



## 2016 Overture

Elva Valdez

New Years, the time to make promises that we won't keep, but still believe that we will do. It's time to get nostalgic and reminisce about all the good and bad times. This year was the craziest and that is a complete understatement. First we had the whole Hillary and Trump debacle that had been going on for months. The election only continued to spiral downwards. There was also the war in the Middle East and the disastrous thing that became Aleppo. Let's not forget Isis and their persistent way of hurting the world. Most recently with the Berlin attacks. In our own country we've lost 64 officers in the line of duty due to the impotent way people are made to feel. According to CNN that's the highest it's been in five years.

But ultimately, this is the time for healing. Now that Trump's inauguration will take place on January 20th we will have to remember who we are as a people and not let something as insignificant as indecision get in the way. If we got through 2016 then surely we can get through this one. Obstacles are those we face everyday, and removing them is sometimes difficult, but not impossible.

Many would argue that the country is very divided on current issues and that it will take compromise to fulfill all that has been proposed, but we will have to do more than just compromise. Maybe it's time for people to get a new perspective and become less narrow minded. Hopefully this year will bring new opportunities. We just have to be bold enough to take them.

Furthermore, on a more acquainted and familiar scale. Some students at Sam Houston have a more positive outlook when referring to 2016. Marcos Alegria a freshman says, "It was an exciting year. I started high school and I met new people." On a more contradictory note Alma Rodriguez and 11th grader here at Sam says, "It was too hectic, too many things happening." Both I suppose are true. One thing is for sure though, we're ready for change.



Photo courtesy of [samhoustonalumni.com](http://samhoustonalumni.com)

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# How to Beat the System During Holiday Shopping

## **Black Friday:**

Right after Thanksgiving is **Black Friday**, the day in which businesses have big sales in stores in an attempt to get as much money off of you as they can take. **Black Friday** is the traditional first day of Christmas shopping. The term “Black Friday” was coined in the 1960s to mark the unofficial start of Christmas shopping. Ironically, even though a lot of stores do this almost every year it is surprisingly not an official US holiday. For some stores, they start their deals a bit early. Many stores and malls are open on Thanksgiving Day at about 6:00 in the evening. They have their prices cut down which may vary depending where you get it or who you buy it from. On **Black Friday**, because there are so many deals, most people camp out at the stores as early as week before they even start. Once the doors open, in some instances, it would be like running with the bulls in Pamplona. But be aware because even though the prices are low, the quality of the item may sometimes be tawdry (showy but cheap or poorly made).

Ms. Floyd, who teaches engineering and robotics, has went shopping on **Black Friday**. Ms. Floyd commented saying “This year was the first and last year that I will be participating in Black Friday. The lines were extremely to long and there was not enough of the merchandise that they had advertised.”

## **Cyber Monday:**

A few days after the big sale, people then resort to shopping online which is called Cyber Monday which is a term invented by Shop.org in order to persuade shoppers to buy online. This started in 2005 which is fueled by mention of **Black Friday** savings. This holiday has caused huge sales making online shopping very profitable for businesses.

Before you order something online, try looking up the same item you are looking for from another retailer who may have it for a lower price. Also try to take advantage of the free shipping by combing it with other stuff in your shopping cart so you can hopefully avoid paying the shipping cost.

As you make your purchases online, be aware of fake shopping app scams that trick you into giving out your private information or downloading malware. Aside from this, one of the biggest problems is your package getting stolen. One of the ways to prevent this includes by having your package delivered to a neighbor you trust, watch your package being delivered, have the package in a facility for pickup, or by having security cameras pointed at the door.

