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THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2022

Bond set for 18-year-old charged in Feb. 14 fight

BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER
NEWS EDITOR

An 18-year-old man who was allegedly involved in the Feb. 14 fight at Beckendorff Park remains in the Harris County Jail with bond reduced to \$150,000.



CHRISTOPHER
CAVAZOS

Christopher Cavazos's bond was first set at \$250,000 but has now been reduced, according to Harris County District Court documentation. He faces three charges of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

Authorities said the fight began as an after-school verbal altercation that escalated when students from another high school arrived and got involved. According to court documentation, at least one knife was introduced into the disturbance.

Two students were taken by Life Flight to the Memorial Hermann Trauma Center. One of those students, Marlon Robinson, 17, died from his injuries Feb. 20.

Another juvenile was treated at Texas Children's Hospital West Campus.

Court documentation said investigating authorities visited Robinson in the hospital before his death. The documentation said authorities showed Robinson a video of the fight. The documentation said Robinson identified himself in the video, and he was fighting Cavazos while Cavazos had a knife in his hand.

Two others, both juveniles, have been charged following the incident. One was charged with murder after Robinson's death. The other was charged with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

The Harris County Sheriff's office is leading the investigation. Citizens with any details regarding this incident and the charges should contact that office.



SOFT SQUAD

Katy-originated Teddy Cop program expanding to Puerto Rico

BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER
NEWS EDITOR

Six years ago, Katy ISD police officer Luis Santiago decided to do something special for life skills students in the district. He worked with Build A Bear, the company known for creating customized stuffed bears, to create a bear dressed like a Katy ISD police officer. Santiago distributes those Teddy Cops, as they are called, to students.

"Police officers are intimidating," Santiago said. "By doing the Teddy Cop program, I thought, let's dress them up as officers and use them to break that stigma. Every child loves a teddy bear. Now you have an officer introducing a teddy bear dressed up as an officer."

The life skills students feel that the bear is good, and therefore, the officer is good, Santiago said.

"They feel comfortable around us," Santiago said, adding that over 2,600 bears have been distributed locally since the program began.

"Our primary job is to serve our district and the community, and what better way than helping out



LUIS SANTIAGO

A squad of Teddy Cops, complete with Puerto Rican identification, will be distributed to Puerto Rican special needs schoolchildren. Above, boxes of the Teddy Cops are ready for shipment to Puerto Rico.

"Police officers are intimidating. By doing the Teddy Cop program, I thought, let's dress them up as officers and use them to break that stigma. Every child loves a teddy bear. Now you have an officer introducing a teddy bear dressed up as an officer."

—Luis Santiago,
Katy ISD police officer

See **TEDDY**, page A3

Judges offer updates on Fort Bend and Waller counties

BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER
NEWS EDITOR

Despite last year's winter storm and the ongoing pandemic, the Fort Bend and Waller county judges said their respective counties continue to grow economically while bringing in new residents.

Fort Bend County Judge KP George and Waller County Judge Trey Duhon gave updates on their respective counties at the State of the Counties luncheon, which was sponsored by the Katy Area Chamber of Commerce. The event took place March 10 at the Embassy suites, 16435 Katy Fwy.

Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo was invited to attend and was advertised as being a speaker for the event. She canceled her appearance.

In Waller County, Duhon said the population grew 31%, from about 43,000 residents in 2010 to 57,000 residents in 2020. A growing tax base helped the commissioners court put through a property tax cut in last year's budget. For this year, the county has a new precinct map that had to address both the growth in overall population and minority representation. The big challenge was working with the population growth in the southernmost precinct, which includes part of the City of Katy, the City of Brookshire, and the City of Pattison.

"It was not pretty, but a new precinct map was the best solution," Duhon said. "It wasn't an easy process."

Duhon said other priorities for this year include road and bridge improvements, along with law enforcement. He said the \$63 million budget has an almost 2% decrease in property tax rate, yet has increases in spending for road and bridge improvements and law enforcement.

The funding increase for materials for roads and bridges has gone up \$1.7 million, while the funding

See **COUNTIES**, page A3

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CITY OF KATY

Mayor Bill Hastings poses with Assistant Fire Chief Dana Massey at a March 9 ceremony honoring Katy city employees.

Assistant fire chief named 2021 city employee of year

BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER
NEWS EDITOR

For Katy Assistant Fire Chief Dana Massey, being a firefighter is an all-in-the-family deal.

Massey grew up in East Houston, where her father, C.L. Massey, was a Houston firefighter. Today he is retired from that job. She also has two uncles who are firefighters and a brother who served as a firefighter for a period.

"From about age 12 on, I knew that's what I was going to do," said Massey, who on March 9 was selected as the 2021 Katy city employee of the year.

EMS technicians and firefighters are in the business of saving lives, but when asked to recount some of her more memorable firefighting experiences, Massey hesitated. Not all cases have positive outcomes, she said, and

she doesn't like talking about those times.

"We try to save lives, so that's what keeps us coming back, the positive impact in people's lives," Massey said. "Otherwise, it would be all negative and nobody would want to do the job."

And there are positive cases, when lives get saved and things turn out OK.

"People showing up at the station and walking and talking, it makes you feel good," Massey said.

Massey will celebrate her 23rd year with the department in October. The city's fire department has undergone considerable changes over the years as Massey worked her way up the ranks.

Massey became an assistant chief about five years ago. In that role, she has responsibility

See **MASSEY**, page A3

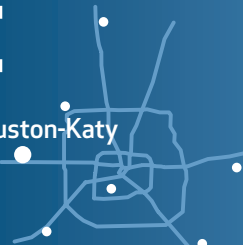
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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Remodeled Walmart opens to public, anticipates more changes in September

The Katy Walmart Supercenter, 25108 Market Place Dr., held a March 11 celebration to commemorate a remodeling of the store – the first of its kind in the Houston area.

The remodel includes transforming the location into a market fulfillment center. The MFC, as it is called, is a compact, modular warehouse built within, or added to, a store. Its purpose is to improve the speed and convenience of pickup and delivery.

In addition to fresh and frozen items, a MFC can store thousands of items customers want most, including consumables to electronics. Other features include several department transformations and the expansion of innovations that will help customers save time. A second phase is planned to continue the improvements and upgrades. Store officials said the second phase should be complete by this fall.

Store officials said customers will enjoy other improvements, including:

- Increased number of check-out stations, now increased to 35 self-checkouts and 10 manned checkouts (compared to a total of 34 before the renovation).
- Reconfigured and expanded pharmacy, beer/wine and cosmetics departments.
- Expanded Vision Center with luxury brands now available.
- Mother's room addition for privacy when breastfeeding.
- New floors, signage, digital menu boards and other finishes.
- Expanded pickup and delivery services.

The event also featured check presentations for a total of \$8,000 donated to five area nonprofits.

Fort Bend County Libraries introduce new online feature for aspiring authors

Fort Bend County Libraries has launched a new online “Writers’ Corner,” where aspiring novelists, as well as readers looking for something new, can create, share, and discover works introduced in Fort Bend County.

The new “Writers’ Corner” on the library website, fortbend.lib.tx.us, includes three unique tools that enable writers and readers to



SUSAN ROVEGNO

Frost Bank's Katy Mason Financial Center, 21875 Katy Fwy., hosted a “Hey Y’all, it’s rodeo time” chuck wagon lunch for the area on March 10th. According to Sheri Gillespie, vice president/corporate banking (shown in center of photo), over 150 people attended the local event, a tribute to the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo.



GEORGE SLAUGHTER

The Royal ISD Junior ROTC color guard presented the colors at the March 11 grand re-opening of the Walmart Supercenter at Katy Mills.

create, publish, or discover digital content made by and for the local community.

Those tools are PressBooks Public, the Indie Author Project, and the BiblioBoard Library.

“We are excited to be able to offer this suite of online resources for the community,” says Library Director Clara Russell. “The Press-



GEORGE SLAUGHTER

Fulshear Mayor Aaron Groff and Texana Café CEO George Patterson celebrate the grand opening of the new restaurant, Texana Café, 7440 FM 359 South in Fulshear. Texana Café both serves as a restaurant and also as a training ground for individuals with autism and intellectual and developmental disabilities to gain important work experience.

Books Public feature will provide a platform empowering local writers to make their dreams of becoming a published author a reality, while the Indie Author Project will help them promote and distribute their works to a wider audience. Those who love ebooks will find new materials and possibly even discover a rising star amongst the offerings in the BiblioBoard Library collection.”

The first instrument in the suite of resources – PressBooks Public – is a digital self-publishing tool designed to help aspiring writers easily create their own professional-quality print-ready and ebook files that can be distributed commercially or shared in the writers’ corner. Users have unlimited access to this resource, which requires no previous design or tech experience.

Annual Cajun Fest set for April 2

The 4th annual Cajun Fest, the proceeds of which benefit Katy Christian Ministries, has been set for 12:30-5:30 p.m. April 2 at MKT Distillery, 5373 1st St. The family-friendly event includes a gumbo cookoff, live music and other activities. For more information about the event and sponsorship opportunities, call MKT Distillery at 833-658-1870.

—CONTRIBUTED REPORTS

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2022

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Katy Times

For more information, contact Susan Rovegno at publisher@katytimes.com or 281-391-3141

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

CLUES ACROSS

1. Type of footwear

5. Studies a lot all at once

10. Adventure story

14. Hundred thousand

15. Former U.S. Vice President

16. Ruler

17. Indian city

18. Similar

19. Ship as cargo

20. Volcanic craters

22. Boxing's "GOAT"

23. Bullfighting maneuvers

24. London soccer team

27. Score perfectly

30. No (Scottish)

31. SoCal hoops team (abbr.)

32. Woman (French)

35. Unwanted attic "decor"

37. Peter Griffin's daughter

38. Broad, shallow crater

39. Large instruments

40. Low bank or reef

41. ___ and Venzetti

42. Oil group

43. Father

44. Aggressive men

45. Pairs well with green

46. Travelers need it

47. Digital audiotape

48. Midway between northeast and east

49. Chemistry descriptor

52. S. China seaport

55. Sound unit

56. Heavy cavalry sword

60. Thick piece of something

61. Spa town in Austria

63. Boyfriend

64. Norse personification of old age

65. Type of box

66. Tie together

67. Fiber from the coconut

68. Chicago mayor

69. Old English letters

CLUES DOWN

1. Type of sauce

2. Pattern of notes

3. Plant with long seedpods

4. Map out

5. Numbers cruncher

6. Make a mental connection

7. Italian tenor

8. N. America's highest mountain peak

9. Witness

10. Arabic given name

11. Music awards

12. "The Immoralist" author

13. Area units

21. Units of loudness

23. Political action committee

25. Bar bill

26. Witch

27. A theatrical performer

28. 2-door car

29. ___ and flowed

32. Papier-___, art medium

33. City in Georgia

34. Irregular

36. College sports conference

37. Angry

38. Partner to cheese

40. S. American mammal

41. Self-immolation by fire rituals

43. Split pulses

44. Disfigure

46. Cow noise

47. Erase

49. Chadic language

50. Reward for doing well

51. Paid TV

52. Millisecond

53. Other

54. Colombian city

57. Necklace part

58. Every one of two or more people

59. Regrets

61. They come after "A"

62. Horse noise

Answers will be provided in next week's edition.

SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

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Answers will be provided in next week's edition.

COUNTIES

from page A1

increase for the sheriff’s office is \$1.8 million. Duhon said this was the largest increase the sheriff’s office had received and would go towards more deputies, investigators, jailers and dispatchers.

“The quality of life means nothing if you are not safe and secure in your own home,” Duhon said.

