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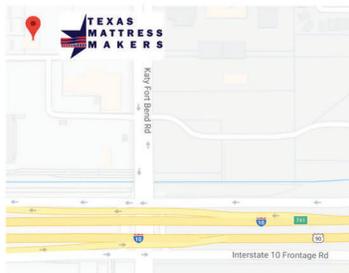
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A MESSAGE FROM THE *City Administrator*



Welcome to Historic Katy, Texas!

It's my pleasure to welcome you to our beautiful city.

Katy is a thriving community that is rich in tradition and continues to offer excellence in public

service, financial strength and economic development. Our city boasts a highly acclaimed education system, beautiful parks and museums, and our community pride and spirit is second to none.

Located just 30 miles from downtown Houston and minutes from the energy corridor, Katy has the unique advantage of having big city convenience, while maintaining our small town charm.

It's the perfect place live, work and raise your family. We are grateful to have you in our community, so come on in and stay a while -- you'll love Katy!

Byron Hebert

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HISTORIC KATY: *the heart of* dynamic community

Katy history spans many years — back to prehistoric times when layers of strata deposited salt domes that made this area rich for natural gas and the geological formations that created the flat Katy prairie, ripe for farming and ranching.

Early settlers dealt with wild animals that are long gone. What they found here was a cane-filled creek, an “island” of cane surrounded by a vast prairie of tall grass; and the area became known as Cane Island.

By the mid-1800s, San Felipe Road was a rough wagon trail that cut right through the Cane Island area. The road was busy with wagons and stagecoaches running bi-weekly service between Houston and San Antonio, but few families called the area home. That all changed in the 1890s when the Missouri-Kansas-Texas (MKT) Railroad Company extended their line and enterprising settlers founded the town of Katy right where Waller, Harris and Fort Bend County merged.

The new town thrived with the development of the railroad. Businesses were established to meet the needs of new residents. Ranching and agriculture ventures thrived with the greatest success found in growing rice on the flat, wet prairie.

There were many hardships. Lightning frequently started prairie fires causing the tall grass to burn for days at a time. Freezing weather, floods and mud, packs of voracious wolves, miserably hot summers and disease-carrying mosquitoes all made settling in Katy a challenge.

In the early 1930s, State Highway 73 opened west from Houston; it cut straight through Katy. When a bridge over the Brazos River was completed in 1940, Highway 73 was improved and renamed Highway 90. More traffic traveled through Katy, bringing new business to retailers and more work for the community.

But real growth came in 1943, when the Humble Gas Plant opened just west of town. Production at the plant was astounding. The first-year Katy gas reserves, in terms of British Thermal Units, were equivalent to one billion barrels of oil. The impact of the Katy Gas Plant on the city cannot be

overestimated. It doubled the population and funded the young Katy Independent School District — making it possible to build new schools and upgrade equipment.

In October 1945, an election was held and the town incorporated into a municipality. Katy began emerging as the city we know today. The area around the new city was still defined by smaller communities; Barker, Addicks, Gaston and others slowly surrendered to become known as the “Katy area.”

When the Addicks School District closed in 1961, part of it was incorporated into Katy ISD. Katy ISD boundaries were set at 181 square miles, which have not changed since that time and is the boundary that defines what we know as the Katy area today.

When Interstate Highway 10 (Katy Freeway) was opened in 1966, all six lanes of the highway were often busy. It was the development of State Highway 99 (Grand Parkway) in the 1980s that really started growth in the Katy area. New neighborhoods began replacing rice fields and pastures. Rail service continued until 2000, when the Texas Department of Transportation bought the old MKT right-of-way and removed the line as part of an expansion of IH-10.

More than 300,000 people live in the Katy area, which has won national accolades for growth and sustainability. KISD has more than 70,000 students who attend schools recognized for their educational excellence. The expansion of the Grand Parkway will create the longest beltway in the world and there is no sign that growth and development in Katy will slow down.

At the heart of it all, there is still the small City of Katy with a population of approximately 15,000 residents.

Katy has emerged from its history as one of Southeast Texas’ prime suburban areas, but is still a community with friendly compassionate people, and where families and businesses can flourish. It still has the spirit of adventure and possibility that our founding families came to find when there was nothing here but tall grass and wild prairie.

LOCATION. LOCATION. LOCATION.

The Katy area, a rapid population growth center located west of Houston, enjoys the benefits of being part of the Houston metropolitan area.

Katy offers a suburban atmosphere, “small town” life-style and an energetic talent base for quality companies.

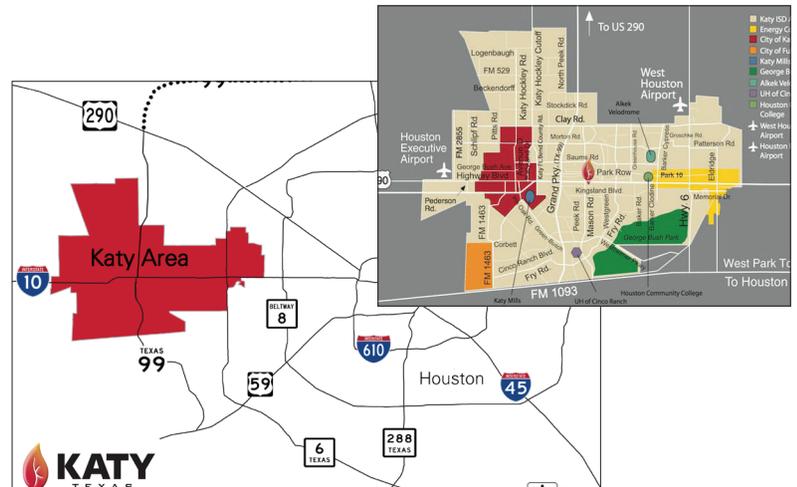
Katy’s location is key for many businesses located here. Among the companies with a presence in the Katy area are BP America, WoodGroup Subsidiaries, Shell Exploration and Production, ConocoPhillips, Katy Mills-Simon Group, Academy Sports & Outdoors, Walmart and Igloo Products.

Some features of the Katy are include:

- Encompasses a 181-square-mile area of the Katy Independent School District;
- Hub of three counties;
- On Interstate 10 and State Highway 99;
- Promoting the Energy Corridor;
- Award-winning master planned communities;
- Outstanding K–12 public education system;
- Diverse shopping opportunities;
- Low cost of living; and
- Outstanding parks and recreation.

The lure of the Katy area has drawn huge numbers of new workers and families over the past decade. The city’s population has now surpassed 309,000 residents, with more moving here every week.

Katy continues to be the western cornerstone of the Greater Houston area, providing numerous opportunities for excellence in business, education, healthcare, recreation and living.



KATY AREA DEMOGRAPHICS

POPULATION TRENDS

	1990	2000	2010	2015	Change 1990-2000	Change 2010-2015
City of Katy	7,660	11,050	13,858	16,072	44.3%	16%
Katy Area	81,559	139,179	254,360	327,384	70.6%	28.7%
30 Mi. Radius from City of Katy	2,026,341	2,603,079	3,387,007	3,799,566	28.5%	12.2%

HOUSEHOLDS

	1990	2000	2010	2015	Change 1990-2000	Change 2010-2015
City of Katy	2,550	3,651	4,351	4,933	43.2%	13.4%
Katy Area	27,038	46,004	78,730	99,705	70.1%	26.6%
30 Mi. Radius from City of Katy	757,313	937,912	1,160,104	1,287,379	23.8%	11%

HOUSEHOLD INCOME

	1990	2000	2010	2015	Change 1990-2000	Change 2010-2015
Average Household	\$57,021	\$84,625	\$104,228	\$112,042	48.4%	7.5%
Median Household	\$47,269	\$70,207	\$80,580	\$83,254	48.5%	3.3%
Per Capita	\$18,885	\$27,972	\$32,244	\$34,190	48.1%	5.7%

POPULATION BY RACE OR ETHNICITY

	1990	2000	2010	2015	Change 1990-2000	Change 2010-2015	
White	71,747 (88%)	113,199 (81.3%)	202,351 (79.6%)	255,446 (78%)	57.8%	26.2%	
Black or African American	3,412 (4.2%)	6,650 (4.8%)	15,105 (5.9%)	22,046 (6.7%)	94.9%	46%	
American Indian/Alaska Native	233 (0.3%)	511 (0.4%)	1,213 (0.5%)	1,742 (0.5%)	119.5%	43.6%	
Asian or Pacific Islander	2,796 (3.4%)	7,129 (5.1%)	14,99 (5.9%)	22,185 (6.8%)	155%	47.9%	
Some Other Race	3,370 (4.1%)	8,324 (6%)	14,234 (5.6%)	18,139 (5.5%)	147%	27.4%	
Two or More Races	N/A	N/A	3,366 (2.4%)	6,461 (2.5%)	7,825 (2.4%)	N/A	21.1%
Hispanic Ethnicity	9,097 (11.2%)	22,757 (16.4%)	62,283 (24.5%)	87,627 (26.8%)	150.2%	40.7%	
Not Hispanic or Latino	72,462 (88.9%)	116,421 (83.7%)	192,077 (75.5%)	239,757 (73.2%)	60.7%	24.8%	

Source: Katy Area Economic Development Council

What *differentiates* City of Katy from Katy

What exactly is inside the Katy city limits? Katy residents often split the city into two informal sections: “Old Katy” or “Katy Proper” and the “Greater Katy Area.”

Old Katy is the actual city limits of Katy and lies mostly north of Interstate 10. This is the original Katy from before the 1970s when Houston’s Energy Corridor (and the mushrooming development that came with it) made its way west on I-10.

The approximate city limit boundaries are drawn on the map provided. In the past year, the City of Katy has been busy on the annexation front, adding hundreds of acres of new property to the city’s tax rolls.

The Katy area is made up of large sections of unincorporated Harris and Fort Bend County and mostly sits east and southeast of the city limits of Katy.

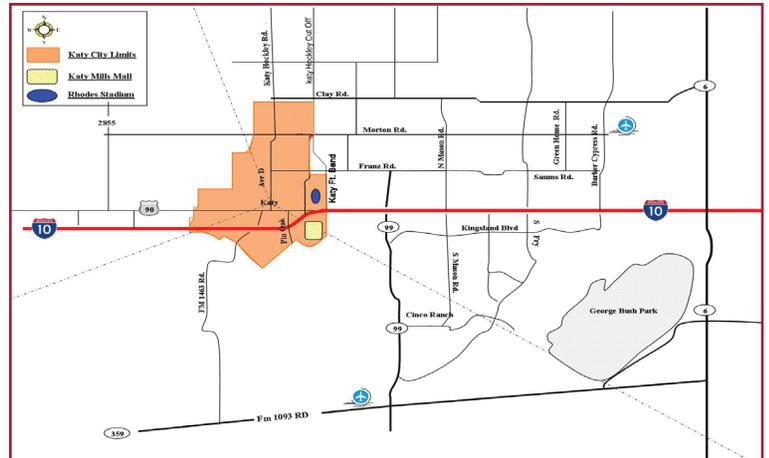
This area is within the Katy Independent School District, and nearly everyone in this area has a Katy postal address.

The Katy area includes communities such as Cinco Ranch, Green Trails, Grayson Lakes, Seven Meadows, Silver Ranch, Firethorne and Grand Lakes, while also encompassing developments from the 1970s and 1980s such as Memorial Parkway, Kelliwood and Nottingham Country.

All of the Katy area lies in the City of Houston’s extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ), not Katy’s ETJ.

This means that most of the greater Katy area is controlled by the City of Houston and that Houston has the ability to annex it in the future.

The City of Katy cannot annex this area unless Houston releases the area’s ETJ which has occurred in several small chunks within recent years.



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CITY LIMITS MAP



NEIGHBORHOODS & SUBDIVISIONS

- 1 Avalon at Spring Green
- 2 Cane Island
- 3 Enclave at Katy
- 4 Falls at Green Meadows
- 5 Fawn Lakes
- 6 Heritage Meadows
- 7 Heritage Park West
- 8 Huntington Court
- 9 Hunters Terrace
- 10 Katyland
- 11 Pine Forest
- 12 Pine Lakes
- 13 Reserves at Katy
- 14 Town Park
- 15 Victoria Lakes
- 16 Village Green
- 17 Westland/West Katy
- 18 Whispering Lakes
- 19 Woodcreek Reserve
- 20 Young Ranch

EDUCATION

- 1 Katy Elementary
- 2 Katy Junior High
- 3 Katy High School
- 4 Hutsell Elementary
- 5 Woodcreek Elementary
- 6 Woodcreek Junior High
- 7 Rhodes Stadium
- 8 Miller Career & Technology Center
- 9 Raines High School
- 10 S.T.E.A.M Center
- 11 Welch Outdoor Learning Center
- 12 Merrell Center & L.D. Pavilion

CITY PARKS

- 1 Woodland Park
- 2 Railroad Park & Depot Museum
- 3 Harvest Plaza
- 4 Thomas Park
- 5 Heritage Park & Museum
- 6 Veterans Museum & VFW Park
- 7 Katy City Park & Play Station
- 8 Mary Jo Peckham Park
- 9 Off-Leash Dog Park

POINTS OF INTEREST

- 1 City Hall
- 2 Fire Station
- 3 Police Station
- 4 Municipal Court
- 5 Public Library
- 6 Senior Center
- 7 Post Office
- 8 Katy Mills Mall



Exceptional Schools ATTRACT NEWCOMERS TO AREA

The Katy Independent School District, a leader in educational excellence, together with family and community, provides unparalleled learning experiences designed to prepare each student to live an honorable, fulfilling life.

Katy ISD is a flourishing suburban school district that encompasses 181 square miles. Its eastern boundaries stretch to Houston's Energy Corridor, approximately 16 miles west of downtown Houston, and extends along Interstate 10 to a few miles west of the City of Katy.

In the 2014-15 school year, student enrollment grew to more than 70,000 across 53 schools — including six four-year high schools.

With more than 7,600 employees, it is one of the area's largest employers.

Rated as "Recognized" by the Texas Education Agency, Katy ISD offers an outstanding instructional program with facilities, equipment and materials that are among the best in the state.

