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THURSDAY, JUNE 23, 2022

## Trustees receive report on ESSER funds

BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER  
NEWS EDITOR

The Katy Independent School District is exceeding federally mandated requirements for pandemic-related funding it has received from the federal government, a district official said Monday. Christine Caskey is the district's

chief academic officer. She gave an update on the pandemic-related federal funding at Monday's school trustee meeting.

Caskey said the purpose of the program was to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools. In addition, the program is to address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on students.

Caskey said there are three federal stimulus laws when discussing the Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief (ESSER):

- ESSER I is the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, which provided approximately \$5.3 billion to the district. The money is fully supplanted by the state.

- ESSER II is the Coronavirus Response and Relief Appropriations (CRRSA) Act, which is to provide approximately \$29 billion to the district. A portion of this money is supplanted by the state.

- ESSER III is the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021, which is to provide approximately \$67 billion to the district.

Caskey said there are three areas in which the money could be spent: the safe return to school, dealing with learning loss, and student well-being. She said federal rules required that 20% of the money had to be spent on activities relating to the last two categories.

See **ESSER**, page A3



Deysi Crespo, Katy Christian Ministries executive director, prepares to cut the ceremonial ribbon provided by the Katy Area Chamber of Commerce. KCM Board parliamentarian and past president Patty Lacy stands at left. State Rep. Mike Schofield, R-Houston, and Katy Ward B Council Member Gina Hicks stand at Crespo's left.

## KCM opens Porter Road headquarters

BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER  
NEWS EDITOR

Katy Christian Ministries has long served the community with a big heart. So perhaps it is fitting that, when it opened its new headquarters Friday morning, it enjoyed two ceremonial ribbon cuttings.

Officials from both the Katy Area Chamber of Commerce and Fulshear Katy Area Chamber of Commerce, along with a host of volunteers and supporters, celebrated the opening of the new center, at 3506 Porter Road.

KCM is a 501(c)3 organization that focuses on four core programs. One is its crisis center, which deals with domestic and sexual abuse situations. A second is its food pantry. A third is its resale stores. Fourth are its social service programs.

The new building will serve as KCM's principal headquarters, yet not all of its operations will be moved there immediately. KCM's food pantry will remain at its 5504 1st St. location for the time being. The food pantry in the new building features higher ceilings and more room for food. But the new food pantry is on

the north side of the building. The trucks that deliver the food do not have access to that area for lack of paving.

The resale stores, both the 5504 1st St. and 23232 Kingsland Blvd. locations, remain in place. Both locations also serve as donation centers.

With all the inevitable chaos caused by the relocation, KCM has remained busy serving the public. Despite the pandemic becoming less of an issue, the need remains. The food pantry reported 3,266 total unduplicated households

See **KCM**, page A3

## Brookshire City Council votes to fire police chief

BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER  
NEWS EDITOR

The Brookshire City Council fired Police Chief Brandal Jackson for cause in a June 8 special meeting, but what the "for cause" means, however, was not immediately clear.

The termination came after a 3-2 council vote. Voting for termination were Alderwoman Position 3 and Mayor Pro Tem Kim Branch, Position 4 Alderwoman Amanda Neuendorf and Position 5 Alderman Jeremiah Hill. Hill made the motion to terminate. Neuendorf seconded it.

Voting against termination were Position 1 Alderwoman Monique Taylor and Position 2 Alderman Lyndon Stamps.

Both Jackson and Branch declined comment on the cause of termination, citing pending litigation.

Also unclear is who is now serving as the city's interim police chief. A Brookshire Police Department receptionist said all police department inquiries were to be referred to Mayor Darrell Branch. Efforts to reach the mayor for comment by press time were unsuccessful.

Darrell Branch served as police chief before he was elected mayor in 2019.

Jackson, given the chance to comment before the council voted to fire him, said he had given his heart and soul to the community.

"I had a job when I came here, when I was

**"You don't have to admit it to me. But you will have to admit it under oath."**

— Brandal Jackson, former Brookshire police chief

See **BROOKSHIRE**, page A3

### HAVE A NEWS TIP?

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June 23, 2022  
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Tom Lambert, METRO president and CEO, speaks at the Tuesday meeting of the Katy Area Economic Development Council.

## METRO looking at ways to improve service in Katy

BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER  
NEWS EDITOR

METRO President and CEO Tom Lambert said his agency has worked on several things to improve transportation in the Katy area, but admitted some things still needed to be worked on, in a Tuesday address at the Katy Area Economic Development Council.

The council held its meeting at the Embassy Suites, 16435 Katy Fwy.

Lambert said METRO built the Park and Ride centers at the northeast corner of the State Highway 99 meets I-10 intersection, and it also redid its northwest transit center, at the junction of I-10 West and Loop 610. Many Katy-area residents use that station, he said.

Presently, he said, METRO is working with the Texas Department of Transportation on what is called a REAL (for regional express access lanes) concept. Under this concept, hub centers would be built around the Houston area. Each cen-

ter would have access to different modes of transportation. Commuters could choose their best transportation options.

The need to plan for future transportation needs becomes more acute as the state's population grows. Lambert said he spoke with the state demographer last week. Lambert said the demographer told him that Texas expects to be home to about 47 million people by 2050, with about 87% of that population growth coming east of I-35.

"We're here to move people," Lambert said. "This area is very important."

Lambert shared a story about a company near Waller that needed to get people to its job site, but the company was far out in the region METRO serves. Company officials worked with METRO to use the already-existing West Little York Park and Ride station, 15010 Hempstead Road, to transport employees to the job site. Lambert called it a creative partnership.

See **METRO**, page A3

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Harris County Pct. 4 hosts dog adoption event Sunday

Harris County Pct. 4 invites the community to come meet the adoptable dogs of Harris County Pets from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday at Richard and Meg Weekley Park, 8440 Greenhouse Road in Cypress.

The event features doggie meet-and-greets, fun crafts, temporary tattoos, snacks, and live music. All newly adopted dogs will receive goodie bags with essential items for their new homes.

As an open intake facility, Harris County Pets is required to accept all surrendered animals that come through its doors. Although the shelter can comfortably house 200-225 dogs, populations rose to more than 340 this summer. This adoption event will help alleviate dangerous overcrowding at the shelter and kick off a series of similar events this summer.

Regular adoption fees are \$50 and include spaying and neutering, microchipping, a one-year Harris County pet license, and age-appropriate vaccinations.

To schedule an appointment, call 281-999-3191 or visit the website [countypets.com](http://countypets.com).

“Date Night” special marks opening of Katy soul food restaurant

Aunt Bill’s Soul Food Café, 22603 Morton Road, Suite 220, is offering a “Date Night” special as it opens for business.

Kevin and Ryan Muccular own the new venue, located near their That’s My Dog restaurant, which is celebrating its third anniversary.

The Aunt Bill’s date night, touted as an event for lovers and friends, includes dinner, dessert, and live music. The event is from 7-10 p.m. June 24. Reservations are \$125 per couple and mandatory. For more information, call 281-665-8457 or visit the website [auntbillsoulfood.com](http://auntbillsoulfood.com).

New home sales begin in Cross Creek West

Home sales in Cross Creek West have begun with Highland Homes being the first to offer designs in the new Fulshear community.

The builder has 14 floor plans for 60-foot properties available in Cross Creek West, and several homesites are on cul-de-sac streets and back to a greenway. The one- and two-story home designs range from 2,403 to 3,748 square feet and are priced from the \$500,000s.

Standard features include three to five



Harris County Pct. 4 is hosting a dog adoption event Sunday at Richard and Meg Weekley Park in Cypress. PEXELS

bedrooms, island kitchens, home offices and entertainment rooms. A three-car garage comes standard in most of the floor plans and can be added as an option on plans with two-bay garages. The designs also boast numerous structural options, including fireplaces, standalone tubs, extended covered patios and Flex Gen suites for multi-generational families. A model home will open later this year.

Newmark Homes will be the next to offer new homes in Cross Creek West, with sales expected to begin June 21. The builder will have 12 floor plans from its popular Artisan Series available in Cross Creek West. Homes situated on 50-foot properties will range from 2,354 to 3,989 square feet. Six water-front properties will be available. Standard features of the one- and two-story designs include four bedrooms, island kitchens, formal living and dining rooms, game rooms and two-car garages. Pricing will be from the \$440,000s.

Builders Lennar, Perry Homes and Westin Homes are expected to begin sales soon. Lennar is one of the nation’s largest homebuilders and offers an “Everything’s Included” package that includes smart home technology, energy-conscious features and more as standard. Perry Homes has been building homes for 55 years and operates in all four of Texas’ major markets.

The builder has more than 350 home designs and has built more than 55,000 homes across 80 communities. Westin Homes builds in more than 30 communities in Houston and Austin, with homes featuring the builder’s signature rotunda foyer.

Cross Creek West is a Johnson Development community located on FM 359 and Cross Creek West Boulevard in Fulshear. The master plan also calls for 15 acres to be devoted to a proposed Lamar Consolidated Independent School District elementary. A recreation center, pool, tennis courts and fitness room are slated to open in summer 2023. Greenbelts and waterways will meander through the community. Plus, Cross Creek West residents will have access to amenities at nearby sister community Cross Creek Ranch.

When complete, Cross Creek West will accommodate more than 3,000 homes on 1,258 acres. For more information about Cross Creek West, visit the website [crosscreekranch.tx](http://crosscreekranch.tx).

Katy Branch Library seeking adult volunteers

The Katy Branch Library, 5414 Franz Road, is looking for adult volunteers to help with various tasks around the library.

Tasks include shelving books, tidying shelves,



JOYCE CHRISS

In this file photo, volunteers Edna Rakoski, Lynn Kendal and Marjorie Reese prepare books for the bi-annual Friends of the Katy Branch Library Used Book Sale.

shelving held books, pulling held books, program prep activities, and light cleaning.

