthday greeting Jan. 4 to **Estella Montoya-Riley**. Join in the birthday fun Jan. 9 with **Karl Malone**.

Stuchbery Elementary
Sing a chorus of a birthday song to **Dania Garza** Dec. 29.
Melillo Middle School
Dec. 27 is the day for birthday greetings for **Alyssa Alvarez**. Send a humorous birthday card Dec. 29 to **Jill Sharma**.

Roberts Middle School
Special birthday wishes are sent to **Ed Johnson** on Jan. 5. The day for a party for **Ha-Bang "Susie" Nguyen** is Jan. 7.
Beverly Hills Intermediate
The day to celebrate with a double-layer birthday cake for **Kenneth Davidson** and **Laura Mervine** is Dec. 29. Marking a Dec. 30 birthday is **Stephanie Jones**. **Angel Fernandez** enjoys a birthday Jan. 6.

Thompson Intermediate
Special birthday wishes are sent to **Betty Minter** Dec. 29. Starting off the new year with a birthday celebration on Jan. 1 is **Tiona Samuel**. The day for a cake for **Hajile Mitchell** is Jan. 6.

Dobie High
On Dec. 29, a birthday greeting is sent to **Andrea Morgan**. **William Fufts** ends the year with a Dec. 31 birthday. Celebrating the new year with a birthday Jan. 2 is **Byanka Reyes**. Birthday wishes are sent to **Jane Damico** Jan. 3. Light the candles on a cake for **Kyle Ediger** Jan. 4. **John Stovall** marks a birthday Jan. 7.

The *Leader* sends birthday wishes to friends who have a birthday. For those wanting a birthday mentioned in this section, send an email to mynews@southbeltleader.com with "OTBF: Friends Celebrate Birthdays" in the subject line by Friday noon for the next week's publication.

Thursday, Dec. 26: **Cindi Williams, David Parker, Dave Huston, Travis Sattiewhite, Pam Moore and Sam Dittz**; Friday, Dec. 27: **Rhonda Valdez, Jen Mintz, Ricky Stacey, Julia Argo, Laurel Chicas, Arthur Medina, Donna Shaw-McCullough and Stacey Donohue**; Saturday, Dec. 28: **Mandy Philmon; Sunday, Dec. 29: Lory Adams Taylor, Joe Gutierrez and Debra Blake**; Monday, Dec. 30: **Heather Deming, David Garza, Gloria Garcia, Salvador Flores, Scott Romeo, Brenda Keener and Arcilia Maturey**; Tuesday, Dec. 31: **Laneil Vawter, Dameon Smith, Kelley Hammond, Karen Edwards, Cecily Carriere and Pamela Collins**; Wednesday, Jan. 1: **Michael McCollom, Charlotte Christian, Elaine Bischof, Mari Wills, Kelly Robinson, David Tucker, Richard Lopez, Eleonora Stoves, Sandra Matula and Crystal Ford**; Thursday, Jan. 2: **Jay Forrest, Amanda Baldwin, Bryan Gomez, Mary Winters, Kelly Edwards and Meagan Novak**; Friday, Jan. 3: **Tony Montenegro III, Deb Rainbolt-Young, Terri Salazar, Roland Moreno and Flor Elizalde**; Saturday, Jan. 4: **Gerry Cole, Lan Curtis, Crystal Roberts and Jason Thompson**; Sunday, Jan. 5: **John Carnes, Jessica Fernandez, Jamie Troxler, Natalie McCoy, John Jenkins and Jovon Lartigue-Davis**; Monday, Jan. 6: **Bonnie Ferguson, Jeremy McMillan, Myranda Davis, Edwin Clark, Scott Parchmont and Seth Marshall**; Tuesday, Jan. 7: **Michael Lake, Kathi Kemp, Sherry Crawford, Meagan McMurry, Jessica Sellers, Bob Townley, Larry Shewell, Jason Cox, Brian Gallagher and Diane Gonzalez**; and Wednesday, Jan. 8: **Brad Muecke**.

LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS
Email birthday, anniversary, vacation, congratulations, etc., to mynews@southbeltleader.com with OTBF in the subject line by Friday noon for the next week's publication.

Local library events set
Bracewell Branch Library.
Bracewell Branch Library, located at 9002 Kingspoint, is open limited hours during the Christmas and New Year's holidays. For more information, call the library at 832-393-2580.
Bracewell hours are: Thursday, Dec. 26, noon - 8 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 27, 1 - 5 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 28, 1 - 5 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 29, closed; Monday, Dec. 30, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Tuesday, Dec. 31, and Wednesday, Jan. 1, closed for New Year's Day.

Parker Williams Library
The following events are scheduled for the Parker Williams Library, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd.:
Friday, Jan. 3, 4 - 5:45 p.m., for ages 8 and older. Mario Kart Harris County Grand Prix. Ready, set, go! Join the Parker Williams Library Racing Team and challenge the Clear Lake Freeman, Jacinto City and Evelyn Meador branches in the first-ever Mario Kart Harris County Grand Prix.
Monday, Jan. 6, 6 - 7:30 p.m., for ages 8 and older. Magic: The Gathering Gameplay, a dueling card game from Wizards of the Coast. For those wanting to learn, a staff member will be present for instruction. A special thank you is given to Strike Zone for the generous donation of Magic: The Gathering cards. For more information, visit <http://www.hcpl.net/sites/default/files/feb-mtg-1.jpg>

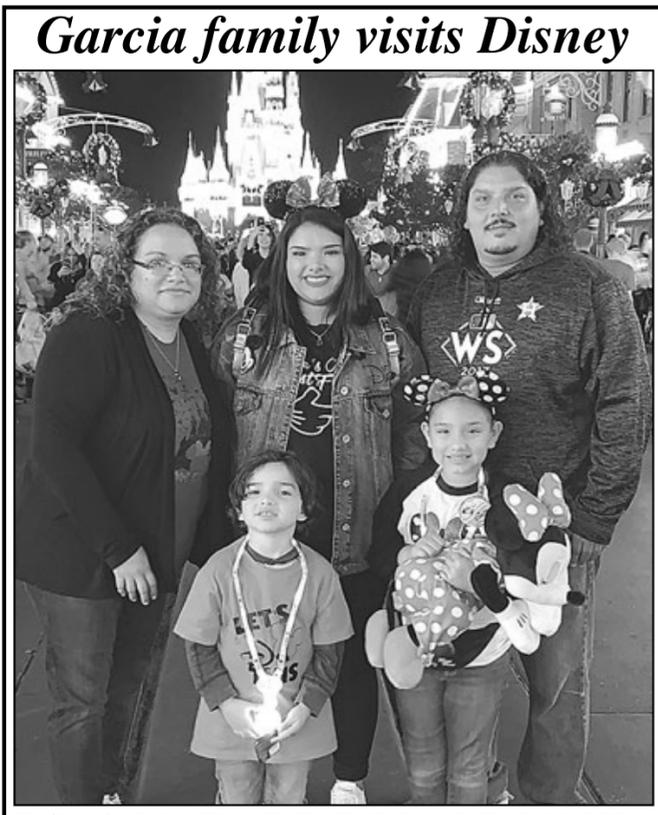
Below are weekly programs, unless the library is closed:
Tuesday, Babytime lapsit, 10:30 a.m. For babies from birth to 18 months, featuring a mother-baby lapsit time with fingerplays, songs and playtime.
Wednesday, Preschool storytime, 10:30 a.m. For children, ages 3 to 5 years, storytime features stories, songs, fingerplays and a craft.
Wednesday, 2 - 3 p.m.: Basic computer classes (Vietnamese). Learn mouse, keyboarding, basic internet skills and more at this weekly class in Vietnamese. Registration is requested.
Thursday, Toddler storytime, 10:30 a.m. For toddlers from birth to 3 years, storytime features stories, songs, fingerplays and bubbles.
Saturday, Vietnamese learning time, for adults and children ages 8 and older. Classes begin at 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11:15 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. It's a great time to take a class to help with a skill for work, gain understanding of a topic or learn a language.

There are many free classes available online at the library website or on the internet, through universities or other sources. Practice navigating the internet to learn about these, or sign up for one. For more information, speak with Loc Bui.
For more information on all other programs, call the library at 832-927-7870. Library hours are: Thursday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Friday, 1 - 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Sunday, closed; Monday, 1 - 9 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Wednesday, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Parker Williams seeks donations
The Parker Williams Branch Library is in need of donations of new or gently used soft-back (pocketbooks), children's and children's chapter books.
The library is also accepting other like condition donations of DVDs, hardback books and current magazines.

Quilt Guild to meet
The Quilt Guild monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 7, at 6:30 p.m. fellowship; meeting at 7 p.m. at Mount Olive Lutheran Church, 10310 Scarsdale.
This month's speaker will be Teresa Wong, an author, blogger and quilter. Guest speaker will be Irene Roderick who is an artist and modern quilter, her program is titled "Dancing with the Wall."
Join the group for an evening of learning and fun.
Visitors can attend two free meetings, annual dues \$25. For more information, contact Debbly Benson at 713-248-8757 or check our website at bayareaquiltguild.org.

NASA Aglow presents speaker
NASA Aglow meets on the second Thursday of the month at 9:30 a.m. at Praise Chapel, located at 18516 Hwy. 3 in Webster.
The ministry is kicking off the New Year with a special speaker LaVonne Chandler, an ordained minister and president and founder of Touched by Grace Ministries. As a prophetess called to the nations, Chandler ministers under a prophetic anointing in churches, conferences and revivals throughout the world.
She is a voice for this hour to call the church to repentance and back to its "First Love." Chandler believes that prayer and worship are the keys to God's glory being poured out, and her heart's cry is to see the Body of Christ freed from religious bondage. As a trumpet blown by God's Spirit, she is consumed with turning the people back to the heavenly Father and preparing them for the coming of the Lord.
The public is welcome and encouraged to bring a friend to the gathering Thursday, Jan. 9, 10 a.m. to noon at Praise Chapel, located at 18516 Highway 3 in Webster.
For additional information, contact Lorene Kelling at lorenieto@yahoo.com or call the chapel at 281-338-6633.
NASA AGLOW is a part of Aglow International, an interdenominational organization of God-seeking women with more than 200,000 members meeting together monthly through local AGLOW groups in 177 countries.



