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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2021

KISD trustees adopt safe return to school plan

No mask mandate issued as legal battles continue statewide

BY R. HANS MILLER
NEWS EDITOR

In a special meeting held Monday, Aug. 30, the Katy ISD Board of Trustees adopted the district's 2021-22 Safe Return to School Plan. According to KISD Deputy Superintendent Leslie Haack, the plan is flexible and the status of COVID-19 cases across all the district's campuses is monitored regularly by the district's COVID Emergency Operations Management team.

"Every day, the EOM mitigation meeting

occurs," Haack said. It's Monday through Friday. We start at 3:30 (p.m.) and we meet on Sundays to get ready for the next day. And so, there's quite a team of us and we've been added together. It includes representatives of the assistant superintendents, representatives from the departments - Athletics, Fine Arts is represented (as well as Career and Technology Education)."

Haack broke the district's plan to mitigate COVID-19 across its campuses. The plan involves five stages with Stage 5 being the lowest level of risk for students and Stage 1 indicating the highest risk which would necessitate the district shutting down in-person learning and going fully remote.

• Stage 5: This stage includes self-monitoring for COVID-19 symptoms for staff and students with frequent hand washing, social distancing of three feet or more when possible and protective

See **SCHOOL**, page A3



KATY ISD/SWAGIT

Katy ISD General Counsel Justin Graham briefs the district's trustees during a special meeting held Monday night at KISD's Education Support Complex. Graham described a constantly changing landscape of rulings between district and appeals courts as well as the Texas Supreme Court which at the time of the briefing prevents the district from issuing a mask mandate favored by what appeared to be a slight majority of district residents who spoke at the meeting.

As the pandemic moves on and legal action has eliminated an eviction ban issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, aid remains available in Harris County and Houston for those facing eviction, making a move unnecessary.

COURTESY KETUT SUBIYANTO



Court overturns eviction ban

Aid available for Harris residents

BY R. HANS MILLER
NEWS EDITOR

The U.S. Supreme Court overturned a federal eviction moratorium on Aug. 26, opening the proverbial door for families to lose their homes after facing 18 months

of the pandemic and its economic challenges.

"The Supreme Court overturned the eviction moratorium last night," said Joy Partain, a spokesperson for BakerRipley and Catholic Charities and the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston. "However, thousands of Houston (area) families are protected by the Houston-Harris County Emergency Rental Assistance Program. ... There's still more money, so families who haven't

applied definitely should."

According to a press release from the two organizations which oversee the Houston-Harris County Emergency Rental Assistance Program, more than 48,000 families have been helped with more than \$180 million in aid which also helps landlords ensure mortgages are covered and staff are paid. About \$15.5 million of the \$195.5 million

See **EVICCTIONS**, page A3

KCM preps for gala, continues capital fundraising campaign

BY R. HANS MILLER
NEWS EDITOR

Katy Christian Ministries is just about finished with preparations for its 2021 fundraising gala - its 17th annual party to raise funds for its mission to help those in need throughout the Katy area. KCM Executive Director Deysi Crespo and KCM Board of Directors President Patti Lacy said the event has a fundraising goal of \$125,000 and has already raised about \$75,000

to date.

The theme for this year's gala, which will be held at Palacio Maria at 21728 Highland Knolls Drive in Katy, is "To New Beginnings" Crespo said. The event will be held at p.m. on Sept. 9. With a new headquarters building, new team members coming on board - including a new case manager set to hire in the next several weeks - and further expansion of services into the

See **GALA**, page A5



COURTESY KATY CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

Caption: Attendees enjoy live entertainment at the 2019 Katy Christian Ministries gala. The event was the most recent in-person event because the gala was forced to go virtual in 2020. This year's event will be held Sept. 9 at 6 p.m. at Palacio Maria in Katy.

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TxDOT seeks input on parkway improvements

BY R. HANS MILLER
NEWS EDITOR

The Texas Department of Transportation is holding a series of public hearings regarding proposed improvements to the Grand Parkways between I-10 and FM 1093. Suggested upgrades to the roadway are primarily the addition of north-bound and south-bound lanes and sound barriers to protect quality of life for nearby homeowners said Megan Luschen, who presented the project during the first virtual hearing held Aug. 31.

"The proposed project is needed due to current and projected growth in the area, causing traffic demand to increase. In addition, the existing facility does not have adequate capacity to accommodate current mobility needs," Luschen said.

The expansion of the roadways is expected to cost about \$85 million and will be paid for with a mix of state and federal funds, Luschen said. The project is fully funded already, and construction is forecast to begin in the second half of 2022 and is expected to last about two years. Various needs and environmental assessments have already been completed, she said, and no significant environmental impacts were noted. Only about 0.01 acres of



R. HANS MILLER

Backups of traffic on the Grand Parkway between I-10 and FM 1093 during rush hour may be mitigated in the next few years as the Texas Department of Transportation adds one lane in each direction and other improvements in order to mitigate traffic. Additionally, Fort Bend County officials are working to improve the access roads on the southern portion of the parkway.

wetlands will be affected by the widening of the parkway.

From I-10 to the north side of Highland Knolls Boulevard, an additional lane would be added to the parkway itself. A cable barrier would be created to prevent vehicles from

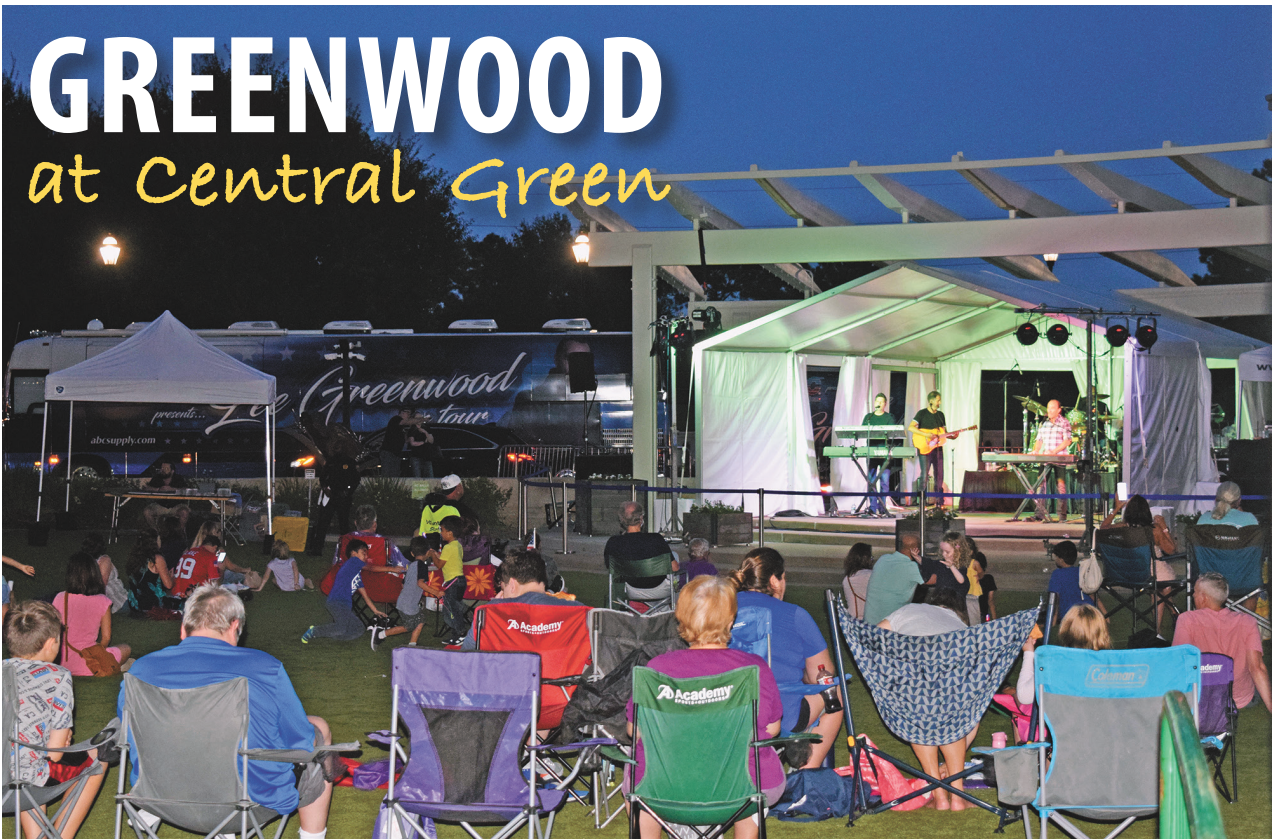
crossing the median, according to TxDOT documents. Additionally, upgrades to the frontage roads such as some new right-turn lanes and improvements to ramps would be integrated.

See **GRAND PARKWAY**, page A3

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PHOTOS BY R. HANS MILLER

County music star Lee Greenwood (above) performed at Willow Fork Drainage District's Central Green at LaCenterra at 7 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 27. Greenwood is perhaps best known for his song "God Bless the USA" which is notable for being the only song in the top 5 of the country singles charts three times.

Greenwood took to the keyboards (left) for multiple songs during his performance at LaCenterra. According to his website, Greenwood began playing piano at the age of seven and saxophone at 12. By the end of high school, he'd learned to play most of the instruments in his school's orchestra.

Short lends tractor to Nelson Museum

R. HANS MILLER
Stanley G. Short drives his family's 1940 John Deere Model B tractor down George Bush Drive to the Johnny Nelson Katy Heritage Museum. Short spent six years restoring the tractor after it was found abandoned in a field near Katy. The tractor had originally belonged to his grandfather, A.L. Short.



BY R. HANS MILLER
NEWS EDITOR
Stanley G. Short placed his 1940 John Deere model B Tractor on indefinite loan to the Johnny Nelson Katy Heritage Museum as of Thursday, Aug. 26.
"The donation today is outstanding," Katy Mayor Bill Hastings said. "Mr. Short is a great example of the many, many people who have donated to this museum to keep Katy's heritage alive."
The original Short farm, on which the tractor was used, was located between Katy and Brookshire on the south side of Highway 90 along what is now Igloo Road, according to city officials. Stanley's grandfather, A.L. Short, had started the farm in 1912 after moving to the area from Northern Oklahoma. Water for the farm came from the Willow Fork Branch of the Buffalo Bayou and helped the family raise corn, peanuts, hay and cotton. The farm was dissolved in 1973 and the equipment, buildings and other assets that could be

moved were taken elsewhere. Short found the tractor in 2010 in a field on a private farm near Katy where it had sat abandoned for about 25 years. He spent the next six years restoring it.
Short said he was grateful to be able to preserve his family's and the city's heritage and that he was unsure how many hours he spent working on the project to bring the tractor back to life. However, he said it was an endeavor he enjoyed working on most Sundays during the course of the project.
"I found a part during the week and somebody sent it to me and I'd run over and put it on right quick," Short said.
Short will be able to visit the tractor and use it for parades and other events as needed.
Hastings said Short's restoration work was some of the best he'd ever seen and expressed appreciation for Short lending the tractor to the city's museum.
"It's people like him who support this museum and give to it that keeps Katy's Heritage alive," Hastings said.



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								1
		9	8					2
9				8		3		5
2			6		7			
							4	2
7	6							
					2		1	
				1			4	7

Level: Intermediate

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Answers will be provided in next week's edition.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

CLUES ACROSS

- Secret clique
- Earliest in and out
- Ancient Egyptian symbol of life
- Olfactory property
- Kidnapping
- Golf prize
- Helps little firms
- Cast a spell on
- Panama is one
- Dishonorable man
- Sea eagle
- Part of the healing process
- Vin's last name
- Wings
- Made older
- Political device
- Looks like a rabbit
- Gurus
- Philippine Island
- Not or
- Hindu model of ideal man
- Exam
- Making less difficult
- Without
- Dravidian ethnic group
- A baglike structure
- Buenos Aires capital La ____
- Dab
- Singers who perform together
- Pirates' saying
- OK to allude to
- Somaliland diplomat

CLUES DOWN

- Harsh cries of a crow
- Type of horse
- ___ fide: authentic
- Doctors' group
- Fugitives are on it
- Forged
- Wild goat
- Influential American president
- Calls for help
- Repents
- Palm tree with creeping roots
- Black powder used in makeup
- Happy New Year
- Stretched out one's neck
- Whale ship captain
- Atomic #20
- Border
- River that borders India and Nepal
- After B
- Fencing swords
- Where researchers work
- Expression of satisfaction
- Broadway actor Nathan
- Heavy, heat-retaining stove
- A way to eliminate

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14						15			16				
17					18								
19					20			21					
				22			23						
		24	25				26			27	28		
29	30						31			32		33	
34					35	36				37			
38				39						40			
	41		42					43	44				
				45				46					
	47	48					49				50	51	52
53						54			55	56			
57									58				
59						60			61				

- Type of tree resin
- Russian river
- Children's TV network
- Troublemaker
- Averts or delays
- Self-immolation by fire ritual
- It cools your home
- Satisfy to the fullest
- Stinks!