Prospective volunteers are asked to visit the library to pick up an application form. For more information, either visit the library or call 281-391-3509.

Katy Lions Club funding a second Katy Heritage Society scholarship

The Katy Heritage Society is offering a second \$1,000 scholarship for the best paper on Katy’s history. The Katy Lions Club is funding this second scholarship.

The scholarships will be awarded for the best nonfiction paper that focuses on some phase of Katy, its area history, or a notable person from Katy. The paper must incorporate original research and be accurately documented and cited. There is no requirement for length.

Participants must be enrolled or be seeking enrollment at an accredited community college, college, university, business, vocational, continuing education program or technical school and must reside or work within the geographic boundaries of the Katy Independent School District.

Deadline for submissions is Oct. 1. The scholarships will be awarded Nov. 17.

For more information, see the application rules and form, the abbreviated website for which is [bit.ly/3Ob8Qb5](http://bit.ly/3Ob8Qb5), or email the society at [Katy-HeritageSociety@outlook.com](mailto:Katy-HeritageSociety@outlook.com).

—CONTRIBUTED REPORTS

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The Katy Times will be closed on  
**July 2, 2021**  
in observance of Independence Day.

The deadline for all advertising and editorial copy in the **July 8 edition** is **5 p.m. on Thursday, July 1.**

Have a safe and happy holiday from The Katy Times staff

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

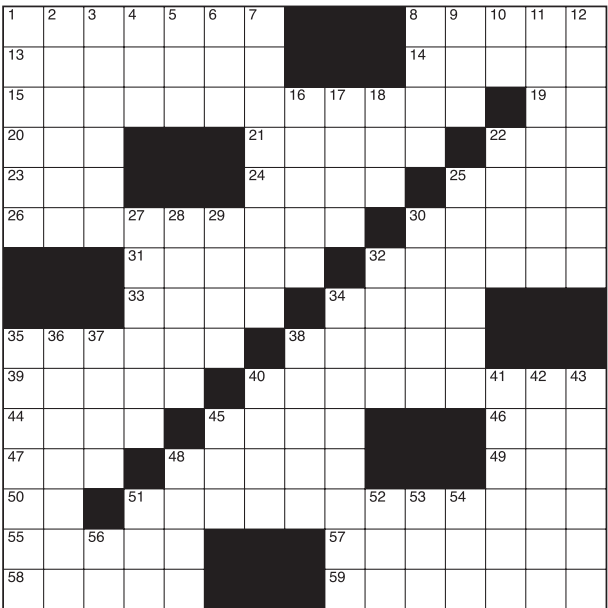
CLUES ACROSS

- Half-conscious states
- Unnatural
- Deep regret
- Rogue
- Took without permission
- An alternative
- After B
- Partner to “flowed”
- The best day of the week (abbr.)
- Helps you hear
- Egyptian river
- Lake \_\_, one of the Great
- Make free from bacteria
- Indigenous peoples of central Canada
- Sanctuaries in Greek temples
- Most unclothed
- NJ senator Booker
- Tibetan lake
- Desecrate something sacred
- John \_\_, English educator 1467-1519
- Obtains in return for labor
- Views
- Rugged cliff
- Not quiet
- Body part
- Newt

- German city
- A way to save money
- NBC’s Roker
- Dire Straits frontman
- Actress Lathan
- Most meager
- Poems
- Companions

CLUES DOWN

- Draws over
- Recur
- Current unit
- Neither
- Certified Radio Operator (abbr.)
- Power of perception
- Peace
- Supplemented with difficulty
- The last section or part of anything
- Dorm worker
- Bones
- Most unnatural
- Spanish island
- The skill to do something
- Where golf games begin
- Untethered
- Print errors
- The sport of engaging in contests of speed
- Ones to look up to
- Stringed instrument

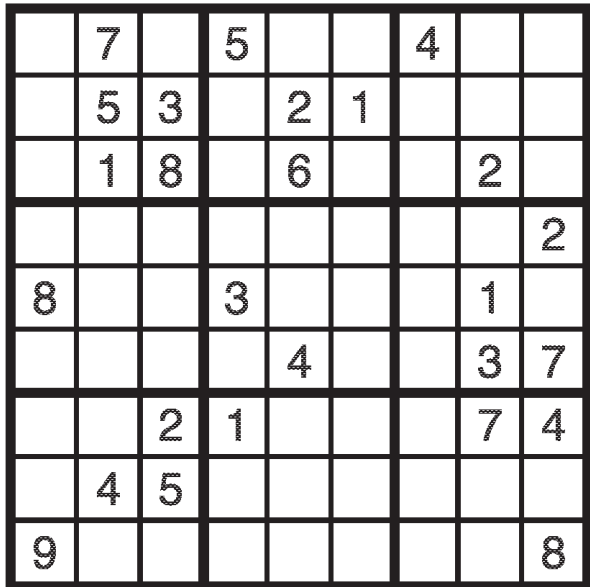


- Gives whippings
- Type of tie
- Make more concentrated
- Die
- Part of a winter hat
- Young men’s club
- Bathrooms need it
- U.S. president
- American novelist

- Take into custody
- Hurts
- Type of gibbon
- American actor Lukas
- Partner to cheese
- Some are covert
- Political action committee
- To and \_\_
- Atomic #28

Answers will be provided in next week’s edition.

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Answers will be provided in next week’s edition.



## ESSER

from page A1

ries, dealing with learning loss and student well-being.

The district is exceeding those expectations. Caskey said 40% of the money from ESSER II and 50% of the money from ESSER III are being spent on these categories.

“With a student population of just over 90,000 students, the remaining \$96 million equals approximately \$1,000 per student, just to help to give you some perspective,” Caskey told trustees.

She said about 45% of the ESSER II money has been spent and 20% of the ESSER III money has been spent.

### Safe return to school

Caskey said the district has purchased supplies to sanitize and clean facilities. The district has also developed strategies and implemented public health protocols for the reopening and operation of school facilities.

### Dealing with learning loss

Caskey said the district has performed a number of activities to deal with learning loss during the pandemic.

These activities include:

- Implementing activities to address the unique needs of special populations of

students.

- Providing mental health services and supports.
- Implementing activities related to summer learning and afterschool programs.
- Administering and using high-quality assessments.
- Implementing activities to address the comprehensive needs of students.
- Providing information and assistance to parents and families on effectively supporting students.

### Student well-being

Caskey said 13 social workers have interacted with 747 students, consulted with 480 students and provided support to 43 district campuses. She said behavior intervention is provided support that focused on classroom management and positive behavior support. The support also included interventions for individual students.

Caskey said the district plans to continue gathering feedback and monitor progress. She said a semi-annual public comment, along with a board update, is planned for the December trustee meeting.

Also at Monday’s meeting, trustees met in executive session to receive a safety and security update from district officials.



GEORGE SLAUGHTER

Deysi Crespo prepares to cut the ceremonial rope provided by the Fulshear Katy Area Chamber of Commerce. Don McCoy, chamber president, stands with State Rep. Mike Schofield.

## KCM

from page A1

served from January-April 2022. This is a 26% drop from the same period last year. The food pantry reported 491,769 total meals distributed, a 3.8% drop from the same period last year.

The crisis center reported that it worked with 306 primary and secondary domestic violence victims between January-April, a 26% drop from the same period last year. The crisis center reported that it worked

with 378 primary and secondary sexual abuse victims, a 37% drop from the same period last year.

KCM is still accepting donations as it completes what Crespo called “Round 2 of Phase 1” of their capital campaign. She said the center is working to raise about \$91,000 to meet its approximately \$275,000 target. For more information or to make a donation, see the website [kcm.org/donate](https://kcm.org/donate).

## BROOKSHIRE

from page A1

requested to come here,” Jackson said. “You have to know where we’ve been to know where we’re going.”

Jackson said when he joined the department—his LinkedIn profile said he joined the Brookshire Police in 2010—he was asked to meet with Drug Enforcement Agency officials.

“They sat me down at this round table, and they told me about the horrible things going on in this community,” Jackson said. “I had the opportunity then

to walk out, but I stayed.”

He said he stayed because he was getting calls from local senior citizens who told him that drugs were being sold in front of their homes.

“I gave up a job with a mayor and council that supported me and cared about me being there,” Jackson said. “I gave that up to come to a city that’s so divided where everyone is all political instead of who’s here for the betterment of this community,

and that’s where I come in. I have no hidden agendas. I have nothing to prove to anybody.”

Jackson said he received calls from and other area police chiefs expressing their support. He said he had no reservations about anything he’s done.

Jackson told the council that it didn’t have to admit that his firing was for political reasons.

“You don’t have to admit it here,” Jackson said. “You don’t have to admit it

to me. But you will have to admit it under oath.”

According to his LinkedIn profile, Jackson became Brookshire police chief in October 2010 after having served as San Felipe police chief for the previous two years. He began his career in 1992 as a correctional officer with the Texas Department of Corrections. In 1988 he became a correctional officer with the Texas Youth Commission. In 2000, he

joined the Austin County Sheriff’s Office as a deputy.

The Brookshire City Council is expected to meet in special session at 7 p.m. Thursday at the Brookshire Municipal Building, 4029 5th St. On the agenda is an executive session where council members are expected to discuss the police chief position, along with those of the city secretary, municipal court director and public works director.

## METRO

from page A1

“We have to get out of the box a bit,” Lambert said. “We have to look at the world differently. There’s no one way to meet a community’s need.”

The rising price of gasoline, and the emergency of alternate fuels, are other issues that METRO is considering when it comes to powering its buses. Lambert said METRO has passed a climate action plan and is looking towards low-emission vehicles. Towards that end, METRO has 20 electric buses on order, expected to arrive in November.