The Garcia family visited Disney World in Florida during the Thanksgiving holidays. Shown are, left to right (front row) Benjamin Garcia, Eliana Garcia, (back row) Rachel Garcia, Destiny Garcia and Benito Garcia. Benjamin is in pre-K and Eliana is a first-grader; both attend Atkinson Elementary. Destiny is a student at San Jacinto College. Picture submitted

Remember When

Leader wrapped up its 27th annual Christmas program to collect food and gifts for needy families in the community. A record number of 60 families applied for assistance in the drive - roughly twice the number of applicants as in previous years.
5 years ago (2014)
Meador Elementary celebrated its 50th anniversary with a reception attended by

all four former school principals. Named after former mayor of South Houston, B.F. Meador (father of San Jacinto College board member Ben Meador), the campus opened in 1963 for kindergarten through fifth-grade students. Prior to the school's opening, students living in the Sagement area had been bused to South Houston schools or Genoa. Today, the

PISD hosts 10th annual fall Chess Classic



On Saturday, Nov. 9, Pasadena ISD held its 10th annual fall Chess Classic at Beverly Hills Intermediate. There were 275 students that participated from a total of 45 campuses (an all-time record!), including 10 high schools, 13 intermediate schools, 10 middle schools, and 12 elementary schools from a total of 45 campuses. 36 schools were from Pasadena ISD, five were from Deer Park ISD, one was from Clear Creek ISD, one was from Pearland ISD and two were private schools. In the grade 3-6 divisions, each student played five games, while in the intermediate and high school divisions, each student played four

games. In all divisions, students received one point for each win and a half-point for each draw. The next tournament will be held Saturday, Feb. 15, at Beverly Hills Intermediate. Shown are high school winners, left to right, ninth-grader Oscar Garza, Dobie; 11th-grader Darius Kahlert, Clear Falls; ninth-grader Fynnlan Ridge, CTHS; 12th-grader Tin Ly, Dobie; 12th-grader Timmy Phan, Dobie; 11th-grader Blake Danner, CTHS; 11th-grader Matthew Montemayor, CTHS; and 12th-grader Victor Vargas, Sam Rayburn.

Photos submitted



Enjoying the winning moment are intermediate Pasadena Independent School District winners, left to right, eighth-grader Tam Nguyen, Thompson; eighth-grader Mauricio Gloria, Bondy; seventh-grader Alan Olvera, Bondy; seventh-grader Octavio Si-

fuentes, Bondy; seventh-grader Maximiliano Santiago, Deepwater Jr. High; seventh-grader Jericho Urbano, Our Lady of Fatima; and seventh-grader Jimmy Bui, Beverly Hills. Not shown is eighth-grader Nhut Ly, Beverly Hills.



Celebrating the joy of victory are sixth-grade winners, left to right, Victoria Chioreanu, Roberts Middle School; Harold Funez, Roberts; Juan Vega, Roberts; Aaron Gloria, Roberts; Xavier Blan-

co, Roberts; Hussai Arias, Morris Middle School; Julian Trevino, Shaw and Leelyn Chan, Sablatura Middle School.



Sharing the winning experience, fifth-graders posing for the photo are, left to right, Katherine Bordeaux, Sablatura Middle School; William McBane, Sablatura; Amudhan Madhankumar, Sablatura;

Luke Duffey, Keller Middle School; Jacob Longstreet, Sablatura; Cesar Salazar, Deepwater Elementary; Julius Salazar, Melillo Middle School; and Juan Martinez, Morris Middle School.



Fourth-grade winners with all smiles are, left to right, Isaiah Ambriz, South Belt; Gilbert Garcia, Deepwater; Yael Marin, Genoa; Ledin

Jimenez, Young; Carlos Vega, Genoa; Giselle Martinez, Genoa; Jessie Garza, Genoa; and Julie Pavalonis, Frazier.



Starting out young are third-grade elementary students participating in the competition. Shown are the winners, left to right, (front row) Alexander Buntaer, Frazier; Nevaeh Bumgarner, Frazier;

(back row) Damian Garza, Genoa; Elijah Wagner, Golden Acres; Julian Cortez, Young; Alexis Perez, Genoa; Adrian Gloria, Genoa; and Santiago Vega, Genoa.

Williams celebrates 105 years



Longtime South Belt resident Miriam Williams recently celebrated her 105th birthday with family and friends. The partygoers enjoyed barbecue and birthday cake. Williams has seen amazing changes during her life, having experienced everything from riding to town in a horse-drawn buggy from her family's farm in Nebraska, to working at NASA and seeing men walking on the surface of the moon. In addition to working at NASA, Miriam worked for the FBI during WWII and also for Continental Airlines. She later lived in the Philippines for a

number of years. Miriam and her late husband, Duncan Williams Jr., first moved to this area in 1962 and returned after enjoying retirement at Toledo Bend and in Colorado. Miriam now lives with her son and daughter-in-law in Pearland. Shown are, left to right, (front row) daughter-in-law Jackie Williams, Miriam Williams, son Duncan Williams, (back row) granddaughter Holly Williams Lyons, three great-grandchildren Abi, Will and Jackson Lyons and Holly's husband John Lyons.

Photo submitted

PISD Special Programs receives donation



The American Legion Post 490 and the Auxiliary of post 490 gave Pasadena ISD a check for \$500 to the Special Programs. This money will help the students and family members that are in the special needs program with supplies and clothing during the school year. Shown above, left to right, are Neitzky Retta,

homeless program coordinator; Cheryl Fountain, past president of the auxiliary and currently the historian of the auxiliary; Bonnie Fraley, chairperson for children and youth program; and Gloria Gallegos, superintendent of special programs.

Photo submitted

Local scholars experiment with life



Imagine a high schooler with a full-time job and two kids. Beta Academy scholars from grades sixth through 10th encountered these types of scenarios during a field trip to Biztown and Finance Park. Beta is fueled by a global mindset with an intense focus on preparing Houston's children to be competitive on a community, national and international level. The children were divided between the two exhibits. In Biztown, the students ran businesses, such as a restaurant, bank, insurance company, or grocery store. Each team took charge of acquiring a business loan, paying for products and supplies and setting prices for their services to earn a cash flow. The town was complete with its own city hall and a Beta mayor and judge.

In Finance Park, each young adult was given a profile that detailed their occupation, family responsibilities and set salary. The scholars had to find a bank and figure out the best way to manage their credit, pay for childcare health insurance, homeowners insurance, shop on a budget, save for the future, buy a car and more. This valuable opportunity gave them a glimpse into adulthood and taught the students how to manage money, debt and their personal finances. Shown are, left to right, (front row) Asriel Joseph, Amri Munoz, Johanna Gonzalez, Madeleine Vasquez, Mia Webb (back row) Carlos Garza, Isaac Sosa, Uyai Itina, Lizeth Caledon and Sebastian Morales.

Photo by Joshua Freethy

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**Elected officials
share their words**

**Olson Introduces high
water flood rescues**

Rep. Pete Olson (TX-22) last week acted to assist first responders with high water rescues during high flood events in the Gulf Coast region of Texas. Olson introduced H.R. 5407, the Lifting Up Our First Responders Act, a bill that would allow the military to prioritize distribution of surplus high water rescue vehicles to communities that face a higher threat of flooding to help emergency responders rescue individuals trapped by floods. Original co-sponsors include: Reps. Phil Roe (R-TN), Dan Crenshaw (R-TX) and Randy Weber (R-TX).

"Houston Strong" wasn't just a slogan people used in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey; it was a promise to make our region more prepared, more resilient and better equipped to handle any future storms that may come," Olson stated. "My bill the Lifting Up Our First Responders Act delivers on that promise. In 2015, 2016 and 2017 the Houston region faced record flooding, including Hurricane Harvey. While we were deeply grateful the 'Cajun Navy' came through in our time of need, the military surplus vehicle program will help equip small communities with needed tools to save lives. I'm proud to develop a cost-effective solution and urge my colleagues to support this bill."

"Having access to the right equipment can make a life-saving difference, which is why I am proud to join Reps. Olson, Weber and Crenshaw in co-sponsoring commonsense legislation to make additional surplus equipment available for our local first responders when they face natural disasters."—Congressman Phil Roe (TN-01)

"Living in the Bayou City, Houston residents know

the importance of getting flood victims the help they need as fast as possible. It's why with every flood, our community comes together and demonstrates boundless kindness, generosity and Texas grit. But citizens can't do it on their own, so we must ensure our first responders have access to as many resources as possible. That's why I'm proud to join this group in sponsoring legislation that prioritizes the distribution of military surplus vehicles to communities performing life-saving flood rescues."—Congressman Dan Crenshaw (TX-02)

"When disaster strikes, we need all available resources to respond as quickly and as safely as possible. The goal is to keep our first responders safe while saving as many lives as we can. H.R. 5407 affords our local first responders much-needed access to the military surplus vehicles for high-water rescue. Recovery efforts and flood preparedness have improved since Harvey, but there is more work to be done, and this bill is a step in the right direction."—Congressman Randy Weber (TX-14)

In addition, a growing list of local officials support the Olson bill:

"As the Director of the Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management for Fort Bend County, when I enact a declaration of disaster during emergencies, we need vehicles that can handle high-water rescues. Congressman Olson's Lifting Up Our First Responders Act amends current law to give preference to imminently life-saving purposes, namely high-water rescues. His introduction of this bill is not only welcome, but necessary news for our com-

munity."—Hon. KP George (County Judge, Fort Bend County)

"When next year's hurricane season comes, Texas will be more prepared than ever thanks to Congressman Olson and his Lifting Up Our First Responders Act."—Tim Sabrula (Fire Chief, Beasley Fire Department)

"A bill that would streamline and expedite requests and acquisitions of government resources such as vehicles and equipment is great news for emergency response agencies that lack funding to enhance capabilities such as performing high water rescues or evacuating those in need. It also says something for repurposing and utilizing equipment that may no longer serve a military purpose. Being able to use this equipment to continue to serve citizens is a responsible move. Many fire departments and communities would certainly benefit from such an effort."—Michael Youngblood (Fire Chief, Richmond Fire Department)

"Congressman Olson's legislation is welcome news to any first responders who know firsthand the challenges involved in keeping people safe in the wake of a natural disaster. The high-water vehicles this bill makes available will allow us to do our jobs better and quicker as well as provide for the safety of all residents in flood-stricken areas."

