

# South Belt-Ellington Leader

## Serving South Belt since 1976

The Voice of Community-Minded People

Thursday, August 28, 2025

Email: mynews@southbeltleader.com

www.southbeltleader.com

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### Holiday hours scheduled

South Belt-Ellington Leader

The *Leader* office will be closed Monday, Sept. 1, in honor of Labor Day. The office will reopen at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 2.

### Clear Brook City MUD

In observance of Labor Day, the Clear Brook City MUD office will be closed from 3 p.m. Friday, Aug. 29, through Monday, Sept. 1. The office will reopen at 8 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 2.

For customer convenience, check or money order payments may be left in the drop box located on the drive-thru side of the building. No cash will be accepted in the drop box.

Clear Brook City MUD residents whose trash services fall on Monday will have regular trash pickup on Labor Day, Sept. 1. All trash should be at curbside no later than 6 a.m. Residents with Tuesday/Friday service are not affected.

### Leader seeks submissions

The *South Belt-Ellington Leader* encourages local schools, groups and individuals to continue sending story ideas and photos they'd like to see included in the newspaper. Submissions have declined following the death of *Leader* publisher Marie Flickinger in November. Contributions may be submitted to mynews@southbeltleader.com.

### 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.

### 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.

### Coffee with the Constable

Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia will be at Donut Haven, located at 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.

### Beltway closures planned

One outside lane of the eastbound Beltway 8 frontage road will be closed from Beamer to Hughes Road/Sabo from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays through Wednesday, Sept. 3.

One outside lane of the northbound Beltway 8 frontage road will be closed from Fairmont Parkway to Red Bluff in Pasadena continuously through Wednesday, Dec. 31.

One inside lane of the southbound Beltway 8 frontage road will be closed from Greenshadow to Red Bluff in Pasadena continuously through Wednesday, Dec. 31.

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

### Hughes/Sabo closures set

At least one southbound lane on Hughes/Sabo will be closed continuously at Beltway 8 until further notice.

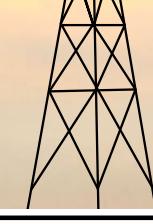
Westbound Beltway 8 frontage roads may also be intermittently closed at Hughes/Sabo until further notice.

### Special Sagemont meeting

There will be no traditional Sagemont Civic Club meeting this month, as a special function is being held in its place, which will incorporate all surrounding civic groups and HOAs.

The special meeting will feature multiple guest speakers including Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia, Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia, Houston Police Department Cmdr. Derrick Small and Harris County Appraisal District board member (and Kirkwood Civic Club President) Erika McCrutchon.

Attendees should note the meeting will begin at 6 p.m., rather than the usual 7 p.m. Sagemont time. See related story on this page.



## Local civic clubs to hold group meeting Sept. 2

### Event to feature multiple notable guests representing city, county government

Local civic club leaders are planning a special group meeting open to all neighborhood HOAs/organizations in the South Belt community, set to take place Tuesday, Sept. 2, at The Gardens located at 12001 Beamer at Hughes.

The special joint function will be held in place of the Sagemont Civic Club's normally scheduled monthly meeting. Doors will open at 5 p.m., with networking to begin at 5:30 p.m., followed by the meeting set to begin promptly at 6 p.m.

The group meeting was the brainchild of Rainbow Valley Civic Club President Fred Brown.

"The idea was born at Commissioner (Adri-

an) Garcia's recent luncheon," said Brown. "I thought 'Why not just have all the groups join together?'"

Brown subsequently partnered with Sagemont Civic Club President Kay Barbour, who was able to reach out to other civic club leaders in the area.

"She had all the contacts," said Brown.

At press time, local groups participating in the event included Sagemeadow, Kirkwood, Beverly Hills and Sycamore Valley.

Multiple notable speakers have also agreed to take part, including Harris County Precinct 2

Commissioner Adrian Garcia, Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia, Houston Police Department Cmdr. Derrick Small and Harris County Appraisal District board member (and Kirkwood Civic Club President) Erika McCrutchon.

Contrary to last week's *Leader*, Houston At-Large Position 3 City Council Member Twila Carter will not be participating in the event.

At-Large Position 2 City Council Member Willie Davis, however, has tentatively agreed to participate.

Barbour said the function will provide a forum in which different subdivisions can voice

their questions and concerns and discuss them with representatives from local government.

"All South Belt area residents are invited and encouraged to attend this important community meeting," said Barbour. "The purpose is to provide a platform for residents to openly discuss issues and concerns impacting our neighborhoods. Representatives from several agencies will be present to listen and engage with residents."

Food will be available for purchase from Ay Caramba (tacos) and Zelda's Treats (sweets), beginning at 5:30 p.m.

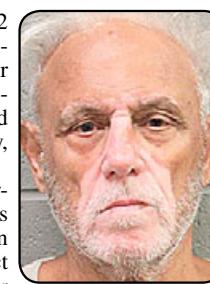
For additional information, contact Brown at 281-788-5115 or Barbour at 713-419-3545.

## Illegal game room raided



Precinct 1 deputies assisted the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Friday, Aug. 22, in a raid on an alleged illegal game room located in a strip center on the Gulf Freeway near Hilton Furniture/Almeda Mall, seizing an undisclosed amount of cash. The raid was similar to one executed Wednesday, April 2, on a game room located at Scarsdale and the Gulf Freeway, in which Precinct 1 assisted Homeland Security agents. At press time, it was unclear if the two incidents are related.

Photo by David Flickinger



Frankie Vernagallo

## Vernagallo to appear in court Sept. 12

### Former Pct. 2 deputy charged with murdering neighbor in 2023

A former Precinct 2 deputy accused of fatally shooting his neighbor in 2023 over a long-running dispute is scheduled to appear in court Friday, Sept. 12.

Frankie Luke Vernagallo, now 81, was charged with murder in the 482nd State District Court in June 2023 after allegedly killing Jaime Hernandez, who resided in the house next to him in the 10500 block of Kirkglen Drive.

According to homicide investigators, Vernagallo had a years-long dispute with the victim, whom he claimed ran a crime ring out of his parents' home next door.

Vernagallo frequently wrote the *Leader* and local police agencies, including the Houston Police Department and the Precinct 2 constable's office, reporting suspected criminal activity at his neighbor's house. Alleged crimes ranged from drug sales to storing stolen goods and even armed robbery.

Prior to the 2023 shooting, the former deputy wrote 139 emails to the *Leader* since Nov. 11, 2011, including one letter just two hours before the shooting, describing a suspected drug deal. The email said he had also alerted both HPD and Precinct 2 about the alleged incident.

Precinct 2 officials described Vernagallo as a "chronic caller" and suggested he suffered from

mental health issues.

The lengthy letters, written in all caps, were often rambling and incoherent. They were also delivered to dozens of others, including Harris County Sheriff Ed Gonzalez, HPD Chief Troy Finner, the FBI and Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick.