Lambert described the use of electric buses as very interesting and said that the METRO maintenance staff views it as an exciting opportunity. However, he said METRO has not committed to an all-electric fleet of vehicles. He said METRO looks forward to more maturing of other alternate fuels, and how they are used, over the next couple of years.

“We want a robust infrastructure that if we have a hurricane that shuts down the grid, we can still operate,” Lambert said.

Lambert’s comments were part of a question-and-answer session following a presentation in which he gave an overview of METRO projects. Among the more important ones to Katy is the METRO Rapid Inner Katy Project.

The project, he said, creates a frequent East-West transit spine that begins and ends at the Northwest Park and Ride station, but runs through downtown Houston. He said it maximizes the use of existing infrastructure.

Lambert joined METRO in 1979, the agency’s first year in operation, as a security investigator. He worked his way up the ranks and became president/CEO in 2014.

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# Stranger things in my daughter's bedroom

A few days ago, my wife and I joined some friends for a gathering during a few rare hours when we weren't busy hauling a teenager to some kind of expensive activity or hosting an entire herd of them at our home to ransack our pantry and abuse the plumbing. The highlight of the get-together was watching the final episode of "Stranger Things," Season 4, Volume 1 on Netflix while snacking, catching up, snacking, reminiscing, snacking and snacking.

About a week before our friend gathering, my wife and I began the harrowing process of cleaning out the bedroom of our youngest of three teenage daughters to prepare for the delivery of new furniture – because she claimed she could no longer fit into her childhood bed without becoming a professional street contortionist (which doesn't sound too bad to me). Throughout the ordeal, I couldn't help drawing parallels between the "Stranger Things" universe and this bedroom reorganization project.

Now, I realize that some of you have better things to do than binge-watch original programming on an overpriced streaming service that is vying for the few dollars you have left after purchasing gasoline or a tube of ground beef at Walmart. So, let me summarize the basic plot of this tribute to 1980s sci-fi films called "Stranger Things."

The series centers around a group of nerdy teenagers in the 1980s who discover another dimension of reality known as The Upside Down – a dark and foreboding place where adolescents age 18 and under are tormented by supernatural monsters (and I don't mean their parents). The teens fight the monsters with the help of a friend who has escaped from an oppressive research facility (and I don't mean high school) and possesses telekinetic powers, chronic nosebleeds and the ability to cry on command.

The first notable comparison is with the teenage main characters of the series, who, aside from a few paranormal murders, are all experiencing typical hormonal turmoil, parental conflicts and feelings of anxiety about leaving their childhoods behind. Our daughter's recent angst has mainly revolved around deciding which items in her stockpile of toys and stuffed animals to get rid of and which to continue hoarding in

JASE GRAVES

SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES



her "new" room until layers of prehistoric dust render them unrecognizable.

After waiting a few days for her to meticulously pick through approximately one million Lego pieces, I finally issued the idle threat that if she didn't finish sorting them soon, I would donate them all to the Ukrainian army to scatter around for the invading Russians to step on. I'm happy to say she made the mature decision just to keep all of the Legos, probably in hopes that I would leave her alone.

Next is the show's supernatural dimension known as The Upside Down, which one of the teen characters describes as a "dark reflection or echo of our world . . . a place of decay and death . . . a place of monsters," which brings me to our daughter's bedroom.

In addition to the typical teenager debris consisting of a dozen half-full plastic water bottles (none of them on coasters), crumb-filled Goldfish cracker wrappers, some unidentifiable and partially-eaten foodstuffs, and an array of soiled clothing, the monster in question takes the form of Biscuit, her Maltese-mix doglet. Along with laying the occasional organic land mine, Biscuit has a bizarre penchant for nibbling multiple holes in designer bedding sets. My daughter's room is truly a macabre place I'm often reluctant to enter, which is probably the way she prefers it.

There are other "Stranger Things" parallels I could draw involving the bumbling parents and the questionable hairstyles in the show, but suffice it to say that because our youngest daughter has two older sisters, this isn't our first trip into the Upside Down of teenage interior design. I'm just glad our own series is ending with Season 3.

*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.*



# Increasing drought conditions imperil Texas' future prosperity

As temperatures rise and drought intensification appears inevitable for much of Texas this summer, a new report released by the Center for Public Finance at Rice University's Baker Institute for Public Policy, in partnership with Texas 2036, calculates the price Texas might soon pay for worsening droughts.

The third release in a series of studies focused on key investment opportunities for the state, "Investing in Texas: Economic Impact of Severe Drought" reveals Texas' potential negative economic impacts based on the State Water Plan's projection of failing to develop additional water supplies as demands will increase by 9% and available supplies will diminish by 18% over the next 50 years.

The State Water Plan produced by the Texas Water Development Board finds that Texas could face a potential gross domestic product loss of \$98 billion–\$117 billion and job loss of 600,000–988,000 if the recommended new water supply projects and strategies are not implemented and if Texas were to experience a dry spell that matches or surpasses the drought of record—the current benchmark for future water planning.

According to Dr. Joyce Beebe, fellow at the Center for Public Finance and author of the new report, major sectors of the state's economy will endure severe economic losses if new water supplies are not developed in time for the next severe drought. Specifically, the paper estimates the water development board's top five regions where key Texas industries would be at most risk. With losses increasing annually, in 2036, each stand to potentially lose:

- Energy industry: \$46 billion and 220,000 jobs.
- Manufacturing: \$15 billion and 100,000 jobs.
- Agriculture interests: \$3.5 billion and 62,000 jobs.
- Semiconductor manufacturing: \$4.7 billion (statewide).



JEREMY MAZUR

SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

"Failing to develop new water supplies needed for a future severe drought places our state's prosperity at risk, with many of our core economic pillars, including manufacturing, energy and agriculture, being directly impacted," Beebe said. "We have an opportunity to use this economic analysis to weigh the costs of inaction today in order to take the steps we need for tomorrow."

Last fall, Texas 2036 partnered with Dr. John Nielsen-Gammon, a regents professor at Texas A&M University and the state climatologist, to examine the future of extreme weather trends in Texas. His research confirms that the state should expect worsening droughts.

"Texas is experiencing increasingly drier and warmer days and months," Nielsen-Gammon said. The number of 100-degree days has more than doubled over the past 40 years and could nearly double again by 2036, he said, stressing that these conclusions are largely consistent with climate modeling data.

"Our weather is changing, and it's doing so in ways that will make it harder to live here and more expensive to recover from increasingly disruptive events such as a severe drought," Nielsen-Gammon said. "That means preparation and resilience are more important than ever. "Texas' long-term prosperity will depend on how well we prepare for these increasingly potent natural disasters."

In 2011, the last worst one-year drought in recorded history, the state comptroller estimated that Texas' agriculture industry alone lost \$7.6 billion.

Jeremy Mazur, senior policy advisor at Texas 2036, emphasizes

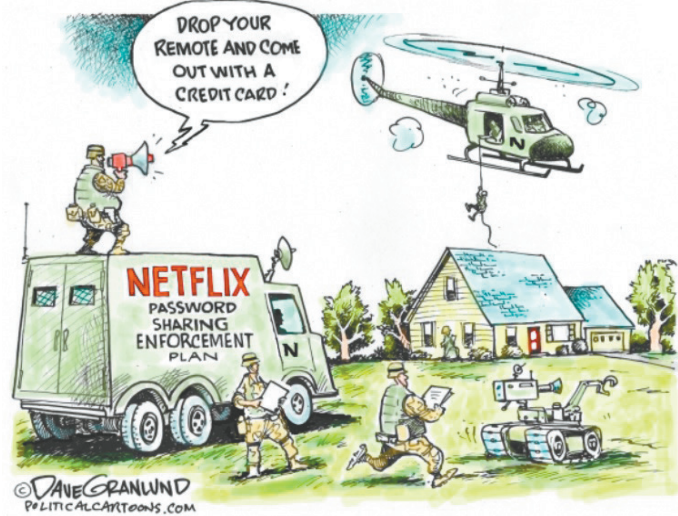
the need for investing in water infrastructure as preparation for future severe droughts. This includes taking advantage of federal funds like in the U.S. Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, which provides Texas with more than half a billion dollars for the clean and drinking water state revolving funds.

"By making data-informed decisions, the state can safeguard public health and maintain sustainable economic growth," Mazur said. "The more state policymakers continue to consult with the State Climatologist and consider planning for future and worsening droughts, the better Texas will be prepared."

In two recent statewide Texas voter polls, Texans showed their support for the state's efforts to address key challenges and vulnerabilities that more extreme weather will bring by leveraging federal funds as they become available, including:

- 88% of Texas voters supported projects to improve both the cleanliness of drinking water and access to water during droughts (Aug. 2021).
- 72% of Texas voters recognized that Texas' climate has changed over the past 10 years (Aug. 2021).
- 65% of Texas voters are "extremely concerned" or "very concerned" that, given current trends, Texas will not be able to meet a significant amount of its future water needs, meaning some communities may lose access to water in an extreme drought (Jan. 22).
- 53% of Texas voters are "extremely concerned" or "very concerned" about the extreme weather trends Texas will experience, including more 100-degree days, more extreme rainfall, more urban flooding, greater hurricane intensity, and increased drought severity by 2036 (Jan. 2022).

Jeremy Mazur is a senior policy adviser at Texas 2036, a Dallas-based nonprofit policy research organization.



## Katy Times

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BRIEFS

Katy City Council approves proposal for additional stormwater mitigation pond work

The City of Katy approved a proposal from Costello Engineering for additional storm-water mitigation pond work at its wastewater treatment site. The ponds are located at 25815 Kingsland Blvd., behind the wastewater treatment plant at 25839 Katy Fwy.

