

Holiday schedules set

South Belt-Ellington Leader

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

Clear Brook City MUD

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

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

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

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

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

Sagemont to meet Jan. 3

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

Local COVID cases reported

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

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

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

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

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

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

Kirkmont meeting canceled

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

Gulf Freeway closures set

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Work expected to resume on Beamer Ditch

Project abandoned after only 1 of 3 phases complete

The Harris County Flood Control District is moving forward through the required legal process to resume work on the Beamer Ditch improvement project, which abruptly stopped earlier this year when the contractor unexpectedly walked off the job.

On Dec. 13, a tender agreement with the contractor's surety for funding to support a new construction contractor to finish the project was approved.

The construction contract is anticipated to be submitted to Harris County Commissioners Court for approval in January 2023. The Flood Control

District will provide an update once approved.

The Flood Control District is aiming for construction to begin in spring 2023.

In the interim, the Flood Control District will continue to manage maintenance concerns and implement mowing and debris removal as needed.

Constructions was to be broken into three phases. Phase 1 runs from Sagerock to Scarsdale; Phase 2 runs from Scarsdale to Astoria; and Phase 3 runs from Astoria to Beamer near the South Belt Stormwater Detention Basin. Work came to a halt, however, this past February when Complete Concrete – the contractor hired by the county to com-

plete the job – completed only the first phase of work.

Phase 1 of construction culminated with the re-opening of the Scarsdale bridge Feb. 9.

Work on Phase 2, however, never began.

For updates on the Beamer Ditch project, visit www.hcfdc.org/Mud-Gully.

To leave a question or comment, click the "Submit A Comment" button located under the Project Description section.

Man killed in fatal freeway crash

Houston police are investigating a fatal crash that took place around 2:35 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 18, in the 13900 block of the Gulf Freeway near Beltway 8.

The identity of the male victim, 27, is pending verification by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences.

According to Houston Police Department officials, a tan Chevrolet Suburban, a black Chevrolet Equinox and a white Ford F-150 pickup truck were traveling southbound near the above address when the male driver of the Suburban, 44, made an unsafe lane change to the right and sideswiped the Equinox.

The victim was driving the Equinox and lost control of the vehicle, veered to the right and struck the metal guardrail. The driver of the Suburban lost control of the vehicle, struck the pickup truck, veered to the right and also struck the guardrail.

The driver of the Equinox was pronounced dead by paramedics. The passengers of the Suburban and Equinox were transported to an area hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

The drivers of the Equinox and the pickup truck were detained for questioning at the scene. No charges had been filed at press time, as the investigation is continuing.

City to recycle Christmas trees

The City of Houston recently kicked off its 30th annual Christmas tree recycling program.

The program encourages residents to recycle their trees, rather than disposing of them in the trash. The city turns the trees into mulch that it sells and uses to maintain city hiking trails. Approximately 750,000 tons of trees have been recycled since the program began, officials said.

"Holiday trees may have been one of the original recyclables," Mayor Sylvester Turner said at the kickoff of the program, in which city crews cut down the official Christmas tree outside City Hall. "They provide beneficial reuses in several natural areas which benefit all of us."

City residents have two options in which to recycle their Christmas trees.

The first option is to place the tree on one's curbside during the city's regular heavy trash

pickup days. City residents south of Fuqua will have heavy trash pickup Thursday, Jan. 12, (second Thursday of the month). City residents north of Fuqua and west of the Gulf Freeway will have heavy trash pickup on Friday, Jan. 13, (second Friday of the month).

The second option is to take one's Christmas tree to one of 25 recycling sites across the city. The closest location to the South Belt area is the Ellington Airport Recycling Drop-off, located at SH 3/Old Galveston Road at Brantley Road. Hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

To see a complete list of recycling sites, visit houstontx.gov/solidwaste/press-12232021.html.

All tree bases, lights, ornaments and tinsel should be removed. Flocked trees cannot be recycled. The program will continue through Jan. 31.

South Belt survives winter storm



The South Belt community was hit with a deep freeze this Christmas holiday, with temperatures dipping into the teens. The cold air was unaccompanied by precipitation, however, largely sparing the area of ice and its related hazards. One notable exception is shown above on Christmas Eve at Fuqua and Blackhawk, where a sprinkler system had apparently run overnight. The biggest obstacle facing area residents was air travel, as flight cancellations and delays had hundreds trapped in Hobby Airport for several days. Some waited five-plus hours in line only to be told the next available flights were after the new year, more than a week away. Southwest Airlines alone was responsible for canceling or delaying more than 1,000 flights in just one day.

Photo by Marie Flickinger

Leader remembers highs, lows of 2022

Another year has passed, and the Leader staff would like to reflect on the more important stories of 2022, including both the highs and lows of an unforgettable year.

Jan. 6

Federal judge and former South Belt resident Reed O'Connor made national headlines after ruling against the Biden administration's vaccine requirement for members of the military. In the decision, O'Connor said any disciplinary action taken against 35 servicemen who refused to take the COVID-19 vaccine would violate their religious liberties. Labeled an activist judge by some, this is not the first time O'Connor has made headlines for a controversial ruling. In 2016, O'Connor issued a nationwide injunction preventing transgender students in public schools from using bathroom facilities that matched their gender identity rather than their sex, and in 2018, he ruled that the Affordable Care Act was unconstitutional. A 1983 Dobie graduate, O'Connor was nominated by President George W. Bush in 2007 to serve as a federal judge on the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas. In 2015, O'Connor was inducted into the Dobie High School Hall of Honor.

Jan. 13

The number of active COVID-19 cases in the South Belt area had increased dramatically, as the highly contagious Omicron variant filled the country's hospitals in a rash of infections not seen in several months. The number of total confirmed COVID-19 cases in ZIP code 77089 reached 10,000 – with approximately 1,000 cases being reported for two weeks consecutively. At the national level, the United States made headlines for topping 1 million active cases.

A man and a woman were shot around 4:50 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 5, in the 1300 block of Redford near Edgebrook and the Gulf Freeway. The victims, Marilyn Lee Lambert, 70, and Marcus Ray Hawkins, 51, were transported to area hospitals in stable condition. According to the Houston Police Department, officers were dispatched to a shooting call at the apartment complex at the above address and learned that three unknown black male suspects knocked on the door of the victims' apartment. When one of the victims asked who was at the door, at least one of the suspects fired multi-

Patrick Fox dies

Patrick Ryan Fox died unexpectedly Wednesday, Dec. 21, at the age of 63.

A staff member at South Houston High School, Fox was the husband of area physician Dr. Mary Campbell-Fox.

A visitation for Fox will be held from 1 to 2 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 29, at Forest Park East Funeral Home, located at 21620 Gulf Freeway in Webster, to be followed by a funeral service at 2 p.m. A reception will follow at Golfcrest Country Club, located at 2509 Country Club Drive in Pearland, beginning at 4:30 p.m.

See Fox's obituary in the Leader's next edition, Jan. 12.

ple shots through the door. Lambert and Hawkins were inside the apartment and were each struck one time. Paramedics transported them to hospitals for treatment. No immediate arrests were made.

Just three days later on Saturday, Jan. 8, two more men were shot at the same Redford complex around 2:35 a.m. The victims, James Sipes, 41, and Kelvin Menefee, 57, were both transported to area hospitals in stable condition. According to Houston police, officers responded to a report of a shooting at the above address and found both Sipes and Menefee had been shot. Sipes had suffered a minor gunshot wound to the head, while Menefee suffered a gunshot wound to the foot. Paramedics transported both men to the hospital. Both men stated they had been in an apartment at the above address when an unknown suspect(s) fired shots into the apartment for unknown reasons. At press time, police were unsure if the two incidents were related. No immediate arrests were made.

Jan. 20

A missing 9-year-old Scarsdale girl was found safe early Friday, Jan. 14, Houston police said. Skarlett Deleon had been reported missing at approximately 5 a.m. Friday morning. A neighbor had last seen the girl around 11 p.m. the previous night Thursday, Jan. 13, as she was walking south from the 12200 block of Pompton toward Astoria Boulevard.

Longtime South Belt resident and Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership President Bob Mitchell launched his campaign for Texas Senate District 11. Mitchell was seeking to fill the position being vacated by outgoing Sen. Larry Taylor, who announced his retirement in late 2021. As BAHEP president, Mitchell had worked closely with Taylor on a number of issues, including the coastal barrier system. Mitchell legislative campaign was ultimately unsuccessful.

Jan. 27

Longtime Harris County Precinct 2, Place 2 Justice of the Peace George Risner officially launched his 2022 campaign to unseat Adrian Garcia as Harris County Precinct 2 commissioner. On the bench for roughly 35 years, Risner said his experience on the bench made him the best candidate to address the county's growing criminal justice problem. Although a Democrat himself, Risner said he felt compelled to run after seeing firsthand how the court system is failing under the current Democratic leadership. Risner's campaign was ultimately unsuccessful.

Gov. Greg Abbott announced \$10 million in trust fund grants associated with the Houston Spaceport at Ellington Airport. Of the \$10 million in grants, \$5 million will go to the Houston Spaceport Development Corporation, while the remaining \$5 million will go to the Cameron County Spaceport Development Corporation.

Feb. 3

A man was fatally shot about 6:55 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 19, in the 10900 block of the Gulf Freeway near Edgebrook. According to Houston police, the victim was near the service road at the above address and Hartsok when he was shot multiple times by an unknown gunman on foot. The shooter

then fled on foot to a waiting black, four-door sedan of unknown make or model. The vehicle left north on the Gulf Freeway service road. Paramedics pronounced the victim dead at the scene. No immediate arrests were made.

A fatal hit-and-run accident took place early Monday, Jan. 31, outside a bar in the 11000 block of Fuqua at Sabo. According to police, two pedestrians – a male and a female – were leaving the El Buho Bar and walking through the parking lot at the above address when they were struck by a black pickup truck traveling at a high rate of speed. Paramedics pronounced the male, Hector Valenzuela, 32, dead at the scene and transported the female, 27, to a hospital for treatment of abrasions and cuts. The driver fled the scene without stopping to render aid. The suspect, described only as a Hispanic male, was possibly intoxicated and, according to witnesses, had caused a disturbance in the parking lot prior to the crash. No immediate arrests were made.

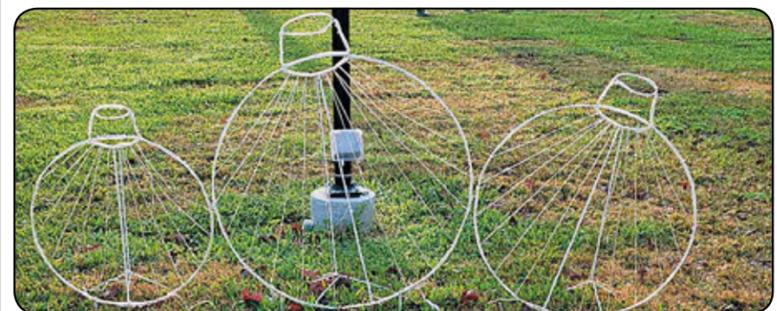
The Scarsdale bridge reopened to traffic Tuesday, Feb. 1, following approximately four months of construction to main drainage improvements beneath the structure. A joint project between Harris County and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the project was funded in

part by a bond package approved by voters in 2018. A component of the Clear Creek Federal Project, the Mud Gully Channel Conveyance Improvements Project – also known as the Beamer Ditch Project – involved widening the channel and installing a concrete lining. All storm sewer system components were to be replaced. The project is being broken down into three phases. Phase 1 was to run from Sagerock to Scarsdale; Phase 2 was to run from Scarsdale to Astoria; and Phase 3 was to run from Astoria to Beamer near the South Belt Stormwater Detention Basin. The reopening of the Scarsdale bridge signifies the completion of the first phase of construction. While work on the second phase was expected to begin in begin mid- to late-February, the contractor unexpectedly abandoned construction, leaving the project in limbo.

The Houston Health Department launched a vaccine-incentive campaign that awarded 12 people \$1,000 gift cards and provided \$50 gift cards to hundreds of additional people. The program was a partnership with Houston in Action and Human Age Digital, which received \$50,000 in grant funds to support efforts to increase vaccination rates in Houston.

Continued in Jan. 12 edition

MUD Christmas lights stolen



Christmas decorations were stolen from the Clear Brook City MUD Building on Blackhawk near Scarsdale around 8:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 19. The suspect's vehicle (shown above) was captured on surveillance footage and given to the Precinct 2 constable's office. MUD officials filed a police report and intend to press charges against the suspect. A reward is being offered.

In My Opinion

Bill King on growth of independents

Recently, a new poll from Quinnipiac University got a great deal of media attention, primarily because it showed some deterioration of Trump's support. But buried in the crosstabs was further evidence of the clout that voters are welding and the degree to which they are eschewing the Democratic and Republican parties are having on the electoral landscape.

First, 35% of the respondents to the poll identified as independent and 12% as "other," for a total of 47%. That compares to 26% as Republicans and 27% as Democrats.

This is a pretty typical breakdown for polling on partisan identifications in the last few years.

Gallup asks Americans about their party affiliation roughly every month. In 2022, identification as independent/other has averaged about 44%.

I think many sometimes overestimate headlines about the percentage of Republicans or Democrats that support a particular candidate or issue as an indication of national opinion.

For example, the Quinnipiac poll found that 62% of Republicans strongly support Trump becoming president again. But that is 62% of 26% of the respondents. In other words, only a little over 16% of all respondents strongly supported Trump becoming president again.

Of course, the opinions of self-identified Republicans and Democrats are nonetheless significant because it is an indication of how primary elections might play out.

And since the two parties have conspired to create a duopoly which currently controls the election of public officials through restrictive ballot access laws and

the public financing primary elections, the sad reality is that 16% of the country might well decide who the next president will be.

But there are some hopeful signs. The independent minded Lisa Murkowski has now twice beaten back more partisan challengers for her Alaska Senate seat. In 2010, she defeated a Tea Party candidate who won the Republican primary by mounting a write-in campaign in the general election.