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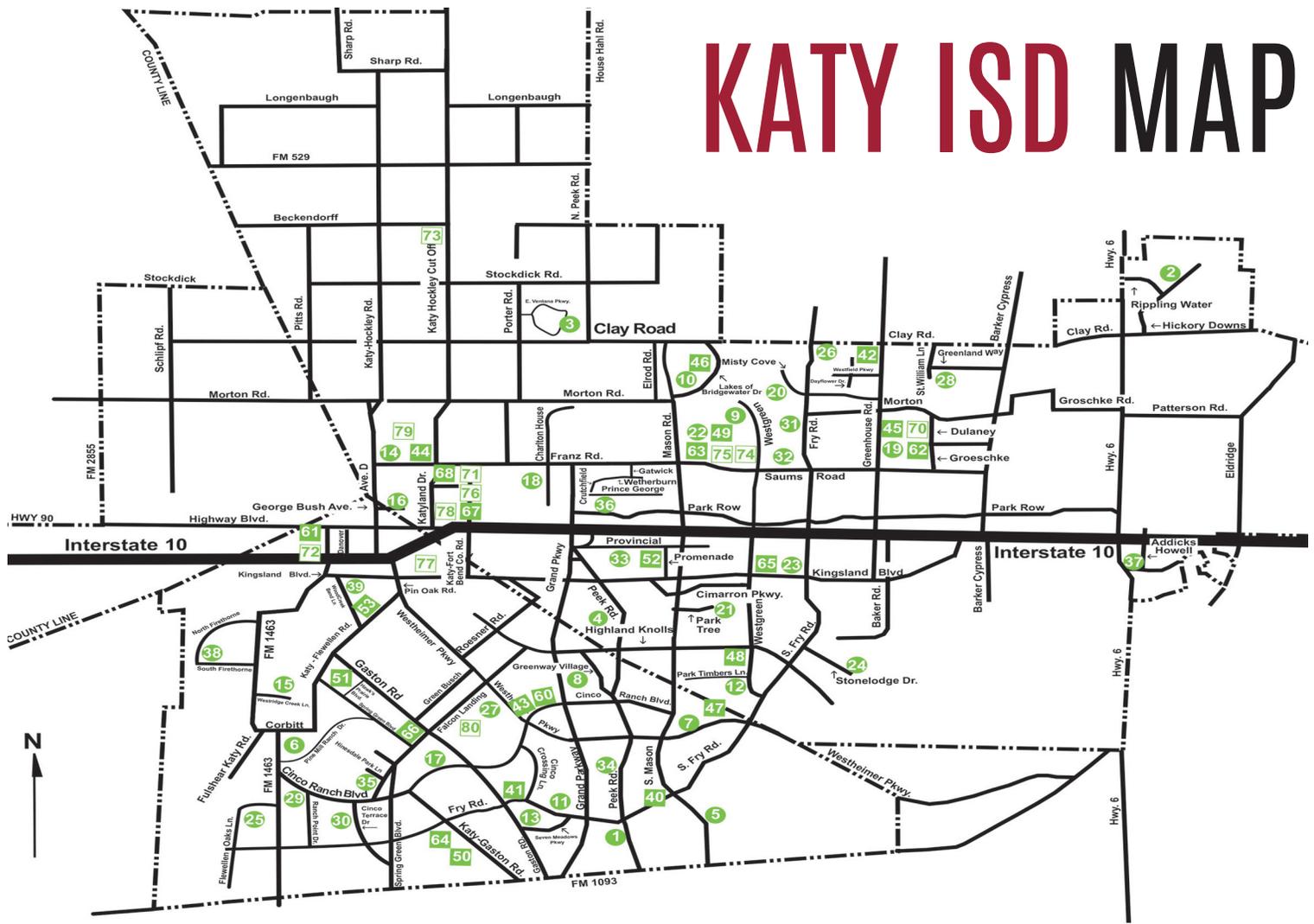
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KATY ISD MAP



KATY SCHOOLS

Elementary Schools

- 1 Roosevelt Alexander Elementary
- 2 Bear Creek Elementary
- 3 Catherine Bethke Elementary
- 4 Cimarron Elementary
- 5 Sue Creech Elementary
- 6 Keiko Davidson Elementary
- 7 Jo Ella Exley Elementary
- 8 Edna Mae Fielder Elementary
- 9 Franz Elementary
- 10 Loraine T. Golbow Elementary
- 11 Michael L. Griffin Elementary
- 12 Jeanette Hayes Elementary
- 13 Bonnie Holland Elementary
- 14 Zelma Hutsell Elementary
- 15 MayDell Jenks Elementary
- 16 Katy Elementary
- 17 Odessa Kilpatrick Elementary
- 18 Robert E. King Elementary
- 19 Mayde Creek Elementary

- 20 Polly Ann McRoberts Elementary
- 21 Memorial Parkway Elementary
- 22 Morton Ranch Elementary
- 23 Nottingham Country Elementary
- 24 Hazel S. Pattison Elementary
- 25 James E. Randolph Elementary
- 26 Jack & Sharon Rhoads Elementary
- 27 Roberta Wright Rylander Elementary
- 28 Jean & Betty Schmalz Elementary
- 29 Fred & Patti Shafer Elementary
- 30 Stan C. Stanley Elementary
- 31 Ursula Stephens Elementary
- 32 Sundown Elementary
- 33 West Memorial Elementary
- 34 James Williams Elementary
- 35 Tom Wilson Elementary
- 36 Diane Winborn Elementary
- 37 Maurice L. Wolfe Elementary
- 38 Ray & Jamie Wolman Elementary
- 39 WoodCreek Elementary

Secondary Schools

- 40 Rodger & Ellen Beck Junior High
- 41 Beckendorff Junior High
- 42 Cardiff Junior High

- 43 Cinco Ranch Junior High
- 44 Katy Junior High
- 45 Mayde Creek Junior High
- 46 T.H. McDonald Junior High
- 47 Garland McMeans Junior High
- 48 Memorial Parkway Junior High
- 49 Morton Ranch Junior High
- 50 Seven Lakes Junior High
- 51 James & Sharon Tays Junior High
- 52 West Memorial Junior High
- 53 WoodCreek Junior High
- 60 Cinco Ranch High
- 61 Katy High
- 62 Mayde Creek High
- 63 Morton Ranch High
- 64 Seven Lakes High
- 65 James E. Taylor High
- 66 Obra D. Tompkins High
- 67 Arthur Miller Career & Technology Center
- 68 Martha Raines High
- Opportunity Awareness Center
- Behavior Transition Program

Central Facilities

- 70 East Transportation Center

- 71 ECI Project TYKE / PCD
- 72 Education Support Complex
- Kenneth D. Welch Outdoor Learning
- Leonard E. Merrell Center
- Morgan Rodeo Arena & L.D. Robinson Pavilion
- 73 Gerald D. Young Agricultural Facility
- 74 Mark L. Hopkins Law Enforcement Center
- 75 Maintenance & Operations Center
- 76 Jack F. Rhodes Memorial Stadium
- 77 Simon Youth Academy at Katy Mills Mall
- 78 Robert R. Shaw Center for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Mathematics
- 79 Support Services Complex
- Nutrition & Food Services
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- Purchasing
- Warehouse-Distribution Center
- West Transportation Center
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KATY ISD BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees acts as the school district's policy-making body and is the official representative of the people for all public education in Katy ISD. The Board functions according to state and federal laws, the rules and regulations established by the State Board of Education, the Texas Education Agency and the will of the people as expressed in district elections.

MISSION STATEMENT

Katy Independent School District, the leader in educational excellence, together with family and community, provides unparalleled learning experiences designed to prepare and inspire each student to live an honorable, fulfilling life to create the future.



DAWN CHAMPAGNE
Member

Dawn Champagne has lived in Katy since March 2001. She has been an active volunteer in the Katy Community since that summer, beginning with her church, St. Peter's UMC. She began volunteering in Katy ISD in August 2002, when her oldest child started Kindergarten. She has held many positions on the boards of the three schools that her children have attended. Most recently she was the president of the TPA (PTO) at Taylor High School (2016-2018) and the VP of Project Grad 2018 at Taylor High School. She has also been on CAT teams, Bond advisory teams, the 2017 Bond Committee, Katy Leadership (twice), Katy Council of PTAs, and is a KEYS Mentor (2015 to present). Dawn has been a Boy Scout Leader, is currently a Girl Scout Leader (2007 to present), serves on National Charity League, Azalea Chapter Board and has held many leadership positions at her church, St. Peter's UMC. She was named Volunteer of the Year at McMeans Jr. High for the 2015-2016 school year and Volunteer of the year at Taylor High School for the 2017-2018 school year. Champagne holds two degrees from University of Houston: a Bachelor of Science degree in Consumer Science and Marketing, Magna Cum Laude, and a Masters of Administration. Most recently, she worked as a GT Test Proctor for Katy ISD in the 2017-2018 school year.

She has been married to Brett for 25 years and has three children: Connor, aged 21 who graduated from Taylor HS in 2015 and is a Senior at Texas State University; Alexis, aged 18, who is a 2018 graduate from Taylor HS and will be attending Texas A&M in the fall of 2018; and Brenna, aged 16, who will graduate from Taylor HS in 2020. Her hobbies include working out, reading, scrapbooking, traveling and spending time with her family.



COURTNEY DOYLE
President

Ashley Vann is a graduate of James E. Taylor High School and received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Communications from Southern Methodist University.

After working in the television and advertising industries and owning her own business, Vann dedicated herself to public service and volunteering.

Vann was elected to the Katy ISD Board of Trustees in May 2014 and in May 2017.

She and her husband, J Scot, a Katy High School graduate, have been married for 24 years and have three children, one currently enrolled in Katy ISD and two graduates currently attending the University of Oklahoma. Vann has lived in Katy for nearly 30 years. She has been a member of the Marketing Committee for the Katy ISD Education Foundation since 2013. She has served in volunteer leadership positions at RAE, BDJH & SLHS, including PTA president, on all three PTAs. She was named Volunteer of the Year at Alexander in 2008. She is a TEXAS PTA Lifetime and Extended Service Award recipient.

She was a member of the Leadership Katy Class of 2011 and Katy ISD VIPS Executive Board from 2011-2014, where served as the secretary and volunteer in charge of KEYS mentoring events. She has also served on the 2011-2013 Katy ISD Instructional Calendar Committee, Seven Lakes Athletic Booster Club and Studio VII Booster Club.

She is currently a member of National Charity League - Star Chapter and enjoys volunteering in the Katy community alongside her daughter. She is actively engaged in the community/district thru Promise to Read, the Katy ISD Education Foundation and multiple planning committees. She also served on the Texas Education Agency's 2017-18 District Financial Performance Council.



REBECCA FOX
Member

Rebecca Fox has served as a member of the Katy ISD Board of Trustees since 2004. She has held every position at least once, including twice as president of the Board. Fox is a graduate of the class of 2007 Leadership TASB (Texas Association of School Boards) and has earned the distinction of being named a Master Trustee. She is also a member of the TASB Legislative Advocacy Network.

Fox holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Consumer and Family Science from Southeastern Louisiana University and works part-time as a motivational speaker and parent educator. Married for 28 years, she and her husband have two children.

A parent and long-time volunteer, Fox has served in leadership on PTA boards at Hayes Elementary, Creech Elementary, Beck Jr. High and Cinco Ranch High School, where she was named Volunteer of the Year. She has served on district committees such as Campus Advisory Team, Bond Committees and Rezoning Committees, and served three years as an executive board member of Katy ISD Volunteers in Public Schools. She continues to be involved in schools across the district through KEYS Mentoring, teaching Junior Achievement, Promise-to-Read and a variety of other programs. She was awarded the distinction of PTA lifetime member for her dedication to students, families and community.

Fox is active in her church and community service through National Charity League and is a previous board member at the Pregnancy Help Center.



SUSAN GESOFF
Member

Susan Gesoff earned a bachelor's degree in Industrial Engineering from Penn State University and has worked in technical roles for several Fortune 500 companies including: Texas Instruments, Boeing and American Airlines. She has been employed by BP since 2012. When she moved to Katy 13 years ago from Dallas and her girls were little, she chose to pursue an alternative certification to become a Texas Educator.

She loved teaching fifth grade science and social studies for five years in Katy ISD at Roosevelt Alexander Elementary. Though she has since returned to the corporate world, Susan remains passionate about students, teachers and innovative STEM education.

Susan and her husband, Glenn, have been married for 28 years and their three daughters are graduates of Seven Lakes High School (SLHS) – pursuing degrees in finance and chemical engineering, while the oldest is earning her master's degree in London.

She decided to run for the school board because she wanted to give back to the district that drew her to Katy in the first place and did an outstanding job of preparing her children for success. She is excited to put her business and technical skills, and her experience in education to work for Katy ISD.

Susan delivered meals on wheels to the homebound for years, was a member of the Star Chapter of the National Charity League for 10 years, was a member of various Katy ISD PTAs over the years and devoted many volunteer hours to both the SLHS Theatre Company and the SLHS Choir as well as her church.



BILL LACY
Vice President

Bill Lacy is a Senior Loan Officer in the mortgage banking profession. Bill has a degree in Business Administration from Louisiana Tech University. He has been a resident of Katy for 21 years.

His children are graduates of Taylor HS, Cinco Ranch HS and Katy HS. Along with his wife Patti Lacy, he is involved in numerous community organizations and coordinated charity golf tournaments. Bill is an active member of Westland Baptist Church where he has served on their board, led Sunday School Classes for both adults and children as well as being an AWANA leader. He is a volunteer with Katy Christian Ministries, Katy Visual and Performing Arts, volunteers with the Candlelighters Organization, rides with The Patriot Guard Motorcycle Club, is a member of the Katy Athletic Booster Club, former member of the Taylor HS Pacemaker Booster Club and the Cinco Ranch HS Theater Booster Club. He is an avid golfer, cook, parent and grandparent.



GEORGE SCOTT
Member

George Scott was elected to the Katy ISD Board of Trustees in May 2016. Scott served as publisher of The Katy Times newspaper from 1983-1986 before becoming Senior Researcher and then President of the Tax Research Association of Houston and Harris County. He also served one year on the local political staff of then Congressman Tom DeLay and served on the Executive Committee of the Harris County Appraisal District where he performed both internal and external media functions, as well as special projects.

During his tenure in local media, Scott worked directly with hundreds of civic and service organizations and individuals to help publicize their positive work for the community, and volunteered in various activities including the Katy Chamber of Commerce, youth sports leagues for both boys and girls, and other activities related to his children's activities.



ASHLEY VANN
Secretary

Ashley Vann is a graduate of James E. Taylor High School and received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Communications from Southern Methodist University. After working in the television and advertising industries and owning her own business, Vann dedicated herself to public service and volunteering.

Vann was elected to the Katy ISD Board of Trustees in May 2014 and in May 2017.

She and her husband, J Scot, a Katy High School graduate, have been married for 24 years and have three children, one currently enrolled in Katy ISD and two graduates currently attending the University of Oklahoma. Vann has lived in Katy for nearly 30 years. She has been a member of the Marketing Committee for the Katy ISD Education Foundation since 2013. She has served in volunteer leadership positions at RAE, BDJH & SLHS, including PTA president, on all three PTAs. She was named Volunteer of the Year at Alexander in 2008. She is a TEXAS PTA Lifetime and Extended Service Award recipient.