“The City of Katy has had multiple flood events impacting the wastewater treatment plant located south of I-10 west of Katy Mills Mall,” Chad H. Hablinski, Costello chairman and senior project manager, said the proposal. “There are portions of the plant site that flood as Cane Island Branch leaves its banks. The proposed project would provide berms to isolate this area from rising water and a storm water pump station (with backup power generation) to remove the rainwater from the area when Cane Island Branch is elevated and provide an offsite floodplain mitigation pond. The current phase of the project will not provide protection from all rainfall events because there are flood levels of Cane Island Branch that will continue to overtop the existing berm/levee system. Raising the berm/levee system around the plant site are intended to be addressed in a future phase.”

The proposal is for \$16,450. The council approved the proposal at its June 13 meeting. The wastewater treatment site work was first authorized in September 2020 and additional services were approved in April 2021.

Children’s Memorial Hermann Pediatrics Now Offering Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine for children 6-months to 4-years old

Children’s Memorial Hermann Pediatrics plans to begin offering the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine to children ages 6 months through 4 years old this week.

The move is pending final approval from the state, in line with new guidance from both the FDA and CDC.

The vaccine will be available at Children’s Memorial Hermann Pediatrics clinics to established patients and patients whose par-



Two new Katy ISD police officers, Doreen E. Duclair, left, and Vinh Q. Pham, took their oaths of office at Monday’s trustees meeting.

ents wish to establish a new medical home for their child. Families are encouraged to call their pediatrician’s office to schedule an appointment. For those who are not Children’s Memorial Hermann Pediatrics patients, COVID-19 vaccines for this age group may also be available at local pharmacies.

The Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine for 6-month-olds to 4-year-olds is a three-dose series. The first two shots are given three weeks apart, and the third dose is given eight weeks after the second shot.

Children’s Memorial Hermann Pediatrics is also offering Pfizer booster shots to children and young adults ages 5-17 who received their second dose of the Pfizer vaccine at least five months ago. Those who are moderately or severely immunocompromised should get a booster at least three months after the final dose in the primary series.

Individuals ages 18 and older should contact their primary care physician for COVID-19 vaccination and booster shots. To

find a Memorial Hermann physician, visit the abbreviated website at [bit.ly/3tSJBLS](https://bit.ly/3tSJBLS). Children’s Memorial Hermann Pediatrics Katy, 23960 Katy Fwy., will offer the shots locally to established patients by appointment. For more information, call 281-644-8955.

Independence Day luncheon set for July 1

Harris County Pct. 4 is hosting an Independence Day luncheon at the Steve Radack Community Center, 18650 Clay Road. The event features a hot dog lunch and entertainment from the Almost Heaven Bluegrass Band. Cost is \$10. To register, call 832-927-3000 to register or visit the website [hcp4.net/communitycenters/radack-cc/](https://hcp4.net/communitycenters/radack-cc/).

WoodCreek Bend Memory Care, Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center hosting blood drive July 2

WoodCreek Bend Memory Care, 1820

WoodCreek Bend Lane, is hosting a blood drive with the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center.

The blood drive is set for 12-4:30 p.m. July 2.

Wild West Brew Fest set for Nov. 3-5

Work is underway to stage the 2022 Wild West Brewfest, and organizers hope this to be another record-breaking event.

The K-Town Throwdown will kick off the multi-day event on Nov. 3, followed by the Launch Party on Nov. 4. The Brew Fest will be on Nov. 5.

The entire weekend of events will now be hosted at Typhoon Texas. Organizers said the new location will offer more space, live music stages, lounge areas and more to guests. It is within walking distance from all hotels.

The Rotary Club of Katy founded the Brew Fest 11 years ago on the principle of giving back, and since its inception, almost \$1 million has been distributed to local schools, organizations and charities. Last year, the Rotary Club of Katy donated \$135,000. Beneficiaries include Katy ISD FFA Projects, Auction and Special Rodeo, Katy ISD Fine Arts and Band, Katy ISD Education Foundation, Christ Clinic of Katy, The Ballard House, Katy Christian Ministries, MADD, Special Olympics Texas and more. Over 35 charitable organizations in and around the Katy and Houston areas received every dollar raised from the 2021 Brew Fest.

The Brew Fest is volunteer-led and volunteer-run, and the Rotary Club of Katy takes zero fees from the money contributed. In less than five months, the 2022 Brew Fest will be back in action, but the work has already been well underway. Organizers are preparing for over 9,000 patrons, 500+ beers, live music, activation zones and more.

For more information on volunteer opportunities and to buy tickets, visit the website [wildwestbrewfest.com](https://wildwestbrewfest.com).

—CONTRIBUTED AND STAFF REPORTS

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# Katy Masonic Lodge honors Glenn Beckendorff

## CONTRIBUTED REPORT

The Katy Masonic Lodge has awarded its Community Builder Award to Glenn Beckendorff. Beckendorff served both as a Waller County judge and commissioner. He was an original member of the Waller County Veterans Memorial Committee to design, raise funds and construct a memorial on the courtyard. He has served on the Brookshire Drying Company board of directors and the Brookshire-Katy Drainage District board of supervisors.

He also served as president of the drainage district. He has also served on both the board of directors, and committees of, the Houston-Galveston Area Council. The council is an association of local governments in 13 Southeast Texas counties. The council is a regional planning commission that helps local governments serve public needs while helping plan to meet future challenges. One of those challenges is regional transportation. Beckendorff has been cited for working

with the county engineer, Port of Freeport, the Texas Department of Transportation, county judges and commissioners in Brazoria and Fort Bend counties to develop a master plan and association for Highway 36A. He also has a long involvement with the Future Farmers of America. Beckendorff served on the Area III Vocational Agricultural Teachers Board of Directors and was also its president. He started the first organized FFA Moms Club to handle catalog ad sales, fruit sales, potted mums for aged and

shut ins at Christmas and concession stands. Beckendorff is a founding member of the Area III FFA Agriculture Mechanics Contest, which today is part of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. He also served on the committee to start the District II Livestock Judging Contest. Today, Beckendorff is an honorary member of several FFA chapters and the Texas FFA. Beckendorff is also known for his auctioneering skills. He attended Walter Britten Auction Academy in 1978 and has sold livestock

and antiques in 14 states. Beckendorff is a 1968 Katy High School graduate. Later, he served on the Katy Independent School Board of Trustees, the fourth generation of his family to do so. He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from Sam Houston State University. Beckendorff taught agriculture for six years, the last four in the Katy Independent School District. Among his honors, he received the Outstanding Young Vocational Agriculture Teacher in Texas award.

## EDUCATION BRIEFS

### District names new assistant superintendent and two principals

The Katy Independent School District has appointed Rahsan Smith assistant superintendent for elementary leadership and support, and appointed Greg Kraus principal at Memorial Parkway Junior High and Kaye Williams principal at Cinco Ranch High School.

Smith is a former district student. He began his career in August 2001 as a third and sixth-grade teacher in Houston Independent School District (HISD). Four years later he joined Gabriela Mistral Early Childhood Center, in HISD, as a physical education teacher. In June 2008, Smith transitioned to Fondren Middle School and was promoted to student behavior administrator.

Smith returned to Katy in October 2012, when he became assistant principal at Mayde Creek Junior High. Four years later he joined the Seven Lakes High School Spartan family as their Assistant Principal. He later took on the role as principal at McRoberts Elementary — his last campus-based position in Katy ISD.

"It is my goal to consistently build upon the distinction of excellence which separates Katy ISD from all other school districts," Smith said. "As an assistant superintendent for elementary leadership and support, I will emulate this mindset within my leadership to propel school leaders, educators and students towards outstanding educational achievement."

Gregory Kraus is also a former district student. He has spent his entire career in education serving district students and staff. Kraus began his teaching journey in 2006 at Beckendorff Junior High as a seventh and eighth grade teacher and coach. In August 2011, Kraus began his first school leadership role at WoodCreek Junior High as a grade level assistant principal. As the district continued its growth, WoodCreek became the largest junior high in district history. It was then that Kraus was promoted to a student support principal



**RAHSAN SMITH**  
Assistant Superintendent for elementary leadership and support



**GREGORY KRAUS**  
Principal, Memorial Parkway Junior High School

role. In 2016, Kraus became grade level assistant principal at Morton Ranch High School. Three years later he became the associate principal.

"As an assistant principal at WoodCreek Junior High and Morton Ranch High School these past 11 years, I have seen firsthand what it means to be the instructional leader of a campus," Mr. Kraus said. "I've worked for some amazing leaders who have provided me the experiences needed to successfully support and guide teachers to shared instructional beliefs, while establishing an instructional focus that supports student achievement."

Williams joins Katy ISD from Lamar Consolidated Independent School District. She began her educational career in 1993 as a health/fitness teacher and head tennis coach in Port Arthur Independent School District, before moving to Spring Branch Independent School District in 1997. While in Spring Branch, she held administrative and leadership roles that included principal, assistant principal and associate principal between 2004-17. Most recently, Williams served as the principal at Lamar Consolidated High School in Lamar CISD.

"I am thrilled to become the principal of Cinco Ranch High School because it is a school that is rich in tradition and success," Williams said. "I am excited to lead in the community that my husband and I have called home for several years."

Smith has a bachelor's degree in health education and master's degree in educational administration from Prairie View A&M University.

Kraus has a bachelor's degree from Stephen F. Austin State University and a master's degree in educational leadership from the University of Houston at Clear Lake.

Williams has both a bachelor's and master's degree in kinesiology from Lamar University, as well as a doctorate in clinical psychology from Southern California University.

### Morton Ranch High School student chosen for 2022 Bank of America Student Leaders program

Maria Junaid of Morton Ranch High School has been chosen for the 2022 Bank of America Student Leaders program. The pro-

gram is an eight-week summer internship providing students with first-hand experience in serving their communities.

These students have started their paid internship experience of workforce skills, leadership, and civic engagement with local nonprofits, including Avenue CDC and Houston Area Urban League. As part of the program, they will earn \$17 per hour and receive a Chromebook. This year, students will have the option to voluntarily participate in in-person activities as part of the internship.