This year, she defeated a MAGA candidate under Alaska's new ranked choice-voting law.

Another was Krysten Sinema's blockbuster announcement last week that she was switching her party affiliation from Democrat to independent.

Her decision is likely a reflection of the fact that independent voter registration in Arizona has grown 50% faster than either party.

Many in both parties, especially those in leadership and their consultants, would like to steer the major parties back toward the middle to appeal to the growing number of independents.

But those views are out of step with their primary voters, who generally care more about ideological purity than electability.

While independents punish the party bringing forth the most extreme candidates in the general elections for the most part, there is little evidence that will change the outlook of primary voters.

Nature abhors a vacuum. So does politics. I don't think we can predict how the growing disenchantment with the two incumbent parties will ultimately play out.

But independent voters are sending a message loud and clear. The status quo is not acceptable.

Bill King

Atkinson shares with senior citizens



Atkinson Elementary held their third annual blankets and socks drive recently. Shown above are, left to right, Bianca Partida, Park Manor activities director; Andrea Luna, Atkinson dyslexia teacher; and Lini Abraham, Atkinson counselor. They collected new blankets and socks to donate to the nursing facility, Park Manor of South Belt (near Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital) on Dec. 15. In total, 121 blankets and 190 pairs of socks were donated for the residents, enough that each resident received a blanket and a pair of socks. All students and staff members participated in the drive. The activities director said the residents were excited, grateful and thankful, and that they hadn't received any blankets or socks since Atkinson donated to them last year.



UHCL's accreditation reaffirmed

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), the agency that accredits degree-granting institutions of higher education, has reaffirmed University of Houston-Clear Lake's accreditation for the next 10 years, with no additional reports required.

"This is the best possible outcome for reaffirmation and is a testament to the quality of the academic opportunities we provide our students," said Richard Walker, UH-Clear Lake president.

The affirmation process was led by Christopher Maynard, senior vice president of Academic Affairs and provost; Kathy Mathew, vice provost; and Pameleyn Shefman, executive director for Planning and Assessment.

"The accreditation process is our way of demonstrating to the Department of Education that our institution provides a quality education that meets the standard to receive federal funding," Shefman said. "Without accreditation, our students could not use Pell funds or other federal funds here. This accreditation makes UHCL eligible to receive millions in federal funding for our students. It's of the utmost importance for students to know that they are getting their education at a quality institution that is serving its mission for students, community and stakeholders."

Matthew said that although SACSCOC has reaffirmed the university's accreditation, the work to maintain this status is ongoing. "We still continue to work closely with the accrediting agency to ensure everything we do is consistent with standards, and meets or exceeds the quality necessary."

She said there is an abbreviated report that will be submitted at the five-year point. "The full report has 75 sections; the midyear report has 22," she said. "If standards are not maintained, accreditation can be revoked. Anytime something new or different is offered, we have to take accreditation into consideration. It's a constant quality check on everything, all the time."

Additionally, the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), a critical component of the SACSCOC accreditation process, is being led by Leroy Robinson, associate professor-said of Marketing and QEP faculty fellow. The plan, titled "Becoming Aware, Cultural Interactions at UHCL," seeks to prepare students to thrive in an increasingly diverse global environment.

Robinson was centrally involved as part of faculty leadership in the last QEP, and said he was interested in being part of something trans-

formative and campus wide.

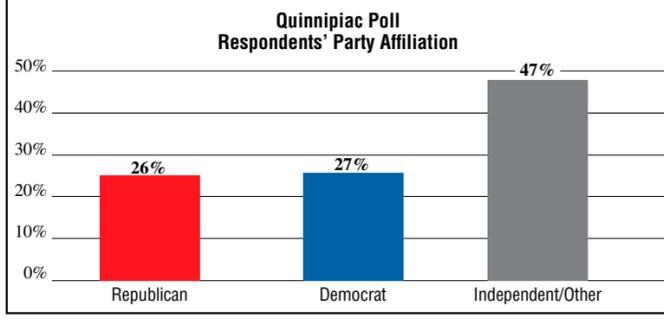
"When we do this correctly, it becomes second nature instead of something we're focusing on," he said. "Years from now, I will use intercultural competency in all my courses. It will add value continually over time."

Shefman said the goal of the QEP was to create a campus learning environment in which all students gain competency in intercultural knowledge, teamwork and humility.

"This is part of the five-year plan," she said. "It's a way for an institution to transform student success in that time. Through student learning, we will make intercultural knowledge pervasive on this campus; students will realize they are learning this in all aspects of their experience at UHCL, in all ways and in all places."

Shefman said that without a QEP, an institution cannot be accredited. "This is unique to being accredited by SACS," she said. "Other governing bodies do not have an equivalent to a QEP. This is an initiative that over five years, will transform the university. It's part of the expectation of a quality institution."

For more information about UHCL's QEP, visit <https://www.uhcl.edu/about/administrative-offices/assessment/quality-enhancement-plan/>.



	Republican	Democrat	Independent
2010	1,131,802 36%	1,002,937 32%	1,011,679 32%
2022	1,436,852 35%	1,270,544 31%	1,436,533 35%
Increase	27%	27%	42%

Leader remembers 2022 highlights

Continued from Page 1

project between Harris County and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the project was funded in part by a bond package approved by voters in 2018. A component of the Clear Creek Federal Project, the Mud Gully Channel Conveyance Improvements Project - also known as the Beamer Ditch Project - involved widening the channel and installing a concrete lining. All storm sewer system components were to be replaced. The project is being broken down into three phases. Phase 1 was to run from Sagerock to

Scarsdale; Phase 2 was to run from Scarsdale to Astoria; and Phase 3 was to run from Astoria to Beamer near the South Belt Stormwater Detention Basin. The reopening of the Scarsdale bridge signifies the completion of the first phase of construction. While work on the second phase was expected to begin in begin mid-to-late-February, the contractor unexpectedly abandoned construction, leaving the project in limbo.

The Leader's year in review will continue in next week's edition.

Scarsdale; Phase 2 was to run from Scarsdale to Astoria; and Phase 3 was to run from Astoria to Beamer near the South Belt Stormwater Detention Basin. The reopening of the Scarsdale bridge signifies the completion of the first phase of construction. While work on the second phase was expected to begin in begin mid-to-late-February, the contractor unexpectedly abandoned construction, leaving the project in limbo.

The Leader's year in review will continue in next week's edition.

Local library events set

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

Bracewell Branch Library

Bracewell Library is at 9002 Kingspoint. Customers are encouraged to visit the building to browse, check out and return materials, use the computers and Wi-Fi, and check out holds. For information, visit <https://houstonlibrary.org/>. For online learning, visit <https://houstonlibrary.org/online-learning-7556> or call 832-393-2580. Hours are Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Wednesdays, noon - 8 p.m.; Fridays, 1 - 5 p.m.; and Saturdays, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Bracewell is closed Sundays.

Book drop

The book drop is open. Library materials can be returned. The library continues to provide online resources to enjoy the library virtually. Large items such as FLIP kits or laptops should not be placed in the book drop, but taken inside.

Additional resources

The Houston Public Library has electronic resources, books, audiobooks, databases for research, tutoring, language learning, education and parent information for Texas residents with a library card. To get a card, visit the home page at www.houstonlibrary.org under Here's What's Happening. Click on Free Resources for All to access digital resources and access a link for a temporary card. Also, under Here's What's Happening, the card titled Online Resources for Kids accesses a Virtual Storytime provided on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 11 a.m. The archived storytimes are found on Facebook under Houston Public Library Virtual Storytimes. Another virtual program is Craft.

Houston Public Library's many free online resources and digital services are available 24/7 with a MY Link Library Card at www.houstonlibrary.org, including e-books and e-audiobooks, streaming TV, movie and music services, online classes and tutoring and databases. Until further notice, only electronic items (i.e. e-books, e-audio books, etc.) are eligible for holds and check-out. HPL has a collection of free e-books and audio books. Visit the catalog for previously requested hold selection may be in a digital format. Instructions on downloading the e-book or audio book are on the site.

Parker Williams Library

Parker Williams Library is open. Visit <https://www.hcpl.net/reopening> for reopening information or the main website at <https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library>. The library will follow state and county guidelines for mask and social distancing.

The book drop is open. Social media links are Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary and Instagram.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary.

Online services

- Use HCPL Wi-Fi service with HCPL's drive-up Wi-Fi.
- Download e-books and audiobooks, stream movies, research and learn at www.hcpl.net.
- Attend an HCPL program or story time online through Facebook or YouTube.
- Check an account to renew loans or request books, e-books, comics or graphic novels.
- Stream classic films, indie cinema and award-winning documentaries on Kanopy.
- Listen to audiobooks through RBDigital or OverDrive.
- Read along and play with picture books on TumbleBooks.

Don't have an HCPL library card? Instant access can be obtained to all HCPL's digital materials and research tools with an iKnow Digital Access Card. Apply at <https://www.hcpl.net/services/iknow-card> for a HCPL card. For details, visit <https://www.hcpl.net>.

South Belt-Ellington Leader

The Voice of Community-Minded People

11555 Beamer 281-481-5656

E-mail: mynews@southbeltleader.com

Davy & Marie Flickinger, owners

formation technology.

"The Star Awards have a long history of recognizing innovation and excellence in Texas higher education across our great state," said Dr. Fred Farias, chairman of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. "I am inspired by this year's winning institutions and their extraordinary efforts and commitment to Building a Talent Strong Texas."

This year's awardees included:

- Amarillo College for its corequisite program and reform of developmental education.
- Del Mar College for its continuing education programs.
- San Jacinto College for its work-based learning programs.
- The University of Houston for its "Scholar Enrichment Program."
- The University of Texas at Arlington for its "eLearning Transformational Model Program."

SJC receives Texas Star award

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board recognized San Jacinto College as one of five institutions to receive the state's Star Award for helping to Build a Talent Strong Texas.

The institutions selected for this year's award demonstrated a focus in one or more of the following categories:

- Increasing attainment of postsecondary credentials for adult learners by expanding work-based learning programs and a broader array of short-term credentials or badges.
- Streamlining academic and career pathways for students through innovative courses and program redesign and enhanced support services that lead to increased credentials of value and allow for upward social mobility and address state workforce needs.
- Increasing opportunity and affordability through strategic uses of financial aid programs and making the cost of postsecondary education more transparent.
- Aligning applied research and development efforts with state economic and workforce development priorities, particularly in fields with high current or projected demand.

"We are honored to be recognized by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board with this award," said Shelley Rinehart, assistant vice chancellor for instructional support and program efficacy. "San Jacinto College is committed to working with our industry partners to ensure they have the skilled workforce that is critical to the region and state's economy. Our industry partners server a vital role in shaping our workforce curriculum, work-based learning and

experiences, and our facilities. We are thankful to those partners for all they do for San Jac students."

Over the last year, San Jacinto College has worked closely with partners in aerospace, maritime and petrochemical, while helping students complete their credentials in less than 12 months. The Fast Track program focused on 22 credit and continuing education programs that could be completed in six to 12 months, putting students on a track to making a livable wage. San Jac was able to use money from its allotment of the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) to provide more than \$2.2 million to 1,250 students who are now earning meaningful credentials in both credit and continuing education programs.

"Identifying these fast track programs and students who qualified for funding was important because we know that students often don't have the means to pay for their credential," added Rinehart. "The HEERF funds were an important part of the success we have had in supporting our industry partners workforce needs."

San Jacinto College also used funds from the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund, along with additional HEERF money, to help students who already had college credit complete their credential. Dubbed the Finish Line scholarship, eligible students received \$2,500 to complete their credential in one of 40 credit programs. Nearly 800 students were able to complete their credential in areas such as teaching, welding, nursing, health information-medical billing, and computer in-

Galaxy Lights in season at Space Center Houston

Embark on a festive holiday adventure this season at Space Center Houston's Galaxy Lights. Presented by Reliant, it is open through Jan. 1. Galaxy Lights is an immersive holiday lights tradition bringing guests the most interactive and technologically advanced light display in Texas. Space Center Houston's Galaxy Lights offers a fun, holiday atmosphere to bring people and space closer together.

"Galaxy Lights, presented by Reliant, explores the wonders of space exploration with stunning space-themed light installations," said William T. Harris, president and CEO, Space Center Houston. "We welcome everyone to visit and be immersed in the story of space among real flown spacecraft and interactive holiday light experiences, while connecting with family and friends."

In partnership with Reliant, Space Center Houston's Galaxy Lights returns with new wonders each year. Go on a journey through the solar system in the new Deep Space Backyard. Walk underneath the stars and take your photo among large displays of astronauts exploring space. Take a seat and watch the new crystal fireworks experience. See crystal fireworks come to life on a dazzling 40-foot-tall light display composed of different colors of the galaxy. This is one of only two crystal fireworks displays in the world.

"At Reliant, lighting up the holidays is what we do best, and Galaxy Lights is sure to bring new dimensions of holi-

day cheer with the captivating light displays this year," said Elizabeth Killinger, president, Reliant. "We look forward to seeing families and friends come together to experience this event exploring light, space and technology, while inspiring visitors with hope for the future."

Throughout the experience, see dazzling light installations transform and illuminate the center. Guests will experience two high-tech kinetic light shows, supported by Welby Financial, where dozens of suspended lights move in precise choreographed sequences to music above the Main Plaza. Take photos with family and friends among large light displays of astronauts exploring space. Walk through a 200-foot LED light tunnel made of more than 250,000 lights synchronized to holiday music.

Located at the Independence Plaza experience, presented by MLN, guests will walk underneath a 30-foot Space Launch System (SLS) rocket and through an outdoor light tunnel featuring geometric shapes that make 5,000 different light effects. Guests can hop onto an interactive light pad, supported by H.E.B., made of 290 multicolor platforms under the wing of the historic shuttle carrier aircraft. Experience the holiday atmosphere at the s'more pits and sip hot cocoa, along with additional holiday food available for purchase.