Duhon said the county needed a new courthouse. He said the county built its present courthouse in 1955, during the Cold War era. While Duhon was complementary of the courthouse’s history, he said simply fixing its problems would not be enough to best serve the county’s interests.

After showing a video describing Fort Bend’s population and economic growth, George talked about how far Fort Bend County had come since being the first county in Texas to report a case of COVID-19.

“From day one, we took this seriously,” George said. “My job is to make Fort Bend County more stable so businesses will feel comfortable about moving forward.”

The county’s COVID-19 threat level has receded to yellow, or low/moderate community risk. The county has 136,258 total confirmed cases of COVID-19, with 134,102 recoveries and 1,209 deaths, according to its website.

George said the commissioners court, along with the local medical community, worked together to meet the challenge.

“It is a collective effort,” George said. “We decided we needed to get the much-needed help to our citizens.”

These efforts included mortgage assistance and business mentorship programs, he said.



GEORGE SLAUGHTER

Fort Bend County Judge KP George and Waller County Judge Trey Duhon visit before the State of the Counties luncheon staged by the Katy Area Chamber of Commerce.

MASSEY

from page A1

for EMS and firefighter training. She is also the department’s infection control officer.

“Getting them trained, keeping them here, that’s something I’m over,” Massey said.

Massey said mental health is the biggest challenge when it comes to helping firefighters be at their best in a stressful profession.

“It’s the thing that all the fire departments are talking about, keeping people’s mental health headed in a positive direction,” Massey said.

“We created a peer support team to assist in helping with firefighters’ mental health. We have a group now that can assist them. We also have a therapist, Tania Glenn, who is on standby and can help as needed.”

Massey graduated from Galena Park High School. She did her fire training at the College of the Mainland in Texas City and her paramedic training at San Jacinto College.

She began her career in Galena Park. She then worked with the Baytown Fire Department when a colleague encouraged her to apply with the Katy Fire Department.

“He said Katy was going to hire full-time medics, and I should apply,” Massey said, adding that she did not do so at first. When her colleague learned of her hesitation, he encouraged her again.

She applied, and saw that it was an opportunity she could not turn down.

“I knew the growth was going to blow up out there, and it was an opportunity for my own growth as well,” Massey said.

TEDDY

from page A1

and educating our special needs children in getting the trust of the families,” Santiago said.

The program has gained attention from outside the Katy area. Santiago’s sister is a special needs teacher living in Puerto Rico. She felt the Teddy Cops would be a welcome addition to students there.

Santiago agreed, and he’s spending spring break this week in Puerto Rico, delivering bears to approximately 375 children in eight schools and a hospital across eight cities on the island.

Getting the bears to Puerto Rico proved a challenge in itself.

“At first, we wanted to ship them by freight,” Santiago said. “But we were told there were no guarantees

if they went by freight. We were told that using the local post office would work, as long as the boxes were standard-sized.”

Santiago took 16 boxes of bears to the U.S. Postal Service for shipment.

“They have similar uniforms to Puerto Rico officers,” Santiago said. “It’s a bit different with the Puerto Rican flag on it. They are specifically for children in Puerto Rico.”

Santiago said he hasn’t been to Puerto Rico in the past 15 years. His family roots are in the towns of Caguas and San Lorenzo, both of which are on the central eastern side of the island, just below San Juan.

In recent years, Puerto Rico has

gone through hurricanes and two major earthquakes. He said his sister has returned to in-person teaching after an absence due to these events.

“Everything was being done online,” Santiago said. “It’s getting there. You still have rural areas where they’re having problems. They’ve been working on the electrical grid so they won’t have rolling blackouts.”

While his family has Puerto Rican ties, Santiago himself was born in New York City. He moved to Philadelphia, where he married and began a family. But they decided they wanted to live in a better area. They saw Katy, his wife had family in the community, and they came

to Texas. He has been with the Katy ISD police for 10 years.

The program remains strong in Katy. Santiago said he has relied on the goodness of people in Katy to help when it comes to purchasing the bears for the students. Recently, people have begun sponsoring individual students. Those interested in sponsoring a student or making a donation are asked to contact their local Katy ISD elementary school.

“This is an awesome program,” Santiago said. “My goal was to extend it out as far as I can. It’s getting there, slowly but surely. My goal was to promote this program to other departments and to kids that really need it.”

Next Weekend!

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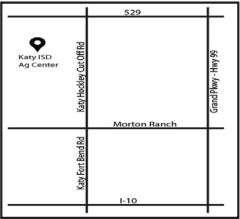
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Take the plunge into household plumbing

Warning! The following column is clogged with gratuitous potty humor. If it's a strain for you to read it, the CDC advises that you hold your nose, wear an N95 mask if necessary and then answer the call of curiosity. I think you'll be relieved.

God has blessed me with a wife, three teenage daughters, two female doglets and one female cat. (My wife, by the way, has insisted that I leave her out of this — and I'm pretty sure God would prefer that, too.) Over the past 18 years, I've become quite proficient in the delicate art of unclogging our three toilets. And, no, I haven't been able to train our pets to use the commode, but one can dream.

In my shortsighted expectations of having daughters, I just didn't see myself spending nearly this much time wielding a plunger — and wishing I owned a blowtorch. But according to the National Institute of Plumbers, the average American parent spends up to 24 hours per year unclogging household toilets.

Okay, I made that up. But if there was a National Institute of Plumbers (if "plumbers" is even a word) and they bothered to research such a significant domestic crisis, I'll bet it might be true — give or take 20 hours, or so.

As an added bonus, my daughters often surprise me with clogged toilets they've left unreported — presumably to conceal the identity of the perpetrator. When I ask who did it, the two big sisters usually blame the youngest, who invariably replies with a diplomatic "I don't recall."

Since everyone denies the atrocity, I'm left to assume that an offensive lineman for the Green Bay Packers repeatedly pops in for unannounced and clandestine visits to our bathrooms. (Or maybe it's the Russians.)

After these unfortunate incidents, I always remind the girls to take a look after they flush, just to be sure everything makes a clean escape. Their thoughtful response to this recommendation is the same for almost all of the fatherly advice I give them, "Oooo, gross, Dad!"

I've often wondered if the chronically-clogged toilet



JASE GRAVES
SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

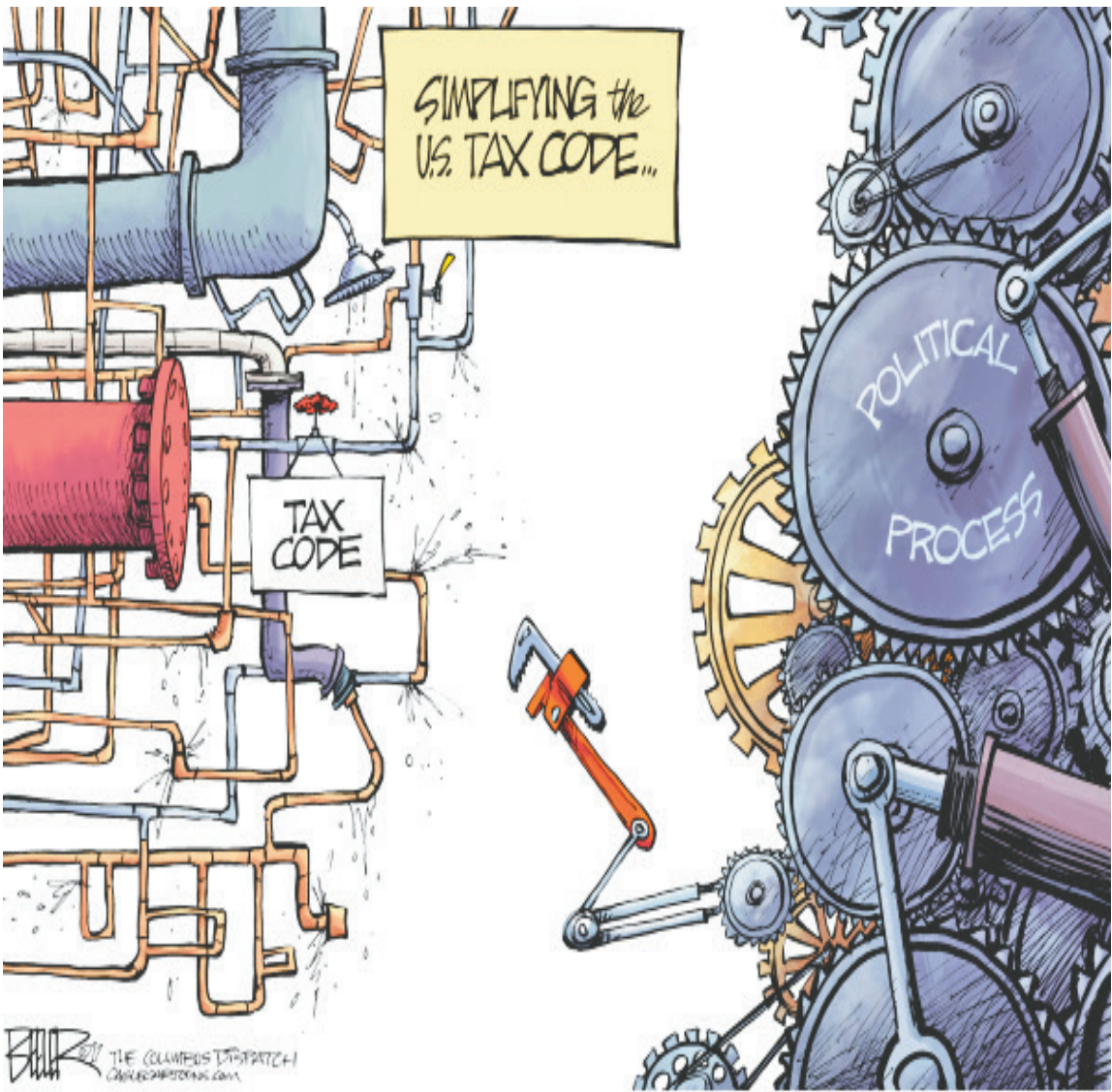
In my shortsighted expectations of having daughters, I just didn't see myself spending nearly this much time wielding a plunger—and wishing I owned a blowtorch. But according to the National Institute of Plumbers, the average American parent spends up to 24 hours per year unclogging household toilets.

phenomenon might be limited to my own children, but just recently, one of my Facebook friends who has four daughters of his own and shares my official title of Family-Throneologist-in-Chief posted the following, and I quote, "Anyone else's kids constantly clog toilets? My kids do so on a daily basis, with very little toilet paper. Plunging toilets is a full-time job while I'm at home."

I simply replied with the Facebook "care" emoji.

Since my youngest daughter is now 15 years old, I realize that I only have a few blessed years left with my children at home, the reality of which makes me wistful and a bit sad. So, until they're gone, I'll keep happily plunging away, grateful to God for the time I have with them — and wishing I owned a blowtorch.

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.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Editor's Note: Zachary, a third-grade student at The Langley School in McLean, Va., has reached out to us as he conducts research on Texas. Please respond to him at the address listed below.

Dear People of the Great State of Texas,

Hello! I am a third-grade student in northern Virginia. Our class is learning about the United States, and I will be teaching our school about the state of Texas. In the month of May, I will create a display for our state fair that I hope will make you proud.

Although I have gathered facts about your state from books and websites, I think that I can receive

the best information from the people who live there. This is why I am writing to you. I am hoping that you would be willing to send me some items to help me learn more about the best things in your state. You might consider sending items such as postcards, pictures, souvenirs, this newspaper article, or any other unique items that would be useful or show your state pride. Here are a few questions:

- Why do you live in your state?/What first brought your family there?
- How do you make money?/What is your job?
- What does your state look like?
- What do people do for fun?
- What animals live there?