She was a member of the Leadership Katy Class of 2011 and Katy ISD VIPS Executive Board from 2011-2014, where served as the secretary and volunteer in charge of KEYS mentoring events. She has also served on the 2011-2013 Katy ISD Instructional Calendar Committee, Seven Lakes Athletic Booster Club and Studio VII Booster Club.

She is currently a member of National Charity League - Star Chapter and enjoys volunteering in the Katy community alongside her daughter. She is actively engaged in the community/district thru Promise to Read, the Katy ISD Education Foundation and multiple planning committees. She also served on the Texas Education Agency's 2017-18 District Financial Performance Council.



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Katy area known as ‘MEDICAL CENTER WEST’

The Katy area has recently been named “Medical Center West” for the greater Houston area. Why? Katy’s healthcare options are growing rapidly.

During the next few years, hospitals will invest nearly \$800 million in new and expanded facilities.

HOUSTON METHODIST ST. CATHERINE HOSPITAL

Most patients who are admitted to a traditional hospital are there for just a few days, but some need attention for longer periods. Long-term acute care (LTAC) hospitals like Houston Methodist St. Catherine are specialty facilities dedicated to serving these patients.

Contrary to some popular misconceptions, LTAC hospitals are not nursing homes (long-term care facilities), nor are they only for critically ill patients. Many LTAC patients simply need daily care from a dedicated medical team for a longer period (typically 25 days or more) before they are well enough to return home.

Patients who need a long-term acute care hospital include those requiring:

- Intensive physical therapy.
- Respiratory therapy.
- Treatment for head trauma.
- Pain Management.

Houston Methodist St. Catherine Hospital is a fully accredited specialty hospital. Hospital services include:

- Mammogram.
- Outpatient Imaging.
- Outpatient Rehabilitation.

- Long-term Acute Care.
- Rehabilitation and Sports Medicine.

KATY URGENT CARE CENTER

Having a sick or injured child can be scary. The last thing you want to do is wait hours in the emergency room not knowing if they will be alright.

Katy Urgent Care Center is for non-emergency problems such as ear infections, sore throats, flu, ear infections, bladder infections, minor burns or cuts, sprains bruises and broken bones.

More serious injuries or illnesses are best treated at an emergency department. Contact your primary care physician for chronic problems like depression or diabetes.

Katy Urgent Care Center provides treatment of routine health care issues such as physical exams, consultative issues and treatment for illness and injury.

Urgent Care physicians are board certified and see patients from six months of age to adults.

MD ANDERSON REGIONAL CARE CENTER

The Regional Care Center in Katy is located at 19770 Kingsland Blvd. on the campus of Houston Methodist St. Catherine Hospital.

It treats all kinds of cancer and offers many of the same patient services as the main campus, with more being added every day.

MD Anderson wants to ensure their patients are getting the same world-class standard of care in a comforting community setting.

The Regional Care Center in Katy offers complete suspicion of

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to experience true
fulfillment in Jesus Christ,
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CENTRAL CAMPUS
8:00 | 9:30 | 11:00 AM

NORTH KATY CAMPUS
STOCKDICK JR. HIGH
9:30 AM



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cancer services. If you have a lump or other troubling symptoms, experts can let you know whether or not it is cancer and provide treatment and management of your condition no matter the diagnosis.

It offers clinical services such as medical oncology and hematology, Intensity-Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT), accelerated partial breast irradiation, surgical oncology, breast surgical oncology, outpatient chemotherapy, clinical trials, pain management, laboratory services, nurse navigator and on-site pharmacy.

Patient support services include new patient navigation team, nutritional support and psycho-social support.

At MD Anderson, the staff knows that the cancer experience includes more than just treating the disease.

The Regional Care Center in Katy offers a range of support services to help all of its patients achieve maximum quality of life both during and after cancer treatment.

MEMORIAL HERMANN KATY HOSPITAL

Serving the Katy community for more than 20 years, Memorial Hermann Katy Hospital is committed to providing comprehensive health services treating a full range of medical conditions.

Memorial Hermann uses the latest advanced technology and evidenced-based medicine to improve clinical outcomes. The latest advanced information and wireless technology systems are used to collect, store and communicate vital patient information.

Memorial Hermann's emergency center offers services 24/7, and its chest pain center is fully accredited to provide effective treatment for heart attack patients.

Memorial Hermann is the only Level IV trauma center in Katy and

is equipped to stabilize patients for transfer using Life Flight helicopters when higher level care is required.

Specialty services include women's and children's services, heart and vascular services, sports medicine and rehabilitation, diabetes self management, cancer services and advanced diagnostic imaging.

The Memorial Hermann Medical Plaza includes physician offices, a sports medicine and rehabilitation center, outpatient imaging center, continence center and lab services.

TEXAS CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL WEST CAMPUS

Texas Children's Hospital West Campus broke ground in 2008 on a new \$220 million facility that is located in the Katy area.

The hospital is licensed for 96 intermediate and acute beds, an emergency center, inpatient and outpatient operating floors, ambulatory care facility, diagnostic imaging, physical medicine and rehab services, subspecialty care and physician office space.

The first phase of the campus was completed in December 2010.

METHODIST WEST HOUSTON HOSPITAL

Methodist West Houston Hospital broke ground in 2008 on a 192-bed, acute care hospital adjacent to Texas Children's Hospital.

At the 55-acre site, Methodist plans to offer sophisticated services to the Katy area which includes catheterization lab operations, radiation therapy and imaging. A state-of-the-art medical office building will be built as well. Methodist also plans to integrate select training services for medical residents and research fellows into a community hospital setting.

It opened in November 2010.

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To learn more about Girl Scouts or to register go to:



www.gssjc.org



Way Out West Community (WOW) Elementary Schools served: Alexander, Creech, Exley, Campbell, Davidson, Griffin, Hayes, Holland, Kilpatrick, Memorial Parkway, Nottingham Country, Pattison, Randolph, Shafer, Stanley, Williams and Wilson



Katy Aquatics is a USA Swim Team and Learn-to-Swim school dedicated to the development of youth swimming. As a swim club, our objectives are to teach fundamental swim techniques, foster a spirit of competition and equip our athletes with the skills to compete on regional and national levels. We continuously challenge young athletes to strive towards excellence and encourage future athletic training among our swimmers.

Katy Aquatics Offers:

- SwimAmerica learn-to-swim program (age 4 and up)
- Special needs classes
- Adult learn-to-swim classes
- Non-competitive swimming
- Competitive age-group swimming
- Masters swimming (age 18 and up)

For more information on Katy Aquatics and our many programs, please visit www.katyaquatics.org or call 281-391-7200.

Email: info@katyaquatics.org



www.EliteWomensCareCenter.com



Elite Women's Care Center is committed to providing compassionate, patient-centered, high quality care that is available from female adolescents to postmenopausal women. Through efficient use of modern technology, we are able to offer exceptional, personal care in a comfortable atmosphere. Our goal is to foster a doctor-patient relationship that facilitates respect, trust and compassion. Through preventative counseling and education, we strive to promote the health and wellness of women in our community.

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LOOKING AHEAD

a guide to upcoming authentic katy events

There is no shortage of events and activities in the Katy area. These events range in size and theme, but they are all a part of the Katy culture and experience.

AUGUST

FARMER'S MARKET ON GRAND PARKWAY BEGINS

Saturday, Aug. 4, 2018

8 a.m.-12 p.m.

The Church of the Holy Apostles 1225 West Grand Parkway S. As the summer heat slowly abates, the Farmer's Market on Grand Parkway will resume its weekly event in which local vendors and farmers congregate and sell their merchandise. The Farmer's Market on Grand Parkway operates every Saturday and offers locally sourced and sustainably grown produce, locally raised meats, farm fresh eggs, artisan crafts, homemade breads and baked goods, handmade soaps, jams and jellies, spices, snacks, Texas raised herbs, flowers and plants.

For more information

visit <http://www.farmersmarketongrandparkway.com/>.

GROWLER USA ANNIVERSARY PARTY

Friday, Aug. 10, 2018 11 a.m.-1 a.m.

1443 FM 1463

Growler USA is celebrating its second year of operation with a free party event. The celebration is open to all ages from 11 a.m. until 9 p.m., and features prizes, food and drink specials and live music by The Rock Agents. After 9 p.m., only patrons 21 and older may participate.

KATY SUMMER TAILGATE

Friday, Aug. 10, 2018 6-10 p.m.

No Label Brewing Co.

5351 1st St.

No Label Brewing Co. is once again partnering with Katy YMCA to support Operation Backpack with their Katy Summer Tailgate fundraiser. Operation Backpack collects backpacks and other school supplies for children. Admission is \$20; children 12 and under are free. All proceeds benefit Operation Backpack. The theme for this year is "Ultimate 80's Experience," and will feature the band Live 80, wine and local craft beer, food trucks, craft vendors, silent auction and vintage arcade games like Mrs. Pac-Man, Galaga and Donkey Kong.

OPERATION BACKPACK KICKBALL TOURNAMENT

Saturday, Aug. 11, 2018 at 8 a.m.

Katy City Park

5850 Franz Rd.

The Katy YMCA's Operation Backpack fundraising effort concludes with a kickball tournament. Registration is \$250 per team, and all profits go to the Katy YMCA's Operation Backpack. Each team must consist of a minimum of nine players with minimum three female players. All participants must be 16 years or older. Teams are encouraged to dress in their best 80's attire, and a trophy will be awarded to the best dressed team. Register at www.katysummertailgate.org/kickball.

FIRST DAY OF KATY ISD

Wednesday, Aug. 15, 2018

Katy Independent School District enters its 120th year of providing award-winning education to Katy students.

PINK OUT THE PARK FOR RESCUE PINK

Saturday, Aug. 25, 2018

10:30 a.m.- 6 p.m.

TYPHOON TEXAS WATER PARK

555 Katy Fort Bend Rd.

Rescue Pink is raising funds for its organization at Typhoon Texas water park. Rescue Pink provides aid to girls and women suffering injustice in India. Tickets are \$39.99, and all profits from the event go directly to India. All ages are welcome, and children age two or under are free. Visitors are invited to wear pink to "pink out the park" in symbolic honor of the women that Rescue Pink serves.

FARMER'S MARKET AT LACENTERRA RESUMES

Sunday, Aug. 26, 2018

11 a.m.-3 p.m.

23501 Cinco Ranch Blvd.

The Farmers Market at LaCenterra took a hiatus for the hottest summer months, but the popular attraction resumes in late August. Every fourth Sunday of the month, local vendors gather in LaCenterra to sell honey, cheese, fresh eggs and seasonal vegetables.

SEPTEMBER

ART IN THE PARK

Saturday, Sept. 1, 2018

7:30-10 p.m.

23501 Cinco Ranch Blvd.

Willow Fork Drainage District's Central Green in LaCenterra is a popular green space that often features community events. On Sept. 1, the space will host a celebration of Hispanic heritage with a focus on the art, music and culture of Hispanic Americans. The event is intended for all ages. Like all events at Central Green, Art in the Park is free to the public and facilitated through the Willow Fork Drainage District.

FALL KATY HOME AND GARDEN SHOW VINTAGE MARKET

Saturday, Sept. 8, 2018

10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Sunday, September 9, 2018

11:00 a.m.-5 p.m.

Merrell Center and Robinson

Pavilion

6301 S. Stadium Ln.

The Fall Katy Home and Garden Show Vintage Market showcases the latest trends in design, decorating and arts and crafts. Artists and purveyors from around the country converge in the open space of the Merrell Center and Robinson Pavilion to sell their work. Ticket information is forthcoming, but visit www.fallkatyhomeandgardenshow.com for information on vendors and exhibits.

**JOE JOE BEAR
FOUNDATION GOLF
TOURNAMENT**

Monday, Sept. 10, 2018 10 a.m.

The Club at Falcon Point

24503 Falcon Point Dr.

Katy golf enthusiasts can support the Joe Joe Bear Foundation in their charity tournament. The Joe Joe Bear Foundation is Katy-based organization that provides teddy bears to children battling serious illness. Golfers can compete as individuals or in teams. To learn more or to register, visit www.joejoebearfoundation.org/events.

**KATY ISD NO-HOMEWORK
FAMILY NIGHT BEGINS**

Wednesday, Sept. 12, 2018

Katy ISD gained state-wide attention when it instituted "No-Homework Family Nights" in 2017. Sept. 12 is the first of six evenings in which teachers in the district will not assign homework. In lieu of homework, students are encouraged to spend their evening enjoying their families.

**STORYTIME LIVE! WITH
CURIOUS GEORGE AND
PINKALICIOUS**

Saturday, Sept. 15, 2018 10 a.m.

Kiddie Academy

27613 Pine Mill Ranch Dr.

Beloved storybook characters Curious George and Pinkalicious jump off the page at Storytime LIVE! hosted by Kiddie Academy. Life-size characters inspire children to love reading in this free event that is open to the public.

**ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE
ROLLING ROADSHOW FALL
DEBUT**

Thursday, Sept. 20, 2018 7-10 p.m.

The Courtyard at Las Alamedas

23501 Cinco Ranch Blvd.

As the weather starts to cool, the Alamo Draffthouse reopens its popular Rolling Roadshow. Selena (rated PG) is the first film in the roadshow series in Katy. The

screening is free, and movie-goers may bring blankets or lawn chairs.

**IMPACT A HERO NOV CLAY
SHOOT**

Friday, Sept. 21, 2018 8:40 a.m.

Westside Sporting Grounds

10120 Pattison

NOV's clay shoot tournament bolsters Impact a Hero's mission to provide emotional and financial support to severely wounded combat veterans. The tournament will include shoots, mulligans and a silent auction, and all proceeds benefit Impact a Hero. For more information, or to register online, visit www.nov.com/clayshoot.

WALK TO END

ALZHEIMER'S

Saturday, Sept. 22, 2018 8 a.m.

LaCenterra at Cinco Ranch

23501 Cinco Ranch Blvd.

The Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's® is the largest Alzheimer's awareness and fundraising event worldwide. Funds from the walk support care for patients with Alzheimer's and research for the disease. There is no fee to join the walk, and all ages are welcome, but the Alzheimer's Association suggests that walkers contribute to the cause by hosting a personal fundraising page. To learn more about the Walk to End Alzheimer's or to begin a fundraising campaign, visit act.alz.org.

**THE KATY TRIATHLON AT
CANE ISLAND**

Sunday, Sept. 23, 2018 7:30 a.m.

Cane Island

2100 Cane Island Pkwy.

This three-course race through Katy features a 500-meter lake swim, 15-mile bike ride and three-mile run. The competitive event traverses a route chosen for its scenic beauty. Registration and course information may be found at www.katytriathlon.com.