- Popular board game
- Attack by hurling
- A vale
- Type of acid
- Tasmania's highest mountain
- No seats available
- Licensed for Wall Street
- Family of genes
- Constrictor snake

Answers will be provided in next week's edition.

SCHOOL

from page A1

gear such as face masks, hand sanitizer, sanitizing wipes and desk dividers made upon request. As of Aug. 30, six district campuses were at this precaution level.

- Stage 4: This is the mitigation stage with one or more confirmed cases of SARS-CoV-2 at a campus. Under this protocol, students and staff identified as being in close contact with the infected person must either self-isolate for up to 10 days or obtain a lab test showing a negative COVID-19 test result. Additionally, individual classrooms may be shut down for sanitizing. Classrooms that are shut down or students who must self-isolate are eligible for intermittent school-to-home instruction outside of the Katy Virtual Academy program.

- Stage 3: When precautions in Stage 4 do not work, students, visitors and staff are highly recommended to wear face coverings when indoors and on buses. All large, indoor gatherings will be canceled during the instructional day, though they may be rescheduled once the campus returns to a lower-threat stage. During Stage 3, lunchroom visitors are not allowed and guests and volunteers may visit the campus by appointment only and will have their temperature taken as part of the check-in process.

- Stage 2: Under this situation, the campus will be closed to mitigate the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19. Students will be provided with online learning via their usual classroom teachers. This stage will continue for five days and may be extended depending on circumstances at the time. Once in-person learning resumes, the campus will revert to Stage 3 protocols to continue mitigation of the spread of the disease.

- Stage 1: Under this stage, the district would shut down in-person learning and instruction would be fully remote for a specified timeframe to contain the spread of COVID-19 on district campuses.

“That is the last thing we want to do is suspend in-person learning and student program participation because if the in-person learning is suspended, it does impact all our student programs,” Haack said.

During a public hearing on the proposed policies, district residents spoke out against and in favor of a mask mandate at the district level. Two even suggested changing the district’s dress codes to make masking part of the district’s general policies. Other Texas districts such as Paris ISD and Texas City have implemented mask requirements in their dress codes.

However, much of the discussion included now-familiar arguments for and against mask mandates and a briefing by KISD General Counsel Justin Graham indicated that a district-level mask mandate wasn’t technically legal at this time. Graham said a ping-pong match of wills between Governor Gregg Abbott, Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton and those municipalities that have issued mask mandates since early August, including Harris and Fort Bend counties. As of Monday evening, he said, the district is prohibited from issuing a mask mandate under existing court actions.

“So, if (Superintendent) Gregorski and the board president wanted to mandate masks; you cannot do that,” Graham said.

GRAND PARKWAY

from page A1

South of Highland Knolls Boulevard to FM 1093, the main portion of the parkway would be included in the widening plan, Luschen said. However, proposed access roads on the east and west side of the parkway would be addressed by Fort Bend County and the Fort Bend County Toll Road Authority.

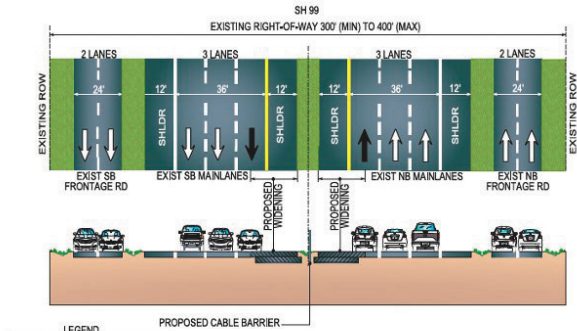
“These are separate projects proposed by other agencies, outside of TxDOT, and are not addressed in this virtual public hearing,” Luschen said.

In a previous interview with the Katy Times, Fort Bend County Assistant Engineer Ike Akinwande said the county is working to add access roads on either side of the Grand Parkway south of Cinco Ranch Boulevard. The county’s projects are expected to cost just about \$4.9 million from 2017 transportation bond authorizations and some matching funds

from the state. Construction on those projects was anticipated to begin late in 2021 depending on how long design takes.

Luschen said TXDOT held prior public hearings related to the project and, after hearing a great deal of feedback related to noise issues the expansion may cause nearby residential areas, has added funding for multiple sound barriers to the project at key points along its length. Four of the barriers will be on rights of way already owned by TXDOT. However, eight of those are located in rights of ways held by municipal utility districts and TXDOT is working with those MUDs to move forward with noise-reducing walls.

The sides of the noise barriers facing the Grand Parkway will be uniform with a cement face and support pillars along their lengths while area residents



North of Highland Knolls Blvd. to South of I-10

SOURCE: TXDOT

An \$85 million project is expected to widen the Grand Parkway and increase its ability to handle increasing traffic in the Cinco Ranch area. Additional inside lanes and widened shoulders are expected to increase safety along the thoroughway as well.

will be able to choose a façade for the sides facing residential areas.

Full details and a recorded copy of the presentation made during the virtual public hearing may be found at <https://bit.ly/2Y5O9YS>. An in-person hearing is scheduled for Sept. 2 from 3-7 p.m.

Comments regarding the hearings are due by Sept.

17 at 5 p.m. and may be submitted by calling 713-802-5269 and referencing projects 3510-04-019 and 3510-05-041.

“In the next steps of the environmental process, all comments received during the comment period will be reviewed and responses to comments will be provided in the official public hearing record,” Luschen said.

EVICCTIONS

from page A1

in rental relief has already been distributed.

The program covers up to 18 months of rent and two months can be allocated to current or future rent to allow renters time to get their finances in order and past-due rent can go as far back as April 2020, but cannot exceed the 18-month limit.

Additional assistance is available for past-due utility bills if those items are rolled into a tenant’s rent. The rent is paid to the landlords who must enroll their properties in the program.

To apply for assistance or enroll your rental property into the program, Harris County and Houston residents must visit www.houstonharrishelp.org or call 832-402-7568. Phone lines are open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Anyone legally residing in Harris County or the city of Houston

can apply so long as their employment has been negatively impacted by the pandemic and they are at risk of losing their homes and have a household income at or below 80% of the area’s median family income.

Applicants should have their annual or monthly proof of income, participation of public benefits documents, proof of residence, proof of need such as a past-due rent statement or utility bills, identification and proof of hardship due to COVID-19 such as a lay-off letter or notice of reduced wages or hours.

According to the press release, applications are not awarded on a first-come-first-served basis but rather based upon the individual needs of the applicant.

Landlords who enroll their properties in the program are required to waive all late fees and penalties or in-

terest for past-due rent, cease pursuing legal action while a tenant’s application is being processed and credit tenants for any partial payments received.

From start to finish, the process involved the tenant applying online and submitting their paperwork to program operators. Once that is finished, the landlord must either enroll or already be enrolled. Applications are then selected and reviewed for eligibility. If the applicant meets the eligibility requirements noted above, the landlord is contacted to verify the past-due rent and asked to accept the provisions of the program. Once that is completed, the rent is deposited directly into the landlord’s bank account.

“Applicants may be approved for months not already covered by another program, but they cannot accept funding for the same expense twice,” the press release said.

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Advice for college freshpersons

Many parents (including my wife and I) are currently in the process of moving their precious partly-grown child-people (and some of their credit cards) to institutions of higher education for the first time so that these students can gain vital professional knowledge and skills, including how to get those pad things back into sports bras correctly when they come out of the dryer.

Based on my vast lack of expertise, other than my own college experience back in the 1990's when it was cool to dress like a disheveled version of the Brawny paper towel dude, I have a few tips to help incoming college freshpersons (especially my eldest and most expensive daughter) adapt to spending their parents' money away from home.

Before embarking on this new adventure, college students need to secure a few key items, including an industrial strength toilet brush and plunger set. Because typical college students consume a steady diet of pizza, Kraft macaroni and cheese, and microwaved nachos, the plunger is sure to be put to regular use. And although the toilet brush is unlikely ever to be employed for its intended purpose, it makes a handy back scratcher during extended potty/cell phone time.

Once college students are settled in, they should try to get to know their professors on the rare occasions when said students actually attend class. In fact, it's advisable for students to visit the professor during office hours when the professor is probably bored and watching reruns of "Little House on the Prairie" on Amazon Prime. During these meetings, students have a chance to distinguish themselves through small gestures of kindness, like offering to hose off the professor's electric vehicles – or children.

If students want to make an especially positive impression, they could volunteer to give the professor's cat its pills. When the professor is averaging grades at the end of the semester, it couldn't hurt to be recognized as the student who risked a thorough eyeball



clawing so Miss Whiskers could be worm-free.

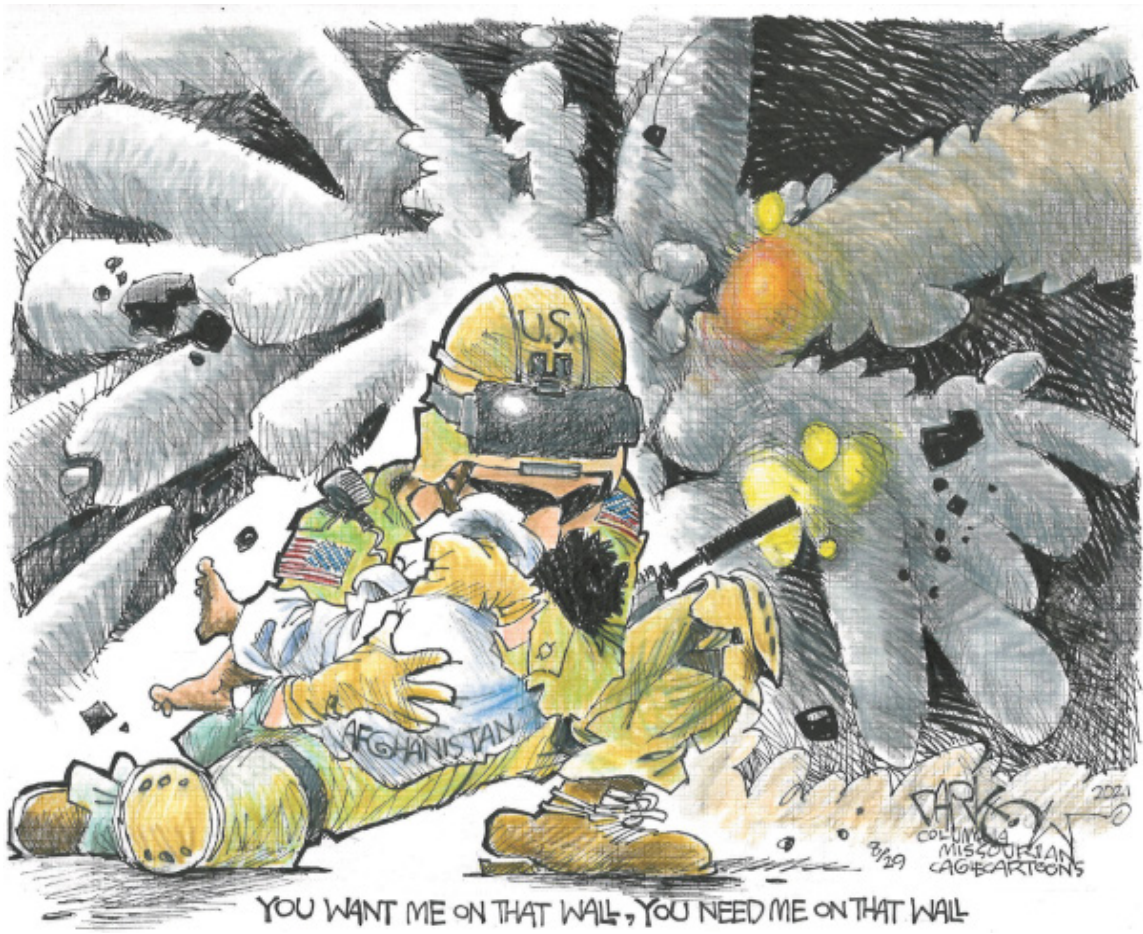
Because the weekly grind of sleeping through classes and starting the weekend on Tuesday afternoon can be extremely stressful for a college student, it's important to let off some steam every once in a while. However, any leisure activities must exclude the following at all costs: sex, drugs, facial tattoos, sex, drinking, public nudity, sex, watching "Outer Banks," dressing up like stuffed animals, sex and sex. Other than these strictly prohibited activities, enjoy!

One worthwhile extra-curricular pursuit that I've strongly recommended to my daughter is regular church attendance. Let's say she's invited to an "Animal House"-style toga party by a young man who needs a good kick in the baptistry. As an alternative, she should go down to the local First Church of the Immaculate Covered Dish for Sunday services, throw on a choir robe, and have a party near the pulpit. I've assured her that plenty of cool and interesting guys will be there, including the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Despite my words of advice and all of the preparations we've made, I must admit that I'm still a little nervous about sending our daughter off to college. She'll face lots of challenges as she decides how to most efficiently squander our life savings.