"We can't save their property but we can save their lives and help keep families together in critical and dangerous conditions. It will also keep the first responders safer and give them the ability to help more people in a shorter time frame."—Chuck Tylka (Chief, Southeast Volunteer Fire Department)

**Turner thanks reps
for passing the HELP Act**

Mayor Sylvester Turner applauded Congresswoman Lizzie Fletcher (TX-07) and Congressman Pete Olson (TX-22) for passing a bipartisan bill that could have a significant impact in the city of Houston.

H.R. 2548, the Hazard Eligibility and Local Projects (HELP) Act, would help municipalities like Houston and local agencies expedite certain disaster mitigation projects by removing unnecessary delays and streamlining the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) hazard mitigation grant program.

"Project delivery matters. It is what I am focused on, and the HELP Act comes directly from obstacles we have faced in Houston. Every level of government must work together to mitigate flooding," Mayor Sylvester Turner said. "On behalf of the citizens of Houston, I thank Congresswoman Lizzie Fletcher and Congressman Pete Olson for keeping the focus on resilience."

The city is in the process of applying for more than \$350 million in Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program (HMGP) funding as a result of Hurricane Harvey.

Congresswoman Fletcher's bill would allow land acquisition and simple construction projects exempt

from environmental review to begin immediately without risk of losing a potential federal match.

This will significantly cut down on the time it takes to move forward with many HMGP projects and allow local municipalities to leverage funds in a quicker and more efficient manner. In the case of buyouts, the quicker the city can make an individual an offer after a flooding event, the more likely they are to accept.

"FEMA's policy of potentially disqualifying grant applicants because they move forward with recovery projects isn't what our constitu-

ents expect, especially in response to a disaster," said Steve Costello, Chief Recovery Officer for the City of Houston. "Working together at all levels of government, need to cut delays in project delivery. This is one small fix that will bring lasting change to our region."

Congresswoman Fletcher's bill would change the statute so that all acquisition projects are automatically authorized for pre-award costs.

The H.R. 2548, the Hazard Eligibility and Local Projects (HELP) Act bill now moves to the United States Senate.

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SECTION B SPORTS & CLASSIFIED

JFD boys' soccer to chase Pasadena ISD cup title

Winners of the Pasadena ISD Cup in four of the previous five seasons, the Dobbie varsity boys' soccer team will kick off 2020 with a return to the tal-

ent-rich event Jan. 2-4 at Pasadena ISD's Veterans Stadium as well as The Rig in Pearland.

As has always been the case, the Longhorns have

accepted a huge challenge at the event, facing Region III power Katy Tompkins to begin things Jan. 2. Dobbie will also go against Klein Oak and Cypress

Creek in pool play action. The Longhorns made their earliest playoff exit in April of this year after Strake Jesuit defeated the locals in a sudden death

shootout in the area round. For 2020, the Longhorns will have to replace the leading scorer in program history, but head coach Justo Manrique has

a solid roster in place as the campaign nears. The Longhorns have played in two scrimmage matches to this point, having taken out Brazoswood Dec. 13 by a 3-0 count and then edged past Clear

Springs 1-0 at Springs Dec. 16. With the regular season quickly approaching, the Longhorns have started strong, but the real tests begin when the PISD Cup starts Jan. 2.

Five-time defending District 22-6A varsity boys' soccer champion will face three top-notch opponents to begin the 2020 regular season at the Pasadena ISD Cup, hosted at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena and The Rig in Pearland Jan. 2-4, 2020. Dobbie, slotted fifth within Region III in the preseason Texas Association of Soccer Coaches rankings, will go against No. 2 Katy Tompkins Jan. 2 at Veterans Stadium, beginning at 2 p.m. Dobbie will then play Jan. 3 at The Rig against Klein Oak, beginning at 4 p.m. The Longhorns will then go against Cypress Creek Jan. 4 back at Veterans Stadium in a noon contest. At right, Adrian Garcia (5) is one of the many key returnees as the Longhorns start the journey anew in 2020.

Photo by Jade Wise



Dobbie girls to Duncanville

Brook boys part of Pasadena's Medina Classic

The Clear Brook varsity boys' basketball team will be looking to gain momentum for the upcoming District 24-6A race by taking part in Pas-

adena High School's Eric Medina Memorial Christmas Classic Dec. 27-28 at Pasadena High School and San Jacinto Intermediate, with the Wolverines first

in pool play against Dulles and Klein Oak before trophy bracket action. The tournament honors Medina, a former Eagles' player who died after ex-

ercising at the school in 2015. State-ranked North Shore and unbeaten Pearland will attend. Meanwhile, the Dobbie

varsity girls will make their debut at the Sandra Meadows Classic, hosted by Duncanville High School Dec. 26-28 as a brilliant 32-team field will vie for the championship after three days.

Continued on Page 3B



High school soccer kicks off 2020

The Pasadena ISD varsity boys' soccer division won't be the only show in town as 2020 debuts. The Clear Brook girls, looking for a strong start, will be part of the field at

the Humble ISD Classic as the Lady Wolverines take on Elkins Jan. 2, go against Magnolia Jan. 3 and finish with Nederland Jan. 4. At the Jan. 2-4 Waller

Classic, the Dobbie varsity girls' team will be in action against a talented field. A season ago, the Lady Longhorns won three of four games in the event, finishing second.

The Clear Brook varsity boys will scrimmage at Dawson Dec. 31 at noon. Brook will then kick off the regular season Jan. 3 at Scarborough.

Sports news, notes

Youth baseball camp at Deer Park

The 2019 Deer Park Holiday Baseball camp will be held Dec. 30-31 at Deer Park High School North campus, 601 8th St., in Deer Park.

The camp is for children ages 6 to 13 and is a skill-specific camp. There will be three sessions, with the first and second coming Monday, Dec. 30. The 9 a.m. to noon session will focus on the basic mechanics of the hitting swing. Hitters will be filmed during this session.

The second session, 1 to 4 p.m., will focus on the advanced aspects of hitting. Hitters will view their film during this session with an instructor.

Session three is Tuesday, Dec. 31 from 9 a.m. to noon and is a defensive session. Campers will choose among pitching, infield or outfield play.

The camp will be conducted by Chris Rupp, head baseball coach at Deer Park High School. The remainder of the staff will be comprised of collegiate and high school coaches.

The cost of the camp is \$50 per session. Campers choosing to attend all 3 sessions will receive a \$25 discount, for a total cost of \$125. For registration information, call 713-231-6009.

SBGSA seeking coaches

The South Belt Girls Softball Association is seeking volunteer coaches for the 2020 spring season in the 6U, 8U and 14U divisions. No experience is necessary, and team equipment is provided by the league. For more details about coaching opportunities or player registration, call SBGSA player agent Adriana Estrada at 832-891-3579.



Big fourth quarter gets JFD boys a W

The Dobbie varsity boys basketball team remained unbeaten in District 22-6A action following a come-from-behind 48-44 victory over the Humble Wildcats Dec. 17 at Dobbie.

The Longhorns trailed by four entering the final eight minutes but out-scored the Wildcats 18-10 in the period to win the game.

Senior guard Shannon Hayes, who led the way with 18 points in the

Longhorns' District 22-6A opening win over Pasadena Dec. 13, again paced the team over Humble with 10 points.

Jajuan Robinson had a solid all-around game, scoring eight points to go with four rebounds and a pair of blocked shots.

The Longhorns, who took on Kingwood Dec. 20 after press time, will return to action in league play Dec. 31 at the Atascocita Eagles.

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The year in sports 2019: many memories, top performers

The sports scene in 2019 was definitely one for the ages, with countless memories both made and shared by athletes across the community.

To close out the year, the *Leader* takes a look back at some of those highlights from January through June, with July through December to follow in the January 9, 2020 issue.

January

Though certainly not flawless as a whole, Dobie's performance at the Pasadena ISD Cup varsity boys' soccer event was nonetheless effective as the locals bagged yet another tournament championship. The tournament win was the Longhorns' fourth overall in five seasons.

The Longhorns, having entered the season as one of the Region III title contenders, defeated Channelview 4-2 to begin their season and then tied both Clements and Manvel in pool play before meeting Clear Creek for the title.

There, the Longhorns continued their seemingly annual dominance of the tournament by topping the Wildcats 3-1 at The Rig in Pearland.

Over the four games, Alberto Chavez, Bryan Nava and Raul Hernandez all notched two goals, and Christian Saldivar handed out four assists.

Junior Eduardo Benavides drew the majority of the action in the nets as a first-year starter at the tough event.

The bottom line is the Longhorns won the tournament for a fourth time in five years.

That said, head coach Justo Manrique acknowledged the Longhorns needed to continue to improve, particularly on the back end as a cast of relatively inexperienced players find their footing.

Dobie jumped out to a quick lead over Channelview in the opener but then surrendered a late goal to Clements that cost the group what should have been a win.

But it all ended well as the Longhorns tripped Clear Creek for the championship.

Dobie High School senior and star softball player Taylor Pleasants was named to the USA Softball Junior Women's National Team after excelling at a tryout in Florida.

A three-year varsity starter and first team all-district performer from 2016 through 2018, Pleasants is now a freshman at Louisiana State University.

As for USA Softball, Pleasants and her Team USA mates competed in the World Baseball Softball Confederation's Junior Women's World Cup in Irvine, Calif. as well as a couple of other prestigious events.