The *Leader* had reached out to law enforcement about the escalating situation in the months leading up to the murder and was told that both HPD and Precinct 2 had reached out to the suspect about mental health support to no avail. Otherwise, their hands were tied legally, unless a specific crime was committed, officials said.

On the morning of the homicide, patrol officers responded to a shooting at the above address and found an unresponsive male with an apparent gunshot wound lying on the ground. Houston Fire Department paramedics transported the male to an area hospital where he was pronounced dead.

Witnesses reported seeing Vernagallo return to his house next door following the shooting. Responding officers were able to get Vernagallo out of his residence without further incident and found a weapon in his possession.

The Harris County District Attorney's Office was consulted and Vernagallo was subsequently charged for his role in the shooting. His bond was set at \$200,000.

Precinct 2 officials said Vernagallo left the department in 1998 amid an investigation into him. Records of the investigation, however, have been destroyed, as they are more than 20 years old, officials said.

## Houston to have citywide test of emergency alert system

### Test to be conducted Sept. 5 by city's Office of Emergency Management

The city of Houston Office of Emergency Management (OEM) will conduct a citywide test of the Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) system Friday, Sept. 5, at 11 a.m.

This test is part of the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS), a nationwide capability designed to deliver critical public safety alerts. At the scheduled time, individuals in the Houston area with WEA-capable mobile devices will receive the following message:

**TEST Wireless Emergency Alert from the City of Houston Office of Emergency Management: No Action Required. TEST ALERT. For more information visit HoustonOEM.org/respond/!"**

An alert will also go out in Spanish, for those who have their phone settings set to Spanish. The alert in Spanish will say:

**\*PRUEBA de Alerta Inalámbrica de Emergencia de la Oficina de Manejo de Emergencias de Houston: No se requiere acción. ALERTA DE PRUEBA. Para más información, visite HoustonOEM.org/respond/!"**

Some residents with older mobile devices may receive a shorter version of this message.

**Who will receive the test?:** Anyone locat-

ed within the city of Houston jurisdiction with a WEA-capable mobile device on September 5 between 11 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. will receive the test. Each person will only receive one alert – either in English or in Spanish – based on their phone's language setting. No one should receive more than one alert. While the WEA test is intended only for people in the city of Houston, the system is based on cell tower coverage, not exact jurisdiction lines. This means some neighboring areas may also receive the alert.

**Why test?:** Testing public alert systems is essential to ensure they work properly in the event of a real emergency. Timely and accurate alerts can save lives during severe weather, chemical incidents, active threats, or other urgent hazards.

The WEA system allows Houston OEM to send geographically targeted alerts to mobile devices in situations where immediate life-saving action is required. These alerts are rare and are only used during the most critical emergencies.

**Understanding Houston's Emergency Alert Strategy**

Houston uses a tiered approach to public alerting that includes the following elements:

– **WEA Alerts (Wireless Emergency**

**Alerts):** These are issued through the federal IPAWS system and go to all compatible cell phones in a defined area. They are only used for life-threatening emergencies that require immediate lifesaving action.

**AlertHouston:** For less urgent but still important situations – like flash flood watches, roadway impacts, or severe weather awareness – OEM uses the AlertHouston system. This is a free, opt-in service where residents can receive emails, texts, emails, or voice messages. To sign up, visit HoustonOEM.org or text "AlertHouston" to 888777.

**Everyday Preparedness:** On clear "blue sky" days, OEM shares helpful tips and preparedness information through social media, community events, and education campaigns.

**Check emergency alert settings**

The OEM strongly urges residents to enable

their emergency alerts in case of an imminent threat. These alerts could save one's life. To receive Wireless Emergency Alerts, one's phone must have alerts enabled in their device settings.

**iPhone:** Go to Settings > Notifications, scroll to the bottom under Government Alerts, and ensure Emergency Alerts are turned ON.

**Android:** Go to Settings > Safety & Emergency > Wireless Emergency Alerts, and make sure Allow Alerts are enabled.

**Note:** Houston OEM does not send AMBER Alerts. The OEM only uses the WEA system for critical emergency alerts impacting public safety. The OEM strongly urges residents to enable their emergency alerts in case of an imminent threat.

For additional information about emergency alerts and preparedness, visit HoustonOEM.org and follow OEM on social media.

## Former library demolished



In a sad moment for many longtime South Belt residents, the former Bracewell Library branch located in the Almeda Mall parking lot was recently leveled by demolition crews. The local city of Houston library branch was relocated to its current location on Kingspoint near Beltway 8 in 2009. The move was part of a broader effort by the Houston Public Library system to modernize facilities and expand access to underserved communities.

Photo by David Flickinger

## Deputies involved in multiple pursuits

### 6 suspects arrested by Pct. 2 deputies, including 4 juveniles



Adrian A. Rios

Deputies with Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia's office have been in multiple pursuits recently, one resulting in the arrest of four juvenile suspects.

Six suspects were taken into custody for evading in just a two-day period, according to Precinct 2 officials.

**Juvenile arrests**

On Sunday, Aug. 24, at approximately 1:30 a.m., Precinct 2 deputies received an alert from the department's FLOCK license plate-reading cameras that a stolen car was traveling at 109 mph in a 65 mph zone. A traffic stop was attempted but the driver chose to flee, leading deputies on a high-speed pursuit.

The driver eventually pulled over and surrendered without further incident.

Adrian A. Rios was arrested and charged with felony evading in a motor vehicle. Rios was subsequently booked into the Harris County Jail.

"Let this be a reminder – reckless driving puts everyone at risk, and fleeing from law enforcement only makes things worse," said Precinct 2 Capt. Marcus Anderson. "We're committed to keeping our roads safe."

A 17-year-old male was taken into custody

## Pct. 2 targets junk cars



Precinct 2 deputies have recently been targeting abandoned and junk cars in the area, issuing 72-hour removal notices to violators. Vehicles with expired registration, no insurance, that have not moved in an extended period or have weeds growing underneath are considered abandoned, Precinct 2 officials said. Once ticketed, if a vehicle is not moved within 72 hours, it will be towed, according to officials.

## Master Gardeners set September meetings

The following meetings have been set for September by Master Gardeners: Powerful Perennials by Harris County Master Gardeners on Monday, Sept. 8, 10-11:30 a.m. "Plant once, enjoy for years" garden stalwarts provide beauty, pollinator value and easy care. Free virtual lecture hosted by Houston Community College. Register in advance to receive link: [hcc.idroom.events/gardening-series/register](http://hcc.idroom.events/gardening-series/register).

Genoa Friendship Garden- Open Garden Day on Monday, Sept. 15, 8:30 - 11 a.m. Free tour of Genoa Friendship Gardens, 1210 Genoa Red Bluff Road. Tour a variety of planting exhibits, meet, and talk with Harris County Master Gardeners. [txmg.org/hcmga](http://txmg.org/hcmga)

Powerful Perennials by Harris County Master Gardeners on Tuesday, Sept. 16, 11 a.m. - noon. "Plant once, enjoy for years" garden stalwarts provide beauty, pollinator value, and easy care. Free virtual lecture hosted by Harris County Public Library via Facebook live. No reservation required: [facebook.com/harriscountypl/events](https://facebook.com/harriscountypl/events).