OCTOBER

**KATY FISH FRY AND
AUCTION**

Friday, Oct. 6, 2018 3-7 p.m.

Southlands Bar and Grill

5990 Stockdick Rd.

Although the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo is perhaps best known for its famous rodeo in the spring, the organization hosts events year-round. The Katy Fish Fry and Auction promotes agriculture and education in the community.

**THE 2ND ANNUAL
WESTLAND'S WELCOME
HOME CRAFT SHOW**

Friday, October 6, 2018

10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Westland Baptist Church

1407 W. Grand Parkway S.

The Westland's Welcome Home Craft Show returns for its second year. The craft show highlights 60 vendors of crafts and concessions. All proceeds benefit the Youth and Children's Ministries of Westland Baptist Church. For more information or to request a booth, contact Martha Wells at westlandcraftshow@gmail.com.

**THE REAL CRAFTWIVES OF
KATY Expo**

No Label Brewing Co.

5351 1st. St.

Sunday, Oct. 7, 2018 12-5 p.m.

This craft show is designed to showcase the talent of Katy artists and draw attention to small business commerce in the community.

Tickets are \$2, and patrons can enjoy \$4 No Label beers while they shop.

**A NIGHT OF POSITIVELY
PINK**

Friday, Oct. 12, 2018 6-9 p.m.

La Centerra

23501 Cinco Ranch Blvd.

The tone of this event is unique in that it promotes a celebration of breast cancer awareness. A Night of

Positively Pink is hosted by Houston Methodist hospital and centers on the positive actions and impacts of the community towards women living with breast cancer. Special attractions include live music, dancing, balloon animals, cotton candy and desserts from Nothing Bundt Cakes. This event is free and family-friendly.

**CITY OF KATY RICE
FESTIVAL**

Saturday, Oct. 13, 2018

Sunday, Oct. 14, 2018

Downtown Historic Katy

The City of Katy Rice Festival is perhaps the most iconic festival in Katy. This year's festivities have drawn especial interest after Mayor Chuck Brawner announced that the emphasis of the event would revert back to its original form. The City of Katy will now direct the festival, which will have a restored focus on artisanal crafters, local foods and drinks and live music. Local civic groups and businesses will also partner with the festival to renew its prior verve.

**KATY ISD INVITATIONAL
MARCHING FESTIVAL**

Saturday, Oct. 13, 2018

10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Rhodes Stadium

1733 Katy Fort Bend Rd.

Twenty-six high school bands from across the Greater Houston Area perform in this competition. The invitational spotlights the talent of youths in marching bands throughout area schools.

**BRAZILIAN FOOD AND
MUSIC FESTIVAL**

Sunday, Oct. 14, 2018

11 a.m.-7 p.m.

Wildcatter Saloon

26913 Katy Fwy.

The Brazilian Food and Music Festival honors all things Brazilian in one location. Patrons can enjoy Brazilian food, beverages, music and crafts. There will also be activities for

children and a donation collection of toiletry items for underserved communities. Entry to the event is \$10.

10TH ANNUAL CAR SHOW

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018

9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Current Christian Church

26600 Westheimer Pkwy.

All vehicles of all makes and models are invited to the Katy Annual Car Show. In addition to showcasing some of the most beautiful and unique automobiles, the show also features live music and door prizes. All ages are welcome at the show, and admission is free to the public. To register a vehicle or learn more information, visit www.currentchristian.org/carshow.

THE WONDERLAND MARKET

Saturday, Oct. 27, 2018

10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Cinco Ranch High School

23440 Cinco Ranch Blvd.

more than 100 local vendors converge at Cinco Ranch High School for the 10th Wonderland Market craft show. Shop handmade art, gifts and specialty market items.

NOVEMBER

TEDX TALKS KATY

Saturday, Nov. 3, 2018

9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Alamo Drafthouse Theater

2707 Commercial Center Blvd.

The popular TEDx Talks series comes to Katy at the Alamo Drafthouse. The series features between 8 and 10 short talks lasting under 20 minutes. The subject matter of the talks will include topics ranging from artificial

intelligence and finding fulfillment. Registration is \$75 and includes general admission, lunch, and a drink voucher. Follow forthcoming information at <https://www.facebook.com/TEDxKaty>.

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS GIFT Market

Friday, Nov. 16, 2018

10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 17, 2018

10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 18, 2018

11 a.m.-4 p.m.

The Merrell Center

6301 S Stadium Ln.

Katy's largest gift market returns for its 11th year. Visitors shop more than 200 merchant presenting specialty items, handmade crafts and Christmas gifts. Shoppers support local artists and small businesses and discover items not sold in stores. Follow show details at www.homefortheholidaysgiftmarket.com.

KATY AREA YMCA TURKEY TROT

Thursday, Nov. 22, 2018 6:45 a.m.

*The Monty Ballard YMCA
22807 Westheimer Pkwy.*

The 15th annual Katy area YMCA Turkey Dash kicks off on Thanksgiving Day. Runners of ages and abilities are invited to participate in the event, which features three course lengths: 10K, 5K, 1-Mile Kids Race, and 1-Mile Walk/Run. The post-race party will include food, prizes, a photo booth and a kids fun-zone. Runners are encouraged to dress up for the costume contest. Prizes are awarded for "Best Thanksgiving Theme" and "Most Unique Costume." All proceeds Turkey Dash benefit the YMCA's Annual Campaign, which supports YMCA scholarship and outreach programs. To register or volunteer www.ymcaturkeydash.org.



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THE BALLARD HOUSE FESTIVAL OF TREES

Friday, Nov. 23, 2018 12-7 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 24, 2018 12-7 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 25, 2018 12-5 p.m.

The Ballard House

21421 Cinco Park Rd.

The Ballard House's Festival of Trees is the largest holiday-themed event in the Katy. This is the event's first year, which spans three days. The Festival of Trees is a winter wonderland decorated with holiday trees and wreaths. Children will delight in the magic of Christmas and meet Santa himself. The festival supports the guests and families of The Ballard House home. For more details on the event or to learn about The Ballard house, visit www.bhphot.org.

HOLIDAY IN THE PARK AND TREE LIGHTING

November, 2018

Heritage Square in LaCenterra

23501 Cinco Ranch Blvd.

Specific dates and times for the tree lighting are currently unavailable, but Texas Children's Hospital West Campus affirms that the event will continue its tradition in 2018. The tree lighting is one of the most iconic Christmas celebrations in Katy with its dazzling lights and family-friendly activities.

DECEMBER

KATY OLD FASHIONED CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

Saturday, Dec. 1, 2018

10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Historic Downtown Katy

The Ninth annual Katy Old Fashioned Christmas Festival invites visitors to this free, family-friendly event. The magic of Christmas comes alive with carolers, a visit from Santa, and 50,000 pounds of real snow. Visitors can also shop for art, antiques and gifts while enjoying local food trucks and beer from No Label Brewery.

JANUARY

BAYOU CITY HORROR FILM FESTIVAL

Friday, Jan. 18, 2019

Alamo Drafthouse Cinema

531 Mason Rd.

The Bayou City Horror Film Festival series comes to Katy for an all-day horror film event. Patrons view independent horror films from with some of the most unique and creative stories and genres. All screenplays and films are eligible for consideration making this horror film event unlike any other. Tickets are \$15 but are not yet available for purchase. Information on the entire series can be found on The Bayou City Horror Film Festival's website at <https://filmfreeway.com/BayouCityHorrorFilmFest>.

SPRING KATY HOME AND GARDEN SHOW

Saturday, Jan. 26, 2019

10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 27, 2019

11 a.m. -5 p.m.

The Merrell Center and Robinson Pavilion

6301 S. Stadium Ln.

This show is the spring version of the popular Fall Katy Home and Garden Show Vintage Market. Local artists fill the arena with fresh spring decorations, designs, and unique gifts. Shoppers eager for warmer weather will appreciate the vernal ambience of the show.

FEBRUARY

KATY HALF MARATHON

Saturday, Feb. 2, 2019

6:45-10:15 a.m.

Katy Mills Mall

5000 Katy Mills Cir.

The cold temperatures of February are ideal for the the Katy Half Marathon, which is race two of the Bayou City Half Series. The race includes distances for athletes of

all ages and skill levels between the half marathon, half marathon relay, 5K and kids' 1K. To learn more or register visit www.bchalfseries.com.

KATY ISD LIVESTOCK

SHOW AND RODEO

February, 2019

Katy's own Livestock Show and Rodeo will resume in February.

The organization is a scholarship program for area youths, but all Texans will enjoy the fanfare of the many rodeo traditions. The Katy ISD Livestock Show and Rodeo has not yet released dates and specific information, but their website is updated as they finalize details. www.katyrodeo.org.

MARCH

2019 SOUTHLAND CONFERENCE BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

March, 2019

The Merrell Center

6301 S Stadium Ln.

As March Madness reaches a fever-pitch, the Southland Conference Basketball Tournament will take place in Katy at The Merrell Center. The conference is comprised of 13 universities spanning three states. Specifics regarding the event will not be available until the season begins, but The Merrell Center is scheduled to resume its hosting venue.

APRIL

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS GIFT MARKET

Saturday, April 6, 2019 10-6 p.m.

Sunday, April 7, 2019 11-4 p.m.

The Merrell Center

6301 S Stadium Ln.

This is the spring attraction of the Home for the Holidays Gift Market, which is most immense gift market in Katy. As with its Christmas counterpart, the event showcases more than 200 booths. Information

on the spring event may be found at www.homefortheholidaymarket.com.

WILD WEST BREWFEST

April 28, 2019

April 29, 2019

Katy Mills Mall

5000 Katy Mills Cir.

Katy's largest beer festival will return with more than 80 Brewers offering more than 500 beers. While beer is the main attraction of Wild West Brewfest, patrons will also enjoy live music, food and giveaways. Specific times, brewers, and musical acts are still forthcoming, but event information will be updated on Wild West Brewfest's website, www.wildwestbrewfest.com.

BP MS 150 START

April, 2019

Rhodes Stadium

1733 Katy Fort Bend Rd.

While the BP MS150 Communications has not yet released the date or time of the start, they have renewed Rhodes Stadium as one of the race's three starting points. The race traverses a 150-mile course from Katy to Austin. Athletes across the world compete in the race which benefits the National / Multiple Sclerosis Society.

MORE EVENTS

There are many other events which go on throughout the year in the City of Katy and Katy area. Please check out The Katy Times newspapers for the latest upcoming events. The Times publishes each Thursday and promotes Katy and chronicles events in the area. You can also check out The Katy Times online at www.katytimes.com.



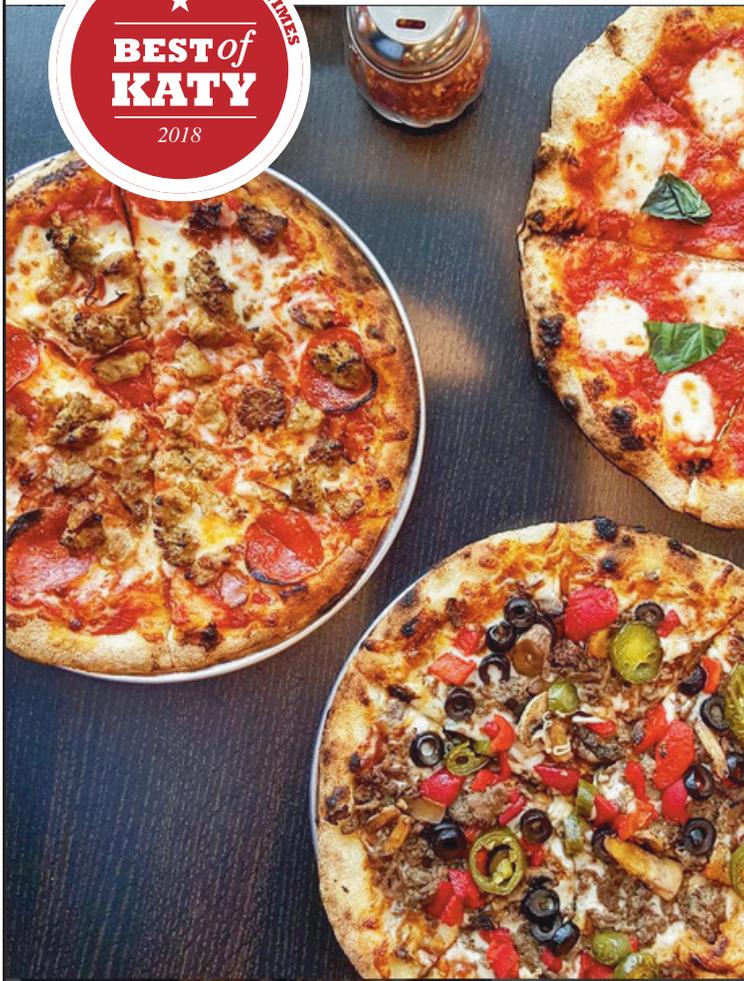
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Area sports fans can't seem to get enough of the **KATY TIGERS**

The Katy High School Tigers not only won their record eighth state football championship in 2015, but the team was also crowned as the national high school football champions.

As a whole, Katy ISD features thousands of outstanding student athletes who consistently advance to state playoffs and championships throughout the school year.

Many newcomers and visitors, along with longtime Katy residents, know all about Katy football and its much-deserved reputation as one of the top programs in Texas and beyond season after season.

Katy also captured football state championships in 1959, 1997, 2000, 2003, 2007, 2008, and 2012. Tigers head coach Gary Joseph was named the 2012 American Football Monthly National High School Coach of the Year. Joseph is an incredible 153-12 in 10 years as Katy's head coach (he's been with the program 32 years).

"It's just a tremendous honor to work with all the outstanding administrators, teachers and coaches in the Katy ISD, and of course, the players, parents and fans," Joseph said. "The program's success is a direct result of a tremendous combined effort, and the tremendous dedication from our players."

Katy High competes in UIL District 19-6A with co-Katy ISD high schools Cinco Ranch, Seven Lakes, Taylor, Morton Ranch, Tompkins, Mayde Creek, and Houston Strake Jesuit (boys' sports only).

Along with football, girls volleyball, cross country and team tennis are played in the fall, and are followed by wrestling, swimming and diving, basketball and soccer. In the spring, there's golf, tennis, track and field, baseball and softball.

Most Texas private schools, like Katy Faith West Academy and Pope John XXIII, compete in TAPPS (Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools), which also offers a wide variety of girls and boys varsity sports and state championships.

In TAPPS football, Faith West and Pope John XXIII compete in Division II District 4.

Teams in the district include Sugar Land Fort Bend Baptist, and Houston schools Lutheran North, Lutheran South, Northland Christian, Second Baptist and Westbury Christian.