Galaxy Lights honors the International Space Station (ISS) with a Lights Around the World display surrounding the

twice-flown SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket. See six aluminum 20-foot trees representing International Space Station partners including the United States, Canada, Japan, Russia and the European Space Agency surrounded by multicolor glowing stars among the SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket. The trees are decorated culturally as a tribute to each partner nation. At the tip of the Falcon 9, take a photo with a 15-foot wreath made of all the ISS partner flags. Walk underneath a massive 40-foot-tall, 100-foot-long sparkling shooting star set nearby the SpaceX Falcon 9 exhibit.

Don't miss a 20-foot twin kling tree with swirling and blinking multicolor lights and watch an interactive show "Celebrate Light" to learn about science behind starlight as well as how lighting conditions aboard the International Space Station affects astronauts.

Watch an original film "Holidays in Space" that includes real footage of astronauts celebrating the holidays as well as interviews with retired astronauts about what it was like celebrating in space.

Galaxy Lights, presented by Reliant, is one of Space Center Houston's many immersive, interactive experiences that inspires space enthusiasts of all ages. General public tickets start at: \$19.95; Member tickets start at: \$15.95; ages 3 & younger get free admission; combo ticket includes admission to Space Center Houston beginning at 3 p.m. to explore the center followed by admission to Galaxy Lights.



New Covenant Christian Church Day Care Christian Based Child Care



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

281.481.2003
www.newcovenantchristianchurchhouston.com
10603 Blackhawk Blvd. Houston, Tx 77089
Blackhawk @ Kirkfair

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

LITURGY SCHEDULE
(Modified during COVID-19)

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

*Also Available on Facebook Live

Monday, Wednesday & Friday	9 a.m.
Tuesday & Thursday	7 p.m.

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

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

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

Morris Middle School fifth-graders share 2023 New Year's resolutions

Morris Middle School fifth-grade students share their 2023 New Year's resolutions.

My New Year's Resolution for 2023 is to earn more money. I would like to set this resolution because I feel like my parents are spending too much money on me and my brothers. This resolution is important to me because I don't want my parents to go broke because they already have enough going on.

Xayvier West
My New Year's Resolution for 2023 is that I need to be nicer to my friends. I sometimes hurt my friends feelings without knowing. This resolution is important because I am rude and I need to be polite.

Michael Vu
My New Year's resolution is to get better in reading I would like to do this because im not that good at reading.

Anthony Vides
My New Year's Resolution for 2023 is to win a basketball championship. I would like to set this resolution because I want to make my family proud. This resolution is important to me because I'm always outside training and practicing and not spending quality time with them.

Sean Umanzor
My New Year's resolution for 2023 is to pass the STAAR test and get better at softball.

This resolution is important to me because I want to move on to 6th grade and I want to get better at softball and prove to my team that I am a good team player.

Mia Soto
My New Year's Resolution for 2023 is to get all A's in every subject. I would like to set this resolution because I want to be smart. This resolution is important to me because I want to be a NASA Engineer.

Josiah Sonnen
My New Year's Resolution for 2023 is trying to be more motivated. I would like to set this resolution because sometimes I procrastinate. This resolution is important to me because I want to get my work done faster.

Leslie Serrano
My new year's resolution for 2023 is to be successful. I would like to set this resolution because I want to do it. This resolution is important to me because my mom will be proud.

Aaron Salas
My new year's resolution for 2023 is to pass the start test and get better and faster at running. This resolution is important to me because I want to go to 6th grade and join a track team.

Arianna Rendon
My new year's resolution is to be in the 2032 world cup and win for Mexico or the USA be-

cause it would be cool to be in the world cup.

Andrew Donovan Perez
My New Year's Resolution for 2023 is to sleep more earlier. I would like to set this resolution because I normally sleep at 1:00 am to 2:00 am. This resolution is important to me because I really need to sleep. (I'm getting closer because now I often sleep at 11:00 pm to 12:00 pm)

Angelina Nguyen
My New Year's Resolution for 2023 is to remember when I have to turn something in so it's not late. I would like to set this resolution because I don't want to be off track in school. This resolution is important to me because school is important to me and I don't want to fail.

Arleny Maldonado
My New Year's Resolution for 2023 is to keep playing baseball. I would like to set this resolution because I am in a down-fall. This resolution is important to me because I want to keep playing baseball.

Jaythan Guzman
My New Year's Resolution for 2023 is to be better at all my subjects. I would like to set this resolution because I need to get better grades in order to achieve my goal because I need to become my dream doctor, a Neurosurgeon.

Ily Duran

My New Year's Resolution for 2023 is to get a Nintendo Switch or a new phone. This resolution is important because I need a Nintendo Switch to play Fortnite and a new phone because mine is acting up.

Conroy Dillon
My New Year's Resolution for 2023 is to be good in science. I would like to set this resolution because I am bad at science. This resolution is important to me because it allows me to be smart.

David Dang
My new year resolution for 2023 is to study I would like to set this resolution because if I want get As this resolution is important to me because I want straight As and I HATE Bs

Timothy Craige
My New Year's Resolution for 2023 is to be more confident about myself. I would like to set this resolution because it helps me be brave when I think about something because it makes me feel happier. =D

Huy Chung
My new year's resolution for 2023 is getting better at sports. I would like to set this resolution because I need to get better. This resolution is important to me because I need to be strong.

Robin Azinge
My New Year's Resolution for 2023 is to be a better sister by helping my mom and broth-

ers. I would like to set this resolution because I am the oldest and my mom is going to be busy with my new baby brother. This resolution is important to me because my little brother will need some of my help now that my mom will be busy with my baby brother.

Diana Alvarez
My New Year's Resolution for 2023 is to get to high school. I would like to set this resolution because if I get to high school I can get challenged better. This resolution is important to me because I can get to college from there.

Ryan Tran
My new year resolution for 2023 is to be nicer to my brother. I would like to set this resolution because we always fight. This resolution is important because I want to be happy with my brother.

Jacobo Salinas
My New Year's Resolution for 2023 is to have better grades. I would like to set this resolution because I have two Bs and I want As. This resolution is important to me because I have had As across elementary.

Ivan Montano
My new year resolution for 2023 is to sell stuff or make money. I would like to set this resolution because I need money. This resolution is important to me because I'm saving up money to buy myself an album.

Luke Martinez
My New Year's Resolution for 2023 is to practice on my saxophone.

Daniel Reyes
My new year's resolution for 2023 is to be an honor roll student. I would like to set the resolution because if I get better

grade then I get more awards. This is important is to me because my mom said that if I get good grades then she would reward me by maybe getting a treat or some gifts together.

Raquel Obath
My New Year's Resolution for 2023 is to get a good grade. I would like to set this resolution because it would help me be better and smarter. This resolution is important to me because my parents will be happy for me.

Minh Nguyen
My new year resolution is to touch grass in real vr game because in irl is gross and humans would never touch grass its green and if you like the color green then you just smell like doo doo and gamers would never disobey the law after giving three life to gaming.

Fabian Figueroa
My resolution is to get better at cooking because I can make good food. It is important because I can eat good food.

Daniel Deng
My new year's resolution for 2023 is to be a nice kid. I would like to set this resolution because I will get better in the summit. This resolution is important to me because no summer school and more video game

Aaron Cardenas
My New Year's Resolution for 2023 is to spend more time with my mom. I would like to set this Resolution because we barely spend time together. This Resolution is important to me because my mom is important.

Bryce Bond
My New Year's resolution for 2023 is to be better at school. I would like to set this resolution because I would be able to do stuff easier. This resolution is important to me because I can pass.

David Arias
My New Year's Resolution for 2023 is to be able to play football in high school. I would like to set this resolution because girls don't get to play football because we're girls. This resolution is important to me because first boys don't think girl are stronger are stronger than them but we really are stronger than them but we really are they don't know about the pain we go through and that we fight through it

Jakayah Amos
My New Year's Resolution for 2023 is to start playing baseball. I would like to set this resolution because I have always wanted to play and I want my grandma to see me play on tv. She loves baseball too. This resolution is important to me because I think that I would feel more important.

Camiah Adams
My resolution for 2023 is to achieve my goals. I would like to set this resolution because I would be proud of myself. This resolution is important to me because, if I achieve my goals, I would be proud of myself.

Maylen Zambrano
My new year's resolution for 2023 is that I will be able to get an A. The resolution is important to me because I get money.

Gabriel Wotkins
My New Year's resolution for 2023 is to work with my dad to get money. I would like to set this resolution because I need money for me. This resolution is important to me because I want to be rich.

Juan Villa
My New Year's Resolution is to pass 5th Grade. I would like to set this resolution because I never failed a grade. This resolution is important to me because I never failed ans would like to pass.

Isiah Sonnen
My new year's resolution is to get the best grades possible to make my family proud. I will learn new things along the journey.

Julio Salazar
My New Year's Resolution is

to make money and save it. This resolution is important to me because that way I can give things to my mom Brittany and Meme also Papa.

Elaya Rubins
My New Year's Resolution for 2023 is getting better grades. I'm getting really bad grades. This resolution is important because my mom will not appreciate my grades

Kenndry Rodriguez
My resolution is that i what to be the best at football then the people i play with and to be the best i can be and play for a good team that i can get even better at football

John Eric Mijes
My New Year's Resolution is to get good grades because i want to be smart and make my mom happy so i can get lots of gifts for Christmas and i can know the answer to a problem at math or any subject at school and it is important to me because it is my goal to have great grades.

Michael Mendoza
My New Year's Resolution for 2023 is to get to sixth grade. I would Like To Set This Resolution because when I go to sixth I will be smart. This Resolution Is Important To Me because if i get to sixth grade i would be smarter.

Ibrahim Masoom
My new year's resolution for 2023 is to learn a lot about space. I would like to set this resolution because I really love space and I also want to learn more about space. This resolution is important to me because I want to be an astronaut in the future.

Kienphong Lau
My New Year's Resolution for 2023 Is To Go on a diet. I would like to set this resolution because I want to start eating healthy. This resolution is important to me because I feel like eating well gives great benefits.

Noah Hodgson
My New Year's Resolution for 2023 is to be better by playing instruments. I would to set this goal for this New Year's resolution, because lately at my church we have been missing musicians, so our music doesn't sound that good, so i will start learning more music to help out my church from my Uncle's footsteps.

Ellis Guzman
My New Year's resolution for 2023 is to finish my Summit platform. I would like to set this resolution because I would like to finish this grade. This resolution is important to me because I don't want to go to summer school and I want to pass all grades without failing

Tatiana Gamboa
My New Year's Resolution is to be good. I would like to set this resolution because I am bad. This resolution is important because I am bad.

Henry Do
My new year's resolution for 2023 is to get \$100. I would like to set this resolution because to buy games. This resolution is important to me because games.

Ruizhe Deng
My New Year's resolution for 2023 is becoming rich. I would like to set this resolution i want vr and games and unlimited orees. This resolution is important to me because I just want it.

Christopher Alvarado
My New Year's resolution for 2023 is to get a pokemon first edition 1999 charizard. I would like to set this resolution because this can be an investment and then I can get a little business to sell new and old pokemon packs and cards. Why this is important to me is because i've been col-

lecting pokemon since I was in 1st grade

Michael Tran
My New Year's resolution for 2023 is to pass 5th grade. I would like to set this resolution because I have a fear of failing 5th grade. This resolution is important to me because I don't want to fail and I want to pass.

Stephen Sanchez
My New Year's Resolution for 2023 is to pass my Staar test. I would like to set this resolution because I would like to go to 6th grade. This resolution is important to me because I can learn new stuff.

Aiden Ruiz
My resolution is to be more helpful to people because they don't have a home and that they are lonely and they don't have any family or friends or nobody to be with. They need food and water, a phone and a house or money so that's my new year's resolution.

Jonas Reyes
My New Year's resolution for 2023 is to do something to protect nature I would like to set this new year's resolution because i'd like to help stop pollution, this resolution is important to me because i care about the world and nature

Alyssa Moreno
My new year's resolution for 2023 is to have good grades and pass the year. I would like to set this resolution because it would be good for me and my future. Plus that was my mom's resolution.

Melani Morales
My Resolution is to make sure I get all caught up with my work. It is important to me because I can make it to 6th grade and make it to 6th grade.

Raymond Mireles
My new year's resolution for 2023 is to be a better student. I would like to set this resolution because I am bossy sometimes. This resolution is important to me because I need to not be that bossy.

Kyla Low
My New Year's Resolution for 2023 is I want to be better. I really think my life should be better. This resolution is important to me because it's setting my goal for next year.

Makayla Laurie
My New Year's Resolution for 2023 is to pass the STAAR TEST. I would like to set this up because I want to make my mom and dad happy with my work. This resolution is important to me because I want to go to sixth grade and keep going on.

Dominick Delfante
My New Year's Resolution for 2023 is to get all A's by the end of the year. I would like to set this resolution because if i get all A's by the end of high school I can graduate. This resolution is important to me because if I graduate I can go to college.

Lailah Berruete
Hi my name is Adrian Bell and My new year's resolution for 2023 is to have a wonderful life. I would like to set this resolution because I still want to have friends. This resolution is important to me because I love all my friends and family.

Adrian Bell
My New Year's Resolution is to pass 5th grade I want to meet my friends later when school is done This is important to me because I want too learn more.

Jonny Arevalo
My New Year's Resolution for 2023 is to go to 6th. I would like to set this resolution because I can go to college This resolution is important to me because I can get a good job.

Robert Aguilar

Moore fourth-graders present "Forever Christmas" musical



Shown, left to right, are the Jitterbug dancers Justin Nguyen, Itzel Sordia, Orion Chapa, Camilla Reyna, Lorenzo Garcia, Rayah Semien, Robert Reyna and Fernanda Perez.



Shown above, left to right, are Frosty and the Frosty dancers (front row) Lyann Tran, Chelsea Umanzor, Joshua Menahem (Frosty), Secia Barahona, Monserrat DeLa Garza, (back row) Alexa Lara and Ashley Banegas.



Shown above are Rudolph and Rudolph dancers, left to right, (front row) Lily Bonilla, Priceless Whittaker, Noah Canales (Rudolph), Aliyanna Machado, Roselyn Ramirez, (back row) Zoe Carter, Mia Gutierrez, Alexa Bonilla and Ava Ahmad.