If you order from Amazon, they have a safe place for your package called “Amazon Locker.” According to Amazon, they give you the option to have your package delivered to an Amazon Locker location where it will be stored for you to pick up. **If not picked up within 3 business days, it will be returned for a refund.**

## Pros and Cons of shopping on Black Friday and Cyber Monday

Black Friday	Cyber Monday
Pro: You can great deals at low prices which may vary at different locations	Pro: May not have to pay shipping fees based on who you're shopping at
Con: May have to literally wrestle someone over an item for sale.	Con: Make its easier for people to scam you if you're not careful.
Cons: A lot of the deals may be cheap or poorly made.	Pros: Retailers can make a lot of money from selling items online.
Pros: You can actually see and look at the items you are buying.	Pros: Can be easy to find online and items are shipped directly to you.
Pros: No need to pay any fees for the items you purchase (except for taxes).	Cons: Takes time for your item to ship to your house.
Con: Can be extremely chaotic once inside the store.	Con: May have to purchase the item before someone else gets it first.

## After Holiday Deals + Returns/Exchanges:

You had a great Christmas with your family and got some great gifts. Yet the gifts you wanted probably wasn't what you *actually wanted or you didn't get what you wanted. But the good news is that business are open right after Christmas. Places like Walmart, Toys R' Us, Target, and etc. have their prices discounted to usually at about 20% to 75% retail price. They try to get rid of anything they have in storage and off the shelves to make space for more items.*

They also have their trade in centers for you to get a refund or exchange on your item. Walmart offers customers to exchange their item for a gift card. All you have to do is just answer a few questions, ship it back to them, and you'll get a gift card from them. Although, you may want to check some store's policies for exchanging or refunding items. If you're trying to get rid of something you no longer need but don't have the receipt to it or for some other reason. Try going to "**Game Over Videogames**", "**Gamestop**", or "**Half-Priced Books**". All three places will take in any old video games but Half-Priced books will take in toys, books, and videogames too.

# Holocaust Museum Raymond Schmitz

## Overview of a field trip and general museum information

The Holocaust is an important historical event which happened in the 1940's, this is no secret. Yet many people still do not know that Houston has its very own museum based entirely around the Holocaust. The Museum building is located in Downtown Houston and has many impactful artifacts. It showcases real life people who now tell their stories to the visitors of the museum on the weekends and special occasions. With only a small handful of people still alive to tell their encounters, these people are a rare commodity.

The Museum has on display many photos that may evoke many different emotions from depressing to hopeful. Pictures are used to fully induce the terrors the Holocaust caused. The museum's main focus is to make the public aware of the violence, prejudice, and hatred the Holocaust brought as well as to give a lesson that it is mankind's duty to strive to live in peace and acceptance.



Students gaze at the wall , located at the Holocaust Museum

The Holocaust Museum is located on 5401 Caroline St, Houston, TX 77004 and is open 7 days a week, though hours vary by day. It costs money for admission, but students get in free with their student ID.





Dr. Pitts and Mr. Turpie's Fall 2016 Holocaust class.

The museum is so passionate in working towards its goal that it offers training to teachers to teach a Holocaust course in school. Here at Sam we have this exact elective course taught by Dr. Pitts. If you are interested in learning in depth about the Holocaust then we encourage you to request this elective. For more information regarding the course, speak with Dr. Pitts in 502 or talk to Ms. Blain.

# Announcements

## **Student Council:**

Student Council will host a movie night on Friday the 3rd.

Students will be able to vote for the movie on the day of, tickets are \$2

## **Newspaper:**

If you see a student has a great piece of writing, or even a great student you want to spotlight (with pictures too) please send to the Newspaper Club.

If you have any announcements or upcoming ideas for articles we could write to support your clubs, sports, or even classroom learning please send to Newspaper Club.

## **School Beautification:**

Have an NG? Need Amnesty hours?

Talk to Mr. Turpie in room 506 after school on Wednesdays to make up those missing hours.





**Communities In Schools of Houston** is a campus-based, non-profit organization, to help students who are at-risk or underserved with unmet needs. CIS works alongside with multiple school districts to touch the lives of over 30,000 students and families annually.