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GLOWING LEGACY STADIUM HONORS LEGENDARY COACH JOHNSTON

BY DENNIS SILVA II
TIMES SPORTS EDITOR

Mike Johnston arrived at Katy High in 1981 as the football program's fourth head coach in five years.

The fieldhouse only suited 150 kids, there was no weight room, and many community members made it loud and clear to Johnston that Katy could produce basketball and baseball players, but not football players.

"The only thing that got me through was my faith, knowing God brought me here for a reason," Johnston said. "We've come a million miles from where it was."

Eventually, Johnston built the program from scratch. It went from a landmark regular season win over then-top 10 program Klein in 1985, to an appearance in the state championship game in 1994.

The rest is Katy history.

The Tigers made five more appearances in the state championship game to complete Johnston's 22-year tenure at the helm. Katy won the title three of those times. Johnston finished with a 200-76 record at Katy High, or a winning percentage of 72.5. Since his retirement, Katy High has won four more state championships under Johnston's protégé Gary Joseph.

It's largely because of Johnston's impact that Katy ISD elected to honor him in early March 2017 by naming the field at new Legacy Stadium after him, Mike Johnston Field.

The field and 12,000-seat stadium debuted in August 2017 to rave reviews and gives Katy ISD two stadiums to use along with neighbor Rhodes Stadium, which was introduced in 1982 and holds 9,700-plus seats.

"It is an honor," Johnston said. "We don't coach for those types of things, but it's a blessing. It's really an honor for my family, because to have your family name attached to a facility in a school district like Katy ISD is a pretty awesome thing. I have a wife and two sons and I know it means a lot to them. My brother and his family used to drive across Houston every Friday night to watch us play for 22 years. It means a lot to your family and it's a tribute to the great coaches I've had and the community of Katy."

Legacy Stadium cost \$72.1 million to construct. According to Katy ISD

spokesperson Maria DiPetta, the stadium is expected to bring in more than \$500,000 in revenue to the district each year.

"Playing in Legacy Stadium will have a tremendous impact on our players and coaches," Morton Ranch coach Ron Counter said. "I can remember coaching against Cy-Fair the first year that the Berry Center (now Cy-Fair FCU Stadium) opened. There was a great deal of excitement. Having two stadiums in Katy ISD will be a benefit to everyone, including the bands, cheerleaders and fans."

Katy football is what it is today because of Johnston, though he had a great sidekick in Joseph. Joseph was Johnston's defensive coordinator since those early 1980s until he retired after the 2003 season.

"I worked with Coach for a long time and (the field name) is such a neat thing for his family," Joseph said. "It's a compliment for the things he did for Katy and Katy High School. I'm thankful the people saw to it to honor him in that way. His 20-plus years here were a big deal and helped change the culture of Katy High School and Katy."

"When he came, he had to start from the ground floor. Everything had to be developed. I tell people anything is possible, you just need a little patience."

To Johnston, it wasn't long ago when Katy High didn't have a weight room until 1985. Now there's turf practice fields on each of Katy ISD's high school campuses and two premier stadiums.

Katy ISD is on the map. The community and district largely has Johnston and his former coaches and players to thank for that.

The legacy is undeniable.

"There's a winning tradition there that is so hard to build, as long as you've got a foothold on things and they know what it takes, then you still have a chance to compete at a high level," Johnston said. "There's a standard to live up to, a standard to perform to. The kids know there will be a challenge waiting for them, but will it be worth it? Well, yeah. There's nothing like walking off the field knowing you're the best team in the state."

HUG A WAY IS A GODSEND FOR HOME HEALTH CARE PATIENTS

By Jimmy Galvan

A Hug Away Healthcare is a godsend for those families wanting to retain a quality lifestyle for their loved ones who need medical care at home. Located at 1203 Avenue D, Suite A, in Old Town Katy, A Hug Away Healthcare is owned by sisters Marisa Frazier and Tikisha Johnson.

Marisa is the Administrator and Tikisha is Alternate Administrator.

“Our heart is in Katy, but our care has no limits,” said Marisa. “We are licensed to service all of Texas, including the Fulshear area, and we’ll go as far as we have to in order to fulfill our patients’ needs.

“Our goal is to leave a legacy. We boast on our ability to help doctors heal patients and to comfort families and friends. Our census stays small because we assign nurses and therapist who help get patients back to a full time lifestyle that they can embrace.”

The business is truly a one-stop shop for anyone who needs home health care services. Included among its services are: infusion care, wound care, skilled nursing, hospice care, IV therapy, physical therapy, medical equipment, social services and companionship services — all offered within the convenience of one’s own home.

But that’s not all, A Hug Away also provides full-time hospice care, occupational therapy, speech therapy, intravenous injections, intramuscular injections, catheter insertions, blood pressure and glucose level checks and other vital checks for body temperature, pulse rate and rate of breathing. A Hug Away is also expanding its services to include pediatrics and psychiatry.

“Our licensed physicians, registered nurses and other

medical professionals work in collaboration with family physicians to deliver the best home health care available,” said Marisa. “It’s all about giving our patients the quality lifestyle they want and deserve.”

Most of the home health care referrals come from doctors who have knowledge of A Hug Away or have personally experienced “our high level of care,” said Marisa. Word-of-mouth advertising drives about three-fourths of their business, she added.

A major focus of A Hug Away is hospice care and that’s understandable, as it was this issue that actually launched the idea for the business. When Marisa worked at a previous job, the wife of one of her employees was suffering from brain cancer. Marisa started hospice care in an effort to ease his mind while at work, allowing him to maintain his job and be at peace with the hospice process.

After that successful effort, Marisa and Tikisha “went at hospice full time.”

‘HOSPICE FAMILIES ARE VERY CLOSE TO OUR HEARTS AS WE HELP COMFORT AND EDUCATE THEM CONCERNING THE GRIEVING PROCESS. THIS IS A VERY DELICATE TIME FOR ALL INVOLVED.’
— Marisa Frazier

Hospice care focuses on improving the quality of life for patients and their families faced with a life-limiting illness. The primary goals of hospice care are to provide comfort; relieve physical, emotional and spiritual suffering; and promote the dignity of terminally ill persons. Hospice care neither prolongs nor hastens the dying process.



Hospice services provided by A Hug Away include, but are not limited to:

- Spiritual counseling;
- Medical social worker assistance;
- Skilled nursing assistance;
- Dietician services;
- Family bereavement counseling;
- Physical, speech and occupational therapy services;
- Frequent medical status updates;
- Psychological consulting; and
- Explaining medical conditions (for family and patient).

“We always encourage volunteers to help with our hospice program,” said Marisa. “Interested parties can contact us at 832-437-1983 for training and assignments.”

Another major offering by A Hug Away is its respite service that is available hourly, daily or weekly.

“Even though many families take great joy in providing care to their loved ones so that they can remain at home, the physical, emotional and financial consequences for the family caregivers can be overwhelming without the right

support,” said Marisa. “Our respite service offers you the much-needed temporary break from the often-exhausting challenges faced by the family caregiver.”

Respite services include, but are not limited to: doctor visits with an assistant; supervised maintenance; nutritional services; sitter companion services; “planned” emergency care; medication reminders and reading assistance. A Hug Away offers respite care for both hospice and sitter services to allow the family a time to rest. In addition, A Hug Away offers a wide array of medical equipment to assist in the care of a loved one, including wheelchairs, hospital beds, oxygen, walkers and shower benches.

For more information, visit www.ahugaway.com.

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COMPLETING MOBILITY, INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS KEY TO ADDRESSING GROWTH IN TIMELY FASHION FOR KATY AREA

Ann Hodge said there's no reason to think that Katy will quit growing anytime soon. After all, the population has mushroomed in the past decade at now stands at close to 310,000.

"Based upon the demographic projections provided by Katy ISD, I do not see any decrease in the growth for our community over the next five to 10 years," said Hodge, President and CEO of the Katy Area Chamber of Commerce. "The challenge will be for our community to complete the mobility and infrastructure projects necessary to address that growth in a timely fashion."

"Additionally, our community must work together to ensure a strong education system through Katy ISD for all of our children. A well-trained workforce is essential to maintain a business growth," Hodge said.

According to Hodge, the major success for the Katy Area Chamber of Commerce is the completion of Segment E of the Grand Parkway.

"We worked for more than 12 years to see the Segment E completed," Hodge said. "The economic growth and jobs created through that corridor will benefit the entire region."

With more ease of access to, from and into the Katy area, Hodge estimates more businesses will begin looking at either relocating or expanding in the region now that more infrastructures have been added to the area. Specifically, she expects to see more growth in the area around Segment E of the Grand Parkway.

"To insure business growth and success, we must have excellent roads," she said. "The completion of Segment E is one more project that will enable our community to decrease the amount of time they spend in traffic. These are critical projects to address the rapid growth we are experiencing."

The community continues to be one of the fastest-growing regions in

the United States.

The combination of a vibrant community, exceptional education system, outstanding quality of life and potential for growth are all ideal conditions for businesses to look toward the Katy region.

"Over the past 15 years during my tenure as President/CEO of the Chamber, we have seen growth from a wide variety of areas throughout the world," Hodge said. "One of the interesting areas of growth continues to be oil and gas employees who are transferred overseas. When they are transferred back to the States, we see them coming right back to the Katy communities with their families."

The vast array of businesses coming into the area is another testament to the opportunities available in the region.

"I believe all businesses are attracted to Katy," she said. "They conduct their market analysis and recognize the tremendous opportunity for growth"

The Katy Area Chamber of Commerce partners with the Katy Area Economic Development Council as well as the City of Katy and Katy ISD to present a strong partnership to potential businesses looking to relocate to the area.

"Our chamber belongs to everyone in the community. To be a strong and effective organization serving as the advocate for our community, we must have the support of businesses and community-based organizations," Hodge said.

Hodge said when she speaks with business owners who are thinking of coming into the area, she always mentions the outstanding growth in the region.

"I tell them, 'You will not regret your decision. We would be happy to give you testimonials from other businesses that have relocated to the Katy community,'" Hodge said. "It is absolutely the right decision for your business as well as your employees."

KATY AREA'S UPSCALE SHOPPING VENUES OFFER SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

Katy Mills Mall

Katy Mills, the largest outlet and value retail shopping destination in South Texas, continues to offer shoppers great savings on merchandise with more than 175 outlet and value retail stores.

Shoppers will enjoy added value on a wide range of products from apparel and accessories, electronics and home goods to health and beauty products.

Katy Mills is located at Interstate 10 and Pin Oak Road.

It is open regularly from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Monday through Saturday and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday.

For more information about Katy Mills and for a complete list of retailers, call 281-644-5000 or visit www.katymills.com.

LaCenterra at Cinco Ranch

LaCenterra at Cinco Ranch is more than the area's premier shopping destination. It's a lifestyle. It's shopping down Main Street, an ice cream and a good book in the courtyard or a place to make friends and meet neighbors. It's upscale, yet relaxed, polished, but never pretentious.

LaCenterra is a Main Street-style town center development featuring national names and unique boutiques, choice dining options, Class A office space and luxury living.

The center offers uptown style and old town charm—a place to shop, work, play and live in an in an open-air, pedestrian-friendly environment with outdoor common areas, lakes and water features.

LaCenterra is located at 23501 Cinco Ranch Blvd., Ste. B200. Call 281-395-5533 or visit <http://www.lacenterra.com>.

The Villagio Town Center

Villagio Town Center is a multi-tenant luxury shopping village consisting of more than 112,000 square feet of retail, restaurant and office space in the heart of Cinco Ranch.

Opened in December 2007, Villagio Town Center consists of family dining and shopping while having a central courtyard to spend time together, making it a more intimate place for visitors and professionals.

Come and enjoy the courtyard while eating at our restaurants ranging from Italian, Mexican, Japanese and Greek foods. Many come to enjoy the pubs and bars after shopping or a day of pampering with spa treatments, tanning or personal training.

Villagio Town Center is located at 22756 Westheimer Parkway on the northeast corner section of Westheimer Parkway and South Peek Road.

For more information, call 281-363-1336 or visit villagiotowncenter.com.

Historic Old Katy

Shopping options are plentiful in old Katy. Centered “down-town” in the vicinity of Second Street off Avenue D, a variety of boutiques, antique shops, tea rooms and specialty businesses offer a little something for everyone in the family.

Be sure to pick up a city map so you won't miss any of the interesting local shops from 10th Street to Highway 90, and East Avenue to Avenue D and beyond.

You'll find everything from day spas to jewelry making, specialty pet supplies and dog grooming to an old-fashioned small-town hardware store.

And on the third weekend of every month, vendors set up their wares for Katy Market Days.

And if that's not enough, there are great restaurants, a meat market known throughout the state and more await a day of exploration.

Shoppers can also visit and tour the new Katy City Hall, located at 910 Avenue C. The three-story building was formally dedicated in June.

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Katy is blessed to have an abundance of parks that offer a variety of recreational activities. The following is a brief description of the area's major parklands.

City Park Located at 5720 Franz Road

The Katy City Park contains 19.93 acres of land. Most of the area has lights, and there is a paved jogging trail winding through the park. This park features four softball fields, one hardball field, two concession stands, six tennis courts and a covered basketball pavilion. Adjacent to the playground is an air-conditioned building and covered area that can be reserved for a fee.

Mary Jo Peckham Park Located at 5597 Gardenia

This 5.5-acre park facility features an indoor heated, handicapped-accessible, Olympic-sized swimming pool with fully equipped barrier-free dressing rooms. It also features a beautiful playground containing equipment designed to promote integrated play between disabled and non-disabled children.

The park is run by Harris County Precinct Three to provide Harris County residents with therapy for the disabled, adult exercise programs, and instruction for all ages through the American Red Cross. Some featured programs include: Adapted Aquatics Lessons, Water Aerobics, Adult Lap Swim and Adult Instruction.

For information about the park and its programs, call 281-391-4482.

Railroad Park Located at 5615 First Street

This restored Missouri-Kansas-Texas Depot, a unique Downtown "pocket park," serves as the city's information center with brochures, maps, a Katy Heritage Society Railroad Museum and an authentic red caboose great for photo opportunities. The park is a beautifully landscaped area

with benches and an old town clock.

Thomas Park Located at Avenue D and 3rd Street

Thomas Park is sometimes used for outdoor weddings and photography because of its gazebo and wonderful park-like setting. Smaller children are drawn to its "little people's" playground equipment, and parents appreciate the paved walking path and benches located throughout the park.

For more information, please call 281-391-4840.

Harris County Park Located at Katy Hockley Cut-Off & Morton

The Harris County Park consists of 100 acres featuring four soccer fields, six baseball fields, two pavilions, concession stands and restrooms.