Seriously, though, at least her mother and I can find comfort in knowing that she's well-equipped for college life with a high-quality toilet brush and plunger set.

Graves is an award-winning humor columnist from East Texas. His columns have been featured in Texas Escapes magazine, The Shreveport Times, The Longview News Journal, and The Kilgore News Herald. Contact Graves at susanjase@sbcglobal.net.



When the Texas state seal no longer signifies trust

Well, now we know what it takes to remain employed at the Texas Office of the Attorney General.

Almost a year ago, several top aides to Attorney General Ken Paxton accused him of using his official position to help a campaign donor, sparking an FBI investigation and attracting a number of viable candidates from both parties to line up for a challenge to the attorney general in the 2022 elections.

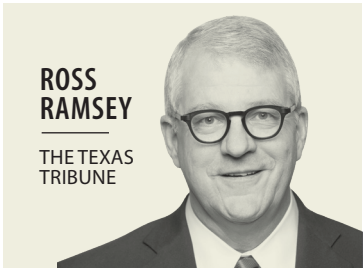
The aides who said Paxton was misusing his office don't work there any more; some have filed a whistleblower suit. However, as The Texas Tribune's James Barragán reported, the folks left behind — people who remain on the state payroll, answering to Paxton — have produced a 374-page document saying their boss is innocent.

"AG Paxton's actions were lawful, and consistent with his legal duties and prior actions taken by Attorneys General of Texas," the agency's unsigned report said. "AG Paxton committed no crime."

In effect, the AG's current employees are refuting charges from his former employees that Paxton makes his employees do things that are unethical or illegal. Because they didn't sign the document, and because it comes from the attorney general's office, it's effectively Paxton's personal declaration that he didn't do what he's accused of doing.

Even in an era when it's become standard operating procedure in too many corners of Texas government to use taxpayer-funded resources for private gain or advancement, this deserves your attention.

It's the worst kind of testimonial. Paxton is understandably looking for exoneration, for people to stand up for him and to profess



his innocence. A report like this would be suspect under the best of circumstances, like asking hostages to say nice things about their captors.

Seems like you'd want a trusted third party to say that instead of a bunch of employees who might be under duress. Fear of losing your job is duress, isn't it?

It can be dangerous to let outsiders do these kinds of investigations. Just ask former New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo, who was undone after asking his attorney general to investigate allegations against him. Had he left the digging to his own loyal staff, he might still be governor today.

Last week's report on Paxton won't be the last word. Those former top aides have legal actions pending, and that pesky FBI investigation is still out there.

The attorney general isn't the only Texas politician using the trappings of state government to improve his situation. Former Gov. Rick Perry was back in the state Capitol this week, hawking an air filtration system with claims that it inhales coronavirus-laden air and exhales disease-free gusts that are safe for the kids and their teachers to breathe.

The peg for this — the hook for Perry's stint as a pitchman in the Speaker's Committee Room adjacent to the Texas House chamber — is the product's potential use in the state's public schools.

It's linked to fears of returning Texas schoolchildren to classes

during an upswing in the pandemic.

Those kids are required to be in school. More than half of them — the kids under age 12 — are ineligible for vaccines. The two options for wary parents are mask mandates or remote learning. The governor has banned mask mandates, though that's being challenged in court. Current law doesn't allow the state to reimburse school districts for anything other than in-person attendance, a policy that could be flipped by a bill now pending in the current special session of the Legislature.

Perry, a board member of the company whose products he was promoting, had the House's permission to be there, and members of the House were there to hear him. The filters might perform as promised; the system, Perry said, has been tested on more than 100 of the state's public school campuses.

It's not the product. It's the presentation. The setting, of a former governor at a lectern in front of a state seal inside the seat of government, gives some weight to his proposal that it wouldn't have if he was standing in a corporate boardroom or in front of a chalkboard at a news conference.

It's a stunt, and possibly an effective one. Paxton's gimmick was similar: He got state employees to write a document attempting to undermine charges against him, and he put his state agency seal on it.

It seems legitimate, even if it's not.

This article originally appeared in The Texas Tribune at <https://www.texastribune.org/2021/08/26/texas-seal-ken-paxton-rick-perry/>. The Texas Tribune is a member-supported, nonpartisan newsroom informing and engaging Texans on state politics and policy. Learn more at [texastribune.org](https://www.texastribune.org).

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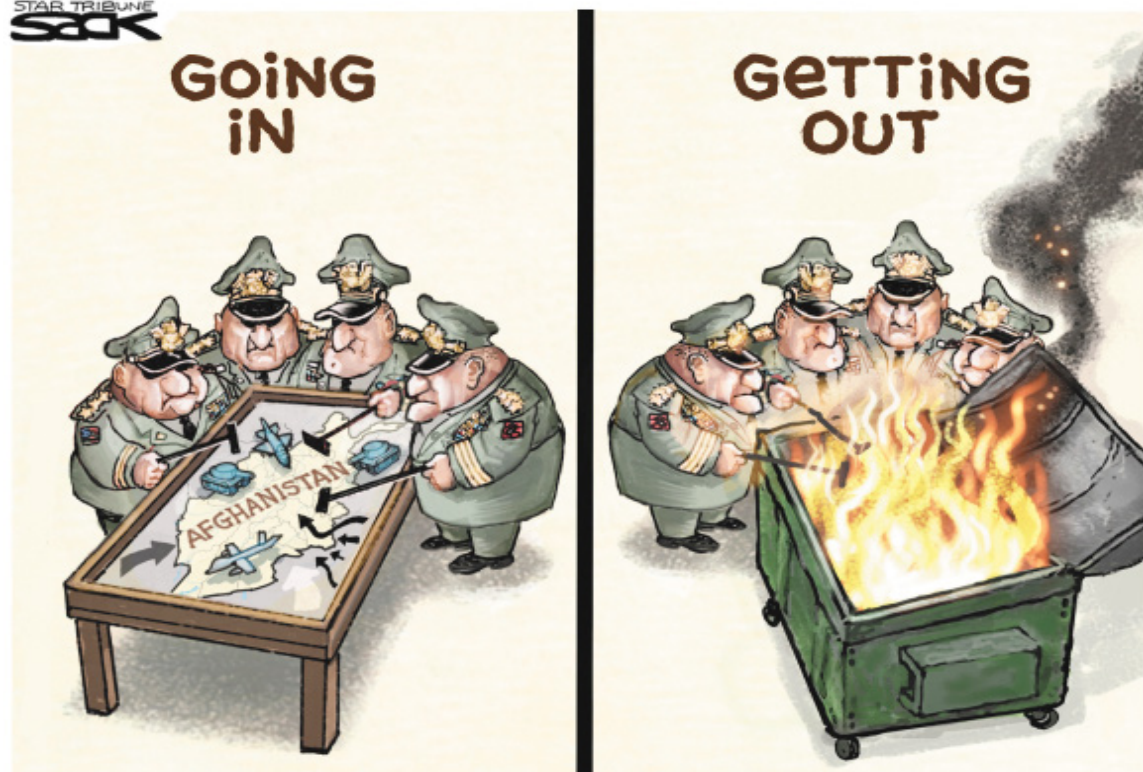
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TRIBUTE



KATHRYN M. DOMINEY
RIP AUG. 21, 2021

Kathryn Marie Dominey (Sissy Kay) of Katy, TX left this earth on her journey to Heaven on August 21, 2021, at 8:30 p.m. She passed at home surrounded by loved ones. During her 50-year career, she became one of the most iconic commercial interior designers in the Houston area as well as in Tulsa, OK. She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Diana and Jeff Porter of Katy, TX; her son and daughter-in-law, Bruce and Renee Dominey of Durango, CO; and her five grandchildren: Aaron Porter (28), Brandon Porter (25), Lindsey Porter (23), Grace Dominey (13) and Kurgan Dominey (12).

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GALA

from page A1

Katy area, Crespo said the theme felt appropriate.

The nonprofit is also working to add services for veterans this year, Crespo said. An event is being planned for Nov. 13 with Pastor Bruce Latimer of Mosaic Community Church that will involve a cookout and networking opportunity for veterans. She advised interested parties to keep an eye on KCM's social media channels for more information as the event draws near.

Silent auctions will be held at the event for a variety of items including Sugar Land Skeeters tickets, Louisiana State University and Texas A&M baskets, massages, bowling outings and a host of other items, Crespo said. Online auctions for the event were set to go live on Sept. 1 and continue through the evening of the gala.

Brian Greene, CEO and president of the Houston Food Bank, will be the keynote speaker at the event. Greene is noted for his efforts to connect his organization with smaller food banks in the area to ensure Greater Houston residents in need get the nutrition they need.

Tickets to the gala are \$100 per person and tiers of sponsorships are available ranging in cost from \$1,000 to \$20,000, according to the event's website. Sponsorships include tickets 10-2- tickets for the event.

"I think the gala just is really concentrating on our new building and reaching out and spreading our wings throughout the community even more so, and hopefully being able to reach out to those people in the community where our new building is going to be because that's already one of our top zip codes that we work in," Lacy said.

Lacy was referring to KCM's new headquarters building that is currently being renovated at 3306 Porter Road. Crespo said the new facility is about 90% complete and will allow the nonprofit to consoli-



COURTESY KATY CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

HELPING OUT

Those who are unable to attend the gala may donate to Katy Christian Ministries via www.ktcm.org or by sending a check to the nonprofit at:

P.O. Box 986
Katy, TX 77492

Checks with notations in the comments section asking for funds to go toward the charity's capital campaign will be honored. For a list of most-needed donation items for the food pantry, visit <https://bit.ly/3DCK6U8>.

date operations into one administrative facility, though its two resale shops at 5510 First Street and 23232 Kingsland Boulevard will remain open in their current locations. The new facility will have a larger food pantry, space for caseworkers to have offices

Work is about 90% completed on Katy Christian Ministry's new headquarters at 3306 Porter Road. The new facility will have greater storage for more food for its food pantry and will allow administrative staff to consolidate operations. Currently, administration and case management operations are housed in two different locations in Katy which impacts efficiency, KCM representatives said.

and meeting rooms that are more functional for staff and volunteers, she said.

The facility will also feature a community garden to help produce foods for the ministry's food pantry as well as a venue for fresh air and nutritional education.

Crespo said one of the main remaining expenses for the Porter Road facility is an awning and driveway to wrap around the building. To raise money for that portion of the project, she and her team have continued with a capital campaign to raise the remaining portion of the roughly \$40,000 needed to complete the awning

which will protect volunteers working in the food pantry from the weather.

Construction on the project is being completed by Bradford Construction out of Houston.

Crespo and Lacy said they were extremely appreciative of the donors that have made the new building and the services KCM continues to provide to the community, especially under growing needs associated with the pandemic's economic and social impacts.

"We are so very thankful for all of the donors that have made this possible thus far," Crespo said.

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Instructors and students who participated in Hunters Education through the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and Royal ISD pose for a photo opportunity. The course was offered during the summer to promote responsible hunting practices.

Hunters Education course offered to RISD community

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

The Royal ISD Agricultural Science Department recently offered the Texas Hunter Safety Education Course to the youth in and near RISD. The goals of the hunter education course are to promote firearm and sport-arm safety, hunting safety, hunting ethics, compliance to hunting regulations, combat poaching and to promote the wise

use of our sustainable resources and hunting traditions, according to an RISD press release. The benefits of hunter education are reduction of hunting accidents, reduction of hunting violations, enhancement of outdoor behaviors and continuation of the hunting heritage. The course was taught by Texas Parks and Wildlife instructors Morgan Harbison, Jason Woods and Craig Melton. The class consisted of 20 students, ages 9 to 13, who were eager to learn about the safety and guidelines of Texas Hunting laws and regulations. Classroom instruction, as well as hands-on training and actual simulations, followed by a written test brought the class knowledge and experience of the Texas Hunter Safety program, the press release said.

Royal wins FFA STEM Video Contest

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Members of the Royal Future Farmers of America chapter were honored as the state winner in the first annual FFA STEM Video Competition. The team was required to plan, design and create a promotional video that showcased their local FFA chapter and its members, mission, goals and activities. Royal chose to focus on the "Technology" piece of STEM education. Their video

toured the Royal FFA website, explaining each tab and icon in detail. This video is a way for new members and their parents to familiarize themselves with the history, legacy and opportunities available within the Royal FFA program. Justin Brands Company, a corporate sponsor of the Texas FFA Association, recognized the Royal team at this summer's Texas FFA Convention in Fort Worth. Each team member was awarded a pair of Justin boots, cap and shirt.



Pictured are the members of Royal ISD's FFA chapter's winning STEM video team. (Left to Right) Melani Alanis, Alexis Ibarra, Alondra Melendez, Emily Contreras and Samantha Lopez.