Photographed left are Mikaela Portillo (left) and Usman Aleem.



Shown below are Suzy Snowflake and the Snowflake dancers, left to right, (first row) Delilah Guadiana, Ledys Chavez, Zoey Trevino, Camila Sanchez, (back row), Aubrey Ramos, Madison Balleza, Kiara Arredondo (Suzy), Camila Licon and Ava Carter.

My New Year's Resolution for 2023 is to be better at school. I would like to set this resolution because I would be able to do stuff easier. This resolution is important to me because I can pass.

David Arias
My New Year's Resolution for 2023 is to be able to play football in high school. I would like to set this resolution because girls don't get to play football because we're girls. This resolution is important to me because first boys don't think girl are stronger are stronger than them but we really are stronger than them but we really are they don't know about the pain we go through and that we fight through it

Jakayah Amos
My New Year's Resolution for 2023 is to start playing baseball. I would like to set this resolution because I have always wanted to play and I want my grandma to see me play on tv. She loves baseball too. This resolution is important to me because I think that I would feel more important.

Camiah Adams
My resolution for 2023 is to achieve my goals. I would like to set this resolution because I would be proud of myself. This resolution is important to me because, if I achieve my goals, I would be proud of myself.

Maylen Zambrano
My new year's resolution for 2023 is that I will be able to get an A. The resolution is important to me because I get money.

Gabriel Wotkins
My New Year's resolution for 2023 is to work with my dad to get money. I would like to set this resolution because I need money for me. This resolution is important to me because I want to be rich.

Juan Villa
My New Year's Resolution is to pass 5th Grade. I would like to set this resolution because I never failed a grade. This resolution is important to me because I never failed ans would like to pass.

Isiah Sonnen
My new year's resolution is to get the best grades possible to make my family proud. I will learn new things along the journey.

Julio Salazar
My New Year's Resolution is

Bay Area Jewelers
WE BUY GOLD!
Jewelry & Watch repair on site
19054 Gulf Fwy. 281-488-8067
Located outside Baybrook Mall across from Forever 21

WE WANT YOUR CLUNKER
How Can You Get It Here?
You Can : **PUSH IT...**
PULL IT...
TUG IT...
OR
TOW IT...

WANT TO FIGHT INFLATION?
INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE!!
Contact Us For More Information.
Houston Auto Emporium
12500 Scarsdale Blvd. Houston, Tx 77089
www.houstonautoemp.com
281-481-1700

WIRED robotics team finishes near the top at the Texas BEST regional championship

For the first time in the 24 years of participating in the Boosting Engineering, Science, and Technology (BEST) competition, Westbrook Intermediate School's WIRED robotics team qualified for the Finals at the Texas BEST Robotics Regional Championship. The event was held at the Comerica Center in Frisco on Dec. 1-3, 2022 and included 72 participating teams, with contenders from Texas UIL high schools (1A through 4A and 5A/6A), private schools, engineering magnet schools/academies, combined high schools, middle schools and home school associations from across Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Arkansas. The WIRED drive team finished in sixth place coming out of the seeding rounds (prelims), guaranteeing a spot in the semifinal rounds (semis). This is especially impressive because not only is the WIRED team an intermediate school group of

sixth- through eighth-graders (ages 11 through 14), but also their robot broke two spokes on a plywood wheel midway through prelims, requiring emergency repairs by a scrambling support pit crew. With the "injured" robot making it successfully through semis, WIRED finished with the fourth highest overall score, securing their spot in the finals of the Open Division. Qualifying for finals has been a major goal for the WIRED team, who first advanced to Texas BEST in 2006, and represents one of the greatest accomplishments ever in its 24-year history within the Clear Creek Independent School District. In addition to the outstanding robot performance at Texas BEST, the WIRED Team finished fifth place on BEST Award in the Open Division (and 11th place overall for all schools), just placing outside the top four teams by an extremely close margin of

1.74 points out of 100 points. The BEST Award consists of weighted scores in the areas of engineering notebook, marketing presentation, team exhibit and interviews, spirit and sportsmanship and robot performance. Moreover, first places in sponsored peripheral awards such as the Lockheed Martin Website Design, UT Dallas Exhibit Construction and Design, and the Founder's Award for Creative Design were also achieved by the young WIRED team. The third of these awards is considered the most prestigious as it is given in recognition to the BEST founders, Steve Marum and Ted Mahler, especially since this year marks the 30th anniversary of BEST. Creative design is defined as the "competitive advantage or enhanced functionality by a unique or disruptive approach" and is given to the machine that is particularly unique or accomplishes the game tasks in

a competitive and totally different way. The WIRED robot, marketed as the Hermes FRC, features a slider crank mechanism arm titled the LLAMA, which stands for Linear Lever Arm for Manipulating Actuators. Unlike most of the other 70 competing teams who used three arms for this year's game Made2Order, the WIRED arm took advantage of a rotational sensor integrated with reprogrammable software modes to provide intuitive and efficient controls for the WIRED drivers. As a result, the LLAMA subsystem and the way it was used in game play led to this special recognition. To prepare for the most recent Texas BEST competition, WIRED team members put in long hours after the local North Houston BEST competition (held Nov. 5 at Porter High School) where they earned first place in both the Robot and BEST Award

portions of the competition. The team refined the Hermes FRC and practiced continuously, nearly doubling their average scores from the local hub event. In addition, other BEST Award element and other support teams polished their BEST Award products as well as their website (<https://www.ccisd-wired.com>). "As a first-time faculty advisor, I had no idea of the complexity surrounding this competition. Students not only design, build, and control a robot to complete a task, they are expected to also present a business plan to promote and market their product by playing the role of professionals in the business world. The level of effort that our intermediate school students displayed while competing against high schools was very impressive and they have all made us extremely proud!" explained faculty advisor, Nichole Toalson.



Shown above, left to right, are (front row) Neelia Ouladi, Mika Porterfield, Lucas Rigoulot, Jabe Alison, Alex Graun, Jeremiah George, Jonathan Maximos, Nate Beatty, Izma Aziz, Danielle Sanchez, Zahra Dhilawala, Antonio Chen, (back row) Lily Garza, Sapphire Ho, Sophia Merchant, Marie Shaw, Clare Mulhern, Pippa Thompson, Elliot Bibby, Eli Smith, Aarav Joshi, Daniel Joyce, Luke Yamokoski, Martynas Kunigauskas, Nic Alba, Josh George, Andrea Gonzalez, Dani Alba and Lisabelle Colon. Not pictured is Charlotte Maples.

Genoa Elementary showcases student abilities

Genoa Elementary hosted a Wizard of Oz-themed Math and Literacy Night for parents and students Dec. 8, followed by the fourth-grade Christmas

program. This night of fun featured various activities and games for students to showcase their skills.



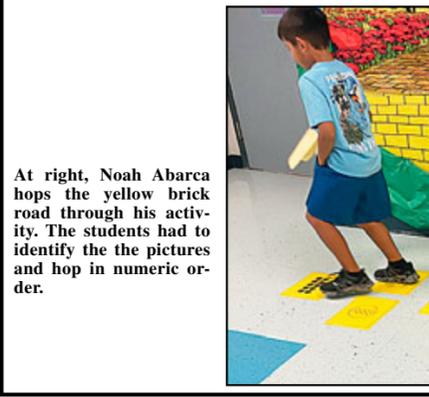
Pictured above are two first-grade teachers, Rosa Silva (left) and Luz Salazar holding a rekenrek. They had fact fluency games for students to play and take home.



Above, are pre-K teachers, left to right, Christie Bishop, Ruby De La Cruz and Karina Estrada with a letter matching game, matching lowercase to uppercase or vice versa.



Shown at left is Diana Perales, third-grade math and science teacher, showing off a math fact headband game.



At right, Noah Abarca hops the yellow brick road through his activity. The students had to identify the pictures and hop in numeric order.

Remember When

45 years ago (1977)
Residents began taking an active part toward solving vandalism problems in the area. One resident who witnessed vandalism reported a license number and vehicle description to Houston Police. Another South Belt resident took pictures of vehicle tracks from a torn-up yard. The South Belt Press has begun working with local civic clubs in an effort to help stop such problems.

15 years ago (2007)
Wednesday, Jan. 2, marked the last day for potential candidates to file the necessary paperwork in order to meet the state deadline to appear on the March 4 Democratic and Republican primary election ballots. South Belt residents could be found on nearly every ballot from the smallest local races to national senatorial positions. Among these were Sageglen resident and former Clear Brook student Keyvin Bazy who ran for the Republican nomination in the race for the 22nd Congressional District, Raymond Stewart and Sandra Woodard who ran for the Democratic nomination in the race for Harris County Precinct 2, Place 1 Justice of the Peace and long-time Kirkwood resident Ruben Guerrero who ran for the Democratic nomination in the race for the position of judge in the 174th Criminal District.

Commissioner of the Year Award at a state conference in Addison, north of Dallas. The annual honor is bestowed by the Texas chapter of the American Planning Association. Now a resident of Green Tee, West had been a member of the City of Pearland Planning and Zoning Commission since being appointed in 2003. During his tenure, West had been instrumental in a number of city projects. Prior to his work in Pearland, West was also active in the immediate South Belt community. He was the founder of the South Belt Security Alliance and served as president of the Kirkwood South Homeowners Association. Additionally, West was treasurer of the San Jacinto College Foundation board and had been a longtime organizer of the annual South Belt Fourth of July parade. Following the APA conference, West was awarded the City of Pearland Certificate of Recognition at its city council meeting.

A loose pit bull once again terrorized members of the South Belt community, bringing attention to the policies of Harris County Animal Control. When deputies from the Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's office arrived at the scene in the 10900 block of Kirkbrush and were also threatened by the canine, they phoned the animal control office. The lone officer on duty said she would lose her job if she responded to a call where no one had actually been bitten by the animal. After dealing with the dog for roughly an hour, the deputies finally coaxed it back into its owner's yard. Following the incident, Detective Rick Holloman took the necessary steps to have the dog declared dangerous.

10 years ago (2012)
Harris County Precinct 2 Constable deputies busted a suspected marijuana growing operation in the 10300 block of Sageberry. Deputies responded to a call at roughly 8 p.m. after a neighbor called to report suspicious behavior at a residence that involved a U-Haul truck. Three men were at the residence when the deputies arrived. One of the men, Fernando Hernandez, reportedly consented to a search of his home, where deputies found large amounts of marijuana. In all, 12 pounds of marijuana was confiscated. Guinn said there were multiple signs that the house was used to grow the marijuana. Dobbie graduates Trevor

Cobb and Christa Williams were named part of the inaugural class of 12 inductees for the new Pasadena Independent School District Athletics Hall of Fame. Cobb, Class of 1989, played nearly every sport offered at Dobie, but his performances as an elusive running back for the Longhorns quickly earned him a statewide reputation. Following high school, he signed with the Rice Owls and earned four letters. Cobb signed as a free agent with the Kansas City Chiefs and made the Chicago Bears' roster in 1994. He returned to Houston to form Helping Hands, a charitable organization that assists children with special needs. He was selected for the Rice Athletics Hall of Fame in 1998.

As for Williams, she arrived at Dobie for the 1992-1993 school year and instantly made an impact. That year, the University Interscholastic League, the official governing body of extracurricular activities in public schools, had given the go-ahead for the sport of softball to be played. In the early summer of 1993, Williams pitched Dobie to the state championship, then did so again in 1995. Opting to

Roberts writes New Year's resolutions

Fred Roberts Middle School fifth-grade students share their 2023 New Year's resolutions.

- Tatiyana** My New Year's resolution for 2023 is to wake up on time.
- Halima** My New Year's resolution for 2023 is to achieve straight A's and make new friends.
- Maya Hernandez** My New Year's resolution is to wake up earlier and spend less money on things.
- Areeba** My New Year's resolution for 2023 is to be more helpful.
- Julio Suarez** My New Year's resolution for 2023 is to try to eat different things because I don't like that much.
- Mason Ly** My New Year's resolution for 2023 is to get better at soccer and Argentina to win the World Cup.
- Hussein Zamzam** My New Year's resolution for 2023 is to become the best soccer player.
- Abner Morales** My New Year's resolution for 2023 is to finish the five nights at Sonic Maniac Mania.
- Chris** My New Year's resolution for 2023 is to pass the STAAR tests with an 85% or higher.
- Christian Zelaya** My New Year's resolution for 2023 is to try my hardest in school.
- Sophia Garza** My New Year's resolution for 2023 is to want to speak Korean by writing the Korean alphabet in a notebook and studying it every Monday.
- Dayana** My New Year's resolution for 2023 is to practice my instrument for at least 10 minutes a week.
- Isaac Escobar** My New Year's resolution for 2023 is to improve my Lexile number by 50 points.
- Herran** My New Year's resolution for 2023 is to save more money!
- Deitrich** My New Year's resolution for 2023 is to get better at playing my flute by practicing for 15-20 minutes daily to get madeleine lines faster.
- My New Year's resolution for 2023 is to place in the next swimming competition.**
- Joseph James** My New Year's resolution for 2023 is to work on down picking on my guitar for an hour a day.
- Jesse Velazquez** My New Year's resolution for 2023 is to practice my clarinet for 1 hour at least three times a week.
- Carlos Cabrera** My New Year's resolution for 2023 is to walk my dogs once a week for 20 minutes on Tuesday.
- Liam Gregory** My New Year's resolution for 2023 is to work on my karate moves every day for 15 minutes.
- Davin Long** My New Year's resolution for 2023 is that I will walk 1-3 mph on the treadmill for 3 minutes a day, after-school and on weekends.
- Michael** My New Year's resolution for 2023 is to open a small business to sell little toys to make \$15 dollars every day.
- Alchemy Hernandez** My New Year's resolution for 2023 is to study sign language 30 minutes a day.
- Emily Gonzalez** My New Year's resolution for 2023 is to practice playing baseball more.
- Frankie Mendez** My New Year's resolution for 2023 is to read 20 minutes per day to improve my reading skills.
- Ilyas Javaid** My New Year's resolution for 2023 is to improve playing my viola by practicing 20-30 minutes for 2-4 days a week.
- Ailyne Renovato** My New Year's resolution for 2023 is to read 20 minutes every day.
- Carlos Martinez** My New Year's resolution for 2023 is to become 1st chair violin in orchestra by doing goal songs for 10 minutes every week.
- Christy D.**

Over The Back Fence by Natalie

BILL CELEBRATES
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.