VFW Park Located at 6292 6th Street at Avenue D

Katy's VFW park is nestled among many large oak trees and is shady most of the time. This park has a large covered picnic pavilion, barbecue pits and tables scattered throughout the park, as well as an area featuring playground equipment.

The VFW Hall is a large air conditioned building containing two kitchens and four meeting rooms, —two of which can hold groups of over 100 each. These can be rented by calling Katy City Hall at 281-391-4840.

In addition, the park features a ball field which is located just east of the VFW Hall and can be used by the public.

Woodsland Park Located at 443 Danover

Woodsland Park contains 7.22 acres and features a basketball pavilion, a large barbecue pit and playground equipment. The building has kitchen facilities and can be reserved for use. For more information please call 281-391-4840.

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ANNUAL KATY JAZZ FESTIVAL

The annual Katy Jazz Festival hits the mark year after year as it aims to please jazz listeners from around the globe with its first-class line-up of artistry that encompasses all subsets of jazz.

The festival is even garnering the attention of The Jazz Network Worldwide with its procurement of festival headliners such as The Buddy Rich Band and Eric Marienthal.

The festival includes three different performance venues in Katy High School and offers its audiences the opportunity to experience performances from these world-renown professional musicians, university jazz ensembles, high school groups and even junior high and middle school jazz bands.

The Katy Jazz Festival is built on education and mentoring, awakening the musical potential in the minds of students and allows for performance opportunities that garner mentoring from some of the best professors and world renown jazz artists in the music world today.

“The Jazz Network Worldwide takes pride in supporting and promoting the Katy Jazz Festival again this year. This musical setting is a chance of a lifetime for students to capture the musical essence of professional artists and their wisdom toward successful goals in furthering the development and history of jazz,” said Jaijai Jackson of The Jazz Network Worldwide.

The Katy Jazz Festival (KJF) is held annually at Katy High School, located at 6331 Highway Blvd., Katy.

Social media:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/katyjazzfest>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/katyjazzfest>

FFA LIVESTOCK SHOW & RODEO

The Katy Independent School District Future Farmers of America Livestock Show and Rodeo Association is usually held the last weekend in February, right before the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, for a three-night experience in Katy.

Showcased each night, along with the pro cowboy events and a funny man act, will be the crowd favorite Katy ISD youth events including stick horse race, mutton busting, calf scramble, junior calf-roping and junior barrel racing.

The parade kicks off the festivities Saturday morning, allowing residents and supporters to showcase their decked out vehicles, antique cars, scout-

ing organizations and other festive items.

The event supports agricultural education within Katy ISD and is held in conjunction with the school district’s annual FFA livestock show. Students showcase animals including steers, hogs, lambs, goats, rabbits and chickens. There are also other events including an ag mechanic competition and art contest.

The show is usually held at the L.D. Robinson Pavilion on the grounds of the Katy ISD Administration Building on the corner of Interstate 10 and FM 1463.

The Katy Livestock Show and Rodeo was one of Texas’ first events of this kind. It remains one of the oldest and largest FFA Livestock Show and Rodeos in the nation.

It was first established by former Katy ag teacher L.D. Robinson in 1943 and quickly became the standard for other local livestock show and rodeo programs throughout the state.



KATY RICE HARVEST Festival

The Katy Rice Harvest Festival is celebrating its 38th anniversary in October 2018, featuring products and services from local vendors, arts and crafts, favorite foods, quality entertainment, a carnival and fun for the whole family.

The event, now sponsored by the City of Katy, takes place the second weekend of October between Avenues B and C and Second and Third Streets.

Festival attendees and shoppers can browse more than 250 booths offering homemade candles, jewelry, woodwork, knitting and crocheted items, handmade belts and buckles, inspirational crosses, original artists' work and much more.

Gourmet foods range from homemade salsa and queso, oils and vinegars, as well as other spices to flavored pecans and nuts, sausage on a stick, boudain balls, roasted corn, funnel cakes and other festival favorites.

The entertainment lineup usually features local favorites like the Eder-Mace Band and other well-known groups in the area.

Children of all ages will also be able to enjoy the attractions provided



by the carnival. In addition to the big rides, the carnival will also have a "kiddie kingdom." Pony rides and a train ride will be available for smaller children.

The carnival is open Friday night, as well as Saturday and Sunday. Special discount wristbands are available for purchase.

For more information about the event, go to www.riceharvestfestival.org.



Since opening its claims center in Katy, Texas in 2014, insurance giant GEICO has hired more than 700 employees and expects its office population to rise to roughly 1,500 in the coming years.

GEICO Assistant Vice President, Tara Carthew is thrilled with the workforce talent in the Katy area.

"GEICO truly made the right choice by choosing Katy, Texas for our brand new claims operation. The warm reception and support we've received from the community, and most notably the Katy Area EDC, has been outstanding. The new GEICO associates who have joined our family are simply wonderful and we are grateful to be a member of a growing and vibrant community like Katy."

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KATY AREA HAS PLENTY TO OFFER

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Katy Culture & Arts Alliance

Katy Culture & Arts Alliance is an umbrella organization featuring members from most every area arts organization dedicated to fostering the growth of an active arts community.

If there's something happening in Katy, it can usually be found on the blog at www.itsakatything.com.

Katy Area Artists & V The Gallery

Katy Area Artists (KAA) is a nonprofit artists' group. The basic idea is to provide a community, education and mentoring to adult artists (age 16 and older).

V The Gallery, located in the Villagio Town Center at the corner of Westheimer and Peak, hosts a slew of workshops taught by major players in today's art scene.

The gallery collection is swapped out every month, and most of the pieces are by local artists.

An art mixer is held twice every month, where patrons can meet the

artists and others with an artistic bent.

For more information, visit the KAA Web site at www.katyareaartists.org.

Katy Contemporary Arts Museum

Established in 2013, the Katy Contemporary Arts Museum is a not-for-profit institution in Katy dedicated to presenting the contemporary art of the time to the public.

The Katy Contemporary Arts Museum provides an interchange for visual arts of the present and recent past, presents new directions in art, strives to engage the public and encourages a greater understanding of contemporary art through education programs.

The Katy Contemporary Arts Museum occupies a white concrete building in the heart of Katy's Museum District. The prominent building was originally designed and built for the Ray Woods Lumber and Supply Company in 1953 and later housed several other businesses. This building is supposed to have been the very first poured concrete building built in Texas.

The museum is located on the corner of Avenue B and First Street in downtown Katy — right across from the Katy Railroad Park and Tourist Center. Admission is free.

Katy Visual & Performing Arts Center

Katy Visual and Performing Arts Center (KVPAC) is nonprofit group aimed at “providing opportunities for individuals to develop their talents, skills and abilities,” according to the KVPAC mission statement.

The center, located near The Great Southwestern Equestrian Center on Mason Road, provides classes in all aspects of theater and the visual arts. It also offers a Pre-K program that combines academics and an introduction to the creative process.

In addition, KVPAC has multiple theater troupes, including The Encore Players, an adult community theater.

For more information, visit kvpac.org.

The Music Scene

Katy is host to a number of festivals and music events. Every summer, both the Villagio Town Center and LaCenterra at Cinco Ranch host a series of live music events each Thursday evening featuring local artists from every genre.

The West Houston Jazz Festival and The Katy Guitar festival are held in conjunction during the summer, featuring a slew of local and national talent. All three of these events are a fantastic way to get acquainted with the local music scene, and an ear to the street will find a great show most every weekend.

Katy also has several restaurants and bars that play host to live music on a regular basis.

Katy ARTreach

Katy ARTreach is a nonprofit dedicated almost exclusively to mentoring and outreach programs aimed at giving at-risk students, the disabled persons and others who haven't been given the opportunity to study and participate in the arts.

ARTreach was established in 2003 to bring the arts to the underprivileged, with a leaning towards programs serving abused and abandoned children in residential treatment, children at risk in the school district and neglected elderly citizens in public care nursing homes.

These programs introduce and provide an opportunity to practice, life skills that can help address issues such as student apathy, social dysfunction, grief, drug abuse awareness and prevention, health and recovery.

Katy ARTreach provides an array of performing and visual arts events and community presentations that contribute to improving the quality of life for residents in the tri-county area of Katy.

The group is always seeking volunteers, if this sounds like a program you can get behind, visit artreachcoterie.org.



Standing(L-R): Jillian Benoit, FNP-C, Vincent Nguyen, PA-C, Mary K. Armitage, DNP, Jessica Meyer, PA-C, Heather Perry, PA-C
Seating(L-R): Danny Le, DO, Heidi Schultz, MD, Syndi Nobles, PA-C



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WITH ALL ITS GROWTH, KATY IS A CITY

Katy is a city on the move, as evidenced by the ongoing development of the Cane Island master-planned community, construction of a new city hall, purchase of land to build a second fire station and the Morton Road expansion project.

There are also plans to build a two-mile boardwalk that will encircle an 8-acre retention pond on city-owned property near Katy Mills Mall, and tentative plans for that area include building a convention center, luxury hotel and retail—much like CityCentre in Houston.

Former Mayor Fabol Hughes, all this activity means only one thing. “We’re open for business,” he said. “There’s nothing we can do to stop the growth. It’s coming, and we’re determined to manage this growth and not have it manage us.”

To accomplish this, Hughes said the city has worked diligently on several fronts. One area has been for developers. The city shored up some of its permitting requirements and made a few changes in customer service. City engineers are on-task to get back to developers quickly to ensure open lines of communication, he said.

“We want to take a hand in this business,” Hughes said. “Business is coming, and there’s no other place for it to go.”

One of Katy’s big developments occurred by revamping the city’s fire and emergency service departments.

Foremost in the reorganization was to find a new fire chief, and the

city found what it wanted in the hiring of Russell Wilson, the assistant chief in Irving and a 27-year veteran of the fire service.

“The thing is, we needed structure in the fire department,” Hughes said. “Over the last few years, our respectability had gotten to a low. We were the laughingstock of the surrounding fire departments. We’ve turned the corner on that now. We have really, really good, super firemen, battalion chiefs, and all the firemen are first-class people.”

Previously, the city relied on part-time firemen to operate its station. Now the city has employed 36 full-time firemen, plus a chain of command.

“We’ve managed to accomplish this without a tax increase or bonding or anything like that,” Hughes said. “We’ve totally restructured it from the top down.”

The city will also break ground on Fire Station No. 2 on Kingsland Boulevard. Hughes said the city will house its tower ladder, ambulance and new pumper truck at the upcoming new station.

“We’re hopeful we might get that open this year, we’re not sure,” he said. “We need to have presence on that southside of town because we have so much commercial and tall buildings over there.”

Hughes said another giant milestone for the city is the development of Cane Island, the master-planned community built by Rise Development that will add 3,000 houses in between Hwy. 90 and I-10 near FM



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on the move

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Hughes estimates the Cane Island project will bring in close to 12,000 people to live in the community. To prepare for the influx, the city is working to establish more businesses and infrastructure in the area.

"It's such a big deal that we haven't had anything like this happen to us before," Hughes said. "These people are not going to come in here and live here if they don't have the support services with things like cleaners and local little stores and places to shop. They'll be shopping right here in Katy."

To help ease in and out of the city, a strong mobility plan must be in place. The expansion of Segment E of the Grand Parkway will bring more people into Katy, Hughes said. Future plans call for expansion of several city streets and thoroughfares in the area. Cane Island will be a catalyst to open the door for more commercial developments and residential communities to look toward the west side of Katy.

"The Katy Freeway and the Energy Corridor are continuing to go west," Hughes said. "There's more opportunities and the thing about all of this is, we don't have to use the dang Katy Freeway into Houston. People can work out here."

The area west of Katy will be the next boom, Hughes said.

"There's no other land available," he said. "We have to be able to manage it and get a handle on the growth. We're set to do that. We're in great shape now. We have manpower, facilities and money to do it. We're not hurting for anything. We're ready to take it. All that does is help all of us now."



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In addition, each club location offers more than just golf. Tennis classes and programs, swimming facilities and programs, health and fitness facilities, junior golf camps and elegant clubhouses that can host wedding receptions and ceremonies are also included.

Bear Creek Golf World

Bear Creek Golf World is the first daily-fee course in Houston not run by a municipality. Since the original course opened more than 25 years ago, two more courses have been added. The best of the courses at Bear Creek is the Master's Course, which has long been regarded as one of the finest public facilities in the country. In fact, "Golf Digest" rated it as one of the Top 50 courses in America. The banquet/meeting room is a great place to meet before or after a golf game. It seats 35 people and overlooks the golf course. Bear Creek can cater breakfast, lunch or dinner.

Club at Falcon Point

The Club at Falcon Point goes out of its way to provide golfers with a memorable experience. The club offers a private setting where one may enjoy golf, tennis and camaraderie with a personal level of attention to service. In addition to a challenging round of golf, the Club at Falcon Point offers tennis classes, camps and tournaments. A recreational

summer swim league offers children ages 5-18 an opportunity to participate in organized swimming with the emphasis on individual improvement and fun.

Golf Club at Cinco Ranch

Golf Club at Cinco Ranch is located within the 8,100-acre master-planned community. The 18-hole, par-71 golf course features a rolling layout that will challenge low handicappers while still offering the average player or beginner the opportunity to play an enjoyable round of golf. The first-class practice facility and driving range is complete with two enormous tees that are always open for practice from grass. The amenities include two giant, undulating practice greens for putting and chipping improvement as well as a short game area that offers a huge bunker, many shade trees and provides lies of varying degrees. A golf academy is offered during the summer, while the elegant clubhouse — set in a picturesque background of lakes, perfectly manicured lawns, a panoramic view of the course and the dramatic architecture of the Cinco Ranch development is a great location to hold wedding ceremonies and receptions.

Meadowbrook Farms

Meadowbrook Farms is a semi-private club that is recognized as one of the top courses in the Greater Houston area. In addition, members as well as daily fee golfers enjoy a championship-style golf course de-

signed by legendary PGA Tour Champion Greg Norman. After a challenging 18 holes, relive the course conditions and experience in the comfortable ranch-style clubhouse. A professional teaching staff rooted in sound fundamentals and techniques are available to juniors and adults alike in both individual and group lesson settings. Meadowbrook Farms is also home to "Birdies for the Brave," a nationwide program launched by the U.S. Department of Defense that recognizes citizen's support for military men and women and communicates that support to members of our Armed Forces at home and abroad.

Pine Forest Country Club

Pine Forest Country Club is a prestigious, private member owned country club located on the highly-rated west side of Houston. Golf at Pine Forest is definitely multi-faceted. The course is beautifully maintained and offers 27 holes of superb, challenging golf.

Nestled in 214 acres of wooded lands, Pine Forest also offers other activities that include a fitness/spa facility, a resort-style swimming pool and a 10-court tennis facility. In addition, Pine Forest can exceed private party needs. With three private rooms to choose from, they can accommodate anything from the smallest business meeting to a large 375 person wedding reception.