KISD Highlights

BY R. HANS MILLER
NEWS EDITOR

Katy ISD is ramping up into the school year and made several announcements in the last week to let parents know about district accomplishments and programs to help students. The district has received recognition on multiple fronts for academics and as an employer and announced screenings and achievements for academic excellence as well as the continuation of programs to ensure students that attend classes virtually receive proper nutrition.

Feeding learning

KISD will continue its grab-and-go meals program for students enrolled in the Katy Virtual Academy. The online learning platform was offered to students from kindergarten to sixth grade whose parents elected to keep them virtual during the pandemic as a precaution. Each Tuesday, parents can visit Morton Ranch or Cinco Ranch high schools from 4:30-6:30 p.m. to obtain meals for their children, according to a KISD announcement. Parents should bring an ID, report card or birth certificate for each child set to receive a meal and there is no cost to children enrolled in KVA.

Capstone recipients

The district announced that 91 students have received the Advanced Placement Capstone Diploma, while seven more earned the AP Seminar and Research Certificate for the 2020-21 school year. AP Capstone is a College Board diploma program based on two yearlong AP courses, AP Seminar and AP Research. The courses are project-based and require students to develop critical thinking, research, collaboration, time management and presentation skills, according to a KISD press release. To receive the AP Capstone Diploma, students must earn scores of three or higher in AP Seminar, AP Research, and on four

additional AP Exams. Over 2,000 schools participated in the AP Capstone program worldwide during the 2020-21 school year, which lead to approximately 11,900 students earning the AP Capstone Diploma and 7,700 earned the AP Seminar and Research Certificate.

Gifted and Talented

Parents of kindergarten students wishing for their learner to be screened for Challenge, KISD's gifted and talented program. Guardians should have received information detailing how to refer their children to the program the week of Aug. 23. Information may also be found at the KISD GT and Advanced Academics website at <https://bit.ly/3kFebK5>. "The State of Texas defines a gifted and talented student as a child or youth who performs or shows the potential for

performing at a remarkably high level of accomplishment when compared to others of the same age, experience or environment," said Katy ISD Director of Gifted, Talented and Advanced Academic Studies Joan Otten. Referrals are due by Oct. 1 and the program will begin the week of Feb. 28 which will include Challenge Program students participating in a gifted and talented classroom for one hour per week. Fifth-grade students may also apply for the program at the secondary school level. Programs are available for English, mathematics, science and social studies. Applications for middle school students are due by Sept. 22 and are available through the Challenge Program website at <https://bit.ly/3yvO5hB>. Parents will be notified via U.S. mail if their child has been accepted into the program in January 2022.

Forbes recognition

The district announced Aug. 27 that it had once again earned a spot on the Forbes List of Best Employers in Texas, coming in at number 8 on the list. KISD was the only school district in a list that included NASA, Dell and Southwest Airlines. "From our teachers, administrators, operations and support staff, every member of the Katy ISD family strives daily to provide supportive and unparalleled learning experiences to the more than 87,000 students we serve," said KISD Superintendent Ken Gregorski. Forbes developed the list in cooperation with Statista, a research company. The list is part of Forbes' third annual America's Best Employers by State listing. About 80,000 Americans were surveyed from Oct. 2020 to June 2021 to obtain the ranking.

Amazon supply drop

KISD instructors again had the opportunity to utilize \$200 in Amazon credit to purchase supplies for their classrooms through the Katy Instructional Teacher Supply Budget. Through this special budget, teachers were able to get classroom items that they might otherwise have had to purchase themselves. "These funds are intended to assist teachers with purchasing those few extra items they would love to have in their classrooms that may further supplement a learning experience they have planned for their students," Gregorski said. Teachers were able to start logging in the week of Aug. 30 via a KISD Amazon link to select the items they want for their classrooms. This is in addition to basic instructional supplies already provided by KISD. "Our educators have always gone above and beyond for our learners, especially during these past 18 months. We hope they will enjoy this opportunity to purchase some additional items for their classrooms," said Gregorski.



Seven Lakes High School's Asha Kalapatapu (left), Tompkins High School's Kevin Han (center), Katy High School's Chelsea Crow (top-right) and Taylor High School's Emma Hopkins (bottom-right) were among 91 Katy ISD students who earned the Advanced Placement Capstone Diploma for their academic achievements while attending the district.



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CAPITAL
HIGHLIGHTSElections bill passes House along party lines
... and 4 other Texas-sized issues

BY GARY BORDERS

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

The Texas House approved an elections bill Friday along party lines with 21 Democrats declining to participate. The bill, slightly different from previously passed Senate legislation, now heads a conference committee that will negotiate a final version.

The measure passed after House Democrats largely ended a second walkout that broke quorum. The Austin American-Statesman reported the bill would ban drive-thru and 24-hour voting, add ID requirements to mail-in ballots, and give greater leeway to partisan poll watchers' ability to observe both polling places and vote counting.

Republicans supported the bill as a means to reassure voters that elections are fraud-free. Critics called it an attempt to suppress voting among minorities and other groups that tend to support Democrats.

State Rep. Chris Turner, D-Grand Prairie, said the bill was inspired by former President Trump's claim the election was stolen.

"This bill was never about election security or voter integrity. It was always about using the big lie to justify restricting access to the ballot box," Turner said.



FILE PHOTO BY R. HANS MILLER

Texas Medical Center Hospitals such as the Memorial Hermann Hospital System are reporting that they are overwhelmed with COVID-19 cases. However, data from the TMC indicates a possible reduction in upcoming cases. The effective reproduction rate, which is ideally less than 1.0, is at 0.65 as of Aug. 29 but was at 1.04 last week. Concurrently, 14.9% of COVID-19 tests are positive, matching the prior week's test rate for Sunday.

of Emergency Management have announced openings of several COVID-19 therapeutic infusion centers to provide Regeneron's monoclonal antibodies to COVID-19 outpatients throughout the state. Visit meds.tdem.texas.gov to find a site near you.

Meanwhile, the pace of vaccinations has increased as the delta variant spreads, with an average of more than 80,000 vaccine doses reported daily during the past month. DSHS reports 13.6 million Texans are fully vaccinated, which is 46.6% of the state's population.

\$1.4 billion in summer food benefits
Texas families with children who have temporarily lost access to free or reduced-price school meals can receive electronic food benefits under a third round of grants from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer covers the summer months and provides a one-time benefit per eligible child. It can be used in the same way that Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program cards work to buy groceries. The program is administered by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission.

"As children across the state start going back to school, we're thankful we can provide this added benefit so Texans can provide nutritious food for their families," said Wayne Salter, HHS Deputy Executive Commissioner of Access and Eligibility Services.

Eligible families will receive the summer P-EBT benefits in the fall. Visit hhs.texas.gov/pebt or call 833-442-1255 to learn more.

Sahara dust equals hazy skies
If the skies seem unusually hazy lately, even as temperatures

approach the century mark in much of the state, the answer lies to the east — and we're not talking Louisiana.

Every year about this time plumes of dust make their way from Africa's Sahara Desert to America. Non-scientists call it rain dust, according to an article on the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's website.

Summer storms in the Sahara kick up about 180,000 tons of dust into the atmosphere each year. This can cause some problems for folks who suffer with asthma or other chronic lung conditions, according to Weslee Copeland, TCEQ's senior meteorologist.

"The dust does degrade air quality when it's here," he says. "Most of the time it falls within the moderate range of EPA's Air Quality Index, which means most healthy individuals will not be affected, but those who are more sensitive may experience some respiratory effects."

The dust has one beneficial attribute: It generally suppresses the formation of tropical storms and hurricanes, though it did not prevent Hurricane Ida from hitting Louisiana Sunday as a Category 4 hurricane, on the 16th anniversary of Hurricane Katrina's landfall.

Pay-to-play eased under new law

Texas taxpayers who challenge a state tax assessment or are denied a refund should find it easier to take their cases to court under measures passed during the regular legislative session.

State Comptroller Glenn Hegar pushed a bill that took aim at "pay-to-play" rules that forced businesses and individuals to pay tax bills under dispute before taking them to court to seek a refund.

Under HB 2080, taxpayers who disagree with a tax bill can now take their cases to the State Office of Administrative Hearings without first paying the disputed taxes.

Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span, including in Longview, Fort Stockton, Nacogdoches and Cedar Park. Email: gborders@texaspress.com.

Water District
Notice of Public Hearing
on Tax Rate

The WALLER COUNTY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 2 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2021 on Wednesday, September 15, 2021 at 1:00pm at the offices of Allen Boone Humphries Robinson, LLC located at 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2600, Houston, Texas 77027. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

FOR the proposal:	George Huntoon III, George Hittner, Neil Williams, Sara Burson, Kay Shepard	
AGAINST the proposal:	None	
PRESENT and not voting:	None	
ABSENT:	None	

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.80000 /\$100 Adopted	\$0.80000 /\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$0.00000 /\$100	
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)	0.00%	
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$0.00	\$0.00
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$0.00	\$0.00
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$0.00	\$0.00
Tax on average residence homestead	\$0.00	\$0.00
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)	\$0.00 0.00%	

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 8 percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the voter-approval tax rate under Section 49.23603, Water Code.

There were no residential homestead either January 1, 2020 or January 1, 2021, therefore the tax that would have been imposed on a residential homestead is \$0.00.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Should you have any questions concerning this notice, please contact the tax office at 281-482-0216.

Water District
Notice of Public Hearing
on Tax Rate

The HARRIS-WALLER COUNTIES MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 3 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2021 on Monday, September 20, 2021 at 1:30 PM at the offices of Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP, located at 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2600, Houston, TX 77027 and also by call-in at 888-557-8511, Access Code: 1512581. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

FOR the proposal:	Lonnie Lee, Justin Wagner, Jennifer White, John Hoag, Valerie Davis	
AGAINST the proposal:	None	
PRESENT and not voting:	None	
ABSENT:	None	

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.93000/\$100 Adopted	\$0.93000/\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$.00000/\$100	
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)	0.00%	
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$411,727.00	\$434,403.00
General homestead exemptions available (excluding senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions)	\$0.00	\$0.00
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$411,727.00	\$434,403.00
Tax on average residence homestead	\$3,829.06	\$4,039.95
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)	\$210.89 5.51%	

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 8 percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the voter-approval tax rate under Section 49.23603, Water Code.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Should you have any questions concerning this notice, please contact the tax office at 281-482-0216.

Comptroller Hegar announces Broadband Development Office

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar announced last week that his agency will operate a newly created Broadband Development Office. The BDO will award grants, low-interest loans and other financial incentives to internet service providers who expand access to broadband service in underserved areas.

“Easy, secure internet access is increasingly important in our society, and it was essential during the pandemic. So, I am grateful that lawmakers made the expansion of broadband access across Texas a priority through the creation of the Broadband Development Office at my agency,” Hegar said.

Greg Conte has been selected to serve as BDO director. He has worked at the Texas Comptroller’s office for five years, most recently serving as manager of the Data Analysis and Transparency Division. Conte, a U.S. military veteran, earned Master of Business Administration and Master of Public Affairs degrees from the University of Texas at Austin. He has filled key roles at the agency in areas responsible for supporting local government transparency, economic development and health care.

“The (COVID-19) pandemic has highlighted the importance of reliable internet access. The linchpin to this office’s success will be building meaningful, open relationships with state and local partners,” Conte said. “I look forward to supporting the office’s mission by fostering and maintaining those connections.”

The office, established by House Bill 5 during the recently gaveled regular session of the 87th Legislature, will also do the following:

- Create a broadband map indicating areas eligible for financial assistance;
- Set an effective threshold speed for broadband service in those underserved areas at 25 megabits

per second (Mbps) download and 3 Mbps upload;

- Create and update a state broadband plan;
- Engage in outreach to communities regarding the expansion and adoption of broadband service and the programs administered by the BDO; and
- Serve as the state’s subject matter expert for federal funding to help local governments.

Hegar will serve as chairman of a 10-member board of advisors that will guide the new office.

In December 2020, Connected Nation Texas, a broadband advocacy group, estimated that 316,717 Texas households were “unserved” by 25/3 Mbps broadband, about 89% of them in rural areas.

Texas broadband planning began in earnest in 2019, when Gov. Greg Abbott formed the Governor’s Broadband Development Council. In September 2020, a bipartisan group of 88 Texas legislators wrote the governor stressing the need for a state broadband plan. Texas is one of only six states without such a plan. Later, the council formally recommended legislators create a state broadband plan and a state broadband office.

Rep. Trent Ashby, R-Lufkin, sponsor of HB 5, worked to put those recommendations in place.

“I applaud Comptroller Hegar for taking a personal interest in the importance of connectivity and working tirelessly to ensure these efforts remain ahead of schedule,” Ashby said. “Broadband is a necessity for the 21st century, and all Texans, no matter their ZIP code, can benefit from the creation of this new office.”