BURGIE ENJOYS A BIRTHDAY
Happy birthday wishes are sent to **Burgie Clark** who celebrates her 93rd birthday Dec. 30, from her daughter **Diddy Clark**, a *South Belt Leader* staffer.

BO CELEBRATES A BIRTHDAY
Best wishes to *Leader* staffer **Bo Bolen** who celebrates a birthday Friday, Jan. 7, from friends and the staff at the *South Belt Leader*.

SCHOOL DAZE
The following staff and personnel of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays Dec. 29 through Jan. 11.

Atkinson Elementary
Join in the birthday fun with **Terri Salazar** Jan. 3. Birthday greetings are sent to **Pamela Valdez** Jan. 8.

Burnett Elementary
Join in the birthday fun Jan. 10 with **Breana Grullon**.

Bush Elementary
Give a birthday shoutout Jan. 9 to **Vicki Sheppard**. **Tawana Dockery** enjoys a birthday Jan. 10. Light the candles Jan. 11 for a celebration for **Cynthia Covarrubias**.

Frazier Elementary
Jan. 8 is the day to break out the balloons and party favors for **Christine Grazioli**. **Nancy Guerra** and **Effie Pines** celebrate a birthday Jan. 10.

Meador Elementary
Starting a new year with a birthday Jan. 2 is **Maria Medina**. **Maria Hurtado** enjoys a birthday Jan. 5. Enjoying a birthday Jan. 6 are **Cheryl Caudill** and **Anastasia Riley**. Blow out the birthday candles for **Tara Merida** and **Anne**

Hamilton Jan. 11.
Moore Elementary
Light the birthday candles for **Brittany Jaramillo** Dec. 28.

South Belt Elementary
Remember to wish **Cynthia Gomez** a happy birthday Jan. 9.

Melillo Middle School
Send a humilous birthday card Dec. 29 to **Jill Sharma**. Jan. 10 is the day for a double-layer birth-day cake for **Jessica Adamek** and **Crystal Taylor**.

Roberts Middle School
Starting the new year right with a Jan. 2 birthday is **Chastity Escalante**. The day for birthday cake and ice cream for **Edgar Johnson** is Jan. 5. The day for a party for **Ha-Bang "Susie" Nguyen** is Jan. 7.

Beverly Hills Intermediate
Kenneth Davidson celebrates a birthday Dec. 29. Marking a Dec. 30 birthday is **Stephanie Jones**. Dec. 31 is the day for a party for **Keanna Andrews**. Send a birthday greeting Jan. 11 to **Kacee Peterson**.

Thompson Intermediate
Special birthday wishes are sent to **Betty Minter** Dec. 29. Starting off the new year with a birthday celebration Jan. 1 is **Tiona Samuel**. Give a shoutout Jan. 3 to **Dalacie Henderson** for a wonderful birthday. Special birthday wishes are sent to **Tiffany Nelson** Jan. 10.

Dobie High
On Dec. 29, send a birthday greeting to **Andrea Morgan**. **William Fults** ends the year with a celebratory Dec. 31 birthday. **John Stovall** marks a birthday Jan. 7. Light the birthday candles Jan. 9 for **Brianne Sisson**. Enjoying a birthday Jan. 10 is **Camille Calo Widaski**. Jan. 11 is the day for a party for **Stacy Thomas**.

FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS

Thursday, Dec. 29: **Lory Adams Taylor**, **Joe Gutierrez** and **Debra Blake**; Friday, Dec. 30: **Heather Deming**, **David Garza**, **Gloria Garcia**, **Salvador Flores**, **Scott Romeo**, **Brenda Keener** and **Arcilia Maturey**; Saturday, Dec. 31: **Laneil Vawter**, **Dameon Smith**, **Kelley Hammond**, **Karen Edwards**, **Cecily Carriere** and **Pamela Collins**; Sunday, Jan. 1: **Michael McCollom**, **Charlotte Christian**, **Elaine Bischof**, **Marl Wills**, **Kelly Robinson**, **David Tucker**, **Richard Lopez**, **Eleonora Stoves**, **Sandra Matula** and **Crystal Ford**; Monday, Jan. 2: **Jay Forrest**, **Amarda Baldwin**, **Bryan Gomez**, **Mary Winters**, **Kelly Edwards** and **Meagan Novak**; Tuesday, Jan. 3: **Tony Montenegro III**, **Deb Rainbolt-Young**, **Terri Salazar**, **Roland Moreno** and **Flor Elizalde**; Wednesday, Jan. 4: **Gerry Cole**, **Lan Curtis**, **Crystal Roberts** and **Jason Thompson**; Thursday, Jan. 5: **John Carnes**, **Jessica Fernandez**, **Jamie Troxlar**, **Natalie McCoy**, **John Jenkins** and **Jovon Lartigue-Davis**; Saturday, Jan. 7: **Michael Lake**, **Kathi Kemp**, **Sherry Crawford**, **Meagan McMurry**, **Jessica Sellers**, **Bob Townley**, **Larry Shewell**, **Jason Cox**, **Brian Gallagher** and **Diane Gonzalez**; Sunday, Jan. 8: **Brad Muecke**; Monday, Jan. 9: **Jennifer Gonzalez**, **Mary Meyer**, **Jill Rea**, **Mike Escobedo**, **Monette Falzon**, **Cecelia Faske** and **Holly Lyons**; Tuesday, Jan. 10: **Jennifer Murillo**, **Roy Gunter** and **Caron Cantu** and Wednesday, Jan. 11: **Kelly Cavazos**, **Myles Barkman**, **Amy Villareal**, **Kathleen Wenzel**, **Deirdre Davis** and **James Mouton Jr.**

LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS
Email announcements of anniversaries, celebrations and graduations to mynews@southbeltleader.com with OTBF in the subject line by Friday noon for the next week's publication. For birthdays, type "OTBF: Friends Celebrate Birthdays" in the subject line.

Melillo fifth-graders write 2023 resolutions

Melillo Middle School students shared their 2023 New Year's Resolutions.

- Jonathan B.** My New Year's Resolution is to be nice to my brother.
- Mason R.** My New Year's Resolution is to help the homeless find food.
- Draiden B.** My New Year's Resolution is to be good and help others.
- Korvin T.** My New Year's Resolution is to make passing grades.
- Caleb H.**

Join us on Facebook!
Get local news and updates between issues!

SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

Price named AP All-American



Clear Brook graduate Jaysen Price (4) added to his postseason accolades as he, now a sophomore with the Texas Wesleyan University football program, was named an Associated Press All-American first team honoree as a return man. National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics member Texas Wesleyan went 9-2 overall in 2022, becoming co-champion of the Southern Athletic Conference for the first time in program history. Price had punt return touchdowns of 84 yards in consecutive weeks and went the distance for 83 yards on a kickoff return in the third week. With four touchdown returns in all, Price had 19 punt returns for 480 yards and another 16 kickoff runbacks for 420 yards. He also tied for the team lead with 18 receptions as the Rams employed a run-heavy offensive attack.

As January 2023 arrives, basketball playoff races will thrive



Holiday high school basketball tournaments the final week of December served to keep area programs in form with the heavy lifting portion of district races to follow in January.

Following the new year, the schedule will be packed with action on the court as the Dobie programs will take on Channelview, Sam Rayburn and South Houston over 10 days to start the new year.

At left, Dobie's Camren Fowler is one of the key players aiming to help the Longhorns push for a repeat of their District 22-6A championship from a season ago. With three programs within the league already owning double-digit wins entering league play, the Longhorns figure to be tested on a nightly basis but look to draw upon their experience.

Photo by Donna Alsdorf

With the press date of the Dec. 29 issue pushed to noon of Dec. 20, key action from that evening had yet to play out.

The Clear Brook varsity girls were 2-0 as of Dec. 19 with easy wins over Clear Falls and Brazoswood, while the Dobie varsity girls were aiming to rebound from a 51-40 loss to Deer Park to begin league play.

The Dobie squads were set to take on rival Memorial Dec. 20 after press time, with the Clear Brook varsity boys' and girls' programs in line to face the Clear Lake Falcons Dec. 20.

The Brook squads will host Clear Creek and Clear Springs to start the new year.

Dobie boys host Channelview

Jan. 3, 5 p.m.

Dobie boys at Rayburn

Jan. 6, 7 p.m.

Dobie boys host S. Houston

Jan. 10, 7 p.m.

Dobie girls at Channelview

Jan. 3, 5 p.m.

Dobie girls host Rayburn

Jan. 6, 7 p.m.

Dobie girls at S. Houston

Jan. 10, 7 p.m.

Brook girls at Clear Creek

Jan. 3, 7 p.m.

Brook girls host Clear Springs

Jan. 10, 7 p.m.

Brook boys host Clear Creek

Jan. 3, 7 p.m.

Brook boys at Clear Springs

Jan. 10, 7 p.m.

USA KARATE

Now enrolling for the fall 2022 term.

Transportation from CCISD, Pasadena ISD, and Pearland ISD.

Call for our weekly rate specials!

• Weekly Fee Includes Karate Training

COME LEARN:
• RESPECT
• FOCUS
• CONFIDENCE
• DISCIPLINE
• AND MORE



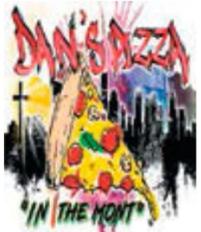
11101 Resource Pkwy. 281-484-9006
1853 Pearland Pkwy. #109 832-736-9006
We have space available at each location

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

The Southbelt Little League is currently accepting online registration for youths ages 3 through 16 for competition in the spring 2023 season at the league's facility at El Franco Lee Park.

Choose DAN'S to Dine!

Danosaurus
30-inch, 1-topping pizza \$39.99
Everyday Carryout Specials \$9.99
16-inch, single-topping or 12-inch, 3-topping
2 pizza slices & a canned soda \$6



Local Delivery/ Curbside Pickup
281-369-9000
12373 Scarsdale Blvd.
Sun. - Thurs. 11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.
11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Fri. & Sat.

The registration fee is \$150 per player, in addition to a \$75 prepayment for the league's raffle ticket fundraiser. There is also a \$100 nonvolunteer fee due at registration.

With registration, players receive a uniform consisting of a hat, belt, socks, pants and team jersey. Those in the junior/senior leagues will be responsible for their own pants' purchase.

The sign-up session online will run through Jan. 6, 2023, and late registration will cost more.

The divisions available for the 2023 season include instructional T-ball (new 3s-5s) T-ball (experienced 5s-6s) coach pitch (7s-8s), pee wee (all 9s, new 10s), minor (experienced 10s, 11s), major (all 12s), junior and senior (13 to 16).

For additional information about the league and to register, visit www.southbeltll.org.



San Jacinto College sophomore Christin Haygood, who as a freshman was the Region 14 Pitcher of the Year while leading the women's softball program to the National Junior College Athletic Association Division I National Championship tournament, has signed to play her junior season at the University of Texas-Tyler beginning in the 2023-2024 school year. Starting 27 games, Haygood went 18-5 with 20 complete games, fanning 134 hitters over 149 innings pitched with an earned run average of 1.50. She will lead the 2023 Raven program beginning in late January as San Jacinto takes aim at a third straight nationals appearance. In 2022, San Jacinto finished 42-16 overall after two losses at nationals.

Paul out as JFD hoops coach

The Dobie boys' basketball program was under new leadership entering the District 22-6A race earlier this month after Franklin Paul was dismissed as head coach just days before the Longhorns' varsity program was set to open defense of last season's league championship.

On the court, Paul enjoyed plenty of success, winning 45 total games against 29 losses. He was hired during the summer of 2020, replacing longtime head coach Kevin Cross, who is now the school's golf coach.

In his 2020-2021 debut, Paul made an immediate positive impact as the Dobie varsity squad went 10-2 in 22-6A play to earn the No. 2 playoff seed.

A season ago the team was upped as Dobie went undefeated at 12-0 to claim the league title and went 22-9 overall following a bidistrict playoff loss to C.E. King.

The Longhorns were 8-9 overall at the time of Paul's exit, with three losses coming against state-ranked foes.

Paul did answer a call from the *Leader* seeking comment and did confirm

he was dismissed as head coach Dec. 7.

As the Longhorns progress in 22-6A play, a group effort including various members of the remaining basketball staff is being utilized.

South Belt girls' softball offers online registration

The South Belt Girls Softball Association is continuing online registration for the 2023 spring season through Dec. 31.

Regular registration is \$75 per player in addition to a \$65 fundraiser fee.

The available ages groups include 6-under, 8-under, 10-under, 12-under and 14 to 16-under. Late registration will be

held Jan. 1 through Jan. 11 at a cost of \$85 per player in addition to a \$65 fundraiser fee, but team spots are not guaranteed.

For registration details, visit www.southbeltsoftball.com.

For an online response to specific questions about registration, direct email to southbeltgirlssoftball@live.com.

The Sold Team
281-464-SOLD

More Buyers. More Sellers. More SOLD.

#1 in South Belt. THE EXPERIENCE YOU NEED. THE NAME YOU TRUST.

281-464-SOLD (7653)



Sandra Yandell
Broker Associate



Laura Yandell
Sales Associate

★New Listing! Sageglen - Beautiful 4-3-5-2ATT with study and game room! Updated kitchen, hardwood floors, #GAI

★New Listing! Pearland - Beautiful 4-3-5-2ATT, large formal dining, second floor game room with open access to den, covered patio! #FALL

★NEW! Ashley Pointe - Gorgeous 4-3-5-3 one story on the lake in gated section!! Formal dining, chef's kitchen, plantation shutters throughout! #Ana

★NEW! Sageglen - Huge 5 beds, 5 baths, formal dining, study, 3 car detached garage, portecohere, and POOL! #SCT

★Friendswood - Beautiful 5-2-5-3 home with game room, media room, elevator and more on almost 2 acres with pool, RV storage, barn! #MYR

SPRING BASEBALL - T-Ball thru High School

Bay Area Texas Baseball League Play

\$100 - \$230

Ages 3* through 18 *Must turn 4 before Sep 2023

Register online NOW at BayAreaTexasBaseball.com

Fee includes: Jersey, Pants, Cap, Socks, Belt

Bring a friend and play on the same team.