- What traditional food/recipes does your state have?
- What type of music is native to your state?
- Do you have a state athletic team?
- What geographic features are unique to your state?

I will need to gather all of my information by the second week in May. You can mail items to the address below. I really appreciate your help!

Sincerely,

Zachary

*Mr. Mike Gilchrist's Class
The Langley School
1411 Balls Hill Rd.
McLean, VA 22101*

Is America strong enough to endure domestic sacrifice?

During World War II, Americans put up with rationed gas and car tires, rationed coal and fuel oil, rationed silk and nylon, rationed meat and dairy products, rationed jams and jellies, even rationed coffee.

Would today's Americans—some of whom freaked out, during the worst of the pandemic, when they couldn't get their hair done—be willing to endure even a minuscule fraction of the sacrifices that our forebears weathered 80 years ago? I'll answer my own question with a question: Can you imagine what would happen if coffee were rationed, and people could no longer order their favorite cafe lattes?

I pondered all that while watching President Biden deliver his State of the Union speech. He vowed on our behalf, and for the preeminent cause of democracy, to stick it to the murderous Russian thug for as long as it takes. Ukraine is fighting for its life on the front line of freedom, and, as our commander in chief said, we need to show our "resolve."

He stressed that word many times.

We meet tonight as Americans, "with an unwavering resolve that freedom will always triumph over tyranny." And "American resolve matters." And "(Putin) will never weaken the resolve of the free world." And this: "Now is the hour. Our moment of responsibility. Our test of resolve and conscience, of history itself."

We'll see if his fellow citizens are willing to pass that test, because it would appear that most are not willing to follow his lead. Only 37 percent say he's doing a good job (which seems insanely low, given the 65 percent fully-vaccinated rate and the four percent unemployment rate and the six million new jobs and the signing of his historic infrastructure repair law—but hey, what do I know).

People are "tired, frustrated, and exhausted" (Biden's words) after two years of lockdowns and masks, inflation has spiked, and



DICK POLMAN
SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

Would today's Americans — some of whom freaked out, during the worst of the pandemic, when they couldn't get their hair done — be willing to endure even a minuscule fraction of the sacrifices that our forebears weathered 80 years ago? I'll answer my own question with a question: Can you imagine what would happen if coffee were rationed, and people could no longer order their favorite cafe lattes?

now they're being asked to hunker down a bit for more sacrifice, on behalf of a country that millions couldn't locate on a map unless their hands were duct-taped to the correct coordinates.

This is especially true among younger Americans—who, by the luck of birth, did not experience the Cold War and barely know what it was. According to a new ABC News-Washington Post poll, only 35 percent of those aged 18 to 39 would still support sanctioning Russia if it resulted in higher en-

ergy prices at home. Indeed, only half of all Americans would still be on board. It just so happens that in our interconnected world, Russia is the third biggest producer of crude oil. And, politically speaking, woe to any president who makes it more costly to fill the sainted internal combustion engine.

Biden is releasing 30 million barrels from our Strategic Petroleum Reserve to "help blunt gas prices here at home," as permitted under federal law (a 30-million-barrel release can be ordered in the event of "a domestic or international energy supply shortage of significant scope or duration.") And yeah, that could help—maybe for a while. But mostly he tried to mollify Americans by doing his best impression of a kindly doctor who still makes house calls, dropping his voice to a reassuring semi-whisper while telling Americans, "We are going to be okay."

It was some consolation that Biden's Ukraine remarks drew actual bipartisan applause. There is indeed a market for high principle, as former Republican pollster Matthew Dowd wrote: "In our country and in the world, the forces of autocracy are rising in the most significant way since World War II, and democracies are in danger of suffering tragic harms, if history is any predictor. This is why the fight in Ukraine is important to us all."

True that. For many Americans, particularly those born after the Cold War, the fight for freedom was an abstraction. Putin has made it very real.

So here's a handy tip for any American who gets whiny about pain at the gas pump: Just be thankful you're not huddled with your family in some basement while killers detonate thermobaric vacuum bombs that suck oxygen out of the air. That's real pain.

Dick Polman, a veteran national political columnist based in Philadelphia and a Writer in Residence at the University of Pennsylvania, writes at DickPolman.net. Email him at dickpolman7@gmail.com.

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PHOTOS BY SUSAN ROVEGNO

Toro, the Houston Texans mascot, was among the celebrities at H Town Sports Day, held March 12 at Central Green Park, 23501 Cinco Ranch Blvd. Attendees were able to meet and pose for photos with professional athletes from various sports, to see a local martial arts group perform and to visit a number of vendor booths. The Willow Fork Drainage District and Central Green Park put on the event.

H TOWN SPORTS DAY



Katy auto racer Ty Hymel and former Houston Texans linebacker Brian Cushing take in the sights and sounds of H Town Sports Day at Central Green Park. Hymel and Cushing were among a number of professional athletes who made appearances at the event.

TRIBUTE

Mary Rozalia Jagielski was born on May 28, 1930 in Cohoes, New York to Vincent and Victoria Killian Cihala. She was raised in Cohoes, then moved to Schenectady in 1954, until she moved to Texas to be with her daughter and her family in 2009. On July 3, 1954, Mary married



MARY ROZALIA
JAGIELSKI
1930-2022

Edward John Jagielski in Cohoes, New York. Mary passed away on Thursday, March 10 2022, in Katy, Texas at the age of 91 years.

Mary was first a homemaker, and later worked as a secretary at General Electric in Schenectady. Her love of all things cooking was passed on to her granddaughter. She greatly admired Julia Child, and her family loved her famous desserts and soups.

She is survived by daughter, Dr. Susan Rice, and her husband, Gary Koch of Katy; granddaughter, Joann Koch; sister-in-law, Connie Jagielski of Bryan,

Texas; as well as several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband of 61 years, Edward John Jagielski.

A memorial mass will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 24, 2022, at the Epiphany of the Lord Catholic Church, in Katy, with Father Tom Lam, Celebrant.

Funeral services held under the direction of
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EDUCATION BRIEFS

Trustees to hold special meeting Monday

The Katy Independent School District Board of Trustees will meet in special session at 5 p.m. Monday. The meeting will be in the board room at the district's Education Support Complex, 6301 S. Stadium Lane.

Trustees are expected to receive an update to the 2022-23 district budget. They are also expected to discuss and consider future board approval of the campus staffing plan for the 2022-23 school year.

Applications being accepted for "Stepping into the Future" scholarships

Dr. James M. Jacobs with Your Total Foot Care Specialist is pleased to announce that 2022 applications are now being accepted for two \$1,500 "Stepping into the Future" scholarships for 2022 Katy ISD graduating seniors.

The "Stepping into the Future" scholarship program is available to seniors graduating with an unweighted GPA ranging from 2.5 to 3.7. The two "Stepping into the Future" scholarship recipients will be announced at the Katy ISD

Senior Awards Ceremony in May. Deadline for applications is 5 p.m. April 15. A third-party committee will select the two winning applicants.

"Your Total Foot Care Specialist has been able to support local Katy ISD seniors for the past 13 years and we are incredibly honored to be able to continue that tradition and fund two more seniors this year with scholarships," Dr. James Jacobs, medical director at Your Total Foot Care Specialist, said. "The tenacity of students to overcome the obstacles thrown at them over the last few school years has been an incredible accomplishment and we know that the winners of our scholarships will go on to have unlimited success in their future."

To access the application, visit the website KatyFootCare.com. Applicants can submit their completed paperwork either in person or by mail to: Your Total Foot Care Specialist - Scholarship, 23230 Red River Dr., Katy, TX 77494.

Katy ISD Education Foundation Launches GROOVE22

The Katy ISD Education Foun-

ation announces GROOVE22, a week-long celebration uniting the community in support of Katy ISD teachers.

Proceeds from the week's events benefit the foundation and its Inspiring Imagination teacher grant program. The Katy ISD Education Foundation has awarded \$2.3 million in grants to Katy ISD teachers over the past nine years.

GROOVE22 Events Include:

- April 6—Dine Out to Donate Community-wide spirit day featuring 40+ Katy/West Houston restaurants.
- April 9—GROOVE22 In-person event at The Oaks Kitchen and Bar featuring Houston's Undercover Band, Casino, Wine & Spirit Pull with a unique wine tasting experience hosted by The Oaks.
- April 6-13—GROOVE Online Auction (bidding begins April 6) Online-only auction spotlighting the talents, resources and big-heartedness of our Katy community.

Early event sponsors include PBK Architects; Rotary Club of Katy; Thompson & Horton, LLP; Memorial Hermann Katy; Satterfield & Pontikes; Stantec; Matt Schomburg State Farm; VLK

Architects; Clearwater Express Car Wash; HKS; RAM Alloys; Dally + Associates, Inc.; IBI Group Architects; Lane and Pat Cobden; M.D. Anderson; DBR Engineering; Matrix Structural Engineers; Climatec; Clint and Laura Beth Jackson; Brazos Valley Schools Credit Union; Victor and Karen Perez; Tarkett; Ken and Tracy Janda; Mueller Pye & Associates, CPA; Pfluger Architects, Inc.

For more information or to purchase tickets to the April 9 event, visit the website <https://tinyurl.com/GROOVE22tickets> or the website katyisdeducationfoundation.org.

To contact the Katy ISD Education Foundation, call 281-396-6031 or email foundation@katyisd.org.

Katy ISD Pre-Kindergarten registration for 2022-2023 begins April 4

Online registration for the Katy ISD Pre-Kindergarten program for 2022-23 opens April 4. Parents must complete the online registration process through the district's Katy ISD's PowerSchool Registration website in order for their child to be screened for program eligibility.

The district's pre-kindergarten program follows the state Pre-K guidelines, which focus on oral language development, reading and math readiness, as well as science and social studies knowledge and skills.

For eligibility requirements, call the Office of Interventions at 281-237-7062.

Pre-Kindergarten classes will be held at the following campuses:

English Speaking Classes: Alexander, Bear Creek, Bethke, Bryant, Campbell, Cimarron, Creech, Davidson, Exley, Franz, Golbow, Griffin, Hayes, Holland, Hutsell, Jenks, Katy, Kilpatrick, King, Leonard, Mayde Creek, McElwain, McRoberts, Morton Ranch, Nottingham, Pattison, Randolph, Rhoads, Robertson, Rylander, Schmalz, Shafer, Stanley, Stephens, Sundown, West Memorial, Wilson, Winborn, Wolfe, Wolman and Wood Creek elementary schools.

Spanish Speaking Classes: Bear Creek, Campbell, Fielder, Franz, Hutsell, Jenks, King, McRoberts, Memorial Parkway, Morton Ranch, Rhoads, Schmalz, Stephens, Sundown and Williams elementary schools.

—CONTRIBUTED REPORTS



American Legion vets collect flags for proper retirement

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

When an American flag becomes tattered or shows signs of extended use, it's time to replace the flag. But not everyone knows that there is a proper procedure for disposing of the old flag.

The American Legion has performed the ceremony for disposal of unserviceable flags for decades, and in Katy, members of the American Legion Jonathan

D. Rozier Post 164 gathered such flags at seven locations with 14 veterans comprised of Marines, Army, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard.

"We volunteer two or three times a year to collect tattered, torn, faded, soiled or frayed American flags with the support of the local community," Forrest Croom, retired Coast Guard veteran, said. "Once we gather them from the many locations in our area who help us to get

the word out, we will give them a proper retirement either on Flag Day June 14th or the day before, just before sunset."

The post is named after Rozier, a U.S. Army captain killed in action.

The Ceremony for Disposal of Unserviceable Flags is outlined in Resolution No. 440, passed by the 19th National Convention of The American Legion in New York, Sept. 20-23, 1937. The

“Once we gather them from the many locations in our area who help us to get the word out, we will give them a proper retirement either on Flag Day June 14th or the day before, just before sunset.”