A related piece of legislation created the Broadband Pole Replacement Fund, which would reimburse broadband providers up to 50% of eligible pole replacement costs in underserved areas. This will be funded by federal money received through the Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund.



Students’ backpacks hang on their chairs in an empty classroom at Blanco Vista Elementary School in San Marcos. The measure would allow for a one-time payment of up to \$2,400 for retired teachers, counselors and other school staff.

JORDAN VONDERHAAR FOR THE TEXAS TRIBUNE

Retired Texas teachers get closer to '13th check'

BY KEVIN REYNOLDS
THE TEXAS TRIBUNE

After months of political wrangling, the Texas House has advanced a bill that could give retired teachers, counselors and other school staff a one-time payment of up to \$2,400.

Senate Bill 7, which would give retired teachers in the Texas Retirement System of Texas a supplemental payment to offset cost-of-living increases, won preliminary approval Friday in the House. It is expected to move to the governor’s desk after getting final approval in the House during this year’s second special legislative session.

SB 7 had also been filed during the first special legislative session but stalled after House Democrats broke quorum and went to Washington, D.C., to block passage of the GOP’s priority elections bill.

“Our public education employees should not have to choose between food or going to the doctor,” state Rep. Glenn

Rogers, R-Graford, said. “This extra check will make a huge difference in many of their lives.

“Providing for our retirees is not just about their career benefits, it’s about showing current educators and [future] educators that the state will be there for them.”

The bill had become a political cudgel as the Democrats remained in Washington through the beginning of the second special session. Republican lawmakers accused Democrats of leaving retired school staffers hanging in the balance with their retirement checks.

This bill effectively provides supplemental payments to all educators in the Teacher Retirement System of Texas who stopped working before this year. The payment has been dubbed a “13th check” — an addition to retired teachers’ monthly pension checks.

Tens of thousands of Texas educators are eligible to receive this extra stipend. Democrats, however, have

pushed back on the Republican narrative that they are to blame for the delayed passage of the bill.

Many pointed to this year’s regular session of the Legislature when a House bill was proposed that would have provided a similar extra payment for retired educators. House Bill 3507, proposed by state Rep. Vikki Goodwin, D-Austin, never made it to a vote in the Republican-controlled chamber after it passed through a committee.

Republicans at the time cited a lack of state funds as the reason to not put the bipartisan bill, which had more than 100 co-authors, for a vote. According to the state, SB 7 would cost \$701.1 million.

“There was a substantial increase in available funds from the [regular sessions] to now,” Rogers said on the House floor, explaining why the Republican had a change of heart. “With this extra funding, we are much more positioned to find a 13th check now than in the general session.”

NOTICE OF MEETING TO VOTE ON TAX RATE

A tax rate of \$0.447168 per \$100 valuation has been proposed by the governing body of City of Katy.

PROPOSED TAX RATE	\$0.447168 per \$100
NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE	\$0.454253 per \$100
VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE	\$0.476510 per \$100

The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2021 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for City of Katy from the same properties in both the 2020 tax year and the 2021 tax year.

The voter-approval rate is the highest tax rate that City of Katy may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate.

The proposed tax rate is not greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that City of Katy is not proposing to increase property taxes for the 2021 tax year.

A PUBLIC MEETING TO VOTE ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE WILL BE HELD ON September 27, 2021 AT 6:30 PM AT Katy City Hall 901 Avenue C, Katy, TX 77493.

The proposed tax rate is also not greater than the voter-approval tax rate. As a result, City of Katy is not required to hold an election at which voters may accept or reject the proposed tax rate. However, you may express your support for or opposition to the proposed tax rate by contacting the members of the of City of Katy at their offices or by attending the public meeting mentioned above.

YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE TAX RATES MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

$$\text{property tax amount} = (\text{tax rate}) \times (\text{taxable value of your property}) / 100$$

FOR the proposal:	William M. “Bill” Hastings, Mayor Chris Harris, Mayor Pro Tem/Councilmember At-Large Janet Corte, Councilmember Ward A Gina Hicks, Councilmember Ward B Rory A. Robertson, Councilmember Ward B Dan Smith, Councilmember Ward B
AGAINST the proposal:	None
PRESENT and not voting:	None
ABSENT:	None

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by City of Katy last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead by City of Katy this year.

	2020	2021	Change
Total Tax Rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.447168	\$0.447168	increase of \$0.000000, or 0.00%
Average homestead taxable value	\$344,953	\$353,627	increase of \$8,674, or 2.51%
Tax on average homestead	\$1,542.52	\$1,581.31	increase of \$38.79, or 2.51%
Total tax levy on all properties	\$15,856,450	\$16,208,554	increase of \$352,104, or 2.22%

For assistance with tax calculations, please contact the tax assessor for City of Katy at 281-341-3710 or , or visit www.fortbendcountytexas.gov for more information.

Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Willow Fork Drainage will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2021 on September 9, 2021 at 11:30 AM at 1904 West Grand Parkway North, Suite 100 Katy, Texas 77449 and via Telephone Number (1-877-336-1831), Access Code: (1721562). Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

FOR the proposal:	Wendy Duncan John Savage Joe Robinson	Dan Smith Gregg Nady
AGAINST the proposal:	None	
PRESENT and not voting:	None	
ABSENT:	None	

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year Adopted	This Year Proposed
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.185000/\$100	\$0.185000/\$100
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		\$0.000000
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		0.00%
Average residence homestead appraised value	\$331,655	\$340,529
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person’s exemptions)	\$0	\$0
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$331,655	\$340,529
Tax on average residence homestead	\$613.56	\$629.98
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)		\$16.42 2.68%

If the proposed combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate requires or authorizes an election to approve or reduce the tax rate the governing body of Willow Fork Drainage proposes to use the tax increase for the purpose of .

NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 3.5 percent, an election must be held to determine whether to approve the operation and maintenance tax rate under Section 49.23602, Water Code.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.



Tompkins defense steps up in opening win

PHOTO COURTESY RAY BORCHERT | RAYBORCHERTPHOTOGRAPHY@GMAIL.COM

Tompkins defensive players swarm Travis quarterback Anthony Njoku during the Falcons' 42-10 Class 6A Division I bi-district playoff win over Fort Bend Travis last season at Legacy Stadium.



BY TYLER TYRE
TIMES SPORTS EDITOR

Bryce Shaink is used to making big plays, and he produced another one on Saturday night. Tompkins had controlled the first two and a half quarters of its season opener against Magnolia, but that changed. Magnolia looked set to take the lead, driving all the way down to the Tompkins 1-yard line, but Shaink intercepted a pass off a bootleg shifting the momentum back the way of the Falcons. "Their quarterback scrambled out and Sean DuBose was able to get good pressure on him," Shaink said. "It was a key moment and I knew that I had

to do my job and get that ball. That's what happened and I took it as far as I could. I'm just glad we got that stop." The Falcons held on to that momentum and came out on top 18-6 in an eventful season opener at Legacy Stadium. It was a night where the Tompkins defense stepped up led the way to the win, as the unit forced Magnolia into three interceptions in what was a defensive battle from two teams that both won their respective districts last season. It took until the second quarter for the first score of the game as Collin Marshall, a senior, ran in his first varsity touchdown

See **TOMPKINS**, page B3

WEEK ONE
SCORES & SCHEDULES

FOOTBALL

Friday, Aug. 28

- Katy 40, Clear Springs 7
- Seven Lakes 12, Houston Memorial 10
- Conroe 34, Mayde Creek 7
- Cinco Ranch 35, College Park 14
- Paetow 41, Barbers Hill 20
- Waco LaVega 51, Jordan 21
- Royal 61, Hempstead 6

Saturday, Aug. 29

- Tompkins 18, Magnolia 6
- Morton Ranch 48, Cy-Lakes 6
- Taylor 33, Cy-Springs 29

Thursday, Sept. 2

- Mayde Creek at Cy-Lakes, 6:30 p.m., Cy-Fair FCU Stadium
- Seven Lakes at Klein, 7 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 3

- Paetow vs. Morton Ranch, 6 p.m., Legacy Stadium
- Jordan vs. Danbury, 7 p.m., Rhodes Stadium
- Tompkins at Clear Springs, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 4

- Cinco Ranch vs. Aldine Davis, 6 p.m., Legacy Stadium
- Katy vs. Cy-Woods, 7 p.m., Rhodes Stadium
- Taylor at George Ranch, 6 p.m.
- Royal vs. Waskom, at Diboll, 6 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL

Friday Sept. 3

- Cinco Ranch at Ridge Point, 6 p.m.
- Jordan at Rudder, 6 p.m.
- Katy at Memorial, 5:30 p.m.
- Mayde Creek vs. North Short, 5:30 p.m.
- Morton Ranch vs. Pasadena, 5:30 p.m.
- Seven Lakes at the Woodlands, 5:30 p.m.
- Taylor vs. Langham Creek, 5:30 a.m.
- Royal at Somerville, 5:30 p.m.



COLE MCNANNA | FILE PHOTO

Katy running back Seth Davis runs for one of his two touchdowns during Katy's 6A D2 area playoff win over Lamar at Rhodes Stadium last season.

FIRST STEP

TIGERS DOMINATE CLEAR SPRINGS TO START STATE TITLE DEFENSE

BY TYLER TYRE
TIMES SPORTS EDITOR

Last year as a sophomore Caleb Koger helped lead Katy High to a Class 6A, Div. II state title. But this year, with a full offseason under his belt as the starter, Koger is even more confident. "It's everything, I'm just feeling so much better after one season of starting," Koger said. "Everything is easier and that's thanks to my line and everyone on the offense. They all are doing their jobs and it's making mine really easy." That comfort has carried over to Koger's teammates, including with senior receiver Ronnie Schneider. "I'm just way more comfortable with everything,"

See **TIGERS**, page B2

Mavericks top Royal, continue strong start to season

BY TYLER TYRE
TIMES SPORTS EDITOR

Morton Ranch is striving for bigger goals this year. The Mavericks have been rolling out of the gates this season, and it has a lot to do with striving for the same things. Before the season, head coach Gabriela Toussant talked with the team about what they wanted to accomplish and how they would need to work to get there. "The key thing was ensuring we

were on the same page and had the same goals," Toussant said. "We discussed what needed to be done as a precursor to district and how we can get there." The Mavericks (12-7) bring back experience this season with a number of varsity returners and it's allowed Toussant to coach more advanced things since the start of the season, and the team has a chemistry that goes beyond the court. "They love each other, these girls do everything together from eating lunch to walking to class

and they talk nonstop to each other," Toussant said. "It's a very unique group of kids and it's great to have them. Since they've had that varsity experience I have been able to work on the technical stuff and really help them." Morton Ranch took on Royal (0-17) on Tuesday and that hot start kept going, as the Mavericks swept the Falcons in three sets: 25-10, 25-6, 25-8. The match allowed the Mavericks to work on things they've been struggling with and to help the

team improve going forward. "We really were working on our communication and our covering, said junior outside hitter Neveah Donahoe. "Sometimes we have trouble getting off the net, but we were able to really work on that a lot this game and it looked good today." It didn't take long for Morton Ranch to impose its will as they jumped out to an early lead and didn't let up. The Mavericks led for all of the first two sets and only briefly trailed in the third set before getting back on track and

completing the sweep. The Mavericks goal is to compete for a playoff spot this season, and with the experience and chemistry they have, the team believes they are on the right track to do it. "This is the most positive team I've ever been around, we are so hyped and happy," said senior outside hitter Mallory Lampport. "We are all each other's biggest cheerleaders, there's no envying

See **VOLLEYBALL**, page B1

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Local owners
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The University of Houston will play Texas Tech in both teams season opener on Saturday.
COURTESY UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON ATHLETICS

THINGS TO LOOK FOR IN HOUSTON’S SEASON OPENER AGAINST TEXAS TECH

BY TYLER TYRE
KATY TIMES SPORTS EDITOR

Houston will open the season on Saturday against Texas Tech and it seems like this might be the year that Dana Holgerson can field a strong team, but there are still question marks. Here are five things to look for during the game.

1. Can Clayton Tune protect the football?

Clayton Tune has shown the ability to make big plays and lead this Cougars team, but he has also proven to be turnover prone throughout his tenure at quarterback. In his 20 games he has played in for Houston, Tune has passed for 34 touchdowns, but has also thrown 21 interceptions, an area that must improve if the Cougars want to take a step up this year. Texas Tech is not the strongest defensively, but did force teams into ten turnovers last season, and it will be a good opening test to see where Tune stands in his development with ball protection.

2. Who can offense count on outside of Dell and Car?

The Houston offense knows it has true No. 1 options on offense in sixth-year senior running back Mulbah Car and wide receiver Nathaniel Dell but the options behind them are unproven. Coincidentally enough, two players the Cougars are counting on most to provide depth at those positions are transfers from Texas Tech. Ta’Zawn Henry is electric in the backfield and could be a nice change of pace back for the team and at receiver KeSean Carter had a strong spring and looks to be a good choice to start alongside Dell and Bryson Smith. Tight end Christian Trahan will also provide an option in the passing game.

