

### MUD trash times may vary

Due to a major county construction project, trash collection times may vary in the coming weeks. Residents should have trash curbside no later than 6 a.m. Monday and Thursday, as collection crews will be working in coordination with construction crews and may arrive earlier than before. All Texas Pride Disposal Trucks have cameras for verification. This will continue until the project's completion.

A project of Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia, the massive undertaking will make street and traffic repairs to the majority of major roads in the Clear Brook City MUD. Work has already begun in the Highland Meadow and Wood Meadow subdivisions. Work will soon begin in the Sageglen subdivision.

### HPD to hold PIP June 15

The Houston Police Department's Positive Interaction Program will meet at 6 p.m. Monday, June 15, at Grace Church, 14505 Gulf Freeway, Classroom No. 103. Guest speaker to be announced. Begun in 1983, HPD's PIP involves police and community members working together for safer neighborhoods. PIP meetings typically take place the third Monday of each month. For additional information, contact HPD Officer C. Castillo at castillo@houstonpolice.org or 832-395-1777.

### Kirkmont I to meet June 10

Kirkmont I HOA will hold a board meeting at 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 10, at the Kirkmont MUD Building, 10102 Blackhawk. Kirkmont I homeowners and residents are urged to attend and meet new board members and homeowners. Guest speaker will be Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia.

### Coffee with the Constable

Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia will be at Donut Haven, 10802 Hughes Road at Beamer, from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. each Thursday morning as part of the weekly Coffee with the Constable series.

For additional information, call Sagemont Civic Club President Kay Barbour at 713-419-3545.

### New Covenant feeds needy

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

### Ellington eRecycling set

The City of Houston Solid Waste Management Department's monthly electronic recycling event will take place Saturday, June 13, at the Neighborhood Recycling Center at Ellington Airport from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

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

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

The collection events take place the second Saturday of each month. For additional information, visit [www.houstonsolidwaste.org](http://www.houstonsolidwaste.org) or call 311.

### Gulf Freeway closures set

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

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

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

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

### Beltway closures planned

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

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

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

## PISD to close 1 campus, restructure another

### McMasters to close, Tegeler to be split between Dobie, South Houston

Pasadena ISD trustees voted Tuesday, May 26, to close McMasters Elementary and restructure Tegeler Community School, a decision driven by years of declining enrollment, rising operational costs and aging facilities.

The vote followed an emotional meeting where parents, teachers and former students urged the board to reconsider. Many described the 58-year-old McMasters an anchor in their tight-knit community. Others said they felt blindsided by how quickly the proposal advanced.

Pasadena ISD officials say districtwide enrollment has dropped by more than 2,000 students

in recent years, reducing state funding, which is tied to attendance. Many Pasadena neighborhoods in the district consist of aging communities with fewer young families, driving much of the decline in enrollment.

"Declining enrollment requires us to examine how we use our facilities to operate efficiently while maintaining strong academic programs," Pasadena ISD officials said in a statement following Tuesday's vote.

#### McMasters

Located on the district's northeast side, McMasters Elementary has seen its student body drop by nearly 16 percent over the past five years

and currently serves 328 students.

McMasters also faces significant infrastructure needs, with leaders noting the campus would require millions of dollars in repairs.

Students will be rezoned to nearby Parks Elementary, located less than a mile away.

#### Tegeler

Tegeler Community School is described as Pasadena ISD's "nontraditional" campus. It serves students who need additional academic, behavioral or social-emotional support. The campus offers smaller class sizes, individualized instruction, counseling and credit-recovery op-

tions.

Like McMasters, Tegeler also has a long history in the district. For many years, it operated as the Tegeler Career Center, an alternative high school program focused on vocational pathways. Over the years, however, Pasadena ISD gradually shifted the campus away from career-technical training and toward behavioral support and wraparound services.

Under the restructuring plan approved Tuesday night, Tegeler will be divided into two "school-within-a-school" programs, one locat-

Continued on Page 2

## BHI Pentathlon named champs



The Beverly Hills Intermediate seventh-grade Academic Pentathlon team were recently crowned national champions in the annual Online National Pentathlon Championship. Team members and coaches shown above are, left to right, (front row) Ezequiel Pena, Mikaela Portillo, Camilo Cano, Brandon Covarrubias, (middle row) Coach Raymond Ulloa, Maximus Doan, Thi Nguyen, Sophia Chayeb, Isaias Regalado, Coach Dawn Nguyen, (back row) Coach Grant Pector, Valerie Hernandez, Alyssa Rios, Ariel Villanueva, Nathalie Mai, William Stollings and Coach Mackwell Hickerson.

## Man arrested for indecent exposure

### Witnesses say man exposed himself on Riverstone Ranch

A man was arrested Friday, May 29, after allegedly flashing himself to passersby in the 1800 block of Riverstone Ranch Drive.

According to officials with Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia's office, multiple witnesses reported that the man had exposed himself and performed lewd sexual acts around 11:20 a.m.



James Howard

in plain view of them. One witness was reportedly just 14 years old.

Precinct 2 deputies, along with officers from the Pearland Police Department, responded to the incident and were able to identify James Howard, 27, as the suspect in the case.

Howard was subsequently detained by deputies.

The Harris County District Attorney's Office was contacted by deputies, and Howard was arrested and charged with indecent exposure. Howard was transported to the Harris County Jail, where he was booked on the charge. (See related photo on Page 2.)

## BHI Pentathlon claims national honor

### Bears win Online National Pentathlon Championship

The Beverly Hills Intermediate seventh-grade Academic Pentathlon team earned top honors this month, claiming the Online National Pentathlon Championship and showcasing the school's commitment to academic excellence, opportunity and experience.

The BHI Bears earned first place overall in the national competition, standing out among schools from across the country. Several students also received individual honors in their respective division.

The following students were recognized for their achievements:

– Brandon Covarrubias: Third place overall,

Seventh Grade Honors division

– Thi Nguyen: Second place overall, Seventh Grade Scholastic division

– Alyssa Rios: Second place overall, Seventh Grade Varsity division

– Diego Flores: Second place, Eighth Grade Honors division

The team's success reflects both the students' dedication and the guidance of coaches Grant Pector, Mackwell Hickerson, Dawn Nguyen and Raymond Ulloa. Support from Principal Ashley Collier also contributed to the program's continued growth and achievement leading to another national win for the school.

## May 26 primary runoff election results tallied

South Belt voters returned to the polls Tuesday, May 26, for the primary runoff elections, and the results are now in across the county, state and federal races.

#### County races

– **Harris County judge:** Both parties voted for their nominee for Harris County judge.

**Democrats:** In the Democratic runoff, Letitia Plummer narrowly defeated Annise Parker, earning 51 percent of the vote to Parker's 49 percent.

**Republicans:** On the Republican side, Orlando Sanchez won decisively, taking 63 percent of the vote over Warren Howell's 37 percent. Plummer and Sanchez will now face each other in November to determine who succeeds outgoing Judge Lina Hidalgo.

– **Harris County district clerk (Democratic runoff):** Democratic voters selected their nominee for Harris County district clerk. Darrell Jordan Jr. defeated Jose "Alex" Maldonado, receiving 71 percent of the vote.

Jordan moves on to face Republican Chris Daniel in November.

#### State races

– **Texas attorney general:** Both parties voted for their nominee in the race for Texas attorney general.

**Democrats:** In the Democratic runoff, state Sen. Nathan Johnson defeated former Galveston Mayor Joe Jaworski, earning 61 percent of the vote.

**Republicans:** On the Republican side, state

Sen. Mayes Middleton defeated U.S. Rep. Chip Roy, receiving 55 percent of the vote. Middleton and Johnson will compete in the November general election.

– **Texas lieutenant governor (Democratic runoff):** In the Democratic runoff for lieutenant governor, state Rep. Vikki Goodwin won the Democratic nomination, defeating Marcos Velez with 68 percent of the vote.

Goodwin will face Republican incumbent Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick in November.

#### Federal races

– **U.S. Senate (Republican runoff):** In the Republican runoff for U.S. Senate, Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton defeated incumbent Sen. John Cornyn, winning 64 percent of the vote.

Paxton will face Democratic nominee James Tarlaco in the general election.

– **18th Congressional District (Democratic runoff):** Christian Menefee defeated longtime U.S. Rep. Al Green, winning 70 percent of the vote in the newly redrawn district.

The 18th District has undergone significant upheaval in recent years following the death of U.S. Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee in 2024.

Redistricting forced Green to leave the 9th District, which had been redrawn to become more Republican-leaning. Green, whose residence now falls within the 18th District, chose to run there instead.

Menefee was already serving as the 18th District's congressman, having won a January special election following the death of U.S. Rep. Sylvester Turner, former Houston mayor.

The result was a rare incumbent-vs-incumbent primary in a district long considered a Democratic stronghold.

## Houston police seek person of interest

### Search related to fatal May 7 shooting of juvenile male

Houston police need the public's help in identifying a person of interest wanted for questioning in the fatal shooting of a juvenile male and wounding of another in the 8700 block of Blackhawk Ridge Lane about 3:55 p.m. Thursday, May 7.



"Junior"

The person of interest is only known as "Junior."

The dead victim is identified as Jadel Rodriguez, 16.

According to Houston Police Department officials, patrol officers responded to a shooting call at the above address and located a juvenile male with multiple gunshot wounds. Responding Houston Fire Department paramedics pronounced the male dead at the scene.

Officers learned a second juvenile male also suffered gunshot wounds and was transported to an area hospital in critical condition.

Further investigation identified a male known only as "Junior" as a person of interest.

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

## City begins Frey roadway project

### Road to be improved from Edgebrook to Almeda Genoa

Houston District E City Council Member Fred Flickinger would like to make residents aware of a major roadwork project currently underway in the Edgebrook area.

On Monday, June 1, Houston Public Works was scheduled to begin a mill and overlay road rehabilitation project on Frey Road from Edgebrook Drive to Almeda Genoa Road, weather permitting.

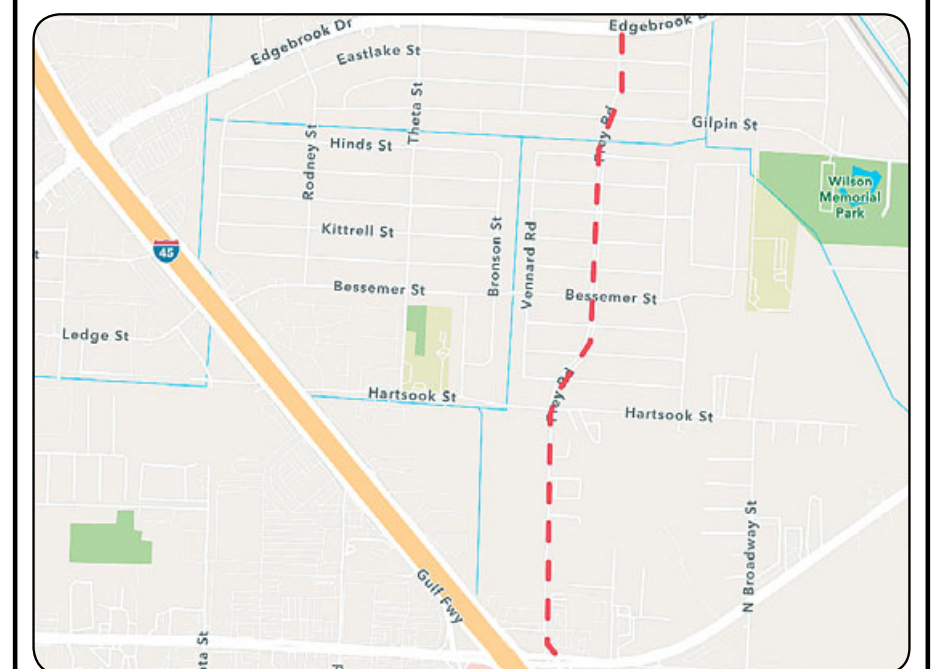
The scope of work includes mill and overlay of existing asphalt street. The project cost is \$1,200,000 and is funded through the Dedicated Drainage and Street Renewal Capital Fund. The project is anticipated to be completed

by Friday, June 26, 2026, weather permitting. Construction activities are expected to result in minor traffic impacts, including a single lane closure, which may cause slight increases in traffic congestion. No disruptions to utility or city services are anticipated during the course of the project.

