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KatyTimes



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THURSDAY, JULY 7, 2022



fabulous Fourth

Above (from left), Mayor Dusty Thiele, attorney David Frishman, and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post Commander Terry Higginbotham celebrate the Fourth of July at a luncheon held at the VFW Post 9182, 6206 George Bush Dr. Both Thiele and Higginbotham spoke at the luncheon, which featured hamburgers, hot dogs, along with other traditional holiday fare. Residents of the Nottingham Country neighborhood (at right) celebrated Independence Day with a bike parade Monday morning. A fire engine from HCESD 48 led the way for participants of all ages, with patriotic music in the background. Two Harris County Pct. 5 constables brought up the rear.

TOP PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVID FRISHMAN;
BOTTOM PHOTO BY SUSAN ROVEGNO



City ready to move forward on expanding intersection

BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER
NEWS EDITOR

A Katy city official said Tuesday that the city is ready to move forward on expanding the Clay Road-Katy Hockley Cutoff Road intersection, which is becoming a traffic bottleneck as new development moves into that area.

"The city council has approved funding," Council Member-at-Large and Mayor Pro Tem Chris Harris said. "We are waiting for Harris County to approve their portion of the road. They own three-fourths of the intersection. It is a Harris County project. But from a City of Katy point of view, we told Harris County we have the money."

In a presentation given by county officials at a recent infrastructure summit hosted by the Katy Area Chamber of Commerce, the project is in design status.

Harris said the city would pay for the lead up lanes on the south side of the intersection, heading north. He said the other three

See **TRAFFIC**, page A3

TEA orders schools to perform safety audits

BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER
NEWS EDITOR

The Texas Education Agency and Texas School Safety Center have ordered all Texas school districts to complete safety audits by Sept. 1.

The audits are being sought as state leaders continue their response to the May 24 mass shooting at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde. Responses are due back to the state by Sept. 9.

Districts such as Katy are to conduct what the agencies are calling a summer targeted partial survey audit. The audit, agency leaders wrote, is a limited scope version of the Texas School Safety Center's School Safety and Security Audit.

"The safety and well-being of all Katy ISD students and staff are of the utmost importance on each of our campuses," the district said in a statement to the Katy

Times. "Katy ISD implements all safety practices and guidelines recommended by the Texas School Safety Center. This includes mandatory safety drills and training, emergency operations plans for all campuses, as well as regular safety and security audits as required by the Texas Education Code."

The partial audit has 47 questions, three of which deal with student population and type of facility. Twenty-four questions deal with campus policies and procedures for safety-related issues. These issues include controlling campus access, issuing campus keys and identification, and access control.

Policies and procedures address exterior doors, visitor procedures, and keys and identification. They address building interiors, monitoring and surveillance, school-based law enforcement and security issues. They also address emergency

drills, reporting, staff and student training and referral resources.

The remaining 20 questions focus on observing and evaluating campus grounds. These issues address the grounds and building exterior, portable classrooms and other exterior buildings, cafeterias, buses and parking, building access, and building interior.

The survey asks officials to verify that all instructional rooms are locked when not in use. It also asks that security cameras are stationed inside and outside the school.

In a statement summarizing the requirements, TEA Commissioner Mike Morath and Texas School Safety Center Director Kathy Martinez-Prather wrote that they knew most schools in Texas are taking these actions, among others, to keep students and staff safe.

The agencies jointly issued these orders Thursday.



ROLIFF PURRINGTON

Adam Shephard stands in front of a Ukrainian church. Shephard, whose parents live in Katy, leads an organization that helps Ukrainian refugees.

Man with ties to Katy leads Ukrainian refugee group

BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER
NEWS EDITOR

Vienna, Austria, is over 5,600 miles from Katy. But a man with Katy ties, now living in Austria, is playing an important role in helping Ukrainian refugees.

Adam Shephard leads Vienna Mission for Ukraine. His parents, Thomas and Cheryl Shephard, live in Katy, where Cheryl was a physics teacher for several years at Katy High School.

Adam said he has spent time in Katy, though he grew up in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. He attended Texas A&M University before becoming a United Nations nuclear facilities inspector and settling in Europe. He said his last visit to Texas was in 2020. He said he planned to return in March and visit family and friends, but events compelled

See **UKRAINE**, page A3

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Memorial Hermann Katy expanding pediatric services

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Memorial Hermann Katy Hospital is expanding its pediatric services. In addition to its pediatric emergency department, it now offers a pediatric hospitalist team to care for pediatric patients admitted to its pediatric unit.

Both teams of pediatric physicians are affiliated with Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital and part of McGovern Medical School at UTHealth Houston, bringing pediatric medical center expertise to the Katy community.

"It has always been our goal to keep up with the rapid growth in Katy, and these moves are meant to reflect that," Jerry Ashworth, SVP and CEO of Memorial Hermann Katy and Cypress Hospitals, said. "We do not see these additions as the end of our growth - we will continue adding to our pediatric services to meet the demand of our surrounding neighborhoods."

Memorial Hermann Katy Hospital is also home to pediatric general surgery,

"We do not see these additions as the end of our growth — we will continue adding to our pediatric services to meet the demand of our surrounding neighborhoods."

— Jerry Ashworth, senior vice president/CEO of Memorial Hermann Katy and Cypress hospitals

pediatric cardiology, pediatric orthopedics and other pediatric subspecialties. In addition, the Memorial Hermann Katy Hospital campus is home to primary care pediatricians affiliated with both Children's Memorial Hermann Pediatrics and Blue Fish Pediatrics.

See **HOSPITAL**, page A3

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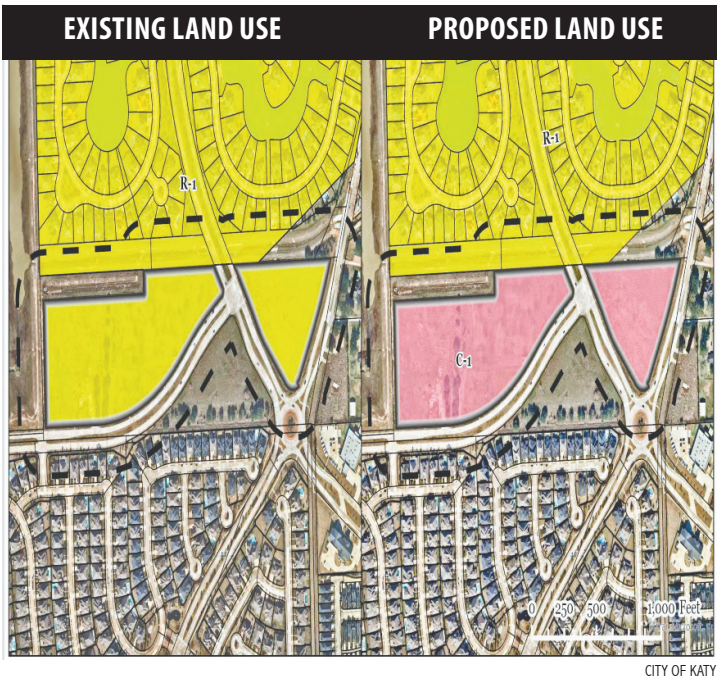


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A map illustrates a 20.12-acre tract for which the Katy City Council changed the zoning from residential to commercial.

City Council approves zoning change requests

BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER
NEWS EDITOR

The Katy City Council Monday approved a zoning change request, from residential to commercial, for 20.12 acres of land near the intersection of Spring Green Boulevard and Crossover Road.

The council passed the ordinance after a brief public hearing at which only one citizen, Julia Jensen, spoke. She said her home backed up to the property in question. She expressed concerns about the light and sound pollution, and increased traffic, that a potential business might bring. She wondered if the land could be used for other purposes.

Ward A Council Member Dan Smith said the city annexed the land in October 2021. The land previously had been under the extraterritorial jurisdiction of the City

of Houston and was not subject to Katy zoning requirements. He said land annexed by the City of Katy is zoned as residential by default.

In a memo to the council urging approval of the zoning request, City Planner Rachel Lazo wrote that a council resolution, approved in January 2020, authorized a development agreement between the city and Davoody M & J, LLC. This agreement included a provision that the property would be designed commercial upon annexation, Lazo wrote.

Smith said asked City Attorney Art Pertile if the zoning change would reflect the latest city restrictions, namely, no sexually-oriented businesses, tobacco or vape shops. Pertile said that was correct.

Council Member-at-Large and Mayor Pro Tem Chris Harris said the property is at the edge of the Katy city limits.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Katy Christian Ministries raising money for school backpacks and supplies

Katy Christian Ministries is raising money for its Red Apple school supplies and happy feet program.

Each summer, KCM collects funds and donates a pair of new shoes to Katy ISD students, grades K-12, who need a little help to begin their school year.

Last year, KCM served 795 children and anticipates a higher need this year. Towards that end, KCM has set a \$60,000 fundraising goal.

For more information and to make a donation, visit the website ktcm.org/red.apple.

City to replace water meters

The City of Katy has contracted with Utiliuse/Aquametric to repair meters around the city. The contractors will have bright yellow vests and appropriately marked vehicles. The work will be done Monday through Friday.

There is no need for them to enter residential homes. In most cases, there will not be an interruption of water service. If the conversion requires a meter change out, Utiliuse will knock on the customer's door, but it is not necessary for anyone to be home.

For questions or concerns, call Utility Billing at 281-391-4801.

Katy Lions Club meets Thursday

The Katy Lions Club will meet at 6:30 p.m. Thursday at First Christian Church Katy, 22101 Morton Ranch Road. The meeting is free to the public and features a presentation on state programs designed to help the community.

At each community event, the Lions host a 50/50 raffle benefiting the club and foundation, with 50% of all ticket sales go to the winner with the other half going towards helping the club cover costs, conduct business, and serve the community through its service opportunities. Tickets are sold for \$1 each in person only, and the winner must be present to win.