—Forrest Croom, Retired Coast Guard veteran

ceremony has been an integral part of American Legion ritual since then.

In the ceremony, post members meet out-of-doors, at night. Members are aligned in two parallel rows about 20 feet apart, facing each other. Officers are at their stations. A small fire is burning opposite the commander and beyond the rows of members.

Businesses who would like to participate in the next collection effort may contact

the American Legion Post in their area. Katy residents can drop them off at the local post, preferably folded and in a bag.

New American flags can be purchased from the American Legion through its website.

The American Legion Post 164 in Katy meets every 3rd Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. for a social mixer and then business meeting at 7:30 p.m. at 22125 Kingsland Blvd. The gathering is open to current

members and new prospective members.

The American Legion was founded in 1919 in Indianapolis and has gone on to create an illustrious history established on four pillars - Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children & Youth.

To review a complete schedule of activity of American Legion Post 164, please visit the website LegionPost-164KatyTX.org.

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ROYAL ISD BRIEFS

Royal Falcons win back-to-back district titles in soccer

The Royal boys' soccer team's most recent victory resulted in a district championship. From the early practices and effort after Thanksgiving break to the junior varsity games and scrimmages, a lot of new talented faces rose to the challenge of trying to keep the region championship at Royal in back-to-back seasons.

Earlier in the season, Royal defeated Class 5A Brenham and Class 6A Morton Ranch. This was the first time Royal beat a 6A school. The game ball will eventually be displayed in the high school trophy case.

The Falcon program saluted the seniors who are leaving the program at the end of the season: Ruben Acuna, Rodrigo Badillo, Israel Barbosa, Javier Estrada, AB Garcia, Nick Garcia, Edgar Guerrero, Yahir Parra, Jesus Perez, Wilson Ramirez, and David Rodriguez.

Royal ISD soccer player being recruited by college programs

For the first time in its program history, Royal has a player weighing scholarship options. Royal midfielder Wilson Ramirez currently holds scholarship options to play soccer at various schools. These schools include Brewton Parker in Georgia, Hesston College in Kansas, National Park and Ecclesia College in Arkansas, Doane University in New England and Sterling College in Kansas. He is still considering his options. This opportunity allows promising future and current players to dream that there is a next step in their playing career.

Royal Junior High wins at Stafford track meet

The Royal Junior High 8th grade girls track team placed first and the 7th grade track team placed second at the recent Stafford track



ROYAL ISD

The Royal Falcon soccer team won its second consecutive district championship.

team meet.

Eighth grade results include:

- 100m dash - 3rd place-Amiracle Wolfe.
- 200m dash - 1st place-Aironia Jackson, 2nd Place-Aliyah Wilson.
- 400m dash - 2nd place-Angie Cisneros.
- 800m run - 2nd place-Carson Rowe, 3rd place-Susan Padilla.
- 1600m run - 3rd place-Arely Reyes, 4th place-Susan Padilla.
- 2400m run - 1st place-Angie Cisneros, 2nd place-Arely Reyes.
- 4x100m relay - 2nd place Kirria Reagan, Aliyah Wilson, Kim Arriaga and Aironna Jackson.
- 4x400m relay - Carson Rowe, Angie Cisneros, Kim Arriaga and

Aironna Jackson.

- 100m hurdles - 1st place-Kiera Regan, 4th place-Italia Dolpher and 6th place- Kimberly Zuniga.
- 300m hurdles - 1st place-Mariah Vaughn, 3rd place-Italia Dolpher.
- Long jump - 1st place-Aironia Jackson, 3rd place-Amiracle Wolfe, and 4th place Carson Rowe.
- Shot put - 2nd place-Kim Zuniga, 4th place-Teshaylan Kennedy.
- Discus - 4th place-Mariah Vaughn, 6th place-Kim Zuniga.
- High jump - 1st place-Aironna Jackson, 3rd place-Aliyah Wilson and 5th place-Kierra Regan

Seventh grade results include:

- 100m dash - 2nd place-Jada Robinson, 6th place-Maria Lopez.
- 400m dash - 6th place-Amilee Hinojosa.
- 1600m run - 2nd place-Marley Garcia, 3rd place- Maria Lopez.
- 4x100m relay - 2nd place Bri Rosales, Teleah Kennedy, Sophia Orduna and Jada Robinson.
- 100m hurdles - 5th place-Adriana Parra.
- 300m hurdles - 4th place-Adriana Parra.
- Shot put - 1st place-Ja'unse Johnson, 4th place-Kylee Brown and 5th place-Makenzi Williams.
- Discus - 1st place-Ja'unse Johnson, 3rd place-Makenzi Williams and 5th place-Kylee Brown.

Royal STEM Academy receives honors

The Royal STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Academy has been named a 2020-21 "Project Lead the Way" (PLTW) Distinguished Launch School and a 2020-21 PLTW Distinguished Gateway School.

This honor means that the Royal STEM Academy is committed to helping students own their education by increasing student access, engagement, and achievement in their PLTW programs. The program has received this honor each year since 2017.

—CONTRIBUTED REPORT



ROYAL ISD

Royal High School students Zariya Scott, Monica Appel, Rafael Sanchez, Abbigail Parrada, Alexis Ibarra, Ricardo Lopez and Adamarys Zargoza participated at Legislation Day at the state Capitol, above.

Royal football players, left, take time out to give back to their community by reading to some young students.



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Katy Home and Garden Show set March 27-28 at ag science center

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

The annual Katy Home and Garden Show returns next week with a new venue to accommodate more people.

The show is set for 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. March 26 and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. March 27 at the Gerald D. Young Agriculture Sciences Center, 5801 Katy Hockley Cut Off Road. Organizers said the move is intended to provide more space for exhibitors and the public. The show will feature twice as many exhibits than in past shows, along with garden and outdoor living exhibits, food sampling and food trucks.

Tickets are \$7 for adults. Children 12 and under are free. On Sunday, teachers who present their badges at the box office enjoy free admission for themselves and a guest. All active military personnel and first responders who present their valid ID at the box office enjoy free admission for themselves and guest on Sunday, as well.

Parking is free.

Among the presenters are Stacey Lynn, the Barndominium Lady, who will show how she transforms metal barn buildings into stunning, open-content homes.

Lauren Sotomayor, the Cheese Chica, will provide cheese and charcuterie boards, grazing tables,



private charcuterie and cocktail classes. She will also provide easy, delicious recipe videos and ideas on her Instagram page. There is limited seating for her sessions.

Other sessions include Ask a Master Gardener, where one can get expert tips on improving his or her garden.

The show features an expansive 10,000+ square feet dedicated to garden and outdoor living ideas, including the fabulous Brookwood Spring Plant Sale.

A Spring Gift Market provides shoppers the chance to for gifts and home décor. A Pet Central provides shoppers the chance to purchase goodies for their pets.

For more information, visit the website katyhomeandgardenshow.com.



Lauren Sotomayor, the Cheese Chica (top), and Stacey Lynn, the Barndominium Lady, are among the presenters at this year's Katy Home and Garden Show.

DPS set to increase patrols for spring break

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) will increase its presence on the roads to ensure highways are safe as part of a spring break enforcement campaign. From March 12-20, the Texas Highway Patrol will be looking for people who are violating traffic laws as part of Operation CARE (Crash Awareness and Reduction Effort). The operation will include St. Patrick's Day.

"Spring break is a time for fun and relaxation, but we need to make sure people are enjoying their vacations responsibly and following the law," DPS Director Steven McCraw said. "DPS will step up enforcement efforts on the roads, and we hope drivers will obey the posted speed limits, along with all the other laws, to make it possible for everyone to have a safe spring break."

During the 2021 spring break enforcement effort, DPS troopers issued more than 73,700 citations and warnings for violations. This included 7,236 speeding citations, 919 citations for seat belt or child safety seat violations and 500 Move Over, Slow Down citations and warnings. Troopers also made 512 felony arrests, 417 DWI arrests and 235 fugitive arrests.

To have a safe spring break holiday, DPS offers these tips:

- Don't drink and drive. If you

plan to have alcohol outside your home, have a designated driver or take alternate transportation.

- Move Over or Slow Down for police, fire, EMS, Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) vehicles and tow trucks stopped on the side of the road with emergency lights activated. Show the same courtesy to fellow drivers who are stopped.
- If you can Steer It, Clear It. If you are involved in a non-injury crash and your vehicle can be moved, clear the lanes of traffic. On some highways, if you don't move your vehicle when it's safe to do so, it's against the law.
- Slow down, especially in bad weather, heavy traffic, unfamiliar areas or construction zones.
- Buckle up — it's the law.
- Eliminate distractions while driving, including the use of mobile devices. Texas law prohibits the use of portable wireless devices to read, write or send messages unless the vehicle is stopped.
- When using a navigation app, have a passenger operate it.
- Don't drive fatigued.
- Keep the Texas Roadside Assistance number stored in your phone. Dial 1-800-525-5555 for any type of roadside assistance.
- Monitor weather and road conditions wherever you're traveling. For road conditions and closures, visit the website drivetexas.org.

Rotary sets dates, new location for this year's Wild West Brew Fest

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

The Rotary Club of Katy has announced the dates and new location for the 2022 Wild West Brew Fest event.

The K-Town Throwdown will kick off the multi-day event on Nov. 3, with the launch party set for Nov. 4. The Wild West Brew Fest

will be on Nov. 5. The event will now be hosted at Typhoon Texas, 555 Katy Fort Bend Road.

Organizers said the park's water rides won't be running, but the liquids will be flowing. The move is expected to offer more space, live music stages, lounge areas and much more for guests. Better yet, it is still within walking distance

from all hotels.

Organizers said the event continues to be about giving back to the community. The Rotary Club of Katy, formed in 1946, has a strong membership of local businesses and professional men and women. The club is part of Rotary International, and the non-profit organization plans activities and

fundraisers to contribute to the local and international community.

Katy Rotarians founded the Wild West Brew Fest 10 years ago and is a member of the Brewers Association of America. It has been awarded the "#1 Beer Fest in North America" award for consecutive years. The Wild West Brew Fest is a volunteer-created

and volunteer-run, with all proceeds returned to the community through student scholarships and donations to charitable organizations. Since its inception, organizers said, the Wild West Brew Fest has raised and donated almost \$1 million.

Tickets are available at the website wildwestbrewfest.com.

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WEEK OF MARCH 19

SCHEDULES

BASEBALL

Thursday

- Katy vs. Cinco Ranch, 6 p.m.
- Tompkins vs. Morton Ranch, 6 p.m.
- Taylor vs. Mayde Creek, 6 p.m.

Friday

- Jordan at Magnolia West, 7 p.m.
- Taylor vs. Mayde Creek, 6 p.m.
- Paetow vs. College Station, 7 p.m.

Saturday

- Seven Lakes vs. Kingwood Park, 4 p.m.

Tuesday, March 22

- Cinco Ranch vs. Taylor, 6:30 p.m.
- Jordan vs. College Station, 7 p.m.
- Katy vs. Texas City, 5 p.m.
- Mayde Creek vs. Morton Ranch, 6 p.m.
- Paetow vs. A&M Consolidated, 7 p.m.
- Tompkins vs. Seven Lakes, 6 p.m.

SOFTBALL

Thursday

- Jordan vs. College Station, 1:30 p.m.
- Paetow vs. Brenham, 1:30 p.m.

Saturday

- Cinco Ranch at Memorial, 1:30 p.m.
- Paetow vs. College Station, 1:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 22

- Jordan vs. Rudder, 6:30 p.m.
- Mayde Creek vs. Morton Ranch, 6:15 p.m.
- Paetow at Atascocita, 6 p.m.
- Tompkins vs. Seven Lakes, 6 p.m.
- Cinco Ranch vs. Taylor, 6:15 p.m.