Crews are scheduled to work Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., with additional work taking place on Saturdays from 7 a.m. to noon.

For more information, contact Flickinger's office at 832-393-3008 or [districte@houston.tx.gov](mailto:districte@houston.tx.gov).

## Frey construction underway



Construction is currently underway on Frey Road to make road improvements from Edgebrook Drive to Almeda Genoa Road. The \$1.2 million Public Works project includes a complete asphalt overlay of the area thoroughfare. Construction is expected to result in minor traffic impacts. Work on the project is expected to be complete by the end of June, weather permitting.

# In My Opinion

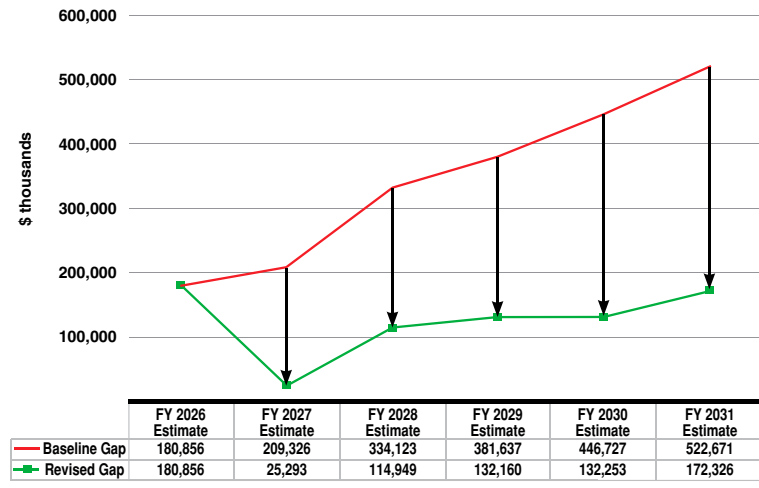
## Whitmire's budget proposal buys time

You may have seen my op-ed in the Houston Chronicle, regarding my views on Mayor Whitmire's budget proposal for the upcoming year. Because the paper has limited space for an op-ed, I wanted to provide my regular readers with some additional details and context.

My basic takeaway is that it buys us a couple of years to address the City's more fundamental financial challenges. It is not a permanent fix.

The City's finances are wickedly complex and involve several different funds. Its largest and most pressing challenge for the last two decades has been the General Fund. The General Fund pays for most of the services the City provides, such as police, fire, parks, etc. Importantly, it does not fund the water and sewer system, which in City lingo, is the Combined Utility System ("CUS"). State law requires that utilities, such as water and sewer, be accounted for and operated separately. Think of it as a separate entity or subsidiary of the City.

The City entered the current budget cycle, needing a little over \$200 million to balance its General Fund. Its five-year projection shows that number ramping up to over \$500 million by 2030 (see p. 51).



Of course, a structural deficit in the General Fund is nothing new. Since the City's ill-fated decision to dramatically increase its pension benefits in the early 2000s, a succession of City Controllers have been warning that the deficits would ultimately become unsustainable, either requiring massive property tax increases or a reduction in expenditures.

The plan that the Whitmire administration laid out involves three basic elements. The one that has gotten the most attention, but is by far the least consequential, is an entry-level garbage fee of \$5 per month. The City currently has only 393,000 garbage customers, so at \$60 per year, the fee will only bring in about \$23-24 million. After collection losses and exemptions that Council will likely add for seniors and potentially others, the real number will probably be closer to \$20 million.

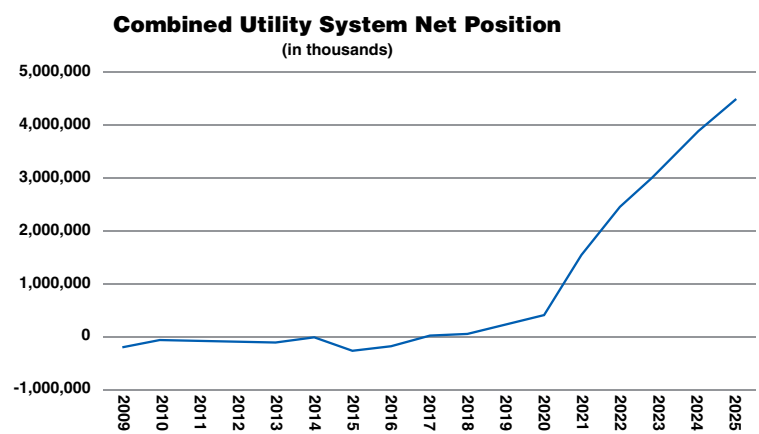
The real General Fund relief comes from transferring all garbage collection to the CUS and imposing a fee on the CUS for use of the City's rights-of-way. Transferring the Solid Waste Department to the CUS will transfer about \$100 million in expenses from the General Fund to the CUS.

State law dictates that a municipality cannot make a "profit" from its utilities to use for other purposes. However, it does allow municipalities to charge a utility for various items. Specifically, cities are allowed to charge a utility for the right-of-way it uses to run its lines. Every major city in Texas imposes such a charge on its water and sewer utility, and other utilities, such as Comcast and CenterPoint, pay similar fees. They are generally set as a percentage of the utilities' revenues. Whitmire's budget proposal calls for a 5% charge, which is toward the lower end of what other Texas cities charge their utilities (see p. 19). This will move about \$100 million from the CUS to the General Fund.

So, moving the Solid Waste expenses to the CUS and charging it for the rights-of-way will generate about \$200 million in relief for the General Fund. Because this is a permanent change and not a one-time fix, it reduces the projected General Fund deficit in 2031 to under \$200 million.

The principal question that this proposal raises is whether the CUS can afford this \$200 million hit. My judgment is that it can in the short- to medium-term, but whether it can in the longer term is an open question.

There was a time when the CUS was in dire straits. During the early 2000s, it was technically insolvent as its liabilities exceeded its assets. However, since then, water and sewer increases under Mayors Parker and Turner in 2010 and 2021, respectively, have dramatically improved the CUS's finances. From being insolvent in the early 2000s, it reached a fund balance of \$4.4 billion last year, with almost \$2 billion in liquidity. In addition, over the last three years, it has invested \$2.4 billion in capital improvements to the system and reduced its bond debt by al-



most \$1 billion.

Also, last year the City obtained a \$1 billion loan from the Texas Water Development Board on favorable terms to repair the dilapidated East End Water Plant. According to my sources, more help from the State may be on the way. Which, by the way, is one of the reasons that poking the Governor in the eye over 33 people being turned over to ICE was such a stupid idea.

So, the CUS is flush for now. However, in the longer term, it faces significant challenges. Our wastewater system leaks like a sieve, which means we regularly dump untreated sewage into our bays and streams. The City has been under a series of consent decrees with the EPA since the 1980s for violating the Clean Water Act. And, of course, we have all heard reports that the freshwater system loses billions of gallons each year through leaks. So, there is still a lot of work to be done. Some estimates put the amount of investment needed in the \$14 billion range.

Although not officially part of this year's budget, the Whitmire administration has signaled its intent to begin to increase the garbage fee in 2028 by \$5 per month, eventually raising it to \$25 per month. If that were to happen, it would take about half of the burden off the CUS.

The Whitmire administration is also promising to use the new resources to

improve garbage pickup. You will have to excuse me for being skeptical. I have heard a similar promise from every mayor in my lifetime. None has succeeded.

This is primarily because the City's operations do not operate on a viable economic scale. The City picks up only a relatively small portion of the total garbage. It does not service apartments or businesses, and about a quarter of households have already fled the City's abysmal service in favor of private haulers. I suspect that many others will follow suit as the fee begins to ramp up.

This leaves the City with a patchwork of fewer than 400,000 customers spread over 600 square miles. That means routes are impossibly long and inefficient. The only logical solution is to outsource the entire thing, which I suspect will ultimately be the case. Indeed, the imposition of the garbage fee may accelerate that day. But if the City insists on continuing to operate a fundamentally inefficient garbage model, it will ultimately need to ramp up the garbage to keep from impairing the CUS fund.

On balance, I think the proposal is a reasonable stopgap. But make no mistake, this is not a permanent solution to the City's financial woes. And they are not problems we can tax our way out of. To cover the currently projected General Fund deficit, not to mention catching up on our woefully antiquated infrastructure, would require nearly a 60% increase in property taxes over the next five years. That would violate the city charter and state law and prompt a taxpayer revolt.

We will eventually have to face some difficult choices. I do not believe that dramatically increasing property taxes is the answer, and that it would only serve to drive more Houstonians to the suburbs.

Instead, we need to reconsider giving away half of our sales tax (~\$1 billion) to a transit agency that carries fewer riders than it did in 2004 and giving away \$200 million in our property taxes to TIRZs that mostly lavish projects on wealthy neighborhoods.

Whitmire should come down hard on overtime. Large recurring overtime is a management failure. Whitmire should make it clear to the managers of the departments where this has been a problem for years that their jobs are on the line if it continues.

In fact, we need to completely rethink our models for public safety. For years, we have just thrown more money at HPD and HFD, with little to show for it. Those departments are still about the same size today as they were 20 years ago. No "boots on the ground" have been added. HPD's clearance rates remain at abysmal levels. The Ernest & Young efficiency study indicated that HPD and HFD were, by far, the most top-heavy departments in the City.

These will be the real challenges. Hopefully, the City will use the time this proposal buys to do the hard, and sometimes unpopular work, to actually address the City's long-term financial viability.

Bill King

# Elected officials share their words

## Letter from Fred Flickinger

Dear District E Residents,

As your District E Council Member, I want to encourage residents to take a few moments to review the Mayor's proposed Fiscal Year 2027 City of Houston Budget, which was released on May 5. The proposed \$7.5 billion budget represents a \$384 million increase over last year and includes several major policy and financial changes that could directly impact Houston residents.

Unlike last year's budget, which focused heavily on implementing recommendations from the Ernst & Young efficiency study, this year's proposal centers on what the administration describes as structural reforms intended to improve city services and stabilize Houston's long-term financial outlook without increasing property taxes.

One of the most significant proposed changes involves solid waste services. The proposed FY27 budget would transition the City's Solid Waste Department from the General Fund into the Combined Utility System (CUS) and implement a new monthly waste administration fee beginning at \$5 per month for the first two years. The proposal also outlines gradual annual increases until the fee reaches \$25 per month by FY2032. This change is intended to help address long-standing needs related to aging solid waste fleets, facilities, and equipment. The proposed fee would only apply to residents who currently receive City of Houston solid waste services.

The proposed budget also includes a new Right-of-Way (ROW) fee charged to the Combined Utility System, similar to fees already charged to private utility providers operating within the city. The

FY27 proposal would assess a 5% fee on CUS gross revenues, generating an estimated \$104 million for the General Fund. Houston is currently the only major city in Texas without either a municipal solid waste fee or a utility right-of-way fee.

Public safety remains a top priority in the proposed budget, accounting for roughly \$2 billion, or more than 75% of the General Fund. The budget includes funding for five police cadet classes and eleven fire cadet classes, along with contractually obligated pay raises for Houston police officers and firefighters.

The proposed budget does not raise property taxes or defer existing infrastructure obligations. However, I also understand the concerns many residents may have regarding the proposed fees and whether they effectively function as an additional financial burden on Houston households. I believe it is important that residents fully understand the potential impacts and have an opportunity to share their thoughts before the budget is finalized.