DWAYNE GRIGAR



KAITLIN BALLINT



MANDI BRONSELL



KATIE VACKAR

Fort Bend Pct. 1 Commissioner Vincent Morales announces staff changes

Fort Bend County Pct. 1 Commissioner Vincent Morales has promoted three of his staff members and hired another staff member.

Mandi Bronsell, now the community relations manager, will become staff director. "Mandi has been a key part of our success and I am thrilled to promote her to this important position," Morales said. Bronsell brings 25 years of governmental experience serving under two previous county judges and a county commissioner. She also serves as a Lamar Consolidated ISD trustee and on many other boards in Fort Bend County.

Dwayne Grigar, now a project manager, will become director of planning and infrastructure. "Dwayne's vast knowledge of this county has been extremely helpful in working with constituents on issues involving drainage and mobility. We are very lucky to have him in this new role," Morales said. Grigar brings 37 years of municipal and county experience, previously working as the assistant to the chief engineer for the Fort Bend County Drainage District and as an engineering technician for the Fort Bend County Engineering Department. Dwayne is also a previous city council member for the City of Rosenberg and currently serves as a volunteer for the Fort Bend County Fair.

Katie Vackar, now an executive assistant, will become project manager. "Katie has been an instrumental part of my office for over five years," Morales said. "I cannot think of a better person to

fill the project manager position." Vackar brings 13 years of federal and county experience. Vackar is also a volunteer for Fort Bend PAWS (Pets are Worth Saving).

Kaitlin Ballint will join Morales's office as executive assistant. Ballint previously worked in the Fort Bend County Clerk's Office as an information process specialist and in the private sector for an accounting firm before that.

Applications for 2022 Congressional Academy open

The Congressional Academy gives high school and undergraduate students the opportunity to participate in a mock Congress. Participants will learn the inner workings of multiple levels of government from guest speakers, including U.S. Rep. Troy Nehls, R-Texas.

This event will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. July 23 at Nehls's district office at 1117 FM 359 in Richmond.

Applicants must be residents in the 22nd Congressional District. Applications should include a resume, 500-word personal essay on why they would like to participate in the Congressional Academy, applicants' full name, address, cell number, and email.

Applications are due July 11. To apply, visit bit.ly/3acdGWT.

Harris County Pct. 4 presents Summer Movie Night

Frozen, a Walt Disney movie, will be shown July 13 at Mary Jo Peckham Park, 5597 Gardenia Lane.

The movie includes a children's craft beginning at 7 p.m. Popcorn is free, and snow cones are available for purchase.

—CONTRIBUTED REPORTS



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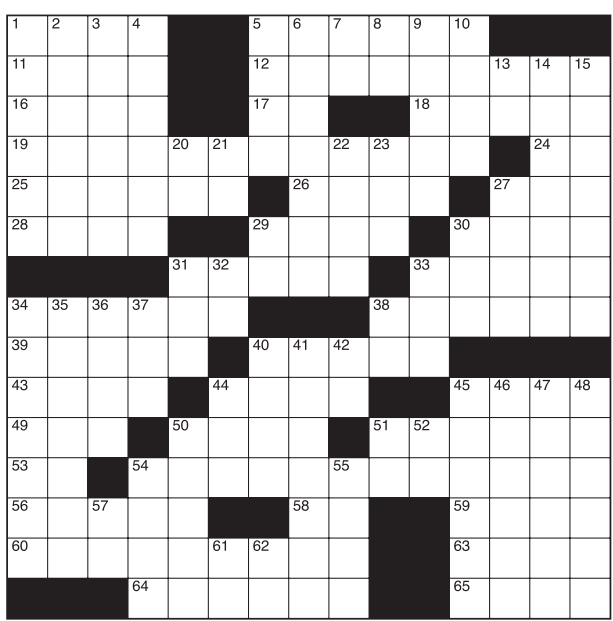
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

CLUES ACROSS

1. Ancient Greek sophist
5. Genus of insects
11. Culinary herb
12. Neutralizing antibody
16. Plan
17. Pa's partner
18. A city in S Louisiana
19. TNT sportscaster
24. Atomic #25 (abbr.)
25. Well-known bug
26. Body parts
27. Monetary unit of Albania
28. Kids' play things
29. Coastal city in Malaysia
30. Famed French physician
31. Flourishing
33. Excessively overweight
34. Pampered
38. Emerged
39. Order of tailless amphibians
40. Indian term of respect
43. Shift sails (Brit.)
44. Beloved Mexican dish
45. Scottish tax
49. Health insurance
50. Monetary unit of Samoa
51. Move about
53. Execute or perform
54. Taste property
56. Unit of dry measure
58. Blood group
59. Something you can up

CLUES DOWN

1. A particular part
2. Spanish neighborhood
3. Business
4. Reddish browns
5. Extinct Hawaiian bird
6. Disney town
7. Part of the Bible (abbr.)
8. Atomic #22 (abbr.)
9. The distinctive spirit of a people or an era
10. In a moment
13. Monetary unit of Vietnam
14. Submerge in a liquid
15. Yellowish cotton cloth
20. ___, denotes past
21. Hoopster Morant
22. Not
23. Indian title of respect
27. Horsley and Marvin are two
29. One thousandth of a liter (abbr.)
30. Hoover's organization
31. Round globular seed
32. University official
33. Spherical body
34. Iraq's capital
35. To any further extent



36. Swollen lymph node

37. Anger

38. Technological marvel

40. Peruvian district

41. Salt of acetic acid

42. What Santa says

44. Israeli city ___ Aviv

45. Late Heisman winner

46. Reveal the presence of

47. Long upholstered seat

48. Most wily

50. Sword

51. Respiratory disease

52. The Ocean State

54. Fleshy watery fruit

55. Lying down

57. Superheavy metal

61. The ancient Egyptian sun god

62. Indicates position

Answers will be provided in next week's edition.

SUDOKU

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

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Answers will be provided in next week's edition.



TRAFFIC
from page A1

portions of that road were the county’s responsibility.

Harris said the work would take about a year to complete.

“That’s the timeline they indicated to us,” Harris said. “They would do the design, and then it would take about a year to actually complete it.”

The intersection sits next to one of the newest subdivision developments in Katy. Pulte Homes is developing Katy Court, a subdivision that will be situated south of Clay Road and west of Katy Hockley Cutoff Road. The 1,039-acre Sunterra neighborhood, being developed by Land Tejas, will add more homes in the Clay-Pitts Road area and more traffic to the Clay Road corridor.

The new development falls just inside the Katy city limits and is east of Bill and Cindy Haskett Junior High School, which was officially dedicated in February. Harris said a new elementary school will eventually be built next to that school.

The city’s planning and zoning commission plans to meet at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at City Hall, and is expected to hear

public concerns about the situation.

Harris said he has been hearing from citizens already.

“I’ve been getting a lot of calls from citizens about the intersection,” Harris said, adding that he, Mayor Dusty Thiele, and other council members have spoken with county officials about the project. He praised county officials for being willing to listen to the city’s concerns.

“I think there’s an opportunity to prioritize some of the roads,” Harris said. “It’s been a good partnership, but we do encourage the commissioners court to improve those roads. Where funded and ready to go. There’s no hold up on our end.”

In the meanwhile, Harris said, developers have been asked to slow their projects as they can so the road can be fixed and be less of a headache.

“We want to get the project moving,” Harris said. “It’s a long time coming. There’s a lot of development in the unincorporated part north of the City of Katy, and the traffic is also affecting our residents.”

UKRAINE
from page A1

him to change his plans.

Before March 1, a typical day for Shephard was flying to nuclear installations around the world. He inspected those facilities and verified that everything was being kept and used for peaceful purposes.

“I’d say I’m both a scientist and an engineer, as well as the inspector,” Shephard said. “I wore many hats.”

But the Russian invasion of Ukraine, in February, gave Shephard cause for pause.

“Some of my closest friends were Ukrainians and even Russians with strong Ukrainian ties,” Shephard said. “Watching the war occur, and really just sitting next to my closest friends and seeing the true horror on their faces and what it meant to them—quickly, I think me and everyone everybody around us realized we had to do something. It wasn’t just a war over there. It was the war in our living room. That pain quickly transferred to the rest of the international community very quickly due to our close connections with Ukrainian people basically.”

He launched Vienna Mission for Ukraine on March 2, which also happens to be Texas Independence Day.

“The mission of the organization is to move people from the Ukrainian border to safety as fast as possible, while seeking sustainable accommodation for them in providing for their general welfare,” Shephard said. “So, it is a refugee-focused organization.”

Shephard said the organization has different programs to help refugees. One of them is rescue, where the mission helps people who cannot escape the country on their own.

“We did an orphanage rescue where we rescued 57 orphans ages three months to seven years in their caretakers,” Shephard said. “We had a second at-risk persons group that we did a rescue from inside Ukraine. That was 43 mothers and children. Then we did another rescue for a city in Ukraine called Chernobyl.”

Chernobyl might be best remembered for the April 1986 nuclear accident that took place there. It was part of the Soviet Union then but Ukraine declared independence in 1991 as the Soviet Union collapsed.

But now, with the Russian invasion underway, Shephard and his group worked with Chernobyl’s mayor. The mayor, Shephard said, identified 35 people that needed to evacuate urgently. But those people did not have the means to do so themselves.

“We had these three busing campaigns from inside Ukraine,” Shephard said. “Separate than that, I think even after, starting on March 3 we ran our first band to the Polish refugee shelters and we were more or less delivering—we started working with a local church which is St. Barbara’s Church, which started getting

an overwhelming amount of donations of humanitarian supplies.”