BOYS SOCCER

Monday, March 21

- Jordan at Bryan Rudder, 7:30 p.m.
- Seven Lakes vs. Paetow, 7 p.m., Legacy Stadium

GIRLS SOCCER

Monday, March 21

- Jordan vs. Bryan Rudder, 7:30 p.m.

TRACK & FIELD

Friday

- Mayde Creek at Texas Southern meet
- Seven Lakes at Strake Jesuit meet



Tompkins' Jose Ramos is brought down by a defender during Friday's District 19-6A game against Mayde Creek at Rhodes Stadium.

PHOTOS BY TYLER TYRE

Tompkins closes out district with win over Mayde Creek

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Luis Lugo knows how important it is to take every game seriously.

Even with a playoff spot locked up heading into the last game of district 19-6A play, the Tompkins junior captain and his teammates knew they had things they could work on, and could build momentum against Mayde Creek.

The Falcons came out 5-2 winners over the Rams on Friday in the final game of district play, closing out the regular season on a positive note before heading into

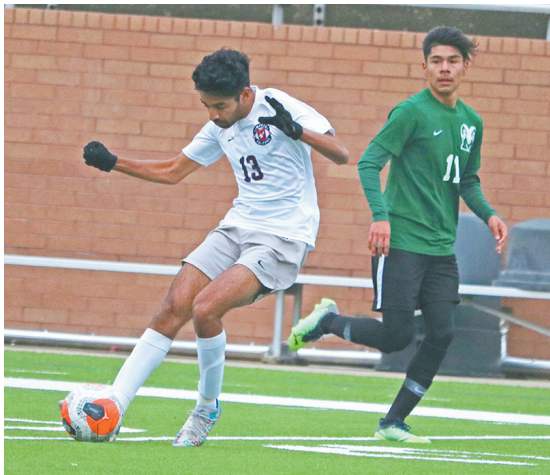
the playoffs.

"We knew that we couldn't take our foot off the gas today," Lugo said. "It's exciting, especially heading to the playoffs to be able to close things out with a win. I'm just excited that we were able to end things in district on a positive note so we can carry that forward."

The Falcons set the tone from the get-go, pressing Mayde Creek at every opportunity and possessing the ball for large chunks of the game.

"I think we possessed the ball really well today," said Tompkins

See **SOCCER**, page B2



Tompkins' Ojas Shandilya makes a pass during Friday's District 19-6A game against Mayde Creek at Rhodes Stadium.

A&M Corpus Christi clinches berth to NCAA Tournament

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

It was a night 15 years in the making.

Over the past few years, Texas A&M Corpus Christi has had its struggles, recording losing seasons each year from 2017-2021.

Last season was the worst of the bunch for the Islanders, as they won just five games and only two games in conference.

But now, the Islanders are going dancing.

Behind a suffocating defense down the stretch and a balanced offense, A&M Corpus Christi topped Southeastern Louisiana 73-65 Saturday at the Merrell Center, winning the Southland Conference Tournament championships and securing the conference's automatic bid into the 2022 NCAA Tournament.

"I couldn't be more proud of this

See **NCAA**, page B8



MARK GOODMAN | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

A&M-Corpi's Christis De'Lazarus Keys #13 gets the slam dunk during the Southland Conference Basketball Championship between A&M Corpus Christi vs Southeastern Louisiana.

Katy opens district with run rule win over Mayde Creek

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Cole Kaase knows there aren't any easy wins in District 19-6A.

The Katy junior had been off to a hot start on the mound this year and wanted to keep that going as the team opened district play against Mayde Creek.

Kaase overcame a shaky start on the mound as his hot start to the season continued in a 17-4 win for the Tigers over the Rams at the Mayde Creek baseball field on Tuesday. Kaase threw four strong innings and Katy put up 15 runs in two innings to run rule Mayde Creek.

"It was a big win for us," Kaase said. "It felt great to go out there first game of district and have a good performance. My team gave me a lot of runs and put us in a good position and it was just great to be able to go out there and start district the right way."

Kaase gave up two runs on

two hits over four innings while striking out five and walking four in the win, having problems with his control in one or two innings, but overcoming it to lead the Tigers to the win.

It was tight until the later innings and both Mayde Creek and Katy went scoreless in the first. But Katy struck first as they plated two in the top of the second off an error by Mayde Creek.

The Rams took the lead in the bottom of the third, as Brandon Lumpkins singled to start things and then was brought around to score on a walk. Another Mayde Creek runner was walked to tie things before another run scored on a Isaac Soto hit but Katy was able to throw a runner out at the plate to limit the damage. But Katy came back with two runs of their own in the top of the fourth, as Reese Ruderman scored on an error and Parker Kidwell drove in

See **BASEBALL**, page B6



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Tompkins' Jose Ramos cuts inside during Friday's District 19-6A game against Mayde Creek at Rhodes Stadium.
PHOTOS BY TYLER TYRE

Tompkins ready to make another run

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

The playoff atmosphere is nothing new for Tompkins. The Falcons are reigning Region III 6A finalists and have had success both in the playoffs and in district and know what it takes to succeed. The Falcons have a week before playoffs begin, but they are already getting prepared and using the extra time in spring break to their advantage. So with another trip to the playoffs on the horizon, Tompkins is already ready and locked in. "After district, we get locked in, we get ready for what we have to do in the playoffs," said junior forward

"The key with this week is to get rest, relax, and let the nerves go away. We're excited for the playoffs, but we also want to relax and enjoy this last part of the year. That's when we play our best."

—Luis Lugo, Tompkins junior forward

ward Luis Lugo. "The key with this week is to get rest, relax, and let the nerves go away. We're excited for the playoffs, but we also want to relax and enjoy this last part of the year. That's when we play our best." Tompkins clinched a second seed on Friday with a 5-2 win over Mayde Creek and a tie between Seven Lakes, which finished first, and

Cinco Ranch which finished third. A No. 2 seed was huge for the Falcons, especially with knowing how hard it is to compete in District 19-6A against other Katy ISD schools. "In our eyes as a team, we know this district is one of the most competitive in Texas. You have Seven Lakes — we took a big loss to them and they're a great team,"

Lugo said. "We really love that we get to play against every opponent in this district; there are no days off. It prepares us for playoffs really well because we know when we get to the playoffs the teams are going to be at the same level we've been facing all through district." Having that extra week to rest and prepare also is huge for a team that had to grind through such a difficult district schedule. The Falcons not only come off a regional final appearance last year, but they've made the regional semifinals four different times. This isn't a team that lacks experience and they feel that gives them an edge in any matchup. "Having that experience is so big," Lugo said. "I think doing

that again and again, having that experience, being there before, it shows that it's built in our DNA just to go in the playoffs. That's our programs identity. We don't really chase the district title, we focus on the process and being ready come playoff time." Tompkins will play a tune-up game against Klein Forest next Monday before heading into the playoffs, and The Falcons are ready and excited to go. "We'll give them those couple days off, let them get that rest, and then we'll start to get them focused for it," Jones said. "Like every year when we get to playoff time, we have to reach a new level of focus and be ready to work every single day."

SOCCER

from page B1

head coach Tom Jones. "That's one thing we've focused on, we had been struggling in the attacking third as well, but we did a lot better there tonight, creating and finishing chances. Those two things were really good for us." It didn't take long for Tompkins to get the scoring started, as just seven minutes into the game Ojas Shandilya hit a left-footed shot from 25 yards out and scored, scorching the ball into the back of the net. Jose Ramos doubled the Tompkins lead just nine minutes later when he latched onto a corner kick and headed the ball past the goalie. Ramos added a second in the 31st minute when he curled a shot past the keeper from the left side to make things 3-0 off an assist from Lugo. "We've put a lot of emphasis on transitioning from our defense to our offense," Jones said. "It's a thing we've

focused on a lot lately and we did a good job of that tonight." Lugo notched a goal for himself after that, getting on the end of a cross in the 37th minute to make things a four-goal lead for Tompkins heading into halftime. Ramos started the season on the wing, but Tompkins has switched their formation to two strikers up top recently, and Lugo and Ramos have fed off each other as they share the position. "We've been working together since freshman year together, so it's just been wonderful to be able to play with him up top," Lugo said. "Every day in summer, after school each day, we know how to work together, and we complement each other's games. He's quick, I have good technique and we both have some really good traits, so it just works." Tompkins got one more goal in the

second half, as Bryce Shockley got a tap-in after a Mayde Creek save that bounced right back to him. Mayde Creek got two goals in the second half, and Jones knows there are still some things the team can do to improve. "Defensively we have to get better and then we can't turn the ball over as much as we did either," Jones said. "We still have a couple issues we have to work on." Tompkins will have a week of rest and preparation before the playoffs start and they hope to take advantage of it. "We need that rest week," Lugo said. "Tuesdays and Fridays are fun, but it's tough, it's a grind. But having this week of spring break to prepare, that's when everyone starts clocking in and getting in that playoff mentality and it lets us get our bodies ready."



Tompkins' Jose Ramos heads a ball towards goal during Friday's District 19-6A game against Mayde Creek at Rhodes Stadium.



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SOFTBALL ROUNDUP

Harrison drives in 5, strikes out 13 in Katy win

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Cameryn Harrison was everywhere for Katy on Wednesday. The Tigers' sophomore dominated Mayde Creek in a 15-1 Katy win, striking out 13 and allowing just one hit and zero runs over six innings while walking just two batters and going 4-5 at the plate, driving in five while hitting a home run and a double.

Katy took control early, as Ashtyn Reichardt came around to score on an error. The Tigers added three more in the top of the third, as Reichardt drove in a run on a groundout. Harrison singled to drive in two runs, making it 4-0 early in the game.

Erynne Castillo ended the game 2-5 with 3 RBIs and had a triple while Reichardt was 4-5, driving in two while scoring three runs and tallying two doubles and a triple. Lauryn Socken, Montgomery Henderson and Haley Lance all drove in one run apiece in the win.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9

Abke dominates on mound as Seven Lakes keeps win streak going

Amy Abke struck out 17 while allowing just four hits and one unearned run in an 8-1 Seven Lakes win over Morton Ranch on Tuesday.

Seven Lakes continued their dominant start to District 19-6A play, as they had eight hits on the night, while continuing to keep opponents at bay in the score column.

Dulce Franco got Seven Lakes on the board in the first inning. After walking, Franco stole third base and scored on an error to give the Spartans the lead.

The Spartans broke things open in the fourth inning, when Emma Wingate doubled to bring home a run, and Ashley Abel followed that up with an 2 RBI double of her own. Abel then came around to score on a Morton Ranch error. Seven Lakes then added two more in the fifth on a Meghan Kelly single.

Morton Ranch got its only run on a passes ball in the sixth inning, as Michelle Meeks came around to score, and Seven Lakes added their eighth and final run in the sixth as well, as Sarah Petree singled to bring home Abke.

Jiselle Lopez took the loss for Morton Ranch, striking out six over six innings while walking five and giving up five earned runs on eight hits.

Tompkins holds off Taylor for win

Ashley Martinec put together a gem of a performance on the mound Wednesday, leading Tompkins over Taylor 4-2, allowing one hit and one run over five innings while striking out four and walking none.

Taylor got things started in the second inning, as Sophie Jenkins hit a solo homer to put the Mustangs up by one.

Tompkins tied things in the bottom of the third, as Morgan Brown doubled to score a run and Blakely Haynie followed that up with a double of her own, as Tompkins scored two to take the lead in the inning.