"Bank of America remains committed to supporting young adults by connecting them to jobs, community engagement opportunities and leadership development," Hong Ogle, Bank of America Houston president, said. "We recognize young adults are the future of Houston, which is why programs like Student Leaders are one way we can provide paid opportunities for students to gain job experience while developing a diverse pipeline of talent as they enter the local workforce."

Junaid is one of five students selected. The others are Hank Davis, Stratford High School; Victoria Gong, Memorial High School; Sydney Mathew, Shadow Creek High School, and Jesutofunmi Oluwaleke, Alief Taylor High School.

### Katy-area students receive scholarships from Phenomenal Pearls of Educational and Charitable Foundation

Three students from Katy Independent School District high schools have received \$1,500 scholarships from the Phenomenal Pearls Educational and Charitable Foundation. Those students are:

- Andrea Espinosa, of Paetow High School, who will attend the University of Houston and major in biochemistry.
  - Lauren Forney, of Taylor High School, who will attend Spelman College and major in biology.
  - Brooklynn Nash, of Tompkins High School, who will attend Prairie View A&M University and major in chemical engineering.
- The foundation, founded in 2015, began providing scholarships in 2018. That year, the foundation disbursed \$10,000 in scholarship money. This year, the foundation disbursed over \$50,000 to Greater Houston area students. The foundation's mission is to intellectually and financially empower individuals and the community to achieve more by mobilizing the power and resources of volunteers and donors.

### Two Katy-area students graduate from Oregon State University

Two Katy-area students graduated June 11 from Oregon State University in Corvallis, Ore. Bridget Barnes earned her bachelor's degree in French. Matthew Kaufman earned his bachelor's degree, magna cum laude, in Natural Resources.

—CONTRIBUTED REPORTS



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KATY ISD

# Kana, Ballard named athletes of the year

BY TYLER TYRE  
SPORTS EDITOR

Katy's Ty Kana and Mayde Creek's Simone Ballard were named the Katy ISD student-athletes of the 2021-2022 school year on Friday.

Each year every Katy ISD campus nominates one student athlete both male and female for the prestigious award, with the winners of the award receiving a \$2,500 scholarship donated to Katy ISD by BSN Sports.

For Ballard, the award caps off a tremendous high school career, where she won two individual gold medals at the state track and field meet and is the current state record holder in the 300-meter hurdles. She also has the No. 1 time in the nation in the 100-meter hurdles and No. 2 time in the nation in the 300-meter hurdles while holding the Mayde Creek school record in both events.

Ballard is an eight time All-American and graduated with a 3.8 unweighted GPA and a 4.0 weighted GPA. She will continue her track & field career at Baylor in the fall and wants to pursue a career in coaching and education once her track career is over.

"I want to come back and coach on the high school level and privately," Ballard said.

Kana was named the boys



MARK GOODMAN | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

Katy's #42 Ty Kana makes the stop on Tompkins #21 Caleb Blocker during a game between Katy Tigers and Tompkins Falcons at Legacy Stadium in Katy.

student-athlete of the year, which capped off a terrific football career for the senior.

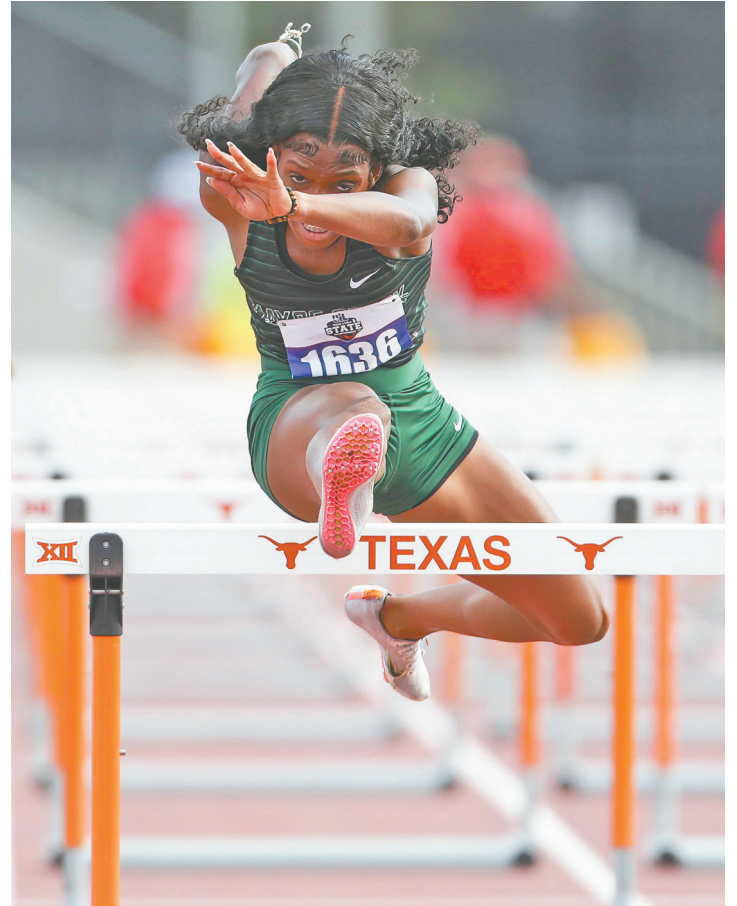
Kana helped lead the Tigers to a state championship as a junior in 2021 before serving as a team captain his senior year. He was named to the all-state team three times and was a THSCA Academic All-State recipient.

Kana recorded 101 tackles, including 61 solo tackles in his senior

season. He also had eight tackles for loss, one sack, nine quarterback pressures and three pass breakups while being named District 19-6A defensive player of the year. For his career, Kana had 268 tackles, 158 of which were solo, 28 tackles for loss and five sacks.

He also helped lead the Tigers to a state semifinal appearance and helped

See **ATHLETES**, page B3



SCOTT W. COLEMAN

Simone Ballard of Mayde Creek runs in the Class 6A girls 100-meter hurdles at the UIL State Track and Field Meet on May 14, 2022 in Austin, Texas. Ballard earned a gold medal in the event with a time of 13.33.

## UIL will not implement shot clock

### Organization will study proposal to make baseball playoff series best-of-three

BY TYLER TYRE  
SPORTS EDITOR

Shot clocks will continue to not be used in UIL basketball games.

That remains the case, at least for the upcoming year.

The University of Interscholastic League's Legislative Council met Wednesday to discuss rule changes for the upcoming school year for high school athletics in the state of Texas and for the second straight year, decided to take no action on a proposal to add a shot clock.

The National Federation of State High School Associations had announced last year that any state could adopt a 35-second shot clock for high school games beginning with the 2022-2023 season, but so far the UIL and TAPPS, the states two largest high school athletic associations, have decided against going that route despite a large number of supporters who for



MARK GOODMAN | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

See **RULES**, page B3 Tompkins' Luke Coughran #5 drives up to the basket during the Tompkins vs Mayde Creek game.

## Burrell leaves Houston track program for Auburn

BY TYLER TYRE  
SPORTS EDITOR

After a historic run as the head coach of the University of Houston track and field team, Leroy Burrell announced he is leaving the program on Thursday.

A former world record holder in the

100-meter dash and student-athlete at Houston, Burrell, took over the program after legendary Head Coach Tom Tellez retired in 1999. In his 23 years at the helm of the Track and Field program, Burrell coached 11 Olympians, 15 NCAA Champions, 254 All-Americans and 353 individual conference champions. He

guided the team to a combined 44 conference championship titles while being a 37-time Conference Coach of the Year and saw 46 school records fall.

"I am grateful to have had the opportunity to be the coach," Burrell said. "I

See **BURRELL**, page B3

## Cinco Ranch, Jordan qualify for state 7-on-7 tournament

BY TYLER TYRE  
SPORTS EDITOR

Cinco Ranch and Jordan advanced to the state 7-on-7 tournament which will be held this weekend.

128 teams across the state of Texas will make their way to College Station this weekend to compete in the tournament, which will run Friday through Saturday for 6A schools.

Cinco Ranch qualified for the tournament very early in the process in the last week of May.

The Cougars went 4-0 at the Woodlands 7-on-7 state qualifying tournament, beating Conroe 25-21, College Station 21-14, Klein Collins 26-16 and beating Lamar in the semifinals 26-20.

Jordan had a dramatic qualification, waiting until the last day available to clinch its spot at the state tournament, the first in the school's history.

The Warriors competed in the Sam Brown Overflow state qualifying tournament over the weekend, going 4-0 and beating Clear Springs 37-31 in the state qualifying game.

For Cinco Ranch it is the sixteenth time they have qualified for the tournament, and the second year in a row they will be making the trip up to College Station.

The Cougars have a very strong team filled with skill position players and they are led by Gavin Rutherford, who is gearing up for his senior year at quarterback. With Seth Salverino and Noah Abboud at wide receiver, Rutherford has plenty of options in an explosive pass game that thrives in 7-on-7.

The Cougars won the Division I Championship in 2002, and they think this year could be another very strong showing. Dave Campbell has the Cougars as a team to watch for in Division I.

For Jordan, the 7-on-7 tournament will be great as the team continues to get experience against varsity level competition before join-

See **TOURNAMENT**, page B3



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# Rockets trade Christian Wood to the Mavericks

In exchange, team picks up four players and first round pick

BY TYLER TYRE  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Christian Wood saga finally came to an end for the Houston Rockets on Thursday.

Wood, who had been with the Rockets for two seasons, was traded to the Mavericks in exchange for the No. 26 pick in the 2022 NBA draft and four players, all with contracts expiring at the end of next season.