## AARP Webster meet

AARP Webster Area Chapter 199 invites one to join them at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, Sept. 11, at the Bay Area Community Center, 5002 E. NASA Parkway, Seabrook 77586. They meet in the large building with the blue roof inside Clear Lake Park on the north side of NASA Parkway. One is invited to come to meetings and to enjoy coffee, cookies, and fellowship at 9:30 a.m. before the meeting starts at 10 a.m. Each month is entertainment or a speaker on various topics of interest to seniors, followed by a social activity.

The program will be presented by Deann Luprete, licensed insurance broker, who will discuss and highlight details about Medicare and other valuable important senior information. The Sept. 11 social activity will be lunch from Raising Cane's. They are excited to offer one a lunch of three chicken fingers, Cane's sauce, Texas toast, chips, drink and dessert. The cost is \$8. If one wasn't able to sign up at the Aug. 14 meeting, one can sign up before the Sept. 11 meeting begins at 10 a.m.

AARP Chapter also organizes day trips for AARP Chapter 199 members by bus to local area points of interest at minimal cost. The next bus trip will be on Friday, Sept. 26, to The Railroad Museum in Galveston and will include a sack lunch from Rail Yard. Members may register and pay for this trip at the Sept. 11 monthly meeting. One must be a member of our Chapter 199 to participate in the bus trips.

If one is interested in joining AARP Chapter 199, annual dues are \$8 per year per person. However, one must be a member of national AARP and show one's current national membership card to join any local chapter. AARP chapters are separately incorporated affiliates of AARP. For more information, contact President Veronica Stanford at 409-256-1195 or at [veronica\\_stfrd46@yahoo.com](mailto:veronica_stfrd46@yahoo.com).

## Local library events set

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

### Bracewell Branch Library

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

Thursday, August 28, 3 - 4 p.m. Open lab computer help. Registration required. Thursday, August 28, 4 - 5 p.m. Bring family to storytime. Registration required. Thursday, August 28, 4 - 5:30 p.m. Weekly English language classes. Registration required. Monday, September 1, 11 a.m. - noon. Open lab computer help. Registration required. Tuesday, September 2, 4 - 5 p.m. Board games at the library. Registration required.

Tuesday, September 2, 4 - 5 p.m. Get creative at Craft Lab. Registration required.

Wednesday, September 3, 6 - 7 p.m. Pajama storytime. Registration required.

Wednesday, September 3, 6 - 7:30 p.m. Conversational English classes. Registration required.

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

The book drop is open. Social media links are [Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary](https://facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary) and [Instagram.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary](https://instagram.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary).

The following events are scheduled for Parker Williams Library, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd.: Thursday, August 28, 10 - 11 a.m. Thrillers, killers & mayhem book club.

Thursday, August 28, 10:15 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. Toddler time.

Friday, August 29, 1 - 3 p.m. Diamond painting club for adults. Registration required for new members.

Saturday, August 30, 10 a.m. - noon. Tai Chi.

Monday, September 1, 1 - 2:30 p.m. ESL conversation club. Registration required.

Monday, September 1, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Tai Chi.

Tuesday, September 2, 10:15 - 10:45 a.m. Babies 'n' books.

Wednesday, September 3, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Pokemon perler bead craft.

**Parker Williams "No-Contact Curbside Holds Pick-Up"**

- After receiving notification that holds are ready for pickup, call 832-927-7870.

- Have a library card number and PIN handy.

- A pickup time and instructions will be given.

- Upon arriving, park in one of the two parking spots reserved for curbside holds.

- Be prepared to show a library card or other form of ID for verification.

Hours are Monday, 11 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 details.

### 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](https://www.hcpl.net).

- Attend an HCPL program or story time online through Facebook or YouTube.

- Check an account to renew loans or request books, e-books, comics or graphic novels.

- Stream classic films, Indie cinema and award-winning documentaries on Kanopy.

- Listen to audiobooks through RBDigital or OverDrive.

- Read along and play with picture books on TumbleBooks.

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

## HPL promotes student wellness

Library's after-school program open for K-12 students

Houston Public Library (HPL) is excited to present the After School Wellness Fun series of activities to K-12 grade level students across the city.

The series was developed with support from OST CARES, an initiative of the Texas Partnership for Out of School Time (TXPOST) that provides technical assistance and funding to enhance mental health support and awareness within Texas out of school time (OST).

After School Wellness Fun will provide children with mental and emotional support through fun, creative and calming activities at eight HPL locations: Carnegie, Heights, Pleasantville, Moody, Oak Forest and Young neighborhood libraries; and Park Place and Stella Link regional libraries. The series will begin Sept. 16, with sessions to be hosted Tuesdays from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. through May 2026.

Program highlights include

the following:

- Relaxing yoga sessions.
- Personalized self-care bag creations.
- Visits from therapy dogs.
- Henna designs.
- Painting workshops.
- Author visits.

"Practicing self-care and finding time for fun is important for our overall well-being, especially for our children," said Sandy Gaw, HPL director. "Houston Public Library is happy to bring the After School Wellness Fun series to life at our locations and provide impactful resources to children and families in our communities."

A similar sentiment was shared by TXPOST CEO Jennifer Courtney.

"We are proud to support Houston Public Library and more than 100 out of school time programs across Texas through OST CARES," said Courtney. "This initiative recognizes the unique potential of community-based OST

programs, like HPL, in implementing promotion and prevention strategies to better support the well-being of youth."

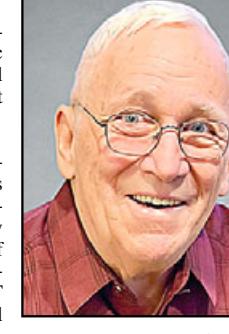
For additional information about the Houston Public Library's new After School Wellness Fun program, visit [calendar.houstonlibrary.org](https://calendar.houstonlibrary.org).

### About TXPOST

TXPOST is a statewide intermediary whose mission is to convene, educate, and advocate to improve the quality and increase the availability of out of school time opportunities for Texas youth. TXPOST works in partnership with vital local and regional organizations that invest deeply in their own communities to offer professional development opportunities, drive continuous quality improvement, engage in system and capacity building work, advocate for the OST field and promote sustainable access to high-quality OST programs for all Texas children.

## Deaths

### Jerry Dale Yeaney



then transitioned to commercial construction. Jerry later retired from Harris County as a permit supervisor.