I encourage District E residents to stay engaged in the budget process by reviewing the proposed budget online, watching City Council budget workshops on HTV, and, if you wish, participating in upcoming public sessions to provide comments directly to City Council.

As always, my office welcomes your feedback. Residents can contact the District E office at [districte@houstontx.gov](mailto:districte@houstontx.gov) or 832-393-3008 to share comments or concerns regarding the proposed FY2027 budget.

Sincerely,  
**Fred Flickinger**  
Council Member District E

## Helen Elizabeth McAdams



Helen Elizabeth McAdams, 86, a beloved wife, mother, mamaw and faithful servant of God passed away on May 22, 2026. She was born in Houston to Charles and Helen Shenton in 1939, the eldest of three daughters. Helen graduated from Stephen F. Austin High School in 1957 where she was a member of the Honor Society and the Scottish Brigade drill team. While in college, she belonged to the Phi Mu sorority and graduated cum laude from the University of Houston with a Bachelor of Business Administration in 1961.

Helen met James McAdams when he moved into a house across the street from her home and it was love at first sight. Married in 1962, she became the proud mother of four children and mamaw to many grandchildren, great-grand-

# Death

children and countless others who lovingly considered her family over the next 64 years. Building her life on faith, family and unconditional love, her home was always filled with warmth and laughter. She found great joy in preparing meals, baking sweet treats, and bringing loved ones together around the table.

She had a passion for crafting and selling beautiful décor that brought happiness to so many. Her creativity and caring spirit could be seen in every piece she made. Helen also enjoyed shopping for just the right toys and gadgets for her grandchildren and great-grandchildren all year round.

Faith was the cornerstone of her life. As an original member of Sagemont Church, Helen faithfully served in the preschool ministry for more than 30 years, touching generations of children and families with her kindness, patience and love for the Lord. Her gentle spirit and servant's heart left a lasting impact on everyone blessed to know her.

In retirement, Helen and James traveled often to attend the annual Southern Gospel Quartet convention. They also enjoyed spending time in James' childhood home in Lisbon, La.

Helen is preceded in death by her sister MaryAnn Shenton.

She is survived by her loving husband, her son Keith (Rachel) McAdams of Miami Shores, Fla., her daughter Karen (John) Teel of Houston, her son Kenneth (Diane) of Houston, and her daughter Kathy (Michael) Casteel of League City. Helen is survived by her grandchildren Lauren (Michael) Urbanowich, Kristen (Jonathan) Williams, Aidan McAdams, Ryan Casteel and Abby Casteel. She is survived by her great-grandchildren Kaitlyn Urbanowich and John Urbanowich. Helen is also survived by her sister Barbara Shenton of Anchorage, Alaska.

A service will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday, June 4, at Peevey Funeral Home, 12444 Beamer Road, Houston, TX 77089 with visitation at 10 a.m. Interment will follow the service at Forest Park East Cemetery, 21620 Gulf Fwy, Webster, TX 77598.

"Her children arise up and call her blessed" - Proverbs 31:28.

## Leader obituary policy

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

## PISD to close 1 school, restructure another

Continued from Page 1  
and the other at South Houston High School.

**Dobie enrollment**  
The move sends a portion of Tegeler's students to Dobie High School, which is already one of the largest high schools in Texas. Dobie's enrollment has climbed steadily for more than a decade and now sits near 4,800 students, according to recent TEA data. Dobie's enrollment grew sharply after the 2018 opening of its satellite ninth-grade center on Monroe near Fuqua.

That growth stands in sharp contrast to the enrollment declines seen in older North Pasadena neighborhoods. The South Belt area has experienced population growth, younger families moving in and increased housing density, all of which have pushed Dobie's numbers upward year after year.

The Tegeler program will be added to a campus that is already operating at a very large scale. District officials say the "school-within-a-school" model will allow Tegeler's specialized support services to function independently inside Dobie, without merging its students into the general population. Due to Tegeler's small class sizes, only 120-160 students will be affected, much fewer than a traditional campus.

Pasadena ISD officials emphasized its financial challenges and commitment to students: "Pasadena ISD is committed to responsible stewardship of our resources and ensuring every student has access to a high-quality education."

The district also stressed that no employees will lose their jobs, with staffing changes handled through attrition rather than layoffs.

Pasadena ISD officials said the district will continue to update families as the transition moves forward.



## Suspect arrested for indecent exposure on Riverstone Ranch

A 27-year-old male suspect (right) was arrested Friday, May 29, after multiple witnesses reported seeing him in the 1800 block of Riverstone Ranch exposing himself and performing lewd acts in front of passersby. A Pearland police officer is shown to the left assisting deputies with Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia's office respond to the incident around 11:20 a.m. James Howard was charged with indecent exposure. See related story on Page 1.

Photo by David Flickinger

## 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://houstontxlibrary.org/> 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.

The following events are scheduled for Bracewell Library:  
Saturday, June 6, 2 - 4 p.m. Saturdays at HPL. Registration required.  
Monday, June 8, 10:15 - 11:15 a.m. Bring family to storytime. Registration required.  
Monday, June 8, 1 - 5 p.m. HPL get lit 2026. Registration required.  
Tuesday, June 9, 1 - 5 p.m. HPL get lit 2026. Registration required.  
Tuesday, June 9, 4 - 5 p.m. Family craft adventure. Registration required.  
Wednesday, June 10, 1 - 5 p.m. HPL get lit 2026. Registration required.  
Wednesday, June 10, 2 - 3 p.m. Crayola art class: Unearth a story. Registration required.  
Wednesday, June 10, 6 - 7 p.m. Pajama storytime. Registration required.  
Wednesday, June 10, 6 - 7 p.m. Unwind and create at your color basics class. Registration required.  
Visit <https://houstontxlibrary.libcal.com/calendar/events> for more library events.

### 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.

### Parker Williams Library

Parker Williams Library is at 10851 Scarsdale Blvd. Customers are encouraged to visit the building to browse, check out and return materials, use the computers and Wi-Fi, and check out holds. Hours are Monday, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Friday, 1 - 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Visit <https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library> for more information. One can also visit social media links at [Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary](https://www.facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary) and [Instagram.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary](https://www.instagram.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary).

The following events are scheduled for Parker Williams Library:  
Thursday, June 4, 10:15 - 10:45 a.m. Toddler time.  
Friday, June 5, 1 - 3 p.m. Genealogy.  
Friday, June 5, 4:30 - 5:15 p.m. Lego club.  
Saturday, June 6, 10 a.m. - noon. Tai Chi.  
Saturday, June 6, 10 - 11 a.m. Summer reading kickoff party.  
Saturday, June 6, 3 - 4:30 p.m. Korean language music class. Registration required.  
Monday, June 8, Noon - 1:30 p.m. Adult computer classes with Harris County universal services. Registration required.  
Monday, June 8, 1 - 2:30 p.m. ESL conversation club. Registration required.  
Monday, June 8, 4 - 5 p.m. Laser cutter orientation. Registration required.  
Monday, June 8, 6 - 7:30 p.m. Tai Chi.  
Tuesday, June 9, 10:15 - 10:45 a.m. Babies and books.  
Wednesday, June 10, 4 - 5 p.m. Dino hand puppet craft.  
Wednesday, June 10, 4 - 5 p.m. Primordial ooze slime.  
Wednesday, June 10, 6 - 7:30 p.m. Pathway to citizenship. Registration required.

### 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](http://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 additional information, visit [www.hcpl.net](http://www.hcpl.net).

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[www.stlukesatholic.com](http://www.stlukesatholic.com)

**LITURGY SCHEDULE**

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

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Saturday, June 27th  
10:30am - 2:30pm

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## District E Council Member Flickinger Year to Date 2025

Council District E	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year Total
Murder		1	1	1									3
Sexual Assault	6	3	6	9									24
Robbery	13	9	10	18									50
Aggravated Assault	55	46	54	43									198
Kidnapping	1	4	1	2									8
Human Trafficking													
<b>Violent Crime</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>73</b>									<b>283</b>
Auto Theft	45	47	48	41									181
BMV/TMV	103	96	98	115									412
Burglary	29	33	33	27									122
Theft	153	133	124	132									542
<b>Non-Violent Crime</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>315</b>									<b>1,257</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>388</b>									<b>1,540</b>

### Year to Date 2026

Council District E	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year Total
Murder	1		1										2
Sexual Assault	8	3	3	4									18
Robbery	8	3	9	10									30
Aggravated Assault	28	42	40	41									151
Kidnapping	3	1	1										5
Human Trafficking	1		1	1									3
<b>Violent Crime</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>56</b>									<b>209</b>
Auto Theft	42	39	37	35									153
BMV/TMV	85	62	55	49									251
Burglary	34	25	19	22									100
Theft	91	113	104	72									380
<b>Non-Violent Crime</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>178</b>									<b>884</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>234</b>									<b>1,093</b>

Council District E	2025	2026	Diff	% Chg
Murder	3	2	-1	-33.3%
Sexual Assault	24	18	-6	-25.0%
Robbery	50	30	-20	-40.0%
Aggravated Assault	198	151	-47	-23.7%
Kidnapping	8	5	-3	-37.5%
Human Trafficking	0	3	3	0.0%
<b>Violent Crime</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>-74</b>	<b>-26.1%</b>

Council District E	2025	2026	Diff	% Chg
Auto Theft	181	153	-28	-15.5%
BMV/TMV	412	251	-161	-39.1%
Burglary	122	100	-22	-18.0%
Theft	542	380	-162	-29.9%
<b>Non-Violent Crime</b>	<b>1,257</b>	<b>884</b>	<b>-373</b>	<b>-29.7%</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1,540</b>	<b>1,093</b>	<b>-447</b>	<b>-29.0%</b>

Violent crime is DOWN by 74 incidents (26.1%) in 2026.

District E crime statistics, first quarter 2026

## Crime down across District E

Violent crime down 26 percent to previous year

The Houston Police Department recently released the crime statistics from the first quarter of 2026, with significant decreases being reported for crimes across the board throughout District E. (See related chart to the left.)

Violent crime is down by 74 incidents (26 percent) compared to this time last year. Nonviolent crime was also down, with 373 fewer incidents (30 percent) being reported when compared to this time in 2025.

Despite the drop in crime, District E City Council Member Fred Flickinger is hopeful that the numbers can drop even more with a little vigilance, particularly when it comes to burglaries.

"While recent crime statistics across District E continue to show encouraging trends in several categories, we have unfortunately seen recent instances of burglaries in our communities," said Flickinger. "These incidents serve as an important reminder that crime prevention starts with staying proactive and aware."

Flickinger offered a few tips to help prevent burglaries. "Residents are encouraged to lock vehicles and doors at all times, secure valuables out of sight, utilize outdoor lighting and security cameras when possible and report suspicious activity immediately," said Flickinger. "Simple preventive measures can significantly reduce opportunities for crime."

Flickinger said his office has invested more than \$250,000 from the District E service funds toward increased patrol initiatives and crime suppression activities, as well as toward the purchase of utility terrain vehicles and jet skis.

"These resources enhance police mobility and deterrence efforts," said Flickinger. "Our office remains in close communication with the Houston Police Department and local patrol divisions to monitor trends and support ongoing enforcement efforts. Community awareness and vigilance remain among the strongest tools we have for keeping our neighborhoods safe."

To view the Houston Police Department's complete citywide crime statistics, visit [www.houston.tx.gov/police/cs/index-2.htm](http://www.houston.tx.gov/police/cs/index-2.htm).

## Guidry sworn in as Pct. 2 deputy



On Friday, May 29, Deputy Jaylon Guidry (right) was sworn in as the newest law enforcement officer in Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia's office. Precinct 2 Chief Mike Kritzler is shown above swearing Guidry in at a recent ceremony at Garcia's office.