Along with the pick, Dallas will send Boban Marjanovic, Marquese Chriss, Trey Burke and Sterling Brown to the Rockets, as Houston will add flexibility and roster space after the season along with a good mentor for Alperen Sengun in Marjanovic.

Houston was in a bind, needing to find a way to trade Wood to make room for Sengun to start alongside what will in all likelihood be another big man that the Rockets select in the NBA draft with the No. 3 pick. It was important to the team to get a first round pick in the trade without taking on a bad contract.

Wood averaged 17.9 points and 10.1 rebounds last season for the Rockets and will be put in a good situation that will help the 26-year-old succeed with the Mavericks. Dallas plays a 5-out offense that will allow Wood lots of freedom offensively that will show off his 3-point shooting prowess and ability to attack the rim offensively.

Wood is entering the final season of his contract, and will be paid \$14.3 million next season. Just last week Wood said he and the Rockets were in negotiations about a potential contract extension.

Brought to Houston before the 2020-21 season in a sign-and-trade with the Pistons for Trevor Ariza and a switch of first round picks to be paired with James Harden and Russell Westbrook, Wood has had to deal with the rebuild since Harden's trade demand two years ago. Playing for the Mavericks with Luka Doncic will give Wood a chance to showcase the skillset he hoped to demonstrate when he was brought on in Houston.

Houston had originally tried to trade Wood at the trade deadline last season, but were unable to find a trade partner that would offer a first round pick.

Brown and Chriss have both played for the Rockets previously, but will be fringe players and may be cut before training camp. Marjanovic will bring a boost to the team as a backup and mentor to two young players in the frontcourt.

The Rockets now own the No. 3, No. 17 and No. 26 picks in the draft, and it would not be a surprise if the team tried to package the 17th and 26th picks to trade back up into the lottery.



PHOTOS BY SCOTT W. COLEMAN

Houston Texans quarterback Davis Mills (10) passes the ball during an NFL game between Houston and the Los Angeles Rams on October 31, 2021 in Houston, Texas.

# Mills, Texans' offense kick it into next gear during minicamp

BY TYLER TYRE  
SPORTS EDITOR

One of the biggest weaknesses in last year's iteration of the Texans was the lack of explosive plays.

Houston has already committed to fixing that problem, drafting John Metchie III to bring an explosive element to the passing game and spending another high draft pick on the offensive line, bringing in Kenyon Green.

But the Texans are taking things a step further, and are showing what a new and improved passing attack could look like during mandatory minicamp this week.

"I feel like I'm at a good spot right now," Mills said. "Obviously there's still a lot of room to grow, but I'm feeling more confident and comfortable out there and I'm really comfortable with my teammates around me. I'm just ready to keep progressing and head into this season."

Mills was thrown into the fire last season and did very well, statistically being among the top three rookies in many passing categories. But he did struggle pushing the ball down the field.

The Texans are looking to get better in that regard next season and offensive coordinator Pep Hamilton has already seen plenty of signs of improvement.

"You always expect from year one to year two with a quarterback for them to have a better sense of how those NFL defenses play," Hamilton said. "He has that and it's going to allow him to process information faster and ultimately make better decisions and be more consistent in making those good decisions with the football."

Mills ranked 26th in the NFL in air yards per completion and 27th in yards per completion. But when Mills did throw deep, he was successful. He owned a 123.5 passer rating on deep throws, which led the league and completed 47.6 of his deep pass attempts and only had 4.1% of his deep throws deemed turnover-worthy plays, which ranked fifth among starters. Having that experience and success has Mills feeling confident heading into his second year.

"One big thing that's helped me and



Houston Texans wide receiver Nico Collins (12) carries the ball after a catch during an NFL game between the Texans and the Titans on Jan. 9, 2022 in Houston, Texas. The Titans won, 28-25.

that's got me more confident this year is the comfortability I have now," Mills said. "I have that experience now to where I know what defenses are trying to do to me and I can make those fast, smart decisions while still protecting the football."

The Texans have laid a foundation throughout OTA's and now into minicamp and they expect that to build into training camp and into the season.

"We expect it to carry over a ton," Hamilton said. "The OTA's, this minicamp. It was kind of an orientation of what it is that we want to do. Now it's time to take our system and continually acclimate our system to

our playmakers. Our identity is about the players we have in the system and not about the plays. We're excited to continue to work through the offseason and roll into training camp and pick up where we left off."

And for Mills, he knows the expectations are high, but he can't wait to have a chance to meet and maybe exceed those expectations.

"It's awesome," Mills said "Obviously I have a lot to prove, and I have to go out there and win the job each and every day. I'm just trying to put my best foot forward every time we come out for practice. It's just exciting and I'm determined to keep proving that to the guys."



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# Houston selected to be World Cup 2026 host site

BY TYLER TYRE  
SPORTS EDITOR

One of the most diverse cities in the United States will play host to the 2026 World Cup. Houston was picked as one of 16 sites for the 2026 men's World Cup on Thursday, as the tournament will be co-hosted by the United States, Mexico and Canada. It will be the first time Houston will host World Cup matches, as the city was not picked as a host. NRG Stadium will host the games for Houston, while PNC Stadium will host the teams for their training sessions. The 2026 World cup will be the first to feature 48 teams, and 60 in total will be

played in the United States, while Mexico and Canada will both have 10 games hosted in their countries. The highest attended world cup of all time came in 1994, when the United States hosted the tournament for the first time. It will be the biggest sporting event to come to Houston since the 2017 Super Bowl, which generated around \$347 million. A world cup could bring upwards of \$1 billion to the city. FIFA will announce at a future date how many games each site is will host and which teams will play at each site. Washington D.C and Baltimore, Cincinnati, Denver, Nashville and Orlando were other U.S. cities that bid to be World Cup sites that weren't selected.

## MEN'S WORLD CUP 2026 HOST CITIES

Atlanta  
Boston  
Dallas  
Guadalajara, Mexico  
Houston  
Kansas City, MO.  
Los Angeles  
Mexico City, Mexico  
Miami  
Monterrey, Mexico  
New York  
Philadelphia  
San Francisco, CA.  
Seattle, WA  
Toronto, Canada  
Vancouver, Canada

## RULES

from page B1

years have advocated for its adaptation. The shot clock in all likelihood will be on every year's agenda until the UIL decides to take further review on it. The UIL did make some changes. The league passed a proposal allowing more summer strength and conditioning workouts. The UIL had originally implemented this during the pandemic as a temporary measure, and they opted to make it permanent, which brought a smile to many in the coaching community who have sung the praises of having the extra time with the athletes. The UIL also will do further review on a proposal that would require all baseball playoff series in Class 6A and 5A to be played over a best-of-3 series outside of the state tournament, unless the head coaches from both teams agree upon a one-game series. Over 80% of Class 5A and Class 6A playoff games were best-of-3 series this series this year, and proponents of the change say that it would keep certain schools from gaming the system with playoff series. The committee with also further review the process for high school athletes who are transferring from private to public schools and a proposal that would allow assistant golf coaches to be on the course and coach athletes during the state tournament. Along with passing the extra summer strength and conditioning workouts, the committee also passed an increase of \$5 beginning this school year and a proposal to establish a ten-year compensation plan for sports officials.

The committee authorized staff to study and survey a proposal that would allow sixth grade participation in UIL athletics at the 1A level and will continue to monitor proposals for strength and conditioning for in-season athletes and a proposal to study participation protocol for UIL member schools competing against non UIL schools. Along with the shot clock, the UIL denied, rejected or took no action on a number of proposals, including implementing the 15 run rule after three innings in the bi-district and area rounds of softball playoffs, changing soccer from a spring sport to a fall sport, adjusting the track and field scoring to include scoring through eighth place, altering the language of softball scrimmages per week and a strange proposal that would have prohibited freshman athletes from participating in varsity competitions, a proposal which almost every coach in Texas high school sports was against. The proposal prohibiting freshman from varsity competition was one brought by the public and not any of the coaches associations and was not given too much thought by the committee. Many freshman athletes from the 1A to the 6A level have made great impacts on their teams, including two starters on the Mayde Creek basketball team that reached the regional quarterfinals and multiple players on the Katy softball team that reached the regional semifinals.

## TOURNAMENT

from page B1

ing District 19-6A this season. Colin Willetts is leading the charge for the Warriors, and he has a plethora of weapons at his disposal in the passing game. Nathan Salz brings size and speed on the outside, while Andrew Marsh has made huge plays on both sides of the ball and Zechariah Sample brings explosiveness and also makes plays on both sides of the ball. Jordan will be looking to make noise in its first tournament. Cinco Ranch will be in Pool B, while Jordan is in Pool G for the tournament. The Cougars have Harker Heights, Hebron and Wichita Falls Rider in their pool, while Jordan has Austin LBJ, Bellaire Episcopal and Colleyville Heritage in its pool. Pool games will be played Friday, while championship and consolation games will be played Saturday. Cinco will play Harker Heights at 1 p.m. Friday, before taking on Hebron at 2:30 p.m. and Wichita Falls Rider at 4 p.m. Jordan will take on Austin LBJ at 1



COURTESY TONY BLALOCK

Jordan qualified for the state 7-on-7 tournament over the weekend, going 4-0 in the Sam Brown Overflow state qualifying tournament.

p.m. Friday, following that up by playing Bellaire Episcopal at 2:30 p.m. and Colleyville Heritage at 4 p.m. The top two teams from every pool advance to the Championship Bracket on Saturday morning while the bottom two from each group will play in the consolation bracket. Consolation play will begin at 8 a.m. Saturday, while Championship Bracket play will start at 8:45 a.m. Bracket times and fields can be subject to change based on weather, field conditions and other factors.