San Jacinto College, one of the country's premiere junior college baseball programs, was banned from 2019 postseason play, including the JUCO World Series.

The official NJCAA website listed San Jacinto College North (home of the baseball program) as indeed being on probation for the remainder of the 2018-2019 academic year, which encompasses the spring semester, with little other information coming.

The NJCAA's decision was based upon what was determined to be a violation of NJCAA rules regarding student athlete Letters of Intent.

While San Jacinto College had interpreted the rules in a different way in good faith, the College respected the NJCAA's decision and as a result complied with the one-semester probation.

Concordia was the winner of the season-opening Waller ISD Classic varsity girls' soccer tournament, but that didn't stop the Dobie varsity girls' soccer team from winning three of four games.

Aside from a convincing 5-0 shutout loss to eventual tournament champion Concordia, the Lady Longhorns blanked three other opponents.

"I thought we improved our play with each game, and that's all you can ask for," Dobie varsity girls' head coach Bryan McDonald said.

"We got down 2-0 to Concordia on a muddy field, and I decided to substitute fairly freely in that one. Concordia was very good and went on to win the whole thing. As far as our play, I thought we did some things well and gave everything we had."

Dobie scored a 2-0 win over Cypress Ranch to open the season and also defeated Bellville 2-0 to finish pool play 2-1.

At the Port Neches Groves Invitational Jan. 4 a week later, the Lady Longhorns went 1-2 over three games against equally stiff competition, giving the Lady Longhorns an early 4-3 record.

The Longhorn varsity boys' soccer team went against three different regional powers at the Aus-

tin Lakes Elite Showcase, coming away with a 2-1 win over Juarez Lincoln and a 1-0 victory over San Antonio Johnson, sandwiched around a 3-2 loss to Seven Lakes.

Dobie's Bryan Nava had a big tournament for the locals, tallying three goals in the three matches to give him a team-high five scores for the season.

As a team, Dobie entered a nondistrict match against Aldine Davis with a 4-1-2 record.

Dobie varsity girls' basketball legend Karima Christmas Kelly was confirmed to be inducted into the Pasadena ISD Athletics Hall of Fame April 13 as part of the 2019 class, which also featured former Pasadena High School greats Don Kelly, Jimmy McNeil, Bill Newcomb and Paul Ratliff, as well as, former South Houston star Wayne Adams.

Christmas Kelly helped Dobie to its lone state tournament appearance as a freshman during the 2003-2004 season and went on to become a McDonald's All-American selection before a storied career at Duke University.

As a professional, Christmas Kelly has since played several seasons both in the WNBA as well as overseas, winning a WNBA championship with the Indian Fever in 2012.

Christmas Kelly had her No. 13 Dobie basketball jersey retired during the 2017 McDonald's Texas Invitational basketball tournament.

The disappointment he must have felt 16 months ago has almost certainly faded for David Azore, Jr., who is the Clear Brook varsity boys' basketball program's all-time leading scorer.

A knee ligament injury during the preseason of the 2017-2018 campaign forced the freshman to red-shirt while rehabilitating.

As a player with still four years of playing eligibility in 2018-2019, Azore was on a roll early on at UT-Arlington.

Averaging 8.5 points per game, Azore increased that average to 11 points per game in conference play as he gave the Mavericks a lift.

Azore wound up scoring 8.4 points per game as a freshman to go with 1.6 steals per game, both third on the team.

So far this season as a sophomore, Azore has been UT-Arlington's best overall player. He's tied for the team lead in scor-

ing at 12.6 per outing, and also leads the team in assists and steals. His 5.2 rebounds per game is second-best.

The Thompson Intermediate boys' and girls' basketball teams put their dominance on display, winning seven of the eight Pasadena ISD tournament championships and walking away with several regular season crowns last season.

The Lady Lions were victorious in all four PISD tournaments, beating Bondy in two title games and Beverly Hills in another.

In eighth-grade A play, Thompson topped the Lady Bears 59-52 for the championship, while the Lady Lions' eighth-grade B team defeated Beverly Hills 28-25 for the crown.

The Lions' seventh-grade A team cruised past Miller 40-15 for the PISD tournament championship, while the Lady Lions' seventh-grade B team defeated Beverly Hills 47-29 for the championship.

The Lions also made their way to the PISD tournament championship games in each division, coming up with three wins.

Thompson bounced Miller in the eighth-grade A finale, while the Lions' eighth-grade B team won the crown with a slim 43-42 victory over Beverly Hills.

South Houston defeated the Lions for the seventh-grade A championship, but the Lions prevailed in the seventh-grade B title game over Beverly Hills.

As the District 22-6A varsity girls' basketball season wound down the Dobie Lady Longhorns knew their season would extend longer than that.

An easy victory over Sam Rayburn at home during Pink Out Night clinched a postseason berth for the locals.

Atascocita (14-0) and Summer Creek (12-2) secured the top two playoff seeds, with Humble (10-4) and Dobie battling for the third seed.

Camryn Williams had a weekend to remember as he led the San Jacinto College baseball team to three wins in four games at the Southern Nevada Invitational to open the 2019 JUCO regular season.

Williams had hits in all four games, getting his season off to a torrid start at the plate.

He homered and doubled, driving in a pair of runs in the season opener against Arizona Western, but a three-run ninth inning from Arizona Western led to a 4-3 loss.

Mitchell Parker and Dylan Lester combined to allow just three hits and no runs over the first eight innings before San Jac's bullpen faltered in the ninth inning.

Starter Dane Acker had eight strikeouts, and reliever Luis Quinones had seven more as the Gators defeated Southern Nevada 2-1.

Williams tripled in the game, and Braden Winget's RBI single in the top of the seventh inning allowed SJC to take the win.

Williams tripled and doubled to lead the way to a 6-5 win over Central Arizona. Winget also doubled twice, and Jackson Rutledge was terrific on the mound.

Over five innings of work to start the game, San Jac's Jackson Rutledge allowed two hits and no runs while fanning nine Central Arizona hitters.

San Jacinto closed out the tournament by downing Cochise 14-5 over seven frames. Andrew Papantonis went 3 for 4 at the plate, and Ryan Hernandez had three hits and drove in four runs.

Winget had three hits and Chase Ferem scored two runs and drove in three more. Adisyn Coffey tripled and drove in three runs in the easy win, getting the locals to 3-1 overall.

Three wins in four games against top-level competition had the San Jacinto College softball team off to a fast start to begin the 2019 regular season.

The Coyotes beat the University of Hous-

ton-Victoria, Snead State and LSU-Eunice at the Whitecap Invitational in Galveston before losing their final game to North-west Florida State College.

In San Jacinto's season opener, two Dobie graduates played key roles in a 5-3 victory over UH-Victoria.

2017 Dobie graduate Michelle Kristoff fanned nine in a complete-game victory for SJC.

Stuchbery Elementary student Branson Britton excelled at the Gridiron Skills State Championship competition held at The Rig in Pearland, placing second in his 8-to-9-year-old age group while taking part in events such as a 40-yard dash as well as a pass, punt and kick scored on distance.

His pass of 43 feet, 3 inches was tops in the division. Britton qualified for the state competition by excelling at the Pasadena ISD's district-wide Texas Amateur Athletic Federation competition.

February

Senior Night went wonderfully for Destiny Estes, Briasia Garza and Tonya Montgomery and their teammates as the Dobie varsity girls' basketball team readied for the post-season with a 42-27 win over Memorial to close out the regular season.

With 20 wins overall and an 11-5 district record, it was almost unfair to see Humble and Dobie positioning for the third and fourth seeds.

In that seeding game, Dobie's Madison Garrett drained a 3-pointer as time expired in regulation, giving the locals the win and the No. 3 playoff seed.

South Houston varsity football quarterback and senior Torrence Stevens, who guided the Trojans to the playoffs during his sophomore and junior seasons as the starter, signed to continue his education and playing career at Northwestern Oklahoma State University after signing a letter of intent with the Rangers.

Northwestern Oklahoma State is located in Alva, Okla., and the Rangers are in the NCAA Division II ranks.

Stevens had a storied career at South Houston, making the all-district squad three times and being named the league's Offensive Player of the Year in 2017.

At NOSU this season, Stevens made the switch to receiver, playing in 10 games and grabbing 30 passes for 233 yards and two scores to help the Rangers win four of 11 overall games.

National signing day in February was also huge for South Houston High School varsity football standout Ian Butler, who is now at Kilgore College in Kilgore, Texas.

Butler was a three-year starter for the Trojans and helped the team to the postseason in both his sophomore and junior seasons. Although South Houston missed the playoffs in 2018, Butler was an all-district performer for the team.

At press time, Butler was not listed on the Kilgore College roster for 2019.

The Minnesota Lynx of the WNBA solidified their rotation for the 2019 season, adding Dobie graduate Karima Christmas-Kelly as a free agent signee.

Entering her ninth season, Christmas-Kelly was previously a key component to playoff runs at several other stops, including a 2012 WNBA championship with the Indiana Fever.

Unfortunately, Christmas-Kelly saw her WNBA season end prematurely for the second year in a row due to a knee injury.

Dane Acker and Bryant Salgado combined to allow just four hits over eight innings as San Jacinto College defeated Murray State 14-3 in junior college baseball action at the Coastal Bend Invita-

At right, Dobie right-hander Damien Lopez (32) put together a strong season for the Longhorns as a starter during the 2019 campaign as the locals got out of the gate quickly and went on to win more than 20 overall games. The Longhorns finished fourth in the District 22-6A standings but then handed 21-6A champion La Porte a series defeat before coming up just a bit short in the area round against Dickinson. Lopez was an all-district performer for the team after his stellar season.

Photo by John Bechtle



tional. The Gators, winners of four of five games to start the season, strung together six runs in the second inning and seven runs in the eighth inning to close out the easy win.

Hunter Townsend, Chase Ferem and Chase Wilkerson went deep in the game for the Gators.