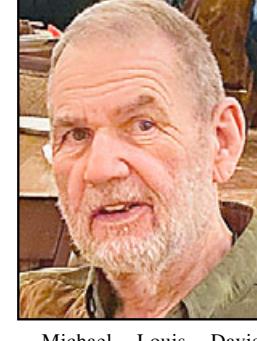
Jerry was very clear on his priorities in life: God, family, career. He always said if one puts God first, the rest will follow. Jerry and Carol were members of Crossroads UMC (formally Cokesbury) for more than 50 years where a new family of lifelong friends were made. Jerry could always be found at the church volunteering, fixing something or doing anything else that Carol "volunteered" him to do. Jerry was larger than life and a true fisher of men. He would often walk up to complete strangers in a restaurant, with his rich raspy voice, and invite them to church. Many of the current members of Crossroads will attest that they joined because of Jerry's invitation. Over the last six years, Jerry regularly attended Friendswood GMC with his daughter's family. Jerry was passionate about life. He was proud to have been a Master Mason for more than sixty years. He enjoyed volunteering as Santa for area schools, nursing homes, and churches. He spearheaded neighborhood block parties and church street dances, all to build a closer community. He was also an avid Steeler fan and looked forward each season to cheering on the black and gold.

Jerry was the youngest of four, and grew up in Pittsburgh. He earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Pittsburgh, and later received his master's degree from Ball State. After graduating from Pitt, he married his high school sweetheart, Carol, joined the Army as an officer, and they quickly began their adventure as a military family. Jerry was stationed in Germany where they took the opportunity to travel all over Europe with their young family. Jerry served his country for 15 years, including two tours in Vietnam as an airborne ranger and field artillery specialist. During his service, he received a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart, among other distinguished recognitions, and achieved the rank of major. After the Army, the family settled down in Sageglen, a military family. Jerry had an infectious belly laugh and would often make people smile with his playful antics or just the twinkle in his eye. Most of all, Jerry loved his wife, who was his world. They built an amazing life together full of love, laughter, and respect. Jerry was an amazing husband and father role model to his children, whose legacy lives on through them.

A celebration of life service to honor Jerry was held on Aug. 22 at Friendswood Global Methodist Church. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made in memory of Jerry and Carol

Yeaney to Lakeview Methodist Conference Center at <https://www.iheartlakeview.org/imp>

### Michael Louis Davis



Michael Louis Davis, a longtime Sageglen resident, left this earth on Aug. 18, 2025. He was born to Mildred and Louis Davis in Wharton County on Sept. 16, 1943. He is preceded in death by his parents, and brother Terry Davis. He is survived by his loving wife, Darlene Davis; brothers Tim Davis (Vivian), Pat Davis; children Amanda Calhoun (Troy) of Colorado Springs, Col., Terry Davis (Molly) of Traverse City, Mich.; grandchildren Amelia Calhoun Tyner (Hudson), Tyler Calhoun, Elizabeth Davis, Luke Davis; stepchildren Rocky Kelley (Shalinda), Randy Kelley, Amy Kelley; stepgrandchildren Jake and Beau Kelley; and six nieces and nephews. Mike retired from Pasadena ISD as a maintenance supervisor after 20 years of service. A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

### Leader obituary policy

Obituaries submitted to the *Leader* are published free of charge. There must be a South Belt connection. Obituaries are edited to the *Leader* style.

## Police launch DWI crackdown

Local patrols ramped up during Labor Day holiday

Texas law enforcement agencies, in partnership with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), are intensifying patrols for the Labor Day holiday weekend to combat impaired driving.

The statewide enforcement initiative, currently underway through Sept. 1, is part of the annual Drive Sober. No Regrets campaign to prevent alcohol-related driving and fatalities.

### Heightened patrols and 'no-refusal' enforcement

Across the state, officers from the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS), county sheriff's offices and local police departments will increase their presence on Texas roadways.

**Increased patrols:** Law enforcement will be on heightened alert for drivers suspected of operating a vehicle while intoxicated.

**Targeted stops:** Agencies will conduct targeted traffic stops as part of the na-

tionwide enforcement push.

**No-refusal weekends:** Several jurisdictions, including Harris County, will enforce "no-refusal" rules, in which magistrates are on call to issue search warrants for blood samples from drivers who refuse a sobriety test.

### Consequences of a DWI conviction

Authorities are reminding the public that a DWI conviction carries serious and long-lasting consequences. These can include the following:

- **No-refusal weekends:** Several jurisdictions, including Harris County, will enforce "no-refusal" rules, in which magistrates are on call to issue search warrants for blood samples from drivers who refuse a sobriety test.
- **100 percent preventable:** TxDOT and law enforcement emphasize that every one of these fatalities is completely preventable.

### Safety tips for a sober Labor Day

To ensure a safe holiday weekend, authorities urge Texans to plan ahead if their celebration involves alcohol.

### Plan a sober ride:

Designate a sober driver before leaving for an event.

### Use ride-share or taxi:

Use a ride-share service, taxi or public transportation to get home safely.

### Stay put:

Stay where you are until you can safely operate a vehicle.

### About the campaign

The Drive Sober. No Regrets campaign is an annual effort by TxDOT to reduce the number of alcohol-related crashes and fatalities on Texas roadways. It reinforces the importance of responsible choices to protect both drivers and others on the road.

## Cars collide in Beltway 8 crash at Beamer



Precinct 2 deputies responded to a two-car collision around 1:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 25, on Beltway 8 at Beamer.

There were no visible injuries at the crash site. See related photo on Page 4.

Photo by James Bolen

## South Belt-Ell



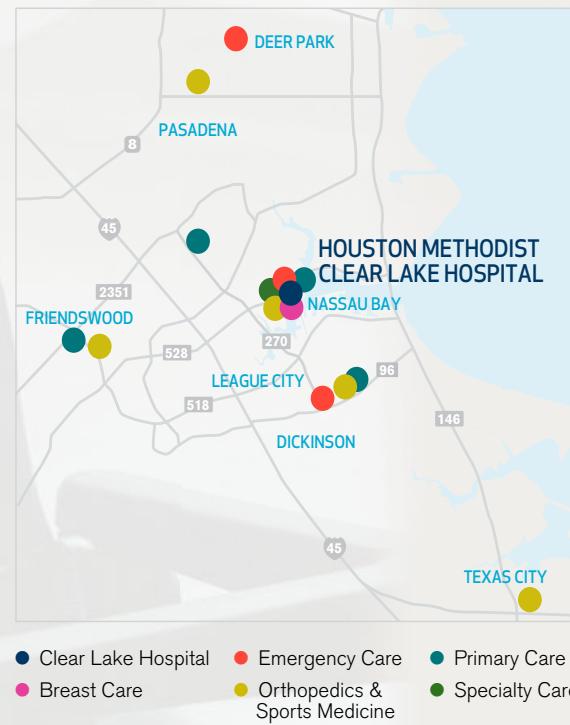
# THE EXPERTS I NEED, WHEREVER I NEED THEM