River Ridge Golf Course

River Ridge Golf Course opened in 1998. The clubhouse and pavilion are reminiscent of the Frank Lloyd Wright genre. Among the honors for this course: a "Four Star" Rating from the Houston Chronicle; a Top 3 winner for "Best New Public Courses" and "Best Public Courses", #2 - "Favorite Public Courses", "Top 12 Courses in Texas" and #1 - "Best Public Course Value" in the Chronicle 2000 Golf Survey. Additionally, River Ridge was the only daily-fee course in Texas noted in Dan Jenkin's article, "Best Modern 18 Holes" (Golf Digest). River Ridge continues to be honored by patrons each day, by spreading the word of its natural beauty.

Weston Lakes Country Club

Weston Lakes Country Club, located in Simonton in Fort Bend County, is one of the top exclusive private clubs in the area. Weston Lakes offers a variety of entertainment options, from the 18-hole championship golf course designed by legendary PGA Tour Champion Hale Irwin, to the two lighted tennis courts.

Patrons may also choose between the relaxing atmosphere at the adult pool and the excitement of the family pool.

Willow Fork County Club

Willow Fork County Club has something for everyone: An 18-hole championship golf course, full tennis court and golf programs. The private club also offers fine and casual dining, a fitness facility, swimming pool and other amenities and activities.

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KATY EDC HELPS *drive surge* IN NEW AND EXPANDED BUSINESSES

New businesses, expanded companies and more rooftops in master-planned communities have kept the City of Katy moving forward. “Companies like Geico, Dyna-Drill, Welltec, New Park Drilling Fluids and others have found the Katy area attractive primarily because of a talented workforce, the excellent school system, access to I-10, master-planned communities and available land and buildings,” said Lance LaCour, Katy Area Economic Development Council President and CEO.

The past year, the Katy Area EDC has helped attract several new and expanded businesses to the area. The increase brings in tax revenue, job growth and an abundant workforce.

Some of the biggest announcements to the Katy community included Geico bringing more than 1,000 jobs to the area during the next three years with its new Claims Center. Geico has leased a two-story building at Mason Creek Office Center in Katy and will become one of the top 20 largest employers in the city.

In addition, Igloo Coolers built a new 420,000 square-foot distribution center in the area, which brought with it 250 new jobs. In the retail section, wholesale club Costco opened its new warehouse center, which will employ 200 people.

“We have some new office, retail and industrial spec buildings that are starting or are under construction that will attract top-quality employers to Katy,” LaCour said.

Some of those include The Offices at Greenhouse, LaCenterra, Mason Creek Corporate, Ten West Crossing and West Ten Business Park. The Offices at Greenhouse has inked an office lease that should also bring several hundred office jobs to the Katy area, LaCour said.

More businesses and workers are being attracted to the Katy region for a variety of reasons. However, the expansion of the Grand Parkway is a major factor in contributing to the city’s recent successful boom.

“The Grand Parkway is a strong growth area with Segment E now finished from I-10 to US 290,” LaCour said. “The area from Mason Road to I-10 down to LaCenterra is generating a great deal of interest.”

Developers are scouting the location around Segment E, between US 290 and I-10, and are planning new business parks, he said.

“Segment E is a major growth stimulator for recruiting new businesses and for residential growth,” LaCour said.

LaCour and others at the Katy Area EDC help entice businesses to the area in a variety of ways. They market and promote the Katy region and guide companies through site selection and the incentives process.

“We also respond to state, company and consultant requests for proposals,” he said. “We are a full-service economic development organization.”

The Katy Area EDC boasts to potential businesses about the area’s acclaimed school district, the large region of the Katy area that spans over three counties, and the prime location with ease of access into

Houston and the Energy Corridor, where many of the world’s major energy companies call home.

When these puzzle pieces fit together, the Katy area is becoming more appealing to local, national and world-wide companies.

“Future growth will continue to be driven from the energy industry and other companies enhancing the growth including light manufacturing, distribution, office and technology companies,” LaCour said. “(Five to 10 years from now,) Katy will see more top-quality companies and corporations, more options for high-end retail, restaurants and shopping, more entertainment options and continued residential growth.”

The Katy Area EDC isn’t done yet. They are continuing to look forward and push other businesses to see the opportunities that are available in the area.

“This past year was great for the EDC,” LaCour said. “We appreciated the opportunity to work with and help locate Geico in the Katy area. And this is proving to be a great year as well. Stay tuned for new announcements.”



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KATY IS *home to stars* LIKE RENEE ZELLWEGER, CLINT BLACK AND ANDY DALTON

Roll out the red carpet, Katy. A blonde bombshell, popular country singer, some NFL players and former Microsoft bigwig are just a few of Katy's A-listed stars.

Film

Known for her big break in 1996 for her role in "Jerry Maguire," Renee Zellweger was born and raised in Katy, Texas. Zellweger was in the class of 1987 at Katy High School; she was actively involved with extracurricular activities such as cheerleading, girls' athletics and the drama club. She earned a bachelor's in English from the University of Texas.

After involvement in commercials and low-budget films, Zellweger's starring role in "Nurse Betty" won her first of three Golden Globes in 2000. In 2004, Zellweger won the Academy Award for Best Supporting Actress in "Cold Mountain." Her roles in "Bridget Jones' Diary," the musical "Chicago" and "Cinderella Man" are a few other critically acclaimed films to name.

Her latest project, "4 ½ Minutes," includes actors, Johnny Knoxville

and Ed Harris. "4 ½ Minutes" is under the direction and production of Zellweger herself.

Music

By age of 15, country singer Clint Black taught himself how to play the guitar and harmonica. Born in New Jersey, Black's family moved and grew up in Katy, Texas.

Black dropped out of Katy High School to pursue a musical career and played at many bars, festivals and open venues with his brothers, Brian, Kevin and Mark.

His first single, "A Better Man," reached No. 1 on the Billboard Hot Country Songs in the early 1990s in June. Black was the first male artist in 14 years to debut a single that peaked at the top of the chart. Black currently holds 13 No. 1 records in the Billboard Country Charts and continues to tour and entertain crowds across the country.

After releasing nine studio albums, Black had a starring role in "Still Holding On: The Legend of Cadillac Jack" and made a cameo appearance in "Maverick."



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Black is married to actress, Lisa Hartman, and they reside in Nashville, Tennessee with their daughter, Lily.

Athletes

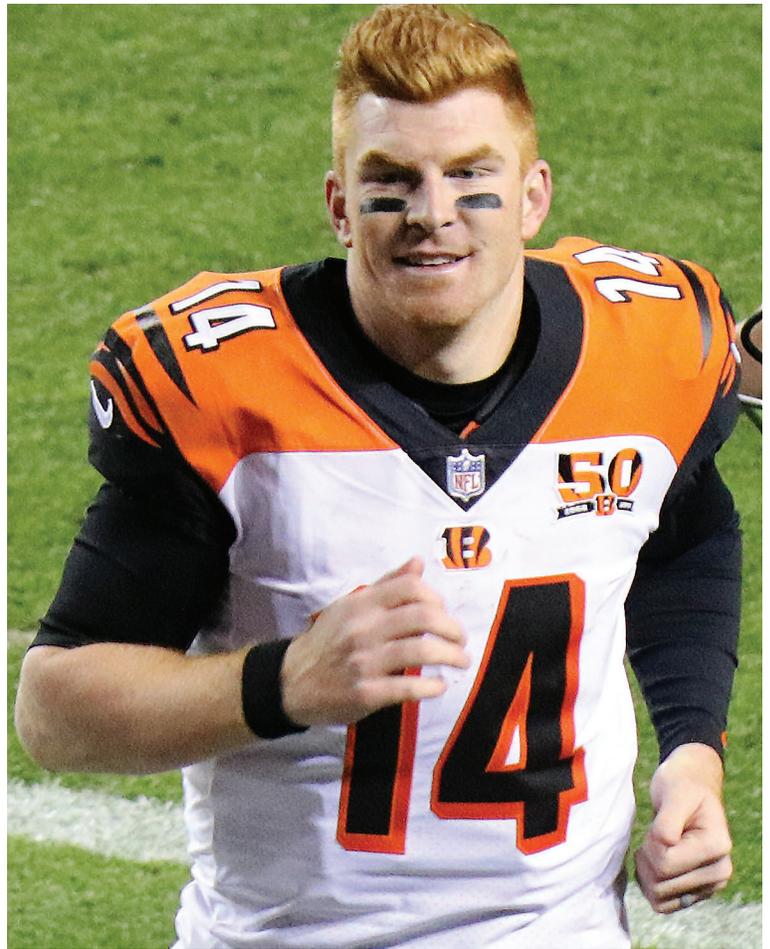
One of the most recent athletes to go into professional, Andy Dalton, is a Katy High School football legend. Class of 2006, Dalton played quarterback and led the Katy Tigers to state finals in 2005. Dalton was then recruited by Texas Christian University.

In 2009, Dalton led the Horned Frogs to an undefeated season and in 2011, to their first Rose bowl victory in school's history against the Wisconsin Badgers his senior year. Dalton maintains school career records for wins, touchdown passes, passing yards, pass attempts, completions and completion percentage.

In the 2011 NFL draft, Dalton was selected in the second round by the Cincinnati Bengals. He has signed a four-year contract and was named NFL Rookie of the Month for October 2011. Dalton married Jordan Jones in July 2011.

Other Katy High athletes who went on to play pro football include Eric Heitmann, a member of the Class of 1998 at Katy High School. Heitmann played center for the Katy Tigers, and played football at Stanford University, where he was named a First-Team All-American after his senior year.

In the 2002 NFL draft, Heitmann was drafted by the San Francisco 49ers in the seventh round. He started at guard as a rookie but then moved back to center in 2005. He suffered a neck injury and was released from the 49ers in July 2011. Heitmann is married to his wife, Emily.



BAKER'S BOOKS

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→ Books:

Incl.: God's Miracles, Angels, Christian, Children's Christian, Albert Einstein, misc.

→ Posters:

Astronomy, Space, NASA, Christian

→ Works of Art:

Christian, misc.

→ If you are an author, or would like to be, feel free to come by and talk.

→ Owner's first book:

God's Amazing Answer To Prayer

→ Upcoming owner's/author's new book:

Jim Baker's Unified Theory Of Everything

The book title (JBUTOE) is for the Science contained therein, and this new book will include much about God, since the science part was only possible by relying on God from start to finish. -- And "That's The Truth!"

→ 1,000 Mile Texas Tractor Tour

Owner went on a 1,000 Mile Tour of Texas on a tractor In 2014 to promote his new "Theory Of Everything". Some local and other pics can be seen on the right from 2014:





Katy HERITAGE MUSEUM

Katy has always been a traditionally rural community, playing roles as a railroad hub, rice farming and agricultural center, as well as one of the largest gas fields in this part of Texas.

While much has changed since the townsite was platted in 1895, one building in Katy Heritage Park houses hundreds of items including vehicles, farming equipment, photos and other memorabilia in an effort to preserve a piece of history.

“Katy was a rice farming community for years and years, and we wanted to preserve that and what makes this community the City of Katy,” said Johnny Nelson, former city administrator.

“Charles Cardiff, a longtime rice farmer here, had restored a whole bunch of the stuff back there. When he died, his estate was going to sell it,” Nelson said. “That’s when I went to city council to ask city council if I could buy it.”

The city council authorized the purchase in the amount of \$16,400. But the items were stored in the public works department until Nelson came forward with the idea of building a museum.

An 80 x 120 foot, air-conditioned building was built for about \$300,000 and the facility was dedicated on June 13, 2002.

“This building wouldn’t be here today if it weren’t for the rice farming industry and its Katy farmers,” said former mayor Doyle Callender during the ribbon cutting ceremony. “I thank all of you citizens for preserving the rice history the way you have today and letting the generations after you enjoy it.”

Among the equipment were a binder and separator that were used in early days of rice farming, as well as a combine that was popular in the

mid-1940s.

“The binder would cut (the crop), and it would put straw there, and you had to manually tie it,” Nelson said. “The bundles would stand up in the field, but a lot of times, you would have to walk through there and stand them up yourself.”

“Then you had what we called a bundle wagon that would drive through there and pick those up and take them to the trucks so they could be hauled into the separator,” he said.

“When this combine came out, that eliminated all that,” Nelson said. “This combine did all that itself so you didn’t have to do that anymore.”

But the building that housed the museum proved to be insufficient as the items were crammed in facility, leaving little room for visitors, especially those on wheelchairs.

In 2006-07, the city expanded to a 80 x 200 foot facility for an estimated cost of \$100,000.

Today, visitors can still get a glimpse of city’s history as curator Bill Murray leads them through the museum at 6002 George Bush Drive.

Hours are Tuesday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., as well as the first weekend of every month, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday and noon to 3 p.m. on Sunday. Admission is free.

Old Katy Post Office

This post office was built sometime before 1920. In 1922, it became the fourth post office in Katy. Prior to that time, the post office had been located in various stores, but in 1922, it was moved to Second Street near Avenue B.

The building has also been used as a private residence, jewelry store, grocery store and storage space. It was given to the Katy Heritage Society in 1995 by Fred and Roberta Rylander and moved to park property on East Avenue. It was moved to Katy Heritage Park in 2003.

Tradition Bank Stand

Tradition Bank donated the bandstand to the society in 2005, and it is now a favorite location for community events. The Katy Heritage Society hosts free public concerts at the bank stand throughout the year.

Stock dick House

Walter Adcock built a craftsman-style house in 1916 at the corner of Fourth Street and Avenue A for the Adam Henry Stockdick family. Stockdick came to Katy from Iowa in 1896 and became one of the area's first real estate agents.

The house remained in the family until the First United Methodist Church, which owns the adjacent property, acquired it in 2001.

The following year, the church wanted to use the land for other purposes and donated the house, a small well house and the white picket fence to the Katy Heritage Society. In 2003, the society moved the house and fence to Katy Heritage Park leaving the well house for the church to use for playground storage.

The society removed a large addition from the house to move it. Its early 20th century style with period wall coverings, beautiful wood floors and charming vintage kitchen has been restored.

Today the house can be rented for small parties, special events or meetings.

Featherston House

The house was built on Second Street in 1898 for the family of W.H. Featherston when they moved to Katy from Illinois. Featherston and his family lived in the house and took in boarders. Featherston later became the first preacher for the Baptist church.

It was used briefly for school classes and church services for those displaced by the storm.

In 1910, the Featherston family moved to another home, and this house was sold to be attached to the Cobb Hotel, which was built next door.

In the 1980s, First Baptist Church of Katy bought the hotel for the land adjacent to their church building. The hotel, including this house, was used for some church functions.