Townsend went 3 for 5 at the plate, scoring two runs and driving in four runs.

Braden Winget had his second straight solid weekend, banging out three hits and scoring a pair of runs. Ferem also drove in three runs.

On the mound, Acker went the first five frames, allowing three hits and no runs while fanning seven.

Salgado came into the game in the sixth inning in relief and struck out seven over three innings.

San Jac held a 3-0 lead over Coastal Bend in another game at the event, but incoming fog forced the game to halt after three frames.

While pin-point pitching is still an area of focus moving forward, San Jacinto College head softball coach Kelly Saenz was thrilled with her team's 6-2 start to the season.

A pair of wins over Baton Rouge and another over Southern Union State at the LSU-Eunice Lady Bengal Classic gave the locals a second straight 3-1 weekend.

After beating Division II No. 3 ranked LSU-Eunice 11-9 in extra frames a week earlier at the Galveston tournament, San Jacinto mustered just two hits in a 10-2 loss this time around.

But with three more wins, San Jac was off to a 6-2 overall start.

"I really think with the exception of that game against Eunice, we have hit the ball well and scored a ton of runs (53 runs over eight games)," Saenz said.

"Judging from the fall, I thought we had a good mix of returning players and some newcomers we brought in who could really help us.

"So far, we have come up with a lot of big hits (including six home runs) and scored pretty consistently."

Whether you were Justo Manrique or Bryan McDonald, it was hard to imagine being more excited about the way the high school soccer season had gone at the midway to this point.

Manrique, head coach of the Dobie varsity boys' unit, watched as his team scored a tough 2-1 win over South Houston.

With the win, the Longhorns set the tone for a showdown with undefeated Memorial.

At stake was sole possession of first place, with both the Longhorns and Mavericks having dashed out to identical 7-0-0 starts with one game remaining in the first half of action.

Meanwhile, the Dobie girls' win over South Houston catapulted the Lady Longhorns to 9-4-1 overall, including 5-1-1 in league play.

Kingwood (7-0-1) was atop the standings with an unbeaten record, but the Lady Longhorns were right there, too.

Alana Ortega had three

hits in the leadoff spot and pitched five innings for the win, getting Dobie past Clear Brook 7-2 in the varsity softball season opener for both teams at the Pasadena ISD complex.

The defensive anchor Ortega, who is now playing at Southwestern Assemblies of God University in Waxahachie, Texas, led off the bottom of the first inning with a triple and scored on Leslie Longoria's sacrifice fly.

With Dobie leading 4-2 in the sixth, Ortega, Longoria and Dani Colunga had RBI singles to help pitch the game away for the locals.

Dobie's Taylor Pleasants joined Ortega with three hits, one of them a double, and scored twice to help lift her team.

Jasmine Benitez had two hits and scored twice, and it was her bunt hit that got things going in the sixth inning.

Jade Dickens doubled and scored two runs for Clear Brook, but Dickens was also the losing pitcher as Dobie got to her in the sixth inning for the difference.

Haley Lisbony also went 2 for 3 for the Wolverines.

The Dobie varsity girls' basketball team defeated North Shore 35-29, reaching the area playoff round for the third straight season.

There, the Lady Longhorns ran into regional power Clear Springs, with the Lady Chargers advancing with a win.

Junior Shannon Hayes had 14 points as the Dobie varsity boys' basketball team closed out its 2018-2019 season with a 71-44 loss to District 22-6A champion Summer Creek Feb. 12 at Summer Creek.

With the loss, the Longhorns wrapped up a 4-12 run through District 22-6A, with Summer Creek going 16-0 to win the title and top playoff seed.

Humble wound up second at 12-4, while South Houston and Atascocita settled an 11-5 tie for third place.

At Clear Falls, the Knights' 56-55 victory over Clear Brook ensured the Clear Springs Chargers the fourth seed in District 24-6A.

The Wolverines' Brandon Andrews had 17 points and Paul Wilson added 14 in his final varsity game, but Falls pulled out the win to eliminate the locals from playoff consideration.

The Pasadena ISD Athletics Hall of Fame announced that Tony Fitzpatrick, former Houston Gamblers' defensive lineman and University of Houston assistant football coach, would headline the 2019 AHOF induction ceremony at Phillips Field House.

The Houston Gamblers were one of six expansion teams that competed in the United States Football League in 1984 and 1985, with coaching legend Jack Pardee at the helm and Fitzpatrick as a star defensive lineman.

Once called "the rock of (University of) Miami's defense" by the Hurricanes' head coach Howard Schnellenberger, Fitzpatrick was the third pick in the seventh round (128th overall) of the 1984 USFL draft.

Fitzpatrick became

an instant star defensive tackle with the Gamblers, starting all 18 games and recording 13 1/2 sacks, 55 1/2 tackles, 20 assists and a single fumble recovery.

The defensive anchor racked up more tackles than any other Gamblers' lineman, earning second team All-USFL by USFL writers and broadcasters in his rookie season.

Clear Brook High School graduate Molly Fichtner earned her first career coaching victory at the University of Louisiana-Monroe as the Warhawks defeated Austin Peay in Birmingham, Ala.

A four-year varsity starter at Clear Brook, Fichtner played collegiately at both the University of Texas at San Antonio as well as the University of Alabama.

She was named head coach at Louisiana-Monroe in September, 2018.

Over the course of the entire 2019 season, Fichtner's first, Louisiana-Monroe went 14-42. The Warhawks open the 2020 season Feb. 7.

Four Dobie High School volleyball seniors, including Rachel Smith, Melody Le, Kennedy Nguyen and Taylor Pleasants, were awarded academic all-state honors through the Texas Girls Coaches Association.

To qualify for the honor, student athletes must have possessed a course average of 94 or better throughout the school year.

No one would have blamed them if they simply did not want to go, what with the cold, damp temperatures making for less than ideal track and field weather.

But the Dobie contingent made the journey to Deer Park anyway as the Jim Kethan Relays served to kick off the 2019 season for several high school teams across the area.

Individually, junior Dontavion Crosby got off to a strong start, placing second in the triple jump at 38-1 1/2.

He also garnered fifth place in the long jump, making his way to the 18-6 mark for fifth place.

In the boys' 3,200-meter run, the Longhorns' Alberto Campa was third with a time of 10 minutes, 29.52 seconds, and Justin Lavinier was fifth for his efforts in the 400 run with a time of 56.21.

Jason Brooks of Dobie was third for a medal in the shot put, throwing the weight 43-5 1/2, and Devon Brown was seventh in the same event with a throw of 40-5 1/2.

As it had the previous six other seasons, the Lamar University Ron Wesbrooks High School Invitational championship came down to a two-team battle between Dobie and Nederland.

In the end, Dobie's Julia Bui made sure the traveling champions' trophy returned to Blackhawk.

Bui's exciting 10-7 win in a supertiebreaker against Han Vo of Nederland in the girls' A/B singles final was the difference-maker on paper, but it clearly was a team effort.

Dobie placed a team or individual in either the final or semifinal of each bracket, coming up with enough points to win the tournament for the second

straight time and fourth time in seven years.

Wesbrooks was Dobie head coach Manuel Moreno Jr.'s coach when the latter played at Lamar University many years ago.

"This was a true team effort," Moreno said. "Coach Wesbrooks is such a great supporter of youth tennis, and he was out there watching the matches the entire time."

"He's so inspirational and supportive of our kids, so it's always nice to come away with the win."

"We won the tournament the first two years and then Nederland won three straight. Now, we've won the last two. It's sort of been a two-team battle to the end every year."

Champions until proven otherwise, the Dobie varsity boys' soccer team is once again sitting atop the 22-6A varsity boys' soccer standings after winning a clash with previously undefeated Memorial.

The Longhorns got a goal five minutes in from leading scorer Bryan Nava, and freshman Isaac Cortez sealed a 2-0 win with a late score as Dobie blanked the Mavericks 2-0 at San Jacinto College South.

With the win, Dobie improved to 8-0-0 for 24 points with Memorial finishing the first half at 7-1-1. Meanwhile, the Dobie varsity girls were playing well.

Two wins away from No. 100, pardon Dobie varsity girls' soccer coach Bryan McDonald if he wasn't thinking much about the milestone.

Instead, he and his Lady Longhorns are solely focused on keeping the momentum that has delivered a 6-1-1 run through the first half of District 22-6A play, good for second place by a slim margin over Atascocita.

Kingwood, a 6-0 winner over Dobie in the first round and winner of 28 straight district crowns led with Dobie right there.

As for the Lady Longhorns, they were in the midst of their finest season in a while. At 10-4-1 overall, the team was eying a big push.

It was just one game, but the Clear Brook Wolverines' varsity baseball team headed into tournament play at the David Anzaldua Memorial Invitational brimming with confidence after a dazzling opening-night performance.

Sophomore pitchers Aaron Calhoun and Carson Wagner combined on a five-inning no-hitter as Clear Brook run-ruled Fort Bend Bush 12-0 at Brook.

Calhoun went four frames, striking out nine along the way. Wagner hurled the top of the fifth, walking one but fanning two more.

Offensively, Cody Dennis had two hits and drove in three, and Jacob Martinez doubled among his two hits and drove in a run.

District 22-6A varsity softball newcomer Summer Creek, looking to make the postseason for the first time in school history, took a small step forward against Dobie.

Scoring five runs in the top of the fifth inning and three more in the sixth, **Continued on Page 6B**



Dobie varsity boys' head soccer coach Justo Manrique (left) first guided his team to a fourth Pasadena ISD Cup championship the first week of January and then had his team in contention for a fifth straight District 22-6A title as the season played out well into March.

Eric Medina Memorial Classic

Pasadena H.S./San Jacinto Int.