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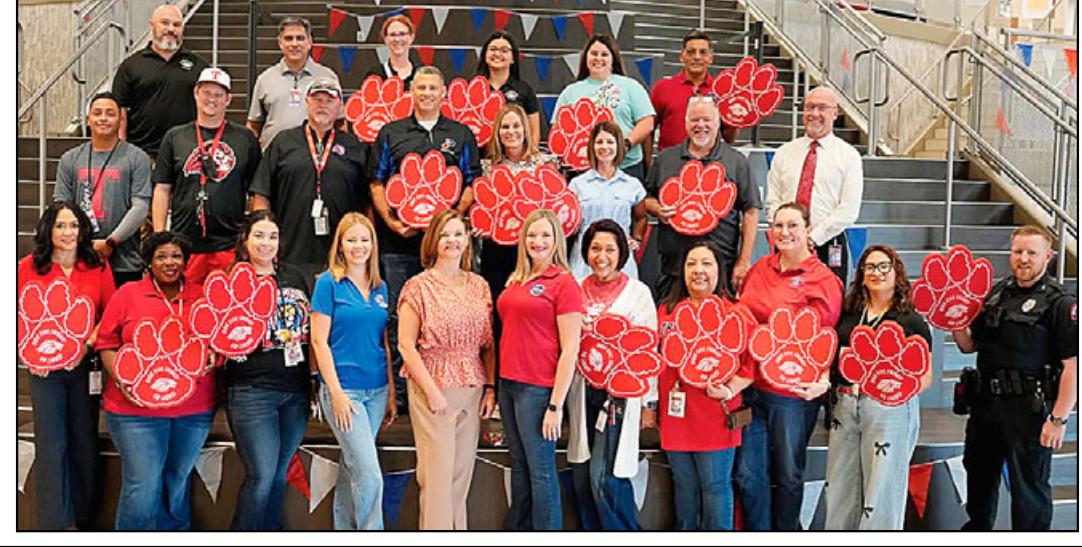
## Thompson celebrates High-Five day



Thompson Lions started off Friday Aug. 22, with a continued tradition of positive energy and big high-fives as part of their mission to start every Friday with success and school spirit. At left, are Gina Teston (left) and Principal Tanis Griffin greeting a student with high-fives.

At right, Pasadena ISD officials joined Thompson staff to celebrate High-Five Friday. Pictured at right are, left to right (front row) Dr. Alyta Harrel (chief of schools), Ca-Lishea Woods, Arianna Ibarra, Kelli Moneyhun, Dr. Toni Lopez (superintendent), Griffin, Teston, Ruth Horton, Lauren Soto, Denis Medina, officer Kyle Wilson, (middle row) Carlos Ibarra, coach Daniel Sawyer, coach Doug Sawyer, Kenny Fernandez (board member), Staci Barber, Traci Powell, Dan Hopper, Cassie Phelan (board vice president), (back row) Travis Teichelman, Art Del Barrio, MaryBeth Nicol, Leticia Sanchez, Christine Veltman and Prudencio Reyna.

Photos submitted



## Cars crash at beltway, Beamer



A two-vehicle accident took place around 1:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 25, on Beltway 8 at Beamer, causing extensive traffic delays. The intersection has long been a hot spot for crashes with the Texas Department of Public Safety once naming it one of the most dangerous in the state. At press time, it was unclear if anyone was ticketed in the incident. See related photo on Page 2.

Photo by James Bolen



LATE START CLASSES BEGIN SEPT. 2

IT'S NOT TOO LATE!

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CONVENIENT  
CAMPUSES  
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**CENTRAL CAMPUS**

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## Remember When

45 years ago (1980)

Pasadena Independent School District enrollment figures showed that once again the South Belt area – which accounted for one-fourth of the district's 35,415 enrollment – had the district's largest high school, intermediate school and elementary school: Dobie High, Thompson Intermediate and Burnett Elementary.

Numerous South Belt business establishments had used their marqueses to send out get well wishes to Houston Astro pitcher J.R. Richard since his surgery the previous month.

The Harris County Sheriff's Department investigated the attempted rape of a 19-year-old Kirkmont resident. The woman, who was cleaning the Kirkmont house of a friend who was out of town, reported a young man forced his way into the house and threatened her with a knife.

Trustees of the Clear Creek Independent School District adopted a \$36,073,999 budget and retained the 1980 tax rate of 82 cents per \$100 valuation at their regular monthly meeting.

40 years ago (1985)

U.S. Postal Service officials acknowledged that traffic flow

problems existed within the potential service area of a planned post office for the South Belt area and said that the Postal Service would support South Belt Coalition efforts to get the problems resolved.

Houston vice officers raided a Scarsdale apartment complex after an anonymous tip that pornographic-related activities were taking place in one of the units.

Work on a new section of the beltway that would ultimately stretch past Interstate 45 and Beamer Road was expected to begin during the month according to representatives of the Texas Department of Highways and Public Transportation.

The City of Houston planned to begin construction the following year of a regional, 50 million gallons-a-day water treatment plant on the north side of Ellington, east of Highway 3.

35 Years ago (1990)

Approximately 1,400 feet of noise reduction barriers would be included in the extension of Beltway 8 through the South Belt area.

First-day enrollment for PISD schools increased by 2,070 students from 33,817 to 35,887. Both elementary and secondary school enrollments rose by approximately 1,000 students.

Planning was underway for

Investment Land and Develop

ment Co. to build 43 new homes on 9.7 acres of land at Hughes Road and Blackhawk.

30 years ago (1995)

A free gold card good for free admission to all Pasadena school district athletic events, plays, musicals and concerts is available to district residents age 60 and older. Applications may be obtained at the *South Belt-Ellington Leader* office. In addition, gold cardholders are offered nutritionally balanced, low-cost (\$1.60) lunches at district schools.

On the senior citizen's first visit to a school for lunch, the campus principal will tell the seniors about the lunch schedule and escort them to the cafeteria.

25 years ago (2000)

Pasadena Independent School District involved faculty and staff in planning for the new Dobie.

Gene Paul Robertson, 28, was arrested and charged with a felony murder in the death of Anthony (Tony) Chapin, 23.

Andrew René Love, 19, was found dead in his home.

Former Dobie principal Frank Braden suffered a heart attack and was recovering in Bayshore Hospital.

The Sagemeadow home of Glenda Chaney was destroyed by a fire. The Southeast Volunteer Fire Department and Houston Fire stations 70 (on Beamer) and 93 (on FM 1959) fought the fire.

20 years ago (2005)

Local elected officials expressed optimism for the military presence at Ellington Field to continue despite being affected by the Base Realignment and Closure committee.

The Texas Air National Guard was slated to lose its F-16s,

which would result in the loss of about half of the personnel of the 147th Fighter Intercept Group.

PISD trustees approved a \$355.7 million budget for the 2005-2006 school year.

Gas prices in Houston soared. Regular unleaded at South Belt area stations ranged from \$2.74 to \$3.31 per gallon.

This was after Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast but before Rita threatened the Houston area.