## BURRELL

from page B1

appreciate the tremendous commitment and effort to bring the University of Houston Track and Field program to the level of excellence it has reached." Burrell said he had no intentions of leaving the program until the death of his son, Cameron Burrell, last year. But after his son's suicide, Burrell found it harder and harder to show up to work each day, and felt it was best to go somewhere where he wasn't reminded of his son's death daily. Because of that he decided to leave the program and accept the position of head coach of the track and field program at Auburn University. "Leroy leaves Houston with an incredible legacy and one upon which we will build," Vice President for Athletics Chris Pezman said. "We couldn't be more thankful to him, Michelle and their family for everything they have done for our University and community. He will leave as one of our most decorated coaches in the history of our department, leading the Track and Field team to 44 conference titles as well as many accolades on the national stage. He elevated the success of the team, coaching numerous All-Americans and national champions in his 23 years. We wish Coach Burrell and his family the very best as they begin the next chapter of life and know he will always be a part of the



LEROY BURRELL

University of Houston." The 2016-17 season marked a banner year for Burrell's coaching career after his 4x100-meter relay squad claimed the NCAA Championship in the event. The team of John Lewis III, Mario Burke, Jacarias Martin and the late Cameron Burrell ran a school-record 38.44 to claim the gold and win Houston's first relay title since 1982. The Cougars continued to have success during the 2017-18 season as the they won their second straight NCAA title in the 4x100-meter relay. Lewis III, Elijah Hall, Burke and Cameron Burrell claimed the title after running the fastest time ever recorded at the championships, clocking a time of 38.17. The younger Burrell would become an individual national champion, claiming the title in the 100-meter with a time of 10.02 to become the program's first national champion in the event since his father earned the title in 1990. That very same year, Houston earned its first of back-to-back third-place finishes at the Outdoor Championships. As a student-athlete at Houston, Burrell was a three-time NCAA national champion. As a junior for the Cougars, he won the NCAA indoor long jump title before participating in the USA Outdoor Championships running the fastest time ever

recorded by a collegian in the 100-meter at 9.94. He also teamed with Carl Lewis, Danny Everett and Floyd Heard to set a world record in the 4x200-meter relay with a time of 1:19.38. As a senior in 1990, Burrell won the NCAA indoor long jump title for the second straight year with a leap of 27 feet. At the SWC Outdoor Championships, Burrell ran one of the best sprint doubles ever recorded. He ran the fastest 200-meter ever run under any conditions with a wind-aided time of 19.61 and ran a wind-aided 9.94 time in the 100-meter to easily win both races. He collected his third NCAA title in the 100-meter in Durham, N.C., when he posted a wind-aided time of 9.94 seconds and set a meet record in the semifinals with a time of 10.03 seconds. His outstanding season resulted in Burrell receiving the "Jumbo Elliott Award" as the nation's top collegiate track and field athlete. After completing his collegiate eligibility, Burrell was ranked as the world's top sprinter in 1990 and 1991 after winning 19 of his 22 races in the 100-meter. "This is a sad day and a tough loss for our Athletics Department," said Houston head basketball coach Kelvin Sampson. "Leroy was the Track & Field program. I am going to miss him, and I wish him the best. I will always be a fan of Leroy Burrell and his family. Our program will go on, but Leroy will never be forgotten."

## ATHLETES

from page B1

them to a district title in his senior season. Kana graduated early in December and enrolled at Texas Tech University, where he is competing for a starting spot at linebacker this fall. He is. Also an engineering major at the University. "Ty is an extremely competitive athlete, yet he learned how to win with class and lose with dignity," Katy ISD said in its press release. Kana has made a name for himself throughout the spring and summer in Lubbock and may garner big playing time as a freshman. "He had a huge play in the spring

game," said Texas Tech head coach Joey McGuire in a press conference. "He ran with a running back, knocked the ball out in the end zone. He's done a lot and is the young guy that's stood out the most." Kana, for his part, gave all the credit to his team, coaches and the people that helped him reach the level he is now at. "Huge thanks to Katy ISD for honoring with me with this award," Kana said. "I also want to give a special thanks to my family, all my coaches and teammates at Katy High School as well as the entire Katy community for helping me grow as not only a football player, but as a person too."

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850 HELP WANTED	850 HELP WANTED	850 HELP WANTED	950 PUBLIC NOTICES	950 PUBLIC NOTICES	950 PUBLIC NOTICES	950 PUBLIC NOTICES	950 PUBLIC NOTICES	950 PUBLIC NOTICES
<b>ACCOUNTS PAYABLE STAFF NEEDED</b> As a Senior Accounts Payable Specialist, you will verify, allocate, post, and reconcile ac-counts payable for multiple companies. In this role, you may process payment invoices, help create reports on financial activity, and coordinate with other accountants to ensure all records are accurate. Senior accounts payable specialists often help resolve problems and discrepancies, respond to vendor inquiries, research invoice copies, check billing documentation, and manage other financial processes as needed. <b>SKILLS/RESPONSIBILITIES</b> • Knowledge of home builder accounting a plus • Thorough knowledge of basic accounting procedures • In-depth understanding of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) • Accuracy and attention to detail • Aptitude for numbers and quantitative skills • Reconciliation of vendor accounts • Reconciliation of bank accounts • Maintain vendor communication and relations • Ensure all AP Schedule payments are submitted on a timely basis • Problem solver and multi-tasker • Excellent time-management and organizational skills <b>BENEFITS</b> • Health insurance • Life insurance • Paid time off <b>RESUME@KENDALLHOMES.NET</b>			<b>PUBLIC NOTICE</b>  NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE of property to satisfy landlord's lien.  Sale to be held ONLINE at Storagetreasures.com  The facility is FRY ROAD MINI STORAGE. 20150 Park Row, Katy, TX 77449. Bidding will open at 10:00 am on June 20, 2022, and end at 12:00 pm on July 6, 2022. Cleanup and removal deposit will be required. The seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale ends. Unit items are sold as-is to the highest bidder for cash. The property includes contents of space of the following tenants: Carlos Saravia, Melina Martinez, Thomas Roach, Joanne Rosemin, Rodolfo Carreno.			<b>PUBLIC NOTICE</b>  NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE of property to satisfy landlord's lien.  Sale to be held ONLINE at Storagetreasures.com  The facility is BEAR CREEK MINI STORAGE, 17730 Ki-eth Harrow Blvd, Houston, TX 77084. Bidding will open at 10:00 am on June 20, 2022, and end at 12:00 pm on July 11, 2022. Cleanup and removal deposit will be required. The seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale ends. Unit items are sold as-is to the highest bidder for cash. The property includes contents of space of the following tenants: William Lopez, Jeremy Williamson, Juan Manuel Rosales, Amanda Hale, Leo Will-turner, Tiffany Kirkeby, Jalin Sims, and Jose G. Hernandez.		

**SMITH INTERNATIONAL INC**  
**seeks Materials Engineer** to work in Katy, TX to de-velop elastomers and processes for downhole power sections. Requires Bach-elor's in Chem-istry, Polymer Engineering, or Materials Sci-ence **PLUS 6 years'** experience in materials sci-ence and FEA modeling, down-hole power sec-tions concepts and principals, manufacturing processes, ma-terial character-ization, FEA and failure avoidance. Submit resume to LaBrittany Beene at [LBeene@slb.com](mailto:LBeene@slb.com). Must put job code ME-AK22 on resume.

June 16

Puzzle Answers

	R	A	N			S	S	T						
	M	O	N	O	G	R	A	P	H	I	C			
U	N	C	O	N	V	E	N	T	I	O	N	A	L	
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3	4	6	5	2	9	8	7	1
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5	9	1	8	3	7	6	4	2
6	5	3	9	7	2	1	8	4
4	7	9	1	5	8	2	6	3
1	8	2	4	6	3	7	5	9
2	6	7	3	4	5	9	1	8
8	1	4	2	9	6	5	3	7
9	3	5	7	8	1	4	2	6

ADVERTISE! 281-391-3141

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

The Building And Standards Commission And The City Council Of The City Of Katy, Texas, Will Conduct Public Hearings To Be Held At City Hall, 901 Avenue C, Katy, Texas.

BUILDING & STANDARDS COMMISSION

PUBLIC HEARING

4:00 p.m., Thursday, July 14, 2022

CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING

6:30 p.m., Monday, July 25, 2022

THE HEARINGS ARE BEING CONDUCTED TO RECEIVE COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON A PROPOSED ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KATY, TEXAS, AMENDING SECTION 3.02.053 (4), THE CITY OF KATY BUILDING AND RESIDENTIAL CODE, REGARDING HEAT DETECTORS.

Legal Notice

SEDALCO Construction Services, serving the Construction Manager at Risk, will be receiving proposals from subcontractors and suppliers for Waller County, Texas for the following project until the date and time stated: **New Fuel Depot, Macerator, and Hoist/Valve Work in Hempstead, Texas on July 11, 2022 at 3:00 pm.**  
  
Proposals are to be received in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 271.118 of the State of Texas Local Government Code at SEDALCO's corporate office, 4100 Fossil Creek Blvd., Fort Worth, Texas 76137 via facsimile, mail, email ([bids@sedalco.com](mailto:bids@sedalco.com)) or verbal proposal. Documents are available for review at the corporate office of SEDALCO, INC. The are also available on iSqFt.com.  
  
For additional information, contact Dave Ritz ([bids@sedalco.com](mailto:bids@sedalco.com)), phone (817) 831-2245, fax (817) 916-5707.

NOTICE

The City Planning And Zoning Commission And The City Council Of The City Of Katy, Texas, Will Each Conduct Public Hearings At Their Regular Meetings To Be Held At City Hall, 901 Avenue C, Katy, Texas.