Getting people out of the country is one thing. Taking care of them in their new, albeit temporary, home is another.

“We had over 60 families from the international communities open their homes and they just took in refugee families,” Shephard said. “It’s going to take some time to get the refugees to their own sustainable accommodations.”

Shephard described one case where a baby was born to a refugee family.

“That was something to be positive about,” Shephard said. “It’s one thing if you’re in the system and you have to have a baby. It’s another if you’re in the loving homes of people who really are going to take care of you. So, that was pretty great.”

Shephard said certain moments in his work have been among the most rewarding parts of his life.

“One of my best friends and mentors is Ukrainian,” Shephard said. “He asked me, Adam, can you go pick up my family? I was able to say yes, and I drove to a refugee center in the van, picked up his family and brought them home to him here in Vienna, so this was spectacular. It’s very rare that you get to repay a mentor in such a profound way.”

The commute between Vienna and the Polish border is eight hours, Shephard said.

“Being in the van and if you have a common language—usually, we had a female Ukrainian speaker in the car or a female Russian speaker to really ease and comfort the people who were in the car because they had been through a horrible, traumatic experience,” Shephard said. “Usually there’s a lot of communication back and forth. The van is a very strange vehicle of purpose. I think every one of us who got to drive in the vans or on the buses to go to the border and help these people, everybody wanted to do it again and again. The more people we gave this experience to, the bigger our organization group. They got to touch the problem.”

Thomas and Cheryl Shephard have been following the news from Ukraine, though perhaps a little more closely than most, as their son is involved in the refugee assistance efforts.

“We’re just somewhat astounded by what Adam was able to do,” Thomas Shephard said. “They make such large personal commitments in both money and time.”

Adam Shephard said his organization has worked closely with the Youkraine Organization, St. Barbara’s Church, and First Aid, First Hand. He praised them and his colleague Olena Mashaina for their help.

Shephard said the mission solicits donations to fund its activities. For more information, visit the website VM4U.org.

HOSPITAL
from page A1

Memorial Hermann-GoHealth Urgent Cares officially launch

Ten Memorial Hermann urgent care centers, including one in Fulshear, re-opened Friday under a new partnership with GoHealth.

The Fulshear location is at 5102 FM 1463, Suite 1200.

Memorial Hermann clinicians will staff and lead the new centers. They will provide in-person and virtual care services seven days a week. Each site can see the whole family, ages 6 months and older.

Additional pediatric expertise for infants and up will be available at the West University pediatric location. Patients will have access to a wide array of services for non-life-threatening conditions at all Urgent Care locations.

The centers will also provide X-ray services, COVID-19 testing and treatment, sports physicals for kids and more.

“The last two years have shown how critical it is for our communities to have easy access to on-demand, affordable health care,” Manny Singh, GoHealth Urgent Care market president, said. “We are proud to provide the Greater Houston area with convenient access to urgent care that is directly connected to the expertise and deep community roots of Memorial Hermann. We look forward to caring for patients across South-east Texas and ensuring the health and safety of its residents.”

The centers also provide a direct connection to Memorial Hermann’s robust

network of care, which regularly earns regional and national recognition for excellence in quality and safety.

“These centers will provide Greater Houston area residents with an affordable option for safe and efficient health care close to home for non-emergent conditions,” Anne Pearson, M.D., senior vice president and CEO of Physicians of Memorial Hermann, said.

“Memorial Hermann’s commitment to delivering high-quality care coupled with GoHealth’s advanced technology and expertise in the urgent care space will provide patients of all ages with the best possible health care experience.”

The centers will be open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday-Friday and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. The West University Pediatric Urgent Care center

which will be open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. every day.

Patients seeking care can be seen quickly and easily by walking into any Memorial Hermann-GoHealth Urgent Care center or by going online and clicking on the nearest location to pre-register and save a spot.

Memorial Hermann-GoHealth Urgent Care opened other locations in Friendswood, Houston, Spring and Sugar Land.

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Snacks, steel and civil rights in the Magic City

It's time for another installment of "Places you should visit before your loved ones start picking out your burial underwear!"

Recently, my wife and I took a trip to Birmingham, Alabama, to attend the National Society of Newspaper Columnists' annual convention so that I could collect another "leg lamp" for humor writing. "It's a major award!"

The drive from East Texas to Birmingham was a bladder-bloating 7 ½ hours, so we treated ourselves to several stops at convenience store restrooms along the way. I've found that interstate restrooms offer a true sense of an area's distinctive character—and you can usually wash it off if you use enough hot water and antibacterial soap.

When we finally pulled into the picturesque city nestled amid the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains, we were starving—as usual. And because we wanted to try some regional cuisine that truly represents the unique culture of the Deep South, we naturally chose a Tex-Mex chain restaurant.

In fact, I read that that Birmingham is sometimes called "The Magic City" because of how quickly the former industrial powerhouse grew after its founding, but I'm now convinced that the name represents the fact that it hosts two of my favorite Mexican restaurant franchises (Chuy's and Superior Grill) within 3 ½ miles of each other. Abracadabra, indeed!

When we returned to our DoubleTree hotel after supper, the clerk presented each of us with a famous (and warm) DoubleTree cookie. Unable to resist such unhealthy deliciousness, I inhaled mine in the elevator, and because I'm always looking out for my lovely wife's best interests, I waited until she was in the shower to eat hers.

The next day, we took a whirlwind guided history tour of the city, the highlight of which (besides the included snacks) was a stroll around Kelly Ingram Park and a visit to the 16th Street Baptist Church—"ground zero" for the civil rights struggle in America. The whole area has a powerfully sacred aura about it, and I was so moved by the history and symbolism of the place that I actually forgot about eating—briefly.

Speaking of eating, we also visited the historic Alabama Peanut Company where we sampled some quintessential-southern boiled peanuts.



This was my second time to try them, and they are still the least peanutty-tasting, peanut-shaped things I've ever eaten—other than those orange marshmallow candy circus peanuts that are like chewing on a banana-flavored flip-flop. Boiled peanuts are similar in taste and texture to cooked beans—if beans had to be eaten two at a time and came in a soggy, inedible shell full of saline solution.

We found ourselves snackless again when the tour took us to the Sloss Furnaces National Historic Landmark—because who doesn't want to explore a dilapidated industrial complex that looks like the ideal location for a serial murder? Seriously, though, the hulking and labyrinthine site was magnificent—even in its state of rusted ruin, and learning about the countless laborers who spent decades in the oppressive heat and noise of the enormous furnaces reminded me of why I became an English major.

The last stop on our tour was Vulcan Park, situated atop Red Mountain and featuring the world's largest cast iron statue, depicting Vulcan, Roman god of iron, the forge and, based on his rear view, pantlessness. The park offers an impressive cityscape view for those visitors who are able to avert their eyes from Vulcan's massive metallic badonkadonk.

After the tour, we attended the NSNC awards banquet where we had a flavorful meal of baked salmon and white beans (or maybe they were boiled peanuts) and were honored to visit with legendary columnists from around the country, some of whom even applauded an East Texas goof-ball when I received my award.

Our weekend getaway to Birmingham was fun and enlightening for my wife and me, and I'm hopeful that she'll forget all about the cookie incident before she starts picking out my burial underwear.

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.



What actually happened at Roswell 75 years ago?

The front page of the July 8, 1947 "Roswell (New Mexico) Daily Record" seized the American imagination with the headline "RAAF (Roswell Army Air Field) Captures Flying Saucer."

That announcement added fuel to the saucer craze of summer 1947 ("Keep your raccoon coats, grandpa—we've got Martians!"). But to the disappointment of believers in extraterrestrial visitors, the military issued a retraction the very next day, asserting that the debris found by rancher W.W. "Mac" Brazel was merely a run-of-the-mill weather balloon. ("Nothing to see here. Move along...but not like those slimy little...never mind!")

I'm not implying anything, but Uncle Sam has historically displayed a penchant for playing the "weather balloon" gambit when handling unpleasanties. ("You claim we signed a treaty, Sitting Bull? No, no, that was a weather balloon we signed, silly!")

Most people have forgotten, but the military also demanded several other "Daily Record" retractions that week, thus explaining the newspaper's abrupt discovery that Wimpy was really a vegetarian and Joltin' Joe DiMaggio was in fact America's premier ballerina.

Despite some initial objections from area residents, "the Roswell incident" was mostly ignored until the late 1970s, when UFO researchers thrust the clarification-slash-coverup back into the public



consciousness.

Even with all the paranormal books and podcasts on the market, the average citizen is fuzzy concerning exactly what conspiracy theorists claim happened near Roswell. People often mention child-size corpses, Area 51 and Men in Black when pressed to venture an opinion about Roswell, but those elements were not part of the original report. Lots of different things get mixed up in our memories over the span of more than seven decades.

Don't believe me? One enthusiast was getting all worked up over an alleged Roswell crash survivor who—over the course of years of staying undercover—heroically saved Timmy from the well, tracked down the one-armed man, became stepfather of three very lovely girls and enjoyed some degree of dignity until one Cosmo Kramer dropped a Junior Mint into his body cavity during his alien autopsy.

In the 1990s, the Pentagon tried to drive a stake through the heart of the controversy by changing its story again, to confess that what crashed was really a Cold War

device used to spy on potential Soviet nuclear tests. Oh, scampish Pentagon—where greetings of "Workin' hard or hardly workin'?" get met with "I'll have that declassified for you in 50 years."

But the matter refuses to die, because of the steady drip of unearthed documents, deathbed confessions, Magic 8-Ball revelations, etc.

Proper vetting is still needed for some of the more sensational bombshells. Like the purported contraband singed license plate that declares, "I brake for freakishly tall, pink-skinned oxygen-breathers." Or the diary with an entry about a rancher listening to his shortwave radio one night in July 1947 and hearing a garbled message that sounded something like "Hold on to your tentacles! Mom and dad are going to be so (perturbed)!"