## Teen party ends with felony charges

Partygoer pulls real gun against a toy one

A high school graduation party ended in felony charges being filed Saturday, May 30, when one guest pulled a real gun on another guest who had been playing with a toy one.

According to officials with Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia's office, deputies were dispatched to a call around 8 p.m. in the 9500 block of Stone Terrace Court,

where a large pool party was being held with several teenagers in attendance.

Multiple guests at the party were playing with Orbeez guns (toy guns that shoot gel capsules). As the chaperon was collecting the toy guns, one partygoer produced a real handgun from his shorts and threatened another attendee with it.

The incident caused most in attendance to flee from the residence.

Precinct 2 deputies arrived at the scene and were able to apprehend the suspect — identified as Braylen Lee Gonzalez — and charge him with aggravated assault. Gonzalez, 22, was transported to the Harris County Jail.

## DWI suspect arrested with child, weapon

Deputies assigned to the Precinct 2 Toll Road Division recently observed a vehicle traveling west on the toll road weaving across

lane lines.

Deputies initiated a traffic stop and made contact with the driver, identified as Tobias Mares. During the

investigation, deputies observed several signs of impairment.

Mares was asked to undergo a Standardized Field Sobriety Test.

During the course of the investigation, deputies discovered a young child inside the vehicle and located a weapon. Based on the results of the investigation, deputies arrested Mares and charged him with driving while intoxicated with a child passenger and unlawfully carrying a weapon. Mares was transported to the Harris County Joint Processing Center, where he was booked.



## Dobie FFA booster club awards students with scholarships



The Dobie FFA booster club recently awarded four seniors with scholarships. Left to right, are booster club secretary Sara Gabby Chavez, booster club vice president Samantha Stacey-Hernandez, booster club treasurer Stephanie Jones, scholarship recipient Kevin Rubio, scholarship recipient Sophia Careaga, scholarship recipient Xavier Martinez, scholarship recipient Mathew Trevino, booster public relations representative Moriah Oddo and booster club president Steve Trevino.

## Stuchbery Elementary School names April Stallions of the month



Stuchbery Elementary School recently announced their Stallions of the month for April. These students were selected by their teachers for demonstrating responsibility. Left to right, are (first row) Amelia Keys, Kamaiyah Howard, Abigail Gaught, Cruz Moreno, Julian Vidal, Jose Moreno, Isaac Perez, Sarabeth Hernandez, (second row) principal Jose Hernandez, Malik Mark-Gonzalez, Isaiah Velasquez, Logan Allen, Coby Pescina, Nailah James, Javier Rotunno, Giovanni Campos, Marlon Castillo, counselor Alyssa Valdez, (third row) La'Khyah Stafford, Audrey Omana, Aaron Quiroz, Owen Hood, Luke Oliva, (fourth row) Mathias Garcia, Izzabella Ross, Bella Walker, Leila Oliva, Rolando Vidal, (fifth row) Alan Mora, Vianna Rivera, Ella Lackey, Simon Matta, Israel Sanchez and Jonathan Knight. Emilia Pasasin is not pictured.

## Family celebrates Blancas' high school graduation



Gabriella Raquel Blancas (center) graduated from Rockwall-Heath High School. Her grandparents, Sageglenn residents Rosa and Don Graham, attended the ceremony held Wednesday, May 27. Gabriella's parents are Michael Blancas and Teresa Graham Blancas (both Clear Brook High School Class of 2000 graduates) who now reside in Forney. Gabriella will attend college in August.

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# Atkinson Elementary celebrates Eckols' retirement



After more than two decades of dedication to students, staff and families, Atkinson Elementary School secretary Elizabeth Eckols is retiring. Eckols first joined Atkinson Elementary School in 2003 as a physical education aide before later becoming the school secretary, a role in which she became a familiar and welcoming face to generations of Atkinson families. Throughout her years at Atkinson, Eckols worked alongside longtime principal Lena Ortiz until 2021, when Chris Bui became principal. Colleagues describe Eckols as dependable, caring and deeply committed to the Atkinson community. A proud Pasadena Independent School District alumna herself, Eckols graduated from J. Frank Dobie High School with the Class of 1980. During her retirement celebration, Eckols shared that although she is retiring from daily school life, she plans to remain close to her Atkinson family and visit often. "Elizabeth will truly be missed," coworkers said as they celebrated her years of service and lasting impact on the campus. As for retirement plans, Eckols hopes to spend her days relaxing on a beach and enjoying a well-earned new chapter after years of faithfully serving the students and staff of Atkinson Elementary. Elizabeth officially begins retirement in July.

At left, left to right, are retired Melillo secretary Wanda Soto, Elizabeth Eckols, retired Atkinson bilingual first-grade teacher Rosa Quintana and retired Atkinson masterlist clerk Lettie Lopez.



Left to right, are principal Chris Bui, school nurse Sandi Perry, masterlist clerk Martha Reed, Elizabeth Eckols, attendance clerk Jessica Carlos, office clerk and IMM Karen O'Connor and assistant principal Regina Barnes who recognized Eckols' dedication to Atkinson Elementary.

## Hometown Heroes Park hosts free ballroom dance

A free ballroom dance is held every Wednesday from 12:30 to 3 p.m. at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 East League City Parkway, League City. Everyone is welcome regardless of skill level.

The dance is casual dress, and the purpose is to have fun, get some mental and physical exercise and make friends. A variety of rhythms are provided by Neva and Bill Schroder, including foxtrot, waltz, rumba, cha-cha, tango, Viennese waltz, swing, West Coast swing and several popular Latin dances.

Several dancers have attended regularly since the dance began in 2012. Lasting friendship is a bonus of this weekly event. Walk-ins are welcome to share in the fun.

The ballroom has a large floating hardwood floor and natural light from many windows and a wall of mirrors.

While this regular dance is provided free by volunteers, there is a fee for age-dependent nonresidents and nonsenior residents. The fees are handled entirely by the front office at Hometown Heroes Park. Information is available by calling 281-554-1185.

## Friends of PWBL seeks donations

The Friends of Parker Williams Branch Library would like to thank the South Belt community for their continuing support. The library is currently in need of new or gently used children's books, adult paperback novels (both fiction and nonfiction) and DVDs and CDs. Donations can be made during open hours at 10851 Scarsdale Blvd., suite 501.

## \$500,000 grant expands autism services through UHCL center

Families seeking autism and developmental services in the region will have expanded access to care through a \$500,000 grant supporting parent-directed treatment through the Connecting the Dots Program at the University of Houston-Clear Lake's Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities.

The funding, awarded through the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board's 2026-28 Autism Grant Program, supports the provision of training services that enable parents or other home-based caregivers to deliver evidence-based treatments to their children with autism spectrum disorder.

Demand for autism and developmental services often exceeds available capacity, leaving families waiting for support. Connecting the Dots helps address that gap by extending care beyond traditional clinical settings and equipping families with tools they can use at home.

"This grant represents a significant investment we can make for the families we serve at the Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities," said Dr. Glenn Sanford, dean of the College of Human Sciences and Humanities at UHCL. "Connecting the Dots empowers parents and caregivers by giving them the tools, confidence, and evidence-based strategies to support their children. It is part of our broader approach to autism spectrum disorder that integrates treatment, education,

research, and support."

The Autism Grant Program awards funding every two years through a competitive application process. UHCL has received AGP grants in every grant cycle since the program was established by the Texas Legislature in 2016.

UHCL and the University of Texas at Austin Department of Special Education each received the highest amount awarded in AGP funding, \$500,000. Also receiving grants were the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, Texas Tech University, the UT at Austin Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Services, and the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.

In addition to parent-directed treatment, the AGP

supports board-certified behavior analyst training for teachers and paraprofessionals and innovative autism treatment model development. More than \$7.33 million in 14 separate awards were distributed across the three categories.

UHCL's Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities, founded in 2008, plays a crucial role in teaching future leaders in the field, conducting world-class research to discover future treatments, and supporting families in the surrounding community. The center is located in the Arbor South Building on the UHCL campus at 2700 Bay Area Blvd. For more information or to schedule an appointment, visit the center website at <https://www.uhcl.edu/autism-center/>.

## Moore announces Teacher of the Year



Third-grade teacher Ashley Evans has recently been named Moore Elementary School's Teacher of the Year for the 2025-2026 school year for her dedication and impact she makes every day as she works with students and staff.

## Stuchbery announces honor roll, merit roll

Officials of Stuchbery Elementary School have announced the fourth nine-weeks honor roll and merit roll for the 2025-2026 school year.

**Third grade Honor roll**  
Adan Moreno, Olivia Mendez, Izzabella Ross, Autumn Jones, Sebastian Dominguez, Mathias Garcia, Julian Mier, Javier Rodriguez and Gendrick Zarza.

**Merit roll**  
Ruben Benavides, Isiah Sung, Braylon Jenkins and Cameron Baines.

**Fourth grade Honor roll**  
Dee'Asia Moses, Victoria Rangel, Arianna Allen, Elyzah Balderas, Omar Carballo and Elia Rivera.

**Merit roll**  
Laila Arispe, Bryan Hua, Madelina Jacuinde, Mateo Martinez, Jaxon Abston, Leonardo Batiste and Azariah Brito.

# Remember When

### 50 years ago (1976)

Cathie Hawkins was selected as the feature twirler for Sam Houston College.

The All-Star committee released guidelines stating that the selection of all-stars would be based on votes cast by the players instead of managers.

### 45 years ago (1981)

Emergency personnel from the Sagemont station of the Houston Fire Department responded to five fire calls and 15 ambulance calls in the period from May 25 to June 1.

The South Belt area got two new stoplights as a result of a 1979 bond program. The lights were to be erected at the intersections of Beamer Road at Scarsdale Boulevard and at Scarsdale Boulevard and Sageglen Drive.

### 40 years ago (1986)

Pasadena Independent School District Superintendent of Schools Dr. Lon Luty agreed to upgrade his contract from two remaining years to a full three-year contract, following a 6-1 board decision.

Two men were foiled in what would have been the fourth auto theft from the Beverly Hills Intermediate parking lot.

### 35 years ago (1991)

More than 60 percent of the people responding to the Clear Creek Independent School District survey concerning Weber Elementary School wanted the school closed.

A Memorial Day weekend trip to an East Texas resort area put a South Belt man's lifesaving knowledge to the test and he passed. Beverly Hills resident George Haines and his family spent a weekend at Cypress Lake Resort near the Trinity River without incident until he went swimming at one of the resort pools and found a group of people panicking over a young girl who had accidentally fallen into the pool. George worked to keep 6-year-old Brittany Gonzalez alive. It took 10 minutes before the little girl even showed signs of life.

### 30 years ago (1996)

Sam Houston Tollway East opened, allowing South Belt travelers to go from the South Belt area to the ship

channel.

The Pasadena School District's proposed \$168.9 million 1996-97 budget included salary increases of approximately 3 percent.

### 25 years ago (2001)

The South Belt area received 7 inches of rainfall, with 90 percent of that falling between 3 and 8 p.m.

Applicants for a Genoa Red Bluff Road landfill were using a new technique as they pursued a permit for a Class IV landfill through Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission.

Applerock Group agreed to donate \$35,000 to the Genoa Elementary Parent Teacher Organization if there were

no contested hearings on the final phase of permitting for the landfill.

### 20 years ago (2006)

An arrest for assault with a deadly weapon as well as family violence and criminal mischief calls kept Precinct 2 constable's deputies busy during the Memorial Day weekend.

The South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce planned to host a program on hurricane awareness.

Third-grade Stuchbery Elementary student Anna Goodman transformed her end-of-the-year class research assignment into a non-profit organization into a schoolwide fundraiser, rais-

ing more than \$1,100.

### 15 years ago (2011)

Three teachers and one Galveston County sheriff's deputy were taken to the hospital following a fight at Clear Brook High School. According to Clear Creek Independent School District officials, the incident occurred after lunch as the students were passing between classes, and one student accused another of stealing his cellphone.