15 years ago (2010)

The accomplice in the 2009 kidnapping of Susana De Jesus was sentenced to 13 years in prison for his role in the crime that left the former South Belt resident dead. Wallace Ledet IV pleaded guilty to aggravated kidnapping in the case, as well as burglary of a habitation in an unrelated crime. Ledet, 26, was reportedly a high school friend of Nicholas-Michael Edwin Jean, who in May, pleaded guilty to killing De Jesus, and in June, was sentenced to life in prison with no chance of parole. Ledet told investigators he had nothing to do with De Jesus' death but admitted dropping Jean off at the site of the

abduction.

10 years ago (2015)

Houston District E City Council Member Dave Martin honored outgoing Pasadena Independent School District Superintendent Kirk Lewis by presenting him with a special proclamation during a public Council session.

A 20-year-old man was hospitalized in serious but stable condition after he was shot three times at an apartment complex in the 10900 block of the Gulf Freeway near Hartsook. No immediate arrests were made.

5 years ago (2020)

The South Belt community was spared the brunt of Hurricane Laura Thursday, Aug. 27, as the storm took a turn east toward Louisiana. The Category 4 storm made landfall near Cameron, La., just after midnight, bringing 150-mile-an-hour winds and a major storm surge. The hurricane was one of the strongest on record in the state.

On Aug. 31, Harris County Precinct 2 deputies responded to a call in the 11500 block of Sageberry, where a drive-by shooting had taken place. According to deputies, multiple rounds had been fired into the residence, but no injuries were reported. No immediate arrests were made.

Two people were shot Friday, Aug. 28, in a road incident on Fuqua near the Gulf Freeway. No injuries were reported. The two were transported to the hospital and were expected to be OK.

way – one of whom was an 8-year-old boy.

According to police, the incident began when a family was pulling out of the Taco Bell in the 11100 block of Fuqua and almost struck another vehicle that was reportedly driving with its lights off. After the two cars almost collided, the drivers had a verbal altercation, before speeding to the east on Fuqua.

As the family approached North Featherwood Drive, the driver of the second vehicle opened fire, striking two of the passengers.

A woman sitting in the passenger seat was shot in the shoulder, while the child was shot in the shoulder and thumb. The two were transported to the hospital and were expected to be OK.

1 year ago (2024)

Two homes in the Woodmeadows subdivision caught fire within minutes of each other the morning of Monday, Aug. 26, after being struck by lightning. According to South

East Volunteer Fire Department officials, a house on Poplarwood Court suffered extensive attic damage, while a second residence located on Pigeonwood suffered minor roof and wall damage. Firefighters responded to a third lightning call at the same time at a business on Scarsdale but no physical damage was observed. SVFD was assisted by the Pearland Fire Department.

## Over The Back Fence by Nicole



### MILTON ENJOYS BIRTHDAY

Milton Dittrich who celebrates a birthday Aug. 30, is sent birthday wishes from family, friends and the *Leader* staff.

### JAXSON TURNS 7!

Special birthday wishes go out to Jaxson Giles who turns 7 years old Aug. 30 from his parents Aaron and Ashley Giles, grandparents Jim and Tracy Giles and the rest of the Giles and Griffin families.

### RON CELEBRATES A BIRTHDAY

Ron Williams, former owner of Ace Hardware, is wished a happy birthday Sept. 1 from his family, friends and the *Leader* staff.

### ROSA CELEBRATES A BIRTHDAY

Special birthday wishes are sent to South Belt Leader staffer Rosa Graham who celebrates a birthday Sept. 1 from family, friends and the *Leader* staff.

### KAREN ENJOYS A BIRTHDAY

Birthday greetings are sent to Karen Taylor Sept. 3 from friends and the staff at the *Leader*.

### SCHOOL DAZE

The following staff of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays Aug. 28 through Sept. 3.

### Atkinson Elementary

Blow out the birthday candles Sept. 2 for Michelle Pinkerton.

### Burnett Elementary

Sophia Cole is wished a happy birthday Aug. 30.

### Bush Elementary

Remember to wish Nadja Diaz-Rodriguez a happy birthday Sept. 3.

### Frazier Elementary

Send a birthday greeting Aug. 29 to Kalpana Mobley. Join in the fun as Debra Hawkins celebrates a birthday Sept. 2.

### Hancock Elementary

Blow out the candles Sept. 1 for Lorena Guerra. Sept. 3 is the day for a birthday party for Elizabeth Garza-Gomez.

### Meador Elementary

Send a humorous birthday card Aug. 29 to Sabina Torres.

### Moore Elementary

Remember to wish Lakennia Cole and Amber Ramsey Suarez a happy birthday Aug. 30. Send a birthday greeting Sept. 2 to Veronica Rangel.

### South Belt Elementary

Break out the party favors and cake and ice cream for Lauren Leider and Jason Watson Aug. 28. The day for birthday fun for Courtney Moran is Aug. 31.

### Melillo Middle School

Blow out the candles on a birthday cake Sept. 1 for Matthew Sanchez.

### Beverly Hills Intermediate

Light the candles on a birthday cake Aug. 28 for Mackwell Hickerson. A day of fun is planned Sept. 2 for Dawn Nguyen. Break out the balloons and the birthday cake Sept. 3 for Jose Sesento.

### Thompson Intermediate

Break out the balloons and the birthday cake Aug. 28 for Melinda Mathis. The day for a birthday celebration is Aug. 30 for David Saenz. Tiffany Silverthorne enjoys a birthday Aug. 31.

### Dobie High

Christopher Swinnen celebrates a birthday Aug. 29. Break out the birthday balloons and party favors Aug. 30 for Jazmin Guerrero. Remember to wish Kristal Fruge a happy birthday Sept. 1. Break out the cake and ice cream Sept. 3 for Amanda Patel.

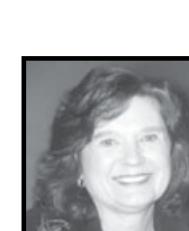
### FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS

Thursday, Aug. 28: Tanya Keller and Yvonne Ramirez; Friday, Aug. 29: Connie Guerrero, Brenda Marshall, Claudia Herrera and Aimee Bennett; Saturday, Aug. 30: James Leonard, Jason Hunt, Tracy Schwerdtfeger, Melinda Funni, Amber McGowen, Bobby Burton, Ryssa Beebe, Debra Tullous and Rebecca Noris-Peak; Sunday, Aug. 31: Nyd Salgado, Suzie Ortiz, Tajuana Stewart, John Terana, Mia Bella, Paula Miller, Judie Elizalde, Kathy Cole, Michael O'Daniell, Veronica Lyons, Annalee Young, Carol Rodriguez, Scott Gish, Ashley Hall and Angie Davis; Monday, Sept. 1: Tiffany Gay, Maribel Manriquez, Jasmine Manning, Karen Jenkins and Steve Landin; Tuesday, Sept. 2: Stacy Aguirre, Suzanne Hernandez, Karen Young and Mary Hernandez; and Wednesday, Sept. 3: Steve Boney, Josie Parker, Veronica Hernandez, Keith Nelson, Ruth Fuller, Donald Musquiz, Tomas Shorts Jr. and Leslie Montemeyer.

### LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS

Email anniversary, vacation, congratulations, etc., to mynews@southbeltleader.com with OTBF in the subject line by Friday noon for the next week's publication.

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Ann Brannen, Agent

# SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

## Dobie tackles CB as football begins

The theme for opening night is White Out the Wolverines as the Dobie varsity football team heads to Veterans Memorial Stadium in League City Aug. 29 to take on Clear Brook as the Longhorns will be seeking a fourth consecutive victory in as many seasons in the head-to-head series.

Fitzmorris' head coaching career off to a rousing start. Last season is in the past, particularly with the program's all-time leading rusher, Cameron Mathews, now at Memphis; star offensive tackle Markel Terry at Blinn and standout receiver Tariq Riley at Mary Hardin Baylor.

The Longhorns will be decked out in all white for the 2025 regular season opener as Team 57, nicknamed as such to commemorate the number of varsity football seasons in Dobie High School history, aim to give head coach Danny Fitzmorris a victory to kick off his second season in charge.

Using a red-hot first-half start, the Longhorns cruised to a 53-28 victory over the Wolverines in Pasadena to begin the 2024 campaign and get

The Wolverines defeated Goose Creek Memorial in nondistrict action last season but then went winless within 24-6A action for a 1-9 finish.

Time will tell if the Wolverines can improve in year four under head coach Patrick Sanders, but dual-threat quarterback Jayden Dansby is a true playmaker after finishing last season with more than 1,700 yards of total offense and 18 total touchdowns.

At right, Dobie senior running back Da'Marcus Hodges (21), who burned the Wolverines to the tune of 116 yards and two touchdowns on the ground in that opening win in 2024, will lead the way in the backfield this season. The two programs meet Aug. 29 at Veterans Memorial Stadium in League City.



Clear Brook varsity football head coach Patrick Sanders and his Wolverines will host the Dobie Longhorns Aug. 29 at Veterans Memorial Stadium in League City. The Wolverines will be looking for their first victory over the Longhorns in a head-to-head series that began prior to the 2022 season. Clear Brook is also looking to get off to a hot start as the program hopes to improve upon a 1-9 record from a season ago.

## Dobie volleyball intent on improvement in 22-6A play

The Dobie varsity volleyball team played solidly at the Dickinson invitational Aug. 21 and Aug. 23, picking up a pair of victories as the locals look to gain steam as the majority of the District 22-6A race awaits. Since opening the season Aug.

12 with a three-set sweep of Baytown Sterling, the Longhorns have seen mixed results, including a straight set loss to Manvel to open district play as the Mavericks show that they will be a top contender for a playoff berth once again this season.

Dobie continued what is a tough stretch to start

league play as it battled Dawson Aug. 26 after press time.

Alyssa Espinoza, Jordan Johnson and Kylar Joseph have led Dobie up front through the first couple of weeks of the regular season, while Alessandra Garza continues to lead the team in digs along with Espinoza.

Creek program Aug. 19.

Dobie came up with a victory over Clear Brook at the Dickinson Invitational, but also dropped a match to Fort Bend Elkins.

Dobie will take on Gateway Prep, MacArthur, Spring Woods, Crossby and C.E. King as part of the Goose Creek ISD Invitational Aug. 27-29.

## LSA volleyball team starts season at 9-1

The Lutheran South Academy varsity volleyball team has won nothing in the big picture, yet the Pioneers have left little doubt that they are serious contenders for a late-season playoff push.

Through the first two weeks of the regular season, the Pioneers celebrated a pair of career achievements as senior setter Aniston Collins reached more than 2,000 assists and head coach Geoff Stresman, early in his 21st season as the leader of the program, claimed career win No. 400 and counting.

Aside from a straight set loss to fellow private school power Episcopal, the Pioneers produced nine wins in 10 overall matches through the first two weeks of the regular season while dropping just four total games.

Collins is just one of four seniors on the roster that also includes four

sophomores and a freshman as 12 players have seen considerable action early on.

The Pioneers went undefeated to win the Pasadena Memorial Volleybash and have since defeated the Mavericks in a head-to-head matchup.

Addison Musgrove joined the program a season ago as a freshman and has contributed exceptionally well, following in the footsteps of her older sister, Kirra Musgrove, now at Texas A&M.

Collins is the proven steady force who can contribute in a variety of ways, and the Pioneers clearly possess one of the deepest rosters in the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools 5A ranks.

Through two weeks, it was clear that Stresman's plan for success was playing out just fine on the court.

Johnson leads the team in blocks, and Alyssa Goree has stepped forward at the sitter spot along with sophomore Riese Rackley.

Following that win over Sterling to open the season, Dobie lost in straight sets to Goose Creek Memorial and then fell in straight sets to an exceptionally talented Clear

Crack program Aug. 19.

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**BAFL Weekly Standings****Peewee Division**

Team	W	L	T
Eagles	2	0	0
Panthers	2	0	0
LP Texans	2	0	0
Pearland Texans	2	0	0
Wildcats	2	0	0
49ers	1	0	0
Cowboys	1	1	0
Patriots	1	1	0
Red Raiders	1	1	0
Cardinals	1	0	0
Buccaneers	0	1	0
Sharks	0	1	0
Braves	0	2	0
Gators	0	2	0
Longhorns	0	2	0
Stingrays	0	2	0
Manvel Texans	0	2	0

**Freshman Division**

Team	W	L	T
Eagles	2	0	0
Panthers	2	0	0
Patriots	2	0	0
Red Raiders	2	0	0
Wildcats	2	0	0
49ers	1	0	0
Cowboys	1	1	0
Stingrays	1	1	0
LP Texans	1	1	0
Manvel Texans	1	1	0
Buccaneers	0	1	0
Cardinals	0	1	0
Sharks	0	1	0
Braves	0	2	0
Gators	0	2	0
Longhorns	0	2	0
Pearland Texans	0	2	0

**Sophomore Division**

Team	W	L	T
Buccaneers	2	0	0
Cowboys	2	0	0
Manvel Texans	2	0	0
49ers	1	1	0
Braves	1	1	0
Eagles	1	1	0
Gators	1	1	0
Longhorns	1	1	0
Patriots	1	1	0
Red Raiders	1	1	0
Stingrays	1	1	0
Wildcats	1	1	0
Sharks	1	0	0
Panthers	0	2	0
LP Texans	0	2	0
Pearland Texans	0	2	0
Cardinals	0	1	0

**Junior Division**

Team	W	L	T
Buccaneers	2	0	0
Cowboys	2	0	0
Red Raiders	2	0	0
Wildcats	2	0	0
49ers	1	1	0
Eagles	1	1	0
Gators	1	1	0
Panthers	1	1	0
Patriots	1	1	0
LP Texans	1	1	0
Manvel Texans	1	1	0
Sharks	1	0	0
Braves	0	2	0
Longhorns	0	2	0
Pearland Texans	0	2	0
Stingrays	0	2	0
Cardinals	0	1	0