14U Special \$75

Born Jan 1, '08 to Aug 31, '10

Walk-in Registration Saturdays: Jan 7 and Jan 21 10 AM to Noon

LATE REGISTRATION continues online while openings exist.

No Boundaries. If you can get here, you can play here.

BAY AREA TEXAS BASEBALL is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit league.

Auto Service Center & Car Wash

Now Hiring CASHIERS, CAR WASH PERSONNEL & LUBE TECHNICIANS

Mon. - Sat. 8am - 6pm
Sun. 9am - 5pm

Now Offering A Full Line Of Exterior Washes "Wash & Go in under 5 min."

The Works Includes \$20

- Island Breeze LAVA Carnauba Wax
- Underbody Rinse
- Wheel Cleaning
- Clear Coat Protectant
- Tire Shine
- Hand Drying

Wheels & Tires \$15

Includes "Shine & Polish" Plus

- Rain-Guard
- Tire Shine (In Tunnel)
- Clear Coat Protectant

Express Exterior \$8

- Wash
- High Velocity Drying (In Tunnel)

\$10 Off Auto Alignment

With coupon only. No reproductions. Not valid with any other discount.

11210 Scarsdale (Between I-45 & Bearner)
281-484-5945

***MONTHLY UNLIMITED WASH PLANS (PER VEHICLE)**

Full Service Oil Change \$49.99

Includes our 16 point inspection - Oil Change (Up to 5 Quarts Conventional Oil)

- Install New Oil Filter
- Complete Chassis Lube
- Check Brake Fluid
- Check & Fill Power Steering Fluid.

- Check & Fill Transmission Fluid
- Check Air Pressure in all Tires
- Check Gear Boxes
- Check Battery Fluid

- Check & Fill Windshield Washer
- Vacuum Interior
- Check Air Filter & Cabin Filter
- Check Breather Element

- Check PCV Valve
- Check Radiator Overflow Reservoir
- Check Belts
- Check Wiper Blades

plus **FREE Car Wash**

Up to 5 Qts Conventional Motor Oil - 16 Point Check - With coupon. Not valid with any other offer or discount. Expires 1/1/23.

Leader highlights a memorable South Belt year in athletics

February

The Dobie girls finished third overall as the high school track and field season hit the midway point with the running of the Maverick Stampede Feb. 24 at Pasadena Memorial High School.

La Porte won the girls' crown with 147 points followed up by Clear Creek's 126 points.

Dobie, the defending 22-6A champion (2021), took third with 84 points as big performances from Denim Boone and others led the way.

Clear Lake was the runaway winner in the boys' division with 162 points, followed by 24-6A rival Clear Creek's 103 points.

The Dobie boys were fourth with 70 points as Emmanuel Drain's time of 42.60 won the 300 hurdles.

Boone was the top performer of the entire girls' meet, grabbing individual wins in the 100 and 200 sprints and also contributing to the Lady Longhorns' win in the 4x100 relay.

Boone was in at 12.63 seconds in the 100 for the win and also claimed the top spot in the 200 in a time of 26.30.

Freshman Stacie Harris followed up her terrific debut a week earlier at the Pasadena ISD Brown Relays as she won the long jump at 16 feet, 10 inches.

Natalie Onozie, who topped Harris in the same event at the Browns, was a silver medalist this time at 16.9.

It was Porter, Boone, Mia Sanchez and Harris teaming for the win in the 4x100, edging La Porte and posting a time of 49.94 for the gold.

An up-and-down start to the 2022 season gave way to a seven-game winning streak as the San Jacinto College softball team looked to build momentum for the Region XIV race.

Third at the National Junior College Athletic Association's Division I Championships in 2021, San Jacinto first had to adjust to significant roster turnover early on in 2022.

It was considered done as the locals improved to 15-6 overall with a string of wins.

Beginning the season with a national ranking based on that 2021 finish at nationals, San Jacinto stood at 8-6 overall following a 1-0 loss at Tyler Feb. 19.

After that, though, head coach Kelly Saenz's team was one of the nation's hottest teams with the seven straight wins, outscoring opponents by a combined 49 to 13.

Kaurie Winters had three triples among her team-high 24 hits to go with 16 runs batted in and a .453 batting average.

Taniece Tyson was also hot after joining the program for 2022, hitting .418 with a team-best six homers and 18 runs driven in.

Deven Lendsey, who led the Longhorns in scoring while guiding the team's unbeaten District 22-6A championship run on the varsity boys' basketball court, saw his senior season end during a 60-46 bidistrict playoff loss to C.E. King Feb. 22 at Lee College in Baytown.

The Clear Brook track and field program turned heads at the Texas City 409 Relays Feb. 24 at Stingaree Stadium, with big-time performances coming from several key athletes en route to a great finish.

The Lady Wolverines won the 4x100 and 4x400 relays and also got a gold-medal win from Camryn Dickson in the 200.

On the boys' side of things, Cam McCalister championed the 400 and Joseph and Matthew Trevino scored distance run wins to pace the Wolverines.

McCalister, who now plays for the McNeese State University football program, won the 400 at 50.94 seconds with teammate Christian Wright fourth in a time of 54.03.

Matthew Trevino, a Region III state cross-country qualifier in the fall, won the 1,600 event in a time of four minutes, 34.94 seconds.

His brother, sophomore Joseph Trevino, was third for a bronze medal at 4:43.10, and the Wolverines' Eden Diaz placed fifth with his timing of 4:48.18.

A Region III-best eighth consecutive district championship was secured by the Dobie varsity boys' soccer team's reach as the league leaders saw second-place Pasadena play Memorial to a 3-3 tie March 7 at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena.

The Longhorns, winners of six straight matches that earned a maximum 18 points in the standings, and their 25 overall points could not be surpassed at that point.

Dobie had won eight consecutive league titles and a 92-6-14 record over that span with two matches to play in the regular season.

March

On the opening day of the Pasadena ISD tournament March 3, the Longhorns' Christian Pierce fanned six over five shut-out frames and Diego Torres earned the save as the locals defeated Mayde Creek 1-0.

Also, Dobie downed Westbury 7-3 as Matt Torres improved to 2-1 this season with five strikeouts over five innings and Torres was 3 for 3 at the plate

with a double, a stolen base and three runs scored.

Omar Serna scored twice and knocked in a run, and Manny Contreras drove in two with a hit. Ian Johnson struck out eight over four innings for the win as Dobie pounded Alief Taylor 10-0 March 4.

Christian Medina had a hit and drove in two runs, and Juan Estrada scored twice and knocked in a pair of runs.

Brandon Liceaga also had a hit and scored a run. The Longhorns beat Heights 13-3 as Contreras struck out five over five innings to improve to 2-0 this season, and Medina tripled among his two hits and drove in a run.

Juelz Martinez also doubled and drove in two runs, and Serna knocked in three runs. The Longhorns then kept the wins coming March 7 with a 10-4 win over Dawson as Christian Padua went five innings on the hill for the win.

Estrada doubled, had another hit and knocked in three while Martinez doubled, scored twice and drove in two more runs. Torres also scored three runs.

Dobie High School graduate and Pasadena ISD Athletics Hall of Fame member Karima Christmas-Kelly and her husband, Austin Kelly, held the champions' trophy after the University of Texas at Arlington women's basketball team won the Sun Belt Conference postseason tournament following a 71-61 win over top-seeded Troy March 7 in Pensacola, Fla.

UT-A got 28 points from Sun Belt Player of the Year and tournament Most Valuable Player Starr Jacobs to secure the win. It also gave the Mavericks (20-7) a third-ever NCAA tournament berth.

In 2022, Austin Kelly was in his first season with the Mavericks as an assistant coach and recruiting coordinator.

The Kellys met when both were student-athletes at Duke University. Karima Christmas-Kelly has enjoyed a lengthy professional career both in the WNBA and overseas.

Thompson Intermediate's seventh-grade girls' squad stole the show at the Pasadena ISD Track and Field Championships at Auxiliary Stadium.

At meet's end, the Lady Lions collected 153 points, outdistancing second-place Bondy by a 50-point margin.

The Lady Lions used a sweep of the three relays on the way to 60 points, which paved the way to the impressive team win.

The Thompson boys' program put on a show at the Pasadena ISD Inter-

mediate Track and Field Championships March 9 at Auxiliary Stadium, cruising to overall team crowns at both the seventh- and eighth-grade levels to close out a dominant season.

The Lions' eighth-grade squad posted a day-best of 197 points to win the championship easily, while it took 140 points for the Lions' seventh-grade squad to win the trophy.

The Thompson eighth-grade boys' program left its mark in Lions' history with a thorough cruise to the district championship, with the 197 points providing plenty of evidence.

Dobie varsity baseball head coach Miguel Torres earned career win No. 200 as the Longhorns opened District 22-6A play with a 17-3 win at Channelview March 15.

Torres was first an assistant with the Longhorns before becoming the program's head coach prior to the 2009-2010 season.

Senior Victoria Rivera was named the Most Valuable Player of the District 22-6A varsity girls' basketball ranks after leading the Longhorns to a second straight league crown. Dobie's Jasmine Hartman was named Coach of the

Year in the district, and Dobie's All-District first team honorees included Kendall Brown, Jacque Giron and Peyton Smith.

Demond Stafford was Dobie's new varsity football head coach after he gained the necessary Pasadena ISD board approval March 29.

Stafford, previously an assistant coach on the football staff at Dobie in the 2000s, came over from Sam Rayburn after leading the Texans' program from 2019 through the 2021 seasons.

Prior to his lead role at Sam Rayburn, Stafford was for six years an assistant coach at Pasadena Memorial.

Stafford became the 11th head coach in program history and went 4-7 overall in 2022 in his debut campaign with the Longhorns.

A six-run seventh inning provided a cushion as the Dobie softball program got past Memorial 11-6 in a rivalry clash at the Pasadena ISD Complex as the Lady Longhorns secured sole possession of second place in District 22-6A with the win March 23.

Dobie led 5-4 entering the top of the seventh inning before playing six runs to extend the edge to

11-4. Lady Longhorns' starting pitcher Marisa Perla closed out the win in the bottom half even as Memorial scored twice.

Hailey Hernandez delivered a key blow for Dobie with a two-run homer and was 2 for 4 overall with three runs batted in and a run scored.

Bella Perez was 3 for 4 with a double among her hits, scored twice and drove in a pair, while Gabby Galvan had two hits, scored two runs and drove in another.

Dobie met Strake Jesuit late March 29 in a varsity boys' soccer area round playoff match as the two programs looked to advance in the Region III playoffs.

The Longhorns (17-23) opened the postseason March 25 with a 5-2 victory over Atascocita in Deer Park, getting a hat trick from Ronaldo Guzman to get past the Eagles at Abshier Stadium.

Guzman goes wild
Guzman scored twice within 27 seconds just after halftime and added a third later in the second half to tie the program's school best of 22 goals in a single season.

Distance runner Victoria Ramirez and long jumper Natalie Onozie



Senior Karlie Barba (22) delivered one of the best overall offensive seasons in the history of the Dobie softball program as she closed out a brilliant four-year career.

Region 14 play. Hollan, who threw a seven-inning no-hitter as a freshman in 2021, this time struck out nine over the five innings as the Gators defeated the Bucs 12-0 in the game.

Hollan, now a junior at the University of Arkansas, is considered one of the top 100 collegiate prospects for the 2023 MLB draft.

Daryn Grams threw a five-inning shutout as San Jacinto College salvaged a doubleheader split April 9 with a 9-0 win over Blinn, giving the conference-leading Coyotes an 11-3 mark in Region 14 play.

Gabby Cantu singled twice, scored two runs and knocked in a pair as San Jacinto needed just five frames to win by run-rule.

Abbie Forrester and Juls Garcia had two hits each, and Maddy Bailey scored twice as the locals bounced back from a 4-1 loss in the first game as Blinn's Chloe Mason allowed just two singles.

Dobie's Izzy Padilla and Victoria Ramirez came up big for the Lady Longhorns at the District 22-6A Track and Field Championships April 12 at Auxiliary Stadium in Pasadena.

Ramirez claimed the gold medal, with Padilla third for bronze as both qualified for the District 21-6A/District 22-6A Area Championships April 22 at Deer Park ISD's Abshier Stadium.

An 8-3 victory over rival Memorial secured the No. 2 playoff seed for the Dobie varsity softball team, which won at least 20 overall games for the

fourth consecutive full season.

In the win over Memorial, Sandra Quiroz-Catalan and Bella Perez each drove in three runs as the locals used a four-run first inning and another three-run outburst in the sixth inning to win the game.

Junior pitcher Marisa Perla scattered seven hits and allowed three earned runs to take the victory in the circle.

Perla also had two hits and scored two runs while Karlie Barba was 1 for 3 with two runs scored and a run driven in.

Playoff seeding in the District 22-6A varsity baseball race figured to again go down to the final set of series this season.

Dobie won the first game of its district pair versus Memorial 5-4 April 12 as Ian Johnson improved to 2-0 and Manny Contreras got the save over the Mavs.

Christian Medina doubled and drove in a run for the Longhorns, and Daniel Delgado stole three bases and scored three runs.

In the series finale April 14, Memorial's Hayden Stallings spun a four-hit shutout in a 5-0 win over the Longhorns while Jake Creason had a double and two runs batted in.

The Lutheran South Academy varsity boys' doubles duo of Chase Turley and Michael Barton came away with the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools 5A state championship at the Waco Regional Tennis Center.