Several students reportedly gathered to watch the brawl, and several joined in it. The teachers and the deputy, who worked as a liaison officer on the campus, were injured as they attempted to break

up the fight. Dismissals were staggered to prevent more violence.

### 10 years ago (2016)

The body of a missing 15-year-old female South Houston High School student was found inside an abandoned apartment complex in the 1600 block of Avenue N on May 30. Karen Perez, a ninth-grader at the area school, had been reported missing the previous Friday after she failed to return home from school. A male juvenile, reportedly the girl's boyfriend, was arrested and charged with her murder.

### 5 years ago (2021)

The South Belt became

an area of focus in the search for a missing 5-year-old boy, as police and volunteers from Texas EquuSearch combed the area near Dixie Farm Road and the Gulf Freeway, looking for signs of the child. The body of Samuel Olson, however, was later found inside a Jasper motel room. Theresa Balboa, the girlfriend of Olson's father, was detained for questioning. Olson was reported missing from southwest Houston Thursday, May 27. Police said, however, he may have been missing for much longer. Olson was last seen by someone outside his family on April 30, when he was at school in northeast Hous-

ton. Investigators had initially focused their attention on the area around the Gateway at Ellington apartment complex on FM 1959 near Dixie Farm Road after receiving reports the child may have been there at a friend of Olson's father's girlfriend.

Morris Middle School fifth-grade science teacher Sonia Bonavita was named Pasadena ISD's 2021 Elementary Teacher of the Year. Bonavita, along with the other winners, received the honor at a luncheon hosted by Pasadena ISD Superintendent Dr. DeeAnn Powell and the school district's board of trustees. For her efforts, Bonavita received free use of a new vehicle through the summer, courtesy of sponsor Bayway Auto Group.

### 1 year ago (2025)

Houston police are investigating a fatal motorcycle accident that took place around 8:05 p.m. on Tuesday, May 20, in the 9100 block of the Gulf Freeway near College Avenue/Airport Boulevard.

The identity of the dead male, 23, was pending notification to family members by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences at press time.

According to Houston Police Department officials, the driver of a silver Alfa Romeo Stelvio 9 was traveling south on the Gulf Freeway when he failed to maintain a single lane and struck the black barriers placed in front of an exit. The vehicle then rotated into a moving lane on the freeway and was struck by a black Suzuki motorcycle.

The operator of the motorcycle was thrown from the motorcycle. A black Aprilia RSV motorcycle then struck the riderless Suzuki motorcycle.

The operator of the Suzuki motorcycle was transported to an area hospital where he was pronounced dead. The operator of the Aprilia motorcycle suffered minor injuries and was treated at the scene.

The driver of the Alfa Romeo was determined not to be intoxicated, and was questioned and released.

The investigation was continuing at press time.

# Over The Back Fence by Nicole

**MATT CELEBRATES A BIRTHDAY**  
Matt Griesmeyer celebrates a birthday June 4. Best wishes are sent to Matt from his former co-workers at the Leader.

### ENJOY YOUR DAY, LAURA

Birthday greetings are sent to former Leader staffer Laura Aguilar on June 7 from her former co-workers.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY, DR. CAMPBELL-FOX**  
Dr. Mary Campbell-Fox of Campbell Family Practice and Ghebranious Internal Medicine is wished a happy birthday Tuesday, June 9, from her family and friends.

**SAMANTHA HAS A BIRTHDAY**  
Samantha Guerra, former Leader staff member, celebrates her birthday Tuesday, June 9. Wishes for a happy birthday are sent from her former co-workers.

**VIRGINIA CELEBRATES 81 YEARS**  
Longtime South Belt resident Virginia Simon celebrates her 81st birthday June 9. Birthday wishes are sent from her son Nick Simon and the Leader staff.

**GILESES MARK 37TH ANNIVERSARY**  
Tracy and Jim Giles of Kirkwood South celebrate their 37th wedding anniversary June 10. Congratulations and best wishes are sent from sons Aaron Giles and wife, Ashley; Cody Giles and wife Liz; daughter Kristen and husband, Tyler Prill; grandchildren Jaxon, Jace and Braelyn Giles; nephews Robert Griffin; other family members and friends; and the Leader staff.

### SCHOOL DAZE

The following staff of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays June 4 through June 10.

### Atkinson Elementary

Send a birthday greeting June 4 to

Whitely Black. Best wishes for a wonderful birthday June 8 to Jessica Carlos.

### Burnett Elementary

Remember to wish Araceli Sosa a happy birthday June 6. Send a birthday wish June 8 to Ana Jimenez.

### Bush Elementary

Sing a happy birthday song to Felicia Willis-White June 9.

### Frazier Elementary

Remember to wish Stephanie Reyes a happy birthday June 4. Elsa Martinez celebrates a birthday June 7. Birthday greetings go out to Adriana Cortez June 9.

### Genoa Elementary

Sing a happy birthday song to Esmeralda Mayorga and Sandy Guzman June 6.

### Hancock Elementary

Damaris Juarez celebrates a birthday June 4. June 6 is the day for a fun celebration for Ariana Guerra. Birthday greetings go out to Lizet Turcios June 8.

### Meador Elementary

Remember to wish Mallory Villasana a happy birthday June 9. Blow out the candles June 10 for Holly Nelson.

### Moore Elementary

June 9 is the day for a fun celebration for Tania Cantu.

### Stuchbery Elementary

The day for a celebration for Jose Wong is June 4.

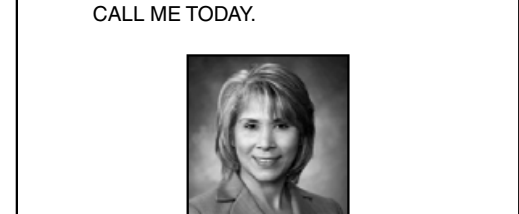
### Melillo Middle School

Send a birthday greeting June 4 to Lisa Hoffpaur. June 5 is the day to break out the balloons and birthday cake with ice cream for Gabriel Busch and Elizabeth Soto. Celebrating a memorable birthday June 8 is Lilliana Monita.

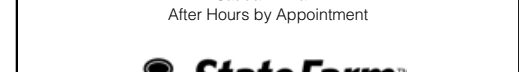
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# SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

## Rodriguez becomes PISD's first ever flag football signee

By John Bechtle  
Sports Editor

Scroll back to 12 months ago, and there is simply no reasonable expectation that Christina Rodriguez or any of her other Class of 2026 high school graduate pals could have envisioned what has taken place since then.

Rodriguez, well known as a track and field standout, will indeed compete on the track at Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio.

She will also be doing much more for the Saints, who compete in the Red River Athletic Conference as part of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics.

There will almost certainly be others to soon follow, but Rodriguez now holds the designation of being the first ever Pasadena ISD graduate to sign a letter of intent to play flag football collegiately after agreeing to join Our Lady of the Lake University, which is still building its program and will begin competition next spring.

"Believe it or not, I have watched videos online of other girls playing flag football in Florida and other areas for years, and it's something that I always hoped that I would get a chance to play," Rodriguez said.

"But before now, we had never even heard of flag football being part

of athletics in Texas, so it's something that we really never expected to be available to us.

"I'm so thankful to have this opportunity, and I can't wait to get started at our Lady of the Lake. I truly love the sport, and I am pumped about seeing how far I can take my game.

"So far, our team has about 20 girls that are part of the group for next year at Our Lady of the Lake. We've been communicating with each other, and we get along so well already.

"I think everybody is just in a situation where they want to be helpful to each other and come together as a team to do the best we can out there on the field. I am so ready to get started."

Rodriguez, who has competed in track and field since a very young age starting with the former longtime South Belt area program Rising Stars Track Club, also ran at Beverly Hills Intermediate and has also competed at Dobie for the previous four years.

An accomplished competitor in the 400 for sure, Rodriguez said she may also compete in the 200 at our Lady of the Lake.

With both of the flag football and track and field seasons running concurrently next spring, for now Rodriguez has only

committed herself to the indoor portion of the track and field season as she focuses on preparing for flag football play.

This emergence of the game of flag football for

females in the state of Texas truly is sweeping in like a tidal wave.

With Houston Texans owners Hannah and Cal McNair funding the She's Next initiative in

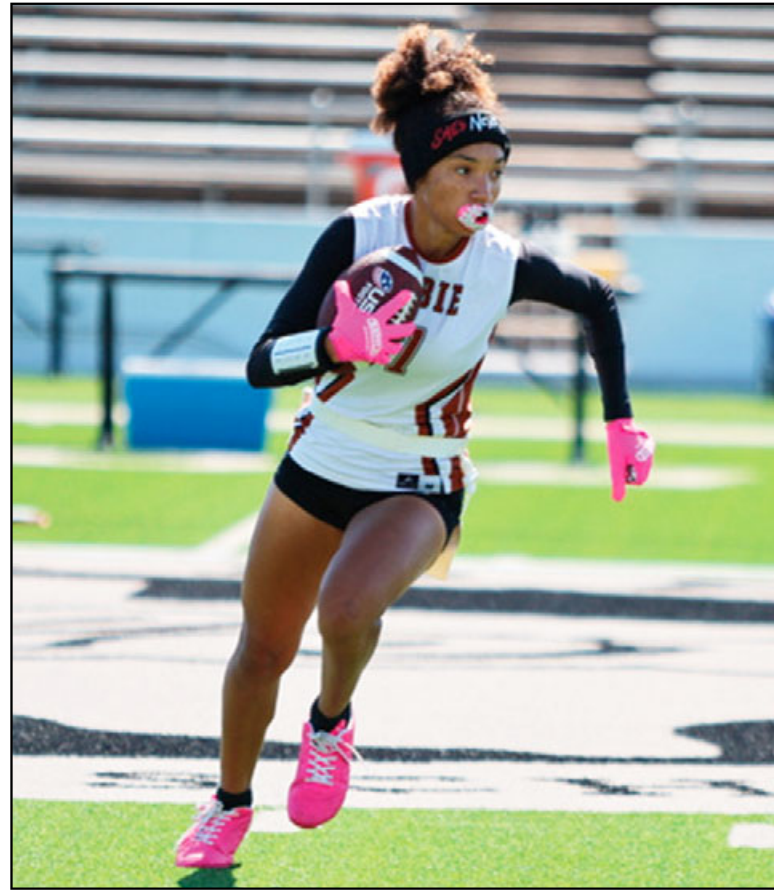
the Houston area and the Dallas Cowboys doing the same in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, the push for the University Interscholastic League to officially sanction flag football as

an official sport is heavy.

The UIL brain trust is scheduled to meet in just days, with several opinions around the area of the belief that the UIL will indeed give the sport the go-ahead heading in the next school year to coincide with the start of a new 2-year realignment cycle.

There are important things such as timing on the scholastic schedule to consider as well as funding for equipment, officiating schedules and much more, but there is a growing belief that flag football will indeed become a UIL sport sooner rather than later.

Continued on Page 6



Even after arriving on the flag football field at Dobie High School well after the season started, class of 2026 senior Christina Rodriguez made an immediate impact for the Longhorns and has now seen her talents turn into a collegiate opportunity for herself.

**She's Next Flag  
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## PISD honors flag All-City selections

Following the completion of an exceptionally successful debut flag football season, several Pasadena ISD student-athletes were honored for their play as members of the All-City Team in the Houston Texans She's Next league.

The All-City Team members from Dobie High School included Jordyn Brown, Taylor Kings-ton, Christina Rodriguez, Demi Rodriguez and Arielle Taylor.

South Houston, which will compete later this

month in the state championship tournament at the University of North Texas, was represented by Sariah Albert, Aniya Capers, Nicole Escobar, De'aiziah Foster and Julissa Sanchez.