Dec. 27-28
Brook boys vs. Klein Oak
Dec. 27, 10:30 a.m.
Brook boys vs. Dulles
Dec. 27, 1:30 p.m.
Both games at San Jacinto Intermediate

Holiday tourneys host locals

Continued from Page 1B
 The Duncanville-hosted Sandra Meadows Classic is one of the state's longest-running events, dating back to 1951. The leader of the Duncanville girls' program for 25 seasons, Meadows was one of the winningest and most decorated head coaches of her era. The Pantherettes won state championships in Texas' largest class - 5A - three consecutive sea-

sons from 1988 to 1990. During that time, the team won 134 consecutive games (1987 to 1991). As for the present, the Dobbie girls are entered in the 32-team field for the first time in school history, and what a talented field it is. Defending tournament champion Conway, Arkansas is at present ranked second in the state of Arkansas with a 14-2 record. Cedar Hill, which was a tournament finalist a season ago, is No. 7 in the Texas Class 6A rankings. Other top programs in the 32-team field include DeSoto, top-ranked in Texas; No. 2 Duncanville; and No. 11 Vista Ridge, as well as several of the most prestigious programs from both Tennessee and California. Dobbie will go against Bishop Lynch Dec. 26 in a first-round bracket matchup and will then go

against either Palo Duro or Hardvard Westlake in a second-round tussle. The tournament ends Dec. 28. With that, Dobbie will turn its full attention to the District 22-6A ranks, with league play set to resume Dec. 31 as the Lady Longhorns travel to Atascocita for a 1 p.m. clash. On Jan. 3, 2020, Dobbie will host Sam Rayburn and then play at South Houston Jan. 7. Both varsity games are at 1 p.m.

Sandra Meadows Classic

Duncanville, Texas

Dec. 26-28
Dobbie girls vs. Bishop Lynch
Dec. 26, 1 p.m.
Dobbie plays Palo Duro or Harvard Westlake, Ca.
Dec. 27, TBA

Pasadena ISD Girls' Intermediate Basketball

8A Records	Div.			Overall		
	W	L	T	W	L	T
Division 1						
Miller	1	0	0	3	0	0
Southmore	1	0	0	2	1	0
San Jacinto	0	0	0	2	1	0
Thompson	0	1	0	2	1	0
South Houston	0	1	0	0	3	0

Game Scores

Miller 38, Thompson 34
 San Jacinto 45, Jackson 5
 Southmore 25, South Houston 18

Division 2	W L T			W L T		
	Queens	1	0	0	2	1
Beverly Hills	1	0	0	1	2	0
Jackson	0	0	0	1	2	0
Park View	0	1	0	1	2	0
Bondy	0	1	0	1	2	0

Game Scores

Beverly Hills 43, Bondy 41
 Queens 37, Park View 18

8B Records	Div.			Overall		
	W	L	T	W	L	T
Division 1						
Thompson	1	0	0	3	0	0
Southmore	1	0	0	2	1	0
San Jacinto	0	0	0	2	1	0
South Houston	0	1	0	2	1	0
Miller	0	1	0	1	2	0

Game Scores

Southmore 19, South Houston 11
 Thompson 32, Miller 14
 San Jacinto 14, Jackson 4

Division 2	W L T			W L T		
	Park View	1	0	0	3	0
Bondy	1	0	0	2	1	0
Jackson	0	0	0	0	3	0
Beverly Hills	0	1	0	0	3	0
Queens	0	1	0	0	3	0

Game Scores

Park View 31, Queens 9
 Bondy 34, Beverly Hills 5

Pasadena ISD Girls' Intermediate Basketball

7A Records	Div.			Overall		
	W	L	T	W	L	T
Division 1						
Thompson	1	0	0	3	0	0
South Houston	1	0	0	3	0	0
San Jacinto	0	0	0	3	0	0
Southmore	0	1	0	1	2	0
Miller	0	1	0	0	3	0

Game Scores

San Jacinto 40, Jackson 11
 Thompson 41, Miller 8
 South Houston 49, Southmore 8

Division 2	W L T			W L T		
	Bondy	1	0	0	2	1
Park View	1	0	0	2	1	0
Jackson	0	0	0	0	3	0
Beverly Hills	0	1	0	1	2	0
Queens	0	1	0	0	3	0

Game Scores

Bondy 36, Beverly Hills 23
 Park View 14, Queens 12

7B Records	Div.			Overall		
	W	L	T	W	L	T
Division 1						
Thompson	1	0	0	3	0	0
South Houston	1	0	0	3	0	0
San Jacinto	0	0	0	2	1	0
Miller	0	1	0	1	2	0
Southmore	0	1	0	1	2	0

Game Scores

Thompson 37, Miller 3
 South Houston 22, Southmore 20
 San Jacinto 14, Jackson 6

Division 2	W L T			W L T		
	Bondy	1	0	0	2	1
Queens	1	0	0	1	2	0
Jackson	0	0	0	0	3	0
Beverly Hills	0	1	0	2	1	0
Park View	0	1	0	0	3	0

Game Scores

Queens 23, Park View 12
 Bondy 25, Beverly Hills 6

Racket donation set to continue

Founders of the Darren Lajaunie Memorial Scholarship Fund have teamed with the Harry Taylor Tennis Center and Pasadena ISD schools and are continuing a racket donation drive. Those who wish are asked to donate their unused or unwanted tennis rackets to those Pasadena ISD students who would like to begin playing tennis but lack the most basic need - a tennis racket. Racket donations, including those made from wood, are currently being accepted at the Harry Taylor Tennis Center within Strawberry Park and at Racquet Pro in Webster. Additional drop-off locations include the South Belt-Ellington Leader, 11555 Beamer; Nobilitea, 11510 Space Center in Webster; Frank Hall Attorney at Law, 4008 Vista in Pasadena and Partners In Primary Care, 3915 Spencer Highway. Visit the Darren Lajaunie Tennis Scholarships page on Facebook to gather additional information about the racket drive or to learn more on how to assist with the Lajaunie scholarship fund. In order to arrange the pickup of a donated racket, call the Lajaunie Memorial Tennis Scholarship office at 281-480-6933. All donated rackets will be restrung and then given to junior tennis players as they learn the ins and outs of tennis at either the Harry Taylor Tennis Center or at their respective Pasadena ISD school campus.

Pasadena ISD Boys' Intermediate Basketball

8A Records	Div.			Overall		
	W	L	T	W	L	T
Division 1						
Thompson	1	0	0	3	0	0
South Houston	1	0	0	3	0	0
San Jacinto	0	0	0	2	1	0
Miller	0	1	0	2	1	0
Southmore	0	1	0	2	1	0

Game Scores

San Jacinto 52, Jackson 23
 Thompson 70, Miller 22
 South Houston 67, Southmore 29

Division 2	W L T			W L T		
	Beverly Hills	1	0	0	3	0
Queens	1	0	0	1	2	0
Jackson	0	0	0	0	3	0
Bondy	0	1	0	1	2	0
Park View	0	1	0	0	3	0

Game Scores

Beverly Hills 56, Bondy 18
 Queens 54, Park View 17

8B Records	Div.			Overall		
	W	L	T	W	L	T
Division 1						
Thompson	1	0	0	3	0	0
South Houston	1	0	0	3	0	0
San Jacinto	0	0	0	2	1	0
Southmore	0	1	0	1	2	0
Miller	0	1	0	1	2	0

Game Scores

Thompson 36, Miller 20
 South Houston 35, Southmore 26
 San Jacinto 56, Jackson 17

Division 2	W L T			W L T		
	Beverly Hills	1	0	0	3	0
Queens	1	0	0	1	2	0
Jackson	0	0	0	0	3	0
Bondy	0	1	0	1	2	0
Park View	0	1	0	0	3	0

Game Scores

Beverly Hills 40, Bondy 39
 Queens 24, Park View 23

Pasadena ISD Boys' Intermediate Basketball

7A Records	Div.			Overall		
	W	L	T	W	L	T
Division 1						
Thompson	1	0	0	3	0	0
South Houston	1	0	0	3	0	0
San Jacinto	0	0	0	2	1	0
Miller	0	1	0	1	2	0
Southmore	0	1	0	1	2	0

Game Scores

San Jacinto 39, Jackson 17
 Thompson 55, Miller 36
 South Houston 63, Southmore 38

Division 2	W L T			W L T		
	Beverly Hills	1	0	0	3	0
Queens	1	0	0	1	2	0
Jackson	0	0	0	1	2	0
Park View	0	1	0	0	3	0
Bondy	0	1	0	1	2	0

Game Scores

Beverly Hills 59, Bondy 11
 Queens 45, Park View 11

7B Records	Div.			Overall		
	W	L	T	W	L	T
Division 1						
Thompson	1	0	0	3	0	0
Southmore	1	0	0	2	1	0
San Jacinto	0	0	0	2	1	0
Miller	0	1	0	1	2	0
South Houston	0	1	0	1	2	0

Game Scores

San Jacinto 29, Jackson 2
 Thompson 49, Miller 11
 Southmore 33, South Houston 16

Division 2	W L T			W L T		
	Bondy	1	0	0	2	1
Park View	1	0	0	1	2	0
Jackson	0	0	0	0	3	0
Beverly Hills	0	1	0	2	1	0
Queens	0	1	0	1	2	0

Game Scores

Bondy 22, Beverly Hills 15
 Park View 26, Queens 21

CALENDAR

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26

Note: Attendees may need to verify event still scheduled.

AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.

Clear Lake Bridge Club - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at jpochnsner@aol.com for details.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 3525 Broadway, Pearland. Call 713-686-6300.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Women's Group, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27

AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787.

Clear Lake Bridge Club - Open games Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at jpochnsner@aol.com.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). Call 713-661-4200.

Serenity Now Al-Anon Group - meets at CrossRoads UMC Fridays, 8 to 9 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Family members and friends of problem drinkers/addicts share, learn Al-Anon principles, that they are not alone, and discover choices available. For details, call 281-484-9243.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28

Alcoholics Anonymous - "Breakfast with Bill," Saturdays, 7:30 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for additional information, or drop in.

AI-Anon Meeting (Women Only, English) - For women affected by an addict. Saturdays, 11 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, Cornell Conference room #111. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.