CITY PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION

PUBLIC HEARING

6:30 p.m., Tuesday, July 12, 2022

CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING

6:30 p.m., Monday, July 25, 2022

**The City Planning And Zoning Commission And The City Council Of The City Of Katy, Texas, Will Conduct Hearings At Their Regular Meetings To Be Held At City Hall, 901 Avenue C, Katy, Texas. The Hearings Are Being Conducted To Receive Comments From The Public On A Proposed Ordinance Of The City Council Of The City Of Katy, Texas Amending The City's Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance By Amending The Zoning Map To Zone Approximately 240 Acres Of Land In The H&TCRR CO Survey, Abstracts 169, 170, & 295, In Waller County From R-1 Single-Family District To "M" Industrial District. Amending The City Of Katy's Comprehensive Plan To Conform To The Zoning Classifications Set Forth In This Ordinance; Repealing All Ordinances And Parts Of Ordinances In Conflict Herewith; Providing For Severability And Providing For A Fine Not To Exceed \$2,000 For Each Day A Violation Of This Ordinance Exists.**

IN THE ESTATE OF WILLIAM BRYAN SHAVER, JR., DECEASED IN PROBATE COURT NO. 2 OF HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
  
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary upon the Estate of William Bryan Shaver, Jr., Deceased, were issued to the Independent Executor on June 14, 2022, in Cause No. 504853 pending in Probate Court 2 of Harris County, Texas and that Geraldine Patricia Shaver now holds such Letters. All persons having claims against the Estate are hereby required to present same within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Claims should be addressed in care of Peter D. King, Geary, Porter & Donovan, P.C., 16475 Dallas Parkway, Suite 400, Addison, Texas 75001-6837.

NOTICE

The City Planning And Zoning Commission And The City Council Of The City Of Katy, Texas, Will Each Conduct Public Hearings At Their Regular Meetings To Be Held At City Hall, 901 Avenue C, Katy, Texas.

CITY PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION

PUBLIC HEARING

6:30 p.m., Tuesday, July 12, 2022

CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING

6:30 p.m., Monday, July 25, 2022

**The Hearings Are Being Conducted To Receive Comments From The Public On A Proposed Ordinance Of The City Council Of The City Of Katy, Texas Amending The Zoning Ordinance, Ordinance No. 621; And Amending Ordinance No. 2987 "Katy Court" Planned Development District For The Addition of Approximately 189.5 Acres of Land Generally Located Near The South-West Intersection of Clay Road And Katy-Hockley Cut-Off Road In The City of Katy; For Development Into The "Katy Court" Planned Development District; Repealing All Ordinances And Parts Of Ordinances In Conflict Herewith; Providing For Severability And Providing For A Fine Not To Exceed \$2,000 For Each Day A Violation Of This Ordinance Exists. Applicant And Agent Is META Planning + Design.**

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

WET DIGESTER SOLIDS

HAUL AND DISPOSAL

THE CITY OF KATY, TEXAS, IS ACCEPTING BIDS FOR REMOVING, TRANSPORTING, AND LEGALLY DISPOSING OF WET DIGESTER SOLIDS FOR THEIR WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY STARTING OCTOBER 1, 2022 AND CONTINUING THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2023. SEALED PROPOSALS WILL BE RECEIVED AT THE OFFICE OF THE CITY SECRETARY, KATY CITY HALL, 901 AVENUE C, KATY, TEXAS 77493 UNTIL **2:15 P.M., THURSDAY, JULY 7, 2022**, AT WHICH TIME BIDS WILL BE PUBLICLY OPENED AND READ. SPECIFICATIONS AND THE BID PROPOSAL FORM MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE CITY SECRETARY AT ABOVE ADDRESS OR EMAIL REQUEST AT [BIDS@CITYOFKATY.COM](mailto:BIDS@CITYOFKATY.COM).  
  
THE CITY OF KATY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, TO WAIVE ANY AND ALL TECHNICALITIES, AND TO ACCEPT BIDS THAT IT DEEMS MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO IT.  
  

Becky L. McGrew  
City Secretary  
City of Katy, Texas

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SLUDGE CAKE HAUL AND

LANDFILL DISPOSAL

THE CITY OF KATY, TEXAS, IS ACCEPTING BIDS FOR SLUDGE CAKE HAUL AND LANDFILL DISPOSAL FOR THEIR WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY STARTING OCTOBER 1, 2022 AND CONTINUING THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2023. SEALED PROPOSALS WILL BE RECEIVED AT THE OFFICE OF THE CITY SECRETARY, KATY CITY HALL, 901 AVENUE C, KATY, TEXAS 77493 UNTIL **2:00 P.M., THURSDAY, JULY 7, 2022**, AT WHICH TIME BIDS WILL BE PUBLICLY OPENED AND READ. SPECIFICATIONS AND THE BID PROPOSAL FORM MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE CITY SECRETARY AT ABOVE ADDRESS OR EMAIL REQUEST AT [BIDS@CITYOFKATY.COM](mailto:BIDS@CITYOFKATY.COM).  
  
THE CITY OF KATY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, TO WAIVE ANY AND ALL TECHNICALITIES, AND TO ACCEPT BIDS THAT IT DEEMS MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO IT.  
  

Becky L. McGrew  
City Secretary  
City of Katy, Texas

Legal Secretary

Wanted - Part Time  
Experience &  
Spanish speaker a plus. Send resume to [srjaimelaw@outlook.com](mailto:srjaimelaw@outlook.com)

950  
PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

WALLER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT  
July 13, 2022 @ 9:00 A.M.  
COMMISSIONERS' COURTROOM,  
WALLER COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
  
The Waller County Commissioners' Court will conduct a Public Hearing under the Authority of Chapter 251.152, Transportation Code, to consider the establishment and the installation of " No Thru Trucks" signs at the following roads:  
  

Robinhood Lane – "No Thru Trucks"  
Lakeside Drive – "No Thru Trucks"  
Clear Creek Road – "No Thru Trucks"

  
All interested persons are encouraged to attend and participate in the Public Hearing.

Katy ISD Provides Screenings for Students with Suspected Disabilities

The Katy Independent School District Special Education Department provides screenings for students with suspected disabilities in an effort to identify every student with a disability who lives within the district's boundaries. The screenings are designed to help iden tify children who may qualify for the district's special education programs.  
  
Students with all categories of disabilities between the ages of three and 21 can be provided with services to ensure their successful participation in school. These services and supports may be provided through Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act. Special Education services are also available to children who are visually and/or auditory impaired starting at birth.  
  
If you are aware of a child who may be challenged with a disability, please contact the Katy ISO Special Education office at 281-396-2066. The Special Education office will coordinate efforts to evaluate the student and, if eligible, ensure that the student is pro vided with supports and services needed to benefit from instruction. Please do not hesitate to call should you have any questions or concerns.  
  

Katy Independent School District  
6301 South Stadium Lane  
Katy, TX 77494

  
Katy Independent School District is an equal opportunity em ployer. The Board of Trustees and its agents, officers and staff members shall not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, disabling condition, age, color, religion, national origin, military status, or any other legally protected status in making decisions regarding staff members or students.

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The St. John XXIII players look on from the dugout during a game.

PHOTO COURTESY ERIKA WALDORF

## St. John XXIII, Faith West, British International School classifications revealed in alignment

BY TYLER TYRE  
SPORTS EDITOR

St. John XXIII College Preparatory and Faith West Academy had their classifications revealed for the 2022-2024 school years with the new TAPPS realignment.

For St. John XXIII, the Lions will move down to 5A after competing in 6A in the last realignment.

St. John XXIII will compete in 5A in cross volleyball, country, track and field, golf and tennis. They will compete in Division II in football, soccer, baseball, softball and swimming.

The Lions were in 5A and Division II up until the 2017-2018 school year, and went to the Division II championship football game in 2013 and won the Division V state championship game in 2018.

The Lions will play in a district with Fort Bend Christian, Lutheran South, Monsignor Kelly, Second Baptist and The Woodlands; five teams will advance to the playoffs out of the district.

Faith West will make the move to 3A where they will compete in Division IV in softball and baseball and Division III in soccer and swimming. They will compete in six-man Division II in football.

The Eagles will play in a district including Bryan Allen Academy, Covenant



A Faith West player blocks a kill attempt during a volleyball match.

COURTESY PHOTO

Christian, First Baptist Christian Academy, Legacy Christian Academy, St. Francis Episcopal and Westbury Christian.

The British International School of Houston will compete in 4A and Division III next year. They will play in a district comprised of Bay Area Christian, Cypress Christian, Legacy Preparatory Christian Academy, Logos Preparatory Academy and St. Thomas' Episcopal School.

St. John XXIII and Faith West will all be back on the field this fall for football season. St. John XXIII will start the season against

Village High before taking on Houston Christian, Van Vleck and Resurrection Christian before heading into its district schedule. For Faith West, they will

start against Logos Preparatory Academy before taking on Bryan St. Joseph, Baytown Christian and Giddings State before starting its district schedule.



COURTESY KATY ISD

Katy ISD Athletic Director Debbie Decker was elected into the THSADA Hall of Honor.

## Decker elected to THSADA Hall of Honor

BY TYLER TYRE  
SPORTS EDITOR

Katy ISD Athletic Director Debbie Decker was elected into the Texas High School Athletic Director Association Hall of Honor last week.

Decker, who has been the Athletic Director for Katy ISD for the past decade, was the first female to hold the position in Katy ISD and has presided over an athletic department that has produced a number of state championships since she took over.

The THSADA has over 1,500 members and is made up of Athletic Directors and school executives throughout the state. Decker was joined by Grand Prairie Athletic Director Don Murphy, Birdville Athletic Director Chris Feris and Beaumont ISD Athletic Director Rodney Saveat in being inducted to the Hall of Honor.

Decker spent time at McKinney ISD where she was a head softball coach and an assistant coach in volleyball and basketball. She then was the assistant athletic director at McKinney before taking over that same role at Katy ISD, taking over as Athletic Director after Rusty Dowling's retirement in 2012.



FILE PHOTO

A St. John XXIII receiver makes a catch during practice.

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