The Pasadena Eagles were represented by Emily De La Garza, Yaliris Diaz Semidey, Lianna Garcia and Barbra Tijerina.

The All-City Team honorees from Pasadena Memorial High School were Zaria Edgar, Alexea Gudino, Alessandra Mata and Jolie Trejo.



Chloe Barnes (2) and Sariah Albert (6) of South Houston celebrated on the sideline after the Trojans won the district flag football championship tournament. South Houston has now advanced to compete in the She's Next State Championship tournament June 13-14 at the University of North Texas. The Trojans will carry a perfect 9-0 record into the tournament.

## Pioneers earn second straight baseball TAPPS II State Championship

Following a lengthy lightning/weather delay, the Lutheran South Academy varsity baseball program went on to capture its second consecutive 5A Division II Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools State Championship late last month with a 4-3 victory over Fort Worth Christian.

Richard Jones smacked the game-winner into left field in the bottom of the seventh to secure the walkoff win as everyone

wearing a Pioneer jersey stormed the field.

With the second straight state championship trophy in house, Lutheran South has now collected six state championships since 2015.

It truly has been a remarkable run for the Pioneers under the guidance of longtime head coach Aaron Schneider, who admitted that this particular championship might yet have been the toughest one to earn.

"Like any other program often does, we had some

injuries and some other setbacks this season that kept us from being at full strength the entire way," Schneider said.

"Obviously, that's the way it goes sometimes. But with all of that said, this group came together and got the job done each and every time when it needed to.

"We trailed 3-0 going into the final two innings of the state championship game. We were going up against a very, very good

baseball program. During the weather delay, we basically told ourselves that we had six outs to play with and still had an opportunity to come through with the win.

"We were able to do that, and I can't be any prouder of this group. Winning a state championship any season is never easy, and this particular team can truly say that it was earned.

The 2025 team went 34-3-1 overall, easily winning the district championship

at 10-0 before embarking upon a dominant postseason run of things that included plenty of lopsided victories during both the regular season and postseason.

The Pioneers defeated Second Baptist 6-0 in the state semifinals a season ago and then went on to hammer Grapevine Faith Christian 11-0 for the program's fifth state title.

Serna certainly headlined the lengthy list of talent on the roster. Having

played his first two seasons at Dobie, Serna made the personal decision to transfer to Lutheran South beginning with his junior season and developed into one of the top prep catchers in the nation during his career.

Serna had been projected to be an early round draft selection in the 2025 MLB amateur draft but had made his intentions clear that he would attend LSU instead. While Serna was certainly one of the top overall performers in the entire class



The Lutheran South Academy state championship baseball team included, left to right, (first row) Fernando De La Pena, Jaylen Walker, Dax Taylor, Hank Hughes, Troy Gonzalez, (second row) Ethan Saucedo, Kylan Seago, Carson Rocha, David Corona, Cayden Deason, Whit Vandyrgriff, Cole Weido, Alijah Banda, Adam Morales, Dean Nowak, (third row) Jake Stewart, Marcus Cantu,

Drew Rocha, Gann Howell, Theron Ayala, Vivek Bhalla, Kayden Bulpitt, Rich Scarborough, Wyatt Powell, Will Simmons, Barrett Brents, Bryce Haydock, Caleb Taylor, A.J. Bettcher, (fourth row) head coach Aaron Schneider, assistant coach Trey Sanchez, Richard Jones Jr., Brycen Gilbert, Max Saldana, Landon Victorian, Jon Mueller and Jake Williams.

## Back-to-back losses send San Jac softball home

Perhaps still carrying a bit of residual disappointment following a 2-1 loss earlier in the day to top-ranked Florida South-Western State, San Jacinto College suffered a 10-1 run-rule loss to Arizona Western May 26 during day two play at the National Junior College Athletic Association Division I World Series in Oxford, Ala.

With the consecutive losses on the national stage, the Ravens saw their tremendous 2026 season, which included a South Zone conference championship and a regional tournament runner-up finish, come to a close far too soon than planned.

The Ravens opened the tournament May 25 at the No. 17 seed and delivered a 7-0 shutout victory over

McCook College. Early the next day, San Jacinto College went up against defending national champion and tournament top-seed Florida South-Western State and battled the entire way before falling just shy in a 2-1 loss.

Just hours later, the locals went up against Arizona Western in an elimination game.

Surrendering four runs in the bottom of the first inning, the Ravens found it hard to mount much offense against Arizona Western starting pitcher Jessica Smith.

Meanwhile, Arizona Western scored six more runs in the bottom of the fourth inning and completed the run-rule victory in five innings, thus eliminating San Jacinto College. Bree Norman tripled in

a run in the third inning for the Ravens, who otherwise mustered just six hits in the game.

It was a difficult way for the locals to end the season, but it did nothing to take away from the success of this particular group.

Earlier this month, several Raven players were recognized by the National Fastpitch coaches Association as All-American Scholar Athletes.

Those honorees from San Jacinto College included Jules Delome, Kenadie Guthrie, Addison Opela, Norman, Jenna Sylvester, Zoie Powell, Ary Garcia and Vanessa Valdez.

Several of those athletes and a couple of more were also honored as members of the Region 14 All-Academic Team for achieving a grade point average of

3.25 or better during the 2025-2026 scholastic year.

Those players included Delome, Norman, Garcia,

## JFD softball players collect top accolades

Reaching the third round of the postseason for the first time in 15 years, the Dobie varsity softball program simply dazzled during the 2026 season.

The group wound up winning 26 overall games and pushed Cy-Fair to the limit before falling just short in the Class 6A Division I regional semifinals. Following the completion of the regular season, the district's head coaches delivered their choices for All-District honors.

As expected, several Longhorns took home ex-

Powell, Guthrie, Sylvester, Opela, Valdez and Adrian Cantu, Jenna Hashaw and Bree Winkelman.

The Longhorns' honorable mention selections included Eniko Sanchez and Alexis Martinez. Players who also excelled in the classroom on their way to all academic team honors within the district included Sanchez, Martinez, Gabby Ramirez, Genesis Leal, Persephone Soria, Destiny Sidiropoulos, Lauren Liscano, Alayna Rodriguez, Jalyn Torres and Madison Villatoro. See photos on Page 6.

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# Dobie girls awarded All-District softball recognition after outstanding season



Vanessa De La Fuente (7) had already been one of the top performing pitchers in program history and then saved her best for her final season. De La Fuente was an easy choice as a first team All-District performer within 22-6A.



Dobie senior Natalie DeHoyos (12) was simply outstanding at the top of the lineup for the Longhorns during her final softball season as she collected first team All-District honors.



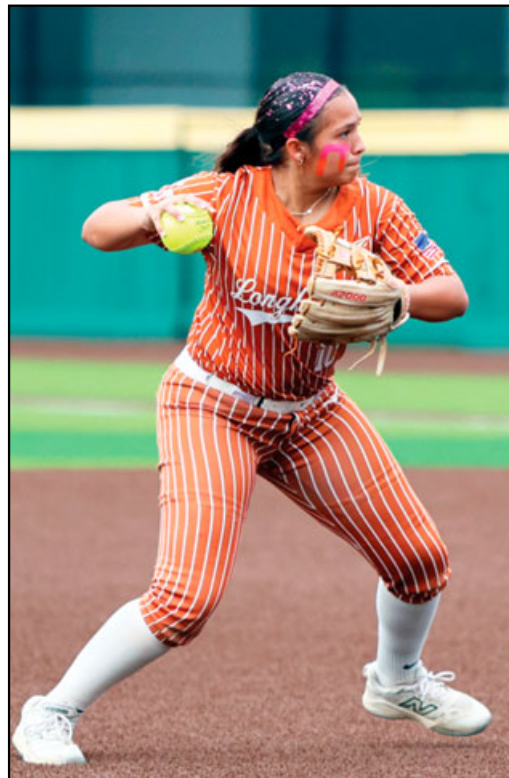
Dobie junior Persephone Soria (15) was the 22-6A Newcomer of the Year as a freshman two seasons ago and has been nothing short of terrific during her entire career. Soria this season was chosen as a first team All-District player in the at-large slot.



The 22-6A first team All-District catcher was Dobie's Gabby Ramirez (11) as the junior was solid both at the plate and behind the plate. She will return in 2027 as one of the leaders within the program.



Destiny Sidiropoulos (3) came up big for Dobie as a sophomore throughout the season and earned 22-6A second team All-District accolades.



The Longhorns' Khloe Coronado (10) was a consistent performer throughout the 2026 season on her way to being chosen as a second team All-District player in the 22-6A mix.



Senior Chloe Nunez (22) maximized her opportunities in the circle for the Longhorns during her final season as she was a second team All-District choice following a strong 2026 campaign.



Freshman Maddi Campos (6) is another big part of the Dobie softball program's future after she put together a terrific first season on her way to second team All-District designated player honors in 2026.

## Dobie's Rodriguez a pioneer in flag football explosion

Continued from Page 5

Houston ISD has actually been competing on the flag football field for a couple of years, and more and more school districts are getting involved each year. Willard Joiner Jr., a longtime educator and athletics coach at Dobie High School, told the *Leader* that he was in the process of writing up the details for his own grant proposal when Pasadena ISD Athletic Director Patrick Longstreet, with the support of superintendent Dr. Toni Lopez, instead took over the initiative and gained the support of the Texans as part of the She's

Next program.

"There is just no way that we could have ever expected to have flag football come together as quickly as we did without the support of the Houston Texans and the 'She's Next' program," Joiner said. "They have been able to provide whatever we need, whether it be additional mouthpieces, flags, footballs, or anything else required to play the sport. The Texans have typically shipped it out the very next day to us. "As for us putting together a couple of teams at Dobie, of course there have been the typical

bumps in the road and learning experiences for any first year program, but I am sure that as we move along we will get almost all of those things ironed out. "The great thing for us is that the popularity of flag football at Dobie High School has been huge. Almost every week this spring, I had more and more girls approaching me about the possibility of playing. These girls obviously love the idea of being able to play the sport of football. "In this case of course it is flag football, but the nuances and concepts of the two sports, be it foot-

ball versus flag football, are very similar. You'll run the ball, you'll pass and catch the ball, and you defend the other team and essentially tackle them by pulling a flag. "We have seen that a lot of these girls, whether they have previously been involved with another sport at Dobie High School or not, have been very successful playing flag football. It's been great to see. "We can't thank our school district enough for first allowing us to compete and then providing such tremendous support to ensure that we were able to get this thing to