Kaitlyn Schribner did all the damage in the fourth inning, as she



SHEA DONALDSON | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

Katy High sophomore Cameryn Harrison looks on after taking a swing during Game 1 of the team's area playoff series against Houston Heights last year.

took a pitch and homered to center field, scoring two and giving the Falcons cushion in the game.

Taylor got one back in the sixth, as Katherine Brunner walked to score a run as the bases were loaded, but that was all the damage the Mustangs could muster. Kaelyn Lerma took the loss for the Mustangs, allowing three earned runs on eight hits over eight innings while striking out two and walking none.

Burg shuts out Magnolia West in Cinco win

Krista Burg threw a complete game shutout on Wednesday to lead Cinco Ranch to a 3-0 win over Magnolia West.

Burg struck out four over seven innings while allowing just two hits and walking one in the Cougars win.

Faith Piper got the Cougars on the board in the third inning, as she doubled down the right field line to score Burg, who had reached on a bunt single before stealing second base. Shelby Hodge doubled the Cinco lead in the fourth inning, as she homered to right field, making it 2-0 and Hodge put the game away in the sixth, doubling to center to score Gissel Morales, who had doubled to start the inning.

The Cougars finished the game with six hits in total while committing no errors in the win.

Paetow uses big third inning, pitching to top Waller

Jade Catherwood was strong on the bump all day for Paetow, as the Panthers pitcher helped lead the team to a tight 3-2 win over Waller. Catherwood allowed just four hits, two runs with only one being earned while striking out two and walking none.

Waller got on the board first in the top of the third on a sacrifice bunt, but Paetow had the response, scoring all three of their runs in the bottom half of the inning.

Mia Galarza got the inning started with a double, before Alicia Briones walked to put runners on first and second. Samantha Guillory followed that up with a single, scoring two runs and Sade Guerra hit a sacrifice fly to left field to score Guillory.

Waller got a run back in the fifth, when Addison Bean hit a ground ball and reached on an error to score a run, but Paetow threw Guerra out to end the inning when she tried to steal second and Waller never got another run.

Jordan can't keep up with A&M Consolidated

Jordan didn't have enough to hand with A&M Consolidated on Wednesday, falling 17-2 in a District 19-6A matchup.

The Warriors surrendered 16 runs on 17 hits, while committing

four errors in the loss.

Jordan only mustered two hits on the day, one each from Cady Bowyer and Brooke Hidalgo, but still scored two runs.

Jordan got both of their runs in the first inning, Allie Hakimzadeh walked and Bowyer doubled to put two runners on. Hakimzadeh and Bowyer then both came around to score on a wild pitch. Hidalgo took the loss, allowing 12 earned runs over five innings while striking out one and walking five.

FRIDAY

Harrison no-hits Cinco Ranch

Cameryn Harrison is on a roll. Fresh off a 13 strikeout performance, the Katy sophomore one-upped herself, no-hitting Cinco Ranch in an 11-0 Katy win to keep the Tigers in second place in the District 19-6A standings.

Harrison struck out nine over five innings, walking just one, which kept her from getting a perfect game. But it wasn't just on the mound where she excelled, as she went 3-3 at the plate hitting a home run and a double while driving in seven of the Tigers 11 runs to help lead Katy to the win.

Katy got two runs in the first, as Ashtyn Reichardt singled to drive in a run and Harrison followed that up with a single of her own to make things 2-0.

The Tigers stretched that lead to

five in the third, as Kailey Wyckoff scored an error and Harrison doubled to center to score two runs. And the Tigers put things away in the fourth. Cinco Ranch walked in a run before Harrison hit a grand slam and Hailey Gore ended things with an RBI single.

Tompkins puts up 11 runs in win over Morton Ranch

Tompkins had an offensive explosion while Ashley Martinec completely shut down Morton Ranch in an 11-0 district win for the Falcons.

Martinec allowed just two hits over five innings, striking out six while walking none, to secure the shutout.

Morgan Brown singled to drive in a run before Samantha Crumrin doubled to center field to score two runs to give the Falcons a 3-0 lead in the first inning. The Falcons then broke things open in the top of the third, as Brown tripled to score a run and Crumrin followed that up with a single that drove in two. McKenna Wisniewski followed that up with a walk to score a run and Brown came up for the second time in the inning and singled two score two more, making it 9-0.

Tompkins scored one more run in each of the fourth and fifth innings to seal the win.

Paetow falls by one run to A&M Consolidated

Paetow narrowly lost to A&M Consolidated, 5-4 in a tight affair.

Jade Catherwood did her best on the mound to keep Paetow in things, as she struck out three over six innings but allowed 10 hits and five runs while walking five, taking the loss in the matchup.

A&M Consolidated took a one-run lead in the bottom of the first, Paetow followed that up in the top of the second by battling back to take the lead, as Alexis Rodriguez scored on a wild pitch and Shy'Lynn Brown scored on an error.

There weren't any runs in the third, but A&M regained the lead in the bottom of the fourth, getting an RBI single and an RBI double to make things 4-2. Paetow got one run back in the top of the fifth, with Alicia Briones hitting a sacrifice fly to score Brown, but the Panthers weren't able to tie things.

Consolidated added an insurance run in the bottom of the sixth on a line drive RBI double and Paetow got one back in the top of the seventh as Mia Galarza scored on a passed ball, but the game came to an end as Sade Guerra flied out to center with two outs to end it.

Jordan falls to Brenham

Jordan fell behind early and couldn't find a way back into the game in an 11-1 loss to Brenham.

Brooke Hidalgo lasted four innings for Jordan, striking out one while walking eight with eight hits and allowing six unearned runs in the loss.

Brenham's offense was on fire early, as they scored five runs in the fifth, two in the second and four in the third to secure the win. Jordan got one run back in the fourth, as Madeline Williams grounded into a fielders choice and Cady Bowyer came around to score, keeping Brenham from getting a shutout. Bowyer and Hidalgo had Jordan's two hits on the day, with Williams getting the team's lone RBI on the fielders choice.

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DEADLINE:
Thursday, March 31st at 4 p.m.

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Contact: Susan Rovegno, Publisher, Katy Times
cell 914-522-4612 or susan.rovegno@katytimes.com

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Tuesday, March 29th from 8am-4pm in Conference room at Hampton Inn Houston Deer Park Ship Area 1450 Center St. Deer Park, TX 77536 (281) 930-9091
 or
Wednesday, March 30th from 8am-4pm in Conference room at Best Western PLUS Mid County 7550 Anchor Dr. Port Arthur, TX 77642 (409) 237-5749
 or online at: omnienvrionmentalsolutions.com

*Floyd Boudreaux 504-912-4411 floyd.boudreaux@oesinc.com
 Andres Marroquin 956-337-7023 andres.marroquin@oesinc.com
 Michael Marshall 337-654-1091 michael.marshall@oesinc.com
 Shane Meyers 337-335-8133 shane.meyers@oesinc.com
 Brian Fontenot 337-896-2758 brian.fontenot@oesinc.com
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Application has been made with The Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine and Malt Beverage On-Premise Permit by CNBGB, LLC DBA Pappa Gyros, to be located at 21910 Franz Road, Katy, TX. Officer of this company is Christos N Batsios.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine and Malt Beverage Retailer's On-Premise Permit (BG) by Willy Burger Katy, LLC to be located at 6191 Hwy Blvd. #101, Katy, TX. Officers of this company are Alden Pond.

INVITATION TO WATER PLANT CONTRACTORS

OWNER: Waller County MUD 34

PROJECT NAME: Waller County MUD 34 Water Plant (Phase II)

PRE-BID: Thursday, March 10, 2022 at 10:00 AM

BID OPENING: Thursday, March 24, 2022 at 2:00 PM

Project: Construction of the Phase II design of the proposed Waller County MUD 34 Water Plant. The project site is located near the intersection of Hebert Road and FM 362 Road in Waller, Texas 77484.

Obtaining the Bidding Documents: Drawings, specifications and bid documents may be obtained from www.civcastusa.com, search Waller County MUD 34 Water Plant (Phase II).

Pre-Bid Conference: A pre-bid conference for the Project will be held at **10:00 AM on Thursday March 10, 2022** at the WaterEngineers, Inc. office, 17230 Huffmeister Road, Suite A, Cypress, Texas 77429. **Attendance at the pre-bid is encouraged, but not mandatory.**

Bid Opening: Sealed Bids, in duplicate, addressed to “Waller County Municipal Utility District No. 34” will be received at the office of WaterEngineers, Inc. Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud on **Thursday, March 24, 2022, at 2:00 PM.**

A **cashier's check or bid bond** in the amount of 5% of the total Bid amount from an FDIC insured bank or surety company licensed to issue bid bonds in the State of Texas must accompany each bid. The Successful Bidder will be required to provide performance, payment, and maintenance bonds for the full amount of the contract. The Successful Bidder, if any, will be the responsible Bidder which in the Owner's judgment will be most advantageous and result in the best and most economical completion of the Project. The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

March 10 Puzzle Answers

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

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			A	N	N		D	E	E		E	N	E

950 PUBLIC NOTICES	950 PUBLIC NOTICES
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INVITATION TO BIDDERS

Sealed Bids in duplicate will be received by Harris County M.U.D. No. 167 in the office of KGA/DeForest Design, LLC (L.A. License No. 2602, Texas), 24275 Katy Freeway, Suite 300, Katy, Texas, 77494 until 2:15 P.M. on March 31, 2022 for Nimmo Park Shade Structure Addition.

All bids will be publicly opened and read aloud for construction of improvements including shade sail additions over existing playground area.

Bidders shall submit two (2) copies of the Bid on exact copies of the Bid Form provided. A Conflict of Interest Questionnaire (Form CIQ) and Certificate of Interested Parties (HB Form 1295) must be returned with Bid. (Forms are provided with Spec Book)

Bid Documents may be examined without charge in the offices of KGA/DeForest Design, LLC, 24275 Katy Freeway, Suite 300, Katy, Texas, 77494, or may be obtained upon deposit of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) for each set. This sum is non-refundable and checks should be made payable to KGA/DeForest Design, LLC. Only check or money order will be accepted.

A Cashier's Check or Bidder's Bond Payable to Harris County M.U.D. No. 167 in the amount of not less than five percent (5%) of the bid submitted, outlined in the Contract Documents, must accompany the Bid.

A Mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting is scheduled for March 24, 2022 at 2:00 P.M. at the office of KGA/DeForest Design, LLC.

Bidders must have at least five years of confirmed experience on comparable size projects of a similar scope in the Houston Area.

The successful bidder receiving contract award must furnish Performance, Payment, and Maintenance Bonds in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) each of the total Contract price. Each such bond shall be executed by a corporate surety duly authorized to do business in the State of Texas.

The winning bid is decided not by low price but by this standard:

“The responsible person or persons that, in the Board's judgment, will be most advantageous to the District and result in the best and most economical completion of the District's proposed improvements.”

The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive bidding informalities.

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Katy Times

INVITATION TO BIDDERS

Sealed Electronic Bids, addressed to Quiddity Engineering, LLC, attention Cameron M. Miller PE., will be **electronically** received until 11:15 a.m. Local Time, Thursday, March 31, 2022, and then publicly opened and read for “Construction of Water, Sanitary, and Drainage Facilities in Stockdick Road Section 4 and 5 for Harris-Waller Counties Municipal Utility District No. 4, Harris and Waller County, Texas”

The bids will only be received electronically bid through CivcastUSA. The electronic bids will be publicly opened and read via conference call. Physical bids will not be accepted.

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, large public gatherings are not permitted by law. Bids will be publicly read aloud at the time bids are due via teleconference call. The number for this call is: 1-832-856-3756. Enter access code 522-263-519# when prompted.