3. Is depth on offensive line real?

Holgerson has spent a lot of time talking about needing to bolster the offensive line since he became head coach and he thinks this group has finally fulfilled that wish. There is only one returning starter among the linemen, in center Jack Freeman, but Louisiana Tech transfer Kody Russey should help make the starting unit a solid point of strength. Holgerson also feels like he can count on the backups among the lineman if an injury happens this year.

4. Is defensive line elite?

Logan Hall is back to lead the Cougars defense and will be a key piece on the defensive line. The defensive line group may be the biggest strength of the team this year as Hall will be joined by Latrell Bankston, an Iowa State transfer, and an experienced group that should feast on an inconsistent Texas Tech offensive line.

5. Can Houston defensive backs handle Texas Tech receivers?

Texas Tech has one of the strongest receiving cores in the state of Texas with Erik Ezukanma, McLane Mannix, Trey Cleveland and Myles Price among others and it will put the Cougars secondary to the test. Marcus Jones and Damarion Williams are experienced at cornerback and Hassan Hypolite is a solid safety, but it’s an unknown if the team will be able to handle the talent of Texas Tech’s receivers and quarterback Tyler Shough.

TIGERS

from page B1

Schneider said. “I’m more comfortable with the plays, with the scheme, everything. The repetition we’ve had and with SAT (strength and conditioning) camp, it’s just helped a lot.”

Katy’s comfort level was on full display Friday at Legacy Stadium as the Tigers rolled to a 40-7 win over Clear Springs in both team’s season opener.

“Our run game was what got us started,” Koger said. “The line was blocking really well and it opened up a lot of good holes for us. We we’re able to take advantage. Seth (Davis) was awesome, Chase (Johnsey) was awesome, my receivers were consistent and we all just came together and played well.”

It didn’t take long for The Tigers to get on the board. A botched kickoff return put Clear Springs on its own 4-yard line to start the game and a Chargers delay of game pushed them back to the 2-yard line, Katy came up with a safety on a tackle in the endzone by Cayde Robertson and Chisholm Hill just ten seconds into the game.

It took nine minutes for the offense to get a score, but the Tigers finally did when Koger found Schneider with a 42-yard pass on a bootleg play.

Katy added another touchdown midway through the second quarter on a 13-yard run from Isaiah

Smith and Axel Robertson kicked a 33-yard field goal as time expired in the first half as the Tigers went into the locker room with a 19-0 lead.

“My receivers are just the best I could ask for,” Koger said. “They make my job easier in all aspects. If I mess up on a ball I know they can make a play on it. They’re super talented and well coached.”

Davis added his first touchdown of the season three minutes into the third quarter on a five-yard run.

The Katy starters took a seat at that point and were well on the way to a victory.

“Right now, it’s extremely big to get those second stringers into games. Those second stringers are the guys who create depth, we’ve never won any type of championship with 22 kids,” said Katy head coach Gary Joseph. “There’s always injuries, we had injuries last year heading towards the state championship game, we had COVID problems last year heading towards state. We’re going to have to develop that depth and so getting those kids reps in these games is important.”

Clear Springs finally got on the board midway through the fourth quarter before Nathan Wilson capped things off with a 17-yard run with two minutes left in the game.

Koger finished the game with 163 yards passing, completing

12-16 pass attempts. Seth Davis rushed for 149 yards, while Chase Johnsey had a nice game, rushing for 97 yards on 13 carries.

“I understand Seth, and where he’s at, but Seth can’t be as fresh in week 16 and week 17 if we give him all the carries now, we’ve got to have someone to compliment him” Joseph said. “Last year it was his brother, but we have to have someone who can do that this year. It was great to see Chase Johnsey finally start running the football like he’s capable of doing. You could see some thins when he was running where you can see he’s capable of being a good back and being a 1B. He’s going to grow into a role.”

Nic Anderson played sparingly as he continues to work his way back from an injury, but the backups stepped up in his absence as Schneider had 3 catches for 66 yards and JR Ceyanes had four catches.

“I think the receivers are going to be better than last year, I know they’re going to be better,” Joseph said. “They were pretty consistent tonight, there were some times when Ronnie had the ball on the tips of his fingers tonight and he’s going to catch some of those too. He’s pretty dynamic and a good returner too. I’m very proud of where he’s come from and how far he’s come.”

Schneider also thinks this group of receivers can be special, and said they are working every day to make that happen.

“it’s great, we are the ‘rec squad’ and we take pride in it in both blocking and receiving,” Schneider said. “The running backs feed off us, we feed off them. It’s just a great balance.”

Katy 40, Clear Springs 7

Clear Springs	0	0	0	7	--	7
Katy	9	10	14	7	--	40

First quarter
Katy: Safety, tackle made by Cayde Robertson and Chisholm Hill, 11:50
Katy: Caleb Koger 42 pass to Ronnie Schneider (Axel Robertson Kick), 3:03

Second quarter
Katy: Clay Isaiah Smith 13 run (Robertson Kick), 6:25
Katy: Robertson 33-yard-field goal, 3:18

Third quarter
Katy: Seth Davis 5 run (Robertson kick), 9:14
Katy: Elijah Bowman 14 pass to Antonio Silva (Robertson kick), 5:51

Fourth quarter
Clear Springs: Cody Kuhlmann 6 pass to Ashton Schumann (Xander Fraga kick), 5:06

Katy: Nathan Wilson 17 run, (Robertson kick) 1:59

Team stats		
	C. Springs	Katy
First downs	11	23
Yards rushing	34-141	40-339
Yards passing	69	189
Passes	8-20-1-0	14-20-2-0
Punts	5-35.6	2-40
Fumbles-lost	0-0	3-2
Penalty-yards	5-42	10-70

Individual Statistics

Rushing -- Katy: Seth Davis, 14-149-1; Chase Johnsey, 13-97; Nathan Wilson, 5-37-1; Connor Copeland, 1-15; Isaiah Smith, 2-20-1; Dominic Reisner, 2-8; Clear Springs: Xai-Shaun Edwards, 24-129-1; Ky Woods, 6-11; Ashton Schumann, 1-4; Joshua Bivens 1-(-1); Rickey Sistrunk, 2-(-2)

Passing -- Katy: Caleb Koger, 12-16-163-1-0; Elijah Bowman, 1-3-14-1-0; Connor Copeland, 1-1-12-0-0; Clear Springs: Cody Kuhlmann, 8-20-69-1-0;

Receiving -- Katy: Ronnie Schneider, 3-66-1; JR Ceyanes, 4-29; Nic Anderson, 2-33; Antonio Silva 2-21-1; Luke Carter, 1-18; Isaiah Smith, 1-10; Adam Jackson, 1-12; Clear Springs: Ky Woods, 5-48; Elias DeJesus, 1-9; Liam Foster, 1-6; Ashton Schumann, 1-6.

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KATY ISD WEEK 2 PREVIEWS

BY TYLER TYRE
TIMES SPORTS EDITOR

Thursday

NON-DISTRICT

Mayde Creek (0-1) at Cy-Lakes (0-1), 6:30 p.m., Cy-Fair FCU Stadium

• Mayde Creek will look to bounce back against Cy-Lakes after an opening week loss to Conroe. Mayde Creek's run game was held in check in the game as they generated 27 yards on 14 carries, but Mayde Creek was able to find some positives through the air as Jayden Bragg and Cardell Beard combined for 132 yards and Jordan Kelly came away with a touchdown catch. The Rams were winners over Cy-Lakes last year and will look to make it two wins in two years as they try to get back on track. The matchup will be a good test for the quarterback competition between Bragg and Beard.

Seven Lakes (1-0) at Klein (1-0), 7 p.m.

• Seven Lakes was in a thriller last week that saw the Spartans triumph on a field goal as time expired in the game against Memorial and will be up against another stiff test in week two against Klein. It was a defensive battle in week one for Seven Lakes as they held Memorial to under 200 yards of total offense and held Carson Zahn to under 100 yards rushing, and the run defense will have to be stout against Klein as well.

Quentin Curtis rushed for 128 yards and two scores while Myles Arterberry ran the ball for 128 yards and a touchdown in Klein's win. Seven Lakes will have to slow those two down while it will also look for continued growth from Grayson Medford at the quarterback position. Medford passed for 110 yards and ran for 53 in the Spartans win but only completed five of 14 passes.

Friday

NON-DISTRICT

Paetow (1-0) vs. Morton Ranch (1-0), 6 p.m. Legacy Stadium

• Paetow and Morton Ranch both come off big victories heading into their week two matchup against each other and it should be a very good game. Paetow took down Barbers Hill in week 1 41-20 behind strong performances from both the offense and the defense. CJ Dumas passed for 195 yards and 5 two touchdowns, Damyrion Phillips rushed for 135 yards and a score and Jacob Brown



COLE MCNANNA | FILE PHOTO
Seven Lakes won its week 1 game on a last second field goal.

added 84 touchdowns and two scores for the offense. Jason Blue and Kole Wilson both had over 50 yards receiving. Defensively, Alexander Kilgore had nine tackles and two sacks while Kentrell Webb came away with an interception which he returned for a touchdown.

Morton Ranch came out winners over Cy-Lakes 48-6, leaning on a strong defense and running game. The Mavericks had five different rushers score touchdowns while Santana Scott and Karsten Christopher Jr. both went for over 100 yards on the ground. Quarterback Joshua Johnson passed for 58 yards while rushing for 73.

Friday's game will be a good test to see how Morton Ranch will handle a very strong, balanced offense, while Paetow's stout defense will be tested by the Mavericks running game.

Jordan (0-1) vs. Danbury (1-0), 7 p.m., Rhodes Stadium

• Jordan will play its first varsity home game when it takes on Danbury on Friday at Rhodes Stadium. The Warriors come off a 51-21 defeat to Waco La Vega in their first ever varsity game, but are encouraged by the performances from their young players throughout. Danbury won its first game 28-7 over Louise and will look to make it two in a row over when they face the Warriors, but Mike Rabe and his team will be amped up and ready as they are in search of the school's first varsity win.

Tompkins (1-0) at Clear Springs (0-1), 7 p.m.

• Tompkins will look to keep things rolling when they travel to face Clear Springs on Friday. The Falcons defense was stout in a week 1 victory over Magnolia and the team

will look for the same type of performance against the Chargers. Clear Springs struggled against Katy in a loss, but did manage to look good in the run game behind 129 yards from Xai-Shaun Edwards. Tompkins will look to get its passing game going in week 2 as it was strong in the first half against Magnolia, but was not as strong in the second half.

Saturday

NON-DISTRICT

Cinco Ranch (1-0) vs. Aldine Davis (0-1) 6 p.m. Legacy Stadium

• Cinco Ranch is starting to have some success and will look to win two straight games for the first time in over two seasons when they face Aldine Davis on Saturday. Cinco Ranch put up 35 points as their passing game came alive behind Gavin Rutherford and Noah Abboud. Aldine Davis was shut out against Alief Taylor and Cinco Ranch will see if they can put in a second straight good defensive performance.

Katy (1-0) vs. Cy-Woods (1-0), 7 p.m., Rhodes Stadium

• Katy started the defense of its state title strong and will face Cy-Woods this Saturday in its second game of the season. Katy's pass defense and all around

offense was good against Clear Springs but they did surrender some yards on the ground and that's where the Tigers will have to be strong this week. Cy-Woods rushed for 273 yards in its season opening victory over Kingwood last week, led by Fielding Craft, who rushed for 105 yards and a score on 15 carries. Katy will also need to be strong on the offensive line as Cy-Woods had four sacks last week. Katy will be able to take advantage of the Wildcats' pass game as they threw two interceptions last week.

Taylor (1-0) at George Ranch (1-0), 6 p.m.

• Taylor won in a come from behind effort last week and will be up against a real test in George Ranch this Saturday. The Mustangs won 22-29 over Cy-Springs, as Joe Jefferson passed for 192 yards and two scores while Michael Whitaker and Tyler Irving both rushed for over 50 yards. Taylor's defense came alive in the second half as they didn't allow a point after a 29 point second quarter from Cy-Springs. But Taylor will need to be on its A-game from the first snap this week as they go up against a high powered George Ranch offense. Cole Murphy passed for 343 yards and four scores last week, while Kyle Kiser had 129 yards receiving and two scores. The matchup will be a big test for a strong Katy secondary.

Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The BROOKSHIRE-KATY DRAINAGE DISTRICT will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the year 2021-2022 on **SEPTEMBER 13, 2021 AT 6:30 PM CST** at BROOKSHIRE-KATY DRAINAGE DISTRICT – 1111 KENNEY ST. BROOKSHIRE, TX 77423. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

Visit [Texas.gov/Property Taxes](https://www.texas.gov/Property-Taxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

FOR the proposal:	DAVID HUNSUCKER, PAT KEELING, ARNOLD ENGLAND, DAVID WELCH
AGAINST the proposal:	NONE
PRESENT and not voting:	N/A
ABSENT:	RUTH ELLIS

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	<u>0.073200</u> /\$100 Adopted	<u>0.074165</u> /\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		\$ <u>0.0010</u> /\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates(+/-)		<u>1.32</u> %
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$ <u>300,590</u>	\$ <u>320,314</u>
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$ <u>300,590</u>	\$ <u>320,314</u>
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ <u>220.03</u>	\$ <u>237.56</u>
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted and percentage of decrease	\$ <u>17.53</u> <u>7.97</u> %	

If the proposed combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate requires or Authorizes an election to approve or reduce the tax rate the BROOKSHIRE-KATY DRAINAGE DISTRICT proposes to use the tax increase for the purpose of OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE.

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the voter-approval tax rate under Section 49.23603, Water Code.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

TOMPKINS

from page B1

and first of two touchdowns on the night from 4-yards out.

"The offensive line was blocking everyone up, I had clear reads," Marshall said. "The receivers really honed in on being blocking receivers and I think that's what we did really well tonight to move the ball efficiently."

The Falcons built onto the lead as senior quarterback produced his first varsity touchdown pass on a 31-yard fade to Joshua McMillan with 17 seconds left in the half.

Tompkins allowed just 58 total yards from the Bulldogs in the first half.

"Those guys did an outstanding job of playing the ball and doing something with it," said Tompkins head coach Todd McVey. "Both the offense and defense were in some tough situations but they both responded and that was really good to see."

Deonald Butler got Magnolia on the board in the third quarter with an 8-yard run, and got back to the one yard line before in the fourth quarter after a 48-yard pass from Ross Choate to Dustin Lindvall, but Shaink came up with the interception to end the scoring threat.

After that, it was the secondary's time to step up, as Malik Edwards came up with interceptions on each of the next two drives.

The first, Edwards returned to the four-yard line, setting up Marshall's second score and the second he picked off in the endzone to seal the win after Magnolia had driven into threatening territory once again.

"I know that my teammates are going to get in the way up front and force the quarterback to make bad throws," Edwards said. "I just capitalized off that and the quarterback's mistakes. I saw the coming out of his hands on both of them and I caught it."

Francis had an efficient night, going 13-21 for 173 yards, but struggled at times and had a couple of passes fall off the hands of defenders. McMillan picked up where he left off last season, catching nine passes for 135 yards and his score.

Marshall ended the night with 83 yards on 29 carries with his two touchdowns.

"Collin's a senior who has waited his time, he's been behind some really good guys and he's learning a lot of valuable lessons and learned some of those tonight," McVey said. "I told him that as a

senior, everything is about a lesson, but I never have to worry about his effort and I'm real proud of his efforts tonight, the o-line blocked well for him and he's going to give everything he's got and give every ounce of that smaller body."

Tompkins will be up against Clear Springs next Friday as the team looks for its second win, but for now they are enjoying the victory.

"It was a wild season opener but it made us tougher," Shaink said. "We needed that, a wake up call never hurts and I think this is one of them. It's going to make us better in the end. In the long run we are going to look back at this game and say we needed it."

Tompkins 16, Magnolia 6

Magnolia	0	0	6	0	--	7
Tompkins	0	12	0	6	--	40

Second quarter

Tompkins: Collin Marshall 4 run, 8:25
Tompkins: Cole Francis 31 pass to Josh McMillan, :17

Third quarter

Magnolia: Deonald Butler 8 run, 3:47

Fourth quarter

Tompkins: Collin Marshall 1 run, 4:36

Team stats

	Magnolia	Tompkins
First downs	15	13
Yards rushing	28-103	38-100
Yards passing	212	173
Passes	16-33-0-3	13-21-1-0
Punts	7-34	5-36
Fumbles-lost	0-0	3-2
Penalty-yards	5-50	3-15

Individual Statistics

Rushing — Tompkins: Collin Marshall, 29-83-1; Cole Francis, 9-17; Magnolia: Deonald Butler, 10-33-1; Ross Choate, 9-48; Michael Carter, 9-22;

Passing — Tompkins: Cole Francis, 13-21-173-1-0; Magnolia: Ross Choate, 16-33-212-0-3;

Receiving — Tompkins: Josh McMillan, 9-135-1; Lebechi Chidubem, 1-18; Harrison Doyle, 1-9; Wyatt Young, 1-7; Collin Marshall, 1-4; Magnolia: Tyler Leleux, 7-55; Mac Postel, 2-35; Ethan King, 4-25; Dustin Lindvall, 1-48; Deonald Butler, 1-28; Marcus Childs, 2-20; Michael Carter, 1-1;

Rangers prospect Jung focuses on mental game



PHOTOS BY ZACH SMITH

In his first three games with the Express, Josh Jung has three hits and two runs scored with one RBI, a solo home run in Monday's 9-6 loss to the El Paso Chihuahuas.

BY ZACH SMITH
SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

Josh Jung did a lot of thinking and cooking during his time away from the game.

The No. 8 overall pick in 2019 and the Rangers' No. 2 prospect missed the start of the 2021 minor-league season with a fractured foot, so while he was sidelined, he taught himself how to cook.

"I fell in love with these elk medallions," he said. "Every night it was something different. I wanted to come back fitter and lighter."

Jung had surgery on his foot in March to repair the stress fracture in his left foot. He also got deep in his own head, which in this case, is a good thing.

Jung said he's big into the mental side of the game. When he first got injured, he was just feeling sorry for himself, but he quickly tried to reverse those thoughts so when his foot healed he could jump right back in.

Mental coach Brian Crain taught Jung to "Surrender the result" when he was an even younger player, he recommitted to

the convicted self-talk earlier this year.

"Every moment is independent of the next moment, so why do you get so wrapped up on it?" Jung said. "There are some times I can get lost in the little scouting report we have, and I start to overthink what they're going to do to me. So I want to stick to my approach."

Success (or no success) is the biggest hurdle. Jung said he did a ton of vision training while he was injured, but had to wait to apply the mental side until he came back. And when he did, it wasn't always successful at first.

"Baseball sucks," he said. "You can go up there and strike out four times and it's the same as hitting four shots. It's just about figuring it out. It's a constant battle — how can I get up today and still be committed and convicted to my approach."

When he returned to action for the Double-A Frisco RoughRiders in June, he singled in his first at-bat, homered in his second, and never looked back.

He hit .308 (52-169) with eight doubles, 10 home runs, 40 RBIs and an OPS

of .910 in 43 games, and had base hits in 18 of 23 games, including nine multi-hit games, before joining the Express on Friday.

"I love the energy (in Round Rock), Jung said. "My entire life has been baseball in Texas. It's been nice because family and people I know can come to the game and it feels like a home game wherever I go."

Jung was the 2019 co-Big 12 Player of the Year at Texas Tech in 2019, hitting .332 with 11 homers and 53 RBIs. He spent 2020 at the Rangers' Alternate Training Site in Arlington and the Fall Developmental League in Arizona.

In his first three games with the Express, Jung has three hits and two runs scored with one RBI, a solo home run in Monday's 9-6 loss to the El Paso Chihuahuas.

The slugger watched a few documentaries while he was recovering, including the 'Tom vs. Time' docuseries about Tom Brady, and a program called 'Be Water' about martial arts legend Bruce Lee.

"When things happen, just flow with it and let it ride," he said.

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**NOTICE TO BIDDERS
GASOLINE & DIESEL FUEL**

THE CITY OF KATY, TEXAS, IS ACCEPTING BIDS FOR CONTRACT DELIVERY OF UNLEADED GASOLINE AND DIESEL FUEL STARTING OCTOBER 1, 2021 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2023. CLEARLY-MARKED, SEALED PROPOSALS WILL BE RECEIVED AT THE OFFICE OF THE CITY SECRETARY, KATY CITY HALL, 901 AVENUE C, KATY, TEXAS 77493 UNTIL **2:00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2021**, AT WHICH TIME BIDS WILL BE PUBLICLY OPENED AND READ. SPECIFICATIONS AND THE BID PROPOSAL FORM MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE CITY SECRETARY AT ABOVE ADDRESS OR EMAIL REQUEST AT BIDS@CITYOFKATY.COM.


THE CITY OF KATY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, TO WAIVE ANY AND ALL TECHNICALITIES, AND TO ACCEPT BIDS THAT IT DEEMS MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO IT.

Becky L. McGrew
City Secretary
City of Katy, Texas

NOTICE

The City Council Of The City Of Katy, Texas, Will Conduct A Public Hearing On The Proposed 2021-2022 Budget At The Regular City Council Meeting, Monday, September 27, 2021, 6:30 P.M., Katy City Hall, 901 Avenue C, Katy, Texas. This Budget Will Raise More Total Property Taxes Than Last Year's Budget By \$1,717,660 Or 13%, And Of That Amount \$940,633 Is Tax Revenue To Be Raised From New Property Added To The Tax Roll This Year. The Proposed Budget Is On File With The City Secretary For Public Inspection.

City of Katy, Texas
901 Avenue C
Katy, Texas 77493


Notice of Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that the City of Pattison will hold a Public Hearing on the proposed FY 21-22 Budget. The Public Hearing will be held Thursday, September 16, 2021, at 7:00 P.M.

Meeting will be held in the Royal ISD Administration Building, located at 3714 FM 359, Pattison, Texas 77466.

The proposed budget is posted on the website: <https://pattison.texas.gov/financial-transparency/>. Contact the City Secretary at 281-934-3715 or via email at CitySecretary@pattison.texas.gov with any questions.

**NOTICE OF CHANGE OF
AN OFFICIAL DESIGNATED
DISTRICT OFFICE AND
MEETING PLACE**

TO THE RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS OF FORT BEND COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 37 AND TO ALL OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Directors ("Board") of Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 37 (hereinafter called "District"), at a meeting of said Board held on August 18, 2021, adopted a *Resolution Amending The District's Meeting Places Outside and Inside the Boundaries of the District and Reaffirming the Offices and Additional Meeting Places of the District* (the "Resolution"). The District established two (2) additional meeting places outside its boundaries 1) at the offices of the District engineer, JNS Engineers LLC, 722 Pin Oak Road, Suite 202A, Katy, Texas 77494; and 2) at the offices of Water Engineers, Inc., 17230 Huffmeister Road, Suite A, Cypress, Texas 77429. The offices and other meeting places of the District previously approved remain the same.


A copy of the Resolution is on file at the office of the District, 2929 Allen Parkway, Suite 3150, Houston, Texas 77019.

NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN **ORDINANCE NO. 2998** BEARING THE FOLLOWING CAPTION WAS ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KATY, TEXAS, ON AUGUST 23, 2021:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KATY, TEXAS, AMENDING SECTION 12.03.003 "SPECIAL HAZARD INTERSECTIONS CONTROLLED BY STOP SIGNS" OF THE KATY CODE OF ORDINANCES; ADDING STOP SIGNS AT THE INTERSECTIONS OF LAKEVIEW WAY AND KINGSLAND BOULEVARD AND LAKEVIEW WAY AND BOARDWALK DRIVE; PRAIRIE PARKWAY AND KINGSLAND BOULEVARD AND PRAIRIE PARKWAY AND BOARDWALK DRIVE; BOARDWALK DRIVE AND PRAIRIE PARKWAY; AND BOARDWALK DRIVE AND LAKEVIEW WAY; PROVIDING A PENALTY FOR VIOLATION IN AN AMOUNT UP TO \$200.00; AUTHORIZING THE CITY SECRETARY TO PUBLISH ONLY THE CAPTION OF THIS ORDINANCE; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HERewith; AND PROVIDING SEVERABILITY.

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Public Notice

The City of Pattison, TX (the "City") is requesting Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) from qualified firms or teams of firms who can assist the City in transportation planning, transportation engineering, funding identification, funding pursuit, grant management, grant compliance, grant administration, and related design and implementation assistance. This SOQ is focused on transportation and mobility improvements that are within or geographically proximate to the City.

To be considered for this project, your firm or team must meet the qualifications and satisfy the requirements set forth in the RFQ. If you are interested in being considered, please submit your SOQ by 4 p.m. on September 17, 2021 via e-mail. Any information received after this date will not be addressed.

A Committee will rate the SOQs using the evaluation criteria developed for this RFQ. Said evaluation criteria are attached to this RFQ. The Committee may interview one or more firms to further evaluate qualifications. The Committee will present their recommendations to the City Council who will select the consultant for this project.

Any questions and correspondence should be directed to the contact and e-mail below:

Lorene Hartfiel
City Secretary
CitySecretary@pattison.texas.gov



SCOTT W. COLEMAN

Houston Cougars head coach Kelvin Sampson during an NCAA men's basketball game between the University of Houston and the University of Oregon on Saturday, Dec. 1, 2018 in Houston, TX. Houston won 65-61.