Clear Lake Bridge Club - Open games Saturday and

Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at jpochnsner@aol.com.

Bay Area Singles Club - monthly dance at 7-10 p.m. at the VFW Lodge, Post 6378, located at 5204 Highway 3 in Dickinson, 77539. Bring party snacks to share. Cost is \$8 for members and \$10 for nonmembers. For more information, call 832-483-3257 or 832-477-6778.

Alcoholics Anonymous - meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For information, call 281-484-9243.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29

Clear Lake Bridge Club - Open games Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at jpochnsner@aol.com.

Alcoholics Anonymous - meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For information, call 281-484-9243.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 30

AI-Anon Deer Park - Mondays, 10 - 11 a.m. Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P Street, Deer Park. Enter through back of church. Call 409-454-5720 for additional information, or drop in.

Clear Lake Bridge Club - Open games Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at jpochnsner@aol.com.

Overeaters Anonymous Deer Park - 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P Street, Deer Park. Enter through Fellowship Hall in

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CALENDAR

Continued from Page 3B

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 2020

Alcoholics Anonymous - "Breakfast with Bill," Saturdays, 7:30 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.

Clear Lake Bridge Club - Open games Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at jpochnsner@aol.com for details.

Alcoholics Anonymous - meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call 281-484-9243.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2020

Clear Lake Bridge Club - Open games Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at jpochnsner@aol.com for details.

Grief Support Group - For adults who have lost a loved one. Meets Sundays, except Mother's Day, Easter and Christmas, 2 to 3:15 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena. For details, call 281-487-8787.

Celebrate Recovery - A faith-based 12-Step Program, Sundays, 5:30 p.m., in the Chapel at Life Church, 9900 Alameda Genoa. Call 713-419-2635 for details or to RSVP for child care.

Alcoholics Anonymous - meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For information, call 281-484-9243.

MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2020

Al-Anon Deer Park - Mondays, 10 to 11 a.m. Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P Street, Deer Park. Enter through back of church. Call 409-454-5720 for details, or drop in.

Clear Lake Bridge Club - Open games Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at jpochnsner@aol.com for details.

Overeaters Anonymous Deer Park - 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P Street, Deer Park. Enter through Fellowship Hall in back of church. Call 409-454-5720 for details, or drop in.

Genealogy Group - Parker Williams Genealogy group meets from 2 to 4 p.m. on first and third Monday at the Parker Williams Library, Beamer at Scarsdale. Public is invited. Email Liz Hicks at erootrot@usa.net.

New Directions Singles - Age 50 and older meets the first and third Mondays for a potluck dinner with activities and/or guest speakers at Webster Presbyterian Church, 201 W. NASA Pkwy. For details, call Margarita at 832-715-9658.

Scrabble Club #511 - Meets Monday at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua. Come, improve crossword playing skills. Call 281-488-2923 for details.

Toastmasters - The Young Professionals Southeast Toastmasters Club #05324194 meets Mondays, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m., at the South Belt Chamber of Commerce, 10500 Scarsdale Blvd., next to the fire station. For details, call Karen Nunn at 832-722-9061 or Carolyn Carmichael at 832-372-3565 or visit <https://youngprofessionals.toastmasters.com/>.

Survivors of Suicide Support Group - gives coping skills in a non-threatening environment to adults who have lost a loved one to suicide. Eemail LynneAnnH@yahoo.com or visit www.crisishotline.org or call 832-416-1177.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com.

Congregation Shaar Hashalom - Israeli Folk Dancing Mondays, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m., 16020 El Camino Real, 77062. \$4/session or \$35/10 sessions for CSH members and \$5/session or \$45/10 sessions for nonmembers. Everyone is welcome. For information, contact 281-488-5861 or csh@shaarhashalom.org.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Saint Luke's Group, 12 Step Recovery, open meeting Mondays, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Education Bldg., 11011 Hall Rd., 77089. Call Jesse at 832-725-8479 or Rita at 281-309-2801.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2020

AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.

Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum - Exhibits include dioramas, a turn-of-the-century doctor's office and an old-time kitchen. Tuesday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., 204 S. Main, Pasadena. For details, call 713-472-0565.

Clear Lake Bridge Club - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at jpochnsner@aol.com for details.

Local NARFE Meeting - National Association of Retired Federal Employees, Chapter 1321, meets the first Tuesday at Clear Lake Community Center, 5001 NASA Pkwy. Lunch is \$6. For details, call Norman Chaffee at 713-944-2461.

Free dance lessons - taught by Lewis and Betty Whistler (35 years of experience) at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 E League City Parkway, on Tuesdays. Bringing a partner is not required. There is a different dance focus monthly. For details, call Betty at 832-517-5833. For questions about League City's activity card, call the park office at 281-554-1180.

Trailmixers - Meets the first Tuesday at Luby's, 11595 Fuqua. Former and current employees of J. Frank Dobie High School are welcome.

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) - #1530 meets at the Sagemont Park Community Center, 11507 Hughes Rd., 1:30 p.m. For information, call Jeanette Sumrall at 713-946-3713.

Clear Lake Bridge Club Lab Class - Tuesday, 2 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. For details or classes, contact Dr. Glandorf at drjglandorf@sbglobal.net or call 281-488-6318.

Bay Area Quilt Guild - Meets the first Tuesday, Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, 10310 Scarsdale Blvd. Fellowship is at 6:30 p.m.; meeting/program begins at 7 p.m. Visit www.facebook.com/BayAreaQuiltGuild or call Debby Benson at 713-248-8757 for information. Visitors may attend two meetings free. A Christmas party is in December.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). Call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2020

AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.

Young at Heart Senior Club - Meets the second and fourth week monthly (Nov./Dec. meet second week only) at Covenant United Methodist Church, 7900 Fuqua. Lots of activities, trips, etc. Call Jan Okumura at 832-298-9480 for details.

Clear Lake Bridge Club - Open games Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at jpochnsner@aol.com for details.

Hometown Heroes Park - has Hump Day Dance to practice ballroom dances (not lessons) in a casual environment. A variety of rhythms are played from entry to advanced dancing levels at 1001 E. League City Pkwy. League City nonresidents must purchase activity card (see Tuesday 12:30 p.m. dance for details). Help is available to assist learning dance moves. For information on the activity card, call the city at 281-554-1180.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com.

Bay Area Turning Point Crisis Intervention - Call 281-286-2525 (24-hour crisis hotline) for confidential domestic violence/sexual abuse support group for women. Visit www.bayareaturningpoint.org for information.

Alcoholics Anonymous - meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For information, call 281-484-9243.

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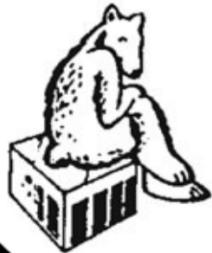
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Playoff victories, regional and state titles highlighted 2019

Continued from Page 2B
 Summer Creek rallied from an early 4-1 deficit to down Dobie 10-8 at the Pasadena ISD Complex.

Two losses on the opening day failed to deter the Dobie varsity softball team as the Lady Longhorns responded with four straight wins to close out play days later in College Station.

Combined with an opening-night win over Clear Brook, the team improved to 5-2 overall through the first full week of the season.

Dobie was met with defeat on back-to-back occasions on the first day of the Bryan/College Station Invitational.

Drippings Springs surrendered just three hits in the first game, a 6-2 win.

Camryn Wincher, Yesenia Pena and Jasmine Benitez all had two hits against Bridgeland, but the Lady Bears took a 9-2 victory as Dobie could not deliver the clutch hit.

From there, though, Dobie came alive. The locals scored five runs in the top of the fifth to close out Fort Bend Christian 7-1.

Leslie Longoria went 2 for 3 in the leadoff spot, and Pena had two hits, scored a run and drove in another. Benitez doubled, and Taylor Pleasants had a hit and scored a run.

Jessica De La Cerda went the distance in a five-inning 11-0 win over Henderson, allowing just three hits and striking out eight.

Longoria had two hits, scored three runs and drove in two more.

Pleasants had a hit that drove in a pair, and Wincher had two hits, scored a run and drove in two more.

Pena, Longoria and Wincher also struck doubles in the win.

March
 Nine runs in the fourth inning helped Dobie to an eventual 14-2 victory over Temple. Longoria stayed hot with three hits and three runs scored.

Benitez had a hit and scored twice, and Pleasants was 2 for 2 with three runs scored and a pair of RBIs. She also homered.

Martiza Elizalde got in on the fun with two hits, a run scored and an RBI. Karlie Barba had a hit and drove in two runs.

Pleasants came up big in the finale against Kingwood Park as Dobie scored late for a 7-6 win. As for Pleasants, she went 3 for 3 with a pair of runs scored and four runs batted in.

Longoria, who was a combined 10 for 13 while leading off in Dobie's four wins, had two more hits. Alana Ortega had two hits and scored two runs, and Benitez went 1 for 2.

The Schmitz Years reunion, featuring former Dobie soccer players who were part of then head coach John Schmitz-led teams from 1983 through 1989, gathered earlier this month, visiting the Pasadena ISD Athletics Hall of Fame and then taking in a Dobie boys' soccer game at Veterans Stadium before heading off to lunch.

According to Schmitz, the entire afternoon was nothing short of memorable. "It was a lot more fun than I could have imagined," said Schmitz.

"We spent a few hours together that day, but honestly we could have spent two or three days together. Everyone was just so excited to catch up on things. What a great experience. It was like 35 years went by in a flash. I'm sure a lot of the guys will try to stay connected on social media."

The event was originally a dual idea collaborated between Schmitz and current Dobie varsity boys' headcoach Justo Manrique, who allowed the former greats to join his group on the playing field prior to the Longhorns' match against Sam Rayburn, won by Dobie 11-0.

The Dobie varsity baseball team also started the season well at the Border Olympics in Laredo.

A tough 8-6 loss to Laredo Nixon notwithstanding, Dobie head coach Miguel Torres had to feel good about the way his team competed at the annual Border Olympics.

Dobie began its season in a pitcher's duel with Edinburg as Colby Mooror got his first career varsity win as Dobie took it 2-1.