I realize I'm abdicating my role as an influencer by not digging more deeply into this mystery myself. It fascinates me, but I leave it to you to draw your own conclusions and to decide how to commemorate the 75th anniversary of...whatever.

Yeah, I know "the truth is out there;" but my lovely wife, the air conditioner and episodes of the CW's "Roswell, New Mexico" are in here!

Danny Tyree welcomes email responses at tyreetyrades@aol.com and visits to his Facebook fan page "Tyree's Tyrades."

Katy Times

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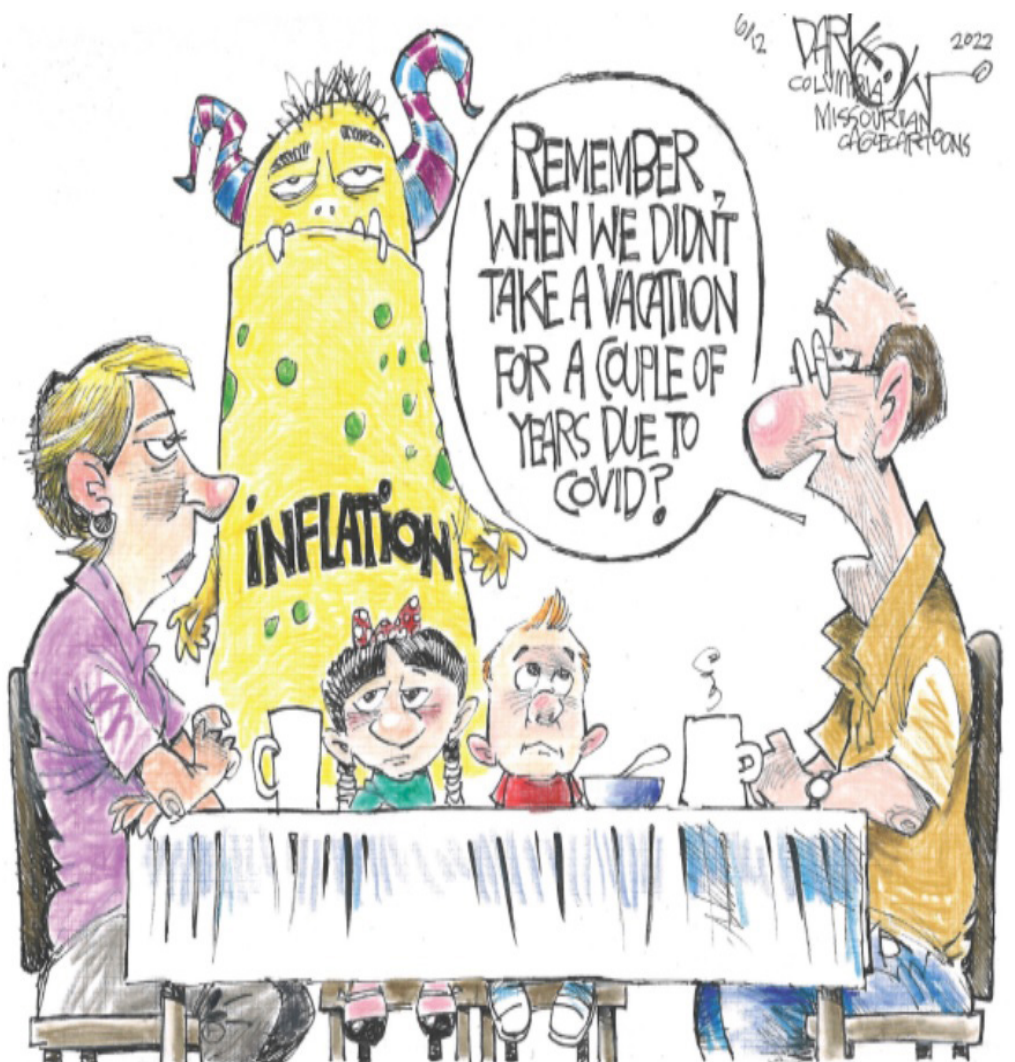
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Bold Fox Development announces name for its newest community

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Pulling from ancient Spanish inspiration, Bold Fox Development is naming its newest community La Segarra.

Located along Gassner Road and FM 362 in Brookshire, La Segarra will emulate the landscape of the La Segarra region found northwest of Barcelona, Spain, and dating back to the 11th century. Colors with ancient tones, stone blocks and other natural materials will be used throughout the 215-acre development, as well as landscaping reminiscent of the region. The development will be in the Royal Independent School District.

"We've always envisioned this community to have a pastoral feel, but wanted to veer away from Texas rustic," said Alex Kamkar, Bold Fox Development managing shareholder, said. "The Spanish Revival aesthetic will give La Segarra a defined identity and create something unique in the Houston residential landscape."

Kamkar said he and his team are looking at various ways to incorporate imagery of Old Spanish countryside into La Segarra, including the entry monument, within a community roundabout and at the 1.8-acre lake-side recreation area.

"This will be a different twist on the prairie land this area of Houston is known for while still maintaining the land's country ambiance," Kamkar said.

Bold Fox Development purchased the land this spring. La Segarra will have 658 homes at build-out, with 116 lots in the first section.

Kamkar said he is finalizing development agreements and planning, with the community moving into engineering and design next. He expects



Bold Fox Development is developing a 215-acre subdivision north of Brookshire, which it is naming La Segarra. Houses are expected to be ready in 2024.

homesites to be delivered in about 18 months.

Launched in 2019, Bold Fox Development is developing Venetian Pines in Conroe, which moves into its

second phase later this year. Construction of Cherrywood Estates in Tomball recently started, and the 470-acre Attwater community is expected to break ground later this year.

TRIBUTE

"Woody" passed away peacefully in his home on June 27, 2022 at the age of 82, where he put aside his battle with Parkinson's Disease and heeded God's call to come home.

He was born in Bunkie, Louisiana, later residing in Sulphur, Louisiana for 11 years prior to moving to Katy, Texas in 1987. He was a resident in Chandler, Texas at the time of his death.

Woody served in the Marine Corps after high school and upon completion of his military service, earned a Master's Degree from McNeese State University. He pursued a teaching career while iron working during the summer. Woody's career in education brought him to Katy, Texas where he resided (and ultimately retired). His retirement was followed by more than 20 years of travel and adventure.

Woody was a member of Grace Fellowship Methodist Church in Katy, Texas.

He was preceded in death by his father and mother, A. J. Woods Sr. and Eugenia (Woods) Bland; and a son, Daron Jones.



AUBREY J. WOODS JR.
1939-2022

He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Jeri (Sadler) Woods; his son Aubrey J. Woods III (A.J.) and wife Jennifer; a beautiful granddaughter Meghan (Woods) Liz Sanchez and her spouse Osvaldo; older sister Merrie Guillot and younger brother Glynn Woods and wife Sharon.

A celebration of his life will be held on his birthday with details to be announced.

Any memory of Woody that you would like to share, please send it to: Kamper2@earthlink.net.

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Nominations sought for Service-Learning Champion Award

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Now through July 29, nominations are open for the Service-Learning Champion Award, a statewide honor given to learning institutions that go above and beyond to develop the next generation of civic-minded, socially engaged Texans.

Institutions of learning that utilize service as a key component of their academic curriculum, includ-

ing K-12 public and charter schools, community colleges and universities, are eligible for the award, which is part of the 39th Annual Governor's Volunteer Awards.

Presented in conjunction with OneStar Foundation, the Governor's Volunteer Awards honor the service of individuals and organizations that have made a significant and measurable contribution to Texas communities in the past year.

The Edinburg High School Chapter of the National Honor Society received the Service-Learning Champion Award in 2021. EHS's National Honor Society was instrumental in setting up and preparing for drive-by distributions and handed out more than 10,000 free books to students whose families are financially challenged.

Other past awardees include:

- 2020 - Rebuild Texas Carpen-

try Skills Training Program at Del Mar College (Coastal Bend)

- 2019 - St. Mary's University Office of Community Engagement, Center for Legal and Social Justice and Office of University Ministry (San Antonio)
- 2019 - Austin Community College Student Life, Food Pantry & Resources Program (Austin)
- 2018 - The University of Texas at El Paso (El Paso)

- 2017 - University of Houston SURE™ Program (Houston)
- 2016 - Texas Christian University Office for Community Engagement (Fort Worth)

Awardees will be honored at a special reception during next year's Global Volunteer Month in April 2023. The nomination form can be found at the website, the abbreviated URL for which is bit.ly/3Rcf8Jh.

EDUCATION BRIEFS

New principals named at Bryant, McRoberts elementary schools

The Katy Independent School District named principals for Bryant and McRoberts elementary schools for the 2022-2023 school year. Ashley Pierce will lead Bryant Elementary and Kelly Stroud will lead McRoberts Elementary.

Pierce began her career in education in 2007 as an elementary math and science teacher in the Fort Bend Independent School District. In 2013, she moved into the role of math specialist and instructional coach before moving to Katy ISD to assume her current role as assistant principal at Katy Elementary in 2016. Pierce has a bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies from Texas State University and a master's degree in education administration from Lamar University.

"I'm honored to have been named the new principal of Bryant Elementary," Pierce said. "It's an incredible opportunity to lead such an amazing school community rooted in kindness and caring."

Stroud has spent his entire career in education serving the students and staff of Katy ISD. Stroud began his teaching career in 1995 as an elementary teacher at Nottingham Country Elementary. After 10 years of teaching at the elementary level, Stroud became a teacher and coach at Mayde Creek Junior High in 2005. In 2009, he moved over to WoodCreek Junior



ASHLEY
PIERCE



KELLY
STROUD

High to serve as assistant principal before assuming his current role as assistant principal at Taylor High School in 2015. Stroud holds a bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies from the University of Houston and a master's degree in education administration from Prairie View A&M University.