University of Houston unveils hoops schedule

BY TYLER TYRE

SPORTS EDITOR

Kelvin Sampson is returning to his roots in the University of Houston’s first game of the season. The Cougars will face off against Montana Tech, where Sampson began his head coaching career in 1981, in a Nov. 6 exhibition game at Fertitta Center to kick off the season. The Cougars will then open the regular season against Hofstra on Nov. 9. Houston will face Rice on Nov. 12 and Virginia on Nov. 16 before traveling to the Maui Jim Maui Invitational from Nov.22-24. The Cougars will close out their non-conference schedule against Texas State on Dec. 22. From there the team will compete in an 18-game league schedule in the American Athletic Conference. Houston returns two starters and seven total players from its AAC and Final Four team last season. The team had a perfect 15-0 record at home last season and has won their last 25 home games. The Cougars will face Cincinnati, Memphis, SMU, Temple, Tulane, UCF, USF and Wichita State in home and away series this season and will play East Carolina at home and Tulsa on the road.

KATY

tops Houston area preseason poll

BY TYLER TYRE

TIMES SPORTS EDITOR

The Houston Chronicle High School preseason Houston media poll was released Tuesday and Katy High was ranked No. 1 in Class 6A, taking home 7 of the 11 first place votes. The Tigers topped the poll, followed by North Shore and Atascocita, while Tompkins came in at No. 5 in Class 6A. Taylor received votes but was not in the top 20. In Class 5A, Paetow was ranked No. 3, behind Manvel and Fort Bend Marshall. El Campo was ranked No. 1 in the small school poll, taking home seven first place votes, while East Bernard and Huffman-Hargrove each had one first place vote. Second Baptist led the way in the private school poll. Below is the full poll.



Tompkins is ranked No. 5 in the Class 6A poll. FILE PHOTO | COLE MCNANNA

PRESEASON MEDIA POLL

CLASS 6A

- 1. Katy** (7 first-place votes)
Record: 0-0; Points: 216; Last Week: N/A.
- 2. North Shore** (4)
Record: 0-0; Points: 213; Last Week: N/A.
- 3. Atascocita**
Record: 0-0; Points: 186; Last Week: N/A.
- 4. Spring**
Record: 0-0; Points: 178; Last Week: N/A.
- 5. Tompkins**
Record: 0-0; Points: 173; Last Week: N/A.
- 6. Bridgeland**
Record: 0-0; Points: 162; Last Week: N/A.
- 7. Westfield**
Record: 0-0; Points: 155; Last Week: N/A.
- 8. Cy-Fair**
Record: 0-0; Points: 110; Last Week: N/A.
- 9. Shadow Creek**
Record: 0-0; Points: 108; Last Week: N/A.
- 10. Dickinson**
Record: 0-0; Points: 104; Last Week: N/A.
- 11. C.E. King**
Record: 0-0; Points: 92; Last Week: N/A.
- 12. Ridge Point**
Record: 0-0; Points: 89; Last Week: N/A.
- 13. Klein Cain**
Record: 0-0; Points: 86; Last Week: N/A.
- 14. Dawson**
Record: 0-0; Points: 73; Last Week: N/A.
- 15. Tomball Memorial**
Record: 0-0; Points: 68; Last Week: N/A.
- 16. The Woodlands**
Record: 0-0; Points: 65; Last Week: N/A.
- 17. Dobie**

- Record: 0-0; Points: 42; Last Week: N/A.
- 18. Cypress Park***
Record: 0-0; Points: 29; Last Week: N/A.
 - 19. College Park**
Record: 0-0; Points: 29; Last Week: N/A.
 - 20. Cypress Ranch**
Record: 0-0; Points: 26; Last Week: N/A.

Also receiving votes: Pearland 24, Clear Falls 20, Lamar 16, Clear Springs 14, Katy Taylor 11, Heights 4, Cypress Creek 3, Dekaney 3, George Ranch 1.
*—tiebreaker vs. College Park.

CLASS 5A

- 1. Manvel (6 first-place votes)**
Record: 0-0; Points: 105; Last Week: N/A.
- 2. Fort Bend Marshall (5)**
Record: 0-0; Points: 100; Last Week: N/A.
- 3. Paetow**
Record: 0-0; Points: 73; Last Week: N/A.
- 4. Crosby**
Record: 0-0; Points: 59; Last Week: N/A.
- 5. Huntsville**
Record: 0-0; Points: 55; Last Week: N/A.
- 6. Foster***
Record: 0-0; Points: 51; Last Week: N/A.
- 7. Magnolia**
Record: 0-0; Points: 51; Last Week: N/A.
- 8. Hightower**
Record: 0-0; Points: 46; Last Week: N/A.
- 9. Barbers Hill**
Record: 0-0; Points: 23; Last Week: N/A.
- 10. Montgomery**

- Record: 0-0; Points: 18; Last Week: N/A.
- Also receiving votes: Angleton 5, Magnolia West 5, New Caney 5, Friendswood 4, Galena Park 3, Terry 2.*
*—tiebreaker vs. Magnolia

CLASS 4A/SMALL SCHOOLS

- 1. El Campo** (7 first-place votes)
Record: 0-0; Points: 40; Last Week: N/A.
- 2. East Bernard** (1)
Record: 0-0; Points: 27; Last Week: N/A.
- 3. Huffman-Hargrave** (1)
Record: 0-0; Points: 25; Last Week: N/A.
- 4. Bellville**
Record: 0-0; Points: 19; Last Week: N/A.
- 5. Sealy**
Record: 0-0; Points: 16; Last Week: N/A.

Also receiving votes: Wheatley 7, Stafford 1.

PRIVATE SCHOOLS

- 1. Second Baptist** (5 first-place votes)
Record: 0-0; Points: 32; Last Week: N/A.
- 2. Kinkaid** (2)
Record: 0-0; Points: 26; Last Week: N/A.
- 3. Cypress Christian**
Record: 0-0; Points: 18; Last Week: N/A.
- 4. Episcopal**
Record: 0-0; Points: 14; Last Week: N/A.
- 5. St. Thomas**
Record: 0-0; Points: 9; Last Week: N/A.

Also receiving votes: Fort Bend Christian 4, John Cooper 2.

Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 130 for Defined Area No. 1, will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2021 on Thursday, September 16, 2021 at 12:00 p.m., at Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP, 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2400, Houston, TX 77027. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

FOR the proposal:	P. Gray, R. Graham, & L. Hitchcock
AGAINST the proposal:	(none)
PRESENT and not voting:	(none)
ABSENT:	D. Smith & M. Rusk

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$ <u>0.870</u> /\$100 Adopted	\$ <u>0.870</u> /\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	<u>\$0.870</u> /\$100	
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)	<u>0.0000%</u>	
Average appraised residence homestead value	<u>\$502,040</u>	<u>\$489,954</u>
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average residence homestead taxable value	<u>\$502,040</u>	<u>\$489,954</u>
Tax on average residence homestead	<u>\$4,367.75</u>	<u>\$4,262.60</u>
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)	<u>-\$105.15</u> <u>-2.4074%</u>	

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the voter-approval tax rate under Section 49.23603, Water Code.

Property that is located inside Defined Area No. 1 of Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 130 is also subject to the tax rate levied on all property within the district. A separate Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate is being published for such tax rate in the amount of \$.52 per \$100 of taxable value, resulting in a total tax rate of \$1.39 per \$100 of taxable value on property located inside Defined Area No. 1..

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Questions regarding this notice can be directed to the tax office at (281) 499-1223.

Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 130, will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2021 on Thursday, September 16, 2021, at 12:00 noon, at Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP, 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2400, Houston, TX 77027. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

FOR the proposal:	P. Gray, R. Graham & L. Hitchcock
AGAINST the proposal:	None
PRESENT and not voting:	None
ABSENT:	D. Smith & M. Rusk

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$ <u>0.530</u> /\$100 Adopted	\$ <u>0.520</u> /\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	<u>-\$0.010</u> /\$100	
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)	<u>-1.8868%</u>	
Average appraised residence homestead value	<u>\$411,427</u>	<u>\$430,117</u>
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average residence homestead taxable value	<u>\$411,427</u>	<u>\$430,117</u>
Tax on average residence homestead	<u>\$ 2,180.56</u>	<u>\$2,236.61</u>
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)	<u>\$56.05</u> <u>2.5704%</u>	

NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 3.5 percent, an election must be held to determine whether to approve the operation and maintenance tax rate under Section 49.23602, Water Code.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Questions regarding this notice can be directed to the tax office at (281) 499-1223.



TIGERS ON HAND FOR NFL COIN TOSS



The coaches and captains of the 2021 Katy Tigers football team were the honorary coin toss captains for the NFL preseason game between the Houston Texans and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers on August 28, 2021 in Houston, Texas. The captains are Hamilton, Ty Kana, Nic Anderson and Carson Marshall.

WATER DISTRICT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX RATE

The MAYDE CREEK M.U.D. will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2021 on September 27, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. at Mayde Creek Event Center, 19600 Misty Cove, Katy, TX 77449. * Members of the public may attend the hearing in person. Due to the COVID-19 virus epidemic emergency and the high threat level warnings issue by various governments and agencies, members of the public may also attend this hearing by telephone at 888-251-2909, Access Code 3732912. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

FOR the proposal:	Willie Jo Reynolds, Jorge Diaz, Betty Mancia Alvarenga, Jessica Graham, and Cyrus Dumas	
AGAINST the proposal:	None	
PRESENT and not voting:	None	
ABSENT:	None	

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$.84000/\$100 Adopted	\$.80000/\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		\$.04000/\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		-4.76%
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$ 178,414	\$ 191,534
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$ 178,414	\$ 191,534
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 1,498.67	\$ 1,532.27
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)	\$ 33.60 2.24%	

NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 3.5 percent, an election must be held to determine whether to approve the operation and maintenance tax rate under Section 49.23602, Water Code.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Bob Leared Interests 713-932-9011

WATER DISTRICT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX RATE

The FORT BEND CO. M.U.D. #34 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2021 on September 28, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. at 1300 Post Oak Boulevard, Suite 1400, Houston, TX 77056. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

FOR the proposal:	Billy Haehnel, James Marken, Craig Hajovsky, and Sean Piper	
AGAINST the proposal:	None	
PRESENT and not voting:	None	
ABSENT:	Jose Torres	

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$.61000/\$100 Adopted	\$.61000/\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		\$.00000/\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		.00%
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$ 366,507	\$ 367,686
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$ 366,507	\$ 367,686
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 2,235.69	\$ 2,242.88
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)	\$ 7.19 .32%	

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the voter-approval tax rate under Section 49.23603, Water Code.

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Bob Leared Interests 713-932-9011

VOLLEYBALL

from page B1

each other or things like that and it makes it to where we can cheer each other on. We're taking things one day at a time and getting better and being positive."

Morton Ranch already has wins over district foes Taylor and Mayde Creek during tournament play this season but knows that things will be tougher once district 19-6A play comes along.

"We are so determined to fix our mistakes and be better than last year," Donahoe said. "There's a lot of experience on this team and a lot of seniors and we've just been encouraged by everything and we are

just trying to do everything we can to be successful in district and make it to the playoffs."

That positivity from seniors has carried over into the entire program, and for this year's senior class, its bigger than just one season or their careers, they want to leave a legacy behind that younger players can follow.

"It's so important for us to leave something behind," Lampert said. "If you have a strong JV and it keeps going down, then the next year that carries over and you have a strong varsity again. We just want to bring those under-

classman and JV players and everyone up and try to build something."

Morton Ranch 3, Royal 0
Morton Ranch: 25 25 25
Royal: 10, 6, 8
Highlights: (MR) Kyler Maple 2 aces, 14 digs; Sienna Adigun 3 kills; Brittany Aguirre 1 digs; Alexis Scott 1 kill, 2 digs, 2 blocks; Mallory Lampert 10 kills, 3 aces, 5 digs, 1 block; Hadley Hyle 1 kill, 1 ace, 10 digs; Neveah Donahoe 11 kills, 1 ace, 8 digs; Jessica Mendoza 3 kills, 3 aces, 10 digs; Angelica Davis 5 kills, 4 digs, 1 block; Estefania Salazar 2 aces; Records: Morton Ranch 12-7, Royal 0-17.



Morton Ranch celebrates a point during the teams sweep of Royal on Tuesday at the Morton Ranch gym.

TYLER TYRE



THERE'S A

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At Houston Methodist Cancer Center, we treat every aspect of your cancer. Leading oncologists work with our specialists across disciplines to minimize cancer's effects on major organs. One comprehensive team — dedicated to your individual care — uses the latest research, treatments and technology to stop your cancer. From infusion and clinical trials to surgery and reconstruction, our innovative care is available in West Houston and Katy.

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