Bidding for a third trip to state in as many tries, Clear Brook sprinter Camryn Dickson was on time as she prepared for the Re-

gion III Championships at Humble ISD's Turner Stadium.

Dickson, second in the 200 and third in the 100 at state in 2021, was the District 23-6A/District 24-6A champion in both events at Traylor Stadium in Alief, clocking in at 11.28 seconds for the gold medal in the 100 and winning the 200 in a time of 24.04.

She also ran the second leg as the Lady Wolverines advanced in the 4x100 relay following a third-place time of 46.81.

May
Samantha Flores was the offensive catalyst as Summer Creek delivered a bit of a bidistrict stunner in the opening round of the 6A high school softball playoffs, eliminating Dobie with 7-0 and 10-0 defeats.

The Lady Bulldogs out-hit Dobie 24 to 7 in the series, with Flores, a junior, going 6 for 7 with seven runs batted in and three runs scored out of the leadoff spot.

In turn, Summer Creek junior pitcher Miranda Pena went the distance for wins in both games, striking out 19 while holding a solid Lady Longhorn lineup to five singles and two doubles, both by senior Hailey Hernandez.

Dobie, a Region III quarterfinalist the previous two full seasons, simply ran into a buzzsaw of sorts.

In the span of roughly 28 hours, Flores and Pena combined to lift the 24-11 Summer Creek program into the area playoff round, where a matchup with 24-6A champion Pearland loomed.

Continued on Page 8



Joseph Trevino of Clear Brook turned in a terrific sophomore season first on cross-country courses and then on the track oval in the spring for the Wolverines as he found plenty of success in both sports.

turned in gold medal performances at the Purnell Relays in Angleton March 25 as the Lady Longhorns took fourth place overall in the team standings.

The Dobie boys' squad also competed in Angleton, ultimately grabbing ninth place. Both the varsity boys' and girls' teams finished the regular season March 31 at the Gator Relays at Dickinson ISD.

Clear Brook's Camryn Dickson rolled to a victory in the 100 meter dash to close out the high school regular season as she began her quest for a return to the state championships.

Dickson, now a freshman at Texas A&M University, registered a time of 11.54 seconds as she won top honors in the 100 at the C.L. Hanna Relays at Dickinson ISD's Sam Vitanza Stadium.

Dickson headlined Clear Brook's varsity girls' and boys' team efforts at the season-ending event, while Dobie's varsity boys' and girls' teams were also at the meet in Dickinson.

At the regular-season ender in Dickinson, Brook and Dobie turned out big in the girls' 200 as the Lady Wolverines' Jizzale Davis took fifth at 25.30, with Dobie's Denim Boone sixth at 25.40.

Boone, a top contender for 22-6A gold in the 100 and 200, was 12th in the 100 in Dickinson in a time of 12.55.

The Dobie softball team remained in cruise control in advance of its rematch with first-place Deer Park as the postseason picture in District 22-6A took shape.

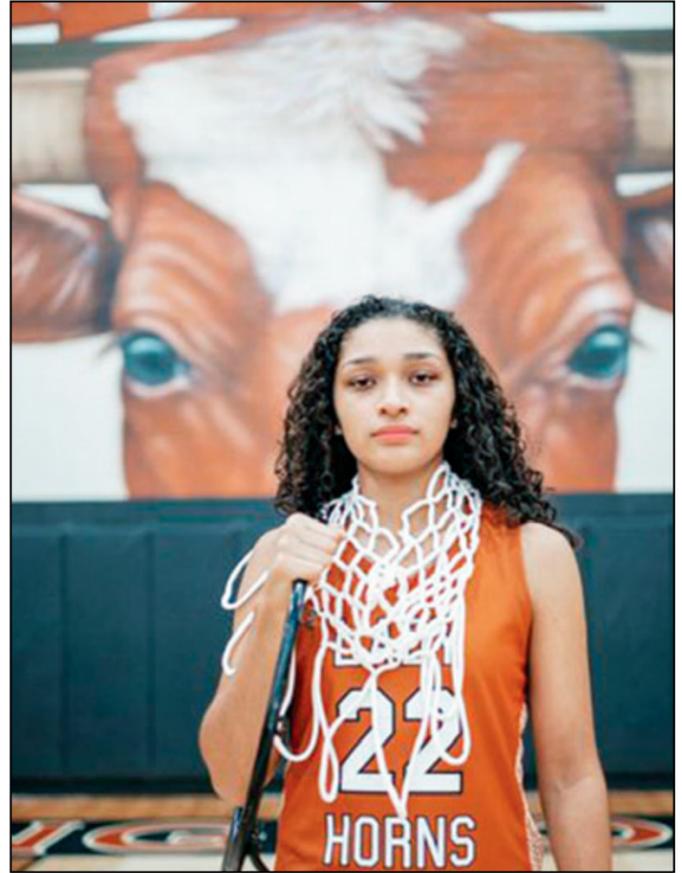
The Dobie varsity tennis team delivered a standout performance at the District 22-6A Championships March 30-31 at Deer Park High School. Boys' singles player Brian Nguyen advanced to the Region III Championships after taking the second-place slot at district.

The Longhorns' top participants at district included Hailey Maldonado, third place girls' singles; Tiffany Tran and Natalie Vo, third place girls' doubles; Megan Rodriguez and Lael Martinez, third place mixed doubles; Andrew Huynh and Dominic Ortiz, third place boys' doubles; and Brian Nguyen, second place/regional qualifier boys' singles.

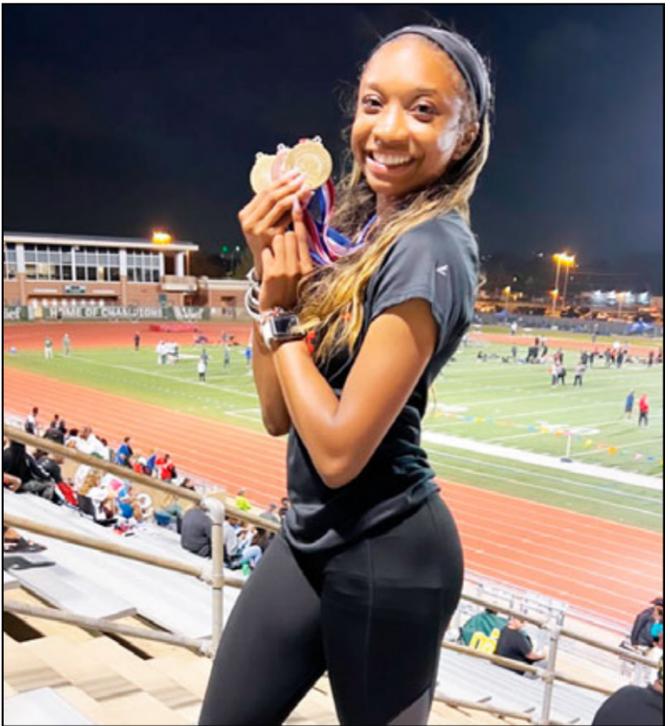
A 3-2 loss to host Strake Jesuit March 29 in a Region III boys' soccer area round sent Dobie to the sidelines. Seniors Eris Acosta, Lucas Arias, Miguel Bazaldua, Dejby Cortez, Isaac Cortez and Levani Pelaez played in their final match as Dobie players in the loss to the Crusaders, who advanced to the Region III Final Four.

April

Karlie Barba homered for the sixth time overall and drove in four runs,



Senior Victoria Rivera was named the Most Valuable Player of the District 22-6A varsity girls' basketball ranks after leading the Longhorns to a second straight league crown.



At right, Clear Brook's Camryn Dickson rolled to a victory in the 100 meter dash to close out the high school regular season as she began her quest for a return to the state championships. Dickson, now a freshman at Texas A&M University, registered a time of 11.54 seconds as she won top honors in the 100 at the C.L. Hanna Relays at Dickinson ISD's Sam Vitanza Stadium. Dickson, second in the 200 and third in the 100 at state in 2021, was the District 23-6A/District 24-6A champion in both events at Traylor Stadium in Alief, clocking in at 11.28 seconds for the gold medal in the 100 and winning the 200 in a time of 24.04. She also ran the second leg as the Lady Wolverines advanced in the 4x100 relay following a third-place time of 46.81.

SERVICE

Attention advertisers, make your ad stand out with color. Call 281-481-5656 for information. Participants will be limited to 10, so call soon if you want to be included.



SOUTH BELT
A/C & HEATING INC.

CALL FOR HEATING INSPECTION

Free Estimates on New Equipment

American Standard
HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

100% Financing to Qualified Buyers

281-484-1818

4403 F.M.2351

www.Southbeltair.com

TACL B26543E

GET IT TODAY!

ELECTRIC
REPAIRS & INSTALLATIONS
45 Years Experience
• Free Estimates
• Senior Citizen Disc.
• No Service Charge
• Res./Comm.
• Master Electrician
• Insured
• TECL#21246
281-484-8542
LOW PRICES HIGH QUALITY
We accept most major credit cards.
SAGOMENT ELECTRIC SVCS.

*Support
Leader
Advertisers*

A-BETTER PLUMBING
Complete Home Residential Service Plumber
CALL TODAY FOR SPECIALS
A-Rated on Angie's List
MPL #18439 **281-692-1684**

Garage Door Problems?
Call **Big Edd's**
Serving Houston & Surrounding Areas Since 1979
Repair/Replacement **281-480-8898**
Garage Doors & Openers **713-784-4238**

WINNER BEST ROOFING COMPANY IN BAY AREA
Since 1978 **Call Now!**
TEXAS TOP
Roofing & Siding
5 Year Labor Warranty
Kevin Dalley '76 Dobie Grad
Clara Leal '93 Pearland Grad
David Hernandez '15 Dawson Grad
• Vinyl
• Hardi Board Siding
281-481-9683
REPLACEMENT & STORM WINDOWS

BONANZA AIR & HEAT
281-922-5665
It Is Time For A Furnace Checkup!
Someone You Can Trust • NEVER A SERVICE CALL CHARGE
We Service ALL Makes & Models • We Honor Competitor Coupons
It's not too soon! Beat the rush!
WINTER CHECK-UP TIME!
Financing Available
TACL B002755C

CALENDAR

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29
7 a.m. **AA** - "Breakfast With Bill," at Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 713-686-6300 or visit <https://aahouston.org/meetings/>.
Noon **AA** - Imperfect Nooners Group, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or at <https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners>. Call 713-686-6300.
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30
7 a.m. **AA** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
7 p.m. **Congregation Shaar Hashalom** - All services are live and Zoom online. Visit <https://www.shaarhashalom.org>.
7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2930 E. Broadway, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). Call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com or <https://nastuff.com/>.
7 p.m. **Serenity Now Al-Anon Group** - meets at CrossRoads UMC Fridays, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Call 281-484-9243.
7 p.m. **AA** - meets at CrossRoads UMC, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Call 281-484-9243.
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31
7:30 a.m. **AA** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
9:30 a.m. **Congregation Shaar Hashalom** - All services are live and Zoom online. Visit <https://www.shaarhashalom.org>.
11 a.m. **Al-Anon Meeting (Women Only, English)** - For women affected by an addict. Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy.,

Pasadena, Cornell Conference room #111. Call 281-487-8787 or visit <https://www.houstonalanon.org/>.
1 p.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - offers a knitting class. Call 281-479-7285 prior to coming.
SUNDAY, JANUARY 1
8 a.m./10:15 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - worship at 11456 Space Center Blvd., in back of a medical/retail community. Call 281-479-7285.
5:30 p.m. **Celebrate Recovery** - A faith-based 12-Step program, in the Life Kids Chapel at Life Church, 9900 Alameda Genoa. Call 713-419-2635.
8 p.m. **AA** - meeting at CrossRoads UMC, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Call 281-484-9243.
MONDAY, JANUARY 2
Noon **AA** - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday noon notice.
6 p.m. **New Directions Singles** - Age 55 and older meets at Webster Presbyterian Church, 201 W. NASA Parkway. Call 832-715-9658.
6 p.m. **Scrabble Club #511** - Meets at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua. Call 281-488-2923.
7 p.m. **AA** - St. Luke's Group, 12-Step Recovery, open meeting in the Education Bldg. in room 4, at 11011 Hall Rd., 77089. Call 832-725-8479 or 281-309-2801.
7 p.m. **TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)** - Friendswood chapter meets at 110 N Friendswood Dr. in the educational bldg., room 201. Call 832-858-4617 or 713-875-8820.

7 p.m. **NA** - See Friday's notice.
TUESDAY, JANUARY 3
7 a.m. **AA** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
10 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - See Monday's notice.
11:30 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - See Sunday's notice.
11:30 a.m. **Local NARFE Meeting** - National Association of Retired Federal Employees, Chapter 1321, meets at Clear Lake Community Center, 5001 NASA Pkwy. Lunch is \$6. Call 713-944-2461.
Noon **AA** - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday noon notice.
7 p.m. **AA** - See Friday's office.
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4
7 a.m. **AA** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
9:30 a.m. **Carmelites** - a nondenominational senior citizen social group meeting at St. Bernadette Catholic Church, 15500 El Camino Real, in Clear Lake. Call 713-444-6744.
Noon **AA** - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday's noon notice.
12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. **Hometown Heroes Humpday Dance** - at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 E. League City Parkway, League City, 77573. Casual ballroom dancing. Call 281-554-1180.
7 p.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - See Sunday's notice.
7 p.m. **NA** - See Friday's notice.
8 p.m. **AA** - See Sunday's notice.

