

continued from front

PASADENA HIGH SCHOOL CONT.

Class of 1958

When: May 24, 2003
Where: South Shore Harbor
Contact: Sherry Dominguez by email at sad1940@aol.com

Class of 1973

When: 2003
Contact: Rhonda Jenkins Johnson at rjohnson@cityscope.net

SAM RAYBURN HIGH SCHOOL

Band Member/Band Booster Alumni - All Years

When: March 2003 (tentative)
Where: Clear Lake Park Landolt Pavilion (tentative)
Contact: For more information visit the web at www.srhbandreunion.org

Class of 1983

When: 2003
Contact: Visit www.greatreunions.com for more information and to register.

Class of 1993

When: 2003
Contact: Visit www.greatreunions.com for more information and to register.

SOUTH HOUSTON HIGH SCHOOL

Class of 1963

When: August 1-3, 2003
Where: Hobby Hilton Hotel
Contact: Charlene Sawyer at RS4147@aol.com or 713-664-6430

Visit the Pasadena ISD Alumni Association online at

www.pasadenaisd.org/alumni/alumni.htm



Connections

Connections is a quarterly electronic publication for former students of the Pasadena Independent School District. Suggestions for articles, letters to the editor and other comments are welcomed. Mail should be addressed to Mark Kramer, editor, PISD Administration Building, 1515 Cherrybrook, Pasadena, Texas 77502. Letters should include the writer's full name, address, and daytime telephone number. Visit the Pasadena ISD website:

www.pasadenaisd.org

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A new beginning

Genoa Elementary formally dedicates campus

The storied past of Genoa Elementary was fondly remembered and the school's new beginnings were celebrated recently at a formal dedication and open house at the new campus.

The new Genoa opened last April next door to the former campus, which was demolished a short time later. Structural problems and other hazards prompted the need for a new campus, which was approved by voters by an 8-1 margin as part of a \$199.05 million bond issue in February 2000. At 65 years old, the former Genoa was the oldest elementary school in the district.

"The school has always been a major part of this community," said Superintendent Rick Schneider before a crowd of more than 200 parents, student and community members. "Many generations of students have attended Genoa, and this new campus continues the proud traditions of this historic school."

Part of that historic past is Mrs. Armor Leign's family. Most her family has continued to reside in the Genoa area and six of her great-grandchildren now attend Genoa Elementary. One of Leign's daughter's, Sherry Godwin, attended Genoa from 1955-59 and still is an avid volunteer at the school today. She is a reading mentor and also is first vice president of the Genoa PTA.

"I just love this school," Godwin said. "I have granddaughters that go to this school, but all of these kids are special to me. Through the years, this school has maintained its close-knit family atmosphere."

Former principal Erwin "Pete" Petersen also shared his reflections about Genoa Elementary. He was a longtime teacher in Pasadena

ISD and served as principal at Genoa from 1977-1992.

"The things I remember most are the Oak trees and the school mascot," he said. "When I became principal here, our mascot was the Wildcats. I really didn't think

"I just love this school. Through the years, this school has maintained its close-knit family atmosphere."

it was fitting for our school. The one thing I noticed every day was this one owl sitting in the tree and feeding her young. It seemed like the perfect symbol for our campus, and thus, the mascot became the new mascot.

"This school holds so many good memories for myself," Petersen added.

"It has always been the

centerpiece of this community."

Genoa principal Patrice Hinson said she will never forget when the students entered the new building for the first time.

"They just gazed in amazement," she said. "Some even said it looked like an intermediate school. As educators, we were in awe ourselves. We are very proud that we will be able to continue the long history of learning in this new school." ★

Below: Principal Patrice Hinson and current students at Genoa listen as former principal Erwin "Pete" Petersen (not shown) shares his memories of Genoa Elementary at a formal dedication ceremony for the new school recently.