Scope of Work of the Contract includes the following: Construction of Water, Sanitary, and Drainage Facilities in Stockdick Road Section 4 & 5.

Bids received after the closing time will be returned unopened. A **NON-MANDATORY** pre-bid conference will be held on Thursday, March 24, 2022, at 11:15 a.m. Local Time, via teleconference call. **The number for this call is: 1-832-856-3756. Enter access code 918-735-165# when prompted.**

Each Bid must be accompanied by a Bid Bond or a certified or cashier's check, acceptable to the Owner, in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the total amount Bid, as a guarantee that the successful bidder will enter into the Contract and execute the Bonds on the forms provided, and provide the required insurance certificates within seven (7) days after the date Contract Documents are received by the Contractor.

Copies of the bidding documents may be obtained from www.CivcastUSA.com. Bidders must register on this website in order to view and/or download specifications, plans, soils report, and environmental reports for this Project. There is NO charge to view or download documents.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all Bids and to waive all defects and irregularities in bidding or bidding process except time of submitting a Bid. The Successful Bidder, if any, will be the responsible Bidder which in the Board's judgment will be most advantageous to the District and result in the best and most economical completion of the Project.

The requirements of Subchapter J, Chapter 552, Government Code, may apply to this Bid and/or Contract and the Contractor agrees that the Contract can be terminated if the Contractor knowingly or intentionally fails to comply with a requirement of that subchapter.

HARRIS-WALLER COUNTIES MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 4

INVITATION TO BIDDERS

Sealed Electronic Bids, addressed to Quiddity Engineering, LLC, attention Travis W. Miller, PE, will be **electronically** received until 11:00 a.m. Local Time, Thursday, March 31st, 2022, and then publicly opened and read for “Construction of Water, Sanitary, and Drainage Facilities Sunterra Section 29 for Waller County Municipal Utility District No. 37, Waller County, Texas”

The bids will only be received electronically through CivcastUSA. The electronic bids will be publicly opened and read via conference call. Physical bids will not be accepted.

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, large public gatherings are not permitted by law. Bids will be publicly read aloud at the time bids are due via teleconference call. The number for this call is: 1-832-856-3756. Enter access code 653-772-626# when prompted.

Scope of Work of the Contract includes the following: Construction of WS&D Facilities in Sunterra Section 29

Bids received after the closing time will be returned unopened. A **NON-MANDATORY** pre-bid conference will be held on Thursday, March 24th, 2022, at 11:00 a.m. Local Time, via teleconference call. **The number for this call is: 1-832-856-3756. Enter access code 349-659-324# when prompted.**

Each Bid must be accompanied by a Bid Bond or a certified or cashier's check, acceptable to the Owner, in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the total amount Bid, as a guarantee that the successful bidder will enter into the Contract and execute the Bonds on the forms provided, and provide the required insurance certificates within seven (7) days after the date Contract Documents are received by the Contractor.

Copies of the bidding documents are on file at the following locations:

Copies of the bidding documents may be obtained from www.CivcastUSA.com Bidders must register on this website in order to view and/or download specifications, plans, soils report, and environmental reports for this Project. There is NO charge to view or download documents.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all Bids and to waive all defects and irregularities in bidding or bidding process except time of submitting a Bid. The Successful Bidder, if any, will be the responsible Bidder which in the Board's judgment will be most advantageous to the District and result in the best and most economical completion of the Project.

The requirements of Subchapter J, Chapter 552, Government Code, may apply to this Bid and/or Contract and the Contractor agrees that the Contract can be terminated if the Contractor knowingly or intentionally fails to comply with a requirement of that subchapter.

WALLER COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 37

YOUR NEWS.
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Find out what all your friends are talking about

Katy Times

THE KATY TIMES

Houston wins ACC Final to sweep conference titles

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

The University of Houston men's basketball team had already locked up an NCAA berth.

They didn't have much to prove heading into the American Athletic Conference Tournament, having already locked up the regular season title and proven themselves against the best in the nation.

But, the team wanted to cap off their conference season with another tournament championship.

They did just that, getting an emphatic win over Memphis, 71-53, to win the ACC Championship and

sweep both the regular season and tournament titles for only the fourth time in school history.

"I'm just really proud of our team," said Houston head coach Kelvin Sampson. "We've had a tough year in some ways, had tough scheduling. But to be able to win both the regular season and conference tournament is a huge accomplishment. Our kids said it in the locker room. They didn't want to leave any doubt who the best team in the conference was. They needed to do that today to cement that, especially against a team as good as Memphis. I'm just proud of my guys."

Fabian White led the way for

the Cougars, scoring 20 points on eight of 13 shooting and hitting two of four three-point attempts while Josh Carlton score 18 and both Taze Moore and Jamal Shead had double-digit scoring performances.

"It means a lot to be both regular season and tournament champions," White said. We faced a lot of adversity through the season and we all had to come together as a team to make up for Marcus Sasser and T-Mart's (Tramon Mark) offense and defense. It was a lot of hard work and there's a culture here that goes into it."

Houston jumped out to an early lead and never looked back, making

things 36-24 at the end of the first half. The Tigers would trail by as many as 15 in the second half but trimmed the deficit with 6:55 left in the game. But Houston withstood the run and never let the Tigers get that close in the remaining minutes.

"I never thought we couldn't win even with the injuries," Sampson said. "I just focused on how to put the guys in the best position to be successful. We couldn't think about winning the league, we had to focus on every game. When people go down, it's an opportunity. I'm happy for my staff because they figured out a way for us to win. We still felt like we could beat any of the teams here."

This is just the fourth time in school history that the Cougars have swept both the conference regular season and tournament championships, and the first time since the 1991-92 season.

"You always want to end your senior season on a good note, so to win the regular season and conference tournament is nice," White said. "But we'll celebrate today and tomorrow it's back to business. We have to take things game by game from here, we really don't know how it's going to go but we have to play hard, listen to the coaches and play defense. That's the biggest things in the NCAA Tournament."



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NOTICE

Gimbal Stabilizer for Camera with Bag found at Katy Heritage Park, 5990 George Bush Drive, Katy, TX for more information contact Janie Melara, Katy Police Department at 281-391-4848. If owner does not claim within 90 days of this publication, said property will be disposed of according to Article 18.17.

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Karnes City Auction Special Sale - Sat., March 19 @ Noon, Regular Saturday Sale to follow. 200+ head: Hereford, Tiger Stripe, Santa Gertrudis, Brangus, Brahman, Young Bred Cows & Pairs, Heifers & Bulls. Call Josh 830-623-2855, 1918 Hwy 80, Karnes City, TX. Pictures: www.karnescityauction.com/special-sales
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PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE of property to satisfy landlord's lien.

Sale to be held ONLINE AUCTION StorageTreasures.com

The facility is at Langham Creek Mini Storage, 18619 FM 529 Rd, Cypress TX 77433 Bidding will open at 10:00 am on March 16, 2022 and end at 10:00 am on April 16, 2022. Property will be sold to the highest bidder for cash. Cleanup and removal deposit will be required. Seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale ends. Property includes contents of space of the following tenants: Julia Peralta, Oluwakayode Akinwalere, Elizabeth Nunez, Shirley Taylor, Deloris Trueheart, Keith Caswell, Veronda Joseph, Daniel Van Nolen, Alisha Walker, Yvonne Kennedy, Carlos Murillo, Mulbah Knuku Sonie, Patricia Torres Acevedo.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

INVITATION TO BIDDERS

Sealed Bids, in duplicate, addressed to **Board of Directors, Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 171**, will be received at the Elyson Café, 23623 Elyson Falls Dr, Katy, TX 77493, from **1:30 p.m. - 2 p.m. Local Time, Wednesday, April 6th, 2022**, at which time all bids will be opened and publicly read for the furnishing of all material, equipment, labor and supervision necessary or incidental for Construction of **"Elyson Section 43 Landscape"**, Harris County, Texas.

Scope of Work for the Contract includes, but is not limited to, the construction of sprinkler irrigation, grading, grassing, planting, and landscape maintenance.

Bids received after the closing time will be returned unopened.

A MANDATORY pre-bid conference will be held on **Thursday, March 24, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Local Time**, at the Elyson Café, 23623 Elyson Falls Dr, Katy, TX 77493. Bid will not be opened unless the bidder or a representative was present at the pre-bid conference.

Each Bid must be accompanied by a Bid Bond or a certified or cashier's check, acceptable to the Owner, in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the total amount Bid, as a guarantee that the successful bidder will enter into the Contract and execute the Bonds on the forms provided, and provide the required insurance certificates within seven (7) days after the date Contract Documents are received by the Contractor.

Copies of the bidding documents may be obtained from www.CivcastUSA.com: search the Project name. Bidders must register on this website in order to view and/or download bid documents for this Project. There is NO charge to view or download documents.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all Bids and to waive all defects and irregularities in bidding or bidding process except time of submitting a Bid. The Successful Bidder, if any, will be the responsible Bidder which in the Board's judgment will be most advantageous to the District and result in the best and most economical completion of the Project.

The requirements of Subchapter J, Chapter 552, Government Code, may apply to this Bid and/or Contract and the Contractor agrees that the Contract can be terminated if the Contractor knowingly or intentionally fails to comply with a requirement of that subchapter.

HARRIS COUNTY MUD 171

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Cougars rolling heading into NCAA Tournament

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

The University of Houston is heading to the NCAA Tournament for the fourth straight season.

It wasn't an eventful selection Sunday for the Cougars, who had already known they would be competing, but that was just fine for Houston, who had already clinched an American Athletic Conference regular season and tournament championship.

"I'm just happy for these guys, having taken so many teams to the tournament that have different levels of expectations, it's such an accomplishment to make the tournament. No matter how far you make it it's an accomplishment. We've come a long way with this group, and where they are right now is a testament to their hard work, their ability to stay together and play for each other and pick each other up."

The No. 18 ranked Cougars will enter the tournament as the five seed out of the south region and play No. 12 seed and Conference USA Tournament champion University of Alabama at Birmingham. The two will meet Friday at PPG Paints Arena in Pittsburgh at 8:20 p.m. with the winner moving on to play the winner of No. 4 seeded Illinois and No. 13 seeded Chattanooga.

"It's really humbling for me, the success we've had here," Sampson said. "Coaches tend not to forget where they came from and I remember April of 2014. We had to start from scratch and there were some players that quit because they thought they couldn't win here early on. To see where we are now, I always thought we'd get here, because that was always the goal. I had a plan when I got hired, but I had a lot of help to get here."

It was a year full of adversity for Houston, which saw two of its best players go down to season ending injuries in Marcus Sasser and Tramon Mark along with having to replace four starters from last years final four team. But the Cougars still managed to sweep both the AAC in season and tournament crown while winning the second most games in school history.

"This team really had to come together," Sampson said. "Probably more than any other team we've had here. We had to be a team, we couldn't be a team of stars, it had to be teammates. That's what we teach and emphasize. When they can have success and get to this stage of the season and still be playing, it just makes me proud of them."

The first round won't be a warm-up for the Cougars. The Blazers are 27-7 on the season and are on a seven game win streak, and have a player that is scary for any opponent in Jordan Walker.

Walker currently is averaging over 20 points per game and 4.9 assists per game while shooting over 40% from 3-point range. Quan Jackson, Michael Ertel and KJ Buffen all also average double digit points for the Blazers.

"Sometimes we forget about what a great accomplishment it is for any team to make this tournament," Sampson said. "I was watching UAB in their conference tournament and it was such high quality basketball. They were playing North Texas State and people wouldn't understand how good that team is. They wouldn't understand how good of a player Jordan Walker is. I wish we weren't playing UAB because I'd like to watch them play. They're fun to watch and they have the most dynamic player we've played against all year."