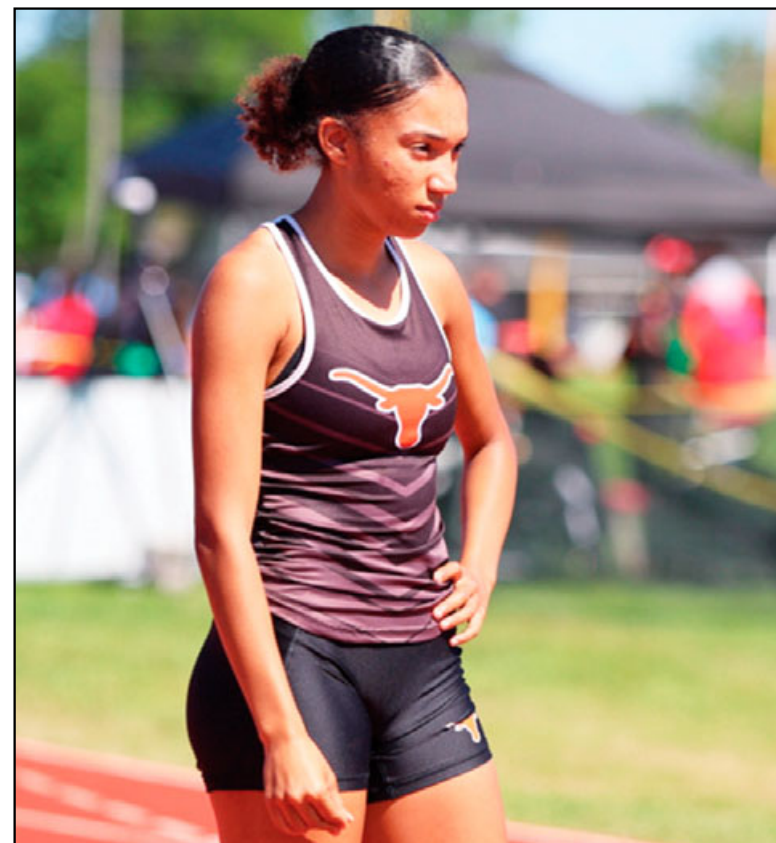
come together this spring for what I believe was a terrific debut season at Dobie High School." Next week, the South Houston flag football team will compete in the She's Next state championship tournament at the University of North Texas after having put together a perfect 9-0 record through the regular and postseason. South Houston first competed in a South District that included the other four Pasadena ISD high schools in addition to Alvin, Shadow Creek and Brazoswood. The Trojans were 4-0 over four consecutive weekends of the regular

season and then defeated Pasadena Memorial in the district championship tournament finale. From there, South Houston advanced to the Houston Texans practice bubble for the district and regional playoffs, where the Trojans were victorious in a pair of games to advance to the state tournament. As for Rodriguez, she arrived late for the flag football season as she was finishing up her responsibilities on the track for the Longhorns. Joiner said he knew who Rodriguez was in terms of her previous athletics participation at Dobie but had one question for her. "I just asked her if she was fast, and she said she was," Joiner said. "The first time we handed her the football, Christina rocketed down the sideline as fast as you can imagine. "From that point on, we found out in a hurry that she could help us in a big way. She truly has a knack for the sport, seems to have a great feel for how to avoid defenders who want to pull her flag and just in general is tremendously athletic. She really has a future in the sport in my mind." There are plenty of collegiate programs across the nation competing at the club level even as there aren't yet as many NCAA, NAIA or JUCO programs officially recognizing flag football as a sport. But just as the state of Texas has seen a rapid growth, the collegiate ranks appear to be following suit. Joiner said representatives from such programs is Mary-Hardin Baylor, Our Lady of the Lake and several others were on hand during several of the flag football outings in-

volving the Pasadena ISD programs this spring. He recalls the scenario in which after Rodriguez was handed the football in a singular play, one particular collegiate recruiter quickly inquired as to who she was. Rodriguez herself admits that she had quite a bit of interest as it relates to track and field, but she also saw a tremendous amount of interest within the flag football theme. Our Lady of the Lake is certainly not the lone program to have shown interest in Rodriguez. She had options for sure, and is very happy to have settled on Our Lady of the Lake, where Rodriguez will study biology with an interest in eventually getting involved with biotechnology. "It is all really truly a blessing," Rodriguez said. "First of all, none of us girls from Texas expected to have this opportunity to play flag football in the first place. "It simply was not something that we thought about even a year ago. There were little talks here and there about the possibility of something like flag football getting started, but for most of us seniors in the 2026 class, we figured it would be too late for us. "I'm a competitive person, and flag football is something that I'm very excited about and invested in to see where I can take my game to. I've been given this opportunity, and I am not going to take it for granted. I feel like I have some of the skills necessary to be very successful. Above all, I'm just excited to get to Our Lady of the Lake, to meet all of my teammates both in flag football and track and field and begin this next phase of my life."



Dobie High School Class of 2026 graduate and track and field and flag football standout Christina Rodriguez (left) was joined by Willard Joiner Jr., who headed up the Longhorns' first season on the flag football field after she signed a letter of intent with Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio. Rodriguez will compete in both track and field and flag football collegiately.



While Christina Rodriguez is excited about playing flag football at Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio, the Class of 2026 Dobie High School graduate is also a gifted track and field athlete and will compete in that sport as well moving forward.

### Dobie girls' hoops camp

Dobie girls' basketball head coach Rachel Flores will host the 2026 Longhorn basketball camp June 8-10 at \$60 per student at the main campus. Incoming first-through fifth-grade students will attend the camp from 8 to 10 a.m., while incoming sixth-through ninth-grade students will attend from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Those who wish may register via X at Dobie GBB, then scan the QR code. For additional information, direct email to Flores at RRodriguezFlores@pasadena.naisd.org.

### Brook boys' hoops camp

Clear Brook boys' basketball head coach Nathan Janak will host the 2026 Wolverine Basketball Camp June 15-18 at the main campus. Session one will be open to students entering the fourth through sixth grade as of next school year and will run from 9 to 10 a.m. Cost of the campus is \$125 per student. Session two is for boys and girls entering kindergarten through the third-grade levels and will begin at 10 a.m. Cost of the camp is \$85 per student. The third session will be open to students entering the seventh through ninth grades and will begin at 1 p.m. Cost of the camp is \$125 per student. To register for the camp, visit the Clear Brook boys' basketball site on X at Clear Brook Hoops.

### Bears plan summer open gym

The Beverly Hills intermediate coaching staff has announced open weight room dates for the summer. Each of the sessions will be from 10 a.m. to noon, including June 2-4, June 9-11, June 30-July 2, July 14-16, July 21-22 and July 28-30. Any students currently playing football or planning to play, may also attend the Dobie Head-Start football camp July 28-30. The on-campus, back-to-school camps for both volleyball and football will be held Aug. 4-6, from 4:30-5:30 p.m. each day.

### Dobie strength/conditioning

The Dobie High School coaching staff has planned dates for the summer strength and conditioning program at the main campus. These sessions will run from 8-10 a.m. daily, with sport-specific sessions to follow from 10-11 a.m. each day. The dates include June 8-11, June 15-18, June 22-25, June 29-July 2, July 6-9 and July 13-16.

### Lions' strength/conditioning

The Thompson Intermediate coaching staff will host strength and conditioning sessions for both boys and girls throughout the summer. Each of the sessions will run from 9-11 a.m. each day. The dates include June 1-4, June 8-11, June 15-18, June 22-25, July 6-9 and July 13-16. The Lions football camp will be held July 20-23, from 9-11 a.m. each day at a cost of \$40 per student. Additional information and or adjustments to the above information will be provided as needed. As required by the state, all students must have a current athletic physical on file and have had completed required Rank One paperwork.

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# CALENDAR

**THURSDAY, JUNE 4**

7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill," Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., and Saturday at 7:30 a.m., Hope Community United Methodist Church, 2838 Lily St. Call 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit https://aahouston.org/meetings/.

7:30 a.m. **Rotary Club of Pearland** - Check website for time and location https://pearlandrotary.com/events/calendar or call 832-293-9860.

9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - Exhibits include dioramas, a turn-of-the-century doctor's office and an old-time kitchen. Open Tues. - Sat., 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., 204 S. Main, Pasadena. Call Karen Hollan at 713-472-0565 for appointment. Tours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**FRIDAY, JUNE 5**

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

9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - See Thursday's notice.

Noon **Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group**, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or at https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners. Call 713-686-6300 for more information. Meets Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA**, open meeting, 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com or https://nastuff.com/. Meets Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

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

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

day at 8 a.m. and 10:15 a.m., 11456 Space Center Blvd. (in back of a medical/retail community). For details, call 281-479-7285 and leave a message, or stop by.

5:30 p.m. **Celebrate Recovery** - A faith-based 12-Step program, in the Life Kids Chapel at Life Church, 5125 Preston Ave. Pasadena, TX 77505. Call 713-419-2635 for details.

8 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous** See Friday's notice.

8 p.m. **Beverly Hills Sharers Group AA** - See Friday's notice.

**MONDAY, JUNE 8**

Noon **AA - Imperfect Nooners**. See Friday's notice.

5 p.m. **New Directions** - Age 55 and older meets the first and third Mondays for a potluck dinner with activities and/or guest speakers at 600 Hobbs Road, League City, TX 77573, (community room). For further information, call Jill at 646-489-4367.

6 p.m. **Scrabble Club #511** - Meets Monday at Denny's, 19212 Gulf Freeway. Join the fun and improve crossword skills. COVID-19 vaccination required. Email huff\_reunion@juno.com for info.

7 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - St. Luke's Group, 12-Step Recovery, open meeting Mondays, 7 p.m. in the Education Bldg. in room 6, at 11011 Hall Road, 77089. For details, call Rita at 281-309-2801.

7 p.m. **TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)** - #0683 Friendswood chapter meets at the Friendswood Methodist Church, 110 N. Friendswood Dr. in the educational bldg., room 201. For information, call Lynette Ringrose at 832-858-4617 or Dorothy Pourteau at 713-875-8820.

7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - See Friday's notice.

See Friday's notice.

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10**

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

9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - See Thursday's notice.

**Carmelites** - a nondenominational senior citizen social group meeting at St. Bernadette Catholic Church, 15500 El Camino Real, in Clear Lake on the first and third Wednesdays for a time filled with fun, fellowship, lending library with books and puzzles, coffee and bingo. The meetings are open to those ages 55 and older, with no dues. Day trips and extended trips available. Deposits are now being taken for Poland. For details, call Marilyn at 713-444-6744.

Noon **AA - Imperfect Nooners**. See Friday's notice.

Noon **Ballroom Dancing** - casual ballroom dance, open to the public, held every Wednesday afternoon from 12:30 to 3 p.m. at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 East League City Parkway, League City. Everyone is welcome to come with or without a partner. The dance itself is free as music is provided by volunteer, Neva Schroder. The city requires an activity card for participants in all of the city's many activities. Call the park office at 281-554-1180 for answers to any questions regarding the activity card. Visitors are welcome to walk in to observe or participate.

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

7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - See Friday's notice.

8 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous** - See Friday's notice.

8 p.m. **Beverly Hills Sharers Group AA** - See Friday's notice.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 6**

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

9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - See Thursday's notice.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 7**

8 a.m./10:15 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - has worship Tuesday at 11:30 a.m., Wednesday at 7 p.m. (Bible study, Book of Revelation, at 6 p.m.) and Sun-

**TUESDAY, JUNE 9**

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

9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - See Thursday's notice.

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

6:30 - 7:30 p.m. **Southeast Houston Toastmasters** - The Southeast Houston Toastmasters Club #05324194 meets virtually with the exception of the second and fourth Tuesdays (hybrid meeting) at sehouston.toastmastersclubs.org. In-person address 10500 Scarsdale Blvd. (SB Chamber of Commerce). Visit the website or call Karen Nunn at 832-722-9061 for information.

7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** -

**THURSDAY, JUNE 11**

7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill," Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., and Saturday at 7:30 a.m. Hope Community United Methodist Church, 2838 Lily St. Call 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit https://aahouston.org/meetings/.

7:30 a.m. **Rotary Club of Pearland** - Check website for time and location https://pearlandrotary.com/events/calendar or call 832-293-9860.

9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - Exhibits include dioramas, a turn-of-the-century doctor's office and an old-time kitchen. Open Tues. - Sat., 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., 204 S. Main, Pasadena. Call Karen Hollan at 713-472-0565 for appointment. Tours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

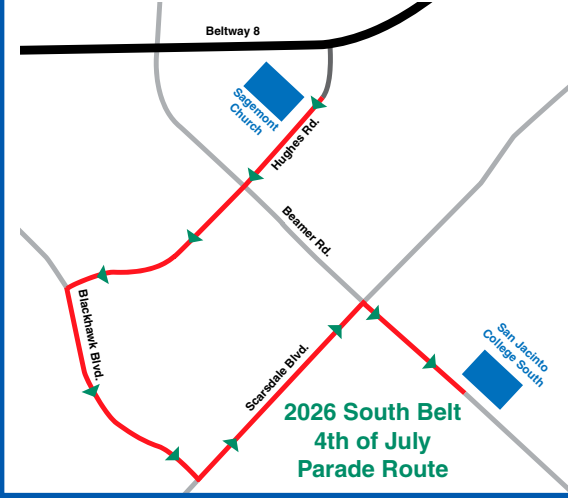
## South Belt July 4th Parade

The parade will begin at Sagemont Church (11300 S. Sam Houston Pkwy. E.) Parking Lot K off Hughes Road at 10 a.m.. The parade will end at San Jacinto College South Campus on Beamer. Lineup starts at 9 a.m.. Judging for trophies will be at 9:30 a.m.. Individuals, groups and businesses are encouraged to build floats, decorate vehicles and participate.