CIS brings five basics tools to help students with their struggles. One of the things they do is have a one on one relationship with a caring adult, provide a safe place for students to learn and grow, a healthy start and a healthy future, teach students a marketable skill to use upon graduation, and gives them a chance to give back to the community. These are some things that can help students feel a bit more calm in their life.



Sam Houston is fortunate to have Communities In Schools back on its campus. Mrs. Tanya Hulbert comes to us from Communities in Schools in San Antonio. After experiencing a life changing event Mrs. Hulbert vowed to serve her community and those around her for the rest of her days. Mrs. Hulbert does this by providing services to both students and families here on our campus. Mrs. Hulbert has an office located in room 404. She is here Monday through Friday and students can just walk into her office and talk to her about what is going on. Mrs. Hulbert provides services in areas such as social service, parental involvement, college & career, academics, supportive guidance and enrichment. She has partnered with the Houston Food Bank to bring the Backpack Buddy Program. This gives food assistance to students for the weekend. She has also collected coats and jackets for students. Mrs. Hulbert is working closely with the Sam Houston Alternative Center (SHAC) to provide students with additional supportive guidance services. Communities In Schools-Houston is a huge asset to the Sam Houston students and families.

# Boys Soccer Schedule

Aegis Contributors

## District Games Round 1

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Home</u>	<u>Visitors</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
Tuesday	1/24/2017	Lamar H.S.	Sam Houston	Delmar Stadium	4:30 P.M.
Friday	1/27/2017	Chavez H.S.	Sam Houston	Barnett, Jr	4:30 P.M.
Tuesday	1/31/2017	Westside H.S.	Sam Houston	Delmar Stadium	6:00 P.M.
Friday	2/3/2017	Heights H.S.	Sam Houston	Delmar Stadium	6:00 P.M.
Tuesday	2/7/2017	Sam Houston	Bellaire H.S.	Barnett, Sr.	8:00 P.M.
Friday	2/10/2017	Sam Houston	Westbury H.S.	Cowart Stadium	4:00 P.M.

## District Games Round 2

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Home</u>	<u>Visitors</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
Friday	2/17/2017	Sam Houston	Lamar H.S.	Dyer Stadium	8:00 P.M.
Tuesday	2/21/2017	Sam Houston	Chavez H.S.	Cowart Stadium	6:00 P.M.
Friday	2/24/2017	Sam Houston	Westside H.S.	Dyer Stadium	4:00 P.M.
Tuesday	2/28/2017	Sam Houston	Heights H.S.	Cowart Stadium	6:00 P.M.
Friday	3/3/2017	Bellaire H.S.	Sam Houston	Butler, Sr.	6:00 P.M.
Tuesday	3/7/2017	Westbury H.S.	Sam Houston	Butler, Sr.	6:00 P.M.



# Basketball Schedule

Date	Opponent	Location	Time
Feb. 3rd	Westbury HS	The Pavillion	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 7th	Lamar HS	The Pavillion	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 10th	Westside HS	The Pavillion	4:00 p.m.
Feb. 15th	Chavez HS	Barnett Stadium	6:00 p.m.

## Current Roster

Kendric Davis  
Jacob Wiley  
Torrion Mingo  
Henry Hampton  
Gabriel Gonzales  
Marquez Carroll  
Marlon Jackson  
Anthony Fletcher  
Earl Beal  
Adrian Lindsey



# Well Wishes from the Aegis!

Want to see your club or team in here? Send an email to Ms. Benson or Mr. Turpie with the details.

Like what you see here?

The Aegis is always looking for industrious students who want to have a voice at Sam.

Stories in the Aegis make for great resume and college portfolio material.

Meetings are after school in 506 on Monday's and Thursdays.

## Contributors

- Charles Markcray
- Raymond Schmitz
- Elva Valdes
- Cesilia Saavedra

## Special Thanks

- Mr. Summers
- Mr. Turpie
- Ms. Benson
- Teachers and Coaches who contribute answers and information.
- Parents of our staff, we couldn't do it without your support.