"I'm thrilled to lead the PME community as the new principal," Stroud said. "I look forward to working collaboratively with our staff, volunteers and families to build on the foundation of success at McRoberts."

STAAR test results available to parents

The Texas Education Agency has released STARR tests results to the districts, and parents can access them through the Katy ISD website.

For more information, visit the website, the abbreviated URL for which is bit.ly/3NDxSi6.

Tompkins Robotics bootcamp rescheduled for July 18-21

The dates for the Tompkins

High School Tech Summer camp have been moved to July 18-21.

Seats are still available. The sessions are from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. for children ages 6-14, and are held at the Robert Shaw Center near Miller Tech and Raines Academy.

For more information, email FRC5427@gmail.com or visit the website, the abbreviated URL for which is bit.ly/3x7YR0c.

Katy High School National Wildlife Federation

Katy High School has been accepted into the National Wildlife Federation '22-'23 Student Climate Resilience Ambassadors program. Teachers will receive professional development provided by the federation and its project partners, the Galveston Bay Foundation and TBG Landscape Architects, to equip students with the tools and knowledge to gain a greater understanding of a changing climate and the connection between watershed health, flooding, and water quality.

In addition to a \$3,000 grant towards the Tiger Prairie, the school will receive up to four site visits on the campus for project consultation from the foundation and/or TBF Landscape Architects.

Local students honored at annual SkillsUSA workforce development event

Three Katy-area students won one of the nation's highest awards at the 2022 SkillsUSA Champion-

ships, held June 22-23 in Atlanta.

More than 5,200 students competed at the national showcase of career and technical education. The SkillsUSA Championships is the largest skill competition in the world and covers 1.79 million square feet, equivalent to 31 football fields or 41 acres.

The Katy-area student receiving Skill Point Certificates are:

- Brayden Henry, a student at Miller Career and Technology Center, was awarded a Skill Point Certificate in Culinary Arts.
- Team A (consisting of Jesus Grajales Mora and Daniel Fernández), also from Miller Career and Technology Center, was awarded a Skill Point Certificate in Mechatronics.

Students were invited to the event to demonstrate their technical skills, workplace skills and personal skills in 108 hands-on occupational and leadership competitions. These including robotics, automotive technology, drafting, criminal justice, aviation maintenance and public speaking.

Industry leaders from 650 businesses, corporations, trade associations and unions planned and evaluated the contestants against their standards for entry-level workers. Industry support of the SkillsUSA Championships is valued at over \$36 million in donated time, equipment, cash and material. More than 1,100 industry judges and technical committee members participated this year.

The Skill Point Certificate represents demonstrated workplace readiness in the student's occupational specialty. Students can add the certificate to an employment portfolio. Skill Point Certificates were awarded to all national contestants who met a threshold contest score for their event as an indicator of proficiency. All SkillsUSA Championships competitors were honored June 24 at the SkillsUSA Awards Ceremony at State Farm Arena, which was sponsored by partner Frontdoor Inc. with keynote speaker Darren Keefe of HGTV.

"More than 5,200 students from every state in the nation participated in the 2022 SkillsUSA Championships," SkillsUSA Executive Director Chelle Travis said. "This showcase of career and technical education demonstrates SkillsUSA at its finest. Our students, instructors and industry partners work together to ensure that every student excels. This program expands learning and career opportunities for our members."

The SkillsUSA Championships event is held annually for students in middle school, high school or college/postsecondary programs as part of the SkillsUSA National Leadership & Skills Conference. The national, nonprofit partnership of students, instructors and industry is a verified talent pipeline for America's skilled workforce that is working to help solve the skills gap.

—CONTRIBUTED REPORTS



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Jordan gearing up for fall practice

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Jordan has been buzzing through summer strength and conditioning.

The Warriors have been hard at work preparing for their first year with a varsity schedule and everyone in the building has a goal to make it successful.

Jordan has continued to grow as it heads for its first season with seniors and they push to be better every day.

"We've just been working together every day," said quarterback Colin Willetts. "That's the great things about it is we've already built that chemistry up so we can really focus on getting stronger and trying to get everything down that we need to take our games to the next level."

Jordan has been working towards this since the school opened in 2020. They want to make the of this year but know how difficult it will be as they join one of the toughest districts in the state in District 19-6A, but despite that, they remain confident and more than ready to take on the challenge.

"We've been doing everything we can to be ready," said Jordan receiver Nathan Salz. "We did 7-on-7, which puts us in more fourth quarter situations and makes you play in those close games, so it really just forces you to learn how to push through and stay calm at the end of those games. It's really helped us improve and we're just getting better all around heading into the year."

The Warriors have an exciting mix of young players, with Willetts having a number of options to sling the ball to in Salz, Andrew Mash and Zechariah Sample among others.

That strength and skill positions will need to be backed up by good offensive line play and a strong run game.

Jordan knows that and have been focused on getting bigger and stronger throughout the offseason. And that work has already been paying dividends.

"Everyone here just is focused on that one goal," Sample said. "The discipline here is unmatched compared to anywhere else I've been. Just building that chemistry with

See **JORDAN**, page B3



Jordan's Colin Willetts makes a throw during a 7-on-7 game.

TYLER TYRE



Cinco Ranch's Fischer Reed tries to haul in a catch during a game against Harker Heights at Veterans Memorial Park in College Station.

PHOTOS BY TYLER TYRE

With big goals, Cinco uses camp to make jump towards season

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

When Gavin Rutherford walked off the field following Cinco Ranch's season ending loss to Summer Creek, he was angry, but determined.

Cinco Ranch had overcome so much, winning eight games after winning just one over the previous two years and making it all the way to the Class 6A, Division II semifinals.

But after that loss, Rutherford and every Cinco player knew that as good as 2021 was, that they could be even better in 2022.

"We knew exactly what we needed to work on after last season and we've been doing that," Rutherford said. "We've just been trying to get stronger and faster — that's the main goal right now. Really the big thing is doing that, building our chemistry and getting our basic plays fundamentally sound. If we keep building on that heading into two-a-days, we're in a really good spot."

The Cougars have been building to take that next step throughout summer strength and conditioning and have been putting in the work both on and off the field. Because



Noah Abboud hauls in a touchdown catch during a game against Wichita Falls Rider at Veterans Memorial Park in College Station.

they know things will be even harder this year.

Cinco will move up to 6A, Division I in all instances this season, as they have the second highest enrollment numbers in Katy ISD. With that jump up, they will face an even tougher path to get where they want to go if the team reaches the postseason.

Part of the Cougars' preparation was to not partake in spring practice so they could get extra time in strength and conditioning and in

practice leading up to the season.

"We get an extra week of practice and an extra scrimmage," said senior wide receiver Seth Salverino. "Being able to have those is huge. We're going to keep pushing but also staying healthy and we're going to keep it going towards the season. We know what we want and we're going to practice hard to get it."

The Cougars are preparing or a season where everyone will be on

See **CINCO**, page B3

Seven Lakes finishes top ten in Lone Star Cup standings

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Seven Lakes finished ninth overall in the final update of the school year to the Lone Star Cup standings, ending the year with 72 points to lead Katy ISD schools.

The Lone Star Cup recognizes the best schools in sports and competitions among the University Interscholastic League.

See **SPARTANS**, page B3

SCOTT W. COLEMAN

Teammates congratulate Seven Lakes midfielder Aidan Morrison (10) after scoring a goal on a penalty kick during the first half of the Class 6A boys state semifinal between Katy Seven Lakes and Plano on April 15, 2022 in Georgetown, Texas.



LONE STAR CUP STANDINGS

CLASS 6A

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Southlake Carroll, 131 | 13. Ridge Point, 60 |
| 2. The Woodlands, 113 | 14. Summer Creek, 58 |
| 3. Allen, 91 | 14. Lewisville Marcus, 58 |
| 4. Austin Lake Travis, 86 | 16. Atascocita, 57 |
| 4. Austin Westlake, 86 | 17. Deer Park, 56 |
| 6. Austin Vandegrift, 83.7 | 18. Lewisville Flower Mound, 54 |
| 7. San Antonio Reagan, 82 | 18. South Grand Prairie, 54 |
| 8. Keller, 73 | 20. Tompkins, 53 |
| 9. Seven Lakes, 72 | 21. Northside O'Connor, 52 |
| 10. Duncanville, 64 | 22. Arlington Martin, 51 |
| 11. Rockwall, 62 | 23. Katy, 50 |
| 12. Pearland, 61 | 24. Bridgeland, 49 |
| | 24. Prosper, 49 |



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Rockets rookies look to make an impact

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

The Houston Rockets have a new goal this year. To win more games.

For the past two years, the Rockets have focused on the development of young players and the accumulation of high draft picks that will help make the team better in the future.

Now the Rockets are transitioning into a team that wants to compete, and it is showing in the team's new rookie class.

"It's been fun already being here," said Jabari Smith Jr., the No. 3 overall pick in the draft. "I think all of us, the rookies and the guys already here will jell really quickly because we all care about winning. We all want to get better and know the main goal is to get better everyday we're here. That's the main thing is just keep working and keep pushing forward and that's what everyone here wants to do."

Smith will immediately help with a Rockets franchise wanting to win more games, as he adds much needed defense to a team that ranked 30th, or dead last in defensive rating last season.

"I can't compare him to another NBA player," said Rockets general manager Rafael Stone. "I think he's really unique. I can't think of another player with his combination of size and defense and shooting. I just don't remember seeing it, so I'm really excited to see what he can do."

Tari Eason will do the same thing, as he was one of the best prospects on defense in the entire draft, combining great athleticism and size with a desire that few match.