ANY SEASON TERMITE & PEST CONTROL, LLC
Residential & Commercial
TRUSTWORTHY and RELIABLE
Providing environmentally friendly services with your children and pets' safety in mind.
Jimmie Sue Orth, Richard (Dick) Orth
Owner, Operator
B.S. Chemistry, Trinity University
281-484-6740
Family Owned and Operated Since 1984

G & F APPLIANCE REPAIR
We service all major home appliances. Our Professional Technicians will provide you with service you can trust.
MENTION THIS AD AND SAVE \$10
281-650-4777
SAME DAY SERVICE

Annual maintenance will save you money.
Heating Systems on Sale Now
Call for Free Estimates.
Airstream
AIR CONDITIONING & HEATING
TACL B23730E
281-481-6308

After Hours Plumbing Service
Commercial, Industrial & Residential
Sewer • Water Heaters • Drains
Leaks • Water • Repairs • Gas
\$50 OFF Any Service w/coupon
Free Estimates - MPL#41513 - Hablo Español
Military, Law Enforcement & Senior Discount
www.afterhoursplumbingservicehouston.com
832-715-6441

Triple M Plumbing
281-455-1175
Melvin D. Glover III
Master License # 40217

LEWIS CONSTRUCTION
www.YourCompleteHomeCare.com
We have been Same Name & Phone Number Since 1991
713-944-5257
Quality Work - Dependable
Free Estimates - References
Painting Interior & Exterior
Additions - Kitchens
Bathrooms - Garages
Siding All Types - Floors
Conversions - Patios - Fences
Concrete - Carpentry Work
Owner: Myron Lewis
Please Check Us Out - We Are Here To Stay

Primary Plumbing Services
COMMERCIAL RESIDENTIAL
713-643-7228
Ruben Muñoz - MPL 17449

R.B. GARAGE DOORS
Garage Door Experts • 20 Years Experience
Affordable Prices • Free Estimates
*Replace Garage Doors *Garage Door Openers
*Crashed Door Resets *Lube, Tunes & Springs
ROGELIO 832-755-5245
www.rbgaragedoorsouston.com rbgaragedoors@gmail.com
• Genie • Craftsman • Lift Master • Chamberlain

Blessing Painting
FULL REMODELING
• BATHS / KITCHENS • ROOM ADDITIONS
• PAINTING • FLOORING • SHEETROCK WORK
• PLUMBING • SIDING • ROOFING • CONCRETE
• FENCES • GARAGE CONVERSION
281-779-5053
www.facebook.com/zamudio.poly References • 25+ Yrs. Exp.

A/C & Appliance Repair
• Former Sear's Technician
• Insured & Licensed (TACL A44251C)
713-505-7534

JT Garage Door Systems
Free Estimates
Repair, Replace, Install
Over 20 Years of Experience
Contact Jason Teel
281-991-7697

GULF TEX REMODELING
Residential & Commercial • Insured
Kitchens • Baths • Plumbing • Painting • Sheetrock • Flooring
Patios • Concrete • Fences • Commercial Design & Build Out
Serving Houston for over 25 years
Flood Disaster Specialist **832-891-4610** Free Estimates

A & M PAINTING
• PAINTING INTERIOR/EXTERIOR • REMODELING • SHEETROCK
• TAPE & FLOAT • DEMOLITION • HAULING • FENCES
• CARPENTRY • PRESSURE WASHING
Alvaro Bravo **281-642-2939** Free Estimates

Licensed • Insured
Lighthouse ELECTRIC
Master Electrician Johnny R. Gibbs
"Look on the bright side"
281-847-1111
www.lighthouseelectrictexas.org TECL #19197

Mike's Affordable Pressure Washing Service
832-606-1074
Driveways • Sidewalks • Patios • Etc...

LEADER READERS
25 words: Personal: \$8 for 1 week/ \$21 for 3 weeks;
Business: \$10 for 1 week/ \$27 for 3 weeks

AUTO
FOR SALE. 2013 Hyundai Sonata in excellent condition, \$7,500 obo. Sun Quest tanning bed with new bulbs, \$300. Call 281-460-8539 or 713-851-1417.
SERVICE
ALL SEASON WOOD FENCES. Installation and repair, interior & exterior painting, drywall repair and installation and pressure washing.
Free estimates. Call 832-406-0183.
CARPENTER/ HANDY-MAN. Light electrical, plumbing & painting, replace/repair. No Job Too Small. 281-948-8887.
PRESSURE WASHING! Free Estimates. Call Scott and Sons at 979-235-0645. House, driveways, sidewalks, boats, R.V.s, etc. Time for cleaning. Free Estimates! 1-26

LAWN & GARDEN
ADRIAN'S TREE SERVICES.COM
713-501-0184
Licensed, Insured, Affordable
• Free Estimates •
Professional Trimming, Shaping, Removal, Grass Installation, Mulching

HELP WANTED

Baywood Crossing Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center
Is seeking experienced full time and part time CNAs, CMAs, RNs and LVNs. If you want to work in a dynamic and fulfilling team environment, then Baywood Crossing is for you.
We offer competitive pay rates and benefits.
Please stop by and complete an application at 5020 Space Center Blvd., Pasadena OR give us a call at (713) 575-1800

Wanted
Part-Time Office Staff/Assistant
Located in the South Belt Area
Looking for individual with computer & verbal skills
Detail oriented, needs experience with Outlook, Access & Word
Small Office with Flexible Hours: Mon. - Thur.
Salary is commensurate with abilities.
Send resume with current phone number to: worker.needed101@gmail.com

Hydraulic equipment repair technician needed.
Flexible hours full or part time. Paid vacation and holidays.
Fluent Spanish required! Will train the right person \$14.00 per hour and up with experience.
832-671-0978

Hair Care Gallerie
Booth Rentals
Available at 11211 Sageglen Dr.
Call/Text **281-467-4863**

Let the Leader help with your advertising.
Call 281-481-5656

BOOKKEEPING
Cynthia L. Veters, CPA
Individual-Corporate-Partnership & Estates
• All Tax Preparations
• Financial Statement Preparation
• Monthly Accounting Services
• Individual & Business Tax Planning
• Payroll & Other Related Services
281-481-4184

COUPON
\$200 OFF FOUNDATION REPAIR OR SEWER REPAIR
(on jobs \$2,500 & up)
Not valid with any other offer. One coupon per house.
FOUNDATION REPAIR
UNDER SLAB SEWER REPAIR
HOUSE LEVELING
Allied Foundations
281-479-5247
FREE ESTIMATES

South Belt Graphics & Printing
One stop for all your printing needs
• Business Forms • Business Cards
• Custom Letterheads & Envelopes
• Wedding Invitations • Thank You Notes • Menus
• Directories and much more!
11555 Beamer 281-484-4337

Need Help Finding Your Dream Home?
Let the Leader Classifieds Be Your Guide!
281-481-5656

Leader highlights a memorable South Belt year in athletics

Continued from Page 6

The Lutheran South Academy boys' team punctuated its Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools 5A state track and field championship May 7 in Waco by scoring a school record in the 4x400 relay, using the 20 team points to win the team crown at Midway High School.

The Pioneer boys' team thus finished off a 2022 season for the record books, scoring 103 points to win the 5A state championship, with San Antonio TMI - The Episcopal School taking team silver with 83 points.

The locals had a good grip on the team title, but the 4x400 relay win punctuated the effort.

In the decisive 4x400 relay, it was Marcus Gaitan, Matthew Gaitan, Jaylin Lowery and Max McGee combining for a time of 3 minutes, 24.91 seconds to win gold in the event and deliver the 5A Team Championship back to Houston.

Lutheran South's Joel Hutchins had a memorable day on the track during the May 7 session, winning a

gold medal in the 100 to go with a bronze medal in the 200.

Two elusive wins away from a national championship in 2021, the San Jacinto College softball program earned its chance to complete the quest this go-round.

Getting outstanding pitching throughout, the Region 14 champion Coyotes swept past three opponents at the Mid-South A District Championship Tournament May 13-15 at San Jacinto College's south campus.

The Mid-South crown delivered an automatic bid to the National Junior College Athletic Association's Division I Softball National Championship.

San Jacinto followed a similar path in 2021, winning the Region 14 regular season and Mid-South District crowns before also claiming three straight wins to reach the national semifinals in Arizona.

San Jacinto lost two straight games from that point but finished third in the country, a program-best.

Committing four er-

rors in one game and surrendering five home runs in another were not the type of highlights the San Jacinto College softball team was planning for from a second straight trip to the JUCO national championship.

But things happen, and the Coyotes were handed a quick 0-2 appearance at the National Junior College Athletic Association Division I National Championship in Yuma, Ariz.

Camryn Dickson closed out a banner career at Clear Brook High School, repeating as the Class 6A state silver medalist May 14 at the University Interscholastic League's State Championships in Austin, clocking in at 22.70 seconds in the event. Plano East's Tariah Kelley won gold at 22.06 and also won the 100 crown.

Clear Brook outfielder Francisco Leija and left-handed starting pitcher Cody Myers were named to the District 24-6A first-team baseball squad after leading the Wolverines to the postseason in 2022.

The Wolverines saw freshman Trenton Flores selected to the second team, while Santiago Leija, Logan Sariga and Adrian Longoria were honorable mention choices.

Dobie freshman catcher Omar Serna was named the District 22-6A Newcomer of the Year following the 2022 varsity baseball season after he helped guide the Longhorns to a 9-3 second-place tie.

Mileka Loydrake was named the new varsity girls' basketball head coach at Clear Brook High School as she was to take over a program coming off an undefeated run to the District 24-6A champion-

ship. Loydrake had two highly successful seasons as a guard at Clear Springs High School and signed with the University of Houston for the 2011-2012 season before transferring to St. Edwards University.

Warren Brooks, who guided the Lady Wolverines to the area playoff round last season, resigned at Clear Brook in the spring and is now the varsity girls' basketball head coach at Deer Park High School.

Dobie Class of 2019 graduate Alana Ortega was all smiles after her Southwest Assemblies of God softball program won the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics' National Christian College Athletic Association World Series softball crown.

John Towels III left his position as Clear Brook's varsity football head coach, opting this summer to accept the same role at Lewisville Hebron.

Just like that, Towels' brief two-year stay with the Wolverines was done.

Over his two seasons, Towels was 7-12 with Brook at the varsity level as the program's playoff drought extended to four seasons.

Bringing Women's College World Series experience to East Lansing, Sharonda McDonald-Kelley has been named head softball coach at Michigan State. Vice President and Director of Athletics Alan Haller made the announcement.

The 2022 NCAA Division I College World Series had plenty of local flavor as the championship got underway begin-

ning June 17, ending with a best-of-three championship series June 25-27 on ESPN.

Clear Brook's Aaron Calhoun and Lutheran South's Luke Harrison, both 2021 high school graduates and current college freshmen, were having the time of their lives on the baseball diamond.

Calhoun and his Oklahoma Sooners teammates were in Omaha, Neb., for the NCAA College World Series, as was Harrison and his Texas Longhorn teammates.

A casual "Oh by the way, I signed us up for a qualifier," comment turned into a Texas 7-on-7 state tournament berth for Clear Brook, the program's first state appearance since 2017.

All things considered, the Wolverines' run to the state tournament had to be considered unlikely at best.

Yet there the Wolverines were, competing in pool play June 24 in College Station before finishing up in the consolation bracket a day later.

Former longtime Dobie High School tennis head coach Bobby Kramer was selected for induction into the Texas Tennis Coaches Association's Class of 2022 Hall of Fame.

Kramer, who in 2017 was welcomed into the Dobie High School Hall of Honor, presided over the Longhorns' tennis pro-

gram from 1977 through 1995, putting together a stellar 18-year run.

Under Kramer's leadership, the Dobie girls' program won five straight District 23-5A crowns from 1983 through 1987, with the Dobie boys championing the 23-5A ranks from 1985 to 1987.

Dobie reached the Region III semifinals in 1985, 1986 and 1987, pushing through to the regional finals in 1986.

In the spring of 1986, Kramer watched as two of his top boys' players, Bobby Burton and Steven Scarbrough, won the Region III spring doubles crown and played in the state quarterfinals.

Xanthe Sanchez became the new varsity girls' soccer head coach at Dobie High School as she was hired during the summer to lead the Longhorns into the future.

A 2014 Sam Rayburn graduate, Sanchez played collegiately at both St. Thomas University and LeTourneau University and had also coached at the college level.

"I think it's always been a goal of mine to come back home to Pasadena ISD," Sanchez said.

"I'm excited to be at Dobie and hopefully lead these young ladies to great things. It'll be nice to meet everyone and then get started in the offseason program."



Taniece Tyson (left), an All-American selection during the 2022 season, chats between innings with San Jacinto College softball head coach Kelly Saenz during the program's Region 14 title run.



Jalen Baldwin was a key offensive force for the Longhorns as Demond Stafford took over the Dobie varsity football program.



Mileka Loydrake was named head coach of the Clear Brook varsity girls' basketball program last spring.

Lady Dragon 14-under soccer wins South Texas fall championship



The Lady Dragons 14-under wrapped up the Bay Area Youth Soccer Association season with seven wins and two ties in November and secured the lone playoff spot for their age group. The team competed in the Eastern District Championship, where they finished first and earned a place in the South Texas Fall Championship. The four-team state playoff consisted of two Eastern District and two Western District teams. The Lady Dragons outplayed the two Western District teams on December 10, earning two wins. The final game was rescheduled for the following weekend due to weather/field conditions.

A draw against the Inwood Soccer Club ID Lady Tigres solidified the first place finish for the Lady Dragons based on points. Members of the team are, left to right, (front row) Evelyn Angeles, Giselle Martinez, Sofia Yanez-Torres, (back row) coach Nelly Garcia, Alicia Diaz, Daniella Tamayo, Rosy Pacheco, Aubriella (Bella) Caicedo, Hailey Silva, Carly Cavazos, Alena Torres, coach Gerardo Garcia, Yulissa Flores, Anayah Durio, Angela Martinez, Vera Grace Thompson, Gisselle Aguilar and coach Jaime Diaz. Not pictured is Lady Dragon player Erianna Coronado.

COUPON

\$200 OFF FOUNDATION REPAIR OR SEWER REPAIR

(on jobs \$2,500 & up)

Not valid with any other offer. One coupon per house.

FOUNDATION REPAIR UNDER SLAB SEWER REPAIR HOUSE LEVELING

Allied Foundations

281-479-5247

FREE ESTIMATES



REGISTER NOW

FOR SPRING 2023 CLASSES

CLASSES START JANUARY 17

SAN JACINTO COLLEGE

www.sanjac.edu

An Equal Opportunity Institution