In 1986, the hotel was demolished, but this house was saved and donated to the Katy Heritage Society. In 2003, the house was moved to Katy Heritage Park and restored.

Wright House

The Queen Ann style bungalow was built in 1898 for Edward Everhart. That same year, John Henry Wright and his brother Wilbur drove a team and wagon from Missouri, seeking a healthy climate for the ailing Wilbur. Everhart was ready to leave Katy and agreed to swap this house for the Wright home in Missouri.

In 1899, John and Wilbur's parents, David and Sarah Wright came to Katy and moved into the home. John Wright became the first pharmacist in Katy and with Dr. J. M. Stewart opened the first drug store in 1904.

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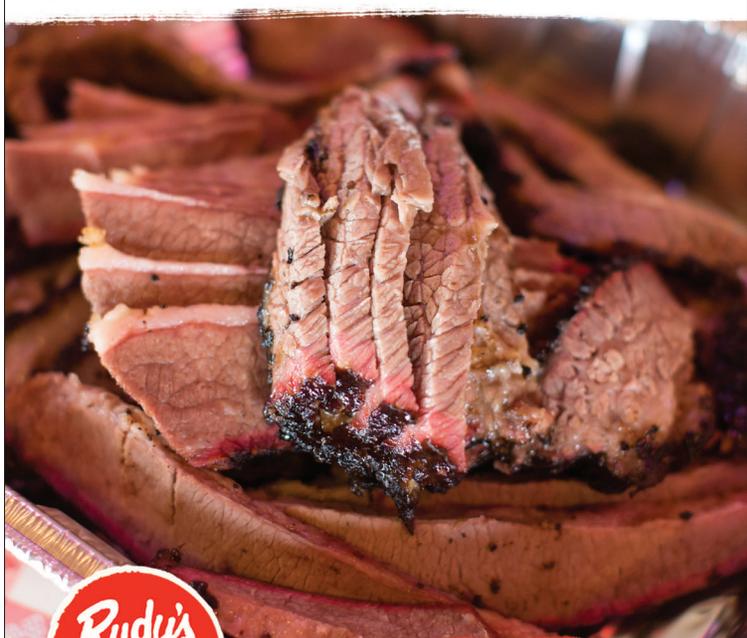
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Assembly of God

Christian Center Assembly of God
541 Pin Oak Road

El Shaddai Asamblea De Dios
5816 Lilac

Family Life Assembly of God
1012 S. Mason Road

Gateway Fellowship of Katy
3535 N. Fry Road

BAPTIST

Alief Baptist Church of Katy
906 Avenue A

Antioch Baptist Church
655 Danover

Bridgewater Baptist Church
3883 Lakes of Bridgewater

Central Baptist
2855 Greenhouse Road

Cornerstone Baptist Church
121 FM 1463

First Baptist Church
600 Pin Oak

Good News Baptist Church
2502 Katy Hockley Cut-Off

Kingsland Baptist Church
20555 Kingsland Blvd.

Mission Bautiste el Buen
3883 Lakes of Bridgewater

New Vision Baptist Church
653 Pin Oak Road

Primera Iglesia Bautiste de Katy
6101 Hwy. Blvd.

Redeemer Community
24201 Cinco Ranch Blvd.

Second Baptist West Campus
19449 Katy Fwy.

Tri-County Baptist
5714 Peek Road

Westfield Free Will Baptist
3635 N. Fry Road

Westland Baptist Church
1407 W. Grand Parkway S.

Zion Hill Baptist
22110 Pearl Lake

CATHOLIC

Epiphany of the Lord Catholic
1530 Norwalk

St. Bartholomew Catholic
5356 Eleventh

St. Edith Stein Catholic
3311 N. Fry Road

CHRISTIAN

First Christian Church
22101 Morton Ranch Road

Grace Christian Church
2001 Greenbush

Journey Christian Church
Meets at McMeans Junior High

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Church of Christ Katy
5438 E. Fifth St.

Cinco Ranch Church of Christ
6655 S. Mason Road

Fleetwood Church of Christ
15946 Katy Freeway

Fry Road Church of Christ
2510 N. Fry Road

CHURCH OF GOD

Faith Manger
802 Dominion Drive #106

Redeemed Christian Church of
God
5371 E. Fifth St.

EPISCOPAL

Chapel of St. Mathias
4242 Dayflower

Church of the Holy Apostles
1225 W. Grand Parkway S.

St. Paul's Episcopal
1936 Drexel

FOUR SQUARE

Life Church
2610 Greenbusch Road

Focus
2501 S. Mason Road

JEHOVAH'S WITNESS

Kingdom Hall
18018 Keith Harrow Blvd.

JEWISH

Temple Sinai
13875 Brimhurst Dr.

LUTHERAN

Covenant Lutheran Church
3785 Barker Cypress Road

Crosspoint Community Church
700 Westgreen

Living Word Lutheran Church
3700 S Mason Road

Memorial Lutheran
5810 Third St.

Victory of the Lamb
23114 Cinco Ranch Blvd.

METHODIST

Crossbridge United Methodist
5023 Shadow Breeze

First United Methodist
5601 Fifth St.

Grace Fellowship United Meth-
odist
2655 S. Mason Road

Holy Covenant United Methodist
22111 Morton Ranch Road

Houston Trinity United Methodist
3850 Barker Cypress Road

St. Peter's United Methodist
20775 Kingsland Blvd.

MORMON

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter
Day Saints - Katy Ward
1928 Drexel

Nottingham Country Ward
1603 Norwalk

Westlake Ward
1603 Norwalk

NAZARENE

Westside Church of the Nazarene
3434 N. Fry Road

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

Apostolic Faith
5900 Tenth St.

Caleb's Foot
855 Shillington

Calvary Chapel
Meets at Cimarron Elem.

Creekside Community Church
Meets at Woodcreek Junior High

Faith West
2225 Porter Road

Fellowship Bible Church
Meets at Cinco Ranch Junior High

Fellowship at Cinco Ranch
22765 Westheimer Pkwy.

Good Country Fellowship
Second St. and Avenue B

Harvest Fellowship
Hope House Community Church
Meets at Creech Elementary

Katy Bible Church
2500 Avenue D

Katy Community Fellowship
Meets Katy Mills AMC Theatre

Katy Family Church
Meets at McDonald Junior High

Kindred Spirit Christian
Fellowship
Meets at Comfort Inn & Suites

King of Glory Ministries
954 S. Fry Road

New Millennium Community
Meets at Rhoads Elementary

Open Door Fellowship
51540 Provincial Ste. 518

Parkway Fellowship
27043 FM 1093

Powerhouse Christian Center
1818 Katyland Drive

Real Life Christian Fellowship
Meets at Calvin Nelms Charter
School

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Iglesia Pentecostal Unida Hispana
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Katy Pentecostal Church
2120 Katy Hockley Cut-Off

The Pentecostals of Katy
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PRESBYTERIAN

Christ Church PCA
3025 Katy Gaston Road

Cornerstone Presbyterian Church
1351 S. Mason Road

Grand Lakes Presbyterian Church
6035 S. Fry Road at Peek

New Hope Presbyterian Church
1351 N. Mason Road

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

Seventh Day Adventist Church
1913 East Avenue

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- Katy Business Association, Inc. (KBA) networking opportunities for you to meet potential new clients and to expand your business contacts
- Online Directory including categorical and alphabetical listings of all KBA members, and a link to their websites and social media if provided
- Participation in KBA sponsored events
- Discounted monthly luncheons/general meetings that provide an informal opportunity to meet, talk, learn and swap business leads
- Ribbon Cuttings

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to unify all business to work towards a common goal, that of an economical revitalization of the Business District, create a strong unified voice that represents the business interests when communicating with city officials and government agencies.

The objectives of the organization is to:

- Support business in the area through promotion as well as sponsorship of "Shop Local" and image building campaigns.
- Help fund projects as suggested by KBA members including special projects and events.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Clara "Jean" Machann, Vice President: Sandy Flint, Marketing: Kayce Reina, Membership: Mathew David, Membership Assistant: Wendy Gambone, Treasurer: Tim Rau, Secretary: Jennifer Pierce, Technology: Eric Ramos

Contact Clara Jean Machann for more information at president@thekba.org or at 832-656-3993

Katy Business Association



Veterans Memorial Museum is considered one of area's best

The Katy Veterans Memorial Museum houses many war artifacts ranging from military apparel and weaponry to historical documents and battlefield maps. Mannequins in Marine uniforms watch over war books, oral history tapes, as well as a collection of medals ranging from the Bronze Star to Good Conduct medals.

Since its grand opening in 1996, when President George Herbert Walker Bush attended the formal dedication, visitors can make their way through the museum and browse artifacts from as early as the American Revolution and the War of 1812 to World War I and II, the Korean and Vietnam Wars, as well as the Gulf War.

“When it was initiated, there were about a dozen World War II vets that wanted to recognize and memorialize all veterans in some matter,” said Mike Mastrangelo, VFW past post commander. “Our country has been involved in more than 65 conflicts, and they wanted something that would tell the history of the price of freedom.”

But as the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9182 continues to receive donations from veterans, many of the artifacts are packed away in closets to make room for new displays.

“When more artifacts come in our possession, we have to switch

them out,” Mastrangelo said. “In 2005 or 2006, we decided we needed to expand because it was doing no justice to the artifacts, especially with the more current conflicts.”

Plans for the expansion of the 750-square-foot museum began in 2008 when former post commander Peyton Lumpkin began negotiations with the City of Katy to use the soon-to-be- vacated room that was occupied by the Texas Department of Public Safety’s driver’s license office at the time.

When the DPS moved out in February 2010, the council allowed the VFW to use the driver’s license office, as well as the adjacent hallway. In addition, the council approved a \$34,433.30 Convention and Tourism Bureau grant in November 2010 to help fund some of the renovations. Post member Norris Miertschin was designated museum director and oversaw the renovations. The veterans museum now houses the Hall of Freedom, which contains murals, artifacts and information depicting the history of the country’s involvement in more than 65 conflicts; the Hall of Fame, which highlights the five branches of military, the U.S. Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast guard; and the Hall of Heroes, which honors veterans and sponsors, many of whom were Katy residents.

The VFW Hall is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call 281-391-VETS (8387) or e-mail vfw9182@consolidated.net.



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EXPANSION OF RAILROAD PLAYED IMPORTANT ROLE IN *Katy's History*

In June 1870, the Missouri, Kansas and Texas (MKT) Railway won a race between three railroad companies to finish construction to the Indian Territory border. That earned the MKT the sole right to build a railroad south to Texas. The MKT worked on lines running north and south from Dennison to Galveston.

Meanwhile, in 1873, the Texas Western Railway built a narrow gauge railroad from Houston to Sealy. A station was located about a mile south of the present City of Katy — on the west side of Cane Island Creek.

When the train first operated, water was pumped out of the creek by hand to feed the engine, but soon a well was dug and a water tower tank and loading platform erected. The Texas Western, as it was called, traveled only about 15 miles per hour. For a few years, the train did business hauling bales of cotton and other products to and from Houston. The train also brought parties from Houston to hunt on the Katy prairie.

In 1897, the Texas Western, beset by financial and maintenance problems, was abandoned and most of its rails removed. The train would have run through what is now the WoodCreek neighborhood.

The MKT railroad was expanding and in April 1893, it purchased the right-of-way through Cane Island (Katy was called Cane Island until 1896) for \$100 and started operations a year later.

As a southern branch of the MKT ran from Smithville to Houston, a

water well, tank and tower were erected in Cane Island. A crew house and coal conveyors were installed soon after and in 1895, a box car was parked next to the tracks for use as a station office. In 1898, a railroad station depot was built.

The train allowed many families to come to Cane Island from northern states. Real estate agents enticed new residents with promises of cheap land and rich soil. Katy was also a short trip from Houston, where almost anything could be purchased.

The depot was enlarged in 1919 with an additional waiting room. The depot building standing today at the MKT Depot Museum at 5615 First St. has not been changed — except for fresh paint, utilities and the addition of a restroom.

The train was an important part of life for early Katy families and businesses. People from the area would come to the depot to socialize as well as pick up freight or passengers, and sent or receive telegrams.

The MKT railroad diesel era began in 1946 and larger engines began pulling larger trains. Katy remained a busy stop on the way to Houston but as the use of trucks and automobiles increased, the need for rail began to decline. The rail line remained busy, but only for freight. The Texas Department of Transportation bought the MKT right-of-way in 1998 and the line was closed in 2000.



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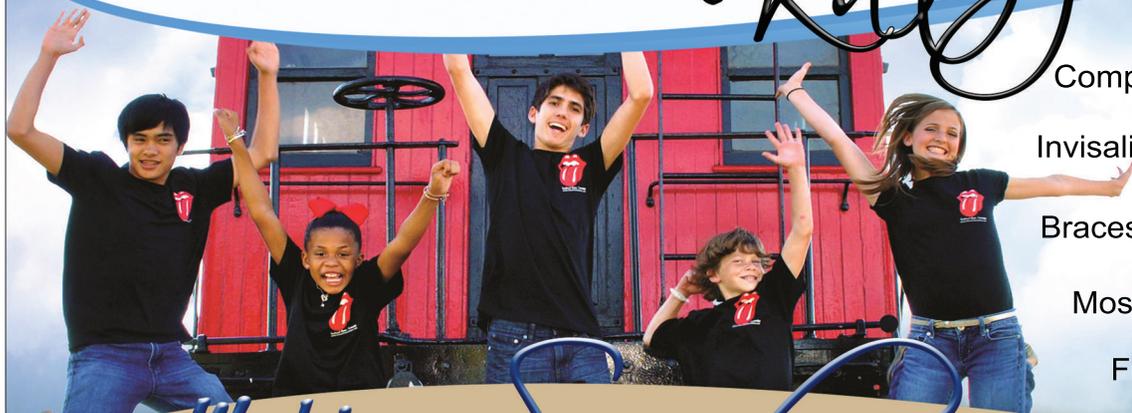
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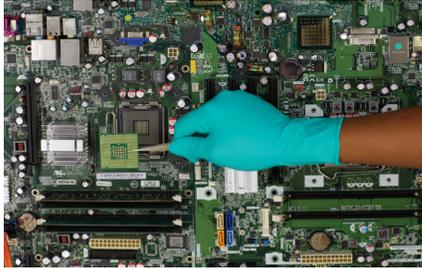


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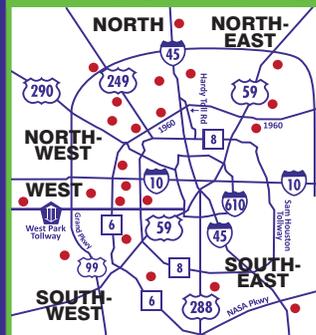
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