Noah Torres doubled, and returning all-district performer David Amaya had an RBI to lead the offense.

Later in the day, Dobie defeated San Antonio Brandies 4-2 behind a solid pitching performance from Dom Martinez, with top starting pitcher Daniel Garza earning the save.

Torres paced the offense, going 2 for 3 with a double and an RBI. He also scored a run.

The Longhorns began March 1 play with the back-and-forth 8-6 loss to Laredo Nixon, but then rebounded to rout San Antonio Gertrudis 16-0.

Cam Diaz was the winning pitcher, and Jeffery Mercado and Martinez tripled to go with doubles from Jacob Perez, Justin Blogg and Michael Torres.

Garza was the standout against San Antonio Churchill in an 8-0 win, getting his first win of the season and banging a triple. Amaya also tripled.

The Dobie varsity boys' soccer team rolled into the postseason, beating South Houston 4-2, the Longhorns secured that fifth crown in a row dating back to 2015.

The team then closed out the regular season with a 2-0 shutout over Memorial, a decision that allowed Kingwood to snatch the No. 2 playoff seed in 22-6A away from the Mavericks.

A Dobie softball playing legend herself, Lady Longhorn head coach Robin Rackley could not have imagined career win No. 300 being any sweeter.

Quickly dismissing a sloppy 9-2 loss to Memorial to close out the first half of league play, the Lady Longhorns more than got back on track, routing first-place Summer Creek 14-1 over five innings at Summer Creek.

April
 A scoreless first half in the books, the Dobie varsity girls' soccer team was going toe-to-toe with host North Shore in a bidistrict playoff showdown at Galena Park ISD Stadium.

Then came two second-half goals from the Lady Mustangs, and just like that, Dobie saw its season end with a 2-0 defeat resulting.

Dobie wound up 14-7-3 overall for the season and won 10 matches in league play.

The last time Dobie met Strake Jesuit in the varsity boys' soccer playoffs, the Crusaders used a shootout win in the regional final to advance to the state tournament.

Dobie has since upped its game to include a state tournament berth in 2017 and a string of five straight district titles. But that pesky Strake Jesuit team struck again to end the Longhorns' 2019 season.

The Crusaders sent the home crowd into a frenzy at Clay Stadium, winning in a shootout to move on to the regional quarterfinals.

The game was tied 1-1 in regulation before the two teams also went scoreless in separate 10-minute overtime sessions.

In the shootout, Jesuit scored the go-ahead goal and then stopped Dobie on the ensuing try to win the match.

For Dobie, it was a tough end to what had been a tremendous season.

Bryan Nava, the school's all-time leading goal scorer, had delivered the excitement in the bidistrict round, scoring the eventual game-winning goal with just 38 ticks remaining to defeat 2017 regional finalist Channelview.

Talk about a tale of two rounds. Dobie varsity girls' golfer Alexis Perez

scored a respectable 89 on day one of the District 22-6A Championships and dazzled on the second day with a personal best 75 at the Atascocita Golf Club to advance to the Region III Championships. Perez was the lone Pasadena ISD golfer to reach the regional round.

Back-to-back stellar pitching performances by Daniel Garza and Alan Lopez put the Dobie varsity baseball team closer and closer to a playoff berth.

Just days after Garza kept the Longhorns in the mix with a 3-2 victory over Atascocita, Lopez was as solid as it gets down the stretch, getting the Longhorns past Sam Rayburn 2-0 at Maguire Field.

Playing with a third different partner in three seasons, Clear Brook varsity girls' tennis player Maria Herrera headed back to the regional tennis spring postseason tournament.

This time, Herrera was joined by senior Jackson Norfolk in the mixed doubles at the Region III tournament.

"This year, Maria and Jackson are peaking at the right time," said Clear Brook tennis coach Jarrett Smith.

"They had a less-than-eventful early season with losses to (Houston) Memorial, Kingwood, Friendship and McKinney, but since spring break have come back strong."

Dobie's 4x100 relay squad of Keon Singleton, Michael Onozie, Keion Thompson and Rushad Ball took fourth in the event at the District 22-6A Championships at Turner Stadium in Humble.

The top four finishers in each event at district were invited to the 21/22-6A Area Championships.

Dobie's qualifying time was 42.93 seconds in the event.

Poised with a long history of success in the sport, it was no surprise to see the Lutheran South Academy track and field teams turning things up a notch or two at the right time.

That's precisely what the Pioneers did, sweeping the boys' and girls' team crowns at the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools District 7-5A Championships April at Fort Bend Christian Academy.

Along the way, the Pioneers grabbed gold medals for district championships in the various events. In all, there were plenty of top-three medals to go around locally.

LSA freshman Ayana Smith was the star of the entire girls' field, bringing home gold medals in three different events, including the 100 and 200 dashes as well as the long jump.

She was also a member of the school's 4x100 relay squad that won gold.

Distance runner Noa Miller also came up big for the Pioneers, winning gold in the 800 and 1,600 runs.

Coming up with a pair of come-from-behind, last-at-bat victories to grab the No. 2 playoff seed out of District 22-6A was exciting enough for sure.

But to have both wins come over arguably the Dobie varsity softball team's biggest rival was icing on the cake.

That's exactly what the Lady Longhorns did in setting up their eventual bidistrict playoff series against La Porte.

Needing a win over Memorial to avoid finishing fourth in the standings and facing the possibility of taking on 21-6A champion Deer Park, Dobie scored two in the bottom of the eighth on a two-out, two-run single from freshman Karlie Barba, giving the locals an 8-7 win in eight innings.

Dobie would then defeat North Shore in the bidistrict series and get a big grand slam from Camryn Wincher in a series win over Clear Falls before dropping a series to La Porte in the regional quarterfinal round.

The District 23/24-6A Area Championships were highly competitive, with Clear Brook excelling in the 100 dash.

George Ranch's Nyla Barlow took fourth in a time of 12.03 seconds, with Clear Brook senior and University of Maryland verbal commit Kennedy Crutchfield third at 11.86.

The area champion was Clear Brook freshman Camryn Dickson, who grabbed the gold in a time of 11.74.

Dickson would later qualify for the state meet after regionals. She was eighth at the state meet.

An 8-6 victory over Pasadena Memorial closed out the regular season as Dobie secured the fourth seed in the District 22-6A race with an 11-5 record.

Dobie wound up 19-9 and seeking to advance to the area round.

Alan Lopez tossed three innings in relief for the win, and David Amaya, Justin Blogg and Christian Cleckley doubled as the Longhorns turned back Memorial to close out the regular season with that 11-5 record.

The Longhorns faced a La Porte team that had not lost a game in almost six weeks, reeling off 16 straight wins over that span while claiming the District 21-6A crown with a perfect 14-0 record. La Porte ended the regular season 22-3 overall.

The Dobie varsity baseball team then eliminated one district champion (La Porte) and was set to try again after reaching the area playoff round for the first time since 2012.

A pair of solid starting pitching performances – first from Dom Martinez in a 7-4 opening game win and then from Daniel Garza in the 8-1 clincher was the biggest factor in the series as Dobie, the No. 4 seed out of District 22-6A, eliminated 21-6A champion La Porte, ending the Bulldogs' 15-game winning streak along the way.

Jeffery Mercado and his teammates also used stolen bases and clutch hitting and in both games to drop La Porte, which hurt itself with seven errors over the two games.

A five-run second inning was enough to propel Alvin to a 9-1 win in the second and deciding game of a regional quarterfinal softball playoff series as Dobie saw its deepest playoff run since 2012 come to a close.

The two teams, looking to avoid wet weather in Houston, traveled to Mumford High School in Bryan for what could have been a doubleheader.

Instead, Alvin erupted for 17 hits, 16 of them singles, to take the series two games to none after rallying for a 6-5 win in the opener at Manvel High School.

Dobie's loss brought a close to the incredible

high school career of Taylor Pleasants, who had two of her team's five hits in her final game at Dobie.

Pleasants had a chance to eliminate a district champion for the second straight series and advance farther than any team since the 1990s, the Dobie varsity baseball team fell a bit short as Dickinson won the decisive third game 5-2 at Crosby High School.

The Longhorns won the first game of the series 4-3 in Galveston, but then watched as the Gators, co-champions of District 24-6A, evened the series with a 4-0 win.

It takes talent and a little bit of luck to win a state championship in any high school sport at any level. Winning back-to-back titles? Well that's just plain good.

That's exactly what the Lutheran South Academy has done, snagging a second straight Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools Division II crown with an 11-1 win over Fort Worth Christian.

The Pioneers reached the championship game by defeating Corpus Christi Incarnate Word 3-0 as senior Trhea Morse, a Panola College signee, hurled a two-hit gem.

"Coming into the year I thought we had the talent to repeat, and we always go into a season with the mindset that we are going to make a run at it," Lutheran South head coach

Aaron Schneider said.

Every streak is meant to be broken. And perhaps the 2019 season was meant to be the year in which the Lutheran South Academy softball team took back what was once its.

Since winning the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools Division II state championship in 2015, the Lady Pioneers had watched as

Fort Bend Christian Academy bagged each of the next three crowns.

With senior left-handed pitcher Shelby Smith turning in a postseason performance for the ages, Lutheran South first eliminated FBCA 3-2 in the state semifinals and then cruised past Bullard Brook Hill 6-2 in the Division II championship game at Crosby High School, winning state for the first time

since that magical 2015 season.

As Dobie graduate and Lutheran South head coach Nicole Andrade called the shots from the dugout, Smith, a Seton Hall University signee, struck out 18 Brook Hill batters in the title game, striking out the side in the seventh inning to put an exclamation point on the proceedings as the Pioneers celebrated.



Arguably the best offensive player in the history of the Dobie varsity softball program, Taylor Pleasants (17) was tremendous as a senior, particularly in the playoffs as she used home runs to help her team defeat North Shore and Clear Falls to reach the regional quarterfinal round.

Photo by Jade Wise

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