SCOTT W. COLEMAN PHOTOS

Houston Cougars guard Jamal Shead (1) goes to the basket, above, during an NCAA men's basketball game between Houston and Wichita State on Jan. 8, 2022 in Houston, Texas. Left, Houston Cougars guard Taze Moore (4) dunks the ball during an NCAA men's basketball game between Houston and Wichita State on Jan. 8, 2022 in Houston, Texas.



TYLER TYRE

Parker Kidwell attempts to turn a double play during Tuesday's game between Katy and Mayde Creek at the Mayde Creek baseball field.

BASEBALL

from page B1

a run on an RBI single to regain the lead.

"It's good to see Kaase come back from giving up a couple runs and play well," said Katy head coach Tom McPherson. "But we also expect our kids to play hard all the time, so it's what we expected him to do. They've learned in the past that you have to respect everybody, especially in this district. You have to get after it because anyone in this district can beat you on any given day."

Katy turned things up to another level in the top of the fourth, scoring six runs in the inning to break the game open and cemented things in the fifth, scoring nine runs in the inning before Andrew Hilton came on in relief in the bottom of the fifth to close things out for the Tigers, allowing one run but securing the Tigers win.

It was a special occurrence for both sides as it was the first meeting between Katy and Mayde Creek with Will Handlin as head

coach of the Rams.

Handlin, a Mayde Creek graduate, had spent the previous six years as an assistant coach on the Katy staff before returning to his alma mater to take over the program.

"It was special playing with a former coach like that," McPherson said. "He's doing a good job over there and they played us tough, they were about one pitch away from making us panic. But our kids picked things up, they got some good key hits and thankfully were able to get the win."

Things will only get tougher for Katy in its second district game, as the Tigers will face Cinco Ranch, which comes off a 9-8 win over Summer Creek on Monday.

"We just have to keep ourselves ready and we need to get in the cages and make sure we are hitting better," Kaase said. "Cinco is a good team and we have to make sure we bring our best just like with everyone in this district."

PUBLIC NOTICE

Brief Explanatory Statements of Proposed Constitutional Amendments Special Election, May 7, 2022

Proposition Number 1 (SJR 2)

SJR 2 proposes a constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for the reduction of the amount of a limitation on the total amount of property taxes that may be imposed for general elementary and secondary public school purposes on the residence homestead of a person who is elderly or disabled in order to reflect any statutory reduction in the maximum compressed rate of the maintenance and operations taxes imposed for those purposes on the person's homestead from the preceding tax year.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for the reduction of the amount of a limitation on the total amount of ad valorem taxes that may be imposed for general elementary and secondary public school purposes on the residence homestead of a person who is elderly or disabled to reflect any statutory reduction from the preceding tax year in the maximum compressed rate of the maintenance and operations taxes imposed for those purposes on the homestead."**

Proposition Number 2 (SJR 2)

SJR 2 proposes a constitutional amendment increasing the amount of the residence homestead exemption from property taxes for public school purposes from \$25,000 to \$40,000.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment increasing the amount of the residence homestead exemption from ad valorem taxation for public school purposes from \$25,000 to \$40,000."**

UIW thrives as underdogs to win Southland crown

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

The University of the Incarnate Word felt doubted the whole Southland Conference Tournament.

Coming in as the fifth seed, the Cardinals had to run through a gauntlet to start the tournament, but they used what they saw as being looked down on as motivation, beating eighth seed Nicholls State 74-73, fourth seed McNeece 90-63 and No. 1 seed Houston Baptist 54-33 over the course of three days to reach the conference final.

Then, they overcame the biggest hurdle of them all on Sunday, as the Cardinals beat third seed Southeastern Louisiana 56-52 in a thrilling overtime game at the Merrell Center to take the Southland Conference crown and clinch the conference's automatic bid into the NCAA Tournament.

"Before we went on the floor, we talked about how everyone here would remember this day for the rest of their lives," said UIW head coach Jeff Doe. "Having this experience, you're never going to forget this, and obviously, what a memorable game it was."

It was a low scoring overtime, as Myra Bell scored a bucket early in the period to put UIW up two but Caitlyn Williams tied things with 47 seconds left.

UIW had the answer as Jaaucklyn Moore hit a jumper with 27 seconds left, but Southeastern got a steal in the backcourt and was fouled with a chance to tie the game. But Bell missed both free throws and Southeastern missed a layup with seconds left in the game to end things.

"I feel like being the fifth seed, not many people thought we would come in and win it and get the chance to go to the NCAA Tournament. But with how we've played, we were the best team, so now we're going to go and give the Southland conference the best representation in the tournament that we can."

It was a defensive battle early, as the teams were tied at five after the first quarter and the teams combined for 11 turnovers in the quarter.

But both teams turned that around in the second, as the offenses came alive. Southeastern scored eight straight points early in the quarter before UIW came back with a 7-0 run of its own. But Southeastern answered and after a hail Mary 3-pointer went in at the halftime buzzer, they held a five-point lead.

"We knew that it would be a game where we both went on runs," said Tania Gardner. "But going into halftime after she hit that bank 3-pointer, it was a little frustrating. We were only down five, but we weren't playing our best basketball. We were right there the whole time so we knew we just needed to lock in, settle down and keep playing our brand of basketball."

UIW came back in the third quarter and went on a run to start things and eventually tied the game heading into the fourth period.

Things got crazy in the fourth quarter, Southeastern held the lead heading into the final minutes, but UIW tied things at 42 by getting a 3-pointer and then took a 48-44 lead. But Southeastern hit a 3-pointer and then forced a turnover, getting a layup to take

Breonna Ducksworth's shot is blocked during Sunday's Southland Tournament Final at the Merrell Center between the University of the Incarnate Word and Southeastern Louisiana.

PHOTOS BY TYLER TYRE



Tania Gardner drives to the basket during Sunday's Southland Tournament Final at the Merrell Center between the University of the Incarnate Word and Southeastern Louisiana.



Chloe Storer and Destiny Jenkins, above, celebrate after winning Sunday's Southland Tournament Final at the Merrell Center between the University of the Incarnate Word and Southeastern Louisiana. Left, Morgan Carrier tries to pass the ball along the baseline during Sunday's Southland Tournament Final at the Merrell Center between the University of the Incarnate Word and Southeastern Louisiana.

the lead. Southeastern only went 1-3 from the line on their next two trips to the line however and it left UIW a chance.

The Cardinals threw it to Gardner in the post with seconds left and although she missed the layup, she was fouled and made both free throws to force overtime.

"This whole thing is surreal," Moore said. "We used to talk about this all the time, we knew anything was possible and like everyone has said it just feels great. I've told people before, my dream is to go to the NCAA Tournament, so to be able to do that, to win this conference and have that chance, it feels great."




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Sampson named Naismith coach of the year semifinalist

STAFF REPORT

After leading the University of Houston Men's Basketball program to another winning season, another ACC regular season championship and tournament championship and another NCAA Tournament berth, Head Coach Kelvin Sampson was named one of 10 semifinalists for the Werner Ladder Naismith Coach of the Year Award.

Now in his eighth season at Houston, Sampson has led the 18th-ranked Cougars to a 26-5 overall record and 15-3 mark in American Athletic Conference play. With the Cougars claiming the 2021-22 American regular-season and post-season titles, he became the first coach in Houston history to lead the program to three conference crowns in a four-year stretch.

Sampson already is the only coach in school history to lead the Cougars to seven consecutive 20-wins seasons. With his selection as the American Athletic Conference Coach of the Year for the third time earlier this week, he also became the first Cougar coach to receive three conference Coach of the Year honors.

After losing four starters from last year's NCAA Final Four squad, Sampson's 2021-22 team's impressive accomplishments have come despite losing Preseason All-American Athletic Conference First-Team guard Marcus Sasser and sophomore guard Tramon Mark to season-ending injuries in December 2021.

That duo combined to score more than 27.0 points per game prior to their injuries and continue to rank among the team's Top-Five scoring leaders entering this weekend's American Athletic Conference Championship.

Now in his 33rd season as a collegiate head coach, Sampson has compiled a 693-389 overall record with a 193-69 mark at Houston. He is one of only 16 coaches to lead multiple schools to the NCAA Final Four and ranks as the winningest coach in Houston history with a .737 career winning percentage.

Sampson was joined as a semifinalist by Mark Adams (Texas Tech), John Calipari (Kentucky), Ed Cooley (Providence), Scott Drew (Baylor), Steve Forbes (Wake Forest), Greg Gard (Wisconsin), Tommy Lloyd (Arizona), Matt McMahon (Murray State) and Bruce Pearl (Auburn).



Houston Cougars head coach Kelvin Sampson talks with guard Jamal Sheard (1) during an NCAA men's basketball game between Houston and Wichita State on Jan. 8, 2022 in Houston, Texas.

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group of guys that I'm sitting here with and the group of guys that is in the locker room," said A&M Corpus Christi head coach Steve Lutz. "You always want to play your best basketball in March and to these guys' credit, they stayed the course. They faltered a little bit but they got right back on the course and they never stopped believing in one another."

It was the culmination of a year of hard work for the Islanders. Lutz came in as head coach, his first head coaching job, in April and has built a program that is now NCAA tournament bound.

"We tried to buy into everything Coach told us all season," said Terrior Murdix, who was named the tournament's MVP. "As you can see, it worked. We're going to the Tournament and we're about to be dancing."

A&M Corpus Christi scored the game's first four points, but Southeastern responded with a 13-0 run, including three three-pointers to take control in early in the first half. The Islanders battled back to take their own lead and things continued to go back and forth throughout the first half, until A&M Corpus Christi went on a run to take a 33-26 lead, eventually leading 35-30 heading into the half.

"All of this started with the character of the guys in the locker room," Lutz said. "I never lost faith in that as a coach and it proved to be true. These guys, they're great ambassadors for the school and our basketball program and I'm



A&M-Corpus Christi punches a ticket to March Madness after winning the Southland Conference Basketball Championship game between A&M Corpus Christi vs Southeastern Louisiana.

just so proud of them."

Southeastern came back with a run to start the second half, trimming the Islanders' lead to one five minutes into the half, but Corpus Christi had the response, building the lead back up to seven with eight minutes remaining.

Southeastern struggled offensively down the stretch, going on a scoring drought of over 3 minutes and then going on a field goal drought that spanned the last five minutes and 12 seconds of the game.

This allowed the Islanders to get

out on the break and not have to deal with Southeastern's half-court defense, and A&M Corpus Christi grew its lead to double digits with 56 seconds to go, and effectively sealed the game.

"As a group, we knew if we wanted to win the game, we had to get

stops," said Jalen Jackson. "That's what it came down to and we knew that if the ball didn't go in, we'd be going to the tournament, because if we got stops then when the clock hit zero, we were going to win. So that's what we focused on."

For the Islanders, it's the schools first NCAA Tournament since 2007 and it was done with a team that brought in a new head coach and 12 transfers.

"It clicked immediately," Jackson said. "We got here June 8th of last year and we started playing pickup together. That's where we started building our chemistry and then we just decided we had to play together. There was a practice and everyone — the players, coaches and the managers — all had to put a foot in if we want to get where we think we can go. Everyone put that foot in and believed in the process."

The Islanders are still enjoying their win, but that doesn't mean they won't be ready for the challenge of the NCAA tournament.

"Just like we went to Notre Dame or Minnesota or Texas A&M, we have a belief that we can play with anyone," Lutz said. "When they throw the ball up at the beginning of the game, it doesn't matter the name on your jersey, what matters is what's under that jersey. These guys have what's in there and they've proven it. I feel like we absolutely compete with anyone in the NCAA tournament and we're going to go in there with a mindset of winning."

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