**Senior Division**

Team	W	L	T
Buccaneers	2	0	0
Red Raiders	2	0	0
LP Texans	2	0	0
Pearland Texans	2	0	0
Wildcats	2	0	0
49ers	1	1	0
Cowboys	1	1	0
Eagles	1	1	0
Gators	1	1	0
Longhorns	1	1	0
Sharks	1	0	0
Braves	0	2	0
Panthers	0	2	0
Patriots	0	2	0
Stingrays	0	2	0
Manvel Texans	0	2	0
Cardinals	0	1	0

**BAFL Week 2****Cowboys' Peewee 14****Stingrays 7****Stingrays 12,****Cowboys' Fr. 6****Cowboys' Soph. 19****Stingrays 6****Cowboys' Jrs. 35****Stingrays 0****Cowboys' Srs. 35****Stingrays 0****BAFL Week 3****Cowboys' Peewee at****La Porte, 8 a.m.****Cowboys' Freshmen at****La Porte, 9 a.m.****Cowboys' Sophomores at****La Porte, 11 a.m.****Cowboys' Juniors at****La Porte, 1 p.m.****Cowboys' Seniors at****La Porte, 3 p.m.****South Belt****football****predictions**

John Bechtle



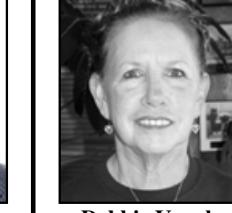
Emory Gadd



Troy Leland



Stephen Sutton



Debbie Vaughn

**24-6A football hot at CCISD**

Whether it's Challenger Stadium in Webster or Veterans Memorial Stadium in League City, there will be interesting head-to-head matchups on a nightly basis as Clear Creek ISD hosts plenty of solid football action beginning Week 1.

The district's Veterans Memorial Stadium on the campus of Clear Creek High School in League City will be abuzz as Clear Brook hosts Dobie Aug. 29 in a 7 p.m. kickoff. Dobie came away with a big victory a season ago for its third straight win in the series, but the Wolverines, looking to improve upon what was a 1-9 run a season ago, hope to reclaim supremacy in what has become a bit of a neighborhood rivalry after several seasons of no play between the two programs.

The action at Challenger Stadium in Webster begins Aug. 29 as Clear Falls hosts Fort Bend Hightower in a matchup of sure-fire postseason contenders. The Hurricanes came away with a 19-14 home victory and went on to finish the regular season at 9-1.

Clear Falls believes it has what it takes to push for the 24-6A crown this season and is looking to improve upon a 6-5 overall finish in 2024. Kyden

Barker has transferred in for the Knights at quarterback following a tremendously productive junior season at Galveston Ball.

The Knights also boast an elite defense led by University of Utah commit Preston Pitts at linebacker, who is *Dave Campbell's Texas Football* magazine's pick for Defensive Player of the Year in the league.

Clear Lake will take the field against 5A state-ranked Angleton Aug. 29 at Wildcat Stadium in Angleton as Falcon head coach Jason Ward makes his debut on the sideline. The Falcons, 3-7 a season ago, fell 24-10 to the Wildcats in last season's opener.

Clear Springs faces Ridge Point Aug. 29 at Hall Stadium within Fort Bend ISD as the Chargers go against the defending 21-6A champions in what promises to be a preview look at two programs poised to make deep postseason pushes.

Elsewhere within the district on opening weekend, a pair of 24-6A co-champions will be on the road as Dickinson and star tailback Malachi Gamble visit Katy Aug. 29 at Legacy Stadium in Katy and Deer Park visits the brand new digs at La Porte to take on the 5A state-ranked Bulldogs.

With the start of the 2025-2026 athletic season at all levels, Clear Creek ISD officials have addressed online ticket purchase details, a mandated clear bag policy and varsity football game livestream for purchase details.

To ensure visitor safety, along with quick and efficient entry into event venues, Clear Creek ISD event tickets will be sold online only for the 2025 season.

No paper tickets will be sold at stadium gates or gymnasium entrances. Presale student tickets are \$5, while all adult tickets are \$7.

Children age 3 and under are allowed free admission. Game-day general admission tickets are \$9 each. Access the district's online ticket purchasing app, visit [gofan.co](http://gofan.co) to get started.

Clear Creek ISD varsity football fans will also be able to livestream games from both stadium sites through the district's partnership with the NFHS Network.

Subscriptions may be purchased monthly or annually. Visit [www.nfhsnet.com](http://www.nfhsnet.com) to get started.

**Opening Weekend at PISD Veterans****Rayburn hosts Houston Austin Aug. 28, 6:30 p.m.****South Houston hosts Baytown Lee Aug. 29, 7 p.m.****at CCISD Veterans****Dobie at Clear Brook Aug. 29 7 p.m.****at CCISD Challenger****Hightower at Clear Falls Aug. 29 7 p.m.****PISD football opens at Veterans Aug. 28**

Pasadena ISD's three oldest high school football programs will be in action to kick off opening weekend at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena as Sam Rayburn will host Spring Woods Aug. 28, followed by South Houston taking on Baytown Lee a day later and the Pasadena Eagles hosting Houston Austin Aug. 30 to close out a

bout barn burner to begin the 2024 campaign.

It'll all be part of a fun-filled weekend to kick off the 2024 season within Pasadena ISD as the district's five programs look to get out of the gate with a

fairly easy go of things.

Senior running back Da'Marcus Hodges rushed for more than 100 yards and scored two touchdowns in the win over the Wolverines last season and is certain to get plenty of opportunities to replicate his performance this time around.

The Texans simply crushed Spring Woods in a

scintillating season opener a year ago, winning 47-0

on the road and will now

look to make it two in a row as they breathe life into Veterans Stadium as part of opening weekend.

South Houston will be

looking to avenge a 14-10 loss to the Gators a

season ago on the road

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# Longhorns, Wolverines renew South Belt tussle in League City

**Dobie at Clear Brook**

**Aug. 29, 7 p.m.**

**CCISD Veterans Stadium**

At right, Dobie senior offensive lineman Leudy Matos is one of the key returnees up front as Longhorns figure to feature a stout front heading into the 2025 season, with as many as five returnees having seen quite a bit of action in 2024. Matos and his teammates will get things going against Clear Brook on the road Aug. 29 in League City.

At far right, Dobie offensive lineman and co-captain Alonzo Chapman is returning from an All-District campaign a season ago as he will lead a Longhorn offensive front that will focus on providing plenty of open running room for top running back Da'Marcus Hodges and others. Dobie, 6-5 overall a season ago, will look for a fourth consecutive win over Clear Brook in the season opener.

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Tiffany Moise (2) and Kylar Joseph (4) of Dobie have had strong starts to the 2025 season up front and will play key roles moving forward as the Longhorns will focus most of their attention on the 22-6A race. Photos by Gloria Wallace



Alyssa Espinosa (1) and her Dobie varsity volleyball teammates got off to a bit of a slow start in district play with a loss in straight sets to Manvel but have plenty of opportunities to overcome the early setback.



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