Entry fees **MUST be paid by June 29th to participate in the parade.** Adult supervision is mandatory! Due to the length, **NO WALKING ALLOWED IN THE PARADE.** For everyone's safety, **NO alcohol or glass containers, water balloons or water guns are allowed.** This is a celebration of the 250th Birthday of America! **Only United States of America, Texas and U.S. military flags are allowed.**


Candy, small trinkets, beads, etc. to toss from your float or vehicle to spectators is encouraged. For more information, contact the South Belt-Ellington Leader at 281-481-5656.

Please scan the QR code for online entry form.



**2026 South Belt 4th of July Parade Route**

To celebrate FREEDOM  
**250**  
A SOUTH BELT-ELLINGTON EVENT



**Online Parade Entry Form**

# Once high school foes, Dickson and Montgomery lead TAMU track

Now teammates at Texas A&M University, women's track and field stars Camryn Dickson and Jasmine Montgomery first met on the big stage May 8, 2021, during the University Interscholastic League Class 6A State Championships as they went head-to-head in the 100 and 200 events at Mike A. Myers Stadium on the campus of the University of Texas. Montgomery was one of the true stars of the meet that day as she captured gold medals in both events. Montgomery, then a senior at San Antonio Reagan, took the gold medal in the 100 at 11.09 seconds, with Dickson, then a junior at Clear Brook High School, capturing a bronze medal for third place at 11.47 seconds. As for the 200, Montgomery outran Dickson to the finish line as she was the gold medalist at 22.94 seconds. Dickson was the silver medalist that day at 23.28. Montgomery went on to grab a silver medal in the 4x200 relay as she and her Reagan teammates finished second. Montgomery began her collegiate career at Oregon, and Dickson as a senior with Clear Brook in 2022 captured a silver

medal in the 200 at 23.20. Dixon began her collegiate career at Texas A&M in 2023 and has since put together a remarkable run with the Aggies that isn't over yet. Montgomery joined the program in 2025, and she and Dickson have already helped the Aggies bring home several top-three medals on the big stage in the relays. Fast forward to this season as both Dickson and Montgomery are closing out their respective collegiate careers at the NCAA national championships later this month, they will both go head-to-head against one another as well as team up with their teammates in the 4x100 and 4x400 relays. The Texas A&M women delivered a historic West Regional performance for the program, garnering 17 invitations to the national championships. Dickson, already Texas A&M's record holder in the 200, bettered her all time mark to 22.13 in winning the West Regional gold and producing the 12th best time in the event in NCAA history. Montgomery's time of 22.38 in the event will also send her to nationals. Dickson and Montgomery joined teammates

Anya Jackson and Aysha Shaheed in the 4x100 as the group qualified for Nationals with the time of 42.68, sixth all time on the Texas A&M records list. Dickson and Montgomery also qualified for nationals in the 100 as Dickson came up with her first sub-11 second time of the season, taking

third overall in the event at 10.93. Montgomery had a season best time of 11.06 to also punch

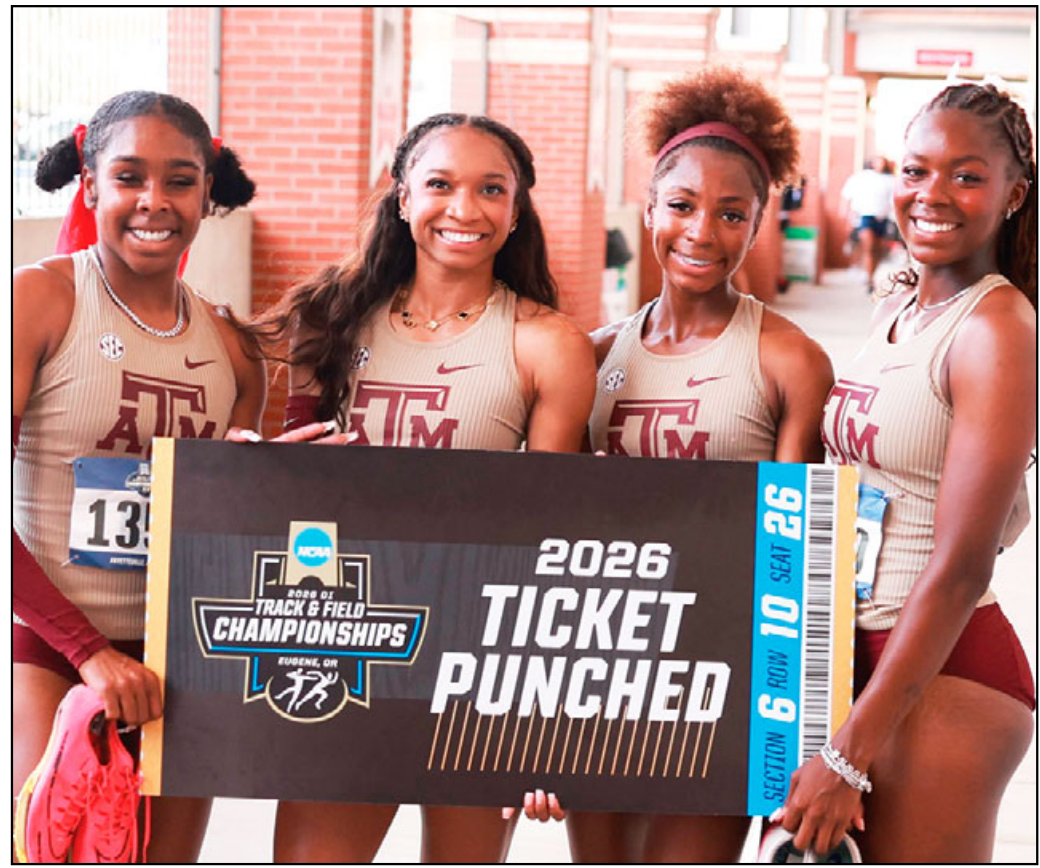
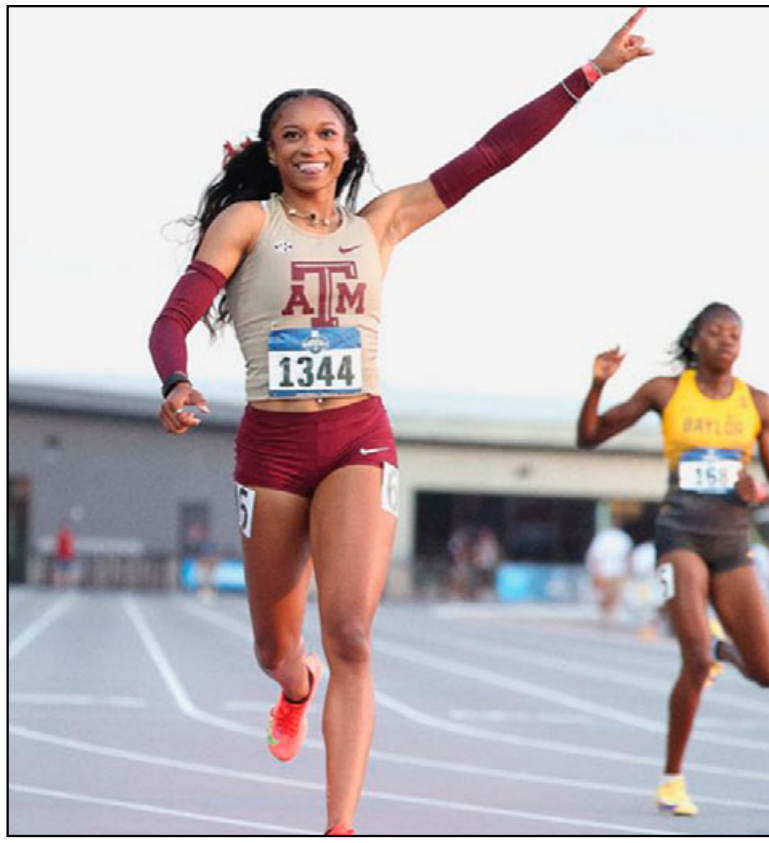
her ticket for the national championships. Dickson and Montgomery joined teammates Jahnile Regis-

re and Lacarthea Cooper in the 4x400 as the foursome grabbed the final available spot at nationals with a time of 3:28.61. The national championships will be held June 10-13 on the in Eugene Ore.

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Texas A&M senior sprinter Camryn Dickson is on an absolute roll heading into the NCAA Division I Outdoor Track and Field Championships later this month in Eugene, Ore. At the West Regional, the 2022 Clear Brook High School graduate posted the 12th fastest 200 time in NCAA history and the No. 1 time in the nation this season of 22.13 seconds.

The Texas A&M women's 4x100 relay foursome of, from left, Jasmine Montgomery, Camryn Dickson, Anya Jackson and Aysha Shaheed delivered the sixth best time in program history in the event at the West regional at 42.68 seconds to advance to the NCAA national championship meet later this month in Eugene, Ore. Dixon will compete along with Montgomery in both the 100 and 200 individual sprints as well.

## LSA repeats state baseball title

Continued from Page 5  
Middle infielder Theron Ayala, Troy Gonzalez, Bryce Symms, Drew Rocha, Hank Hughes, Powell, Jaylen Walker, Brycen Gilbert and Marcus Cantu came into this season as potential key performers if the Pioneers were to come anywhere close to putting together the type of performance as shown the previous season. As Schneider indicated earlier, the road to this year's top title was not nearly as smooth, but the Pioneers nonetheless came up big each and every time that it was required. "I think one of the things that I am most proud of with this group is that they are all homegrown kids who have come up within the Lutheran South Academy system," Schneider said. "We have had seasons in the past such as last year with Serna having been here for two years and so forth, but

for the most part our players have been raised up through the Lutheran South Academy educational system and have been developed in our baseball program to further themselves into collegiate players in several cases." "I think every successful program in any sport takes pride in knowing that the system that you have in place and the level of expectations within your program allow you to have success both in the classroom and on the field," Schneider said. "We won that first date title back in 2015 and certainly had no crystal ball that showed us that we would be able to add what has now become five more added to it. We have a great group of assistant coaches, have had a great group of assistant coaches all along the way, and of course I've had tremendous support from the administration.

"I don't know that any program can go into a given season expecting to win a state championship, but we certainly have a set of standards around here that we strive to live up to on a daily basis. I'm very proud to be the head coach at Lutheran South, but I haven't done it alone by any means. "We have had some tremendous student athletes come through here, and a lot of them have contributed to plenty of success. The great thing about this year is that a bunch of young guys were forced into action maybe earlier in their varsity career than they otherwise would have. You are always looking for the next round of top athletes to step in and lead your program, and I believe we have those guys in place. We will see what next year holds, but for now we are certainly going to enjoy this state championship."

At right, Dobie senior varsity baseball standout Gio Ramirez was a 22-6A first team All-District performer during the 2026 season. On June 2 after press time he represented the Longhorns at the Houston Area Baseball Coaches Association All-Star Game series at St. Thomas High School. Ramirez put together terrific numbers across the board offensively and delivered terrific defense in the outfield as he helped lead his team to 13 district wins for the first time as a Class 6A program. The *Leader* regrets misidentifying Ramirez in the May 28 edition.



## Listen ... A Texas Road Trip is Calling

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