"Tari has an exceptional motor and you love to have that in someone," Stone said. "You add that to his physicality, his speed and his ability offensively in transition and on the boards along with shooting, and it's awesome. But really defensively, he gets after it and that's what you need in today's NBA."

But, everyone on the Rockets staff knows that this year won't be without growing pains. The Rockets there will be eight players on the roster as we head into summer league that are in their first or second year in the league.

"We had five guys who were 20 years old or younger when we started last year and now we're adding three super young guys," said Rockets head coach Stephen Silas. "The challenge comes just from that learning curve, there's going to be patience required. But we have to build winning habits and that takes time. That takes time and we saw that last year, but I anticipate it going a little bit quicker this year just since we have more established going into this season."

The picks fit right into the Rockets' plans, as the young core they have built up for the past two years will now have a chance to grow together as a team.

"That was the goal going into it," Stone said. "I sat up here a year and a half ago and that was what we said we wanted to do. It feels good that we've been able to get all these young talented guys. I'm excited and I feel like we're on track, and I feel our fans are bought in to this process. These guys are our future, we feel really good about it and I think we have really built well for the future."

And along with helping the future, they will help the present. Houston needed help defensively. Smith obviously will help with that, but both Eason and No. 29 overall pick TyTy Washington project as plus defenders with great length and the ability to switch at the NBA level. Silas, for one, can't wait to get to work with his young guns when they start Summer League.

"My No. 1 thing I had been talking about was how we were going to make our defense better, and then Rafael went out and drafted three really good defenders," Silas said. "But the great thing is they're all two-way players, so we're going to be long, athletic and versatile on both ends of the floor and I'm super excited about that. Last night I was already on my laptop thinking of things we can do defensively."



Houston Texans running back Rex Burkhead (28) carries the ball through contact with New York Jets cornerback Bryce Hall (37) during an NFL game between the Houston Texans and the New York Jets on November 28, 2021 in Houston, Texas. The Jets won, 21-14

Texans running backs looking to improve heading into season

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

The Houston Texans made major additions to their offense this offseason.

The Texans wanted to add to the offense in any way they could, bringing in multiple receivers, but there was one thing that was most important for the team.

Improving the run game.

The Texans were one of the worst teams in the league last season, averaging just 83 rushing yards per game and just 3.4 yards per carry, which was dead last in the league. Houston also scored just eight times on the ground all season, which was second worse in the league.

So fixing that this offseason was a huge priority. The Texans brought in free agent offensive guard A.J. Cann and drafted both Kenyon Green and Austin Deculus to help shore up an offensive line that struggled last season.

But one of the most important additions for the run game, was the team drafting Dameon Pierce, who joins a running back room that includes Rex Burkhead and Marlon Mack.

That trio had a large impact at OTA's and mandatory minicamp, where each showed flashed of what they could do.

"It was a great offseason for us," said Texans running back coach Danny Barrett. "We had some great additions to the room, with Marlon (Mack) Dare (Ogunbowale) and the young

"It's going to be great getting the pads on those guys. Once you do that and you get that contact, you get to see if we can sustain what we've already accomplished. That's what's going to be the key."

— Danny Barrett, Texans running back coach

buck Dameon Pierce. So coming into this offseason we wanted to develop that continuity and comradery from them and they've really embraced that. They encourage one another and compete with one another trying to make each other better and most importantly, they're all healthy."

Pierce brings a physical presence to the team that complements Rex Burkhead, who had a strong end to the season and is great as a receiver out of the backfield as well as a blocker. Mack also hopes to have a bounce back with the Texans, as he was a 1000-yard rusher three years ago, but injuries have derailed the running back since then.

"He's come in and done a good job," Barrett said. "I thought coming in initially, being the veteran that he is, that that would be the case. He came in and really got a feel for everybody and since that first week, everything has been smooth sailing for him. He's gotten his confidence back to the level it was prior to his injuries and you can see the burst and the speed he has. We're really looking forward to him."

Pierce, being the youngest in the

room and the only rookie among the running backs, has been taken under the wing of some of the veterans.

"He's going to have that learning curve," Barrett said. "They have to come in and learn a whole new way of life. They have to learn how to take care of their bodies, learn how to take film and do all these different things. He's done a really good job of coming in and trying to learn what we want him to do on a daily basis. Now he is going to go through this break and keep that regimen and come back even more confident and ready than before when we hit training camp."

The running backs will return in late July for training camp and all of them can't wait to get back to work.

"It's going to be great getting the pads on those guys," Barrett said. "Once you do that and you get that contact, you get to see if we can sustain what we've already accomplished. That's what's going to be the key. It's going to be a mindset, I've always believed that if you have that right mindset, you'll be successful and I think our group has that."



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JORDAN

from page B1

everyone on the roster, with my quarterback, receivers, teammates, everyone, it's just really good. I love it and you can see why everyone in the program has bought in."

For Jordan though, the work is just beginning. They know once they start practice in August everything will ramp up even more. And they know that this year will come with a lot of learning as well. But at the same time, they can't wait to get this thing going.

"It's been tough, we've all been working to reach that next level, but that's part of football and you have to do that work to get better," Marsh said. "We really just have to make sure we're focused on the job at hand. Everyone has to be locked in at all times and we have to play together as a team. If we do that, then we're going to shock some people this year."



TYLER TYRE

Jordan's Zechariah Sample prepares to defend a wide receiver during a 7-on-7 game.

CINCO

from page B1

the lookout for them. They may have been able to go under the radar last year, but that won't be the case this time around.

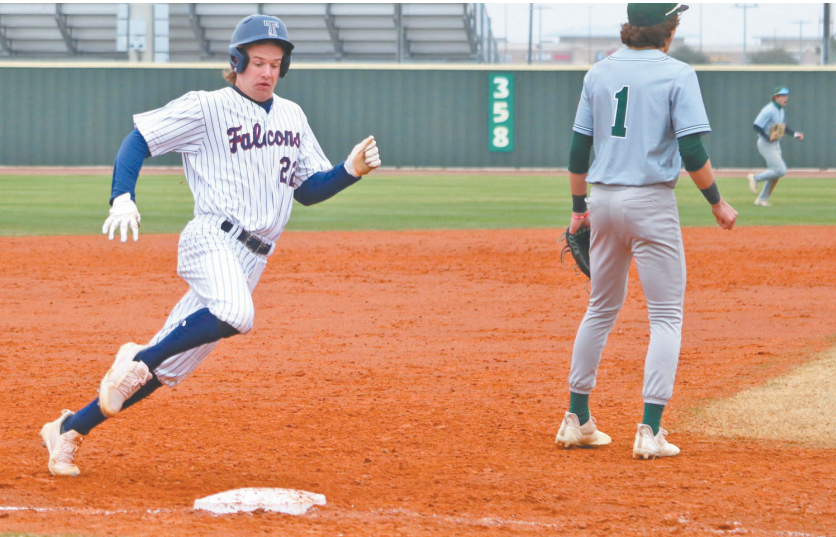
Along with Rutherford returning, who has a chance to break a number of Cinco Ranch passing records this season, the Cougars return most of their skill position players on offense, including Salverino, Noah Abboud, Sam McKnight and Fischer Reed.

And those players' chemistry is only getting better.

"We've built that chemistry so much from last year," Abboud said. "We already were comfortable with one another but now we know how to share the field, we learned how to be a team and be happy with everyone's success instead of just our own, we learned how to play as a team and things couldn't be going better. We're ready for any challenge."

Cinco will be back on the field for two-a-days on August 1, and the Cougars are ready and can't wait to go.

"We've been getting ready, we're doing so much stuff together and building that chemistry," said senior linebacker Braden Williams. "Honestly I think we can be even better than last year. We all just can't wait."



TYLER TYRE

Jack Little rounds third base during Thursday's game between Tompkins and San Antonio Reagan at the Tompkins baseball field.

SPARTANS

from page B1

Points are given for each schools performance in academic competitions along with baseball, basketball, cross country, football, golf, soccer, softball, swimming & diving, team tennis, tennis track & field, volleyball, wrestling and other non-sports competitions.

Seven Lakes was the top Katy ISD team for the 2021-2022 school year, while Tompkins finished in 20th with 53 points and Katy finished 23rd with 50 points on the year.

Seven Lakes earned its most points from the boys soccer team, which made it to the state semifinals and notched 14

points in the competition, while Spartans girls basketball team earned the Spartans 10 points.

Tompkins' top points getters were baseball and volleyball, where the Falcons earned eight points apiece. Katy's top point getting sport was football, which garnered the Tigers 12 points and 10 from baseball and volleyball.

Southlake Carroll took home first place in the Lone Star Cup, tallying 131 points for the year, while The Woodlands came in second with 113 points. Allen, Lake Travis and Westlake rounded out the top five.

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June 30 Puzzle Answers

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NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Owner: *Mason Creek Utility District*
Owner's Office: 847 Dominion, Katy, TX 77450
Project (the Work): Ellingham Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation, including approximately 2,300 linear feet of 8-inch pipe (static pipe bursting/crushing method with 8-inch HDPE, SDR 19), manholes (cementitious rebuild), sewer leads, by-pass pumping, tree clearing, traffic control, site restoration, and related work, all in accordance with plans and specifications.
Project location: *Along Ellingham Drive, Katy, TX 77450*
Owner proposes to let a contract for the Project and seeks bids. Generally, bids must be signed, sealed and physically submitted at Owner's Office by July 28, 2022 at 10:00 AM, when they will be opened and publicly read, all in accordance with the Contract Documents, which are: (i) on file at the Owner's Office where all bidders may examine them and get copies; (ii) incorporated herein by reference, including prevailing wages; and (iii) posted on civcastusa.com. A pre-bid conference (non-mandatory) is set for July 15, 2022 at 10:00 AM at Owner's Office. /s/ Len Forsyth, Project Officer.

NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN **ORDINANCE NO. 3045** BEARING THE FOLLOWING CAPTION WAS ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KATY, TEXAS, ON JUNE 27, 2022:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KATY, TEXAS AMENDING THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF KATY BY CHANGING THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION FROM "R-1" "SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT" TO "C-1" "COMMERCIAL DISTRICT" FOR 5.5452 ACRES IN THE JAMES CONNER SURVEY, ABSTRACT NO. 157, AND APPROXIMATELY 14.5737 ACRES IN THE JAMES CONNER SURVEY, ABSTRACT NO. 157, FORT BEND COUNTY, TEXAS; AMENDING THE CITY OF KATY'S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN; PROVIDING A PENALTY IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$2000.00 FOR EACH DAY OF VIOLATION OF ANY PROVISION OF THIS ORDINANCE IN CONFLICT HERewith; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

INVITATION TO BIDDERS

Sealed Bids addressed to Willow Fork Drainage District, Attention: Ms. Wendy Duncan, President, Board of Directors, will be received until 9:30 a.m., Local Time, Thursday, July 14, 2022, and then publicly opened and read at the office of the Engineer, LJA Engineering, Inc., 1904 West Grand Parkway North, Suite 120, Katy, Texas 77449 for "2022 Diversion Channel Silt Hauling Project for Willow Fork Drainage District, Fort Bend County, Texas". In addition to the opening of sealed Bids at the address above, you may attend the Bid Opening by telephone, by dialing +1 346-202-6170, Phone Conference ID: 168 844 858#.

Scope of Work of the Contract: The Fort Bend County Drainage District and Willow Fork Drainage District are removing silt from the portions of Buffalo Bayou and the Diversion Channel. The County will stockpile material near Buffalo Bayou and Peek Road. This contract is for the disposal of the material which includes the contractor loading, hauling and legal disposal off-site.

Bids received after the closing time will be returned unopened. A non-mandatory pre-bid conference will be held on Thursday, July 7, 2022, at 9:30 a.m. at the office of the Engineer, LJA Engineering, Inc., 1904 West Grand Parkway North, Suite 120, Katy, Texas 77449. To attend the audio format non-mandatory pre-bid conference, dial +1 346-202-6170, Phone Conference ID: 878 196 419#.

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 two percent (2%) 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. If a certified or cashier's check is provided, the successful bidder shall deliver, at the bid opening address, the original certified or cashier's check within twenty-four (24) hours of receipt of the bid opening.

Bidding documents may be examined at LJA Engineering, Inc., 1904 West Grand Parkway North, Suite 120, Katy, Texas 77449 or may be obtained by prospective bidders or suppliers at <https://www.civcastusa.com>.

By submitting a Bid, Bidder acknowledges and agrees that the Contract Documents may be accepted, executed or agreed to through the use of an Electronic Signature, as defined by and in accordance with Owner's Electronic Signature Rules for Construction Contracts.

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.

Willow Fork Drainage District

NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION BY COMMISSIONERS' COURT TO REVISE A SUBDIVISION PLAT FILED FOR RECORD WITH THE COUNTY CLERK

APPLICATION: Santos and Sonia Quinteros, owners, are requesting to be allowed to revise Tract 4 of Quinteros Subdivision. The revision will be to partition Tract 4 into two lots. These newly configured lots would consist of Tract 4-A (1.000 acre) and Tract 4-B (1.428 acres). Quinteros Subdivision is situated in the Samuel C. Hady Survey, A-31, Waller County, Texas recorded in Instrument No. 1507489, in the Official Public Records of Waller County, Texas.

This replat request, if approved, will only revise the applicant's property.

PUBLIC HEARING: A public hearing will be held during the regular session of Commissioners' Court on July 27, 2022 at the Waller County Courthouse, 836 Austin St., Hempstead, Texas, 77445.

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 identify 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 provided 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 employer. 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.

INVITATION TO BIDDERS

Sealed Bids in duplicate will be received by Woodmere Dev. Co., Ltd. on behalf of Harris County M.U.D. No. 432 in the office of KGA/DeForest Design, LLC (L.A. License No. 2602, Texas), 24275 Katy Freeway, Suite 300, Katy, Texas, 77494 until 2:00 P.M. on July 14, 2022, for **Morton Creek Ranch South Section 24 Landscape Improvements**.

All bids will be publicly opened and read aloud for construction of improvements including sidewalks, drainage, irrigation, planting, fine grading and hydromulch.

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 Seventy-Five Dollars (\$75.00) 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 Woodmere Dev. Co., Ltd. on behalf of Harris County M.U.D. No. 432 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 July 08, 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.

INVITATION TO BID

Sealed bids may be submitted either (i) electronically using the CivCast USA ("CivCast") website (www.civcastusa.com), or (ii) Paper copy in duplicate. Bids will be received by Harris-Waller County Municipal Utility District No. 3 at the office of the Engineer for the District, EHRA, 10011 Meadowglen Lane, Houston, Texas 77042, and electronic bids delivered via the CivCast website, until 2:30 p.m., Tuesday, July 26th, 2022, at which time all bids will be publicly opened and read for the construction of the project:

HARRIS-WALLER COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 3

CANE ISLAND - SECTION 13 AND FRANZ ROAD PHASE 3

Project No. 015-235-21

A non-mandatory Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Tuesday, July 19, 2022 at 2:30 p.m. via Zoom Conference Call. Zoom Conference Call information will be provided at www.civcastusa.com.

The combined areas of the streetscape scope consist of sidewalk, entry monument, planting space and irrigation infrastructure zoning.

The above-described construction will be performed in accordance with plans and specifications and any addenda thereto which may be issued prior to the opening of bids. Plans, specifications and bid documents may be viewed and downloaded free of charge or the option to purchase hard copies on the CivCastUSA Website (www.CivCastUSA.com). Documents are also available for review at the office of the Engineer or Houston area plan rooms.

Each Bid must be accompanied by a Certified or Cashier's Check, from a responsible bank in the State of Texas, or a Bid Bond, issued by a surety legally authorized to do business in the State of Texas, equal to five percent (5%) of the total bid amount. Make the Cashier's Check, Certified Check or Bid Bond payable to the Owner.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to accept any bid deemed advantageous to it and waive informalities in bidding. All bids received after the closing time above designated will be returned unopened.

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Foster, Galvin, Amaewhule make Preseason All-Texas Team

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Taylor grads Bryce Foster and Praise Amaewhule, along with Katy grad Connor Galvin, were named to the Dave Campbell Texas Football 2022 Preseason All-Texas Team on Tuesday, with all three Katy ISD graduates being named to the first team, and Galvin being named the best offensive lineman in the state of Texas.

The All-Texas team includes 52 collegiate football players from the 12 FBS schools in the state.

Foster earned his honors after starting 12 games as a freshman last year for Texas A&M and being named the top newcomer on the offensive side of the ball for the team.

Foster was named to the SEC All-Freshman team last year along as being named to the FWAA Freshman-All America Team and The Athletic Freshman All-American Team.

Galvin, a senior, started every game last season at left tackle for Baylor and helped the Bears to Big 12 championship and a bowl win over No. 8 Ole Miss, leading to his selection as the top offensive lineman in the state.

Galvin comes off a season in which he was named the Big 12 offensive lineman of the year, the AP All-American Team, The Athletic All-American Team and was named to the Reese's Senior Bowl Watchlist.

Amaewhule is entering his redshirt junior season and comes off a season in which he earned All-Conference USA first team



Taylor grad Bryce Foster

honors, helping his place on the All-Texas preseason first team.

Amaewhule led the Miners with 13 tackles for loss last year as well as 10 quarterback hurries and three forced fumbles. He also ranked second on the team with seven pass breakups and sacks with 5.5, while ranking 22nd nationally in forced fumbles, while starting all 13 games for UTEP.

Houston places seven on team

The University of Houston had the second most players of any school placed on the team, with seven members of the Cougars named to the team.

Clayton Tune and Nathaniel Dell led the way for the Cougars, as Tune was named the best quarterback in the state and Dell was named the best receiver. Houston placed Patrick Paul and Gervarrius Owens on the first team with Tune and Dell while Christian Trahan, Derek Parish and Donovan Mutin were named to the second team.



MARK GOODMAN | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

Houston, Tx. Nov. 30, 2019: Taylor's Gavin Belue (33) celebrates his TD with Taylor's Bryce Foster (74) during the regional playoff game between Katy Taylor and Humble at NRG Stadium in Houston.

A&M leads Texas with eight selections

Texas A&M were the top selection getters in the state, placing eight on the team, including five selections on the first team.

Antonio Johnson led the way for the Aggies, being named the best

defensive back in the state. He was joined by Devon Achane, Foster, Ainias Smith, Edgerrin Cooper and Antonio Johnson on the first team, while Reuben Fatheree II, Demani Richardson and Tyreek Chappell were named to the second team.

Rice placed two members on the team in Ikenna Enechukwu

and Gabe Taylor, who both made the defensive second team.

UTSA placed six players on the team while Baylor had five named to the team. Texas, TCU and UTEP all had four each named to the team while Stephen F. Austin's Xavier Gipson was the only FCS player to be named.

Eggleston named preseason Player of the Year

BY ZACH SMITH
SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

Logan Eggleston has already cemented herself as one of the best volleyball players in Texas history.

This season, she has the potential to become even more historic.

The senior outside hitter was named the preseason Big 12 Player of the Year for the second consecutive season, one of four Longhorns to be named to the preseason All-Big 12 team on Wednesday.

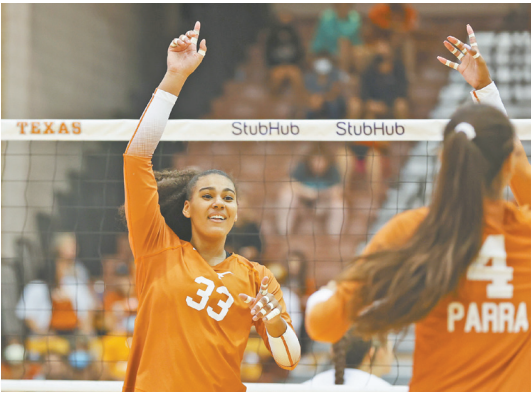
Eggleston is the first player to repeat as Preseason Player of the Year since Micaya White was honored in back-to-back years for the Longhorns in 2018-19. She is the 13th Texas player to earn the preseason award.

Eggleston is a two-time Big 12 Player of the Year, and was second in the conference with 4.67 points per set, third with an average of 0.48 service aces per set and had 3.85 kills per set in 2021.

The Longhorns made it to the regional final last season and finished with a record of 27-2 overall.

Texas led the preseason All-Big 12 team with four of 15 selections, including Eggleston, Asjia O'Neal, Zoe Fleck and Madisen Skinner.

O'Neal was an All-American for the Longhorns in 2021, finishing fifth on the team with 170 kills and third with a .388 hitting percentage.



SCOTT W. COLEMAN

Texas Longhorns senior outside hitter Logan Eggleston (33) celebrates a point during an NCAA volleyball match between Texas and UTSA in 2021 in Austin, Texas.

Fleck was an All-American at UCLA and two-time Pac-12 Libero of Year, helping the Bruins advance to the Regional Semifinal. Skinner was an Honorable Mention All-American and two-time All-SEC selection at Kentucky.

For the 15th time in program history and 12th consecutive season, Texas has been voted the favorite in the Big 12 for the fall season, according to head coaches.

Since 2011, the Longhorns ate 167-9 in Big 12 play, finishing with perfect records in 2013, 2017 and 2020. Texas won its fifth-straight Big 12 Championship in 2021 and advanced to the Regional Final for the 12th time in the last 16 seasons last year.

Texas announced its 2022 Big 12 schedule earlier this month and will return to the home-and-home format. The Longhorns open Big 12 play on Sept. 21 at Kansas before returning to Gregory Gymnasium against Oklahoma on Sept. 24.

Rockets, John Wall agree to contract buyout

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

After a long wait, John Wall will finally make his exit from the Rockets organization.

The veteran point guard and the Rockets mutually agreed to a buyout of Wall's contract on Tuesday, leaving Wall free to sign with any team during free agency, which starts on Thursday.

Wall was acquired by Houston in 2020 for Russell Westbrook and a first round pick. When the Rockets shifted to a younger roster that year, he transitioned into a veteran leader and played 40 games, averaging 20 points and six assists in the 2020-21 season.

But after that, with the Rockets wanting to increasingly play a young backcourt of Jalen Green and Kevin Porter Jr., Wall and the Rockets mutually agreed to have the veteran sit out the 2021-2022 season as Houston looked for trade partners for the point guard.

Wall though, continued to practice with the team and provide a voice for the younger players, and

Houston wanted to reward that by allowing him to choose his next team after no trades materialized throughout the year.

Wall agreed to reduce the Rockets contract of \$ 47.36 million by \$6.5 million, which is the exact amount a team could offer the mid level exception to him this year. It is already reported by many outlets that Wall will end up with the Los Angeles Clipper, joining Kawhi Leonard and Paul George as they try to make a run at an NBA championship next season.

Wall came into the league as a lightning quick point guard and was taken with the first pick by the Wizards in the 2010 NBA draft. Over his ten seasons he has averaged 19.1 points and 9.1 assists. He also averaged a double double in each of the 2014-2015, 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 seasons.

His career took a turn for the worse after that though, as he dealt with a plethora of injuries in his final years in Washington and missed all of the 2019-2020 season with an Achilles injury.

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Katy Times

Herrera to debut with Dynamo on July 9 vs. FC Dallas

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Hector Herrera will make his debut for the Houston Dynamo when they host FC Dallas on July 9, the club announced.

Herrera was one of the biggest signings ever for the Dynamo, as he comes to Houston from Atletico Madrid in Spain and arrives in the United States still in the prime of his career.

The 32-year-old has captained the Mexican National Team and FC Porto and comes to Houston with a wealth of experience. He will begin training this week as he gets fit for the remainder of the MLS season as well as for Mexico's World Cup roster in the fall.

"We are excited for Hector to begin training with the team when

he starts with the club later this month," said Houston Dynamo FC general manager Pat Onstad. "The MLS secondary transfer window opens on July 7, which means his first eligible game will be at home against FC Dallas on July 9. We hope the whole city of Houston turns out to welcome him and support our push to make the 2022 Audi MLS Playoffs."

Herrera helped lead Atletico Madrid to the LaLiga championship in 2020-2021 and was also part of the team that made the UEFA Champions League quarterfinals this season. He won three domestic trophies while at Porto.

For his club career, Herrera has 38 goals and 41 assists, while he has 10 goals and 15 assists over 100 appearances for the Mexican National Team.

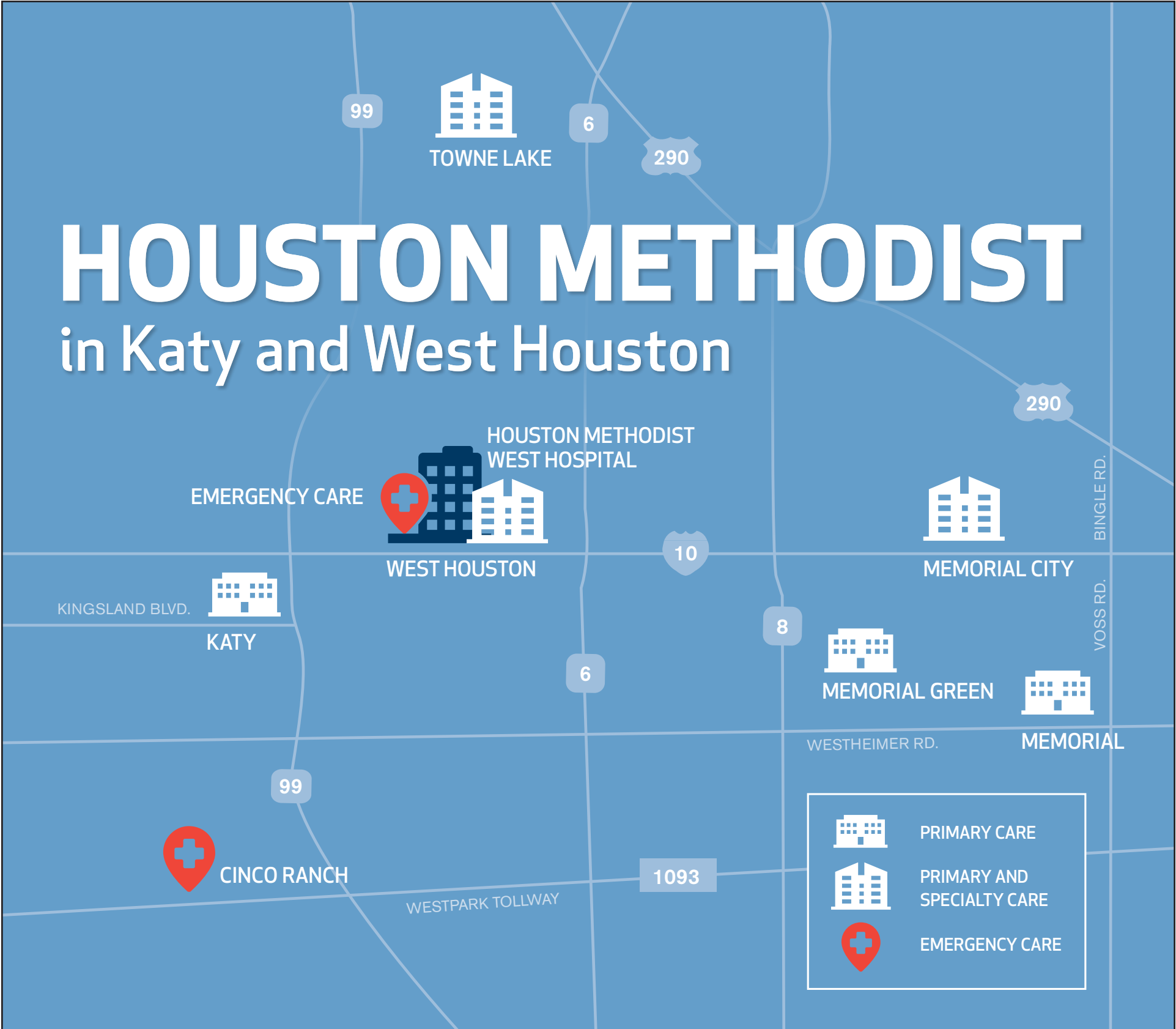
He has appeared in two World Cups for El Tri, as well as the 2013 ad 2017 FIFA Confederations Cup and the Copa America Centenario in 2016. He also recently helped Mexico reach the finals of the CONCACAF Nations League and the CONCACAF Gold Cup, where he was named the tournament's best player and given the Golden Ball award. He was also part of Mexico's first and only team to win a gold at the 2012 London Olympics.

Herrera is joining the team at a pivotal time, as Houston sits in tenth in the Western Conference and two points back from Seattle in seventh and a playoff spot.

The Dynamo will play Charlotte to open July before taking on Dallas and Austin. Closing out the month with games against San Jose, Minnesota and Philadelphia.



Houston Dynamo supporters unveil a tifo before the start of a Major League Soccer match between the Houston Dynamo and Austin FC on April 30, 2022 in Houston, Texas.



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